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[www.mrfae.org](http://www.mrfae.org)

**Motorcycle Riders Foundation  
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was established to promote motorcycle awareness and education due to an ever-increasing rider population. Motorcycle riders and activists have long recognized that motorcycle rider education and awareness are crucial in enhancing rider safety. No one is more concerned with rider safety than riders themselves, and obviously those best suited to educate newer riders are veteran riders.

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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.



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# National Armed Forces Freedom Ride

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The 8th annual National Armed Forces Freedom Ride took place on Saturday May 20, 2017. Armed Forces Day is celebrated each year on the third Saturday in May. The NAFFR is a nationwide effort, with Rides being held in some 20 or so states. Organizer Skeeter Peak has been integral in bringing this ride together here in Arizona. It is a family-friendly gathering and everyone is welcome.

The beneficiary is the Military Assistance Mission. Their mission is, "To provide financial and morale aid to our current Arizona active duty military, their families, and wounded warriors regardless of overseas deployment status." Learn more at their website <http://www.azmam.org/>

The day's schedule started at the American Legion Post 2, located at 2125 S Industrial Park Ave, in Tempe. More than 350 people attended the opening ceremony. Activities at Post 2 included a presentation by Dave Hampton, of AZ's Department of Veterans Services, on behalf of Governor Doug Ducey of the Governor's Proclamation making May 2017 'Military Appreciation Month' and May 20, 2017 Armed Forces Day.

Skeeter sends along "a big thank you to Marion Cartland publisher/editor for the <http://azvetveteransconnection.org/>. Her son Aaron Cartland lead the Flag presentation by The US Naval Sea Cadets. Another big thank you goes to Annette for singing the National Anthem for the second year in a row. And thank you also to Joe Miller with Liberty Wild Life for taking time out of his busy day to bring Aurora the eagle to represent the USA." She also thanks "all the volunteers who came out to help and support the event."

Not everyone at the Post was able to participate in the rest of the day's itinerary. But after the ceremony concluded, nearly 100 riders took off on a self-paced run of about 106 miles. Stops were at Momma Juggs in Coolidge, American Legion Post 9 in Florence, and last stop at Des-

ert Wind HD in Mesa. It was a points run that involved cards, dice, and rubber ducks. Always the creative one, aren't you ~ Skeeter? Prizes were for High total points, Low points, and Better Luck Next Time. Congratulations to the winners: High Score = 65 Points & \$125 to Greg Harrelson; Low Score = 28 Points & \$50 to Jason Kimbrough; and Better Luck Next Time = \$25 to Crazy Dave. The Shared Money Pot garnered the Anonymous winner \$140; who then donated \$35 back to MAM.

The last stop, hosted at Desert Wind HD included live music by Unknown Associates. Vendors & information booths included Heavenly Blings and Things {Greg Collins}, Discount Biker Supply, Bad Ass Clips {East Coast Bruce}, Sassy Bling Shirts {Kelly Guerin}, Bad MF {Ray Kanarek}, Patch Works {Linda Dahl}, VA Hospital Voluntary Services {Michael Herbert Administrative Officer}, and Crisis 22 Project {Dennis "Skervy" Hicks, VP & Gregg Petersen, President}. Raffles were drawn at the last stop as well. Melissa Hughes from Two Gals Events was the Bartender while her brother Scott Hughes along with Marine Mom Penny Besock were cooking up lunch in the Cookshack.

This day raised \$4200 for Military Assistance Mission. Skeeter expressed thanks to the NAFFR sponsors Desert Wind HD, Budweiser <http://hensley.com/>, Chuck Franklin Law <https://chuckfranklinlaw.com/>, Two Gals Events <http://twogalsevents.com/>, American Legion Riders Post 2, and Green Knights Chapter 28 out of Luke Air Force Base.

Thank you for your efforts on behalf of our Military! Congratulations on a day well spent!

*Betsy*

Learn more about this event at the website [www.facebook.com/NationalArmedForcesFreedomRideArizona/](http://www.facebook.com/NationalArmedForcesFreedomRideArizona/)



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**Motorcycling Organizations Contacts**

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ABATE of AZ [SMRO]	480-256-9237	H.O.G., Mother Road Chapter	888-757-1981
ACMC {AZ Confederation of Clubs}	520-426-0069	H.O.G., Phoenix Chapter	602-971-3400
Alliance of Marine Corps Veterans	480-217-9356	H.O.G., Superstition Chapter #1743	480-346-0626
American Cruisers MC of Phoenix	480-307-4309	H.O.G., Thunder Mountain	520-458-9500
American Legion Riders:		H.O.G., Yavapai AZ Chapter	928-632-4009
ALR Post 22, Golden Valley	928 565-4545	H.O.G., Tucson Chapter	520-792-0111
ALR Post 26, Mesa	602-320-5777	Medieval Maidens MC	623-341-2767
ALR Post 27, Apache Junction	602-690-7808	Modified Motorcycle Association AZ	520-252-9675
ALR Post 32, Safford	928-322-2580	Mountain Motorcycle Association	928-532-7693
ALR Post 35, Chandler	480-821-0002	MRF -Motorcycle Riders Foundation	1-800-MRF-JOIN
ALR Post 36, Tucson	520-603-1300	Nomadens MC	520-227-4401
ALR Post 39, Gilbert	480-892-7038	Old Fkin Vets VC	951-970-9245
ALR Post 40, Chino Valley	928-759-9449	Old Guard Riders	623-810-3745
ALR Post 41, Thunderbird, Phoenix	602-403-7401	Old Pueblo Riders	520-419-5865
ALR Post 58, Fountain Hills	602-818-2719	Patriot Guard Riders AZ	602-999-0632
ALR Post 86, Overgaard	928-300-4582	Purple Heart Riders	602-327-1498
ALR Post 105, Phoenix	602-938-1811	Reason Riders Association	602-377-8519
ALR Post 109, Corona de Tucson/Vail	520-731-2000	Revolution Phoenix Motorcycle RC	602-370-3109
ALR Post 117, Phoenix	602-358-7370	Rez Riders IMC	928-300-7066
ALR Post 138, Scottsdale	480-980-4347	Riders of Fire MC	520-266-3624
AMA [American Motorcyclist Ass'n]	1-800-AMA-JOIN	Road Queens MC	623-628-6361
AMX Motocross Club	602-881-7597	Rollin' Knights MC	602-214-2144
AZ Beemers	480-987-9339	Rolling Thunder® Inc.	908-735-4861
AZ Marine Riders Group	480-217-9356	Sisters of Scots WMC	928-458-6517
AZ Sun Chasers MC	602 689-3378	Sho Ryders MC	520-762-6306
AZ Trail Riders	602-766-1750	Soldiers For Jesus MC	623-203-3681
Bikers Against Child Abuse, Phoenix	800-371-9755	Southern AZ Harley Riders MC	520-249-9299
Bikers For Christ M/M - AZ	541-580-5014	Southern Cruisers Riding Club	623-341-9477
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Desert Road Riders MC	928-530-8058	Tucson Peacemakers	520-574-2909
Desert Souls [all bikes]	602-367-9522	Venom Riding Club [after 4:30p]	602-930-2665
Desert Thunder MC	602-402-4970	Vulcan Riders, Phoenix	602-696-8064
Eagle Riders, Tri-City	480-967-7948	Warrior Brotherhood VMC	602-317-5400
Flying Wheels of Sun Cities [all bikes]	623-546 8521	Weasels, Black Mtn Chapter, AZ	602-320-1728
Gold Wing Touring Association	480-390-7739	Wings of Phoenix [all bikes]	623-931-3942
GWRRRA [Goldwings]	520-885-5709	Wolves MC, Tucson	520-461-8508
Gypsy Riders	602-418-9225	Women in the Wind, Desert Diamonds	480-241-3358
H.O.G., East Valley #0024	480-844-0803	Women on Wheels/Desert Zephyrs Phx	623-385-2097



To have your organization listed, forward the name, phone # and website {if available} to us @ Editor@AZRiderSouthwest.com or P O Box 7375; Mesa, AZ 85216-7375 or call 480-921-0244. Visit www.AZRiderSouthwest.com for web links to these and other organizations

## 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. Service members need to enroll PROMPTLY and do it NOW by following these steps:

- **Obtain a copy of your service medical records prior to discharge.** Do not take any shortcuts when separating and do this immediately. Any idea of hurrying to get home may cost you time and money should you require VA Healthcare at any time in the future.
- A veteran has two years, after separation, to apply for medical conditions that are a result of their service in the military. After two years the process becomes more difficult.
- **If you require medical assistance from the VA after separation/discharge, bring with you a copy of your medical records, a copy of your DD-214, and two forms of picture identification.**
- Any injury or illness incurred while serving on active duty as a regular, reservist, or Federalized member of the National Guard needs to be noted in your medical records.
- **Enroll in the VA IMMEDIATELY. Do Not Procrastinate!!** Know your rights and your responsibilities. If you are not sure, ASK-ASK-ASK-ASK-ASK!!! Ensure that your transition is smooth. Know what you need to do, and DO IT!
- **Join a veterans service organization - American Legion, DAV, Rolling Thunder®, VFW, AMVETS, Marine Corps League, Alliance of Marine Corps Veterans, etc.**

IT'S YOUR DUTY TO DO SO!

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Scottsdale, AZ 85260  
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Advanced Course: September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2017  
\*All classes from 9am-4pm

Grand Canyon Harley-Davidson - 10434 AZ-69, Mayer, AZ 86333  
Basic Course: October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017  
Advanced Course: October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017  
Instructor Course: October 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>, 2017  
\*All classes from 9am-4pm

The Husband and Wife Law Team will be hosting a nationally recognized "A Crash Course for the Motorcyclist" class presented by Accident Scene Management. This nationally recognized course is typically offered at \$75 per person, but we have saved a handful of spots. The Husband and Wife Law Team are taking care of \$25 of your fee and providing a FREE LUNCH! Register and pay online at [www.accidentscene.org](http://www.accidentscene.org). Use the discount code BREYER to receive \$25 off your class.

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Editor@AZRiderSouthwest.com ✦ www.AZRiderSouthwest.com

**This Month's Contributors:**

Greg Ormson ✍ Lady Jewells ✍ Mike T.

**Advertising:** Bruce & Betsy | **Layout:** Meltdown & Fallout

**Distribution:** statewide

**Complaint Department:** Meltdown

AZ Rider Motorcycle News {AZR} is published twelve times per year. Submissions of articles, photos, and other interesting stuff are always welcome and will be considered for future issues. Deadline for submissions is the 15th of each month. By submitting material for publication, you are certifying that it is an original work, and not infringing upon others' property; unless otherwise stated and properly annotated. We reserve the right to edit submissions for content and length. Photos submitted for publication are received with an implied consent to use them. We apologize in advance if we use your picture against your wishes, but assume no responsibility in doing so.

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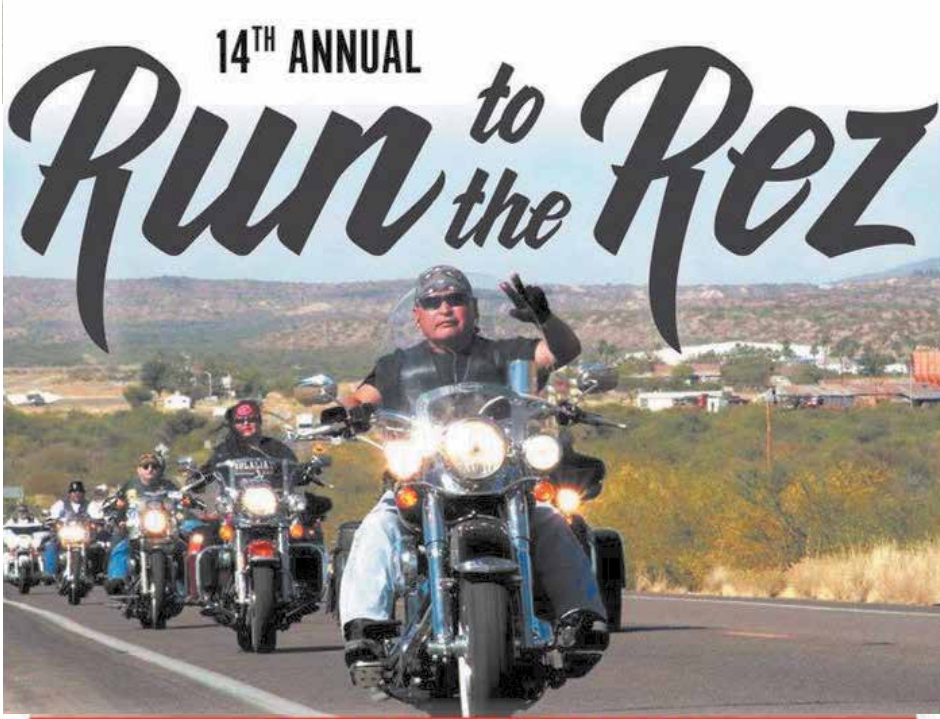
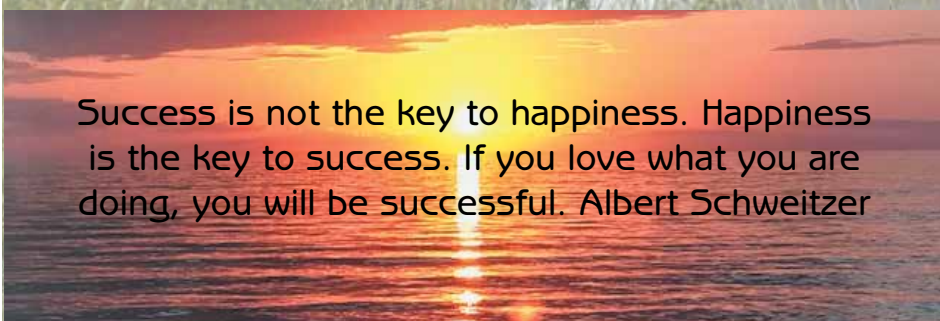
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**14<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL**  
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**Editors Column ...**

Hello AriZona Riders!

Well the thermometer may indicate otherwise, but there must be an end in sight to the summer... 'cause it's time to plan for Bob's Biker Blast, hosted by Harley-Davidson of Scottsdale & Go AZ Motorcycles to benefit Phoenix Children's Hospital! And before that is the 14th annual Run to the Rez, up at Apache Gold Casino on behalf of Veterans. Please mark your calendars and plan to support these worthwhile events. The 11-Mile Swap Meet is coming up too. Looking for that hard-to-find part to finish turning your rolling chassis into a bad-ass street bike? That's likely where you'll find it.



On the cover.... Eighteen years old... Wow ~ if AZ Rider was a kid, it would be a 'grown-up' & old enough to be out its own... or starting off to college. We're proud to be AriZona's longest continuously running motorcycle publication. We enjoy our work and appreciate hearing back from readers that they like what we're doing.

In our 18 years of publishing AZ Rider Motorcycle News we have been blessed in many ways. Among them is the continuous support of our Advertisers. Along with the newer businesses who share these pages, eight of our current sponsors have been with us for 10 years or more! Thank you for your ongoing testimonials!

Our reader base is wonderful ~ comprised of fans of both our hard-copy and online versions. We appreciate those who have been with us from the beginning, as well as those of you who have discovered us more recently. If you'd like to subscribe to our e-newsletter, you can do so via our webpage to be notified when our new e-editions are posted.

VENDORS ... Event organizers regularly ask us about vendors for their events. YOU need post your contact information to our Vendor Registry on our website. It's a FREE opportunity for you to get your business name out into the motorcycling community. While we're at it we'll remind you MUSICIANS out there that our Band Registry is also available for FREE to post your contact details. Each of these services has been part of our online presence since 2014 for use by event organizers. You are welcome to be a part of it.

We'll be sharing segments from our recent trip for a while... 26 days, 5431 miles, 14 states. What a beautiful country we live in! It was an outstanding adventure, filled with family, interesting places & people, & good times. Thank you to our brother Dennis for sending along some of his beautiful sunset photos to share.

This just in... If you've been following the Kirkland / Skull Valley protest regarding the opening of an open-pit pozzolan mine, the comment period has been extended to Sept 11. Read more at <http://kirklandmineforum.org/> or email [nokirklandmine@gmail.com](mailto:nokirklandmine@gmail.com) for more information.

We wish you each a great month and all the best in your world.

Ride safely ~ choose wisely & *Keep Your Butts On Your Putts!*

*Bruce & Betsy*

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Cabin Bar & Grill	12	Run to the Rez	7
Chandler Custom Cycles	16	San Tan Ford	11
Choice Hotels	2, 17	Stick Engineering	6
CPA - RK Silva PLLC	6	Soaring Eagle Jewelry	7
Dentist - Dr. Steve Vital	10	Swap Meet @ 11-Mile Corner	6
Evil Twin Custom Cycles	10	Treasures Flea Market	16

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# Law Tigers Arizona Mile



The Law Tigers Arizona Mile Flat Track Races took place on May 13, 2017. Law Tigers is proud to be the title sponsor of AMA's Pro Flat Track Arizona Mile at Turf Paradise. This is their second year sponsoring and they plan to do so for many years to come. Law Tigers was also co-promoter to this event this year ~ providing organizing, billboards, TV interviews, and other promotional materials.

This year's Grand Marshal was Ari Levenbaum, enjoying his ceremonial laps on an Indian motorcycle.

Ari wants to thank local sponsor Buddy Stubbs of Buddy Stubbs Harley-Davidson motorcycles. A motorcycle racer back in his day, Buddy took a five-lap trip around the track during the opening ceremonies on his 1972 Harley-Davidson XR-75; just one piece of motorcycling history housed in his museum in the Phoenix dealership.

Additional thanks go to Ride Now Indian for their sponsorship, in conjunction with national sponsor Indian Motorcycle Corporate.

8000 attendees came out to enjoy a beautiful day at the racetrack. Temps were cooler than last year. This event has already become one of the top three races of the country for attendance, even though it is one of the newest.

Ari shared that, even though the Law Tigers are injury attorneys they also support & sponsor other aspects of the motorcycling community ~ including racing. They are committed to growing their involvement in the racing community. Their spon-

sorships include EnduroCross and Flat Track, and recently added a national sponsorship of Arenacross. Ari expressed the possibility that Law Tigers may partner with their affiliates in other states such as Washington, Colorado and other Law Tiger states to sponsor more racing in those markets.

Law Tigers Arizona has started sponsoring local flat track racer, Cory Texter Racing. He qualified for the races but unfortunately couldn't compete when technical issues arose with his bikes.

Ari wants to thank his partners Chris Morgan and Charlie Frank without whom this race wouldn't happen. They've worked together six years, having started in Pomona promoting the [now disbanded] half-mile flat track races there.

Extensive preparations of the track this year made it harder packed, and even faster and better than last year ~ making for some exciting racing. Indian Motorcycles won all three podiums spots again, dominating over Harley-Davidson.

To quell potential noise concerns from area residential neighborhoods (after all, motorcycle racing is considerably louder than horse racing) the bikes had to be outfitted with special mufflers to keep the sound down. Initial reaction to this was concern about a loss of power. But in an ironic twist, some of the racers actually reported improved performance of their machines.

Photographer Mike T of Shutterbug Photography captured the day for us to share with you. Here's what he had to say about his day at the track...

"Race day is always exciting, add a dirt flat track and some of the finest flat track motorcycle riders in the country and you're guaranteed a great day. Arrive early for the best seating to be sure not to miss anything. Trials start early and the action in the pits is constant. Walking through the pits you can see how the different teams prep for the races. There is a variety of teams from smaller family teams to large corporate teams. That is only the beginning for there are many things to do and keep the fans occupied between races. There is entertainment from local musicians, vendors, food and drinks and your fellow races fans to swap stories with. There is seating indoors at Turf Paradise and outside in the stands. Inside offers viewing race coverage on TV screens on your table and food and beverages are nearby and there is the advantage of air conditioning. Outside in the stands you are near the entertainment and vendors and have a more direct experience. You can hear the racers as they fly around the track powering through the corners their feet on the ground to help control the bikes through the curves. Dirt track racing is not for the timid. Unlike racing on pavement, the dirt is unpredictable at times just to keep things interesting. The races are short and fast paced, which keeps things interesting. All in all a fun time was had by all. So next time someone says, 'Let's go to the races', check it out."

*Good advice!*

*Read the AFT press release on page 9 sharing some of the turn-by-turn action ...*







## Bryan Smith Takes Another Mile Win In Five-Lap Shootout With Teammate Brad Baker

### Shayna Texter ends win drought in an AFT Singles thriller

PHOENIX, Ariz. (May 13, 2017) – The Indian Wrecking Crew once again lived up to its moniker in the fourth round of the 2017 American Flat Track championship. The trio of factory riders secured a dominant sweep of the AFT Twins presented by Vance & Hines podium at the Law Tigers Arizona Mile presented by Indian Motorcycle.

Leading the charge around Turf Paradise was reigning Grand National Champion Bryan Smith. Smith drew upon every last ounce of his trademark Mile magic to position his No. 1 Indian Motorcycle Racing backed by Allstate Scout FTR750 ahead of the identical No. 6 Indian Scout FTR750 of Brad Baker at the checkered flag by a scant 0.057 seconds.

Following two red flags and with the sun quickly headed to the horizon, the AFT Twins presented by Vance & Hines Main Event was reconfigured into a dramatic five-lap shootout. At the second and final restart, Baker again resumed his place at the front of the field and appeared well on his way to grabbing his first victory of 2017. However, Smith had other ideas, ducking down the inside at the opening of the penultimate lap and held strong from there.

“It was a little bit of strategy,” Smith said. “I just sat on Brad’s rear tire, and luckily it worked out where I got by him with two to go. I went on by him and had just enough where I was a little bit better, mostly off of (Turn) 2.”

The cagey performance was the 20th Mile victory of Smith’s career, good enough to rank fifth most in American Flat Track history. It was also his 28th overall AFT Twins win, which ties him with fellow Michigan natives Bart Markel and Henry Wiles for tenth on the all-time order.

“It’s pretty cool at 28 wins that I tied Bark Markel, the original godfather of the Michigan Mafia,” Smith said. “And it’s pretty special for me to be, I believe, the only rider to win a Mile on three different brands and tie his record. Hopefully next weekend I can break it.”

Runner-up Baker said, “I wanted that win so dang bad. I don’t think I’ve wanted a win more in my life. This type of track is one I typically struggle at – one that’s dry, slick, one-lined – where you kind of have to go slow to go fast and ride with a lot of discipline.”

add'l pix from Mike T ~ [Shutterbug Photography AZ](#)



“I’d be lying if I said I wasn’t disappointed and angry. But they call Bryan the “Master of the Miles,” and he’s great at this. This is definitely a heartbreaker because I was the guy to beat all day... We’re on identical equipment so it’s not like I had any more horsepower than him or he had any more horsepower than me. It was all about who was the best rider, and today, Bryan proved his experience and craft on the Miles.”

Smith now sits perfectly even on top of the AFT Twins title fight with Jared Mees (No. 9 Indian Motorcycle Rogers Racing Scout FTR750) at 87 apiece. Mees retained a share of the points lead by furthering his season-long string of podium results with a close third.

Despite struggling with shifter issues, Mees managed to keep Smith and Baker honest throughout and finished just over a half-second back of the win.

“It was good for Indian Motorcycle, but we just didn’t quite have it today,” Mees said. “Honestly, we were third place all day... I was pretty much a sitting duck in third; we couldn’t really do anything. I was just grateful to get it into gear really quick off the line and kind of latch onto these guys. Brad had a helluva pace early on, but hats off to Bryan – he just put in a veteran move in on that last lap and a half and made it happen. I feel like Brad was probably the fastest, but Bryan out-schooled him.”

Thanks to the combined efforts of Smith and Mees early in 2017, the Indian Scout FTR750 has now opened its first full season of American Flat Track competition by claiming a victory in each Grand Slam discipline (TT, Short Track, Half-Mile, Mile).

Sammy Halbert continued to make his mark as the top privateer with a solid fourth-place run aboard the No. 69 Estenson Logistics Yamaha FZ-07. Halbert actually had to put in a charge just to snare the final qualifying position in the LCQ in order to advance into the Semis. But following that early scare, Halbert proved himself to be the only rider capable of reliably keeping the Indian Wrecking Crew in sight in Phoenix, even if only for a handful of laps at a time.

Jarod Vanderkooi (No. 20 Richie Morris Racing Kawasaki Ninja 650) completed the top five, finishing just ahead of the similarly mounted Briar Bauman (No. 14 Zanotti Racing Kawasaki Ninja 650) and Jake Shoemaker (No. 55 Weirbach Racing Kawasaki USA Kawasaki Ninja 650).

Harley-Davidson’s early-season woes continued at Turf Paradise. Jake Johnson (No. 5 Harley-Davidson Factory Flat Track Team XG750R) was the only rider among the firm’s trio of factory-backed talents to make the Main Event. To make matters worse, Johnson’s day then ended in a crash which brought out one of the aforementioned red flags.

**Texter Takes Title Lead With AFT Singles Triumph**

Shayna Texter stepped forward to seize control of the AFT Singles class with a hard-earned win aboard her No. 52 Richie Morris Racing Honda CRF450R.

Texter was hounded throughout the Main by Tristan Avery (No. 16 Ron Ayers Honda CRF450R) and Brandon Price (No. 92 DPC Racing/Don’s Kawasaki KX450F), but proved almost impossible to draft by and even more difficult to stay in front of.

Texter said, “It was a long 15 laps. I just tried to stay smooth and make as few mistakes as I possibly could. I knew those guys were on me; I could see them in my shadow going down the back stretch. I just tried to be smart and keep them behind me.”

The narrow .041 of a second win was the seventh of Texter’s AFT Singles career and her first since the 2013 season. Her 2017 campaign is trending upward in a serious fashion; she’s now logged third-, second-, and first-place finishes in consecutive events.

“It feels awesome to get back up there – it’s been a rough couple of years,” Texter admitted. “I finally get to ride a motorcycle that’s stable and allows me to show what I have under the helmet. It’s really exciting to get back up here.”

The Law Tigers Arizona Mile [aired] on NBCSN on Thursday, July 27, at 10 p.m. ET/7 p.m. PT. For race highlights click here: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X-PAGIT4c\\_E](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X-PAGIT4c_E)

American Flat Track power[ed] right into the second of its run of four Miles in four weeks with the Harley-Davidson Sacramento Mile presented by Cycle Gear on Saturday, May 20.

Fans can also keep up-to-date with race day action by following American Flat Track on Facebook (American Flat Track), Twitter (@AmericanFlatTrk) and Instagram (@AmericanFlatTrack).

*Award Updates:* AFT Singles

McElroy Packaging Lucky 7 – #52 Shayna Texter  
Motul Move of the Race – #52 Shayna Texter

AFT Twins presented by Vance & Hines  
Ohlins Fastest Lap – #1 Bryan Smith  
McElroy Packaging Lucky 13 – #1 Bryan Smith

How to Watch: NBCSN and FansChoice.tv are the official homes for coverage of American Flat Track events. All 18 rounds, from the season-opening DAYTONA TT to the American Flat Track Finals in Southern California, will air in one-hour, tape-delayed telecasts on Thursday nights throughout the summer and fall on NBCSN, while FansChoice.tv provides live streaming coverage of American Flat Track events. FansChoice.tv also provides coverage of IMSA’s development and single-make series, and NASCAR’s touring and weekly series. Catch all the action at <http://www.nbcsports.com/> and <http://www.FansChoice.tv>.

*About American Flat Track:*

American Flat Track is the world’s premier dirt track motorcycle racing series and one of the longest-running championships in the history of motorsports. Sanctioned by AMA Pro Racing in Daytona Beach, Fla., the series is highly regarded as the most competitive form of dirt track motorcycle racing on the globe. For more information on American Flat Track, please visit <http://www.americanflattrack.com>, follow us on Twitter, like us on Facebook, live stream the events at FansChoice.tv and catch all the American Flat Track racing action on NBCSN.

###



If you've ever considered a visit to the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, the only reason you truly need is the sunsets ☺

If you are also a motorcyclist, then you have even more to look forward to... beautiful roads through scenic countryside, small towns full of history, and long days for riding... Summer sunsets clock in between 9:30-10pm, with last light about a half-hour after that. So ~ after a day's riding, enjoy a bonfire on the beach to watch a spectacular sunset. It doesn't get much closer to perfect than that.

At the time of this writing, Michigan is a 'freedom of choice' state regarding helmets; that is, as long as you have their state-mandated insurance minimum. As always before departing on a road trip, be sure and check what the current regulations are in the various states you'll be rolling through.

Whichever route gets you there, you'll notice quickly that the pace slows *waaayyyy* down when you're traveling above the Mighty Mac... The Mackinac Bridge takes you from Lower Michigan to the Upper Peninsula, across the Straits of Mackinac. OR if you're traveling in from the west, Wisconsin will be your gateway to the U.P.

Once your internal clock resets from the pace many people call 'normal' and remember that it is okay to enjoy being 'busy' doing what may feel like 'nothing' for a while ~ you'll do just GREAT. It's very refreshing, truly relaxing, restorative, and does wonders for recharging your batteries.

We saw a LOT of bikes in our travels. Riding season up there is May - October... if you don't mind getting chilly. July & August seem to be the most consistent for good riding weather. But even at that, be sure to have your rain suit and some warm gear in your pack. The

weather can be changeable. Some days while we were there in July the high got to 80 degrees, and we found ourselves in some significant rain a couple of times.

If you prefer to participate in a planned ride, rather than just adventuring on your own, there is an active motorcycling calendar here. June through August is when the bulk of organized runs take place; with one-time events and weekly bike night gatherings bringing riders together for fundraising, camaraderie, and general 'memory making'.

Whether you are traveling by 2-, 3-, or four wheels, you'll find museums, state and national park lands, lighthouses, interesting small towns, and friendly people. Lake Superior is an extraordinary place, with a great deal of history all its own. One stands on its shore looking to the horizon and there's no land in sight... as with an ocean. Its sand is powder soft and fine. BUT ☺ even in the summer the water can be quite cold ... so desert rats are unlikely to relish a swim ~ lol.

Our explorations included the Ontonagon Light House and Lake of the Clouds. The Light House tour included a climb up into the lantern room, offering a unique perspective from which to view Lake Superior and our surroundings. Our tour guide Mr. Johanson is extremely well-versed in local history; making his presentation very engaging. A trip

through the Historical Museum, the departure point for the Tour, provided a glimpse into the area reckoning back into the 1800's & earlier. History here encompasses mining, logging, the fur trade, Native Americans, shipping, and more. A forest hike up to the cliff-top vista of Lake of the Clouds rewards you with a beautiful overview of lush green old-growth forest surrounding the Lake. We've heard that this is also a magnificent sight during fall's change of colors. Its home, the Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park, is Michigan's largest state park ~ a popular destination for hiking, fishing, bird watching, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, & more.

The U.P. is truly a four-season vacation destination. If you enjoy viewing the fall colors, the U.P.'s "Color Season" can provide you with an amazing display. Camping, waterfalls, hunting, boating, & more are all part of what the Upper Peninsula has to offer. If you are into skiing, snowmobiling, and other winter sports... the U.P. has your name written all over it as well. Did you know that Michigan has the most ski areas in the USA aside from New York? Neither did we ☺

We found a useful reference while we were there called the *Upper Peninsula Motorcycle Travel Guide*. In it you'll find information about biker-friendly lodgings, places to eat, maps, suggested roads, & more. If you decide to make a run to the U.P., you'd be well served to visit U.P. Cruising online at <https://upcruising.com>. You can order the book & pay to have it shipped to you OR pick it up for free at any of the Michigan Welcome Centers in the Upper Peninsula, as well as at participating businesses.

We thoroughly enjoyed our trip to the Upper Peninsula and feel it has a great deal to offer most anyone looking for a new & interesting place for a tour. Enjoy your trip!

*Betsy & Bruce*



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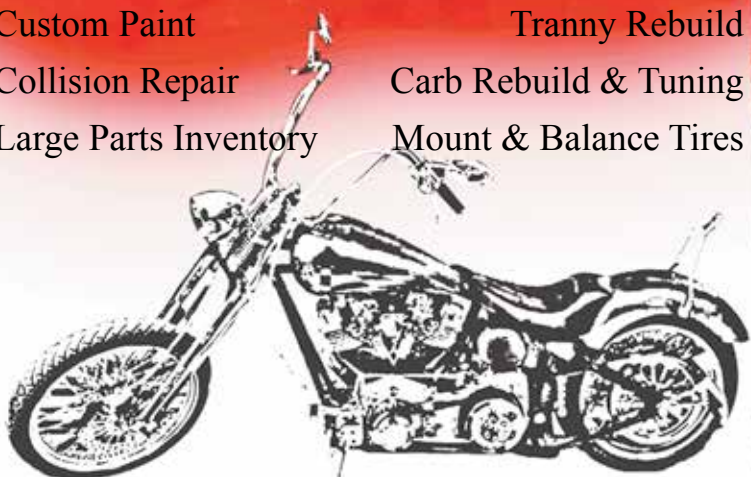
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Phoenix Motor Leathers, Letting the Love Flow  
by Greg Ormson

When you meet Tina, you can't help but be impressed by her integrity. And when you walk into Phoenix Motor Leathers, the obvious statement from every corner of the store is care. Attention must be paid to accomplish anything, and Phoenix Motor Leathers has obviously paid attention to their customers, their brand, and their mission. "We are bikers here to provide gear for bikers," she said.

Phoenix Motor Leathers was established in the year 2000 but in 2017 it was newly rebranded. In June this year, they moved to their current location at 128 West Main St., - smack dab in the middle of Friday Night Bike Nights in Mesa. On September 1, they will celebrate their Grand Opening at the store which corresponds to the first fall Friday Night Bike Night. It's easy to believe this won't be the last celebration offered by Phoenix Motor Leathers, for this store looks every bit a rising success story.

Tina has a staff of full and part-time employees and they're all bikers. They care deeply about the biking community, and I can testify to this from personal experience, as not long ago I purchased a leather jacket that had to be returned. When I reminded Tina of my positive experience, she said, "We're just bikers trying to help bikers. It's the reason we're here." The cynic will counter that everyone says that, and it may be true, but I experienced it, and bikers are wise enough to know the test of truth is experience and everything else can hit the road.

A shopping experience in the store sets it apart. It's not like some leather shops trotting out a bunch of dusty boxes for boots that have dried out, or displaying a couple helmets and some discount T-shirts. Phoenix Motor Leathers appeals to the eyes with its well-lit, smartly arranged, clean shop. Frosting on the cake is that you're greeted with a smile and treated with courtesy, and the sparkling

chrome racks are draped with gorgeous brand leather-wear and accessories.

The shop features a complete sewing service for patches and repairs, has a strong selection of helmets, boots, travel gear, and a wealth of eye-catching biker candy; "It's the largest selection in Arizona," Tina said.

She doesn't labor under the notion of business as a headache, and her positive attitude is infectious, "It's not a hassle, it's a breeze," she said. But don't be fooled. Behind this breezy version of success in business, customer engagement, and service to the biking community is a well-trained and analytically planned business venture.

From the first job she had at 18 - working in California at Santa Barbara Yamaha - Tina said she loved the biker community. "I was lucky, because the owner was trying to promote women in cycling and I happened to be there. They were very supportive of me," she said.

A description of her hiring end game might surprise: "Hire the best people you can and don't interfere." This may seem simple, but its undergirded by years of study, work, supervision, leadership training, and experience from her previous career.

"When providing leadership," she said, "I highlight the importance of work-life balance, recognition and praise for positive contributions, investment in people, and advocacy for my team. Everybody wants to be part of a good team and be recognized as a contributor to that team."

When asked if she had a message for the biker community, she enthusiastically responded, "Swing by the shop."

"We are part of our community and we care about it," she said, "and we try to make it a fun environment. I have a number of customers that come in just to hang out for a while. They swiftly become friends, and there's always a kindred spirit when they show up. It's almost as if we were neighbors."

The shop gets involved with all the neighbors

by setting up in vending areas and meeting people at events like the Westgate bike nights, the Desert Wind Harley-Davidson bike nights, and a number of other bike events to which they are invited.

"We go and have a blast, and all of it goes back to my employees," she said. "They are hand chosen, and every single one of them has that special spark that we need at the store and during events."

Like many businesses, Phoenix Motor Leathers experiences people walking through the doors looking for sponsorships. "I try not to turn anybody away, but it must be a legitimate charity," she said.

The power of online shopping is part of the new reality for any business, but Tina has an educated view on it, "Because of our sewing shop, we are in a unique position to know what happens outside the shop. Many people come in asking if we can alter a piece of clothing because they bought it online and didn't have a chance to try it out first."

Most of all, the staff is open, and they want to tattoo their reputation on the community as a well-equipped shop going out of its way to care and to serve. "We want people to come here so we can meet them and they can know our brand and get to know us. We've just established a new logo, and one of the fun things I do is pay for it if you have our logo tattooed on your body. It's a brand-new thing we've arranged with Mesa Tattoo Company, new to the area."

So next time you're looking for biker gear, don't just cruise the Internet, get out your bike and cruise down to Phoenix Motor Leathers to check out the shop. You'll find a rich selection that's sure to entice you into opening your wallet and letting the love flow, because that's what you'll experience at Phoenix Motor Leathers.

Stop in at 128 West Main St., Mesa, call 480-827-1868, or visit on the web at PhoenixMotorLeathers.com. Please mention you read about 'em here in *AZ Rider Motorcycle News*.

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Happy Belated Birthday to Helen Musselman, who marked her 100th birthday back in June. This lady still works at the dealership she & her husband Pappy started back in 1946. Musselman Honda in Tucson AZ is the only Honda dealership in the country to have the same family ownership since it began.

\* &amp; &amp; &amp; \*

*Happy Anniversary in September to*

Athena & Joe Anderson  
Bob & Carmen Moreno  
Clyde Brooks & Jean Cooper  
Doug & Jessica Keatts  
Marcus & Cheri Vincent  
Michael & Gina {Dittmar} O'Shaughnessey  
And us ~ B&B ~ celebrating 21 years ☺

\* &amp; &amp; &amp; \*

*Gone But Not Forgotten*

Robert 'Big Dog Alley' Allen ~ September 28, 2006  
Ben 'ZZ' McLachlan ~ September 22, 2009  
Patricia Fitzgerald ~ September 30, 2012  
Carol Madden ~ September 22, 2015

\* &amp; &amp; &amp; \*

July 21-23, 2017 ... The Cabin Bar & Grill, 2763 Hwy 260 in Overgaard, AZ hosted its annual Biker Bash. Beneficiary of this year's fundraiser was again Packages From Home [www.packagesfromhome.org/]. Thank you to Cabin owner Raynita for sharing news of the day.

The party started on Friday with Vendor set up, DJ Billy Ray in the afternoon, and live music with the band SIRINGO at night. They would return for Saturday night as well. 'The new stage was finished just in time for Siringo to set up, thanks to Steve Carlson!' Saturday morning began with a Flag Raising & American Legion Honor Guard Salute. 53 riders rolled out on the Poker Run. Those who stayed behind could enjoy the Cabin's Bloody Mary Bar.

There was afternoon music from DJ Billy Ray, and bike games hosted by CMA. There was also a silent auction, raffles, & a 50/50. Vendors included tattoos by Cory Young & HK Tattoo Studio.

Riders returned from their 120-mile ride which included stops at Buffalo Bills Tavern & Grill at Bison Ranch Parkway in Show Low; RT's Black Bull, Show Low; Screaming Chicken Saloon, Concho; Ranch House Saloon, Snowflake; & the American Legion Post 86, Overgaard. It was a self-paced ride, with everyone due back at the Cabin by 3pm. 'They ran into some rain but had a blast and stayed safe.' High-hand Winner was Kim Mathews. The low-hand winner did not come forward to claim his prize, so the money was donated to the fundraiser.

We learned from Raynita that there was a great turnout of campers and day visitors. 'The rain on Friday hindered some of the visitors but Saturday was an awesome turnout!' She also clarified that, 'Our biker bashes are always family friendly.' A total of \$2025 was raised for Packages From Home. It will certainly be put to good use!

The Cabin's annual Halloween Party to close the season will take place on October 28, 2017 ~ so start planning your costumes for the contest. This is always a good night. FMI: 928-535-6117 or <http://tinyurl.com/hbp7wd2>

\* &amp; &amp; &amp; \*

June 20, 2017 ... Recall > NHTSA Campaign #: 17V388000  
*Possible Fuel Leak from the Fuel Filler Cap Area.*  
Potential Number of Units Affected: 1,029.

Summary: KTM North America, Inc. (KTM) is recalling certain 2016-2017 KTM 690 Duke motorcycles. The affected motorcycles may leak fuel from filler cap area of the fuel tank. A fuel leak increases the risk of fire or injury to the rider.

Remedy: A remedy plan has not yet been determined nor has the manufacturer provided a notification schedule. Customers may contact KTM customer service at 1-888-985-6090.

Notes: *For any of these posted NHTSA recalls*, 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](http://www.safercar.gov).

\* &amp; &amp; &amp; \*

June 30, 2017 ... Recall > NHTSA Campaign #: 17V423000  
*Incorrect VIN on Label/FMVSS 567.*  
Potential Number of Units Affected 40.

If the stamped vehicle identification number (VIN) does not match the VIN on the Vehicle Certification Label, owners may be unable to tell if their vehicle is under an important safety recall.

Summary: Yamaha Motor Corporation, USA (Yamaha) is recalling certain 2017 Yamaha YZFR3 motorcycles. The affected motorcycles, intended for the US market, may have been manufactured with a Canadian Motor Vehicle Certification Label. As such, these vehicles fail to comply with the requirements of 49 CFR Part 567, "Certification."

Remedy: Yamaha will notify owners, and dealers will replace the Vehicle Certification Label, free of charge. The recall began July 21, 2017. Owners may contact Yamaha customer service at 1-800-962-7926. Yamaha's number for this recall is 990115.

\* &amp; &amp; &amp; \*

July 10, 2017 ... Recall > NHTSA Campaign #: 17V438000  
*Fork Tube may Detach From Upper Triple Clamp.*  
Potential Number of Units Affected: 14,626

Summary: BMW of North America, LLC (BMW) is recalling certain 2014-2017 BMW R1200GS and BMW R1200GS Adventure motorcycles. The motorcycle fixed fork tube may separate from the pressed in seal plug that secures the tube to the upper triple clamp. If the fork tube detaches from the sealing plug, the handling and stability of the motorcycle will be affected, increasing the risk of a crash.

Remedy: BMW will notify owners, and dealers will add an additional fixed fork tube bush. A fork that is sufficiently damaged will be replaced with a modified new part. These repairs will be made free of charge. The recall is expected to begin September 1, 2017. Owners may contact BMW customer service at 1-800-525-7417.

\* &amp; &amp; &amp; \*

July 10, 2017 ... Recall > NHTSA Campaign #: 17V436000  
*No Warning of Turn Signal Lamp Failure/FMVSS 108.*  
Potential Number of Units Affected: 10.

Summary: Zero Motorcycles Inc. (Zero) is recalling certain 2017 S ZF6.5, S ZF13.0, DSP ZF13.0, and SR ZF13.0 motorcycles. In the event that a turn signal stops working, the turn signal flasher may not change its flash rate to alert the operator. As such, these vehicles fail to comply with the requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) number 108, "Lamps, Reflective Devices, and Associated Equipment." If motorcycle is operated without knowing that a turn signal is not working, there would be an increased risk of a crash.

Remedy: Zero will notify owners and dealers will test the motorcycle's flasher, replacing it as necessary, free of charge. The recall began on July 25, 2017. Owners may contact Zero customer service at 1-888-841-8085. Zero's number for the recall is SV-ZMC-017-369.

\* &amp; &amp; &amp; \*

July 3, 2017 ... Recall > NHTSA Campaign #: 17V426000  
*Wiring for Hazard Warning Lights may be Damaged.*  
Potential Number of Units Affected: 635

Summary: Triumph Motorcycles America, LTD (Triumph) is recalling certain 2017-2018 Triumph Street Cup motorcycles. The wiring harness for the hazard warning lights may be pulled and strained during normal steering action. The pulled wires may cause the wires to pull loose from the connector resulting in a loss of the hazard warning lights, reducing the motorcycles visibility when hazard warning lights are wanted, increasing the risk of a crash.

Remedy: Triumph will notify owners, and dealers will extend the wiring length by installing a supplemental harness, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin in July 2017. Owners may contact Triumph customer service at 1-678-854-2010. Triumph's number for this recall is Safety Recall 549.

\* &amp; &amp; &amp; \*

July 11, 2017 ... Recall > NHTSA Campaign #: 17V465000  
*Defective Tail/Brake Light Assembly.*  
Potential Number of Units Affected: 1,888.

Summary: Kawasaki Motors Corp., U.S.A. (Kawasaki) is recalling certain 2017 Versys-X 300 motorcycles. A loose tail/

brake light socket may allow the bulb to fall out. Without a working tail/brake light, there is an increased risk of a crash. Remedy: Kawasaki will notify owners, and dealers will replace the tail/brake light socket, free of charge. The recall began on July 31, 2017. Owners may contact Kawasaki customer service at 1-866-802-9381.

\* &amp; &amp; &amp; \*

July 22, 2017 ... Recall > NHTSA Campaign #: 17V468000  
*Front Brake Disc Screws may Loosen.*  
Potential Number of Units Affected: 382

Summary: Piaggio Group Americas, Inc. (Piaggio) is recalling certain 2015-2017 Piaggio Fly 150 3V ie scooters. The front brake disc mounting screws may loosen and contact the brake caliper holding plate or the fork leg. If a screw loosens and contacts the caliper holding plate or the fork leg, the front wheel may suddenly lock up, increasing the risk of crash.

Remedy: Piaggio has notified owners, and dealers will tighten the front brake disc mounting screws after applying a thread-locking adhesive, free of charge. The recall began July 31, 2017. Owners may contact Piaggio customer service at 1-212-380-4433. Piaggio's number for this recall is 0000313.

\* &amp; &amp; &amp; \*

July 24, 2017 ... Recall > NHTSA Campaign #: 17V469000  
*Swing Arm may Loosen.*  
Potential Number of Units Affected: 180

Summary: Piaggio Group Americas, Inc. (Piaggio) is recalling certain 2018 Liberty 50 iGet 3V scooters. The nut that holds the rear swing arm to the frame may loosen allowing the swing arm to move out of position. The shifting swing arm may cause a loss of control, increasing the risk of a crash.

Remedy: Piaggio will notify owners, and dealers will check the swing arm nut torque, tightening or replacing the nut, bolt and washer, free of charge. The recall began on August 2, 2017. Owners may contact Piaggio customer service at 1-212-380-4433.

\* &amp; &amp; &amp; \*

July 28, 2017 ... Recall > NHTSA Campaign #: 17V481000  
*Reflex Reflector Visibility Blocked/FMVSS 108.*  
Potential Number of Units Affected: 29,281.

Summary: BMW of North America, LLC (BMW) is recalling certain 2013-2017 R1200GS, F800R and F800GT motorcycles, 2014-2017 R1200GS Adventure motorcycles, 2016-2017 S1000XR motorcycles and 2015-2017 R1200R and R1200RS motorcycles. When equipped with the optional aluminum luggage cases, the rear reflex reflectors may be partially blocked. The aluminum case mounts for the R1200GS and R1200GS Adventure may also partially block the reflectors. As such, these vehicles fail to comply with the requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) number 108, "Lamps, Reflective Devices, and Associated Equipment." If the rear reflex reflectors are obscured from view, it can increase the risk of a crash.

Remedy: BMW will notify owners, and dealers will install reflectors on the cases or for the case mounts, an additional bracket with rear reflex reflectors, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin September 21, 2017. Owners may contact BMW customer service at 1-800-525-7417.

\* &amp; &amp; &amp; \*

August 3, 2017 ... Recall > NHTSA Campaign #: 17V488000  
*Brake Light may not Illuminate/FMVSS 108.*  
Potential # of Units Affected: 911

Summary: BMW of North America, LLC (BMW) is recalling certain 2014-2017 R1200RT Police motorcycles. While being used in a special operating mode, the brake lights on these motorcycles may not illuminate when the brakes are applied. As such, these vehicles fail to comply with the requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) number 108, "Lamps, Reflective Devices, and Associated Equipment." If the brake light does not illuminate, other drivers may not know that the motorcycle is stopping, increasing the risk of a crash.

Remedy: BMW will notify owners, and dealers will update the motorcycle's software, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin September 25, 2017. Owners may contact BMW customer service at 1-800-525-7417.

\* &amp; &amp; &amp; \*

Share your news within AZ's Biker Community. Boast about a grand-baby, extend congratulations or well wishes, send someone kudos for a promotion, announce an engagement, welcome your GI home. You get the idea.

Send an email to [editor@azridersouthwest.com](mailto:editor@azridersouthwest.com),  
subject line: Community News.

\* &amp; &amp; &amp; \*

## Did You Know...? Common Benefits of Yoga Have Every Day Applications to Motorcycling

### Fixing our Backs, Riding our Bikes

By Gregory Ormson ~ [www.gregoryormson.com](http://www.gregoryormson.com)  
Greg writes on motorcycling, yoga, the Midwest, & music

There's a truth in our biking communities that we don't like: aging, illness, and injury hammer us. We're losing strength, our balance is faltering, our eyesight isn't as good as it once was – neither are our reactions – and we're becoming inflexible. After a long day on the road our necks ache, our backs are tight, and arms are heavy. And whether you agree or not, I'm sure we can agree that no matter what, aging doesn't mean we stop riding.

I'm a certified Motorcycle Safety Foundation (MSF) Basic Rider Coach. I've noticed the second part of the MSF mission states, "lifelong quality education and training for current and prospective riders." But we should ask, what does the MSF do to address the rider and his/her long term health, safety and comfort.

I think the curriculum focuses where it must for beginning riders. We familiarize them with the bike and start with classroom lessons on cornering strategies and the apex of curves. We note that braking involves perception, reaction and learning how to use all the technological advantages of new motorcycles.

New riders are taught to experiment with the friction zone and learn the importance of keeping their eyes up and toward the horizon; they're encouraged to buy good gear and pay attention to gravity when packing the bike, yet the most important part of the motorcyclists' long-term experience is his/her physical and mental comfort level and safety.

A brief statement about flexibility, aging, and physical fitness as appendices to the curriculum would go a long way to raising a rider's awareness about their future in riding, a future in which their strength, range of motion, and balance can make the difference between comfort or discomfort.

For a while, I had to stop riding because of an old back injury. But five years ago I started yoga and that has

fixed my back. This may not work for everyone, but I heard the same story many times when talking with other people in yoga classes. As a result of my experience, I have now trained to teach yoga, and am a registered 200-hour teacher. Now I want to blend my two interests and pass it on to others.

Yoga for riders is one way to help deal with the damage of time. Yoga for riders will at the very least increase flexibility and range of motion in the neck and shoulders. It's not an exaggeration to say that an improvement in a rider's flexibility, with a better ability to look left and right, might actually save their life. "People don't stop driving because of bad eyesight, they stop because they can't turn their head to the side," a DMV employee recently said.

Motorcyclists typically are not doing yoga. They may hold stereotypes that yoga is easy, or for skinny men only. Some might think it's only a women's activity. But recently, professional football and basketball players are putting that stereotype to rest. Two MVPs in their respective leagues, Aaron Rodgers (NFL) and LeBron James (NBA) have talked specifically about yoga and its benefits. Yoga and its mental component is also making great inroads treating agitated jail or prison populations and in high schools and colleges.

Motorcyclists should be able to see through stereotypes, having been subjects of stereotypes about motorcyclists in the past. In many ways, yoga and motorcycling have been subject to a similar fate, and are often labeled which is an easy way to dismiss non-typical activities.

Many believe yoga is only for women, but from its origin, and up to 1937, yoga was practiced only by men and today in the U.S. about 20 percent of yoga participants are men. Motorcycling falls to similar sexist stereotypes and many people still believe motorcycling is only for men. The reality today is that nearly 25 percent of all riders are women. The culture is changing; stereotypes of motorcycling and yoga no longer apply.

Actually, yoga and motorcycling have similar requirements: both activities require a good level of mental and physical stamina; both are voluntary – that is – we do the

activities because we choose to; both can lead to a sense of relaxation, wellness, and freedom. Both can open doors to new experiences and new people.

Both require learning. It's not safe for any beginner to simply throw a leg up over a bike and drive away. A prepared rider, after taking a good rider safety course, is a better and safer rider. No beginner should do yoga without a teacher giving careful instructions to help avoid injury. Neither activity requires a religious affiliation, yet some stereotypes brand motorcyclists as part of political perspective or a gang, and yoga is wrongly branded as an outreach of Hinduism.

As we age and begin to consider our motorcycling days might be limited or even coming to an end, maybe it's time for all of us to jump on that bike and aim our independent spirit on a long ride to a yoga studio. Two good things can happen: First, if you go out of town you'll have a great excuse to take a ride and second, nobody will even know you tried yoga.

Start out easy with beginner classes. In time observe how you improve at doing what is asked. You may find increased range of motion in your neck or improved twisting from side to side. Perhaps the forward and backward bending in your class will begin strengthening your spine, and your back will begin to feel better. You might notice your balance improves and that you suddenly find you have a better ability to concentrate.

Notice how yoga's lessons on breathing and relaxation in the midst of stress become methods for dealing with problems. Breathing deeply is so important that it may be enough to shift perspective and bring calmness.

These simple lessons will lead to more comfort and safety on your bike. I must warn you though, yoga is not easy. But those of us who have spent their lives on the road know full well the toll that injury, illness and age can take and we've never been enamored of easy.

When I think of bikers, I don't think of a group of people looking for the easy way out but the way to make it work. Here's a tip, take a deep breath and ask yourself, when was the last time you were really happy with easy?

### Common Benefits of Yoga & their Application to Motorcycling

Increased strength and muscle tone through weight bearing and balancing postures.

*For large bikes and long tours, building strength for long days on the road.*

Improved balance by practicing one-leg standing postures.

*Better control in tight U turns and backing.*

Increased mental focus and coordination, clarity of thought developed by balance and silence in yoga practice.

*The difference between life and death on the bike is directly related to mental focus and clarity.*

Improved sleep after a hard yoga practice.

*No dozing during the day.  
Better sleep will lead to increased energy on the road.*

Improved posture. *Back pain can be a thing of the past.*

Boost immune system by massage of internal organs through poses of constriction and release.

*Internal organs take a pounding on the bike, and yoga's corrective is the massage of internal organs by postures.*

Improved flexibility by bending and stretching.

*Pick up what you drop with no problem or pain.*

Improved adaptability to stress by postures that place stress on the body and the teacher's admonitions to relax and breathe in the midst of stress.

*Keep calm on the road – the first lesson we learn in Drivers Ed.*

Gregory Ormson has moved to Arizona from Wisconsin. This fall, he will be offering yoga sessions for riders on the outdoor second-floor patio at Superstition Harley Davidson (date & times follow). Ormson is not promoting religion or philosophy, but a way of improving flexibility and balance so riders can keep doing what they do: RIDE ON!

Sept. 24 (Sun). 10:00a – 10:55am | Sept. 27 (Wed). 5:00p – 5:55pm  
Sept. 30 (Sat). 10:00a – 10:55am

FMI: 808.640.4624, [greg.ormson@gmail.com](mailto:greg.ormson@gmail.com), [www.gregoryormson.com](http://www.gregoryormson.com)

### Metro Jay's 'Operation Oregon...'

In our travels, we met a rider in Baker City, OR. While we'll be talking about Baker City another time, this fellow deserves his own space to share a bit of his story.

When we met Jay Galloway, he was on his way to Sturgis... not an unusual destination for motorfolk in the summer. What made his trek noteworthy is his mode of transportation and his route to get there.

Jay is a 62-year old retired Marine. He started his journey in Kentucky on June 30. The tour, dubbed 'Operation Oregon & Back' was a cross-country loop from his home, to the Coast, and back... timed to fit a Sturgis layover.

When we met him he had traveled 4000 mile so far. His ride? A 2017 Metropolitan step-through 50cc scooter. Yes, you heard right ☺ A new friend along the way christened the scooter 'Wander', adding the moniker to the front fender.

Wander reaches a max of 35mph... 39 going downhill ☺ They averaged about 122 miles per day. While he's

traveled many miles by motorcycle, Jay noted that riding at this pace allowed him to REALLY see the countryside he was traveling through; stopping whenever he wanted for photos & points of interest. His route took him on all types of roadways... local highway where possible, superslab when needed. At times, he would ride on the shoulder to prevent affecting traffic or getting run over.

He did indeed make it to Hulett WY & Sturgis SD... With Wander parked right alongside his full-sized cousins, Jay collected his 'I Rode Mine' patches.

As noted above, this is just a bit of his story. Jay journaled his travels on his FB page, [www.facebook.com/jay.galloway.16](http://www.facebook.com/jay.galloway.16) which allowed friends & family to know how he was doing, plus people he met along the way could track his progress as well.

Call him adventurous, crazy, ballsy, all of the above... It was certainly a trip of a lifetime!

He has made it home, safe & sound... having rolled 7231 miles, through 16 states, in 59 days.

The map on the right side of his seat is filled in... In conversation Jay mentioned that there's room on the other side for another section of map. Maybe another road trip is on the horizon for Jay & Wander?

Safe travels ~ wherever the road takes you two next,

*Betsy & Bruce*



on web, click title above for more calendar entries and event details

Every Saturday: Rollin Knights' Steak Night at the Castle, 1134 W Grant Ave Phoenix. Starts at 8pm-til all the steaks are gone. Drinks, music and great dinners. FMI: [www.rollinknightsmc.com](http://www.rollinknightsmc.com)

Every other Saturday: Superstition HOG Chapter Ride starts at Superstition H-D - 2910 W Apache Trail, Apache Junction, AZ. 85120. Come ride with our HOG Members. Meet at East Lot at 6:30a. Kickstands up at 7a. FMI: 480-346-0600 or visit <http://superstitionhd.com/>

1st Saturday: Ride in Movie Night at Rosie's Den Café, 19949 N. US Hwy 93; White Hills, AZ 86445. 8pm 'til Sunday morning. Classic B-movies followed by an old fashioned biker campout complete with a Bloody Mary b'fast the next morning. The movie is free, the camp out is \$30/pp. Bring a group of ten+ & get \$5/pp off. Submit your favorite b grade biker movie to get a chance to win an overnight package for you & a guest if we show your suggestion. FMI: [events@sincitybiker.com](mailto:events@sincitybiker.com), (702)630-5527, [www.sincitybiker.com](http://www.sincitybiker.com)

Every other Sunday: Superstition HOG Chapter Ride starts at Superstition H-D - 2910 W Apache Trail, Apache Junction, AZ. 85120. Come ride with our HOG Members. Meet at East Lot at 6:30a. Kickstands up at 7a. FMI: 480-346-0600 or visit <http://superstitionhd.com/>

Every Tuesday: Rollin Knights MC Tucson Taco Tuesday @ 3385 Winstel Blvd 85716. [Info@rollinknightsmc.com](mailto:Info@rollinknightsmc.com)

Every Wednesday: Superstition HOG Chapter Ride starts at Superstition HD - 2910 W Apache Trail, Apache Junction 85120. Ride with our HOG Members. Meet at East Lot at 6:30a. KSU 7a. FMI: 480-346-0600 or visit <http://superstitionhd.com/>

**2nd Wednesday: ABATE-AZ Yavapai Chapter meeting ~ 6pm at VFW Post 541, 202 N Arizona Ave, Prescott. FMI: 928-308-9911, [ycabateaz@gmail.com](mailto:ycabateaz@gmail.com)**

2nd Thursdays: Nomaden MC Bike Night 6p-? @ Nomaden MC Clubhouse 137 N Huachuca Blvd, Huachuca City, next to WW Pizza. Open to the public. Plz bring non-perishable food item for the Community Food Bank. FMI: on FB @ /nomaden.mc | [nomadenmc@cox.net](mailto:nomadenmc@cox.net)

Every Friday: ALMA MC Westside Open House... 8-11:30pm. 1050 N. Eliseo Felix Jr Way #105, Avondale. FMI: [www.facebook.com/AlmaMcWestside/](http://www.facebook.com/AlmaMcWestside/)

Every other Friday: Loose Cannons MC Open House 7-11:30pm. 1408 W. Apache Trail Apache Junction. FMI: n/a

2nd & 3rd Friday: ALMA MC East Side Open House from 7pm-? Entertainment. Food & Beverages available. 3212 S. Fair Lane, Tempe. FMI: [127.Eastside@gmail.com](mailto:127.Eastside@gmail.com)

2nd & 4th Friday: ALMA MC Open House- All Chapters. 7pm at the OriGinal Club House, 1446 N. 27th Ave, Phx, AZ 85009. Great Food, Great Music & a Great Time! FMI: [Chapo soy.chapo@gmail.com](mailto:Chapo soy.chapo@gmail.com)

9/9 {Sat} 4th Annual Patriot Day Ride begins at Superstition Harley-Davidson, 2910 W Apache Trl, Apache Junction. Pre-reg before 9/5 for \$20 at [www.crisis22.com](http://www.crisis22.com). Day of reg 8:45-9:15am for \$22. KSU 10am. Ride makes 3 stops & back to Superstition HD for after party with live music, bikini bike wash, vendors, raffles, free food & more! Ride stops: Healing Fields in Tempe - Wesley Bolin Memorial - 9/11 Memorial Gilbert. FMI: [receptionist@superstitionhd.com](mailto:receptionist@superstitionhd.com) | <https://superstitionhd.com>

9/9 Old Bastards MC Payson hosts Running With the Pups & new club house Grand Opening. 12pm to ??? at 109 W Phoenix St in Payson 85541. Bike Games, 50/50, raffles, games, Dunk Tank, Vendors. \$20/sgl, \$30/cpl includes meal. FMI: Thumper 928 978-8159, Maximus 928-595-2212

9/9 September Scorcher ~ Loners MC San Tan Valley. \$10/sgl, \$15/cpl. 50/50, High Hand, Live Music, & Vendors. Gun Raffle Drawing ~ S&W M&P Shield 9mm ~ \$5/ticket. See a club member or FMI / Vendors call Irish @ 480-226-7861

9/15-17 {Fri-Sun} River Riders MC 34th Annual Friendship Run, hosted at the Grand Canyon Caverns. FMI: [www.riverridersmc.com/33rd-annual-friendship-run.html](http://www.riverridersmc.com/33rd-annual-friendship-run.html) {W}

**9/15-17 Thunder Valley Rally 2017 in Cottonwood, presented by Law Tigers. FMI: 928-639-3200, <http://thundervalleyrallyaz.com/>**

9/15-17 BTW ~ Brothers of the 3rd Wheel... 13th Annual High Country Area Blowout at Payson Campground & RV Resort, 808 E Hwy 260. {Camp reservations @ 928-472-2267}. Mention BTW @ Majestic Mountain Inn, 602 E Hwy 260 for discount {928-474-0185}. Benefits Child Haven of Prescott & BTW National. \$15/pp pre-reg, \$20/pp at door. FMI: Bill (Rackem) Magby, 928-442-6310 or [cvbrm01@gmail.com](mailto:cvbrm01@gmail.com)

**9/16 {Sat} Accident Scene Management Basic Class, 9a-4pm at Harley-Davidson of Scottsdale, 15656 N Hayden Rd, Scottsdale, 85260. Learn what to do in the first 5-30 minutes after a crash until professional help arrives. FMI: [www.accidentscene.org](http://www.accidentscene.org)**

9/16 Flat Track Motorcycle Races on the 1/5 mile banked dirt oval at AKA Speedway N 43rd Ave south of Pinnacle Peak Rd in N Phoenix. FREE Spectator General Admission. \$10 Pit Pass. Classes include Youth, Quad, Vintage, Modern and Pro. Pit Gate opens at 10am. Racing starts ~ 3pm. Awards presented after the races at Divino's 3345 W Greenway Rd. FMI: Farley McDavidson (email: [Director@AZFlatTrackRacing.com](mailto:Director@AZFlatTrackRacing.com)), [www.AZFlatTrackRacing.com](http://www.AZFlatTrackRacing.com), 602-320-9201

9/16 Loners M/C Bark at the Moon. Register 4-6pm at House of Bards {520-327-2011}, 4915 E. Speedway, Tucson. Ride, live music, cash prizes, 50/50, door prizes.

9/22-24 {Fr-Sun} Superstition HOG Overnight Chapter Ride, taking the back roads to the North Rim of the Grand Canyon. Staying at the Marble Canyon (full bar & restaurant on site) for 2 nights. Call 928-355-2225 to check for room availability. Cost is \$84.66/night. Departure time TBD. FMI: [receptionist@superstitionhd.com](mailto:receptionist@superstitionhd.com) ; [superstitionhd.com/](http://superstitionhd.com/)

**9/23 {Sat} Accident Scene Management Advanced Class, 9a-4pm at H-D of Scottsdale, 15656 N Hayden Rd, Scottsdale, 85260. FMI: [www.accidentscene.org](http://www.accidentscene.org)**

9/24 {Sun} Yoga for Riders @ Superstition HD on the Eagles Nest Patio. Come & find out how Yoga helps bikers 'ride on'. Bring a yoga mat & wear comfortable clothing. This is not an exercise class, but an introduction to yoga with basic poses as part of the experience. Class time 10-10:55am. FMI: Gregory Ormson, 808.640.4624, [greg.ormson@gmail.com](mailto:greg.ormson@gmail.com) ; [www.gregoryormson.com](http://www.gregoryormson.com)

9/27 {Wed} Yoga for Riders @ Superstition HD on the Eagles Nest Patio. See description above. Class time 5-5:55pm. FMI: Greg Ormson, 808.640.4624, [greg.ormson@gmail.com](mailto:greg.ormson@gmail.com), [www.gregoryormson.com](http://www.gregoryormson.com)

**9/30 {Sat} Hard Ass Run, 15th annual, hosted by ABATE of AZ East Valley Chapter. Sign-in 7:30-9am at Evil Twin Custom Cycle 58 N Country Club, Mesa, 85201. All Bikes Welcome. Last bike out 9:30a. This is a mystery poker run of ~ 300 miles. \$20/pp, \$30/2-up. 1st 75 receive a collectible t-shirt at the end stop (wherever that may be). Poker hand included & passenger gets own card. Replacement poker cards \$1 each at end stop only. Raffle prizes & 50/50 drawing (must be present to win). United We Ride, Divided We Fall. Benefits ABATE's ability to fight for your rights & safety. FMI: Jim 602-312-1927 <http://tinyurl.com/yalhggzt>**

9/30 Yoga for Riders @ Superstition HD on the Eagles Nest Patio. Come & find out how Yoga helps bikers 'ride on'. Bring a yoga mat & wear comfortable clothing. This is not an exercise class, but an introduction to yoga with basic poses as part of the experience. Class time 10-10:55am. FMI: Greg Ormson, 808.640.4624, [greg.ormson@gmail.com](mailto:greg.ormson@gmail.com) <http://www.gregoryormson.com>

9/30 Flat Track Motorcycle Races on the 1/5 mile banked dirt oval at AKA Speedway N 43rd Ave south of Pinnacle Peak Rd in N Phoenix. FREE Spectator General Admission. \$10 Pit Pass. Classes include Youth, Quad, Vintage, Modern and Pro. Pit Gate opens at 10am. Racing starts ~ 3pm. Awards presented after the races at Divino's 3345 W Greenway Rd. FMI: Farley McDavidson (email: [Director@AZFlatTrackRacing.com](mailto:Director@AZFlatTrackRacing.com)), [www.AZFlatTrackRacing.com](http://www.AZFlatTrackRacing.com), 602-320-9201

9/30 Run Around the Mountain "Spider's" Poker Run hosted by Marine League Charities in Northern AZ to benefit their Wounded Marine Program. Register 8:30am at Grand Canyon H-D Belmont. \$25/sgl, \$40/cpl. 130-mile poker run. Cash prizes for high & low hand. BBQ & entertainment at last stop. Bring a new, unwrapped toy for Toys-for-Tots & receive a commemorative patch. FMI: [marines912sfp@gmail.com](mailto:marines912sfp@gmail.com)

9/30 Shake, Rattle & Roll for Parkinson's Disease. Ride starts & ends @ H-D of Scottsdale, 15656 N. Hayden Rd Scottsdale. Sign-in 9am, \$25/sgl, \$45/cpl. FMI: [www.twogal-sevents.com](http://www.twogal-sevents.com), 602-568-5313

10/5-8 {Th-Sun} [www.LasVegasBikeFest.com](http://www.LasVegasBikeFest.com)

**10/6 {Fri} Motorcycles on Main Bike Night in Downtown Mesa from 6-10pm. Live Music, Beer Garden, vendors, & more. Park & show your bike. Eateries open. First Fridays between September & June. Vendors call Courtney 480-890-2613 <https://facebook.com/MotorcyclesOnMain>**

**10/6-7 {Fr-Sat} Run to the Rez #14, Apache Gold Resort. Veterans Tribute, Music by Gray Wolf & Rolling Stones Tribute, Poker Run, Bike Show. \$25/pp. Great Giveaways. Motorcycle Raffle. Rooms at 1-800-APACHE-8. FMI: [johnrezrider@yahoo.com](mailto:johnrezrider@yahoo.com); [www.facebook.com/runtotherez/](http://www.facebook.com/runtotherez/)**

**10/7 {Sat} 2nd Annual MMA Motorcycle & Classic Car Show, from 9a-1p, at & sponsored by Mesa Market Place 10550 E Baseline Rd. Sponsors include San Tan Ford. Benefits MMA-AZ & AZ StandDown. \$20 pre-reg, \$25 day of ~ car OR bike. FMI: Dawn 480-213-1184, <http://tinyurl.com/hakdmav> | [soloridergal@aol.com](mailto:soloridergal@aol.com)**

**10/7 Accident Scene Management Basic Class, 9a-4pm at Grand Canyon H-D Mayer, 10434 AZ Hwy 69, 86333. Learn what to do in the first 5-30 minutes after a crash until professional help arrives. [www.accidentscene.org](http://www.accidentscene.org)**

10/7 Roots Music Fest & Poker Run. Benefits Steps to Recovery Homes. Poker run starts 9am @ The Collective - 7000 AZ-179, Sedona 86351. \$10/sgl, \$15/2-up, \$5 off with a toy for the Old Town Mission. Music starts 11am. Bands & FMI at <http://stepstorecoveryhomes.org/> ; 928-649-0077

10/7 The Huns MC 15th annual Hawg Roast, from 7-11:30 pm at Desert Thunder MC. Clubhouse, 3101 W. Thomas Rd. Phoenix. FMI: [lodur@deserthundermc.com](mailto:lodur@deserthundermc.com)

10/7 East Meets West 9th Annual B.A.C.A. (Bikers Against Child Abuse) Awareness Event from 9a-5pm. East Side starts at Scottsdale H-D, 15656 N. Hayden Rd. 85260. West Side starts at Go AZ Motorcycles 16844 N. Arrowhead Ftn Ctr Dr. Peoria, 85382. Sign-In 9-11am \$10/pp. End Party is at Steel Horse Saloon 1818 W. Bell Rd. Phoenix. FMI: [Nyro@mc-az.bacaworld.org](mailto:Nyro@mc-az.bacaworld.org)

**10/8 {Sun} Motorcycle Swap Meet opens 9am @ Pinal Cty Fairgrounds, 512 N. 11-Mile Corner Rd. \$5/pp, under 12 free. Accessories & parts: rare, new, used, antique. 10x15 Vendor spaces = \$30 [includes 2ppl/space] Bike Corral \$5. Setup 6am. FMI: 480-209-8521**

**10/8 Accident Scene Management Advanced Class, 9a-4pm at Grand Canyon H-D Mayer, 10434 AZ Hwy 69, 86333. FMI: [www.accidentscene.org](http://www.accidentscene.org)**

**10/14 {Sat} ABATE-AZ High Country Chapter annual Chili Cookoff. FMI: CC 928-476-1955, <https://www.facebook.com/AbateHighCountryChapter/>**

10/14 Flat Track Motorcycle Races on the 1/5 mile banked dirt oval at AKA Speedway N 43rd Ave south of Pinnacle Peak Rd in N Phoenix. FREE Spectator General Admission. \$10 Pit Pass. Classes include Youth, Quad, Vintage, Modern and Pro. Pit Gate opens at 10am. Racing starts ~ 3pm. Awards presented after the races at Divino's 3345 W Greenway Rd. FMI: Farley McDavidson (email: [Director@AZFlatTrackRacing.com](mailto:Director@AZFlatTrackRacing.com)), [www.AZFlatTrackRacing.com](http://www.AZFlatTrackRacing.com), 602-320-9201

10/14 Nomaden MC Xmas Toy Drive. Party at Nomaden MC Club House 137 N. Huachuca Blvd. Huachuca City 85616. Live Music, Family Games, Family Activities, Vendors, Food on site. 9a-11:30pm. FMI: [mclain\\_656@hotmail.com](mailto:mclain_656@hotmail.com), 520-559-5150.

10/14 Vet-Oberfest hosted by Viet Nam Vets / Legacy Vets MC at the Wooden Nickel Tavern, 1908 S Country Club Rd Tucson, 85713 from 11a-11:30pm. Proceeds go to various Homeless Vets Charities in Tucson. There will be Food, Fun, Drinks, Live Music, Bike Show, 50/50 raffle & much more!! Entry for Bike Show is \$10. Admission is \$10/sgl, \$15/cpl. FMI: Rip VNVLV/MC 480-669-4433

10/20-22 {Fr-Sun} ShineToberfest Moonshine Festival & Chili Cook Off at Saddle Sore Ranch in Mohave County, just off Rt 66. An old school biker party for 21 and up only. Weekend camping, live music and nightly campfire parties. [www.Shinetoberfest.com](http://www.Shinetoberfest.com)

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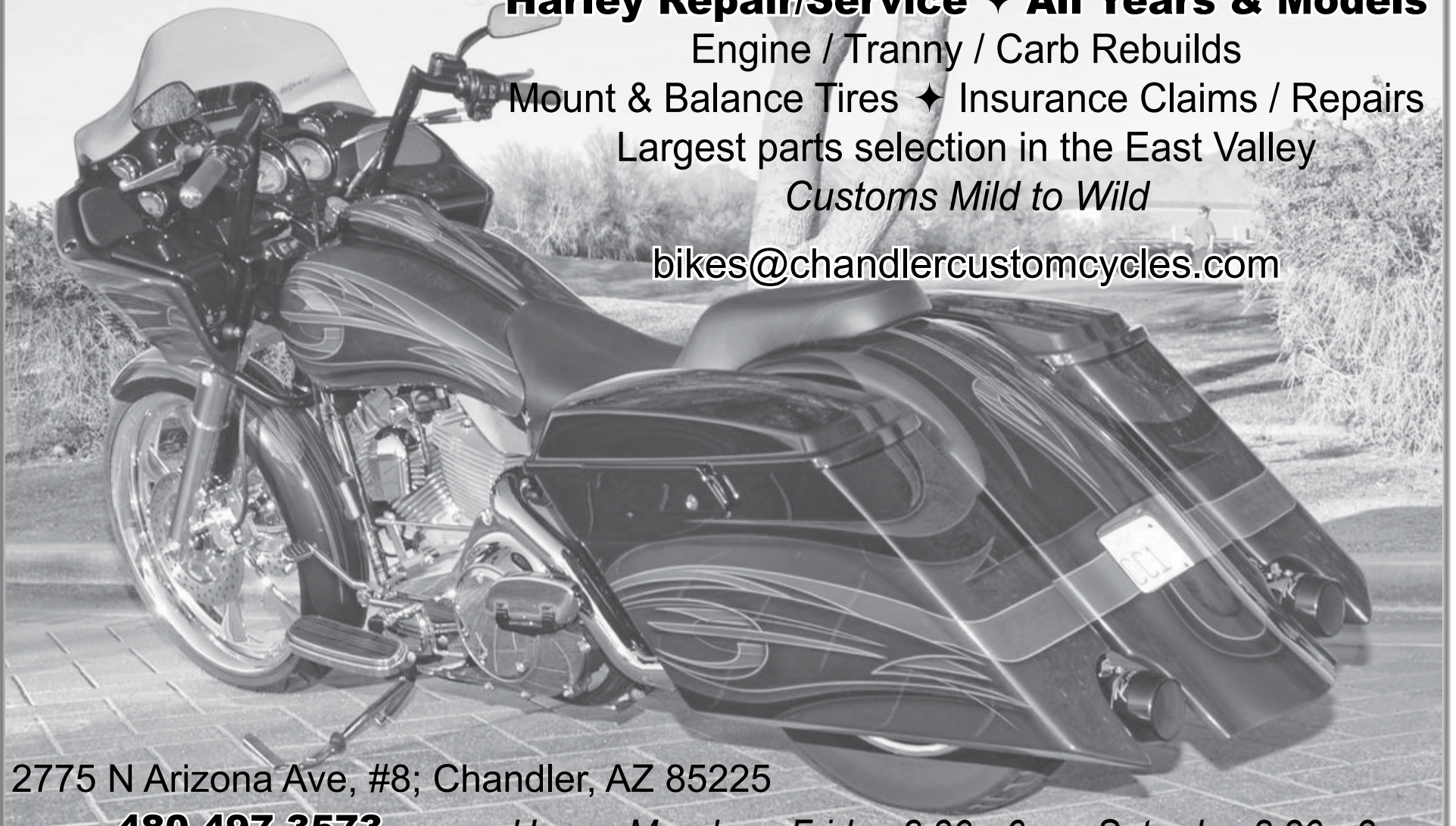
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# Too Broke For Sturgis #26



We departed on Thursday morning June 8, 2017 with Lady Jewells chasing. By the time we reached Mormon Lake, vendors were setting up and the camping area was filling up. The Hogg Doggs Café was open & serving lunch.

It was a sunny & clear afternoon, but breezy... making extra work for those pitching tents and canopies.

Thursday night was chilly & clear ~ it was nice to be out. The evening's entertainment at the arena included the movies 'Wild Angels' and 'Fast Times at Ridgemont High'. It was very amusing to see how opinions about movies change with time.

On Friday morning CMA was serving up pancakes for breakfast in the camping area. It was again windy, but another clear day. No rain in sight ~ yay!

We enjoyed meeting people in the vendor area, new acquaintances and old friends. Friday's **Vendor Poker Walk** gets the activities 'officially' rolling; giving attendees an opportunity to familiarize themselves with the vendors & the goods available for shopping. Stops were at Coyote Rose Jewelry, 2-2 Wear, Robinson's Biker Stuff, the knife & tie-dye vendor, and the ABATE First Aid booth. Winner of Friday's poker walk was Wes Craig with a full house of Jacks over Kings, which earned him a \$75 prize... a nice way to start the weekend!

Law Tigers, a sponsor of both ABATE-AZ and AriZona Rider was onsite as well. Additional vendors & goods available included... Fat Daddy's Jerky, Lulu Row Apparel, Grease Slinger Cycles, Clipper Shack, Bling It On, Papa Chef's Bakery, Jesse's Pigpen Motorcycle Service, Kettle Corn,

Scoops HD parts, Fabulous Stains Tie Dye, Sassy Bling Shirts, Triple Moon Dragons, Tutus Catering - *what happens @ Too Broke stays @ Too Broke ~ lol*, and WolfSkin Tattoo. You could get motorcycle parts, accessories, & service; jewelry, insurance, apparel, collectibles, and of course eatables ☺ A number organizations had support booths as well.

**The People Games** take place on Friday afternoon. The *Helmet Toss* had 24 women and 43 men participating. Carrie Stamps won the women's trophy with four buckets and Porno Dave won the men's trophy, also with four. The *Plank Walk* fielded 10 teams. Team "Nice Rack", was the winner ~ Vera Miller, Jessica Bond, Adam Lee, & Porno Dave. *Pole in the Hole* brought 12 teams to the field. The winning pair was Jenine Dominice & Tim Degenstein.

The organizers decided to start awarding trophies after each game, rather than saving them up for a separate presentation ceremony later in the day. It seems like this change worked out well.

Afternoon announcements included a presentation of Recognition to the Christian Motorcyclists Association for their years of support to ABATE and to Too Broke For Sturgis. The trophy, most appropriately, incorporated a coffee pot ☺ CMA again this year offered coffee & breakfast each morning in camp, plus a Worship Service on Sunday morning at the Arena... feeding the bodies AND the souls of the biker community.

Emcee Paul added a 'bit of class' to the **Ms Too Broke For Sturgis Contest** by sporting a jacket and tie. No comment yet on whether that will become a

trend ☺ This contest, sponsored by Law Tigers, was dedicated to Cheri Dickerson, who lost her life in a motorcycle wreck back in May. There were 10 contestants. They included Ms Too Broke 2014 'Little Bit', and six Too Broke For Sturgis 'virgins'. Additional contestants included Christina Duwel, who would ultimately be crowned and Gynnie Giebel who was chosen as runner up. It was a good competition with a good group of ladies. Missi, Ms Too Broke '16, crowned Ms Too Broke 2017. We feel that Christina will represent the organization well this year.

The **Tattoo Contest** was sponsored by WolfSkin Tattoo and emceed by Charity. Unfortunately, the winners list was unavailable at the time of this writing. Congratulations to each of you.

Unchained provided the music for Friday night. They did an excellent job! The audience was having a good time, there was dancing, and it was a good looking turnout.

I love walking through camp at night ... people are settling in, you hear bits of conversations, lots of laughter & music; the smell of meals cooking wafts through the air. The camaraderie is heartwarming.

Saturday morning starts early, especially if you plan to ride the Poker Run. Breakfast options include the CMA camp kitchen or the annual pancake breakfast fundraiser at the Mormon Lake Fire Dept. Lady Jewells stopped in & saw a good number of scooter folk. In speaking with the kitchen team she learned that there was a large turnout. Excellent news!

The **Poker Run**, sponsored by Grand Canyon H-D, took riders up to Williams and back with stops



# Too Broke For Sturgis #26



at Cruisers Café, Sultana's, & GCHD Belmont, for a round trip of about 125 miles. They organized it so that those who also want to participate in the games can complete the ride in time to play. The high hand winner was Loriann Gaunt, receiving \$250 and the low hand winner chose not to collect his \$50 prize. ABATE thanks you for your donation.

The DJ for the weekend was Fred Maple. He served as sound guy as well. He did a fine job and had a good mix of music during breaks in the days activities.

The **Bike Show** is held Saturday afternoon. Everyone gets a vote. Once again this year emcee Paul spoke with owners giving them the opportunity to tell about their bike, start it up, etc. Sometimes there are some very interesting stories behind the paint or the overall build. It was very cool. There was a good variety of bikes in the competition from stock to kickers, customs, and more. The winners were: Stock – Mark Scott; Custom – Tony Lohrenz; Rat – Harry Lorts; Ladies – Kristen Newlon; Trike – David Meyers; ABATE Chapter - Dennis Willis of Yavapai Chapter; and Best of Show – Fester Foster.

The first assignment for Christina as Ms Too Broke For Sturgis was to emcee the **Magnificent Moustache & Beard Competition**. She did a fine job of displaying her people skills & getting the audience engaged. The winners were: Curt with the Longest Beard at 18", Craziest 'stashe was won by Stony, & Best Overall was Buddy Nunn of Deming NM. This competition's sponsors included Grease Slinger Cycles, Fat Daddy Jerky, and OB Cigars.

Saturday's **Bike Games** followed. They were

organized by Jean, Clyde, Lisa, and Jeremy. There was a great deal of wind to contend with, for the players and the judges. The *Slow Race* had 34 competitors. In the third heat Ben Martinez became the overall winner. *Road Kill*, already a tricky game to play, had the additional obstacle of wind gusts pushing the critters out of their lanes. Brian and Sherry earned first place. The *Keg Push* had 18 participants. Unfortunately, Postal lost his drive belt during the competition – bummer! In the final rounds Steve Navis became the winner. The *Drag Race* was as silly as ever. To borrow an expression "this ain't your grandpa's drag race"... Riders race to the end of the field where they must don three items... skirt, bra, & wig... then race back to the finish line. Porno Dave was this year's winner. The *Weenie Bite* had 23 teams, with just 3 bites recorded. Kevin & Angel Judge were the winners.

Gunner, last year's two-time bike games winner, is currently recovering from being rear-ended at 45-miles per hour. In all good fun he joined in the games on his scooter, adding to the levity of the day. What a good sport!

During the games I met Ralf & Gitti ~ travelers from Germany who learned about Too Broke *ONLINE*. How cool is THAT!? They decided they wanted to attend, flew into Las Vegas, then rented a bike to come out here – as part of a two-week visit to the States. They were having a good time participating in the games. It was so nice to meet them. *We hope you had a really great time!*

Saturday night was the ever-popular **Wet T-shirt Contest**, once again sponsored by Discount Biker

Supply. Stinger from Desert Thunder MC was the emcee. These are some fun-loving gals enjoying the party to the fullest. Check it out at the Arena on Saturday night during the next Too Broke!

Saturday night also brings the **50/50** drawing to the stage. The prize was \$1164 ~ wooHOO! And a lucky gal named Brenda Lee, a TBFS 'virgin' was the winner. Congratulations!

Skarlett Fever performed on Saturday night and did a great show. People were ready for more fun, music, and dancing!

During the concert, Amy Aho made a presentation to Missi Hughes on behalf of her service to the motorcycling community. There was also an announcement of Amy's retirement from the Two-Gals organization & the upcoming TwoGals closure. Wow ~ a lot of information to process. We wish both of these women all the best in their new ventures!

'Too Broke' attendance saw a bump up from last year and ABATE became 28 new members stronger. Outstanding! We observed 30 Organizations represented in addition to all the Independents.

I never seem to have enough room to say all I could about the Too Broke weekend ☺ It's one of our favorite outings. The 2018 dates are June 7-10.

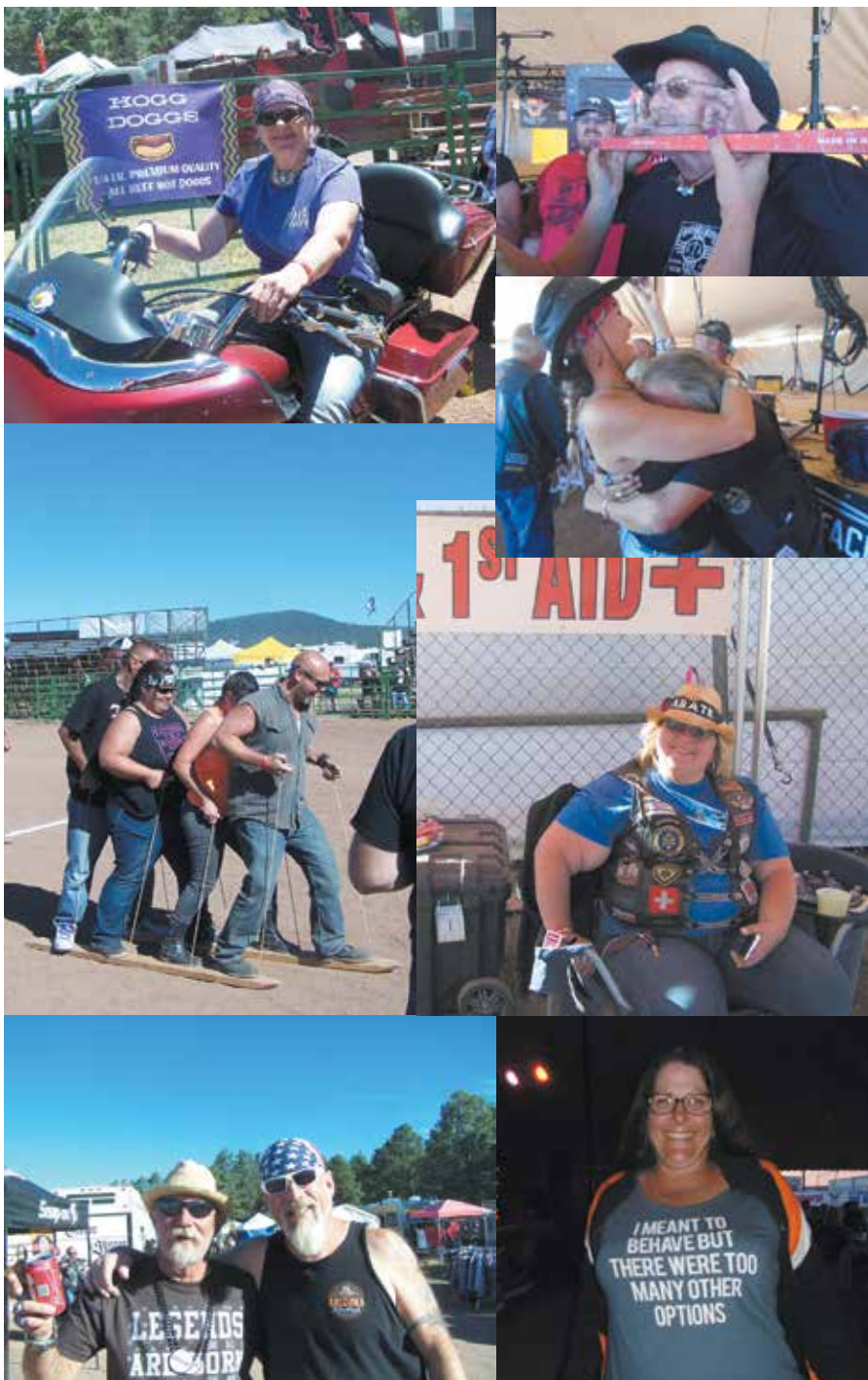
If you've never been, hopefully you'll treat yourself & check it out! If you have been before, then you know the fun it is. Either way, we look forward to seeing you all next year!

Betsy & Bruce

Add'l pix from Lady Jewells

Learn more about ABATE from their website

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



## Too Broke Reflections from Lady Jewells

What a beautiful healing opportunity my friends, Betsy and Bruce Newkirk gave me. 4 fun-filled days at Too Broke for Sturgis 2017 in the cooler pines of Mormon Lake, AZ. It's an event made for falling in love with Bikers.

We went up Thursday morning. As I drove, I thought of all my biker friends I have met through ABATE. I followed Waldo's advice and joined ABATE in other states (AZ, AK, IL, UT, & ND). It is great knowing the things each state does to support their bikers. I have been a member since 1996 – 21 years! WOW. Bikers are my 2nd family. So much love is shared. Campouts are an opportunity to gather, share old times, and soak up the healing love.

Our trip up was a tad exciting. First we had a close encounter with a pick-up that had flying paper debris and then we danced with an antsy driver that would race past and slow down and then race past again. Bruce chose Safety & slowed us down off of that madness.

We decompressed over breakfast at Mazatzal Casino. Fed and happier we headed north. Half way through Payson we saw "Watch for smoke!" flashing caution signs indicating Hot Shot fire crews were still battling forest fires. I lifted prayers for safety. Our extra awareness paid off near Strawberry; first with squirrels, followed by an elk that dashed off a roadside cliff & across the road in front of the car that was just ahead of B&B. Whew! Blessed by No evasive maneuvers, nothing but peace! We made it safe & sound to our cabin.

All weekend long, I concentrated on tak-

ing pictures and collecting vendor business cards. I was inspired by MixBreed MC's banner - "One Love" - a message of unity.

Friday and Saturday were windy. I made myself more useful by holding down tents and catching wind-blown vendor supplies. Rhino rewarded my smile with a new "Never Had a Bad Day In My Life" vest pin. I loved talking to the vendors & meeting new people and re-connecting to old friends, like Mary K & Smiley.

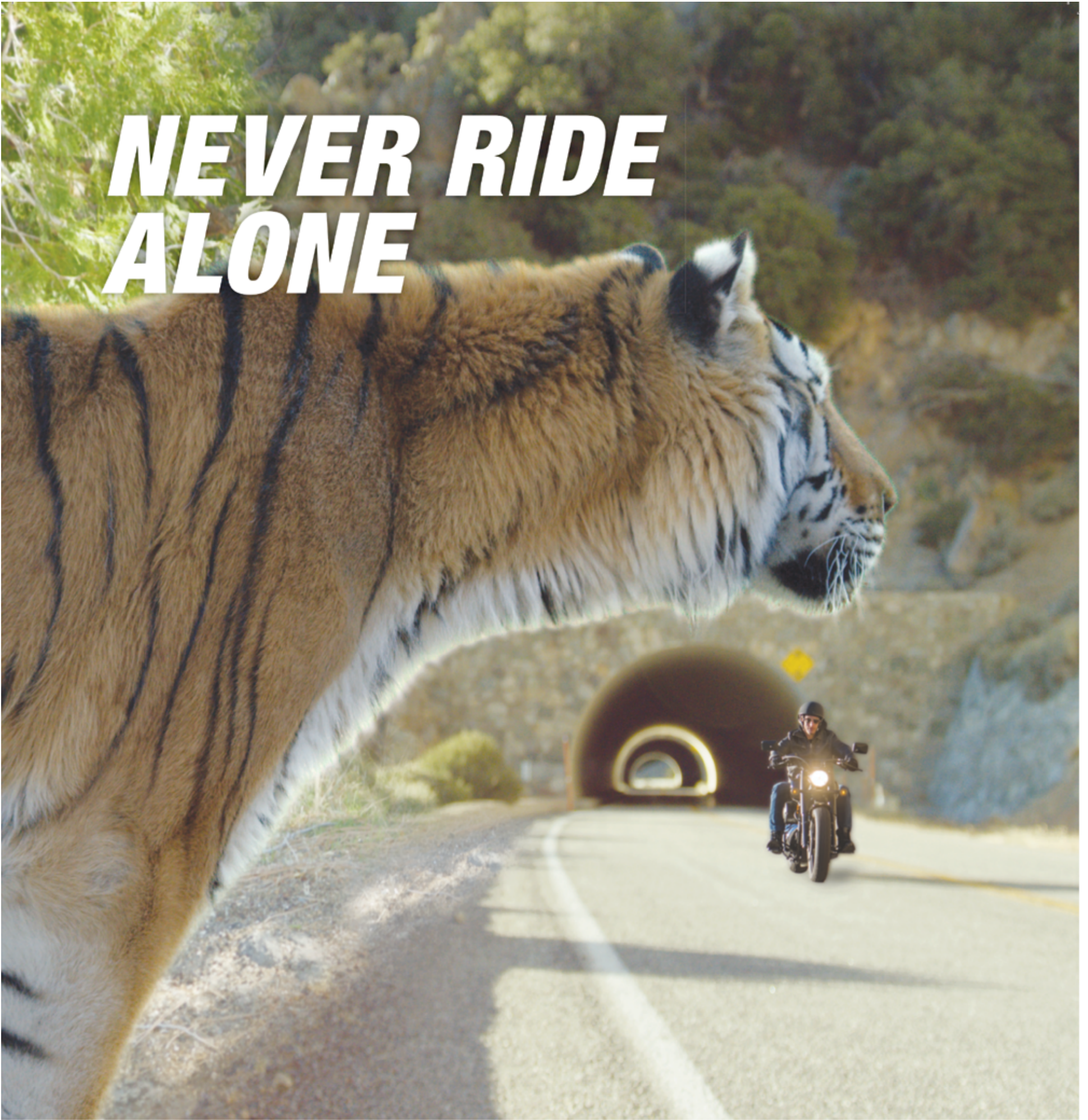
Camping, partying, motorcycles, aging bikers, uneven terrain ... each can mean injuries, and ABATE maintains a First Aid Station at the Arena; with Trauma Mama & her team on hand if needed. Teresa "Trauma Mama" McClelland is ABATE's State Safety Officer & a Trauma Nurse. Thankfully, injuries were at a minimum this year. She noted, "No big injuries, some minor first aid issues." The Phoenix Deuces MC had to cut their visit shorter after one of their members had an accident as he traveled from Vegas to the run. Teresa did a great job cleaning up the road rash abrasions and got the healing started. There were sirens each evening, but not wreck-related. Teresa explained, "We had 2 patients with cardiac issues [1 each night] that were transported via EMS." Word has it, each ended up okay.

Our trip home included breakfast at the Long Valley Café in Happy Jack... Mmmm Yummy Coffee.. Loving friends... Awesome eats. The way home was full of peace.

I had an awesome time this year. I look forward to coming back next year & hope you will come join us. Bikers are just fun.

Enjoy life, I am – Lady Jewells

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