

# Tennessee Motorcyclist



P . O. Box 962 Sparta, TN 38583-0962 \* info@cmtabate.com (931) 761-8162

February 2016



## Passage of HB700/SB925 Will:

1. Increase state tax revenue by over \$150,000 a year.
2. Bring millions of dollars to local businesses across the state.
3. Increase motorcycle tourism and events in Tennessee.

*For more information contact: [themotorsickledoc@yahoo.com](mailto:themotorsickledoc@yahoo.com)*

Biker Blessing for 2016

*"May the wind be in your hair and the bugs in your teeth."*

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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
Caney Fork	Terry Presley 615-642-8025	2nd Sunday of the month @ 5 pm, Caney Fork Motors, 378 Cookeville Hwy, Carthage
Dickson/Humphreys/Hickman	Mark Proctor 615-477-0171	3rd Thursday @ 7, VFW Dickson
Montgomery County	Jesse Henne, 931-980-7548 crazyboy135@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@gmail.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, Smitty's Lebanon
Sumner County	Jeff Hollins 615-452-0409	3rd Thursday @ 7, VFW Hendersonville
Tennessee Valley	Mark Moore 423-570-0250 Yog1958@yahoo.com	3rd Sunday @ 2, Call for location Chattanooga Area
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, a quick word about last year. The December Board Meeting was only 65 minutes long. That's a record. I can remember when it took all afternoon to do our business. I am really proud of the people running this organization. They're working together like a well oiled machine. If you see a Board Officer, give them a pat on the back or slip them a cold one.

Before the meeting we set the event calendar for this year. Nineteen good rides between now and December 31st, and it's not unusual for others to pop up later.

Now that I'm settled into the new place, I'm just itching to hit the road. I've always enjoyed riding around and making all the meetings also it's a great way to get a feeling for what's going on.

Unfortunately, the most important thing about the calendar is what is not on it. That would be our signature event, the "Southern Thunder Rally." Sure, everybody liked Adams, I did too. It was a good location with great facilities. But they kept raising the rent on us until we couldn't make any profit. Nobody minded working all weekend as long as CMT/ABATE got something out of it. Who wants to wear themselves out for nothing?

Somewhere within a couple of hours of Nashville is a place just waiting for us. All we have to do is find it. If you come across something, let me know. I'll go take a look at it. Then we can get back to having more fun. Thank you,

**Dean Lucas**  
**CMT/ABATE**  
**State Director**



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



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

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

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# YOUR RIGHTS YOUR RIDE



## IF YOU WANT TO HELP PASS THE HELMET LAW MODIFICATION BILL

1. Call your state representative and senator and ask them to co-sponsor and vote yes on HB700/SB925.
2. Email your state representative and senator and ask them to co-sponsor and vote yes on HB700/SB925.
3. Write a letter to your state representative and senator and ask them to co-sponsor and vote yes on HB700/SB925.
4. Visit your state representative and senator and ask them to co-sponsor and vote yes for HB700/SB925.

If you want to continue wearing a helmet when you ride in Tennessee do nothing. I'm sure Colonel Trott will be grateful for your lack of action.



"We all need to take time to thank the folks pictured for the time and effort they gave on our behalf. (there were several others who were camera shy). By the end of the day there were twenty co-sponsors on the helmet law modification bill and several more legislators that asked for a visit from our lobbyists. "

Tony Dabbs, CMT/ABATE Legislative Director

You check on who the cosponsors of the bill are on your computer at:

<http://wapp.capitol.tn.gov/apps/BillInfo/Default.aspx?BillNumber=HB0700>







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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: **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.

## 2016 CALENDAR OF EVENTS CMT/ABATE OF TENNESSEE

## CHARTER EVENTS CALENDAR

February 2016

- 3/13 Board Of Directors
- 3/20 SWSR Easter egg hunt
- 4/16 CaFo Swap Meet
- 4/17 TeVa Fun run mystery ride
- 5/14 DHH Bike show & tattoo contest  
Liberty Rally
- 6/4 DHH Celebration of life  
CaFo/SWSR State points field meet
- 6/12 Board Of Directors
- 6/18 CaFo
- 7/9 SWSR Robin Long memorial ride
- 7/31 TeVa Motorcycle awareness ride
- 8/13 CaFo Canoe run (rain date 8/20)
- 9/11 Board Of Directors
- 9/18 TeVa/UpCu Wine run
- 10/1 SWSR State points field meet finals
- 10/8 CaFo Memorial ride
- 10/15 Nash Swap meet
- 10/29 DHH 29th annual toy run

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



D/H/H CMT/  
ABATE represent-  
ing at Dickson  
Christmas  
Parade.

Thanks to Paul  
T. Smith, Jr. for  
riding in the rain  
at Dickson Christ-  
mas Parade.

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Full Page—\$130/mo.

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If interested, please contact the CMT-ABATE office at [info@cmtabate.com](mailto:info@cmtabate.com)

or call **931-761-8162** 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 [newspapera-bate@gmail.com](mailto:newspapera-bate@gmail.com)

NEWS & EVENTS  
(MARK YOUR CALENDARS)



**CANEY FORK** - Next Meeting: Sunday,  
Feb. 14, 5:00, Caney Fork Motors

**DICKSON/HUMPHREY/HICKMAN-**  
Next Meeting: Thursday, Feb. 18, 7:00,  
VFW, Dickson, TN

This is my first report so please bear with me; I don't use words like "far out" or "groovy" since I'm not a flower child.

CMT ABATE D/H/H Charter meeting on December 17, 2015, came to order and kicked off as always with the Pledge to the Flag. 21 members & 1 junior member were present. Junior member Kenley Brown (member Maria Green's daughter) was there brightening everyone's night with her hugs and sweet smile, which was needed when Bub Davis began to discuss sickness & death in the community. Prayers and thoughts go out to John Ahlers and family. John is the Director of the Montgomery County Charter. His wife passed away on Wednesday, December 16, 2015. He and his wife Jackie Ahlers were a great team in their area and legislative area. D/H/H Charter's thoughts and prayers go out to the family. Tommy Harrell's family is also in mourning as he finally lost his fight with injuries due to a motorcycle accident. Rosa Edgin is awaiting surgery as she battles cancer and Jess Capps' mom still having health issues. Please keep all these families in your thoughts and prayers. Especially with the holidays coming up for the families who lost loved ones. Steve Teston began talking about activities. Paul Smith was the only soul to brave the cold, wet & wicked weather for Dickson's Annual Christmas Parade. Thanks Paul!! Over 120 stuffed bears were donated to VFW to be handed out to children & families this year. Speaking of donations, D/H/H Charter received a thank you note from Helping Hands of Humphreys Co. which reads: **"Dear CMT ABATE, Thank you for your generous donation & for the 138 lbs of food. We will make good use of it helping families in Humphreys Co."**

More good news, D/H/H is going into 2016 in the plus for money!! Steve Teston then spoke of upcoming events. January 1, 2016, will be our annual Blue Balls & Hard Nips Run. Everyone will be bringing Silly Socks for Sick Kids who are in Vanderbilt Children's Hospital. They can be turned in @ VFW before ride beings @ Noon. April 16, 2016, we are planning a 1st Annual Vicky Lynch Memorial Run. May 14 will be our Annual Bike & Tattoo Show. June 4 will be our 2nd Annual Celebration of Life Run. July 31 will be our 2nd Annual Canoe Run. I can't wait to see how many times Steve's boat ends up on top of his head - it's a new year, maybe he will do better. Oct 8 will be our Poker Run & Bike Show in Humphreys County and October 29 will be our 29th Annual Toy Run & Food Drive. No other officers had anything to add. Bobby Burgess was asked if he had anything to add and he said no. Everyone laughed. It has been a great 2015 for D/H/H Charter as we have

done so much good and had so much fun. I'm sure 2016 will be no different. Anyways after we all laughed at Bobby, a motion was made, 50/50 was played and we adjourned.  
Jess Capps

**MONTGOMERY** - Next Meeting: Monday, Feb. 1, 7:00, Sunshine Restaurant, Clarksville  
4 January 2016

1. Meeting came to order at 7:00 pm.
2. Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Members in attendance:

Guests in attendance:

Jesse & Tamara Henne, Nick Ahlers, Wally & Debbie Baez, Ann Tomac, Ashley Keels, Paul Pavolovich, Kenn Larimer, Eduardo Martorony, James Yettaw, Ken Draper, Sandy Barker, Jimmy Mapps, Sarah Mapps and Jason Redman

4. Jesse -

a. Informed those that were unaware of the loss of a member and great friend, Jackie Ahlers. She passed away on 16 Dec 2015. She will never be forgotten. GBNF

b. Reminded everyone of our upcoming poker run on 9 April 2016. This will be our 5th annual.

5. Ashley Keels -

We have two birthday's in January, Tamara and Wally! Happy Birthday!

6. John motions to adjourn the meeting, 2nd by Tamara. Meeting adjourned at 7:37 pm.

Jesse Henne, Director

**MUSIC CITY** - Next meeting: Sunday,  
Feb. 7, 2:00, Skully's, Old Hickory

Amanda called the meeting to order at 2 pm and Billy led us in the pledge.

We had 30 members attend the meeting. Wendell read a thank you card from the church for the charters help in giving a great Christmas to many families. 78 boxes of food were given out and 176 children had a wonderful Christmas!!! Glenn thanked everyone for a great turnout at the charter Christmas party. He also brought up that Lynn Greenwood was in a Rehab facility on Larkin Springs Rd just off of Old Hickory Blvd. at Skyline Madison Campus, room #25. She is away from her family and Glenn invited everybody to pay her a visit.

The tentative dates for the "Liberty Rally" are May 13th - 15th 2016. The charter will be trying to do events to help the elderly quarterly instead of just once a year in our community.

Skully's had a polar bear run come thru New Year's Day. 125 bikes! Sharon took up a list at the meeting to get updated contact information for our members. If you have a new number or email please text it to her at (615) 727-2223. As always, a huge thank you to Skully's and crew for supporting us and providing an awesome meal after our meeting!!! Vickie made a motion to adjourn at 2:45 pm.

Y'all stay safe and see you soon!!!

Sharon "CRASH" Stout

P.S. We had several members renew and several join for the 1st time. Let's continue to help the Music City Charter grow!!!

**NASHVILLE** - Next Meeting: Tuesday,  
Feb. 16, 7:00, Bikini Beach Bar, Antioch

**NORTHEAST** - Next Meeting: Monday,  
Feb. 1, 7:00, Call for location

**ROBERTSON COUNTY** - Next Meeting:  
Tuesday, Feb. 2, 7:00, Piggy Pit, Springfield

**SUMMER COUNTY** - Next Meeting:  
Thursday, Feb. 18, 7:00, VFW Hall, Hendersonville or TBA

**SMITH /WILSON /STONES RIVER**  
- Next Meeting: Sunday, Feb. 7, 2:00, The Roost, Lebanon

The Smith/Wilson/Stones River Charter meeting of December 6, 2015 was called to order at 2:10 PM by Jerry. Brian Kent led us in the pledge. Vern led us in prayer. All officers present except Director, PR/ Membership and Sgt at Arms. There were 21 members present and 1 visitor. There were 2 letters of resignation read to the charter from Mike Hoyte (Director) and Mary Hale (PR Membership). Terry Rosson was nominated for assistant Director along with waiving the one year membership requirement. Motion voted on and carried. Jerry stepped up to the Director position from assistant. Motion was made to have James Sullivan back as Sgt at Arms. Motion voted on and carried. Kim Marlin has agreed to assist Tommy Jones with activities. Motion was made to nominate LuAnn Rosson for the PR/Membership office waiving the one year membership requirement. Motion made to make Kim the Vets rep. A large hand of applause and welcome all to the charter.

Director: Jerry spoke to charter of past, present and future.

Assistant Director: Terry "Shrek" also spoke of past, present and future. Both were heartfelt and spoke of old school and family.

Secretary Report: Motion carried to accept as printed in the paper.

Treasury: Give and approved

Legislative: Flyers are available for the New Year Kickoff party. There will be a legislative update meeting from 2-4 PM before the event.

Membership: N/A

Activities: Caney Fork has reached out and is interested in helping us with our first rodeo. Next event is the "Bridge to Nowhere" ride on New Years Day. We will meet at 9 AM at the Depot Restaurant in Watertown at 9 AM for breakfast and kick stands up at 10 AM. Motion was also made to have our Swap Meet on May 7 at HDP.

Products: Motion was made to donate old inventory to Vets group. Discussion resulted in having Brian bring back the inventory count to see if they are worth do-



nating. No patches will be donated. There is also a desire for more of the long sleeve button up charter shirts. Must have a minimum order of 12 to do an order. Get with Brian if you would like one.

**Safety:** Awareness is always not just occasionally.

**Vet Rep:** Kim will start on getting funds raised and donated for 2016 Christmas for the Vets. Also talked of doing another bike show for them.

**New Business:** Motion carried to have the Timberline Campground for the needy family this year. They have great needs (20 plus kids) for clothes, non perishable food items. Charter will help with some money and donations. We will deliver on December 20. Regina and Matt Smith have agreed to let us start meeting back at Smitty's. We will start back with our January 2016 meeting. Thank you Matt and Regina!!! We appreciate your support!

**Old Business:** Vern read a letter from Mary concerning the money donated by Kim at the October meeting for the Vets. Since it wasn't used she has given it back to the charter. Kim will get with Barbara at the VA Home and we will start the "Christmas for the Vets" again in 2016. Tommy also reminded everyone of the aluminum can bin he has for recycling and encour-

aged donations for that. It will be donated in memory of Jim Martin and will go to the Vets.

Motion to adjourn at 3:28 PM...Later... Ruth

**TENNESSEE VALLEY - Next Meeting:** Sunday, Feb. 21, 2:00, Call for Location Mark (Yog) 423-570-0250

**UPPER CUMBERLAND - Next Meeting:** Sunday, Feb. 7, 12:00. Call for Details, Ron 931-879-3899

Next Meeting, Sunday, February 7th at BLIND ZEBRA, Crossville – Call Ron for details 931-879-3899.

Meeting of January 3rd took place at Scooter's in Cookeville, and brought to order with the Pledge. Treasurer's report provided by Dean and we are proud to report that we are doing well. The Charter voted to participate/sponsor in the State Ride Run (\$50 to include/promote our Liberty Rally in May of 2016).

Ron attended the Board meeting December 13th and informed that terms such as Poker Run and 50/50 raffles should now be referred to as "Fund Runs" and "Door Prizes".

**New business:** Still need to obtain more sponsorships for the Summer Fund Run

and discussion took place of collecting gift certificates in lieu of "cash" donations. It was decided that we would entertain the idea. Vendor and Sponsorship Forms were made available at the meeting. The Liberty Rally admission fee was voted on and agreed at \$10 per person for the weekend. Vendors for the Liberty Rally will be allowed 1 free admission ticket. Still open for discussion is the entertainment (band, DJ, or other). The subject of the Southern Thunder Party was brought to our attention and we are looking for ideas as where we can host.

**Other:** Nominations are scheduled to take place in March. Need an active Activity Director, Sargent of Arms, and Secretary. Also, anyone interested in joining Dean on January 12th to attend Opening Day on the Hill (Legislative Plaza), meet him at 9:30 a.m. at Hawg's Barn.

**Future meetings schedule:** 1st Sunday of each month as follows: February at Blind Zebra (Crossville), March at Whistle Stop, April at Big Springs Bar & Grill (Boon's Place in Livingston); and in May at Dinner Bell.

**WHEELS OF THUNDER - Next Meeting:** Thursday, Feb. 4, 7:00, Pancho's, Memphis



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Now that the holidays are behind us, it's time to focus our efforts on the legislative work ahead. One of our big efforts this year will be the helmet law modification bill. As Tony has noted, this bill is gaining support, but those that are against allowing us to choose for ourselves the amount of protective gear we wear, are lining up to try to kill this effort. Over the next few months you will very likely hear some of the same old myths that have been presented as "facts" for years. Those "facts" are based on old, outdated, and frequently inaccurate, information...or sometime just on someone's opinion, without any data to support it.

The following information was presented at the Meeting of the Minds, and provides some actual data that can be used to debunk these myths, and set the record straight. There is a lot of detailed information here, but these are the actual facts, and are valuable in countering the arguments used against us.

Ride Free,

-- Ed

Ed Domine

MRF State Rep

ed.d@juno.com

## FACT OR FICTION 2015

### Meeting of the Minds – Sept 26, 2015

Presented by

Matt Danielson

McGrath & Danielson

The Motorcycle Law Group

1-800-321-8968

[Motorcyclawgroup.com](http://Motorcyclawgroup.com)

Every year it seems that the same arguments are rolled out in order to encourage universal helmet laws. Critics of helmet choice often cite studies which claim that allowing motorcyclists to ride without helmets increases public costs and results in increased injuries and fatalities.

BUT:

Are these studies predicated on reliable data?

*"Facts from paper are not the same as facts from people. The reliability of the people giving you the facts is as important as the facts themselves."*

- Harold S. Geneen

Former CEO of ITT Corporation

Let's take a look at 5 facts that you won't see in these studies.

#### FACT # 1

Claims that health care costs increase when states allow adult motorcyclists to choose whether or not to wear a helmet are not supported by evidence.

##### Supporting Data

In its recent review of hospital expenses around the country, the Kaiser Family Foundation broke down inpatient hospital expenses per day in 2012. They did this for each state and the District of Columbia.

The average daily inpatient hospital cost for states which had mandatory motorcycle helmet laws was \$2,047.

The average daily inpatient hospital cost for states which allowed adult riders to choose whether or not to wear a motorcycle helmet was \$1,987.

##### Conclusion

That means that patients in states which had mandatory helmet laws paid an average of \$60 more per day for inpatient hospital care than did patients in states which allowed adult riders to make their own choice on the issue.

#### FACT #2

Evidence does not support the claim that laws allowing adult motorcycle riders to choose whether or not to wear a helmet result in increased yearly health care premiums.

##### Supporting Data

The most recent report of the Joint Economic Committee of the United States Congress on state by state premiums looked at

yearly health insurance premium payments through 2006.

The average yearly premium in 2006 for single health care coverage in states which had mandatory motorcycle helmet laws was \$4,390.

The average yearly premium for single health care coverage in states which allowed adult riders to choose whether or not to wear a motorcycle helmet was \$4,335.

##### Conclusion

The average yearly premium for single health care coverage in 2006 was \$55 more in states with mandatory motorcycle helmet laws than it was in states which allowed adults to make their own choice on the issue.

The average yearly premium for family health care coverage in states which had mandatory motorcycle helmet laws was \$11,847.

The average yearly premium for family health care coverage in states which allowed adult riders to choose whether or not to wear a motorcycle helmet was \$11,490.

##### Conclusion

The average yearly premium for family health care coverage in 2006 was \$357 more in states with mandatory motorcycle helmet laws than it was in states which allowed adults to make their own choice on the issue.

#### FACT # 3

Evidence does not support the claim that laws allowing adult motorcycle riders to choose whether or not to wear a helmet result in increased monthly health care premiums.

##### Supporting Data

The most recent report on the subject of average monthly individual health care premiums by the Kaiser Family Foundation looked at average monthly individual health care premiums by state for the year 2013.



The average monthly individual health care premium in states which had mandatory motorcycle helmet laws was \$267.53.

The average monthly individual health care premium in states which allowed adult riders to choose whether or not to wear a motorcycle helmet was \$245.26.

#### Conclusion

In 2013, people in states with mandatory motorcycle helmet laws paid on average \$22.27 more per month for individual health care coverage than did people in states which allowed adults to make their own choice on the issue.

#### **Fact # 4**

Evidence does not support the claim that laws allowing adult motorcycle riders to choose whether or not to wear a helmet result in increased motor vehicle insurance rates.

#### Supporting Data

Insure.com has once again released its yearly report on motor vehicle insurance rates for each state.

The latest report looks at motor vehicle insurance rates in each state for the year 2014.

On average, people in states which had mandatory motorcycle helmet laws paid \$1,582.45 for motor vehicle insurance.

Compare that to \$1,451.45 for people who lived in states which allowed adult riders to choose whether or not to wear a motorcycle helmet.

#### Conclusion

This means that in 2014, people who lived in states with mandatory motorcycle helmet laws paid on average \$131 more for motor vehicle insurance than did people who lived in states which allowed adults to make their own choice on the issue.

Insure.com is apparently not happy that we have been using their information to attack the myth that helmet laws affect motor vehicle insurance rates.

#### **FACT # 5**

Groups such as the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Advocates for Highway and Auto Safety take the position that training and education is of little to no value when it comes to motorcycle safety.

They and other "safety" organizations take the position that universal motorcycle helmet laws are the only proven method of reducing motorcycle fatalities.

#### Their Own Words

*"Helmets are the only safety measure proven to save lives"*

- [Motorcycle Safety – How to Save Lives and Save Money, Center for Disease Control and Prevention – June 2012]

*"While basic rider courses teach important skills, the effectiveness of training as a safety countermeasure to reduce motorcycle crashes is unclear"*

- [Traffic Safety Facts, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration - March, 2010]

*"Laws requiring all motorcyclists to wear helmets are the only strategy proved to be effective in reducing motorcyclist fatalities".*

- [MOTORCYCLE SAFETY: Increasing Federal Funding Flexibility and Identifying Research Priorities Would Help Support States' Safety Efforts, U.S. Government Accountability Office - November, 2012]

*"There is no scientific evidence that motorcycle rider training reduces crash risk and is an adequate substitute for an all-rider helmet law"*

- [Lethal Loopholes, Advocates for Highway & Auto Safety - January 2015]

Is there data to support such claims?

#### Data

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), between 2005 and 2012 motorcycle registrations have increased 36% nationwide while motorcycle fatalities per 100,000 registered motorcycles have decreased 20%.

NHTSA's own data shows that during that same period motorcycle vehicle miles traveled increased 104% while motorcycle fatalities per 100 million vehicle miles traveled decreased 47%.

#### Application of the Data

So what do we know about the time period between 2005 and 2012?

Between 2005 and 2012 there has been an increased emphasis on motorcycle training and education.

Forty-Seven states currently have state legislated motorcycle training programs in place; the other three have private training facilities.

Rider education and training focuses on avoiding a crash rather than merely surviving one.

Regardless of the effectiveness of any piece of gear, there is no such thing as a safe crash.

The only safe crash is the one that does not occur.

That is the goal of training and education, to keep the crashes from occurring in the first place.

What else do we know about the time period between 2005 and 2012?

Not a single state instituted a mandatory

motorcycle helmet law - NOT ONE

In fact one, Michigan, actually amended their law to allow adults to make their own choice.

#### Conclusion

Rider training and education is a proven safety measure to reduce motorcycle fatalities.

We must set the record straight when we see opinions offered as facts. If we don't, they will be accepted as facts.

NHTSA recently announced a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to amend Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) No. 218, which concerns motorcycle safety helmets.

NHTSA proposes to modify the existing performance requirements of the standard by adding construction requirements.

The objective is to aid law enforcement officers in enforcing local state helmet laws which have adopted FMVSS No. 218.

The MRF and numerous SMROs have submitted comments pointing out the problems with the proposed amendments

The proposal fails to take into consideration the rapid pace of technological change in this area.

The proposed dimension and compression requirements will effectively shut out manufacturers who use technology to construct superior helmets.

NHTSA's answer to this is to create a list of helmets which will be exempt from the construction requirements.

The helmets on this list will comply with the performance requirements of FMVSS No. 218 but fail to meet its proposed construction requirements.

That strategy creates a worse problem. The law enforcement officer on the street will not have immediate access to such a list.

This is likely to result in needless detentions and wrongful citations.

The MRF believes that motorcycle helmet enforcement is a state issue and not a federal issue.

Motorcycle helmet laws vary from state to state.

If a particular state is having an issue enforcing its own motorcycle helmet law, that problem is best addressed by that state's elected officials not by NHTSA.

*"Educate and inform the whole mass of the people...They are the only sure reliance for the preservation of our liberty."*

- Thomas Jefferson

## NEW TENNESSEE LAWS START JANUARY 1, 2016.

Submitted by Angel:

A new year means new laws in Tennessee, including some that could put money in people's pockets.

Beginning in 2016, Tennessee drivers will now only have to renew their licenses every eight years instead of five.

The state's seat belt law is also changing. Fines will increase from \$10 to \$25. Repeat offenders will now be fined \$50 instead of \$20. People who try to drive without liability insurance may be flagged before they get in an accident. County clerks must now confirm a driver's insurance before they give them their tag. The state can also revoke a driver's registration if they are caught without liability insurance.

Beginning Friday, no one under the age of 18 will be allowed to buy cough syrup containing dextromethorphan. Some studies show one out of 10 teenagers have used the ingredient to get high.

Tennessee's inheritance tax is also going away. The tax was anywhere from 5.5 to 9.5 percent of the estate left behind.

The Beacon Center of Tennessee fought the inheritance tax for years as an unfair double tax.

"This is a big deal because Tennessee is one of the last states in the country to come around and say it's not fair to tax people when they are alive and tax them again when they die," said Mark Cunningham with the Beacon Center. "A lot of people save up and work hard, and they want the money to go to their family, not to the government."

An animal abusers state registry will also be established, similar to the sex offender registry. Offenders will go off the animal abusers registry if they go two years after their conviction without another crime.

All of these new laws go into effect on Jan. 1

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Michael Richards 11/16  
Ben & Jess Capps 11/16

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## Thanks for Your Support!!

Charter Support for State Final Pledge Totals for 2015

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Knox		
MoCo	10	
MuCi	50	600
Nash	50	600
NoEa	7.50	107
RoCo		600
SWSR	75	825
SuCo		
TeVa	25	300
UpCu	25	300
WoT	12.50	150

Updated Jan., 2016

## Welcome New Members!

DHH

DHH

At La

CaFo

MuCi

WoT

WoT

Chad Morris

Summer Morris

James Frederickson

Mike Morrow

Pansy Osmon

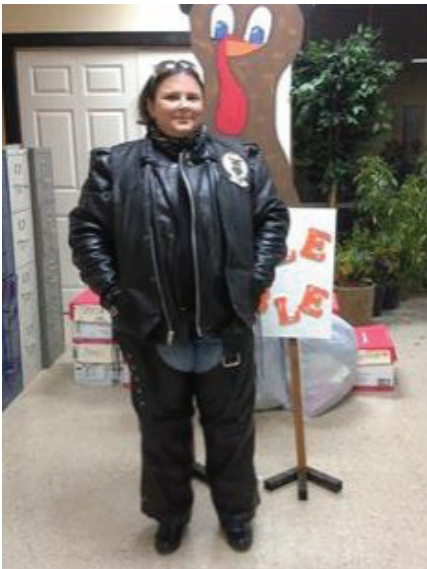
John Grill

Phil Bond

## WINTER PROJECTS

What are you working on this winter?

Please send in your photos of your winter project along with a brief description of what it is and what you are doing... Please share, you never know how may have that one part you need or that that one special skill you don't have to get it together...



Jess, a member of D/H/H Charter, was the only member that rode a motorcycle to motorcycle meeting in November.



## 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](mailto:keeblerg@yahoo.com) All ad payments should be sent to the main office at P. O. Box 962 Sparta, TN 38583-0962. Include the ad you're paying for and how long paid ad will run.