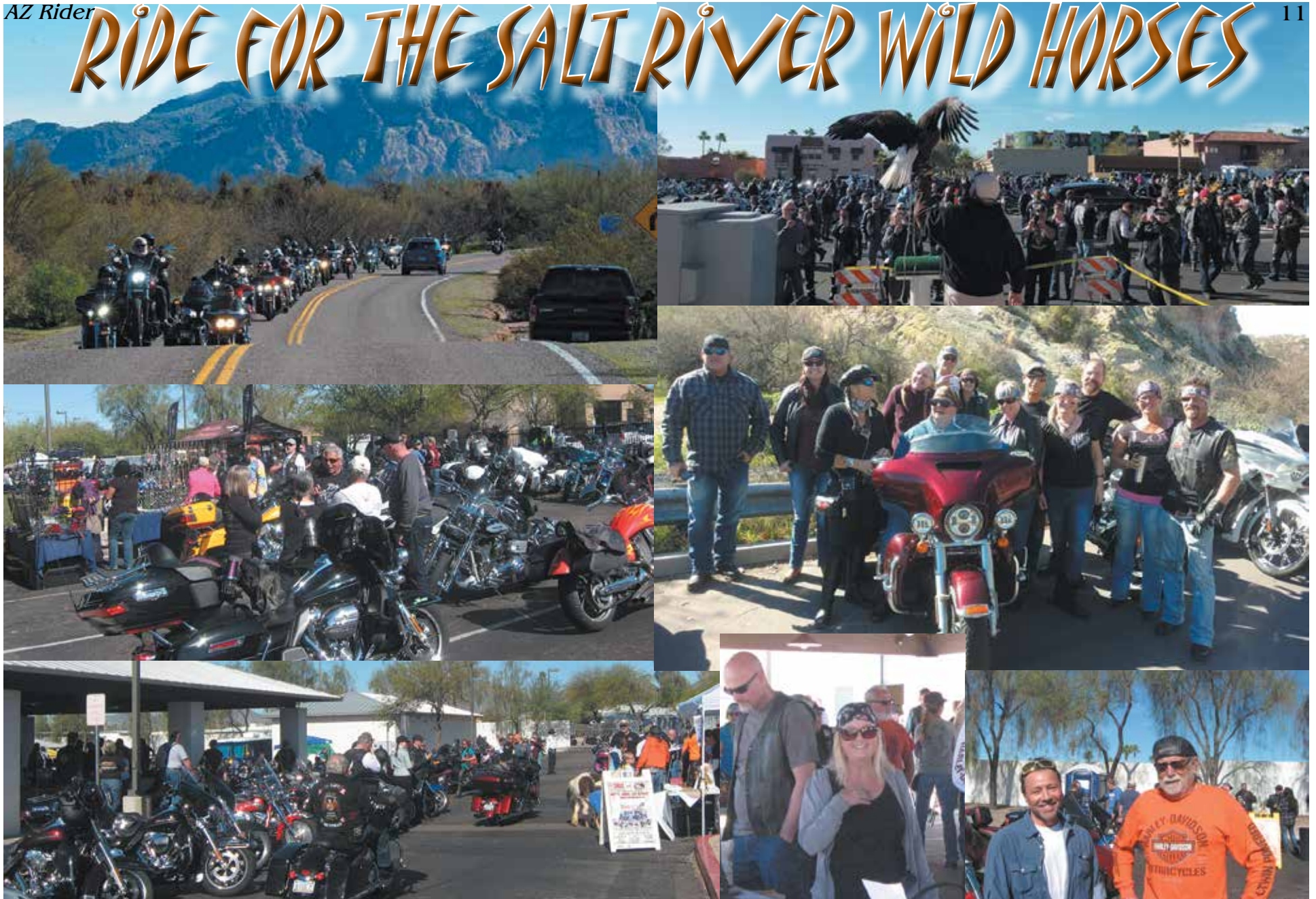


RIDE FOR THE SALT RIVER WILD HORSES



The 5th Annual Ride for the Salt River Wild Horses, sponsored by Superstition Harley-Davidson and Law Tigers Arizona took place on January 25, 2020. Sign-in was at American Legion Post 58 in Fountain Hills. The unescorted ride through the Lower Salt River on Bush Highway in the Tonto National Forest concluded at Superstition HD, 2910 W. Apache Trail in Apache Junction. A record 900 riders signed up to ride in support of these iconic animals. Outstanding!

This event benefits the Salt River Wild Horse Management Group, an advocacy & awareness organization that is currently under contract to manage the herd humanely under the AZ Department of Agriculture (AZDA).

Music at SHD was provided by Nathan Dean & The Damn Band. They were voted in as one of the top 5 bands in Country Music Arizona. There were vendors & educational booths {including ABATE-AZ's new Superstition Chapter}, a beer garden, food trucks, and a fundraising raffle. Simone Netherlands, President for the Salt River Wild Horse Management Group, gave a presentation to update everyone on the status of the horses & the issues that face them.

SRWHMG activities include Fence Mainte-

nance, Salt River Rescues, Wild Horse Education, Scientific Research, Environmental Clean Up {including trash & barbed wire}, and Humane Birth Control. Their website <http://saltriverwildhorsemanagementgroup.org/> goes into detail regarding their numerous programs & how they address a variety of issues pertaining to these horses.

This day raised \$15,000.00 to support & carry on these programs. This is a VOLUNTEER-driven organization ~ all efforts & support are appreciated!

On behalf of SRWHMG, volunteer Skeeter Peak sent this note, "Thanks everyone for their continued support for the Salt River Wild Horses. It has been an amazing journey these last 5 years to keep the iconic Wild Horses Protected, Wild & Free. Special thanks to the Superstition Harley-Davidson® team and all the volunteers who came out to help with the event. Also want to thank Logan Roberts from Paris HD in Texas and Nicole & Dave Luttrell from Ohio. They flew out to Arizona and rented motorcycles to participate in the ride in support for the Salt River Wild Horses." From the SRWHMG FB page, "The ride went off without a hitch and we want to thank everyone who came and everyone who donated and volunteered." Thank you to the Apache Junction Rangers for their traffic control and parking

assistance and to MCSO Lake Patrol. Thanks also go to sponsors American Legion Post 58, Tribute Riders RC, Len Novin The Bull 102.9fm, The Rattler 97.3fm, The Oldies 96.5fm, *Arizona Veterans Connection*, GP Walsh Photography & Photo Tour; supporters American Legion Riders District 12, Joe Miller & Aurora from Liberty Wildlife, Jim Lange Red Dirt Circuit, AJ Mounted Rangers; and vendors Girl Scout Troop 1651 Az Cactus Pine, Shades and Blades, Bitch'n Stitch'n, Cache Divine, Gary's Desert Dogs, Brown Bear BBQ, and Icees & Eats.

Not only is this a ride to help protect these wild horses which are described by many as a National Treasure.... But as a bonus it also offers one of the more scenic local routes available to Valley riders..... providing a win for everyone ☺

Thank you Skeeter for your help with this report.

In addition to visiting their website listed above, you can follow the SRWHMG on FB to learn more about the horses, the issues, and how you can be a part of the solutions to keep them PROTECTED, WILD & FREE.

Betsy & Bruce

Additional pix from Skeeter at <https://www.facebook.com/SkeetersupporterforSRWHMG/>