

VIRGINIA FREEDOM RIDERS  
RIDERS AGAINST CONSTITUTIONAL EROSION

# FREEDOM PRESS

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 2      MARCH/APRIL 2006

## FREEDOM FIGHTERS AND PATRIOTS

We recently met with the Culpeper chapter of ABATE of Virginia. I thought it was a very productive meeting. Jim Cannon (Director of VCOM), Miss Penny and I were invited to speak about this year's session and share some of our experiences. We spent an hour or so in an interactive discussion with the members of the chapter. Their enthusiasm was very encouraging. Many of the members of that chapter were in Richmond the day before the floor debate on our helmet bill and spent the afternoon lobbying. I feel it's important for our start MROs to collaborate like this to further our cause.

Another note that's worth reporting is that Dave Sutton had to step down as State Coordinator of ABATE of Virginia for personal reasons. Steve Stacey has stepped up to the plate as State Coordinator. I have worked with Steve in the past and look forward to working with him again. I think Steve will add new energy and leadership to ABATE.

Hopefully when you read this our representatives will have hammered out a new budget for the Commonwealth and are home from the session. We can't start too early meeting with them at

home. This was a very tough session and we need to see our representatives face to face. We need to let them know that our passion is not part time. Get a few buddies together and ride to your Delegate's office for a 15 minute meeting.

Never talked to your Delegate? Don't know what to say? No problem. Just let one of the board members know that you want to meet with your Delegate and we'll arrange to have someone there to help.

I talk to bikers every day who don't even know who there Delegate or Senator is. That's a sad state to be in. Next time you talk to a person who rides, ask them who there Delegate is. If they don't know, Tell Them!

Faceman  
Bernie Adams  
President, Virginia Freedom Riders

## MAY is Motorcycle Awareness Month

### MOTORCYCLE AWARENESS AND YOU

The month of may has been designated Motorcycle Awareness Month. Please take the time to get out there and promote awareness of motorcycles to non-riders and motorcycle related issues to riders. Here are a couple of ways you can promote motorcycle awareness:

- Contact your local high school and see if you can stop by a drivers education class to promote motorcycle awareness.
- Ride you motorcycle to work.
- Recruit at least one rider to get involved and join an MRO.
- If you have kids in elementary school contact your child's teacher to bring your bike in for a show-and-tell (I know the kids don't drive, but their parents do and they will go home and tell them about the biker that came to class.)

These are just a couple of ideas on how you can get involved and help to promote motorcycle awareness this month.

Be safe out there. Take Care — Ride FREE

Hersey Cartwright — Freedom Fighter — Virginia Freedom Riders

## FREEDOM FIGHTERS :: LEADING THE FIGHT

I attended a NCOM Convention in 1992 where US Senator Dave Durenberger was the key speaker at the Saturday night Banquet. He ended a very moving speech by saying "Bikers are the last hope of America to remain a free country. You are the only ones who care enough about individual Liberty to stand up and fight for it. I'm here tonight to tell you, you better get off your asses and you better start fighting cause you are losing it every day."

That message penetrated my mind like a bolt of lightning, passed through my heart and started a fire in my guts that has not diminished with time. As with any Biker growing up in the 50's and 60's I couldn't care less what the law said. I lived my life the way I chose and dared anyone to interfere. I didn't care what the law did to others. With Senator Durenberger's message ringing in my head and burning my guts I returned to Texas and approached my wife crying. I told her "Babe, do you realize we have sold our grandchildren into slavery to a totalitarian government because we haven't been involved? There has to be something we can do about it." After reading everything I could find about politics I had my answer. After explaining to my wife that we had to get control of the Parties to make a difference I explained how it would work. I further explained that it would take a lot of time and cost a lot of money but we could do this. I said God has been good to us and we are just going to give some of it back. Few men are so fortunate to have a supportive wife like mine. Her simple reply was "Babe, there are some things more important than a bank account. You want to give this state back to the people and if anyone can do it you can, so go ahead." Texas Motorcycle Rights Association was born from that fire.

We started by teaching riders how to become delegates to the party

of their choice. The '94 Primaries were our 1st endeavor and proved to be even more successful than we had dreamed they would be. Nearly all of our members became delegates to their party's state conventions.

In 1994 we established "DREAM TOWN, Texas" at Joe Poole Lake as our base of operation during the Democratic Convention. We elected an all biker government, arranged for food for four days and even established a Post Office with our own zip code. Our cancellation stamp was a full dress Harley in a circle with the words Dream Town, Texas 1994 written around the circle. We were actually a Texas town for four days.

Our association held the first ever biker caucus at a state convention and it was the largest and drew the most attention of any caucus held that day. We got everything we asked for that weekend and more. It was magical. We rode in as a Rag-Tag Army and rode out as seasoned veterans of the political process. The rest is history. We passed the Bills we introduced and killed those we opposed for the next several sessions. Then we started putting our members in office. We have now placed 7 members in as State Reps and two state Senators along with many lesser offices. We voted in a state chair for the Democrat Party and three years later put one of our members in that position. Last year during our Legislative Day we had 5,013 Bikers in the capitol on Monday telling their legislators what we expected of them during the upcoming session. I am very proud to be a Warrior in the Army of TMRA 2.

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## IMPORTANT WEB LINKS

VFR-RACE WEBSITE

<http://www.vfr-race.com/>

VIRGINIA COALITION OF MOTORCYCLISTS (VCOM)

<http://www.vcomonline.org/>

MOTORCYCLE RIDERS FOUNDATION

<http://www.mrf.org/>

SONS OF LIBERTY RIDERS

<http://www.solriders.com/>

"The only sure bulwark of continuing liberty is a government strong enough to protect the interests of the people, and a people strong enough and well enough informed to maintain its sovereign control over the government."

Franklin D. Roosevelt

## THE FREEDOM PRESS

THE VFR NEWSLETTER WILL BE  
PUBLISHED IN FEBRUARY, APRIL,  
JUNE, AUGUST, OCTOBER, AND  
DECEMBER

GOT SOMETHING TO SAY?  
LET US KNOW AT

[HTTP://WWW.VFR-RACE.COM/](http://www.vfr-race.com/)

OR

EMAIL [HERSEYC@VFR-RACE.COM](mailto:HERSEYC@VFR-RACE.COM)

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE  
THE 10TH OF EACH MONTH

## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

We had a pretty tough Legislative Session this year. Most of the bills we supported failed miserably. Most of the bills we opposed passed as written. It's been a couple of months since this experience and we've had plenty of time to lick our wounds. Now it's time to get back to work.

How many miles a year do you put on your bike? Do you like to brag that your bike is your primary mode of transportation? Or perhaps you like to tell others that you've ridden across country, or to Sturgis and back. Maybe you only get the opportunity to ride on the weekends – but you ride every weekend you can. That's great. Really, it is. No matter how often you ride, the fact that you do and it's important to you is commendable.

Now, how many hours a year do you spend defending your right to ride? Do you understand how important this is? No, we haven't had legislation in Virginia to take away our right to ride – yet. But with each piece of legislation that limits our freedom while riding, we get one step closer to having our ability to ride further restricted, or even abolished. Don't fool yourself. There are many out there that would love to see motorcycling a thing of the past. Between insurance agencies and the medical profession proclaiming the expense to taxpayers and the safety nannies proclaiming the danger of motorcycling, our "right to ride" is in true danger of extinction.

My dear friend, Sputnik, wrote an article for us this month. Be

sure to read it. He tells you how he came to be involved in bikers' rights. If you know Sput, you know that he speaks from his heart. He listened to a speech that rang true to him. He had an epiphany and he knew that he had to get involved, or he would have sold his children into slavery.

We have a handful of people here in Virginia that works tirelessly for our right to ride free. We have many more that pay dues to an SMRO and expect that their rights will be defended. No one can ask more of you than you are able to give, and only you can determine what that ability is. But be fair in your assessment, and be true to what you believe in – and understand the importance protecting your rights.

The 2007 Legislative Session will be here before we know it. Let's not let it arrive without knowing that we have done what we can do to the best of our abilities.

Yours in liberty,  
Penny  
Virginia Freedom Riders - Legislative Officer  
misspenny@vfr-race.com

**"Somebody has to do something, and it's just incredibly pathetic that it has to be us"**

Jerry Garcia, (of the Grateful Dead)

## FREEDOM FIGHTERS :: LEADING THE FIGHT

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Another organization I am proud to be a part of is the Virginia Freedom Riders. I saw in Bernie and Penny Adams the same fire I felt that explosive night in 1992. I knew that like with myself that fire would never die. When the subject was broached about starting the Virginia Freedom Riders I knew that was an organization I must be a part of. It was being spawned from the same fire as TMRA 2 and could not fail. Though I am a long distance from your state I keep track of your endeavors and when I saw what you considered a defeat this year I felt I must address this issue with you.

In our Association we have a mirror test. Every day look into a mirror and look directly into your eyes. Ask yourself "Have I done that which I can do to the best of my ability." You can't lie to yourself so your answer will be no. I have taken this test every day for 14 years and the best answer I can give is "I'm trying."

Carry your message to the four corners of Virginia and bring others into the fold. Follow the lead I know without question my two Adams Brothers are setting and nothing can stop your advance.

Never surrender – Take no prisoners.

Sputnik  
Founder & State Chair TMRA 2  
Virginia Freedom Riders #1  
SOLR

VIRGINIA FREEDOM RIDERS  
RIDERS AGAINST CONSTITUTIONAL  
EROSION

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Suffolk, VA 23439-1387

E-mail: [newsletter@vfr-race.com](mailto:newsletter@vfr-race.com)

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CHECK US OUT ONLINE AT:  
[HTTP://WWW.VFR-RACE.COM/](http://www.vfr-race.com/)

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OF THE PEOPLE, FOR THE PEOPLE,  
BY THE PEOPLE  
WE ARE THE PEOPLE

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## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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Membership Dues are \$15.00. Please make check payable to VFR-RACE.

PLEASE PRINT

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone #1: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #2: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax #: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a registered voter? YES NO (Circle One)

Do you have a motorcycle license? YES NO (Circle One)

What motorcyclists' issues would you like to see VFR-RACE address?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please mail this completed application along with your \$15 check or money order to:  
VFR-RACE, PO BOX 1387, Suffolk, VA 23439-1387



Virginia  
Freedom Riders  
R.A.C.E.

Riders Against Constitutional Erosion

HELP PROTECT THE  
RIGHT TO RIDE

JOIN THE R.A.C.E.

**VIRGINIA  
FREEDOM  
RIDERS**