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# Too Broke For Sturgis #26



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Betsy & Bruce

Add'l pix from Lady Jewells

Learn more about ABATE from their website

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

## Too Broke Reflections from Lady Jewells

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

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

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

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

All weekend long, I concentrated on tak-

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

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

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

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

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

Enjoy life, I am – Lady Jewells

