

Tennessee Motorcyclist



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July 2018

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Contacts Corporate Level Phone: 931-761-8162

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Safety & Education	Carol Simpson	615-944-9797	csfreedom@aol.com
Sergeant at Arms	Bullet	615-758-8267	
Webmaster	Jonathan Wilson	423-494-7425	webmaster@cmtabate.com

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
Caney Fork	Terry Presley 615-642-8025	Last Sunday of the month @ 4 pm, 207 N Bradford Hill Rd, Brush Creek, 38547
Dickson/Humphreys/Hickman	Mark Proctor 615-477-0171	3rd Thursday @ 7, VFW Dickson
French Broad	Scott Smith 423-571-6608 wt1011@icloud.com	1st Wednesday of the month @ Sagebrush Steak house, Newport, 7pm
Montgomery County	Gary Barlett 270-350-2596 madjap1969@gmail.com	1st Monday @ 7, Sunshine Restaurant, 3195 Fort Campbell, Clarksville
Music City	Wendell Baldwin 615-838-1490 deadeyewb@aol.com	1st Sunday @ 2, Skully's Old Hickory
Nashville	Jack Jones 615-579-4112 jdj32k@yahoo.com	3rd Tuesday @ 7, Bikini Beach Bar Antioch
Northeast	Todd Cloud 423-963-8344 toddcloud9@yahoo.com	1st Monday @ 7, Call for location
Robertson County	Roland Verchota 615-533-6368 Verchotaw@bellsouth.net	1st Tuesday @ 7, Piggy Pit Springfield
Smith-Wilson-Stones River	Jerry King 615-364-1378	1st Sunday @ 2, Coaches Lebanon
Sumner County	Jeff Hollins 615-452-0409	3rd Thursday @ 7, VFW Hendersonville
Upper Cumberland	Ron Erwin 931-879-3899	1st Sunday * Call for location
Wheels of Thunder	Bob Celmer 901-465-7381	1st Thursday @ 7, Panchos 717 N. White Station Rd., Memphis

Director's Column

First off I want to congratulate Iron Butt Bob Celmer for making it to the BOD meeting in East Tennessee last Sunday. Scott picked a fine location for the meeting and there were no complaints about the way he ran the meeting. Deadeye was even able to fire up his stogie. French Broad picked up three new members at the event. The Board also voted to take over the New Year's Kick-Off Party and make it an official State event. I hope the BOD meeting in West Tennessee is as well attended. I will add that Vacation Tony was at the meeting. I hope the short britches didn't hurt any eyeballs.

Coming state and federal elections are a big concern, or at least should be. Our own elections at the September Board of Directors meeting should be of importance to you. We need candidates to run for all of the one year non-executive positions and also the two year Legislative Director's spot. If you have been a

member in good standing for at least one year, you may run for any of these offices. Every member should be willing to serve on the board.

While we are on the subject of serving on the board, I think everyone should take some time to thank a couple of folks that have said they will be retiring from their current positions in September and will not be seeking any new offices. Faith Hawkins, Products Chair, and Carol Simpson, PR & Communications and Safety and Education Chair have each worked hard for this organization for many years. We all owe such members a debt of gratitude for taking time out of their lives and giving it to the bikers of Tennessee. I know how hard it is to leave something you enjoy doing, but sooner or later we will all be faced with this same decision. I hope we can all do the quality work that these two members have and still be able to step down as gracefully as they have. I am sure

they will still be around to pass on any advice that their replacements might ask of them.

I am cutting it short this month, but I will answer a question that has come up over the past couple of months. I haven't been to any charter meetings or any events for the last few weeks mostly due to my health. Nothing to panic about, it is just a little harder to get around when I want to. You will be seeing me this summer. If you have any questions or problems, please take time to contact me.



Tony Dabbs
CMT/ABATE
State Director

Note: State Board Meetings are the second Sunday of March, June, September, and December



YOUR RIGHTS YOUR RIDE



Legislative Director's Ramblings

Howdy everyone –We, CMT/ABATE, Incorporated are an advocacy group for Tennessee motorbike riders since our initial founding and our mission remains that we work as a team for the rights, safety, and freedom of Tennessee motorbike riders. Faces and names may have changed – the core mission remains the same.

I am writing my column fairly late and Keebler called me with a friendly reminder to “get ‘er done”. We should be tripping over candidates running for virtually every County, State, or Federal office available for the next five or so weeks. In the 6th District (where I live) alone there are four serious Republican candidates.

I’m okay regarding my incumbent representatives since they are both conservative folks who should be able to retain their seats. Several of you have an incumbent who needs to understand how unemployment feels and I furnished a few names in my last column. So, where are we now? I’ve been watching the gubernatorial candidates and attending a few events. I have not heard them all,

however. It is a mix of a couple of professional career politicians and a couple of businessmen who are (kind of) outsiders. But how “outside” are they really? That’s for you to determine. At least a couple of these people are attending a fast schedule of many town hall type meetings so pay attention and go. And by the way, I did meet Mark “Coonrippy” Brown this evening – a candidate for Governor. Good guy.

This leads me into another matter. The Governor’s office may be that of the chief elected executive officer of our State government, but by the wording of our State Constitution; is this person the most powerful? No! The most powerful elected officer in our State is the Speaker of the House. The Speaker retains rights to direct legislation and can call a veto override session if there is a serious disagreement with the Governor. So while our choice of Governor is of course important, the choice of Speaker is perhaps more important. You and I do not vote here – that is up to the House of Representatives. But we can certainly instruct our Representa-

tives regarding who we prefer.

“Speaking of the Speaker” that office is presently “up for grabs” at this time and a small pack of candidates have expressed some interest. Just this morning, senior Representative Gerald McCormick announced that he is leaving for the private sector. Will there be a special election this close to the Primary? Maybe, maybe not. I feel his “successor” will be chosen by a group of back-slapping good ole boys of a County Commission – just a like a few others have been done this year. I mention this also since he was a possible candidate for Speaker. Is his departure a loss for us? Not so much.

At our most recent State Board meeting I should have been clear, that I am disappointed with our folks’ interaction with our elected officials. I will say again that your lobbyists can do some good when a representative is sitting on the fence, but we need member help to help him move to the correct side of that fence – we can’t do it all. I’m not beating up on everyone since I know we have a handful of members who are quite active – in their Districts but not in YOURS.

I close with a challenge to every Local Charter to have all candidates for their area speak at one of their July or even August meetings. To be fair (and legal), we must invite all of them; even if we know one is dead-set against us. If they don’t show? That’s their problem. Meet, interview, vet, and vote. Get out there – make a difference.



J. Robert Forbus
Corporate Legislative
Director

Motorcycle Quotes

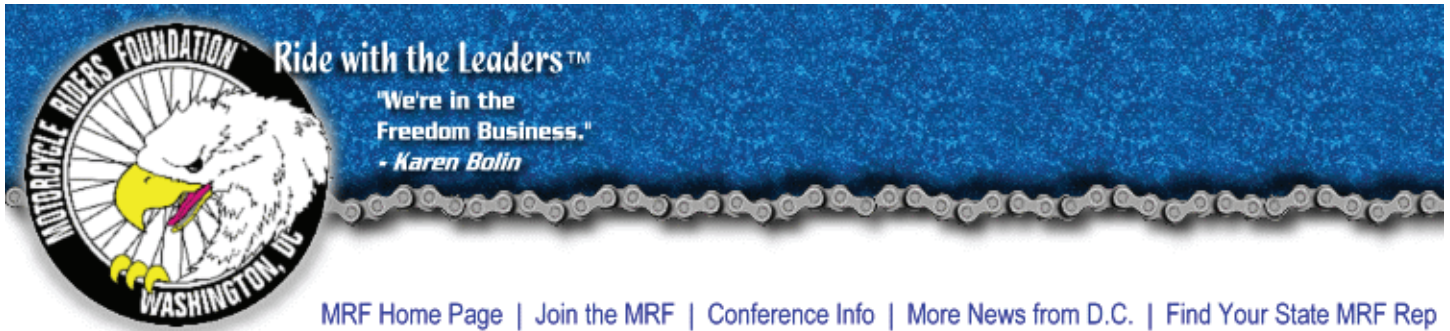
*Four wheels move the body. Two wheels move the soul.
*A good rider has balance, judgment, and good timing. So does a good lover.
*Respect the person who has seen the dark side of motorcycling and lived.
*Young riders pick a destination and go... Old riders pick a direction and go.
*Always back your bike into the curb, and

sit where you can see it.

*Winter is Nature's way of telling you to polish.
*The best alarm clock is sunshine on chrome.
*If you really want to know what's going on, watch what's happening at least five cars ahead.
*A friend is someone who'll get out of bed at 2 am to drive his pickup to the middle

of nowhere to get you when you're broken down.

*There's something ugly about a NEW bike on a trailer.
*Everyone crashes. Some get back on. Some don't. Some can't.
*Bikes parked out front mean good chicken-fried steak inside.
*Only a Biker knows why a dog sticks his head out of a car window.



[MRF Home Page](#) | [Join the MRF](#) | [Conference Info](#) | [More News from D.C.](#) | [Find Your State MRF Rep](#)

MRF State Rep Report –

The Road to Zero Coalition, which is managed by the National Safety Council, has a fantastic goal – eliminate all fatalities on our highways! This is especially important to us riders, since we are among the most at risk groups when involved in a highway incident. But the Motorcycle Riders Foundation is more than a little concerned about how they intend to reach this goal.

The Road to Zero Coalition recently released their report “A Road to Zero: A vision for achieving zero roadway deaths by 2050”. Among all the idea proposed for eliminating highway fatalities, there is only one item proposed for “improving” motorcyclist’s safety: mandatory helmet laws. No mention of increased awareness of motorcycles, better rider training, improved roadway design, and any one

of many other actions that we, as motorcycle riders, know have a bigger effect on our safety than helmets.

This is only one of many issues facing us on a national level, and the reason why a presence in Washington DC is so critical to our future. The MRF is your voice there, and is actively involved in all of these issues.

This issue, and the many others that the MRF is involved in on our behalf, will be topics of discussion at the upcoming Meeting of the Minds. This national convention of motorcyclist’s rights activists such as yourself will be held September 20-23, in Denver, Colorado.

I encourage every CMT/ABATE member to consider attending the Meeting of the Minds. It’s a great opportunity to learn more about the issues we face, to make contacts with leaders in our movement from across the country, and help set

the course for the MRF over the following year. Your CMT/ABATE charters can help the cause by becoming Sustaining Members of the MRF, or by pledging funds either directly to the MRF, or as contribution to help defray the costs for our member to attend the Meeting of the Minds. And most importantly, YOU can aid the efforts in Washington DC by joining me, as a MEMBER of the Motorcycle Riders Foundation, and help us all to . . .

. . . Ride Free,
-- Ed

Ed Domine
MRF State Rep
ed.d@juno.com



Tennessee Motorcyclists,

We have a couple of things that are your responsibility to contribute to. The first is the Safety and Education grant proposal. We need your input on what to include in the proposal. Simply put, how would you like to spend the money? Do you want more of the Don't Ride Fried Carnivals or would you prefer spending it on more awareness programs and working to prevent drivers from running over us? Is cell phone use while operating a vehicle your greatest concern? These are a few things that hit the top of the list. Now is the time to voice your opinion on what the grant proposal is comprised of. The cutoff date for any suggestions will be August 12th, 2018. This gives enough time to get the proposal written and ready for the September Board of Directors meeting.

The second thing of importance is the legislative agenda for the 2019-2020 session of the General Assembly. We need to hear what types of bills you think we should run. Submit your suggestions and we will outline the agenda based on what you provide. The cutoff date is also August 12th.

Email your input on both matters to themotorsickledoc@yahoo.com or leave a message at 931-627-5370. We need to hear from you on both topics. Don't be shy.

Tony


Reply as soon as possible to:
Tony M Dabbs
CMT/ABATE, Inc. State Director
themotorsickledoc@yahoo.com
931 627 5370




J T

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Editor's Note: All information for the newsletter has to be sent electronically by the 10th 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: keeblerg@yahoo.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 keeblerg@yahoo.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.

2018 CALENDAR OF EVENTS CMT/ABATE OF TENNESSEE

Caney Fork Cancer Run 11, August
STR 24, 25, 26 August

Robertson County Memory Ride 08, September
State Board meeting 09, September
Smith Wilson Stones River Memorial Ride 15, September
Northeast Fall Ride 22, September
Smith Wilson Stones River Finals Rodeo 29, September

Caney Fork Izzy Benefit Ride 06, - 7 October
Nashville Safety & Awareness Swap Meet 13, October
Dickson/Humphreys/Hickman Toy Run 27, October

Caney Fork Turkey Shoot 17, November

Robertson Toy Run & Christmas Party 01, December
Caney Fork Toy Run 01, December
Music City Toy Run 01, December
Smith Wilson Stones River Toy Run 02, December
State Board meeting 09, December
Music City Christmas Party 15, December

CHARTER EVENTS CALENDAR

July 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 MuCi/UpCu SWSR	2 MoCo NoEa	3 RoCo	4 FrBr	5 WOT	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17 Nash	18	19 DHH SuCo	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 CaFo	30	31				

August 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 FrBr	2 WOT	3	4
5 MuCi/UpCu SWSR	6 MoCo NoEa	7 RoCo	8	9	10	11 CaFo Cancer Run
12	13	14	15	16 DHH SuCo	17	18
19	20	21 Nash	22	23	24 STR	25 STR
26 STR CaFo	27	28	29	30	31	



mcmraceway@gmail.com [@mcmraceway](https://www.facebook.com/mcmraceway)

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ABATES PAGE OF SERVICES

"ABATE members helping ABATE members"

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Midtennmotorcycle.com

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please email publisher@cmtabate.com and we'll list it!

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Do you know a business that could benefit from some affordable advertising to motorcycle enthusiasts each month? Tell them about our newsletter.

Full Page—\$130/mo.

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Quarter page—\$45/mo.

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If interested, please contact the CMTABATE office at info@cmtabate.com or call **615-566-9936** Deadline is the 10th of the month for the

following month's issue. Ad payments are non-refundable. A typesetting fee may be charged for non-print ready ads. Please forward artwork in jpeg format if possible to newspaperabate@gmail.com

NEWS & EVENTS (MARK YOUR CALENDARS)

CMT/ABATE, Inc. 2018 Events
POPULAR MOTORCYCLE EVENTS OTHER THAN CMT/ABATE EVENTS *
NOTABLE TENNESSEE HOLIDAYS **
NOTABLE NATIONAL MOTORCYCLE EVENTS ***
Other events of interest ~

Independence Day 04, July **

Little Sturgis 19, - 22, July ***

State/Federal Primary Elections 02, August **

Sturgis Bike Week 03, – 12, August ***

Caney Fork Cancer Run 11, August

STR 24, 25, 26 August

Labor Day 03, September **

Robertson County Memory Ride 08, September

State Board meeting 09, September

Redneck Rumble 14, - 16, September *

Bikers Who Care Toy Run & Benefit 14, - 16, September *

Smith Wilson Stones River Memorial Ride 15, September

MRF Meeting of the Minds 20,- 22 September Denver Co. ***

AMRA Harley Drags Bowling Green KY, 21, - 23, September ***

Deer season archery 22, September ~

Northeast Fall Ride 22, September

TFA Smiley Hollow 29, September ~

Smith Wilson Stones River Finals Rodeo 29, September

Loretta Lynne's Motorcycle & Music Revival Festival 04, - 7, October *

Caney Fork Izzy Benefit Ride 06, - 7 October

Knob Creek 12, - 14, October *

Nashville Safety & Awareness Swap Meet 13, October

Daytona Bike Fest 18, - 21, October 2018 ***

Panama City 24, - 28, October 2018 ***

Dickson/Humphreys/Hickman Toy Run 27, October

Deer season muzzleloader 03, November ~

General Election 06, November **

Veterans Day 11, November **

Caney Fork Turkey Shoot 17, November

Deer season rifle 17, November ~

Robertson Toy Run & Christmas Party 01, December

Caney Fork Toy Run 01, December

Music City Toy Run 01, December

Smith Wilson Stones River Toy Run 02, December

State Board meeting 09, December

Music City Christmas Party 15, December

Christmas, 25 December **

OUR MISSION:

Promote awareness and education in the motorcycling community to improve riders' safety, and educate non-riders globally in the interest of all riders' safety.

We are a 501C3 Corporation. Please donate – your donation is tax deductible. To donate, go to our website listed at the bottom.

Motorcycle Riders Foundation Awareness & Education (MRFA&E)

2221 S. Clark Street
Arlington, VA 22202
(202) 546-0983

www.mrfae.org



Motorcycle Riders Foundation Awareness & Education (MRFA&E) was established to promote motorcycle awareness and education due to an ever-increasing rider population.

Motorcycle riders and activist have long recognized that motorcycle rider education and awareness are crucial in enhancing rider safety. No one is more concerned with rider safety than riders themselves, and obviously those best suited to educate newer riders are veteran riders.

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MUSIC CITY

NASHVILLE

NORTHEAST

ROBERTSON COUNTY

Our meeting are held the 1st Tuesday of each month at 7:00pm at The Pit in Springfield. Jeff started off with The Pledge and George lead us in prayer. Rolland thanked everyone for coming. Samantha went over events. Don't forget Southern Thunder Rally at Hickman Co Fairgrounds August 23 – 25 2018. Advance tickets are on sale now for \$20.00 an day of event \$30.00 a person. Live bands Friday and Saturday nights. Hope everyone plans to attend for a lot of fun. Johann went over The Legislative. Rolland won 50/50 and donated to Down Biker Fund. Thanks to the Pit for our sandwiches and chips for supper.
Connie Jones

SUMNER COUNTY

WHEELS OF THUNDER

UPPER CUMBERLAND

SMITH /WILSON /STONES RIVER

June 2018 Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 2:05 PM by Jerry who also led the pledge. Vern and Shrek followed with prayer. All officers were present except Secretary and Products.

Secretary Report: N/A

Activities: Sarah went over upcoming events. All help is needed at the Swap Meet on June 9! She also stated she will be out of town the weekend of the Rodeo June 23. Jerry said not to worry the charter would handle it. Kim said she had STR tix available if anyone needs one. They are \$20 pre-sale and \$30 at the gate. Kim also mentioned a yard sale being held June 16 for David to help with bill's/ expenses due to his back surgery and possible upcoming hip replacement. It will be held on Cookeville Highway past Jeff Parkers garage. Please help if you can!

Membership: Leslie reminded everyone of renewals coming up. She also mentioned all Birthday. Terry and Luann Rosson renewed today! Welcome back!

Products: Jerry said Resa has had dental work done and is in a lot of pain so keep her in your prayers and if you need anything let them know.

Legislative: Danny mentioned doing a Rally at the Capital next year. Will bring us

more info later. Longtime member Wray Schott came to our meeting! He asked if Kim would mention the wire dividers at the next BOD. She agreed she would mention it. Great to see you Wray!
Chaplain: Please keep Ernest Adams, Ruth & Bullit and David Marlin in your prayers. We love you all and are thinking of you!

New Business: New Officers were voted in. Jerry remains Director, James was voted in as Assistant Director, Sandra Grisham was voted in as Secretary, Gary remained Treasurer, Leslie remains membership, Resa remains Products, Sarah remains Activities, Vern remains Chaplain and Quint was voted in as Sgt at Arms. Thanks for stepping up everyone!

Old Business: Kim talked about the Don't Ride Fried carnival and the grant money received by the State. If you know of an event that would like to have the Carnival at their event let Mark Waters or Carol Simpson know. There will also be a meeting July 29 at the Dickson VFW at the Ladies Auxiliary Hall to go over the Bylaws. All Directors need to be to be present. Motion to adjourn at 3:10 PM.....Ride safe!

Liberty Rally

Weenie Bite

- 1st Ryan Waters & Lynn Greenwood - 3 points
- 2nd Tommy Jones & Teresa Presley - 2 points
- 3rd Richard & Kimberly Gunter - 1 point

Barrel Roll

- 1st Ryan Waters - 3 points
- 2nd Terry Presley - 2 points
- 3rd Tommy Jones - 1 point

Ball & Cone

- 1st Dale Wright & Lillian Stagers - 3 points
- 2nd Ryan Waters & Lynn Greenwood - 2 points
- 3rd Tommy Jones & Teresa Presley - 1 point

Slow Race

- 1st Ryan Waters - 3 points
- 2nd Terry Presley - 2 points
- 3rd Tommy Jones - 1 Point



FRENCH BROAD CHARTER MEETING

**THE FIRST (1ST) WENESDAY OF THE MONTH
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Charter You Would like to Join:

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 242 West Main St. #195
 Hendersonville, TN 37075
 615-566-9936

AUGUST 1, 2015 From the archives: Motorcyclists' 'freedom' comes at steep price for the rest of us
A modest proposal: I won't interfere with motorcyclists' freedom if they won't interfere with mine That starts with me and other car and truck drivers not subsidizing their medical care when they wreck
Government pays for medical care for majority of victims in motorcycle crashes CINDI ROSS SCOPPE Associate Editor COLUMBIA, SC
This column was published on February 6, 2001

I give in. You've convinced me. All you motorcyclists are right: I and my fellow "safety Nazis" have no right to paternalistically insist that you wear helmets. After all, you pose no more danger to me and other drivers with your brains splattered across the asphalt than with them protected inside a scuffed-up helmet.

Since my safety isn't compromised by your personal choices, I should not require anything of you. You should have the freedom to decide for yourself whether to protect yourself.

Of course, I'm sure that you feel the same — that you should not require anything of me and my fellow car and truck drivers.

I'm sure that you are so sincere in this whole "personal freedom" and "rights" thing that you'll join me in lobbying the Legislature to dismantle those laws that result in your putting requirements on me and the rest of society. No, I'm sure you'll lead the lobbying effort.

Let's start with insurance laws. If my insurance company also covers motorcyclists, when your skull goes crashing into the highway and you end up in a semi-vegetative state for the rest of your life, I have to pay for it. Yes, in some cases your premiums may be higher than mine, but they don't come close to covering the bills for the intensive care and surgeries needed to try to keep your brain functioning. (The cost for a funeral is much lower than hospital, not to mention lifetime, care.)

Let's change our state insurance laws to say that insurance companies don't have to pay for medical care for motorcycle riders who weren't wearing a helmet when they suffered head injuries. (There's no equal-protection problem there; you're not being singled out. The law applies to me and everybody else in the same way it applies to you — every time we ride a motorcycle without a helmet.)

Of course the problem with the insurance law change is that you'll still get the medical care you need, even if you've voided your insurance policy. And I'll still end up having to pay for it. My tax dollars and my health insurance dollars will go to subsidize the care you receive in the hospital emergency room. A

California study found that 72 percent of hospital costs for unhelmeted crash victims was covered by taxpayers; the Journal of Emergency Nursing found that 57 percent of unhelmeted crash victims listed a government program as the primary payer.

And when you get out of the emergency room unable to even think, much less walk or work or even feed yourself or go to the bathroom for yourself, your care will be picked up by Medicaid and various government programs for the disabled.

This is where preserving both your "personal freedom" and mine gets tricky. The only way to keep you from demanding that I pay for your personal choices is to write a law that requires that medical care be withheld from unhelmeted motorcyclists who can't pay for it.

And in a civilized society, we don't do that. We give medical care to everyone who must have it, whether they can pay for it or not.

The fact is that most "freedoms" bear a price tag that somebody else has to pick up. That somebody is usually society as a whole.

When we're truly talking about freedoms — not simply privileges or indulgences — society is usually content to pay the price. We put up with the opinions of those with whom we disagree in order to preserve the freedom we all have to say our piece. We pay for indigent defense to ensure that everybody has the right to a fair trial. And ultimately, we pay taxes — and put our children's lives on the line — to operate a military whose job it is to protect all of our freedoms from enemies who would take them away.

But society is sick of paying for motorcyclists' indulgences. Since we can't close the hospital doors to irresponsible motorcyclists, the only way to take the burden off the rest of us is for the rest of us to insist that you wear a helmet. (Seventy-eight percent of us in South Carolina want a mandatory helmet law.)

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration estimates that between 1984 and 1996, the people of South Carolina had to pick up a \$284 million tab to cover the costs of unhelmeted motorcyclists who crashed.

The reason the cost is so high is because motorcycles are so much more dangerous than cars. More than 80 percent of all motorcycle crashes result in injury or death to the motorcyclist.

Wearing a helmet reduces the death risk by almost one-third. More important (since you don't want us to care whether you live or die), helmets slash the incidence of severe, serious and critical injuries by 85 percent, according to the General Accounting Office.

They cut the incidence of brain injuries — the most expensive result of motorcycle crashes — by two-thirds.

After California adopted a mandatory helmet law in 1992, the taxpayers' share of treating motorcycle-related head injuries dropped from \$40 million to \$24 million. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration found that the inpatient cost dropped by an average of \$15,000 per motorcycle crash victim in seven other states that adopted a similar law.

I realize that a helmet law won't make every single motorcycle rider wear a helmet — just as speed limits don't make everybody drive them and laws against murder don't make everybody obey them. But there's a big difference between a few individuals disobeying the laws, thereby forcing the rest of us to pay for their lawlessness, and having an official state policy that encourages irresponsible behavior and hands the bill to the rest of us.

Ms. Scoppe writes editorials and columns for The State. Reach her at cscoppe@thestate.com or follow her on Twitter @CindiScoppe. Read more here: <http://www.thestate.com/opinion/opn-columnsblogs/cindi-ross-scoppe/article35059587.html#storylink=cpy>

COLUMBIA, SC

The Richland County Coroner's Office has identified the victim who was killed during a motor vehicle collision involving a motorcycle and two other vehicles on Rosewood Drive Tuesday evening.

Coroner Gary Watts said 22-year-old Zachary Burrage-Goodwin, of Massachusetts, died from complications from head trauma when his motorcycle collided with two other vehicles at Rosewood Drive and Kilbourne Road.

Watts said Burrage-Goodwin was transported to a local hospital where he was pronounced dead just after 7:30 p.m.

A second person, who was on the motorcycle at the time of the collision, was also transported to a local hospital to receive treatment. That individual is still receiving treatment at a local hospital, Columbia police spokeswoman Jennifer Timmons said.

Timmons said Burrage-Goodwin and the second passenger were not wearing helmets at the time of the incident.

Watts said Burrage-Goodwin was a student at the University of South Carolina.

The Columbia Police Department is continuing to investigate the incident.

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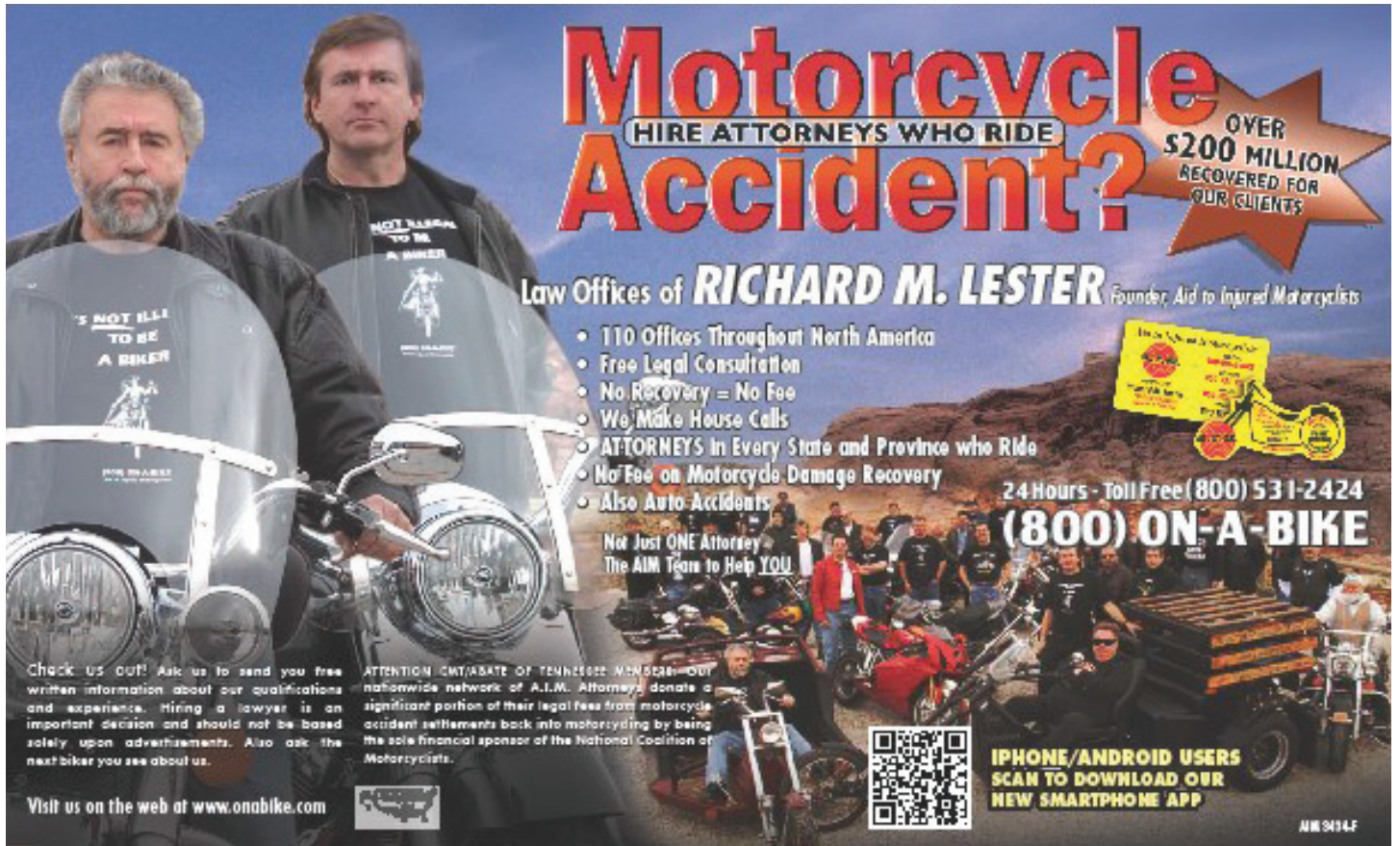
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Rachael Myers Lowe Read more here: <http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article32408424.html#storylink=cpy>

Scope: How South Carolina encourages young men to kill themselves SEPTEMBER 15, 2015

SC repealed motorcycle helmet law in 1980 under pressure from motorcycle lobbyists

Motorcyclists account for six times as many deaths as their crash numbers suggest they should

'Freedom' argument fails because they're driving on public roads, counting on our insurance, taxes to pay for their injuries

PETER COSGROVE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CINDI ROSS SCOPPE Associate Editor COLUMBIA, SC

ZACH WAS AN extremely gifted musician who sang in our parish choir, an outgoing young man who had a brilliant life ahead of him. Earlier this year, Zach broke his collarbone in a motorcycle wreck, and his friends at church were constantly lecturing him about the danger of riding without a helmet, and begging him to be more careful.

But he was 22 and of the male persuasion, so of course he didn't listen, and the state of South Carolina doesn't care enough about young lives like his to even suggest that he wear a helmet, much less require him to do so.

So when Zach crashed again last month, he died. Massive head trauma, they called it. You don't want to think about what that can look like.

The Sunday after Zach died, we talked a lot about him at lunch after Mass, and eventually the conversation turned from his beautiful young life to the ugly details of the wreck, and then to public policy. South Carolina is among 28 states that require only the youngest drivers to wear a helmet; here, that means younger than 21, which practically speaking means people who are so young that their unhelmeted figure on a moving motorcycle looks pre-pubescent.

When someone mentioned that the Legislature had repealed our universal helmet law back in 1980 because of pressure from a motorcycle lobbying group, I noted that the group still so terrorizes legislators that they dare not even speak of reinstating the law.

"I'm a conservative," one of my friends said, "but that's not conservative; that's libertarian."

STATE MOTORCYCLE HELMET LAWS AND FATALITY RATES

He recalled that after South Carolina repealed the helmet law, the state agency he was working for created expensive programs to help people who lived through massive head trauma, and that hit a nerve with our friend who was particularly fond of Zach. "We all pay for that," she said, "through our insurance or our taxes."

And as my other conservative friends became more animated over the state of our laws, I started getting a queasy feeling — like Zach's blood was dripping from my hands.

I'm not so egotistical as to believe that I could have convinced the Legislature to treat motorcycle helmets the same way we treat safety belts. But speaking out on such matters can provoke a chain reaction of protest, which can make a difference. And I've written precious little about our state's indifference to motorcycle safety, other than occasionally mentioning it among other highway safety laws we need.

That's certainly not because the arguments against helmet laws stand up to scrutiny. Motorcyclists sometimes say helmets interfere with their ability to hear, but essentially, theirs is the same libertarian argument that is made against safety-belt laws: It's my choice, my freedom to wear a helmet or not; it's no one else's business.

Of course what anyone does on the taxpayer-funded highways is the business of all of us, even before we consider the supersized subsidy we provide injured riders through our insurance policies and our taxes. Telling motorcyclists they must wear a helmet is no different than telling them (S.C. Code Section 56-5-3630 (b)) that they may "ride upon a motorcycle only while sitting astride the seat, facing forward, with one leg on each side of the motorcycle." That applies to passengers as well as drivers; something to do with safety, best as I can tell.

FROM THE ARCHIVES: MOTORCYCLISTS' 'FREEDOM' COMES AT STEEP PRICE FOR THE REST OF US

But the motorcycle lobby is so obnoxious and the number of deaths so small (about 100 a year) that I decided long ago not to waste my energy worrying about it.

And now my stomach was turning.

It's a terribly shortsighted perspective, which ignores just how dangerous motorcycles are: Although they were involved in only 2 percent of the wrecks in our state in 2012, motorcyclists accounted for 13 percent of our too-numerous highway fatalities; that's six times as many deaths as you'd expect.

It's a shortsighted perspective that overlooks the difference that helmets make, reducing the risk of death by 37 percent and the risk of non-fatal brain injury by 71 percent.

It's a shortsighted perspective that brushes aside everything we know about the effect laws have on human behavior — a perspective that overlooks promising young lives like Zach's.

The hard-core anti-helmet crusaders who pack the State House on opening day aren't going to wear a helmet even with a law. But they are the exceptions. Unless the state undermines its own laws — as ours did for years with the safety-belt law — most people obey the law simply because it is the law.

MORE MOTORCYCLISTS, PEDESTRIANS, CYCLISTS KILLED ON SC ROADS

They might fudge on laws that don't feel so black-and-white — figuring it's OK to drive 56 or 58 or 63 in a 55 zone, for example, in the same way we eat a larger serving of cheesecake than our diet allows. But when the choice is to stop at the red light or not, they stop. If the choice is to wear a helmet or not, and the law requires them to wear a helmet, most people wear a helmet.

That obey-the-law inclination is why South Carolina's safety-belt usage rate soared after the Legislature finally agreed to let police enforce it. It's why the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration reported in 2012 that 89 percent of motorcyclists were observed wearing helmets in states with universal helmet laws, compared to just 49 percent in the other states.

I suspect Zach still would have driven recklessly, still would have crashed, if South Carolina had a helmet law. But he would have been wearing a helmet, and he probably would be alive today, and my conservative friends wouldn't be calling for laws to protect people from themselves, and we wouldn't be talking about any of this.

Ms. Scoppe writes editorials and columns for The State. Reach her at cscoppe@thestate.com or follow her on Twitter @CindiScoppe.

Read more here: <http://www.thestate.com/opinion/opn-columns-blogs/cindi-rossscoppe/article35245677.html#storylink=cpy>

Tennessee Motorcyclist Boosters

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David Mantooth 9/18
Jim & Sandra Barker 12/18
Sammy White 2/19
Rita Baldwin 4/19

BASIC

Burt Johnson 4/19
Chris Spencer 4/19
Sean Casey 4/19
Pansy Osmon 6/18
William Guffey 8/18
Massimo Pessino 9/18
Mike Richards 12/18
Sammy White 4/19

Basic \$10, Bronze \$25, Silver \$50, Gold \$100

Welcome New Members!

Gerald Shaw	DHH
David Shelton	DHH
Richard White	At Large
Travis Remington	French Broad
Jamie Reinhardt	French Broad

Hey all! It's been a crazy few months but it seems everything is settling down on the home front. We appreciate all the call, messages, thoughts and prayers for David. I have been able to hit a couple of events and had a great time! We have had quite a few renewals and some new members! I love checking my emails for renewals or new memberships! I truly think this organization is on the right track to growing. We just need to stick together and work as one big TEAM!! If any charters need trifolds or membership items please contact me and let me know and I will get them to you. There are quite a few events coming up and I have been sending a flyer with all charter events listed when I sent out renewals or when I send people their membership packets. Hopefully this will help the charters get more people to their events. I am always open to ideas so please don't hesitate to call me with any ideas you have! That is all for now!

Everyone ride safe and keep your knees in the breeze!
Kim Marlin-Membership Officer



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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 keeblerg@yahoo.com All ad payments should be sent to the main office at 242 West Main St. #195, Hendersonville, TN 37075. Include the ad you're paying for and how long paid ad will run.