

**MASONIC MOTORCYCLE CLUB  
INTERNATIONAL,<sup>®</sup> INC.**



**SPRING NEWSLETTER.**

**APRIL, MAY, JUNE .**

**2008**

# MASONIC MOTORCYCLE CLUB INTERNATIONAL. NEWS, GOSSIP AND "STUFF".

Greetings. We hope your Winter went well and your looking forward to dry roads as we in the North country do every year at this time.

We welcome our newest Chapter from Sioux Falls, South Dakota. They came in with 33 new members, making them the third largest Chapter in the Club. We look forward to their participation in MMCI and hope some of them can travel in an Easterly direction to attend this years Convention in Ohio.

We also would like to welcome our new Members at Large who decided to join the Club. Our roster is starting to fill up again and that's a good thing.

## MISTAKE

My putor made a bad mistake in the last newsletter. It said that the Executive Board meeting was on the 6<sup>th</sup> of April. So after a sound scolding, It's now telling you that the International Executive Board meeting in on **April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2008**. All the other info was correct concerning time and place.

## SICK AND IN DISTRESS.

We have learned that one of our past President's of International is gravely ill. Brother Steve Benos is reported to be in a coma at the hospital in Steubenville, Ohio. Our thoughts and prayers are with him. Also, Doug Kelley, Trustee of our Executive Board family is doing a lot better and has been able to go back to work and looking forward to lots of miles this Summer. Also,

## NEWSLETTER

Because the Executive Board was moved to April, there isn't a lot to report on for this newsletter so it gave us a chance to broaden out on other stuff that we thought would be interesting.

## DEATH BENEFIT FUND.

For our new members, in 2001, the International Executive Board decided to create a Fund for widows and families of Active Members who have passed on.

One dollar of your International dues are put aside and in time of sorrow and need, a check is drawn from the Fund and sent to help for immediate expenses. The Fund has paid out over \$2,500.00 since it's inception. It's not a lot of money but those who have received it have been very grateful. \$400.00 for a motorcycle related death and \$200.00 for a normal death. ( as if death is normal! ) The Fund has grown to were we are able to invest some of it In CD's and money market accounts .If a member of your Chapter passes away, let International know as soon as possible and we will send a check. Chapter # 8 Members should let your family's know about the Fund. Go to our Web-Site and check out the rules of the Fund.

## OTHER CLUB STUFF.

Also, we offer some neat MMCI stuff in our Web-Site store. We only sell product to our members. So give Cliff your membership number when ordering. Your number is next to your name on the mailing label of this newsletter.

[www.masonicmotorcycleclub.org](http://www.masonicmotorcycleclub.org)

## EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

**April, 26<sup>th</sup> 2008.** 4:00 PM. Quality Inn, 7666 Rt # 437. Apalachin NY, Exit # 86 off of Rt.# 17 or Rt # 86. Hotel reservations; 1-887-625-4441.

" Ride with Discretion "

Uncle Dick Morse.

RIDING AT NIGHT. By: Greg J. Hudson +

Out onto the darkness of night he rode. Blacker than coal but dumb as a box of rocks. Riding a motorcycle at night brings a new twist to the riding game so here are a few tips on reflective clothing, braking, night blindness and other related subjects. Reflective Tape; Get pants and jacket with reflective stripes already sewn on. This serves to enlighten other road users of your presents. Also, find a reflective tape to line the side of your wheel rims or other visible place.

Breaking at Night; When braking, with the front brake, the patch of light from your headlight tends to dip down taking away a portion of your visual modality.

The solution is to opt for rear wheel braking and engine gearing down for maximizing sight of the road ahead of you.

Visual Purple: Ever notice that looking into a bright light at night can cause temporary blindness? This is caused by a substance in your eyes called visual purple that becomes temporarily disturbed. (I'm sure that there is a technical term for all this.) Clue, Don't look directly into on coming headlights.

Your Vision; Due to the nature of light, small scratches on your windshield, visor or glasses can diffract the beam of oncoming headlights causing a starburst effect. This is similar to a car's windshield when covered with drops of water. React accordingly.

Through the Looking Glass; Perception is drastically reduced at night. Parts of the road you're familiar with during the day will be altered in darkness. Tune into the clues on the road that you can work with namely catseyes, white lines, reflective road signs and the areas of light illuminated by street lights. On coming traffic is easier to spot, but don't take this for granted. Vehicles parked on the side of the road can be rendered invisible under certain light conditions. Not to mention, some horse

drawn vehicles are dimly lit and you will come up on them in an instant.

Road Kill; There have been cases of a deer jumping in front of a Large bus or an eighteen wheeler have caused one heck of a wreck. Imagine it was you on your motorcycle ! Try your best to detect animals by looking for the reflection in their eyes. " Like a deer caught in the headlights " Dip your lights, Slow down, if it is stationary, steer around the animal with caution. It could leap in your direction at the last moment. If you hit it, O Well! Grab your Cell phone and call 911 ! Bottom Line; Common sense, slow down and pay attention. ( I didn't write this!)

#### MORE STUFF.

Enclosed is information on Rolling Thunder. MMCI has always supported this event in DC. We are not a political Club and we support freedom of expression when it comes our individual rights of thought of the war and why we are at war. But we must support our fellow citizens who have chosen to fight for those freedoms and honor our troops who will not be coming home. That's what Rolling Thunder is all about on this coming Memorial Day Weekend.

Convention will be in a few months and we hope you have your reservation made for the hotel and reservation for the events that are planned. On the last page is the reservation form for your convenience so "let's get er done" More detail on our International Web-Site. The Grand Master of the State of Ohio will be in attendance to great us. If your coming in early, they have made accomendations at another nice nearby hotel. So call Jim and he will get you lined up. The Hampton can only take reservations for Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Also as I write this letter, the rooms with two double beds are gone. Give Jim a call and he will see that you are informed how to make arrangements at the other hotel. Gonna be another busy Summer and we hope to see you along the way.

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## SAFETY, COMFORT, RULES OF THE ROAD. ( AS I SEE IT!)

A couple weeks ago, one of our new members, who had very seldom ridden in a group other than poker runs and at a sponsored charity run, asked me what to look out for when riding with our Chapter this coming Summer on several of our planned trips. I hesitated for a few minutes in giving him an answer. Thinking back to when our Club was formed almost 25 years ago, We had several close calls. At first, we started riding side by side and after several members almost crashed into each other, dropped a couple bikes and several other members quit the Club because they were uncomfortable riding that way, it was decided to go staggered and keep a safe distance. However, during that transition , I became very aware what was going on around me when riding in a group and it has stayed with me still today. I have learned where my comfort zone is. There are several members that I really don't want to ride close to and several other members who I have no problem riding near. As I get older, I prefer to ride towards the back of the group where I can watch what is going on in front of me .Also as I got older, I found that there were many distraction when riding my Gold Wing. Stereo radio, CB, Cruise Control, Other peoples radios, Pipes, Traffic, Scenery plus trying to pay attention to what is going on nearby. I now ride a smaller motorcycle with no distractions and find it a lot more enjoyable and relaxing.

But I digress. I told our new member to pick the people he knows and trusts. To ride where he is comfortable, giving himself enough room to stop or pull off the road if needed. To ride his own ride and don't let anyone push him. If someone wants to pass because he is going to slow, "Get er Done" and don't take it personal. A good Road Captain will inform the group before leaving, basically where you are going, what kind of roads you will be traveling and how fast you will be going. Pay attention to what's going on in front of you and only use your brake lights and directional signals to let the bike behind you know of your intentions and directions. If you feel it is time for a stop for gas or a potty stop, Make it know to the Road Captain so he can find a safe place to stop. The most important thing is experience and knowing who to trust and find your comfort zone. Our Chapter has had many new members who didn't like riding in a group and we never saw them again. Maybe that's a good thing because in our near 25 years of group riding, we have never had a major accident.

Uncle Dick.



# ROLLING THUNDER® XXI

## RIDE FOR FREEDOM



### POW-MIA

### "WE WILL NEVER FORGET"

WWI 3,349  
 WWII 78,648  
 COLD WAR 120  
 KOREA 8,144  
 VIETNAM 1,769  
 PERSIAN GULF 1  
 IRAQI FREEDOM 4

WASHINGTON, D.C.  
**MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND**  
**MAY 25, 2008**

ROLLING THUNDER® INC.  
 NATIONAL  
 PO BOX 216  
 NESHANIC STA., NJ 08853  
 908-369-5439 FAX: 908-369-

ASSEMBLY AREA: NORTH PENTAGON PARKING LOT 8:00 A.M.

LEAVING: 12:00 NOON FOR THE RIDE THROUGH WASHINGTON, D.C. TO THE VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL. TO PAY OUR RESPECT TO OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS THAT GAVE THEIR LIVES FOR THE FREEDOM WE ENJOY EVERY DAY, AND FOR THE FULL ACCOUNTING OF ALL POW-MIA'S AND VETERANS RIGHTS. THIS IS A DEMONSTRATION NOT A PARADE.

ROLLING THUNDER FROM CALIFORNIA, TO WASHINGTON, D.C. INFORMATION FOR ASSEMBLY AREA AND DEPARTURE IN CALIFORNIA CONTACT JOY 760-246-2928 BUNGEE 559-542-1708

ROLLING THUNDER (CARRY THE FLAME) FROM CALIFORNIA TO WASHINGTON, D.C. CALL FOR ASSEMBLY AREA AND DEPARTURE DATE. CONTACT BILLY 405-483-5172 OK. KING 970-962-9306 CO.

STAGE FOR SPEAKERS AND MUSIC LOCATION: THE WEST END OF THE REFLECTING POOL ACROSS FROM THE LINCOLN MEMORIAL. PLEASE ASK ALL MEMBERS OF YOUR CLUB OR ORGANIZATION TO ATTEND. EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

ARTIE	908-369-5439 NJ	JR	610-539-1046 PA	BOB	615-513-5852 TN
ROGER	270-343-4088 KY	JOHN	662-234-1084 MS	KING	970-962-9306 CO
JOE T	718-389-3962 NY	GENE	478-722-8250 GA	HARPER	706-846-3781 GA
JON	518-768-2827 NY	ALAN	603-456-3168 NH	BOB	319-230-6985 IA
DAVE	225-658-8425 LA	DENNIS	815-895-7599 IL	HANK	910-347-4141 NC
RUSS	989-506-4717 MI	JOE	207-490-2094 ME	BOB	210-862-2981 TX
ART	703-494-6705 VA	DOUG	614-436-6305 OH	JAY	765-795-3168 IN
LOU	865-671-9597 TN	AL	303-948-1394 CO	BOB	516-889-1274 Island Pk.
TOP	505-281-8228 NM	DON	941-235-3333 FL	REID	423-638-1318 TN
BUNGEE	559-542-1708 CA	RICH	608-339-2659 WI	BILLY	405-483-5172 OK
JOHN	978-544-8652 VT	JOY	760-246-2928 CA	RUSS	781-878-0416 MA
RICH	917-660-7463 TX	HARRY	570-677-7916 PA	TERRY	706-846-2617 GA
GEORGE	915-590-2161 NM	GILL	450-429-5418 Canada		

**NO ATTITUDES: CONFIRMED: EVERYONE MUST WEAR A HELMET!!!**  
**NO ALCOHOL BEVERAGES IN THE NORTH PENTAGON PARKING LOT**

PLEASE COPY & REDISTRIBUTE

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CHECK OUR WEBSITE: [www.rollingthunder1.com](http://www.rollingthunder1.com)  
 HOTEL AND CAMPGROUND INFO IS ON OUR WEB SITE

MASONIC MOTORCYCLE CLUB INTERNATIONAL INC.  
2008 CONVENTION REGISTRATION. AUGUST 7 / 10, 08.

**PLEASE PRINT**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PASSENGER \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_ ARRIVAL DATE \_\_\_\_\_

REGISTRATION FEE, ADULT. \$60.00 X ( ) = \_\_\_\_\_

REGISTRATION FEE CHILDREN UNDER 14. \$30.00 X ( ) = \_\_\_\_\_

MEN'S CONV. TEE SHIRT. SIZES, S - 3XL \$15.00 X ( ) = \_\_\_\_\_

MEN'S CONV. HENLEY SIZES, S - 3XL \$25.00 X ( ) = \_\_\_\_\_

LADIES TANK TOP SIZES S - 2XL \$15.00 X ( ) = \_\_\_\_\_

EXTRA CONVENTION PINS \$3.00 EACH X ( ) = \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO AND SEND TO;

**MMCI, CHAPTER # 3** P.O. BOX 102 YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO. 44501.

E-MAIL-jimbeeman@zoominternet.net For more information.

CONTACT PERSON, JIM BEEMAN, PHONE, 330-758-6538. DEADLINE 7/01.

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HOTEL INFORMATION: HAMPTON INN'S AND SUITES. 6690 IRONWOOD BLVD.,  
CANFIELD, OHIO 44406 330-702-1900. RESERVATIONS AND DIRECTIONS ARE ON  
THE HAMPTON INN WEB-SITE. WWW.HAMPTONINNCANFIELD.COM

THERE ARE 60 RESERVED ROOMS AT \$89.00 + TAX (MMCI DISCOUNT)

THERE ARE 5 HANDICAP SUITES AT \$109 + TAX. (MMCI DISCOUNT)

RESERVATIONS AFTER 6/23 WILL BE "SPACE AND PRICE AVAILABLE".

CHECK IN TIME IS 3:00 PM. HANDICAP ROOMS, FIRST COME.

RELEASE WAIVER FORMS ARE REQUIRED TO BE SIGNED AT THE CONVENTION.