

ABATE of Michigan

Fighting for the rights of all motorcyclists since 1976

Riding free since 2012!!

Official Michigan Rider Newsletter

August 2026



Ann Tobian and Dawn Kenyon traveled to Rockford, Illinois. Where they successfully broke two World Records: the longest continuous ride and largest assembly of female riders with a total of 1,433 female riders.

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www.abateofmichigan.org

American Bikers Aiming Toward Education ~ A Brotherhood Against Totalitarian Enactments

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*Monthly Michigan Rider
Newsletter*

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newsletters, events and much
more!!
www.abateofmichigan.org



The Prez Report - Gary Kopta

Hello everyone, If you missed the field meet, you missed a great time. Merry and her crew did an outstanding job (thanks Merry). From the bike games (Thanks Shiny Bob) to the food, to the dunk tank. Everyone looked like they were having fun. As you may expect I was pretty waterlogged after my stint in the tank.

There were also certain things hanging out that people shouldn't see. If you weren't there you wouldn't understand that comment ha-ha. The band was great, products seemed to be busy, and Woody won the \$100.00 for recruiting the most members at 60. Great job Woody! Just because the contest is over doesn't mean we shouldn't continue getting members and retaining the members we have. I am thinking of another membership contest next year. More to come on that later.

It's the middle of July and it looks like there are a lot of runs going on. Please be safe. It seems like there have been a lot of car/motorcycle accidents this year. We have been pushing for Look Twice save a Life but it seems there are still a lot of distracted drivers that are doing everything except looking at the road. Maybe we need to push for stricter laws, which I don't like more laws, but it's getting a little ridiculous out there. I've seen officers on their phone while driving. How do they expect to enforce the law when they break it? I don't know, maybe I'm just getting old, but I would rather go on a fun region ride instead of a memorial ride.

There is nothing going on in Lansing at the moment as the elected officials are on break and are out campaigning. So, if you see them out at a parade or some other event make sure you go up and introduce yourself and tell them what

your thoughts are. If we don't tell them, how are they gonna know?

Plans are being made for MRF's Meeting Of The Minds in Milwaukee this year. I always enjoy going to these events. I learn a lot and see people that I only see a couple of times a year.

That's about all I have this month. Ride safe and thanks for being a member. It is more appreciated than you know.

ABATE of Michigan President



Phone: 989 781-2306
gkopta1@gmail.com

State Events Coming up...

Cash Raffle

October 3rd 2026 @ 6PM
Sanilac County, Evergreen Park
4731 VanDyke Rd.
Cass City, Mi. 48726



Get your Yard Signs!!!
The cost of all
Look Twice - Save A Life
Yard signs is \$10





State Event - Cash Raffle - October 3rd

ABATE OF MICHIGAN



A total of
\$18,000
in cash prizes



RAFFLE

\$10.00
TICKETS



Cash Prizes are:

FIRST_ _ _ \$10,000
SECOND_ _ \$5,000
THIRD_ _ _ \$2,000
FOURTH_ _ \$500
FIFTH_ _ _ \$500

Location:

Sanilac County, Evergreen Park
4731 VanDyke Rd.
Cass City, MI 48726

Drawing: Saturday, October 3, 2026 at 6:00 P.M.

Sponsored by: Marine Corps League 157, Monroe Co. Detach Michigan

MOTORCYCLE AWARENESS

GET YOUR RAFFLE TICKETS HERE!

NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN

LICENSE #R84064

Please send your ticket stubs to:
ABATE of Michigan Bike Raffle
P.O. Box 1354
Monroe Mi. 48161

Tickets are available from Sherri, Your RC or from
Debbie Townsend
Call: 269 435-2058

*Anyone interested can purchase these tickets it's not
limited to ABATE members.

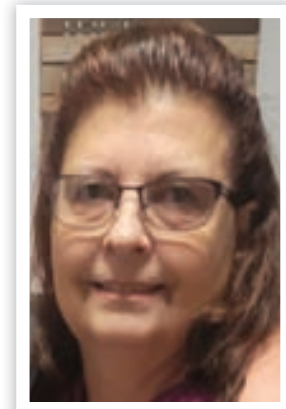


Secretary Report - Debra Townsend

Hello Everyone,
Wow, it's July already. They say time flies when you are having fun. Hopefully you all have gotten out and enjoyed the warm weather.

Field meet was awesome this year. Thank You Merry and her team for a job well done! There are lots of events to participate in this summer. Check out the website, abateofmichigan.org, or the Rider for all the fun.

We welcomed 23 new members and Nathan Kyr as a LIFE member. If you have been a LIFE member for some time and have moved or changed your phone number, please let us know.



Phone: 269 435-2058
abatemichsecretary@frontier.com
P.O. Box 19, Sheridan, MI 48884

The Raffle drawing is coming up soon. Ticket sales have slowed down some. Don't forget to take those tickets with you when you are out and about. Thank you in advance.

Reminder that the mailing address has changed. I do have address correction stickers to put on those membership applications you have. Please let me know how many you need and I'd be happy to send you some. Or, we do have new ones with the new address if you would rather trade.

Don't forget to mark your calendars for the MRF Meeting of the Minds September 24-27, and the raffle drawing in Cass City on October 3rd.

Y'all have a great rest of the month.

Debbie
ABATE of Michigan Secretary

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>

**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



19th Annual
Bikes on the Bricks
September 11 - 13
Downtown Flint, Mi.



**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 & description to:
Michigan Rider Copy Editor
Silla: abatewebeditor@gmail.com*

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



*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
Cappy: cappymc@gmail.com**

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

Web: www.mcoc.us

Membership: Clubs\$100/year

Individuals\$ 20/year

Individual Membership includes a patch and member card.

UNITED WE RIDE



Region & State Event Photos

I guess ABATE of Michigan gets around. Received this request from North Dakota from Keith Dean.

Hey I'm from North Dakota is there anyway I can get one of the yard signs? And some information on how you got the yard signs printed. Mike Adam's and Merry Garrett from Region 6 hooked him up.



Region 7 - Scoot & Shoot.

Everyone on the ride said that they had a GREAT day!! They had fun doing the contests, Helmet Toss, Horseshoes, Shuffleboard, Bag Toss and the Dice game! The Winners were:

Helmet Toss—
Dennis Schulte
Horseshoes---
Leonard Butler
Shuffleboard—Deb
Melcher
Bag Toss---Dale
Miller

Dice----Kevin Donnell
Over-all Winner---Bob Maskell
Congratulations to all the winners!



State Events Chair - Merry Garrett

I'm tired I'm happy I have sore feet and I had an absolute blast at the field meet. And I even got the watermelon award. But I really think I will Share it with Vern Shock Jr. and Region 10. Oh no wait what happens at the field meet stays at the field meet!!! So you had to be there. You missed some fun stuff

Can you say WOW!!!

1st the committee, thank you all for your work and dedication.

2nd. To the Board for all you do to Make our members number one.

3rd to our Sergeant at Arms Dann Patterson aka Tiny for your late, late nights and closing up, so I could sleep.

4th. Mark for providing the golf carts so I didn't have to walk everywhere because I'm older than dirt.

5th to Vern and Amy Lauren Penny for donating a big fat juicy pig for our enjoyment.

6th to JJ aka MB and his crew for staying up all night to roast the pig.

7th to Clare County Fairgrounds for the use of grounds and barn.

8th to Let's Bounce dunk tank. I laughed and laughed. And I never imaged so many would enjoy that cold water.

9th. To all the brave souls that climbed in the tank and just had a ball and we even saw a few balls along the way. The folks that spent their hard earned money to throw those balls and helped make this an awesome extra to our weekend. Special thank you to Gary Kopta aka President

and Butch Brown aka VP (we all saw a little more of you then we expected) for making us some extra money and your smack talk.

10th to our great young lady food vendor Christina that kept us fed with some great food and beverages. Hope you tried a dirty coke or orange. The burritos were yummy.

11th. To all our vendors I hope you had as much fun as we did. Thank you so much!!!

12th to our band, Strings Attached, all

I can say is thank you for rocking the barn. Everyone enjoyed your music and your fun.

13th Region 14 for the games

14th Region 6 and my brother

Tom Wright for the bike show.

15th for Tiny with the Top Challenge even though everyone was to busy

laughing at the dunk tank. Will make some changes to itinerary times next year.

16th to my front desk workers which is the hardest job at the field meet thank you.

Phone: 734 652-9739

merrysgarrett@yahoo.com



17th to our DJ. Thanks for Playing some Teddy Swims and lots of other favorites.

18th to my sister in law Dreama Wright for keeping me and the hubby fed and for traveling 10 hours from Kentucky to help me. Love you guys!

19th to all that donated thank you, thank you, thank you.

I'm sure I'm forgetting people but I'm Still tired. lol

And to the best group of people who have ever given a shit.



OUR MEMBERS !!!!! ABATE of Michigan committee staff and the Board say a huge THANK YOU!!!

Merry

ABATE Event Coordinator



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 19, Sheridan, Mi. 48884 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 _____



ABATE of Michigan Legislative Support



We need you to become a Legislative Supporter

Do you want to show your support for our Legislative program? Your contribution will assure that we continue the fight in Lansing. The cost is \$100 per person or business. You will receive the patch (shown above) and your name will be listed in the Michigan Rider Newsletter. A year rocker will be given to you for every year that you contribute. If you can get a corporation or business to sign up as a Legislative Supporter, they will receive a certificate of appreciation (with the year of their contribution) to display in their building.

Name: _____

Membership ID: _____

Address: _____

City, State & Zip: _____

Make check payable to:
ABATE of Michigan, Inc.,
2424 N. 17th Street,
Fountain, Mi.
49410

*Help us make a difference - any
amount is a huge help!
All donations, big or small, make a
difference!!



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,
Mar, April, May 1st
Thursday of the month
6:30pm

Region 4

Dave Etherton

231 818-5277
Etherdav@yahoo.com

Region 5

Larry BamBam Peters

larrykimpw@outlook.com,
231 769-3185

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

2nd Sunday of the
month @4pm

BC Pizza in Dorr
1628 142nd Ave
Dorr MI, 49323

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 Post
322 - 4th Sunday of the
month 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 Sunday
of the month at 1 pm
at the Laughing Horse
Saloon at 15888 Lindy
Rd Thompsonville,
MI

Region 23

Ted Calabrese

Phone: 586 216-4971
whiskers58@gmail.com

Meetings: 1st Sunday
of every month at 1pm
at Dead Bear brewery
company 2552 South
I-75 Business loop
Grayling Michigan.



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, Charlevoix
RC - Van Dunson**
No report this month.

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

**REGION 5 - Mason,
Lake Oceana, Muskegon,
Newaygo
RC - Larry BamBam
Peters**

We started with the Pledge of Allegiance and we had a moment of silence. We would love to see more motorcycles and people at Bike Night with Region 5 at the Dirty Dog every other Monday from 6-8 we have music and contests. We also have one every

other Thursday from 6-8 at The Fireside Grocery and Sport in Sheridan Township. Patti has been working hard with the kids on education and fun games. We would love more participation from our members and just to see your bikes and faces.

By time this comes out it, Bike Time 2026 will be over, so I am just going to Thank everyone that Helped and those that came out!
We can't do this without you guys!

We would also like to thank the businesses that are helping to sponsor our Fall Rodeo this year and to the people: Thank you Rick Corley from Sandy's Harley Davidson, Bam Bam, 7- Mile Inn, 2A and the Plumber and Pipefitters Local Union 174. A personal thank you to our Al Folwer for his hard work in getting some of these fine sponsors! Don't forget about our Fall Rodeo in Aug from the 21st -23rd \$75 a couple or \$45 a

person, early entry on the 20th \$10 per person. Located at Twisting Trail Snowmobile Club. This year we are trying something different Halloween Theme. Contest for the best costume and best decorated camp site. Plenty of games and Live music Friday and Saturday night also a community Dinner on Saturday. OH and if you see Road Kill by the Fire, it might get hot! Don't be scared, come on out and have a great time.

We also have the Family Picnic at Stoney Lake August 16th, bring a dish to pass and what you want on the grill!! Bring your family, bring your neighbors, bring anyone this is open to new and old members. From 1-4pm I'm sure we can talk Bam Bam and Al into grillin.

Let's get out there, let's show up!! Secretary Gail Fowler.

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

We are already into July. How is summer flying by so fast. We had some extremely hot temperatures but the shade trees shared their shade with us. I know a lot of you are in the wind. Five of you even headed to Sturgis to enjoy the weather there. Heard it

was 111 yikes is all I can say.

I want to thank Mike Adams for getting a sign to a guy from North Dakota, it's in his yard and he says thanks to Region 6. That's how we do things.

Our Memorial ride is July 18th and I hope a lot of you attended. I want to do something special for folks that have arrived before us to ride in the heavens. So bring your ideas. I'm always opened to them.

Hope you all understand it takes us all to make a region and we need to participate as much as we can!!!

Field meet was a blast. We danced!! We sang!! We got dunked!! Tom and Joan did the bike show so thank you so much. I for one really appreciate that!! We sat around the fire!! We played with other regions (the Lutrells welcomed us to their home away from home))! Thanks

Live auction and silent auction as usual was grand. Dreama fed me so I didn't pass out lol.

We had a new food vendor who will be back next year. She was fabulous and fit right in with all our craziness. She is right here from

Harrison. Buy local.

The band and DJ were great. I don't remember much but I sure heard them and danced till I couldn't dance anymore.

Gary, Butch, Tiny and many many others got in the dunk tank. A new addition to our fun. And it was a super hit. If you couldn't make it you missed a very good time.

Our meeting for July was canceled as we had our memorial run the next weekend and lots of folks were out of town. Next meeting will be in August. Come out and win a free raffle ticket.

Speaking of raffle the drawing is October

3 at Evergreen park. There is camping available just call and make your reservation now. Ask for the ABATE block of sites. Hope to see you all there

Region 7 is doing their best to make it great

Pipes with our fabulous Randi and Doug are doing bike nights on Thursdays. Let's go out and support them and maybe sell a few signs and tickets. It's time

To get busy and move toward our goals. New memberships adults and youths are available at meetings. To renew or bring in someone new. We like new folks and old folks. Youth memberships get the insurance packet we all get when we sign up. Need more info come to a meeting.

Thank you all for being one of the best regions and supporting me with all our events and fun. Want to do more come on and volunteer. It takes a village. One person two people or even three are not enough to pull it off.

As always if you have concerns please come To a meeting and discuss it. Just bitching doesn't get the job done.

Let the sun shine on you as the wind blows in your hair or bread. Let your bike race you thru this life of ours. It's short so give it all you got!!

Merry Garrett
RC of Region 6.

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

We had a nice turnout for the Scoot & Shoot yesterday, 38 riders signed in for the ride! Everyone on the ride said that they had a GREAT day!! They had fun doing the contests, Helmet Toss, Horseshoes, Shuffleboard, Bag Toss and the Dice game! The Winners were:
Helmet Toss—Dennis Schulte
Horseshoes—Leonard Butler
Shuffleboard—Deb Melcher
Bag Toss—Dale Miller
Dice—Kevin Donnell

Over-all Winner---Bob Maskell
Congratulations to all the winners! Glad that everyone had fun! Hope to see all of you next year! Already working on new locations and games!

I would also like to thank everyone that stayed and helped get the tent down and put away! Many hands made light work! Thanks again!

Due to a number of reasons, and time limitations, we decided to do all our meeting agenda at next months meeting. Hope everyone had a safe ride back home! What a BEAUTIFUL day for a ride, and next year you need to bring more of your friends to this ride!

One last item, I still have an open ballot for our elections in November! I need to know by the October meeting if you want to run for any of our Regional positions---RC, Secretary, Treasurer, Legislative Officer, Sargent at Arms. We would also like a media person to help with the flyers and postings on our pages. Okay, nuff said! Till next Month,

Tim.

REGION 8 - Ottawa, Kent, Allegan,
Barry

RC - Tara Hendee

No report this month.

REGION 9 - Ionia, Clinton, Eaton,
Inghan

RC - Nick Henry

Hello region 9

So many events happening every weekend it's been hard to prioritize one to attend. I have been sticking to what is happening in this region and have found that I don't have to explain what ABATE is to members of motorcycle clubs.

People in the general public, and new and even older motorcyclists will ask the question. This knowledge tells me we still have work to do to get our message out there.

I am dismayed to report that having talked to a young woman who works for MDMV that they are getting an increase reports of motorcycle accidents. I don't know the reason for this increase but I do have some options, based on my

experience riding.

The sun is shining the road is calling add I need to prepare for another event today.

Please ride safely

Nick

Region 9 R.C.

REGION 10 - Gratiot, Saginaw

RC - Amy Penny

No report this month.

REGION 11 - Lapeer, St. Clair, Macomb

RC- Arnold Schneider

REGION 11 NEEDS A NEW RC.
ARNOLD SCHNEIDER (OSCAR)
WILL OFFICIALLY BE STEPPING
DOWN ON DEC 2, 2026.

I hope someone will step up and take over this region!!

Enjoy the rest of your summer.

OSCAR.

REGION 12 - VanBuren, Kalamazoo,
Berrien, Cass, St. Joseph

RC - Joylynn Wojciehowski

Sunday July 12th.

Gary started with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Joy with the Treasury Report - There was an event we did in June and it wasn't very lucrative for us. We have a small amount for the Region, but we are above water.

Bear with the MRF Report - MRF July 2026 - Meeting of the Minds Milwaukee September 24-27. The future of motorcycling is determined by those who show up at meetings and are involved with legislators and issues affecting us. The future can't keep depending on a small group. Every generation inherits freedoms it didn't create. They also inherit responsibility to defend and pass those ideas to the next generation of riders. If you can make it to Meeting of the Minds, seriously think about going.

Trump issues a memo aimed at Right to Repair Act, not clear if motorcycles will be included as EPA has say over what vehicles are included in. Right to Repair Acts are still in Congress, H.R.1566 and S.1379. MRF is keeping watch on all aspects of this.

This week NHTSA sent a strong message to robo vehicle manufacturers that systems must be able to safely recognize and respond to emergency vehicles. Numerous incidents such as: hitting police vehicles (at least one motorcycle on the side of the road) and driving through active fire scenes, has happened. MRF still is pressing to make sure motorcycles are included.

Bears Quote of the Month: "I remember when I first came to Washington. For the first 6 months you wonder how the hell did you get here. For the next 6 months you wonder how the hell the rest of them ever got here." Harry S. Truman, 33rd President.

ABATE of Indiana's Summerfest August 13th-16th and camping is included in admission. \$50 for ABATE members and \$60 for non ABATE members. It is on Facebook. Located in Three Rivers, MI at Boot Hill Ranch.

We are working on the details of the Poker Run

that should be worked out soon. Also a Fall Color Run to be worked out too.

We plan to have a mini Poker Run after the meeting on August 2nd. Be ready to take a short ride and enjoy this beautiful weather.

We drew for a 50/50 raffle and Joylynn won. We drew for the incentive drawing and Beth S. would have won if she were present. We drew for a Money Raffle ticket and Eric won.

Joy motioned to close the meeting and Gary seconded it.

Thank you,

Joylynn Wojciehowski.

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

Hello region 13!

Well, here we are into July already. Pretty soon it will be bon fires and scarecrows. We just got back from the annual COC picnic, always a good time.

Not too many showed up for the meeting, but that was expected being the holiday weekend. Main thing that was covered was the evets that we have coming up Aug 1st is our pac run! And it is shaping up to be a great one! Then on Aug 22nd it is time for the annual Special Olympics fund raiser that we hold in conjunction with the Proud Vets. Jinx covered the

Fieldmeets and the Lansing rally. Sounds like both had a great turnout. On the MRF front They are trying to get the definition of a motorcycle set. Still fighting on the biker discrimination laws. They seem to be having the same problem that we are experiencing, they need people to step up and help out

I have set a goal for myself this year. That is to have all events for 2027 planned out and flyers made by the seminar. Trust me for me right now that is a very steep goal but lets see if I can pull it off.

Bumper our Road Capt. Reported that it seems like every week that you here of someone going down on a bike, few of these have been fatal. As always keep your head on a swivel. Don't expect that they see you. Act like they want to kill you. The cars are getting smarter but it seems like the drivers (not always the cagers fault) are getting dumber. Well, That's about all for this month. Next report should be a great one with everything that is coming up.

Ride safe!
Dano.

REGION 14 - Livingston, Washtenaw RC - Shiny Bob

Thanks to all who showed up to the freedom rally and the Field Meet, Chef Mark donated a booze basket for the live auction for reg.14 The bike games went well, thanks to all for

setting them up, we had gold metals for the winners, they had captured the flag contest which reg. 15 won which we will bring to the seminar for others to participate. August 9th we will be setting up a booth at ypsi bike and music festival to sell our cash raffle tickets, please help us sell some tickets it is ABATE's biggest fund raiser for the year see Shinny Bob at reg. 14 or Johnny Rotten reg. 15, meeting 4th Sunday of the month 4pm American Legion Hall Saline. RIDE SAFE. Johnny.

REGION 15 - Wayne
Interim RC - Shiny Bob

Meeting with Region 14 in Saline. We are encouraging all our members to sell, sell, sell those cash raffle tickets.

Our Member Martha Geyer is participating in the Hoka Hey a 10,000 Mile Motorcycle Challenge starting August 2, 2026.

Tracking code if you'd like to follow her journey on the Hoka Hey.



REGION 16 - Oscoda, Ogema, 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

From Region 19
For the August, 2026 Issue of Michigan Rider

The first Tuesday of July found Region 19's few and faithful back at the Shark Club in Waterford for our monthly meeting. Dinner began at 6:00 (thank you Mike for your generosity!) and was accompanied by friendly banter among old bikers with a lot of miles under their wheels. The chatter continued right into the start of the meeting at 7:00p.

The Pledge of Allegiance was really the only formal part of the meeting after which our RC then thanked us all for being there and explained that he didn't have much news from MRF. Our Treasurer reported that she had sent the Region's \$100 check to Mother ABATE in support of the Field Meet and gave a summary on the state of the Treasury.

Johnny M (he had ridden his 1976, 93-inch S&S shovel head Super Glide to the meeting and it was great to see that old bike in the parking lot!) then ran the rest of the meeting as he presented an entertaining report on the Field Meet which he had attended. ABATE of Michigan's 50th Anniversary celebration, a good bike show with a nice variety of bikes, the well-deserved dunking of President Gary were all standout activities at the Meet. Johnny said that there were lots of people there, all having a good time. His report acted as an instant time portal as folks all around the table started telling stories of Field Meets past...with Bill being locked in the beer cooler, the "Camp Cheer" and of course the always popular burnout pit with its smoky excesses, blown tires and questionable judgement. More memories and stories from Fowlerville's Easyrider Rodeos and the Michigan Harley Dealer Association Rendezvous in West Branch made us all smile as we looked back over the many years, the good times and the inevitable challenges that make motorcycling special and

rewarding. RC Bill's assessment? Just fun BS table talk about old times making this a great meeting. This year's ABATE Cash Raffle also came up for discussion with us hoping that it will prove to be successful for the organization.

Our LO made only a few comments, thanking those present for supporting ABATE, MRF, AMA, the Confederation of Clubs, ABATE's friends among elected officials, and all the groups working to protect the lifestyle that we had just celebrated in the conversation related above. If ever we are tempted to think that our memberships and our efforts to support motorcycle rights groups don't matter, we should think how our lives would have been different had it not been for motorcycling, the motorcycle friends we have made, Field Meets, Fowlerville, West Branch and even our little meetings at the Shark Club. Life is made worth living by sharing the good times and the bad with those who have similar values and interests. If motorcycling has made a significant contribution to your life, you might consider joining us for our next meeting. Every person around our table recognizes the need for us to protect one of the most important components of our lives.

That next meeting will be at the Shark Club (6665 Highland Road in

Waterford) on Tuesday, the 4th of August 2026; we gather for dinner at 6:00p. The meeting will begin at 7:00. Please know that there is plenty of room for you around our table.

Submitted by Hess Bates,
Region 19 Legislative
Officer.

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

Meeting was informal, no info.

**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 held at the Laughing Horse outside and called to order at 17:29 hrs by Greg.

A prayer was said by Matt followed by the pledge and a moment of silence.

Greg extended a Welcome to all who were in attendance. He stated that there was a few positions now open in our region. Matt Ritter stepped up to become the Legislative officer. Karen has stepped up to be the secretary. Karen made a motion to have Ty be the new Sgt of Arms. This motion was seconded by Gina. Discussed and motion

carried. Ty will also be our road captain. Thanks to those who filled our empty positions. Greg made mention that the police are ticketing folks who ride downtown and rev their engines. There have been several complaints. The police are also ticketing those who do not come to a complete stop. Make sure your foot/feet are planted on the ground at a complete stop so as not to have a discussion as to whether you stopped or not. This is for downtown Traverse City.

There are no minutes from the last meeting.

Our treasurer was absent but a brief report was read for the month of June.

Woody reported that there are a lot of club events and different organization rides happening. Pick what you can and enjoy. He stated that the field meet was a huge success. Strings Attached have been booked for next year field meet. The seminar is the 3rd weekend in January and the theme will be the "Wild Wild West". More to follow.

Our new Legislative officer is Matt and he states that the sessions in Lansing don't start until next week. Right now they will probably be working on Bill 365 which is the lane splitting. This is different than the lane filtering.

Our new Secretary has

nothing this time.

Awareness: There was discussion about different approaches to getting the awareness message out. It was suggested that we have a think tank meeting. This idea will be revisited. In the meantime, everyone should speak of motorcycle awareness to people everywhere...get the word out.
Mary our AC still has lots of tickets for the raffle. Get with her to sign them out.

Our new Sgt of Arms has nothing this time.

Our Road Captain states that there is a Light house ride on the 25th of July. They are meeting at Roys at 3 mile and Hammond with KSU around 8:45. If it is raining than the 26th will be the day. Watch Facebook for the event.

Our chaplain gave us a message regarding God and our positions.

Our summer party is coming together nicely. Mary has a list of food items still needed, get with her if you can help.

Some things to look at when you register. \$10 per poker hand, and on Saturday \$5 for playing the bug splat. We will ride in the Coho festival parade on Saturday. The parade starts at 13:00 so we will leave the campground about noon. Loads of fun and an awesome opportunity to raise awareness.

The next meeting will be August 2nd at Laughing Horse at 17:00 hrs.

Dates to remember:

The Region 22 Light House Ride.....	July 25
Hell to Paradise ride.....	July 24-25
Dyson Ride.....	July 31-Aug 1
Summer Party.....	August 21-22
GTI Ride.....	August 29
Recovery Road Riders.....	August 30 - Poker run
Raffle Drawing.....	October 5
M22 Ride.....	October 22
Christmas Party.....	December 5

Meeting adjourned at 18:27 hrs.

REGION 23 - Otsego, Crawford, Roscommon, Missaukee

RC - Ted Calebrese

No report this month.



TABS for TOTS ~ Tabs are used toward the purchase of medical equipment for Children's Hospital Wards. Also purchase a "Pull Tabs for Tot's" patch for \$5. It's a great looking red, white and black round patch with above picture on it. Money from sales are added to the tab fund.

Send tabs and money for patch to:

Stan "The Tabman" Demski

27705 Larchmont. St. Clair Shores, MI. 48081

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 Rider Newsletter Copy Editor

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**ABATE of Michigan State Secretary
Debra Townsend PH: 269 435-2058**

ABATE of Michigan Inc.

P.O. Box 19

Sheridan, Mi. 48884

E-mail Debra

abatemichsecretary@frontier.com

WELCOME NEW & RETURNING MEMBERS

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CHRISTIAN LAMBERT

WILLIAM KC JONES

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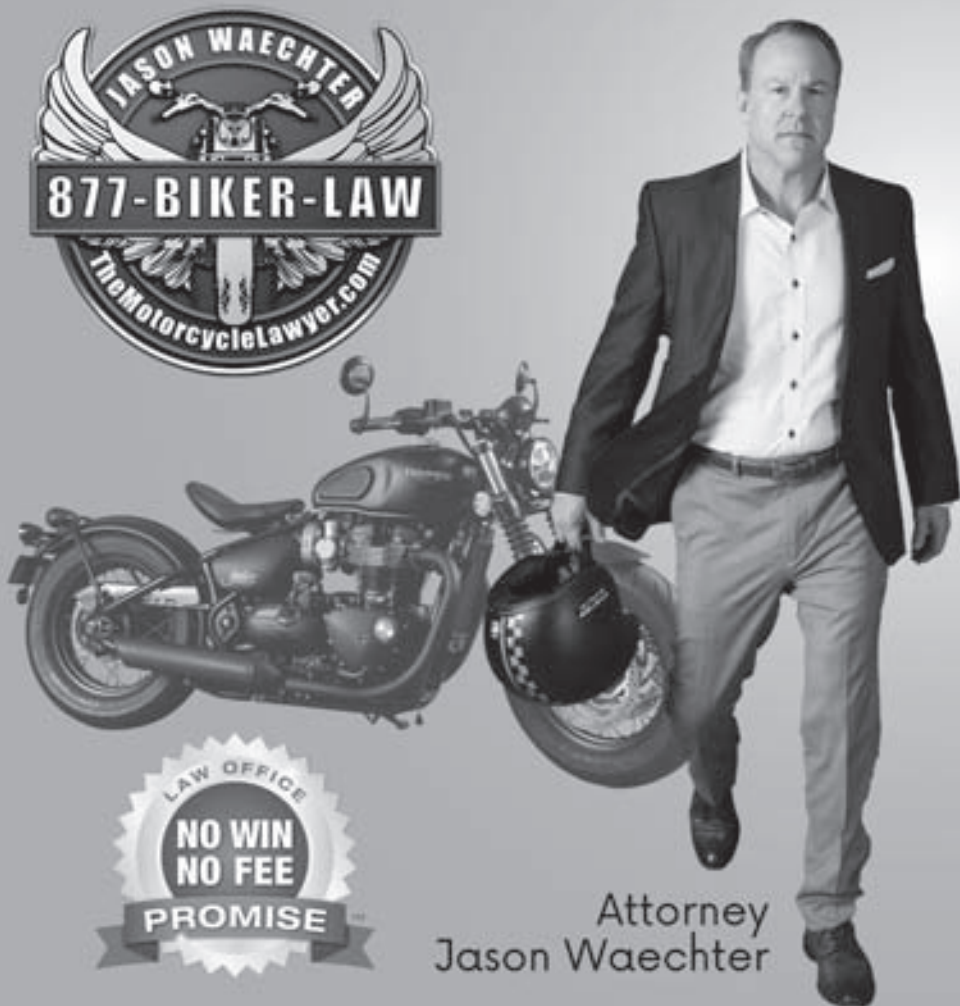
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All proceeds go to MMPAC

Registration opens at 11am
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\$5 passenger



We will start and finish at
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Call Keri Dahn (517) 614-0101 with any questions

Rick Dahn Memorial Run Saturday August 15th, 2026



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Region Bike Nights



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***Meetings are every 3rd Thursday@ 9AM
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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 for live
streams, schedules, and bill tracking
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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.

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

Region 13) Calhoun, Jackson, Branch, Hillsdale

Region 14) Livingston, Washtenaw

Region 15) Wayne

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Region 18) Lenawee, Monroe

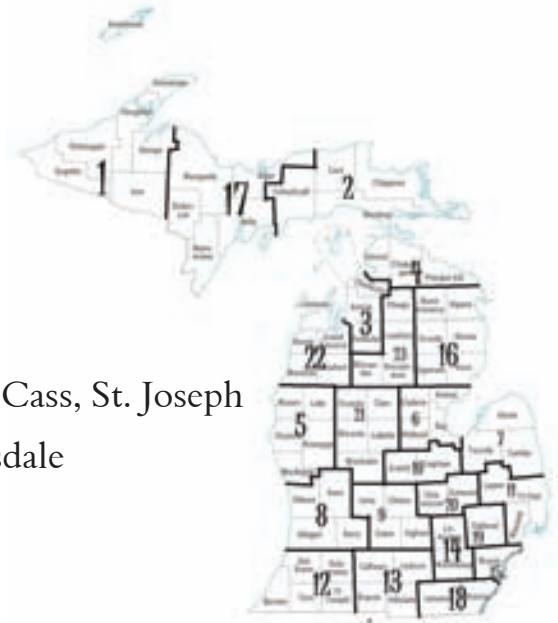
Region 19) Oakland

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,



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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)

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Registration questions call the MRF at 202-546-0983, or email Fred Harrell at fred@mrf.org.

*See registration form for details.

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State Events are highlighted in GOLD
MRF is highlighted in BLUE

Bike Nights are highlighted in GREY
*Legislative Events in Green

Date	Region	Region & State Events 2026	Contact
		REGION BIKE NIGHTS	
June 3 - Aug 26	Reg 22	Laughing Horse Saloon - 15888 Lindy Rd. Thompsonville	
Printable copy available online	Reg 11	Region 11 Summer Tour Books have been circulated and are available for purchase at participating establishments	Oscar: 810 334-8600.
Aug - 2nd	Reg 5	Hill Climb	
Aug 1	Reg 13	PAC Ride	Dano: 517 414-8183
Aug 15	Reg 11	8th Annual Ricky D Memorial Run	Arnold: 810 334-8600
Aug 16	Reg 5	Reg 5's Family Picnic - Stoney Lake	
Aug 21 - 23	Reg 5	Fall Rodeo - Twisting Trails Snowmobile Club	
Aug 21 - 23	Reg 22	Summer party - Eagles campground in Interlochen Michigan	Greg: 231 620-6243
Aug 22	Reg 7	Porcupine Bash - Caro VFW	Tim: 989 670-9976
Aug 22	Reg 8	Veteran Escort to Hart	
Sept 12	Reg 8	Gilmore Booth - Ford Model A Days	
Sept 19	Reg 10	End of Summer Ride/Book Party	
Sept 20	Reg 11	Summer Tour End of the Year Party and Poker Run	Oscar 810 334-8600
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 3		Tap into The Money Tree Raffle	
Oct 10	Reg 5	Toy Run	
Oct 10	Reg 10	Color Tour	
Nov 1	Reg 5	Christmas Auction	
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	
Dec 5	Reg 22	Christmas Party	Greg: 231 620-6243
Dec 6	Reg 5	Christmas Party	



ABATE's YOUTH MEMBER INITIATIVE

You can

Join/Renew Your ABATE Membership On line!!

Visit Our ABATE of Michigan website.

Click on the Membership & Join to choose your membership option.

*****NEW - Youth Membership***

mail in Youth Membership form - available online.

1 yr - \$10 - 3 yrs - \$25

CC payment options on our website

*****(Additional charges are added to join/renew online to cover the cost of processing).***



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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 19
Sheridan MI. 48884
269 435 2058
www.abateofmichigan.org

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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 19, Sheridan, Mi. 48884. This form is also available on line: <https://abateofmichigan.org/download-forms-%26-files>



Scan QR Code
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American Bikers Aiming Toward Education ~ A Brotherhood Against Totalitarian Enactments