



## *ABATE of Arizona Annual Member Meeting*

ABATE of Arizona held its annual state membership meeting on the evening of Friday, November 7, 2025. It took place at the DoubleTree by Hilton, Phoenix North. People started gathering at 5pm, with approximately 40 in attendance.

There were several guests at the meeting: Senator Shawna Bolick, Arizona Supreme Court Justice Clint Bolick, Senate President Warren Petersen, State Representative Teresa Martinez, and Valerie Thompson – the Queen of Speed.

Our president, Jim Butsback, expressed thanks and appreciation to those who attended. He offered a recap of the accomplishments that ABATE has achieved. Topics also included the importance of riding classes and continuing education. The ongoing difficulty of recruiting members was discussed, as well as member retention. He also shared the Recognition of State Legislation award that ABATE of Arizona received from the MRF for “Successful Lobbying Efforts Leading to the Continuation of the Motorcycle Safety Fund - SB1107”.

Rick Ferguson, who has been serving as Board of Directors Chairman, explained the restructuring of the Bylaws and changes to the officer selection process. It was explained that, based upon the outcome of the evening’s voting, only the President and Vice President will be elected in the future. They, in turn, will create their ‘Cabinet’ by appointment for positions such as Treasurer, Secretary, etc. It has been a long-time challenge at both the state and chapter levels to fill officer positions. This not only becomes burdensome to those individuals who choose to step up and serve their chapters and their organization overall, but also becomes a compliance issue for the Corporation Commission requirements.

In the future, rather than hosting chapter meetings that often see very small attendance, regional activities such as social events and fundraisers will be encouraged. These can inspire new membership, create opportunities to share information about ABATE and its mission, plus share the enjoyment of the road with fellow riders.

The insurability of organized rides was also discussed. Self-paced rides with established destinations and parties have become preferable to the old-school parade rides. This is due to insurance-related issues that come from new rules in the insurance industry.

Warren Petersen is currently running for Arizona’s At-

torney General. He made a presentation to share with the attendees his beliefs about what needs to be done to improve the Attorney General’s office. He encouraged all to sign his digital petition to get him onto the ballot. Learn more about Warren Petersen’s campaign at [PetersenForAG.com](http://PetersenForAG.com)

Teresa ‘Trauma Mama’ Martinez gave a presentation about Accident Scene Management training. The knowledge that people learn from taking the ASM classes can help save a life! Learn more about ASM, where classes are available, tuition assistance, and more. Contact Teresa Martinez, BSN, RN 602-908-7989, [Teresa@roadguardians.org](mailto:Teresa@roadguardians.org). Follow on facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/azasm1>

Mick Degn of AMSAF – Arizona Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Foundation spoke about AMSAF’s mission to reduce motorcycle crashes and fatalities because of distracted driving and a lack of rider training. Over 9,000 scholarships have been distributed since the organization’s establishment in 2011. Financial assistance from AMSAF can help motorcyclists take rider classes, purchase a helmet, and receive Accident Scene Management training. Learn more at <https://www.amsaf.org/>

Teresa Martinez is the Representative for Arizona’s 16th Legislative District. Yes, she shares the same name as our own Trauma Mama. Her son is a rider. She expressed her concerns for her son and for all his fellow riders. Representative Martinez spoke passionately about her desire to increase rider safety for motorcyclists.

The keynote speaker was Valerie Thompson, known as the fastest woman on two wheels. A brief documentary film was shown as an introduction to her speaking. In 2018, she set a new speed record of 328.467mph. Within days of that accomplishment, she crashed at 360mph... leaving wreckage of her motorcycle over a mile-long path... and walked away from it with only minor injuries. Her return to racing in 2021 garnered her additional records. She spoke about how strongly she feels about motorcycling and the friendships that can be found within the riding community. Much of her presentation focused on the importance of challenging oneself and the value of riding schools, safety precautions, and rider preparation.

*continues on page 6*

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 Mailing Address  
PO Box 282  
Glendale, AZ 85311



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 ..... Open
- 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*

Greetings to all my fellow ABATE of Arizona members. First, I would like to extend my thanks to all who attended our annual membership meeting on November 7. Our event this year was held at the DoubleTree by Hilton Phoenix North. The evening started with a cocktail/gathering hour, followed by a Mexican buffet dinner. The dinner was followed by reports from our State Officers and the presentation of some Awards. The highlight of the evening was our keynote speaker, Valerie Thompson. It was a great evening.

As I sit to write this, it is the week before Thanksgiving. I hope that everyone has had a wonderful holiday and was lucky enough to spend time with family and friends. At this time of year, as we all plan our Holiday celebrations, please take time to slow down and take a breath to enjoy all that we have. Be careful as you are traveling around and dealing with the hustle and bustle of the holidays. Be mindful of those around us who may not be as attentive as they should be due to the stress of the season. Please be extra careful when riding or driving during this time.

At this time of year, most of us attend many different events such as holiday parties, toy runs for less fortunate kids, and various food drives, to name a few. Whether



Jim Butsback  
Email: [jimbutsback@yahoo.com](mailto:jimbutsback@yahoo.com)  
Cell Phone, call or text  
520-247-3051  
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you are attending with your chapter members, another group, or with family members, we would love to know who and 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 to *The Masterlink*. When attending to support these events, please wear your ABATE gear and let the hosts know that you are an ABATE member.

ABATE of Arizona is also one of the sponsors of a Toys For Tots Toy Run. It will be held on December 13, 2025. It starts 9am at VFW Post 1433, 7540 N 63rd Ave in Glendale, AZ 85301. The entry fee is one unwrapped toy. I hope to see many of you

there.

Once again, I would like to thank all the members of ABATE of Arizona for allowing me the honor to serve and represent you. I would like to wish all of you a very Happy Holiday Season. No matter how you personally choose to celebrate, may you and all of those you love and care about be happy and healthy. Happy New Year to all!

Ride Free, Ride Safe, Ride Endorsed!

Jim



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Tombstone Brewing North:  
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[matt@tombstone.beer](mailto:matt@tombstone.beer)



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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 meetings are TBA ###

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 ###

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Mick Degn Executive Director

888-951-3732 Cell 602-312-4554 www.amsaf.org/

Local ABATE Chapters

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

Contact: Timothy, 360-720-3465
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.
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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

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# ABATE of Arizona Annual Member Meeting

Visit her website at <https://www.valeriethompsonracing.com/>

Our Legislative Director, Michael Infanzon, discussed the goal of reducing motorcycle accidents to zero. He offered a recap of upcoming bills for 2026. He shared that, as deployment of Waymo self-driving cars continues to expand into certain cities, the metro Phoenix area included, an issue of critical importance is that they don't always "see" motorcycles. This issue and concern are being followed at both the local and national levels.

Michael also made the presentations to honor ABATE of Arizona's 2025 Legislators of the Year, to recognize their leadership on issues vital to motorcyclists' rights, freedom, and safety.

Michael presented Representative Teresa Martinez (R-16) with a custom gremlin bell. He shared the story that gremlin bells on our bikes protect us from things on the road that we don't see and could hurt us. Representative Martinez does that for us at the Copper Dome. She speaks up on our behalf in regard to legislation that could affect the rights of riders. "Representative Martinez ... has quickly emerged as a leading advocate for Arizona motorcyclists. Her work in the House to protect the Motorcycle Safety Fund, her tireless tenacity as Transportation Committee Vice Chair and her top marks on ABATE's 2025 Legislative Scorecard solidified her role as a dependable voice for freedom and fairness at the Capitol."

Senator Shawna Bolick (R-2) received a custom buckle of copper and turquoise. Michael explained that, "Senator Bolick has earned this award every year she has served in the Legis-

lature, with the exception of her freshman term when she was recognized as an Honorable Mention. Her long-standing record reflects consistent support for protecting riders from government overreach, including her advocacy for safer roadways and her push for real-world transportation solutions."

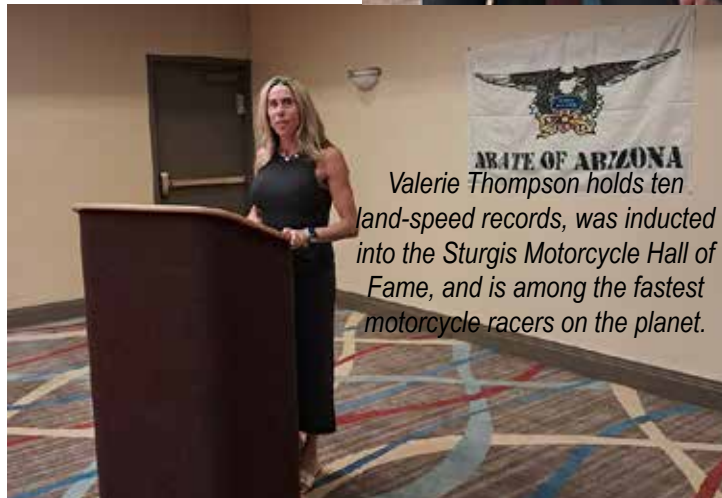
"Senator Bolick and Representative Martinez exemplify the kind of legislative leadership Arizona's motorcyclists need," said Michael Infanzon, Legislative Director. "They have shown that safety and liberty can go hand-in-hand."

There was a plaque to be presented to Joe Silk in recognition of his dedication to the Motorcycle Awareness Program, but he was not in attendance to receive it.

Door prize donors included ASM - Accident Scene Management, BJ's Restaurant, D&D Motorcycles, and Tombstone Brewing. Thank you to all the raffle sponsors, with apologies if any were missed being listed here. Congratulations to the winners.

The evening wrapped with the collecting of ballots from the active members. The results will be announced by social media and the membership email system.

Betsy



Valerie Thompson holds ten land-speed records, was inducted into the Sturgis Motorcycle Hall of Fame, and is among the fastest motorcycle racers on the planet.



Jim Butsback receives an award of Appreciation, recognizing his years serving as President

**Coyote Pass Chapter**

It's that time of year again. We in the motorcycle community give what we can. Some members of the Coyote Pass Chapter will be joining the annual local Toy Run, sponsored by the Desert Road Riders MC on December 13. Anyone is welcome to join in. The price of admission is a toy and a canned food item. Meet at Kingman Craft House, 2215 Hualapai Mountain Road. KSU at 11:30. We wish everyone a very pleasant and rewarding holiday season!

Mike "Foil Hat" Degrood

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 meetings TBA  
# # #

**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**

Phoenix Chapter hosts an information station at GoAZ in Peoria during the dealership's monthly event called Bikes & Breakfast - West Side Roundup. It takes place on 3rd Saturdays from 830-11am. The dealership is located at 16844 N Arrowhead Fountain Center Drive in Peoria.

There are Food & Coffee Vendors, Early Bird Specials, a Sidewalk Sale, motorcycles to view, and more. Next one is December 20.

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  
# # #

**Southern AZ Chapter**

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  
# # #

# ABATE-AZ Legislative Update

as prepared by ABATE of AZ Legislative Director Michael Infanzon, [mike@abateofaz.org](mailto:mike@abateofaz.org)

ABATE of Arizona has secured sponsors and opened active folders for almost every bill and policy item on our 2026 legislative agenda. This marks the start of our formal engagement phase for the upcoming session. Each legislative packet we have put together includes statutory research, sponsor targets, committee pathways, stakeholder maps, and draft language where appropriate. As bills begin to appear during prefilings and early-session movement, these packets allow us to react quickly and stay organized. It usually takes 30-40 hours of work for each packet and we have 15 bills we are working on for next session.

Our priority issues remain consistent with the direction set by the Board and membership. Right of way violations, distracted driving reforms, autonomous vehicle standards, motorcycle operator exam revisions, and youth rider safety. For each topic, we have researched current Arizona Revised Statutes, relevant case law, and the operational impact on riders statewide. We have also built early communication with legislative offices to clarify intent and address questions before bills are filed.

ABATE has also opened tracking files for non-motorcycle legislation that can affect riders. This includes statewide transportation policy, insurance regulation, and criminal code proposals with implications for stop-and-frisk type practices. Experience shows that small changes in unrelated policy areas often end up affecting the riding community.

Our monitoring structure is designed to catch these developments early.

We expect a heavy bill load again this year. Early indicators suggest strong interest in traffic enforcement policy, vehicle automation, and rural infrastructure spending. We are preparing briefings for committees that traditionally hear our issues, such as Transportation, Judiciary, and Commerce. Our goal is to ensure every legislator understands the real-world impact of these bills on rider safety, road access, and personal freedom.

As always, the most effective advocacy tool we have is member engagement. When outreach moments arise, we will provide talking points and clear action steps. Your calls and emails move votes. Your attendance at hearings gets attention. Your participation gives ABATE credibility and clout at the Capitol.

Stay tuned for rapid updates as prefilings continue and bill numbers begin to drop. You can subscribe to the Copper Dome Update on Spotify. I give an update every Monday about issues that impact Arizona riders.

Here's the link: <https://open.spotify.com/show/5b3ubEaP78bhgpqW6fqzax?si=96b9e305cfb8429d>

Michael Infanzon  
Legislative Director, ABATE of Arizona  
Cell 602.456.BIKE , [Mike@abateofaz.org](mailto:Mike@abateofaz.org)

**Jonathan Thompson**  
CEO

OFFICE 623-465-4572  
FAX 623-465-4576  
CELL 602-717-2008  
1-877-WET-BLADE

EMAIL [jwt@reditoo.com](mailto:jwt@reditoo.com)

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## Business Members

### [62? Ky's For You](#)

Ky Sisson: 888-KYS-4-YOU  
[Ky@KysForYou.com](mailto:Ky@KysForYou.com)

### [Aint Nick's Tavern](#)

602-242-2345  
6840 N. 27th Ave, Phoenix

### [American Legion Post 138 James Witkowski Memorial](#)

602-837-1247  
1264 W University Dr, Mesa

### [AMSAF - AZ Motorcycle Safety & Awareness Fndn](#)

[info@amsaf.org](mailto:info@amsaf.org)  
1-888-951-3732

### [AZ Accident Scene Management LLC](#)

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

### [AZ Confederation of Motorcycle Clubs](#)

Spa Bob: 602-751-8181  
[CCSPABOB@aol.com](mailto:CCSPABOB@aol.com)  
Bill Bracken 602-463-7886  
[billetdmc@gmail.com](mailto:billetdmc@gmail.com)

### [AZ Cycle Park](#)

623-853-0750  
[info@arizonacyclepark.com](mailto:info@arizonacyclepark.com)

### [D & D Discount Motorcycles](#)

Mark DeSimone: 480-731-9003  
[mark@discountmc.com](mailto:mark@discountmc.com)  
617 S McClintock Dr. Suite 5  
Tempe, AZ 85281

### [Dirty Dogg Saloon](#)

Jack & Nikki Estes: 480-368-8095  
[dirtydoggsaloon@yahoo.com](mailto:dirtydoggsaloon@yahoo.com)  
10409 N Scottsdale Rd.  
Scottsdale, AZ 85253

### [Dobson Lakes Family Chiropractic](#)

Anthony Bozicevic: 480-820-1818  
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Mesa, AZ 85203

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[lodge2543@mooseunits.org](mailto:lodge2543@mooseunits.org)  
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Tyler Smith: 602-740-8687  
[info@xceltrackdays.com](mailto:info@xceltrackdays.com)



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### Chili Cook-off at Superstition HD

On November 8, Superstition Harley-Davidson and the New Life Chapter of the Christian Motorcyclists Association {CMA} co-hosted a chili cook-off. The day was a fundraiser for CMA's Run for the Son. ABATE of Arizona hosted an information station, manned by our State Treasurer Cliff, our Legislative Director Michael, and our State Sergeant-at-Arms Gary, among others.

Cliff also brought a couple of batches of chili to add to the competition. There were nine entries overall in the chili cook-off. This is a somewhat higher number of contestants than last year. CMA was appreciative of everyone's support. There were over 55 tasters. You bought a tasting kit for \$5. It included cups, spoons, and a ballot so you could vote for your favorite.

In addition to the chili, there were about a dozen dogs and puppies visiting from [Arf-Anage Dog Rescue](#). They were all well-socialized and got a lot of attention from the people. I'm unsure how many ended up finding their forever home that

day, but I observed a lot of conversations with Jeani, the organizer. The Arf-Anage offers a [fostering program](#), where you can foster dogs until they are adopted by their forever homes. They also have a Pets 4 Vets Program. You can learn more about this organization at their website.

Both CMA and the dog rescue were hosting fundraising raffles. There was also a drink vendor onsite called Leprechaun's Lucky Lemonade. That was some wonderful lemonade! He offers a menu of flavors & blends. Based on the numerous people I spoke with who were enjoying different versions, it looks like they were all tasty.

CMA's mission includes providing outreach and support to the motorcycling community. This event benefits CMA's Run For the Son programs. Monies raised go to local ministry efforts plus the Jesus Film Project, Missionary Ventures, and Global Christian Relief. To contact New Life CMA, send an email to [cm anewlifeaz@gmail.com](mailto:cm anewlifeaz@gmail.com) To learn more about the Christian Motorcyclists Association you can also visit the website at <https://cmausa.org/>

ABATE of Arizona is your motorcycling advocate at the Copper Dome in Phoenix. ABATE represents ALL motorcyclists and motorcycles in *continues on page 11*




**Dobson Lakes Family CHIROPRACTIC**

Anthony Bozicevic  
480-820-1818  
[Anthony@azfamilychiropractors.com](mailto:Anthony@azfamilychiropractors.com)  
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or  
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<https://azcmc.org/>

continues from page 10

### Chili Cook-off at Superstition HD

AZ... on road & off road. Their Information Stations offer details & updates about legislative issues, safety concerns, Calls to Action, upcoming events, and of course opportunities to join ABATE of AZ. Please consider joining ABATE-AZ. You'll be helping to protect your rights as a motorcyclist, plus supporting motorcycle safety and awareness programs. Learn more about ABATE of Arizona via the website <https://abateofaz.org>

There were 50 votes cast overall for the chili contest. First place winner was entry #10 by Kris Almquist. He won bragging rights and a Blackstone Grill.

Second place was also won by Kris for entry number 9. Susan Westland won third place. As for the trophies... they were practical & nifty. In addition to a plaque, insulated stainless-steel drinking cups with lids were designated for first, second, and third place.


New Life CMA & Superstition HD will be hosting their annual New Year Car & Motorcycle Show on January 10, 2026 from 10a-3pm. It's \$15 to enter a vehicle. Come out & enjoy New Year camaraderie while voting for your favorites. All motorcycles & cars are welcome. Spectators' entry is free. The day will

include music, food trucks, & raffles. Superstition Harley-Davidson is located at 2910 W Apache Trail in Apache Junction.

'bye for now ~

Betsy





Meeting host for  
ABATE's East Valley  
Chapter

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Arizona Trail Riders  
 Andy P: [president@arizonatrailriders.org](mailto:president@arizonatrailriders.org)



AMSASF Scholarships Are Currently Available

AMSASF promotes Motorcycle Safety & Awareness.  
 Follow these links ►  
 If the month's allotted scholarships have run out, check back next month.



### Motorcycle Awareness Program {MAP}

On November 3, 2025 the MAP was presented to 27 students at Flagstaff High School. The lead presenter was Joe Silk, a driving force behind the program. Thanks go to Stephen John Andros for bringing several local Flagstaff riders in support and to Mark Healy for making the trip from the Valley to help with the presentation. Thanks also to Driver's Education teacher, Mr. Treadway, for his continued support of motorcycle awareness.

The Motorcycle Awareness Program was presented on November 10 to 29 students at Desert Ridge High School in Mesa. Joe Silk and Erin Keena Berry-Schade covered the classroom portion of the material, with Jeff Gorall and Mark Healy piloting their motorcycles in the outdoor demonstrations. Joe extended thanks to Driver's Ed teacher, Mr. Greg Ream for his continued support of motorcycle awareness.

I was able to attend this day's class as an observer.

The student ratio was about 50/50, boys to girls. Most of the students seemed engaged in the information.

Videos & slides in the classroom presentation included left-turn scenarios, why motorcyclists move


around in their lane, showing the rider's perspective on the road, how motorcycles & their riders can blend into their surroundings, collisions, and their results. These aren't the 'Blood on the Highway' type films some of us grew up with. Rather, these computer-generated scenarios are better able to demonstrate cause & effect of the actions of both auto driver and motorcycle pilot.

Important takeaway points included training the mind to see ALL objects, not just large ones. Motorcycles

*continues on page 14*



*Desert Ridge HS,  
November 10, 2025*

Teresa Martinez, RN  
 'Trauma Mama'  
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continued from page 13

## Motorcycle Awareness Program {MAP}

are significantly smaller and can be missed among larger profile vehicles if you're not looking for them. How a motorcyclist slows down without brake lights engaging was explained, along with how that can cause a following driver to misjudge how much distance is needed for a bike to stop. There was a demonstration of blind spots and an admonition not to trust the blind spot indicators on new cars, as they don't 'see' motorcycles in time. Lane filtering was explained along with the safety elements it offers. Students were encouraged to share the information they learned with their parents as well.

The outdoor demonstration exemplified how difficult it can be to judge the speed of a motorcycle as it is coming toward you. The students were also instructed to observe how the brake lights look during braking.

Joe expresses thanks to the team of MAP presenters

who travel to these schools for their support, stating that, "This program is not an individual effort and requires the support of several to conduct the presentation."

I appreciate the invitation to attend and observe the MAP class. While this is a small recap of the class itself, the MAP seems like an invaluable tool in ABATE's goal to instruct the driving public about safely sharing the roads and reducing crashes overall. More people getting involved in the teaching of the class throughout our state will help even more students to be exposed to these important lessons. To volunteer for the MAP, for more information about the MAP, or to become an instructor, contact either Joe Silk at [miterangers@msn.com](mailto:miterangers@msn.com) 480-628-8598, or Jim Silk at [Jsilk2264@gmail.com](mailto:Jsilk2264@gmail.com) , 602-312-1927

Betsy Newkirk



Flagstaff High School  
November 3, 2025

### High School Contacts NEEDED!

Help secure additional presentation opportunities.

**Interested in educating future car drivers** about awareness of motorcycles? **Unsure** how you can help? People with connections to high schools are **WELCOME** and **ENCOURAGED** to help us coordinate classes in your schools!

For any reader with a connection to **Poston Butte HS**, please reach out to MAP leaders Joe Silk at [miterangers@msn.com](mailto:miterangers@msn.com) 480-628-8598, or Jim Silk at [Jsilk2264@gmail.com](mailto:Jsilk2264@gmail.com) , 602-312-1927. We are looking for assistance to help secure a presentation opportunity in their driver's ed class.



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# TOYS FOR TOTS TOY RUN 2025 ABATE OF ARIZONA

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October 31, 2025...

In just a little over a year, voters across the country will head to the polls for the 2026 midterm elections. While it may seem far off, the Motorcycle Riders Foundation (MRF) and the MRF Political Action Committee (PAC) are already preparing for this critical election cycle.

The MRF PAC, while a separate entity from the MRF, is affiliated and plays a vital role in advancing the priorities of motorcyclists in Washington, D.C. Through donations from riders and supporters, the MRF PAC works to elect and support candidates, regardless of party, who stand up for the rights and freedoms of America's motorcyclists.

As a bipartisan organization, the MRF PAC's guiding principle is simple:

We support those who support motorcyclists

To ensure that candidates truly share our values, the MRF PAC has developed a candidate questionnaire used to screen individuals seeking elected office. This tool helps identify those who understand and are committed to issues important to the motorcycling community.

While the questionnaire includes ten key questions, here are a few examples of what candidates are asked to consider—each with a simple "Support" or "Oppose" checkbox:

Would you support or oppose legislation preserving the consumer's ability to choose a vehicle powered by an internal combustion engine?

Would you support or oppose autonomous vehicle legislation ensuring motorcycles are part of all testing and development procedures—and that manufacturers disclose how their vehicles detect motorcycles?

Would you support or oppose legislation to end the prac-

## *MRF's Friday From DC - MRF PAC Gears Up To Support Biker-Friendly Candidates*

tice of profiling motorcyclists through better education and training of law enforcement agencies?

Would you support or oppose legislation guaranteeing states the right to determine their own motorcycle safety equipment requirements, without interference from Congress or federal agencies?

These questions help ensure that those who receive MRF PAC support are genuinely aligned with the interests of riders nationwide, whether it's defending consumer choice, promoting safety through awareness, or protecting states' rights to set their own standards.

As the 2026 elections approach, the MRF PAC will continue to identify, support, and promote candidates who respect motorcyclists and our way of life.

Contributions are only being sought from members of the MRF who are U.S. citizens, or those who have been lawfully admitted for permanent residence under applicable federal law. Foreign national contributions are prohibited. Contributions are not tax deductible. Contributions to MRF PAC are voluntary, and you may refuse to contribute without reprisal. A copy of our report, filed with the Federal Election Commission, is (or will be) available on the FEC's website ([www.fec.gov](http://www.fec.gov)).

### *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 <http://mrf.org/> or call (202) 546-0983

## ***SECURE YOUR LOAD LAW WENT INTO EFFECT September 19, 2024!!!***

On ALL Arizona roads not just highways.

Thanks to Senator Shawna Bolick for sponsoring this important legislation and championing safety on the roads!

Ch. 183, Laws 2024 (SB1376 - Vehicle loads; restrictions)  
Extends vehicle load restrictions from highways to streets and roadways, applied uniformly throughout Arizona and in all its political subdivisions. Exempts vehicles being used for agricultural purposes on a farm.

If you have questions about this law, please contact  
ABATE's Legislative Director,  
Michael Infanzon at [mike@abateofaz.org](mailto:mike@abateofaz.org)





## Five Mistakes Experienced Riders Make

By Bill Seltzer,  
Team Arizona  
reprinted with  
permission

Predicting danger within our environment means we need to identify, process, and comprehend the critical elements of information about what is happening to survive our ride.

<https://motorcycltraining.com/team-arizona-riding-tip-5-mistakes-experienced-riders-make/>

Experienced riders don't mean to do it. Being complacent. Making mistakes. It "just happens" we tell ourselves. But does it have to happen? Not really.

After spending more than 20 years and approximately 300,000 miles on the road in multiple countries, this "experienced" motorcyclist has committed every mistake on the list. We can chalk it up to complacency, overconfidence, or a complete and utter lack of awareness. I know you're probably thinking...aren't you a coach? Aren't you supposed to stay on top of this stuff? Aren't you supposed to ride without making mistakes? I wish it were that simple. I'm human. I make mistakes. Hopefully, I can assist others by sharing my blunders—and fixes for those blunders.



### EXPERIENCED RIDER DEFINED

What is the definition of an experienced rider? I'm sure you'll answer that in your own way. If you're reading this article, I'm betting the majority of you think you're an experienced rider. Wel-

come; I hope you find this informative and valuable. Or maybe you're someone well on their way to being an experienced rider who wants to avoid the pitfalls that plagued us, grizzly veterans. I commend your proactive efforts. So let's just agree the term experienced rider applies to all of us.

In this piece we'll provide a list of the 5 Mistakes Experienced Riders Make and we'll define each mistake. In following articles, we'll examine each piece individually and determine how we can reduce the risk of making each of these mistakes.

## 5 MISTAKES EXPERIENCED RIDERS MAKE

### Improper Use of Vision

Vision is the most critical skill we can develop for riding a motorcycle. The two most critical locations on the road where we make mistakes are at intersections and when we're cornering.

### Failing to Predict Danger (Situational Awareness)

Our brains are constantly analyzing trends in an effort to make predictions. The brain performs this function in an effort to predict danger and maximize our self-preservation.

### Overestimate Riding Abilities (Riding Within Limits)

To be successful riders, we'll need to be able to understand the difference between the risks we are taking and the skills we actually possess. Long story short: know your risk offset. The [Advanced Riding Techniques](#) course is a great place to learn about your risk offset.

### Underestimate Effects of Aging

We spend billions of dollars in this country to try to stop and even reverse the effects of aging. If we misunderstand the effect aging is having on our ride, we can unwittingly add risk to our ride.

### Accepting More Risk Through Less Riding Gear

Personal protective equipment designed for motorcycling is necessary to reduce our risk and increase riding enjoyment.

The less we wear, the more we increase our risk.

Save Your Skin



That's the list folks. It isn't a list of ALL the mistakes experienced riders make, but they're at the core of most experienced rider crashes. Even though the list is short, there is a lot of knowledge to be culled by looking at each item individually. Are you ready to go down this rabbit hole with me?

Bill Seltzer has been a Motorcycle Safety Foundation RiderCoach since 2003 and a Total Control Advanced Riding Instructor since 2011. He currently serves as



the Marketing Director for TEAM Arizona and is a member of the Arizona Strategic Highway Safety Planning committee. Have questions or comments about the article?

Email him: [Bill@MotorcycleTraining.com](mailto:Bill@MotorcycleTraining.com)

# MRF News: Friday From DC ~ EV Fees Anticipated In 2026 Highway Bill

## MRF Watching User Fees Ensuring Fairness For Motorcycles

November 7, 2025... As Congress prepares to take up a major highway and transportation reauthorization bill in 2026, proposals to impose new federal registration fees on electric and hybrid vehicles are expected to resurface. House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Chairman Sam Graves (R-MO) this week stated that user fees on EVs and hybrids will likely be included in the bipartisan legislation, emphasizing that "If you are using our roads and bridges, you should be paying into that process."

The Motorcycle Riders Foundation (MRF) continues to monitor these discussions closely to ensure that motorcycles are treated fairly in any user fee system used to fund road and infrastructure construction. The MRF supports the principle that all roadway users contribute to the upkeep of the nation's highways, but we will strongly oppose any proposal that unfairly singles out or penalizes motorcyclists.

A key part of this debate centers on the federal gas tax, which has remained unchanged at 18.4 cents per gallon since 1993. With inflation and improved vehicle fuel efficiency reducing revenues, the Highway Trust Fund, which is funded through the federal fuel tax, faces a growing deficit, prompting lawmakers to explore new funding mechanisms.

With Congress under pressure to stabilize the Trust Fund, there will be increased focus on identifying new and



fair sources of revenue. The MRF is committed to ensuring that motorcyclists' voices are part of this conversation and that policymakers understand the important role motorcycles play in reducing congestion, fuel consumption, and roadway wear. As work on the 2026 highway bill moves forward, the MRF will remain vigilant in protecting the rights and interests of America's riders.

### 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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### ABATE of ARIZONA American Brotherhood Aimed Toward Education



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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 available from your local Chapter



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**Happy Holidays!**  
*Christmas, Hanukkah, New Year, & more!*

### Profiling Report Form & New QR Code

Our Legislative Director Michael In-fanzon 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

**Motorcycle Profiling Incident Report**



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)

## Reader's Ride ~ Rick Ferguson

Today I rode my Moto Guzzi Eldorado 1400 and was reminded yet again of why I fell in love with it. From the moment I pulled away, there was a deep, resonant hum from its engine, a soothing but powerful vibration that felt alive beneath me. The way it leans, the way the power flows — every aspect gives me utter joy. I smiled more than once just because of how right it felt to be on that bike.

Its engine — a 1,380 cc, air/oil-cooled, 90° V-twin — is more than just numbers. This engine represents decades of engineering heritage. Asked by Moto Guzzi to stretch the limits of tradition, this big-block V-twin is the largest V-twin the company ever built in Europe. The “transverse” orientation and the longitudinal shaft drive echo past eras, yet the creature under me feels modern, refined, and potent.

When I twist the throttle, I feel the torque rise at low rpm (120 Nm at

about 2,750 rpm, if the specs serve) and then the surge as it builds. The Eldorado isn't about frenetic top-end madness; it's about smooth confidence, abundant grunt, and that unmistakable Guzzi character — the thump of the V-twin, the broad shoulders of the bike, the presence it has on the road.

Owning this machine means being connected to a lineage of Mandello del Lario craftsmanship, and it means inheriting a piece of motorcycling soul. As I rolled along today, I felt gratitude that I can ride something that not only performs well but also means so much. The curves felt right. The posture felt relaxed yet engaged. The sound and vibration weren't distractions; they were part of the experience.

I love that I get to do this — to ride a bike that assaults my senses in the best way. And I know that every time



I mount the Eldorado, I'm not just riding a motorcycle. I'm embracing history, engineering, emotion, freedom. The joy I feel today will stay with me long after I park and remove my helmet.

Here's to many more miles of that feeling, and to the many roads ahead where the Eldorado and I will go.

*Richard Ferguson*



**ABATE's 'E' is for EDUCATION.**

Learn about our state legislature's Request to Speak system & help our Lobbyists protect motorcyclists' rights. [Click here.](#)

Dec 13 {Sat}: **Toys For Tots Toy Run 2025** hosted by **ABATE of Arizona**. Starts 9a at VFW Post 1433, 7618 N 63rd Ave ; Glendale, AZ 85301. Entry is 1 unwrapped toy for a child of any age. Last stop Vacay Cowboys 15440 N 35th Ave Phoenix. FMI: [mike@abateofaz.org](mailto:mike@abateofaz.org)

Dec 20: **West Side Roundup Bikes & Breakfast** 8:30-11am at Go AZ Peoria, 16844 N Arrowhead Fountains Center Drive, Peoria. Sponsors / participants include **XCEL Trackdays**, ABATE-AZ. FMI: 623-322-6700



Mar 21: **Share the Road Fundraiser** to benefit AMSAF. 10% discount on tickets if ordered by Dec 31. Details and ticketing at <https://www.amsaf.org/rftlh/>

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

Sep 24-27, 2026 MRF's **Meeting of the Minds** in Milwaukee, WI FMI: <https://www.mrf.org/>



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- ✓ Protect the internal combustion engine
- ✓ Maintain the availability of fuels not harmful to motorcycle engines
- ✓ Fight End of Life Directives

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