

ABATE OHIO

DECEMBER
NEWSLETTER
2023

AMERICAN BIKERS AIMED TOWARDS EDUCATION



MERRY CHRISTMAS

OutSpokin'

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"IT DOES NOT MATTER
WHAT YOU RIDE
WE ALL RIDE FOR
FREEDOM OF THE ROAD"

We Want You



To Ride With Us!

ABATE of OHIO

The mission statement of ABATE of Ohio is to promote and defend motorcyclist's freedom, safety and awareness through education and legislation to make Ohio the best place to ride.

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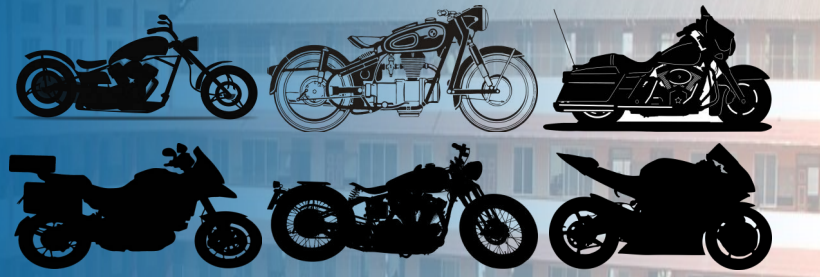
ABATE of OHIO encourages all members to submit letters, articles or cartoons they feel may be of interest to fellow members. ABATE of OHIO supports the rights of ALL motorcyclists, ABATE of OHIO does not endorse any products or services other than its own.

DISCLAIMER

The thoughts and opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the individual contributors alone and do not necessarily reflect the views of the ABATE of OHIO board and it's members.

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

Mike Stock



Hi, Friends,

Here it is December and this is our 7th magazine, which I'm hoping everyone has enjoyed. If you would like to see more of any subject, please contact me and we can work on it. This month, look for the article announcing our new Life Members. As we have new Life Members, we'll put them in the magazine as a way to say thank you. In January we'll publish a list of all of our current Life Members.

Motorcycle Ohio had its stakeholders meeting and they were happy to report that they had their biggest year so far. I do not have the numbers of students that received training because classes have not ended. They have started some new training sites, so check their website. Sign up will start at the end of January. Please, if you have a new rider in your family or friends, please help them get trained because it may save a life. Ride SMART.

I promised a flier for the State Seminar but at the time of writing this article, I still have a couple unanswered questions. I will have it completed by the State board Meeting in December. After that you can check with your region director, watch Facebook, check January OutSpokin' or call me.

I am going to post this in every article I write until I feel that we can see the light at the end of the tunnel. Read and stay up to date on the following issues: **Right to Repair** and **Right to Modify**. "Those two things are what a lot of us do for fun". **Clear labeling for renewable fuel** is what we need so we know what we are putting in our internal combustion motors, so we can have fun riding. **End of Life Directives** must be kept at bay so that we can keep having fun. And we need to **Protect the Motorcycle Ecosystem**. If we lose the Ecosystem, we will lose everything. Call your Legislators.

All over the state we will be seating new board directors. Please say hi to the new directors and offer your support. Don't forget to thank the old directors for their dedication. Thank You!

	<u>Crashes</u>	<u>Fatalities</u>	<u>Speed Related</u>
2023	3575	218	697
2022	4034	206	718

I would like to wish all of my ABATE of Ohio family a

Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!

Ride Safe and Free

Mike

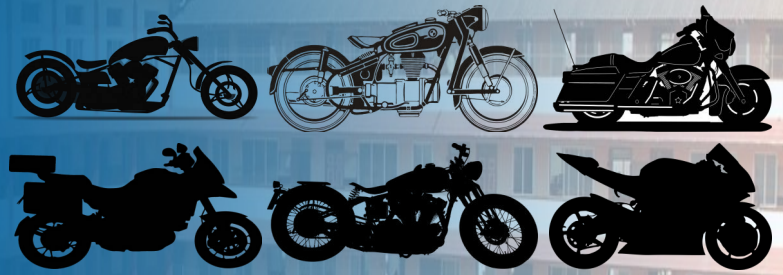
Mike Stock
ABATE of OHIO Inc
Chairman of the Board

Happy Holidays!



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Ed Schetter



At the end of October, I saw something that scared me and it had nothing to do with Halloween. I received an email from Ford saying that as of Jan. 1, 2024 we could no longer sell any F-650 or F-750 chassis with diesel engines into California. Now this was Ford's choice. To be clear, California did not pass a law saying, "Ford cannot sell F-650 or F-750 diesel powered trucks into California." California has received a waiver pursuant to section 209(b) of the Federal Clean Air Act. The California Air Resources Board (CARB) has issued a standard on how much NOx can be produced by an engine in an over 19500# GVWR vehicle. Ford doesn't build a diesel engine that will do that. And I have found out that neither have many truck manufacturers.

Now I can hear many of you saying to yourself, "Ed, you have been at work too long and you are rambling on in automotive gobbilty gook."

Stick with me for a few more sentences.

I view this as a shot across the bow on the internal combustion engine. Yes, it is commercial trucks for now. But how long until laws are passed that restrict the Motorcycle you want to buy. Will you be able to buy one powered the way you want? Or will your manufacturer of choice not be able to offer it because it's not "clean" enough.

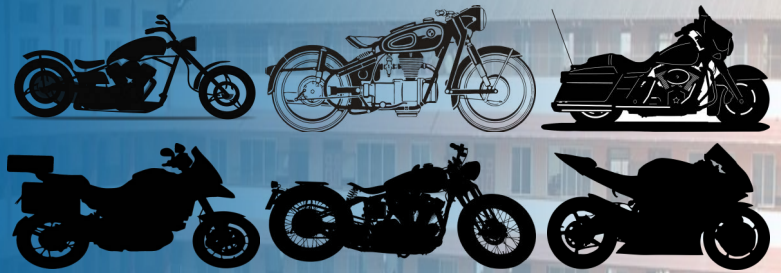
Don't get me wrong, if you want to ride an electric motorcycle or even one that is wind powered. If you can operate it safely: Cool, Enjoy, Have a great day on the road and We are here for your rights and safety too. I just want to preserve choice for those that want it. For those that didn't know it, California has already banned the sale of new gas powered lawn equipment, chainsaws and other small engine applications.

Remember 14 states plus the District of Columbia have already adopted at least one CARB standard. In 2025 three more states will join the club and in 2026 one more will join.

The U.S. House of Representatives passed HR 1435 to protect the choice of an internal combustion engine. The U.S. Senate is working on S2090, which is their version. The Motorcycle Riders Foundation recently sent out an alert about this.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Ed Schetter



Please take the time to go to the MRF's website, find the alert and click on the link to ask Ohio's Senators to support this effort.

There are currently HR 198 and SR 155 in the Ohio State House doing a similar thing. There is also HB 201 in the Ohio House of Representative to prevent a state agency from adopting the California emissions standard for motor vehicles. ABATE will be sending out alerts when we need to act on these issues.

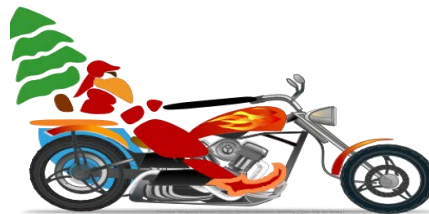
With is being the Christmas season, take some time and relax with the ones you love and get recharged. It looks like we are going to have a busy next year. Be Safe.

Enjoying the Ride,

Ed

Ed Schetter

ABATE of OHIO Inc. Executive Director



FREEDOM RALLY #28

ABATE of OHIO, INC.
AMA SANCTIONED
Region 8

JULY, 5th ,6th,7th , 2024
GATES OPEN 12:00 NOON FRIDAY/ OPEN ALL WEEKEND

PRIMITIVE CAMPING
RV CAMPING
(reservations required)
\$30.00 WEEKEND PASS
INCLUDES CAMPING
\$15.00 DAY PASS
INCLUDES 1 NIGHT CAMPING
CASH ONLY/ ATM ONSITE

CARROLL CO. VETERAN'S PARK/ 2038 BRENNER RD.
CARROLLTON, OHIO 44615

LIVE BANDS ALL WEEKEND
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SATURDAY
BIKE RODEO/ BIKE SHOW /
TATTOO CONTEST
FOOD/ VENDORS

PUBLIC WELCOME !!!!
18 AND OVER ID REQUIRED
SAVE THE DATE

EMAIL: freedomrallyregion8@gmail.com CONTACTS: TIM 330-243-4273/ KELLY 330-327-3513

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All Donations are NOT TAX Deductible
ABATE of Ohio Inc. Events are subject to a 30% Administration Fee

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CONGRATULATIONS NEW LIFE MEMBER!

Bobby McMillen

Tom & Regina Hall

By Decree of the ABATE of Ohio, Inc. State Board of Directors, when a member in good standing has paid their twenty-fifth consecutive annual membership dues, said member will be awarded Life Membership in ABATE of Ohio, Inc.

At this time, I want to thank you for all that you do to Promote Freedom of the Road and Motorcycle Safety and Awareness in the great State of Ohio. We are proud to count you among the great Freedom Fighters working with us to insure a safe and enjoyable motorcycle experience in Ohio.

Thank you,

Mike Stock
Chairman of the Board



DEDICATED TO THE PRESERVATION OF MOTORCYCLING

From ALL of ABATE of OHIO to ALL of YOU!!





2024 ABATE of Ohio

State Seminar
Informational Workshop &
Awards Banquet

Friday, February 2, 2024

7pm MEET & GREET
LRC + CARDS
Hospitality Area

Saturday, February 3, 2024

Sign In at 8am
Seminar at 9am
Banquet area

Banquet and Awards
Live auction and Pub style
games

Silent Auction
All Day

DoubleTree by Hilton
Columbus Worthington
175 Hutchinson Ave.
Columbus, Oh. 43235

Reservation Call
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Room Rate \$94.00 per night
Group Rate Code: ABATE of Ohio
Room Reservation cut off date 1/10/2024

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City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

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MRO Member with Banquet \$25 each x ___ = \$ _____
Non Member with Banquet \$30 each x ___ = \$ _____
Workshop with No Banquet FREE x ___ = \$ _____
Preregister for FREE Lunch

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Motorcycle Riders Foundation



Welcome December!

First of all, we made it thru another year, albeit that year went by fast. Did you get to do everything you wanted to do this year? I was blessed to get a lot done and meet a lot of very nice people along my travels this year. Attended some Region meetings, Abate Board meetings, Swap meets, bike nights, Easy Rider Rodeo, and the Meeting of the Minds! I was busy but I enjoyed every minute of meeting every one of you! You are why we do what we do. Everything I do is strictly volunteer; I don't get paid a dime of money but I do get paid back. I get paid meeting every one of you, talking to you, seeing what you want and how you feel about what is going on in our nation.

As I am writing this, I attended the Dusty Chrome swap meet in Summit County in October. My friend always puts on a class swap meet. It was not attended as well as in the past but that was a plus because I got to really speak to some great people. Now in November we are going to attend Walnecks in Springfield on Nov 26th. He was SO nice to allow me to set up for free. I will tell you how that goes next year!

I was invited to attend the Stakeholders meeting in Columbus at the Ohio Department of Public Safety. Mike Stock was invited from Abate of Ohio, sorry Ed could not attend. I had never been to one of these meetings and it was interesting. I reported with a PDF presentation what the MRF is and what we are working on 2023/2024. Most everything we were working on in 2023 is carrying over to 2024. Jay Jackson even drove over from his home state of Indiana. It is always a treat to see him and hear his views.

In that meeting we met a very nice lady who presented sobering statistics relating to motorcycle fatalities over the past few years. People it was not good! I will be reporting this to you in 2024 as well. All I am going to say right now is that I believe every person no matter what the age should be required to take a basic motorcycle safety course. The road strategies that we teach are invaluable and they have helped me stay safe for many many years. Yes, along with some luck thrown in.

I implore you to join or continue your Abate membership, I implore you to join the MRF. We all work together; we all have the same goal. To ride free, ride what we want, when we want. You may think I am exaggerating but I am telling you the honest truth. "They" are going to take everything away that we hold dear if we don't stop them.



Motorcycle Riders Foundation



I said I would elaborate on some of the big things that have been causing us a lot of problems. Two of which are:

Right to Repair: your own motorcycle and even cage
Right to Modify: your own motorcycle and even cage

We have had a lot of success so far in stopping what the others are trying to do with being able to repair or modify your own bike. So we are winning this battle slowly but surely!

I want to wish each one of you the most blessed Christmas and the Happiest of New Years! Please be safe and take care till I talk to you again in 2024.

If you would like me to attend your meeting and do a presentation to your members drop me a line. I can make up a power presentation on something you want to discuss or the above points I have made.

It does not have to be your Region members, maybe you belong to a HOG group or another club or group. **We must support one another.**

Please follow my Facebook page for all the latest news etc!!

CHECK OUT MY FACEBOOK PAGE: MRF – Sherry Hill, Ohio Rep

Call me, drop me an email if you want any information and join the MRF for just \$35 a year. You can join as an individual, group, club, bike repair or builder, etc. Just ask me!

YOUR VOICE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE, TOGETHER WE CAN INIATE CHANGE!!!!!!

Till 2024....

Sherry

Sherry Hill, State of Ohio MRF Rep
330-415-6272 (Cell)
shill.ohiomrf@gmail.com





Motorcycle Riders Foundation



Two More Bills Aimed at Protecting the Internal Combustion Engine

At the end of October, Senators John Kennedy (R-LA), Mike Crapo (R-ID) and Pete Ricketts (R-NE) introduced the Choice in Automobile Retail Sales (CARS) Act, S. 3094. This bill has a House companion bill, introduced by Representative Tim Walberg (R-MI) and Andrew Clyde (R-GA), H.R. 4468.

These bills would prohibit the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) from finalizing, implementing, or enforcing a regulation concerning emissions for light-duty and medium-duty vehicles starting with model year 2027. The bills would prevent the EPA from mandating the use of specific technology in new motor vehicles or issuing rules that result in the limited availability of motor vehicles to end-use consumers based on the engine in that vehicle. Furthermore, the goal of these bills is to preserve American automobile manufacturing and protect access for American consumers to choose affordable, dependable and functional automobiles for their needs.

As you can see, the focus of these bills is similar to H.R. 1435 and S. 2090 Preserving Choice in Vehicle Purchases Acts, which focus on taking away the power of individual states to prohibit the sale of internal combustion engines. California specifically, has targeted the internal combustion engine for extinction.

These new CARS Acts are focused directly on stopping the Federal Government and the EPA from attacks on internal combustion engines. In March, the EPA announced plans to compel over two-thirds of new vehicles to be all electric by 2032. The CARS Act blocks this action by the EPA. The Motorcycle Riders Foundation supports all four bills focused on protecting the sale of internal combustion engines (H.R. 1435, H.R. 4468, S.2090 and S.3094). Whether accomplished by state bureaucrats in Sacramento or federal bureaucrats in Washington, D.C., the assault on the internal combustion engine needs to be stopped.

Luckily, there are legislators in Washington, D.C. who are fighting back. Here are a few quotes on the issue from three U.S. Senators.

Senator Kennedy (LA) said, *"I'm proud to support the CARS Act to stop the EPA's radical rule, which would make the American dream more expensive for millions of hardworking people in our country."*

Senator Crapo (ID) added, *"Americans deserve to have access to affordable, reliable vehicles fueled by American-made energy products. Consequences of rules and regulations such as these restrict consumer choice and raise costs for the average American family."*

Senator Ricketts (NE) concluded by stating, *"I'll always fight to protect Nebraskans' ability to choose what is best for them and their families."*

The MRF is proud to defend the internal combustion engine. Keep your eyes peeled for a call to action on both bills. Officials in Washington, D.C. need to hear from motorcyclists about this threat to our way of life.



Motorcycle Riders Foundation



Is Your Representative in a Position to Help?

As early as this week, the House of Representatives Committee on Rules will meet to discuss the annual funding bill for the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT). The Rules Committee is the last stop before bills go to the full floor for a vote. It provides all lawmakers the opportunity to submit amendments to a bill for the full House to consider.

This year, Representative Tim Walberg (R-MI) and Representative Troy Balderson (R-OH) have submitted an amendment to the USDOT funding bill that states:

None of the funds made available by this Act may be used by the National Highway Transportation and Safety Administration (NHTSA) for activities intended to encourage states to adopt legislation, regulations, policies, directives, or guidance to profile motorcycle riders, nor shall such funds be used by States to implement any activity with the primary intent of profiling motorcycle riders.

How can you help?

At this point, ONLY the thirteen (13) members of the Rules Committee have the power to approve the amendment. So, if one of the following thirteen (13) members is your Representative, pick up the phone and call your Representative. Ask them to **“Vote yes, in the Rules Committee hearing on the Walberg/Balderson, Amendment #137 to H.R. 4820. Help protect bikers from being unfairly profiled!”**

If you do not know how to contact your Congressional Representative, call the main switchboard at (202) 224-3121 to be connected to the correct office.

Remember ONLY these thirteen (13) members have the power to move this amendment forward. If you can help, pick up the phone and make the call today!

Rep. Michael Burgess (R- TX)

Rep. Tom Cole (R-OK)

Rep. Michelle Fischbach (R - MN)

Rep. Mary Gay Scanlon (D-PA)

Rep. Erin Houchin (R- IN)

Rep. Nicholas Langworthy (R - NY)

Rep. Teresa Leger Fernandez (D-NM)

Rep. Tom Massie (R - KY)

Rep. Jim McGovern (D-MA)

Rep. Joe Neguse (D-CO)

Rep. Ralph Norman (R - SC)

Rep. Guy Reschenthaler (R- PA)

Rep. Chip Roy (R - TX)



Motorcycle Riders Foundation



States Care About Right-to-Repair Too

Tuesday, voters in Maine passed Question 4, allowing local repair shops and mechanics access to the same data as dealerships. This ballot measure sought to establish an automotive Right-to-Repair.

The Maine ballot asked, *"Do you want to require vehicle manufacturers to standardize on-board diagnostic systems and provide remote access to those systems and mechanical data to owners and independent repair facilities?"*

A "yes" vote allows all mechanical information about a vehicle to be available beyond dealerships. This availability would include activities such as, being able to diagnose and repair a vehicle along with regular maintenance issues.

Maine is the sixth state in the U.S. to approve some standard of Right-to-Repair protections. Maine joins the states of California, Colorado, Massachusetts, Minnesota and New York with laws regarding the Right-to-Repair on their books.

What is most exciting about the recent action in Maine is that voters overwhelmingly approved the measure. The most recent vote totals show 84% of Mainers voted to protect the Right-to-Repair!

While the Right-to-Repair is gaining traction in Washington, D.C., demonstrably, voters and state governments are not waiting for federal officials to act. The momentum behind the Right-to-Repair is gaining steam. The Motorcycle Riders Foundation is proud to support this movement and defend a consumers access to the tools, parts and information needed to service and repair products.

Congratulations to the State of Maine! Well done!

STATE CHARTER GOAL

- 1)... To initiate, endorse and sponsor educational programs such as rider safety, public awareness, legislative and affirmative action and, individual freedoms and rights.
- 2)... To create and promote a positive public image of motorcyclists and motorcycle groups and to dispel and disprove media hype, unfounded propaganda and the "Hollywood" image.
- 3)... To encourage goodwill and mutual understanding among motorcyclists, law enforcement personnel and the general public.
- 4)... To serve as an information source on matters pertaining to current laws, pending legislation, personal rights, political inclinations of elected officials and their constituents, and voter awareness.
- 5)... To act as a central responsive agency to devise and coordinate recreational, legislative, educational, and charitable activities



OHIO ABATE MEMBERS

the news

MEMBERS PLEASE SUBMIT

Articles..Pictures..District Information
 Pictures.. Run / Party / Shows
 This is YOUR publication.

PLEASE SEND ALL INFORMATION TO

mikestock419@gmail.com



SUPPORT YOUR MOTORCYCLE RIGHTS ORGANIZATIONS



Training Available for riders in Ohio offered by Motorcycle Ohio & Personal Intro

MO Who?

Motorcycle Ohio (MO)! Surely you've heard of them? Wait, what, you say you don't know who they are? Let me clue you in a bit.

Motorcycle Ohio offers courses for new, intermediate, and more advanced riders. Their goal is to help Ohioans learn how to ride a motorcycle safely. MO seeks to provide affordable motorcycle rider training courses to aid in reducing fatalities and injuries on Ohio's roadways through three major components: rider education, public information campaigns and licensing improvement. MO is funded by motorcycle license fees and class registrations.

ABATE of Ohio, Inc. was foundational in having the vision to push for rider safety when in 1988 they worked with the Ohio Assembly to set in place a grant system for motorcycle safety training. Motorcycle Ohio Uses an approach where existing motorcyclists aid in providing the funding for the courses. To do this, a portion of each motorcycle registration fee is set aside to fund Motorcycle Ohio's training programs. These funds are used to provide grantees, that are under contract to Motorcycle Ohio, the resources to pay for site rental, instructor pay, bike gas & maintenance and other costs. Motorcycle Ohio also uses some of the funds to purchase appropriate bikes for beginning riders to develop their riding skills that are provided to the grantees for use throughout the training year.

Quick Quiz: How much of each registration fee is used in Ohio to provide training? _____ (Answer at bottom).

For a beginning rider or someone who wants to ride, but has never been on a motorcycle, the path to getting their license endorsement would be via the Basic Riders Skills (BRS).

(1) BRS: During this 16-hour course, students will participate in four hours of classroom, and 12 hours of on-cycle training covering topics such as cornering, braking, swerving, and traffic interaction. No experience is required, and MO provides the motorcycles and potentially the helmets (site specific). The goal of the BRS is to help riders acquire the basic knowledge and skills required for safe and responsible motorcycling in a license-waiver eligible course.

Then, as you gain experience and confidence, you are encouraged to continue your training with MORE courses for experienced riders. In addition to helping riders step up to the next level, these courses are a great way to meet other riders and form lasting friendships. The courses offered for riders are: (1) Basic Rider Skills for Returning Riders (BRS-RR), (2) the Basic Riders Skills -2 (BRS-2) or finally (3) the Advanced Riders Skills (ARS). To pick which one is the best match for you as a more experienced rider, consider the course content:

(2) BRS-RR: For adult riders who have been riding for at least a year or riding again after time away or to refresh their skills in the spring, Returning Rider is the course to take. This is a one-day (8-hour) license-waiver eligible course. The course has two hours of classroom instruction, six hours of on-cycle training and the option take an on-cycle evaluation to assess your riding skill level/take riding portion of license skill evaluation. This course is taken on MO provided motorcycles.

(3) Basic Rider Skills-2 (BRS-2) course is an intermediate-level, one-day (six-hour) license-waiver course for experienced riders who wish to refresh and/or polish basic riding skills on their own two-wheeled motorcycle or scooter (100cc and over). The BRS-2 is not for novices learning to ride. This course is taken on your own personally provided motorcycle.

(4) Advanced Rider Skills (ARS) is more skill intensive course and is currently under revision by MO. It is currently under re-development, so look for further details soon in this column.

Quiz Answer: \$6 of every registration is used to fund rider training currently.

Training Available for riders in Ohio offered by Motorcycle Ohio & Personal Intro

Excited to get going? Watch this space for further information on picking the correct course and how to sign up as the
Additional details about the courses, requirements and sign-ups can be found at:<https://motorcycle.ohio.gov/>

By way of introduction, my name is Jenie Miller. I am an instructor for Motorcycle Ohio and teach all levels of the available classes, primarily in the Central Ohio area. I also am a track coach for a woman's track organization (Ruts2Racelines). I ride/have ridden dirt (trials, motocross & trail riding), street, track and have raced in the Ohio Mini Racing League (OMRL) and in the American Superbike Racing Association/Championship Cup Series (ASRA/CCS). My winter hobby job is working as a Ski Instructor (PSIA-AASA Level 1 Certified). Interestingly enough, there are a lot of commonalities in that both motorcycling and skiing focus extensively on cornering/curves. I strongly believe in on-going motorcycle training and have taken 4 different motorcycle classes this last year to improve and cross train my skills. Join me in this adventure. Let's go build some skills!

Happy Holidays!



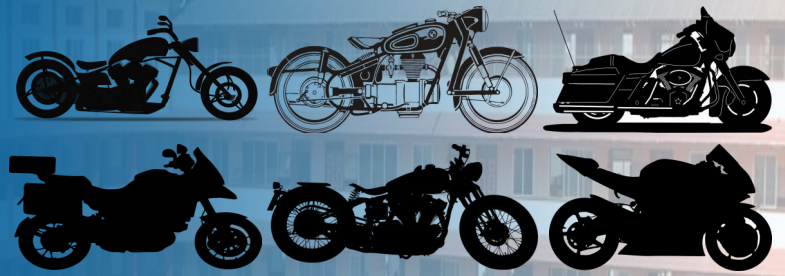
An Educational Minute

When is riding season over? I get asked this question quite often. My answer is "never"! Even though the weather is turning colder, there are many ways to keep warm while enjoying your motorcycle this winter. Let's discuss some of the implications and solutions:

- If you encounter frost in the shadows – you should probably turn back! Your motorcycle will tend to slide out in the turns and can be very dangerous.
- Protect your body – When the body senses a drop in core temperature, the response is to shut down blood flow to the extremities, starting with fingers and toes. Your head is an extremity too so less blood going to the brain can lead to silly mistakes.
- Preventing hypothermia – If you find yourself in a situation, add more layers by insulating your neck, hands, and feet. Use whatever you have in your bag (ie, socks, bandanas, etc).
- Take extra rest breaks – Get inside for a hot cup of coffee and thaw out before continuing on your journey.

- Frostbite and hypothermia are no joke – If you find yourself shivering or feeling confused/irritable, consider stopping for the night!
- Get some good heated gear – a heated jacket will keep your core nice and toasty and will allow you to enjoy your ride for a little longer!

LEGISLATIVE NEWS



Legislatively ABATE of Ohio Inc. is still working on getting legislation introduced to increase the penalties for right of way violations that result in serious injuries or fatalities. I am moving slowly on this to ensure that it is completed right. We are finalizing the Anti-profiling legislation also. I will be keeping you informed on these proposed bills so that when we get them introduced everyone can contact their representatives to support this legislation.

Also, ABATE of Ohio Inc. continues to support the MRF agenda by writing to our federal representatives to request them to become a cosponsor to H.R. 906, the REPAIR Act. This resolution supports our belief that vehicle owners or repair shops should not be denied access to the information, software or tools needed to work on vehicles. The proposed law also establishes rules regarding vehicle data access.

Another issue that is important to many of us, is being able to continue to operate our vehicles gasoline fueled vehicles. We are requesting our federal senators to support S. 2090, the "Preserving Choice in Vehicle Purchases Act." S. 2090 would amend the Clean Air Act to prevent a ban on the sale of internal combustion engines in new motor vehicles. The Federal House of Representatives has already passed H.R. 1435, their version of a resolution regarding this issue. Because the federal legislators have moved so slowly regarding this issue, the Ohio Senate has prepared their own resolution, S. R. No. 15 which is due to be introduced on November 15th. The Ohio House has a companion resolution, House Resolution No. 198 which has identical language. Get your local Representatives and Senators to sign on as cosponsors to this legislation.

You can find form letters elsewhere in this publication regarding these issues. Just change the name and address to reflect your legislator's information on the top and put your own information at the bottom and send it off. Or better yet, write your own letter. Or save your letter writing skills and call your legislator's office and tell them what you want done. We DO have to fight to keep our lifestyle alive!

ABATE of Ohio Inc. continues to fight for your right to live and ride in a style that you want us to. If you have any questions or concerns that you would like to ask me or inform me of you can find my contact information in this publication.

There are many more issues that ABATE of Ohio Inc. is working on. Attend your local meeting and hear what we are doing for you!

Lion Man





Ask Our Lawyer

by Rod Taylor - ABATE Legal Services

CAN I GET ANY RELIEF UNDER THE LEMON LAW ACT?

Q. I purchased a new 2022 Harley-Davidson CVO Tri Glide last March, I have had nothing but problems with it ever since . It has been in 3-4 Harley-Davidson Dealerships getting worked on for the same problems and they can't figure out what is wrong with it. It has been back in my local Harley-Davidson dealership since July 19th and they have been

working with Milwaukee over the phone trying to find out what is wrong, and they still don't know. I have over \$50k in the bike. Does the Lemon Law Act cover this ? Thanks John P. - ABATE of IN Member

A. John, Sorry to say that Indiana does not have a lemon law that applies to motorcycles. My experience is that Harley-Davidson will try its best to make you happy and fix the problem. Harley is reporting it is a wiring harness defect (a wiring harness made overseas). Keep track of your costs as a result of this issue as those costs may be recoverable. Also, confirm every conversation with the Harley rep via email (it doesn't count unless it is in writing) and show a cc to me, that might help. Keep me posted, Rod.

LITIGATION FUNDING, OR HOW DOES AN INJURED BIKER PAY THE MORTGAGE WHILE THEIR CASE IS PENDING?

Everyone knows that waiting on the case to settle can be financially painful. Injured bikers with a strapped budget have a much harder time riding out the storm until a settlement is reached, sometimes causing them to settle for less than their case is worth. Plaintiffs that have sustained injuries and are now disabled may very well need money to live on during the interim period before they receive their settlement. Moreover, an insurance company, or other wealthy litigant, will probably be in no hurry to settle until they reach an agreement more in their favor, regardless of how long that may take. Regretfully, this is where litigation funding tries to justify its existence.

Litigation funding companies may advance a plaintiff money for living expenses, medical care, or for whatever else the money is needed for a stake in the final settlement. This type of lending is non recourse, meaning that in the case the plaintiff loses, they owe nothing to the funding company. The borrower is only liable for repayment from the settlement money they receive. Of course, this is not all bliss, and should only be used as a LAST RESORT. The interest a client will owe on the advancement can be unreasonable.

These companies decide interest rates and the amount they are willing to advance based on the merits of the case. So the stronger the case, the better deal the injured biker will receive. The longer the case takes to settle, the higher the effective interest rate, which begs the question, "does this really level the playing field?" Well, maybe in a few cases, but probably not in most. With the litigation funding industry still in adolescent stages, it will be a few more years before we can decide whether or not this is a good thing. In some states, the practice of litigation funding may be illegal. In the meantime, here are a few pointers if this is your only option:

- Talk with your attorney and discuss options before making any decisions
- Exhaust all other means of financing first, as this should be a last resort

LET'S GO FOR A RIDE AND VISIT SANTA ANNA'S LEG IN SPRINGFIELD - HE ACCIDENTLY INVENTED CHEWING GUM AND THE CUBS

That's right. Santa Anna's leg rests in the Illinois Military Museum in Springfield Illinois. For this ride I am traveling from the East and taking US 36, going past Ernie Pyle's house (the famous WW2) Stars and Stripes news reporter and the world's largest soybean elevator in Decatur.

The end of the trip will be Springfield where I will pay a visit to the artificial leg of Generalissimo Santa Anna. Remember he is the guy that killed Davy Crockett, Jim Bowie and William Travis? After killing Davy C and the boys, Gen. Sam Houston chased Santa Anna to Jacinto. While fleeing he left behind his artificial leg, a chicken dinner and 18k in cash. Some boys from the Illinois 8th Cavalry requisitioned the leg, the cash and ate the chicken. Don't know what happened to the cash (if they were from my home county - Wayne - I can guess - big party), but the leg wound up in the Illinois Military Museum in Springfield. Here is what happened to Santa Anna. Sam Houston and the boys "Remembered the Alamo" - took him prisoner and that is the end of the story - right? Not so fast. I always wondered what happened to the Generalissimo. Was he killed, captured, imprisoned or what? Guess what? Sam Houston spared his life and then Santa Anna wound up in Long Island New York.

He brought with him chicle which is dried sap from the Sapodilla tree in Mexico. He chewed it to calm his nerves - probably when wondering what Gen. Houston was going to do with him. Did he really invent chewing gum - chiclets? The story goes that an inventor watched Santa chewing the stuff and thought it would be a good rubber substitute. It didn't work. Santa Anna skipped town and left the inventor with the chicle storage bills.

Trying to make something out of nothing, the inventor took the stuff to a druggist who made chewable balls. Then he flavored the stuff with sassafras, licorice (called Black Jack) and the rest is history. After I learned the above, I wondered if Sam Houston had executed Santa, would Wrigley have gone into the gum business and most importantly would he have had enough money to have bought the Cubs? Seems that a real Cub fan would have a picture of the Generalissimo on his wall. Amazing what you can learn on a ride.



CAN MY EMPLOYER DO THAT? BIKE SHOP BLUES.

Q. I'm a mechanic in a local bike shop, and my employer recently told me I need to sign an agreement that I won't work for another shop within a ten mile radius if I leave my current job. I don't think that's fair. There are a number of bike shops around here, and almost all of them are within ten miles from my current employer. Can they really enforce that agreement against me?

A. Probably. What they have asked you to sign is called a non-compete agreement. It used to be that non-compete agreements were used only with managers or sales personnel. However, they are becoming more common with service personnel who develop relationships with customers and entice customers to follow them if they move to a new employer.

Even though non-compete agreements are not favored by the law, if they follow the rules, those agreements are generally enforceable, provided the employer can show a reasonable belief that a departing employee could create unfair competition. However, non-compete agreements have to be reasonable in their restrictions. They can restrict a person from working in the same field, but only for a reasonable time period or within a reasonable distance from the employer's service area.

If your employer makes it a condition of your employment you may have no choice but to sign the agreement if you want to keep working there. If you sign the agreement and leave the job later, the employer can ask a court to prevent you from working for a competitor. If the court finds that the agreement contains reasonable restrictions, and doesn't unfairly limit your rights to find a new job, the court could enter an order preventing you from working for the competitor and assess damages against you.

Ride Safe.

Rod Taylor

ABATE Legal Services

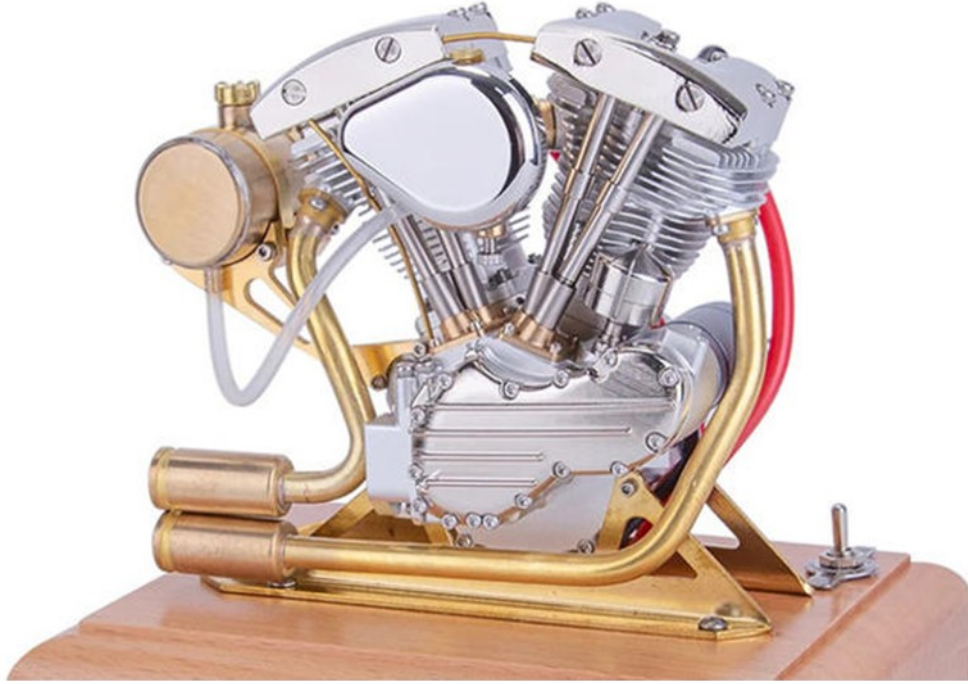
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All questions from ABATE members are answered confidentially unless otherwise authorized and then only after the matter is concluded, except when authorization for publication anonymously or otherwise is given for pending matters. Call us at 1-(800)-25-RIDER. Questions? Submit them to: RodTaylor@abatelegal.com. © 2023.

Happy Holidays

Antique Mini Engine Kits ... Christmas Gift ?

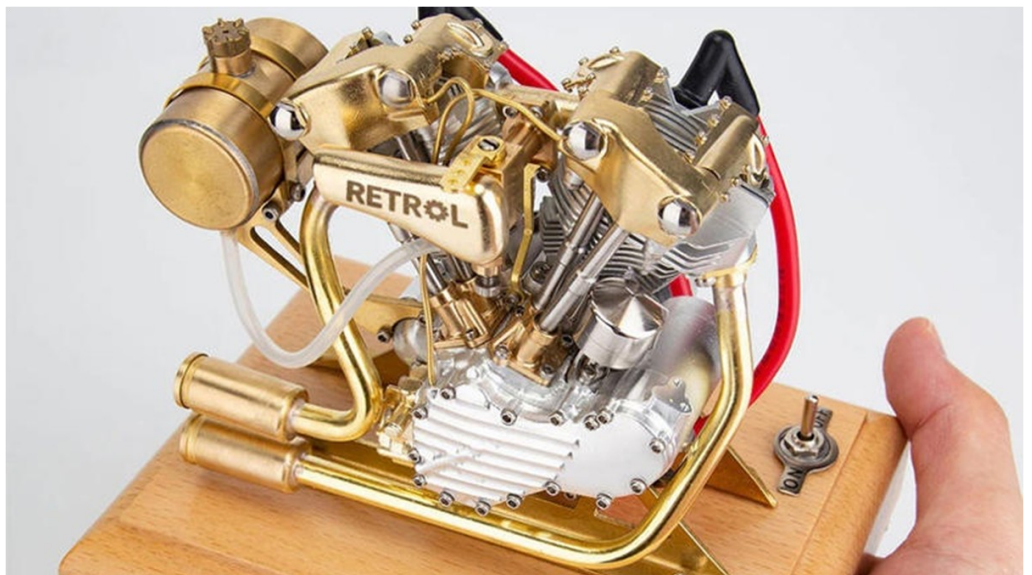
Retrol V-Twin Motorcycle Engine



For motorcycle enthusiasts, an appropriate choice is this Retrol V-Twin motorcycle engine kit, which sells for \$899.99. This kit is a 1/5 scale model of the Harley-Davidson Knucklehead motorcycle engine that was introduced in 1936. This engine kit is made of brass and stainless steel and comes with a flat wooden base for mounting.

The four-stroke gas-powered engine includes an adjustable carburetor, and each cylinder has a bore of 13 millimeters and stroke of 16 millimeters, making the engine's total displacement 4.2 cubic centimeters. The engine takes a 1/4-32 Thread ME8 Spark Plug and requires a pre-mixed 25/1 fuel/oil blend to run properly.

It can be started with a power drill or the included pull start cord, and the spark is provided by three AA batteries, which are not included in the kit.



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HAPPY BIRTHDAY

ALL MEMBERS

who have....

December Birthdays



What's Happening

NOTE: All dates are subject to be changed/postponed/cancelled. Please reach out to the organization regarding their event.

Adult Party
STARTING AT NOON
 \$3 Beers & Seltzers
 Ugly Christmas Sweater Contest
 \$250 Shopping Spree Giveaway
 Tattoos by 909 Tattoo Co.

Adventure HARLEY-DAVIDSON
SATURDAY DEC. 10TH

Naughty & NICE party
 for the kids
PHOTOS WITH SANTA
 10AM TO 12PM

1365 ST. RT. 39 NW, DOVER, OH
 ADVENTUREHARLEY.COM

LADIES
Night Out
Friday, December 16th
From 6pm - 8pm

Buckeye
 HARLEY-DAVIDSON
 Dayton, Ohio

28th Annual
MOTORCYCLE SWAP MEET

DELAWARE COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
 298 Pennsylvania Ave., Delaware, Ohio 43015

BUY SELL TRADE
 Parts
 Leather
 Jewelry
 Patches
 Accessories

Sunday JANUARY 14 2024

Admission: \$7 per person (12 and under free)
 Doors Open 10:00 am - 3:00 pm
 Vendor Spots \$40 each, 10 x 10
 Saturday Vendor setup: 9am - 5pm
MORE INFORMATION: 260-301-6340

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MOTORCYCLE SWAP MEET

ALLIANCE COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
 476 WEST 123 ST. ST. JOHNS BAY 2 MILES

BUY SELL TRADE
 Parts
 Leather
 Jewelry
 Patches
 Accessories

SUNDAY Feb 11, 2024
9 am - 2 pm

Admission: \$8 per person (12 and under free)
 Doors Open 9:00 am - 2:00 pm
 Vendor Spots \$40 each, 10x10
 Saturday Vendor setup: 9 am - 5 pm
MORE INFORMATION: 260-301-6340

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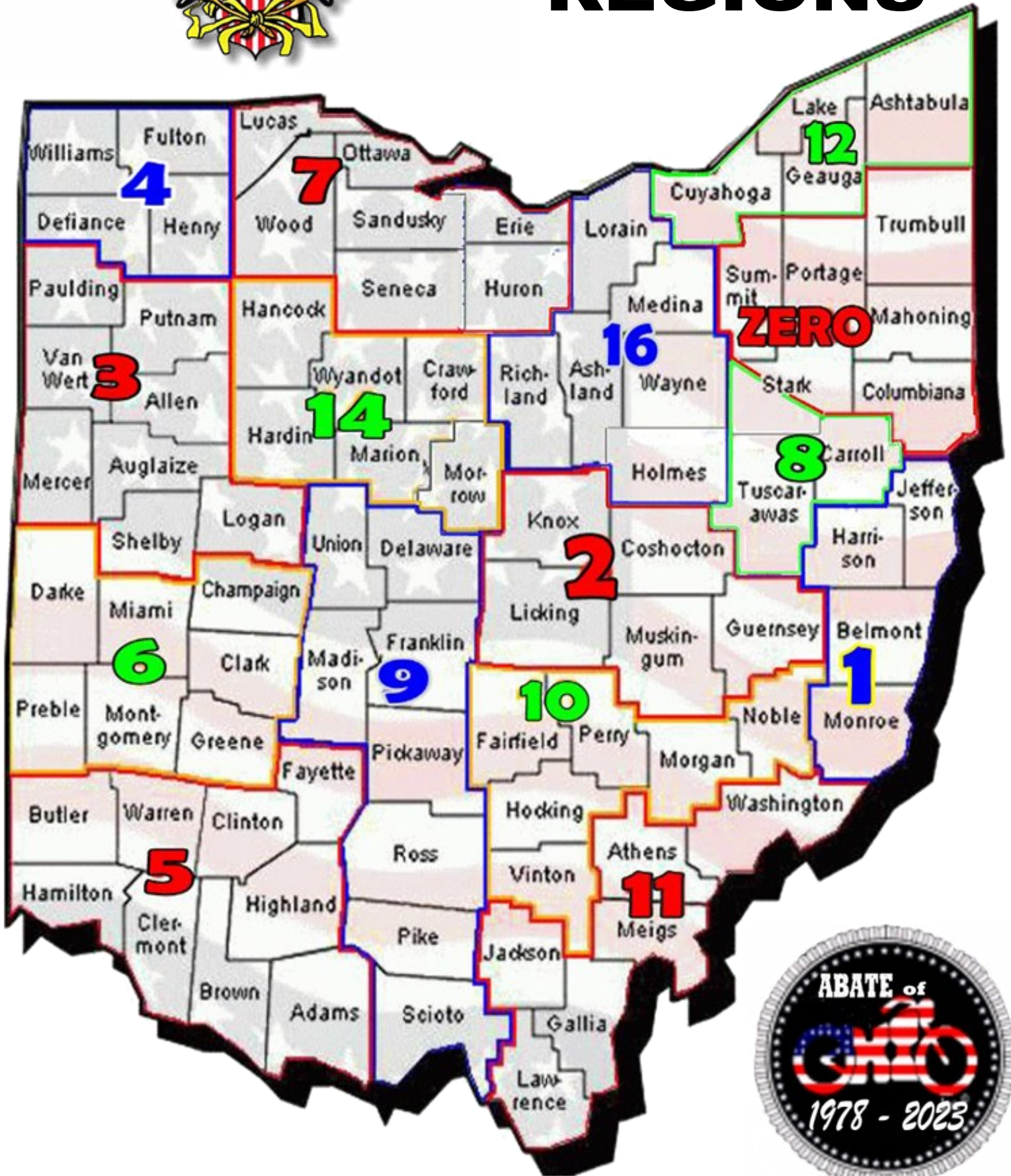
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Keith Roller... Deputy Director
Lion Man ... Legislative Director 330.718.3066
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Barb Tittle ... Treasurer 330.677.1845
Donna Sam ... Membership 330.540.6210

One day when messing around in the garage and working on a project. Jonsie, Paul, and myself were telling stories as we usually do. We were sharing mostly motorcycle, sea, and war stories, but Paul stole the stage and rightly so when he told us to saddle up for a doozie.

This story is a true account.

February 1991
Operation Desert Storm
Iraq

Early in the morning around 0400 after doing multiple false insertions in order to throw off the enemy as to their true position and flying low enough to keep the anti-aircraft guns off of them Sgt. Drodouski and his team of five other Rangers rushed out of a CH-47 Chinook helicopter and onto the flat barren desert floor deep into enemy territory. The mission: Patrol on foot, locate any and all enemy activity and facilities. Identify to coalition forces. Duration of mission: unknown.

Under the cover of darkness the Rangers hit the ground and immediately used their entrenching tools to dig a hole large enough to fit six men and all of their equipment. For the fortunate who do not know, the Iraqi desert is a hard packed rocky soil. It's no easy task to dig a hole. Let alone one to fit six Rangers up to their necks and the amount of equipment and provisions they had for this mission of an unknown timeline.

From eyesight, you couldn't see anything in any direction from that hole. Every morning the patrol would set an azimuth and beat feet in search of enemy activity or infrastructure. Some days after patrolling all day under the hot Iraqi sun nothing would be seen. Nevertheless the mission goes on day after day.

When the Rangers were back at their hole they called home they would take turns cleaning and inspecting each other's feet and weapons. In the flat open desert, sand storms also known as "Haboobs" were prevalent which would saturate the Soldier's gear, weapons, and body. The sand would find its way into the most delicate parts of their weapons and bodies, but with true grit and determination these men pushed through.

On one particular day while on patrol Sgt. Drodouski could see in the great distance what looked like enemy troops, vehicles, and equipment. The Rangers were not as easy to spot as there were only six of them and they were dispersed about the desert landscape. These well trained, heavily armed Rangers were no fools and in that moment muscle memory kicked in as they hit the deck exploiting any micro-terrain they could find for concealment all the while hoping they weren't already compromised.

Being compromised and captured was a conversation these brave men have rehearsed plenty in their minds and knew in their hearts that it wasn't an option. While laying prone on the Earth in a land so far from home, Sgt. Drodouski gets a better look and realizes that they are looking at a company to battalion sized element.

Knowing their odds against a force of such magnitude were no match, Sgt Drodouski breaks radio silence to report the activity, simultaneously producing his laser identifier to mark targets. Every minute there lying felt like an hour. The patrol had to maintain their position while Sgt. Drodouski kept his laser identifier fixed onto the target because calculated coordinates could not be guaranteed and any miscalculations would be detrimental.

After some moments have passed, fast mover jets fly past the patrol and towards the target for identification... and then drop a payload of ordnance onto it.

While the patrol didn't stick around to review and recon the aftermath, they used the chaos as an opportunity to aid in their concealment and patrol cautiously back to their hide.

While back at the hole the next day the Rangers get a message over they're radio to stand by for exfiltration and nothing else. The word is past to all members and they prepared themselves and their equipment for departure. Thirty minutes go by when they see and hear an aircraft flying their way. They were not naive and foolish enough to assume it to be friendly forces and that assumption quickly became fear when a Cobra gunship comes into view and towards them setting up for a gun run on their position. One of the younger members of the team starts ripping at his rucksack and to Sgt. Drodouski's amazement produces a three foot by five foot American flag that wasn't supposed to be in his pack once noticed during pre mission planning but nevertheless at this moment that didn't matter while two members held the Stars and Stripes as wide and tall as they could in hopes that they had enough time for the pilot to see.

Whether the pilot saw the flag or knew the Soldiers were there was irrelevant. The pilot banked the gunship (then in one of the coolest moments that can happen in one's life), gave the Rangers a big thumbs up which was greatly appreciated considering what could have happened. Shortly after the Cobra gunship incident a CH-47 Chinook helicopter landed in the distance about 150 meters away. The team then watched the ramp drop on the chopper and oddly enough six men wearing green camouflage on rattle can green dirt bikes come racing toward them. While the bikes were en route to the Ranger's position the Chinook helicopter closed it's ramp and lifted off. Once the modified dirt bikes made it to the Soldier's hole they were instructed to hop on as best as possible with all of their gear and prepare for departure. Cruising through the open desert at a moderate rate of speed the Ranger's were mentally preparing for the upcoming debrief that would surely be happening when they arrive to base.

When the team make it back to base and before they had a chance for debriefing they quickly replenished their equipment, cleaned weapons, and prepared for the next mission.

This is a true account and not only because of this mission, but multiple others during Operation Desert Storm, Sgt. Drodouski received the Bronze Star.

***Dec 16 Christmas Party
@ Yellow Dog and election of officers
for 2024***



Hey, Region, 8,

Don't forget the December meeting is the 3rd at the Carroll County Vet's club in Carrollton. This is when we hold our elections for the 2024 Region board and yes you will be electing a new Director to rally around and keep this region rolling along. Also there is a bunch of stuff to win and every member that's present has a chance to win.

Then don't forget our Christmas party on the 16th at Ricardo's in New Phila. RSVP tickets are available.

Thank you everyone, Tim.

**ABATE of OHIO
State Membership**

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ABATE of OHIO Membership Dues & Renewal Fees		
Membership Type	Donation	Duration
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LOOK TWICE SAVE A LIFE



The MRF's primary goals include:

- Monitoring and influencing federal legislation for any impact on the motorcycling community at large
- Representing street motorcyclists by participating in federal research and advisory committees
- Protecting street motorcyclists from unfair or burden some federal agency restrictions and regulations
- Ending discrimination against street motorcyclists
- Providing all street motorcyclists with direction and information to protect their motorcycling rights
- Promoting motorcycling safety, training, education, licensing and public awareness on American roads



WHO WE ARE

The Motorcycle Riders Foundation is the Nation's premiere motorcyclists' rights organization that is chiefly concerned with issues at the national and international levels that impact the freedom and safety of American street motorcyclists. We are also committed to educating rights advocates to improve effectiveness at the state and local levels. The MRF works together with street motorcyclists, State Motorcyclists' Rights Organizations (SMROs), the motorcycle industry, the media and other organizations, assisting them with state and local agendas as well as working with them to influence action and policy in Washington, DC - from the Congress to government departments and agencies to the Office of the President of the United States. We also work with allies in Canada, Europe and Asia to influence talks on vehicle globalization and harmonization that are proceeding under the United Nations and the World Health Organization.

JOIN THE MRF TODAY!

OUR RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS FEDERALLY DEPEND ON IT!

MRF.ORG

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DECEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

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