



MASONIC MOTORCYCLE CLUB INTERNATIONAL® INC.

RIDER'S DIGEST

Available Online at www.masonicmotorcycleclub.org



"Ride With Discretion"

FALL 2011

Highlights of the 2011 Annual Conference... We came, we saw, we played the slots, we socialized, made new friends and renewed old acquaintances, we toured, we met, we voted, we ate, and we generally had a great time. All of us (62 Members, 37 spouses and S/O's and three guests). We took rides to the National Eagle Center in Wabasha, to the Red Wing Boot outlet and the city of the same name, to Rochester, MN and back, to the Red Wing Masonic lodge for a catered dinner, and a variety of self-guided tours. The Annual Meeting passed the proposed bylaws and elected a new slate of officers, so business got done. The Annual Banquet was well stocked and those attending were well stuffed. 50/50 raffles were held. The keynote speaker was MWB Tom Hendrickson, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Minnesota. And MWB Hendrickson was the exemplar for the Open Road Ceremony. (See the photos on Page 4.) Congrats to the hosting club – Chapter 24 – and the club members who organized the event and threw a great party! Now it's on to Cortland, NY in August 2012 for next year's Annual Conference.

From the DBF Committee... Dick Morse, Chairman of the Death Benefit Fund Committee, sends this note. The Death Benefit Fund wishes to thank all who donated to the Fund, or participated in the DBF 50/50 raffle at the Annual Conference in Red Wing. MMCI lost five active members in the past year and that took a good bit from the DBF savings account. Thanks to Don Williams (Chapter 8) from Angola, IN, winner of this year's 50/50 drawing, for donating his winnings back to the DBF. Also thanks to Connie Dorney and Kim Crete for selling the 50/50 raffle tickets at the banquet. We wish to thank Kent Dorney for his service to the DBF Committee, and now welcome President Ken White as the newest member of the DBF Committee. Stay safe and healthy, and "Ride with Discretion."

Chapter 2 escorts the Vietnam Traveling Memorial Wall... Jim Alloway reports that members of MMCI Chapter 2 (Belpre, OH) joined up with the West Virginia Patriot Guard and other organizations to escort the **Vietnam Traveling Memorial Wall** into Parkersburg, WV on Wednesday, August 31st. We started our ride with the **Wall** in Ripley, WV on Interstate 77 and rode 40 miles to Parkersburg. There were well over two hundred bikes on the escort. We were applauded, saluted and cheered at every on-ramp and every overpass along I-77. After we arrived in Parkersburg, flag waving residents lined the streets. This was a very uplifting experience that I would encourage other Chapters and MMCI members to try. This **Wall** is displayed all over the country and many other chapters would be able to join in. Please contact Jim (jima1956@frontier.com) if you need more information. The website for the **Wall** is www.travelingwall.us. (editor's note: What a great idea! Thanks Jim. Congrats to you and Chapter 2 for participating in such a wonderful event.)



CONGRATULATIONS!... To MWB Kevin B. Todd, member of MMCI Chapter 3 (Youngstown, OH) who was elected and installed as Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Ohio at the 202nd Annual Communication of the GL of Ohio on Saturday, October 15, 2011.

Local Chapter Secretaries and Chapter 8 Members PLEASE NOTE... 2011-2012 dues have not been received from the following Chapters: **15** (except for J. VanKirk), **28**, **41**, **45**, **47**. Please contact the International Secretary **as soon as possible** to discuss. If you are a Chapter 8 Member and your mailing label still shows **2011** as part of your membership number, your dues for 2011-2012 are past due! Please send a renewal form and a check for \$12.00 to Kent Dorney, Membership Chairman (49 Simson Street, Tonawanda, NY 14150) **TODAY! THANKS!**

MASONIC MOTORCYCLE CLUB INTERNATIONAL ® INC.
Executive Board, 2011 – 2013

Elected Officers

President: Kenneth White

1621 Independence Ave North
Golden Valley, MN 55427

763-545-0491

mmci24.1@gmail.com

Vice-president: Ronald Ferraro

31087 Indian Mission Road
Millsboro, DE 19966

302-947-4625

ronpferraro@yahoo.com

Secretary: Jeff Kaplan

2417 Elmdale Road
University Heights, OH 44118

216-382-2685

bmw_jeff@ameritech.net

Treasurer: George Detweiler

15173 Holleyside Drive

Dumfries, VA 22025

703-670-2313

ghdetweiler@comcast.net

2 Year Trustee: David Page

137 East Main Street

Middleburg, PA 17842

570-837-7079

dwptrucking@aol.com

4 Year Trustee: Gordy Aune, Jr.

2432 Pearson Parkway

Brooklyn Park, MN 55444

763-585-1766

GRANDPAAUNE@aol.com

6 Year Trustee: Dean Gonya

895 Park Avenue

Lock Haven, PA 17745

570-769-3282

dirg46@yahoo.com

Honorary Trustee: Kent Dorney, Past Pres.

49 Simson Street

Tonawanda, NY 14150

716-694-1595

fltmedic@verizon.net

International Chaplain: Jeff Killian

Appointed Committees

By-laws: Greg Lane (Chair),

Rex Baker, Dick Morse, Gary O'Neal, John VanKirk

Safety: Dean Gonya (Chair),

Ron Baldwin, Robert Boss, Ian Mountfield

Nominations: Don Crete (Chair),

Gordy Aune, Jr., Dave Page

Audit: Ed Lewis (Chair),

Lloyd Jackson, Chris Alexander, Mark Dreyer

Finance: George Detweiler (Chair),

Jeff Kaplan, Gordy Aune, Jr., Ron Ferraro

Membership: Kent Dorney (Chair),

(49 Simson Street, Tonawanda, NY 14150

Ch8MMCI@verizon.net),

Rex Baker, Doug Kelley

Grievance: Neal Forbes (Chair),

Bumpy Geortz, Tom Boyle, Jeff Killian

Website: Doug Kelley (Chair),

(dougkelley@windstream.net), Scott Rose

Quartermaster: Cliff Wilson

Death Benefit Fund: Dick Morse (Chair),

Rex Baker (Vice-chair), Dick Foxen (Sec-Treas),

Cliff Wilson, Neal Forbes, Jeff Kaplan

Lifetime Trustees: Rex Baker,

Doug Kelley, Richard Kovac,

Richard Morse, Cliff Wilson

Conference 2012: Dean Gonya (Chair)

Kent Dorney (Co-chair), hosted by Chapters 12 and 32

Newsletter Editor: Jeff Kaplan

Email **change of address**, articles and material for publication to: **bmw_jeff@ameritech.net** or mail to:

2417 Elmdale Road, University Hts., OH 44118



President's Message...

Well, my two years of hoping to increase awareness of the Masonic Motorcycle Club International has started. I have a couple of items I want to address during my term and with some luck and support of my fellow members, I will accomplish my goal. My goal is simple and obtainable. Increase membership in our club.

We have a strong core of members but we need to expand that group. A few workers can go a long way but with your help we can have a stronger core to draw from. As I said at our banquet in Red Wing, "this is OUR club and no one person can do it alone". I have one promise for the membership and that is to the best I can at being your leader. I will lead by example and not ask any of you to do anything that I wouldn't do myself.

I hope to have as many chapters as I can drum up support from to look into supporting the National Archery in the Schools program. I know some of you have charities and other organizations you support and I salute you. I'm not asking you drop anything you're already involved in. I'm only asking each of you do let your state conservation department know the MMCI is supporting this national program. There isn't a lot of time or energy needed to support a school in your area that has this program or wants to get it started. I will put more information together, as requested at the conference, to inform you of what you can do to help your school(s).

I also would like to see the MMCI linked to every Grand Lodge. This effort has been slow in developing and for what ever reason Grand Lodges are a hard nut to crack. I have personally sent an email and a snail mail letter but have seen very little support in linking our website to Grand Lodges. I will send another letter but I'm asking for your support in this effort, too. If any of you have a contact with your Grand Lodge please ask them to support this effort. There are many Masons in your area that ride motorcycles that are not aware we exist, and with a little effort from each of you we can make them aware of the MMCI.

We have become stagnant and our membership is in decline. I handed out a questionnaire at the conference and had some pretty good feedback and ideas for our future. There will be another questionnaire made up and included in an upcoming issue of our newsletter. When you see it please take a moment to complete it and email or mail it back to me. With your input the Board will be able to make adjustments and initiate programs that are of interest to our membership.

In closing, I want to thank the membership for electing me your President for two years and will do all I can to put the MMCI on the Masonic map. The only thing holding us back from growing is our own lack of caring. You can change that.

Fraternally yours - Ken White

Vice President's Message...

Brethren and Ladies -

First, I would like to congratulate Chapter 24 on a great conference. My wife and I had a great time visiting with old friends and making some new ones. Secondly, I like to thank all the members for giving me the honor to serve as YOUR vice- president for the next two years. I am looking forward to working with Ken and the rest of the Executive Board, as we keep this great organization moving forward.

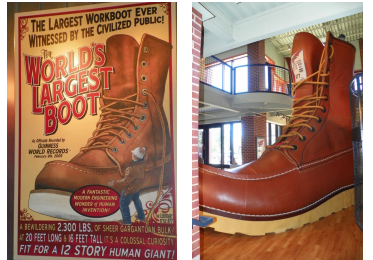
Just a little history about myself - I have a wonderful wife Sheila who I have been married to for over 34 years. We have two daughters and two grandsons (and maybe by the time you read this a third). I was raised May 24, 1983 in Isaac Hiester Lodge #660, West Reading PA.. We now reside in Delaware where I am also a member of Endeavor Lodge 17, Milton DE. and the Valley of Lower Delaware Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite.

One of my duties as Vice President is to work with the Chapters on your upcoming conferences. I have already been contacted by Kent & Dean about the 2012 conference in Cortland, NY. They have some good ideas for rides and it looks like this is going to be another great conference.

In closing I would like to say this is YOUR club and we need your input. Please contact me with any concerns, questions, comments, or complaints. I am here to serve you and keep this organization one that you are proud to be a part of.

Fraternally yours - Ron Ferraro

Memories from Red Wing and the 2011 Annual Conference...



A Good Time was had by all! A Special Thanks to Chapter 24!

Chapter 38 donates flag in memory of fallen hero... From Andy Kline, president of MMCI Chapter 38: Members of MMCI Chapter 38 (Watsonstown, PA) presented a new flag to the Milton Veterans Memorial Park on Monday, May 30th (Memorial Day), in memory of Zachariah Long. Club members, along with Karen and Rick Long (Chapter 38 member and Zachariah's father), helped to hoist the giant new flag in place during a special ceremony on Memorial Day.

Rick praised the members of Chapter 38, which he and Karen are members of, for donating the flag. "I'm very proud to be part of Chapter 38," Rick said. "They have a lot of good morals and go great things."

MMCI Chapter 38 decided to donate the flag in memory of Zachariah after learning the flag which had been flying in the park was in need of replacement. Zachariah's parents live near Milton and pass by the flag's location daily, so the members thought it would be a fitting way to honor their Brother Rick's son. Chapter 38 has donated money to the **Hunts for Healing** organization in memory of Zachariah, an organization that the Long's firmly support. This year on Sept 10 and 11, Chapter 38 sponsored the Long's participation in the **"Let's Roll Flight 93 Memorial Ride."** This ride left ten locations in PA (including Williamsport, PA) with 40 riders, each rider representing one of the 40 people who lost their lives in the Flight 93 hijacking and crash on September 11, 2001. The goal is to raise \$40,000 per each of the ten locations for a total of \$400,000 to be used to build the Flight 93 Memorial in Shanksville, PA.

MMCI Chapter 38 has been involved in a number of charitable efforts throughout the community, state and nation since 2006. **(editor's note: Thanks to Andy and the members of Chapter 38 for a moving tribute. This is what MMCI is all about.)**



Minutes of the August 4, 2011 Annual Meeting... The 2011 Annual Meeting of the Masonic Motorcycle Club International was called to order on Thursday, August 4, 2010 at 9:00 AM in the banquet hall of the Treasure Island (MN) Resort and Casino by President Kent Dorney. All Officers except David Page (Four-year Trustee), Rex Baker (Lifetime Trustee) and Jeff Killian (Chaplain) were present, and ten Chapters were represented. Immediately following the roll call of Officers and Chapters, Kent led the Members in the Pledge of Allegiance. An opening prayer was given by Neal Forbes.

Minutes of the 2010 Annual Meeting were approved as published. The Treasurer's report was distributed in the meeting handouts; George gave a brief summery and reported that the Club has no outstanding debts. The Treasurer's report was approved.

Dick Morse reported briefly that the Death Benefit Committee submitted a written report that was distributed with the meeting handouts, and requested a moment of silence for the five departed members that we lost in the past year.

Officers Reports: the, Vice-President's report, Secretary's report, Treasurer's report and Trustee's report were included in the handouts that were distributed for the meeting.

Committee Reports: Various Committee reports were distributed in the meeting handouts. All distributed reports are available by email upon request to the International Secretary. Kent gave a brief Membership report, including the possibility of a new Chapter in LA, and an overview of why Chapter 50 was assigned that number. The Audit Committee reported that the books were in order and there were no problems with the financial reports. The 2011 Annual Conference Committee reported that the Conference was "all set."

Bylaws Balloting: The Bylaws Committee indicated that the proposed changes to the Constitution and Bylaws (Bylaws Articles V and VII) were published in their entirety in the Summer issue of the **Rider's Digest** and were included on the ballot which was distributed to Active Members in good standing. The vote was unanimous to approve the changes.

Old Business: Nothing to address. The National Archery In the Schools Program will be discussed under **New Business**.

New Business: Motion to approve the 2012 Annual Conference at the Ramada in Cortland, NY. Dates are Tuesday, August 14 through Friday, August 17, 2012. Host Chapters are Chapters 12 and 32. Dean Gonya (Chapter 32) is Chair, and Kent Dorney (Chapter 12) is Co-chair. Motion was seconded and passed. A motion was made, seconded and passed to allow the Secretary to purchase a new printer, not to exceed a cost of \$300 for the unit itself.

Ken White proposed that the MMCI adopt the National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP) as a supported cause. After much discussion about how funds could be raised and distributed, or should MMCI even support a designated charitable organization at the national level, a motion was made, seconded and passed that MMCI support NASP for the next two years during Ken's term as President of MMCI should he be elected to that office. Ken will provide information to the Executive Board and Chapters about the dollar amounts needed to start and support programs, funding sources available, and expectations of technical and administrative support available at the national and local levels.

Election of Officers: The Nominations Committee presented its slate of officers. Nominations from the floor were opened, but none were made. A motion was made, seconded and passed that the International Secretary cast a single ballot for the proposed slate of officers, which was done. Elected to serve two-year terms were Ken White (Chapter 24): President; Ron Ferraro (Chapter 8): Vice-president; Jeff Kaplan (Chapter 1): Secretary; George Detweiler (Chapter 8): Treasurer; and Dean Gonya (Chapter 32): Six Year Trustee. Dave Page (Chapter 25) moves to Two Year Trustee and Gordy Aune, Jr. (Chapter 24) moves to Four Year Trustee.

Announcements: It was announced that the Open Road Degree would be conferred at the end of the evening's banquet. President-elect Ken thanked everyone for their vote and support, and reminded everyone about the Bike Show and the Bug Target contest.

Neal Forbes gave the closing prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 10:37 AM.

Submitted by Jeff Kaplan, International Secretary

Cortland, NY and the Finger Lakes Welcome You... The 2012 Annual Conference will be held at the Ramada in From Tuesday, August 14, 2012 through Friday, August 17, 2012. The hotel is located at 2 River Street in downtown Cortland, NY 13045. Call 607-756-4431 for reservations. Dean Gonya and Kent Dorney, Conference Co-chairs, promise a terrific event. Mark your calendars and book early!

Final Journeys... None to report, thank goodness!

Have You Visited the Club Website Lately? If Not, Why Not??
Go to www.masonicmotorcycleclub.org and check it out.

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