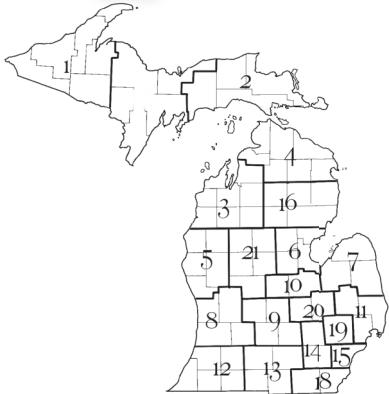




# Region Reports



## **Operations Officer**

**Dave "Woody" Berg**

Phone: 231 884-2192

Dberg01@hotmail.com

### **REGION 1 - Alpha**

**RC - Rick Herkimer**

No report this month.

### **REGION 3 - Antrim,**

**Kalkaska,  
Wexford, Benzie, Manistee,  
Grand Traverse, Leelanau  
Missaukee**

**RC - Van Dunson**

Meeting was called to order at 18:30 hrs by Woody.

The pledge was led by Van and recited by all, followed by a moment of silence for our troops past and present.

First message from Woody was....Welcome, Happy New Year and a thank you to all for attending.

Minutes were read by Kortnee as prepared by Mark. Motion by Karen, second by Ann Marie to approve the minutes as read. Discussed. Motion carried.

Treasurers report was given by Ann Marie. Motion to approve by Karen, second by Denise. Discussed. Motion carried.

Van stated that he was looking forward to the future. Woody discussed MRF's agenda for

the upcoming year. Their priorities include Autonomous vehicles, crash avoidance, data recorders, definition of a motorcycle, emissions regulations, helmet laws, internal combustion engines, profiling, renewable fuels, and right to repair. Woody reminds us to become a member of MRF if you are not as they fight for our rights on the national level. The 2024 Meeting of the Minds will be in St. Louis, MO.

AC Van states nothing new at the moment. Paul is working on a possible change for Antrim county bike nights, this will be confirmed closer to spring.

AC Kortnee states that she has been working with Northern Michigan Bikers and they have an event being planned in September and would like Abate to be present. She states that she is looking into other locations for another bike night.

Sgt. at Arms was absent.

Karen reported that over the holidays she met with a marketing manager for NASCAR and got lots of

information regarding making our ride bigger. She also stated she met with some Abate of Wisconsin members and it would be fun and educational to try to get a joint happening. A reminder that Eriks Memorial Awareness Ride will be May 18, 2024. She stated that she will be scouting out some locations for signs yet this month and hopefully will get most of the details confirmed and announced. The ride will be going to Manistee this year.

Anita is getting ready to rock and roll with her position of social media as things start to happen.

Gina stated that she has nothing new and that she is looking forward to the seminar.

Denise has nothing new at this time.

Our elections have taken place with the new officers to take office in February. The following are those who have stepped forward to lead Region 3 to great things:

RC....Van  
Secretary....Mark  
Treasurer....Ann Marie  
Legislation...Anita  
AC Antrim/Kalkaska....Woody  
AC Grand Traverse/Benzie/  
Leelanau..Kortnee  
AC Missaukee/Wexford/  
Manistee....open  
Sgt. of Arms... Dave C  
Awareness...Karen  
Public relations...Anita  
Products...Gina B.  
Membership coordinator...  
Denise

Party Chair people...Mark and Fast Eddie  
Bike Nights...Antrim/Kalkaska...Paul Grand  
TRaverse Benzie...Kortnee and Anita  
Club Liaison....Woody and Ron.

The business cards are here. If you need some  
get with Woody.

The Christmas party was a huge success. The  
venue stated that we have permission to use  
it again if wanted. A big THANK YOU to  
Greg to his secret donation to pay for part of  
the band expense. A motion was made and a  
tentative decision to use the venue for the 2024  
Christmas party.

The swap meet in Cadillac is in March. Karen  
made a motion to use the required money  
from the awareness fund to pay for a booth  
spot, second by Denise. Discussed and motion  
carried.

Ann Marie requested that T-shirt designs need  
to be turned in so we can get them done early.  
Be creative. It was suggested and decided that  
Mark should write a letter explaining what  
Abate is all about to be given to the T-shirt  
sponsors.

Karen made a motion that we should change  
the name of the kids fund to a charity fund.  
Ann Marie revised the motion to add that there  
would be a committee for this fund. Denise  
seconded the revised motion. Discussed and  
carried.

The committee will consist of Anita, Karen and  
Greg.

Denise made a motion to adjourn, second by  
Ann Marie..Motion carried.

**REGION 4 - Otsego, Montmorency, Alpena,  
Presque Isle, Cheboygan, Emmet, Charlevoix  
RC - TBD**

## **REGION 5**

**RC - Dan "Tiny" Patterson**

Meeting opened with pledge and prayer .  
Well the voting is over in Region 5 we have a  
new RC and secretary! The new RC is  
Cind " Gizmo" Meloche and the new secretary  
is Angela Best, good luck ladies!

MMC has changed the date of the hill climb  
it is now the last weekend in July, please add  
that to your calender. MMC donated 3 bags  
of stuffed animals for the Christmas program

many Thanks to them for this donation.

**REGION 6 - Bay, Arenac, Midland,  
Gladwin Counties**

**RC - Merry Gerrett**

Good morning good afternoon good  
evening. What ever time you are reading  
this please have the best days. Only 72 days  
till Spring. Woot woot come on sunshine.

By the time you read this the seminar will  
be over and on to the field meet. New  
officers new committees new year. More on  
that in the next rider.

Bring a friend to our next meeting and  
sign them up!!! Get someone to take the  
motorcycle safety course and we will help  
them pay for it. In memory of our beautiful  
friend Bea. Any member of region 6 can  
sponsor someone. We have had quite a few  
take the course and are now members of  
ABATE

Our officers in our region stayed the same.

Merry Garret RC

Rick Lawrence AC

Joan Lawrence Treasurer

Randi Kraenzlein Secretary

Cricket LO

We have some of the best members working  
very hard to make our region count.

We went to the adult foster care for  
Christmas. Thank you to Joan, Stephanie,  
Larry and our little man Payton for going  
with me. And don't forget the main man  
our very own Santa. To say we all

Walked away feeling blessed is an  
understatement. The residents say thank  
you to you all for all the wonderful gifts.  
We had so much we had to buy clothes  
baskets to put everything in for each one of  
them. We have been invited back anytime  
but especially Christmas. Pictures were  
not available as this is a private home. We  
can get on their fb page and view the get  
together. It was absolutely wonderful and  
would suggest everyone try to do this for

these special folks. It only takes a few hours out of your day. Thank you for all your donations.

Our Christmas party was a big hit and I'm hoping to post pics in this month's rider of us having a blast. We had many special guests from

Region 7. We are very lucky to have them in our lives. So thank you all for coming. The food was great, the silent auction and 50/50 was off the mark, the games were full of giggles and laughter and Santa came

To see us all. Yes I did get a bag of coal. Naughty I say very naughty. Thank you all for company and joy we brought each other over the holidays.

We have pizza and pop coming up in Lansing. Please stay aware on fb page for dates and reminders. It's pretty cool going and meeting our reps and senators, having a meal and discussing what we need them to help us with for our motorcycle rights. Cricket is working hard to have some guest speakers come to our meetings.

If you have a connection hook us up. Cricket and I would Love to put together a meeting with a few other regions and have guest speakers, our lawyer Dondi and our legislative officers come and keep us up to date and let us know what we need to keep doing. Suggestions let us know. We are the ones that have to do the work. Freedom rally

dates to

Be determined and it would

Be great for us to

Ride with a few regions and go together. Nothing thrilled me

More than seeing you all pull up in Lansing with a roar and ABATE on those jackets and T-shirts. I was one proud lady.

Come out to a meeting, meet us all, listen to me talk because I do that a lot, see what Cricket has to say and make your voice heard. I just want you all to know I'm proud to be a part of this region

Waiting for the sun

Cold cheeks and toes

Dreaming of summer fun

Letting go Of all your woes

Peace - Merry.

### ***REGION 7 - Huron, Tuscola and Sanilac Counties***

***RC - Tim Polk***

Jan. 7 2024

Meeting was called to order at 2 pm with The pledge and a prayer & a moment of silence for all troops.

Gentleman Jim gave a reading of the minutes, motion by Butch & second by Parkus to accept the minutes as read, motion carried.

Treasurer's report was given by Shelby. Motion by Bob to accept the report as read, second by Leah, motion carried.

Awareness report was given by Marlene. As of this

meeting there were no classes scheduled, yet. She is needing more supplies for her classes and should be getting them at the seminar. Need to make up more folders for the classes. Butch gave us the Legislative report, with not much going on in Lansing. The Legislators are due to be back to work.

Jeremy reported that Greg Alexander will be at Biagios in Kingston to meet with the public on February 16th. Meet with him if you can.

Old Business: The Christmas party went very well at Lucky Thumb this year.

New Business: Bob stated that the first meeting for the 2024 Passbook is going to be on January 20th in Melvin at 1:30 pm. Attend if you're interested in helping with this. Shelby is getting ready for the seminar, hope to see you all there!

There is so much information at the seminar to learn and lots of fellowship!!

Marlene is having the Triathlon on February 11th at Blue Water Inn in Port Sanilac. We realize that this is Superbowl Sunday, but we should be done in plenty of time for you to get to wherever you plan on being for the Superbowl!

The Scoot & Shoot will be at Farmers Tavern on July 13th. The Rest in Peace Ride & June meeting will be on June 1st at Evergreen Park. Hope to see you there, this ride is for all Region 7 members that we have lost over the years.

Motion was made by Wes to adjourn the meeting, second by Tamera, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 3:05 pm. I would like at this time to wish everyone a very Happy New Year and may it be better than the last! Looking forward to seeing everyone at the seminar!! Tim

**REGION 8 - Allegan, Barry, Kent, Ottawa Counties**

**RC - Robert "X" Meloche**

No report this month.

**REGION 9 - Ingham, Eaton, Clinton & Ionia Counties**

**RC - Nick Henry**

First, I'm sorry that I didn't make the deadline for the December newsletter. My mind was preoccupied by events in my life and the deadline slip passed me.

I am still not over these events and at this time expecting a big snowstorm and getting ready to go to the ABATE seminar, I just can't think of what to write about that is relevant to what's happening in the fight to keep our right to ride free the way we want.

Really not much has changed with the winter months. The only thing that I know of is that states are pushing back against California's attempts to do away with Internal combustion engines in all forms.

At any rate I may have something to report next month after the seminar.

Stay safe, hug your loved ones, this to will pass.

Nick

Region 9 regional coordinator.

**REGION 10 - Gratiot & Saginaw Counties**

**RC - Vern Shock**

ABATE REGION 10 MEETING MINUTES

January 7, 2024

Meeting called to order at 3:10pm.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

No meeting minutes for December.

Finance report was tabled until next month.

2024 events were gone over:

-Spring Fling will be May 11th. Details coming soon.

-Highland festival parade is May 25th.

-ABATE Field meet is June 21-23rd.

-Region 10 poker run, July 13th. Details coming soon.

-End of Summer party, September 7th. Details coming soon.

-Possible color tour October 12th.

-Christmas Party December 7th at Ghost Town Saloon.

-Possible community event during the summer.

Last months Christmas party was well attended and a success. Much fun had by all.

Legislative report was given.

MRF report was given.

Bob Shock will be this year's chairman for the bike raffle.

New products were presented. More to come. Meeting adjourned at 3:55pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debra Townsend, Region 10 secretary.

**REGION 11 - Lapeer, Macomb, St. Clair Counties**

**RC- Richard "Magilla" Snooks**

No report this month

**REGION 12 - Berrien, Cass, Van Buren, St. Joseph & Kalamazoo**

**RC - Dan Dan**

No report this month

**REGION 13**

**RC - Tom "Jinx" Rahn**

No report this month

**REGION 14 - Washtenaw and Livingston Counties**

**RC - Shiny Bob**

Date: December 17, 2023

Eric Nelson Sergeant of Arms: Pledge of Allegiance lead by Eric Nelson and moment of silence for personal intentions spoken and unspoken.

Meeting start time: 4:14pm Meeting end time: 4:58pm.

Amos/Secretary report:

Amos read the minutes from the November 26, 2023 meeting.

December's meeting minutes submitted to Silla January 10th.

All minutes are available to members for review at each meeting.

Amos, completed the Region 14 Bike Show flyer and obtained approval from Shiny Bob and Sally prior to submission to Silla for the Rider January 10th. Flyer sent to Zack Knight for posting on region 14 Facebook page.

December Birthdays: Bob & Dawn Kenyon and Jesse Kenyon.

1st Motion to Accept: Bob Kenyon 2nd

Motion to Accept: Tina

Sally/Treasurer's report:

Sally presented the treasurer's report to members.

1st Motion to Accept: Amos 2nd Motion to Accept: Dawn K.

Shiny Bob:

Thank you, goes out to region 14 members



your attendance at our meetings and supporting our events throughout the past year. We had a successful year and look forward to our accomplishments in 2024. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

January 12 – 14th 2024 is our annual ABATE seminar in Lansing. Hotel details in the Rider. We will sell raffle tickets for the ABATE quilt at the seminar and drawing held at the seminar.

June 21st – June 23rd 2024 the date for the Field Meet. Special thank you to Eric and Diana Saline American Legion for all you do to support our region and ABATE of Michigan. Members encouraged to support Walleye Dinners and German Dinners in 2024.

Ann Tobian/Legislative/Media/Road Captain Report: Region 14 2024 calendar of events completed and working on 2024 planned ride flyers. January 20 – 21st 2024 is the Ice Sculpture event in Tecumseh.

February 2nd – 4th 2024 is the Tip-Up Festival at the Highland Inn Davis Lake. February 28th 2024 the next Pizza & Pop at the capital in Lansing.

Dawn/Awareness Report: No report this month  
Guests / New Members: Easton and Kay became new ABATE members at this meeting. Thank you, Easton and Kay for giving a shit!  
Leroy Region 18 – Mentioned the 2024 Bike Raffle will be sponsored and held at Tecumseh Harley Davidson on September 28th. Region 14 will help assist region 18 at this event.

50/50: Won by Eric  
Dollar Draw: Won by Chip

1st Motion: Close meeting:  
Lynn 2nd Motion: Dawn K.  
Next Meeting  
January 28, 2024 4:00pm  
Respectfully submitted by:  
Amy (Amos) Bachorek Region  
14 Secretary.

**REGION 15 - Wayne County  
RC - Bobby Prine**

We have found a new home at the VFW Post 9568. The address is 39270 W. Huron River Dr. Romulus, MI The next meeting will be Sunday February 18, 2024, at 3:00pm. Please join us as we have a lot of planning to do for this year! We need your help!

Respectfully, Region 15  
Secretary.

**REGION 16 - Crawford, Oscoda, Alcona, Iosco, Ogemaw, and Roscommon Counties**

**RC - Jesse Gordy**  
Hello Everyone,

I hope this letter finds you having a great start to 2024. I for one am glad to be seeing 2023 in the rear view. Let me re-introduce myself. I'm Jesse Gordy. I live in Alcona county. I acquired my first motorcycle when I was the age of 16. I've had a deep-rooted lifelong passion for the open road throughout my 31 years on two wheels. I also have a huge devotion toward motorcycle awareness from a major life changing event that changed my life a few years ago. It hasn't stopped me from riding, in contrast it only strengthened my drive and emphasis toward my support of ABATE. I fully embrace what it is this organization does and stands up for. "Dedicating preservation of

motorcyclist rights, Promoting safe operating practices and raising motorist awareness of motorcycles!"

Two years ago, I was asked by a great man to become the RC and revive, energize the dormant Region #16. That great man and my dear friend was the late Mr. Gerry Spomer. I gave him my word; I'd give it my all. 2023 was a rough year health wise for me. But I'm back and need your help keeping my word to Gerry! 2024 is a new year. Let's start off the year with a positive outlook for the future of our Region #16. Let's focus on growth and camaraderie as a region. We have a meeting spot, and I can/will set times and dates that will work with schedules. But I need members. ABATE needs members. Riders and families of riders need ABATE.

I am willing to put in the time and do the leg work. But I am only one person. Let's build a team of like minded members willing work together, sharing the load while having fun enjoying our passion and love for the open road. Let's build a region full of events folks mark their calendars for, in hopes not to miss. Let's build a region full of motorcycle awareness and rights defenses. ABATE's foundation. Let's build a region to brag about.

My contact info is here in the Rider and on the ABATE website. Reach out to me and share with friends & family. Each month I will be writing in the rider updates and positive notes about our region.

**REGION 18 - Monroe, Lenawee Counties**  
**RC - Leroy Cuykendall III.**

No report this month

**REGION 19 Oakland County**  
**RC - Pete Kazelas**

Report from Region 19

For the February, 2024 Issue of Michigan Rider  
2024 Brings Challenges Old and New

Region 19's first meeting of 2024 was held on January 2nd bringing the Region's faithful together to discuss important issues facing Michigan motorcyclists and Region 19 itself. We called the meeting (at Waterford's Shark Club) to order at 7:00 pm after the great food and friendly conversation enjoyed by those gathered at the table.

The first agenda item was our LO's report which reviewed issues on the National, State and Region levels. We discussed the following:

1. On the National Stage: Drawn from the January issue of the AMA's American Motorcyclist.

- **Right-to-Repair:** US House Bill 906 would protect the right of consumers and independent repair shops to diagnose, repair and modify vehicles rather than to allow the OEMs to monopolize those services.

- **E15 fuel:** Those who stand to profit by increasing the amount of ethanol in our nation's fuel supply have been pushing for wider sale of E15. The blend is obscurely labeled "Unleaded 88" and it is illegal to use in motorcycles. The AMA is strongly opposed to its wider marketing.

- **Autonomous and Semi-Autonomous Vehicle Testing:** Testing these systems on the public's roadways has already led to crashes, injuries and deaths as these immature systems have failed repeatedly to respond to the myriad complexities of the motoring environment. Failures of these systems represent a huge threat to bikers.

- **Distracted Driving:** 34 states have outlawed the use of hand-held devices while driving. But in most of these states penalties are too weak to cause people to put down their phones. Stronger enforcement and greater penalties are essential to protect all road users.

- **Lane-Filtering:** Allowing motorcycles to filter through stopped or slowly moving traffic has been shown to reduce rear-end collisions in the states that allow the practice. The AMA

supports the adoption of lane-filtering in all states.

- **Profiling of Motorcyclists:** Law-enforcement agencies have often targeted motorcyclists for arbitrary traffic stops. Such stops without due cause should be illegal everywhere.

2. In our Home State: Michigan's riders face familiar challenges:

- **PIP Insurance:** Senate Bill 1 of 2019 tied Personal Injury Protection insurance limits for crash-injured motorcyclists to the PIP limit purchased by the owner/operator of the vehicle involved in the crash. Four years of effort by ABATE have led only to frustration.

- **Helmet Choice and Other Issues:** Rumors continue regarding the introduction of legislation to resurrect Michigan's mandatory helmet law. This potential threat (along with other possible initiatives to limit the freedom to ride) means that constant vigilance will always be needed.

3. Critical Issues Threaten Region 19: As our group sat discussing the issues listed above, Region 19's many challenges became very clear:

- **Right now Region 19 is not in a position to carry its share of the load as ABATE works to further its mission.**

- **After no contact with RC Pete Kazelas for more than a year, we must search for a new RC to fill this critical leadership position.**

- **Our Region now has only two functioning officers: a Legislative Officer who does his best, and an absolute ace who serves as our Treasurer. That's it! All other officer positions are vacant and Region 19 is only treading water, a situation that will not change without new, eager folks stepping up.**

- **The Need is critical: Please come to our next meeting on Tuesday the 6th of February at the Shark Club, 6665 Highland Road, Waterford. Arrive ready to help us fill our officer positions and provide the leadership so desperately needed.**

- **We meet at 6:00 for dinner and start the meeting at 7:00. Please help Region 19 take on a more meaningful role in ABATE's effort to protect the motorcycling that we all love and enjoy.**

Hess Bates

Region 19 Legislative Officer

hessbates@att.net 248 736 0502

**REGION 20**  
**RC - Mark Berger**  
No report this month.

**REGION 21 - Clair, Isabella, Mescosta,**  
**Montcalm & Osceola Counties**  
**RC - Tim Gustavison**  
No report this month

**WELCOME  
NEW & RETURNING  
ABATE OF  
MICHIGAN  
MEMBERS**

**NEAL ADAMS**  
**JULIA ST JOHN**  
**RON DINGWITZ**  
**MARTHA GEYER**  
**ROBERT HECK**  
**DON HOLLOWAY**  
**MARILYN BENDER**  
**THOMAS NEWELL**  
**NATHAN SHERMAN**  
**STEVE ORDWAY**  
**LARRY MORGAN**  
**SAM DITZHAZY**  
**MIKE HOOVER**  
**MANDY ORDWAY**  
**COURTNEY DUELL**  
**TUESDAY ROGERS**  
**EASTON TIMKO**  
**KRISTIN CROFT**

 *Gone  
but never  
forgotten*



Region 4 - Richard "Big Dog" Wheeler  
Region 7 - William Ricklefs  
Region 10 - J D Daniels  
Region 12 - Todd Vankirk  
Region 14 - Mark Riley  
Region 15 - James Bradley  
Region 17 - Larry Stock.

ABATE yard signs can be purchased using the  
AWARENESS Sign form on line:  
<https://www.abateofmichigan.org/forms---links.html>



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**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 the patch shown 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 \_\_\_\_\_