



## *MRF's Friday From DC - Return of the MAC*

This week, the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) announced the reformation of the Motorcyclist Advisory Council (MAC). This comes a little over a month after board members received letters terminating their place on the MAC. While the designated membership categories for the Council remain the same as prescribed in federal law, the DOT has required that all 13 seats be refilled with new nominations.

The Motorcycle Riders Foundation (MRF) is proud to announce that it will once again support MRF Vice President Jay Jackson for the seat reserved for a national motorcyclist foundation. Jay has been a tireless advocate for riders nationwide, as proven by his selection to serve on the MAC last year.

The MRF is disappointed that the DOT chose to reshuffle the Council and remove already seated members. Stability and continuity are vital to ensuring the MAC can effectively advise the DOT on issues impacting riders. While this decision is frustrating, the MRF is determined to fight for Jay's reappointment and ensure the motorcyclist community continues to be represented by strong, experienced leadership.

The nomination process is moving more quickly than in past years, with an accelerated deadline of October 20th. The MRF will be working closely with our state partners

and allies to secure the necessary letters of support to reinforce Jay's candidacy.

The restoration of the MAC is a critical moment for all riders. With issues like infrastructure, roadway design, and autonomous vehicle technology on the horizon, it is essential that the motorcyclist community has a seat at the table. The MRF remains committed to ensuring your voice is heard in Washington, D.C., and we will fight to see Jay Jackson has a spot on this important council

### *About the 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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Board of Directors & State Officers

Board of Directors for 2025

- Coyote Pass BoD Rep ..... Eric Spurr
- East Valley BoD Rep ..... Jeff Gorall
- Mohave BoD Rep ..... Donna Arnold-Post
- High Country BoD Rep ..... Open
- Phoenix BoD Rep ..... Scot Williamson
- Southern AZ BoD Rep ..... Lou Vanden Plas
- Yavapai BoD Rep ..... Dennis Banners
- Yuma BoD Rep ..... Open

*Board of Director meetings are held via Zoom on the 1st Saturday of Jan, Apr, Jul, & Oct. Time to be announced. Members are Welcome.*

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



ABATE of Arizona

Board Appointed Officers

- Legislative Director ..... Michael Infanzon
- Designated Lobbyist ..... EPIC Policy Group
- M.A.P. .... Jim Silk
- Treasurer ..... Cliff Prentice
- Membership System Admin  
Forrest Phillips

[Contact the MasterLink Editor](#)

By-Laws Committee

- Michael Infanzon
- Betsy Newkirk

State Officers For 2025

- President ..... Jim Butsback
- Vice President ..... Open
- Secretary ..... Open
- Treasurer ..... Cliff Prentice
- Sergeant-at-Arms ..... Gary Crawford
- Membership ..... Open
- Run/Events ..... Open
- Safety Coordinator ..... Matthew Reemelin
- PAC ..... Anissa Huntington
- Communications ..... Joe Silk
- Merchandise ..... Open
- TBFS Chair ..... Jim Butsback

**State Officer meetings are now the 1st Sunday of every month @ 6pm via Zoom. Members are Welcome.**

Contact:  
 Jim Butsback, [jimbutsback@yahoo.com](mailto:jimbutsback@yahoo.com)  
 Cell phone, call or text 520-247-3051  
 I DO NOT USE MESSENGER

**Every level of member is important to the survival of our organization.**

Supporter:	Advocate:	Activist:	Radical:
<p>Joins a SMRO.</p> <p>Believes that it's important to be a part of it.</p> <p>Goes to a meeting occasionally.</p>	<p>Goes to every meeting but just doesn't want to take that next step and be an officer.</p> <p>Volunteers only after being asked.</p>	<p>Goes to every meeting.</p> <p>Holds office.</p> <p>Volunteers for every event.</p> <p>Recruits new members.</p> <p>Goes to MRO events on their own dime.</p>	<p>Goes to every meeting and event.</p> <p>Does everything to support the SMRO.</p> <p>Holds chapter and state offices.</p> <p>Joins other chapters.</p> <p>Volunteers for anything needed that promotes the SMRO.</p> <p>Actively recruits their friends, family members, and co-workers.</p>

**Which one are you?**

*You get more back when you put more in.*

*Camaraderie, riding buddies, a sense of purpose, feeling of accomplishment*

**READY to CHANGE LEVELS?**

*Your Chapter & State Officers welcome your interest & enthusiasm  
 Talk to them about how YOU can help grow & strengthen ABATE of Arizona*

President's Report

Greetings to all my fellow Freedom Fighters,

As I mentioned last month, I went back home to Chicago for a long weekend. I just got back a few days ago. Many of my classmates from grammar school had planned a reunion of our 8th-grade class. I met with a lot of people I had not seen in many years. It has been 55 years since I graduated from 8th grade. The turnout was a little small, but a gathering like this makes you appreciate the people in your life. I am happy for all the people in my life whom I would never have met if it were not for my motorcycles.

As I write this, it is the first day of autumn. The kids are back in school, and the days are getting cooler (which is 96 degrees here in Tucson). Again, I ask everyone... Please look for the youngsters, especially near schools, and whenever you see a school bus. They are not always attentive and may dart out without looking. Please be safe out there.

This is the time of year when ABATE of Arizona holds our state membership meeting. This year it will be held November 7, 2025, beginning at 5 pm. The location is DoubleTree Phoenix North, 10220 N Metro Parkway, Phoenix AZ 85051. We will be holding elections for the State Officers and the elections for the Board of Directors members from each Chapter.

This is also the time for all Chapters to prepare for upcoming chapter elections. The success of your chapter depends on its volunteers. We are all in this together. Each of us joined ABATE because motorcycle rights and safety issues are important to us. The adage "many hands make light work" is true. We need helping hands to help make the work a little easier for everyone in your chapter. Please consider stepping up and becoming an officer.

I will be leaving in a couple of days to travel to Shreveport, LA. I am attending the annual Motorcycle Riders




Jim Butsback  
Email: [jimbutsback@yahoo.com](mailto:jimbutsback@yahoo.com)  
Cell Phone, call or text  
520-247-3051  
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Foundation convention, known as "Meeting of the Minds". This year is the 41st Annual of this event. It is being held September 25 - 28. There will be motorcycle rights advocates from all around the country and sometimes the world. They come together to meet and discuss what is happening in their states and on a national level. There are seminars and meetings, and an amazing amount of knowledge is shared. Many of our ABATE of Arizona members also belong to the MRF, and I encourage all our members to join the MRF.

Help spread the word on all the good things that ABATE has accomplished and the work we still have to do going forward. While you are out riding and attending other groups' events, talk about ABATE. Wear your ABATE gear so everyone knows you are an ABATE member. Most riders do not know about ABATE. They have not joined because nobody has ever asked them to join. ASK THEM!

Until next month, please ride safely and look out for the kids, the college students, and the snowbirds.

RIDE FREE! RIDE SAFE! RIDE ENDORSED!!  
JIM



**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.*



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Spa Bob: 602-751-8181 [CCSPABOB@aol.com](mailto:CCSPABOB@aol.com)  
or  
Bill Bracken: 602-463-7886 [billetldmc@gmail.com](mailto:billetldmc@gmail.com)  
<https://azcmc.org/>

Local ABATE Chapters

Coyote Pass Chapter

Coordinator.....Eric Spurr
V. Coord.....Mike Degrood
Secretary..... Open
Treasurer..... Denise Green
Sgt at Arms.....Tom Love
Membership.....Open
Runs/Events.....Mike Degrood
Safety Coordinator..... Roger Green
PAC.....Open
Communications ..... Rick Wise
Merchandise.....Open
BOD Rep ..... Eric Spurr

Contact: Mike 661-332-2308, way2coolwheels@yahoo.com

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

The Coyote Pass Chapter meets the second Tuesday of the month at 6pm. Calico's Restaurant, 928-753-5005 418 W. Beale St. ; Kingman, AZ 86401 ###

East Valley Chapter

Coordinator..... Joe Silk
V. Coord..... Jeff Gorall
Secretary..... Brett Doyen
Treasurer..... Laura Hershey
Sgt at Arms..... Jeff Gorall
Membership..... Joe Silk
Runs/Events..... Ky Sisson
Safety Coordinator..... Matthew Reemelin
PAC..... Gary Crawford
Communications..... Joe Silk
Merchandise..... Gary Crawford
BOD Rep ..... Jeff Gorall

Contact: Joe Silk, 480-628-8598 miterangers@msn.com

The East Valley Chapter meets at 10AM on the 3rd Sunday of every month at the American Legion Post 138 1264 W University Dr, Mesa NW Corner of Alma School & University ###

High Country Chapter

Coordinator..... Open
V. Coord..... Open
Secretary.....Thomas Stocks
Treasurer..... Open
Sgt at Arms..... Roy Whiting
Membership..... Open
Runs/Events.....Jacque 'Daisi' Whiting
Safety Coordinator.....Roy 'Fatboy' Whiting
PAC.....Open
Communications.....Marty Bernal
Merchandise.....Gail Howard
Media.....Marty Bernal
BOD Rep .....Open

Contact:

https://www.facebook.com/AbateHighCountryChapter

HCC meets 3rd Saturdays @ 10:30a, b'fast 9am @ Stanford Store, 928-537-7755 4 Apache County Rd 8235 (Stanford Rd), Vernon, AZ ###

Mohave Chapter

Coordinator..... Tom Aydt
V. Coord..... Open
Secretary..... Cynde Aydt
Treasurer..... Donna Arnold-Post
Sgt at Arms.....Emmette Tucker
Membership..... Cynde Aydt
Runs/Events..... Open
Safety Coordinator ..... Terry Campbell
PAC..... Denny Lange
Communications..... Tom Aydt
Merchandise..... Open
Media..... Open
BOD Rep ..... Donna Arnold-Post

Contact: Tom Aydt, 715-651-0770 tamedic1969@yahoo.com

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

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

Contact: One T (text only) 480-768-8747 Ldmaau56a@gmail.com https://www.facebook.com/groups/1640745202851394

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



Southern Arizona Chapter

Yavapai Chapter

Yuma Chapter

Coordinator.....Jeremy Krauss  
 V. Coord..... Open  
 Secretary.....Monica Byrne  
 Treasurer.....Monica Byrne  
 Sgt at Arms.....Rob Rogers  
 Membership.....Jim Butsback  
 Runs/Events.....Open  
 Safety Coordinator..... Open  
 PAC.....Open  
 Communications..... Judi Miller  
 Merchandise.....Open  
 Media.....Open  
 BOD Rep ..... Lou Vanden Plas

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

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

Contact: Jeremy Krauss, 520-305-0231  
[jeremykrauss@gmail.com](mailto:jeremykrauss@gmail.com)  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/240701943485586>

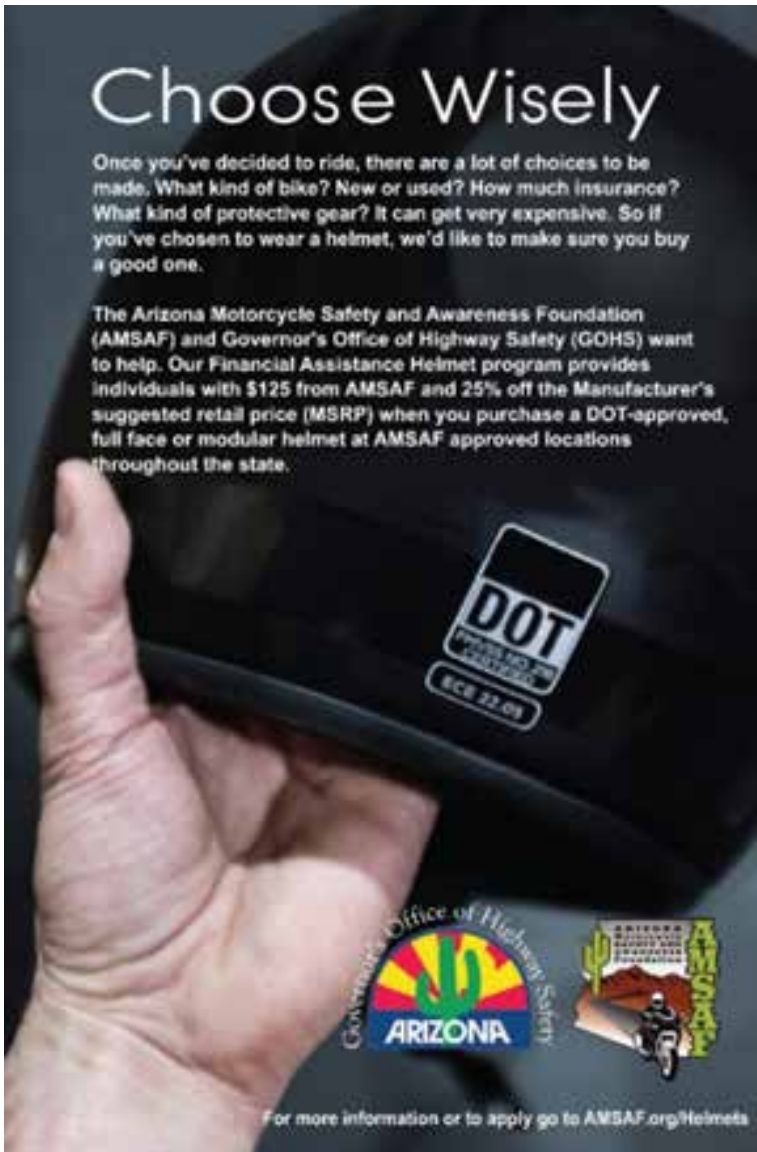
Contact: Timothy, 360-720-3465  
[tntblaster@netzero.net](mailto:tntblaster@netzero.net)  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/ycabateaz>

Contact Frank 'Hound' White, 209-327-0814  
 for meetings details, etc  
 ###

NEW: The Southern Arizona Chapter meets  
 3rd Sunday of the month at 10am at  
 The Kettle, 748 West Starr Pass, Tucson  
 ###

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

**Support Your Local M.R.O.**  
*Motorcyclists' Rights Organization*  
 The Rights you save will be your own!



# Choose Wisely

Once you've decided to ride, there are a lot of choices to be made. What kind of bike? New or used? How much insurance? What kind of protective gear? It can get very expensive. So if you've chosen to wear a helmet, we'd like to make sure you buy a good one.

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.

## 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.
- Purchased helmet is non-returnable if warning tag is cut off. Helmets may be returnable at the discretion of the dealer.
- Voucher is valid for a \$125.00 credit toward qualified helmet due to grant received from the Governor's Office of Highway Safety.
- 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)

## ABATE of Arizona's Legislative Update

shared by ABATE of Arizona's Legislative Director Michael Infanzon, [mike@abateofaz.org](mailto:mike@abateofaz.org)

### Arizona Laws Taking Effect September 26

Three bills passed in the last legislative session will become law in Arizona on September 26. Each carries direct implications for riders and the OHV community:

- **HB 2009 – Vehicle License Tax Exemption for Military Deployment**

Service members with deployment orders may register one vehicle for a full year without paying registration fees or the vehicle license tax. Refunds are available if fees were already paid. This is a tangible relief measure for military families preparing for deployment.

- **SB 1107 – Motorcycle Safety Fund Continuation**

This law protects the dedicated \$1 fee collected on every motorcycle registration, ensuring that those funds stay reserved for motorcycle training and safety programs. It prevents redirection of the fund into the state's general budget and keeps resources where riders need them most.

- **SB 1517 – Off-Highway Vehicles; Temporary Registration**

Arizona riders and visiting OHV users will benefit from a streamlined process. Nonresidents whose OHVs are titled in another state may now obtain temporary registrations from ADOT. This closes gaps that previously left visiting riders at risk of being out of compliance. The law applies retroactively to May 31, 2025.

### NHTSA and Autonomous Vehicles

The U.S. Department of Transportation and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) are advancing three rulemakings to update the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS) for automated driving systems. Areas under review include:

- Transmission shift position, starter interlock, and braking effect
- Windshield defrosting, defogging, wiping, and washing systems
- Lamps, reflective devices, and related equipment

While modernization may be warranted, concerns remain about the speed of deployment and the lack of proven safety for motorcycles. The Motorcycle Riders Foundation and ABATE of Arizona continue to stress that autonomous systems must reliably detect and respond to motorcycles before commercial rollout. Safety must come before deployment.

### Brief Updates from Other States

- **Pennsylvania – HB 1809:** A proposal would reinstate a universal helmet mandate, repealing current exemptions for riders over 21 with experience or training.

- **West Virginia – HB 2752:** Riders may now stand while operating motorcycles, provided they remain forward-facing with both feet on the pegs. This aligns state law with rider training courses and real-world practice.

### Call to Action – Nevada SCORP Survey

Nevada is revising its Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP). This ten-year plan guides funding and land-use priorities, including OHV access. Riders should take five minutes to complete the survey and ensure OHV use is represented.

Take the survey here: <https://parks.nv.gov/about/grant-programs/land-and-water-conservation-fund/nvscorp>

### Motorcycle Monday Podcast

Every week, *Copper Dome Update* features **Motorcycle Monday**—a segment dedicated to motorcycle rights and policy news from across the country. Stay current on legislative issues, safety initiatives, and opportunities for advocacy.

Listen to the latest episode on Spotify: <https://open.spotify.com/show/5b3ubEaP78bhgpqW6fqzax?si=82b-9119ce7e54b75>

Ride safe. Ride free.

Michael Infanzon

Legislative Director, ABATE of Arizona

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520-483-7099 [events@starfishranch.com](mailto:events@starfishranch.com)

### Please Support Our Business Member: Tombstone Brewing Company

Tombstone Brewing Company has been a Business Member since 2021. Owner Matt Brown, has been an ABATE member for 20 years and is a Life Member.

Tombstone Brewing Company started as a hobby. The doors of the original location, in Tombstone Arizona {where else?}, opened in 2016. Since then, it has steadily evolved, gained popularity, and added two more locations -- in Phoenix and in Sierra Vista.

Each location is open daily. Whether you are looking for craft beers that range from traditional to more experimental, you are likely to find something in the Tombstone lineup that fits your tastes. Tombstone beer is also available in cans & bottles in stores, bars, and restaurants across the country.

Visit Tombstone Brewing North at 3935 E Thomas Rd in Phoenix, AZ {center photo}; Tombstone Brewing West End at 332 N Garden Ave in Sierra Vista, AZ {bottom photo}; and of course the original location, in Tombstone, at 107 East Toughnut. Read more about TBC on the website <https://tombstone.beer/>

Thank you to Matt and to Tombstone Brewing Company for your support of ABATE of Arizona!




**Tombstone Brewing Taproom:**  
107 E Toughnut; Tombstone

**Tombstone Brewing North:**  
3935 E Thomas Rd; Phoenix

**Tombstone Brewing West End:**  
332 N Garden Ave;  
Sierra Vista


520-222-6781  
<https://tombstone.beer>  
[matt@tombstone.beer](mailto:matt@tombstone.beer)




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**Coyote Pass Chapter**

There's nothing really to report from the Coyote Pass Chapter. We held our monthly meeting at Calico's Restaurant in Kingman, which I missed because I was out of town. There were questions raised regarding the use of Chapter funds. Our Coordinator Eric will consult the state leadership on that topic.

Sent by Mike Degrood, Vice Coordinator

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**

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

The East Valley Chapter meets at 10am on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays at American Legion Post 138  
1264 W University Dr, Mesa --  
NW Corner of University & Alma School  
# # #

**High Country Chapter**

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

HCC meets 3rd Saturdays @ 10:30a, b'fast 9am @ Stanford Store, (928) 537-7755  
4 Apache County Rd 8235 ; (Stanford Rd), Vernon, AZ  
# # #

**Mohave Chapter**

Contact: Tom Aydt, Mohave Chapter Coordinator  
715-651-0770, [tamedic1969@yahoo.com](mailto:tamedic1969@yahoo.com)  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/263121160987524/>

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

**Phoenix Chapter**

Contact: One T (text only) at 480-768-8747,  
[Ldmaau56a@gmail.com](mailto:Ldmaau56a@gmail.com)  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1640745202851394>  
Meetings are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month at 12:30pm  
at VFW 1433, 7618 N 63rd Ave.; Glendale, AZ 85301  
# # #

TEACH people the right way to Lane Filter  
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**ABATE of ARIZONA**  
American Brotherhood Aimed Toward Education



**ALL BIKES. ALL RIDERS.**  
Join the fight today at [www.abateofaz.org](http://www.abateofaz.org)

**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 available from your local Chapter

**Southern AZ Chapter**

The Southern Arizona Chapter has moved its regular chapter meetings to the Kettle Restaurant, on the third Sunday of each month, starting at 10am. Arrive at 9am and have breakfast with our chapter members before the meeting.

We held our September meeting at the Kettle Restaurant on Sunday, September 21st. During the meeting, we conducted chapter officer nominations. Elections will be held during the next meeting, on Sunday October 26th, at 10am. Please attend and participate! Please note that this meeting is the fourth Sunday of the month due to scheduling conflicts.

Our semi-annual fall roadside cleanup will be on October 5th across from Buddy's Grill in Whetstone, Arizona, at 10am. Tucson area members are invited to meet at Kettle Restaurant at 8:30am to ride down together.

Respectfully,  
Jeremy Krauss



Contact: Jeremy Krauss

Chapter Coordinator, Southern Arizona Chapter

520-305-0231 or [jeremykrauss@gmail.com](mailto:jeremykrauss@gmail.com)

Meetings are held on 3rd Sunday of the month,  
at 10 am at

The Kettle, 748 West Starr Pass, Tucson

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/240701943485586>

###

**Yavapai Chapter**

Contact: Timothy , 360-720-3465  
or [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 at  
VFW Bucky O'Neill Post 541,  
202 N Arizona Ave ; Prescott 86301  
###

**Yuma Chapter**

is reorganizing.

Want to help share the message of Motorcyclists  
Rights, Safety, &  
Awareness in the Yuma area?

Contact Frank 'Hound' White at 209-327-0814  
###

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Teresa Martinez, RN  
'Trauma Mama'  
602-908-7989  
[phxaz.asm@gmail.com](mailto:phxaz.asm@gmail.com)

First Responder Education  
for Motorcyclists.

Offering classes statewide

## Why Do I Ride A Motorcycle?

By Mark of [AzKicker.com](http://AzKicker.com),  
Reprinted with permission



the wind and the road. Your body controls the speed, shifting, leaning, lane position. A high-speed delayed apex turn in a car is a one-finger exercise. On a bike, it's a whole-body activity that leaves you exhilarated.

**It's all about the journey, not just about the ride.**

On a motorcycle, you stop more often and are more likely to interact with others when you stop. This "community of the

road" is part of the adventure, and you can participate as an equal.

Social class, race, gender, religion, and all of the other things that we let divide us in our daily lives melt away when we huddle under shelter from a storm, refuel at a lonely gas station, gather around a campfire, or any of the myriad opportunities to interact.

When you pull into a hotel, gas station, or restaurant and see motorcycles in the parking lot, you know that there are people "like you" already there.

Half of the people you meet are probably coming from where you want to go, and the other half are going where you've already been.

They are almost always willing to share the latest information on weather, road conditions, and good (or bad) places to eat/sleep/visit. In return, you can provide them with the same. Equality at its best.

It doesn't matter if your faith system relies on God creating the world for your enjoyment, or random organization of molecules aligning in complex and pleasing patterns, or something else entirely.

How can you *NOT* be in awe when driving through stands of giant sequoias?

How can you remain unmoved by the view of forested slopes stretching away from a snow-capped mountain peak?

Are you so dead inside that wild animals drinking from crystal clear water leave you numb?

I don't think so. You are there. You are a part of it.

Motorcyclists may disagree about politics, religion, and a host of other topics, but can we at least agree that this form of "wind therapy" puts us back in touch with our better selves?

That part of us that feels connected to the world at a deeper level, where we appreciate the beauty and mystery that surrounds us.

*That's why I ride a motorcycle.*

For The JOY of it!

Riding a motorcycle satisfies my need for individual experience, but without excluding others. It allows me to be an individual, but also part of a community of shared experiences.

Whether solo riding, part of a small group of close friends, or part of a large organized ride, the advice is always the same: "ride your own ride".

I can choose to ride in silence, to listen to the music, sing, talk to others in my group through intercoms... I can do whatever makes it the best experience for me at that moment. My experience does not prevent others from doing the same, and my freedom is not an imposition on others.

It offers a means of recreation and self-expression that is unlike any other. The motorcyclist can experience travel without the confinement of an automobile. You use all your senses to actually experience the world around you. By world, I don't just mean the environment you ride through, but your place in it, and as a part of it.

### More than just the "5 Senses"

Yes, you can hear, see, smell, touch, and taste the environment around you; sometimes a bad thing, but mostly a good thing. There are lots of articles on how riding affects the five senses, but there are other important 'senses' in play.

Motorcycling puts you in touch with your sense of balance, sense of direction, sense of adventure, sense of wonder, sense of accomplishment, and sense of community.

No roof-line limits your appreciation of the towering heights of cliffs, mountains, or trees. No car A-pillars and B-pillars "frame" your view of nature's majesty. Everywhere you look, you get the entire panorama.

4-wheel vehicles encourage passivity. Just put in the minimum effort to not hit anything and everything will be fine. Modern autonomous vehicles are striving to eliminate even that little bit of participation in the journey.

But motorcycling is different. You have to be more "present" on a motorcycle. 2-wheel vehicles require you to be a vigilant participant in the entire journey. From pre-ride TCLOCS to making the simplest turn, you have to be "present" and use your body to successfully complete the journey. You see the sun and clouds. You feel

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## ABATE's 2026 Legislative Survey Results Are In!

shared by ABATE-AZ Legislative Director Michael Infanzon, [mike@abateofaz.org](mailto:mike@abateofaz.org)

Hundreds of Arizona riders shared their views on the most pressing issues. Here's what stood out:

**Rider Safety Concerns:** Overwhelmingly, members pointed to distracted drivers and cell phone use as the #1 threat to rider safety.

**Endorsement Question:** Nearly 70% said Arizona should require a motorcycle endorsement to register a bike.

**Awareness Campaigns:** 98% support stronger driver-awareness campaigns to keep riders visible.

**Training Options:** More than 94% back expanding MSF rider training as an alternative to traffic school.

### Top 2026 Priorities:

Motorcycle safety & awareness programs,  
Blocking California-style emissions rules,  
Protecting rider freedom (helmets/gear)

### Secondary priorities:

anti-profiling protections,  
red-light enforcement,  
OHV access.

ABATE will carry this rider-driven agenda into 2026 with your voices front and center. Next step is to draft the legislation. Together, we keep freedom on the road alive.

--

Michael Infanzon  
ABATE of Arizona Legislative Director  
602.456.BIKE ; [mike@abateofaz.org](mailto:mike@abateofaz.org)

***Please Support Our Business Members Whenever Possible!***

## Profiling Report Form & New QR Code

Our Legislative Director Michael Infanzon has simplified the process of reporting Motorcycle Profiling in Arizona. This QR code will take you to an online form to report incidents of profiling.

Michael writes, "Have you or someone you know been stopped, questioned, or surveilled in a way that felt targeted or unjustified? It's not just a bad experience—it could be profiling. Reporting these incidents isn't just about filing a complaint; it's about holding public agencies accountable, exposing patterns of bias, and protecting the rights of all riders and citizens. When you complete a profiling incident report, you help build the data needed to push back against discriminatory practices and demand real change.

"Every report strengthens our ability to advocate for fair treatment and policy reform at every level of government. Don't let it slide. If it felt wrong, document it. File a profiling incident report and make your voice count."

"Why This Matters ...

"Arizona passed an anti-motorcycle profiling memorial in 2018—unanimously. Despite this, riders continue to face discriminatory treatment. We've fought for your rights in the legislature; now we must hold agencies accountable when they violate those rights on the ground ..."

"It's about stopping unconstitutional policing tactics from becoming standard practice. If you have questions or need



help preparing your affidavit, please don't hesitate to reach out. Ride free—and stand up."

Thank you, Michael, for all you do on behalf of Motorcyclists in Arizona!

If you have any questions about motorcycle profiling, contact [Mike@abateofaz.org](mailto:Mike@abateofaz.org)

## Senate Confirms NHTSA Administrator



September 25, 2025 ... Last week, the U.S. Senate confirmed Jonathan Morrison to serve as Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). Morrison is the first Senate-confirmed leader of the agency since 2022.

This confirmation comes at a pivotal moment for transportation safety. NHTSA is responsible for overseeing dozens of open investigations into potential defects in cars and trucks, including several high-profile cases involving Tesla. However, more importantly for the Motorcycle Riders Foundation (MRF), Morrison will lead the federal government’s efforts to craft regulations for autonomous vehicles (AVs).

At his July confirmation hearing, Morrison told lawmakers that NHTSA “cannot sit back and wait for problems to arrive with such developing technologies.” He emphasized the need for federal rules to accelerate the deployment of self-driving cars. While the MRF agrees that strong leadership is needed in this area, we remain vigilant to ensure that “rapid deployment” does not come at the expense of motorcyclist safety.

For years, the MRF has warned that automated driv-

ing systems too often fail to properly detect and respond to motorcycles. This is not a hypothetical risk, it’s a real-world danger when testing and regulations are written without motorcyclists in mind. As the nation’s top auto safety regulator, Morrison will have a direct hand in determining whether motorcycles are prioritized in testing protocols, data collection, and performance standards for AVs.

The MRF will closely monitor NHTSA’s next steps and continue to make the case in Washington that the safety of motorcyclists must never be overlooked in the rush to roll out self-driving technology. Policymakers, industry leaders, and regulators need to hear from riders across the country.

Your continued support ensures that the MRF can keep fighting for your right to ride free and safe, no matter what new technologies emerge on America’s roads

### 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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*Ride With The Leaders™ by joining the MRF at*

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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
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## Medicare in 2026: The Top 3 Things You Need to Know

Big changes are coming to Medicare in 2026, and some could directly affect your coverage. Here are the **three most important updates** to be aware of:

### 1. Major Plan Exits

Some plans will no longer be available in 2026. **UnitedHealthcare is cancelling ALL Medicare Advantage PPO plans in Maricopa and Pinal Counties**, and **Banner Medicare is exiting Pinal County**. These are just a couple of the plans being discontinued. If you're enrolled in one of these, you'll need to choose new coverage for next year—or risk losing your benefits.

### 2. Higher Premiums and Deductibles

The **standard Medicare Part B premium** is projected to rise to about **\$206.50 per month**, with the deductible also increasing. High-income earners may face even larger surcharges. Planning ahead is key to avoiding unwelcome surprises. Most plans will now have a drug deductible as well for high-

er-tiered drugs (3, 4, 5). Please contact me if you need help finding out how this will affect you.

### 3. New Prior Authorization Rules in Some States

Starting in 2026, a pilot program will bring **prior authorization requirements to traditional Medicare** in six states, including Arizona. This means certain services—like spinal injections and knee surgeries—will require pre-approval before Medicare covers them. **This includes folks on Original Medicare with a Supplement!**

### What This Means for You

If your plan is going away, or if you're concerned about higher costs and new rules, **now is the time to start planning.**

☞ **Contact me today** to review your coverage options and make sure you have the right plan in place for 2026. Open enrollment is from October 15 - December 7. Call me today to get on my schedule.





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## Friday From DC ~ The Right To Decide

August 29, 2025 ...

As riders, we know that freedom is more than just a word; it's a way of life. It's also something we must constantly defend. One of the most important, and often misunderstood, freedoms we've fought for in the mo-

torcyclists' rights movement is the freedom of choice when it comes to wearing a helmet.

Many riders today may not realize that our movement was born out of resistance to helmet mandates. In the 1970s, the federal government attempted to coerce states into enacting mandatory helmet laws by threatening to withhold highway funding. That sparked outrage and mobilized riders across the country. Grassroots organizations emerged, fueled by passion and a deep commitment to personal liberty. Through years of lobbying, protests, and legislative action, riders reclaimed the freedom of choice state by state.

But victories are never permanent. As President Ronald Reagan so wisely warned, *"Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn't pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same."*

We are now seeing the truth of that warning. A new generation of riders, many of whom have never known a time without the option of helmet choice, may not feel the urgency that once united us. This year, a bill was introduced in Pennsylvania to establish a new helmet mandate. Last year, bikers in Illinois fought back against a similar proposal and likely will continue to face comparable legislation.

The question now is, will we act to defend our freedom of choice? And if we don't do it, who will?

At the Motorcycle Riders Foundation (MRF), we continue to closely monitor state and federal legislation, but we cannot do it alone. We need every biker, young and old, to understand what's at stake and to get involved. Talk to your fellow riders. Educate new motorcyclists about our history. Support your state motorcyclists' rights organizations (SM-ROs). And above all, stay alert to legislative threats that seek to erode the freedoms we've fought so hard to preserve.

Let's not be the generation that lets our freedom slip away

### *We Are The 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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Nov 1-2 {Sat-Sun}: [2025 Howlin' at the Moon AMA Beta National Dual Sport](#). 2-day offroad event centered at Prescott Valley Elks Lodge, hosted by the [Arizona Trail Riders](#). [Ticketing information here.](#)

Nov 7 {Fri}: ABATE of Arizona Annual Member Meeting. Starts 5pm at DoubleTree Phoenix North, 10220 N Metro Parkway, Phoenix. State Officers & Board of Directors elections, as well as Dynamic speakers and Legislative awards. Dinner catered. FMI: [Mike@abateofaz.org](mailto:Mike@abateofaz.org)

Nov 15 {Sat}: [Accident Scene Management Class {ASMC}](#) 100 Series Basic Course; at Flagstaff Elks Lodge #499, 2101 N San Francisco St. 9a-5pm. Tuition cost reduced to \$75 with discount code HWLT, thanks to sponsor Breyer Law Husband & Wife Law Team. Includes lunch. FMI: Trauma Mama 602-908-7989, [phxaz.asm@gmail.com](mailto:phxaz.asm@gmail.com)

Dec 21 {Sun} [AZ Confederation of Motorcycle Clubs {ACMC}](#) Christmas Toy Benefit. Details TBA. FMI: [BillietLDMC@gmail.com](mailto:BillietLDMC@gmail.com)

June 11-14, 2026 [Too Broke For Sturgis #35](#) at Grand Canyon Caverns near Peach Springs, AZ. Details TBA.

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