

Social Distancing -- Biker Style



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Avoid Crowds

And of course, Wear a Mask

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RIDER
MOTORCYCLE NEWS

Apr 2020

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Covid Stats in Comparison

“According to research by Dr. Lisa Maragakis, Senior Director of Infection Prevention at Johns Hopkins Health System, as of 27 March, there have been 24,361 deaths reported worldwide from COVID-19. Each year, seasonal flu kills 291,000 to 646,000 people worldwide.”

Quoted from Gerald Celente's

“CORONAVIRUS: FACTS & FICTIONS”, March 30, 2020

Yet, these following annual death rates are *far greater* with no fanfare, no lifestyle restrictions, no economic mandates, no mainstream media hype.....

According to the CDC, in 2017 coronary heart disease killed 365,914 people in the United States.

<https://www.cdc.gov/heartdisease/facts.htm>

According to the CDC, stroke kills about 140,000 Americans each year.

<https://www.cdc.gov/stroke/facts.htm>

Based on those numbers & our governments' {let's call it} *zealous* response to covid -- you'd think that stroke & heart attack candidates would already be mandated away from fast food restaurants; forced to join a gym; and kept off the road because they could have a stroke or heart attack while driving. Funny thing ... that hasn't been happening.

These stats should start making you think. Research for yourself. You've been 'given' the time. Read beyond mainstream.

Maybe this virus isn't everything we're being told it is. Makes you think there might be an underlying agenda.

In the words of Arsenio Hall, *things that make ya go hmmmmm*. Be safe, be well, think for yourself. *B&B*

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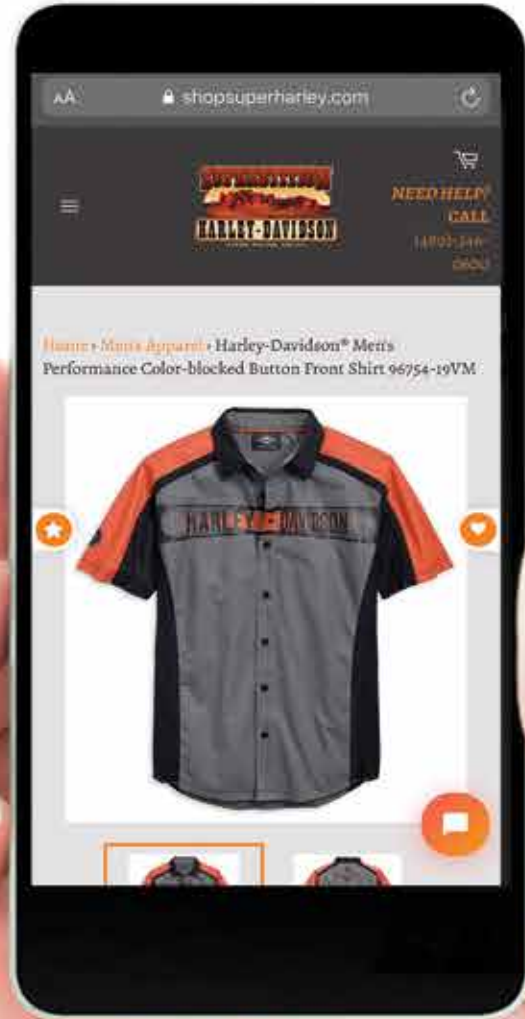
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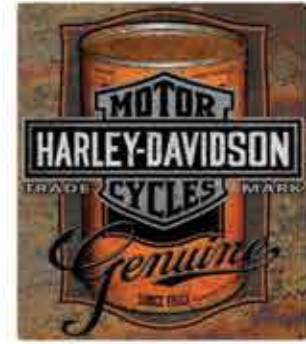
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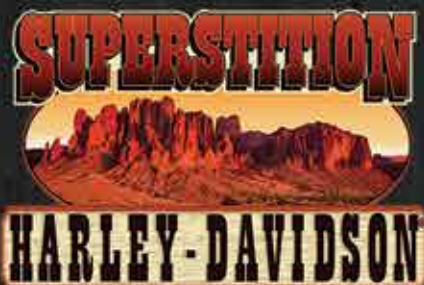
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Virus Restrictions Status Reports from Our Advertisers

This situation is an ongoing nightmare for business owners who are doing their best to make decisions in an ever-changing world. Restrictions & mandates have been continuously changing. They've been required to adjust quickly to do what they can for the welfare of their employees & themselves; and for the survival of their livelihoods.

Please support them when you can, as you can.

Thanks to the flexibility & adaptability of our online only e-dition format, we have the ability to update the status of these Advertisers as changes to their circumstances evolve.

These original entries are as of Saturday April 4, 2020 w/ updates as needed*

ABATE-AZ High Country Chapter has cancelled their May 'Wild in the Weeds' event.

ABATE-AZ Phx/Shadow Mountain Chapter April meeting has been cancelled.

ABATE-AZ Southern AZ Chapter has an event planned for April 30 ... Watch here for updates as the date gets closer... <https://www.facebook.com/events/663169864454453/>

ABATE-AZ Superstition Chapter April meeting has been cancelled.

Aint Nick's Tavern is offering a take-away / carry-out food menu & off-sale beer, Monday – Saturday from noon-6pm. Call-in orders can be picked up PLUS delivery is available within 5 miles. Call for details 602-242-2345. Located at 6840 N. 27th Ave in Phoenix. Orders can also be placed through GrubHub & UberEats

Arizona Bike Week has just announced their newly rescheduled dates to be October 7-11, 2020.

AZ Biker Leathers has closed their storefront until further notice. You can still shop online. They are shipping orders daily. Embroidery orders can be placed through their website or by emailing annazbl@msn.com ... They will post updates to their status on their FB page.

Beaver Bar & Grill is available for take-out food and package beer and wine. Noon till 8:00PM, Cash or card. Menu excludes breakfast items. All prices will be as posted on [our menu](#), 'NO RAISED PRICES'. Call 602-944-4644. Located at 11801 N 19th Ave in Phoenix.

Bits n' Bytes Computers "Need help working from home? We are considered an Essential Business and are here to help you. We want you to know that through this statewide lockdown we are fully staffed and ready to assist. We can fix most issues remotely and have in-person availability as well. We are following all CDC guidelines to keep you protected. Please shoot us a message with any questions or call us at 480-380-5340." Located at 9333 E. Apache Trail in East Mesa.

The Cabin Bar & Grill in Overgaard is waiting to announce their opening date for the season; traditionally scheduled for April.

Evil Twin Custom Cycles is open, by appointment only. "Please only come to the shop when dropping off or picking up a bike. Appointments can be made through the website, FB Messaging, or by phone."

GEICO's Insurance Agency on Camelback Road in Phoenix is open for telephone contact only during the COVID-19 restrictions. They are maintaining normal hours Mon-Fri 8a-6pm, Saturday 9a-2pm. Lobby is closed. No walk-in visitors at this time, please. For new sales or if you need to speak with your agent in Phoenix, call the office at 602-234-3426 and select option #1 on the telephone router. If you have a claim, call 1-800-841-3000

Jeannie's Grooming is currently closed & will resume taking appointments as soon as possible.

KickAZ Cycles ... {updated 4-7-20} Regarding the April special posted in this month's ad, from owner Hugo, "this actually will apply to everyone. When we created the ad in mid March we didn't anticipate how wide spread the impact of the shutdown would be. We are extending this offer to everyone who comes in." Online shopping at ebay is available for parts.

Motorcycles on Main Bike Night "Out of an abundance of caution and to support preventive measures April and May's Motorcycles on Main have been cancelled. June's event is TBD. Please continue to support our #DowntownMesa Businesses by ordering take-out or delivery." #MotorcyclesonMain

On behalf of Soaring Eagle Custom Jewelry we are posting that the **Apache Trail Swap Meet** will be closed to the public for shopping until further notice. ATSM plans to update their status weekly via their FB page.

Southwest Trikes is open, 9a – 4pm Monday through Friday; by appointment only. Please call 480-951-7171.

Stick Engineering has announced, "Due to the Governor's Statewide 'Stay-at-Home' Order Motorcycle Service is BY APPOINTMENT Only. We are Temporarily CLOSED to walk-in traffic." Call 480-288-4395

Superstition Express Laundry is OPEN and "COVID-19 compliant". Laundry is an Essential Service. They are offering a special Wash 'N Go Service. Load your Washer. They will Dry & Fold it then Text you when it is ready for pick up. Ask an Attendant or call 480-359-3964 for details.

Superstition Harley-Davidson is open. Curbside pickup is available for purchases in all departments. Call for details or to schedule a service appointment. For those who prefer, [online shopping is available](#). No events at this time.

Too Broke For Sturgis ABATE-AZ's annual fundraising campout scheduled for June 11-14, 2020 has been cancelled.

As our Advertisers advise us of changes, they will be relayed to you our Readers here and/or on [our Facebook page](#).

B&B #AZRiderSW



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From Military To Civilian – A Seamless Transition

When members of the Armed Forces of the United States finish at least one year of their tour of deployment they need to enroll in the Veterans Administration (VA) program to obtain any VA Health Benefits they may be entitled to receive.

Please follow this link to our Veterans Resources page, including the article 'Seamless Transition', by Michael DePaulo, COM



National Parliamentarian, Rolling Thunder®, Inc. ; Plt. Sgt. USMC, RVN

Motorcycling Organizations Contacts

click here to visit our Organizations Directory with clickable contacts



To have your organization listed, send the name, phone # and website {if available} to us @ Editor@AZRiderSouthwest.com or call 480-825-7455 or snail mail P O Box 7375; Mesa, AZ 85216-7375

Editors Column

Hello AriZona Riders!

Our cover photo is by Randy Anagnostis. It was taken at Superstition HD during the SHD-CMA New Year Motorcycle & Car Show. Read about it on page 17.



The reach of this world-wide corona virus chaos far exceeds the scope of what even 9-11 was able to generate. Whatever Bruce & I may or may not think about the validity of this situation ... and our opinion of the reactions by governments & citizenry; we certainly recognize the impact that it is & will have on our motorcycling community.

The bottom line for us is to do our best on behalf of our Advertisers. So we've got a page dedicated to the latest updates on their status; so you know who is open or closed, changes in hours or policies, etc. Please use it as a handy reference. Plus we will update our Facebook page with any announcements they share with us to during the month.

To help maintain a degree of 'normalcy' in these insane times, we expect & intend to be here, sharing stories about past gatherings, beneficiary organizations, & the like. Granted, for the most part right now they will be stories about things that occurred 'PV' – 'Pre-Virus'. Our goal is to provide people with a distraction, albeit a brief one, from the bs &/or stress of their days.... Much as we always have ☺

Go for a ride... It hasn't been restricted ... YET
Sunshine & fresh air kill all types of viruses

INCLUDING Covert & Cerveza ☺

No calendar this month ☹ Once things start settling down & organizers can reschedule their gatherings, we'll start it up again.

All the best to each of you as we all make our way through this.

Ride safely, choose wisely, stay sane, &

Keep Your Butts On Your Putts! Bruce & Betsy

Lessons From the Easter Bunny

Don't put all of your eggs in one basket.

Walk softly and carry a big carrot.

Everyone needs a friend who is all ears.

There's no such thing as too much candy.

All work and no play can make you a basket case.

A cute little tail attracts a lot of attention.

Everyone is entitled to a bad hare day.

Let happy thoughts multiply like rabbits.

Some body parts should be floppy.

Keep your paws off other people's jellybeans.

The grass is always greener in someone else's basket.

An Easter bonnet can tame even the wildest hare.

To show your true colors you have to come out of your shell.

The best things in life are still sweet and gooey!

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Just Friends Ride with Superstition ABATE

Expected to be the first event of the newly formed ABATE-AZ Superstition Chapter, the Ride With The Wind Run was another victim of the virus backwash that has been spewing over people everywhere.

That being said, a small group of dedicated riders decided to get out & ride all the same. Revised to be a 'just friends' ride; some 15 people gathered at Superstition Harley-Davidson on the morning of March 21.

There was no charge to participate. It wasn't an 'event' with raffles & such. It was just an opportunity to enjoy a ride. People had hand sanitizer with them & maintained the suggested 6-foot distancing. But they refused to let this situation keep them off their bikes. Good for you!

Chapter Coordinator Marc Schultz explained that they ended up with about 15 riders. Everyone packed their own refreshments, in case nothing was available along the way. They rode to Tortilla Flat; stopping at the ice cream shop for a snack. Yup ~ it was still open!

While most went off in other directions from here; Marc & a few others headed to Jake's Corner {Payson} for lunch. From there they rolled to Punkin Center, past Roosevelt Lake, and through Miami toward home; finishing the day by about 6:30pm.

He shared that, "We did encounter a bike broke down east of Gold Canyon. WE STOPPED. Two ladies were broke down for 2 hours and no other bikes stopped. WOW! I gave them my card and explained the white bandana placed for help." ABATE-AZ encourages riders to tie a white bandana to their handlebars if they are broke down along the road & need help. It is a signal for other riders to stop and assist if possible. Maybe you have a cell phone that'll get a signal out* or a spare bottle of water.... Or can simply offer a bit of company as they are waiting for a chase truck. Remember, some day it could be you stuck alone along the road.

In regard to the Chapter, Marc noted that it is currently the largest Chapter in our State. Their April meeting is cancelled,

again due to current restrictions on gatherings. Watch their FB page at <https://www.facebook.com/AbateSuperstitionChapter/> for details about May.

ABATE-AZ [<http://www.abateofaz.org/>] is a State Motorcyclists Rights Organization. Members are dedicated to educating riders & drivers about sharing the road and to protecting motorcyclists right to ride. There are ABATE Chapters throughout AriZona. Learn more about ABATE & why you should support your MRO. The Rights you save will be your own!

* NOTE: We've learned along the way that in areas where your cell phone won't get a signal out that sometimes a TEXT can still get through. So if you need help but can't make a call, try texting someone who can then relay your situation to the right people to get you back on the road.

Thank you Marc for helping us to share your day with our Readers.

Betsy



NCOM Coast To Coast Biker News

on web, click title to visit site

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NCOM BIKER NEWSBYTES

Compiled & Edited by Bill Bish,
National Coalition of Motorcyclists
(NCOM)

NCOM CONVENTION POSTPONED DUE TO CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

The 35th annual NCOM Convention in Indianapolis, scheduled for May 8-9, 2020 at the Marriott Indianapolis East, has been postponed due to the global outbreak of the deadly and highly contagious Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19).

Based on guidance from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and public health authorities attempting to stem the spread of COVID-19, "We are postpon-

ing the NCOM Convention and plan to reschedule it for later this summer," according to James "Doc" Reichenbach II, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the National Coalition of Motorcyclists (NCOM).

The primary concern is for the health and well-being of staff, volunteers and guests of the Convention, and NCOM will continue to monitor ongoing developments and protocols for this infectious viral disease to determine the safest date to reschedule.

COVID-19 CANCELLATIONS & SUSPENSIONS

As worldwide headlines have been dominated by societal disruptions tied to the Coronavirus outbreak, from business and school closures to suspending professional sports, COVID-19 related cancellations and postponements have hit the motorcycling community as well, with numerous biker events, motorcycle races and even the motorcycling industry itself falling victim to the spreading contagion.

Daytona Bike Week was one of the first casualties, as Mayor Derrick Henry declared a state of emergency for the city

on Friday, March 13th and called off the event, though the revocation of city-issued permits barely affected the throngs of rally-goers rolling down Main Street the last few days.

The 79th Daytona 200, however, has been postponed until Biketoberfest in October and the Daytona TT will be rescheduled. Bans placed on large gatherings has also played havoc with other racing venues, with World Superbike, Le Mans 24-Hour and MotoGP races rescheduled, the 2020 Supercross season halted, and the Isle of Man TT road race being cancelled.

The Coronavirus is impacting many events throughout the country, but the 80th annual Sturgis Motorcycle Rally is "still on," as is the 97th Laconia Motorcycle Week, both months away.

Worldwide, motorcycle factories are shutting down production lines or scaling back, supply chains are jeopardized and accessories and riding gear may soon become short in supply. This could also last for several months even after the virus has cleared, as manufacturers ramp back up, and you can expect even more announcements as the virus runs its course.

continues on page 9



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continues from page 8

on web, click title to visit site

At the Box Office, even the world premiere of the latest James Bond film 'No Time To Die' has been delayed to November, so bike fans will have to wait to see M15 Agent 007 taking part in some spectacular stunts at the helm of a Triumph Scrambler 1200.

MOTORCYCLE INDUSTRY'S URGENT COVID-19 REQUEST TO CONGRESS

"We are all in this together and it is critical to keep motorcycle dealerships up and running during the COVID-19 crisis," said the Motorcycle Industry Council in an open letter to the President and all Congressional representatives, so "This afternoon the MIC sent a letter to the White House urging that powersports manufacturing facilities, distribution centers and dealerships be allowed uninterrupted operation during emergency declarations."

The MIC letter goes on to request citizen support; "Sharing this with our elected officials is something proactive we can do beyond maintaining social distancing," and MIC Senior VP, Government Relations Scott Schloegel provided a template with the talking points

you can send to your congressional representatives, such as;

"Motorcycles, ATVs and ROVs are used for critical daily activity including transportation, farming operations, law enforcement, emergency response for fires, remote rescue operations, and military operations. It is essential that these vehicles and related parts, safety apparel, and accessories be available, and capable of being serviced by qualified technicians."

Ask your legislators for this simple addition to the Phase 3 legislation now under consideration.

GLOBAL MOTORCYCLE SALES STUMBLE

Global motorcycle sales were a mixed bag for major manufacturers in 2019. Despite recording sales of 60.1 million units in 2019, the global motorcycle market shrunk by 1.6 million and the forecast for 2020 isn't clear nor sunny.

Global motorcycle sales grew to its highest level ever in 2018 with 61.7 million units sold, but last year was particularly difficult for the Indian market which experienced a 3.1-million downturn in sales. Luckily, increases of 1.3 million

units in China and 1.1 million units in Europe helped offset the disappointing performance of the world's largest motorcycle market.

Although the Indian market shrunk by 19% between 2018 and 2019, it still reigned as the largest two-wheeler market in the world with 18.5 million in sales. China trailed close behind with 16.3 million, but the field took a sharp drop from there with Indonesia at 6.5 million, Vietnam coming in at 3.2 million, and the Philippines reporting 1.8 million. For some perspective, the United States took the 11th spot on the list, Japan's poor performance in 2019 earned it the 15th slot, and Europe's highest-selling country, France, ranked as low as 17th.

Vehicle type also factors into the equation with the 50cc+ scooter segment responsible for 25.8 million in sales. Motorcycles nip at the scooter's heels with 24.8 million units sold while trikes represent 4.7 million and mopeds bring in 4.6 million units. Quadricycles/ATV had 600,000 units sold.

While the global moto market declined by 2.6% in 2019, the spread of Coronavirus Disease could result in further losses in 2020.

continues on page 10

KickAZ Cycles recognizes the tough times and the economic impact the Coronavirus has imposed on many of us. Employees from the travel industry and related hospitality (hotels, bars and restaurants) industry have been hit the hardest. Also, nurses doctors and other medical staff have stepped up and have been working extra hours during these trying times.

KickAZ Cycles would like to do our part in helping those who have been economically impacted by this pandemic.

During the month of April, employees from the travel and hospitality industry, along with nurses, doctors and medical staff shall get the Friends and Family labor rate on services and are eligible to receive 15% off MSRP price on parts (some restrictions apply).



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continued from page 9

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ELECTRIC MOTORCYCLE & SCOOTER MARKET ON THE UPSWING

The global electric motorcycle and scooter market are forecast to grow to a value of US\$14.29 Billion by 2027, growing at a robust CAGR of 7.1% over 2019 to 2027:

“Mobility has become an important component of the smart city framework of cities, and this trend shall pave way for the popularity of electric motorcycles and scooters,” according to a March 18 report by Transparency Market Research.

“The growth of the global electric motorcycle and scooter market is a function of advancements in green energy technologies.” Some of the leading drivers of demand within the global electric motorcycle and scooter market are:

- Lead acid batteries are being developed in abundance across the globe, and this trend has supported the growth of the global electric motorcycle and scooter market.
- Growing traffic congestion has led several population groups to prefer two-wheelers over private cars for their daily commute. This factor, coupled with

the stellar pace of manufacturing electric scooters, shall benefit market vendors.

• The need to reduce air pollution and carbon emissions has led governments and other industries to take multiple measures and initiatives at administrative and industrial levels. Development of electric motorcycles and scooters is also a part of these initiatives.

Governments have begun providing incentives to manufacture electric vehicles, which will encourage a larger number of manufacturers towards developing resilient and performance-oriented electric vehicles. “The leading vendors in the global electric motorcycle and scooter market are looking at tapping into the needs and requirements of the masses.”

OHIO LEGALIZES EARPLUG USE FOR MOTORCYCLISTS

Buckeye bikers will legally be allowed to wear earplugs while riding, under a new law signed by Governor Mike DeWine (R) in a February 21, 2020 ceremony at the Ohio Statehouse.

House Bill 129, sponsored by State Rep. Riordan McCain (R-Upper Sandusky), also allows motorcyclists to wear earphones for hearing protection, but

prohibits riders from listening to music or other entertainment. Previously, like in many other states, wearing earplugs was a minor misdemeanor, punishable by a fine up to \$150 and points against your license.

Earplugs help prevent long-term hearing damage from wind noise, say bill proponents like ABATE of Ohio, while still allowing riders to hear emergency sirens, car horns and other important sounds on the road. The bipartisan legislation easily passed both chambers of the state legislature unanimously, and drew no public opposition.

Aid to Injured Motorcyclists (A.I.M.) Attorney for Ohio Ralph C. Buss had previously represented a truck driver referred to him by ABATE who had received a citation for wearing earplugs while riding his motorcycle, and stood to lose his Commercial Driver’s License (CDL), which helped draw attention to the need to reform the antiquated law.

SAVE THE SALT

The future of land speed racing at the Bonneville Salt Flats is in jeopardy! The once 13-mile racetrack at Bonneville is

continues on page 11

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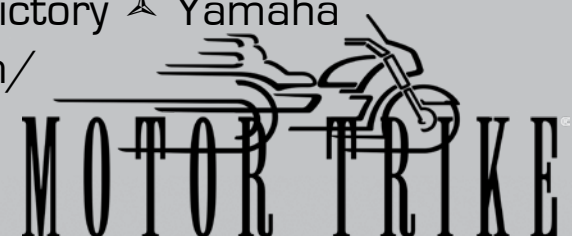
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GOD BLESS OUR TROOPS

now less than 8 miles due to salt erosion. It is critically important that the U.S. Department of the Interior contributes funds toward a 10-year restoration program that will dramatically increase the amount of salt pumped onto the Bonneville salt basin, located on the Utah/Nevada border near Wendover, Utah.

This unique geologic formation has served as the backdrop for movies, commercials and photos, and is a magnet for tourists. However, Bonneville is most well-known for its role in the history of motorsports, having served as a preeminent race venue since the early 1900s.

Help restore the Bonneville Salt Flats before it's too late by urging the Secretary of Interior to fund the Restore Bonneville program through the department's FY 2020 budget.

The U.S. Senate Appropriations Committee's report accompanying the Interior Department's FY 2020 appropriation included language expecting the Department to work with the State of Utah on the pending cooperative agreement to support Bonneville's restoration, but a final agreement to provide BLM funding has not been reached. The Utah State Legislature agreed to contribute \$5 million to restore Bonneville contingent

upon outside sources of funding for the project.

BIKER WINS MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR LAWSUIT OVER POTHOLE

A New Jersey motorcyclist has been awarded \$2.65 million for extensive injuries he suffered when he hit potholes while riding on a poorly-maintained Passaic County road, lost control of his Victory cruiser and crashed into an oncoming minivan.

Roger Gates, now 67, spent six weeks in the hospital, suffered multiple fractures and underwent numerous surgeries with months of inpatient rehabilitation after the April 14, 2016 crash that left him unable to work and walking with a cane.

According to the lawsuit, the county knew the broken pavement was a recurring problem and, instead of fixing the road, simply filled the potholes with asphalt, a repair that will quickly lift out once freeze-thaw erosion takes place. The road had already been marked in the County of Passaic's records as being in need of repair in 2016, when Gates crashed.

According to the *New Jersey Law Journal*, the County of Passaic's attorney has since moved for a new trial, and will attempt to appeal this verdict.

WRONGFUL DEATH SUIT AGAINST COMPANY WHOSE DRIVER KILLED 7 IN N.H.

A wrongful death suit against the transportation company that pickup truck driver Volodymyr Zhukovskyy was working for at the time of a fatal crash with a group of bikers last year can go forward, a New Hampshire judge recently ruled, adding to the numerous lawsuits in the case.

The lawsuit was brought by Mary Lou Welch, the common-law wife of Jarheads Motorcycle Club president Albert Mazza Jr., who was killed in the head-on collision in June on U.S. 2 in Randolph, N.H. against Westfield Transport, who employed Zhukovskyy, and has since closed.

Judge Steven Houran ruled that "It is reasonable to infer that ... Mr. Zhukovskyy had a reckless or vicious propensity to drive dangerously," Houran wrote, "and Westfield knew or should

continues on page 12

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ABATE of Arizona, Inc is a non-profit Motorcycle Rights Organization that is dedicated to the freedom of the road for ALL motorcyclists. We are a volunteer organization that fights discriminatory legislation aimed toward the motorcycling community. ABATE's position is that all motorcycle riders have the right to choose not only the machine they ride but also what gear they will wear or not wear. We also Lobby to educate the government and general public to promote motorcycling in a safe and positive image.

NCOM Coast To Coast Biker News

continued from page 11

have known about this propensity.”

Zhukovskyy is facing 23 criminal charges in Coos County Court including homicide for allegedly slamming into the biker pack on a two-lane highway as the Jarheads were leaving a nearby motel on their way to a charity event.

MOTORCYCLIST ADVISORY COUNCIL REAUTHORIZATION ACTION

On February 3, 2020, U.S. Senators Ron Johnson (R-WI) and Gary Peters (D-MI) introduced S.3249 as a bipartisan companion to House bill H.R.5234, calling for the Secretary of Transportation to reauthorize the Motorcyclist Advisory Council established under the FAST Act of 2015.

The “Motorcyclist Advisory Council Reauthorization Act” (S.3249 & H.R.5234) calls for a 12-member council, including members of the motorcycling community, to “advise the Secretary, the Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, and the Administrator of the Federal Highway Administration regarding transportation safety issues of concern to motorcyclists, including (A) barrier design; (B) road design, construction, and maintenance practices; and (C) the architecture and implementation of intelligent transportation system technologies.”

‘AUTOCYCLES’ DEFY FEDERAL DEFINITION

With the advent of “three-wheel light-duty vehicles, also called ‘Autocycles’, as a method of passenger transportation,” states across the country have attempted to legislate their licensure and operation, as well as establish a definition of the vehicle and registration pro-

cedure, which has prompted concern “that a patchwork of laws and inconsistent regulations now exists, absent a Federal standard for autocycles, thereby causing confusion and hindering the growth of this emerging industry.”

Although 38 states have established new regulations and definitions for autocycles, under Federal regulations they are currently classified as motorcycles though they have different physical and operational characteristics than traditional automobiles and motorcycles.

Last year, the U.S. Congress directed the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) to conduct research on the appropriate safety standards and existing regulations that apply to autocycles, and in a January 2020 “Report to Congress on the Federal and State Regulatory Status of Autocycles”, NHTSA determined that because they do not use the term “autocycle” in its regulations, it currently “regulates all autocycles the same as conventional motorcycles,” which “are subject to the same minimum Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS) that are applicable to motorcycles, rather than those FMVSS that are applicable to light vehicles (e.g., passenger cars and light trucks),” such as seat belts, air bags, etc.

Regarding the inconsistency of state laws affecting autocycles; “NHTSA does not regulate vehicle usage or operation on roads as this takes place at the State and local level. Vehicle registration, driver licensing, and rider equipment regulations such as whether helmets are required for motorcycle operation are among the areas regulated directly by individual States.”

Therefore, any regulatory uniformity from the federal level doesn’t seem to be forthcoming any time soon, leaving individual states to determine whether autocycles will

be registered as motorcycles and whether operators will be required to have a motorcycle endorsement on their drivers license, or be required to wear a helmet or not, among other pending issues.

CONGRESSIONAL LEGISLATION TO INCREASE FUNDING FOR RECREATIONAL TRAILS

On February 6, 2020 a group of Representatives introduced bipartisan legislation to increase funding for the Recreational Trails Program (RTP), introduced in House, H.R. 5797, the “Recreational Trails Full Funding Act of 2020”, would more than double financial support for the RTP.

Since 1991, RTP has provided funding to states to develop and maintain outdoor recreational trails, allowing millions of Americans and their families to enjoy activities such as off-roading, snowmobiling, hiking, bicycling, and cross-country skiing, “creating countless opportunities for motorized recreation and human-powered experiences,” says Rep. John Curtis (R-UT) a sponsor of the measure.

The bill will more than double RTP funding to at least \$250 million by requiring the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to provide a current estimate of the amount of gas taxes paid by non-highway recreational users. The program is modeled after the Highway Trust Fund and is funded through taxes paid on gasoline used to fuel snowmobiles, ATVs, and other recreational vehicles that do not use highways. The program is currently funded at \$84 mil-

continues on page 13

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lion annually, which is substantially less than is collected in taxes on fuel used by these vehicles.

POW/MIA FLAG LEGISLATION INTRODUCED IN KENTUCKY

Last November we reported in NCOM Biker Newsbytes that President Donald Trump had signed the National POW/MIA Flag Act into law; a bipartisan bill to require the POW/MIA Flag be displayed whenever the American flag is displayed on prominent federal properties to honor the more than 82,000 Americans who are listed as Prisoners of War (POW), Missing in Action (MIA), or otherwise unaccounted for from our nation's past wars and conflicts.

While the federal legislation appropriately regards federal buildings and memorials, Kentucky Motorcycle Association (KMA/KBA.com) member Danny "Greasy" Belcher, director of Task Force Omega of KY, has taken steps to ensure that the flag will fly atop State properties as well.

Belcher lobbied Kentucky legislators to introduce Senate Bill 104, "to designate the POW/MIA flag as the state's symbol of concern and commitment to

achieving the fullest possible accounting of United States military personnel who, having been prisoners of war or missing in action, still remain unaccounted for or those who in the future may become prisoners of war, missing in action, or otherwise unaccounted for as a result of hostile action; specify locations, dates, and circumstances under which the flag shall be displayed."

The recognizable black and white POW-MIA flag you see flying all across the country has a special meaning to Kentuckians, as it was created by Bowling Green resident Mary Hoff in 1970 after her husband's plane was shot down over Laos during the Vietnam War.

Call (800) 372-7181 and ask Kentucky Senators to co-sponsor S.B.104; "It is the least we can do for our POW/MIAs," says Greasy.

DISTRACTED DRIVING TARGETED BY LAWMAKERS

Nearly four in 10 drivers admit to looking at their phones while driving, according to a AAA survey, and distracted driving has become a leading cause of highway accidents and fatalities nationwide. Nearly every state has enacted

laws against texting while driving, while many others have banned handheld wireless communications devices altogether, such as a new law that recently went into effect in Florida.

Perhaps 2020 will be a major year for distracted driver bills sweeping through state legislatures, as Utah (H.B.101) and Colorado (S.B.65) have already introduced measures this year to require drivers to use hands-free devices, and motorcycle groups in those states say it's about time!

On Tuesday, February 11, the Colorado Senate Transportation and Energy Committee passed Senate Bill 65 unanimously, on a 5-to-nothing vote.

Lawmakers in Ohio recently extended the definition of "distracted" to include "any activity that is not necessary for the vehicle's operation and that impairs the driver's ability to drive safely," including eating, handing things, or even changing the radio station could all result in a ticket.

Maryland has taken a different approach, introducing H.B.721/S.B.512 "Prohibiting an individual from causing the serious physical injury or death of a vulnerable individual as a result of the

continues on page 14



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continues from page 13

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individual operating a vehicle in a care-
less or distracted manner.”

STATES SEEK TO LEGALIZE LANE SPLITTING

As of January 2020, California is the only U.S. state that formally authorizes motorcyclists to lane split. Utah passed a law to allow riders to lane filter in 2019, while Hawaii made shoulder surfing legal in rush hour traffic situations in 2018. Now, Arizona and Virginia could soon join California on the elite list of lane-splitting-friendly states.

Proposals to legalize lane splitting both in Arizona and Virginia were recently submitted to those states’ legislative bodies. The Arizona bill, House Bill 2285 introduced in January by Representative and Arizona House Transportation Committee chairman Noel Campbell, a

former Navy and U.S. Forest Service pilot and a motorcycle tour guide, would allow riders to lane split on roads of more than one lane in the same direction with a speed limit of 45 mph or less and when traffic is cruising at no more than 15 mph.

In Virginia, Rep. Tony Wilt proposed a similar measure, House Bill 1236, to allow motorcyclists to lane split on roads of more than one lane in the same direction but traffic speed would have to be under 10 mph and motorcycles would be limited to a maximum speed of 20 mph.

Over the past few years, a slew of bills have been introduced to legalize lane splitting and filtering, including;

Connecticut, where lawmakers are actively considering Senate Bill 629 to make both lane splitting and filtering explicitly legal.

In Oregon, House Bill 2314 was referred to the Speaker's desk. If approved, motorcycles could travel between cars on roadways where the speed limit is 50mph or greater, and traffic is moving at 10mph or slower.

Washington state reintroduced Senate Bill 5254 on January 13, 2020 and it's currently in committee.

In Canada, the Toronto city council

is considering Agenda Item MM43.53 to allow filtering throughout the city, as well as allowing motorcycles to “use reserved lanes” in some specific areas of the city.

QUOTABLE QUOTES:

“We can't solve problems by using the same kind of thinking we used when we created them.”

~ Albert Einstein (1879-1955)
German-born physicist

“One who walks in another's tracks leaves no footprints.”

~ Joan Brannon (1930-2011)
American actor & writer

ABOUT AIM / NCOM: The National Coalition of Motorcyclists (NCOM) is a nationwide motorcyclists rights organization serving over 2,000 NCOM Member Groups throughout the United States, with all services fully-funded through Aid to Injured Motorcyclist (AIM) Attorneys available in each state who donate a portion of their legal fees from motorcycle accidents back into the NCOM Network of Biker Services (www.ON-A-BIKE.com / 800-ON-A-BIKE).



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Share your news within AZ's Biker Community. Announce a birth or marriage, or your GI just got home or is being deployed. Extend congratulations, well wishes, or condolences. You get the idea. We look forward to hearing from you.

And so, for now ~

Happy Birthday in April to

Bruce Bradford, Beaux Marks, George Pederson, Sue Goodwin, Duke Bekaert, Chuck Franklin, Myron Behrendsen, Jon Kinsey, Tamara Caraway, James Gonzales, JoAnne King, Johnny Goodson, Jacob Voorheis, George Fann, Melinda Loukota, Randy Heath, Karen Hoover Henry, PJ Reyes, Kirk Johnson, Katena Pappas, Zee Spivak, R Ken Kuusisto, Kevin 'Kajer' Rhode, Deb Cain, Peter Wolkoff, Joe Terborg, Sonja Williams, Matt Brown, Jeremy Kellim, Jeff 'JD' Adams, Ellen Brodeur, Karen Svoboda & Jennifer Parker Sievers
* & & & *

Happy Anniversary in April to

Christina & Robert Duwel
Andreanne & Chazz DePape
Jeff & Kim Gorall
Mike & Lisa Anderson
Roy & Lisa Siqueiros
Gary & Leigh Dunham
Gina & James Leathers
Buz & Monika Sneezy
Terry & Sandy Crabtree
George & Amber Fann
Harry & Kelly Keene
Jim Steele & Jayne Cooney
* & & & *

Gone But Not Forgotten

Richard Bennett 'Tor' Meyers
~ April 29, 2000
Patrick Wayne Buckler
~ April 30, 2003
George Chang ~ April 10, 2005
Jerry Haviland Best
~ April 11, 2005
Eddie Ray Whittley
~ April 12, 2006
'Oilcan' John Fields
~ April 22, 2006
Charlie Zap ~ April 23, 2006
Dickson Smith ~ April 3, 2008
Jack Dave 'Whale' Perkins
~ April 25, 2014
Richard Tush ~ April 22, 2017
Louis LeCompte Jr.
~ April 3, 2018
James Earl Paul
~ April 21, 2018
William Wolven ~ April 26, 2018
Jeremy Bowley ~ April 30, 2018
* & & & *

March 17, 2020 ... posted to ABATE-AZ's FB page ... March 17, 2020

"Dear Members of ABATE of AZ,
It is with tears in our eyes and a hole in our hearts that we notify you of the passing of two of the very best ABATE of AZ has to offer.

While visiting family in Florida, Gynni Giebel (State Merchandise Officer) and David "Coach" Pennington (Board Member Superstition Chapter) lost their lives in an automobile accident.

The specifics are not clear at this time but we do know that a huge number of lives will be impacted by this news.

In their own ways, both Gynni and David were larger than life. Always ready to jump in and help out in any way they could, they were beloved by nearly everyone they met.

They also made a significant impact on ABATE of AZ and its mission of free and safe riding. Gynni as State Merchandise Officer and Coach as Member of the Board of Directors representing Superstition Chapter. Their contributions cannot be overstated and will be greatly missed.

David was making jokes on Facebook just the day before we lost him. And Gynni had called about ABATE business just 3 days ago and said how much she enjoyed being able to visit Florida.

Both were excited to be newly associated with Old Koots on Scoots and we offer our sincerest condolences to their brothers and sisters in that organization.

For the rest of us, this will be a hole in our hearts that will be difficult to fill. But Coach and Gynni are surely riding together on better roads and with clearer skies than they have known for a while. We will never forget them.

Woody Phillips -
Chairman - ABATE of AZ
Susan Grimmer-Potter -
State Communications Officer"

The Memorial Service that had been scheduled for April 11, 2020 in Honor of Gynni and Coach had to be postponed due to current virus-related social distancing mandates. There will be a Remembrance Ride at a future time. Coach's cremains will be escorted to & interred at the National Veterans Cemetery in Phoenix at a future date.

* & & & *

February 10, 2020 ... Recall
~ NHTSA Campaign # 20V073000
Brake Hose Holder May Come Loose
Potential # Units Affected

1,480

Summary: Yamaha Motor Corporation, USA (Yamaha) is recalling certain 2019 YZF-R3 motorcycles. The brake hose holder may come loose, potentially causing damage to the brake hose protector and hose, resulting in a brake fluid leak. A brake fluid leak can reduce braking ability, increasing the risk of a crash.

Remedy: Yamaha will notify owners, and dealers will replace the front brake hose holder, free of charge. The recall began February 28, 2020. Yamaha customer service at 1-800-962-7926. Yamaha's number for this recall is 990134. Note: Motorcycles in this recall are also affected by NHTSA recall number 20V-071.

Notes: Regarding ALL recalls listed here, owners may also contact the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), or go to www.safercar.gov.

* & & & *

March 17, 2020... Recall

~ NHTSA Campaign Number: 20V150000
Front Brake Hose may be Improperly Routed

Potential # Units Affected 1,585
Summary: Triumph Motorcycles America, LTD (Triumph) is recalling certain 2013-2017 Trophy SE A1 and 2013 Trophy SE A1 Launch motorcycles. The ignition switch wiring may be damaged due to the improper routing of the front brake hose, possibly resulting in inoperable headlights or taillights or an engine stall. A sudden loss of vehicle lighting or an engine stall increases the risk of a crash.

Remedy: Triumph will notify owners, and dealers will inspect and reroute the brake hose, as necessary, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin April 2, 2020. Owners may contact Triumph customer service at 1-678-854-2010. Triumph's number for this recall is SRAN574.

* & & & *

To share your news within AZ's Biker Community, send an email to editor@azridersouthwest.com, subject line: Community News or message [us on Facebook](#).

* & & & *

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2020 Motorcycle Day at the Dome

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<https://motorcyclesafari.com/ride-report-2020-motorcycle-day-at-the-dome/> posted February 22, 2020 by admin

The 2020 Motorcycle Day at the Dome, held on Wednesday February 19, is an annual event sponsored by ABATE of Arizona, the Arizona Confederation of Motorcycle Clubs and the Modified Motorcycle Association of Arizona (MMA). While this year's turn-out was not quite as large as the previous year, there were still a large number of clubs and independent riders. Enough so that when all the bikes fired up their engines just after noon, the racket was certainly heard inside both the State

Senate and State House of Representatives offices.

This annual event gave us a chance to meet with many Senators and Representatives to educate them about the need for the bills we are backing in the 2020 session.

Unfortunately, it appears we did not have enough support to push the Lane Filtering bill onto the docket, so next year, let's show up with a thousand motorcycles and really get their attention.

We were happy to be supported by several Law Firms and the Arizona Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Founda-

tion (AMSAF).

Also in attendance was Director Alberto Gutier of the Arizona Governor's Office of Highway Safety. We were happy to congratulate the Director on the series of television ads his office is currently running to promote Motorcycle Awareness to the public at large.

< end >

Thank you MotorcycleSafari for sharing this recap.

In conversation with ABATE-AZ's Legislative Director Mike Infanzon, I learned that on the AZ Motorcycle Lobby by facebook page, there are videos that give weekly updates on issues that pertain to motorcyclists. Be sure & check those out!

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New Year's Car & Bike Show 2020

On January 11, 2020 Superstition Harley-Davidson & CMA's New Life Chapter co-hosted a Motorcycle & Car Show in the SHD parking lot.

It was free to attend which included all the ogling you could handle plus a free bbq lunch served up by CMA.

If you were among the 79 or so owners who chose to enter their vehicle in the

show, you received a professional photo of your pride & joy, taken by SHD's house photographer Randy Anagnostis. Your \$10 entry fee went to support the CMA's mission to "provide outreach and support to the motorcycling community".

New Life CMA {Christian Motorcyclists Association} is based in East Mesa. To

contact them email cmanewlifeaz@gmail.com

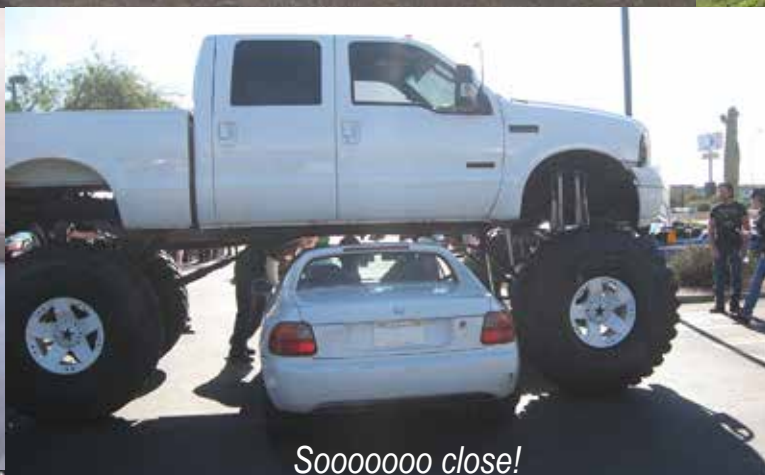
We're glad we could attend & kick off the New Year with a healthy dose of eye candy ☺

Betsy & Bruce

Add'l SHD photos by Randy Anagnostis {including this month's cover}



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