

SMARTER Board of Directors – Biographies

Rich Henrion, Chairperson

Rich Henrion, after having served on the board of directors of SMARTER in various capacities since its inception, was elected chair in January 2013. He is a Detroit-area native who lives in Michigan's Upper Peninsula and taught High School Auto Technology for four decades until retiring in 2015. Upon retirement, Rich spends time with five grandchildren, is a Cub Scout Den Leader and an obsessed motorcycle rider. Rich won the BMW Motorcycle Owners of America North American summer of 2018 mileage contest with an amazing 45,680 miles.



Rich holds double master's degrees in education, is a Master Mechanic, a now retired Motorcycle Safety Foundation RiderCoach (1980), RiderCoach Trainer (1986), MSF Chief Instructor award winner, long-time Iron Butt member, and multi-time guest author for the BMW Owners Association magazine. Rich is also a third-party tester for the State of Michigan and conducts both motorcycle and automobile tests. He is an active member of the Upper Peninsula (UP) of Michigan Traffic Safety Council.



Rich rides a BMW R 1200 RT. He is the best person to ride long distance with, as he never gets lost (GPS expert) and has the skill and carries the tools he needs to fix any possible breakdown.

Dan Petterson, Ed.D., President & CEO

Dan has an extensive background in both public K–12 and motorcyclist-safety education. In 1990 he earned not only a doctorate in education but also certification by the Motorcycle Safety Foundation (MSF) as a chief instructor (RiderCoach Trainer). He retired from public education in 2000 and active coaching in 2020.



His individual work and his efforts as CEO of SMARTER has earned national recognition. Dan is the recipient of the following awards:

* 2003 RiderCoach Trainer of the Year – Motorcycle Safety Foundation

* 2011 one of five individuals nationally to receive recognition by the Motorcycle Safety Foundation for “Extraordinary Contributions to Motorcyclist Safety.”

* 2014 recipient of Silvernale Award, the purpose of which is to recognize persons nationally who have made outstanding contributions to traffic safety education by the Michigan Driver and Traffic Safety Education Association (MDTSEA).

* 2021 Richard H. Austin Traffic Safety Award for long-term contributions and commitment to traffic safety for the Skilled Motorcyclist Association – Responsible Trained and Educated Riders, Inc. by the Michigan Governor’s Traffic Safety Advisory Commission (GTSAC).

Dan has contributed to the development of several MSF curriculum components, has served as the State of Michigan’s motorcyclist-safety coordinator and is a recognized presenter at state and national motorcyclist-safety conferences.

Randy Travelbee, Treasurer



Randy has been a resident of southern Michigan all life with the exception of a few years transferring with the company for which he worked. His work transfers included a couple of years in WI and a few years in southern Indiana. He retired in 2017.

Randy has been riding motorcycles since 1969 when his Mom bought him an early graduation present. His first ride (thanks to his Mom) was a 1968 Montgomery Wards 125cc Riverside. He rode the Riverside all over Michigan in the summer of 1969.

Since retiring he has spent much more time restoring older Japanese motorcycles. His current stable includes a 1982 Honda CB900, 1979 Honda Twinstar, 1983 Honda GL650, and a 198? something Yamaha TW200. His everyday ride is a 2010 BMW F650GS. Randy has been a Motorcycle Safety Foundation (MSF) instructor since 1985. He is a long-time member of the Iron Butt Association. Randy has been a SMARTER member since the inception of the association in 2007.

Xu Simon, Ph.D., Vice Chair



Xu earned her motorcycle endorsement in 2011 and became an MSF certified RiderCoach in 2022. She teaches at the Motorcycle Riding School in Beverly, MA and is passionate about using research to make motorcycling safer for all. She regularly attends RiderChoices (Tribe Talk) meetings and MSF vRETS seminars to help keep motorcyclist education best practices front of mind. She has a PhD in Biology from MIT, an MBA in Global Business from Bentley University, and currently serves as Chief Technology Officer at Enozo Technologies, Inc. Xu also speaks, coaches, and consults on using science to improve the world.

Dr. Simon earned her PhD in 2007 and completed postdoctoral research in structural biology at Brandeis University in 2012. She then served as an American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Science and Technology Policy Fellow placed in the US Department of State's diplomatic anti-chemical weapons office (ISN/CTR/CSP). She worked for two years as Program Officer to implement education and empowerment programs to reduce chemical weapons development and use in high-threat countries. Her placement spanned the 2013 Syria chemical weapons crisis, giving her high-visibility international crisis management experience. At the conclusion of the fellowship, Xu earned her MBA with the goal of helping transfer scientific research into the broader community, where it can do the most good. Since graduating from Bentley University in 2015, Xu has worked her way from technical to leadership positions in two Boston-based technology startup companies and served as Adjunct Professor of Biology at both Bentley and Brandeis Universities.

Eugene Pratt II, Director



Eugene's enthusiasm for powered two-wheelers started at age six when his father and mentor, Eugene Pratt Sr., gave him a Briggs 5 h.p. minibike. His dad taught him to put needs before wants and to do only what means allow, but he learned on his own what a governor was and that without one he could beat any 7.5 h.p.! He soon after got a CT 70 Honda and put thousands of miles on it riding every day after chores were done. Next was a 250 Yamaha he bought from his great uncle and used to compete with friends on tracks they built in their parents' backyards.

A lifelong resident of Michigan, Eugene is an avid outdoorsman, enjoying with family and friends a number of hunting and fishing trips throughout North America, even some with pack mules in tow. As a child, his parents set out on many motorcycle trips without him, but after graduating from high school, he got a 1982 GL 500 to ride on weekend trips with them and their friends. They stowed everything in duffle bags, until 1987, when Eugene bought a GL1100 to pull a pop-up camper. That was the life: no more tents! Two years later, he got married...and a roomier pop-up.



Then in 1992, Eugene bought a GL1500 Gold Wing, adding a Champion Daytona 2+2 sidecar, the first ever sold to the public. He called it the "grocery-getter" and still rides it to this day, now using the hack for his grandkids.

Eugene took his first MSF RSS rider training class in 1981. He just got his driver license and wanted his CY endorsement, too. Subsequently, he took three advanced rider classes, and in 1997, as a member of GWRRA, he became an MSF Rider Coach, realizing this was the best way

to share his passion for riding with others. He was very competitive in events taking place at rallies, which fueled his desire to teach others how to control motorcycles at low speeds as well as other techniques that would give them a positive riding experience. During his RiderCoach training, Eugene was hired by the Ferris State University motorcycle training program. He and a group of fellow instructors went to Orlando in 2002 for a week of intensive training to become Harley-Davidson Rider's Edge coaches, and he remained with the program for two years.

Eugene practices what he preaches, riding with full gear and employing risk-reduction strategies as he rides, and he has 225,000 accident-free miles under his belt.

As president of Ace Tool & Engineering Inc., he rides less now (but still averages three to six thousand miles a year) and he trains more, which gives him the opportunity to meet a lot of great motorcyclists. He shares with his students that he will ride with any motorcyclist who rides smart and rides safe! And for added safekeeping he tells them, "Keep the shiny side up. God bless."

Eric Line, Director



Eric is retired from the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT), Traffic Safety section. He has spent nearly 20 years as MDOT's sole Senior Traffic Safety Data Analyst and Motorcycle Safety Representative. Eric consulted with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) safety office and MDOT engineers on highway infrastructure concerns that affected motorcyclists. Eric has been a recognized resource on several traffic safety committees, teams, and working groups including the Governor's Traffic Safety Advisory Commission's Motorcycle Action Team, the Crash Data Users Group, and two MDOT Research Advisory Panels. He has attended and/or presented at state and national conferences and trainings, including the Naturalistic Driving Motorcycle Research and Technology Workshop at the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute, the Michigan Traffic Safety

Summit, and the National Association of State Motorcycle Safety Administrators Summit.

Eric was instrumental in the creation of a Motorcycle Safety Video. Partnering with the Michigan State Police, Secretary of State, and MDOT communication staff, he provided talking

points for the script, choose filming locations, and also rode in and filmed segments of the video from cameras mounted on his helmet and motorcycle.

Eric received two MDOT Simply Super Service Awards for his traffic safety work including a special Motorcycle Safety related project. He was selected by the Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning to be the coordinator for the Engineering section of Michigan's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHSTA) Motorcycle Safety Program Technical Assessment.

In 2017 Eric was selected by the U.S. Secretary of Transportation to serve on the Motorcyclist Advisory Council. This 10-member council advises and makes policy recommendations to the Federal Highway Administration concerning infrastructure related motorcyclist safety.



Eric has an Associate Applied Science degree in Media/Photography from Lansing Community College, and a Bachelor Applied Science degree in Occupational Studies from Siena Heights University. Eric has been a licensed motorcyclist for over 35 years and has completed the MSF Basic Rider Course, and the intro and advanced first aid courses: A Crash Course for the Motorcyclist, Accident Scene Management.

Don Green, Ed.D., Director

Dr. Green has more than 35 years of experience in leadership, training, education, experiential learning, and organizational management. His formative background comes from decades of application in leadership development, organizational change, and quality assurance systems which have been critical to his rider education roles. He is the founder, owner, and Chief Executive Officer of Rider Choices - a Motorcycle Rider Education and Consulting company.



Don's formal education includes a Doctorate in Adult Education Leadership and Administration, an M.S. in Adult Education, attending the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, and a B.S. in Computer Science. His research on Rider Instructor Selection is published in *The Journal of Safety Research*. He is the 2014 American Motorcyclist Association (AMA) Outstanding Road Rider Award winner for his rider education work.

Initially Certified by the Motorcycle Safety Foundation in 2010, he is currently certified as a RiderCoach/RiderCoach Trainer in almost all MSF curriculum offerings.

A Veteran of the Iraq War, he served as a deputy commander of an embedded training team guiding Iraqi General Officers. Don's experience as a helicopter pilot and commander also supported being a Chief Operations Officer conducting Quality Assurance inspections to build training programs and overseeing training for deploying aviation units.

As a State Motorcycle Safety Association (SMSA) member, he serves on the Executive Committee as the individual member representative, Assistant Chair of the Policy and Research Committee, and a Motorcycle Safety Program Committee member.

Don hosts a weekly peer-to-peer professional development workshop called Tribe-Talk to promote RiderCoach/Instructor development knowledge sharing.

Justin P. McDonald, Secretary

Justin holds a BS in computer science from the University of Wyoming. From 2000 to 2003 he worked as a computer technician with Wyoming Technical Institute and from 2003 to 2009 as Assistant Research Scientist with the Office of Academic Affairs at the University of Wyoming.



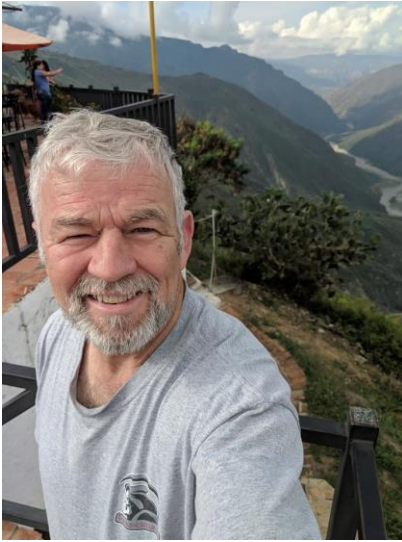
He became a Motorcycle Safety Foundation RiderCoach in April of 2002 and was a lead RiderCoach with the Wyoming Department of Transportation through March of 2021. Justin relocated to Nevada to become the Motorcyclist Safety Program Administrator, State of Nevada, office of traffic Safety, the position he presently holds. He earned his MSF RiderCoach Trainer certification in the fall of 2022.

In addition to motorcycling, he pursues his interests in Olympic lifting/Cross fit, dog training and continuing education in motorcyclist safety, nutrition/ chemistry.

He became a Motorcycle Safety Foundation RiderCoach in April of 2002 and was a lead RiderCoach with the Wyoming Department of Transportation through March of 2021. Justin relocated to Nevada to become the Motorcyclist Safety Program Administrator, State of Nevada, office of traffic Safety, the position he presently holds. He earned his MSF RiderCoach Trainer certification in the fall of 2022.

In addition to motorcycling, he pursues his interests in Olympic lifting/Cross fit, dog training and continuing education in motorcyclist safety, nutrition/ chemistry.

Henry “Hank” Waters



Hank has 16 years' experience in the motorcyclist safety and training community. He has worked at the State level, within military programs, private schools and state managed programs. Hank has performed work as an individual trainer, quality assurance, 2 wheel and 3-wheel programs, basic and advanced curriculums.

He is currently an investor with Be Crash Free, Inc. in business and product development. From 12- 2021 to 1- 2023 Hank served as the Motorcycle Safety Program Manager with the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles, Highway Safety Office.