



December 2024

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and a Happy New Year!



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* MaryK Donnay * Melissa Hughes
* Greg 'Troll' Hughes * Yogi Greg

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From Military To Civilian – A Seamless Transition

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

- Obtain a copy of your service medical records prior to discharge.
- A veteran has 2 years, after separation, to apply for service-related medical conditions. 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!!
- Join a veterans service organization - American Legion, VFW, DAV, AMVETS, Marine Corps League, Rolling Thunder®, etc

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

Michael DePaulo, COM

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



Hello AriZona Riders!

Oh what fun ... 🎵 ☺ 🎵

I hope that your Christmas & Holiday Season is going well. And there is still SO much to enjoy! Toy runs, parties, light parades, celebrating the New Year.... I wish you each a fun, memorable & safe holiday!!

Please keep our GIs in your thoughts & prayers as they spend their Holidays away from friends & loved ones.

Amid all the 'happy chaos' that comes with the Holidays, I hope that you will gift yourself the time & opportunities to make happy memories with good friends. It is truly one of the best gifts you can give yourself!

Still shopping? Please shop & buy local whenever possible. Small businesses do a LOT for their communities and appreciate the support.

I've got this one chance to do a little shout out for a new / not new business in the East Valley. This is for those of you who {like us} used to love those flea markets & swap meets along Apache Trail & were so bummed when they all closed down. They've found a NEW HOME! Yay! The Superstition Indoor Flea Market is Now Open! Thursday thru Sunday, 9a-5pm. It's in the shopping center at Signal Butte & Main {the old Basha's Plaza}, behind Denny's. Yes, you read it right... INDOOR! You'll see a lot of the vendors you recall from the past, plus some new ones. There's always cool stuff to check out. Questions? Email SuperstitionFleaMarket@gmail.com or call 480-365-9169.

Yes, I know this edition was published late. But an event that has been near & dear to our hearts for many years took place this weekend. So, I chose to wait and make Troll's Teddy Bear Run the final feature story.

And ... here we are. What I've needed to say has pretty much been said. For anything I want or need to share in the future, the AZ Rider webpage & social media pages will still be up for making announcements & such as I determine how I'll use that space in the future.

The opportunities I've had & the people I've met have been such a huge part of my life that I will always remember these years with AZ Rider Motorcycle News with immense happiness. I feel Blessed to be part of this motorcycling community, and always will.

Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukah, Happy Hogmanay, or however you celebrate this time of year. Have a safe, fun time as you ring in 2025!

I'll be out & about. There's no place I'd rather be. ☺

Until then ... Ride safely, choose wisely, &

Keep Your Butts On Your Putts!

Betsy



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Bikers For Boobies

The 15th and Final 'Bikers For Boobies' motorcycle ride took place on Sunday October 13, 2024. This annual event has raised money over the years to provide charitable donations to cancer support and awareness organizations including Casting for Recovery, M.O.M (Mobile Onsite Mammography), Singleton Moms, Froth and Bubble, Check for a Lump, and many more. Bikers for Boobies AZ has also been able to donate many mammograms for local women through M.O.M. *{from their website}*

More than 700 riders participated in this year's Bikers For Boobies ride.

Sign in was at J&P Cycles in Scottsdale. From there, stops include Dirty Dogg Saloon, ANC-Arizona Natural Concepts, Arrowhead Harley-Davidson, and Connolly's Sports Grill. Last stop was at RoadRunner Saloon & Restaurant in New River.

Music at the end party was provided by MoonShine Voodoo Band & by Skarlett Fever. Emcee was Jack Schit. The poker hand draws were completed; plus, there were raffles and an auction. Congratulations to all the winners.

The purpose of this ride is to fight

Cancer with emphasis on Breast Cancer. The B4B vision is to promote education and awareness to anyone seeking information for themselves or for a loved one diagnosed with cancer.

The organizers want to thank their sponsors: Chuck Franklin Law, J&P Cycles, Husband & Wife Law Team, [Law Tigers](#), Fascinations, Connolly's Sports Grill, and ANC-Arizona Natural Concepts.

Thank you to event planner Melissa Hughes {CEO, With A Twist Consulting LLC} for her help with this article.



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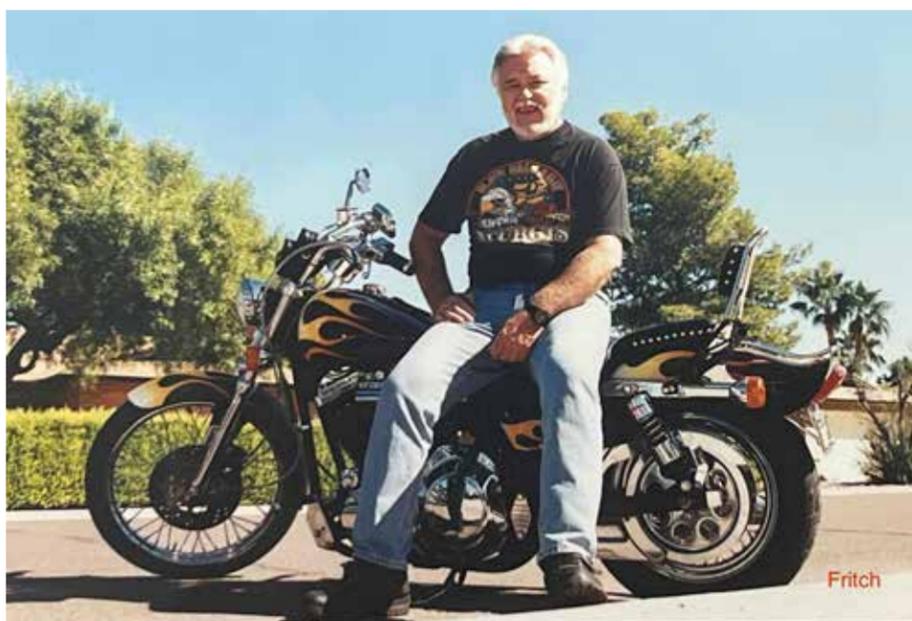
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In Memory Of Barry L Van Hook

August 17, 1942 ~ October 2, 2024

Barry Van Hook {82} of Mesa, Arizona passed away October 2, 2024. Barry was born in Peoria, Illinois, on August 17, 1942, the son of Betty Cumming Milashoski and Lyle Van Hook. A graduate of East Peoria Community High School, he was a proud US Army veteran, serving 3 years, including 1 year in Southeast Asia. Following an honorable discharge, he graduated from Illinois State University and Northern Illinois



University, where he earned a doctoral degree from the business school in 1973. He moved to Arizona in 1976 and spent 30 years as a professor of entrepreneurship and small business in the W.P. Carey School of Business, retiring from that position in 2006. During his retirement years, Barry enjoyed spending time with his family, attending grandkids' events, traveling when forced, and collecting deco-era antiques, vintage cars and Harley Davidsons. He gained great friendships through his various collections.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his brothers Kenneth and Dennis. He is survived by the love of his life, his cherished wife Corliss Ventura Ditton, his beloved daughter, Lindsay Barnes (Jeffrey) and stepson Lucas Ventura (Lindsey), grandchildren Connor, Bear, Jackson, Ava and Niko, and sister Karen Wheadon (Dave). Barry was a fierce protector of his family and dearly loved by all. He will be greatly missed.

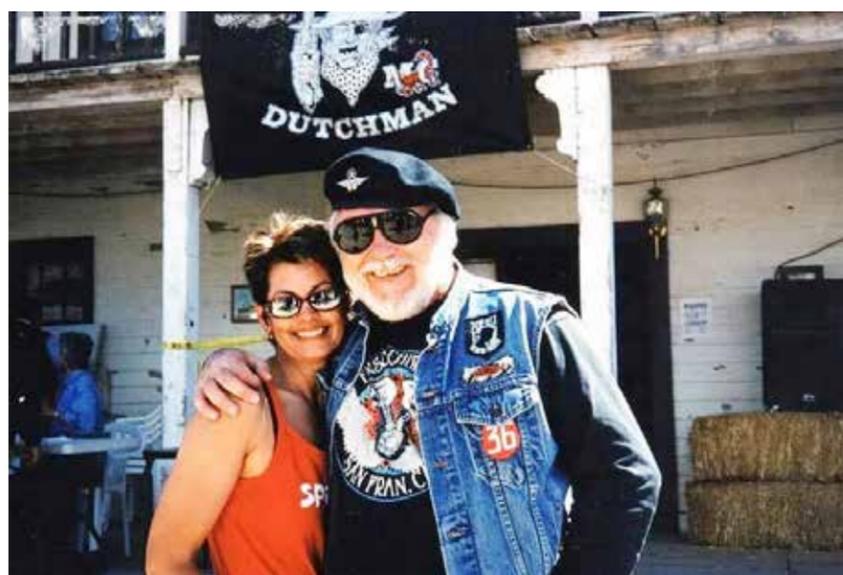
Cremation rites have been accorded and services will take place at a later date in Arizona. Memorial contributions may be made in Barry's name to the Arizona Humane Society or the Wounded Warrior Project.

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Remembering "POPS" ~ John C. Hoagland

Oct 22, 1939 ~ November 13, 2024



John C. Hoagland, of Phoenix, passed away on November 13, 2024 at the age of 85.

Pops was a recognized and regular figure at Superstition Harley Davidson. He always had a story to tell and loved to ride and participate in the local Harley Davidson biker community. Little known fact: Pops once won a brand new Harley Davidson at the Fall Ride in Tomahawk, Wisconsin. *{from YogiG}*

Brina of Superstition HD expressed Team SHD's loss by saying, We'll miss you dearly, Pops. But your Spirit will forever ride alongside us. Ride in Peace.

No details of services are available yet with the exception of the Neptune Society's announcement.



Community News

I am glad to have been able to share these remembrances & bits of information with Arizona's Biker Community over the years. See a name that's familiar? Haven't talked to them in a while? Now's your chance to drop them a note or give 'em a call. ☺

And, as long as those who have passed on have someone here who speaks their name and reflects on their life, they'll never be forgotten.

And so, for now ~

Happy Birthday in December to
Raynita Carlson, Hollie Sanchez,
Cynde Aydt, Norma Franco, Scott McEwen,
Jimi Slider, Jonnie Tumbleweed,
Mike Turngren, Nolan Steed,
Mark Donnell, Jeff 'El Monte' Miller,
Pat Tyrrell, Sally Gordon Rankin,
Tim Curry, Sandy Mulligan-Hassinger,
Alex Davies, Smiley Mike McElyea,
Mike Buz Sneezy, Deanna Meeks,
Traci Anderson, Aaron Kenchiova,
Sanya Foster, Tami Andrews Piwnica,
Carol Lefferts, Steven M Foster,
Terri Shahan, Denise Hartman,
Kathy Fields, Allen Brackhahn,
Greg 'Troll' Hughes, James Leathers,
Shelley Martin Brorsen, Tammy Wimbush,
Mary K Donnay, Angel Smith,
Marcia Newkirk-Paulino, Justin Umbs,
Makayla Reemelin, and Steve Marzullo

* & & & *

Happy Anniversary in December to
Redbone & Patty Schneider
Rick & Maja Ferguson
Kim & Wil Smock
Michele & Eric Osborn
* & & & *

⌘ Gone But Not Forgotten ⌘

Lars Danneman ~ December 8, 2002
James White ~ December 4, 2009
Barbara 'Barbie' Hensler ~ December 6, 2010
Rita Rogers ~ December 15, 2010
Casey Whitman ~ December 21, 2010
Grant Walker ~ December 30, 2010
Michelle Docherty ~ December 17, 2011
Claude Walker ~ December 11, 2012
Don Patton ~ December 13, 2014
BigSixx {ShoRyders MC} ~ December 22, 2015
Steve "Speedy" Morgan ~ December 13, 2016
Donna Martin ~ December 27, 2016
Robert Steisel ~ December 30, 2018
Frank Kartler ~ December 25, 2019
Charlie 'Specs' Lentz ~ December 2020
Helen Musselman ~ December 4, 2020
Pat "Pooh Bear" Connelly ~ December 31, 2020
Bobbi Hartmann ~ December 1, 2021
Bruce 'Meltdown' Newkirk ~ December 17, 2021
James Gonzales ~ December 28, 2023
Shirley 'Moonshine' Moore-Bizub ~ December 29, 2023
* & & & *

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* 1916 cross-country ride proved to the U.S. military that women were fit to serve as dispatch riders.

* Were the first women to make the transcontinental journey on two solo motorcycles.

* Inducted into the Hall of Fame 2002

Text by Robert Van Buren, photos from the Van Buren Family Collection

Pioneering women motorcyclists Augusta and Adeline Van Buren rode coast to coast on Indian Power Plus motorcycles in 1916, becoming the first women to ride motorized vehicles to the summit of Pikes Peak along the way. Part of their mission was to convince the military that women were fit to serve as dispatch riders. And although they did not achieve that goal, they clearly proved that women were capable of far more than society generally allowed them in that era.

Augusta was born March 26, 1884, and Adeline was born July 26, 1889. Descendants of former President Martin Van Buren, the sisters were slender "society girls" out to prove that women could ride motorcycles across the then-treacherous continent, even though they still did not have the right to vote.

The sisters were raised in New York City along with their brother, Albert, and enjoyed an energetic upbringing characterized by canoeing, swimming, skating, diving, wrestling, and sprinting. It's not



AMA Hall of Fame Inductees: Adeline and Augusta VanBuren

surprising that they also took up motorcycling.

Their lives were marked by a series of accomplishments. They were bright, enthusiastic, and refused to be held down by the limitations that society placed on women of that era.

Being intelligent young women, they prepared for their transcontinental journey carefully. Their intent had a dual purpose. The National Preparedness Movement was an effort to get ready for the inevitable entry of the United States into World War I. Augusta and Adeline felt that women could help in a direct manner by becoming dispatch riders, freeing up men to provide combat support. This would remove one of the primary arguments for denying women the right to vote – women were historically non-participants in war efforts. They would have to prove this point by showing, without a shadow of a doubt, that a woman could handle the difficulties of motorcycling over long distance and harsh conditions. Thus, before superhighways, and paved roads for the most part, their plan was conceived.

First, they incrementally accumulated long distance rides in New York, and then set off on their journey on July 4, 1916. They left from Sheepshead Bay in Brooklyn and trekked west through Chicago and Omaha aboard their Indians equipped with gas headlights. The Power Plus was the model with the "webbed vanadium steel Cradle Spring frame," Indian's top of the line bike in that period, selling for \$275. They also ran with Firestone tires, and enjoyed success with both the bikes and the tires.

The journey got difficult, especially since they were arrested numerous times in the small towns west of Chicago, not for speeding but for wearing men's clothes. They were dressed in leathers, and after reaching an understanding with the law, they were allowed to push on with their trip.

Technical difficulties were encountered in crossing both the Rockies and the western deserts. The sisters were the first women to summit Pike's Peak on any kind of motorized vehicle. The road to the summit was dangerous, rising to 14,109 feet, but for Gussie and Addie it was just another challenge. Next they headed west out of Colorado Springs, through Gilman and on to Grand Junction. They fell off their bikes many times, the result of fatigue, ruts, or in some cases, heavy mud. The locals often would come to their aid, retrieving their

bikes if they were inextricably stuck.

They arrived in San Francisco on September 2 after some hazardous experiences in the deserts west of Salt Lake, including nearly running out of water. They completed their journey on September 8 after arriving in Los Angeles. Just for good measure, they decided to continue to Tijuana for a final crossing of the border.

After this series of accomplishments, and after proving their competence, Adeline's application to the military as a dispatch rider was rejected. The coverage in the media of the day, although adequate in many respects, lacked the recognition that they had earned and so rightfully deserved. Articles in the premier motorcycling magazine of the day praised the bike, but not the sisters. Their historical achievement was described as a vacation, rather than the pilgrimage that it was.

Both Augusta and Adeline eventually married and pursued their lives. There is little evidence about whether they continued riding, but they did continue to be pioneers. Adeline, initially an English teacher, eventually earned her law degree from NYU. Augusta became a pilot, flying with the women's flying group founded by Amelia Earhart, called the 99s.

Augusta and Adeline Van Buren broke the stereotypes of their time proving that woman could do anything a man could do. In the words of Augusta, "Woman can if she will."

They were inducted into the AMA Motorcycle Hall of Fame in 2002.

The [AMA Motorcycle Hall of Fame Museum](#) is located at 13515 Yarmouth Drive in Pickerington, Ohio 43147. You can also learn about more of the [AMA's Motorcycle Hall of Fame Inductees](#) by [clicking here](#).



Reprinted with permission, from the ABATE-AZ MasterLink ...

Riot on the River is a collaborative effort. There are currently more than 50 organizations in the [Arizona Confederation of Motorcycle Clubs](#); based in all areas of our state. Various clubs handle the different tasks & obligations involved in bringing this event together. This gathering has been taking place since 2007.

The park in Winkelman Arizona was again the venue for the ACMC Riot On The River, this year taking place the weekend of November 14 to 17.

Attendees were greeted at the gate by members of the Sober Riders MC for registration. All are welcome to attend. It is family-friendly, all riders, all types of bikes, from club members to independent riders.

Some started arriving on Thursday to set up camp. There was a variety of RVs and tent campers. This is a large venue, with plenty



of camping space available. Clubs will often use this event as a reunion for their chapters; making for a nice weekend for them to see each other & catch up. It was cold at nights though. Tent campers definitely need to plan ahead for this trip!

There were vendors to shop, with about a dozen booths set up. They offered apparel, jewelry, custom-made holsters, attorney info, & more; plus info from AIM & MRF. VooDoo Mayhem MC set up the bike wash station. The [ABATE-of AZ](#) booth was managed by

Vice President Paula 'Bubbles' Beall.

Friday had DJ music through the day. The night's entertainment included a big-screen TV to show the Mike Tyson vs Jake Paul fight.

Saturday is the main day of activities. The day was gray, overcast, & a little chilly; although the sun did come through from time to time and warm things up.

First up is the ACMC monthly meeting. Issues important to the motorcycling community are discussed, including legislative concerns. The meeting also creates a unique opportunity for people who are interested in taking on the motorcycle club lifestyle and think they want to join a club to have an opportunity to meet representatives from a variety of organizations and talk to them about it.

Games, hosted by Breathe Life Riders, included a Slow Race {winner Matthew of Kilroy MC}, Gear Fast {winner Wolf, an independent rider}. *continues on page 10*



dent rider}, the Bucket Pull {winner Ditch of VooDoo Mayhem MC}, and the Slalom {winner John of the Hooligans MC}.

The Bike Show, hosted by the Sun Riders MC of Tucson, had 4 categories... Rat, Vintage, Bagger, and Best in Show. Congratulations to each of the winners!

Music included 'Mary After Dark' and 'Weapon of Pride'. The live music started on Saturday afternoon. Part of the entry fee was a dinner on Saturday evening. Members of the Wolves MC of Tucson were busy all day tending the smoker of pork butts. Serving be-

gan around 3:30 in the afternoon. This was good; as the day visitors on Saturday could enjoy some music & a tasty meal before they left.

The Wet T-shirt Contest offered cash prizes for 1st, 2nd, & 3rd place winners. If you weren't there, you'll just have to use your imagination ☺

This is a weekend of good music and camaraderie. There were so many clubs and organizations represented, all socializing & enjoying themselves. It was a nice opportunity to catch up with people from around the state.

I'm glad I could spend some time there.

Betsy, with additional photos from various ABATE-AZ members ☺

The ACMC is hosting a Pancake Breakfast & Toy Drive on Sunday, December 15th at the Cave Creek Hell's Angels MC Clubhouse, 21448 N 24th Ave in Phoenix; starting at 8:00am.

Bring an unwrapped toy or donation(\$) and eat great pancakes! FMI: Bill 602-463-7886, billletdmc@gmail.com



Roosters Country 10-Year Anniversary Bash

Congratulations to Cherie & Steve, owners of Roosters Country; as they celebrate their bar's 10-year Anniversary! The November 2nd party brought people out all day and well into the night.

Bikers and non-riders alike love this place! Independent riders as well as numerous organizations were represented including Gatekeepers MC, Hell's Angels MC, Lost Dutchman MC, Old Koots on Scoots RC, and Rough Riders MC.

There was excellent music all day coming from the outdoor bandstand; with the Pompous Beggars, Black Hole Band, Jonny Lackey and the Pocket Aces, and Last Train to Juarez. The final band of

the night, Kicked Outta Cottonwood, played on the indoor stage. Overall, they brought in some 11.5 hours of live music! Additional entertainment came from an adult hobby-horse contest that ... well, you just had to be there ☺

There was a huge turnout to wish Cherie & Steve well and to celebrate with them. Everyone wanted to share in the fun while showing love & respect to them for being such excellent hosts! Roosters is an award-winning watering hole ~ including 2024's Best Karaoke from *Phoenix Magazine*, 2023's Best Bar for Country Music from *New Times*, and others.

Cherie & Steve {pic: top row center}

thank their staff for doing an amazing job! They noted that this year was their busiest anniversary yet. Thanks go out to their amazing music lineup Pompous Beggars, The Black Hole, Pocket Aces, Last Train to Juarez, and Kicked Outta Cottonwood; and to sound guy Trevor. Thanks also go to Mainstreet Motorcycles and the hobby-horse judges. "Thank you to the best family of friends and customers. Roosters Country family is best of the best ♥"

Roosters is located at 3731 E Main in Mesa. The first Sunday of each month is Saddlebag Sunday, with Finn's Mainstreet Motorcycles.

Pix from Roosters Country fans



RUN TO THE REZ #21

The 21st annual official Run to the Rez was held October 17-21 at the Apache Gold Casino and Resort in San Carlos, Arizona. 2024 was the biggest yet, attracting 720 registered riders with many more spectators and onlookers.

From the beginning, this motorcycle event has honored military veterans. Saturday's program at Burdette Hall in San Carlos, following a group ride from the Apache Gold Casino to San Carlos, displays respect for all warriors and all Nations. As townspeople in San Carlos show up in large numbers to cheer bikers on, the throaty voice of rumbling bikes amplifies the celebration. Joining a large group of bikers on the way to Saturday morning's program has always been fun, and townspeople enjoy bikers throwing candy to children as onlookers wave, take photos, and salute the riders.

"This run is all about honoring the veterans. It gets bigger and better every year," said John Bush, one of the first few Geronimo Riders of that small group to hold a ride honoring Veterans nearly 30 years ago. Bush is still leading Run to the Rez but he said it's not just him. "We couldn't do it without the volunteers, and we had about 25."

Burdette Hall's program honored Gold Star Family members, and two veteran Grand Marshalls of the November 11 Veterans Day Parade (Matt Hinton and Emerson Bayless). Each year the program honors a Viet Nam veteran too, and this year was combat veteran Jonathan Victor. Blankets and donations were given along with a cash gift from the Rez Riders IMC. A call to formation for all veterans concluded the program again this year.

On the strength of little more than an idea at first, but with dedication and the help of volunteers, Run to the Rez continues to grow. This year's Run to the Rez attracted people from Arizona, New Mexico, Washington, Texas, Wisconsin, New York, Minnesota, Colorado, Nevada, California, and Hawaii.

Bikers are aware that conditions change for every ride, and this year was no different. One rider from New Mexico described his ride to San Carlos with a wild jerk of his head to the side. It's what happens when the wind hits unexpectedly and describes a motorcycle ride like a song. "We were running against the wind" sang Michigan Rocker Bob See-

ger. To sing of wind is one thing, to ride in strong wind is to inhabit an adventure.

It's unlikely that everyone knows a bike rally can also be a spiritual event, but as participants listen to prayers offered for riders, and catch the sense of bike riders respecting one another, respecting the ancestors, Veterans, women, men, children, and the land, it's hard to ignore that something special is going on. Don't think of spiritual as something dour and serious. Spiritual is also a group of people having fun by dancing, singing, motorcycling, and giving gifts to one another.

Modern life demands that some things end to make room for the new; however, Run to the Rez has demonstrated a masterful form of keeping good traditions alive while adapting to new circumstances.

Traditions include raffle giveaways of \$5,000 worth of motorcycle-related goods at the Friday night gathering, music and the Ghost Dancers entertaining the crowd, cookouts and three meals for all registered guests, free casino play tickets worth \$30, free music, a bike show, and a poker run. Vendors also kept

continues on page 13



continues from page 12

RUN TO THE REZ #21

the crowd fed and watered and displayed gifts for sale.

Additionally, every rider and passenger registered for the ride received a ticket for a chance to win one of two Indian Motorcycles this year. The grand drawing was held Saturday night after a barbecue dinner, opening entertainment by Levi Platero, and followed by music headliners Los Lonely Boys. The concert was available and free to the public.

After the concert, the names of two Arizona lucky ticket holders, Melvin Lawrence from Fort Defiance and Stanley Willie from Round Rock were drawn from a large metal basket that was spun vigorously before a random pick for an Indian Scout and Indian Dark Horse Chieftain respectively.

Along with the Apache Gold Casino and Resort, sponsors like Indian Motorcycle Company, the St. Carlos Apache Tribe, the R100 Cattle Association, and the San Carlos Apache Telecommunications Utility, Inc., supported the run. For the first time, the Indian Motorcycle Company became a rally sponsor this year. Several Indian Motorcycles were available for demo rides to registered riders.

"Over the years, the rally has raised and given over \$200,000 to veterans and other organizations," Bush said. "This year we'll give \$20,000 to the St. Carlos Apache Veterans Association. We already gave \$2,000 to the American Legion and \$1,000 to the U.S. Marine Corps Birthday Celebration, both in Globe." *{photos bottom right & center below}*

This October was unusual with its cooler temperatures, rain, and gusty winds. Although winds were stronger this year, and rain came down a little harder, it was the same welcoming environment as it has been for years.

When asked why he came to the rally, the President of the Wisconsin Indigenous Riders, from Green Bay, Wisconsin said, "I support Run to the Rez and its mission of donating to Native American Rider groups. And after I was invited in 2017, I kept coming back."

The wind whispers, "We are all brothers and sisters, bikers and riders." That's why many return every year for Run to The Rez. Maybe you'll catch this next year. If you listen, you'll hear your invitation blowing in the wind.

By: Gregory Ormson, #motorcyclingyogig

See <https://gregoryormson.com> and the motorcycle tab for his "Resplendent Passages: Motorcycling Diaries in Soulcraft."

Photos from YogiG, Dr John Bush, Garrett Dauphars, Micki Dirtzu, & others

As AZ Rider Motorcycle News puts a wrap on this last issue, I'd like to offer this note:

To keep anything going for 25 years takes an incredible amount of dedication. Betsy, and her late husband Bruce, demonstrated their dedication to all riders in our Arizona motorcycle community to an incredible degree, and they made their dedication and love public by their publishing of AZ Rider Motorcycle News.

To write all those articles, to take all those photos, to show up at all those events, to cover and promote local businesses and advertisers for all these years is nearly beyond belief, and yet we've all seen it.

Along with many others, I thank you for all you did to help keep this biker community informed and connected. With much respect, goodbye and aloha.



Troll's Teddy Bear Run # 9

December 7, 2024 was an excellent day for the 9th annual Troll's Teddy Bear Run. The sky was clear and the morning was chilly but not cold.

211 riders signed in at sponsor Superstition Harley-Davidson, located at 2910 W. Apache Trail in Apache Junction. After pictures, dropping off toy donations, drawing their first card, and purchasing raffle & 50-50 tickets, riders took off on the self-paced route. All the stops on the run were friendly & welcoming.

Local Legends Bar & Grill at Main & Sossaman {stop 2} had an incredible breakfast buffet available for everyone to enjoy so folks were back at their tables with hot food before their drinks could even get there.

From there, riders headed to stop 3 in Tempe at the Four Peaks Tasting Room on Wilson Street. They were very welcoming, with two servers taking care of the bar plus the GM personally cooking up some Kilt Lifter bratwurst on the BBQ for everyone.

Stop 4 directed everyone back toward AJ, with a stop at Superstition Skies Bar & Grill on Scenic Street for another card & some refreshments. There was a live band and extra folks there to take care of everyone.

Everyone I spoke with gave positive

reviews of the ride and the stops.

All hands had to be back by 3:30pm at Superstition HD to get in on the raffles and other announcements. Those raffle baskets were something no one would want to miss out taking a chance on! There were about 40 different opportunities to win some amazing prizes, featuring Christmas items, adult beverages, chocolate ☺, a full oil change kit from Mainstreet Motorcycles, an electric cooler, H-D goodies, candles, glassware, massage & spa items, an espresso machine, a hand-made blanket, patriotic décor, leather jackets, & more.

There were door prize giveaways too! Yup! Everyone got a door prize chance JUST FOR BEING THERE! After all the door prizes were given out and all the cool raffles were drawn for, then they pulled the 50-50. Jenny Lynn Haner collected the \$260 prize.

The poker hand winners were announced next. The low hand 'Loser Baby' prize of \$150 went to Mary. The high hand prize of \$300 went to Rimlock, who had drawn four Aces & a Jack. He donated his prize back to TTBR; with MUCH appreciation from Troll!

Among the MANY people to thank for the day's success are Mainstreet Mo-

torcycles for bringing in 2 SUVs worth of stuffed animals and toys plus a huge gift basket for the raffle; Bikers with Purpose for bringing in over 500 stuffed animals; Big O Tires for delivering over 300 stuffed animals; 1st Impressions Pressure Washing and Local Legends Bar & Grill for their gift baskets for the raffle; the Kiwanis Club of Apache Junction for their donation of Teddy Bears & a raffle basket; TTBR long-time sponsor Law Tigers Arizona; and the 20 volunteers that helped out the day of the run.

Troll shared that over 1,100 Teddy Bears & stuffed animals PLUS over 100 toys were collected this year. That beats last year's donations by over 200 items! Thank you ALL so much! These donations will go to the Mesa Family Advocacy Center for distribution plus to local first responders; all to help children in need.

Didn't get to TTBR? Still want to donate? You can drop off your plushies at Superstition HD up to the morning of December 12; before the presentation takes place.

'bye for now ~ Betsy

Watch the Troll's Teddy Bear Run facebook page for when the photo album will be published.



more pix from Troll's Teddy Bear Run # 9



Run Calendar

Bold print indicates an Advertiser's event & live link if available

online, click title above for more calendar entries and event details

Superstition HOG Chapter Rides start at Superstition H-D - 2910 W Apache Trail, Apache Junction, AZ. 85120. Come ride with our HOG Members. Meet times change depending on season. Watch SHOG calendar. FMI: 480-346-0600, <https://www.superstitionhog.com/calendar>

2nd Saturdays: Bike Nite at VFW Post 1433 {phn 623-934-2152}, at 7618 N 63rd Ave, Glendale. Hosted by Veterans MC AZ 7p-close. Karaoke, kitchen, bar, dart boards, pool tables, & more.

1st Sundays: Roosters Bar & Finn's Mainstreet Motorcycles host Saddlebag Sundays. Starts 2pm at Roosters, 3731 E Main, Mesa. FMI: 480-985-4088, 480-357-7595

2nd Sundays: ABATE-AZ Phoenix Chapter meeting. 12:30pm at VFW Post 1433, 7618 N 63rd Ave, Glendale. Post opens at noon. FMI: text 480-768-8747

3rd Sundays: ABATE-AZ East Valley Chapter meets 10a at American Legion Post 138, 1264 W University Dr Mesa ~ Alma School & University. {B'fast available before meeting} FMI: Joe Silk 480-628-8598, miterangers@msn.com

Last Sundays: Desert Thunder MC cooks up breakfast 8-11am @ the Thunder Dome, 3137 W. Virginia Ave, Phoenix. \$5/plate. FMI: desertthundermc87@gmail.com

2nd & 4th Tuesdays: Desert Thunder MC hosts an Open House @ the Thunder Dome, 3137 W. Virginia Ave, Phoenix from 6-11pm. No cover charge. Dinner available \$7. FMI: desertthundermc87@gmail.com

4th Tuesdays: ABATE-AZ Yavapai Chapter meeting ~ 6:30pm at VFW Bucky O'Neill Post 541, 202 N Arizona Ave ; Prescott 86301. FMI: Timothy, 360-720-3465 tntblaster@netzero.net

Wednesdays: Verde Valley Bike Night 6-10 at the Robbers Roost Sports Grill, 1160 S Page Springs Rd, Cornville. Live Music, vendors, cigar bar, food & drink specials, & more. FMI: 928-466-8366

For more MC bike night listings, visit <http://www.azcmc.org/calendar>

12/8 {Sun} River Riders MC 41st annual Toy Run in Lake Havasu. Starts at the Pirates Den in Parker, AZ. FMI: 952-818-4359, <https://riverridersmc.com/41st-toy-run>

12/14 {Sat} Eagle Riders Christmas Toy Drive & Run. Register 8:30-9:45a at FOE #3850, 2315 S Coconino Dr, Apache Junction. \$15/sgl, \$20/dbl. Bring new toy for \$5 off reg. Supports Phoenix Cardons Children's Hospital & others.

12/14 Mixtecas MC Phoenix Chapter Toy Run. Noon-4pm at Los Olivos Park, 2802 E Devonshire Ave, Phoenix. Please bring a new unwrapped toy for a child in need. Donations go to UMOM Homeless Shelter. Free beer or tacos with donation.

12/14 Desert Road Riders MC 34th annual Toy Run. Meet at Sports Bar 44, 2770 W Old Hwy Rt 66, Kingman. KSU 11:45a. Sign in with unwrapped toys & cans of food. Ride to VFW Post 10386, 3036 E John L Ave, Kingman. FMI: Duke 928-530-0641, DesertRoadRidersMC.com

12/15 {Sun} Roosters Rockabilly Riot II Car & Bike Show starts 2pm. Sponsors include Mainstreet Motorcycles & Immortal Bastards CBC. \$5 entry or a toy for charity. Show for 1972 & older cars & bikes. 3 Rockabilly Bands. Roosters Country, 3731 E Main St, Mesa. FMI: 480-357-7595

Merry Christmas!!

2025 ~ Happy New Year!

1/4 {Sat} Frozen Horses Poker Run hosted by CVMA-32-5. Starts/ends at Lucie's Sage & Sand, 13831 W Glendale Ave, Glendale, AZ. \$20/sgl, +\$10/2-up. High hand=\$200, Low=\$100. Proceeds benefit local Veterans. FMI: CVMABuckeyeAZ32.5@gmail.com

1/11 {Sat} Tour of Duty Ride to benefit MAM - Military Assistance Mission. FMI: mam@azmam.org

1/17-20 {Fr-Mon} Winter Round Up in Yuma, AZ. "Riders from across the country participate, as individuals or clubs, and all riders on all makes are welcome!" Radisson Hotel, 1501 S Redondo Center Dr. FMI: 702-630-9202, micheleloker@gmail.com ; 619-300-7203, seawatch35@gmail.com

1/25/25 {Sat} 10th annual Ride for the Salt River Wild Horses. Sign in 9-11am @ American Legion Post 58, 16837 E Parkview Ave. Fountain Hills. \$15/sgl, \$25/dbl. Last stop at Superstition HD, 2910 W. Apache Trail Apache Junction. Sponsors include SHD, Law Tigers, On The Green {OTG}. FMI: ride4srwh@gmail.com

2/1 {Sat} 4th annual Be The Miracle Ride w/ Ascendants MC at Desert Wind HD Mesa. Benefits the Bridge For Community Services. FMI: ascendantsmc@yahoo.com

2/13 {Thurs} Motorcycle Day at the Dome with ABATE-AZ. This is a day dedicated to advocating for motorcycle safety, awareness, & legislation. FMI: mike@abateofaz.org

2/22 Drew's Ride 2025 to support Down-n-Durdy will leave out of Desert Wind Harley-Davidson in Mesa. Details TBA. FMI: <https://down-n-durdy.org/>

continues on pg 17

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Run Calendar

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3/15 {Sat} The Prowl Motorcycle Show in Bisbee, AZ. FMI: <https://www.facebook.com/theprowlbisbeeaz>

3/22 {Sat} Ride to End Homelessness Poker Run. Register 9-10a @ Superstition HD, 2910 W Apache Trail, Apache Junction. Presented by CAHRA. Details TBA. FMI: 480-346-0600

4/2-6 {Wed-Sun} AZ Bike Week 2025 – held at WestWorld in Scottsdale. FMI: <https://azbikeweek.com/>

4/12 {Sat} 2nd annual Shriners Ride For Kids, hosted by El Zaribah Shrine {Phoenix} Motorcycle Unit. Details TBA. FMI: 602-231-0300

5/17 {Sat}: AMSAF's Riding For the Long Haul event, 5:30 to 9:30pm at Marriott Phoenix Chandler - 1600 South Price Rd., Chandler, AZ 85286. Join AMSAF for an evening of tropical fun, island vibes, and fundraising! Dress in your best Hawaiian attire and get ready for: Delicious Cuisine; Live Entertainment; Silent Auction; and much more! Sponsors include Law Tigers. FMI: <https://www.amsaf.org/rftlh/>

12/6 {Sat} Troll's Teddy Bear Run #10. Details TBA. FMI: 360-451-1795, trollsbikerworld@gmail.com

*The Freedom to Assemble is a
RIGHT, not a 'privilege'*



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**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.

A Fond Farewell to *AriZona Rider Motorcycle News*

By Mary K. Donnay
A.B.A.T.E. of Arizona, Inc.
Past State Chairman

November 7, 2024

Back in the day, not so long ago, when we wanted to know what was going on in the local motorcycle world and find events, we rode our bikes to the local motorcycle dealership or after-market shops to pick up a copy of *AriZona Rider Motorcycle News*, *Arizona Biker Information Guide* (AZBIG), *The MasterLink* (A.B.A.T.E. of AZ), the *Motorcycle Patriot* (MMA of AZ), the *Spokesman* (ACMC) and flyers from clubs and other organizations.

These days, dealerships I've been to won't allow us to leave event flyers if the event doesn't feature the dealership as a starting or stopping point, because otherwise "it draws customers away from our business" and motorcycle accessory shops think "flyers clutter our counters and people look on-line instead".

With the coming of the digital age, internet and smart phones, now we must look on-line for events, and we get real-time information. This technology has caused the demise of almost every small publication in the world. *AriZona Rider Motorcycle News* is no exception.

Journalist, Editor-In-Chief and Owner, Betsy "Fall-out" Newkirk, dedicated the last 26 years to serving and supporting the Arizona biker community. She and her husband, Bruce "Meltdown" Newkirk, together created and successfully ran *AriZona Rider Motorcycle News*, attending, taking pictures and writing about events, as well as incorporating other motorcycle journalists, like Waldo and Lady Jewells.

Motorcycle Rights have always been a part of their DNA. They helped promote A.B.A.T.E. of AZ and MMA of AZ continuously by promoting our events in advance, attending and taking copious notes, and post-event write-ups with pictures.

They always took pride in getting the back story of the events they featured. What is the organization about and where do the proceeds go?

It is indeed sad that we are losing the last independent Arizona biker publication. However, take comfort in knowing that Betsy is the current Editor of A.B.A.T.E. of Arizona's monthly publication *The MasterLink* and remains active in the A.B.A.T.E. East Valley Chapter. We will continue to see her and her work. Be sure to thank her for her dedication and support to ALL Arizona bikers.

We love you Betsy! Thank you for a job well done my friend!

*Editor's Note: Thank you so much, MaryK!
Thank you also to those of you who have extended
positive messages & well wishes for the future.*