

# ABATE of Michigan

*Fighting for the rights of all motorcyclists since 1976*

**Riding free since 2012!!**

*Official Michigan Rider Newsletter*

**February 2026**



Region 7's Christmas Party  
Parkus bought flowers for  
Shelby and Leah for all they  
do for the Region!

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ABATE of Michigan Inc.

P.O. Box 99

Constantine, Mi. 49042

Phone: 269 435-2058

[www.abateofmichigan.org](http://www.abateofmichigan.org)

**American Bikers Aiming Toward Education ~ A Brotherhood Against Totalitarian Enactments**

## State Officers

### **President**

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### **Awareness Director**

Leroy Cuykendall III  
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bigsexy1665@hotmail.com

## Board of Directors

### **Sgt. at Arms**

#### **Dan "Tiny" Patterson**

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### **Products Agent**

#### **Kim MacLennan**

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## State Events

#### **Merry Garrett**

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merrysgarrett@yahoo.com

### **MRF Representative**

#### **Jinx Rahn**

Phone: 517 240-0773  
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### **Bike Raffle Chair**

#### **Sherri Lecurgo**

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jggerow@att.net

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shovelpaann@hotmail.com

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the\_iceman99turbo@yahoo.com

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danielpatterson421@gmail.com

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Phone: 231 884-2192  
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### **Tim Polk**

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tpolk3966@gmail.com

## Trustees

### **Kim MacLennan**

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macmomma691@yahoo.com

### **Bob MacLennan**

mammomma691@yahoo.com

### **Patricia Shattuck**

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### **Lois Shock**

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## Appointees

### **Webmaster & Newsletter**

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#95  
Cottonwood, Az. 86326

### **PAC Liaison**

#### **Wayne Rogalski**

23 W. Great Lakes  
River Rouge, Mi 48218  
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MMRPAC@aol.com

*Monthly Michigan Rider  
Newsletter*

*On the Go??*

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*https://www.*

*abateofmichigan.org/*

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*html*

*https://abateofmichigan.org/*





# The Prez Report - Gary Kopta

Hello everyone,

The seminar is couple weeks away and I must say I am really looking forward to this one. It has a 70's theme going on the count of ABATE of Michigan was incorporated in 1976. That's right it's our 50th year. I think 2026 will be a big year. Last seminar I instituted the 50x50 membership drive. I would like to see a 50 percent increase in membership by our 50th anniversary which is in May 2026. I am hoping for a big turnout at the seminar and also a big turnout at the field meet. The awards for the membership drive will be given at the field meet. Also this year we are doing a real nice cash raffle instead of the motorcycle. \$10,000.00 for first prize, \$5,000.00 second prize, \$2,000.00 for third and two \$500.00 prizes. So you can see that I am hoping for some changes for the better starting in our 50th year. We need to change with the times.

In the next week or so Jim Rhoades, Bear and myself will be meeting with our lobbyist Noel again to discuss our strategy for getting our insurance issue resolved. On a side note it looks like our Pizza and Pop is back in February like it used to be and this year our lobbyist Noel said he would chip in and help pay for the event. Thanks Noel. If you have ever been to Pizza and Pop you have seen that we go through about 65 pizzas feeding the elected official and their aides along with capitol security. Everyone seems to look forward to this event and I believe it is a necessary event to have as the event cements relationships that have been started years ago. Hope to see alot of ABATE members there this year as alot of the visitors ask if anyone from their district is there so they can talk to you. What better way to get to know your representative or senator than over a pizza lunch that doesn't cost you a dime.

One last thing I need to bring up is the fact that

we are now looking for a new state products person. Kim has announced she wants to step back from the position. If you would be interested in making a little bit of money and run our products department make sure you contact Kim in products or Eric or myself and we can let

you know what's going on. Come and see Kim at the seminar and see what products has to offer and maybe pick up something for yourself.

Well that's all I have for this month. Only a couple months before riding season hopefully. At least that's what I'm hoping for.

Take care and if I am fortunate enough to be re-elected as your President I will be back next month.

Thanks for doing what you do.

*Gary*



**Phone: 989 781-2306**  
**gkopta1@gmail.com**

## Michigan Votes

<http://www.michiganvotes.org/Find.aspx>

### Find Your State & House Legislators

**Senate:** <https://www.senate.michigan.gov/>

**House:** <https://www.house.mi.gov/>

### ***The Citizens Guide to the Michigan Legislature:***

<https://www.legislature.mi.gov/Publications/CitizensGuide.pdf>





# ABATE MEMBERSHIP

Join and Support

**ABATE of Michigan, Inc.**

Fighting for the Rights of

ALL MOTORCYCLISTS since 1976

Join online at [www.abateofmichigan.org](http://www.abateofmichigan.org)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name (s): \_\_\_\_\_

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

City/Township: \_\_\_\_\_

State/Zip +4: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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

**\*\* Do you prefer the Michigan Rider online ( ), or receive it in the mail ( )?**

Make checks payable to: ABATE of Michigan, Inc. Dues are not tax deductible. There is a \$25 charge for returned checks. Allow (4) weeks for processing.

Voting rights take effect 30 days after application has been received at the address shown on the cover page.

As a member you have \$3500 in Life Insurance available.

☐ New Member ☐ Renewal - Your Membership # \_\_\_\_\_

Single ☐ \$25 Online ☐ \$30 Mail\* Couple ☐ \$45 Online ☐ \$50 Mail\*

2 years ☐ \$40/person ☐ \$70/couple

\* Applies to one-year membership only

Living at the same address ☐

Life: 15x's annual membership/person ☐

Life 15x's annual membership/couple living at the same address ☐

☐ AWARENESS DONATION \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*Processing fees are  
added when you  
Renew/Join using on line  
services**

**Complete this form then send it along with your payment to:**

**ABATE of Michigan Inc.,**

**P.O. Box 99**

**Constantine, Mi. 49042**



Scan QR Code  
to visit the  
membership/join  
on line page

**Please make checks payable to ABATE of Michigan Inc.**



# Secretary Report - Eric Eads

I hope everyone enjoyed their Holidays. Only 8 more weeks of Winter!

The Seminar will be over by the time you read this. I will have the results of the By- Law proposals and the results of the board election next month.

It's been a slow month for news this month with holidays and our elected officials being off.

The following people have been voted as Member of the Year in their Region:

Region 3 - Dave Carter

Region 6 - Joan Lawrence

Region 7 - Leah Pabst

Region 10 - Dawn Keck and Ken Townsend

Region 11 - Tim Zuchowski

Region 12 - Eric Eads

Region 13 - Jinx

Region 14 - Ann Tobian

Region 15 - Shiny Bob

Region 18 - Brian Walters and Tammy Reese

Region 19 - Speedy Bates

Region 20 - Cupcake



Phone: 269 435-2058  
[abatemichsecretary@frontier.com](mailto:abatemichsecretary@frontier.com)



We lost the following members this year,

Region 19 - Dave Buchanan

Region 6 - Bob Reppe

Region 7 - Rickard "Dick" Wallace, James "Shrink" Parsell, Lloyd "L J Brown,

Region 8 - Bill Lewis

Region 12 - Jeff Maile

Region 15 - Bob Chalupka

Region 18 - Kerry "Miles" Miller

Region 18 - Patrick "Wrong Way" Bain Sr., Jan "Sgt. Jan" Ford.

The following members became Life Members, Ciindy Diaz, James Diaz, Carlos Diaz, and Kelly Kellogg. Frank Donkers III contributed to Awareness.

Thanks to everyone for all you do. Lets make 2026 a great year for Motorcycles.

*Eric*








**American Income Life Insurance - \$3,500 AD&D Insurance!!**  
**For being a current member of ABATE of Michigan**

# Additional Member Benefit at No Cost!

Through a partnership with American Income Life Insurance Company, an AD&D benefit and other no-cost offers are being provided to all members of ABATE of MI.

## Included:

-  Group Accidental Death & Dismemberment Benefit
-  AILPlus Health Services Discount Program\*
-  Child Safe Kit®
-  Family Information Guide
-  Needs-Based Analysis

Learn more at

**MyBenefits.AILife.com**

Enter access code: **SGNMO**



\*AILPlus Health Services Discount Program is not available in NY. Lab Testing not available in MD, NJ, or RI.  
This is a solicitation for insurance.

An AIL representative will contact members who return the reply card by mail or respond online to arrange a convenient time to deliver their certificate of coverage and other no cost offers and review other supplemental insurance benefits that may be available.



**Lisa Bennett**

AIL Public Relations

123-456-7890 | prname@AILife.com

AD-1274



## LEGISLATIVE DAYS

**Meetings are every 3rd Thursday@ 9AM at the House office building. Parking at the Capitol White House Lansing**

The new 2026 session begins on the second Wednesday in January each year at noon, as per the state constitution.

**Contact our Legislative Officer Dave "Bear" Schuitema with any questions. 231 907-0710**

**Visit [legislature.mi.gov](http://legislature.mi.gov) for live streams, schedules, and bill tracking Michigan Legislature.**

### *Get Involved Write a letter to your Representative!!*

#### Letter Writing and E-Mail.

A personal letter or message via e-mail or the Internet may be the most effective way of contacting your legislator, whether in Lansing or Washington. Consult the Congressional (p. 4), House (p. 31), and Senate (p. 53) directories in this guide to find the addresses of Michigan legislators. Many offices prefer e-mail.

#### A Citizen's Guide to State Government.

<https://www.legislature.mi.gov/Home/Publications>



If you're new at this type of letter writing, here are some suggestions on how your letters can be most effective: How to write a letter to your representative: Click [HERE](#)

The intent of this CITIZEN'S GUIDE is to provide some of the specific information needed to get in touch with the RIGHT PEOPLE AT THE RIGHT TIME to make your concerns heard. It is hoped that it will be a reference tool that will assist you in your efforts to be heard by public officials.

It is of primary importance that the general public increase its participation in the decision-making process. In order to actuate this input, the citizen must acquire an understanding of the legislative structure and process and then organize concerted efforts to effectively demand representation. Individuals can have an impact on specific legislative proposals, provided it is made at the appropriate time. Organized community and citizens' groups can multiply the impact of that individual effort. Organizing citizens' groups to deal with specific community problems is extremely important. Such groups provide a focal point from which citizens can participate in the decision-making process and influence legislation.

**BECOME A PRECINCT DELEGATE - Form available on line on the *Legislative & Region LO's* - page**

**\* DO NOT SIGN UNTIL THEY ARE NOTARIZED!!!**

### ***ABATE Supporter Patch***

***Now available!!!***

***These patches are available to anyone who supports ABATE for \$15.00 - Members and Non-Members.***

***Call Woody or Eric to get yours. You will also get a year patch for each year you show your support. Get yours today!***



#### **Eric Eads**

Phone: 269 435-2058  
[abatemichsecretary@frontier.com](mailto:abatemichsecretary@frontier.com)  
or

#### **Operations Officer**

Dave "Woody" Berg  
Phone: 231 884-2192  
[Dberg01@hotmail.com](mailto:Dberg01@hotmail.com)

# Annual Membership Dues

JOIN  
NOW

On Line - Processing fees applied

- Single 1 Year Membership

On line Newsletter

\$26.00

- Single 1 Year Membership

Mailed Newsletter

\$31.50

- Couple 1 Year Membership

On line Newsletter

\$46.50

- Couple 1 Year Membership

Mailed Newsletter

\$51.50

- Single 2 Year Membership

Mailed Newsletter

\$41.50

- Couple 2 Year Membership

Mailed Newsletter

\$71.50

- Single Life Membership

Mailed Newsletter

\$390.00

- Couple 1 Year Membership

Mailed Newsletter

\$51.50

- Couple 2 Year Membership

Mailed Newsletter

\$73.00

- Couple Life Membership

Mailed Newsletter

\$705.00

Join the cause & become  
a member today!!

Join or Renew your membership by mail -  
Or - Call our office to process your membership  
by using your C/C or PayPal account on our  
website

[https://abateofmichigan.org/  
membership%2Fjoin](https://abateofmichigan.org/membership%2Fjoin)

Contact State of Michigan Secretary  
Eric Eads

Phone: 269 435-2058

ABATE of Michigan Inc.,

P.O. Box 99

Constantine, Mi. 4941-0099

IT DOESN'T  
MATTER  
WHAT YOU RIDE  
WE ALL RIDE  
FOR  
FREEDOM OF  
THE ROAD

Enjoy the Benefits of  
**MEMBERSHIP**

★ FREE with your Membership ★

\* \$3500 Accidental  
Death & Dismemberment  
Insurance

\* Free Classified Ads to  
current members - in the  
newsletter and on line!

☆☆☆

\* Enjoy fun Region & State  
Events  
throughout the year!



Michigan Rider Advertising is the most direct  
and affordable way to reach motorcyclists



## CLASSIFIED ADS ARE FREE TO CURRENT MEMBERS

Your listing will be posted in the Michigan  
Rider & online!

<https://abateofmichigan.org/classified-ads>

# Michigan Rider ADVERTISING



Advertising must be

\*\*\*"Camera-Ready" and received by the 12th of the previous month to be printed in the next issue. (Black & White Ads Only. No colored backgrounds.) No ads over the phone will be accepted. Discount for ads running six or twelve consecutive issues.

**Money Must Accompany Ad. Camera-ready = needs no alterations, ad is complete.**

**(Your cancelled check will serve as your receipt). Please send in PDF, or JPG formats.**

Business Card Size (Approx. 3.5" x 2")	1/4 Page Ad/Flier (Approx. 2.88" x 4.3")	1/2 Page Ad/Flier (Approx. 5.75" x 4.25")	Full Page Ad/Flier (Approx. 5.75 x 8.5")
Member			
\$10/mth for card on line	\$45 per issue	\$85 per issue	\$155 per issue
\$20 per issue	*\$225 for 6 issues	*\$425 for 6 issues	*\$775 per 6 issues
*\$100 for 6 issues	*\$450 for 12 issues	*\$850 for 12 issues	*\$1,550 for 12 issues
*\$150 for 12 issues			

NON Member

\$40 per issue

\*\$200 for 6 issues

\*\$225 for 12 issues

\* Price Change

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

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

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

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Member # \_\_\_\_\_

Region: \_\_\_\_\_ Payment Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Issues Ad is to run: \_\_\_\_\_ Month (s) \_\_\_\_\_

Please Circle requested ad above (Download form online: [www.abateofmichigan.org/MichiganRider.htm](http://www.abateofmichigan.org/MichiganRider.htm))

Mail check (payable to ABATE of Michigan, Inc.) with your ad to: Silla Balla Editor, 2050 West State Route 89A Lot 95 Cottonwood Az. 86326

Email: [abatewebeditor@gmail.com](mailto:abatewebeditor@gmail.com). We must receive payment before the ad is posted in the Michigan Rider.

CONGRATULATIONS, DONDI VESPRINI  
ABATE MEMBER OF THE YEAR



INJURED IN A MOTORCYCLE ACCIDENT?

BUCKFIRE  
— LAW —

We'll make it right.

1-855-BUCKFIRE

★★★★★



# MRF State Rep - Tom "Jinx" Rahn

## Dates To Save

Bikers Inside The Beltway 2026

Washington, DC

Embassy Suites Alexandria Old Town

May 18 - 19, 2026 - *flyer on page 27*

42nd Annual Meeting of the Minds

Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Sheraton Milwaukee-Brookfield

September 24 - 27, 2026 - *flyer on page 28*



MRF Events

Phone: 517 240-0773  
tomrahn@yahoo.com



MRF - The Biker's Voice in Washington, DC since 1987!

- Overturned federal law attempting to blackmail states into passing a mandatory helmet law for all riders.
- Passed legislation banning federal agencies from lobbying against motorcyclists
- Ensured motorcycles are considered in all autonomous (self-driving) vehicle plans
- Protected the motorcycle aftermarket from restrictive federal legislation and ensured that riders can continue to modify their machines
- Actively fighting against motorcycle profiling
- Ensured motorcycle rider concerns are addressed in all federal highway bills
- Working with biker friendly legislators and federal agencies that impact motorcycling for more than 30 years!

Help Support Motorcycling - Join the MRF today!

## Motorcycle Riders Foundation

Washington, DC



### Ride with the Leaders™

Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Business Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Card Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_ CVV \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ Please check if you are a US Citizen  
☐ Check here to NOT receive patches and pins  
☐ Check here to NOT receive MRF Email alerts  
☐ Check here to receive MRF Reports electronically (email)

☐ New  
☐ Renewal Referred by \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Motorcycle Riders Foundation - PO Box 9090 - Peoria, IL 61612 - Phone: 202-548-0983 - [www.mrf.org](http://www.mrf.org) - [mrf@office@mrf.org](mailto:mrf@office@mrf.org)

- ☐ Annual Individual Membership \$35  
☐ Auto-Renewal Annual Individual Membership \$35  
☐ Annual Joint Membership \$60  
☐ Auto-Renewal Joint Membership \$60  
☐ Annual Sustaining Membership \$100  
☐ Annual Independent Motorcycle Aftermarket Membership \$100

- ☐ 3-Year Individual Membership \$95  
☐ 3-Year Joint Membership \$140  
☐ Sustaining Membership Club \$100  
☐ Auto-Renewal Sustaining Individual \$100  
☐ Freedom Fighter Donation ☐ \$10 ☐ \$25 ☐ \$ \_\_\_\_\_





# Region Coordinators & Meeting Info

## **Region 1**

**Todd Wloszczynski**

Phone: 906 250-9303  
1966panhead@gmail.com

## **Region 2**

**Bernie Winicki**  
906 287-5706

## **Region 3**

**Van Dunson**

Phone: 231 676-0760  
vanmdunson@gmail.com

Meetings: Johnny's  
Torch Riviera at 12899  
Cherry Rd, Rapid City,  
1st Wednesday of the  
month @ 6:30pm

## **Region 4**

**Dave Etherton**

231 818-5277  
Etherdav@yahoo.com

## **Region 5**

**Dan Tiny Patterson**

Phone: 231 923-6906  
daniepaterson421@gmail.com.  
Meetings: 1st Sun 1pm

## **Region 6**

**Merry Garrett**

Phone: 734 652-9739  
merrysgarrett@yahoo.com

Meetings: 1:00 pm  
Second Sunday

Baileys Bar and Grill  
Bay City

## **Region 7**

**Tim Polk**

Phone: 989 670-9976  
tpolk3966@gmail.com  
Meetings: First Sunday  
2PM, Nov.-April  
at Lucky Thumb  
Motorcycle Club 7394  
Bevens Rd. Deford  
May - Oct. at  
Evergreen Park 4731  
Van Dyke Rd., Cass  
City

## **Region 8**

**RC - Tara Hendee**

Phone: 616 589-1551  
tarame7789@yahoo.com

Meetings second  
Sunday of the month  
Location TBD

## **Region 9**

**Nick Henry**

RC & Treasurer  
Phone: 517 647-6623  
abateofmich.region9@gmail.com

## **Region 10**

**Amy Penny**

Phone: **517 290-9134**  
abateregion10rc@gmail.com

Meetings 1st Sunday of  
the month at 3

Evergreen Tavern in  
Hemlock

Sep, Nov, Jan, Mar,  
May July

Ghost Town Saloon in  
Elwell

Oct, Dec, Feb, Apr,  
Jun, Aug

## **Region 11**

**Arnold Schneider**

Phone: 810- 334-8600  
abatemi.region11rc@gmail.com

Meeting:

1st Wednesday of the  
month at 7pm.

Chicky's in Almont:  
March, May, July,

September &  
November.

Total Sports in  
Harrison Twp: April,  
June, August, October  
& December.

## **Region 12**

**Joylynn Wojciehowski**

Phone: 269 599-1767  
joylynnngrow@att.net.  
Meetings: 1st Sunday  
of the month 1pm  
Paw Paw Eagles,

Lawton

## **Region 13**

**Dan "Dano" Kenzie**  
dkenzie1@hughes.net  
Phone: 517 414-8183

Meetings: 1st Sun 12  
noon

7901 Benn Rd

Parma, MI. 49269

## **Region 14**

**Shiny Bob**

shinybob@gmail.com  
Phone: 734 417-1369

Meetings: Saline

4th Sunday 4pm

Saline American

Legion Post 322

## **Region 15**

**Interim RC - Shiny**

**Bob**

Meetings: Saline  
American Legion 4th  
Sunday of the month  
post 322. 4 pm

## **Region 16**

**Jesse Gordy**

Phone: 734 957-6033  
jesse.gordy76@gmail.com

Read meeting notes for  
dates and times

## **Region 17**

**TBD**

Wanted!!....If you ride a  
motorcycle or anyone  
you know rides and  
enjoy the freedom  
of choice. We are  
Reuniting the region  
and spreading the joy  
of ABATE to the UP.  
We want to hear from  
you and help bring the  
region back strong.  
Please feel free to reach  
out to Woody - State  
Operations Officer,  
he will help with the  
process.

Call Woody: 231 884-  
2192

Email: Dberg01@  
hotmail.com.

## **Region 18**

**Leroy Cuykendall III**

Phone: 734 755-3684  
bigsexy1665@hotmail.com  
Meetings: 1st  
Sunday of the month@  
2pm

VFW Post 1138 400

Jones Ave, Monroe

## **Region 19**

**Bill Stewart**

Phone: 248 802 7221  
harleyhippy@comcast.net

Meetings: 1st Tues  
7:00pm

The Shark Club  
6665 Highland Road  
Waterford 48327

## **Region 20**

**Steve (General) Graves**

Phone 810 471-5588  
Meeting last Sunday of  
Month 2 PM

## **Region 21**

**Interim RC - Vern**

**Shock**

Meetings TBD

## **Region 22**

**RC - Greg Bennett**

**"Break Down"**

Phone: 231 620-6243

Meetings: 1st  
Wednesday of the  
month at the Laughing  
Horse Saloon at  
15888 Lindy Rd  
Thompsonville, MI

## **Region 23**

**Ted Calabrese**

Phone: 586 216-4971  
whiskers58@gmail.com  
Meeting place TBD



## Region Reports



**REGION 1 - Keweenaw, Baraga, Iron, Ontonagon, Gogebic, Houghton**  
**RC - Todd Wloszczynski**  
No report this month.

**REGION 2**  
**Schoolcraft, Luce, Chippewa, Mackinac**  
**RC - Bernie Winicki**  
No report this month.

**REGION 3 - Antrim, Kalkaska, Charlevoix**  
**RC - Van Dunson**

Meeting January 7, 2026  
Called to order at 6:31 PM.  
Dave Carter led Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a moment of silence for our troops.  
Secretary report read and approved with no corrections.  
Treasurer report read and approved with no corrections.  
Discussed Bike Night for this upcoming summer. Will confirm plans with Rapid City Tavern.  
New designs for 2026 shirts are due by our March meeting; we will vote for the winning design at the April meeting. Agreed that we all need to work on getting shirt sponsors.

**February 2026**

### **Operations Officer** **Dave "Woody" Berg**

Phone: 231 884-2192  
Dberg01@hotmail.com

Worked on plans for awareness ride in May. Other ideas for awareness were discussed.  
Ken Thornbergh is donating previously won booze wagon along with three bottles of whiskey to be raffled off at Seminar. Several others committed to donate a bottle or other "goodies". We discussed the Seventies theme dress up for Saturday night, several planning to participate. Next meeting Feb 4th, at 6:30 pm, at Johnny's Riviera.

**REGION 4 - Emmet, Cheboygan, Presque Isle**  
**RC - Dave Etherton**  
No report this month.

**REGION 5 - Mason, Lake Oceana, Muskegon, Newaygo**  
**RC - Dan "Tiny" Patterson**  
No report this month.

**REGION 6 - Gladwin, Arenac, Midland, Bay**  
**RC - Merry Gerrett**

Good afternoon all on this another snowy day. Yesterday morning was 53

**ABATE OF MICHIGAN**

degrees today 30. Mother Nature sure is a tease. But only 69 days till spring. Are you ready?? Summer days, bonfires and bike nights. Yeppers it will be here soon.

Hope you all made our meeting and the seminar. We enjoy your company. ABATE and MRF have so much going on that it won't fit in this article. Please go to our web page and read, ask questions and know what's in the know.

Our Christmas party was nice. Lots of great food and cards. Silent auction. Thanks everyone for attending. Our regions is going to be doing a lot more this year. One way or another. We have some other great regions and organizations that have invited us to participate with them. I'll be making a calendar and sharing on here and Facebook. If you don't have Facebook please call me at 7346529739 and let me know. I will call you and let you know. Or better yet come to our meetings and bring a friend. Board meeting and voting will be our next topic at our February meeting. New bylaws that passed or didn't pass. If you didn't make it to the seminar stay tune for all the updates.

ABATE of Michigan is

looking for a new secretary as Eric Eads would like to retire. If you are interested please contact Eric or Gary Kopta. Eric would like to mentor the person to help make the transition possible and easy. He's a wonderful guy so let us know.

There might be some other positions available but won't know until after the seminar. If you decide to try this the board would make you a member of the board by voting. Please step up and challenge yourself.

We are expecting some new members this year. Young and old alike. We will have adult, children and supporting memberships available. Please contact me for more info. The children's membership accidental life insurance will be available for any that sign up from babies to 18.

Hope to see you all soon for a hug or a beverage. Cola is my choice.

Hoping the sun shines on your life.

Merry

Proud RC of Region 6.

### ***REGION 7 - Huron, Tuscola, Sanilac RC - Tim Polk***

Meeting January 4, 2026

Meeting called to order at 2pm. Pledge, moment of silence for our troops, and prayer.

Meeting attendance of eighteen people.

Secretary Report - December meeting details read. Motion to accept as read by Butch B. Second by Bob B., motion carried.

Treasurer Report - Provided December expenses and income. Motion to accept as read by Bob B., second by Wes N, motion carried.

Awareness Program - Need volunteer to take up director position for the region. There are a few signs that need repair in

the spring. There is a person interested in placing large awareness sign on their property on M-81. Bob B. will get with property owner.

Legislative Update - Lansing will be back in session January 14th. Butch will be going this day, and anyone wishes to go also can ride down with him. Legislature this year meeting 3rd Thursday each month. Pizza and Pop are being set up for February - no date yet. I will post it on our Facebook group as soon as I find out when!

The region member of the year 2025 is Leah Pabst.

Old Business - Seminar in Saginaw - the region's raffle items were agreed on. Bring items for the silent auction and live auction. The region has a quilt we are putting in the live auction. Shelby will be in charge of our Hospitality Room again this year and if you would like to bring or donate items for the Hospitality Room, contact Shelby! Items can be food, beverages, or items for the raffle! Remember to VOTE on Sunday morning!! It is very important that you vote for board members, by-law changes and for a member of the year! Also remember to fill out the questionnaire in your information folder that you receive and turn it in when you turn in your ballot on Sunday morning! Our State Operations officer (Woody) has said that we are to have officer elections in November. So, if you would like to run for any of the officer positions, PLEASE let me know by October 1st, so I can have ballots printed up, and you MUST be a Region 7 member for at least a month to be able to vote. At the October meeting anyone on the ballot will have a chance to express why they want to be elected to that position. Positions for the region are Region Coordinator, Secretary, Treasurer, Legislative Rep., Awareness Officer, Sergeant of Arms, and I would like to get a Media Officer. You have 9 months to think about it and to let me know so I can get you on the ballot!



New Business - Deb Melcher let us know that there will be a Memorial Ride for her great nephew Gunner Dorsch on June 20th. Proceeds will go to a scholarship program in his name. This ride will be set up by Region 10. Deb also said that they are putting Gunner's bike on a trailer for anybody to use for an AWARENESS event that they are having! Deb will get more information on it!

Upcoming Events - February 1st Triathlon & Meeting 2pm at Lucky Thumb. There will be three games with trophies. Potluck - bring your favorite dish. Games will start at noon, meeting at 2.

March 28th - MRF Spaghetti Dinner at Farmer's Tavern in Ruth. We will be needing items for our auction after dinner and we also need desserts for the dinner, cakes, pies, cookies, something sweet to finish off your dinner with!! This is an important fund raiser, so please help and donate if you can!! Will have fliers to distribute before the event.

Motion to adjourn by Wes N, second by Paul M., motion carried.

Thanks Dan & Jan Brown for the delicious chicken soup provided for the meeting and thank you everyone for coming to the meeting! We had a very productive meeting and covered a lot of topics that needed to be discussed! Input from

regional members is a GREAT thing! As I am finishing this report, it is 55 degrees and scattered rain on January 9th! It is Michigan, if you don't like it, just wait 5 minutes and it will change! Let us hope we have good weather for the seminar this year, so we can have a GREAT turnout! See you there!! Until next month, God Bless!  
Tim.

**REGION 8 - Ottawa, Kent, Allegan, Barry RC - Tara Hendee**  
No report this month.

**REGION 9 - Ionia, Clinton, Eaton, Ingham RC - Nick Henry**

Hello Region 9, I don't have a lot to report

One thing I do want to make you aware of is a petition that opposes FL HB-429, this bill broadens the definition of a criminal gang member, if you are seen in the company of a gang member, or if you have a tattoo that a member of a gang has you could be classified as a member of a criminal gang. That could be something as simple as a hart, so potentially anybody with a heart tattoo could be classified as a criminal gang member, it's up to law enforcement. This is a national petition, you can go to the Motorcycle riders foundation website to find a link. Florida needs your help.

ABATE of Michigan's seminar is January 23rd and 24th with 25th morning meeting and Voting for Board members. Hope to

see you there!  
Stay warm, stay informed  
Nick  
Region 9 R.C..

**REGION 10 - Gratiot, Saginaw RC - Amy Penny**

January 4, 2026

-Meeting called to order at 3:03pm.

-Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

-Finance report was given.

-Minutes from last meeting were read.

-MRF report was given.

-Legislative Report was given,

No political actions have occurred since last meeting. Pizza and Pop tentatively scheduled for Feb 13th.

The lane filtering bill is at the Senate. Still waiting on a decision for the insurance reform bill.

-It was announced that Region 10 is currently the largest Region in Michigan. Great Job Everyone.

-Jamie has agreed to continue as Region 10 chairperson for the state raffle tickets.

-We are looking for volunteers to help with a booth for the Flint Swap meet on February 22nd. It runs from 12-6pm. This is a Region 10 event.

-We will be having fundraiser Spaghetti Dinner on March 21st at Ghost Town. Time TBD. Requesting donations for a silent auction. Funds are for



# Region Event Flyers

## ABATE Region 12 Annual Bowling Event

March 14th, 2026 12-2 pm

South Lanes Bowling Alley  
1147 West Broadway Street Three Rivers, MI 49093

\$20 per person gets you bowling, shoe rental, two slices of pizza and pop.

Please RSVP to Joylynn with a head count for the day.  
269-599-1767

This is a family friendly event and open to all, not just ABATE members.



## MRF Fund Night

(MOTORCYCLE RIDERS FOUNDATION)

Hosted By  
**ABATE of Michigan - Region 7**

Held at

**Farmers Tavern**

**Ruth, MI**

**March 28, 2026**

## Spaghetti Dinner

Enjoy a spaghetti dinner with all the fix'ins!

**All for just \$10.00 !**



**Learn more about the MRF and what the organization has done for the motorcycle community! It is just AWESOME!!!**

**From 3 till 9 pm.**

**Auction at 6 pm !!!**

**Lots of items to bid on**

**For more info call Chelsey**

**At :989-864-3714 or Tim**

**at :989-670-9976**

**Fun & Games for ALL! Take a chance for a MRF membership for only \$5! Check it out!!**

*All proceeds go to help support the MRF!*



Scan for printable flyers

**TACO PARTY**  
**SAT MARCH 28**  
**1-4 PM**

**DONATION AT DOOR**  
**MARGARITAS ON**  
**SPECIAL**



**AMERICAN LEGION POST 322**  
**320 W. MICHIGAN AVE.**  
**SALINE, MI 48176**  
**HOSTED BY REGION 14**  
**ABATE OF MICHIGAN**



**ABATE REGION 11**

**(IN CONJUNCTION WITH AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS**  
**POST 4 MT CLEMENS MI)**

**ARE HOSTING**

### A SPAGHETTI DINNER FUNDRAISER!

**Saturday April 4, 2026**

**12-7 PM**

**American Legion Post 4**

**401 N Groesbeck**

**Mt Clemens MI 48043**

**Spaghetti, Salad & Garlic Bread will be served**  
**\$10.00/person**

**Proceeds to benefit the MRF (Motorcycle Riders**  
**Foundation) and the ALR Post 4 Veterans Fund.**





## Region Event Flyers



**Run For The Region**  
May is Motorcycle Awareness Month  
MAY 16th  
7901 Benn Rd., Parma  
Registration opens at 11am  
Kickstands up at 12

\$20 Rider      \$5 Passenger



**PAC RIDE 2026**  
August 1st  
Proud Vets  
7901 Benn Rd

More information  
Call  
DANO 517-414-8183  
All proceeds goes to MMPAC

Registration opens at 11am  
Kickstands up at noon  
\$20 for rider  
\$5 passenger



Scan for printable flyers

*Gone  
but never  
forgotten*



Region 19 - Dave Buchanan  
Region 6 - Bob Reppe  
Region 7 - Rickard “Dick” Wallace, James “Shrink” Parsell, & Lloyd “L J Brown,  
Region 8 - Bill Lewis  
Region 12 - Jeff Maile  
Region 15 - Bob Chalupka  
Region 18 - Kerry “Miles” Miller  
Region 18 - Patrick “Wrong Way” Bain Sr.,  
& Jan “Sgt. Jan” Ford.



ABATE and will count towards our rocker.  
-It was announced that Dawn sold the most bike raffle tickets followed by a 3-way tie for 2nd place- Sara, Ken Otto and Vern.  
-Prayer request for Russell Cockerham, a long standing member of ABATE, part of Scorpions MC, and Confederation of Clubs.

-Upcoming events:

January 23rd-25th, Seminar

February 13th, Pizza and Pop

February 22nd, Flint swap meet.

March or April, A fun day is being considered.

See calendar of events for more.

-The meeting adjourned at 3:41pm.

-Next meeting Sunday, February 1st at Ghost Town.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debra Townsend, Region 10 secretary.

**REGION 11 - Lapeer, St. Clair, Macomb  
RC- Arnold Schneider**

Happy New Year from Region 11!

TO ALL REGION 11 MEMBERS: AT THE END OF THE YEAR, 2026, I AM STEPPING DOWN AS RC. SO WE WILL NEED A NEW RC FOR 2027. PLEASE CONSIDER STEPPING UP TO FILL THIS POSITION.

On January 7, we had our monthly meeting at Chicky's with a summer tour update meeting prior. Summer tour plans are coming along well.

Ted Calabrese, new RC of Region 23, attended our meeting for insight on how our region conducts our monthly meetings. Jeremy (Iceman) Bouvrette was a guest at our January meeting also. He gave a great LO report on what's happening in Lansing.

On April 4 we are supporting the MRF by co-hosting a Spaghetti Dinner with the American Legion Riders of post 4 (Mt. Clemens MI). Food will be served from Noon-7 pm. See flyer in the rider for additional information.

We had a moment of prayer and silence for Russell Crockerman (Oakland chapter of the Scorpions), which most of you by now know, is in declining health.

That's all for now - stay healthy everyone!

Oscar

Interim RC

Region 11.

**REGION 12 - VanBuren, Kalamazoo,  
Berrien, Cass, St. Joseph  
RC - Joylynn Wojciehowski**  
No report this month.

**REGION 13 - Calhoun, Jackson,  
Branch, Hillsdale  
RC - Dan "Dano" Kenzie**

Hello region 13!

Well, it's 2026! Let's all make this a great year! By the time you read this the Seminar will be over, and we will be looking forward to the 2026 riding season, the Field Meets and the Cash Raffle.

We kicked off the meeting at 12:10 with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence for our fallen members.

In Legislation we need to get in contact with our reps and ask them to support our lane filtering bill. Also let them know that the insurance issue still needs to be addressed. We have started to plan our region's events! We have changed a few things this year. Our first event will be the regional awareness run on May 16th; PAC run will be August 1st then Region 13 in conjunction with the Proud Vets MC will again hold the Special Olympics charity run Still working on a date for that one. The Region awareness run and the PAC run flyers are in the rider. As always, we are accepting door prizes and raffle items for these events. They were all having a great time last year, let's try to

make them even bigger this year!  
Road Capt. Bumper says it won't be long before we are riding around on two wheels again. Time to go over your ride and make sure you know that it is good to go or what needs to be fixed. That's all for now, Stay warm and start planning your trips for this year! Dano.

**REGION 14 - Livingston,  
Washtenaw  
RC - Shiny Bob**

Region 14 had a Christmas party on December 14th, with Region's 15 and 18. And it turned out great. The Seminar is January 23rd through January 25th. Region 14 will not be having a meeting in January. Ann Tobian is are Member of the year. Thank you Ann for everything that you do for Region 14. February 22 is Region 14's next meeting at 4 o'clock at the Saline American Legion. We will be discussing the Taco party that we're having on March 28th. Happy New Year. Have a great January and see you in February.

**REGION 15 - Wayne  
Interim RC - Shiny Bob**  
No report this month.

**REGION 16 - Oscoda,  
Ogemaw, Alcona, Iosco,  
Montmorency, Alpena  
RC- Jesse Gordy**  
No report this month.

**REGION 17 - Marquette,  
Dickinson, Menominee,  
Delta, Alger  
RC - TBD**

Wanted!!!...If you ride a motorcycle or anyone you know rides and enjoy the freedom of choice. We are Reuniting the region and spreading the joy of ABATE to the UP. We want to hear from you and help bring the region back strong. Please feel free to reach out to Woody – State Operations Officer, he will help with the process.  
Call Woody: 231 884-2192  
Email: Dberg01@hotmail.com.

**REGION 18 - Lenawee,  
Monroe  
RC- Leroy Cuykendall III**  
No report this month.

**REGION 19 - Oakland  
RC- Bill Stewart**

Report from Region 19  
For the February, 2026  
Issue of Michigan Rider

The Region 19 folks met on Tuesday, the 6th of January on a dreary, wet and foggy night... conditions that along with the cold and flu viruses roaming around may have contributed to some of us staying home (our LO missed the meeting due to a cold). Those who were able to attend heard the latest biker news after dinner was finished. There were reports from RC (Bill), our Treasurer (Speedy) and our LO (Speedy presented his report in Hess' absence). Details follow:

Bill began with recent information from the Motorcycle Riders Foundation (MRF):

- Recent changes made to the Environmental Protection Agency's Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) standards have reduced previous mandates that would likely have forced auto manufacturers to build more electric vehicles. These changes are largely welcomed by bikers who (for a host of reasons) prefer motorcycles powered by internal combustion engines.
- The MRF also reported that self-driving vehicles operated by Waymo are coming to more US cities. While convenient transportation is critical in modern society, the many failures of autonomous vehicles (AV's) to obey traffic laws and to respond properly when near vulnerable road users (such as motorcycles) is of great concern. And yes, Detroit is among the cities to see deployment of Waymo vehicles this year. We had all better keep our eyes open!

- Recent emails from the MRF regarding Florida's HB 429 invite bikers to sign petitions in opposition to that bill. HB 429 would make it easier for law enforcement entities to label a person as a member of a criminal gang. Anyone meeting just two of a set of vague criteria would allow that person to be included in a criminal gang database.

Those criteria include the use of certain social media posts, being observed twice in the presence of another person identified as a gang member, adopting the "style of dress" (unspecified) of a criminal gang or having certain tattoos. The law would likely give law enforcement personnel far too much discretion when interacting with bikers due to dress and other aspects of motorcycle culture. Keep eyes and ears open regarding this proposed legislation. Our Treasurer (Speedy) reported that the Region is financially solvent and accepted donations from folks around the table to add to the total.

Because Hess did not want to spread germs around, Speedy presented our LO's report:

- Hess missed the December 18th LO Conference Call but he called Bear on the 22nd to get the latest news. Bear had a good bit to say:

- There is optimism regarding possible progress in our now 7-year-old PIP insurance fight.

- Bear spoke about two bills (HB 5298 and 5299) that would adjust the "order of priorities" in the event of a crash between a motorcycle and a car or truck

- Personal Injury coverage would first would come from the PIP of the driver or owner of the vehicle up to the limit of PIP purchased by that person.

- If treatment costs exceeded that amount, then the Under-Insured or Uninsured coverage purchased by the motorcyclist would be used.

- If more coverage were required, then (assuming the biker's PIP limit is greater than that of the driver/owner of the car), the biker's own PIP from his or her automobile insurance would be accessed.

- This actually sounds as if it might work assuming that the legislation can move forward in the legislature.

- There is also a lane-filtering bill (HB 365) that would allow bikes in slow or stopped traffic situations to move to the front of the lines of traffic. The intent is to prevent motorcycles from being rear-ended by inattentive drivers as has happened so many times in the past.

- There is also concern regarding

proposed national road user fees for electric vehicles and hybrids.

- The 18.4 cent per gallon Federal Fuel Tax has not changed since 1993. Improvements in fuel economy and the presence of more electric vehicles mean the monies needed for road maintenance have become stretched very thin.

- It is critical that motorcycles are treated fairly in any scheme to tax road users, especially given that motorcycles cause virtually zero wear and tear on the roads due to their light weight and small size.

- Indeed, the better fuel economy and efficiency that motorcycles deliver should lead to increased use of motorcycles as a national priority. More incentives to ride, more motorcycles, more riders...those should all add up to a rare win, win, win!

Region 19's next meeting will take place at the Shark Club on the 3rd of February 2026 at the Shark Club, 6665 Highland Road in Waterford. Plan to arrive about 6:00pm for dinner and the enjoyment each other's company until the meeting is called to order at 7:00. We have lots of room for more Oakland County riders... come out and join us!!

Submitted by

Hess Bates, Region 19 Legislative Officer  
hessbates@att.net.

**REGION 20 - Genesee, Shiawassee  
RC - Steve (General) Graves**

Hope everyone had a great Holiday season and have a happy New Year. Meeting called to order at 2:25pm. Opened with Pledge and prayer. 4 in attendance.

Treasurer report was read and accepted. Seminar reminder: Jan.23-25 at Four Points Hotel 4960 Town Center Rd. Saginaw.

I received MRF renewal for the Region. WOW! It has been 16yrs.

Legislative: no report.

I will be getting the State raffle tickets at Seminar. Unsure of what it will be, bike or cash or?

Planning an Awareness ride has begun.



Details in the near future.  
Our next meeting will be  
at the hotel at Seminar.  
Meeting closed at 2:55pm.

Stay safe out on the roads.  
Steve "General" Graves.

**REGION 21 - Oscoda,  
Clare, Mescosta, Isabella,  
Montcalm  
Interim RC - Vern Shock**  
No report this month.

**REGION 22 - Grand  
Traverse, Leelanau,  
Benzie, Manistee, Wexford  
RC - Greg Bennett "Break  
Down"**

Meeting was called to  
order by Greg at 18:33hrs.  
at the Laughing Horse  
Saloon. The pledge was  
led by Ron "Leprechaun",  
and recited by all followed  
by a moment of silence  
for our military, past and  
present.

A word of welcome  
was made by Greg,  
thanking all who were in  
attendance. Greg stated  
that Rob was at a meeting  
for legislative info and SB  
365. More to follow when  
we receive it.

No minutes sent or  
presented.

They gave a treasurers  
report. Karen made a  
motion to accept her  
report second by Woody.  
Discussed and carried.

August 21-23,2026 will  
be our summer party at  
the Interlochen Eagles  
campground. Greg stated  
that he paid for the  
pavilion and the clean up  
fee for the weekend to

reserve them. Greg has  
paid for everything so  
far from his own money  
and will submit receipts  
for reimbursement.  
There will be a ride in  
the Coho Festival Parade  
on Saturday. Leprechaun  
made a motion to do  
a cookout instead of  
food vendors, second by  
Woody. Discussed and  
carried. Greg stated that  
Leprechaun will be in  
charge of the games with  
Woodys assistance.

Trophy samples were  
presented. We are trying  
to change things up.

We need to have t-shirt  
designs by the next  
meeting, and voting will  
take place at that meeting.  
The sponsors need to be  
in by the end of February.  
The sponsors will get a  
business card size on the  
back of the shirt. Mary  
Irene will get the sponsor  
forms. She will handle  
the shirt order. They will  
hopefully be back and  
ready by the swap meet.

We have made our  
reservation for the swap  
meet. The fee will be due  
the day of the swap meet.  
The booth will be shared  
with Eriks Memorial  
Awareness Ride and the  
cost will be shared as well.

The seminar will be held  
January 23-24 at the  
Four Points by Sheraton  
in Saginaw. This will  
be our 50th anniversary  
celebration. There will be  
a 70's theme for Saturday  
night. There is also a  
raffle. The item we  
have for the raffle needs

help. Karen and Sarah  
will go shopping and get  
the items needed. Karen  
made a motion in regards  
to how much to spend on  
the raffle item/ second by  
Leprechaun. Discussed  
and carried.

Ron thanked everyone for  
coming to the Christmas  
party.

Karen mentioned a few  
save the dates of February  
21 for a chili cook off and  
Erik's ride is May 16th.  
She is working on the  
route for the ride.

Meeting was adjourned

Save the dates: January  
23-24 Seminar in Saginaw  
February 21..

Chili Cook off  
May 12...Taco  
Tuesday Hooligan kick off  
ride  
May 16...Erik's  
Ride

June 12-13...  
Field meet  
August 21-23  
Region 22 Summer party  
October....Cash  
raffle drawing and Region  
7 party.

**REGION 23 - Otsego,  
Crawford, Roscommon,  
Missaukee  
RC - Ted Caleb**  
No report this month.

## We Want You



## To Ride with Us! Join ABATE of Michigan

ABATE of Michigan, Inc. (American Bikers Aiming Toward Education) is a non profit organization dedicated to preserving the rights and promoting the safe operating practices of Michigan motorcyclists.

ABATE of Michigan is a freedom of choice organization: believing that the rider is best able to decide the type of motorcycle to ride, and the type and extent of safety gear worn. Our primary objective is to monitor motorcycle related legislation and encourage all members to become politically involved. Through public forums, writing letters and meeting elected representatives ABATE of Michigan members have the opportunity to speak their side of the issues and educate others on the needs of Michigan motorcyclists. ABATE works to get legislation and funding for riders education program throughout the state. These programs train thousands of new motorcycles each year. Courses are also offered for the experienced rider. In addition, ABATE members have staged and participated in events raising tens of thousands of dollars and collecting much needed items such as food, clothing and toys for local communities. ABATE of Michigan enables you to become educated both politically and in safe riding practices. ABATE offers you activities and the brotherhood of fellow motorcyclists. ABATE fights for the rights of ALL motorcyclists

to ensure that we and our children will be able to enjoy the freedoms we hold so dear. ABATE of Michigan is open to everyone 18 years or older having an interest in preserving personal freedoms and sharing our goals. Owning a motorcycle is not necessary. Members receive a newsletter covering important issues and information on local, regional and national events. (One newsletter per household). Membership fees & donations are NOT tax deductible. Membership fee is nonrefundable.

*ABATE of Michigan invites you to join us and help make Michigan the best place to ride in the USA.*



**Classified Ads are free to current  
ABATE of Michigan members as part  
of your Membership fee!**

*Email ads with pics & description to:  
Michigan Rider Copy Editor  
Silla: [abatewebeditor@gmail.com](mailto:abatewebeditor@gmail.com)*

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# MOTORCYCLE AWARENESS

**Look Twice &  
Save a Life** ★

## ***BECOME AN AWARENESS SUPPORTER***

Do you want to show your support for our Awareness Program? If you do, please fill out this form and send your check (made out to ABATE of Michigan) to: ABATE of Michigan, P.O. Box 99 Constantine, Mi 49042. Your contribution will assure that we can continue teaching new car drivers to look out for motorcycles. The cost is \$100 per person or business. You will receive a patch and your name will be listed in the newsletter.

There will be a year rocker that will be given to you for every year that you contribute.

Name/Business \_\_\_\_\_

Membership ID \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_



# Are you interested in joining the fight for Motorcycle Rights? Where is your Region?

Region 1) Keweenaw, Baraga, Iron, Ontonagon, Gogebic, Houghton

Region 2) Schoolcraft, Luce, Chippewa, Mackinac

Region 3) Antrim, Kalkaska, Charlevoix,

Region 4) Emmet, Cheboygan, Presque Isle,

Region 5) Mason, Lake Oceana, Muskegon, Newaygo

Region 6) Gladwin, Arenac, Midland, Bay

Region 7) Huron, Tuscola, Sanilac

Region 8) Ottawa, Kent, Allegan, Barry

Region 9) Ionia, Clinton, Eaton, Ingham

Region 10) Gratiot, Saginaw

Region 11) Lapeer, St. Clair, Macomb

Region 12) VanBuren, Kalamazoo, Berrien, Cass, St. Joseph

Region 13) Calhoun, Jackson, Branch, Hillsdale

Region 14) Livingston, Washtenaw

Region 15) Wayne

Region 16) Oscoda, Ogema, Alcona, Iosco, Montmorency, Alpena

Region 17) Marquette, Dickinson, Menominee, Delta, Alger

Region 18) Lenawee, Monroe

Region 19) Oakland

Region 20) Genesee, Shiawassee

Region 21) Oscoda, Clare, Mecosta, Isabella, Montcalm

Region 22) Grand Traverse, Leelanau, Benzie, Manistee, Wexford

Region 23) Otsego, Crawford, Roscommon, Missaukee,



Scan the code  
for meeting  
and contact  
info.



## Michigan Rider Newsletter

The Deadline for newsletter  
submissions is  
the 12th of each month.

\* Please add your Region  
number to the subject line in  
all emails.



**Michigan**

### Confederation of Clubs

The MCOC represents motorcycle club members and individual motorcyclists alike to fight for everyone's freedoms and rights as bikers. We work with and support ABATE and MRF to ensure what we all enjoy - the freedom of motorcycling without discrimination.

To join and support the MCOC contact

Trash at: destrecker/@msn.com

FB: <https://facebook.com/michigancoc>

Web: [www.mcoc.us](http://www.mcoc.us)

Membership: Clubs .....\$100/year

Individuals ....\$ 20/year

Individuals Membership includes a patch and member card

**UNITED WE  
RIDE**

### When does your membership expire??

Stay up to date and receive your issue of the  
Michigan Rider Newsletter!!

Renew at: [www.abateofmichigan.org](http://www.abateofmichigan.org)

### Send your updated info to:

**ABATE of Michigan State Secretary  
Eric Eads**

**ABATE of Michigan Inc.**

**P.O. Box 99**

**Constantine, Mi. 49042-0099**

**E-mail Eric:**

**[abatemichsecretary@frontier.com](mailto:abatemichsecretary@frontier.com)**

## WELCOME NEW & RETURNING MEMBERS

**RAY ROBINSON**

**DAVID MARTIN**

**MATTHEW DREW**

**JULIE OMALLEY**

**THOMAS CARPENTER**

**DAVE SWITZER**



### Where to find us!!



Explore our ABATE of Michigan website at: [www.abateofmichigan.org](http://www.abateofmichigan.org) for information including: Region Event Flyers, Bike nights, RC/Region meeting info, Board and Officer contact info, Officer articles, Forms, Classified, ABATE Supporter ads, our monthly Michigan Rider Newsletters, Chain of Events calendar, Document downloads, Maps, Bylaws, Products, MRF, State Events, Legislative updates, Membership forms and online renewal....Everything you need!



We also have a Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ABATEOFMICHIGAN>

# Sustaining Members



**GARY KOPTA - PRESIDENT OF  
ABATE OF MICHIGAN  
ROYAL OAK EAGLE RIDERS  
SEVEN SONS  
SCORPIONS MC  
TWISTED RENEGADES  
SURVIVORS MC  
MOTORCYCLE CLUBS OF  
MICHIGAN  
508 FAB MACHING  
CLASSIC MOTORSPORTS  
UNDERGROUND APOSTLES  
CITADELS MC**



**THUNDER ROADS MICHIGAN  
BAILEYS BAR  
SAWTOOTH WOLVES  
D.J.  
ABATE REGION 7  
GHOST TOWN SALOON  
SKELETON CREW  
CLASSIC MOTOR SPORTS, for the second  
year in a row  
SOLDIERS FOR JESUS MC DETROIT  
CHAPTER**

*Thank You*



## HOW TO BECOME A SUSTAINING MEMBER

Any Business, Club, Individual, Group, ABATE Regions or anyone who believes in Motorcycle Rights & Freedom can donate. Please fill out this form and send your donation to: ABATE of Michigan, P.O. Box 99 Constantine, Mi. 49042. (checks can be made out to ABATE of Michigan) For \$100.00 you will receive a certificate, a sticker, and recognition on the website and The Michigan Rider.

Name/Business/Club/Group/Region: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_





# MOTORCYCLE RIDERS FOUNDATION

17TH ANNUAL  
MICHAEL "BOZ" KERR



# BIKERS INSIDE THE NATIONAL ★★★★★ MOTORCYCLISTS' LOBBY DAY ★★ BELTWAY MAY 18 & 19, 2026

Since 1987, the MRF has been the only national motorcyclists' rights organization dedicated to on-street riders with full-time representation in Washington, DC!  
– Ride with the Leaders! –



SCAN FOR MORE ABOUT THE EVENT

## MAKE YOUR CONGRESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS NOW!

Pre-event briefing: May 18, 2026 • Event: May 19, 2026  
Pre-register (FREE) at [www.mrf.org](http://www.mrf.org) (cut-off May 14)

Embassy Suites, 1900 Diagonal Road, Alexandria, Virginia, 703-684-5900,  
\$266 per night, incl. breakfast (cut-off April 22). Room block is limited so reserve yours  
today! For room reservations call (800) 362-2779 and reference group code, "MRF"

Sponsored by the Motorcycle Riders Foundation | [www.mrf.org](http://www.mrf.org) | 202-546-0983



# MOTORCYCLE RIDERS FOUNDATION 2026 Meeting of the Minds



## JOIN US!

Topical Presentations  
Sixteen Information-  
Packed Workshops  
Capitol Hill Updates  
And much more!

SEPTEMBER 24-27, 2026

# Milwaukee WISCONSIN

• HOSTED BY ABATE OF WISCONSIN •

## FIRSTTIME ATTENDEE DISCOUNT

First-time attendees,  
between the ages  
of 18-35, receive  
a discount\*

## Sheraton Milwaukee Brookfield Hotel

375 S Moorland Rd, Brookfield, WI 53005

Room reservations, call 262-364-1100 (use group code "MRF")

Rooms are \$129/day, plus taxes & fees. (Cut-off date: Sept. 4, 2026)

Pre-registration for conference through the MRF, PO Box 9090, Peoria, IL 61612

Pre-registration (must be received by Sept. 4, 2026): \$100.00 (current member) / \$120.00 (non-member)

Registration rate after Sept. 4, 2026: \$110.00 (current member) / \$130.00 (non-member)

Registration includes all workshops, workshop materials, and Saturday banquet.

Registration questions call the MRF at 202-546-0983, or email Fred Harrell at [fred@mrf.org](mailto:fred@mrf.org).

\*See registration form for details.

www.mrf.org



[www.mrf.org](http://www.mrf.org)



[www.mrf.org](http://www.mrf.org)



# Jason -THE Motorcycle Lawyer<sup>SM</sup>

WINS RECORD **\$27.5 MILLION**

JURY VERDICT FOR  
MICHIGAN MOTORCYCLIST



Injured in a  
motorcycle wreck?

Call **877-BIKER-LAW**  
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ABATE LIFE MEMBER  
Jason Waechter



[MotorcycleLawyerMichigan.com](http://MotorcycleLawyerMichigan.com)







# CHAIN OF EVENTS



Scan for  
printable flyers

**\*State Events are highlighted in GOLD\***

**\*MRF is highlighted in BLUE\***

**\*Bike Nights are highlighted in GREY\***

<b>Region &amp; State Events 2026</b>			
Date	Region		Contact
Feb 1	Reg 7	Triathlon & Meeting - Lucky Thumb	Tim: 989 670-9976
Feb 13		Pizza & Pop - State Capitol - Lansing	
Mar 14	Reg 12	Annual Bowling Event - South Lanes Bowling Alley	Joylynn: 269 599-1767
Mar 28	Reg 7	MRF Spaghetti Dinner - Farmers Tavern, Ruth	Tim: 989 670-9976
Mar 28	Reg 14	Taco Party - American Legion Post 322 - Saline, Mi.	
Apr 4	Reg 11	Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser - American Legion Post 4 - Mt. Clemens	
Apr 22	Reg 7	Adopt-a-hwy trash pickup - Evergreen Park	Tim: 989 670-9976
Apr 24 - 26	Reg 10	Maple Syrup Festival	
May 3	Reg 7	Meeting & Awareness Ride - Evergreen Park	Tim: 989 670-9976
May 16	Reg 13	Run for the Region	
May 18 - 19		Bikers in the Beltway MRF	
May 23	Reg 10	Highland Festival Parade	
May 30	Reg 10	Annual Spring Fling	
June 6	Reg 7	Rest in Peace Ride & Meeting - Evergreen Park	Danny: 989 325-1432
July 11	Reg 7	Scoot & Shoot & Meeting - Farmers Tavern, Ruth	Tim: 989 670-9976
July 11	Reg 10	Annual Poker Run	
Aug 1	Reg 13	PAC Ride	Dano: 517 414-8183
Aug 22	Reg 7	Porcupine Bash - Caro VFW	Tim: 989 670-9976
Sept 19	Reg 10	End of Summer Ride/Book Party	
Sept 23	Reg 7	Adopt-a-hwy trash pickup - Evergreen Park	Tim: 989 670-9976
Sept 24 - 27		42nd Annual Meeting of the Minds	
Oct. 2 - 4	Reg 7	Carved in Stone Weekend - Evergreen Park	Tim: 989 670-9976

Oct 10	Reg 10	Color Tour	
Nov 1	Reg 7	Meeting & Chili Cook-off - Lucky Thumb	Tim: 989 670-9976
Dec 5	Reg 7	Christmas Party & Meeting	Tim: 989 670-9976
Dec 5	Reg 10	Christmas Party	



**ABATE of Michigan**  
**A New Beginning**  
 Our YouTube Channel!!



### ***Region 7's Evergreen Park for the State Cash Raffle/Carved In Stone Weekend!***

If you want to reserve a campsite at Evergreen Park for the State Cash Raffle/Carved In Stone Weekend, here is all the contact information for the park:

Evergreen Park

4731 Van Dyke

Cass City, MI 48726

Phone: 989 872-6600

Email: [evergreen@sanilaccountyparks.com](mailto:evergreen@sanilaccountyparks.com)

Website: [www.sanilaccountyparks.com](http://www.sanilaccountyparks.com)



Reservations can be made after January 1st! Carved in Stone is held back by site 128, so if you want to be near the Carved in Stone Event people get a site near there. If you want a site near the drawing, get a site closer to the office. There is a map on the website for the park! Don't wait till the last minute, the park was full last year during our event!

### **OUR MISSION STATEMENT**

ABATE of Michigan Inc. is a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving motorcyclist rights, promoting safe operating practices and raising motorist's awareness of motorcycling in Michigan.

Vision: ABATE of Michigan Inc. will work diligently to increase the penalties to anyone who injures or causes a fatality to a motorcyclist or their passenger and will work with other organizations in order to preserve the universal right to a safe, unrestricted motorcycling environment on a state and national level.

ABATE of Michigan, Inc. will expand into other areas, grow in membership and work with other organizations.

ABATE is a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving the overall rights and promoting the safe operating practices of all Michigan motorcyclists.



ABATE of Michigan  
P.O. Box 99  
Constantine, Mi. 49042  
269 435 2058  
www.abateofmichigan.org

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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**Disclaimer:** The thoughts & opinions expressed in this publication are those of the individual contributors alone and do not necessarily express the views of ABATE of Michigan board & its members.

### Membership Application/Renewal



Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State/Zip+4 \_\_\_\_\_  
County: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a registered voter? ☐ Yes ☐ No

☐ New member ☐ Renewal Your Membership number \_\_\_\_\_

Single \$25 on line ☐ \$30 mail\* ☐ Couple \$45/on line ☐ \$50 mail\* ☐

2 years - \$40/person - \$70/couple ☐

Living at same address ☐ \*Applies to one-year membership only

Life: 15x's annual membership/person ☐

Life: 15x's annual membership/couple living at same address ☐

Awareness donation ☐ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to ABATE of Michigan, Inc. Voting rights take effect 30 days after application has been received at the ABATE State Office.

Membership fees and donations are NOT tax deductible. Membership fee is nonrefundable.

Clip & Mail to : ABATE of Michigan, INC. P.O. Box 99 Constantine, Mi 49042



Scan QR Code  
to visit the  
membership/  
join page

This form is also available on line: <https://abateofmichigan.org/download-forms-%26-files>

The Michigan Rider is published a minimum of eight times per year and is distributed to ABATE of Michigan's Full Members, other motorcycle rights groups, and interested advocates around the country. ABATE of Michigan, Inc. and the editor accepts no responsibility for the comments or opinions expressed within this publication.

*American Bikers Aiming Toward Education ~ A Brotherhood Against Totalitarian Enactments*