# Tennessee Motorcyclist



242 West Main St. #195 Hendersonville TN. 37075, Info \* cmtabate@icloud.com\* 615-566-9936

### JULY 2023



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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	Johnnie Globel 615-561-5131	Last Sunday of the month @ 4pm, Lolly's Café
	johnnieg2@hotmail.com	211 Colonial St. Carthage Tn. 37030
Dickson/Humphreys/Hickman	Terry "Bub" Davis 615-969-3673	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month @ 7pm, VFW
	terrybubdavis@yahoo.com	Dickson
Montgomery County	Roy West 931-627-1917	1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday @ 7pm, Jackie's Country Kitchen
	kountrycrazy@gmail.com	1578 Zinc Plant Rd. Clarksville
Music City	Wendell Baldwin 615-838-1490	Contact for location
	gstout@plymouth.com	
Nashville	Jack Jones 615-579-4112	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday @ 6pm, Rebar Donelson
	jdj32k@yahoo.com	
Robertson County	Roland Verchota 615-533-6368	1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday @ 7pm, Piggy Pit, Springfield
	verchotaw@bellsouth.net	
Smith/Wilson/Stones River	Bret Britton 615-689-7677	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday @ 1pm, The Roost Lebanon
	<pre>bret_britton@yahoo.com</pre>	
Sumner County	Jeff Hollins 615-808-1618	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday @ 7pm, VFW Hendersonville
	jlhollins@yahoo.com	
Upper Cumberland	Ron Erwin 931-879-3899	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday * Call for location
	ckvlangeldoll1@yahoo.com	
Dekalb County	Meashy Reece 615-926-9165	3rd Sunday @ 2:00pm Watertown
	MEASHY_R@YAHOO.COM	community Park Watertown TN.

### **Director's Column**

Welcome Riders, In order for a bill to become law, it has to go through committees. and there lies the problem. Most of these committees members are anti-motorcyclist. This Has to change to become pro motorcyclist members in order to become a Freedom of Choice State. This can only be done by the citizens of the state in each jurisdiction of those who reside of anti-motorcyclist committee member. All it would take is to change out a couple of these members that are anti-motorcyclist to pro motorcyclist. More on this in the next months edition.

We'll see y'all soon.

### "UNITED WE RIDE, DIVIDED WE DRIVE"

**Corporate Director** Scott



Southeas

### THE STATE OF ABATE, Post Covid

As your State Treasurer, I felt that it was time to let everyone know ABATE is doing well.

We have a balance of funds equal to 3 yrs ago. We made some cuts to be sure we would survive, it was successful. Covid wreaked havoc on businesses from all over the world. Many businesses did not survive and perished with Covid as lockdowns continued for what seemed like forever.

As a corporation that is supported by its membership, and fueled by events, meetings, and friendships, we are still here in spite of those obstacles.

Our individual memberships have fallen some, however, Group memberships have flourished. The core membership is still there.

I would like to encourage our membership to become boosters. We have many Lifetime members that I would like to challenge to be BOOSTERS. I still have GOLD BOOSTER T Shirts for that \$100 Booster!

Come on out and support events and meetings, try to bring in new people and be sure they know about our events. Visit our website, get involved!

Bette Stewart State Treasurer



Dean Dowell Marketing Specialis

# Snow Kidding!



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# CMT/ABATE Corporate Secretary

Normally, I am a BLUT, or bottom-line up top, type of writer. That being the case, I will present the present and follow with some history. As an Organization we have no reason at all to diminish or disappear. We are financially healthy, and we have more than twice as many members as just a few years ago. Yet one of the most critical positions in our Organization remains unfilled – the position of Corporate Legislative Director who also works as our lobbyist.

Four (04) decades ago, we were mostly young men and women sprinkled with a few folks who were more seasoned and enjoined on a mission to modify Tennessee Code Annotated and allow adults the freedom of choice regarding the use of motorcycle helmets. Our mission remains the same and the grand prize is still out of reach. Along the way we have stopped some bad parts of code from being enacted and have modified other parts of code to improve rider liberty, safety, and enjoyment. But the original mission remains unfulfilled.

I don't remember how large was the Organization when I joined, but I do remember a time when there was just over twenty (20) Local Charters with a membership of considerably more than a thousand people. While our presence in the extreme ends of the western and eastern grand divisions of our State was bit sparse, we certainly had the middle grand division saturated. A particular troublesome elected turd of a representative was ousted through a humiliating defeat during 2004 made possible by the hard work of our members in the Montgomery County area. We earned some very serious respect for a while.

Tennessee's State government went through a serious change regarding which political party is in charge of the General Assembly, and finally the office of Governor. We were made promises by many members of this party as they ran for office and after being elected, these people failed us when they either forgot their promise or outright lied. We failed ourselves when we did not remove them from elected office. Were we keeping score?

Another race in a neighboring County was of particular interest to me since it involved the Chair (at that time) of the Republican Caucus who had proven herself to be a failure at keeping promises. A challenger emerged and the Local Charter folks in Sumner County worked with her and got her on our side, and friendly to other members of the motorbike community. I have absolutely no doubt that it was the motorbike riders in that County who helped this lady to a significant victory during 2012, and she fondly remembers us and the help we provided.

So, pat yourselves on the back, even if you were not with us during those years since you are part of an Organization whose members have shown that they can work together and make serious changes. We certainly have a measurable impact when (a) there are enough of us, and (b) there are enough of us engaged. It's been a while, though.

This brings me to "now" and the current state of our Organization. A mere handful of what I refer to as the legacy Local Charters now exists. We have endured some tough times and a few years ago the Executive Board was faced with the fact that we might have to close the Organization – we were nearly bankrupt. We listened to suggestions, we had sometimes difficult discussions, and in the end, we were able to make changes and avoid disappearing forever. A fairly recent change was the expansion of group membership to the clubs, and this program is successful. Our operating budget is sound for a few years now.

I did not mean for this article to become long, but I need to show some of the successes along the way, the possibilities that exist, and the challenges we still face. I need to impress upon my fellow members the need for capable people to fill the open roles we have.

Respectfully I Remain, J. Robert Forbus – Corporate Secretary CMT/ABATE, Incorporated

#### AIM/NCOM MOTORCYCLE E-NEWS SERVICE is brought to

you by Aid to Injured Motorcyclists (A.I.M.) and the National Coalition of Motorcyclists (NCOM) and is sponsored by the Law Offices of Richard M. Lester. If you've been involved in any kind of accident, call us at 1-(800) ON-A-BIKE or visit www.ON-A-BIKE.com.

NCOM BIKER NEWSBYTES

Compiled & Edited by Bill Bish,

#### **A-TYPICAL NCOM CONVENTION**

upcoming Meeting of the Minds, September 20-24 in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania (more info at www.MRF.org) to further the alliance.

It wasn't a typical NCOM Convention. Held over Father's Day weekend June 16-18, 2023 in Phoenix-Tempe, the 38th annual started off as per normal, with an NCOM Board of Directors Meeting that instilled new board member Dale Peterson of ABATE of Minnesota for Region IV (IL IN MI MN OH WI), as well as confirming Jad SOS MC as Confederation of Clubs Liaison.

Like in the past, following the Opening Ceremonies and an orientation was the AIM Attorney Conference spotlighting legal issues faced by riders, and then the NCOM Legislative Task Force Meeting focused on political efforts relevant to legislation nationwide.

As done for decades, attendees then broke into several Special Meetings according to an array of outreach sectors, such as Women in Motorcycling, Clean and Sober Roundtable, Veterans Affairs and Christian Unity, but importantly included another unlisted pow-wow session amongst leadership of the National Coalition of Motorcyclists (NCOM) and the Motorcycle Riders Foundation (MRF) among others determined to put past differences aside and embark on a new beginning of cooperation and mutual support for the Betterment of Biking.

"Seeing all the motorcycle rights groups, clubs and individual bikers coming together to learn and fight for their lifestyles is inspirational. But the understanding and commitment by leaders of NCOM and MRF and some members of the NCOC to communicate and work together is monumental," observed NCOM Executive Director Joseph "Joey" Lester, son of AIM/NCOM Founder attorney Richard M. Lester.

Later that Friday, when the agreement was announced during the Confederation of Clubs patch holders meeting, the news was welcomed by a rousing round of applause.

Kirk "Hardtail" Willard, longtime President and Chairman of the Board of the Motorcycle Riders Foundation (MRF) had this to say. "During the inception of the national motorcyclists rights movement, the MRF and NCOM frequently worked together, and while various board members and liaisons from the two organizations have maintained solid working relationships the organizations had not.

Fast forward, the MRF accepted the invitation from Joey Lester and Charlie Boone to attend this year's NCOM Convention in Tempe, AZ.

With the profiling of motorcyclists continuing to be an issue, our lifestyle under threat from multiple entities, and frankly motorcycling as we know it today under the real possibility of extinction, there is not a more important time for our organizations to forge a working relationship once again.

I am encouraged by this initial meeting and NCOM Leadership has our commitment we will look forward and find ways to work more closely together into the future."

Although the remainder of the NCOM Convention's agenda was informative but predictable, with regional meetings, educational seminars and presentations catering to bikers rights activists engaged in legal and/or legislative battles back home, spirits were high throughout the rest of the weekend as plans were laid for mutual support of our common goals and interests.

"We wanted to make it perfectly clear to all of the attendees this weekend that NCOM and MRF will be working hand in hand to show strength and unity in the ongoing fight for motorcyclists rights," pledged NCOM Chairman Charlie Boone, adding that several NCOM board members will reciprocate by attending the MRF's

Wrapping up the predictably productive conference, ending things on an even higher note, NCOM presented ABATE of Ohio with the Silver Spoke Award for Government, recognizing their successful legislative agenda to protect rider training, and awarded the Silver Spoke Award for Media to Bill Bish, NCOM Public Relations Liaison, for producing the NCOM Biker Newsbytes monthly news column. NCOM's highest honor, the Ron Roloff Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Bob Tibor of ABATE and COC of North Dakota / Glen Ullin MC.

Next year, the NCOM Convention returns to Mother's Day Weekend, May 10-11, 2024 at a location TBD (info coming to www.ON-A-BIKE.com), with a whole new perspective!

### California Focusing on Motorcycle Emissions

June 6, 2023

On Wednesday, June 7th the California Air Resources Board (CARB) will be conducting a public workshop to discuss proposed changes to the On-Road Motorcycle (ONMC) emissions standard and test procedures.

As the background in the public notice states, "CARB has not proposed new standards for ONMCs since 1998. Since then, much has changed in the capabilities of emissions control technologies for ONMCs and similar categories of engines and vehicles. Further, other jurisdictions around the world have adopted more stringent emissions standards for ONMCs. These technical and regulatory developments have created an opportunity to reduce ONMC emissions quickly and cost-effectively in California."

In advance of the hearing, the Motorcycle Riders Foundation submitted written comments about the proposed push to make electric motorcycles 50% of all motorcycle sales by 2035. With nearly 1 million registered motorcycles on the roads in California, any regulatory action in the Golden State will have major repercussions for the rest of the country.

#### To read the MRF's comments to CARB click here.

#### "It's very dangerous for motorcycles to be around Teslas." June 12, 2023

Over the weekend a Washington Post story on Tesla's Autopilot system made national news. The story included this quote from former National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) senior safety adviser, Missy Cummings, "It's very dangerous for motorcycles to be around Teslas."

According to the Post's research, since 2021, there have 17 fatal crashes involving Teslas operating in Autopilot mode. Motorcycles were involved in four of the 17.

You may remember that NHTSA recently opened investigations into fatal crashes involving Tesla vehicles and motorcycles. One occurred in Utah, when a motorcyclist on Interstate 15 outside Salt Lake City, was struck from behind by a Tesla in Autopilot. "The driver of the Tesla did not see the motorcyclist and collided with the back of the motorcycle, which threw the rider from the bike," the Utah Department of Public Safety said.

Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg said in May that Autopilot is not an appropriate name "When the fine print says you need to have your hands on the wheel and eyes on the road at all times."

The Motorcycle Riders Foundation (MRF) has been raising this issue with federal officials for years. Just last month, MRF President Kirk "Hardtail" Willard and Vice President Jay Jackson, met with safety officials at the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) on this very topic. The two MRF leaders stressed the concerns of bikers about the deployment of this new technology. Additionally, in the coming weeks, MRF senior officials will meet with leaders at NHTSA to seek answers on this troubling report.

These meetings with Biden Administration officials come on the heels of the MRF's Bikers Inside the Beltway (BITB) annual event. During BITB, riders from across the country met with Members of Congress seeking action on self-driving cars as they relate to motorcyclists. The MRF has been, and will remain, vigilant on this subject that effects ALL motorcyclists. Increased media scrutiny, along with the thousands of voices demanding action, is turning the heat up. Let's keep the pressure up and protect bikers on our nation's roadwavs.

# SAVE THE DATE - 2023 MEETING OF THE MINDS





### MRF State Rep Report

In just a few short months, the national motorcyclists' rights convention, the Meeting of the Minds, will take place. From September 21-24 motorcyclists from across the USA will gather in Harrisburg PA to review what has happened over the past year, make plans for the coming year, develop connections with like-minded bikers, absorb vast amounts of information, and just generally have a good time. For the dedicated motorcyclists' rights activist, the Meeting of the Minds can be an extremely inspiring experience. There will be many others there that are working towards the same goals in their own states as well as on the federal level, some who have been doing this for years, or even decades, and others who may be just starting their involvement in motorcyclists' rights. The sense of "team" and camaraderie that develops can re-ignite your enthusiasm to make CMT/ABATE and your local charter more effective. Information and ideas brought back to Tennessee can help us build on our past successes. The connections and friendships made can last for years into the future.

The Meeting of the Minds is open to anyone interested in protecting the rights of motorcyclists. CMT/ABATE has once again agreed to make some money available to offset the expenses of CMT/ABATE members that attend the Meeting of the Minds (Thank you to the Board of Directors for agreeing to this). Some local charters may also contribute to this fund (Thanks in advance to any charters that do). If you are interested in representing Tennessee and CMT/ABATE at the Meeting of the Minds, please let your local charter leaders know, as well as informing the state leadership (me and/or Scott) so that we have an idea of who is going. I realize that not everyone is able to attend the Meeting of the Minds. The time away, the travel to Pennsylvania, and the potential costs involved (although most or all of that may be covered by CMT/ABATE), can be a significant obstacle for many. But for the ones who can attend, this can be an event that can change your outlook on your involvement with CMT/ABATE. You will come back better informed, with new ideas and tools, and an enthusiasm to move CMT/ABATE forward in our fight to protect your right to...

- - Ed Domine MRF State Rep mailto:ed.d@juno.com

Mail to: Motorcycle Riders Foundation - PO Box 9090 - Peoria, IL 61612 - Phone: 202.546.0983 - www.mrf.org - mrfoffice@mrf.org

- Annual Individual Membership \$35
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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 <u>MUST</u> also be in electronic format! Please email your submissions to: 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 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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Now is the time if you want to be effective. Do you want to be ruled? Or do you wish to rule?

### MEETING OF THE MINDS 2023 THE MRF LISTENS & MAKES A DIFFERENCE.

The Motorcycle Riders Foundation listens. Culminating 18 months of planning and fulfillment, the MRF ended Meeting of the Minds 2022 by reviewing input from over three hundred attendees.

Meeting of the Minds 2023 will reflect that the MRF listens and what we heard will make a difference in building the MRF and strong partner state motorcyclists' rights organizations.

Bikers inside the Beltway 2023 was a total success because of the work the MRF does at the Meeting of the Minds addressing the needs of members and our partner SMROs. The feedback we received from MOTM 2022 put us on track with new workshops, more workshops, and new presenters with topical presentations.

This year, we added four workshops for a total of sixteen! Although some workshops are updates of annual presentations, we've added ten new presenters and a slew of new topics.

If you or your SMRO is social media challenged, meet Joy Mack. She's a Twenty-First Century wizard who understands the challenges individuals and SMROs face when delving into social media. Her workshop --- *The Power of Social Media*: A **Catalyst for Recruitment** -- is tailored to putting the "social media challenged" into a comfort zone - and because we know her workshop will have high demand; we're offering it twice!

Wondering why the MRF and our partner SMROs have such a high success rate on Capitol Hill and state legislatures? Meet Steve Panten, he and Dave Dwyer will provide attendees a few hundred ways on **Building Effective Legislative Lobbying Efforts**, another key to positive advocacy for motorcyclists' rights.

Bikers inside the Beltway, Meeting of the Minds - the Motorcycle Riders Foundation - *listening and making a difference*.

The Meeting of the Minds - September 21-24, Red Lion Hotel, 4751 Lindie Road, Harrisburg, PA 17111. Use the QR codes below to register and make reservations or call 717-939-7841 and mention Motorcycle Riders Foundation 2023 Meeting of the Minds.

MOTM Hotel Info



**MOTM Event Info** 



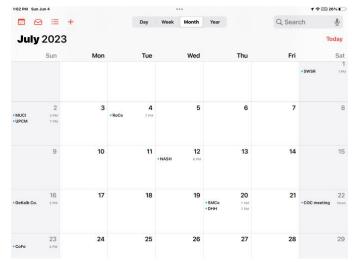
https://mrf.org/events/

Thank you for your support of the Motorcycle Riders Foundation. We look forward to seeing you in Harrisburg at the 39th Annual Meeting of the Minds, September 21-24, 2023.

Yours in Freedom, Fred Fredric Harrell MRF Director of Conferences & Events

P.S. Hotel rooms are available and going fast, confirm your plans now, register with the MRF, and use the QR codes to make hotel reservations early for the Meeting of the Minds 2023. Thank you.





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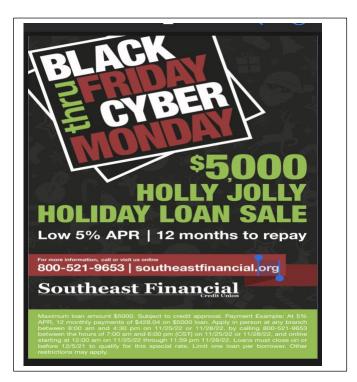
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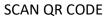
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#### Connect to our website.



**Robertson County**, The June 2023 meeting of the Robertson Local Charter was brought to order by Johann acting in the stead of Roland who was stuck in high traffic. We had a guest, Shorty, from the Nashville Local Charter and it was good to see him.

Johann had STR tickets and STR flyers and gave Bull ten (10) tickets to sell, and then sold a couple tickets during the meeting. We had the other Local Charters invited for STR business but both had other commitments. We did make note of the amount and type of portapotties for the event suggested by Jeff of Sumner Local Charter. We discussed a possible In Memory joint ride with Sumner Local Charter and the planning of a route was mentioned.

We discussed the upcoming State Board meeting on Sunday in Gallatin, Tennessee and closed the meeting.

Best Regards, J. Robert Forbus No Reports Nashville Dickson/Humphreys/Hickman Caney Fork SWSR Montgomery County Sumner County Dekalb County Music City Upper cumberland

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# STEELHORSE LAW

Motorcycle Injury Lawyers

Free Rider Advantage Card 24/7 Accident Hotline Free Legal Advice

# 1-888-38 COURT

### Nashville

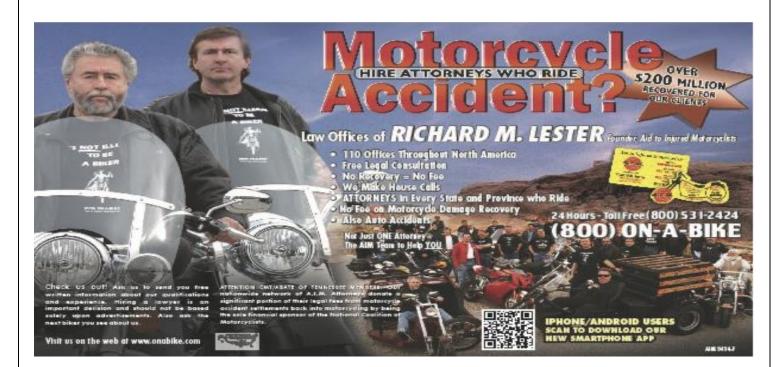
20 Music Circle East Nashville, TN 37203 888-38-COURT

Chattanooga 600 Republic Centre 633 Chestnut Street Chattanooga, TN 37450 888-38-COURT

### Knoxville

Bank of America Building 550 Main Stree, Suite 950 Knoxville, TN 37902 888-38-COURT

"With Steelhorse Law, you've got the law on your side"





# Tennessee Motorcyclist Boosters

# <u>GOLD</u>

Scott Smith 2/23 James Hubbard 1/23 Meashy-Reyse Petigo 3/23 SILVER

Black Piston MC 4/23 OUTLAWS MC 3/23

# **BRONZE**

Tommy Simpson 3/23 James Hammonds 12/22 BASIC

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







#### Our 3 Simple Steps:

An approved letter is mailed to all members on the Group's letterhead, signed by an official from the Group. A reply card with postage-paid envelope is mailed with the letter to all members.

All printing and mailing charges are at no cost to the Group.

Members who return the reply card will be contacted by an AlL representative to arrange a convenient time to provide their certificate of coverage and other information noted above and will also explain additional insurance benefits available on a voluntary basis.



QUOTABLE QUOTE: : "The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs and comes short again and again, who knows the great enthusiasms, the great devotions, and spends himself in a worthy cause; who at best, knows the triumph of high achievement; and who, at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory nor defeat."

~ Theodore Roosevelt, "Citizen in a Republic", April 23, 1910





### September 8-9, BOD the 10th Jackson County Fairgrounds Hwy 262 Gainsboro TN

1010 Gladdice Hwy, Whitleyville, TN 38588

\$10 per Person, under 16 is Free, Open to the Public, Free Overnight Camping Friday and Saturday nights, Camping under Pavilion w/Electricity Party in the Event Center, Field Games Start around 2 pm on Saturday

### FIELD GAMES · FOOD · FREE VENDOR SETUP · DJ





**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 <a href="mailto:cmtabate@icloud.com">cmtabate@icloud.com</a> All ad payments should be sent to the head office at 242 West Main St. #195, Hendersonville, TN 37075. Include the ad you're paying for and how long paid ad will run.