

Too Broke For Bike Week

We spent some time at the new Too Broke For Bike Week event, held the weekend of March 31 & April 1, 2017. It took place at Desert Wind Harley-Davidson, located at 922 S Country Club Drive in Mesa, as a fundraiser for ABATE-AZ's Phoenix /Shadow Mountain Chapter.

Vendors ringed the DWHD event venue... there were about 20 of them ... offering jewelry, apparel, and other goods; plus various services such as insurance, towing, and tattoo.

The bike show was sponsored by Evil Twin Custom Cycle of Mesa. There were some very cool custom-made trophies on the line to win, and some beautiful bikes in the competition.

During our visit at Desert Wind H-D, we met Joe from Iowa. He was in town for business & came out to enjoy some Bike Week entertainment. We hope you've had a great stay here in AZ!

There were two nights full of music... 74th Street Band, Pete Cummings Band, & headliner .38 Special on Friday; then headliner Jackyl plus The Visitors, Mojo Rats, & Wayland on Saturday. What we heard of these bands, plus reviews from other people, gave the whole music lineup straight A's for the weekend! ".38 Special was awesome", "Pete Cummings rocked the place", ".38 Special was Rocking!", and so on...

We learned from organizer Ed LeClere of Motorsports

Entertainment LLC that more than 5,000 people attended Too Broke For Bike Week over the 2-day event and \$8,200 was raised for ABATE of Arizona. Outstanding!

This was a family-friendly event. Ed noted that the younger members of the motorcycling community are our future... His events are family-friendly so the up & coming riders can see how much fun being a part of this community can be.

Although this was initially presented as an event with daytime activities such as a ride, things were revised and there was no ride. It was determined that there were already several rides taking place that day and so riders were encouraged to support those instead & then join the party at DWHD later for the Saturday night concert.

Ed sent along thanks to title sponsor Chuck Franklin, Missi at Two Gals Events, Kalil & Monster drinks for their generous donations, beer vendors Miller & Coors for the best possible prices, Evapeology for sponsoring the stage, Gary at Breakthru Beverage, Desert Wind Harley-Davidson for providing the venue, and the riding community for its support.

ABATE of Arizona is a Motorcyclists Rights Organization {MRO} that represents all motorcyclists. "ABATE is dedicated to freedom of the road for all motorcyclists. ABATE is a volunteer organization that fights discriminatory legislation aimed towards the motorcycling commu-

nity. 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 promotes rider education for all motorcycle riders, and motorcycle awareness for all automobile drivers."

Learn more about ABATE of Arizona via their website at www.abateofaz.org/ Chapter meetings take place monthly. All riders are welcome.

ABATE's 26th annual state fundraiser 'Too Broke For Sturgis' is taking place June 8-11 at Mormon Lake Lodge, just south of Flagstaff. It is an adults-only party, for 18-years & older. It's a great time & you can get more details online at www.toobrokeforsturgis.com/ or call 480-318-6182. Come on out, have a lot of fun, and support the organization that supports your right to ride. We hope to see you there!

Bruce & Betsy

Add'l pix from Robb Felder, Phx-ShadowMtn ABATE & Dawn Steed, East Valley ABATE

Visit the Desert Wind Harley-Davidson photo gallery for more pix from the weekend. <http://www.desertwindhdgallery.com/2017/41sattoobroke.html>

