

MOON MULLINS RUN

AZ Rider

The annual Moon Mullins Run is a fundraiser and camaraderie gathering for the Phoenix/Shadow Mountain Chapter of ABATE-Arizona. Riders gathered for the 2016 event on October 15, at the Desert Rose Steakhouse in Glendale, AZ. Thank you to Double B and Michael Schneider for sending along information for this story.

See inset for back story.

Summer in our Valley extends well into October ~ so this evening ride is a refreshing way to get out on your bike after being beat up by the daytime heat of our summer sun. No games, no checkpoints... just an opportunity to enjoy a ride with friends.

Double B shared, "It was a great night gathering together with friends and riding to a few locations

under the cool moonlit sky." The self-paced ride took off about 6pm, with about 40 bikes participating. "After sunset we rode together to Verde River at Needle Rock under the moonlight; and after parking for some rest and camaraderie we rode back to town. About 15+ rode to Maverick Saloon from there to end the evening."

The Maverick in Phoenix and Desert Rose in Glendale are among the Phoenix/Shadow Mountain Chapter business members. While the Desert Rose Steakhouse accommodates minors in their restaurant, Maverick Saloon is a '21 and over' establishment, so this would be more considered an 'adults-only' gathering.

ABATE of Arizona is a Motorcyclists Rights Organization{MRO} that monitors leg-

islation and lobbies on behalf of motorcyclists issues... Such as helmets, insurance, emissions, lane filtering, discrimination, & more.

Phoenix/Shadow Mountain is an active Chapter with meetings held on the 2nd Sunday of the month at the AZ American Italian Club - 7509 N. 12th Street in Phoenix. Meetings are often followed by camaraderie rides & to support their business members. In keeping with the legislative & safety portion of the ABATE agenda, some members also participate in legislative and/or safety awareness activities.

Their next major event and fundraiser coming up is the Too Broke for BIKE WEEK party which is being held at the end of THIS month, March 31 & April 1 at Desert Wind Harley-Davidson. Music includes .38 Special & 74th Street Band on Friday; with Jackyl & The Visitors on Saturday. More information & ticket presales available at www.TooBrokeForBikeWeek.com.

ABATE of ARIZONA is actively looking for both individual and business members statewide. ALL Bikes are Welcome! Sport Bikes are under-represented and need your participation. Learn more about ABATE of Arizona at <http://www.abateofaz.org>

If you'd like to learn more about Phoenix/Shadow Mountain ABATE, you can join the discussion at www.facebook.com/groups/shadowmountainabate or email abatephxshdwmtn@gmail.com

Betsy

MOON MULLINS RIDE HISTORY

This event started as a fundraiser for Steve Mullins in 2001. Steve was a charter member of the Shadow Mountain Chapter and crashed on May 13, 2001 on I-10 just north of Tucson after a beautiful day of riding in the Tucson area. He was on his way back to Phoenix when he got a flat tire. He was able to control the bike well enough to slow down and get toward the side of the road when his passenger jumped, causing him to lose control and go down.

Steve was admitted to Tucson Medical Center and was in a coma and on life support for nearly 2 weeks. He had a traumatic brain injury and many broken bones. When he was stable enough, Steve was transferred back to Phoenix, to St. Joseph's Hospital to start the long road to recovery. He was in the acute care hospital for at least another month before progressing to rehabilitation at Barrow. He was there for several months.

Even though Steve had health insurance, he still had other expenses once he was discharged home with rehab home care. He

was unable to work for nearly a year. So, in true biker fashion the Chapter put on the run that provided him with some money support for his continued recovery. After his crash, Steve decided it was time to quit riding, and sold his bike.

Steve Mullins had been a biker for most of his life. He was a member of ABATE in New Jersey before moving to Phoenix in the early 1990s. He joined the Phoenix Chapter and enjoyed continuing his support of ABATE in Arizona. Steve joined the newly forming Shadow Mountain in the mid-1990s. He was very active in ABATE and attended as many runs and events as he could.

Over time Steve was able to return to work and no longer needed the support that the Moon Mullins Run provided. He decided to donate the money back to ABATE after those first years. So, the Moon Mullins Run continues as an annual fund raiser in Steve's honor, but the money stays with ABATE as he prefers it. He is with the riders every year, in spirit. Some years he still comes out to buy the shirt!

