



April 2024

Volume 34 Issue 4

## President's Report

I am sorry to have to report that we have lost another of our fellow freedom fighters. Harley Pettit, the founding coordinator of our Coyote Pass Chapter in Kingman Arizona has lost his fight. Harley was active in the motorcycling community with ABATE. He also rode with a casual group called the Brunch Bunch. Harley passed at the end of February, and it was too late to get the news into last month's issue. We still do not know of any funeral arrangements at this time. We will share them when we know. He will be missed.

I also must report that Barry "Double B" Bell who has been serving as our editor of the *MasterLink* has had to step down from this position due to his ongoing health treatments. In his short time as editor, he has brought several changes and improvements to our newsletter. I would like to express my thanks for all his efforts and the time he dedicated to putting out the *MasterLink*. We all look forward to his recovery.

Betsy Newkirk of our East Valley Chapter has agreed to take on the editing and layout of the *MasterLink* going forward. I ask that all work with Betsy and respond to deadlines etc. so we can continue with a smooth transition. Thank you again Betsy for stepping into this position.

As many of you know, we had our "Lobby Day" back at the end of January and I wish to thank all who participated. I also want to thank Mike Infanzon and all the Epic Policy Group for all the hard work they put into this event. We have our "Motorcycle Day at the Dome" coming up on Saturday April 13, 2024, 9AM – 1PM. It will be a rally type event and it will be held at the Wesley Bolin Plaza across from the State Capitol. There will be speakers, vendors and food trucks. Please be in attendance. We need as many ABATE members in attendance as possible.

So far, it has been a very busy year for our legislative efforts and for getting our message out to the motorcycling community and to the public. I want to thank all the ABATE members who have worked at various events and bike nights etc. to help promote ABATE and what we do. Please continue to represent ABATE whenever you attend a motorcycle event or visit a clubhouse etc. Wear your ABATE gear and let them know you are supporting them. People will usually support those who support them.

Let us all, as ABATE of Arizona members, try to continue this positive momentum and do all we can to help promote Motorcycle Rights and Awareness and the benefits of membership in ABATE of Arizona. There are many events coming up in the next few months where we

*Greetings Fellow Supporters  
of Motorcycle Rights!*



can spread the "gospel" of our great organization. If every member could recruit just one new member we could double in size.

We are blessed that we ride in relative freedom here in Arizona, but that freedom can disappear in a flash if we do not keep diligently watching and fighting for our right to ride free. To keep up the good fight we need to work on increasing our numbers and talking to our fellow riders about getting involved.

I just want to encourage everyone to keep up the fight. Our efforts really do pay off and our voices do get heard. It is a long process so do not get discouraged if a bill does not pass or if it feels like you are not getting through. YOU ARE! Keep on writing those emails and making those phone calls. It is not only your right, but I feel it is our obligation to let our elected officials know how we feel and that we are paying attention to what they are doing. It is important that you know who your elected officials are, both here in Arizona and in Washinton D.C. And it is important that, because of your efforts and calls etc, that they learn who you are!

Remember always that we are not just a motorcycle group, WE ARE A FREEDOM ORGANIZATION!

As always, until next month!

RIDE FREE! RIDE SAFE! RIDE ENDORSED! RIDE SOBER!!

Jim

Jim Email: [jimbutsbac@yahoo.com](mailto:jimbutsbac@yahoo.com)

Cell Phone, call or text 520-247-3051

I DO NOT USE MESSENGER!

### In Memory Of Harley Pettit

On or about February 24th, we lost the Coyote Pass Chapter's founder, Harley Pettit, to cancer. He was not only active in ABATE of Arizona. He also led a riding group called the Brunch Bunch Riders for over a decade. This was a casual group, with riders from all over western Arizona; so riders got to know a lot of folks and a lot of good restaurants.

Harley was retired from many years working for the phone company (AT&T, I believe). He used to race a Buick 'funny-car' at some of the drag strips in California. He ran for mayor of the city of Kingman and was somewhat politically involved. And of course he was an avid motorcyclist. With a name like Harley, he would almost have to be.

He is survived by an estranged wife and a sister in another state. To my knowledge, he had no children. However, he had many, many friends in the area and will be sorely missed by all of them.

Harley is with his Heavenly Father now. Please respect his family and allow them to grieve. When I am informed of arrangements, I'll post them to our Chapter's Facebook Group.

Rest in Peace, Harley

*Mike Degrood*



# MOTORCYCLE DAY AT THE DOME 2024

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Saturday

Speakers, Vendors and Food Trucks

April 13, 2024

Come and rally for the freedom to ride.

9AM—1PM

Have your voice heard by our elected officials and make a difference for ALL.



# Press Release

13515 Yarmouth Dr., Pickerington, OH 43147 • T: (614) 856-2222 F: (614) 856-2221 • [MotorcycleMuseum.org](http://MotorcycleMuseum.org)

## Former AMA President Ed Youngblood Passes Away at 80

*Youngblood spearheaded the AMA's efforts from 1981 to 1999*

March 13, 2024

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media contact: Joy Burgess  
Phone: 951-212-0957  
E-mail: [submissions@ama-cycle.org](mailto:submissions@ama-cycle.org)

PICKERINGTON, Ohio —

The American Motorcyclist Association is saddened to hear about the passing of former AMA President Ed Youngblood on March 10, 2024, and offers condolences to his family, friends and colleagues. Youngblood was 80 years old.

Born on Sept. 28, 1943, in Muskogee, Okla., Youngblood bought his first bike — a 165cc Harley-Davidson — at the age of 14. After graduating from college with a master's degree, he went to work with AMA Motorcycle Hall of Famers Chuck and Sharon Clayton as an editor of *Cycle News East*. In 1970, Youngblood joined the AMA staff as managing editor of *AMA News*, which later was replaced by *American Motorcyclist*. In 1978, he was put in charge of the AMA's government relations department.

In 1981, Youngblood was appointed AMA executive director. He led the organization until 1999. During his tenure, Youngblood focused on improving member communication, growing the AMA's government relations efforts, and building stronger ties to the Fédération Internationale de Motocyclisme. For 25 years Youngblood was a delegate to the FIM, and he eventually became the deputy president, which was the second-highest rank in the organization.

Youngblood also helped establish the AMA Motorcycle Hall of Fame. He was instrumental in forming the American Motorcycle Heritage Foundation in the early 1980s to raise funds for the Hall of Fame Museum. The American Motorcycle Heritage Museum was opened in 1990 within the AMA's old headquarters in Westerville, Ohio.



During Youngblood's tenure the AMA's headquarters was relocated to Pickerington, Ohio — which remains the AMA's home today. The American Motorcycle Heritage Museum followed the AMA to Pickerington, assuming a new name: The AMA Motorcycle Hall of Fame Museum. Youngblood resigned from the AMA to focus on his interests in history and writing

in 1999 and was inducted into the AMA Motorcycle Hall of Fame later that year.

### *About the American Motorcyclist Association*

Founded in 1924, the AMA is a not-for-profit member-based association whose mission is to promote the motorcycle lifestyle and protect the future of motorcycling. As the world's largest motorcycling rights and event sanctioning organization, the AMA advocates for riders' interests at all levels of government and sanctions thousands of competition and recreational events every year. Besides offering members money-saving discounts on products and services, the AMA also publishes *American Motorcyclist*, a recently revitalized and monthly full-color magazine (and digital version of same) that covers current events and motorcycle history with brilliant photography and compelling writing. *American Motorcyclist* is also North America's largest-circulation magazine. Through the AMA Motorcycle Hall of Fame in Pickerington, Ohio, the AMA honors the heroes and heritage of motorcycling. For more information, visit [americanmotorcyclist.com](http://americanmotorcyclist.com).

Not a member? Join the AMA today: [americanmotorcyclist.com](http://americanmotorcyclist.com).

American Motorcyclist Association  
13515 Yarmouth Dr., Pickerington, OH 43147

Board of Directors for 2023/2024

Chairman.....Rick Ferguson  
740-815-5894, [chairman@abateofaz.us](mailto:chairman@abateofaz.us)

Vice Chairman.....Mary K Donnay  
602-751-3180, [azhogrider1@gmail.com](mailto:azhogrider1@gmail.com)

Coyote Pass BOD Rep.....Open  
East Valley BOD Rep.....Rick Ferguson  
Mohave BOD Rep.....Gary Vick  
High Country BOD Rep.....Barry Bell  
Phoenix BOD Rep.....Scot Williamson  
Southern AZ BOD Rep.....Anissa Huntington  
Yavapai BOD Rep.....Dennis Banners  
Yuma BOD Rep.....Frank White  
Member-at-Large BOD Rep.....Mary K Donnay

The next quarterly board meeting is  
Saturday April 6 @ 1:00 pm  
at the state office.  
Zoom attendance is also available.



ABATE of Arizona

Board of Directors and Officers

Board Appointed Officers

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Designated Lobbyist..... Michael Infanzon  
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M.A.P.....Jim Silk  
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Membership System Admin.....Forrest Phillips

[Contact the MasterLink editor](#)

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Michael Infanzon  
Betsy Newkirk

State Officers For 2024/2025

President.....Jim Butsback  
Vice President.....Paula Beall  
Secretary.....Mark Krumrey  
Treasurer.....Cliff Prentice  
Sergeant-at-Arms.....Gary Crawford  
Membership.....Cynde Aydt  
Run/Events.....Stacy Montgomery  
Safety Coordinator.....Matthew Reemelin  
PAC.....Stacy Montgomery  
Communications.....Judi Miller  
Merchandise.....Damian Paige  
TBFS Chair.....Sandra Tavares

State Officer meetings are held the  
1st Saturday of every month, 11:00 am at

ABATE of Arizona State Office  
AZ American-Italian Club  
7509 N. 12th Street, Suite #200  
Phoenix, AZ 85020

Contact: Jim Butsback, [jimbutsback@yahoo.com](mailto:jimbutsback@yahoo.com)  
Cell phone, call or text 520-247-3051  
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Annual dues support our lobbying  
and safety programs across the state

- Individual Membership: \$30 annually
- Joint Membership: \$45 annually
- Individual Sustaining Member: \$50 annually
- Joint Sustaining Membership: \$100 annually
- Business Membership: \$150 annually
- Club or Organization: \$150 annually
- Individual Lifetime Membership: \$350
- Joint Lifetime Membership: \$700

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LANE FILTERING IS LEGAL

ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES 28-903 F

The operator of a two-wheeled motorcycle may overtake and pass another vehicle that is stopped in the same direction of travel and in the same lane as the operator and may operate the motorcycle between lanes of traffic if the movement may be made safely and if the operator does both of the following:

1. Operates the motorcycle on a street that both:
  - (a) Is divided into at least two adjacent traffic lanes in the same direction of travel.
  - (b) Has a speed limit that does not exceed forty-five miles per hour.
2. Travels at a speed that does not exceed fifteen miles per hour.

Lane Filtering information cards are now available at your local Chapter

**Coyote Pass Chapter**

Coordinator.....Eric Spurr  
 V. Coord.....Mike Degrood  
 Secretary.....Debbie Cleveland  
 Treasurer.....Debbie Cleveland  
 Sgt at Arms.....Tom Love  
 Membership.....Open  
 Runs/Events.....Mike Degrood  
 Safety Coordinator.....Open  
 PAC.....Open  
 Communications [acting].....Mike Degrood  
 Merchandise.....Open  
 BOD Rep .....Open

Contact: Mike 661-332-2308,  
[way2coolwheels@yahoo.com](mailto:way2coolwheels@yahoo.com)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/4808599665893759>

The Coyote Pass Chapter meets the second Tuesday of the month at Calico's Restaurant, 928-753-5005 418 W. Beale St. ; Kingman, AZ 86401

**East Valley Chapter**

Coordinator.....Joe Silk  
 V. Coord.....Jeff Gorall  
 Secretary.....Julie Reemelin  
 Treasurer.....Laura Hershey  
 Sgt at Arms.....Damian Paige  
 Membership.....Joe Silk  
 Runs/Events.....Open  
 Safety Coordinator.....Open  
 PAC.....Gary Crawford  
 Communications.....Joe Silk  
 Merchandise.....Open  
 BOD Rep .....Rick Ferguson

Contact: Joe Silk, 480-628-8598  
[miterangers@msn.com](mailto:miterangers@msn.com)

The East Valley Chapter meets at 10:00 AM (9am breakfast) on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of every month at the American Legion Post 138 107 E Broadway Rd, Tempe, AZ 85282 SE Corner area of Broadway and Mill

**Globe Chapter**

Coordinator.....Brain Fogle  
 Secretary.....Jeffrey Burke  
 Treasurer.....Danny Rawley

Contact: Brian Fogle, 480-278-4861  
[bfogle6@aol.com](mailto:bfogle6@aol.com)

Chapter meetings are being held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the month at 6:30pm at American Legion Henry Berry Post #4 645 S Broad St ; Globe, AZ 85501

**High Country Chapter**

Coordinator.....Denny 'Hawk' Dowell  
 V. Coord..... Steve 'Tryker' Williams  
 Secretary.....Open  
 Treasurer..... Steve 'Tryker' Williams  
 Sgt at Arms..... Bill 'Silverback' Howard  
 Membership.....Denise 'Spitfire' Trolinder  
 Runs/Events.....Jacque 'Daisi' Whiting  
 Safety Coordinator.....Roy 'Fatboy' Whiting  
 PAC.....Open  
 Communications.....Marty Bernal  
 Merchandise.....Gail Howard  
 Media.....Marty Bernal  
 BOD Rep .....Barry 'Double B' Bell

Contact: Denny 'Hawk' Dowell  
 928-229-0072, [Dlhawk58@gmail.com](mailto:Dlhawk58@gmail.com)

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

The HCC meets immediately following the MMAA meetings (11:00am) the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month at Monica's Cafe, 1100 West Hall St ; Show Low, AZ 85901

**Mohave Chapter**

Coordinator.....Tom Aydt  
 V. Coord.....George Payntar  
 Secretary.....Open  
 Treasurer.....Open  
 Sgt at Arms.....Emmette Tucker  
 Membership.....Cynde Aydt  
 Runs/Events.....Open  
 Safety Coordinator.....Gary Vick  
 PAC.....Denny Lange  
 Communications.....Tom Aydt  
 Merchandise.....Open  
 Media.....Open  
 BOD Rep .....Gary Vick

Contact: Tom Aydt, 715-651-0770  
[tamedic1969@yahoo.com](mailto:tamedic1969@yahoo.com)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/263121160987524/>

Mohave County Chapter meetings are held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month 6:00 PM at: VFW Golden Valley Post 2555 6068 Supai Dr. ; Golden Valley, AZ 86413

**Phoenix Chapter**

Coordinator.....Scot 'One T' Williamson  
 V.Coord.....Jay 'One Y' Williamson  
 Secretary.....Jay 'One Y' Williamson  
 Treasurer.....Lyn Peterson  
 Sgt at Arms.....Mark Hartel  
 Membership.....Open  
 Runs/Events.....Cliff Prentice  
 Safety Coordinator.....Ernie Lizarraga  
 PAC.....Open  
 Communications.....Scot 'One T' Williamson  
 Merchandise..... Scot 'One T' Williamson  
 BOD Rep..... Scot 'One T' Williamson

Contact: One T (text only) 623-313-8663  
[Ldmaau56a@gmail.com](mailto:Ldmaau56a@gmail.com)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1640745202851394>

Phoenix/Shadow Mountain meetings are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month at 12:30pm at VFW Post-1433 7618 N 63<sup>rd</sup> Ave. ; Glendale, AZ 85301

**Southern Arizona Chapter**

Coordinator.....Jeremy Krauss  
 V. Coord.....Anissa Huntington  
 Secretary.....Monica Byrne  
 Treasurer.....Monica Byrne  
 Sgt at Arms.....Rob Rogers  
 Membership.....Jim Butsback  
 Runs/Events.....Open  
 Safety Coordinator.....Darron Huntington  
 PAC.....George Moses  
 Communications.....Open  
 Merchandise.....Open  
 Media.....Open  
 BOD Rep .....Anissa Huntington

Contact: Jeremy Krauss, 520-305-0231

[jeremykrauss@gmail.com](mailto:jeremykrauss@gmail.com)  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/240701943485586>

The Southern Arizona Chapter meets the third Saturday of the month at 10AM at the Northwest Tucson Moose Lodge 2660 W. Ruthrauff Rd., Tucson, AZ 85705

**Yavapai Chapter**

Coordinator.....Timothy Thomas  
 V. Coord.....Dan Tumey  
 Secretary.....Dixie Gray  
 Treasurer.....Open  
 Sgt at Arms.....Lori Kludt  
 Membership.....Holli Woosley  
 Runs/Events.....Open  
 Safety Coordinator.....Andrew 'AJ' Killian  
 PAC.....Open  
 Communications.....Open  
 Merchandise.....Dennis Banners  
 Media.....Open  
 BOD Rep .....Dennis Banners

Contact: Timothy, 360-720-3465  
[tntblaster@netzero.net](mailto:tntblaster@netzero.net)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/ycabateaz>

Meet us at 6:30pm on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month VFW Bucky O'Neill Post 541 202 N Arizona Ave ; Prescott 86301

**Yuma Chapter**

Coordinator.....Open  
 V. Coord.....Frank White  
 Secretary.....Open  
 Treasurer.....Douglas Kreg  
 Sgt at Arms.....Open  
 Membership.....Douglas Kreg  
 Runs/Events.....Open  
 Safety Coordinator.....Open  
 PAC.....Open  
 Communications.....Open  
 Merchandise.....Open  
 Media.....Open  
 BOD Rep .....Frank White

Contact Frank 'Hound' White, 209-327-0814

for meetings details, etc

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[raystelljes@hotmail.com](mailto:raystelljes@hotmail.com)



**Chapter Reports**

**Coyote Pass Chapter**

The Coyote Pass Chapter in Kingman offers Impromptu rides every Wednesday & Saturday. Meet at the Kingman Sheriff's Office parking lot at 7:30am. KSU at 8:00am.

New Chapter Officers have recently been elected, including Eric Spurr as Coordinator, Mike Degrood as V-Coordinator & Runs/Events, Debbie Cleveland as Secretary / Treasurer, and Tom Love as Sgt. at Arms.

Our chapter is planning to man an information booth at the upcoming Route 66 Bike Week from April 26 - 28. We participated in the event last year, and met many members of the motorcycle community.

In May, Route 66 becomes a drag strip. We plan to host a booth at the street drags as well. Many sport bike enthusiasts attend this event. It might be a good way to appeal to some of the younger riders.

Some of us plan to join the Mohave County Chapter to assist with their upcoming highway clean up. We may look at adopting a stretch of highway ourselves, if we get enough participation.

We will be coordinating with the local car club, The Pharaohs to hold bike shows at their upcoming events this summer.

Contact: Mike Degrood  
Coyote Pass Vice Coordinator  
661-332-2308,  
[way2coolwheels@yahoo.com](mailto:way2coolwheels@yahoo.com)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/4808599665893759>

The Coyote Pass Chapter meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at Calico's Restaurant, 928-753-5005 418 W. Beale St. ; Kingman, AZ 86401  
###

**East Valley Chapter**

East Valley Chapter membership held our annual Hard Ass Ride on March 9th. It was a fun ride for all. Some of the riders were not aware of the number of miles it would be. I guess the name of the ride didn't drop a hint. Our ride is unique in that we try to keep it on the back roads as much as possible.

Welcome to our new business members: O'Kelly's Sports Bar & Grill and the AZ Boot Bootique.

We had a great membership booth at Cycle Gear's opening of their Queen Creek store. Thanks to Rick Ferguson for putting his new MV Agusta bike on display at our tent. Lots of riders were attracted to it. We held our first membership booth at Scottsdale HD's bike night. Thanks to Team Arizona for helping to secure our tent down during the wind gusts! Also held a membership booth at the EV HOG Chapter's HOGapalooza event. Their poker walk required all participants to visit each vendor, which brought traffic to our booth and allowed us to talk about lane filtering and membership. As always, be on the lookout for all free of charge membership booth spaces. There are several bike event facebook pages from which to investigate booth opportunities.

Motorcycle awareness presenters and the safety officer from the East Valley Chapter helped create a presentation on lane filtering. The presentation illustrates the law, provides demonstration videos on how to and how not to lane filter and also includes a quiz that tests the riders lane filtering knowledge. This presentation is copied onto the Motorcycle Awareness Program of ABATE of Arizona's facebook page. Please share with all riders and car drivers. It's frustrating to see riders doing lane filtering correctly and the car drivers getting upset at us. Let's all do our best to educate the riders and car drivers.

As of March 25th, the Motorcycle Awareness Program has been presented to Mesa, Red Mountain, and Mt View High schools.

Special thanks to Erin Berry-Schade, Glenn (holder of the outdoor demo speed record) Gussak, Dan Widmar, and Jay Duarte for your support. Check the Motorcycle Awareness FB page for the remaining schedule. If you need help presenting this to your local high schools, please contact Jim Silk or myself. We would be glad to show you how to do this. Erin has all of the notes on how to present it, but you need to set up & make arrangements at the school on your own.

Post 138 will be moving to a new location at University and Alma School. For now, our meetings thru May will still take place at the Post's Broadway/Mill location. Please support their May 4th and other events related to the move.

Contact: Joe Silk  
EV Chapter Coordinator  
480-628-8598, [miterangers@msn.com](mailto:miterangers@msn.com)

###

**Globe Chapter**

Contact: Brian Fogle, 480-278-4861  
[bfogle6@aol.com](mailto:bfogle6@aol.com)

Chapter meetings are being held on the 3rd Friday of the month at 6:30pm at American Legion Henry Berry Post #4 645 S Broad St ; Globe, AZ 85501  
###

**High Country Chapter**

Contact: Denny 'Hawk' Dowell  
High Country Chapter Coordinator  
928-229-0072

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

Our monthly meetings are held at 10am the 4th Saturday of the month at Monica's Cafe following the MMAA meeting (9am).

Monica's Café  
1100 W Hall St ; Show Low, AZ 85901  
###

*Chapter Reports continue on page 8*



Santiago Rodriguez  
602-300-0782  
info@AZcruiser.com




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### Mohave Chapter

Contact: Tom Aydt, 715-651-0770  
[tamedic1969@yahoo.com](mailto:tamedic1969@yahoo.com)  
Mohave Chapter Coordinator

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/263121160987524/>

Mohave County Chapter meetings are held the 3rd Monday of the month 6:00 PM at:  
VFW Golden Valley Post 2555  
6068 Supai Dr. ; Golden Valley, AZ 86413  
###

### Phoenix Chapter

Contact: One T (text only) 623-313-8663  
[Ldmau56a@gmail.com](mailto:Ldmau56a@gmail.com)

Meetings are held on the 2nd Sunday of each month at 12:30pm at VFW Post 1433.

VFW 1433  
7618 N 63rd Ave.  
Glendale, AZ 85301  
###

### Southern Arizona Chapter

Southern Arizona Chapter is preparing for our 8th annual Run for the Fisher House on Saturday, May 18th, supporting veterans and their families.

Last month, we presented a membership certificate to V-Twin Collective, one of our newest business members. Our annual fundraising raffle is in the works, and we recently attended the Tucson Cycle Gear's first bike night of 2024. We're looking forward to helping them build the local riding community.

April's meeting will be on the 20th at the Moose Lodge (2660 W. Ruthrauff Rd., Tucson, AZ 85705) and will be followed by a ride to Whetstone for our semiannual road side cleanup.

On April 28th, we will conduct a memorial ride in honor of Sergeant-at-Arms JD Dare.

Contact: Jeremy Krauss  
Southern AZ Chapter Coordinator  
520-305-0231, [jeremykrauss@gmail.com](mailto:jeremykrauss@gmail.com)  
###

### Yavapai Chapter

Hello to all,

We continue to set up our ABATE EZ-up for events. The next event will be on 18 May 2024 for the Prescott Trail Riders "Rough Rider Scramble".

Representative Quang Nguyen and Selina Bliss of District One continue to be an asset for ABATE and motorcyclists' rights.

Dixie Gray will be stepping down as Secretary, so we'll be looking for a replacement for our chapter.

Cheers for now and safe riding to all.

*Tim Thomas*  
Coordinator, Yavapai Arizona Chapter

Contact: Timothy, 360-720-3465  
[tntblaster@netzero.net](mailto:tntblaster@netzero.net)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/ycabateaz>

Meet us at 6:30pm on the 4th Tuesday of each month VFW Bucky O'Neill Post 541  
202 N Arizona Ave ; Prescott 86301  
###

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8th Annual  
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**Proceeds to benefit the Arizona Fisher House**

## New Business Member: AZ Boot Bootique Joins ABATE of Arizona



Introducing new business member, Mycaah Cannon, of AZ Boot Bootique. Mycaah is an avid motorcycle enthusiast. She wanted to join ABATE specifically to support safety education and training to the public. In addition, she is also very interested in motorcycle rights legislation.


AZ Boot Bootique knows that many riders enjoy fashion western boots while riding and would like to promote their high-quality products to the riding community. Their offerings are a Unique, One-of-a-Kind, Luxury, collection of Handmade Western Boots.

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### Upcoming ABATE-AZ / MRO Events

April 13th: Motorcycle Day at the Dome from 8a-5pm at Wesley Bolin Plaza. FMI: [president@abateofaz.org](mailto:president@abateofaz.org) or [lobbyist@abateofaz.org](mailto:lobbyist@abateofaz.org)

May 18: 8th annual Run For Fisher House Poker Run hosted by ABATE-AZ's Southern Arizona Chapter. Register 11am at NW Tucson Moose Lodge #2543, 2660 W. Ruthrauff, Tucson, AZ 85705. \$10/pp. All vehicles welcome. Benefits AZ Fisher House which helps Military Families. FMI: 520-443-0285, [anissahuntington04@yahoo.com](mailto:anissahuntington04@yahoo.com)

May 20th-21st: [Bikers Inside the Beltway](#) hosted by MRF in Washington, DC

April 25-26-27th: Tri State River Run hosted at Hardville Tavern, 877 Hancock Rd. in Bullhead City, AZ.

June 20-23: [Too Broke For Sturgis](#) in Winslow, AZ

Sept 25-29th: MRF's Meeting of the Minds , St. Louis, MO.

### Vice-President's Report

Hello, all my brothers and sisters! I hope everyone is safe and healthy. April is a big month for all of us that ride. Even though many are already riding. We have Bike Week in Scottsdale the first weekend and then the Rolling Rally at the end of April in Bullhead. The Rolling Rally goes along Route 66 from Needles to Seligman. ABATE will have a booth in Bullhead. For those who have not seen the flyer, we will repost. This is an awesome time to talk to other rides about what we are doing in legislation. Please reach out to our PAC Officers. We all love to talk politics. Also, I have seen on news that there have been a couple of hit and runs. I know we all are careful but please be extra vigilant. Stay safe and hopefully I'll see some of you guys out and about.

*Paula 'Bubbles' Beall*  
- Vice President





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'Trauma Mama'  
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## ABATE of Arizona’s Advocacy Efforts: A Mid-Session Update and Call to Action

From Michael Infanzon  
Legislative Director ABATE of Arizona

ABATE of Arizona, the state’s largest motorcycle rights organization, has been actively advocating for the rights and safety of motorcyclists during the first half of the Arizona legislative session. As we approach the midpoint of the session, it’s crucial to reflect on our achievements, ongoing efforts, and the importance of continued participation from our members and supporters.

### Successful Lobby Day

One of the highlights of this session so far has been our successful Lobby Day. Our members descended upon the state Capitol, making our presence felt and our voices heard. We met with legislators, shared our concerns, and advocated for policies that protect and promote the interests of motorcyclists in Arizona. The unity and passion displayed by our members were palpable, and we are grateful for everyone who took the time to participate in this crucial event. A shout out to Senator Bolick for taking the time to have a picnic lunch with us.

### The Secure Load Bill: An Ongoing Effort

One of our primary focuses this session has been the secure load bill (SB 1376), sponsored by Senator Shawwna Bolick. This bill aims to address the

issue of unsecured loads on vehicles on ALL roadways, which pose a significant risk to motorcyclists and other road users. Debris from unsecured loads can lead to dangerous road conditions and accidents, often with severe consequences for motorcyclists. There were over 700 fatalities in Arizona last year alone. We need this to get across the finish line.

We have been working tirelessly to garner support for this bill, emphasizing the importance of road safety and the need for stricter regulations on securing loads. While we have made progress, the bill is still in the legislative process, and we continue to advocate for its passage. We urge our members and supporters to reach out to their legislators and express their support for SB1376 - Vehicle loads; restrictions. Your voices can make a difference in ensuring that this crucial safety measure becomes law.

### Motorcycle Day at the Dome: A Call to Action

As we look ahead, we are gearing up for one of the most important events of the year: Motorcycle Day at the Dome, scheduled for April 13th. This event is a vital opportunity for motorcyclists from across the state to come together, meet with legislators, and show our strength in numbers. It’s a day to celebrate our community, raise awareness about the issues that matter to us, and

advocate for positive change.

We need maximum participation for Motorcycle Day at the Dome. Whether you’re a seasoned advocate or new to motorcycle rights, your presence is crucial. By standing together, we can demonstrate the collective power of the motorcycling community and make a lasting impact on the decisions that affect us.

As we continue through the legislative session, your ABATE of Arizona lobbying team remains committed to aggressively advocating for the rights and safety of motorcyclists. Our successful lobby day and ongoing efforts with the secure load bill are testament to our dedication. However, our work is far from over. We need your support and participation more than ever, especially as we prepare for Motorcycle Day at the Dome. Let’s continue to ride together, advocate together, and make a difference for ALL motorcyclists in Arizona.

Photo bottom left:  
*ABATE-AZ members with Representative Matt Gress on Lobby Day*  
Photo bottom right:  
*ABATE-AZ members with Senator Shawwna Bolick on Lobby Day*

For more information on any of these topics, contact Michael at [lobbyist@abateofaz.org](mailto:lobbyist@abateofaz.org)





# ABATE 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Motorcycle Rally

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# Safety Report

Safety, what is it? It is freedom from the occurrence or risk of injury, danger, or loss; the quality of averting or not causing injury, danger, or loss; a contrivance or device to prevent injury or avert danger. So, in more simple terms, it is situational - related to thinking. Freedom and ABATE go hand and hand. We have the freedom to educate our fellow motorcyclists and the community at large to motorcycle safety. I love the bumper stickers that say 'Look Out For Motorcycles'. From an impromptu survey done at the Cycle Gear bike nights... When riders were asked 'what is the most important piece of safety equipment', the top 3 responses have been helmet,

gloves, and your BRAIN. We need to be ever-vigilant for our own safety.

The number one response to why a motorcyclist was hit is, "I did not see you". It is shown that controlled movements catch the eye of cage drivers. Riders who move their bikes within their lane are seen better than those whose position remains static within their lane. Be prepared, have an escape plan, always be thinking. Hopefully you'll never need it, but Accident Scene Management could save your life and/or the life of a friend.

The last thing I need to say is, as a motorcycle rights organization, we need to be ever vigilant in our safety and the safety of other riders. Please

take the time to learn proper lane filtering and share that knowledge with anyone who will listen. There is a new presentation out there which includes questions, as well as a self-test, on the topic. This is great. If groups will give you the time, share it. It is every member's job to Educate. It is part of our Acronym and it is part of what ABATE is all about.

Ride happy, ride long, ride free, and most of all ride safe. 'Til next we meet I leave you with these words from the Hill Street Blues TV show, "BE CAREFUL OUT THERE".

*Matthew Reemelin,*  
Arizona ABATE Safety Officer

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Shawn Bell	Rich Ertzner *	Barbara Meyer*	Anthony Sclafani
Tim Belous	Robert Felder	Kate Milner	James Scott
Tina Benoit	George Ferguson	Wade Milner	Michael Shearhart
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Shawna Bolick	Jeff Gorall	Ken Nagel	Jerry Snyder
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Susie Bredernitz	Bob Gumfory	Marshall Ozbirn	Charity Stuart
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**VooDoo Mayhem MC**  
David Polnoff 209-640-5435  
[vmrc@gmail.com](mailto:vmrc@gmail.com)



# New Business Member: O'Kelley's Sports Bar & Grill Joins ABATE of Arizona

Welcome new business members Mark Halstengard and Kelly Rago, owners of O'Kelley's Sports Bar and Grill: a Mesa AZ biker-friendly landmark. Mark and Kelly and O'Kelley's Sports Bar and Grill have sponsored East Valley Chapter's Hard Ass Run for the past few years and this year wanted to do more for ABATE by becoming a business member. Supporting ABATE of Arizona aligns with Mark and Kelly's support of the motorcycle riding community.

O'KELLEY'S is one of Mesa's (and East Valley Chapter members Jim and Jennifer Silk's) favorite neighborhood bars; featuring sports, great food, games, and live music.

Stop in and be greeted by Mesa's friendliest patrons and staff. While you are there enjoying a cold one and some great food, challenge yourself to a friendly game of pool, test your knowledge of trivia, do some off track betting, sing your favorite song at Karaoke night, or fill out a Golden Tee golf game foursome.

On the weekends, O'Kelley's cranks up the volume with some of the Valley's liveliest bands.



If you haven't been to O'Kelley's, you are missing out. They are home to one of Arizona's wildest St. Patrick's Day parties. Visit O'Kelley's once and soon it will be your home away from home.

O'Kelley's is located at 2120 West Guadalupe in Mesa. It is open Monday – Saturday 6am-2am and Sunday 9a – 2am.

For more information, call 480-756-6069



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### NHTSA On Notice Again

On March 9th, President Biden signed a Congressionally passed spending bill that funds half of the Federal Government’s operations through the end of September. Funding for the U.S. Department of Transportation and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), was included within this bill.

Attached to the spending bill is something called a committee report. The committee report allows Congress to provide further direction to the agencies it funds regarding intent of the law and asks the agency to report on issues of concern. For the second year in a row, the committee report attached to the transportation funding portion of the bill asks NHTSA to report on the issue of motorcyclist profiling. Congress is requesting this again because NHTSA failed to produce the original report requested during the last Congress.

The new language points out the past failure of the required response from NHTSA while again seeking answers on motorcyclist profiling. It states,

“The Committee remains concerned that the NHTSA may be conducting activities that encourage states to adopt legislation, regulations, or other policies that unjustly profile motorcycle riders. In fiscal year 2023, House Report 117-402 directed the NHTSA to report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations on the extent to which the agency works with states on motorcycle passenger policies. The Committee urges the NHTSA to expeditiously submit the report.”

It’s very frustrating that NHTSA has failed to do what Congress asked. However, the Motorcycle Riders Foundation (MRF) is thankful that Congress has reinforced the need for this report from NHTSA. Representative Susie Lee (D-NV) has and continues to lead the charge on this issue with NHTSA. Representative Lee is a 2023 MRF Legislative Champion who remains committed to supporting bikers and our priorities. Thank you to Rep. Lee and her fellow lawmakers who have supported our efforts to raise the issue of motorcyclist profiling.

Ride Safe and Ride Free

#### About Motorcycle Riders Foundation

The Motorcycle Riders Foundation (MRF) provides leadership at the federal level for states’ motorcyclists’ rights organizations as well as motorcycle clubs and individual riders. The MRF is chiefly concerned with issues at the national and international levels that impact the freedom and safety of American street motorcyclists. The MRF is committed to being a national advocate for the advancement of motorcycling and its associated lifestyle and works in conjunction with its partners to help educate elected officials and policymakers in Washington and beyond.



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# Choose Wisely

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The Arizona Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Foundation (AMSAF) and Governor's Office of Highway Safety (GOHS) want to help. Our Financial Assistance Helmet program provides individuals with \$125 from AMSAF and 25% off the Manufacturer's suggested retail price (MSRP) when you purchase a DOT-approved, full face or modular helmet at AMSAF approved locations throughout the state.



For more information or to apply go to [AMSAF.org/Helmets](http://AMSAF.org/Helmets)

## The Arizona Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Foundation Financial Assistance Helmet Program


# How it works

- AMSAF Vouchers are valid towards the purchase of a \$200.00 or higher DOT Certified Full Face or Modular Street Helmet.
- Vouchers are only valid to those dealers approved by AMSAF and listed on the AMSAF website.
- Vouchers are not valid for discounted, special order or discontinued helmets.
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- Dealer or store will give an additional 25% off of Helmet MSRP.
- \$50.00 tax deductible donation is required to AMSAF at time of application.
- Voucher and promo code is only valid toward one (1) Helmet purchase.
- Dealer will credit individual up front at time of purchase and invoice AMSAF.



For more information or to apply - Click in this presentation

For more information or to apply go to [AMSAF.org/Helmets](http://AMSAF.org/Helmets)



**Northwest Tucson  
Moose Lodge 2543**  
2660 W Ruthrauff Rd,  
Tucson, AZ 85705  
Phone: (520) 406-5565  
[lodge2543@mooseunits.org](mailto:lodge2543@mooseunits.org)

*A burden heavy  
to one is  
borne lightly  
by many.*



**Ax Throwing  
Arcade Games  
Food & Refreshments**

*hours:*  
Wednesday: 4pm to 8pm  
Thursday: 4pm to 10pm  
Friday: 4pm to 10pm  
Saturday: 12pm to 10pm  
Sunday: 12pm to 8pm

520-635-6411  
958 E. Rodeo Rd. Suite 16  
Casa Grande, AZ 85112

### East Valley Chapter 'Hard Ass Run'

This year's Hard Ass Run, hosted by East Valley ABATE, was held on March 9th. Sign-in took place from 7-9am at O'Kelley's Bar and Grill, located at 2120 W Guadalupe Rd #16, Mesa, AZ 85202 (Dobson/Guadalupe). A commemorative pin was provided to the first 50 riders at check in.

The ride totaled about 300 miles out into the Arizona countryside. Stops were at River Bottom Bar and Grill in Florence, Ore House in Oracle, Drift Inn in Globe, and Jake's Corner in Tonto Basin, before ending at On The Green in Mesa. The route stayed to the back roads as much as possible. While everyone had a good time; unfortunately, there was some rain at the next to last stop. 30 of the 50 riders who departed made it back to OTG by the 5pm deadline.

Congratulations to high hand winner BJ.

Thanks go out to the event sponsors D&D Discount Motorcycles, Cycle Gear, AZ Boot Boutique, O'Kelly's Sports Bar and Grill, Hell Mary Holsters, and Gypsy's Roadhouse. Thanks are also extended to Chapter members Kathy Silk, Laurie Kobold Fowler, Cliff Prentice, Rick Ferguson, Gary Crawford, Lei Cay, Julie Reemelin, Damian D Paige, Brent Doyen, Steven Singer, Ranger Reemelin, Jeff Gorall, Dan Widmar, Mark DeSimone, Jim Silk, and Paula J Brown for their help with the event. Thank you to all riders who participated. Your contributions towards ABATE's mission statement are greatly appreciated!

Photos are from Chapter Members.

