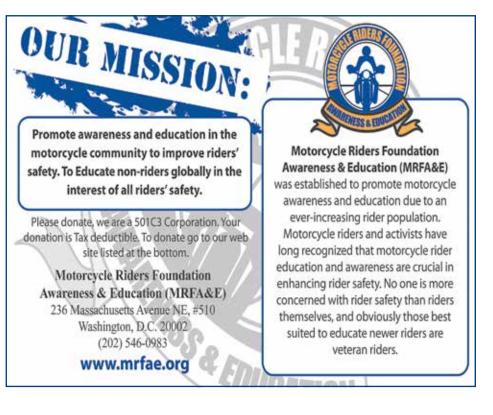


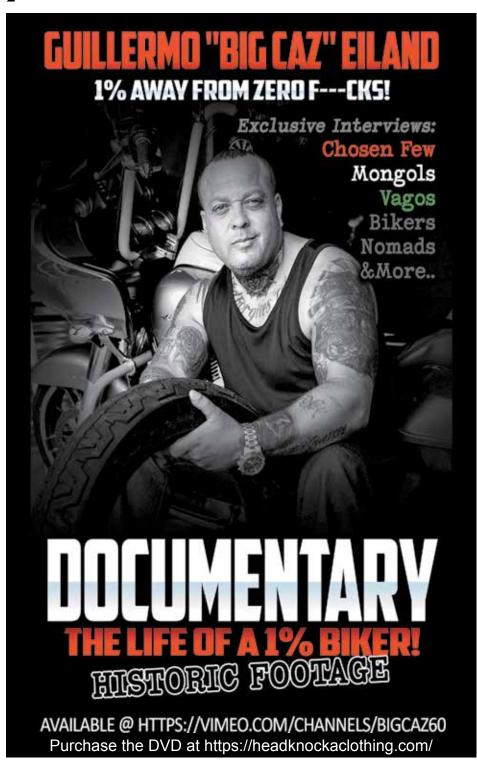
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2 AZ Rider







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AZ Rider 3









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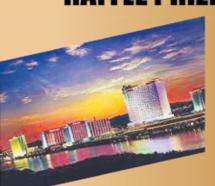
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Freedom Riders MG 3rd annual Toy Run

The Freedom Riders MG 3rd annual Toy Run, held on Saturday November 24, 2018 was sponsored by the VFW and Auxiliary of Post 769, located in Quartzsite.

I learned from FRMG Secretary Amber that 29 bikes, 2 cars, 1 truck, and 1 SUV participated; for a total of 35 people. After leaving Post 769, the ride went to Bouse, AZ. Stops there were at the American Legion and the Dollar General.

After returning to Quartzsite, the group hit up another Dollar General, then the Family Dollar where the manager himself bought the kids around \$100 in toys. From there, the group went to the Grubstake in Quartzsite where they had estimated around \$850 in

toys and more to come.

When the toy run ended back at VFW Post 769, there was food, karaoke, and drawings for prizes that had been donated to the cause. The ride came in at about 76 miles round trip.

While this run on the 24th was their main event, the Freedom Riders MG had taken a ride the previous weekend to NextEra Energy in Blythe CA and picked up 2 bikes plus \$300 in Toys to add to the mix.

Altogether, they collected a total of \$3600 worth of toys. Nice!

On December 8th, there was a run to the Salvation Army which was escorted by Quartzsite PD. The group was met by LeAnn to receive the donations.

Some of the brothers and sisters stayed to help sort out the toys as well.

Amber commented, "The hope of this event is to put a smile on kids faces." I think you definitely reached your goal! Thank you for sharing your day with us & our readers!

Coming up January 19, the Freedom Riders MG are hosting a Fun Run. The ride starts & ends at VFW 769, located at 305 N Central Blvd. KSU 10a, last bike in by 4pm. Any questions, get with FRMG VP Mike at 442-242-2760.





H.O.G.. Superstition Chapter #1743

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Vehicle License Tax is now \$32.

As most of you know, ADOT has implemented a new Vehicle License Tax (VLT) in the amount of \$32 per vehicle per year. Let me give you a little background on this. Initially, when it was introduced it was supposed to rescind the waiver for alternative fuel vehicles. The premise was that so many large trucks were converting to alternative fuels and not having to pay a VLT that infrastructure funding was being limited by the vehicle who do the most wear and tear on the roadways. Sounds like a good idea, right? Well this is where it went sideways. The discretion to set the fee was handed to the Director of ADOT. It was never intended to go any higher than \$18 a vehicle. Here we all are with a \$32 VLT now. Good news though! Senator Michelle Ugenti-Rita pre-filed the very first bill of the new session to get that repealed.

What can you do?

Call your State Senator and ask them to co-sponsor the bill. CALL!!! Blow up their phone!

Then send an email to them as well urging them to co-sponsor SB1001.

Talking points:

623-521-9800

- Please co-sponsor SB1001 Highway Safety Fee; Repeal; VLT
- Tell them how it will impact you financially. i.e. multiple vehicles in the same household, extreme costs, etc.
- The fee is more than the registration cost on some motorcycles. If Senator Ugenti-Rita is your senator, call and email her to thank her for being proactive on this.

Courtesy and respect goes a long way. Together we can urge the state legislature to repeal this.

Remember that the new legislative session begins on January 14th and Motorcycle Day at the Dome is February 19th.

Freedom is a team sport.

Mike Infanzon, ABATE of AZ, Legislative Director

[lobbyist@abateofaz.org]

Editors: If you aren't sure who your Senator is, go to this link & enter your address. You'll get the name & contact information of your Senator.

https://openstates.org/find your legislator/

Read an article about this VLT in the Capitol Times.

This something we can do. PLEASE share this with all your friends & family... riders and non-riders alike are affected by this!



AZ Rider Motorcycle News and Entertainment

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Amber Myers ◆ Brina ◆ Cheri Wells ◆ Al Nader ◆ El Monte → Mark Donnell → Mark Warren → Cindy Gates ◆ Mike Infanzon ◆ Morticia ◆ MotorcycleSafari.com ◆ Roy Austin ◆ Tarra Matyas ◆ Troll ◆

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Motorcycle Brothers Helping Others This is a last-minute update, so it didn't make it into the print calendar. The Independent Riders in Globe are participating in a benefit on Jan 19 for the Globe Shooting Victims called Motorcycle Brothers Helping Others, along with Loose Cannons MC, Sons of Odin MC, Rez Riders MC, Loners MC, American Legion Riders & Born Again Riders; at the American Legion in Globe {645 S Broad St} from 1pm to 4pm. \$10 buy in. FMI: 928-425-3405

Freedom Riders MG Toy Run Troll's Teddy Bear Run pg 13 Vehicle License Tax update Yucca Toy Run & Food Drive pg 14 Organizations Lost Dutchman MC Angel Tree Run p14 Big Ass Car & Bike Show pg 7 Calendar pg 15 Superstition HD Toy Drive pg 8 Seamless Transition pg 16 pg 10 Christmas Wrap Sleigh Ride & Pub Crawl pg 17 Wreaths Across America pg 11 Barbie Hensler Memorial Toy Run pg19 pg 12 Community News

Editors Column

Hello AriZona Riders!

Happy New Year! We hope you all enjoyed your Christmas & New Year! festivities.

For ourselves, we are blessed with the finest circle of friends a person could hope for. Spending time with them to celebrate the Holidays is truly a treat.

Life has reminded us numerous times in 2018 that shit can happen ... FAST. People you care about who are with you one minute can be gone the next.

As 2019 gets underway, and day-to-day LIFE gets in the way... we need to do better about taking time for visiting, phoning, messages, what-have-you. Staying in touch with the people we care about is a gift we can each give ourselves this year. As a friend noted... for many of us, we have more years behind us than in front of us. Call it a 'resolution' or simply a 'reality check'. Perhaps you've reached a similar realization in your Life.

Welcome to our annual 'Christmas Wrap' issue. This is one of our favorite issues to put together. We appreciate all of you who took time from your holidays to correspond with us. This may be one of the best % of respondents we've had in a while. We heard from many parts of the state with some great stories. Our cover is more pix from the numerous stories you'll find inside.

Please read the message about 'Motorcycle Brothers Helping Others' to your left on this page!

We wish you each the very best for 2019. Ride safely, choose wisely, be nice, & Keep Your Butts On Your Putts!

Bruce & Betry

ABATE of Arizona	13	Jeannie's Grooming	PL
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Big Ass Car & Bike Show

El Monte held his 11th annual Big Ass Car & Bike Show on November 18, 2018 at Hot Rods Old Vail. Joe Markle was very helpful at assisting with this event. The beneficiary of the day was the Community Food Bank of Southern AZ.

It is estimated that 300+ people attended this family-friendly event throughout the day. They got to enjoy music by the band 'Time Travelers'; who reportedly did an awesome job!

There was also a corn hole tournament. Jeff Miller's daughter Kool Kat & teammate Hayden were the winners. Congratulations!

This was the first time that cars were invited to participate in this show. A total of 141 vehicles signed in. Although there was no definitive breakdown, it is estimated that the percentage leaned to about 60/40% cars over bikes.

The judging was done by a panel of judges plus a People's Choice ballot for Best of Show. There was a separate trophy for the auto class and for the motorcycle class.

The custom airbrushed awards were all done by Michael Star of Big Ass Paint. A long-distance trophy went to Troy from Mimbres, NM. Biggest organization turnout of the day was by a car club called The Others. It's mostly VWs but they also had a old Chevy truck in their ranks that won a trophy. A custom Big Ass Band appreciation plaque was presented to the band for their support.

Best motorcycle of the show was Dan Rusk's 1936 Indian Chief.

Best auto of the show was a 1949 Chevy truck owned by Scott Muse. We understand that Scott wins... a lotwith this truck. He's got some 26 trophies. He commented that the hand-made trophy by Michael Star is his favorite.

Loretta Schwenn & Summer Parsons ran the raffle table & did an awesome job. Raffles included a \$500 gift basket! This grand-prize included a \$100 gift certificate for pinstriping from Big Ass Paint + gift certificates for dinners & oil changes; 4 tee



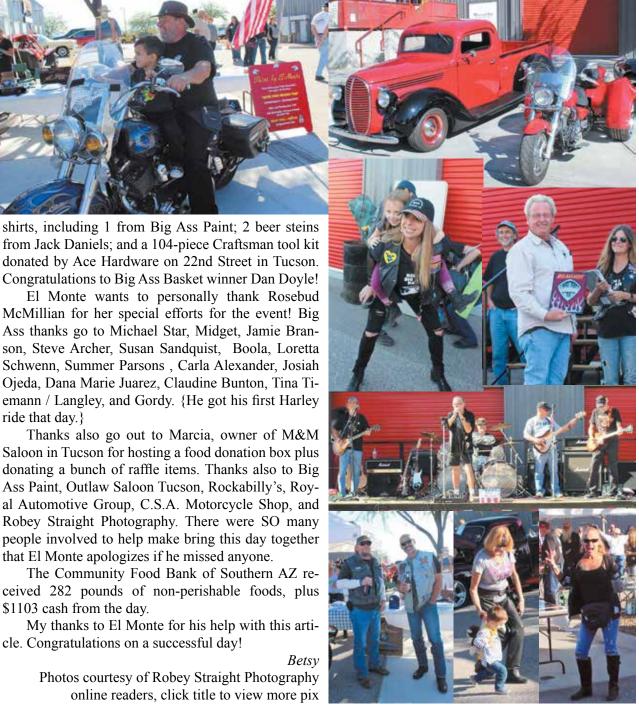
El Monte wants to personally thank Rosebud McMillian for her special efforts for the event! Big Ass thanks go to Michael Star, Midget, Jamie Branson, Steve Archer, Susan Sandquist, Boola, Loretta Schwenn, Summer Parsons, Carla Alexander, Josiah Ojeda, Dana Marie Juarez, Claudine Bunton, Tina Tiemann / Langley, and Gordy. {He got his first Harley ride that day.

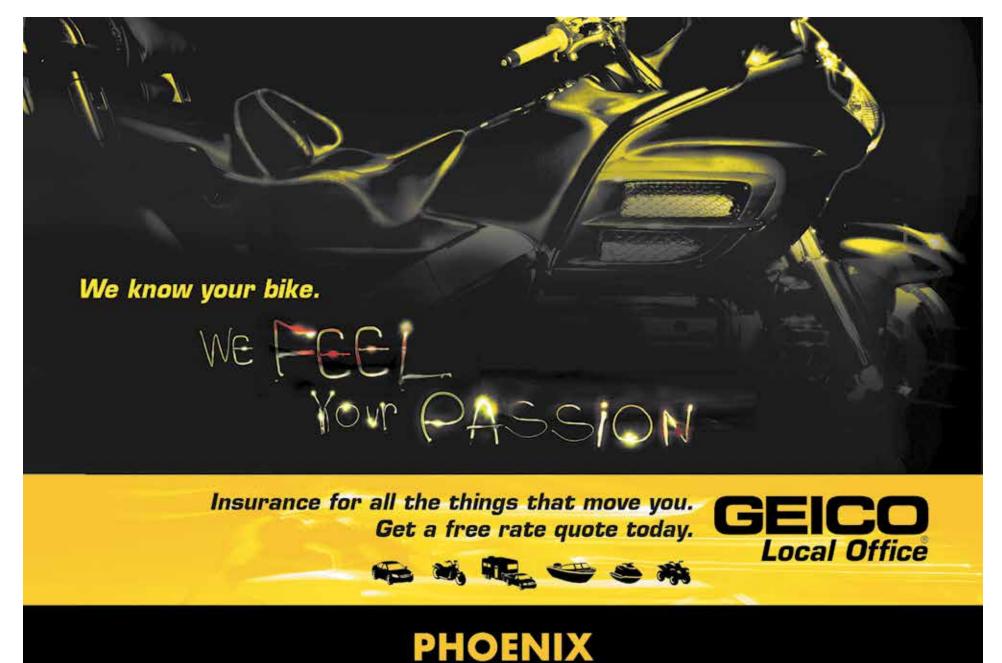
Thanks also go out to Marcia, owner of M&M Saloon in Tucson for hosting a food donation box plus donating a bunch of raffle items. Thanks also to Big Ass Paint, Outlaw Saloon Tucson, Rockabilly's, Royal Automotive Group, C.S.A. Motorcycle Shop, and Robey Straight Photography. There were SO many people involved to help make bring this day together that El Monte apologizes if he missed anyone.

The Community Food Bank of Southern AZ received 282 pounds of non-perishable foods, plus \$1103 cash from the day.

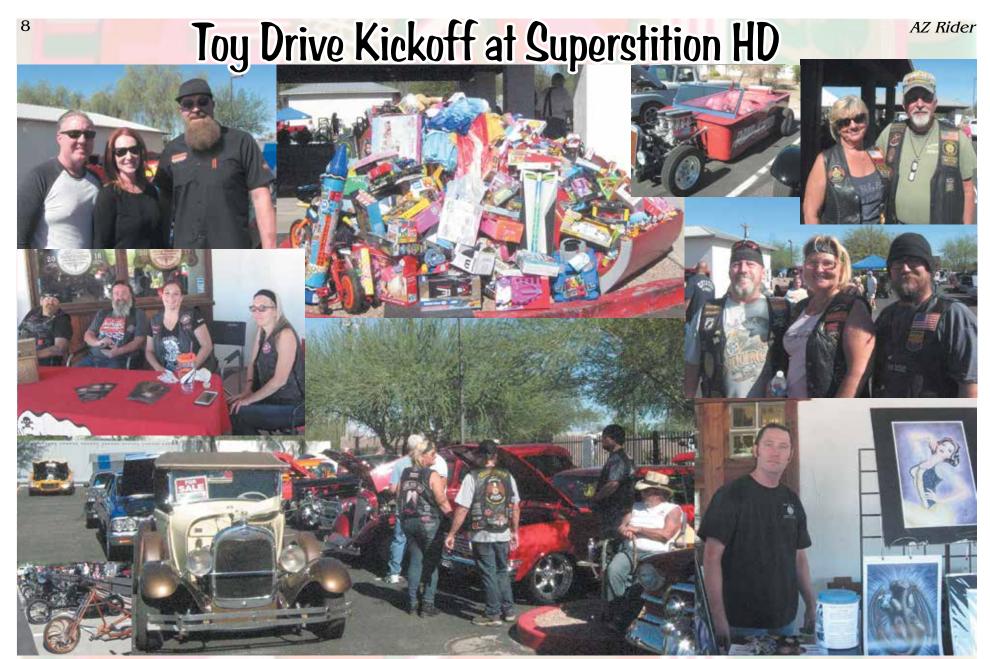
My thanks to El Monte for his help with this article. Congratulations on a successful day!

Photos courtesy of Robey Straight Photography online readers, click title to view more pix





John Nix | 9515 W. Camelback Rd | 623-931-0766



Saturday November 3rd was a phenomenal day to be out and about! It was perfect for attending the Toy Drive Kickoff Car & Motorcycle Show at Superstition Harley-Davidson in Apache Junction. The primary beneficiary of this event is Sunshine Acres Children's Home in Mesa.

Co-sponsored by the <u>Seductive Car Club</u>, this annual gathering provides the opportunity to view some serious eye candy while knowing that your donations are going to a local organization that has been helping kids in our community *for more than* 60 years!

Participation in the show was amazing! It looked to be the best turnout yet. There were so many cars, they were parked in the walkways! Cars outnumbered the bikes, but in a way it was understandable.... It was such a beautiful day to be out

riding © The oldest vehicle we observed was a 1929 Ford. It's always a treat to see these vehicles being kept up & road-ready. Thanks for bringing it out!

The vehicle count came in at more than 150 entries; which doubles the count from last year! Event Coordinator Brina at Superstition HD commented, "The show has grown so much over the last few years we are almost running out of room ... but we'll make next year bigger and better than ever!"

Vendor booths included Apache Brand Customs, Art by Brenda V. Diaz, information from BACA [Bikers Against Child Abuse], and Clip Man. There were woodcrafted flags that were creative, unique, & attractive. Bitchin' Stitchin was set up indoors. There was additional art by Denae Frazier. She offers a variety of themes including but certainly not limited to cars. Several food trucks were onsite providing eats

... 3 Dogs, a Weiner Wagon, and a Taco truck.

Activities included music, raffles, a 50/50, and a the Car Hop Competition.

Santa's Sleigh was already full to overflowing. And today was just the beginning! Donations were collected up to December 15, when the delivery ride took place.

We learned from Brina that, thanks to everyone's generosity, Superstition HD & Seductive Car Club were able to provide all the children at Sunshine Acres (over 70 kids) with multiple presents. They were able to help 5 local families as well; PLUS donate toys to Hope Women's Center in Apache Junction, AZ. Your donations are so very appreciated!

Betsy



Al Ytsma 480-461-0383 480-404-4529 cell

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Christmas Wrap

Starting in November and rolling straight on through to the Christmas finale, the Holiday Season makes for a huge number of events taking place around our state, hosted by various groups. Whether it's feeding the hungry, honoring our Veterans, or ensuring that kids have gifts at Christmas... these are things that bikers do so well. Some gatherings are large, others small. But they each have that same big beautiful biker heart at the center of it all. We realize there are more happenings going on than we could share here. We are very proud to be able to share news with you about some of this Season's events.

Betsy

* * * * *

Birds On Bikes

The 35th annual Birds on Bikes sponsored by the Modified Motorcycle Association of AZ took place on Sunday November 18, 2018. It has always been held on the last Sunday before Thanksgiving.

Cindy Gates, Secretary & Board Member for MMA-AZ's Leather-Eagle District, has been organizing this benefit for about 19 years now. "It is my favorite event of the year. I love giving back to our community." This year was set up as a friendly East vs West-type competition to bring out the generosity in people.

Riders from the West Valley meet up at Charley's Place in Glendale, while Eat Valley folks gather at the Chandler Elks Lodge. They all travel to St Vincent DePaul's central kitchen, located at 420 W Watkins in Phoenix to drop off turkeys, non-perishables, and cash donations.

Cindy estimates that there were about 200 riders this year. Additional riders & supporters who met up with the group at St Vincent's included Chuck Franklin in his big yellow truck. There were some clubs, as well... Spartan Riders MC comes every year, CMA {Christian Motorcyclists Association}, Brothers of the Third Wheel {trikers}, ABATE, American Legion Riders, and 2 HOG groups... one from the east and one from the west © She noted that support was "almost even all the way until the very last minute. We got a rush and they put all their donations in the WEST SIDE."

Altogether, 200 turkeys + 1400# of non-perishables were collected. Excellent job!

Cindy sends thanks to KNIX Radio for announcing this event in the week beforehand to help get the word out. Also, she thanks everyone who came out.

She hopes that next year will be even bigger & better. Her plan for next year includes a trophy with a turkey on top for the winner ©

Here is part of her post-event Facebook message. It sums things up nicely... "I want to say a big THANK YOU to everyone that came out for Birds on Bikes. We had a great time. We got to feed quite a few families this year. From the Bottom of my Heart I love you all my Brothers and Sisters."

Well done Cindy! Thank you for being the driving force behind his annual tradition for so many years.

* * * * *

Marine Toys For Tots Annual Ride

The Marine Toys For Tots Annual Ride staged at Harley-Davidson of Scottsdale on the morning of Saturday November 24, 2018. This year's organizers and hosts were the Broken Wings Foundation & Templar Krusaders MC. This event benefits the children of Maricopa County.

219 riders and several cages left HDoS on this self-paced ride. The ride included a dice game, with stops at Pistol Parlour, Tortilla Flat, and At Seasons End Mortuary before ending up at What the Hell Bar & Restaurant in East Mesa. Big Sexy won the \$200 prize. Congratulations!

An additional 390 or so people skipped the ride & went straight to the last stop to support the cause.

The end party was family-friendly and included 14 vendors as well as a visit from Mr. & Mrs. Claus. There was music by Stomp Box outside in the venue and 74th Street Band played inside the bar. There were many raffles and prizes.

We learned from Christina 'Morticia' Duwel of the Templar Krusaders MC that they were able to donate \$6,013.81 in cash plus two 24-foot trucks full of toys to the Maricopa County Toys For Tots program. How about THAT!

She also sent along thanks to event supporters "One Hour Heating & Air Conditioning, Chuck Franklin Law, Discount Biker Supply, and all of our stops! Amazing people!" She added, "Toys for Tots is such a great event. There are several groups that support them throughout the year."

The Templar Krusaders MC will be at the <u>Skin and Steel</u> event coming up January 19 at American Legion Post 2 in Tempe. See our calendar for details. Ask them about the Broken Wings Foundation and how you can support their mission to support families of fallen riders.

Thank you Morticia for your help with this article. Congratulations on such a successful endeavor!

* * * *

Independent Riders Toy Run

The 17th annual Independent Riders Toy Run took place on November 3 up in Globe, AZ. About 50 bikes came out. Ride stops were at Roosevelt Lake Lodge, Bernie's [in Globe], the Copper Bistro, and the Huddle, before landing at Jammerz Bar for the end party. All proceeds raised go toward helping local families during the holidays. Four families were adopted this year. Al Nader shared that, "We made sure all families have good beds & bedding; shoes, clothing, & jackets. We also gave gift cards for Fry's & Walmart... Even back rent & some car repairs." They get family referrals from local government agencies such as CAP (Community Action Program) and Head Start.

A donation was also made to a fund for victims of a shooting that recently took place in the area.



reaths Across America - Arizona



Wreaths Across America coordinates wreath-laying ceremonies at 1600+ cemeteries including Arlington, to remember our departed Veterans at Christmastime. Ceremonies large and small take place on the same day across our country, at sea, and abroad.

December 15th marked the 21st anniversary of Maine wreaths being donated to be placed on headstones at Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, VA. 2018 is also the thirteenth year of the National Wreath Sponsorship Campaign under the guidance of the nonprofit WreathsAcrossAmerica.org that brought the same remembrance wreaths to National and State Veterans cemeteries, monuments, and community centers all across the Nation.

At Phoenix National Memorial Cemetery of Arizona, on Cave Creek Road, the annual "Wreaths Across America Ceremony" took place at 10am on 15 December 2018. Tarra Matyas, the organizer for the event, welcomed everyone for attending and announced the beginning of the ceremony. The colors were presented by the United States Coast Guard Honor Guard and a prayer was given by Chaplain John of the Old Guard Riders. Upon the completion of the prayer everyone recited the Pledge of Allegiance, which was followed by the singing of the National Anthem by Jeff Senour. Tarra introduced the Benchmark Elementary School Choir who performed a patriotic song for everyone in attendance. Col. Wanda Wright, Director of the Arizona Department of Veterans' Services gave a speech. The Scottish American Military Society performed the POW/MIA Remembrance Table Ceremony. Tarra then got up and thanked everyone and guided them to come up and each take a wreath and go out and place it on the grave of a Veteran. Taps was then played by Vern West USA (Ret) and the laying of wreaths commenced.

Seven ceremonial wreaths were placed to re-

member those who served, honor their sacrifices, and teach our younger generations about the high cost of our freedoms. Specially designated wreaths for the Army, Marines, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, Merchant Marine, and POW/MIA were placed during the ceremony that was conducted simultaneously at over 1400 participating locations all across the USA.

This program continues to grow and it wouldn't be possible without the help, support and dedication of so very many individuals, groups and businesses. Keep that support and awareness growing through 2019. The comment was made that, "There were so many organizations present that day, as well as supporting us through the year. Patriot Guard Riders, Old Guard Riders, Combat Vets, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Youth For Troops, Daughters of the American Revolution, Riders USA, Church groups, community groups, Legion Riders, Eagle Riders, the list is nearly impossible to compile."

Tarra followed up by sharing that they placed 5,600 wreaths in Phoenix National Cemetery this year. That is a bit down from last year due to donations coming in after the cut-off date. But, seeing the silver lining, she noted that, "We already have over 1000 for next year :)" Tarra has a passion for the WAA Mission. There are more than 65,000 Veterans interred at Phoenix. As program organizer for this location, she is determined to have one for EVERY Veteran at PNC. Donations are already being accepted for 2019. Tarra can be reached at tarramatyas2@gmail.com

The Wreaths Across America Ceremony at the Hi Jolly Cemetery in Quartzite took place on Saturday December 15. Everyone gathered at VFW Post 769 on Central Blvd before parading to the cemetery. The Freedom Riders led the parade, which was given a police escort. Thanks go out to the town of Quartzsite for their support. There were a number of speakers plus a musical tribute by local band Skyhawks. The Jr. Color Guard escorted and assisted with the placing of the wreaths. The ceremony included the placing of 7 wreaths, for the branches of our military and the POW/MIA. In addition, there were 125 wreaths placed on the graves of Veterans who are taking their final rest at High Jolly. Thank you to Roy Austin of VFW Post 769 for sharing your information with us.

Regardless of whether the remembrance event is large or small, the intent and importance are the same. The mission of Wreaths Across America is to Remember, Honor, Teach. Remember our fallen U.S. Veterans, Honor those who serve, and Teach our children the value of freedom. WHEREVER you are, whatever state you live in, YOU can become involved in this very moving endeavor.

From the WAA website, "A person dies twice: once when they take their final breath, and later, the last time their name is spoken." As the wreaths are placed, the volunteers are encouraged to say the Veteran's name aloud; reflecting a moment on their life and service. Would you like to sponsor a wreath for a specific Veteran or Cemetery? Would you like to become involved or learn more about the program? Visit https://www.wreathsacrossamerica.org/

Thank you All for your part in remembering our departed Veterans this Christmas Season.

Betsy

Photos here are from the Phoenix ceremony. View more online by clicking the title above.







Come have breakfast with us!

Community News

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

Happy Birthday in January to

Millio Cicciarelli, Papadave Treadwell, Wilma Shearhart, Billie Daman, Still Ray, Billy Sample, Scott Hagemann, Kathi Calahan, Woody Phillips, Mark Kalifut, Mustang Sally, Gail Barton, Gary Nicholas Imholte, El Hefe, Jeanne Shinn, Greg Sleeper, Slammer Wertz, Bill Goodwin, BJ Chapen, Nick Karras, Deborah Wright, Sally Mo Jo, Mariah Newill, Mick Degn, Gina Ritchie, Craig Martin, Tom Felten, David 'Double D' Devereaux, Brandy Bradford, Chad Daugherty, Nick Malucci, Cameron L Smith, Josette 'NeverReady' Rossi, Gina Edwards, Horrhayy Manos, Cheri Latini, Britt Rowland, John Tartaro, Vicky Wikid Purple Elliott, Deb Lotardo, Lynda Marie Handi Barnett, Linnae Wolkoff, Christine Layne, Stu Dvoret, Frankie Petrucci, Mark Pappy Patton, George Bellman, Rosi Khazoom, Lorrie Werden-Barnes, Djana Shaffer, Abby Jones, Andreanne DePape, Mary LeCompte, Leon Curley, Annie Cooper, Tina Lynn, and Duane Olk * & & & & *

Happy Anniversary in January to

Duane & Virginia Olk
Ginger Brunson & Joe Terborg
Margie & Frederic Sanchez
Billy D & Jewels Docherty
* & & & & *

Gone But Not Forgotten

Richard 'Rick' Ellis ~ January 25, 2001
Pat 'Little Bit' Luther ~ January 6, 2005
Big Gene Loeffler ~ January 28, 2006
John Hopkins ~ January 23, 2009
Robert Vasquez ~ January 14, 2012
Red Hartman ~ January 4, 2013
Gar Belanger ~ January 15, 2013
John 'Jet' Taylor ~ January 9, 2015
Michael 'Sinner' Powell ~ January 18, 2017
* & & & & *

November 26, 2018 ... Recall ~
NHTSA Campaign Number: 18V830
Engine Connecting Rods may Loosen
Potential Number of Units Affected 1
Components ENGINE & ENGINE COOLING
Summary: BMW of North America, LLC
(BMW) is recalling one 2019 F850GS motorcycle. The engine connecting rods may not have
been installed properly, possibly causing them
to become loose and disconnect over time.
Loose engine connecting rods can damage the
engine, causing a loss of engine power, increas-

ing the risk of a crash.

Remedy: The motorcycle has not yet been sold, and the dealer will replace the engine, free of charge, prior to sale. The recall is expected begin in December 2018. Owners may contact BMW customer service at 1-800-525-7417.

Notes: for this annoucenment and all recalls in this collection... 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.

* & & & & *

November 27, 2018 ... Recall ~

NHTSA Campaign Number: 18V834 Oil Cooler Port May Crack Causing an Oil Leak Potential Number of Units Affected 1,663 Components ENGINE & ENGINE COOLING Summary: Ducati North America (Ducati) is recalling certain 2018-2019 Ducati Panigale V4, V4 S, and V4 SP motorcycles. The oil cooler output port may crack, causing an oil leak. An engine oil leak can increase the risk of a crash. Remedy: Ducati will notify owners, and dealers will replace the oil cooler, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin January 24, 2019. Owners may contact Ducati customer service at 1-888-391-5446.

* & & & & *

November 27, 2018 ... Recall ~

NHTSA Campaign Number: 18V835 Gear Shift Knob may Detach Potential Number of Units Affected 2,705 Components POWER TRAIN

Summary: Ducati North America (Ducati) is recalling certain 2017-2019 Ducati Monster 1200, Monster 821, SuperSport and SuperSport S motorcycles. The shift lever may have been incorrectly assembled, possibly resulting in the shift knob detaching from the lever. If the shift knob detaches, the rider may not be able to shift gears, increasing the risk of a crash.

Remedy: Ducati will notify owners, and dealers will inspect the gear lever shift knob tightness, replacing it as necessary, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin January 25, 2019. Owners may contact Ducati customer service at 1-888-391-5446.

* & & & & *

November 30, 2018 ... Recall ~

NHTSA Campaign Number: 18V854 Timing Chain Tensioner may Loosen & Leak Oil

Potential Number of Units Affected 1,502 Components ENGINE & ENGINE COOLING Summary: Ducati North America (Ducati) is recalling certain 2018-2019 Ducati Panigale V4, V4 S and V4 SP motorcycles. The timing chain tensioner may loosen over time, possibly causing oil to leak from the bottom of the tensioner adjustment bolt.

An oil leak can increase the risk of a crash. Remedy: Ducati will notify owners, and dealers will tighten the timing chain tensioner bolts, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin January 25, 2019. Owners may contact Ducati customer service at 1-888-391-5446.

* & & & & *

December 4, 2018 ... Recall ~

NHTSA Campaign Number: 18V860 Shifter Return Spring may Break Potential Number of Units Affected 11,240

Components POWER TRAIN

Summary: Yamaha Motor Corporation, USA (Yamaha) is recalling certain 2015-2016 Yamaha YZFR3 motorcycles. The shift shaft torsion spring may fracture, giving the shifter a loose feel and affecting the ability to shift gears.

Difficulty shifting gears can cause a loss of control and increase the risk of a crash.

Remedy: Yamaha will notify owners, and dealers will install a new shift shaft torsion spring, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin December 17, 2018. Owners may contact Ya-

maha customer service at 1-800-962-7926. Yamaha's number for this recall is 990126.

* & & & & *

December 4, 2018 ... Recall ~

NHTSA Campaign Number: 18V861 Radiator Hose may Crack and Leak Coolant Potential Number of Units Affected 16,760 Components ENGINE & ENGINE COOLING Summary: Yamaha Motor Corporation, USA (Yamaha) is recalling certain 2015-2018 Yamaha YZFR3 motorcycles. The upper radiator hose may crack resulting in a coolant leak. If coolant leaks onto the rear tire, it can cause a loss of control, increasing the risk of a crash. Remedy: Yamaha will notify owners, and dealers will install a new upper radiator hose, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin December 17, 2018. Owners may contact Yamaha customer service at 1-800-962-7926. Yamaha's number for this recall is 990125.

* & & & & *

December 6, 2018 ... Recall ~

NHTSA Campaign Number: 18V866 Incorrect Brake Hose/Sensor Wire Routing Potential Number of Units Affected 1,173 Components SERVICE BRAKES, HYDRAU-LIC

Summary: Kawasaki Motor Corp., U.S.A. (KMC) is recalling certain 2018 Kawasaki Z900, Z900 ABS, and Z900RS vehicles. The rear brake hose and rear wheel rotation sensor wire may have been incorrectly routed, allowing them to contact the rear tire. If the brake hose contacts the rear tire, the hose may be damaged, reducing the braking performance. If the wheel rotation wire gets damaged, the ABS may not function properly. Either condition can increase the risk of a crash.

Remedy: KMC will notify owners, and dealers will inspect the brake line and rear wheel sensor wire routing, correcting the routing and replacing any damaged component, free of charge. The recall began December 17, 2018. Owners may contact KMC customer service at 1-866-802-9381. KMC's number for this recall is MC18-06.

* & & & & *

December 17, 2018 ... Congratulations to Guillermo Eiland as he announces the birth of his son, Jeremiah ©

* & & & & *

Share your news within AZ's Biker Community. Send an email to editor@azridersouthwest.com, subject line: Community News.

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Troll's Teddy Bear Run

Troll's 3rd annual Teddy Bear Run took place on Saturday December 1, 2018. While the actual RIDE took place on that date, it is far more than a 1-day get-together. People have literally been collecting bears & other plushies for this drive since the after-Christmas sales kicked in for 2017. That's a lot of love ©

94 riders gathered at American Bike & Trike in Gilbert for this Family-friendly day. The self-paced Poker Run had stops at Brick & Barley in Tempe, Airport Tavern in Casa Grande, and River Bottom B&G in Florence, before arriving at the final stop for the run party at Wahoo's Restaurant & Bar in Gold Canyon.

The run party included Door Prizes and Raffle Prizes all made and or put together by "A Creative Touch" along with a 50/50. The winners of the poker run were 1st Place Les Jarvis, 2nd Best Hand Dean Riding, and Worst Hand Howard Clem.

The main thing about this day of course was the kids! These bears are donated to Mesa Family Advocacy Center, Mesa & Gilbert PDs, and Mesa First Responders. They are given to the kids when they are caught up in a traumatic situation... a fire, domestic violence, auto wreck, etc. What might seem like such a simple item can be a calming influence in the midst of their ordeal; giving the little ones something to hold onto until their life can return to 'normal'.

The final count was 782 bears & other plushies. There were 429 from early donations and 353 from the run itself. Wonderful!

Troll sent along thanks to, "Bob & Jay with Law Tigers Arizona for sponsoring the event, helping out with the flyers and promotion of it. Thanks also to American Bike and Trike for allowing me to start it at their shop; Airport Tavern for the donation of the giant Teddy Bear; Wahoo's Restaurant & Bar for giving us their giant side yard for the after run party and for donating 75 Teddy Bears and stuffed animals; East Valley HOG for their donation of 60 Teddy Bears from the group itself and for showing up with 30+ riders and their donations; The Zeriah Foundation and Missy Hughes for their huge donation of Teddy Bears; the Templar Krusaders for their donation of over 60 Teddy Bears and stuffed animals; Donna & Rich Kempf for their donation of over 100 Teddy Bears and stuffed animals; my wife, Cindy Hughes for the tons of hours she spent creating the Door and Raffle prizes through her business "A Creative Touch"; and of course all the folks that helped out with parking, signing everyone up, handing out the prizes... Steve Lopez, McFreckles & Jodi Cicirello to name a few."

Troll added, "So many wonderful people came together to help out this worthy cause benefiting the Mesa Family Advocacy Center, Mesa Police & Fire, Gilbert Police, and Helen's Hope Chest. I am looking forward to next year to grow it some more and help out more kids with more Teddy Bears and stuffed animals." Please remember the first Saturday in Dec next year for the 4th Annual Troll's Teddy Bear Run!

Congratulations on another very successful day!

For online readers, click title to see more photos.



DEDICATED TO FREEDOM OF THE ROAD



American Brotherhood Aimed Toward Education

If you are a motorcyclist, then ABATE needs you to help protect the Freedom of the Road and reduce motorcycle accidents through Rider Education and Awareness Programs, regardless of Machine, Gear, Club or Organization affiliation. Join us and help save motorcyclists and motorcycling in AZ!

Awareness

LQQK OUT FOR MOTORCYCLISTS

Rights

LET THOSE WHO RIDE DECIDE

PSA

Education



EDUCATE, NOT LEGISLATE





Support ABATE's efforts on YOUR behalf as a motorcyclist. JOIN ABATE TODAY and help protect your rights as a rider. Visit ABATE on the web at www.abateofaz.org/ your membership application is available there

or call ABATE at 480-256-9237

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.

AMERICAN BROTHERHOOD AIMED TOWARDS EDUCATION

7509 N. 12th Street, Suite 200; Phoenix, AZ 85020 - Phone 480-256-9237; Website http://abateofaz.org/



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The Yucca Toy Run & Food Drive, sponsored by <u>Soldiers For Jesus MC Havasu</u>, took place on Sunday December 9, 2018. My thanks to SFJMC Havasu P, Mark Donnell, for sending details from the day.

This year there were two starting locations. The Desert Road Riders MC opened their Club House in Golden Valley. Plus, Desert Thunder Motorcycle Shop [Randy and Dolan] in Lake Havasu helped out and had a lot going on for the riders with the Undercover Band. Dustin Otterbach brought out

his Rocket and provided some morning start up food.

The rides from both start locations were a short 35 miles out to the event location at the Yucca Fire Station. It seems that Yucca Fire Station is a central hub of support for the families and kids of the Yucca area. Mark explained,

"Yucca Fire Station is a story of its own. They are so much more than just a local Fire Station. They open up the Station for our event and fly the biggest American Flag of the area, off one of their ladder trucks. It is cool."

At the Fire Station there was a photo booth to take pictures with Santa and to talk over Christmas plans with him. There was a raffle for some .45, 9mm, and .223 Ammo; plus a 50-50 to help raise money for the program. "This year we streamed Christmas music and had a great turn out, keeping the focus on the kids and not just on a party for the riders."

It is estimated that there were between 350 to 500 attendees. Over 350 were fed. There was 100 lbs of chicken cooked up for street tacos, plus sodas and water were available ... all at no cost. "The women of the

Yucca community brought out the desserts and made everyone's day with all of the sweets."

There were a number of local businesses that helped out as drop off points for toys and food. Plus, a number of supporters donated funds to help with the cost [of the event] and to help with the donation to the Yucca School Kids Program.

Mark shared this information regarding donations, "I am not sure about the totals at this time but we had over 20 turkeys, 20 Christmas trees donated, over 3000

pounds of non-perishable food, and all of the toys. At this point we will be able to donate over \$2,000 to the Yucca School for the kids programs."

Mark described the distribution system. "The food is donated to and given away through the local Food Bank. The toys are sorted out by the local women that know the kids and they're wrapped up. The School put a program on for the kids on December 12 and the toys were given to the kids. There are also some of the older kids in the high school that are taken care of. The Fire Dept also contacts the families living out in the Yucca desert areas to help support them at this time of the year with food and gifts. Santa shows up on a fire truck!"

Mark was gracious & modest as he shared this day's story, wanting it be about the event rather than his Club. And I get that. But his reminder that everyone has the opportunity to help out those that need a little support and encouragement, is one to keep in mind... at this time of year and year 'round for that matter. "We just want to encourage those that feel that they can help, to go out and help."

I'd say, from what I learned, that this event allowed people on both the giving and receiving ends to be blessed in the glow of good will this Christmas Season.

Betsy



The 14th Annual Lost Dutchman MC Christmas Angel Toy Drive to benefit the Salvation Army was held on Sunday December 9, 2018.

This is the first year that each of the 3 LDMC clubhouses, Queen Creek, Peoria, & the original in Mesa, hosted a morning open house. A ride-in from the outer clubhouses to Mesa brought everyone together for the parade to WalMart. From there, everyone rolled out at noon as a group.

We met up with the pack at the WalMart at Dobson & Rio Salado. As we awaited their arrival, we heard in the distance that phenomenal, unmistakable sound ... the rumble of motorcycles rolling in... Hundreds of them.

The parking lot had a sizable area cordoned off

for the group. Once parked, participants head inside Walmart, pick an ornament from a Salvation Army Christmas Angel tree, purchase the gift requested, and go out to turn it in. The area outside teemed with goodwill, camaraderie, & Christmas cheer as scooter folk waited in line to drop off their purchases at the waiting truck. We observed 21 organizations represented. The U-Haul truck filled quickly with bicycles, scooters, dolls, games, crafts, & more.

As non-riders who were shopping at Wal-Mart observed what was going on they started bringing over their own donations to be added to the truck.... Outstanding! Some were presenting cash donations.

According to LDMC member Mark, "We started with 250 Christmas Angel tags and had completed

229 of them when we left for the day. The remaining 21 we left on the tree in hopes of people contributing. I did go back the next week and pick up another half dozen shopping bags that people had left. We raised almost \$9000 for the Salvation Army Christmas Angel drive and an additional \$756 in cash donations for Sunshine Acres Children's Home in Mesa. Just a reminder that all the toys were distributed to children in Mesa and no other location."

It was great to see so much support for this long-standing event, as the Lost Dutchman MC & friends helped to make some less fortunate children happy on Christmas. Nicely done guys!

Betsy & Bruce

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

Saturdays 2019 { 1/12, 1/26 }: Superstition HOG Chapter Ride starts at Superstition H-D - 2910 W Apache Trail, Apache Junction, AZ. 85120. All welcome. Meet at East Lot at 9:30a. Kickstands up at 10a. FMI: 480-346-0600 or visit http://superstitionhd.com/

2nd Saturdays: Lost Dutchman MC Queen Creek Open House, from 7-11:30pm for any of you bikers. We make a nice rest stop on your way home or your way out. Cold drinks, good bbq, music, etc. You are welcome to join in. All types of bikes, all types of people, cars too. 17998 186th St, Queen Creek. Thank you. FMI: mwarren0717@ gmail.com

Last Saturdays: VIII'S Society Open House 8-11:30pm. 5th Ave, Apache Junction. FMI: n/a

Sundays 2019 { 1/6, 1/20 }: 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 9:30a. Kickstands up at 10a. FMI: 480-346-0600 or visit http://superstitionhd.com/

1st Sundays [10/7- 4/7/19]: Arizona Cycle Swap @ Big Surf Waterpark, 1500 N McClintock Dr. Tempe, AZ 85281 from 8a-noon. \$5/pp @ gate, under 12 free. Free Parking. Buy, Sell, Swap. Rain or shine. Sponsors include Law Tigers. General &/or Vendor info: www.arizonacycleswap.com/

Wednesdays 2019 { 1/9, 1/16, 1/23, 1/30}: Superstition HOG Chapter Ride. Departs Superstition HD - 2910 W Apache Trail, Apache Junction 85120. Ride with our HOG Members. Meet at East Lot 9:30a, ride @ 10am. FMI: 480-346-0600 or visit http://superstitionhd.com/

2nd Wednesdays: ABATE-AZ Yavapai Chapter meeting ~ 6pm at VFW Post 541, 202 N Arizona Ave, Prescott. FMI: 928-308-9911, ycabateaz@ gmail.com

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

Last Fridays: Lost Dutchman MC Mesa Open House, from 7-11:30pm. 1826 W Broadway Suite #42, Mesa FMI: billetldmc@juno.com, 602-463-7886

* * * *

1/4 (Fri) Motorcycles on Main Bike Night in Downtown Mesa from 6-10pm. Music by Chris Kane Trio. Beer Garden, vendors, & more. Park & show your bike. Eateries open. First Fridays September - June. Vendors call Courtney 480-890-2613 https://facebook.com/MotorcyclesOnMain

1/4 Ride With The Dealer to Motorcycles on Main for Bike Night! Meet on the west lot of Superstition Harley-Davidson. Kickstands up at 6:15pm. SHD @ 2910 W. Apache Trail Apache Junction 85120 FMI: 480-346-0600, receptionist@superstitionhd.com

1/12 {Sat} Customer Appreciation Bikes, Brunch and Bloodies at Superstition Harley-Davidson from 11a-2pm. Join us as we celebrate you! Brunch & Bloodies on us starting at 11am till gone. Live music by The Jokerz plus raffles & giveaways @ 2910 W. Apache Trail Apache Junction, AZ 85120 FMI: 480-346-0600, receptionist@ superstitionhd.com

1/15 {Tues} Ride With The Dealer... Bike night dinner ride with Superstition Harley-Davidson to Queen Valley Country Club. KSU 6:15pm. SHD @ 2910 W. Apache Trail Apache Junction 85120 FMI: 480-346-0600, receptionist@superstitionhd.com

1/16 (Wed) Yoga for Bikers classes @ Superstition Harley-Davidson 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 SHD @ 2910 W. Apache Trail Apache Junction, AZ 85120 FMI: receptionist@superstitionhd.com 480-346-0600

1/19 {Sat} 9th annual Skin & Steel at the American Legion Post 2 [2125 S Industrial Park Ave] in Tempe. 10a-4pm. Tattoo & Motorcycle contests, vendors, & more. Music by 'Moonshine VooDoo Band'. Free admission. Benefits American Legion Rider Programs. Sponsors include Law Tigers. FMI: 480-967-2968, Skin.SteelAZ@gmail.com www.skinandsteelaz.com

1/19 Activities at Superstition HD... Superstition HOG Chapter Monthly General Meeting in the H.O.G. Room at 10am. Gather at 9:30am for cake, conversation, & coffee. HOG Dogs follows. Bitchin' Stitchin' is onsite as well. SHD @ 2910 W. Apache Trail Apache Junction 85120 FMI: 480-346-0600, receptionist@superstitionhd.com

1/26 (Sat) 4th Annual Ride for the Salt River Wild Horses, a benefit for the Salt River Wild Horse Management Group {http://saltriverwildhorsemanagementgroup.org} to continue protecting and keeping the Salt River Wild Horses Wild & Free. Register at the American Legion Post 58 Fountain Hills. 9-11am. \$10/pp. The unescorted scenic ride ends at Superstition Harley-Davidson 2910 W. Apache Trail Apache Junction 85120. End party 11a-4:30pm. Flag Presentation, National Anthem, Live Music, Beer Garden, Vendors, Educational Booths, Speakers, & more. Sponsors include Law Tigers. FMI: 480-868-9301, https://www.facebook. com/events/1811432915557693/

1/27 {Sun} Yoga for Riders. Riding & Yoga... can it get any better!! Yoga Greg is going to lead a short ride out of Superstition Harley-Davidson. Greg will give a demo & speak about stretching/ breathing, things to help improve your riding experience! Kickstands up at 10:30am. SHD @ 2910 W. Apache Trail Apache Junction, AZ 85120 FMI: 480-346-0600, receptionist@superstitionhd.com

2/1 {Fri} Motorcycles on Main Bike Night in Downtown Mesa from 6-10pm. Music by Unknown Associates. Beer Garden, vendors, & more. Park & show your bike. Eateries open. Takes place every first Friday between September & June. Vendors call Courtney 480-890-2613 https://facebook.com/ MotorcyclesOnMain

2/9 {Sat} Red Iron MC Poker Run starts/ends at Steel Horse Saloon 1818 W. Bell Rd, Phx phn602-942-8778. Register 10-noon. Open to everyone & all vehicles. \$20/sql, \$30/cpl benefits the Heart Strings Foundation which donates guitars to children and veterans in music therapy programs across AZ. Poker run, raffle prizes, 50/50, live music, food, drinks, vendors, and more. Return to Steel Horse by 4pm, event ends 5pm. FMI: Nick 480-276-2387

2/10 {Sun} 36th annual Florence Prison Run. Party starts 11a @ Charles Withrow Rodeo Grounds, 4 miles s. of Florence. \$20/pp. 21 & over party. FMI: onepercenter@hotmail.com

2/15-17 {Fr-Sun} Lake Havasu Rockabilly Reunion at Lake Havasu City includes Car / Motorcycle Show with over 800 plus vehicles on display; 150+ Vendors to shop; Vintage Pin Up Pageant; Food Court; 22 Bands during the 3 days; much more. FMI: 928-846-0335 https://www.lakehavasurockabillyreunion.com

2-19 (Tues) Motorcycle Day at the Dome 8a-1pm. Hosted by ABATE of AZ. FMI: lobbyist@abateo-

2-23-19 Hooked on Healing. Details TBA. FMI: www.healingvets.org

3/1 (Fri) Motorcycles on Main Bike Night in Downtown Mesa from 6-10pm. Music by Moonshine VooDoo Band. Beer Garden, vendors, & more. Park & show your bike. Eateries open. Takes place every first Friday between September & June. Vendors call Courtney 480-890-2613 https://facebook.com/MotorcyclesOnMain

3/3 (Sun) AMSAF (AZ Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Foundation) annual Riding For the Long Haul will be at El Zaribah Shriners Auditorium, 552 N 40th St, Phoenix. Free admission, live music, bike show, demos, 'safety is sexy' fashion show, vendors, & more. Sponsors include Law Tigers. FMI: www.amsaf.org

3-16 (Sat) Lost Dutchman MC 23rd Goldrush.

3-23-19 Dakota's Run hosted by Green Knights Chapter 28 MMC. Details TBA. FMI: greenknights28@ gmail.com

4/3-7 Arizona Bike Week http://www.azbikeweek.

4/5 (Fri) Motorcycles on Main Bike Night in Downtown Mesa from 6-10pm. Music by The Fallen. Beer Garden, vendors, & more. Park & show your bike. Eateries open. Takes place every first Friday between September & June. Vendors call Courtney 480-890-2613 https://facebook.com/ **MotorcyclesOnMain**

5/2-5 {Th-Sun} Wild in the Weeds with ABATE-AZ High Country Chapter. Punkin Center Bar & Grill, Mile Post 262 Hwy 188, Tonto Basin AZ. FMI: CC 928-476-1955

5/3 (Fri) Motorcycles on Main Bike Night in Downtown Mesa from 6-10pm. Live Music, Beer Garden, vendors, & more. Park & show your bike. Eateries open. Takes place every first Friday between September & June. Vendors call Courtney 480-890-2613 https://facebook.com/Motorcycles-OnMain

6/7 (Fri) Motorcycles on Main Bike Night in Downtown Mesa from 6-10pm. Live Music, Beer Garden, vendors, & more. Park & show your bike. Eateries open. Takes place every first Friday between September & June. Vendors call Courtney 480-890-2613 https://facebook.com/Motorcycles-OnMain

The Freedom to Assemble is a RIGHT, not a 'privilege' 16 AZ Rider

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! "WELCOME HOME, CONGRATULATIONS ON A JOB WELL DONE, AND GOOD LUCK"



Michael DePaulo, COM National Parliamentarian, Rolling Thunder®, Inc. Plt. Sgt. USMC, RVN



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Aint Nicks Tavern, located at 6840 N. 27th Avenue in Phoenix, hosted their Sleigh Ride & Pub Crawl on Saturday December 15, 2018 to benefit the Child Crisis Nursery. Sign-in was from 8-10am. Breakfast was available. My thanks to Aint Nicks owner Cheri Wells for the details she sent along.

It was a self-paced ride, starting and ending at Aint Nicks. Cheri noted, "We had around 70 register for the ride. We overloaded the party bus with 26 people. Many more wanted on at the last minute but the bus was full. It was a great time!" A lot of additional people were in cages.

It was a 5 stop poker run, with stops at Maverick Saloon, <u>The Beaver Bar & Grill</u>, Steel Horse Saloon, and Charley's Place before returning to sAint Nicks Tavern. From Cheri, "Every location did a

fantastic job and filled their boxes with toys. A big thank you goes out to each location, their owners, staff and patrons!!"

The after party had lunch for all ride participants. Entertainment included music & comedy on the patio with the Chuck & Mike Show. Ron was the high hand poker winner, with 3 threes and 2 kings. He won a Fireball chiller machine and a bottle of Fireball. Low hand winner, Jeremy, won a Jim Beam mirror. The 50/50 winner received \$150. Congratulations to each of you.

This event raised \$1,483.00 in cash for the Child Crisis Nursery; a combination of donations from Steel Horse Saloon, Aint Nicks Tavern, the registrants, 50/50 raffle tickets, bus riders, and random donations. The toys and monies were dropped off on

Tuesday 12/18/18. The estimated value of the toy donations was between \$5000 & \$7000. Fantastic!

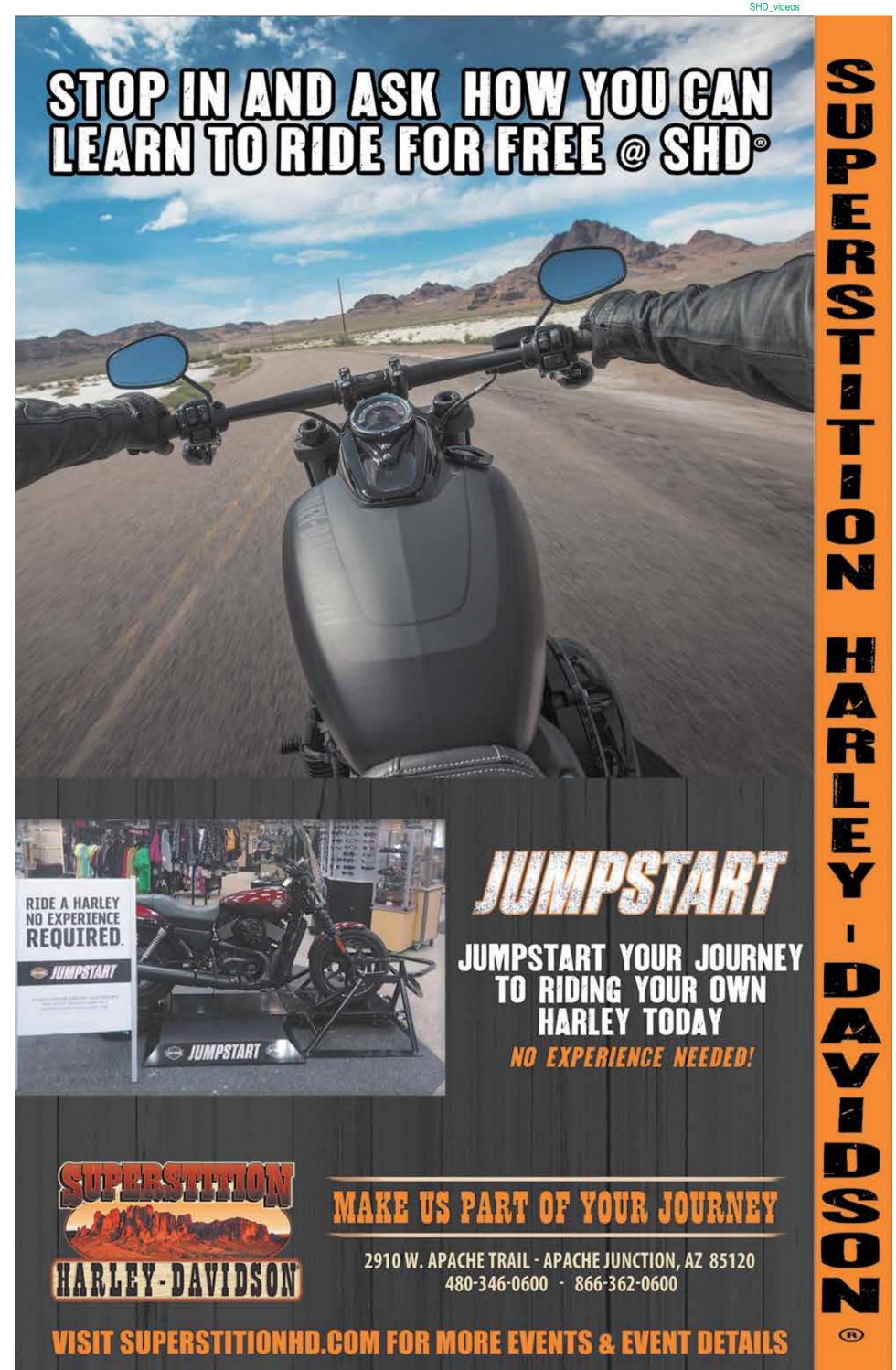
Cheri sent along this message, "I would like to mention my amazing staff who did a fantastic job!! Some of them put in some long hours. And also a thank you to Rick from the Steel Horse for providing the bus and extra donation and to "G PinkOn Nunez" for all her advice, help and support. As an organizer I am so excited with how this year turned out... I can't wait to make it bigger and better next year!"

Congratulations to <u>Aint Nicks Tavern</u> and everyone involved. Sounds like some kids had a pretty amazing Christmas, thanks to you!

Betsy







2018 Barbie Hensler Memorial Toy Run

Hosted by

ABATE-AZ's High Country Chapter

Posted December 8, 2018 . Reprinted with permission, courtesy of MotorcycleSafari.com https://motorcyclesafari.com/2018-barbie-hens-ler-memorial-toy-run/

Members of High Country Chapter of ABATE of AZ were joined by their brothers and sisters from Rim Country District of MMA of AZ in the parking lot of the Buffalo Bar & Grill in Payson Arizona on Saturday morning, Dec. 8th, to set-up for the 16th Annual Barbie Hensler Memorial Toy Run. Eager to help out the area's children and families in need this Christmas, they arrived even before the doors were unlocked. The wait was not long however as Mike McKinnon, the Buffalo's owner, soon arrived also very eager to host this year's run.

Shortly thereafter the pickup trucks arrived after picking up the toy collection boxes that had been distributed to various area business for the last 30 days. The haul was impressive, but not as impressive as it would be by the end of the event.

By the scheduled start time of 11 am, bar and staff were ready, silent auction items, raffle and door prizes were arranged and ready. People started to arrive almost immediately. Some came there for the Toy Run but many regular patrons, surprised to find the event going on, seemed to relax bit once they discovered what was happening. Run attendees and regular customers all gladly took their free door prize tickets as they entered and some were even happier as they left with either a door or raffle prize tucked under their arm.

The 50/50 is always a big draw. A couple, Rick and Stephanie, who recently moved to the area, had stopped by to drop off some toys and say hello before heading out on a ride on a glorious fall day. They wanted to participate in the 50/50, but were only hoping they would win so they could donate the money back to the kids. So they purchased a \$20 dollar stretch of tickets and promptly donated them to the treasurer before heading out for their ride. We can't wait to see them again as, sure enough, they won half the \$364-dollar pot which went immediately back into the Event. Incidentally, every single penny earned at the toy run is donated to the Women of the Moose who use the money to make sure each and every child on their vetted list enjoys a happy Christmas. The Women of the Moose also take care of any of the families of these kids that needs a little extra help. So the toy run ends up helping more than just the kids.

For the 5 hours of the event, we had regular door and raffle prize drawings, great music by our KRIM

DJ Chris, great food and drink, and a lot of laughter. New friendships were made and old ones celebrated. This is definitely one of the most fun events of any year.

The end result was about 5 pickup trucks of toys, 10 brand new bicycles (with 7 more still to arrive), and \$3,000 cash.

This event is always the result of a few months of coordinating by our Event Coordinator, CC Ransom, with extra help from the Rim Country District of MMA who, this year, stepped up in a really big way to help with the actual execution of the event. So we want to start by thanking the Rim Country District MMA. We could never ask for better brothers and sisters. Thank you.

There is a very long list of businesses that need to be mentioned here as their support is invaluable. These include: Bandit's Restaurant and Dirty Cowboy Saloon in Strawberry, HB's Place and the Pinewood Tavern in Pine, The Spur Bar in Star Valley, The Pinon Café in Payson, and Jake's Corner Bar, all of which hosted toy collection boxes. Also, thanks to Miller Autoworks and Tonto Silkscreen & Embroidery in Payson for their very generous donations.

Special thanks go out to our brothers and sisters at the Old Bastards MC in Payson, the Loose Cannons in Payson, and the American Legion Riders from Post 69 in Payson who turned out in force. Also, thanks to Toys For Tots for their generous donation of toys.

Then there were those who really stepped up. These include Joy's Sweet Shoppe & Espresso Cafe in Pine and El Rancho Restaurant in Payson who both had completely full collection boxes. Then comes the Ponderosa Market in Pine with almost 3 full boxes of toys collected. But the most outstanding support came from 2 locations. The Sportsman's Chalet in Strawberry stepped up in a big way and brought us a full box of toys, a large cash donation AND they purchased, and delivered, the 17 brand new bicycles. And, once again, Punkin Center Bar in Tonto Basin handed us 3 overfull boxes of toys as well as over \$1,200 in cash. They do this each and every year and we cannot thank them enough.

Also needing special mention is Sawmill Theaters who promoted the event, free, on every screen of each showing for the last month and KRIM FM 96.3 in Payson who not only promoted the event, but collected toys AND provided their DJ Services free. Thanks so much Chris!!

Definitely not least in all of this is Mike at the Buffalo Bar & Grill in Payson; the permanent home of the Barbie Hensler Memorial Toy Run. Thank you Mike. You are a rock star!

Finally, and most importantly, thank you once again to the Women of the Moose who take all the

toys and money to make sure every child on the vetted list they create and oversee is given an excellent Christmas. They work extremely hard to get all donated, and purchased, toys, clothes, and other family items, sorted and wrapped in just under a week. Then, no doubt exhausted, they throw a huge party for the kids and their families complete with Santa and Mrs. Claus (who are generally escorted by the Hellsgate Fire Department). Ladies, you are all Christmas angels. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts

As you can see, if you have read all the way down here, this is a community event and requires the support of many many folks to pull off each year. For the 16th time we are able to say "Thank You, have a very Merry Christmas, a safe and prosperous New Year, and see you next year for the 17th annual Barbie Hensler Memorial Toy Run".

We love you Barbie! We hope we are making you proud.

Online readers can click the title above to view the photo album.

View the Live Stream from the event here: https://www.facebook.com/KrimFm/videos/260720001271222/

Complete list of supporting businesses & organizations:

The Sportsman's Chalet – Strawberry

Bandits Restaurant & Dirty Cowboy Saloon –

Strawberry

HB'S Place – *Pine*Ponderosa Market – *Pine*Pinewood Tavern – *Pine*Joy's Sweet Shoppe & Espresso Cafe – *Pine*El Rancho Restaurant – *Payson*Buffalo Bar & Grill – *Payson*

The Spur Bar – *Star Valley*Greater Payson Moose Lodge 852 – *Star Valley*The Women of the Moose – *Star Valley*

Miller Autoworks – *Payson*Tonto Silkscreen – *Payson*KRIM FM 96.3 – *Payson*Sawmill Theaters – *Payson*

Pinon Café – Payson

American Legion Riders – Post 69 – Payson
Loose Cannons MC – Payson
Old Bastards MC – Payson
Jakes Corner Bar – Jakes Corner
Punkin Center Bar & Grill – Punkin Center
Toys For Tots

Rim Country District of the Modified
Motorcycle Association (MMA) of Arizona
High Country Chapter of ABATE of AZ
And all the folks that live between Tonto Basin
and Strawberry that made this possible.









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