

Too Broke For Sturgis #27

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This was the 27th annual Too Broke For Sturgis, held June 7-10. ABATE of AZ's annual retreat brought us & many others back to the mountains for a weekend of fun. The venue was again Mormon Lake Lodge in northern AZ.

The long weekend started for many on Thursday June 7. After traveling up, setting camp, & generally getting settled in ~ a good number of us strolled up to Thursday's **Movie Night** at the Arena. Paul & Sandy dusted off several old biker movies. Choices ranged from 'classic' to just plain 'B' rankings. After a vote, we ended up watching 'CC & Company' {1970} with Joe Namath. Everyone got some good laughs [it was SUPPOSED to be a comedy ... right ~ lol ?] and of course a view of Ann Margret's backside © Second feature for those interested was the 1968 'Miniskirt Mob'.

A party hosted by our neighbors 'the Zoo Crew' was in full swing when we got back to camp.

Friday: Each morning {Fr-Sun}, CMA was up bright and early with the coffee urns filled with piping hot joe. Breakfast was available as well. Their team handles it all so smoothly. CMA truly feeds the bodies AND the souls of the biker community.

There were more than 30 **Vendors** on-site, including our advertisers Law Tigers, Sarahtopia Skincare, & Standard Deviant CBD. Meals were made easy by the HoggDogg Café at the edge of the campground. Their canopies, tables, & chairs gave campers more than just a place to eat but also somewhere to congregate & socialize. Additional food trucks offered sweet treats & drinkables.

Fridays' **Poker Walk**, sponsored by



Phoenix Motor Leathers, got the day's activities underway; providing an opportunity for people to familiarize themselves with the vendors. Reese won the high hand prize of \$75 with an Ace high straight. Jack Perry collected \$25 for low, holding 2-3-4-6-Q.

The **People Games**, sponsored by HoggDogs, had good participation. Emcee was Singer, of Desert Thunder MC. **Helmet Toss** had 23 women & 24 men sign in. Winners were Angela Judge & William Driggers, each with 3 buckets. **Plank Walk** had 5 teams participate. Team 'Cat's Bitches' was the winner. **Pole in the Hole** had 9 teams. Singer called for 'role reversal' style; making an event that is already funny even more so. Ally & Carol took first place.

The **Ms Too Broke For Sturgis Contest**, sponsored by Law Tigers AZ, brought 10 ladies to the stage. Disco did the Bob Barker thing, asking the candidates questions to help the judges make their choices. Kristina W. aka Siss {of Templar Crusaders MC} was the winner; with Mamma San & Vera as runners up. Ms Too Broke represents ABATE-AZ and helps promote Too Broke For Sturgis at events throughout the year. Her prize package includes gifts from each of the Vendors. Her final official duty is to crown the incoming Ms TBFS at the next year's contest.

The **Tattoo Contest**, sponsored by Wolf-Skin Ink, brought some beautiful artwork to the stage. Winners were: black & grey, women = Nicole; black & grey, men = John Larson; color, women = Pam Cohen; color, men = Tyler; traditional [unisex] = Lori.

Music by *Unchained* followed. It was an excellent performance that filled the dance floor. They completely rocked the place. They showed real class as well.... When the inci-

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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.

dent you'll read about next held up the show they were very respectful of the time needed. Once they resumed playing, they made up the lost time at the end of their show... no short-changing their fans.

So, the low point of the party came when a fellow collapsed at the arena & had to be airlifted away to the hospital. Before anything else, we're glad to report that all's well that ends well & he was able to return to camp several hours later. No need for names. That's his business to share or not. BUT this could have happened to any number of people on the mountain. He'd had a long run of partying with no food or water to help maintain & keep up. Thankfully, a member of his Club who is also an EMT was nearby when it happened and was able to revive him *when his heart stopped* while waiting for emergency workers. Take this as a reminder to have FUN but also remember the BASICS.... you've still gotta eat & have some water along the way so you CAN party on through the weekend.

Saturday: Saturday morning's **Poker Run** [sponsored by AZ ATV Rentals] had people on the road headed north. Stops were at Grand Canyon HD Bellemont, Sultana Bar & Cruisers Café [both in Williams], and Mike's Bikes on Rt 66 in Flagstaff before returning back to camp. Billy Beckey won the High Hand & \$250. Scott Bradley won low hand, collecting \$50.

There were 35 bikes in the **Bike Show**, in 8 categories. Emcee Paul spoke with the owners about their bikes as people were viewing & voting on them. All contestants fired up their bikes at the end of the show, making an awesome roar! Show organizer Jim Silk commented that this was one of the best shows ever. More than 200 votes were cast. There was great competition among the bikes in the voting. Trophies were by Dennis Willis of Dying to Ride Tours. They were creative & beautiful. Congratulations to all the winners: Best Bagger = Ron Judge, Best Custom = Chuck Thomack, Best Metric = Jim Taylor, Best Stock = Rick Williams, Best Rat = Harry Lorts, Best Trike = Greg 'Troll' Hughes, Best Vintage = Aaron Anchie, & Best Ladies = Ute Harske. Best of Show went to Patty Hessler. It is the first-time ever at Too Broke for a woman to earn the BoS trophy.

The **Magnificent Moustache & Beard Contest** was next. Sponsored by Thigh Brush & hosted by Ms Too Broke Siss; there were about a dozen contestants vying for prizes. Judges Lyn, Lynn, & Kim were looking for the longest, fullest, & best groomed beards & 'staches. Perry Maifield had the Longest Beard ~ measuring 19.50" & won \$50, courtesy of ABATE. PapaDog had the Fullest Beard & received some Thigh Brush Beard Oil. Joe was judged the Best Groomed & received a TB comb & koozie. Danny Hinley had the Best Moustache and got a Thigh Brush t-shirt.

The **Bike Games** were also sponsored by HoggDoggs. *Slow Race* had 18 or so riders sign-in. By the 2nd round there were 3 riders left; with Steve Nevis becoming the winner. *Keg Race* started with about 18 riders. One had to drop out due to a broken throttle. Eliminations whittled it down to Steve taking a 2nd trophy. *Drag Races*... 8 guys, each with a great sense of humor, got in on this one. With Paul queuing up 'Dude Looks Like A Lady' on the loudspeakers, the Drag Races were under way. This event is always good for some laughs! This year's winner was Porno Dave. The *Weenie Bite* had some 15 couples start. The breeze would catch the weenie & push it around at times, making a



tricky game even harder at times. Unfortunately, we lost one gal to a broken leg as she fell off the bike during an attempt.* The winning team was Kevin Judge & his Angel as she snagged the biggest bite.

* We heard from Janet that her leg is on the mend, after surgery to repair the break. She noted that she's got enough hardware now to open her own store. She said she was having a blast when she broke it... Pretty sure not many people can say that ☺

Thank you to Clyde Brooks & Jean Cooper who, along with their helpers, made this year's games a couple of very entertaining afternoons!

As afternoon rolled into evening, it was time for the **Wet T-shirt Contest**. Sponsored by the Dirty Dog Saloon, there were 10 women who put themselves out there to entertain the crowd in hope of collecting the \$250 prize. Cell phones & cameras were held high as the gals danced. Store boughts & naturals, all shapes & sizes represented ~ to appeal to nearly everyone's preference. Congratulations to Ms Tanya on her win.

Right after this, while everyone was still in the arena, the **50/50 Drawing** was held. Kudos to Mike Schneider, Cheyenne Kid, & Gynni for such a great job of selling tickets. The split to the winner was \$2033! Tanya pulled the ticket. The first ticket called had no taker. You had to be there to win it. 2nd ticket... Congratulations to Kickstand on your windfall!

Saturday night's concert had *Mojo Rats* in the house. Both bands for the weekend were sponsored by Chuck Franklin Law. It was another night of good music, dancing, & fun as we all enjoy a 'last hurrah' for the weekend.

Sunday: Sunday morning was busy as people broke down camps. Some rolled out early. Some attended **CMA's Worship Service**.

We learned from Dawn, organizer extraordinaire, that attendance came in at around 1200. She sent along this message, "I would like to thank everyone who attended, volunteers, our media people, sponsors, vendors, Mormon Lake Lodge for allowing us to have the event, and last but certainly not least my Too Broke For Sturgis committee who spent the last year putting up with my craziness and busting their butts to pull this off. Without all of these people there would be no 'Too Broke'.

"I need to give some extra special attention, respect, and gratitude to Nolan and Tara. Nolan for having to put up with me as I ate, slept, and dreamed Too Broke. I feel that Tara should have been the one up on that stage getting the {MVP} trophy instead of me. Without her I would have been lost.

"My virgin year as Too Broke for Sturgis committee chair was one of great learning. I will use this experience to help make 2019 even be bigger and better."

Support your local MRO {Motorcyclists Rights Organization}. Learn more about ABATE-AZ by visiting their website www.abateofaz.org/ This weekend is the only fundraiser for ABATE-AZ's state operations & activities... such as publishing the *Master-Link*, and supporting riders' rights and education programs. Anyone who attends Too Broke can be sure that their money is going for the benefit of motorcycling in AZ... all while having a GREAT time! Next year's dates have been announced. Mark your calendars for June 6-9, 2019.

See ya there!

Betsy & Bruce

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