

# Tennessee Motorcyclist



242 West Main St. #195 Hendersonville TN. 37075. Info \* [cmtabate@icloud.com](mailto:cmtabate@icloud.com)\* 615-566-9936

DECEMBER 2022

THIS IS THE YEAR WE MODIFY THE HELMET LAW .2-4 PM, SAME ROOM, LEGISLATIVE INFO, DISCUSSION, & UPDATE



Social Hour 5:30 p.m., Dinner 6:30 p.m. Band 7:45 p.m.

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\*\* Must have credit card to reserve room. Deadline to cancel reservation is January 19. Reservations made ON OR AFTER DECEMBER 20 will NOT be at the \$169.00 room rate.

**Contacts Corporate Level. Phone 615-566-9936**

Corporate Director	Scott Smith	423-571-6608 (text)	<a href="mailto:cmtabate@icloud.com">cmtabate@icloud.com</a>
Asst. Corporate Director	Meashy Reece	615-926-9165	<a href="mailto:MEASHY_R@YAHOO.COM">MEASHY_R@YAHOO.COM</a>
Corporate Secretary	J. Robert Forbus	615-390-5645	<a href="mailto:Robert.forbus@robertforbus.com">Robert.forbus@robertforbus.com</a>
Corporate Treasurer	Bette Stewart	615-579-6035	<a href="mailto:bmwsidecarmom@yahoo.com">bmwsidecarmom@yahoo.com</a>
Legislative	OPEN		
Activities	Mark Waters	214-938-5405	<a href="mailto:MarkaWaters555@gmail.com">MarkaWaters555@gmail.com</a>
At Large	Janice Smith	423-571-2529	<a href="mailto:cmtabatemembership@gmail.com">cmtabatemembership@gmail.com</a>
Chaplin	Jack Jones	615-579-4112	<a href="mailto:Jdj32k@yahoo.com">Jdj32k@yahoo.com</a>
Membership	Janice Smith	423-571-2529	<a href="mailto:cmtabatemembership@gmail.com">cmtabatemembership@gmail.com</a>
MRF	Ed Domine	931-774-9413	<a href="mailto:Ed.d@juno.com">Ed.d@juno.com</a>
Newspaper	Scott Smith	423-571-6608 (text)	<a href="mailto:cmtabate@icloud.com">cmtabate@icloud.com</a>
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Sergeant of Arms	Scott Digiovanni	561-354-8656	<a href="mailto:scott.digiovanni@gmail.com">scott.digiovanni@gmail.com</a>



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The objects and purposes of the Corporation shall be to form a united motorcyclist's organization both at the individual local level and at the State level. The Members of the Corporation shall be dedicated to promoting fair motorcycle legislation and shall ensure their freedom by working to prevent enactment of, or to repeal/modify existing unfair motorcycle legislation. The Corporation's Members shall promote and maintain motorcycling safety and awareness programs in the community.

Charter	Contacts	Meeting times
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Caney Fork	Terry Presley 615-642-8025 <a href="mailto:tpaper63@yahoo.com">tpaper63@yahoo.com</a>	Last Sunday of the month @ 4pm, Lolly's Café 211 Colonial St. Carthage Tn. 37030
Dickson/Humphreys/Hickman	Terry "Bub" Davis 615-969-3673 <a href="mailto:terrybubdavis@yahoo.com">terrybubdavis@yahoo.com</a>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month @ 7pm, VFW Dickson
Montgomery County	Roy West 931-627-1917 <a href="mailto:kountrycrazy@gmail.com">kountrycrazy@gmail.com</a>	1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday @ 7pm, Jackie's Country Kitchen 1578 Zinc Plant Rd. Clarksville
Music City	Wendell Baldwin 615-838-1490 <a href="mailto:Wiggles1202@yahoo.com">Wiggles1202@yahoo.com</a>	Contact for location
Nashville	Jack Jones 615-579-4112	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday @ 6pm, Rebar Donelson
Robertson County	Roland Verchota 615-533-6368 <a href="mailto:verchotaw@bellsouth.net">verchotaw@bellsouth.net</a>	1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday @ 7pm, Piggy Pit, Springfield
Smith/Wilson/Stones River	Bret Britton 615-689-7677 <a href="mailto:bret_britton@yahoo.com">bret_britton@yahoo.com</a>	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday @ 2pm, The Roost Lebanon
Sumner County	Jeff Hollins 615-808-1618 <a href="mailto:jlhollis@yahoo.com">jlhollis@yahoo.com</a>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday @ 7pm, VFW Hendersonville
Upper Cumberland	Ron Erwin 931-879-3899	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday * Call for location
Dekalb County	Meashy Reece 615-926-9165 <a href="mailto:MEASHY_R@YAHOO.COM">MEASHY_R@YAHOO.COM</a>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday @ 2:00pm Watertown community Park Watertown TN.

## Director's Column

Welcome Riders, **Freedom is not Free**, it is a fight that never stops but with Freedom comes Responsibility and action to protect that Freedom. As a community of bikers, are you willing to fight for your freedom or would you rather just sit on the sidelines? One of the hardest thing to fight is progress, and if we let our representatives and senators have their way, there may come a time when motorcycles will be outlawed or replaced by electric motorcycles. Especially since some states have already made plans for that by 2035. Freedom is a choice of what to do or not to do. What is your preference? That's all for now. See you next month ride free ride safe.

Corporate Director  
Scott



## U.S. LAWMAKERS PURSUE "RIGHT TO REPAIR" CONSUMER PROTECTIONS

Lawmakers in both the U.S. House and Senate are actively pursuing federal legislation intended to level the playing field for independent repair providers, including for motor vehicle repair shops.

U.S. Senators Ben Ray Lujan (D-NM), Cynthia Lummis (R-WY) and Ron Wyden (D-OR) introduced S.3830, the Fair Repair Act of 2022, a bipartisan bill that seeks to ensure that manufacturers do not lock out owners and independent service providers from providing repairs by denying access to parts, tools, and documentation. The Fair Repair Act would require manufacturers of electronic equipment to make the same tools, parts, and documentation available to owners and independent repair providers, covering a variety of industries such as agricultural equipment, consumer electronics, medical equipment, and motor vehicles.

Similarly, Congressman Bobby Rush (D-IL), a senior member of the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, has introduced the Right to Equitable and Professional Auto Industry Repair (REPAIR) Act (H.R.6570). This legislation would ensure that vehicle owners and independent repair shops have equal access to repair and maintenance tools and data as car companies and licensed dealerships.

Vehicle makers have long argued that they shouldn't have to share proprietary performance information, but for independent repair shops this practice makes for an unfair marketplace. Although industry advocates for years have pushed for the right to repair, the issue gained momentum last year when President Biden issued a sweeping Executive Order directing federal regulatory agencies to take a variety of steps that would fundamentally alter the government's regulation of businesses' competitive practices.

Specifically, the order directs the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) to address "unfair anticompetitive restrictions on third-party repair or self-repair items, such as the restrictions imposed by powerful manufacturers that prevent farmers from repairing their own equipment."

**DECEMBER BOD IS ON THE 11<sup>TH</sup> held at the Elks Lodge 242 Airport Rd. Gallatin Tn. At 12:00 pm (CST) Calendar schedule from 12:00 – 1:00 pm with Mark Waters.**

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NCOM BIKER NEWSBYTES  
Compiled & Edited by Bill Bish,  
National Coalition of Motorcyclists (NCOM)

**HARLEY HIT WITH ANOTHER RIGHT-TO-REPAIR LAWSUIT**  
This past June, the U.S. Federal Trade Commission issued a sternly-worded order to Harley-Davidson, requiring it to honor existing right-to-repair laws, citing illegal warranty language that restricted customers from using aftermarket parts, or taking their bikes for service by anyone other than a Harley dealer. Such actions, the warranties stated, could void the owners' warranties.

Secondarily, the FTC pointed to the fact that the full terms of such warranties weren't fully disclosed to customers in a single document, but rather customers were directed to contact an authorized dealer to learn the full details. The federal trade agency also ordered Harley to cease this behavior, as well.

While this was seen as a positive step by many interested in right-to-repair reform within the U.S., this action by the FTC couldn't recoup the losses experienced by Harley customers who felt that they were effectively held hostage to the terms of their warranties. Thus, in August, 2022, two right-to-repair class action lawsuits were filed in federal courts: one in Wisconsin, and one in California. But, as you may already have suspected, that's not the end of the story.

Now, RideApart.com reports that on November 3, 2022, a third class-action lawsuit was filed in Chicago federal court. It claims that the Motor Company's warranty policy violates existing U.S. antitrust laws because it disallows the use of aftermarket parts. The 55-page class action complaint demands a jury trial to hear its claims, and spells out in detail the nature of both its claims and the multiple classes across multiple states (and the District of Columbia) enveloped within. It alleges that the Harley-Davidson warranties in question violated both federal and state antitrust laws, and requests unspecified financial relief for members of the Class, including payment of legal fees.

The filing argues that since Harley makes approximately 15% of its annual revenue from parts, it is clearly in the company's best interest to maximize that revenue as much as possible -- including using its warranties as tools to force owners to use H-D's OEM parts. It also makes a case for how a Harley warranty can effectively cost owners an excessive amount of money.

## AVID MOTORCYCLIST ELECTED AGAIN TO NEW HAMPSHIRE HOUSE

Delight, displeasure, or distrust, the November 8 midterms meant a lot of things to a lot of people, but for motorcyclists there was at least one bright spot in New Hampshire where longtime biker Charlie St. Clair won election to the State House of Representatives, again.

St. Clair is well known to riders everywhere as the coordinator of Laconia Motorcycle Week; "The World's Oldest Motorcycle Rally," going on 100 years!

Democrat victor and former representative St. Clair previously served one term in the State House, until this past election cycle when he lost to now-incumbent Republican Rep. Richard Littlefield in 2020, the same person St. Clair just defeated to now reclaim his old House seat!

St. Clair told The Laconia Daily Sun that once he's back at the Statehouse, he'd like to return to his previous seat on the Transportation Committee, where he can best serve his community, rally-goers and motorcyclists who live in or visit New Hampshire; "I have a lot of questions on projects [that were] supposed to be done two years ago [in the transportation committee] and I will also be listening to the residents of Laconia and their concerns and following their direction," he told the local newspaper.

As a candidate, St. Clair emphasized placing constituents above party lines and demands, saying "I always encourage people not to vote by party but on the individual."

With record-setting voter turnout across the country, many races nationwide are still in limbo or dispute, with outcomes determining the political direction of many states and our nation, and with Donald Trump once again throwing his hat in the Presidential ring for 2024, American politics is about to get even more interesting.

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### **SAVE THE DATE - 2023 NCOM CONVENTION IN PHOENIX**

Next year's 38th annual NCOM Convention is now scheduled for Father's Day weekend, June 16-18, 2023 in Phoenix, Arizona, so plan ahead to join with hundreds of like-minded bikers' rights activists from across the country for a weekend of learning, sharing and camaraderie!

Concerned advocates from the ranks of Motorcycle Rights Organizations (MROs), clubs (Confederations of Clubs) and independent riders will gather together for the betterment of biking, with agenda items dealing with legal and legislative issues, so check back at [www.ON-A-BIKE.com](http://www.ON-A-BIKE.com) for further details from the National Coalition of Motorcyclists as they are announced.

### **SELF-DRIVING CAR 'DRIVERS' GIVEN GREEN LIGHT TO WATCH VIDEOS**

As world governments move towards a full rollout of self-driving cars on the roads, one rule is being introduced in the United Kingdom to allow 'drivers' to watch videos while the vehicle is in motion! After a consultation on the matter, the U.K. government is now set to allow those in control of self-driving cars to watch videos while driving down the road.

The changes came when the government updated the highway code earlier this year. At the time, it was done to consider the new autonomous technology and incorporate it into the rules of the road, but this new rule could cause vulnerable road users to be put at risk. It concerns watching content that is not related to the vehicle (films, TV, music videos, social media, and emails) on the vehicle's built-in display screens built into the cockpit. These are generally used to change the settings of the car, relay information to the driver, or provide navigation assistance, though many can now be set to display videos via internal or external storage devices, with some being able to surf the Internet either through 5G or Wi-Fi.

The move will likely strike fear into the hearts of vulnerable road users, such as motorcyclists, as it's already been widely reported that many self-driving cars do miss "seeing" us in some circumstances. At this time, autonomous car manufacturers claim that the liability lies with the driver of the vehicle to spot the danger and take back control of the vehicle, so how badly is an operator's concentration and reaction time impacted by watching a movie, or playing a game?

BMW just announced AirConsole to allow owners to play both single- and multiplayer videogames from the comfort of the driver's seat to "make every waiting situation in the vehicle an entertaining experience."

### **'WALKING DEAD' STAR JOINS 'THE BIKERIDERS' CAST, JAX RETURNS FROM THE DEAD**

For your Moto-tainment pleasure, Hollywood sources report that "The Walking Dead" star Norman Reedus has become the latest celebrity to join the cast of "The Bikeriders," a fictional film inspired by the photography of Danny Lyon and his 1967 book of the same name and follows the rise of a fictional Midwestern motorcycle club. Seen through the lives of the members, the club evolves over the course of the decade from a gathering place for local outsiders into a more 'sinister gang'.

The biker theme is fitting for Reedus, a longtime rider whose 'TWD' character Daryl Dixon is known for riding a motorcycle across the show's 11 seasons. The 53-year-old actor also hosts the travel series "Ride with Norman Reedus" as he hits the open road to explore biker culture.

In other 'Dead' News, Charlie Hunnam has reportedly hinted at resurrecting his Jax Teller character, who died in the final episode of "Sons of Anarchy," for a redux role.



## MRF State Rep Report

*"Earlier this week, our country voted for new leadership. I am committed to heeding our constituents' concerns and getting our nation back on track, starting with the operations and management of the House of Representatives itself. As such, beginning on January 3, 2023, the People's House must once again be open to the American public."*

– Kevin McCarthy

The elections are finally over. They can start picking up the yard signs and putting them away until next election cycle (which will start up again sooner than you think). There will be some new faces in office, both in Washington DC and here at home in Tennessee. There are also a lot of familiar names returning to office.

Do you know who your federal and state senators and representatives are? Do you know their positions on the issues that affect motorcyclists? And more importantly, do they know YOUR opinions on those issues?

We all want our representatives to support our desired legislation, but they cannot do that if they do not understand what issues are important to you.

This is a good time to introduce yourself to the new faces, as well as to re-acquaint yourself with the ones that have been there for a while. As they settle into a new office and the beginning of a new legislative session, they may be looking for resources that they can rely on in the future. If they know that you are their local "expert" on things related to motorcycling, they may be more receptive to your thoughts and opinions on motorcycle-related legislation when it comes up.

A discussion with your representative can be beneficial even if you find that they will not support our positions, especially if they can explain why they feel the way they do. Our future discussions to convince them to support our legislation may be quite a bit different if they are concerned about any potential cost to TennCare from un-helmeted riders than if they won't support helmet choice because someone close to them may have died in a motorcycle wreck.

As Kevin McCarthy notes in the quote above, your representatives should be *"committed to heeding our constituents' concerns"*. Make sure your representatives know what your concerns are. That is one of the most critical steps in ensuring your right to...

...Ride Free,  
-- Ed

Ed Domine  
MRF State Rep  
[ed.d@juno.com](mailto:ed.d@juno.com)

Mail to: Motorcycle Riders Foundation – PO Box 9090 – Peoria, IL 61612 – Phone: 202.546.0983 – [www.mrf.org](http://www.mrf.org) – [mrfoffice@mrf.org](mailto:mrfoffice@mrf.org)

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**Editor's Note:** All information for the newsletter has to be sent electronically by the 10<sup>th</sup> of each month or it will not make it into the next edition of the newspaper. It **MUST** also be in electronic format! Please email your submissions to: [cmtabate@icloud.com](mailto:cmtabate@icloud.com). Did we miss something or make an error? It was not intentional. Please keep us informed. Send event dates, articles, minutes, **pictures** etc. to [cmtabate@icloud.com](mailto:cmtabate@icloud.com). That being said, I am **BIG** on photos, I want more photos not only from events but of our members out there riding!

**CMT/ABATE, Inc.** is not a "Biker Club", but a non-profit, political organization that was formed to preserve freedom and safety for all Tennesseans who enjoy motorcycling. Our major goals are to modify existing laws that are detrimental to motorcycle safety and enjoyment, and to enact new legislation in support of all motorcyclists who ride in Tennessee. If you are concerned about preserving personal freedom and motorcycle safety, please join us.





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**Gang, Club and Other Language** - Monitor and respond to federal legislative or regulatory activity concerning the usage of the terms gang, club, known associate, and associate when referring to motorcyclists.

**Taxes** - Encourage fair treatment of motorcyclists in any change to federal taxes related to transportation.

#### **2023 MONITOR ITEMS:**

**Distracted Driving** - Work to discourage any/all forms of distracted driving.

**Sound Testing** - Monitor any SAE Motorcycle Roadside Sound Testing or EPA action.

**International Partnerships** - Continue participation in motorcycle-related activity in the European Union, United Nations, and Canada informing the membership of key developments.

**National Studies** - Continue monitoring any national studies concerning motorcycles

**Exhaust Systems** - Monitor and vigorously oppose any federal standard proposing stamping and certifying of motorcycle exhaust systems.

**Opponents** - Monitor private and public organizations that oppose the legislative agenda or mission of the MRF.

**Tolling** - Monitor fair tolling concepts on federally funded roadways and projects supported by federal bonds and issues related to congestion tolling.

**Lane Filtering and/or Lane Splitting** - Monitor and support federal efforts to study and review the benefits and concerns of lane splitting and lane filtering.

**Emissions** - Monitor and report on any litigation related to motorcycle emissions violations.

**Tariffs** - Monitor any tariffs on imported motorcycles, parts, or apparel.

**Incentives** - Seek fair tax rebate and or credits for the purchase of electric motorcycles similar to those offered for electric automobiles.

## **2023 Federal Legislative Agenda**

November 1, 2022

At the 2022 Motorcycle Riders Foundation's (MRF) 38th annual Meeting of the Minds Conference held in Des Moines, Iowa a legislative strategy session was hosted by the MRF's Legislative Committee. The purpose of the session was to establish and prioritize the MRF's 2023 Federal Legislative Agenda.

Legislative issues fall into one of three categories, high, medium and monitor. This list remains fluid and can be adapted depending on the issue and political environment.

Below is a brief description of the issues on the MRF's 2023 agenda. The January 2023 issue of the American Biker Journal will have more detail on each of these legislative priorities. As a reminder, all MRF members receive a copy of the American Biker Journal with their membership.

If you aren't a MRF member, [click here to join \(mrf.org/join-the-mrf/\)](https://mrf.org/join-the-mrf/) and support freedom and safety for street motorcyclists in Washington, D.C.

### **The 2023 Motorcycle Riders Foundation Legislative Priorities List** **HIGH PRIORITY OBJECTIVES:**

**Profiling** - Sustain lobbying efforts for the passage of resolutions or legislation that promotes awareness and prohibition of motorcyclist profiling.

**Renewable Fuels** - Advocate for targeted changes to the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) including supporting the universal availability of approved fuel blends, containing no more than 10% ethanol by volume.

**Autonomous Vehicles** - Advocate and monitor any legislation or regulations related to motorcycles concerning connected and autonomous vehicles (AV):

**Emission Regulations** - Engage the EPA & Congress on any activity related to motorcycle emission regulations including efforts by California and other states that endangers the future of motorcycling

**Definition of a Motorcycle** - Seek a more appropriate and up to date federal definition of a motorcycle which reflects the current set of vehicles on the roads today.

**Crash Avoidance** - Promote the theme of crash avoidance versus safer crashing, urging NHTSA and the DOT to focus on crash prevention and rider education.

**Helmet Laws** - Oppose any mandatory federal helmet, apparel, or conspicuity standards

**Black Box / Data Recording** - Pursue legislative language that any collected or available vehicle data is the property of the consumer and in which the consumer has the choice to opt-in to having their personal data communicated to interested parties.

**Internal Combustion Engines** - Work to ensure the survival of internal combustion engines.

#### **2023 MEDIUM PRIORITY OBJECTIVES:**

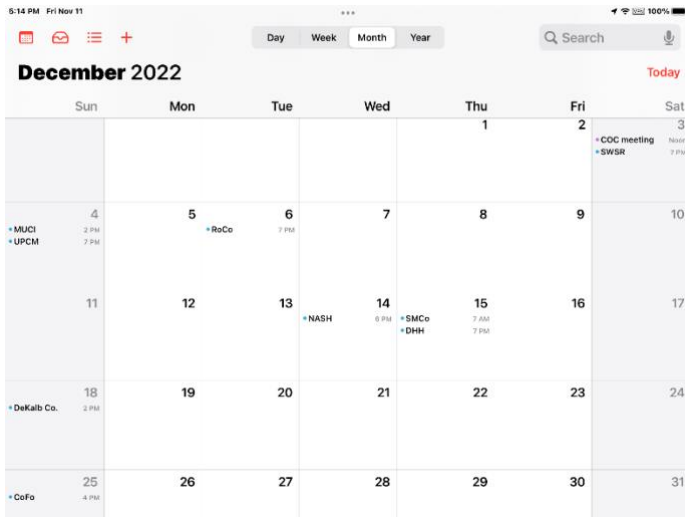
**Surface Transportation Reauthorization (Highway Bill)** - Advocate and pursue legislative efforts related to the next highway bill reauthorization (expiring in 2026).

**Roadway Design** - Pursue safer roadway design strategies in federal infrastructure legislation or discussions.

**Discriminatory Legislation** - Oppose any motorcycling, motorcycle, or motorcyclist-based discriminatory legislation or rules proposed by the U.S. Congress or by any governmental agency.

**Vulnerable Roadway User Terminology** - Monitor and ensure that motorcycles and motorcyclists are a specific and unique category or classification.





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If you have a business or service you would like listed here, please email [cmtabate@icloud.com](mailto:cmtabate@icloud.com) and we'll list it!

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PRODUCTS: T-shirts, Pins, Hats,  
Patches, past rocker etc..

Membership renews and New !!  
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All from the comfort of your home  
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Half Page—\$70/mo.

Quarter page—\$45/mo.

Business Card—\$20/mo.

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# BLACK FRIDAY thru CYBER MONDAY

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Maximum loan amount \$5000. Subject to credit approval. Payment Example: At 5% APR, 12 monthly payments of \$428.04 on \$5000 loan. Apply in person at any branch between 8:00 am and 4:30 pm on 11/25/22 or 11/28/22, by calling 800-521-9653 between the hours of 7:00 am and 6:00 pm (CST) on 11/25/22 or 11/28/22, and online starting at 12:00 am on 11/25/22 through 11:59 pm 11/28/22. Loans must close on or before 12/5/21 to qualify for this special rate. Limit one loan per borrower. Other restrictions may apply.



**ALL MOTORCYCLISTS WELCOME**

**CMT/ABATE, Inc.'s 16<sup>th</sup> Annual**

**NEW YEAR KICK-OFF**

**MEMBERSHIP DRIVE**

**BANQUET/DANCE/PARTY**

**Social Hour 5:30 p.m., Dinner 6:30 p.m. Band 7:45 p.m.**

**Saturday, January 21, 2023**

**Clarion Hotel, Spring Street, Nashville**

**HUGE EVENT ROOM 1<sup>st</sup> floor-Look for the big snowman!!**

**Special Hotel Room Rate-\$169.00 plus Taxes \*\***

**MUST reserve room before Dec. 20 to get special rate\*\***

**Mention CMT/ABATE MOTORCYCLISTS Party**

**ROOM RESERVATIONS-615 254 1551-CLARION HOTEL**

**More information? 615 944 9797 [csfreedom@aol.com](mailto:csfreedom@aol.com)**

**Party Room, Beef Roast, BBQ, Band, Decorations & Tableware hosted by many charters**

**CMT/ABATE Members \$10.00!!!**

**EVERYONE! Bring a Side Dish—this is a FEAST—**

**The "famous" charter cooks will be bringing their traditional "best fixins"**

**NON-Members -- \$20.00 Everyone welcome!!!**

**Honorariums & special announcements during dinner**

**Membership Applications available at the door**

**BRING YOUR OWN BEVERAGES-ICE AND CUPS PROVIDED**

**SMOKING AREA BEHIND BUILDING —PLEASE BE CONSIDERATE OF OUR GEEZER MEMBERS WITH BREATHING DIFFICULTIES!**

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**\*\* Must have credit card to reserve room. Deadline to cancel reservation is January 19. Reservations made ON OR AFTER DECEMBER 20 will NOT be at the \$169.00 room rate.**

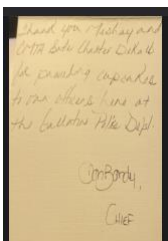


Connect to our website



**Robertson County, Our** meetings are held the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month at The Pit in Springfield at 7:00pm. Roland thanked everyone for coming. Join us for the Toy Run on December 3<sup>rd</sup> at Douglas Shell on Hwy 431 & Hwy 257. Kickstands are up at 1:00pm. The New Year Kick-Off Party will be on January 21, 2023 at the Clarion Hotel Nashville. Rooms will be \$169.00 plus taxes. Please book your reservations before Dec. 20, 2022 for the discounted price. Everyone please stay safe and healthy. Hope to see everyone soon. Thanks!

I want to send him these pictures so that they could be added to the newsletter we received a thank you note from the cheaper place where we donated all the left over cupcakes that were not sold at the outlaws swap meet they sent us a very nice note to the " **CMT DeKalb county**



**No Reports  
Nashville  
Upper Cumberland  
Dickson/Humphreys/Hickman  
Caney Fork  
SWSR  
Montgomery County  
Music City**

**Sumner County** The Sumner Charter met Oct 27 @ the VFW in Hendersonville with ten attendees. After Becky Foss opened with The Pledge, she introduced a new member to the group. Join us in welcoming Valerie to the Sumner Charter.

Jeff Hollins provided updates and confirmed the January 21 date for the Membership Party in Nashville. Remember the hotel will offer discounted rates, but only available first come, first serve. The State Rodeo at the Jackson County Fairgrounds had a decent turnout along with several RODEO competitors getting in those final points for the year (photos submitted for newsletter). Congratulations to our Points Leaders!! Discussion on STR stats and a vacancy in our vendor position which will impact future large events. If you are interested in serving Abate as a volunteer, please contact Director Jeff Hollins. Planning for 2023 was a hot topic. Sumner wants to host a Swap Meet in the Spring and planning needs to start now. *Until next time . . . Lisa James, Secretary*



**Want to be a part of this amazing organization?**

Fill out the application below & submit with membership dues to the CMT/ABATE office.

### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

New Member ☐ Renewal ☐

Member Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Membership Desired:

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Couple Member \$40 \_\_\_\_\_

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Junior \$10 \_\_\_\_\_

Lifetime Membership \$300 \_\_\_\_\_

\*a mailed paper is \$30 a year

Change of Address: ☐

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

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City: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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Charter You Would like to Join: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a Registered Voter? Yes No

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- ☐ Freedom Fighter Donation \$10 \$25 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Motorcycle Riders Foundation

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Phone: 202.546.0983

www.mrf.org

mrfoffice@mrf.org

**It's time you did something more to protect your rights!**

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☐ Check here to NOT receive MRF Email Alerts

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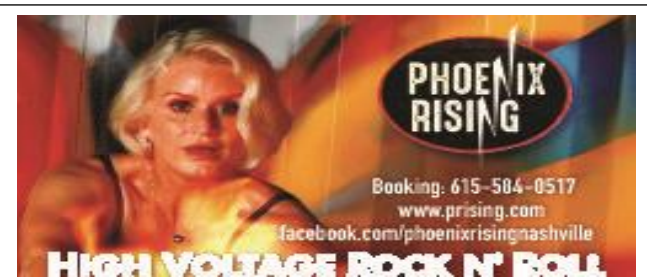
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James Hubbard 1/23  
Mark Waters 4/22

### SILVER

Black Piston MC 4/23  
OUTLAWS MC 6/22

### BRONZE

Tommy Simpson 6/22  
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Last weekend, Harley-Davidson announced the end of the EVO Sportster. **Not the end of the Sportster itself**—the name continues on with the Sportster S model, carrying on a line of constant production since 1957's XL series. But, H-D will make no more Sportsters with the Evolution engine, after a 36-year production run. For many riders, this is the same as cancelling the Sportster line. And even though I've never owned one, never even ridden one, I'm sad to see this news. I'm not quite sure why I've never ridden a Sportster. I've had several friends who've owned them and have ridden plenty of other Harley-Davidsons. I even took a Dyna across the US and back. But for whatever reason, I've never been on a Sporty. But for my friends who owned them, their Sportster was their pride and joy, and I understand why. For many riders, it was the only way a blue-collar worker could get their hands on an American-made motorcycle. While some people might think that's stupid jingoism, I believe there's value in appreciating products built by your neighbors. And the EVO Sportster, while it certainly wasn't a lithe supersport, wasn't a terrible bike either. Some sub-models were, yes—with slammed suspension that was probably developed in conjunction with the American Chiropractic Association. And before Harley-Davidson rubber-mounted the engine and added EFI, the Sporty was known by such unappealing nicknames as the Milwaukee Vibrator. But if you wanted a basic motorcycle, the Sportster was there, in all its air-cooled glory, with no fairings or louvers or other bodywork to run the cost up and hide the mechanical bits.

It should come as no surprise...

In news that should surprise exactly nobody, an investigation by CBC Marketplace has discovered motorcycle helmets sold online with what appear to be counterfeit safety rating stickers.

CBC Marketplace is a consumer-oriented program from the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, which is Canada's state broadcaster. It's run this sort of story before, buying products online to expose fakes, but this time it's narrowed its focus to motorcycle helmets. See the results below:

For this story, CBC had helmets tested from third-party sellers on Amazon, eBay and Walmart (if you've shopped online, you know the type, often piggybacking on other established retail sites to sell products). They had DOT stickers, which implied certification from the US Department of Transportation. That's generally required in the US and Canada, in jurisdictions that legislate helmet usage.

When CBC sent these helmets off for independent testing, many failed, which certainly seems to indicate the DOT ratings were faked.

### **Plot twist!**

However, if you've been around the bike scene for a while, you probably know that the DOT motorcycle helmet standard itself has questions about its safety. FortNine put together an excellent video about the subject a few years back. Watch it, and consider its findings...

<https://youtu.be/0BUyp3HX8cY>

### **Another plot twist!**

...And after you've watched FortNine's video above, then ask yourself: Should we instead always wear Snell-rated helmets?

FortNine looks at that question below:

So. You pay your money, and you take your choice. However, if you are indeed laying down cash on a new helmet, it does seem prudent to consider your needs and spend wisely on a manufacturer with enough ethics to test their products properly.

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<https://www.advrider.com/author/zac-k/>

## **I am open minded, Explain the LOUD stereo systems on motorcycles.**

Discussion in 'The Perfect Line and Other Riding Myths' started by vecchio Lupo, Sep 22, 2022.

I'm not making fun of anyone, nor is it my intent to vilify a segment of our community. I have noticed that when I'm at a light, or sometimes in traffic, I'm subjected to another rider's taste in music, loudly, almost painfully loud. Now I am in SC, a non-helmet state so I almost get the open-air attraction, but I've always heard that helmets in addition to limiting your vision, impair your ability to hear what's going on around you. Not with these stereophonic traveling concerts, I know they can't hear anything besides the music.

I'm not a prude, although I do wear a helmet no matter the state law, I also have a pretty nice electronics package inside my helmet that talks to the phone, the gps, the Bluetooth audio and other riders, so I get the need for gadgetry. I ride with a Veterans Riding Club, and all of those guys blast music so loud I can hear it clearly inside my helmet even at moderate speeds, say 50mph if I'm close.

I just don't like to be forced to hear another bikes music; it is funny when a group all play different music it's like a radio stuck on scan. Lastly, yes, many cars do the same, why do I need to listen to Lizzo when you pump gas? it's just as rude, but somehow it feels worse from the bikes.....

I'm open to understanding the phenom, it's not that big a deal as far as deals go.

38th MEETING OF THE MINDS' SEPT 22-35, 2022

DES MOINES IOWA

Attended & Reported by Carol A Simpson, CMT/ABATE, Inc Lifetime Member

First and foremost-thank you to the board of directors for voting to reimburse my expenses for MOTM. Riding on super cheap Allegiant Airlines and sharing hotel room with State Secretary of ABATE of Maryland, Linda Wainer, made staying in the budget possible. THANK YOU to all who made this possible.

Freedom fighters from nearly 30 states attended this year's conference. The theme was

"Our Liberties we prize and our Rights we will Maintain"

is also the State Motto of the State of Iowa. Other quotes woven into the fiber of the event were:

"Freedom's just another word for nothing left to lose." -- Kris Kristofferson,

"Eternal vigilance is the price of Liberty"- attributed to Thomas Jefferson

"Those who expect to reap the blessing of freedom, must, like men, undergo the fatigue of supporting it." -- Thomas Jefferson

"Liberty means responsibility. That is why most men dread it." --George Bernard Shaw

So the tone was set and the workshops were presented by our own people-motorcyclists, MRF Members, Harley Davidson Government Affairs Director, State Motorcycle Rights Organizations, Motorcycle Club leaders, Motorcycle Injury Attorneys and the MRF Washington DC lobbyist.

The focus issues were the upcoming federal intention of mandating all motorcycles manufactured after 2035 being ONLY ELECTRIC!! ---State of the Safety Training Programs in the states---Panel discussion "Earning Respect and How to Hold on to it" ---Principles of Leadership---PAC and You---Aging Demographics--and the crown jewel of the event, in my opinion, an hour-long Recollection and Commentary by "Chopper" Charlie Gilmore.... the story of his service in Viet Nam and what we must always remember titled THE PRICE OF FREEDOM. There wasn't a dry eye in the room & all fellow freedom fighters who registered for the conference were in the room.

When invited, I will share more details of these workshops and general sessions meeting at the Board of Directors' Meeting of CMT/ABATE, Inc., any and all charter or group gatherings.

Many clubs and other motorcycling organizations were well represented at the conference. Awesome to see the interactions and participate in lively conversations about Motorcyclists Rights.

Fellow Americans, we are guaranteed Freedom by our Higher Power, in the US Constitution, and the Declaration of Independence. Unless we diligently apply responsibility to this Freedom, we will not achieve and enjoy LIBERTY.

Next year's Meeting of the Minds will be in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. I urge all of our members and supporters to consider attending. It would be great to have 10 people there from Tennessee in 2023.

Again, thank you for your support in helping to make my attendance possible.

**QUOTABLE QUOTE:** "Jane! Stop this crazy thing!"

~ George Jetson (b. 2022-?), Digital index operator at Spacely's Space Sprockets





**BOOZE IT – LOSE IT!**

**Deadline for submission will be the 10th of the month for next month's publication. NO EXCEPTIONS!**

Articles submitted after this date will be held for the next month, with the exception of time sensitive material. We welcome your opinions, comments, complaints and suggestions. Articles and photos pertaining to all things motorcycle are welcome. Photos must include, taken by, who is in the photo, what is happening in the photo, when was the photo taken and where was the photo taken at. We also need the authors contact information for verification purposes only. All articles will be edited for content, clarity, grammar and spelling. All ad copy must be sent to the editor at [cmtabate@icloud.com](mailto:cmtabate@icloud.com) All ad payments should be sent to the main office