

# Hard Ass Run w/ EV ABATE



## *This Ain't Your Grandpa's Poker Run!*

ABATE of Arizona's East Valley Chapter hosted its 15th annual Hard Ass Run on Saturday September 30, 2017. Sign-in, from 7:30-9am, was at Evil Twin Custom Cycle ~ located at 58 N Country Club Drive in Mesa. Thank you to East Valley ABATE Chapter Secretary & Communications Officer Dawn Steed for her help with this story.

This is a mystery poker run that traditionally maps out at ~ 300 miles. It is devised by Chapter members to encourage riders to explore roads less traveled when possible. Your route is in the hands of the designers. Riders are encouraged to be prepared for all altitudes and types of weather. You are told only where your NEXT stop will be. Instructions to the next checkpoint are given out at each destination.

Sixty-four riders chose to spend their bonus 5th Saturday in September with EV ABATE. Although this wouldn't specifically be described as a kid-friendly run; we all know that there are youngsters in our community who ride often with their parents and/or grandparents ~ starting them off early to appreciate life in the wind. Cool! We heard that on this day there was at least one kid who went on the run. Redbone & Patty drove 'sweep'.

After departing Evil Twin Custom Cycles, riders made their way to Payson's Buffalo Bar & Grill. Some made this segment a 'breakfast run' ~ first filling their tanks at the Piñon Café, also in Payson. Rolling through Jerome, the next official stop was

in Prescott Valley at Barefoot Bob's Billiards. Pointing their front wheels toward home, the return route brought the adventurous riders to Grand Canyon Harley Davidson in Mayer. Those who had made it thus far had just one stop left... Gypsy's Roadhouse on McDowell Road in Phoenix. The trip totaled approximately 270 miles.

About a half-dozen riders dropped out along the way & didn't finish the run. Those who did received a commemorative Hard Ass tee-shirt. Along with announcing the rider winners, there were raffles & a 50/50. The High card winner was Richard ~ collecting \$200, Low card winner was 'Lil Hoss' who received \$25, and the 50/50 winner was Will. Congratulations to each of you.

Dawn sent along, "A big thank you to Evil Twin Custom Cycles for letting us start the whole adventure at their shop. Thank you to everyone who chose to spend the day with us." She continued, "A big thank you to all of our stops. All of these stops are current ABATE business members. We need to say a BIG THANK YOU to the ladies at Gypsy's Roadhouse who took care of all of us so excellently. That would be Sarah, Holly, Brittney, and Mama Gypsy. We couldn't have asked for a better group of ladies. Thank you to all of the volunteers who made this happen."

This is one of the East Valley Chapter's annual fundraisers. Monies from this event go to support motorcycling safety & awareness programs.

East Valley ABATE is one of several ABATE Chapters in AZ. The acronym stands for American Brotherhood Aimed Toward Education. It is a State

MRO ~ Motorcyclists Rights Organization.

ABATE-AZ is a volunteer organization that is dedicated to freedom of the road for all motorcyclists. ABATE's position is that all motorcycle riders have the right to choose not only the machine that they ride, but also the riding gear that they choose to wear or not to wear (i.e., leathers, gloves, boots and helmets).

ABATE-AZ activities include lobbying and educating the government and general public to promote motorcycling in a safe and positive image, fighting discriminatory legislation aimed toward the motorcycling community, promoting rider education for all motorcycle riders, and promoting motorcycle awareness for all automobile drivers. There is more to learn at their website [www.abateofaz.org/](http://www.abateofaz.org/)

And for our out-of-state readers, ABATE is an SMRO ~ State Motorcyclists Rights Organization in most every state. We encourage you to look yours up and support them ~ with your membership and/or by attending their events. ABATE needs the support of all motorcycle riders, nationwide.

Upcoming ABATE events are listed at [www.facebook.com/AbateofAZ/](http://www.facebook.com/AbateofAZ/). Meet up with some East Valley members at their booth during the Motorcycles on Main Bike Night in Mesa on First Fridays between September & June. The High Country Chapter is hosting their annual Toy Run on December 9 in Payson at the Buffalo Bar & Grill.

Ride safe, ride often ~

Betsy