

ABATE of Michigan

Fighting for the rights of all motorcyclists since 1976

Riding free since 2012!!

Official Michigan Rider Newsletter

November 2025



Thanks to the group from Region 3 who helped clean up our designated roadway. It was a small but mighty group.

Inside the November Michigan Rider

- Page 2: Officers, Board of Directors & Appointees
- Page 3: The Prez Report - Gary Kopta
- Page 4: Legislative Days
- Page 5: Secretary Report - Eric Eads
- Page 6: 50th Anniversary Seminar 2026
- Page 8: Region Photos
- Page 9: Shifting Gears - Dondi Vesprini
- Page 11: New & Returning Members
- Page 12: RC Meeting Info & Region Reports
- Page 17: Region Bike Night
- Page 29: Sustaining Members
- Page 31: Chain of Events Listing



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

American Bikers Aiming Toward Education ~ A Brotherhood Against Totalitarian Enactments

State Officers

President

Gary Kopta

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

Vice President

Dave "Butch" Brown

Phone/Fax: 989 295-3080
butch6907@yahoo.com

Secretary

Eric Eads

Phone: 269 435-2058
abatemichsecretary@frontier.com

Treasurer

Vern Shock

Phone: 810 922-1168
abateregion10rc@gmail.com

Operations Officer

Dave "Woody" Berg
Phone: 231 884-2192
Dberg01@hotmail.com

Legislative Officer

Ed "Bear" Schuitema
Phone: 231 907-0710
buckman_4@yahoo.com

Awareness Director

Leroy Cuykendall III
Phone: 734 755-3684
bigsexy1665@hotmail.com

Board of Directors

Sgt. at Arms

Dan "Tiny" Patterson

Phone: 231 923-6906
danielpatterson421@gmail.com

Products Agent

Kim MacLennan

Phone: 989 750-8172
macmomma691@yahoo.com

State Events

Merry Garrett

Phone: 734 652-9739
merrysgarrett@yahoo.com

MRF Representative

Jinx Rahn

Phone: 517 240-0773
tomrahn@yahoo.com

Bike Raffle Chair

Sherri Lecurgo

Phone: 734 693-0080
cher_ann08@hotmail.com

Vince Consiglio

Phone: 269 435-2058
abatemsf@tir.com

Dondi Vesprini

Phone: 248 569-4646
dondi@buckfirelaw.com

Jim Rhoades

Phone: 734 578-6144
jimrhoades000@gmail.com

Herb Rials

517 221-9288
HERBRIALS@gmail.com

Joy Gerow

Phone: 269 998-6215
jggerow@att.net

Ann Tobian

Phone: 734 790-7927
shovelpaann@hotmail.com

Jeremy "Ice Man"

Bouvrette

Phone: 989 980-8842
the_iceman99turbo@yahoo.com

Dan "Tiny" Patterson

Phone: 231 923-6906
danielpatterson421@gmail.com

Gina Berg

Phone: 231 884-2192
reginagarvin364@yahoo.com

Tim Polk

Phone: 989 670-9976
tpolk3966@gmail.com

Trustees

Kim MacLennan

Phone: 989 750-8172
macmomma691@yahoo.com

Bob MacLennan

mammomma691@yahoo.com

Patricia Shattuck

gatorsrose83@gmail.com

Lois Shock

Phone is 989 601-0693
lshock330@gmail.com

Appointees

Webmaster & Newsletter Silla

abatewebeditor@gmail.com
Phone: 928 710-2203
2050 W. Ste. Route 89A
#95
Cottonwood, Az. 86326

PAC Liaison

Wayne Rogalski

23 W. Great Lakes
River Rouge, Mi 48218
Phone: 313 820-3616
MMRPAC@aol.com

*Monthly Michigan Rider
Newsletter*

On the Go??

*Read /Download your On-
Line Copy here:*

https://www.

*abateofmichigan.org/
michigan-rider-newsletter.
html*

https://abateofmichigan.org/





The Prez Report - Gary Kopta

Hello everyone,

Hope your getting some good riding in while the weather has been good. We all know the cold white stuff will be falling soon.

Let me start with A.B.A.T.E (A Brotherhood Against Totalitarian Enactments or American Bikers Aiming Towards Education). Another way to look at it is ABATE which is described to mean to reduce, lessen or terminate it. A totalitarian is a total control over aspects of your life such as helmet laws etc.

Why do I bring this up? Because it seems like we have been drifting away from things since we changed the helmet law. The helmet law never goes away. It seems every year there is a politician in Lansing that has a new helmet law on their desk waiting to submit it. That's why we need to send a big thank you to our Legislative group led by Bear that keeps an eye on things going on.

There isn't alot going on in Lansing. They finally settled on a budget so now maybe things can get done. We are kinda regrouping to continue the fight with the insurance situation. It looks like Noel (our lobbyist) who is always working behind the scenes has a few ideas and hopefully we can get something going. When the time comes we may have to send out a call to action for all our members to contact their legislators to support a bill. Hopefully this can happen soon.

The MRF meeting of the minds happened last month in Shreveport Louisiana. Jinx (our state MRF rep) told me there was over 400 people there this year. I wish I could have gone but had other things going on that weekend. Next year the MOTM will be in Milwaukee. Hopefully we can get a good group to go. By the way if your not a member of the Motorcycle Riders Foundation (MRF) why not? The MRF fights for our rights at the national level and just like us they are hurting for membership. If they decide to pass a mandatory helmet law in DC then there is nothing ABATE of Michigan can do about it. Just like the seat belt law which was forced on us they can pass a helmet law and we will be wearing them. You also get \$4000.00 death

and dismemberment insurance just like the \$3500.00 you get for being an ABATE member. So for \$60.00 a year you can get \$7500.00 worth of insurance. You cant buy insurance that cheap in Michigan so that alone is worth the membership dues.

That's it for this month. Ride while you still can.

Gary



Phone: 989 781-2306
gkopta1@gmail.com



SAVE THE DATE

Bikers Inside The Beltway 2026

Washington, DC

Embassy Suites Alexandria Old Town

May 18 - 19, 2026

42nd Annual Meeting of the Minds

Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Sheraton Milwaukee-Brookfield

September 24 - 27, 2026



*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!!!**

LEGISLATIVE DAYS

*Meeting every 3rd Tuesday @
9AM at the House office building.
Parking at the Capitol White House
Lansing*

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
or

Operations Officer

Dave "Woody" Berg
Phone: 231 884-2192
Dberg01@hotmail.com



Secretary Report - Eric Eads

The nice weather just keeps on hanging around! I am fine with that!

It's that time of year again. Time to get ready for the Seminar in three short months which will be in Saginaw this year. The same place we had it a couple years ago. The place in Flint got new owners. The new owners got crazy greedy on the price, so we are back in Saginaw.

The following people are running for the Board of Directors, Dan, "Tiny" Patterson, Kim MacLennan, Merry Garrett, Jinx Rahn, Sherri Lecurgo Cuykendall, Dondi Vesprini, Herb Rials, Tim Polk, Jim Rhoades, Vince Consiglio, Jeremy, Bouvrette, Joy Gerow, Ann Tobian, Lois Shock, Gina Berg, Bob Maennan, Patricia Shattuck, and Amy Penny. The Officers do not run for the Board. They are appointed by the Board members at the Board meeting in January. If an Officer does not get reappointed to his position, he automatically becomes a Board member for the year until the next election.

The by-law proposals will be in next months article.

Region 1 has a new RC! His contact information will be on the website and the Michigan Rider.

This a rather slow news month on the Federal and State level. I didn't write this article till the due date so I didn't have a lot of time to scour my news sources. I will try and do better next month.

Life Members this month are Herb Rials and Todd Meyers. I want to give a huge thanks to Wrights Renovations in Ypsilanti for their very generous Awareness donation!

I cant say how much but it was substantial! Thank you Wright Renovations!

I have new Awareness Donation Certificates. Your donation of \$100.00 or more will get you one.
Ride Defensively.

Eric



Phone: 269 435-2058

abatemichsecretary@frontier.com





ABATE of Michigan Products Agent

Kim MacLennan

Phone: 989 750-8172

Email: macmomma691@yahoo.com

Products web page:

Updated info coming soon!!!

Visit our website for downloadable:

★Products Order Form

★ Inventory Catalog

Where to find us!!



Explore our ABATE of Michigan website at: 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>



Timmy Beson (rep) and our very own Cricket from Region 6.
Thanks for all your hard work!



Region 7
Tina Brydan, winner of the Shuffleboard contest from our Scoot & Shoot back in July! She finally came and got her trophy!



Shifting Gears - Dondi Vesprini

I hope everyone has been enjoying a nice Fall season. In many parts of the State, we were spoiled with some unseasonably warm days in early October that felt like riding in Summer. Here is to a safe Fall season colored with the beautiful turning of the leaves that is so unmistakably Michigan.

In many of my articles, I write about the need to stay vigilant with your legislators in Lansing to get our insurance situation turned around to allow motorcyclists to enjoy the freedom to exercise their own choice of no fault medical benefits, just like every other motorist, pedestrian and bicyclist gets to do in the event of an accident with a motor vehicle. The need for the vigilance is because the insurance industry, who has a bad habit of opposing many of the bills that are good for motorcyclists, remains vigilant in seeking to pass bills that are good for the insurance industry. This month I am highlighting three such bills.

The first is House Bill 4713. In Michigan, we have the Health Care False Claim Act which essentially makes it illegal for a person to make or present a claim for payment of health care benefits knowing the claim to be false. It also criminalizes if a person knowingly makes or cause to be made a false statement or false representation of a material fact to a health care corporation or health care insurer for use in determining rights to health care benefits. Traditionally, one of the main focuses of the Act is to protect health insurance companies from false claims by doctors or other medical providers who bill health insurers for treatment that was not actually performed or for treatment that was not medically necessary. Under the Act, each false claim made constitutes a separate violation and a violator is guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than 4 years, or by a fine of not more than \$50,000.00, or both. House Bill 4713 amends

the Health Care False Claim Act to add auto no fault insurers to health insurers protected under the Act. This then would potentially subject no-

fault claimants to felony charges for making a fraudulent claim to have medical bills paid after an accident. This is notable because in my experience representing injured people in accidents, many no fault insurance companies try to allege that claims are fraudulent, even when there is no intent to defraud the insurance company by the claimant. For example, a claimant may innocently submit a monthly calendar claiming attendant care or household services every day of the month on a pre-made calendar template that has 31 days for each month, during a month that only had 30 days. Another example may be where a claimant has innocently made a mistake on their application for no fault benefits. In neither example did the claimant intentionally seek to mislead or defraud the insurance company, but some insurers may categorize these as examples of fraud. Also, the no fault law already allows the insurer a complete defense in civil law to discontinue or seek reimbursement of benefits if paid pursuant to an actual fraudulent claim. This bill passed the House on September 18, 2025 by a vote of 101 TO 2. Further, our State already has statutes which criminalize insurance fraud.

This leads us to the second bill to touch



Phone: 248 569-4646
dondi@buckfirelaw.com



ABATE OF MICHIGAN

50

ANNIVERSARY SEMINAR CELEBRATION

Jan. 23-24, 2026

Four Points by Sheraton Saginaw
989-790-5050

4960 Towne Centre Rd, Saginaw, MI,

Seventy's theme Saturday night.

**Come dressed in your best
hippie outfit and dance to the
seventies**

Reservations must be made by
December 23, 2025
\$99/night
Press "0" then ask for
ABATE Block

Breakout sessions
DJ (both nights)
RC meeting Friday
PAC games Friday
Live/silent auctions
Region Raffles
Voting for new & improved
bylaws & board members on
Sunday morning



Merry Garrett 7346529739
Pam Fischer 3133104888

Sponsorship Request

For the 2026

ABATE SEMINAR AWARDS

A.B.A.T.E. of Michigan's state seminar is held annually at very little cost to the participants. Participants traditionally pay only for the cost of their food and their lodging.

As an ABATE supporter, we would like to again offer you or your business the opportunity to receive recognition by helping sponsor the Seminar Awards.

The Seminar Awards will be held - January 23, 24, & 25, 2026 at the

Four Points by Sheraton Saginaw

4960 Towne Centre Road, Saginaw, MI 48604

**Four levels of sponsorship are available
Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum**

We will recognize all sponsors in the Awards Sponsorship Program by including their name (or business) in the seminar packet distributed to all seminar participants. Sponsors will be introduced on Saturday and the names will be mentioned in the next issue of the *Michigan Rider*. Any business that donates as a Silver supporter will receive one month's free advertisement (business card); a business that becomes a Gold Supporter will receive one free ¼ page ad and any business that becomes a Platinum Supporter will receive a ¼ page ad for 2 months.

All checks must be received by Dec. 15, 2025

Yes, I want to help sponsor the Awards Banquet at the seminar. I am enclosing a check for:

☐ \$ 50.00 Bronze

☐ \$100.00 Silver

☐ \$250.00 Gold

☐ \$500 Platinum

1 free business card ad

1 free ¼ page ad

2 free ¼ page ad

Name _____ **Phone** _____
(or business)

Address _____

City _____ **Zip code** _____

***Make Checks Payable to ABATE of Michigan
then mail to: Eric Eads – Secretary of ABATE of Michigan
ABATE of Michigan, Inc., P.O. Box 99, Constantine, Mi. 49042-0099
In order to provide recognition, the check must be received by Dec. 15, 2025***

on, being House Bill 4716. This bill would increase the penalties for insurance fraud. Essentially, if the fraud is less than \$1,000.00, it is a misdemeanor with a penalty of prison for not more than 1 year or fine of not more than \$2,000 or 3 times the amount of the claim; if the fraud is \$1,000.00 – \$20,000.00 it is a felony with a penalty of prison for not more than 5 years or fine of not more than \$10,000 or 3 times the amount of the claim; and the penalties continue to escalate from there depending on the amount of the fraud. This bill passed the House on September 18, 2025 by a vote of 101 TO 2. Notably, there is no comparable bill to criminally charge no fault adjusters who bogusly deny legitimate claims.

The third bill is House Bill 5030 which seeks an interesting amendment to no fault policies that provide for unlimited medical benefits. This bill provides that for no fault policies that provide unlimited medical benefits, an insurer shall offer deductibles in increments of \$1,000.00, up to the average amount paid in medical benefits for all motor vehicle accidents that occurred in this state in the preceding year and that resulted in accidental bodily injury. A deductible under this subsection must result in an appropriately reduced premium and apply only to benefits payable to the person named in the policy, the spouse of the insured, and any relative of either domiciled in the same household. There is no guarantee how much the reduced premium will be, but I don't

foresee it being worth it to anyone to offer to pay the first \$1,000.00 of their own medical bills when you are opting that the insurance company pay unlimited medical benefits. These bills offer some food for thought as we move into the Thanksgiving season as an example of the continued activity of the insurance industry in Lansing, and serves as a reason we can be thankful for those that fight the fight for motorcyclists in Lansing to keep the freedoms we enjoy. As always, if anyone has any questions or if I can be of legal assistance to you or anyone you know who has been injured in a motorcycle accident, please don't hesitate to contact me as I successfully represent injured motorcyclists statewide and have recovered millions of dollars on their behalf. Further, if you would like to have me come out to your Region or any other organization you belong to, to speak or give a presentation on the legal rights of an injured motorcyclist or on any specific topic that your group may be curious about, please don't hesitate to give me a call at (248-569-4646) or shoot me an e-mail at Dondi@buckfirelaw.com. I give presentations state-wide and there is never a charge associated with having me out. I enjoy having the opportunity to come out and meet motorcycle enthusiasts from all parts of our State!

Dondi Vesprini

Attorney - Buckfire Law

<https://abateofmichigan.org/shifting-gears>



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: destrecke/@msn.com

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

Web: 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

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

WELCOME NEW & RETURNING MEMBERS

KEVIN POPS HUTCHINS

TOM HENDERSON

TRACEY HENDERSON

MARTHA DUDLEY

DARREN DUDLEY

MARK PRATT

MARY PRATT

JACKSON NOFFSINGER

BRANDON KOPTA

DAVID CURRENCE

REBECCA RAVENMOORE

DERENTHIA HATCHER

STEVEN RECKER

AURORA LIGHT

DAKOTA SUTTER

SARENITTY BOUCHER

AUSTIN POWELSON

TIFFANY LAWRENCE

JOSEPH LAWRENCE

JERRY BOPRIE

JOHN BARKLEY

MICHAEL GUERRERO

BRIAN MICHELSEN

JENNIFER PRESTON

ELIZABETH SCHUMITSCH

MICHAEL DREW

JOSH EADS





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

Vern Shock

Phone: 810 922-1168
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
Email: 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

Eric Eads

Phone: 269 435-2058
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

REMINDER

**Monthly Deadline
for updates is
the 12th of each
month.**



Region Reports



Operations Officer **Dave "Woody" Berg**

Phone: 231 884-2192
Dberg01@hotmail.com

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, Grand Traverse, Leelanau, Benzie, Manistee, Missaukee, Wexford RC - Van Dunson

Meeting was held at
Johnny's Torch Riviera and
called to order at 18:30 hrs.
by Van.

The pledge was led by
Dave C and recited by all,
followed by a moment of
silence.

Mark read the minutes and a
motion was made by Karen
second by Denise to approve
as read. Discussed and
carried.

Ann Marie presented the
treasurers report. Motion by
Karen, second by Denise to
approve. Motion carried.

November 2025

No legislative report.

No AC report.

Awareness report: Karen
states nothing new.

Gina was absent so no
products report

Greg has nothing regarding
the road captains but stated
that the mid section of
Region 3 has been on a
few rides and dinner rides.
Comments were made that
since we are all one region
that we need to make more
efforts to let everyone in the
region know about these
ride so they can participate.
It was mentioned that these
rides are posted on the
Facebook page and people
felt that phone calls needed
to be made to those who
do not do Facebook or have
internet.

Denise states she is status
quo.

Paul's safety blip is that we
need to be aware of leaves
and pine needles in the
road and on the pathways
as they can be slippery and
hazardous.

ABATE OF MICHIGAN

Nomination papers were
handed out.

Finances were discussed and
agreed upon.

Think about nominations
for member of the year.

Our next meeting will be
November 5, 2025 at 6:30
and will be held at Johnny's
Torch Riviera.

If anyone has items for the
raffle for the seminar get
with Ann Marie.

It was brought up and
questioned the dates for
the Christmas party and
for our 2026 summer party.
These will be decided next
meeting.

Karen made a motion
to adjourn seconded by
Denise.
Meeting adjourned.

REGION 4 - Emmet, Charlevoix, Cheboygan, Presque Isle, Otsego, Montmorency, Alpena RC - Dave Etherton

No report this month.

REGION 5 - Mason, Lake, Oceana, Muskegon, Newaygo RC - Dan "Tiny" Patterson

Meeting opened with pledge
and moment of silence.
Voting for officers will take
place on Nov 2 at 1pm at
Dirty Dog in Muskegon,
Nominations are,
Larry "BamBam" Peters -RC
Kevin "Pops" Hutchins - AC
Gail Fowler - secretary
Rand Laase - Road Capt.

Page 13

For member of the year Nominations are Gail and Al Fowler
Larry "BamBam" Peters
November 2, is also our Christmas auction donations are needed please contact Jerry "Joker" Showers @ 231-578-2454 or text Kim @ 231-286-5372, this is to help with the Christmas program, so every little bit helps! Live and silent auction, fun and games

December 7 at 1pm is the Christmas party! Region 5 will provide the meat we ask everyone to bring a dish to pass and if you wish to participate a white elephant gift this will be at the Dirty Dog in Muskegon, more info to come!

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

Good evening ABATE family.

Just a quick shout out to all our members. We need to get busy grabbing and keeping new members. We have been challenged by region 5 to get it done. And I'm sure region 10 will want in on the fun. I know we can do it. Let's make it happen. Heck you can even sign up your grand kids. It would make a great Christmas present. Are you with me?!!!! I know we can

October will be the month to run for a position in our region. If you are interested please let me know and I will put you on the ballet. All positions are there for you to run either opposed or not opposed. So if you have wanted to hold one of them please do so.

Voting will be at our November 9th meeting and all positions will be started on February 1st.

We have a board meeting in October 18 so if there is anything you wish me to discuss with the board please let me know
The seminar is in full throttle. Flyer to be added to the rider and given out at our meeting!!! Hopefully this month.

Four points in Saginaw

Rooms are \$99 a night

January 23/24

Hopefully we have a great showing from region 6. We always have a great time. The theme will be the 70's. So come dressed in your favorite outfit and enjoy a great weekend. Any questions you know how to find me

Please send up some extra love and care for two of our wonderful members Joan and Rick Lawrence's daughter passed this last week. It's with a heavy heart we say we will miss this young lady. She leaves behind two wonderful kids. If your can make the service the info is on our facebook page or you can call me

The date is October 18th in Gladwin. Just remember life is so short and we all need to love each other!!!

Sincerely

Merry Garrett

Proud RC of Region 6.

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

ABATE Region 7 - Meeting October 5, 2025

Meeting at Evergreen Park called to order at 12 noon. Pledge, moment of silence for our troops, and prayer. Meeting attendance was 21 people.

Secretary Report - No meeting in September, read the minutes from August.

Treasurer Report - Provided expenses and income report for August and September. Motion to accept report by Chris W, second by Bob B, motion carried.

Awareness -The region still needs someone to volunteer to be our Awareness Director.

Legislative - Butch Brown informed us that the Michigan Legislature has finally passed the budget. We are still fighting the insurance bill. No other updates at this time.

Our Carved in Stone event October 3rd-4th-5th had beautiful weather (for once no rain). Thanks go out to all that attended and participated in the games and raffles. This was also our Toys for Tots collection going to Huron County to go to the Foster children. Thank you all for your monetary and toy donations.

Tim went to Louisianan for the MRF Meeting of the Minds and gave us an update. He presented our MRF donation from the Spaghetti Dinner event the region held at the end of March. Next year the Meeting of the Minds will be in Milwaukee. Let's see how many will be there from Michigan AND Region 7!

Discussed January Seminar in Saginaw. We had a quilt made and will donate for the live auction. We will have a wagon raffle with other stuff included. Jay Schall gave a monetary donation to go towards the cost to purchase the wagon.

Our final events for this year are Chili Cook Off / Meeting on November 2nd, at 2 pm.

Christmas party / Meeting on December 6th, at 2 pm. We will have a potluck Christmas dinner, bring a dish to pass. There will be a gift exchange - bring a gift/ get a gift, be sure to mark it if it's for a guy or a gal! All are welcome to attend.

Motion to adjourn made by Bob B, second by Parcus, motion carried.

I would like to thank ALL

who came out to our events this year, all who helped with our events, all who donated to our events and all who participated in any of our events!! This has been a good year and I am so proud of our Region 7! I will be working on our calendar of events so it will be out by the first of the year!

Tina Brydan picked up her trophy from the Scoot & Shoot and I have one left from the Frisbee toss and it goes to Bruce Biscorner from Marine City. So Bruce, give me a call or text so you can get your trophy! You won it, why not get your trophy?

Lastly, our chili cook-off is open to anyone, so make your best chili and get in our contest in Nov! We also welcome any ABATE member to our Christmas party! Santa will do a gift exchange, so if you want a gift bring a gift just make sure to mark it for a guy or gal or either! I hope to see a large crowd at the state seminar this year! I believe it's time that we get more members involved in our organization that are willing to fight for our rights as motorcyclists! Until next month, Ride safe & Ride Often!
Tim.

**REGION 8 - Ottawa,
Kent, Allegan, Barry
RC - Tara Hendee**

Get ready, Region 8! We're rolling out for a spooktacular time at the Holland Trunk-or-Treat on Saturday, October 26th! Come join a group of our members and friends

to deck out their bikes, trunks, or trailers and hand out treats to the costumed kids. This is a fantastic opportunity for us to engage with the community, show off our awesome rides, and spread a little Halloween cheer mixed with motorcycle awareness!

We also want to give a heads-up that some of our members let the kids check out and even touch/sit on their bikes—it's all part of the fun and a great way to inspire the next generation of riders!

We strongly encourage others to join the fun! Whether you're handing out candy or just want to see the creativity on display, your presence makes our group even better.

Get In the Loop: BC Pizza Meetings

Want to know more about what's happening in Region 8? Our regular regional meetings are the best place to find out!

Join us at BC Pizza in Dorr on the second Sunday of every month at 4:00 PM. It's a laid-back way to talk bikes, plan events, and get to know your fellow riders. If you've been curious about our region or organization, this is the perfect time to swing by. Come learn about the rides, events, and initiatives that make Region 8 the best around!

Stay Connected!

For full event details on the Trunk-or-Treat, our monthly meetings, and all the other exciting rides and gatherings we have planned, make sure to visit our Facebook page and check the events tab! We're more than just a



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 _____



Have something to sell?
Looking for something??

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

Advertising in the Michigan Rider and
on line is the most direct way to reach
Michigan motorcyclists.
Ads must be resubmitted each month.
Please include your ABATE membership
number.

* "FOR SALE" biker related items &
services only.
* No ads over the phone will be accepted.
* Photos not necessary but can be helpful.

*Email ads with pics & descripton to:
Michigan Rider Copy Editor
Silla: abatewebeditor@gmail.com*

Classified ads can also be found on our website: <https://abateofmichigan.org/classified-ads>

**SUNDAY IS BIKE DAY!
SPECIALS ALL DAY
AND NIGHT**

Starts May 5th

Chicky's Paradise

133 N. Main
Almont, MI 48003
(810)798-9546

Hours:
Sun 12 noon to Close

"Home of Booba-Palooza"

North of Main St.
West side of M53 (Van Dyke)

**Friend Chicky Bryant On
FB for bar Info**

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.

group; we're a crew of enthusiasts who love to ride and give back. Come join the action! We look forward to seeing you on the 26th and at our next meeting!

REGION 9 - Ingham, Eaton, Clinton & Ionia Counties
RC - Nick Henry

Hello region 9, by the time you read this, for most of us, riding will be only in our memories, at least until March.

The state seminar will be January 23-24 at Four Points in Saginaw.

November is the month for region board elections. Anybody who would like to step up let me know and I will set up a meeting to make it happen.

There is talk about switching from raffling a motorcycle to having a money raffle, if you have an opinion on this let the state board know.

The MRF has set its priorities for 2026 they are,

Autonomous Vehicles
Crash Avoidance
Data Recording
Definition of a motorcycle
Emission Regulation
Helmet Laws / Equipment
Internal Combustion engines
Profiling
Renewable Fuels
Right to repair/ modify
Surface Transportation
Vulnerable Roadway user terminologies
Stay safe Ride free
Nick
Region 9 R.C.

REGION 10 - Gratiot, Saginaw
RC - Vern Shock

OCTOBER ABATE REGION 10 & 21
NEWSLETTER
10/5/2025

Meeting called to order: 2:55 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Previous Minutes Read

Treasure Report Given

MRF Report Given:

*Meeting of the Minds will be held next year 9/24/27 in Milwaukee, WI. There were 400 members in attendance at this year's Meeting of the minds in Shreveport

Louisiana.

Legislature Report Given:

*Need to sit down with Noel about insurance issues.

*There are a few thousand bills that are currently in the committee. Whitmer can veto all or some.

*Pot is being taxed at 60% before the consumer gets to buy it. Money is being used for potholes in MI.

*\$1000 per student allotted for free breakfast & lunch and 50% of waste is being noted.

*Health insurance (Medicare) going up.

*Deductible on PIP, who pays when both insured have the lowest amount of coverage?

Side Notes from Gary:

*Check out Merry's ABATE UPDATE in Thunder Roads Magazine for October.

*Region 10 is second in the state with memberships and not far behind region 7. Let's get new members, get renewed, and bring back expired members.

Our Christmas Party will be 12/6/25 at Ghost Town at 6pm. Will have DJ (Mark). Watch Facebook page for more details.

Further discussion regarding participating in a Queen of Hearts event. Vern will be attending a meeting in Shiawassee on 10/13/25 as they will be the license holder. Farmer's wait staff will be selling the tickets. Hoping to start in December (TBD). If we don't move forward with the Queen of Hearts maybe have a cash raffle or a reverse raffle? (TBD).

Members voted to move forward with our Annual Color Tour being held 10/11/25. All those interested in joining the ride are to meet at Petticoat. Kickstands up at 11am. Further discussion regarding the Passport Book event. We have 17 counties that will be included. Committee meeting after this meeting.

Further discussion regarding the Annual Seminar to be held 1/23-26/26 at the Four Points Hotel in Saginaw. Cost is \$99 per night. Vern would like to put a basket together to raffle off. This year's theme will be the 70's.

State of Michigan will be selling tickets for a bag raffle.

Vern thanked members for being a kick

ass region, however, he would like to relinquish the RC position and asked for volunteers. Discussed having financial support for our lobbyist, which Gary also backed and gave insight as to what our lobbyist does for ABATE of Michigan. We will be setting up an awareness tent at next year's Maple Syrup Festival in Shepard. Volunteers will be needed. Cancer Benefit will be held for ABATE Region 10 co-founder, Rob Brantley on 1/10/26 at the St. Louis Moose Club. Halloween Party/Costume Contest at Sin City on 11/1/25 to commemorate Casper's (Chris) birthday (and of course Halloween). They'll also be holding a New Year's Party on 12/31/25 to commemorate Dawn's birthday. See flyers on Region 10 page. Lynn & Terry Dortch joined our meeting to further discuss the purpose of the Gunner/Dortch Scholarship Ride which was to help raise money and raise awareness and to commemorate Gunner's dream of becoming a motorcycle mechanic. The scholarship fund will be to help other students possibly become a motorcycle mechanic. They have Gunner's motorcycle displayed on a trailer for use to bring awareness of motorcycle awareness. There is a video on the ABATE page that you should watch. Last, but not least, Gunner's parents became members of our region. Position Nominations are as follows: AC: Bob & Jeremy

November 2025

Secretary: Deb
Treasurer: Brandi
MRF/LO: Jeff
Events: Shannon
Memberships: Aurora
Welcoming Committee: Lois & Alisha
Products: Dawn
Head Road Captain: Joker
Road Captains: Scott, Steven, Butch & Jeff
Sergeant of Arms: Ken
Member(s) of the Year: Dawn & Ken
Election for the RC position will be held 11/2/25 at Evergreen Tavern. Nominations were Vern & Amy. Only current members may vote.
Meeting Adjourned: 4:14 p.m.

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

Greetings from Region 11.

Oct 3, 2025 Meeting called to order at 7:05 P.M.

. Pledge of Allegiance recited
. Treasurer Report given by Patty
. Legislative Report given by Tommy Smith

Old business discussed:

.Summer Tour Party went very well. Approximately 60 people in attendance.

Winners: \$1000 Julie Biscorner
\$500 Tracey Henderson

\$250 Bryan (Dickweed) Kibzey;
Bryan donated \$50 back to awareness.

.Euchre Tournament scheduled for November has been canceled.

ABATE OF MICHIGAN

.2026 Seminar January 23-25 Four Points Sheraton in Saginaw.

.Board Meeting reminder on Oct. 18 at the White House in Lansing.

.Election of Officers for 2026 to take place at November 2025 meeting.

New business discussed:

.2026 Summer Tour Book Committee Meeting to take place before November monthly meeting. This is to discuss the 2026 Summer Tour Book. All interested on being on the committee are encouraged to attend.

.Region 11 Holiday party to be included at December's monthly meeting at 7pm at Total Sports. Pizza and Salad will be served. Desserts are requested.

.Will discuss event planning for the 2026 season at November's monthly meeting, along with a vote to donate \$\$ for Seminar in January.

Enjoy the rest of your Fall and ride safe!

Oscar
Interim RC.

REGION 12 - VanBuren, Kalamazoo, Berrien, Cass, Joseph RC - Eric Eads

Sunday October 5th,

Gary started the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Joey read the Treasury

Page 19

Report.

Bear with the MRF Report - October MRF: Tesla is starting to move away from its original robo car sales pitch, is now focusing on robo taxis. Just wonderful!! Tesla and other companies haven't proven that robo vehicles can operate safely and consistently in the REAL WORLD, especially when it comes to detecting and responding to motorcycles, bicyclists and pedestrians.

NHSTA disbanded the Motorcycle Advisory Committee Against Congressional Mandates. Then a month later reinstated it. However, all members must be renominated. MRF is again supporting VP Jay Jackson for the seat reserved for a National Motorcyclist Foundation. With things like infrastructure, road way design and robo vehicle tech on the horizon, it is essential that the motorcyclist community has a seat at the table.

NHSTA has a new leader John Morrison. At his July confirmation hearing he said "NHSTA cannot sit back and wait for problems to arrive with such developing technologies." He emphasized the need for federal rule to accelerate the deployment of robo cars. MRF will keep an eye to ensure that rapid deployment doesn't come at the expense of motorcyclist safety.

I would urge everyone to go to James Berns 874 videos on robo cars and watch.

Bear's Quote of the Month: "You want a friend in this city (Washington D.C.), get a dog." Harry Truman

The Shotgun Bowling and Pistol Poker went well. Thanks to Jeff and Julie again for letting us use their property.

Remember it is that time of year again. All Region positions are up for nominations.

Sunday, October 19th is the Fall Color Run Region 12. It is \$10 per person and registration starts at 11 am at Verhage Fruit Farm in Kalamazoo. See Flyer in the Ryder.

At the Paw Paw Eagles where we meet every month on the first Sunday of the month, they are having a food drive for

Thanksgiving baskets. If you can help, they would appreciate it.

We drew for the 50/50 raffle and Pauletta won. We drew for the incentive drawing and Desirae S. would have won if she were present. We drew for the MRF free membership and Mike H. won.

Bear motioned to close the meeting and Joylynn seconded it.

Thank you,
Joylynn Wojciehowski.

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

Hello region 13!

Here we are at the beginning of the BRRRR months (October, November and December.) so ride while you can, it wont be long now before the white stuff starts falling.

We opened up the meeting as always with the pledge of allegiance followed by a moment of silence.

Sassy gave her report on the treasury which is favorable.

Herb gave a report on what is going on in Lansing, not much but we are still busy.

Jinx was not present but I gave a very short update on the meeting of the minds. Michigan fell from first place for signing up the most clubs, that honor was taken by Texas. Also NHTSA has decided to reform the Motorcycle advisory committee, more on that as it unfolds.

We recapped the Region run. It was a decent turn out and I hope everyone had a great time. While we are on this subject, we have decided to move this to MAY of next year for several reasons.

1. We will tie this into the "May is motorcycle awareness month."
 2. It will give us a better idea of how much operating capital we have for the year.
 3. Hopefully we can get a bigger attendance.
- We also opened up the nominations for the region board, so if you are interested in a position put your name in the ha. We still have several open positions.

Buttons gave an awareness update. Sign sales have been down but its hard to sell

signs when everyone who wants them are on 2 wheels. We had a member donate 2 liquor baskets so we will see what we are going to do with them.

Bumper gave his Road Capt. report and thanked all who came and participated in the region run.

I stated last month that I would touch on region events, There is more to them than money. When you attend your regional (or any event) yes money does play a part. Weather it is for a Charity, cause or your regional coffers. Another part of them and it is a little overlooked is the building of friendships, connecting with others that you haven't seen in a while, or even making new friends and of course showing support for a cause. I have met many friends over the years and it all started with me waking up one day and deciding to go to a poker run, or bike night. Some of those were ABATE events and some were not a good example is back in 1999 a friend of mine handed me a flyer for this protest in Lansing about the helmet law put on by this organization called ABATE of Michigan. Well back then the region was pretty much dead so I have never heard of it before, but that morning came and we threw our legs over our rides and went, man what a turnout back then. After the event his friend (some might remember him 6 pack) said well what do you think, you ready to join. We did right then, right there. He told us to be at the old bowling alley for the first meeting a week later my

friend and myself were both event coordinators. It's been a long and wild journey but here I am, many years later and it all started with an event. So get out to the meetings, events and get to know some people. You never know where it will take you.

Stay warm, ride when you can and be safe
Dano.

REGION 14 - Livingston, Washtenaw RC - Shiny Bob

Pledge of Allegiance
Yearly nomination for member of the year and other region positions will take place at Octobers meeting.
We did a survey for the bike or cash , but some of our members weren't there and they want to vote on it. Some of the questions were how much cash would 1st prize get.

That does make a difference. Region 14 and 15's Christmas party is combined and it is December 14th. Any other Regions that wants to come, needs to bring a dish to pass per couple or person. We will not be having raffle items there. Because it's a Christmas party and we want to enjoy each other's company.

REGION 15 - Wayne Interim RC - Shiny Bob

Region 15 will be moved to Saline American Legion 4th Sunday of the month post 322. 4 pm Shinybob will be temp RC for the rest of the year, all are welcome it Will be after reg 14 meeting.

Ride Safe.
Johnny.

REGION 16 - Crawford, Roscommon, Oscoda, Ogema, Alcona, Iosco 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 November, 2025
Michigan Rider

Region 19 held its October meeting on the 7th of the month, our traditional first-Tuesday meeting day. Most of the regulars were in attendance along with our LO's brother Lee, in for a visit from California. Lee rode a Valkyrie for years in his home state and it is always good to

hear the thoughts of a rider from outside Michigan.

The meeting began at about 7:00p after the dinner plates had been cleared.

1. RC Bill opened the meeting with his monthly MRF report in which he discussed a number of things starting with the Motorcycle Advisory Committee (MAC), its apparent disbanding and the reformation.

- The MAC was established in 2017 to advise the Federal Highway Administration regarding issues of concern to motorcyclists on the national level. Such issues include highway design, methods of highway barrier construction, the development of Intelligent Transportation System and its components along with many other aspects relating to motorcycle use and safety.

- Motorcyclists across the country were deeply concerned in August of this year when the Council's 13 board members all received letters terminating their places on the MAC! These terminations of the MAC board would have left the nation's bikers with no clear voice on the national level. Fortunately, in September it was announced that the Council would be reestablished, following the appointment of all new members.

- MRF is proud to nominate VP Jay Jackson, a well known and effective voice for motorcyclists in DC and around the country to the spot reserved on the MAC for a representative from a national-level motorcyclist foundation. As of this writing it is not clear whether Jackson has been reappointed to the MAC Board.

2. Bill also discussed the importance of membership in MRF (not to mention ABATE) for every person who rides a motorcycle in our state.

- What ABATE of Michigan does for bikers in Michigan, MRF does for bikers all across the country. If you are not a member of the Motorcycle Riders Foundation, please join today!

- Dues are only \$35 per year for an individual membership.

- Join online at www.mrf.org

3. Initial planning for our Region's annual December Holiday Party was discussed with finalization of details planned for our November meeting.

4. Bill also suggested that it is not too late for us to do a Cider Ride this year with further planning still required.

Treasurer Speedy was not able to attend this meeting but...

- Our Treasurer did send her report with her far-lesser-half (Hess, our LO) and he presented the Treasurer's Report.

- Region 19 finances are currently stable and adequate to the need. Hess then followed up with his Legislative Officer Report.

- Our LO usually submits a written report but that was not the case this evening primarily because next to nothing has taken place in Lansing for months!

- Hess did however share that a State Budget has finally passed both the House and the Senate and has been signed into law by Governor Whitmer.

- With this important legislation out of the way it is now perhaps possible that our state's Representatives and Senators might actually get around to governing the state.

- Whether this means that our elected leaders will be willing to address issues of importance to bikers (such as the problems caused by 2019's SB 1) remains to be seen.

- Anyone want to make any bets???

Region 19 will next meet on Tuesday, November 4. Please come out and join us at the Shark Club, 6665 Highland Rd, Waterford. Dinner will be at 6:00p the meeting will begin at 7:00. Good food, great motorcycle friends and the opportunity to advance motorcycling in our state. You cannot go wrong!

Submitted by

Hess Bates

Region 19 Legislative Officer

hessbates@att.net.

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

Meeting called to order at 2:10pm with Pledge and Prayer.

There was 9 members in attendance including our State Treasurer Vern Shock.

Treasurer report was read and accepted.

Old Business: Color Ride is Oct. 12th Registration is from 11am-12pm at Country Ranch Restaurant in Morrice. Reg. 20 Nominations are as follows.

Member of the Year:

Cupcake

Secretary: Neil "Squid" Darnell

Treasurer: Steve "General" Graves

RC: Steve "General"

Graves

Voting to take place at the October meeting.

New Business: End of Summer Bonfire, Nov.

8th, 7pm at Bus and Cupcakes

10473 Byron Rd. Byron, Mi. Hot Dogs and S'mores will be provided, bring a snack, byob and lawn chair

Legislative: No news

Meeting adjourned at 3:15 pm

Stay safe. Steve "General" Graves.

**REGION 21 - Osceola
Clare, Mescosta, Isabella,
Montcalm
Interim RC - Vern Shock**

OCTOBER ABATE
REGION 10 & 21
NEWSLETTER
10/5/2025

Meeting called to order: 2:55 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Previous Minutes Read

Treasure Report Given

MRF Report Given:

*Meeting of the Minds will be held next year 9/24/27 in Milwaukee, WI.

There were 400 members in attendance at this year's Meeting of the minds in Shreveport Louisiana.

Legislature Report Given:

*Need to sit down with Noel about insurance issues.

*There are a few thousand bills that are currently in the committee. Whitmer can veto all or some.

*Pot is being taxed at 60% before the consumer gets to buy it. Money is being used for potholes in MI.

*\$1000 per student allotted for free breakfast & lunch and 50% of waste is being noted.

*Health insurance (Medicare) going up.

*Deductible on PIP, who pays when both insured have the lowest amount of coverage?

Side Notes from Gary:

*Check out Merry's ABATE UPDATE in Thunder Roads Magazine for October.

*Region 10 is second in the state with memberships and not far behind region 7. Let's get new members, get renewed, and bring back expired members.

Our Christmas Party will be 12/6/25 at Ghost Town at 6pm. Will have DJ (Mark). Watch Facebook page for more details.

Further discussion regarding

participating in a Queen of Hearts event. Vern will be attending a meeting in Shiawassee on 10/13/25 as they will be the license holder. Farmer's wait staff will be selling the tickets. Hoping to start in December (TBD). If we don't move forward with the Queen of Hearts maybe have a cash raffle or a reverse raffle? (TBD). Members voted to move forward with our Annual Color Tour being held 10/11/25. All those interested in joining the ride are to meet at Petticoat. Kickstands up at 11am. Further discussion regarding the Passport Book event. We have 17 counties that will be included. Committee meeting after this meeting. Further discussion regarding the Annual Seminar to be held 1/23-26/26 at the Four Points Hotel in Saginaw. Cost is \$99 per night. Vern would like to put a basket together to raffle off. This year's theme will be the 70's. State of Michigan will be selling tickets for a bag raffle.

Vern thanked members for being a kick ass region, however, he would like to relinquish the RC position and asked for volunteers. Discussed having financial support for our lobbyist, which Gary also backed and gave insight as to what our lobbyist does for ABATE of Michigan.

We will be setting up an awareness tent at next year's Maple Syrup Festival in Shepard. Volunteers will be needed.

Cancer Benefit will be held for ABATE Region 10 cofounder, Rob Brantley on

1/10/26 at the St. Louis Moose Club.
 Halloween Party/Costume Contest at Sin City on 11/1/25 to commemorate Casper's (Chris) birthday (and of course Halloween). They'll also be holding a New Year's Party on 12/31/25 to commemorate Dawn's birthday. See flyers on Region 10 page.
 Lynn & Terry Dortch joined our meeting to further discuss the purpose of the Gunner/Dortch Scholarship Ride which was to help raise money and raise awareness and to commemorate Gunner's dream of becoming a motorcycle mechanic. The scholarship fund will be to help other students possibly become a motorcycle mechanic. They have Gunner's motorcycle displayed on a trailer for use to bring awareness of motorcycle awareness. There is a video on the ABATE page that you should watch. Last, but not least, Gunner's parents became members of our region.

Position Nominations are as follows:

AC: Bob & Jeremy

Secretary: Deb

Treasurer: Brandi

MRF/LO: Jeff

Events: Shannon

Memberships: Aurora

Welcoming Committee: Lois & Alisha

Products: Dawn

Head Road Captain: Joker

Road Captains: Scott, Steven, Butch & Jeff

Sergeant of Arms: Ken

Member(s) of the Year: Dawn & Ken

Election for the RC position will be held 11/2/25 at Evergreen Tavern. Nominations were Vern & Amy. Only current members may vote.

Meeting Adjourned: 4:14 p.m.

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)

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. We must receive payment before the ad is posted in the Michigan Rider.

ABATE MEMBERSHIP

Join and support

ABATE of Michigan, Inc.

Fighting for the Rights of

ALL MOTORCYCLISTS since 1976

Join online at 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.

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!!

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!

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

Jason -THE Motorcycle LawyerSM

WINS RECORD **\$27.5 MILLION**

JURY VERDICT FOR
MICHIGAN MOTORCYCLIST



Injured in a
motorcycle wreck?

Call **877-BIKER-LAW**
for FREE strategy session

ABATE LIFE MEMBER
Jason Waechter



MotorcycleLawyerMichigan.com



CONGRATULATIONS, DONDI VESPRINI
ABATE MEMBER OF THE YEAR



INJURED IN A MOTORCYCLE ACCIDENT?

BUCKFIRE
— LAW —

We'll make it right.

1-855-BUCKFIRE

★★★★★

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: _____

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 Michigan.

Included:

-  Group Accidental Death & Dismemberment Benefit
-  AILPlus Health Services Discount Program*
-  Child Safe Kit®
-  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
1-616-635-7554 | lbennett@AILife.com



CHAIN OF EVENTS

State Events are highlighted in GOLD

MRF is highlighted in BLUE

Bike Nights are highlighted in GREY



Scan for
printable flyers

Date	Region		Contact
		Region Bike Nights	
	Reg 11	Sunday - Bike Day - Chicky's Paradise	
		Region Events	
Nov 2	Reg 7	Meeting, Chili cook-off Lucky Thumb	Tim 989-670-9976
Dec 6	Reg 3	Christmas Party	
Dec 6	Reg 7	Christmas Party & Meeting Lucky Thumb	Tim 989 670-9976
Dec 6	Reg 10	Christmas Party	
Dec 7	Reg 5	Christmas party	
	Reg 12	Christmas party - no date or location - TBD	Eric, Bear or Joylynn 269 435 2058 269 353-0405 269 599-1767
Jan 23 - 24		Annual State Seminar & Membership Meeting -	
		2026	
Jan 23 - 24		50th Anniversary Seminar Four Points Motel in Saginaw	
Apr 24 - 26	Reg 10	Maple Syrup Festivl	
May 18 - 19		Bikers in the Beletway MRF	
May 23	Reg 10	Highland Festival Parade	
May 30	Reg 10	Annual Spring Fling	
July 11	Reg 10	Annual Poker Run	
Sept 19	Reg 10	End of Summer Ride/Book Party	
Sept 24 - 27		42nd Annual Meeting of the Minds	
Oct 10	Reg 10	Color Tour	
Dec 5	Reg 10	Christmas Party	



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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

NONPROFIT
US POSTAGE
PAID
ROYAL OAK, MI
48068
PERMIT # 792

POSTMASTER: THIS IS DATED MATERIAL
PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY



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