

# Concerned Motorcycle Riders Of Ohio (CMRO)

## The Ohio Freedom Fighter

Volume 10 Issue 12

December 2008

### 2008 Calendar of Events

- 12/14 Board Mtg.
- No Regional Mtg.

**Happy  
Holidays!**



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Hi everyone,

This will be the last time I will write for the CMRO Region 8. In January CMRO will become part of ABATE of Ohio Region 1. Now saying all that, there are some things that will change and some things that will not. One thing that will not change is Directors we are going with two directors for one year both directors will have a voice at the state level. We are still going to have the Freedom Rally and this will stay a region event so we can make this a charity event, but we have to apply for it at the state board. I'm sure it will pass because; one we will have already talked about it, and two the old region 1 did not have any charity events. One of the biggest requests was keep Stark County in our new region and I'm happy to report that we are sharing this county with Region 0. (Alliance and east will be in Region 0).

All yearly memberships will be honored at ABATE of OH as well as Life Time Memberships. We will still have our monthly meetings and there are some positions that need to

be filled. I'm really happy this is over with. We will all need every ones help to get this region up and running like Region 8, I'm sure that we will get the help.



**Region 8**

Thank you, Region 8 for being the best region in CMRO. Oh, and thank you again for voting me in as your director again.

Here are some events to write down: Canton Swap meet in January, March will be the Spring Fling, and lets not forget the CMRO meeting December 14<sup>th</sup>. This will be the last Region 8 board meeting. It is at Somerdale Inn at 1pm. We will have to let you know about the January meeting.

If we do not get a chance see ya, Kris and I want to wish you a very Merry Christmas and Very happy New Year.

See You, Edawg



## Happy Birthday to...

**David Beamer      Jon George      Bob Knox      Duane Murphy Jr.**  
**Patrick Patterson      Dave Schodorf      Richard Sherlin**  
**James "Flipper" Smith      Tammy Rue      Kristy Witter**

**And anyone else we may have missed.**

# Meeting Minutes

Board Meeting-12-07-08. Regional Meeting-12-07-08.

County Reps- nothing from all.

Sgt. of Arms- no trouble at the Halloween Party.

Public Relations- Band booked for Christmas Party. No cover charge.

Membership-189 both Region 8 & 11.

Co- Director- nothing

Legislative- see report.

Products- nothing.

New Business- As of Dec. 31 we will be no longer be CMRO Region 8. We will be ABATE of Ohio Region 1. Freedom Rally is suppose to stay the same. Also will have Memorial Day Party at Hopedale & June Jam. Don't know if there will be a newsletter from us anymore. They have their own paper called The Outspoken. Elden going to a meeting on Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> to discuss the changes as of Jan 1. Canton Swap Meet is on Jan 25<sup>th</sup> at the fairgrounds. All products will be sold at a reduced price.

Jerry Razaieski was here.

Moment of silence.

Adjourned.

## Elections:

Director-Elden    Co-Director-Flipper    Treasurer-Denise    Legislative-Pudge    Public Relations-Hip  
Sgt of Arms- Chuck    Co-Sgt of Arms- Mark    Minutes-Gail    Newsletter- same    Products-Gail  
Membership-Denise    **County Reps:**    Stark-Ed H    Tuscarawas-Mike G.    Columbiana-Open  
Jefferson-Tim C.    Harrison-Chuck    Carroll-Mike M.

Well, its down to our final breathe for Region 8. I just want to say "Thank You" to everyone who has helped out with Region 8 over the years. Whether it was an event, making food, or just showing up for a meeting. "Thank You!"

I have been holding a few membership renewals. (I apologize for any inconvenience) I wanted to make sure your membership would be honored by ABATE of OH. Now that we know it will be I will send them to Maggie, our state membership secretary and you will be good to go for the coming year. If anyone is interested in renewing as a lifetime member please let me know ASAP. After

December 31, 2008 you will pay the ABATE of OH price for a membership. I know the yearly membership is only \$5.00 more a year but I've heard that the lifetime membership is considerable higher than that of CMRO.

Well, I guess this will be our last newsletter. If you have any questions or concerns please don't hesitate to contact me. I'll see what I can do to help you.

Thank you,  
Denise (Membership Sec, & Treasurer)

"Parting is such sweet sorrow" --William Shakespeare

**CMRO Region 8  
2008 Board Members**

Director..... Eldon Witter  
330-806-1391

Co-Director Mark Miller  
330-417-0238

Minutes Sec Gail Schweitzer  
330-484-2004

Membership Sec Denise Byham  
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Treasurer Denise Byham  
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740-922-6716

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330-859-3009

Columbiana Cnty. Dan Burd  
330-477-9635

Harrison Cnty. Diana McDonald  
740-945-8013

Jefferson Cnty. Tim Cordray  
740-269-1213

Stark Cnty. James "Flipper" Smith  
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**FOR SALE**

DVDs of the Vigil at 2008 Freedom Rally. The DVD also has pictures of the Freedom Rally.

\$10 per DVD, contact Mark Hamilton 740-922-6716.

**CMRO Member, Business**

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**J.F. Farr Concrete Inc.** 330-859-2321

**JEKUBIK Painting & Wall Coverings** 330-830-0114

**Kegley's Cycles** 330-479-0857

**Paul Arrow's Pants Shop** 330-385-1835

**Ross Auto Repair** 740-498-4236

**Somerdale Inn** 330-859-2307

**Touraine Club** 740-498-7347

**Quaker Steak & Lube**, Scott McWilliams,  
(330) 433-9464 (Canton Store)

**Pro Tax Services**, Ron Zeno 330-499-5000

**Whipple Auction & Realty**, Sandy Reighard  
330-477-9365



# Legislative Report

MRF E-MAIL NEWS Motorcycle Riders Foundation  
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For Immediate Release

## 05 December 2008

Contact: Michael "Boz" Kerr, MRF Vice President

Email: [boz@mrf.org](mailto:boz@mrf.org)

Contact the President-elect on Transportation Secretary Appointment

This is a time of year when motorcyclists' rights move to the back burner for many riders. This is understandable with the weather in many parts of the country not being conducive to motorcycle riding. Throw in the fact that we are coming off of a long election cycle and with the holiday season upon us, and one's attention can shift elsewhere.

Despite the reasons stated above, this should not be a period of hibernation for us. Currently, President-elect Obama is in the process of naming his cabinet members and White House staff. Most of those appointments have nothing to do with motorcycling. Several cabinet level positions do, however. Most notable would be Secretary of Transportation.

It is not too late to let President-elect Obama know our feelings about what type of person we would like to see named to that position.

It may not be a bad idea to also thank President-elect Obama for his vote in the Senate against the "Lautenberg Amendment." That amendment, offered by the New Jersey Senator during the last re-authorization of the interstate highway funding act, was an attempt to pressure states into passing mandatory helmet laws. Don't be surprised if we are fighting such legislation again next year. It is not too early to start raising that issue.

What better place to kick-off our lobbying efforts for 2009 than by contacting the President-elect of the United States of America? An easy way to get a message to the President - elect is through his transition team's web-site. Please don't delay, as the process is well under way.

President-elect Obama's Web site: <http://change.gov/>  
Contact page. Write your comments here: <http://change.gov/page/s/contact>

Michael Kerr, MRF Vice President

## 02 December 2008

Pennsylvania Governor Ed Rendell Possible Cabinet Nominee

A note from the MRF's legislative team:

Washington is currently abuzz with rumors, leaks and "short lists" of names of people that may be nominated for a cabinet position in President-elect Obama's administration. One such name that jumped off the page at us here at the MRF is Ed Rendell, the Governor of Pennsylvania.

Governor Rendell has been a great friend to motorcyclists in the Keystone state and we thought it would be enlightening to get an opinion of him from those who know Governor Rendell best. ABATE of Pennsylvania's BikePac Chairman Charles Umbenhauer graciously of-

# Legislative Report Continued...

ferred to write a report on the politics of Governor Rendell taking a cabinet position, and his record and relationship with the motorcyclists of Pennsylvania. We thank Charles for sharing his insightful report that is presented in its entirety below.

The good news on this is that there are friends of motorcyclists being considered for cabinet positions. Let's hope that some of them are nominated. We will soon be reporting on how to contact President-elect Obama's transition team concerning potential cabinet nominations.

Rendell Watch  
By Charles Umbenhauer

It's no secret that Pennsylvania Governor Ed Rendell is on an Obama short list where he is being considered for Secretary of Transportation.

While this would be a good pick from the perspective of motorcyclists nationwide, it unfortunately, will probably not happen. Rendell has repeatedly stated that he will not leave office as Governor until his term expires in January 2011.

Recent developments in Pennsylvania have also complicated any attempt for Rendell to leave office early and accept an Obama appointment.

Early in November our Lt. Governor, Catherine Baker Knoll, unexpectedly passed away while battling cancer. She has been replaced by Senator Joseph Scarnati who will be both Lt. Governor and also continue to hold his position as President Pro Tempore of the Senate. Scarnati is a Republican while Rendell is a Democrat. If Rendell were to leave office early, that would pave the way for Senator Scarnati to step into the office of Governor. Rendell is not likely to allow that to happen.

Ed Rendell has been and continues to be a friend of motorcyclists. In 2003 he signed a bill that modified the 35 year old mandatory helmet law for all riders in Pennsylvania. Before Rendell became Governor he was Mayor of Philadelphia. During that time he became friendly with the ABATE organization. The Delaware Valley Chapter of ABATE organizes a yearly ride to the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia each holiday season. The event draws 60,000 motorcyclists to the single day event and supplies toys to not only the Children's Hospital but to other agencies in the greater Philadelphia area. Mayor Rendell was the Parade Marshall during that time and became familiar with the good charitable works of motorcyclists. He also became familiar with the ABATE legislative agenda and often joked with ABATE officers that if he became Governor he would sign a modified helmet bill allowing freedom of choice for adult riders.

Rendell remained true to his word and signed the bill in his first term as Governor. The Governor also spoke at many of the annual Motorcyclists'

Rights Rallies held at the state capitol, and was often the guest of ABATE at their annual Leadership and Legislative Seminar.

Rendell has expressed an interest in working in Washington after his term as Governor ends. Let's hope that his talents and extraordinary support for motorcyclists eventually finds Ed Rendell in DC.



**CMRO Region 8**

1811 Woodland Ave. NW  
Canton, OH 44709-3619



*The Ohio Freedom Fighter  
CMRO Region 8.*

**Regional Meeting**

None

**Board Meeting**

**Sunday, December 14, 2008  
1 pm at Somerdale Inn**

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