

Did You Know?

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What is happening at the Copper Dome 3rd Quarter 2008

Legislation has been going well for motorcyclists at the Copper Dome. HB2280, the bill to repeal motorcycle emissions testing has now passed out of the House of Representatives and Senate and now has been signed by the Governor. Now don't think that you can stop emissions testing quite yet because DEQ needs to get EPA, approval before this is a done deal. The repeal for the Tucson area went into effect last March, so Arizona is moving forward. So email me and let me know what you think. rayofaz@cox.net

The motorcycle safety fund has bought some TV ads relating to motorcycle safety on some of the Cox Cable stations. If you see these ads, I hope that you are copying them and playing them back to yourself. Email me with your critique of these ads. Please give us the pros and cons of these TV spots. If I don't hear from you, I will know that you didn't see them, or you just don't care. For the most part, I think they were a good thing and money well spent. These spots ran all over the state during Motorcycle Awareness Month of May.

Now there is another controversy with the Arizona Motorcycle Safety Advisory Council. I was not at the last meeting, but it came up that there were going to be billboards put up again this year. They are trying to get the billboards to have the logo; "LOOK OUT FOR MOTORCYCLES", on them. Give me your honest opinion about having a few of the signs in predominately Latino area in Spanish. Voice your opinion to me, or go to the GOHS website about this. Go to a Arizona Motorcycle Safety Advisory Council meeting. There is a need for more motorcyclists to attend these meetings. My opinion is that the council represents motorcyclists in Arizona, but do not get enough feedback. If you want to represent motorcyclists at the meetings, I can tell you how to do this. Email me about this. There are two seats open on this council as of now.

Many of you know that our Right of Way violation bill failed this year. The simple way to explain it is that a House of Representatives Committee Chairman didn't like the legislation, and he wouldn't hear this bill in his committee. When that happens, most likely the bill will die, and it did. I am thinking we need more people that will contact

their legislators and ask them for tougher penalties for people that are violators of right of way laws. The lobbyists want to make it tougher but we are going to need your help to make this happen. Here is what I want you to do; Email me and tell me who your legislators are, what district you live in, and let me know if you are willing or not willing to get in touch with these people. My email address is rayofaz@cox.net. IF you do not have email, get on a phone to 602-402-8026. That is my cell phone. I prefer the email because I don't have to be home to write the information down. I want you to do this even though you may know that I already have your information. I want you to do this, even if you are on my Legislative Warrior Task Force, already.

After attending some MRO meetings lately, I am finding that many of our Motorcycle Rights Organization, members are not in tune with getting in touch with legislators. This is not rocket science and the ones that are doing it are pleasantly surprised how easy it is to voice their opinion. Most likely you are not going to talk directly with your representatives, but you can work at getting an appointment after the legislative session is over. Tell them that you are a constituent, and let the assistants know that you want an appointment and you will get it. Email me about this. Many of you are going to ask, why do I need to contact my legislators? The reason is simple, if the lobbyists are going to pass Right of Way Violation Legislation; we need the legislators to know that there is a large group of people out there that want it. Email me about this.

Also, most of these legislators are running for office again. They may become your new best friend, by helping them in some fashion or another, as some of them have a tough election in front of them. You can find the website by using the MMA or ABATE links, or by going to www.azleg.gov. From there you can go to the left side of the state web page and click on "How do I find my legislators"? If you know your home address and postal zip code you will be able to find your state legislators. In the state there are 30 districts for our state legislators. Each of us has three state representatives. The way that breaks down is that you have 1 State Senator, and 2 members of the House of Representatives. That would be a total of 90 legislators in Arizona, for all of us. For you that live in District 12, Jerry Weiers, will be on the ballot and has helped us with legislation. Get out and vote in the Primary in September. Another one of our long time friends, Clancy Jayne, is running for Justice of the Peace. I am sure that you don't know the other guy that is running, so I can introduce you to both of these guys that have helped the motorcyclists of Arizona. Email me if you have questions about this. Remember Clancy Jayne and Jerry Weiers have helped the motorcyclists of Arizona. This is not a paid political announcement; I just like these guys a lot.

Ride safe, well trained and well informed.

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