



A publication supporting the rights, safety and freedom of all motorcyclists through education and legislation

December 2017

VOLUME 26, ISSUE 6

ABATE LOBBYIST UPDATE



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Mike Infanzon
ABATE of AZ Designated Lobbyist

1. **OPENING DAY OF THE LEGISLATURE**
Mark your calendars for January 8th. That is the opening day of the legislature. While we are not hosting any “formal” event, a few of us will be at the State Capital and I would love to see as many ABATE members show up as possible. There is rumor that someone will have coffee and donuts. I’ll give you more information as we get closer.

2. Motorcycle Day at the Dome has been scheduled for May 2. We requested a date in February but were told that none were available. The Leg. Council stated that mid-April would be the earliest date available. We decided for May instead to get more publicity for Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Month. The Governor has already been invited to attend and I am planning on inviting ALL 91 cities and towns in Arizona to be a part of it also.

This late in session date does not prohibit anyone from seeing their elected officials. In fact, I am in the process of trying to schedule “district” days where you can have a lunch with your state reps. Even on a Saturday.

3. Legislation language has been submitted for several key areas to a few legislators asking them to open a folder with the Legislative Council. That is the first step in the process to getting a bill passed.

4. It’s been almost a year since I took over as the state lobbyist. I have been to every chapter in our state. I hope to see more and more of you this coming year. We still have a tremendous amount of work to get done, but we can do it.

Freedom is a team sport! Get in the game!!!

5. Meeting of the Minds 2018 – see the back page of the Masterlink.

FYI. I have been playing email tag with so many over the past few months to schedule meetings, phone calls and events. I have a scheduler now to make it easy for anyone who needs to meet, speak or would like me to attend their event/meeting. To schedule appointments/calls, please use <https://calendly.com/infanzon>

Be good to one another.
Mike

ABATE of AZ,
7509 N. 12th St, #200
Phoenix, AZ
85020
abateofaz.org

Visit us on FaceBook facebook.com/AbateofAZ and facebook.com/pages/Too-Broke-For-Sturgis-Rally

ABATE OF ARIZONA LOCAL CHAPTERS

A.B.A.T.E. BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS FOR 2016 - 2017

Chairman.....Sean Pinder
 East Valley.....Nolan Steed
 High Country.....Forrest "Woody" Phillips
 Phx / Shadow Mountain.....Mark Million
 Southern AZ.....Sean Pinder
 Yavapai.....Deborah Butitta
 Yuma.....Frank White

Quarterly Board meetings are held on the first Sunday in January, April, July and October at 1:00pm @ the AZ American-Italian Club, 7509 N. 12th St, Phoenix. Please make sure your Chapter has representation.

BOARD APPOINTED OFFICERS

Lobbyist.....Michael Infanzon
 M.A.P.....Jim Silk
 Treasurer.....Jim Silk

STATE OFFICER APPOINTED OFFICERS

Masterlink Editor.....Eric Hampton

A.B.A.T.E. State Officers For 2017

President.....Jim Butsback
 Vice President.....Brad Cosby
 Secretary.....Dawn Steed
 Treasurer.....Jim Silk
 Membership.....Ben Martinez
 TBFS Chair.....Joel "JR" Rosen
 Run/Events.....Vacant
 Safety Coordinator.....Jim Silk
 Sergeant-at-Arms.....Vic Grady
 P.A.C.....John "Johnny D" Dreyfus
 Communications.....Vacant
 Designated Lobbyist.....Michael Infanzon
 ABATE Products.....Vacant
 MasterLink Editor.....Eric Hampton
 TheMasterlink@abateofaz.org
 Office phone: 480-256-9237

www.abateofaz.org and www.toobrokeforsturgis.com

Mailing address 7509 N. 12th St, #200, Phoenix, AZ 85020. State Officers meetings are held the 1st Sunday of every month, 10:30 am at the AZ American Italian Club, 7509 N. 12th Street Phoenix, AZ.- OR in conjunction with the quarterly BOD meeting.

East Valley Chapter

c/o Jim Silk, 5722 E. Garnet Circle, Mesa, AZ 85206

Coordinator.....Jim Silk
 Vice Coordinator.....Joe Ferrucci
 Secretary.....Dawn Steed
 Treasurer.....Deb Ferrucci
 Membership.....Mike Shearhart
 Run Coordinator.....Vacant
 Safety Coordinator.....Nolan Steed
 Sgt. At Arms.....Richard Dalton
 P.A.C.....Gynni Giebel
 Communications.....Dawn Steed
 Merchandise.....Jerry Prisoc

EAST VALLEY CHAPTER meetings are held the 4th Sunday of the month at 11:00 a.m. at Fraternal Order of Eagles (F.O.E.) 1712 W. Broadway Road, Mesa AZ 85202
 FMI contact Jim Silk FYI 602 312 1927

High Country Chapter

605 W. Arabian Way Payson AZ 85541

Coordinator.....Wayne Slocum
 Vice Coordinator.....Billy Hensler
 Secretary.....Dee Schultz
 Treasurer.....Debora Shaffer
 Membership.....Cecilia "CC" Ransom Phillips
 Run Coordinator.....CC Rider
 Safety Coordinator.....John Lacey
 Sgt. At Arms.....Mark Fickel
 P.A.C.....Woody Phillips
 Communications.....Mark Fickel
 Merchandise.....Christine Andrade

High Country Chapter meetings are held on the 3rd Saturday at 10 a.m. at The Moose Lodge in Star Valley. Contact: azoutlaw66@hotmail.com

Phoenix-Shadow Mountain Chapter

P.O. Box 54041 Phoenix, AZ 85078-4041

Coordinator.....Mike Schneider
 Vice Coordinator.....Jim Page
 Secretary.....Jean Cooper
 Treasurer.....Tara Rudometkin
 Membership.....Ben Martinez
 Run Coordinator.....Jeremy Kellim
 Safety Coordinator.....Trauma Mama
 Sgt. At Arms.....Scott Gibbons
 P.A.C.....John "Johnny D" Dreyfus
 Communications.....Robb Felder
 Merchandise.....Sandy Hassinger

Phoenix/Shadow Mountain meetings are held on the 2nd Sunday of each month at 10:30am at the AZ American Italian Club, 7509 N. 12th Street, Phoenix, AZ 85020.
 FMI: Chapter Coordinator Mike Schneider, 602-549-1044, mike@squarepegpromos.com

Southern Arizona Chapter

6888 N De Chelly Loop Tucson, AZ 85741

Coordinator.....Jim Butsback
 Vice Coordinator.....Darron Huntington
 Secretary.....Becky Garino
 Treasurer.....Dawn Detelj
 Membership.....Bob Stewart
 Run Coordinator.....Bob Welton
 Safety Coordinator.....Robert Templeton
 Sgt. At Arms.....Ruben Soto
 P.A.C.....Annisa Huntington
 Communications.....Vacant
 Merchandise.....Ron Kool

The Southern Arizona Chapter will meet the third Saturday of the month. We will gather at the Kettle Restaurant meeting room, 748 W Starr Pass Blvd., Tucson, AZ 85713. Meeting time is 10AM October through March and 9AM April through September. FMI contact Jim Butsback (520)247-3051 or abateofazsac@yahoo.com

Yavapai Chapter

465 E Lianna Dr. Chino Valley, AZ 86323

Coordinators.....Mark Kessler
 Vice Coordinator.....Dan Tumey
 Secretary.....Suni Sommers
 Treasurer.....Terri Lucontro
 Membership.....Suni Sommers
 Run Coordinator.....Vacant
 Safety Coordinator.....Reed Wilson
 Sgt. At Arms.....Reed Wilson
 P.A.C.....Vacant
 Communications.....Suni Sommers
 Merchandise.....Vacant

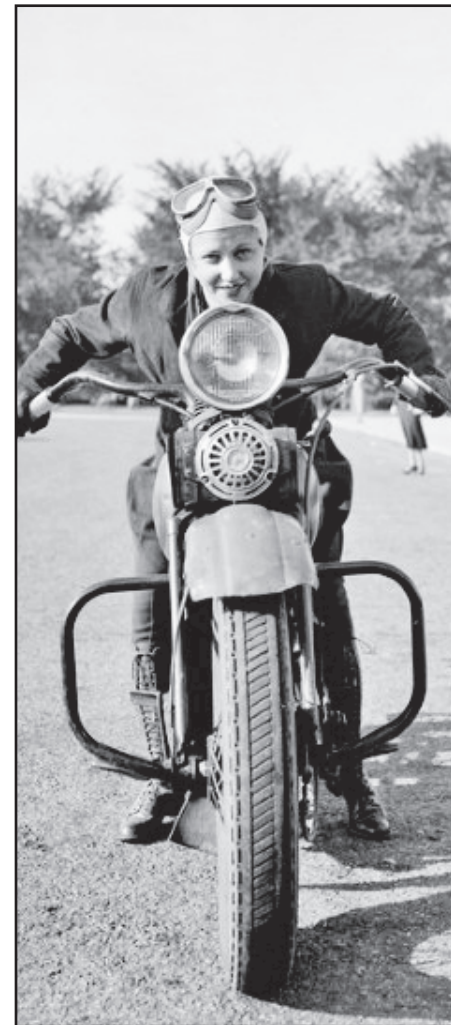
Yavapai Chapter meets the 2nd Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. at the VFW Post 541 in Prescott – 202 N Arizona Ave / 928-776-1125. For more information, please contact Dan Tumey @ 928-308-9911 or ycabateaz@gmail.com. See us on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/groups/ycabateaz/.

Yuma Chapter

11316 S. Glenwood Ave. Yuma, AZ 85367

Coordinator.....David "Pastor D" Litts
 Vice Coordinator.....Gilbert Hernandez
 Secretary.....Mikkie Melanson
 Treasurer.....Lisala White
 Membership.....Carla Schmidt
 Run Coordinator.....Jerry Allison
 Safety Coordinator.....Ray "PeeWee" Grier
 Sgt. At Arms.....Frank White
 P.A.C.....Gilbert Hernandez
 Communications.....David "Pastor D" Litts
 Merchandise.....Lisala White

Yuma Chapter meets the second Tuesday evening monthly at 6:00 PM at the pm. The next meeting will be held at the Omega restaurant located at 711 E 32nd Street, Yuma, AZ. For additional information contact Frank White (Hound) at 209-327-0814.



EDITOR'S NOTE:

If any of the Officers are listed here incorrectly, please send corrections to: **TheMasterlink@abateofaz.org**
 I will be sure everything is accurate for the next Issue and on the web site.

News from the MRF

Your Weekly Biker Bulletin from Inside the Beltway

Your Motorcycle Riders Foundation team in Washington, D.C. is pleased to provide our members with the latest information and updates on issues that impact the freedom and safety of American street motorcyclists. Count on your MRF to keep you informed about a range of matters that are critical to the advancement of motorcycling and its associated lifestyle. Published weekly when the U.S. Congress is in session. NEWS FROM THE HILL – Comments on Ethanol Threaten Trump Pick, Support for Autonomous Vehicles Legislation Grows

Kathleen Hartnett White, President Trump's nominee to lead the Council on Environmental Quality, faced bipartisan opposition during a Senate confirmation hearing this week. Both Republicans and Democrats used her past statements on climate change and ethanol to raise concerns about her nomination. She was called a "science denier" and accused of promoting misinformation by Senator Carper from Delaware. That may not seem like a big insult in the biker world, but its fairly uncommon here in D.C. I think a rough translation to biker speak is basically that she is a f***ing idiot and a liar. So there...now you can see the gravity of the comments. So what exactly did Hartnett White say to invoke the comments? In the past she had called for the RFS to be repealed. But after Senator Deb Fischer from Nebraska called her an "extremist" she backed down saying that she would support Trump's proposal to

expand the RFS program in the future. Not.Good.At.All. Despite the tough questions she faced, Sen. John Barrasso, chairman of the committee, said he expects the committee will approve her nomination. After the committee's approval, she must be then confirmed by the full Senate

This week a letter from some major power players in D.C. was sent to Senator John Thune, Chairman of the Senate Commerce, Science & Transportation Committee professing their love for the AV START Act. What's that you ask? A major legislative proposal which would dictate the safety hoops that self-driving cars have to go through before hitting the road. What do we like about it? The bill includes our requested language on identification and response to motorcyclists in the safety mandate section...UNLIKE the House bill and the

recently issued NHTSA guidelines. The National Governors Association (NGA), the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL), and numerous other leading state and local transportation officials agreed in their letter. They like the Senate version better too. See the full text of the letter below:

https://images.magnetmail.net/images/clients/AAMVA/attach/AVStartActAAMVA.pdf

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How to Reach Us

480-256-9237
 For Advertising Rates
 Email Eric
 at themasterlink@abateofaz.org
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 MasterLink, ABATE of Arizona
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 Phoenix, AZ, 85020
MasterLink Advertising Rates:

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Business Card Size (3-1/2" w x 2" h):	\$20.00	\$60.00	\$200.00
1/8 Page (5-1/8" w x 4" h)	\$50.00	\$150.00	\$500.00
1/4 Page (5-1/2" w x 8" h)	\$70.00	\$210.00	\$700.00
1/2 Page (10-1/4" w x 8" h)	\$100.00	\$300.00	\$1,000.00
Full Page (10-1/4" w x 16" h)	\$200.00	\$600.00	\$2,000.00
Full Color Back Page (10-1/4" w x 16" h)	\$400.00	\$950.00	\$3,300.00

Would you like to receive *The Masterlink* digitally? It is posted monthly on the ABATE website - www.abateofaz.org. Opt out of the receiving the *The Masterlink*? Please contact the ABATE Office if you would like to no longer receive a hard copy of *The Masterlink*. 480-256-9237 or jpsilk2264@gmail.com

Mission Statement

We will lobby and educate the government and the general public to promote motorcycling in a safe and positive image.
 We will endeavor to enlist the cooperation and participation of all organizations and individuals who share a similar interest in preserving our American tradition of **FREEDOM.**
 We will involve ourselves in fund raising to achieve our goal.

President's Report



By Jim Butsback

It is hard to believe that we are already coming to the end of the year 2017! I hope that everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving Holiday! I also hope that we all remembered those who are less fortunate than us at this time of year; it always gladdens my heart to see the generosity of those in the motorcycling community when it comes to help those in need. There are toy runs and food drives being held from one side of this great state to the other and motorcyclists always seem to be in the middle of the crowd working hard to help their fellow man.

I would like to take the time to personally invite All ABATE members along with their families to our Family Friendly Holiday Social! (That's a mouthful) It is going to be on Saturday December 2nd,

2017. It will be held at the Fraternal Order of Eagles Lodge which is the same location as last year and it is also where the East Valley Chapter holds their meetings. The Eagles Lodge is located at 1712 W Broadway Rd., Mesa, AZ 85202.

There will be a Chili Cook Off so dust off your old family recipe and cook up a big batch and you may just go home a winner with bragging rights for the next year!! It is \$5 to enter the cook off and \$5 to taste/judge. All the proceeds go to the winner of the judges voting. So bring your family and friends the more who enter/taste /judge and more for the winner to take home!

There will also be raffle prizes! We will have a 50/50 and everybody's favorite KARAOKE!! Start practicing and exercising those vocal chords and come out and have a great time with your fellow ABATE members and their families and friends! I look forward to seeing you there. Last year was the first time for this event and everyone had such a good time it looks like it will continue for many years.

At this time of year as we all go about planning our Holiday Celebrations and the hustle and bustle of shopping and dealing with the kids and grandkids and family and out of town visitors, or maybe traveling to see loved ones etc., please take time to slow down and take a breath enjoy all that we have.

Also at this time of year those around us are dealing with the hustle and stress of the Holidays as well and they might not

be as attentive and vigilant as they normally would be so we need take it upon ourselves to be extra careful out there when riding our motorcycles or driving our cages etc.

At this time of year most of us are attending many different events such as holiday parties, toy runs for less fortunate kids and various food drives to name a few. Whether you are attending with your Chapter members or with another group or your family members, we would love to know who and or what events you are supporting. Please take a few photos and write a short article about the event or charity along with the group or club sponsoring the event. Send those in to the Masterlink. Not only do folks like to see their pictures in the paper but the added publicity may help the event to grow. When I was elected I made a goal for myself to attend at least one Chapter meeting of each of the Chapter in Arizona. I knew that as a Chapter Coordinator as well as just a member, that we never saw a State Officer at any of our meetings. Well before I was elected I did not fully understand how difficult it can be to make those meetings. Well I finally made a meeting for the last Chapter on my list. Mike Infanzon and I rode out to attend the monthly Chapter meeting of our Yuma Chapter. We took the afternoon off so we could ride out and make the meeting which is held at 6 PM on the second Tuesday of the month. I left home about 1:15. I was coming from Tucson and Mike from Phoenix. We met in Gila Bend around 3 PM and had a short meeting before heading out. We got to Yuma a little after 5 PM in plenty of

time.

I want to thank all of the members of our Yuma Chapter for the hospitality they showed us. It was good to see everyone, many that I have known for years and some that I was happy to meet for the first time. It was a good meeting that included Chapter elections and congratulations to the new officers and my thanks to the past officers for all they do for ABATE.

We got back on the road and we stopped and fueled up along the way, we separated at Gila Bend and I went on to Tucson, getting home just after midnight. It was over 435 miles but a great ride and well worth the effort.

Once again I want to thank all the members of ABATE of Arizona for allowing me to serve and represent you. I also wish to thank all the newly elected officers in all the Chapters around the state for all that you do. We are a volunteer organization and it is because of folks like you that we can have the impact that we have. I wish to thank the outgoing officers around that state for the time that they dedicated and all the hard work it takes. As I finally come to a close I wish to wish all of you a very Happy Holiday season no matter how you choose to celebrate, may you and all those you love and care about be happy and healthy. Happy New Year to all!!!

Until Next Year! RIDE FREE!!
Jim

PAC Report

Welcome to December. This is the end of 2017 and the official beginning of an election year. This year we will have another biennial mini-revolution. Every state house and senate seat are on the ballot. Also on the November ballot will be every United States House of Representatives seat, and one third of The U.S. Senate seats. If you don't like your government don't complain- VOTE. This year ABATE of Arizona has seen fit to support my friend, Kyrsten Sinema, in her primary campaign for the Senate seat currently held by Jeff Flake. We gave her a check for \$250.00. We have donated to her before as she has been a friend to motorcyclists on a federal level. She joined the Congressional Motorcycle Caucus and has signed on to cosponsor a number of motorcycle related bills in her five years in congress. I am sure that if she goes to the

Senate, she will continue her support of our issues.

I was in Oklahoma City from November 10th to the 12th for a board meeting of the National Coalition of Motorcyclists. I am the Region IX director. I learned many incredible things. I also shared issues Arizona is dealing with. One thing that shocked me was the left lane law in Oklahoma. In that state, it is illegal to drive in the left lane on a multi lane highway unless you are passing. At that time, you can pass a car provided you don't go more than 8 mph over the posted speed limit. A speeding ticket is \$108.00. A ticket for impeding traffic (driving in the left lane after passing), will cost you \$238.00. There is also a \$35.00 court fee. If you want to fight a ticket, for whatever, you must pay the fine and

the court fee first. If you win, you get the fine back but the court keeps the fee. And the new court date is at least two weeks away. So, your de facto fine is time off of work plus \$35.00. I was talking to some of the people and told them that if the Arizona legislature tried that we would swarm the capitol. At least I think we would.

Another topic that came up is the first trial at Waco. The defense was filing motions to force the prosecutors to comply with discovery. The prosecutors finally did with a 1 Terabyte document dump. 1 TB is about 867,000 pages of documents. This is a standard procedure for corporate lawsuits and criminal prosecutions. You hold out on discoverable items until you are on the verge of contempt of court, then you back a truck full of papers and dump them on the opposing

attorneys. Most law firms will either ask for a continuance or hire extra people to help sort through the mess. This is the new operating procedure in McLennan County, Teas. They are facing billions of dollars in lawsuits and this trial that just ended cost about \$2 million. The townsfolk are up in arms. This single trial ended in a mistrial. The jury told the judge that they agreed on a not guilty verdict on the murder charge but were deadlocked on the other two charges. He sent them back to deliberate more and they could not agree. The judge did not accept a not guilty verdict and all three charges will probably be retried. A judge said that they could try one case every two months. This would mean the 153 remaining defendants

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Targeted For Existing: Where Pop Culture Ends and Real Life Begins for America's Bikers

By: Megan Ekstrom
Vice-President of Government Affairs & Public Relations
The Motorcycle Riders Foundation

When I first spoke with "Professor Blade" I noticed a subtle accent; "Former British Army" he informed me, though he now resides in the San Diego area. In addition to his accent, I noticed he was remarkably polite and articulate, which isn't surprising given his career as a middle school teacher and college professor. What IS surprising however, is the fact that this man was recently arrested, charged with a felony and held on a \$125k bail. So why was this man, former military and college educator without any criminal record arrested? He

says he was profiled by California State police, simply because he was riding a motorcycle.

Though entertaining, bikers openly mock the hit TV show, "Sons of Anarchy" which portrays a fictional outlaw motorcycle club as murderers, rapists and drug addicts who all use excessive violence to get what they want. Unfortunately, for the 8 million Americans who ride, perception can be reality. Professor Blade and members of his motorcycle club "The Chosen Few" know this all too well. He says he and his fellow club members have been targeted by local law enforcement for years. "There's a bar we all go to pretty regularly," Professor Blade tells me. "The night I was arrested I

was there for a party for a friend who is in the marines. When we arrived, I could see police staked out across the street from the bar, just watching and waiting." Upon leaving the party he was pulled over the second he turned out of the parking lot on his motorcycle. The impetus for the stop? Loud pipes—a reason Professor Blade finds suspect given they were in close proximity to the Miramar Air Station. "It was so loud we couldn't even hear the sound from the police dash camera. There is no way he heard my pipes which are in full compliance with California state law." Ultimately, Professor Blade wasn't cited for his pipes, but he was questioned about the leadership of his motorcycle club and then arrested for possession of brass

knuckles and a deadly weapon. One of the "brass knuckles" that prompted his arrest? His wedding ring. The deadly weapon? A 24-inch decorative whip that was zip-tied to his handlebar on the throttle side. Police arrested him, confiscated his bike and a judge set his bail at \$125,000

It would be unfair to pin the perception of equating bikers to criminals solely on the show, Sons of Anarchy. There are legends and lore about bikers from movies to music and throughout American pop culture. The "bad boy" biker narrative has grown over time and though entertaining, it's resulted

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Chapter Reports

East Valley Chapter

Welcome under 100* weather, we have missed you.

We have begun the giving season. The toy runs are beginning and statewide you will be witnessing Birds on bikes being gathered up in hopes that everyone will share in a warm meals in their bellies.

Speaking of which that will be our after meeting adventure for November.

Since last month our chapter has had some fun.

A group took the ever incredible ride down to help Matt Brown and everyone celebrate the 1 year anniversary of Tombstone Brewery. If you haven't been down to Tombstone Brewery you are missing out. It is one of the best, besides the fact of how much fun Tombstone itself is to visit.

While some of us joined in with the Bikers for Boobies a handful of us went up to enjoy High Country Chapter Chili Cook off. Nolan entered and even though the crock pot was basically licked clean he didn't win.

We had our Chapter meeting on Oct 22nd. We decided that due to the holidays we would move up our Chapter meetings for November and December to November 19th with Birds on Bikes afterward and December 17th followed by our annual potluck. At our November meeting we will also hold our Chapter elections.

At our meeting Jim Silk talked about finally being able to get into Mesa High to present the MAP program after 17 years.

Todd won the 50/50 and Michelle Peltier missed out on the dollar jar. Sorry Shorty but I was reminded by the Prez not to print how much.

Mike Shearhart and crew held down the fort here at Motorcycles on Main while a group of us went to Riot on the River to host a first time information booth and to attend the ACMC meeting. For several of us it was a first time not to be forgotten adventure. We had people there from East Valley, Phoenix Shadow Mountain, and Southern Arizona Chapters. It was a lot of fun even with our bodies reminding us that we are not used to sleeping on the ground like in our younger days. We most definitely look forward to next years event. That dinner on Saturday Oh My Goodness DELICIOUS doesn't even come close.

To think this is only the beginning of the crazy holiday seasons. I know this won't go out until the beginning of December so for those who celebrate it Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas. For those who celebrate in other ways forgive

me for not knowing them all but I hope that everyone has a Blessed Holiday Season.

Watch out for the Snowbirds and other out of state driving visitors until next month, be safe out there. Enjoy the ride and as always keep it rubber side down.

Here's to Wind Knots in my Hair,
Dawn P Steed
East Valley Communications Officer

High Country Chapter

NO REPORT

Phoenix/Shadow Mountain

The Phoenix/Shadow Mountain Chapter last met on Sunday November 12th at the AAIC. Voting for chapter officers was postponed until our December meeting. If you are interested in being an Officer for the Chapter please attend this meeting to let others know and to cast your votes for those nominated.

Save the dates for the BACKSTAGE BIKER BASH at Desert Wind Harley-Davidson. This event is benefiting ABATE of Arizona and we invite you all to attend on April 6th and 7th for the concerts and one hell of a party! We'll share more details at our Chapter meetings, on social media and to our email subscribers as the bands and activities are confirmed.

Keep in touch with our Chapter by joining us on Facebook at:
www.facebook.com/groups/shadowmountainabate

Receive Chapter bulletins and announcements by email and keep updated between meetings. All are welcome to subscribe by sending a request to:
abatephxshdwmtn@gmail.com

The Phoenix/Shadow Mountain Chapter meets on the second Sunday of each month. Join us at our next meeting Sunday December 10, 2017 at the Arizona American Italian Club (AAIC) - 7509 North 12th Street, Phoenix. Breakfast is available for \$6.00 at 10:00 am and the meeting starts at 10:30 am.

Ride safe & live free!
Robb "Double B" Felder
Communications Officer

Southern Arizona Chapter

This month's meeting was on Saturday Oct 21st. It was the first meeting at 10am which is our new winter schedule. This seemed to work good for everyone. We had the normal meeting with reports from the various officers and committees.

The Chapter is still selling raffle tickets to raise funds to support motorcycle

awareness and safety issues here in southern Arizona. If you have not purchased your tickets or if you would like tickets to sell please contact Bob Gizmo Welton or Jim for more information. Tickets are \$5 each or 3 for \$10.

After the meeting, several of us road down to Whetstone, AZ. We went to do our Road Clean-up, which we do several times each year. We had a good turn out and the mile we are taking care of was in good shape. It is a huge difference from when we first started. Considering that the transfer station is just down the road it really could be much worse. It is great to see people are no longer littering like they used to. Thanks again to John Hanusch for being the driving force behind this. He has organized this for several years and we all appreciate his hard work.

After the road clean-up was done and we enjoyed the lunch provided by John and the Chapter for those who participated, A few of us continued down to Tombstone where Helldorado days was going on and business member Matt Brown was celebrating the 1 year anniversary of his TOMBSTONE BREWERY! Congrats Matt! While there we ran into several members from the East Valley Chapter, along with a few of Southern Arizona Chapters members who we had never actually met before! It was a good day! It was great to our membership supporting our business members!

It looks like the Chapter will be sending a good size group of us to the ACMC "Riot on the River". This event includes a weekend of camping. It is held up in Winkelman, AZ. ABATE of Arizona will have an information booth/tent at this event.

It is that time of year! It is time to start thinking about officers for the upcoming year. Chapter elections are held in November. If you have ever thought about becoming more involved or if you might have a little extra time to help out the Chapter please consider volunteering for one of the offices.

Our November meeting will be held at one of our Business members, Chuy's on 22nd St. & Kolb because the Tour de Tucson bicycle race will once again make it almost impossible to get in and out of the Kettle parking lot. Sam has asked me to attend a meeting with the Ward Committeeman to discuss the problems that this event causes the local businesses. I am happy to support them.

We will also be planning our Holiday party to be held at our December meeting. We will be back at the Kettle for this and we will also be drawing the winner of our raffle at the party. I hope all our members make plans to attend. It will be December 16th at 10:00 AM.

Until next time,

Ride Free, Ride Safe!

Yavapai Chapter

Greetings!

We'd like to pass on an award that was given to our chapter's hard-working BOD representative, Deborah Butitta. Our own BOD and MRF Rep, Deborah Butitta, won the MRF Founder's Award at Meeting of the Minds this year.

"In 1994, Deb Butitta joined the MRF and soon became the AZ MRF State Representative, a position she held for 14 years and lead to the Annual Deb Butitta Outstanding MRF State Representative of the Year Award presented each year at the Meeting of the Minds. In 1997, she joined the MRF Board of Directors as an Ex-Officio, is the founding Chairperson of the Motorcycle Riders Foundation Awareness & Education (MRFA&E) Board of Directors, and an ABATE Board of Director member."

Thank you, Deborah, for your passion and dedication to motorcycle rights and education. We are lucky to have you.

On a much sadder note, one of our business members, Jesse Parish of Jesse's Pigen, and Cara Rainwater were in a very serious motorcycle accident on October 29. Both have kids and both are still in the hospital. Jesse is still in a coma as of this writing, but Cara is doing better. Please consider sending a donation to Cara's gofundme site:
<https://www.gofundme.com/cara-rainwater-medicalmo-expenses>. For Jesse, please call the shop for information on how to help: 928-458-0546.

We meet at VFW Post 541 on the second Wednesday of each month at 6 pm. The address is 202 N Arizona Ave, Prescott. 928-776-1125; <http://vfw541prescott.org/>

They serve a fabulous, reasonably-priced dinner, so join us early to eat and socialize.

We are seeking riders and non-riders of all 2- and 3-wheeled on or off-road vehicles to bring ideas and opinions to our monthly meetings. If you can't attend, please send us an email!

For more information, contact yca-bateaz@gmail.com.

Our next meeting will be December 13, 2017 at the VFW post.

Suni Sommers
Secretary/Membership/Communications Officer
Yavapai Chapter ABATE of Arizona

Communications Officer

Yuma Chapter

NO REPORT

in some real (and not so entertaining) consequences.

The Motorcycle Profiling Project (MPP) has been collecting research for two years capturing data and information from motorcyclists who feel they have been profiled by law enforcement for riding a motorcycle or wearing motorcycle-related attire. According to the Motorcycle Profiling Project, 28% of respondents felt they had been profiled. Though the data from 2016 is still being reviewed, early indications show that this number will grow exponentially. The state with the highest reported incidents of profiling? California—which is where Professor Blade was arrested.

Though incidents of profiling certainly are not limited to California. Every single state has reported instances of motorcycle profiling according to the MPP. And while California is the biggest offender, Texas, Florida, Arizona and Pennsylvania rank in the top five. The state at the bottom of the

list with the lowest incidents of reporting? That would be Washington state which passed a law in 2009 requiring law enforcement trainees to undergo training specific to addressing motorcycle profiling and best practices when stopping a motorcyclist. According to the MPP which spearheaded the Washington law, it's working. In fact, reported incidents of profiling have been reduced over 90%. Maryland passed a similar law in 2016 and several state legislatures will be considering similar bills in their next sessions. Even our federal lawmakers have shown an interest in the issue with the House and Senate each introducing legislation (S.Res.154, H.Res.318) addressing motorcycle profiling in May of this year pushed by the Motorcycle Riders Foundation.

No one should make the argument that criminal elements don't exist in the motorcycle world. A quick google search turns up many reports of bikers arrested on drug charges and domestic violence among oth-

ers. A 2015 report from the FBI on gangs identifies outlaw motorcycle gangs (OMG) as a concern stating that motorcyclists have evolved from "bar room brawlers" to "sophisticated criminals." However, according to the report, when looking at gangs and gang members as a whole, 88% are attributed to street gangs, 9.5% to prison gangs and only 2.5% are attributed to motorcycle gangs. And yet, according to Vox Media, a recent survey showed that 14% of law enforcement officials identified motorcycle gangs first among the most problematic gangs in their jurisdictions; a figure that doesn't add up when reviewing where motorcycle gangs actually fall on the spectrum.

Professor Blade, whose real name is Flavius A B Akerele III, ultimately plead to a misdemeanor for possession of the decorative whip that hung from his handlebar. But the consequences didn't stop there. As a result of his misdemeanor, he has lost his right to own a gun for three years—a hefty

price to pay for an enthusiast and someone professionally trained in firearms. And despite the felony charge being dropped, the pending charge affected his background check when he was exploring a new position with a community college. And just recently, he was pulled over yet again upon leaving the local Harley-Davidson dealership where he says that once again, police were set up watching who entered and exited on motorcycles.

So while the "bad boy biker" persona is iconic and the popular image of bikers as degenerates and hooligans makes for good TV, there are practical effects for your average motorcycle rider. When I ask Professor Blade what he wants others to know about his lifestyle and his story he tells me, "This is the kind of harassment I see on a daily basis. Bikers aren't criminals. They are our country's nurses, firefighters and teachers. We are being targeted for simply existing."

Targeted For Existing (continued)

Coast to Coast

*NCOM BIKER NEWSBYTES
Compiled & Edited by Bill Bish,
National Coalition of Motorcyclists
(NCOM)*

FIRST TWIN PEAKS CASE GOES TO TRIAL IN WACO

Following more than two years of examining trials, hearings, motions to recuse judges and to disqualify prosecutors, appeals court rulings and a host of speedy trial demands, the first case in the Twin Peaks melee has finally gone to trial in Waco, Texas.

Jacob Carrizal, President of the Dallas chapter of the Bandidos, appears before Judge Matt Johnson of Waco's 54th State District Court on charges of directing the activities of a criminal street gang and two counts of engaging in organized criminal activity.

Carrizal is the first to stand trial of the 154 bikers indicted in the Twin Peaks shootout that left nine bikers dead and dozens injured while attending a Saturday, May 17, 2015 meeting of the Coalition of Clubs and Independents, an affiliation of motorcycle groups.

Many questions will hopefully be answered, at long last, including how much of the bloodshed was due to a biker turf war and how much resulted from law enforcement actions.

Authorities tightened security measures around the McLennan County Courthouse, including a metal fence around the 115-year old building, and black curtains over the windows, while attorneys have whittled down a jury pool from nearly 150 prospective jurors to 11 men and three women, with two serving as alternates.

"LOWEST FIGURES ON RECORD" FOR U.K. MOTORCYCLE FATALITIES

In a promising message for motorcyclists, statistics recently released by England's Department for Transport (DfT) show that U.K. motorcycle deaths are down by 13%, the lowest figure since records began in 2006, despite an overall increase in motorcycle traffic last year and amidst the highest total of overall road deaths since 2011.

In fact, statistics from the DfT's "Reported road casualties in Great Britain: 2016 annual report" reveal that motorcyclists were the only road user to see a decrease in fatalities from 2015-16, even though they rode 2% more to cover 2.8 billion miles.

AAA CLAIMS BABY BOOMERS AT HIGHER RISK ON A BIKE

A new report from AAA claims that the baby boomer generation that made motorcycles cool are now more likely to sustain life-threatening or fatal injuries in a crash

than younger riders.

The organization, analyzing federal crash data from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), says older riders make up a disproportionate number of motorcycle fatalities. The mortality rate for riders who are 60 or older is more than four times the overall increase in motorcycle deaths for 2015-16, says AAA, with motorcycle fatalities rising 5.1% while deaths among older baby boomers increased 22%.

Important to note, the increase in overall motorcycle fatalities is partially the byproduct of a corresponding rise in the number of motorcycles on the road, increasing to 8.6 million motorcycles in 2015 compared with 8.4 million in 2014, according to Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) data cited by the organization.

LIFE SENTENCES PROPOSED FOR KILLER DRIVERS

U.K. drivers or riders convicted of causing death by dangerous driving could face life imprisonment if new Government proposals are adopted to increase maximum penalties.

The move follows a public consultation in which 70% of respondents believed that the maximum penalty for causing death by dangerous driving should be increased to life -- the top penalty that

British law offers.

Under the same proposal, the crime of causing death by careless driving while under the influence of alcohol or drugs will also be increased to life. Currently, both offenses carry a maximum term of 14 years imprisonment, while the average sentence imposed is four years.

The Government also proposes the creation of a new offense of causing serious injury by careless driving, with a prison sentence up to five years, a measure supported by 90% of those surveyed.

The punishment for cases that involve mobile phones, street racing or speeding would carry a sentence equivalent to manslaughter.

THE FUTURE OF THE ENGINE IN QUESTION

Some world governments are already acting to curtail or eliminate gasoline-powered engines, and now the Governor of California, Jerry Brown, has announced that he is also considering ways to ban the sale of vehicles with internal combustion engines.

During a recent public meeting on U.S. Climate Alliance in New York, Brown

continued page 6

Join A.B.A.T.E.

ABATE IS:

- A Motorcycle Rights Organization (MRO)
- For Bikes & Riders, regardless of Race, Creed, color, sex, age, machine or gear
- For all Motorcycles regardless of Fraternal or club affiliation, as well as Independents
- For people interested in motorcycle safety
- For People interested in rider education
- For people interested in motorcycle awareness PSAs directed to non-Riders
- For people interested in protecting and promoting motorcycling
- A volunteer, not-for-profit grass-roots organization
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- Priceless Rider Education

ABATE of Arizona Serves to:

- Collaborate with other organizations to monitor and support funding for practices that do not discriminate against motorcycling.
- Encourage political involvement of its membership.
- Promote and present motorcyclists and motorcycling in a positive and safe manner.
- Help prevent motorcycle crashes and promote crash survival through rider education, and . . .
- Public awareness campaigns.
- Encourage ongoing federal research programs such as use of E15 fuel in motorcycles, inclusion of motorcycles in ongoing transportation emerging technologies, and improvements in safer roadway design strategies.
- Promote rider skills training through ABATE's
- Rider Advantage (ARA) scholarship program and tax-deductible entity

ABATE accomplishments:

- Motorcycle Lobbyist at the State Legislature
- 2013 Eliminated yearly motorcycle emissions testing in Maricopa County
- 2007 Remove Motorcycle Safety Fund cap
- 2007 Eliminated yearly motorcycle emissions testing in Pima County
- 2004 Veteran's plates for motorcycles
- 2002 Arizona Motorcycle Safety Council established
- 2001 Motorcycle Safety Fund established
- 1997 Handlebar height raised to shoulder
- 1993 Helped prevent mandatory helmet legislation in Arizona
- 1992 Opened HOV lanes to motorcycles

Motorcycle Awareness Program (MAP)

ABATE of Arizona has developed a program with the mission to provide motorcycle awareness training to all drivers and soon-to-be drivers on the road in Arizona. Instructors provide a one hour program to students in driver education classes throughout the state.

MAP is available to be presented to civic organizations as well as most businesses that hold safety meetings. FMI: map@abateofaz.org

Please Tell us What Your Top Five Motorcycle Issues, Matter to You:

- Distracted Driving – Motorcycle, Bicycle, Pedestrian are Vulnerable Roadway Users
- Right of Way Violations resulting in Injury/Fatality
- Insurance Discrimination and claim denial
- SAFETEA-LU Safety/Highway Funds ~2010 MSF
- Discriminatory Profiling by Law Enforcement
- Anti-tampering Regulations – Right to Modify
- State/National Mandatory Helmet/Equipment
- Transportation Exclusion of Intelligent Technology (IT), New Vehicle, Highway, Taxes and Fuel regarding Motorcycle Safety and Use
- Motorcycle-Only Checkpoints
- Accurate Stats & Research Study regarding Motorcycle Safety & Accidents
- Off Road Trail Closing and Access
- Tar Snakes & Median Cable wire
- Intersection Engineering – Lights to Speed Limit, Leading Left Only, Increase Yellow & All Clear Red



JOIN ABATE NOW!

ABATE Of Arizona provides a unified voice for all motorcyclists in Arizona. Add your voice to ours. Join ABATE now, for the preservation of your ability to ride a motorcycle with the freedom that's your right!!

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make checks payable to: ABATE of AZ and mail to: ABATE of Arizona, 7509 N. 12th Street, Suite 200 Phoenix, AZ 85020	DONATIONS Motorcycle Awareness Program (MAP) \$ _____ Legislative Efforts \$ _____ General Fund \$ _____ MasterLink Newsletter \$ _____	Business Membership: ABATE of Arizona Business Membership is a substantial value at just \$125.00 per year and includes (12 issues) of business card size ads, an annual membership for two people and an ABATE of Arizona Business Member Certificate for display in your business.

Coast to Coast (continued)

stated; "We're doing something in the face of inaction."

"Eventually, Washington will join with us, because you can't deny science forever, you can't deny reality. And the reality is climate change is occurring."

With a zero-emissions mandate currently in place, California is one of the U.S. states that is fully committed to carrying out the objectives of the Paris Agreement -- which is an ambitious project from the United Nations aiming to tackle the problems caused global climate change.

Gov. Brown's announcement follows a similar diktat from the British and French Governments, reflecting plans to move to electrically-powered vehicles within the next few decades.

SELF-DRIVING CARS CLOSER TO HOME

The U.S. House of Representatives unanimously approved a bipartisan bill called the SELF-DRIVE act, the first of its kind to drive the unmanned market forward by putting federal regulators in charge and barring states from blocking autonomous vehicles or setting performance standards.

This legislation would supersede state-by-state rules, making it possible for autonomous testing to proceed on a level playing field across the U.S.

If it becomes law (which still requires it to pass the Senate), then it would make it possible for companies working on self-driving to field a lot more vehicles per year -- as many as 100,000 autonomous test cars annually, in fact.

The proposal would make it possible for car companies such as Ford, GM and others to bypass certain safety standards that currently apply to human piloted cars, including equipment and controls.

The Senate has also been working on its own self-driving bill, which may cover trucking as well.

CALIFORNIA MEASURE WILL ENSURE TRAFFIC LIGHTS DETECT CYCLES

Two-wheelers will be detected by all newly installed and replacement traffic signals throughout California, as recently passed Senate Bill 672 will "ensure that local transportation agencies will replace current traffic-actuated signals during the course of regular maintenance and upgrade cycles to adopt motorcycle-and bicycle-sensitive signals."

Existing law due to sunset provides that, in due course of maintaining or replacing traffic control devices, local governments ensure that the systems are set at a level to that can detect cyclists and motorcycles, thus this bill indefinitely extends these provisions without a specific mandate from Sacramento.

"Since I authored the original law ten years ago, this common sense measure has proven to be effective at making our roads safer," said Senator Jean Fuller (R-Bakersfield).

Signed by Governor Jerry Brown on October 3, 2017, SB 672 specifies that "Upon the first placement of a traffic-actuated signal or replacement of the loop detector of a traffic-actuated signal [responding to the presence of traffic detected by mechanical, visual, electrical, or other means], the traffic-actuated signal shall, to the extent feasible and in conformance with professional traffic engineering practice, be installed and maintained so as to detect lawful bicycle or motorcycle traffic on the roadway."

Advanced by ABATE of California, the motorcycle rights organization says of the legislation; "Thanks to Governor Brown for signing this permanent extension," stated Chairman of the Board Glenn Phillips, adding that "With over a Million Motorcyclists in our state, this legislation is imperative to protect riders on California roads."

NEW YORK MEASURE WOULD BAN CHILDREN FROM RIDING

Assembly Bill 8700 would prohibit children under the age of twelve from riding on a motorcycle. Introduced by Assemblymember Aileen M. Gunther (D-Dist.100), the bill states; "No person shall operate or ride a motorcycle on a public highway, road or street in this state with a child under the age of twelve on

such motorcycle."

A8700 has been referred to the Assembly Transportation Committee.

HELP "LEMON LAW" PASS FOR RIDERS IN PENNSYLVANIA

ABATE of Pennsylvania has issued a Legislative Call To Action regarding House Bill 74, a bill introduced by Representative Pam Snyder that would include motorcycles in the current PA Automobile Lemon Law. HB 74 was introduced and referred to the House Consumer Affairs Committee. On June 12 the House Consumer Affairs Committee approved HB 74, and the measure is now facing consideration by the full House.

"Contact House of Representative members and ask them to support HB 74 to include motorcycles in the state's "Automobile Lemon Law," urges the state office of ABATE of PA. "You can call them, email them or visit them. But you have to do something if we are to have success in having HB 74 pass the House and be sent to the Senate for their consideration."

MOTORCYCLE THEFTS ARE ON THE RISE

The annual theft report from the National Insurance Crime Bureau shows bike thefts rose 2% nationally across the U.S. in 2016, with a total of 46,467 motorcycles were reported stolen, up from 45,555 in 2015.

For the second year in a row, California is the top state for stolen bikes, where 7,506 motorcycles were reported taken -- compared with 4,482 stolen in Florida and 3,692 in Texas, the next most troublesome territories. Vermont had only 24 motorcycle thefts in 2016, the least amount of all the states.

New York was the most-plagued city, followed by San Diego, Las Vegas and Los Angeles, while Los Angeles County was the top county.

The NICB study reveals that the bulk of motorcycle thefts predictably occur during the summer months, when more bikes are on the street. August was the top month, when almost twice as many motorcycles disappeared than in December or January.

Some bikes are more popular targets than others or are simply easier to steal, and a disproportionate number are Japanese models top the theft list: Honda (9052 thefts), Yamaha (7,723), Suzuki (6,229), Kawasaki (5,221), Harley-Davidson (4,963).

The recovery rate for stolen bikes isn't encouraging, according to the NICB report, with only 17,463 of the 46,467 motorcycles reported stolen in 2016 being returned to their owners, about a 40% nationwide rate of recovery. The recovery rate in Hawaii was highest at 94%, while the New York rate, at 19%, was the lowest in the nation.

By brand, Honda owners had about twice as good a chance of getting their bikes back than owners of Ducatis, which had only a 29% chance of coming home.

On a more positive note, bike thievery is down considerably -- about 30% -- from what it was a decade ago.

PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT SEEKS STRICT HELMET LAW ENFORCEMENT

The Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) in the Philippines is seeking to strengthen enforcement of the Mandatory Helmet Law (RA 10054) nationwide. In a Memorandum issued Sept 6 to all governors, mayors and others, the DILG directs local officials "to implement said (Helmet Law) Act, and ensure that the provisions are strictly complied with."

Congressman Cesar V. Sarmiento directly addressed DILG during the department's budget hearing in Congress and said he observed that several motorbike riders and drivers forget to use their helmet resulting in road accidents and deaths.

The Subject of the memo calls for the "Observance of the provisions of Republic Act No. 10054; an Act Mandating All Motorcycle Riders to Wear Standard Protective Motorcycle Helmets While Driving and Providing Penalties Therefor (sic)."

QUOTABLE QUOTE: "A man wearing a helmet defending our country is more valuable than a man in a helmet defending a football."

~ Seen on a T-Shirt

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ABATE of Arizona Chapter Meeting Times and Locations

East Valley Chapter
EAST VALLEY CHAPTER meetings are held the 4th Sunday of the month at 11:00 a.m. at Fraternal Order of Eagles (F.O.E.) 1712 W. Broadway Road, Mesa AZ 85202
FMI contact Joe Ferrucci at 480-295-9488

High Country Chapter
High Country Chapter meetings are held on the 3rd Saturday of the month at 10 a.m. at the Moose Lodge in Star Valley. Contact: chicknbone@live.com or 928-970-1134

Phoenix / Shadow Mountain Chapter
Phoenix/Shadow Mountain meetings are held on the 2nd Sunday of each month at 10:30am at the AZ American Italian Club, 7509 N. 12th Street, Phoenix, AZ 85020. FMI: Chapter Coordinator Mike Schneider, 602-549-1044, mike@squarepegpromos.com

Southern Arizona Chapter
The Southern Arizona Chapter will meet the third Saturday of the month. We will gather at the Kettle Restaurant meeting room. 748 W Starr Pass Blvd., Tucson, AZ 85713. Meeting time is 10AM October through March and 9AM April through September. FMI contact Jim Buttsback (520)247-3051 or abateofazsac@yahoo.com

Yavapai Chapter
Yavapai Chapter meets the 2nd Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. at the VFW Post 541 in Prescott -- 202 N Arizona Ave / 928-776-1125. For more information, please contact Dan Tumey @ 928-308-9911 or ycabateaz@gmail.com. See us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ycabateaz/>.

Yuma Chapter
The Yuma ABATE chapter meets the second Tuesday of each month at 6:00 pm. The next meeting will be held on August 8th, 2017 at the Omega restaurant located at 711 E 32nd Street, Yuma, AZ. We would love to see you there.

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MRF MOTM 2018

For those of you who made it to Motorcycle Riders Foundation (MRF) Meeting of the Minds (MOTM) conference this year in Williamsburg VA I want to thank you for your support!

For those of you who were not able to make it this year to MOTM we will be in Denver for 2018.

The idea of changing locations for MOTM is to help with attendees cost to get there. So for MOTM 2018 conference

in Denver it's within riding distance for those of us living in the Rocky Mountain states.

If you have not attending before it's a great experience of a national group of leaders dedicated to the motorcycling life style. You meet great activist and make some new friends. It's a chance to learn from other states and what their success & struggles are with mc politics. Plus Motorcycle Riders Foundation Awareness & Education (MRFA&E) does safety &

education workshops at MOTM. MRFA&E is a 501c3 company dedicated to riders Aweness & Education. Therefore MRFA&E brings those topic and share in the MOTM Conference, including an outdoor riding demonstration.

There is evening activities as well such as Meet the Board & other states on Thursday evening, the Friday night PAC Fund Raiser and Saturday night auction with the banquet dinner.

Please consider joining us at MOTM 2018 in Denver CO September 22-23. Sunday is a bike blessing in the am only.

You can register online at www.mrf.org

The hotel will have group rates.

Deborah Butitta, Chairman, MRFA&E

Ex-Officio Board Member, Motorcycle Riders Foundation, Inc.

PAC Report (continued)

would have their day in court some time before 2044. There is a new space/time void in the heart of Texas. This is an area where the United States Constitution does not apply, where human and civil rights are mythological concepts. I would advise all to avoid the void of humanity called Texas.

Other revelations include that at least five of those killed were shot by rooftop snipers. Two of the Cossacks were police informants

and at least one was an undercover officer. Witnesses saw the officer take off his cut and a woman near him handed him a lanyard with a police identification. We also learned that the informants were the instigators of the fight. There is more yet to be revealed. Police are still fighting to keep video from cameras mounted on poles from being made public. One big push by the prosecution is to make life miserable enough that some will plea to some lesser

charge just to end the insanity. Anyone who does that is screwed on the lawsuits over the injustice. In the meantime, many families are suffering and this will not end soon. We spoke with one of the actual attorneys fighting the cases there. He gave a power point overview. We have to remember that anything law enforcement does that is successful will be replicated elsewhere. Right now, there are police in Ohio doing motorcycle safety checkpoints. They are doing them in

California as well. There is no victory in our struggle to maintain our lifestyle. Police are constantly working to curtail our freedoms. We must remain vigilant or they will have us riding in eggs with no power that stop anytime they push a button. As ever, I am watching for possible intrusions on our lifestyles. Stay warm and safe out there. Remember, we get to ride in the winter while a lot of the country is storing bikes for the winter.

ABATE of Arizona

It's time you did something more to protect your rights!
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Events Calendar

December 2017

12/1 {Fri} Motorcycles on Main Bike Night in Downtown Mesa from 6-10pm. Live Music with Poppy and the Usual Suspects. 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>

12/2 {Sat} ABATE of AZ State Social. Annual membership meeting followed by Annual Holiday Social Chili cook off, White elephant exchange, 50/50, Karaoke, and more. Held at Fraternal Order of Eagles (F.O.E.) 1712 W. Broadway Road, Mesa, AZ 85202 FMI: Dawn steeddp@gmail.com

12/9 {Sat} Barbie Hensler Memorial Toy Run hosted by ABATE-AZ High Country at Buffalo Bar & Grill in Payson starting at 11am. FMI: CC 928-476-

1955 <https://www.facebook.com/AbateHighCountryChapter>

12/9 Arizona Biker Leather 15th Anniversary Party & Customer Appreciation Day. From noon-4pm. Located at NE corner of 19th Ave & Thunderbird, Phoenix. Balloon release in honor of George. Music, raffles, vendors, free food & beverages, in store specials. FMI: 602-843-5847, <http://arizonabikerleathers.com/>

12/10 {Sun} Sun Riders MC 36th annual Toy Parade in Tucson. Sponsors include Law Tigers. FMI: Robin 520-312-8120, www.tucsonsunridersmc.com

Happy 2018!

1/5 {Fri} Motorcycles on Main Bike Night in Downtown Mesa from 6-10pm. Live Music with the 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>

1/27 {Sat} Ride for the Salt River Wild Horses. Sign-in 10-11am at American Legion Post 58, 16837 E Parkview Ave, Fountain Hills. Donation \$10/pp. Take an unescorted Ride on a scenic route where the wild horses call home thru the Lower Salt River on Bush Highway in the Tonto National Forest. Last stop at Superstition Harley-Davidson, 2910 W Apache Trail. End party {11a-4:30pm} includes live music, beer garden, food, vendors, educational booths, & raffles. Proceeds benefit the Salt River Wild Horse Mgmt Group to continue protecting & keeping these Horses Wild & FREE. Sponsors include Law Tigers. <http://saltriverwildhorsemanagementgroup.org>



Why the United States was Designed as a Republic

By Mike Infanzon, ABATE Lobbyist

Ben Franklin famously replied when asked about the government that was created by the Constitution: "A republic, if you can keep it."

"Democracy " Not In Any Founding Document

The US is a Constitutional Republic, not a "democracy." No American founding document, not the Declaration of Independence, the Articles of Confederation, or the Constitution mention "democracy". This is because democracy was viewed as dangerous to the rights of minorities.

Command for State Republics Found in the Constitution

In contrast, the Constitution's Article IV requires every state of the Union to be a republic. Article IV, Section 4 commands: "The United States shall guarantee to every State in this Union a Republican Form of Government." This means a government without a king, accountable to the people and governed by the "rule of law". States would have no kings, elections for government representatives and an established law applied equally to all citizens. This is the essence of a republic.

The Dangers of Democracy

Franklin's description of democracy sums up the danger: "Democracy is two wolves and a lamb voting on what to have for dinner."

Thomas Jefferson thought democracies were dangerous because: "A democracy is nothing more than mob rule, where fifty-one percent of the people may take away the rights of the other forty-nine." John Adams knew democracies had short lives: "Remember, democracy never lasts long. It soon wastes, exhausts, and mur-

ders itself. There never was a democracy yet that did not commit suicide." Because of that Understanding the United States is a Republic

The United States is a republic. In a republic the people choose representatives to exercise their power. A republic does not have a king or queen, but rather an elected or appointed president. A republic starts with a free individual with the right to govern himself. That individual gives some of that power to the community. The community chooses representatives to serve in government and gives those representatives the power to make laws. That power is to make laws only about those subjects that the community has identified.

The Elements of a Republic

The elements of a republic are these: 1) a representative government, 2) a written constitution and 3) the rule of law. The rule of law requires that no one be above the law, that the law has been defined before a controversy exists, and that the rights of minorities are protected. The source of authority in a republic is the people as a whole, and the people as a whole ratify, or agree to, a constitution before it becomes effective. A republic does not operate under the 50% + 1 rule by design in order to limit the government's power and to protect "natural rights".

Democracy Contrasted with Republic

In a democracy citizens exercise power directly. In a pure democracy, 50% of the group plus one more citizen determine the laws. There are no protections for minority rights. Minorities have only those privileges granted by the good graces of the majority.

In its pure form, democracy is simply majority rule. All citizens get together to decide every issue of government.

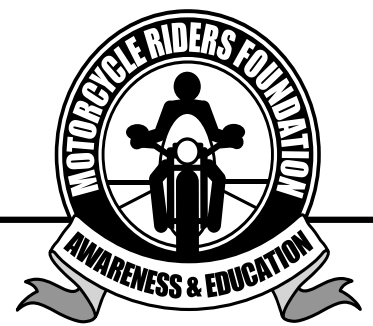
Decisions made by 50% + 1 of those participating are binding on everyone. Pure democracy is sometimes referred to as "mobocracy" because decisions are made by a simple majority of a mob and enforced on everyone.

Article IV, Section 4, Republican Form of Government

The Article IV, Section 4 command of a Republican Form of Government for the states is known as the Guarantee Clause. This clause requires that state governments consist of representatives, rather than the alternative of "direct democracy". Direct democracy is when all eligible citizens vote on every law. To be part of the Union a state must have a representative republican government. Following the Civil War when Congress delayed "readmission" of many Confederate States. Congress refused to seat the Representatives and Senators that used tactics to limit voting by newly freed black males. These tactics resulted in "unrepresentative" state governments and thus the governments were not republican.

Washington Gridlock by Design The Founders were well aware that having rule by a simple majority imperiled the natural rights outlined in the Declaration of Independence. They constructed a system designed to be ultimately responsible to the people, but included layers that required a consensus be built that included the input of minorities before action could be taken. When there are complaints that "Washington isn't doing anything", they should understand that the slow process that sometimes seems to frustrate the will of the majority was intended to do just that, to protect the freedom and liberty of all.

Now you know why.



Motorcycle Riders Foundation Awareness & Education (MRFA&E)

was established to promote motorcycle awareness and education due to an ever-increasing rider population. No one is more concerned with rider safety than riders themselves, and obviously those best suited to educate newer riders are veteran riders.

OUR MISSION:

Promote awareness and education in the motorcycling community to improve riders' safety.

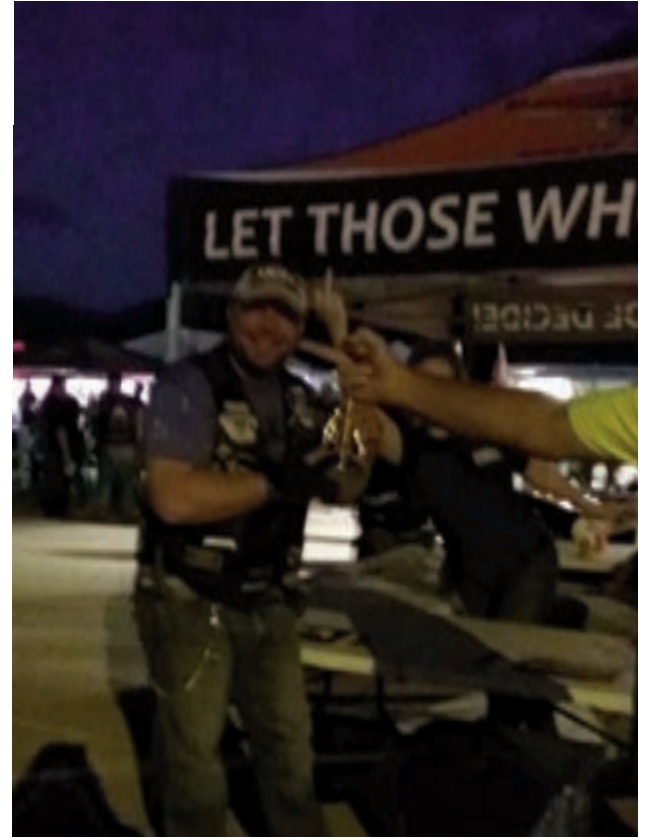
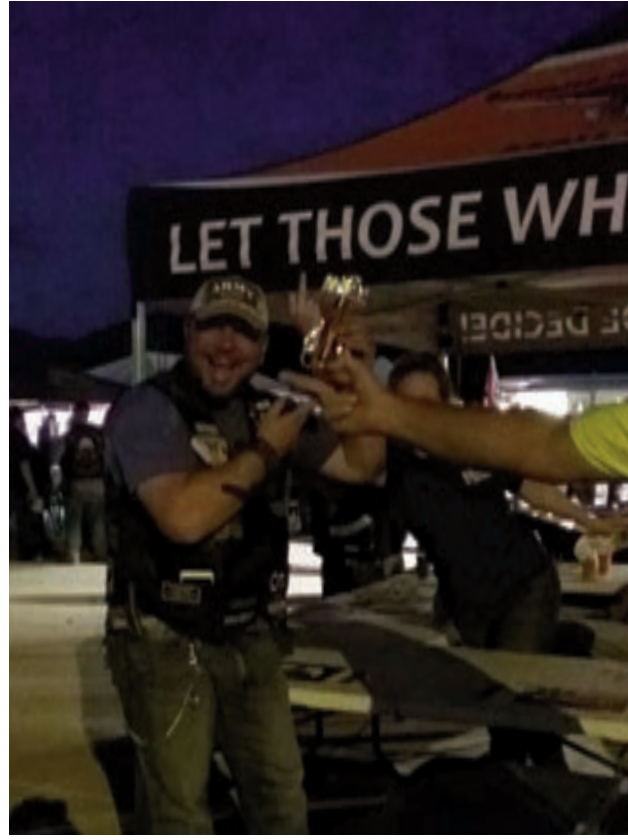
We are a 501C3 Corporation. Please donate -- your donation is tax deductible. To donate go to our website listed at the bottom.

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RIOT ON THE RIVER 2017



RIOT ON THE RIVER 2017



SOUTHERN ARIZONA ROAD CLEAN-UP



After the meeting on October 21st. Members of the Southern Arizona Chapter of ABATE traveled down to Whetstone, AZ, which is about 60 miles South East of Tucson, near the place where AZ Hwy 90 meets Hwy 82. Just to the East of the intersection of these two Highways is Buddy's bar and just East of there is a one mile stretch of highway that the Southern Arizona Chapter has been cleaning since it was known as the Tucson Chapter. We had about 10 folks take the ride down after our meeting and we made quick work of the clean-up! In the years we have been doing this it has gotten easier each time. We believe that as people see that it is clean and and no longer full of trash that they are less likely to throw garbage out of their moving vehicles. It is just none of the things ABATE members are doing to be a positive force in our communities.



BIKERS FOR BOOBIES



News from the MRF (continued)

And as a side note, your MRF has spent the week hitting up offices in the House of Representatives carrying a similar message to let them know that if these bills move, we like the Senate version better because of its consideration of motorcyclists. And guess who has been helping deliver that message? Harley-Davidson. Your MRF and the lobbyist from Harley have been taking joint meetings on the issue to deliver the rider and corporate perspectives. It's a good strategy, plus the HD lobbyist always wears sweet leather Harley jackets to all of our meetings. Maybe your MRF lobbyist should get one of those?!?! Just sayin...

EXECUTIVE & REGULATORY UPDATES – Listen Up, NHTSA! ARE YOU LISTENING? At a public meeting Monday on NHTSA's autonomous vehicle guidance, your MRF aired out our gripes with the proposed safety assessment asked of autonomous vehicle manufacturers. YEP – that's me (the back view...sorry) speaking to NHTSA officials. I reminded them of the incident in Arizona where a Tesla on autopilot hit a stopped police motorcycle. I reminded them that in their proposed guidance, they call out important groups of roadway users like pedestrians, bicyclists and ANIMALS, but fail to mention the 8.5 million motorcyclists in our nation. I reminded them that autonomous vehicles policy DIRECTLY affects us and

that we need a seat at the table. Did they hear us? Time will tell...I was told that they are already hard at work on version 3.0 of the guidance.

STATE NEWS – California Efforts on a State Anti-Profiling Measure
Many of you have (hopefully?!) seen my recent editorial on Professor Blade and the complete and utter absurdity of his arrest for his brass knuckles (or to be more accurate, WEDDING RING) in California. (if you haven't seen this, reach out for a copy or check out our Facebook page). Professor Blade is continuing to bang the drum and this week organized a meet and greet with Shirley Weber. Weber is an Assemblywoman to the State of California and is responsible for introducing legislation requiring law enforcement to, among other things, annually report demographics to the Attorney General on all stops conducted. There is also a training requirement in the bill and Professor Blade and a working group, which includes MRF Rep Keith Johnston, are trying to loop bikers into the bill language. This is an excellent strategy – in politics its often easier to hitch your horse to a wagon that's already moving. Keep up the pressure, California! Side note, California is the state with the most reported cases of profiling. According to data collected by the Motorcycle Profiling Project, over 54% of all reported instances of motorcycle

profiling stem from that state...

MRF NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS
I'm singling out this Call to Action because WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT. So PLEASE, copy and paste the section below and blast it out to your friends, colleagues, and family and consider sharing it on Facebook. (just be sure not to copy and paste the part above where I refer to a potential EPA official as a ***** idiot. K, thanks!

SHARE THIS:

LET RIDERS SPEAK!

In 2015, Congress re-established the Motorcyclist Advisory Council in the Highway Bill to advise the Federal Highway Administration on "issues of concern to motorcyclists." This important group would serve as the ONLY official forum on a national scale for motorcyclists to have an open dialogue with the Government. And yet, all but one individual selected was there to represent the technical aspects of the Council, including engineering, construction and traffic safety systems as well as roadway data. Only one seat out of ten was designated for a national motorcycle riders' association to alone speak to the riding experiences and concerns of more than 8.5 million motorcyclists in the U.S.

This is unacceptable, we must petition the government to add motorcyclists to the Council!

Together, let's spread the word:
#LetRidersSpeak

Sign the Petition NOW by clicking on this link:

<http://cqrcengage.com/mrf/app/sign-petition?1&engagementId=414594>

To all of our members that have served to preserve the Freedoms we cherish - Thank You and Happy Veterans Day!

RIDE FREE-

Megan Ekstrom
Vice-President of Government Affairs & Public Relations
The Motorcycle Riders Foundation

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News from the MRF (continued)

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Together, let's spread the word:
#LetRidersSpeak

November 15, 2017

Motorcycle Riders Foundation Announces Recipients of 'Legislator of the Year' Awards

WASHINGTON, DC – Congressman Tim Walberg (Michigan) and Senator Ron Johnson (Wisconsin) will be awarded the 2017 Motorcycle Legislator of the Year Award, it was announced this month by the Motorcycle Riders Foundation. Since the organization's inception in 1984, the Legislator of the

Year Award annually recognizes lawmakers for their commitment to advancing policies that support motorcycle riders across the nation. The announcement came after careful consideration from the Board of Directors for the Motorcycle Riders Foundation at their annual conference.

Congressman Walberg, who represents Michigan's 7th District, was one of the leading sponsors of a proposed resolution addressing the profiling of motorcyclists (H.Res.318) introduced in May. If passed, the legislation would increase public awareness on the issue, as well as encourage state law enforcement officials to include statements condemning motorcycle profiling in written policies and training materials. Congressman Walberg was also supportive in other motorcycle-related legislation, supporting the RPM Act and leading the charge in addressing concerns over the lack of motorcycle representation on the reestablished Motorcycle Advisory Council. Walberg himself is an avid motorcyclist and co-chair of the House Motorcycle Caucus.

"Tim has always been a great friend to

the motorcycle community, said Vince Consiglio, Executive Director of ABATE of Michigan and member of the Motorcycle Riders Foundation, "We know we can count on him to make sure our voice is heard in the halls of Congress."

Also honored as Legislator of the Year in the Senate, is Wisconsin's Ron Johnson. Senator Johnson was the lead Republican in sponsoring the Senate companion to the profiling resolution, working across the aisle with Senator Jeanne Shaheen from New Hampshire. He continues to support the riders in his state through working to ensure motorcyclists' perspective on automated vehicles policies and EPA emissions issues related to racing. "We continue to be impressed with Senator Johnson's commitment to riders in his state and across America," said Kirk 'Hardtail' Willard, Chairman of the Board for the Motorcycle Riders Foundation as well as an active leader for ABATE of Wisconsin. "We can think

of no better recipient of this award than Senator Johnson," he concluded. His efforts related to the anti-profiling measure help reinforce the First and Fourth Amendments as cornerstones of the Bill of Rights."

With a network of more than 250,000 motorcycle riders and supporters nationwide, the Motorcycle Riders Foundation is the nation's premier motorcycle rights organization. They provide leadership at the federal level for states' motorcyclists' rights organizations as well as motorcycle clubs and individual riders and are dedicated to serving as a national advocate for the advancement of motorcycling and its associated lifestyle.

Both Senator Johnson and Representative Walberg will be presented with a personalized leather riding vest with their names inscribed at an upcoming event in May.

Five Ways You're Scaring Your Friends When You Share Freedom

Do your friends suddenly vanish when you start talking about freedom?

Without realizing it, lots of freedom-loving activists transform into something more terrifying than a werewolf when they start talking about politics. How do you know when your approach to activism is scaring people away instead of changing hearts and minds?

Here's five ways you might be unintentionally frightening people:

You're Doing Too Much Too Soon

Persuasion shouldn't be a one-shot effort. Changing hearts and minds is a process. Build relationships and have small conversations instead of trying to get people to agree with you on the first try.

You're Not Speaking Their Language

You may love that talk show host that "tells it like it is." If someone disagrees with you,

though, the way that host talks about issues may be off-putting or even offensive. The best approach is to share freedom in a way that the other person will find appealing without compromising your message. You're Not Establishing Common Ground Most people across the ideological spectrum agree on the problems our country is facing—they just disagree on solutions. It's easy to build common ground if you take time to find out where you agree. You'd be surprised what two people share in common despite fundamentally disagreeing on some issues.

You Think Your One "Great Argument" Is All You Need

A solid one-liner is almost never enough to change someone's mind. Other factors are just as important, like your tone, whether the person thinks you're credible or

continued page 14



State Officers & Board Of Directors
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MRFA&E is looking for a new Secretary. You do not have to be political but more in the awareness and education side of motorcycling. This is an officers position for 2-year term, officers are required to be at MRF MOTM conference for the MRFA&E board of directors meeting during the conference. MRFA&E is a 501 c3 company that deals with the community awareness and education for motorcyclists.

Wanted: A grant writer that does this for a living or has some experience in grant writing. This position is an assistant to the board of directors to be appointed by the Chairman.

Please keep these positions in mind when visiting riders whom might be a good fit into MRF A&E board.

Thank you for your help. Hope to see you all in Denver MOTM 2018.

Ride Aware,
Visit the web site for more information: www.mrfae.org
Deborah Butitta, Board of Director Chairman

Newest East Valley Business member American Bike and Trike

Welcome aboard our newest ABATE supporting business member American Bike and Trike. In 2013, Terry and Roxane Evans started up their family owned trike shop here in the big town of Gilbert AZ and it just keeps growing. I got a chance to interview Greg "Troll" Hughes about the shop and services it offers. With 12 different manufactures equaling over 100 conversion kits to choose from, they have the largest selection in America. They have Sidecars and Motorcycle Trailers too.

American Bike and Trike offers trike (two in the back), reverse trike (two in the front), Tilting Trikes (with either two in the front or the back), along with Quad (four tires) conversions of your current bike. They normally keep ten to fifteen "ready to ride" bikes, trikes and quads in the showroom ready to be purchased and road home that day. They have financing

available to help you get your bike converted or to purchase one of the "ready to ride" ones.

They also perform all the standard services on bike and trikes such as oil changes, scheduled maintenance's, accessory upgrades etc. Their "American Hero" program honors active as well as retired military and police and first responders with discounted pricing on conversion kits, parts and labor. They offer tire changes as low as \$89.00 plus the cost of the tire. They do all types of insurance work as well. Great people and great service!

They seem to have all the cool stuff there. Being the local dealer for (get ready for a long list) Hannigan Motorsports, Motor Trike, Tilting Motor Works, Lehman Trikes, Road Smith, Mystery Designs, California Sidecar, Champion Trikes, Sturgis Trike and the Life Trike (designed to ride your wheelchair into and ride off

on), they found one other that is truly unique.

American Q-tec is the newest edition to the American Bike and Trike offerings. Available for 2000 to 2017 Harley-Davidson Softails, these kits can convert the Softail into a trike, reverse trike or a quad! These are new to America, even though Qtec-Engineering in Belgium started producing these over ten years ago. You will find them all over Europe and Spain and many other countries.

Terry found these a couple year ago and imported a couple of them into the states. Built them and with the public reaction that they received, worked with the owner of Qtec-Engineering in Belgium to become not only a dealer for them here, but to become the distributor for America and Canada.

With it's patented design provides a proven Formula 1 race style suspension system making the best handling trikes and quads they have ever seen. (Ride one and I think you'll agree) The Q-Tec concept is a high-quality product that can be considered as the "Rolls-Royce" of the trikes and quads. The integral core of the design is the patented differential which in itself is the sole basis of the overall concept of Q-Tec. It was specifically developed for this venture.

So if you would like to have your baby worked on or converted by a family owned shop with some folks that truly care about how you and your bike/trike is treated, give these guys a shot.

Stop by their shop at 3272 147th Place in Gilbert AZ 85297 and or check out more about what they offer on their website americanbikeandtrike.com 480 218 5822



Five Ways You're Scaring Your Friends (continued)

whether you're connecting on an emotional level.

It's easy to fall into the trap of talking "at" someone instead of "to" them. Make an effort to have a two-way conversation where you're actively listening instead of lecturing.

You're Not Humble

Arrogance is a good way to make your message unappealing. Just because you're right doesn't mean you can hold it over

their head. Approach every conversation openly and let the person know you're willing to admit you don't have all the answers and that you might be wrong about some things.

Now go out and share freedom. It's a team sport.

Be good to one another.

Mike



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Restoration of Civil Rights

By Mike Infanzon, ABATE Lobbyist

What rights are lost when a person is convicted of a felony? A felony conviction suspends a person's civil liberties. The person loses the right to vote, the right to hold public office of trust or profit, the right to serve as a juror and right to possess a gun. A felony conviction may also prevent a person from obtaining business and professional licenses, government secured loans and housing.

Can a person restore their Civil Liberties? A person's civil liberties may be restored. A person with only one Arizona felony conviction, whose civil rights were lost or suspended, had their rights automatically restored upon completion of a term of probation, or receipt of an absolute discharge from imprisonment if the person paid all imposed fines or restitution. However, this does not apply to the right to possess a weapon. To restore the right to possess a weapon the person must file an application with Superior Court in the county where you were convicted. A person with two or more Arizona felony convictions must file the applications to restore their civil liberties with Superior Court in the county where you were convicted. A separate application will be required for each felony criminal case.

What if my felony conviction was in another state? A person wishing to restore their civil liberties must do so in the state in which the felony conviction occurred. Many states automatically restore a person's civil liberties upon completion of probation or discharge from the department of corrections. A person should contact the state in which the conviction occurred to obtain information regarding the restoration process

What if I was convicted of a felony in federal court?

A person convicted of a felony in federal court may apply to restore their civil liberties in the county in which they currently reside. However, the state may not restore the person's right to possess a firearm or have their judgment of guilt vacated/set aside.

How do I know if I am eligible to restore my rights? If you only had one Arizona felony our rights were restored upon completion of probation or absolute discharge from the Department of Corrections as long as all fines and restitution were paid. However, to ensure that the court informs the elections office that you are eligible to vote you should file an application to restore your civil liberties. Also, the court will not set aside a judgment of guilt without an application. If you have two or more felonies in Arizona you may apply to restore your civil liberties upon completion of probation or two years from your absolute discharge as long as all your fines and restitution were paid.

What is setting aside judgment? Upon completion of probation or sentence and discharge by the court a person may file to have their judgment set aside. Setting aside a judgment releases the citizen from all penalties and disabilities resulting from the conviction. Setting aside judgment does not seal or expunge ones record. The record is still accessible to the public. However, the record will have a notation stating that the judgment has been set aside. Some employers are more likely to view the setting aside of a judgment favorably. The setting aside of a judgment lets the employer know that the court is satisfied that the person has been rehabilitated. The setting aside of judgment does not apply to Department of Motor Vehicle records or Game and Fish. A felony that has been set aside may be used at a subsequent trial as a prior felony conviction. Persons convicted of criminal offenses involving inflic-

tion of serious physical injury, exhibition or use of a weapon, sexual motivation or a victim under fifteen may not have their judgment vacated.

Where can I get an application? Go to the Superior Court website in the county where you were convicted and look for: ServiceCenter/Forms/CriminalCases. This will take you to the Criminal Court forms, and you will want to click on "Requesting the Restoration of Civil Rights Form". This is the application you will need to complete this process. You may also pick up an application in person at the courthouse. Carefully read over the form to ensure you know what information the form is requesting.

Where do I get a copy of my Absolute Discharge? Certificate of Absolute Discharge from the Department of Corrections may be obtained by writing or visiting the Arizona Department of Corrections, 1601 W Jefferson, M/C 112, Phoenix, AZ 85007 and requesting the records. The information will be mailed in three to six weeks. Absolute Discharges from the Federal Bureau of Prisons may be obtained at the clerk's office of the United States District Court, 401 W Washington, Phoenix; 123 N. San Francisco St, Flagstaff; 405 W Congress St, Tucson; Prescott Valley Courthouse, 325 W 19th St, Suite A, 3001 N Main St, Prescott Valley; or 325 W 19th St, Yuma AZ 85364. The person may wish to contact the restoration clerk at 602-506-4949 to assist with a federal conviction.

Once I complete the application, then what? After making a copy of the completed application and absolute discharge (if you were sentenced to the Department of Corrections), file the documents at the Court Clerk's desk marked criminal at the Court house. The Court will send you

written notice of whether your request was granted or denied. It may take 90 days or more to get your notice. If the Court denies your application the court will provide you with the reason for the denial. You may file an application for reconsideration.

My Felony was dropped to a Misdemeanor, but background checks are still showing that I have a felony. Why? It appears that the state does not forward the information regarding a person's Class 6 designation from a felony to misdemeanor to anyone. This means that when background checks are done, the charges are still showing as felonies. You need to make copies of your designation form and write a note asking the following entities to please change the information in their databases. The three (3) entities that need to be contacted about this issue are:

Maricopa County Sheriff's Office
550 West Jackson Street
Phoenix, AZ 85003

Arizona Department of Public Safety
PO Box 6638
Phoenix, AZ 85005-6638

Note: To ensure proper and faster routing of mail inquiries please write the department or subject relating to your inquiry on the outside of your envelope. They will send you an application that you will need to fill out.

Federal Bureau of Investigation
935 Pennsylvania Ave, NW
Washington, DC 20535

This information is just a resource, not legal advice. If you have any legal questions, please refer them to a licensed attorney.

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