

JANUARY  
NEWSLETTER  
2024

# OutSpokin'



ABATE  
OHIO



AMERICAN BIKERS AIMED TOWARDS EDUCATION



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330.201.1330

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330.428.2083

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330.201.1330





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

We Want You



To Ride With Us!



NEW YEAR

NEW DREAMS

*New Roads*

# 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.

## NOTICE

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### ABATE of OHIO

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### MAILING ADDRESS

ABATE of OHIO  
P.O. BOX 313  
Weston, OH 43569



### HOTLINE

Call the **HOTLINE** anytime for any info or to contact any officer

**1-800-25-BIKER**

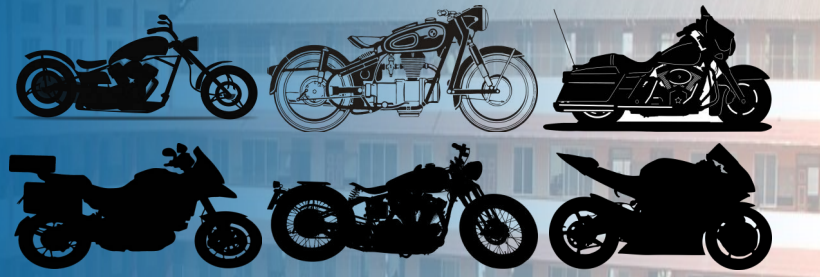
*ABATE of OHIO encourages all members to submit letters, articles or cartoons they feel may be of interest to fellow members. ABATE of OHIO supports the rights of ALL motorcyclists, ABATE of OHIO does not endorse any products or services other than its own.*

## 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 2024. How time flies. It's time to get down to work because we have a lot of work to get done. We, as members, need to call and talk to our legislators ask them for help. Last month I asked you to read and get up to date on **Right to Repair** and **Right to Modify**. These 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. If you need help with a number to call or an address, call me at 419-654-5446. Thank You!

If you have never talked to your Legislator, you should. He is the one that is representing you at the Ohio State House. Most of the time I never get to talk directly to him or her, but the aide seems to get the message to them. If really want to do this and just don't know how, get in touch with Lion man, Ed or myself and we can help. The other day I was reading an article in the Legion Magazine about The American Flag. I think everyone should know how to fly the Flag. A flag should not be used for clothing, you should not mark on it, don't use it for a ceiling cover, and it should not be used for advertising purposes. This is the short version. I'm hoping to have something on this topic for the seminar.

The State Seminar is February 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. If anyone has something for the silent action at the seminar, bring it with you. If you can't make it, give me a call and I will pick it up. We'll have Meet the Board and games on Friday night. The information part is on Saturday. If you can't make the whole seminar, come for the day on Saturday get that information.

We have been selling 50/50 tickets and we will be drawing the winning ticket at the Seminar on Saturday. The proceeds will benefit Motorcycle Ohio as well as ABATE of Ohio. If you want to purchase tickets, call me. Just \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. Get in touch, and I do take credit cards.

Motorcycle Ohio, MO, will be starting registration January 24, 2024 at 8am in the morning. Don't forget to get your registration done at 800.837-4337 or on [motorcycle.ohio.gov](http://motorcycle.ohio.gov).

	<u>Crashes</u>	<u>Fatalities</u>	<u>Speed Related</u>
2023	3703	325	718
2022	4082	208	731

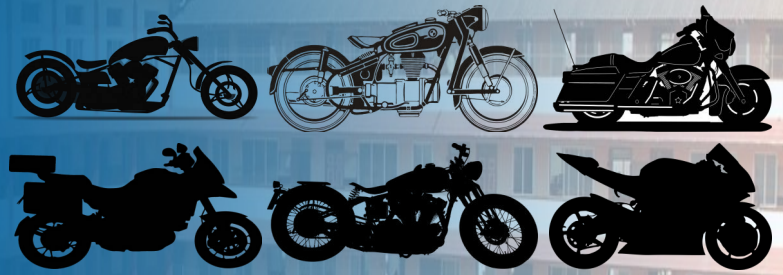
Start getting ready to have a safer riding season. The days are already getting longer!





# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Ed Schetter



You know, I can't believe I just had to write 2024 on the top of this report. Where did 2023 go? I'll be screwing up the date on checks for at least 30 days (for those of you old enough you still write checks.) We are half way through the 135<sup>th</sup> Ohio Legislature and we have a bunch of work to finish.

2024 will be a crucial year for ABATE of Ohio. Since 1978 we've fought helmet laws, closed an insurance loop hole that could leave you without coverage, helped establish and defended to Motorcycle Ohio Program and its funding, gotten license plates expanded to include motorcycle, had limitations on how you can modify your motorcycle changed and many other things as your watchdog in Columbus. And we have a big fight going on currently over the internal combustion engine.

Ohio House Bill 201 would revise the Ohio Revised Code to prohibit a state agency, county or township from restricting the sale of vehicles based on California's exemption to section 209(b) of the federal Clean Air Act. This bill has passed out of the Ohio House. ABATE of Ohio will be heading down tomorrow for Proponent testimony in the Ohio Senate Energy and Resources Committee. Hopefully by the time you read this it will have passed out of committee and passed off the Senate Floor.

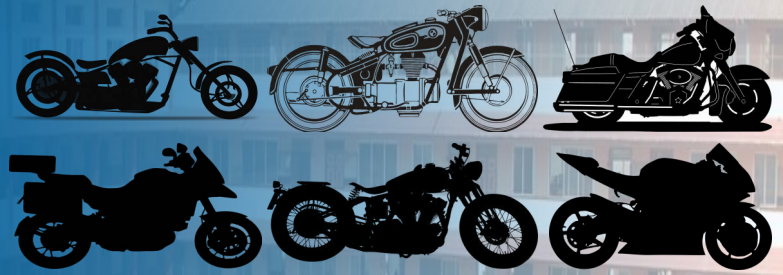
Ohio House Resolution 198 and Ohio Senate Resolution 155 do the same thing. They both support consumer choice in the marketplace by urging the administration to insure that all regulations regarding light, medium or heavy duty vehicles promote choice and prevent electric vehicle mandates. ABATE of Ohio presented proponent testimony for HR198 and it has passed out of committee. ABATE is ready to be there in support of SR155 when testimony is heard in committee on the Senate side.

Keep an eye out for an email or call to action when the time is right on these issues. To be clear, we are not opposed to electric motorcycles. It's about the choice.

We are also supporting the MRF and NCOM's efforts with S2090 the "Preserving Choice in Vehicle Purchases Act." There is a call to action on the MRFs website to notify the Ohio Federal Senators our support of this legislation. It's companion on the House Side HR 1435 has already passed. HR 4468 and S3094 the "Choice in Automobile Retail Sales Act of 2023" (CARS Act for short) will reinforce these efforts. Again, be ready for action when the time comes.

# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Ed Schetter



Over the years we've had of conversation over the difference between "Talk"ers and "Do"ers. Every one of us can stop at the local tavern and run into "Talk"ers. Social media is another good place for them to hang out. Most of us have to deal with them in both our personal and professional lives. They are big on the mouth but somewhat vacant when it comes time to get the work done.

Maybe that's why we are such a successful grass roots organization. We give the "Do"ers and place to go and be with other "Do"ers. Less than 3% of the population belong to an organization the defends their rights. Any kind of rights. That's where the term 3%er originated.

Let's be the "Do"ers and give our children and grand children the opportunity to enjoy the same freedom we enjoy (and maybe get a little back). Happy New Year, now let's get to work. We have one more year of this Legislature to get things passed.

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**  
**VETERANS VIGIL FRIDAY NIGHT**  
**SATURDAY**  
**BIKE RODEO/ BIKE SHOW /**  
**TATTOO CONTEST**  
**FOOD/ VENDORS**

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

EMAIL: [freedomrallyregion8@gmail.com](mailto:freedomrallyregion8@gmail.com) CONTACTS: TIM 330-243-4273/ KELLY 330-327-3513

ABATE of Ohio Inc. is a "Not for Profit" Organization  
All Donations are NOT TAX Deductible  
ABATE of Ohio Inc. Events are subject to a 30% Administration Fee

Find us on Facebook

# FREEDOM RALLY

ABATE of OHIO, INC.



Region 8

ABATE of Ohio, Inc. Region 8 is pleased to announce our **28th Freedom Rally, July 5 thru 7, 2024**, at the Carroll County Veteran's Park, 2038 Brenner Rd NE Carrollton OH 44615. The Rally is a fun filled weekend event consisting of Bike Games, Live Bands, Stage Shows, Vendors, and the Highlight: A Vigil honoring our POW/MIA's. Proceeds from this fundraising event benefit [local](#) USA Military Veterans charities and ABATE of Ohio Inc.

ABATE (American Bikers Aimed Towards Education) of Ohio, Inc. is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to: "Preserving the rights, improving the image, and promoting safe operating practices of Ohio motorcyclists". Region 8 consists of Carroll, Stark, and Tuscarawas counties. Some ABATE of Ohio, Inc. accomplishments include:

- Involved in creating the Motorcycle Ohio Enrichment Program, of which each year helps train thousands of new riders and provides continuing skills for the experienced rider.
- Work with ODOT to help raise public awareness of motorcycles.
- Stage fundraising events to benefit many different charities
- Work to be sure the motorcyclists' interests are represented on legislative issues.

We are asking for your help to be able to continue these accomplishments and help area Veterans.

We offer two forms of Sponsorship to choose from: our Traditional Sponsorship levels, or Promotional Sponsorship opportunities! Promotional sponsorship allows you to provide promotional/give-away items rather than cash for one of our many events! (Please see reverse side for more information.)

**Deadline for sponsorship is May 5, 2024.**

**\*\*Platinum Level Only\*\* - Respond by December 31, 2023, and have your logo included on our event flyer!**

For questions contact: Tim Cordray at 330-243-4273 or [freedomrallyregion8@gmail.com](mailto:freedomrallyregion8@gmail.com) .

Stay up to date on the Rally at our Facebook page:  
(Please Note - This event is for those 18 years & Older!)



ABATE of Ohio, Inc. is a 501 © 4 "not for profit" organization. As a sponsor supporter, your contribution is deductible as a business expense for advertising, however, cannot be used as a charitable contribution.



# FREEDOM RALLY

**ABATE of OHIO, INC.**  
  
**Region 8**

ABATE of Ohio, Inc. Region 8 is pleased to announce that **Freedom Rally #28** will again take place **July 5 thru 7, 2024** at the Carroll County Veteran's Park, 2038 Brenner Rd NE Carrollton OH 44615. Gates will open at **Noon on Friday** and close at **Noon on Sunday**. We hope to see you there!

**Vendor prices for the weekend event :**

- **10'x10' space - \$10.00 per space with submission postmarked before June 15, 2024/\$15.00 after June 15, 2024** (ABATE Members receive a 10% discount). No credit cards accepted.
- **Vendor worker weekend pass admission - \$25.00 per person (Workers must be 18 years & Older)**
- Worker pass includes primitive camping (No electric hook-up; No pets please.)

**NOTE:** All **Food & Tattoo vendors** must obtain proper permit(s) from the Carroll County Board of Health prior to the event and will be subject to inspection by a Health Board Representative. Call the Board of Health at 330-627-4866 for more information.

**Food vendors** must supply their own food grade hose for water hookup.

**Vendors may begin setup on Thursday (July 4, 2024) at Noon.**

**Food/Tattoo vendors must be set-up by 9:00am Friday (July 5, 2024) for Health Department inspections.**

**There are no full RV Hookups, No one under 18, No Pets, No Refunds, No Exceptions.**

Stay up to date on the Rally at our Facebook page:



Questions? Please contact Kelly Oyer by Phone (330-327-3513) OR Email ([kellyo7654@gmail.com](mailto:kellyo7654@gmail.com))

**FREEDOM RALLY VENDOR FORM**

<b>10x10 Space</b> _____ (Qty) @ \$10.00 (\$15.00 after June 15, 2024) per space =	\$
<b>Abate Member 10% Discount</b> (Applies to Vendor Space only)	\$
<b>Vendor Worker(s)</b> _____ (Qty) @ \$25.00 per person (18 years & Older) =	\$
<b>Optional Electric Hookup</b> (Limited Availability & Vendor to supply their own 100' cord) <b>Food Vendors</b> (\$50.00 per cord) <b>Non-Food Vendors</b> (\$30.00 per Cord)	\$
<b>TOTAL:</b>	\$

Vendor Name : \_\_\_\_\_

Vending Product : \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person : \_\_\_\_\_

Address : \_\_\_\_\_

Phone : \_\_\_\_\_ Email : \_\_\_\_\_

**Checks Payable to: Abate of Ohio, Inc / Region 8**

**Mail Payment or Correspondence to:**

**Kelly Oyer, 6089 Indian Run Ave SE, Waynesburg OH 44688**



## Mark Your Calendars!

Like the joy of expectation for the holidays, many riders wait with anticipation for the opening of the [Motorcycle Ohio \(MO\) training portal](#) each year. Are you or do you have a friend who wants to try out motorcycle riding for the first time; or perhaps a friend who has been riding for years but is not endorsed? Send them to the portal to sign up. It's not just for new/beginning riders to get their endorsement either. For example, each year for the past 5 years, one of my students has come back every spring to refresh himself by taking the Basic Rider Skills for Returning Riders course (BRS-RR). He feels that his skills grow rusty over the winter and can be improved by taking this class which sets him up for a successful and more safe riding year.

This year the portal will open on **January 24, 2024 at 8:00 am**. Where else can you actively engage in dreaming about next year's riding? Right Here! Mark your calendars.

The link that will provide access to the classes is shown below:

<https://services.dps.ohio.gov/MotorCycleOhioTraining/student/Home>

The classes offered are:

Basic Rider Skills (BRS)

Basic Rider Skills for Returning Riders (BRS-RR)

Basic Riders Skills 2 (BRS-2)

Where is MO Public Training offered in Ohio?

The counties shown below all offer the Basic Rider Skills (BRS) course. Fewer counties offer the Basic Rider Skills for Returning Riders (BRS-RR) and the Basic Riders Skills 2 (BRS-2) course, so you'll need to confirm your local sites specific class availability if you want to take one of the more advanced classes.



Pro Tip: It's recommended that you sign up well in advance for your class. However, if you go to sign up for a class and it is already listed as full but you still want to attempt to attend that specific session, there is a MO Stand-by Policy. In brief, it provides the ability to potentially join a class, if there are "no-shows". There are a number of conditions so it's important that you understand them before attempting to "walk-in". Please see the MO website for policy details.

See you on the range in 2024!

# Motorcycle Humor

A guy pushes his bike into a gas station. He tells the mechanic it died. After he works on it for a few minutes, it is idling smoothly. He says, 'What's the story?' Mechanic replies, 'Just crap in the carburetor' He asks, 'How often do I have to do that?'

A motorcycle highway patrolman pulled alongside a speeding Mini Van on the freeway. Glancing at the car, he was astounded to see that the woman behind the wheel was knitting! Realizing that she was oblivious to his flashing lights and siren, the trooper moved in closer, turned and yelled, 'PULL OVER!'

'NO!' the woman yelled back, 'IT'S A SCARF!'







# 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**

614-885-3334

**Room Rate \$94.00 per night**

**Group Rate Code: ABATE of Ohio**

Room Reservation cut off date 1/10/2024

Name : \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

**CHECK PAYABLE TO:**

ABATE of Ohio, Inc.

Mail to: ABATE of Ohio, Inc.

P.O. Box 313, Weston, Oh. 43569

MRO Member with Banquet \$25 each x \_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Non Member with Banquet \$30 each x \_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Workshop with No Banquet FREE x \_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Preregister for FREE Lunch

**CREDIT CARDS ARE ACCEPTED**

Phone : 614-319-3644

or 419-654-5446

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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

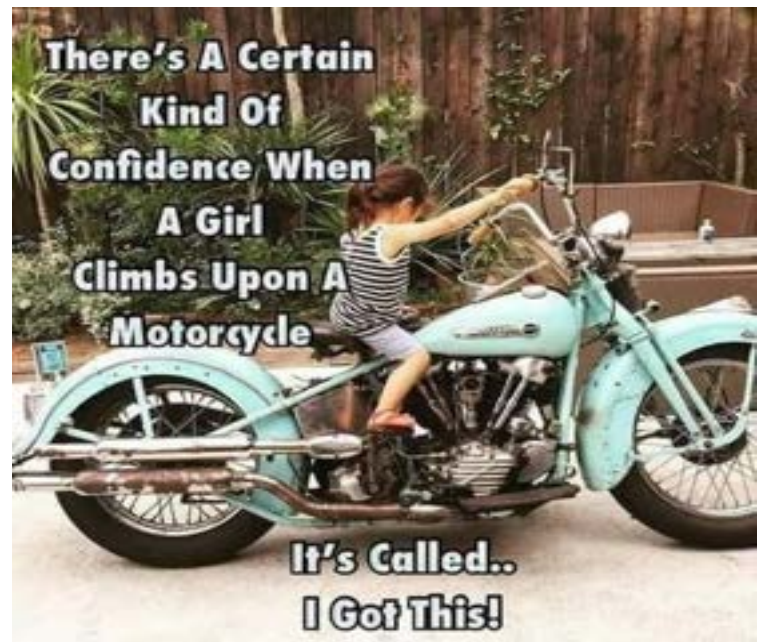
# the news

## MEMBERS PLEASE SUBMIT

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

PLEASE SEND ALL INFORMATION TO

[mikestock419@gmail.com](mailto:mikestock419@gmail.com)



# SUPPORT YOUR MOTORCYCLE RIGHTS ORGANIZATIONS







**YOU  
DRINK**



**YOU  
RIDE.**



**YOU  
DIE.**



**YOUR  
BROTHER  
-IN-  
LAW  
GETS YOUR  
BIKE.**

**BUMMER.**



Happy New Year to all my Abate of Ohio members and my MRF Members.

This has been a wonderful year for me. Getting out to see a lot of the Regions and I am sorry if I missed getting to see others. Will try next year to get out to other meetings etc.

It has been a fruitful year gaining more than 25 new members (I thank each of you so much) but I lost just as many, and I am working so hard to at least get over the 100 hump! Come on Abate members, I know you can help a girl out! I would really like to see every Abate of Ohio member an MRF member. HOW GREAT WOULD THAT BE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Bob and I did get down to Bourbon country for a few days and then onto Walneck's swap meet in Springfield on the 26<sup>th</sup>. Again, I thank him for allowing me to set up for free, no one else does that for me and I really appreciate it. It was pretty slow and I did get to talk to a few people.

I am seeing a pullback regarding the EV's and the BEV's from across the country. The people, Ford, GM, Dodge, etc are hopefully seeing that all electric vehicle mandates are not logical for this country. Just this past week I read several articles to that effect. Thank goodness.

The MRF still has a strong stance regarding Right to Repair, Right to Modify, Profiling, ICE's and so on. Please join the MRF and let your voice be heard nationwide!! We are doing great things for all motorcyclists, and we need your membership to continue the fight.

I will end with a blessing to every one of you. I pray that 2024 brings you nothing but joy and good health. Thank you for allowing me to be your MRF State Representative!!

*Sherry*

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





**MOTORCYCLE RIDERS  
FOUNDATION**  
Ride With The Leaders

# Six Advocates Step Up

Six long-time motorcyclist rights advocates and Motorcycle Riders Foundation (MRF) members were recently selected as members of the "Community of Practice" groups, updating federal motorcycle safety guidelines. The Motorcycle Riders Foundation would like to thank these six bikers for volunteering their time on this project:

Ron Braaksma – Iowa

Vince Consiglio- Michigan

Jay Jackson – Indiana

Gary Klinker – Wisconsin

Ed Schetter – Ohio

Imre Szauter – New Hampshire

The primary focus of their work will be updating three documents: The National Agenda for Motorcycle Safety (NAMS), Model National Standards for Entry-Level Motorcycle Rider Training (Content Standards), and Model National Administrative Standards for State Motorcycle Rider Training Programs (Administrative Standards).

Between January and September 2024, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) will hold monthly meetings with diverse stakeholders to update and modernize these key motorcycle policy documents. All motorcyclists are extremely fortunate that these six individuals will be able to share their extensive knowledge, experience and passion on issues that matter to all bikers.

We know that some state motorcyclist rights groups also have participants in the "Community of Practice" project and we applaud their involvement. Without a doubt, the work of these NHTSA-sponsored groups will be better because of their involvement.

We look forward to hearing more about their work in 2024!

# The MobilityWorks Foundation

Improving the World  
with Improved Accessibility

The Riders Fund assists disabled individuals who desire to ride a motorcycle. Whether you were a former rider that dreams of riding again, or someone who thought it would never be possible to ride, you can and we can help! The Fund's sole purpose is to assist disabled riders with purchasing adaptive motorcycles to allow them to enjoy the freedom of the open road. The riding community is one of the strongest groups in America when it comes to supporting their own, so please show your support by helping to give others the opportunity to ride.

The MobilityWorks Foundation  
1500 Canton Road, Suite 208  
Akron OH 44312

Email: [support@themobilityworksfoundation.org](mailto:support@themobilityworksfoundation.org)





# 2024 Honda Gold Wing Tour Airbag DCT



As we know, the luxury tourer was almost completely redesigned for

the [2018 model year](#), dropping a pile of weight and getting a double wishbone front suspension as well as a reworked flat six-cylinder engine. The changes instantly broadened its appeal, and further improvements to suspension, electronics, audio and rider conveniences in subsequent years helped evolve the big Wing further. All of which is to say that for 2024, the venerable Wing is essentially unchanged, but you're still getting a feature-packed spec sheet, with a seven-speed [DCT trans-](#)

[mission](#), a 7-inch TFT screen, navigation, Apple Car-Play, Android Auto, an adjustable electric wind-screen, Smart Key operation, four riding modes, traction control, Hill Start, and more. The Gold Wing Tour variant adds a rear luggage box with integrated backrest and even more comfort features.

For 2024 the big Wing is returning in top-of-the-line Gold Wing Tour Air-

bag DCT form, with a \$33,000 MSRP and will be available in Pearl White.

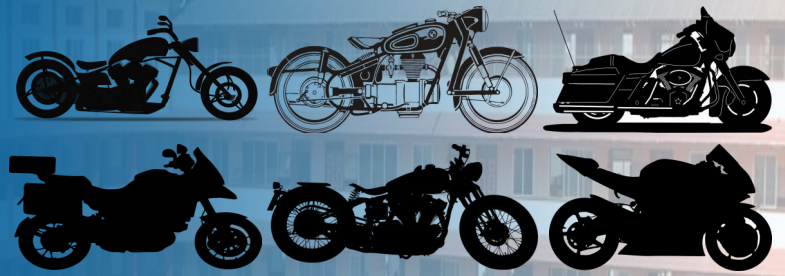
The Gold Wing Tour in both DCT and manual forms is back as well, in Gray Metallic/Black or Pearl White options for \$29,700 and \$28,700, respectively.

The base-model Gold Wing and Gold Wing DCT, however, do feature a new color for 2024; both are available in Matte Armored Green Metallic, with brown detailing on the engine cases. The base Wing rings in at \$24,700, and the DCT version at \$25,700.



*IN DEALERS NOW !*

# LEGISLATIVE NEWS



As I write this it is early December and so far the winter has not turned terrible yet. If you are still out riding be careful. Vehicle drivers aren't looking for us in the summer months, so they sure aren't looking for us now.

After a lot of work, I have finally finished my proposal to modify the Ohio revised code to protect vulnerable road users from right of way violators. I have presented my proposal to the state board of directors and after they have time to review it, I will begin to send it out to various politicians to hopefully find someone to sponsor to make it become a bill. When this happens, it will be up to everyone to make phone calls to make it happen. Simply put, this proposal will make it a felony to violate someone's right of way if doing so causes death or serious injury. It will also mandate loss of driving privileges and require a remedial driving course to get those privileges back.

I have not had a chance to follow up on the progress of getting an anti-profiling bill introduced so stay tuned for more information on this issue after the first of the year.

Check out Ed Schetter's article to learn more about all the state and federal efforts to preserve the Internal Combustion Engine. One day this country and the world will be making and selling modes of transportation that are powered by natural and renewable energies. This is a good thing because we shouldn't use up all of Earth's finite resources. But it must be done in a system that fully supports the smooth transition into the new system.

Enjoy your transition into a new year, but remember that if we don't fight to maintain our rights to ride, no one else will. Make a renewed dedication to yourself to do what ever you can to maintain the right to live and ride freely like you should be able to do in a free country!!! Remember..... FREEDOM IS NEVER FREE!

*Lion Man*







## Ask Our Lawyer

by Rod Taylor - ABATE Legal Services

### ANOTHER REASON TO INCREASE YOUR COVERAGE TO AT LEAST 250/500

The odd choice of 100,000 per person/300,000 per accident uninsured and underinsured coverage on a motorcycle

That is, unless you have a sidecar. If you're paying for 100,000 per person/300,000 per accident un/underinsured coverage on your motorcycle (a two-person vehicle) then you're paying for potential coverage for a third person that will never be there. Now, it is better to have 100/300 than even lower limits such as 25,000/50,000, but hopefully this pushes you to up your limit to 250,000 per person/500,000 per accident to better cover yourself in case an uninsured driver turns left in front of you. And at least you'll know you're not paying for coverage for a third person who is not legally allowed to ride on your motorcycle (again, unless you have a sidecar).

-by Hilary Barnes ABATE LEGAL LAWYER.

### MARVELS OF MARVEL MYSTERY OIL - A SECRET MUST FOR MOTORCYCLE WINTER STORAGE

When it gets so cold out you know you will not be riding for a few weeks, stop by an auto parts store or a Walmart and get a quart can of Marvel Mystery Oil. Pour almost the whole can in the gas tank (save about 4-6 tablespoons for later), and then fill the tank up completely with fuel. The Marvel Mystery Oil will act as an upper cylinder lubricant. *(This stuff has been around since the 30s, and I still don't know how it works. Air cooled airplane engines love the stuff. And we all know that the airplane guys got the idea for aircraft engines from us motorcycle guys. If you want to unstick some valves or lubricate sticking valves, this stuff works like magic. Paul Romine, the guy who re-manufactured Ford engines for Ford in the midwest and a NHRA Champion, swears by the stuff, and that's enough for me. -Rod)*

Remember that 4-6 tablespoons of Marvel Mystery Oil we held in reserve? Now comes the time to use it. Pull the spark plugs out of the engine, pour a tablespoon of Marvel Mystery Oil in each cylinder, and turn the engine over by hand several revolutions in order to spread the Marvel Mystery Oil around the cylinder walls. Reinstall the spark plugs. Simple steps like these will keep your bike ready for this spring and many more to come! Especially if you own a shovel.

### GRANDDAD'S HARLEY DAVIDSON WLA - IS IT COVERED?

**Q.** You are restoring your grandfather's WLA. It is not plated/licensed because you have taken it all apart in your garage and have restored it like new. Grand-dad would be proud. But before you plate/license the bike, your garage catches fire and destroys your family heritage. You call your insurance company and make a claim for your loss under the fire policy for your home/garage. They pay for the garage fire loss and all of the personal property, but deny your claim for the motorcycle. How can this be?

**A.** Most homeowners/fire insurance policies have an exclusion for "unlicensed" motorcycles/automobiles. So if you want your restoration project covered you must call your insurance company and request that the "project" be specifically scheduled on your homeowners insurance policy. The charge is usually modest. Failure to get this bike scheduled will leave you without insurance on your bike if it is destroyed by fire. Interestingly, if the motorcycle has been totally disassembled into parts, a good argument could be made that under most homeowner policies, the parts would have been covered. But as to a completed bike, not so.

A long time ABATE member from Springfield, Illinois discovered this the hard way. "Digger" was restoring his vintage bike when his garage caught fire and destroyed his prized possession. His insurance carrier took a hard line and denied coverage for his bike. Moral of the story: call your insurance company and ask them whether the unlicensed bike is covered. If they say yes— send a confirming email/letter. If they say no, acknowledge to yourself that you are going bare (no coverage) or get the bike scheduled on your policy for the proper value.

## **DROP MY NAME**

From Lisa Best, A.B.A.T.E. of Illinois, Inc. -

Rod, "We wanted to say thank you. We felt our car insurance company was taking advantage of us after an accident. We dropped your name during a discussion with them and the problem was resolved within an hour. You must be famous!"

Lisa, any ABATE member is free to use my name anytime. Hope it works. Rod

## **THE DEFINITION OF "BIKER" HAS EVOLVED**

**Q:** People say I'm a biker. What's a biker? ABATE member.

**A:** Depends on your attitude, I suppose. The word "biker," like many others, has meaning and usage, some of which are positive, and some of which are not. Not even dictionaries can agree on the definition. Webster's Third New International Dictionary defines a biker as "motorcyclist; especially one who is a member of an organized gang." (A member of a gang? What is with that?) The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language notes a biker is "1. One who rides a bicycle or a motorbike. 2. A motorcyclist, especially a member of a motorcycle gang." Meanwhile, our British cousins define a biker as "someone who rides a motorcycle or bicycle," - Cambridge Dictionary of American English. Curiously, the Cambridge International Dictionary of English notes an informal usage of biker as "a member of a gang group of motorcyclists." The Random House Historical Dictionary of American Slang notes that the meaning of "biker" as "gang member" became current usage in 1968. Of course, the term would have been used informally for some time before that. Prior to 1981, Webster's had no definition for biker at all, and was added in order to better reflect current trends in popular usage, according to a spokesperson for Webster's.

How did we get from "motorcycle rider" to "gang member?" The exact route is unclear, but three events seem to have solidified the "gang member" connotation for bikers. The first is the Hollister, CA rally of 1947. Shortly after the end of WWII, large numbers of demobilized troops turned to motorcycling for recreation, camaraderie, and as a way of dealing with the lingering horrors of war (Today, it is called post traumatic stress syndrome by some). One of the gatherings of riders that caught the attention of the press was a rally held in Hollister, California, about 100 miles south of San Francisco. Life Magazine, in an effort to portray the spirit of motorcycling, staged a picture of a man sitting on top of a motorcycle amid a pile of beer bottles. The myth of the biker was born.

**HAPPY  
NEW YEAR**



Two other events brought the myth into clear focus for the masses, and both were images from the movies. The 1954 release of Brando's "The Wild One" and 1969's "Easy Rider" cemented an image of bikers as marauding, out-of-control gang members. Subsequent movies and books have relied on those associations to the point where the mental image of "biker" becomes Brando or Dennis Hopper (with a football helmet, no less). It's a shame that a conscientious, hard-working, freedom-loving group of individualists are defined by media image and a some that are not us.

How do we change the image? We keep doing the things we always do: respect others, defend our rights, participate in our communities, help the less fortunate, and ride safely. But we can do more, like contacting publishers of dictionaries and letting them know that bikers aren't gang members any more than any other group. ABATE Legal has taken the lead by writing to the publishers of Webster's and other dictionaries to ask that they make modifications to the definition to clarify the usage.

**Ride Safe.**

**Rod Taylor**

**ABATE Legal Services**

[www.abatelegal.com](http://www.abatelegal.com)

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](mailto:RodTaylor@abatelegal.com). © 2023.



NONE OF THE MOTORCYCLES IN THIS PICTURE CAN BE SEEN IN THE TRUCKER'S MIRROR'S OR OTHER BLIND SPOTS. Take a moment and "SHARE this on your Facebook Page. IT COULD SAVE THE LIFE OF A SOMEONE YOU LOVE.





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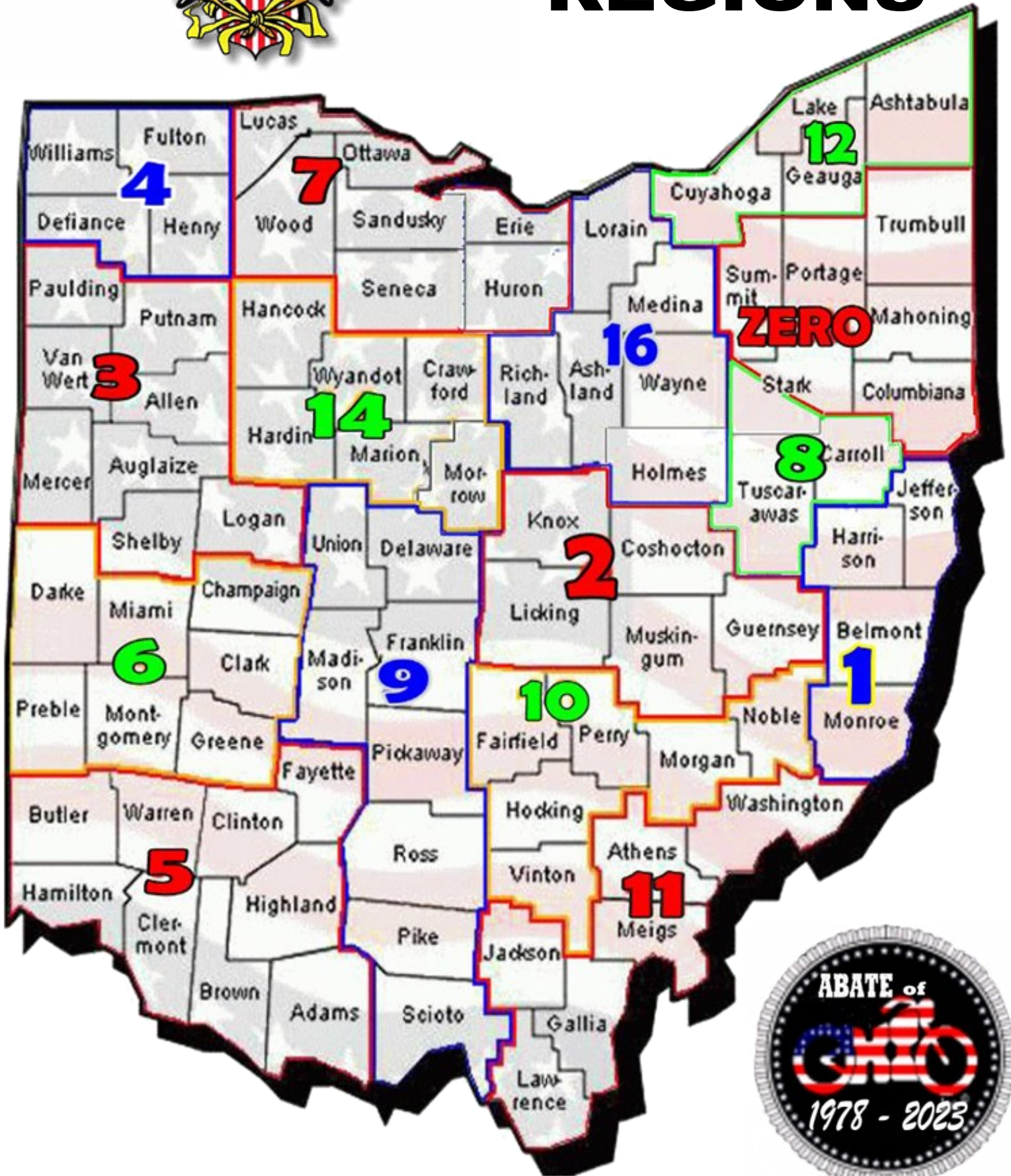


**Members  
With A  
JANUARY BIRTHDAY !**





# ABATE REGIONS





**Randy Kibler...** Director 330.428.2083  
**Keith Roller...** Deputy Director  
**Lion Man ...** Legislative Director 330.718.3066  
**TA Brown ...** Road Captain 330.727.8286  
**Barb Tittle ...** Treasurer 330.677.1845  
**Donna Sam ...** Membership 330.540.6210

Winter is here and the time is right for dancing in the streets. Not quite, maybe for shoveling though. We are deep into the holiday season with much to be thankful for believe it or not. We are thankful for the ones still with us and thankful for the times we had with the ones no longer here. We are also thankful for the time to mend relationships or to end them and move on to more fruitful opportunities.

Even in December Region Zero is plowing forward with our mission. While people on the street and on the internet are flapping their gums and keyboards about things they don't understand our Legislative/Government Relations Officer Lion Man has painstakingly gone through the existing Right-Of-Way legislation and has modified it to address vulnerable road users such as motorcyclists and street walkers. The end result will be much harsher punishments for violators which will cost money, time, and embarrassment from family and friends. I don't want to say much more on it due to it being Lion's hard work, but it is a masterpiece.

Want to hear more about right-of-way legislation modifications or what else we're up to come to our Holiday party/Elections 1:00pm, December 16th at the Yellow Dog in Cortland. An Angry Chef may be in attendance!!

Soon will be January and a new year. Roads will be sloppy and beat to put it mildly, but not Region Zero. We hit hard fast and continuously. In closing a quote from R Lee Ermey in the movie The Siege of Firebase Gloria. "STAY ALERT, STAY ALIVE, It's as simple as that."



**from**  
**REGION**  
**0**





Happy Holidays Region 8,

Well just a few more weeks left for me as director of Region 8. I would like to take this time to thank everybody that has been a part of making our Region what it is today and ask that you all join me in rallying around our new director to keep everything going in the right direction. Please keep in mind that this does not mean that I'm not going to be around, I will still be taking care of the rodeos, the booth at bike nights and such, and the Freedom Rally. Plus I'll be helping our new director along so the transition hopefully goes without a noticeable hitch.

Once again thank you board members and members that has been a part of this over the last 12 or 13 years and let's keep it going as the great team that we are.

Thank you,  
Tim

Happy  
New Year!

**SOUTHERN MID-ATLANTIC**  
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# What's Happening

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

**28th Annual**  
**MOTORCYCLE**  
**SWAP MEET**

**DELAWARE COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS**  
238 Pennsylvania Ave, Delaware, Ohio 43015

**BUY  
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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**  
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**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**

**SPONSORED BY: J&C MOTORCYCLE** 

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**ANNUAL DUES INFORMATION**

ABATE of OHIO Membership Dues & Renewal Fees		
Membership Type	Donation	Duration
Individual Membership	\$20	12 Months
Couples Membership	\$40	12 Months



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Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Registered OHIO Voter?  YES  NO ENDORSED MOTORCYCLIST  YES  NO

Is This A New Membership?  YES  NO

Date of Birth \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_ Motorcycle Ohio or Safety Course?  YES  NO

# OHIO ABATE OHIO

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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 burdensome 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**

The Motorcycle Riders Foundation  
 P. O. Box 9090  
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# JANUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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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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