

What is Happening at the Copper Dome?



MMA Legislative Update

By Bobbi Hartmann

We want to remind everyone that our yearly Motorcycle Day At The Dome is Wednesday 2/19/20 at the state Capitol, 1700 W. Washington. Please mark your calendars and watch for additional information.

Your lobby team is in the process of discussing, drafting, and preparing for the 2020 legislative session. We had a very productive meeting with Alberto Gutier, Director of the Governor’s Office of Highway Safety. We talked about a bill we are running in 2020, to extend the Sunset Date on our Motorcycle Safety Fund. The Motorcycle Safety Fund is comprised of the \$1 extra that motorcyclists pay on

their registration. Vehicles pay \$8, except for motorcycles who pay \$9.

A Little History:
In 1981, legislation was passed adding an additional \$1 to every motorcycle registration, ARS28-205, currently ARS28-2003. This extra \$1 was placed into a Motorcycle Education Fund. The Director of ADOT was to use those monies to implement a motorcycle testing program and a voluntary motorcycle education program. They were allowed to use public and private agencies to implement the education program.

MVD provided and made available, an abundance of educational motorcycle and awareness materials.

MVD was also tasked to provide motorcycle- testing programs at their sites. By the mid 90’s, this task had fallen by the wayside.

In the mid to late 1990’s an ad-hoc Motorcycle Advisory Council was brought about by town hall meetings us lobbyists had been attending. We named this council the State Motorcycle Safety Advisory Council (SMSAC), which was made up of representatives from the MRO’s, Gold-Wing Riders, Law Enforcement, Motorcycle Businesses and Rider Ed Third Parties.

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Submitted By Mick Degn

First of all, we’d like THANK YOU for your support of AMSAF. 2019 has gone by so fast and at AMSAF we have so much to be thankful for. We’ve been able to help the Community in so many ways. Here are just a few ways:

- AMSAF Motorcycle



Training Financial AssistanceScholarship

- AMAF Financial Assistance Helmet Program
- AMSAF Facebook Tuesday Safety Tips

These programs are helping individuals and families across the State and we believe we’re helping to reduce crashes and fatalities with this Education.

Our Mission is to promote motorcycle safety and awareness and help reduce crashes, injuries and fatalities in Arizona. We believe we’re helping to do that. As we look at our programs, we want to thank the Governor’s Office of Highway Safety, Director Gutier and Governor Ducey for their support and passion to help reduce crashes and fatalities in Arizona.

We want to also thank our many Sponsors, donors and partners who help us in so many ways. As we look ahead, we want to continue helping the community on the Motorcycle training Scholarship. Go to: <https://www.amsaf.org/scholarships/> and sign up or share with someone you feel can use it. We want to help you save some money on this course. In our surveys cost is an issue and we want to help you get this on your

bucket list of items to do. The Helmet Program will continue to increase. This is a great opportunity for you to get a good DOT full face Helmet at a reduced cost due to our Pilot program and partnership with RideNow Powersports and Grant from GOHS during this Program. Check it out: <https://www.amsaf.org/helmets/> AMSAF’s big fund raiser each year is our Riding for the Long Haul. The name has changed to “Share the Road & Riding for the Long Haul”. See description of change and also you can go to: <https://www.amsaf.org/riding-for-the-long-haul/> to sign up and be a part of this great Fundraising event. We’ve got a great night planned with Special Guest Speaker and a number of activities going on along with some great food. You won’t want to miss this. Mark your calendar for May 2, 2020. The start of Motorcycle Safety & Awareness Month A lot going on and again we want to thank our many Sponsors for everything you do to help us and the Community. Have a wonderful safe and prosperous 2020.



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DEADLINE FOR PUBLISHING

All materials for consideration in the next December 10th, 2020. Any materials received after the deadline will be considered for a future issue.

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MMA of Arizona Life Membership

Casa Grande District Tom Corr Eddie Davis Steve Musgrave* Carol Myers	Joseph Hoodak Tambria Kirk Dave Kopp David Ladd Henry “Skip” Mikolajczyk Tony Picciano Jane Picciano Deborah Riggs Gerald Riggs John “Skip” Sims Edward Smith Ron Spirlock Paul Stuart Garry Thurston Kris Wall Michael Wendt	Karen Konley Keven Kullberg Chester Larson Sue Leggett Dean Lott Diane Malone Betty McDonald Larry Myers Fred Pascarelli Forrest Phillips Beverlee Simmons Waldo Stuart* Charles Swinford	Wade Jackson Larry Jenkins Phyllis Kelley* Glen Koepke Elmer Myers Darline Olsen “Lady Jewells” Olson- Lentz Greg Oppedal Don “Sandman” Randolph Catherine “Kate” Rouse Larry Venteicher	Ben McLachlan Robin Pierce Randy Rahn Terry K. Rutherford Rich Tuminello Denise Hunter-Tuminello Buddy Zahnle Wes Sellards Dick Tush
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Eagle District Julie Cissne Kimberly Cole Cherie Dubrow Billy “Desperado” Larson George Graham Ray Houston Eufemio Polanco Gene Mummet Earl Rigby Scot Williamson Wesley Strait Michael Vigorito	Phoenix District Mark Be_Iden Mark Borato Tom Buohl Lynna Buohl Russell G. Cheetham Jr. David Deckwa Sr. Marysia Deckwa Lee Erceg* Tom Erhardt Victor Florio Jack “Yukon Jack” Fry Jeff Gordon Tracy Gruber Mary Hart Bobbi Hartmann Barbara Hatley* Roger Hurm Lee Irvine Butch Kirkham Judy Kirkham	Rim Country District Ed “Hollywood” Holyoak Becca Holyoak Ruth Lewis Roger Ogborn Diane Schultz Wayne Slocum Jane Wilcox	Verde Valley District David Browne Ken Cadigan Robert Dixon Rose Dixon Jessica Howell Bob Gates Bill Lyons Jr. Michael Mooney Phil O'Neil Dale Vandermolten	Motorcycle Club Life Members Sober Riders since 08/2003 Limey Riders since 09/2005 VIII's Society since 11/2006
Grand Canyon District Stephen Briggs				Life Emeritus Members Roger “Priest” Hurm - Chairman Bill Justice - Chairman CJ Swinford - Chairman Colin “Cinders” MacDiarmid- Chairman* Tom Coor - Chairman
High Country District Marlin Kessler Colin MacDiarmid* Stony Monday				Co-Founders of MMA-AZ Joe Eggleston, Esq.* AIM Attorney Richard Lester, Esq. AIM Attorney
Leather David Barr Debbie Basher Richard L. Davis* Jerry Dyer Terry Engelking Cindy Gates James Gonzales Lee Gonzales Larry Griffith Dave “Stiffy” Hill Don Hill Rhonda Holz		Salt River District James Best Mick Degn John Emerson Chuck Franklin Howard Gelman Bill Goodwin Bob Gumfory Sherry Harradence Gay Hayward James Hillyard William Hitze	Westsidiers District Deborah Blair Kimberley “Sunshiney” Cole George Graham Ray Huston Gene “Gobb” Mummert Wesley “T-Bone” Straight Michael Vigorito	* In Memoriam
			White Mountain District Tim Belous Randy Cridner John “Oilcan” Fields* Bob Kirby	

MMA of Arizona District Meeting Times & Locations

Eagle/Leather District
2nd Saturday at 10 am
Charley's Place
4324 W. Thunderbird Rd.
Glendale, AZ

Rim Country District
2nd Sunday at 10 am
American Legion post 69
on Hwy 260
Payson, AZ

Verde Valley District
We still meet 2nd Sunday at 11am,
Moose Lodge # 1449 - 1051 S. Broad-
way,
Clarkdale, AZ 86324



What is the MMA?

MMA is a Motorcyclists Rights Or-
ganization (MRO) comprised of mo-
torcyclists and motorcycle
enthusiasts who are concerned with
the future, safety, and welfare of
motorcycling. We are a non-profit,
educational organization dedicated
to improving the social atmosphere
that surrounds motorcyclists, and
protecting the individual freedoms
of citizens.

We are an association that lobbies
and educates the government and
the general public to promote mo-
torcycling in a safe and positive
image. When you become a mem-
ber of the MMA of Arizona, you
make a difference in the ongoing
mission to protect your right to ride
and enjoy the motorcycle of your
choice, your choice of riding ap-
parel, and when and where you can
ride a motorcycle. These issues are
real and present in today's "protect
yourself from yourself" political en-
vironment. This holds true for all
levels of government.

At the state level we have a lobbyist
who regularly visits our state capital
to lobby our legislators on the is-
sues concerning the motorcyclists
in Arizona. On the national level we
are aligned with the National Coal-
ition of Motorcyclists (NCOM), and
several other motorcycle rights or-
ganizations.

Memberships are open to anyone
regardless of what type of motorcyc-
le you ride, if any. All memberships
include: The Motorcycle Patriot
Newsletter, Membership Card,
\$4,000 Accidental Death & Dis-
memberment Benefit, Event Up-
dates, Voting Guides, and the
ability to interact with some of the
most politically active motorcyclists
in the state of Arizona.

The MMA of Arizona needs the sup-
port of all motorcycle riders and we
hope you will consider joining this
dedicated organization.

Please join us in the cause to pro-
tect your rights.



Join the MMA Today!

MMA of Arizona
P.O Box 5113
Glendale,Az 85312

Please print clearly and completely. Mail this form along with payment to address above.

PERSONAL MEMBERSHIP

Individual Annual: (\$25.00) ☐ Individual Lifetime: (\$250.00) ☐
New to MMA-AZ: ☐ Renew a Membership: ☐ Update/Transfer Membership: ☐

Check the district you wish to join - You may join any one district of your choice

Eagle/Leather ☐ Superstition ☐ Rim Country ☐ Verde Valley ☐ White Mountain ☐

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____ Road Name: _____

Phone 1: _____ Phone 2: _____ Email: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Registered Voter: Yes ☐ No ☐ Volunteer: Yes ☐ No ☐

BUSINESS MEMBERSHIP

Business Annual: (\$120.00) ☐ Business Lifetime (\$500.00) ☐
New to MMA-AZ: ☐ Renew a Membership: ☐ Update/Transfer Membership: ☐

Check the district you wish to join - You may join any one district of your choice

Eagle/Leather ☐ Superstition ☐ Rim Country ☐ Verde Valley ☐ White Mountain ☐

Business Category:

Bar and/or Restaurant ☐ Lodging ☐ Clothing ☐ Motorcycle Repair/Parts/Accessories ☐
Real Estate ☐ Services & Miscellaneous ☐ Organizations or Clubs ☐

Business Name: _____ Business Website: _____

Business Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Business Contact 1: _____ Business Contact 2: _____

Signature: _____ Today's Date: _____

Recruited By: _____

Received By: _____

Receipt for Membership -MMA of Arizona

Received By: _____ Amount: \$ _____ Date: _____

Cash: Check #: _____ Note: _____

Join MMA online - <http://mma-az.org/about/mma-az-membership>

Lobbyist Report continued

We met and worked with MVD on a regular basis,
to recommend various ways for MVD to spend that
money in the promotion of Motorcycle Safety and
Awareness. We wrote vision statements and
guidelines etc. The ad-hoc council continually
questioned MVD as to how our approximately
\$80,000 a year was and had been being used to-
wards motorcycle safety and awareness. They
could not account for one dime of it. Dedicated
funds had since been eliminated, and it seemed
our monies were lost in the MVD general fund, and
being used for who knows what. We also found
that there were only a few MVD sites that still did
motorcycle training.

In 2001, the motorcycle lobbyists, took action and
introduced and passed legislation to re-establish a
dedicated Motorcycle Safety Fund (MSF) ARS28-

2010.

In 2002, we met with John Carlson (Governors of-
fice) and State Representative Cooley, to draft, in-
troduce and pass legislation to legislatively
appropriate our then \$80,000. We amended the
language (ARS 28-2010) to move the newly dedi-
cated motorcycle safety fund from 2001, under the
realm of the GOHS, and established a 5 person
Governor appointed Arizona Motorcycle Safety
Advisory Council (AMSAC). Four members of the
original ad-hoc council at that time, Bobbi Hart-
mann (ABATE), Larry Kenyon (DPS motor), Mark
Weiss (TEAM AZ),

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NCOM NEWSLETTER

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

BIPARTISAN HOUSE BILL WOULD REAUTHORIZE MOTORCYCLIST ADVISORY COUNCIL

“Motorcycles require specific and in some cases different requirements of roads, and we need an open dialogue between the motorcycle community, infrastructure experts, and the federal government to discuss these challenges,” said U.S. Rep. Mike Gallagher (R-WI) upon sponsoring the bipartisan Motorcycle Advisory Council Reauthorization Act, H.R. 5234.

Rep. Gallagher, alongside Reps. Chris Pappas (D-NH), Troy Balderson (R-OH), and Harley Rouda (D-CA), introduced H.R. 5234 in the U.S. House of Representatives on November 21, 2019 to direct the U.S. Secretary of Transportation to reauthorize the Motorcyclist Advisory Council (MAC) at the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) for six years. The MAC, whose authorization under the FAST Act of 2015 expires along with surface transportation programs in FY2021, provides DOT with critical firsthand knowledge on infrastructure and road safety measures and serves as the only official forum for motorcyclists to discuss motorcycle issues with the federal government.

H.R. 5234, if enacted, would require the volunteer body to submit reports to DOT every two years. DOT then would have 60 days to review the council's recommendations and submit a report to Congress.

The measure would also clarify the membership of MAC “to include 12 members, including 5 highway engineering experts from state or local governments, 1 state or local traffic safety engineer who is a motorcyclist, one roadway safety data expert on crash testing and analysis, and 1 representative from each of the following groups: a national association of State transportation officials, a national motorcyclist foundation, a national motorcyclist association, a national motorcycle manufacturing association, and a national safety organization.”

CONGRESS CONSIDERS CAPPING ETHANOL CONTENT OF U.S. FUEL SUPPLY

U.S. Senator Tom Udall (D-NM) and U.S. Representative Peter Welch (D-VT) introduced companion bills in the U.S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives on November 14, 2019 “to reform the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) by mitigating harmful environmental impacts of the corn ethanol mandate and advancing the next generation of biofuels that actually reduce greenhouse gas emissions,” according to a press release issued by Sen. Udall's office.

The GREENER Fuels Act (Growing Renewable Energy through Existing and New Environmentally Responsible Fuels Act) would phase out the corn ethanol mandate and immediately reduce the amount of ethanol in fuel by as much as 1 billion gallons by capping the amount of ethanol that can be blended into conventional gasoline at 9.7 percent.

Such legislation is important to motorcycle riders, in particular, because none of the nation's 22 million motorcycles and ATVs are certified by the EPA to operate on gasoline that contains more than 10% ethanol (E10), and using fuel containing greater than 10% ethanol can damage fuel systems and violate manufacturers' warranties.

MOTORCYCLING GOOD FOR MIND AND

BODY

In a fresh take on a previous UCLA study we reported on earlier this year, visordown.com reports that “A study conducted by the Institute of Neuroscience and Human Behavior (INHB) has concluded that motorcyclists are less stressed and more fulfilled than their four-wheeled counterparts,” adding that “The study originally set about trying to find out if bikers were constantly riding in fear of being involved in an accident, but inadvertently proved the opposite! The results center around a certain hormone called cortisol that is released in the brain when we become anxious. Scientists found that bikers would produce 28% less cortisol during testing than drivers on the same course.”

The study was conducted by the Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior at the University of California, Los Angeles, in a controlled manner, with 50 motorcyclists and 50 car drivers making their way around a closed course for 20-minutes. During this time, the team measured the user's heart rate, cortisol, and adrenaline levels, as well as the user's brain activity, and it's here where the most interesting results came from:

“The results found that when riding, the subjects experienced increased sensory focus and resilience to distraction. Riding also produced an increase in adrenaline levels and heart rate, and a decrease in cortisol levels -- the kind of results you often get after a light exercise session, which also is a stress reducer.”

Concluding that motorcycles are better for you physically, as well as mentally, visordown.com claims; “The news regarding the mental well-being of motorcyclists goes hand-in-hand with a study that found that riding a motorcycle can burn anywhere between 170-600 calories an hour. As much as some people can burn in an hour at the gym.”

NEW YORK POTHOLE MEASURE VETOED

Despite passing both chambers of the New York State legislature, including a unanimous 62-0 vote in the state Senate, Governor Andrew Cuomo (D) has vetoed a measure that would have provided strong incentives for more prompt repairs of road defects by expanding the state's liability for damages suffered by road users due to roadway defects, if the state Department of Transportation was notified of the defect and failed to repair it.

Under current law, motorists who suffer damage due to defects on local roads may pursue damages against the locality at any time during the year so long as the municipality had advance notice of the defect, but those who suffer damages due to defects in state roads may pursue these damages against the state only if the incident occurred between May 15 and November 15. A.1235, sponsored by Assemblyman Thomas J. Abinanti (D- Westchester County), and S.5422, sponsored by state Sen. Timothy M. Kennedy (D-Buffalo), would have expanded state liability for potholes on state highways year-round.

Potholes and roadway defects can not only be dangerous to drivers but can prove deadly for motorcyclists, but Gov. Cuomo, who rides and has promoted state tourism aboard his Harley-Davidson, vetoed the legislation on November 25, 2019. Similar measures, endorsed by the Automobile Association of America and the state Trial Lawyers Association, were proposed in 2014, 2015-16 and 2017-18, but never made it out of committee.

ANOTHER STATE INSTITUTES THREE-WHEEL “AUTOCYCLE” RECLASSIFICATION

A new “Autocycle” classification will allow consumers to operate a Polaris Slingshot with a

standard driver's license in the state of Wisconsin. Residents of Wisconsin can now operate the three-wheeled Slingshot with a standard driver's license, rather than the previously required motorcycle license or endorsement. The reclassification will take effect immediately.

With a steering wheel and side-by-side seating, state policymakers recognize Slingshot's operator skills mirror those required for a valid state driver's license rather than a motorcycle license and as such, the need for the unique Autocycle classification.

The Slingshot is now classified as an Autocycle in 44 states, including all states bordering Wisconsin. Three states classify the Slingshot as a motorcycle, which requires a motorcycle endorsement or license; Alaska, Massachusetts and New York.

MINNESOTA CITY SEEKS PUBLIC INPUT TO RIDE AN ATV ON CITY STREETS

The Superior, Minnesota city council is considering a referendum on ATV use, and is seeking public input to determine whether or not it should be legal for ATVs and side-by-sides in the city.

According to a report on SuperiorTelegram.com, a council member has “introduced a resolution that would place an advisory referendum on the April 7, 2020 ballot to gauge public sentiment for allowing ATVs and UTVs to use any city street except those deemed exempt because of state and local laws or safety concerns,” and may let voters decide if all city streets and alleys could be open to use by all-terrain and utility-task vehicles.

The Superior City Council wouldn't be bound to act based on the outcome of the election, but if the measure is well-supported by the public, the councilman would introduce an ordinance to that effect.

NEW HAMPSHIRE RESISTS EXIT RENUMBERING

United States highways have been switching to one consistent exit numbering system over the years, and in most states exits now share their number with their closest mile marker, making it simpler for travelers to locate their position and estimate distances between where they are and where they're going.

A few northeastern states have been slow to switch, however, and New Hampshire Governor Chris Sununu (R) believes that holding onto the old sequential exit numbers for the sake of tradition is more important than progress and consistency.

But the renumbering decision isn't entirely up to the individual states, as the federal government has threatened to withhold federal highway funding from states that do not comply with the directive to reassign exit numbers by mileage.

On Twitter, Governor Sununu said, "Exit numbers are a point of pride for some of us in NH -- and we shouldn't let Washington bureaucrats threaten to take that away!"

Numbering exits by mileage is what the rest of the country does, and those few remaining states holding out should probably do the same for consistency for travelers everywhere, though admittedly, this has become less of an issue now that most vehicles, even motorcycles, have GPS capability and can make better decisions based on better information.

TASMANIA BANS THE WEARING OF “OUTLAW MOTORCYCLE GANG” INSIGNIAS

Laws banning the wearing of insignias of five “Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs (OMCG)” has gone

into force in Tasmania (an island state of Australia), and their majority Liberal Government “makes no apologies for being tough on criminals and is delivering on our strong plan to keep Tasmania safer from organised crime.”

The legislation “applies to an organisation that displays prohibited insignias that causes the public to feel intimidated and threatened,” and their new laws relate to five OMCGs -- Bandidos, Outlaws, Devils Henchmen, Black Uhlans and Rebels, which officials say “sends a clear message that crime gangs are not welcome in Tasmania.”

ROYALS POSE ON A MOTORCYCLE FOR THEIR CHRISTMAS CARD
The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, Kate Middleton and Prince William, along with their three children, Prince George, Prince Louis and Princess Charlotte, casually posed on a motorcycle for their 2019 Christmas card, in stark contrast to last year’s more traditional family photo!

The Cambridge Household’s Holiday card fea-

Lobbyist Report continued

and Dick Studdard (GoldWing Riders) were appointed to that initial council. An ex-Tempe police officer rounded out the first 5 appointed members.

The council promoted motorcycle safety and awareness and advised the Governor’s Office of Highway Safety on the expenditures of monies in the Motorcycle Safety Fund. The council no longer exists, but your lobby team assures that our monies are going to a good cause.

Our whole goal from the beginning was to use those monies to educate the public through mo-

tures all five aboard a British-brand motorbike with a sidecar and the salutation; “Wishing you a very Happy Christmas and New Year”. Prince William, a longtime motorcycle aficionado, is second in line to the throne behind his father Prince Charles.

SAVE THE DATE - 2020 NCOM CONVENTION IN CIRCLE CITY
Mark your calendar for May 8-10, 2020 and plan on joining hundreds of fellow bikers’ rights activists at the 35th annual NCOM Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana, over Mother’s Day weekend. The first race ever held at the Circle City’s world-famous “Brickyard” was with motorcycles, and over a century later we’re still in it to win!

Today’s finest Freedom Fighters will enlighten attendees about the intricacies of the legislative process, lobbying techniques, organizational efforts, leadership principles, and share political insights to retain and regain Freedom of the Road.

Agenda items will cover legal and legislative issues of concern to all riders, with Special Meet-

torcycle awareness AND subsidize motorcycle training!! Thanks in part to AMSAF we have that now. Much of our Motorcycle Safety Fund is used to provide Grants to the Arizona Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Foundation. They in turn provide scholarships to the public to reduce the cost of motorcycle training. This is a very big deal!!!

Our 2020 agenda so far:
- Moving forward the Motorcycle Safety Fund Sunset Date
- Working on language and intro of lane filtering legislation.
- Working with courts so that ticketed riders are

ings for Veterans Affairs, Women in Motorcycling, Clean & Sober Roundtable and World of Sport Bikes, as well as the Christian Unity Conference and Confederation of Clubs Patch Holders Meeting.

The 2020 NCOM Convention will be held at the Marriott Indianapolis East (7202 East 21st Street) and all motorcyclists are welcome to attend and participate in the many meetings, seminars and group discussions.

Reserve your hotel room now for the special NCOM rate of \$129 by calling (317) 352-9775. Registration fees for the NCOM Convention are \$85 including the Silver Spoke Awards Banquet on Saturday night, or \$50 for the Convention only. For more information, or to pre-register, call the National Coalition of Motorcyclists at (800) 525-5355 or visit www.ON-A-BIKE.com.

QUOTABLE QUOTE: "The future will soon be a thing of the past."
~ George Carlin (1937-2008) comedian and social critic

able to attend a motorcycle safety course rather than a driver’s class.
- Working with a Senator regarding infrastructure and assuring gas tax is used according to designation.

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Motorcycle Awareness Program

By Bobbi Hartmann

Following are some of the student comments from our evaluation sheets that we collect from each of the students at the end of the MAP presentation. Their comments are not only interesting, but informative as well. They continually let us know that they are hearing our message. Their words let us know that we are on the right track with our presentations.

We mostly attend to High Schools, in order to present to the upcoming drivers, but have presented in businesses as well. Various versions of what we refer to as our Motorcycle Awareness Program (MAP), are taught throughout the states. MRO’s across the country have found this type of program to be very beneficial and rewarding.

11/19/19 - Desert Sage School – Deer Valley– Skypilot, Bobbi, Buddha
Teacher Comment:
Excellent presentation! Very informative!
Students Comments:
- In this presentation I enjoyed learning about motorcycle safety. I learned a lot about how I should react to motorcyclists on the road when I see them and how to treat one. I learned how to avoid an accident.
- They had detailed explanations and good information coming from a firsthand account of real bikers. Including the stories of other biker accidents was interesting as well.
- I really liked all of the information that we re-

ceived today through your presentation. I liked that the presentation went over as much as possible as well as making it simple and easy to understand..
- It was very descriptive, entertaining, and fun. The speakers had first hand knowledge on the subject, which made it more credible than some presentations.
- I learned many motorcycle/vehicle accidents happen when a car turns left in front of them. I liked the way they explained different ways to help prevent those types of accidents. I learned why they ride in different parts of their lane and how they are always looking to see or be seen better.
- I liked learning about how motorcyclists see things from their perspective. Learning what to do around motorcycles and how to treat them with respect. The video showed good representation.
- It really helped to give drivers a good perspective on what motorcyclists will do in certain situations. They had good personality and were fun to listen to. They delivered very detailed information.
- I loved how descriptive they were when explaining all of the things that they search for when driving. The three of them together made the slide show entertaining.
- I learned that very rarely is there a motorcycle, motorcycle crash and that it is usually a crash between motorcycle and vehicle. I liked how they gave examples of different bikes and how leather is a proven protective material.
- I liked the information. It was presented well

and by friendly and engaging bikers. They gave us good insight into a motorcyclist head and why they do some of the things they do. I liked what they advocate for.
- There was a lot of great information. They made it understandable. They helped us understand why looking left, right, and left again is so important. The slides were good.
- I enjoyed the information given. It will be information I definitely will not forget. Overall the presenters were nice and helpful and I learned a lot of important stuff.
- I liked the videos that were shown and how to treat motorcyclists when you see them on the road and why. All the facts from real bikers helped to understand. I liked the jokes.
- The presentation was interesting and showed how much more danger that riders are in than a normal vehicle driver. I would have never thought about those things.
- It was extremely knowledgeable with great information and very interesting. I got to learn about different types of bikes and manufacturers.
- I liked seeing the different types of motorcycles and the information about their gear. I learned how east it is to hit a motorcycle because we do not see them because they are smaller and narrower than cars.
- I liked the video, it really showed us what could actually happen out there on the road. The discussion on why we should always use our directionals was very informative and made good sense.. How to look 3 times back and forth also made much more sense.



MMA of Arizona Calendar of Events



YOU CAN SUBMIT YOUR EVENT ON-
LINE AT OUR WEBSITE!

Follow the link below and simply fill out
the on-line form to get your event placed
onto the website and the Master MMA
event
calendar.

<http://mma-az.org/events/>

BIRDS ON BIKES 2019

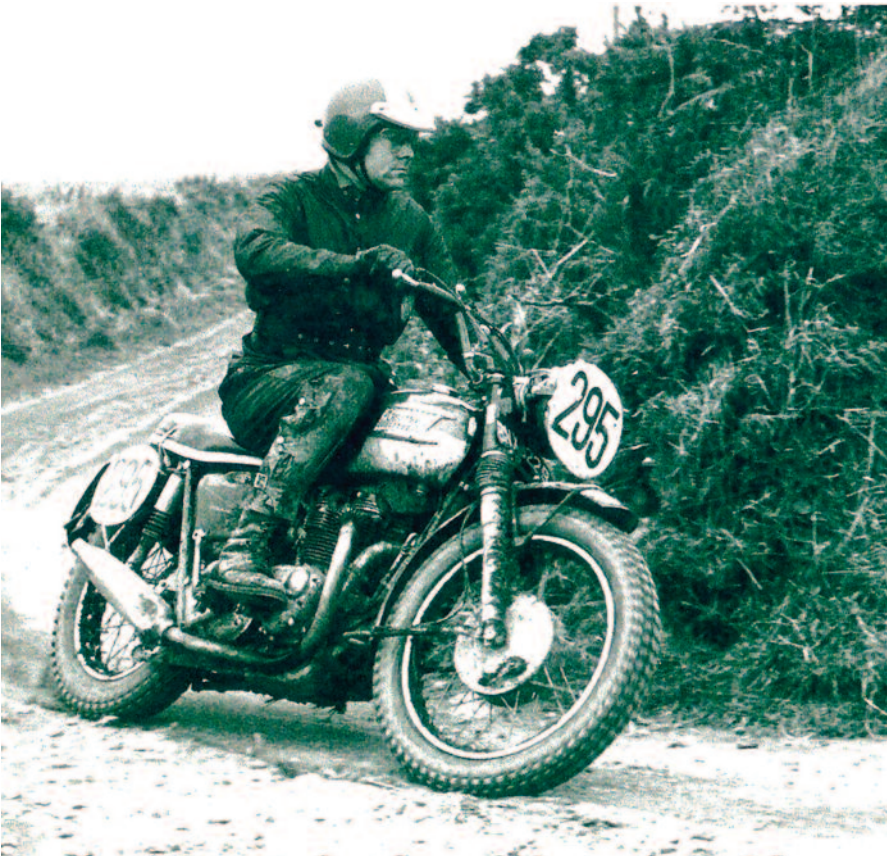


**MMA'S 27TH ANNUAL
FREEDOM BEACH PARTY**

Saturday, February 22nd 12:00-5:00
Jakes Corner Bar
57564 N. AZ-HWY 188 Payson

\$15.00 per person, \$25.00 a Couple
Lunch included first 100 signed in.
Live music, 50/50, Raffles, Ugliest Hawaiian Shirt Contest
Hula Dance Contest, People Games.

Help us, to help you, protect your freedom to ride,
And promote safety and Awareness.





Chairman's Report

I can hardly believe it is 2020 already.


So here it is our first Digital newspaper going with the times and saving money so we can spend it on things that the MMA fights for your rights and your safety.

We have been working on a few things this past month the new paper, our webmaster has built us a new website and did a great job, still tweaking a few things but it is on line same address mma-az.org If you want us to add an

event to our calendar please submit in the web-site. Our Membership has grown some but would like to see more, we all know as a group we can make things happen it. We need to help our lobbyist work for us at the capital for all motorcyclist. Speaking of the Capital Motorcycle day at the Dome is Feb. 19th 2020 Let's show our legislators that they work for us take the day off from work and let's show up in force.

My goal for the next coming year is to work on getting some of the younger generation to help

Editor's Space



Comments relative to the content, current affairs or anything that is on my mind at the time of this publication.

Eric "Spanky" Hampton
Editor, MMA Patriot

It's finally getting cooler!

Remind everyone to Watch Out For Motorcycles!



BIRDS ON BIKES 2019

What a great day bikes rolling in to St. Vincent De Paul Actually they started early this year first big group showed up at 1030am and we were not ready yet, but they hung out with us as the crew from St. Vincent Emily and all her volunteers did a great job getting everything out in record time. I want to thank all the volunteers that came out to help this cause.

Well the West side won again!!!! I believe the final count was 170 turkey's west side and 96 East side. Come on East side 2 years in a row West side has one. We had a trophy this year for the winning side.

This is one of my favorite events of the year. I love giving back to our community,. This year was the 36th year the MMA has put on this

event.

Thanks to everyone that came out this year to help feed the less fortunate. Hope to see you all again next year!!

Cindy Gates/MMA Chairman

MMA OF ARIZONA PRINT & WEB ADVERTISING INFO

DISTRIBUTION

- The Motorcycle Patriot is a membership and free-distribution publication distributed every other month with a circulation of 4,000.
- The newspaper has over 120 distribution points throughout the state.
- The Motorcycle Patriot can be found at motorcycle orientated establishments statewide.
- The mma-az.org web site mirrors the content of the Patriot newspaper but is an updated daily source of information.

CONTENTS

- The Motorcycle Patriot features articles and columns that profile statewide legislative issues, lobby reports, the people, businesses and events of the Modified Motorcycle Association of Arizona.
- The newspaper's calendar of events ensures a long shelf life – your advertisement is seen repeatedly throughout the two-month cycle.

SPECIFICATIONS

DEADLINES

Closing date for space reservations is the 5th day of each month prior to publication date. Advertisers will receive a proof, upon request. Digital-ready ads are due by the 10th of the month prior to publication.

FORMAT

Motorcycle Patriot is formatted as a three column, (11"x 17") newspaper and is printed by offset.

DIGITAL-READY SPECIFICATIONS

Digital ads should be high resolution (300 dpi) jpeg, tiff or pdf files. Pdf files are preferred.

COLOR

Color ads are sold on a space-available basis.

PAYMENT TERMS

Payment is due and payable in full prior to each publication unless otherwise arranged. Payment is considered past due after 30 days.

AD FORMATS

Full

Printed Page

1/4 BC 1/8 1/2

Printed Page

For web advertising and pricing please call 602.576.1768

Web Page


AD SIZES

		Width		Height
Business card	Horizontal/Vertical	3 1/4"	x	2 1/4"
1/8 page	Horizontal/Vertical	5"	x	3 3/4"
1/4 page	Horizontal/Vertical	5"	x	7 1/4"
1/2 page	Horizontal	10 1/4"	x	7 1/4"
Full page		10 1/4"	x	15"

AD RATES

Circle your ad selections

	2 Months 1 Issue	4 Months 2 Issues	6 Months 3 Issues	12 Months 6 Issues
Business card	\$40	\$75	\$100	\$200
1/8 page	\$60	\$100	\$160	\$340
1/4 page	\$125	\$165	\$350	\$650
1/2 page	\$250	\$300	\$650	\$1200
Full page non-color	\$350	\$450	\$1000	\$1800
Back page full color	\$400	\$550	\$1125	\$2000



2/14/11



Meeting of the Minds Report 2019

By Bobbi HartmannThe Motorcycle Riders Foundations chose Bloomington MN as the place to hold their 35th annual Meeting of the Minds. As usual, there were many individual workshops and open sessions to attend. There was the 2020 Legislative Strategy Session, the Shared Goals and Working together SMROs & Motorcycle Clubs, the NHTSA - Protecting our Future from their Past, and Profiling - how it effects all motorcyclists, just to name a few. The wealth of knowledge and camaraderie at these events cannot be found just anywhere.

I always try to take at least one quote away from the initial general session. This year I got that from the MRF Chairman himself, Hardtail. He said, "Don't practice until you get it right, practice until you can't get it wrong!" There was a lot of discussion on assuming positive intent, along with fixing it and making things better. It was pointed out that the MRF itself cannot be healthy if the State Motorcycle Rights Organizations (SMRO's) aren't healthy. We need to leave these conferences smarter and fired up with a take no prisoner's attitude. We need to leave united, which is a big word

We would all do good to adhere to some of the suggestions on working together, that came out of Shared goals & Working together SMROs & Motorcycle Clubs session. We discussed how to bridge the gap and how we had a lot of tools in our toolboxes. How we need to move forward together in order to make a difference. It all evolves around Communications, Respect and Trust. To the State Motorcycle Rights Organizations, lobbying and fighting for our rights is what they do. To others, it may take their life style being threatened for them to stand up, take notice and respond. We need to educate each other on what needs to be done. We need to go from a WE CAN attitude to a WE WILL! Remember, there is no hierarchy when we are doing it together.

There was a discussion on how Profiling affects all motorcyclists. We have found over the years, that a majority of non-club riders do not understand that their stop by law enforcement could be considered profiling. Remember Profiling is defined as follows:

Profiling means law enforcement arbitrarily uses the fact that a person rides a motorcycle or wears motorcycle-related apparel as a factor in deciding to stop and question, take enforcement action against or arrest a person or search the person's vehicle with or without legal basis under the United States Constitution and the Arizona Constitution.

State and Federal Legislative Awards are given out for states that successfully pass legislation. This year the MMA of AZ, ABATE of AZ and the Arizona Confederation of Clubs, received awards for our Anti-Profiling Memorial that is HM2002 that passed our legislature in the 2019 session. The memorial was meant to promote awareness of profiling in Arizona and to set up

collaboration between law enforcement and the motorcyclists, more specifically, the motorcycle lobby. See Picture in this newsletter.

- One of my favorite sessions is the MRF's Legislative & Regulatory Priorities. The MRF reviews their High Priority Objectives. These are:
- Continue to lobby for H255 – promoting awareness of and condemning motorcycle profiling
 - Advocate for targeted changes to Renewable Fuel Standard
 - Advocate and monitor for motorcyclists concerning laws and regulations for autonomous vehicles
 - Fully engage the EPA/Congress on motorcycle emissions regulations
 - Work with stakeholders on federal definition of a motorcycle and ensure crash and fatality statistics are separate from other classes of vehicles
 - Work to limit funding of any federal government entity advocating universal helmets
 - Continue to promote our theme of crash avoidance versus safer crashes
 - Fiercely oppose any federal mandatory helmet, apparel or conspicuity standards
 - Pursue legislative language that the consumer has option to opt out of having personal data communicated to interested parties (black boxes)
 - Pursue and monitor efforts related to the next highway bill expiring in 2020 and ensure that certain of the following provisions are included:
 - Add issue regarding profiling to the next bill
 - Maintain ban of use of Federal funds for motorcycle only checkpoints
 - Designate seats for MRO state and federal level to Motorcycle Advisory Council and to advise the FHWA
 - Continue ban on NHTSA and CDC lobbying
 - Remove some barriers for states getting monies from Safety Training Fund
 - RPM ACT – assure motorcyclists ability to do modifications necessary to motorcycles and cars for racing purposes
 - Oppose any motorcycling related federal blackmails or federal sanctions

A long time friend and rights advocate Slider Gilmore did a session on "Live to Ride". He discussed some goals that would allow us to live longer healthier lives, and to safely ride for more years. He discussed that how well you live and how you feel about it, turns out to be 80% up to you and 20% genetics. You control how you take care of you! He mentioned how obesity, smoking, abuse of alcohol, stress, sleep, and even healthy teeth, are things that you have a certain amount of control of. Your body needs balance. You need to set goals for yourself and make a concerted effort to stick to them.

Another long time friend and brother of Slider, is Chopper Charlie. He talked to us about measuring richness in friends, brothers and sisters. He spoke of how God will someday take them back and how we need to use them while they are here. He spoke of how true friends give of them-

selves and their time and money, but most importantly their experience. He suggested that in turn, we should be a true friend to them. We can give love, protection and watch their backs. You can criticize each other in private, but praise each other in public. You need to figure the best approach together. It is important that you respond in a timely manner and be the best that you can be. A quote from Charlie I will remember is "If you want to go fastest, go alone. If you want to further, go with others."

- The conference holds a Meet and Greet on Thursday night. This is a very important event, as every state represented gets up and discusses what is going on in their states. As lobbyists, this information can be used to prompt ideas for Arizona and to afford us the opportunity to contact that state to obtain pertinent information for the same. They recently started having each state input their talking points prior to conference, so that a slide show can be presented at the time of the event. Following are just a few of some of the issues being addressed across the country. Many of these states had a long list:
- LA – Recently got 5 of their 6 congressmen to sign on to H255, the Anti-Profiling Resolution.
 - AL – Began use of electronic signage Watch Out For Motorcycles, Use of emergency lanes on interstate for stopped traffic conditions.
 - VA – Defeated salvage bill to change the definition to repair a totaled motorcycle, Started steps for Watch for Motorcycles license plates
 - CO – Left on Red passed
 - IL – Illinois State Police proposed a policy to withdraw traffic support if 1% involved which ABATE convinced them to drop, Eliminated a banning of vests as 'Gang Attire' from Harvard IL, Statewide campaign to draw attention to Autonomous Vehicles, Working on Capping motorcycle registration fees, increasing motorcycle training fund, having social media campaign regarding grass clippings (big thing for motorcyclists in those states), Amicus brief regarding seizure and forfeiture of membership materials
 - GA – Very successful Cruiser vs Sport bike Events
 - SCVR – Promote rider education classes for members – reimburse members after they complete rider or Accident Scene Management Class
 - IA – "Can you see me now" food drive, presented Share the Road to 10,000 students
 - UT – Passed a lane filtering law which your lobbyists in Arizona are reviewing
 - MA – An Act to allow interlocking ignition devices on motorcycles,
 - NC – Passed motorcycle exception for Mask Act, Expanded Motorcycle Safety Awareness Program (30,000) students
 - MO – Just missed Helmet Choice and will retry next year. Now have a Governor who will sign a 'clean bill'
 - PA – Add motorcycles to their Lemon Law, Increase fine for riding without an endorsement
 - OK – Started a Court Watch for motorcycle accidents, especially hit & run



News from the MRF

For Immediate Release

November 20, 2019

Senate Hearing - Highly Automated Vehicles: Federal Perspectives on the Deployment of Safety Technology
Today the U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation held a hearing entitled Highly Automated Vehicles: Federal Perspectives on the Deployment of Safety Technology. This hearing comes on the heels of a National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) board meeting yesterday regarding the investigation of a March 2018 crash of an Uber Autonomous Vehicle (AV) that resulted in the death of a pedestrian in Tempe, Arizona.

The NTSB released some startling revelations in their investigation of the 2018 deadly crash. Among those that the software did not properly identify the victim as a pedestrian, it did not adequately assess safety risks and the operator of the vehicle was watching a TV show on her phone and was not watching the road. Additionally, the NTSB cited an “inadequate safety culture” at Uber.

The Motorcycle Riders Foundation (MRF) applauds the NTSB and the U.S. Senate for holding public hearings on AV technology and safety concerns. The MRF is committed to fighting for the safety of motorcyclists as this new technology is deployed on our nation’s roadways. While we are hopeful that this technology can reduce accidents on our nation’s roads, we agree with the statement of Chairman Roger Wicker (R-MS) when he said of AV technology “I think a healthy degree of skepticism is a good thing.”

During today’s Senate hearing, it was especially important that two U.S. Senators specifically addressed the concerns of motorcyclists during the hearing.

In a question directed to Joel Szabat, Acting Under Secretary of Transportation for Policy, U.S. Department of Transportation Senator John Thune (R-SD) asked, “In developing a regulatory framework for AVs can you speak to how other roadways users such as motorcycles are considered?” The Assistant Secretary responded by saying “Motorcyclists are well incorporated in the development of policy in the department.”

Senator Gary Peters (D-MI) echoed Senator Thune’s interest in motorcycles when he said, “I am avid motorcyclist. The number one reason for accidents is a car hitting a motorcyclist or a car pulling out in front of a motorcyclist.”

Other Senators include Sen. Cantwell (D-WA) raised concerns about the current deployment of AVs without minimum standards from the federal government, “We need some standards.” In response, Robert Sumwalt, Chairman of the NTSB agreed by saying that “Whatever is working now is not working as well as it should.” We at the MRF agree that minimum standards should be in place as this new technology becomes more and more prevalent on the roads we all share.

Chairman Sumwalt of the NTSB closed the hearing with this statement, “I think that AV technology holds great promise to improve safety, but it has to be done properly.” We at the MRF could not agree more.

MRF President Kirk “Hardtail” Willard stated, "As a motorcyclist it offends me when bureaucrats are discussing various inevitable, emerging vehicle and advanced roadway technologies they default to classifying us as vulnerable and in need some sort of protection. I would rather and especially in the specific case of Autonomous Vehicles we be thoroughly considered and fully recognizable and therefore not needing extra protection. As with anything affecting motorcyclists this is another example where the Motorcycle Riders Foundation will demand we remain a significant part of the strategy for roadway users."

You can read the opening statements or watch the hearing by clicking the link below:

Highly Automated Vehicles: Federal Perspectives on the Deployment of Safety Technology

<https://www.commerce.senate.gov/2019/11/committee-announces-hearing-on-automated-vehicles>

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For Immediate Release

November 21, 2019

HOUSE INTRODUCES MOTORCYCLE ADVISORY COUNCIL REAUTHORIZATION ACT

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Today, Congressmen Mike Gallagher (R-WI) along with Reps. Chris Pappas (D-NH), Harley Rouda (D-CA), and Troy Balderson (R-OH) introduced bipartisan legislation, Motorcycle Advisory Council Reauthorization Act. The bill reauthorizes the Motorcycle Advisory Council (MAC) for six years and ensures national motorcycle organizations regain seats on the council.

The Motorcycle Riders Foundation (MRF), along with our partners ABATE of Wisconsin, ABATE of Ohio, Harley-Davidson, and American Motorcyclist Association, have been hard at work over the past month ensuring the future MAC membership is representative of the riding community. This legislation clarifies the membership of MAC which now will include five highway engineering experts from state or local governments, one state or local traffic safety engineer who is a motorcyclist, one roadway safety data expert on crash testing and analysis, and one representative from each of the following groups: a national association of state transportation officials, a national motorcyclist foundation, a national motorcyclist association, a national motorcycle manufacturing association, and a national safety organization.

“As the feds address the vast roadway infrastructure issues and emerging technologies surrounding vehicles and roads, there isn't a more appropriate time to re-establish the Motorcycle Advisory Council,” said Kirk “Hardtail” Willard, President of the Motorcycle Riders Foundation. “It was originally and effectively designed to give motorcyclists a voice with regards to the unique challenges we face on two and three wheels when it comes to roadway design.”

The MRF is encouraged that this legislation will ensure that motorcyclists will continue to have an open dialogue with government officials about the unique characteristics and challenges that motorcyclists face when they are not adequately considered or accounted for as infrastructure programs are being discussed and implemented. We want to acknowledge and commend the relationships that our state motorcyclist rights organizations (SMROs), specifically ABATE of Wisconsin and ABATE of Ohio, established with their elected officials through attending events such as our annual lobby day, Bikers Inside the Beltway. This event, along with active engagement with members of Congress in their home districts, helps the MRF identify the champions of motorcycle issues and achieve our goals.

“We are pleased that our elected representatives from the state of Wisconsin continue to lead the charge in advocating on behalf of the motorcyclists in the country,” said Steve Panten, Legislative Director for ABATE of Wisconsin, Inc. “I am encouraged that years of building relationships, both in our State and by coming to Washington, D.C., every year, continues to elevate our issues on Capitol Hill. We urge other SMRO’s to take the opportunity to do the same.”

The MAC, initially authorized in the SAFETEA-LU in 2005, allotted four of the ten members to consist of representatives from the motorcycling community from various state and federal motorcycle associations. In the FAST Act of 2015, Congress re-established the Motorcyclist Advisory Council in the Highway Bill to advise the Federal Highway Administration on “issues of concern to motorcyclists.” However, the MRF was disappointed the re-established MAC only included one seat for a representa-

tive of a national motorcycle organization.

The Motorcycle Advisory Council provides the Secretary of the Department of Transportation (DOT), the Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), and the Administrator of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) with expert first-hand knowledge of motorcycle issues. “Motorcycle registration is at an all-time high, but this increasing popularity has brought with it increasing risks, such as fatal accidents,” said Rep. Gallagher. “Motorcycles require specific – and in some cases different – requirements of roads, and we need an open dialogue between the motorcycle community, infrastructure experts, and the federal government to discuss these challenges.” The MAC serves as the only official forum for the motorcycle community to have an open dialogue with the federal government to discuss concerns with infrastructure design, issues with intelligent transportation systems, and other areas of safety affecting motorcycles on the road.

“With the number of motorcycles currently on the road, it is critical that the road designers and transportation engineers understand the way that motorcycles and motorcyclists interact with the roadways as well as other vehicles using those same roads,” said Ed Schetter, Executive Director for ABATE of Ohio, Inc. “Motorcyclists need to be present to help recognize those needs and ensure that motorcycles maintain their place on the road and can be safely operated into a future where technology is creating more and more challenges.”

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For Immediate Release

November 25, 2019

The Motorcycle Riders Foundation Executes Strategic Alignment

The Motorcycle Riders Foundation (MRF) Board of Directors is pleased to announce we have renewed our Governmental Affairs Consulting Agreement with Husch Blackwell Strategies (HBS) for another year. We will continue to be represented by lobbyist William “Rocky” Fox of HBS.

Tiffany Cipoletti, formerly the MRF’s Director of Operations, will now serve as our Director of Government Relations. In her new role, she will focus on carrying out the MRF’s Legislative Strategy, provide support for our national motorcyclists’ lobby day held annually in May known as Bikers Inside the Beltway, she will also remain the Editor of our magazine, the American Bikers Journal.

To maintain focus on our legislative imperatives, we have decided to move our offices into HBS office space located inside the Congressional beltway.

Consistent with our desire to have the Washington D.C. Operation focus on our legislative strategy we have entered into an administrative contract with JPK Services.

JPK services will be responsible for membership services, day to day accounting, provide phone services, and support Bikers Inside the Beltway and Meeting of the Minds.

The MRF’s phone and e-mails will not change, our mailing address will now be:
The Motorcycle Riders Foundation
P.O. Box 250
Highland, IL 62249.

MRF President Kirk “Hardtail” Willard stated that this has been in the works for some time and he commended the MRF Board of Directors in having the wisdom to align our D.C. resources to maintain sole focus on our legislative activities while improving member services, the administration of the MRF, and importantly in a cost-effective structure through an independent contractor.

District Updates

Eagle/Leather District Report
NO REPORT

Rim Country District Report
NO REPORT

Verde Valley District Report
NO REPORT

More from the MRF

For Immediate Release

December 9, 2019

Mark Buckner Inducted into the AMA Hall of Fame

The Motorcycle Riders Foundation would like to congratulate Mark Buckner, past president, longtime leader and MRF Freedom Fighter Hall of Fame member on his induction into the American Motorcycle Association (AMA) Motorcycle Hall of Fame. On Friday December 6th, during the 2019 AMA Legends & Champions Weekend.

Mark Buckner began his leadership in motorcyclists' rights advocacy in the late 1980s as the state coordinator for ABATE of Colorado. In 1992, Buckner joined the Motorcycle Riders Foundation board of directors, becoming MRF president and chairman two years later. During

his tenure, the MRF implemented strategic planning processes which led to the organization's financial stability and significant growth.

Buckner continues to have a profound influence in the motorcyclists' rights community, giving seminars throughout the United States on strategic planning, organizational design and member effectiveness. Over the past 25 years, he has delivered more than 100 presentations around the country at state, regional, and national rights conferences.

In addition, Buckner has been a leader in promoting global harmonization of motorcyclists' rights organizations in the United States and has fostered working relationships within the European motorcyclists' rights community—bonds that remains strong to this day.

Rob Rasor, former AMA President introduced

Mark to the attendees while Rick Gray past MRF VP and AMA Chairman of the Board accepted on Mark's behalf; several current and former MRF Board members were in attendance. Other inductees were Kurt Caselli, Ron Lechien, Wiltz Wagner and Dale Walksler.

Kirk “Hardtail” Willard, MRF Chairman of the Board had this to say, “We couldn't be more pleased to see Mark recognized by yet another motorcyclist Hall of Fame, without question the MRF has maintained our ability to deliver on our mission and vision due to Mark’s timely leadership and unique skill-set. I suspect many SMRO's around the country could say the same.”

Congratulations Mark! A well-deserved honor for many years as a Motorcycling Rights Freedom Fighter.

More heads roll over Harley smuggling in Indonesia

<https://blog.bikernet.com>

JAKARTA: The flag carrier Garuda Indonesia is suspending directors linked to the alleged smuggling of a Harley Davidson motorcycle by its chief executive, the airline’s chief commissioner said on Saturday.

State-Owned Enterprises Minister Erick Thohir earlier announced his intention to fire the airline’s CEO, Ari Askhara, for allegedly trying to evade tax by bringing into the country a Harley Davidson motorbike onboard a new Airbus plane being delivered from France.

Askhara has been suspended pending a shareholders’ meeting to determine his fate.

Thohir said the smuggling also involved at least one other Garuda employee based in Europe who helped transfer the payment and assisted

in the delivery of the motorbike. He said the investigation would continue to ascertain whether more employees were involved.

Sahala Lumban Gaol, chief commissioner of Garuda, said on Saturday that members of the board of directors who were “indicated to have been involved directly or indirectly” in the incident had been suspended.

Indonesia fines Garuda after CEO fired over smuggled Harley Davidson
Lion Air ‘urgently requires’ more 737 Max jets: co-founder
Harley-Davidson launches Bangkok training centre

He declined to name the suspended directors or say how many were affected.

Askhara has not responded publicly to the accu-

sations of smuggling. Reuters made repeated unsuccessful attempts to contact him for comment.

Chief financial officer Fuad Rizal has been named acting CEO until a shareholders’ meeting to formally name a new chief is held, Garuda said in a statement on Friday.

Transportation Minister Budi Karya Sumadi on Friday Garuda would be fined for not including the motorbike in the cargo list. The motorbike had been torn down and the parts packed in separate boxes.

Two expensive undeclared Brompton bicycles were also found onboard the plane.

–Bangkok Post

Accident Rate Continues To Drop On US Roads

<https://www.thenewspaper.com>

Despite more vehicles on the road than ever before, the number of accidents in the US continues to drop.

NHTSA report cover

America's roads growing safer, even as states push speed limits as high as 85 MPH. The US Department of Transportation last month counted 6.7 million accidents reported by police in 2018 -- a 2.4 percent drop even as the number of vehicles on the road surpassed the all-time record.

"New vehicles are safer than older ones and when crashes occur, more new vehicles are equipped with advanced technologies that prevent or reduce the severity of crashes," National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA)

Acting Administrator James Owens explained in a statement.

In 2018, there were 1.13 fatalities for every 100 million vehicle miles traveled, compared to 1.17 in 2017 -- a 3.4 percent reduction. Preliminary 2019 numbers are even better, with a fatality rate of 1.06 posted for the first half of the year. Fatality figures are from the agency's fatality database, which contains the most reliable statistics. Numbers for injury and property damage accidents come from NHTSA's recently revamped crash sampling database that makes nationwide estimates based on a representative sampling of police reports. The system estimated 1.9 million injury crashes and 4.8 million property damage collisions, which combined with 33,654 fatalities for a total of 6.7 million incidents. Accidents that only result in property damage accounted for 71 percent of accidents.

"There was a statistically significant increase in property damage only crashes from 2017 to 2018," NHTSA's research note explained. "This increase is primarily related to changes in property damage reporting criteria at some data collection sites."

Several states stopped allowing police to report the estimated damage from a crash as "unknown," a change that results in more incidents being recorded as a reportable crash.

Figures from the NHTSA database also show that in 2018, there were 492 fatal rear end collisions at intersections in 2018. Supporters of red light cameras often downplay the seriousness of rear end collisions as "minor fender benders" since the use of automated enforcement is known to increase the number of rear end accidents (view studies). About 65,000 accidents nationwide involved buses.

Meeting of the Minds Report 2019

By Skypilot

The 35th annual meeting of the minds was held in Bloomington Minnesota. Two days of meetings and panels covered a wide range of issues including a collaboration between SMRO's and clubs, lobbying tips and tricks for our health, being a better brother and sister, MRF PAC and the establishment of the 2020 MRF legislative priorities.

One of the speakers was our good friend Slider Gilmore. His big thing was to live to ride and to safely ride more years. Live longer and happier years and some of the things to do to accomplish this good attitude.

How will you live? 80% is up to you. 20% is genetic. You should drink half of your body weight in ounces of water per day. You do not lose weight by exercise, but by eating habits. It is

recommended that you exercise 30 minutes a day, 150 minutes per week.

Legislative strategy items for 2020 included: Profiling, Autonomous vehicles, EPA-RPM, Motorcycle ID, Helmet laws, Accident avoidance, Vehicle data, Highway bill, Safer roads.

Building a better brother and true friend. Brothers and sister have things in common. Do not borrow money from a brother, give of yourself, do not back bite, keep mouth closed, do not bear false truths, do not take advantage of each other, and pool your ideas. If you like to go fast, you should do it alone. If you like to go far, you should go with a group.

Saturday night there were two guest speakers. First was Rep Peter Stauber from the 8th congressional district of MN. He spent 20 minutes discussing many issues we face at the federal

level in DC. Congressman Stauber is a member of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committees. He pledges to work with the MRF to fight for our priorities in the upcoming Transportation bill. Additionally, as a formal law officer, he understood our concerns regarding motorcyclists profiling and was proud to be a co-sponsor of H255 since June.

The second speaker was State Senator John Hoffman from the MN State Senate. He spoke about working with local motorcycle rights groups and the victories that had been fought at the State Capitol at St. Paul.

There were reps there from the American Motorcycle Association and Harley Davidson. The relationship between the two of them has been improving for the last few years.

Ride Report – 17th Annual Barbie Hensler Memorial Toy Run

By Woody Phillips
High Country Chapter Communications
Rim Country District

High Country Chapter of ABATE of AZ held its 17th Annual Barbie Hensler Memorial Toy Run on Saturday, December 14, 2019 at the Buffalo Bar & Grill in Payson Arizona. With lots of help and support from the Rim Country District of the Modified Motorcycle Association of Arizona, the event was another huge success for Rim Country children and families in need this Christmas season.

No child should have to go without during Christmas and it is High Country Chapter's mission, in conjunction with the Women of The Moose, to make sure they have a happy Christmas, no matter their family's circumstances.

The toy collection party started promptly at 11 am with the arrival of the first toy collection boxes that had been distributed throughout Rim Country. During the previous month, supporting businesses, from Tonto Village to Strawberry had been collecting new toys, clothes and other gifts for children and their families for ages ranging from toddler to teenager.

Mike McCannon, owner of the Buffalo Bar & Grill, was a gracious host and made sure the beer was cold, the chicken wings were hot, and the food was delicious! It seemed like everyone was having a really fun time.

Music was provided by KRIM-FM DJ Chris Higgins who generously donated their normal fee back to the kids. There was also a silent auction and raffles, and door prizes to delight the patrons.

The annual event also featured a 50/50 and congratulations go to Bartender Lesley for winning \$505.00. Thanks to everyone that made the 50/50 such an enormous success, and in particular ABATE of AZ State Sgt. at Arms Lee Thompson who sold over \$1,000 worth for tickets by himself!

At the end of the day, 5 pickup trucks loaded with toys, bicycles and other gifts, plus checks totaling \$3,500.00 were presented to the Women of the Moose, Moose Lodge #852 in Star Valley, who will be distributing the toys and other gifts to a vetted list of children and families in need. That list currently has 141 children and 47 families!

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And finally, a special thank you to Joanne McConnell of That Apron Shop, Susan Irons, Cindy Condit, Barbara Huber, Nancy Hubbs, and the members of Yavapai Chapter of ABATE of AZ that provided invaluable support to this event.

Merry Christmas to one and ALL!

Photos can be found here: <https://motorcyclesafari.com/ride-report-17th-annual-barbie-hensler-memorial-toy-run/>



MMA of Arizona Business Member Listing by City

At Large	The Bar at Stromboli's 321 S. Main St. Cottonwood, AZ 86326 928-634-3838	Page	Peoria
Sober Riders MC, Inc Organizations and Clubs Business Life Member		Blair's Trading Post 626 N. Navajo Dr. Page, AZ 86040 928-645-3008 www.blairtradingpost.com Business Life Member	Airepros Air Conditioning & Heating LLC 24654 N. Lake Pleasant Pkwy Peoria AZ 85383, Suite 103-340 623-225-8199 623-225-6116 Business Life Mem
Apache Junction	The Steak-N- Stuff 1100 S SR 260 #21 Cottonwood, AZ 86326 602-571-8142 Business Member	Fred's Liquor Store 902 N. Navajo Dr. Page, AZ 86040 520-645-3575 Business Life Member	CJ Creations 10348 W. Cashman Peoria, AZ 85383 623-412-2110 Business Life Member
American Legion Riders Post 27 1018 S. Meridan Rd. Apache Junction, AZ 85220 602-541-2441 www.ajlrpost27.org Business Life Member	Cornville	Page Boy Motel 150 N. Lake Powell Blvd. Page, AZ 86040 928-645-2416 www.pageboymotel.us Business Life Member	Phoenix
Captain's Bar 300 W. Apache Trail #118 Apache Junction, AZ 85217 480-288-2590 Business Life Member	Old Corral Bar 11375 E Cornville Rd Cornville, AZ 86325 928-649-9495	Page Honda 915 Coppermine Rd. Page, AZ 86046 928-645-3251 800-432-6923 www.pagehonda.com Business Life Member	Alex & Associates Attorney at Law 1717 E. Bell Rd., Suite #1 Phoenix, AZ 85022 602-971-1775 www.alexandassociates.com Business Life Member
Avondale	Gilbert	Ranch House Grille 819 N. Navajo Dr. Page, AZ 86040 928 645-1420 Business Life Member	Angelo Bellone CPA-PLC 3420 E. Shea Blvd. #140 Phoenix, AZ 85028 602-765-6111 Business Life Member
Dart Cycle Worx 1060 N. Eliseo Felix Way Ste. 10 Avondale, AZ 85323 623-925-5503 www.dartcycleworx.com Business Life Member	Team Arizona Motorcyclist Training Center 36 N. William Dillard Dr. Gilbert, AZ 85233 480-998-9888, 480-236-2997 Business Life Member	Windy Mesa Bar 800 N. Navajo Dr. Page, AZ 86040 928-645-2186 Business Life Member	Breyer Law Offices 15715 S 46th St Ste 100 Phoenix, AZ 480-505-2162 Business Life
Camp Verde	Glendale	Payson	Greer Wilson Funeral Home 5921 W. Thomas Rd. Phoenix, AZ 85033 623-245-0994 623-262-4565 Business Life Member
Ligon Excavation 636 S McCracken Ln. Camp Verde, AZ 86322 928-300-2126 Business Life	Charley's Place 4324 W. Thunderbird Rd. Glendale, AZ 85306 602-439-1668 Business Life Member	All-Clene Carpet Cleaners 609 W. Bridle Path Lane Payson, AZ 85541 928-468-1358, 480-734-3436 www.all-clene.com Business Life Member	Law Tigers 362 N. 3rd Ave. Phoenix, AZ 85003 602-516-0000 602-271-0183 www.lawtigers.com Business Life Member
Clarkdale	Limey Riders Post Office Box 780 Glendale, AZ 85311 623-930-9165 Business Life Member	Amon Builders, Inc. 903 E. Hwy 260 #6 Payson, AZ 85541 928-474-0689 www.amonbuilders.com Business Life Member	Renegade Classics 3102 E. Cactus Rd. Phoenix, AZ 85032 602-595-9598 Business Life Member
10-12 Lounge 910 Main St Clarkdale, AZ 86324 928) 639-0800	US Military Vets MC 500 N. Estrella Parkway #B514 Goodyear, AZ 85338-2894 361.944.0032 Business Life Member	Lil Joe's Leathers Post Office Box 839 Payson, AZ 85547 800-643-3321, 928-200-3665 www.liljoesleather.com Business Life Member	Skinny Dipping Pools 18655 N. 35th Ave. Phoenix, AZ 85027 602-292-4033 www.skinnydippingpools.com Business Life Member
Verde Valley Moose Lodge 1449 1051 S Broadway Clarkdale, AZ 86324 Business Life	Humboldt	Mazatzal Casino AZ-87 Payson, AZ 85541 800-777-7529 Business Life Member	Scottsdale
Coolidge	Arizona Trike Shop 3650 AZ-69 Humboldt, AZ 86329 928-632-8910 Business Life Member	Miller Auto Works 600 W. Main St. Suite A Payson, AZ 85541 928-468-8855 Business Life Member	Southwest Trikes 7430 E. Butherus Scottsdale, AZ 85260 480-951-7171 Business Life Member
Tags Cafe 156 N. AZ Blvd. Coolidge, AZ 85128 520-723-1013	Mayer	Payson Packaging 106 Bonita St. Payson, AZ 85541 928-474-5260 www.paysonpackaging.com	Sedona
Cottonwood	Smokin' Harley's Steakhouse 11255 AZ-69 Mayer, AZ 86333 928-379-8480 928-632-4255 Business Life Member	RTD Automotive 3898 E Az Highway 260 Payson, AZ 85541 928- 468-6164	Olde Sedona Bar & Grill 1405 State Route 89A Sedona, AZ 86336 928-282-5670
ABC Body Shop 1269 E Cherry St Cottonwood, AZ 86326 928-634-6442 Business Life	Mesa	Tonto Silk Screen & Embroidery 403 W. FRONTIER ST. PAYSON, AZ 85541 928-474-4207	PJ's Village Pub, Inc. 40 W. Cortez #7 Sedona, AZ 86351 928-284-2250 www.pjsvillagepub.com
Bedrock Landscape Materials & Supplies 770 E State Route 89A, Cottonwood, AZ 85302 928-634-1490 Business Life Member	America's Ultra Clean Carpet Cleaning 738 E. Dana Suite A Mesa, AZ 85204 480-206-4003 Business Life Member		Strawberry
Chaparral Bar 325 S. Main St. Cottonwood, AZ 86326 928-254-1307 928-634-2131	Mainstreet Motorcycles 9750 E. Apache Tr. Mesa, AZ 85207 480-357-7595 Business Life Member		Bandits Restaurant & The Dirty Cowboy Saloon Bar and Restaurant 5079 N Hwy 87 Strawberry, AZ 85544 928-363-4075
Kactus Kate's Bar 929 N. Main St. Cottonwood, AZ 86326 928-634-7822	VIII Society M/C 7930 E. 1st Ave. Mesa, AZ 85208 480-227-2690 Business Life Member		MotorcycleSafari.com 928-476-1955
The American Legion Riders Post 25 Business Life Member	New River		
Scherich Insurance LLC 657 E Cottonwood St, Ste 6C, Cottonwood AZ 86326 928-567-0335	Roadrunner Restaurant & Saloon 47801 N. Black Canyon Highway New River, AZ 85087 623-465-9903 Business Life Member		
Seitz Architectural Design 728 Cove Parkway Cottonwood, AZ 86326 928-646-1788, 928-301-2620 Business Life Member			

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Days Inn - Show Low
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Show Low, AZ 85901
928-537-4356
Business Life Member

Native New Yorker #12
391 W. Duece Of Clubs
Show Low, AZ 85901
928-532-5100
Business Life Member

Springerville

American Legion Post #30
825 E. Main
Springerville, AZ 85938
928-339-4475 928-551-3320
Business Life Member

Booga Red's
521 E. Main St.
Springerville, AZ 85938
928-333-2640 928-245-1670
Business Life Member

Star Valley

Mad Mario's Breakfast & BBQ
3964 E AZ HWY 260
Star Valley, AZ 85541
928-978-3705
Business Member

Spur Bar
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Star Valley, AZ 85541
928-472-7787
Business Member

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Surprise, AZ 85374
632-322-9100
www.HandHplumbingAZ.com
Business Life Member

Tempe

Aflac Insurance
209 E. Baseline Rd., E203
Tempe, AZ 85283
480-686-4346 480-838-9020
britton_johnson@us.aflac.com
Business Life Member

American Legion Riders Tempe Post #2
2125 S. Industrial Park Ave.
Tempe, AZ 85282
Business Life Member

Beyer Appliance Service Inc.
1797 W University Dr #172
Tempe, AZ 85281
480-659-1400
Business Life

Tonopah

Tonopah Joe's Family Restaurant
41101 W. Indian School road
Tonopah, AZ 85354
623-386-3895
Business Life Member

Youngtown

Curly's Customs Motorcycle Shop
12040 N. 111th Avenue
Youngtown, AZ 85363
623-977-0339, 623-764-6562
Business Life Member

Other

Law Offices of Richard M. Lester
21054 Sherman Way, 3rd Floor
Canoga Park, CA 91303
800-521-2425
Business Life Member

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To all MMA-AZ Members

*****AS OF July,2016*****

Hello all,

I am pleased to announce that all Members of MMA-AZ now have their Accidental Death and Dismemberment Insurance increased from (\$3,500.00) Three Thousand Five -Hundred Dol-lars to (\$4,000.00) Four Thousand Dollars.

MMA-AZ is the first Motorcycle origination to have secured this cost free insurance in Arizona. The Membership officer will personally be mailing out this announcement with A.I.L. information in the very near future.

Please remember that if you want to be contacted by a A.I.L. Representative you must mail in their correspondence that will be in the letter that we are sending you.

If you do not want to be contacted by an A.I.L. Representative do not send this information in to A.I.L. A.I.L. does not have your contact information unless you send in their reply card.

It's that simple -- you need to do nothing to have this increase to (\$4,000.00) Four Thousand Dollars of Accidental Death & Dis-memberment Insurance.

If you have been thinking about getting more insurance or any other type of insurance --- by all means please use the Insurance Company that is sponsoring this \$4,000.00 of Accidental Death and Dismemberment Insurance benefit to us MMA-AZ Members.

Below is the web site and phone contact for American Income Life Insurance Company for MMA-AZ Members.

www.aillife.com/benefits/SGLLB

1-800-495-1213

Remember, if you want to be contacted send it in, if you do not what to be contacted do not send it in. That's the way it works.

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2019 Meeting of the Minds

By Buddha

The 35th annual meeting was held in Bloomington, Minnesota, from September 19th to September 22nd, 2019. The three-day event consisted of separate meetings and panels covering a wide range of issues. They included collaboration between SMRO's and clubs, lobbying tips, health tips for us to live and ride longer, and how to be a better club brother or sister. They also discussed the MRF PAC and establishing MRF priorities for 2020.

The priority list included: Profiling, Motorcycle ID's, Autonomous Vehicles, Helmet laws, EPA-RPM, Accident avoidance, Vehicle data, Highway bill, Safer roads.

Our good friend Slider Gilmore conducted a two-part presentation called "Live to Ride". He talked about taking care of our bodies so we can live to ride longer. He stated, "Our bodies are like motorcycle engines, the better you take care of them, the better they run, and the longer they last". Slider Gilmore has over 50 years of motorcycle riding experience and also was an Emergency Medical Technician for 35 years.

He also has been inducted into various halls of fame and received various awards: Freedom Fighters HOF American Motorcyclist Association HOF Sturgis HOF and Museum. Motorcycle Riders Foundation – John "Farmer" Eggars Award National Coalition of Motorcyclists – Silver

Spoke Award.

There were two speakers during Saturday's banquet. Representative Peter Stauber from the 8th congressional district of Minnesota is a member of the Transportation and Infrastructure committee in Washington, DC. He pledges to work with MRF to fight for our priorities in the upcoming transportation bill. As a former law officer, he understands our concerns regarding motorcyclist profiling and was proud to co-sponsor H255 since June.

The second speaker was Minnesota State Senator John Hoffman. He spoke about working with local motorcycle rights groups and the victories won at the state level in the state capital of St. Paul.

A soldier tried to buy a motorcycle in Anchorage. His lawyer says he was targeted by a ‘yo-yo scam’

<https://blog.bikernet.com>

by Zachariah Hughes from <https://www.alaska-public.org>

This past August, Army Specialist Austin Deehan bought a 2014 Harley Davidson from a dealership in south Anchorage.

"It felt great. It was a beautiful bike," Deehan said.

He made a \$2,599 down payment, and financed the remaining \$10,630 with at a decent interest rate.

But 19 days later, when he called the bank about setting up monthly payments, they told him the loan had never been approved. That, Deehan said, is when he knew something was wrong.

On Tuesday, Deehan filed a civil case in state Superior Court alleging misconduct by a local car dealership over a financial arrangement critics call a "yo-yo scam." Though hardly a blockbuster piece of litigation, it highlights something federal regulators, lawyers, and financial services observers say is commonplace: nationally, military service members are some of the most commonly targeted demographics for credit and financing scams.

When Deehan spoke to the bank he believed was financing his loan, they told him the denial was because his application was missing paperwork.

He went back to the dealership, Chevrolet of South Anchorage, where he was told that since the financing deal didn't go through he would need to take out a more expensive loan, he said.

"They gave me two options: Either I could refinance the bike with a higher interest rate, or I could return the motorcycle and lose my whole down payment," Deehan said.

That's when Deehan sought out legal assistance at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, where he is stationed. His complaint was filed by the Northern Justice Initiative, a private firm that handles civil rights cases. According to Nick Feronti, one of the lawyers on the case, the dealership wrongly told Deehan that if he returned the

motorcycle the company would keep the full balance of the down payment, plus charge him hefty mileage and daily-use fees that are generally prohibited under Alaska law.

"The dealership actually tried to use an illegal contract to coerce him," Feronti said. "The way the law is supposed to work is: they tell you you have financing, and then if you don't get approved, well you can bring the vehicle back and get your down payment back."

He believes the actions alleged are a textbook example of a "yo-yo scam."

"These dealerships will count on consumers to buy a car, buy a motorcycle," Feronti said. "You go home and show it off to your family and you're feeling really happy about it. And then later on you learn that for whatever reason you actually have to accept much worse financing."

Reached by phone, Chevrolet of South Anchorage General Manager David Raff wouldn't agree to a recorded interview. He had not seen the complaint, and said he was only able to speak in general terms. But he defended the business's practices, saying there are no shady financing deals or use-fees, in part because in a state as small as Alaska those kinds of things would damage the company's reputation. Asked about an allegation in the complaint that Raff called Deehan in September and "threatened to make his 'life a living hell' unless he immediately returned the motorcycle," Raff said it wouldn't be appropriate to comment on a specific legal case. He added that if there were those kinds of complaints against the business, they should be assessed against the company's otherwise strong record.

Online, that record does not look great.

In the last three years, 10 complaints have been filed with the Better Business Bureau against Chevrolet of South Anchorage, ranging from accusation of shoddy mechanical work to what sound like predatory financing arrangements. With 29 reviews, the business has two stars on Yelp, many of them making similar complaints.

The dealership is part of Lithia Motors, one of the country's largest car retailers. Over the years, Lithia has had multiple class action law-

suits filed against it over business practices. Kara Southard, corporate counsel for Lithia Motors, said she had received the complaint in the Anchorage case, but was not able to comment on it.

State officials in Alaska recognize that service-members are frequent targets of scams.

"There's national data out there that says that a lot of scams are perpetrated against members of the military, that's a really common thing," said John Haley, the assistant district attorney in charge of the Department of Law's Fraud Division.

Those complaints are often taken up by U.S. Government agencies like the Federal Trade Commission, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, and Department of Justice, all of which have special efforts to specifically combat fraud against active duty military and veterans. According to Haley, state offices like his don't get a large volume of calls from active-duty military, but they understand the reasons they are often targeted.

"Scammers want go after members of the military because they have very steady paychecks that are guaranteed by the government," Haley said. "And because so many of the members of the military are relatively young people who are getting money and getting paychecks for the first time."

Eventually, Specialist Deehan got his down payment back. He's suing the car dealership for damages of up to \$10,000 plus legal costs. And he wants the dealership to agree to halt the lending practices he believes are wrong.

"There's guys out there that are fresh out of high school that I work with, and if they went through the same situation that I went through they probably would have signed another contract" Deehan said. "That's just not ok."

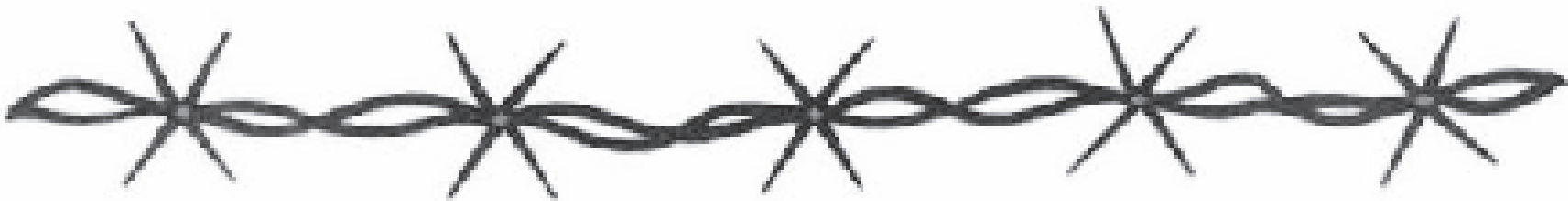
Deehan no longer has the Harley Davidson, but hopes to get another after he leaves the Army next year.





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