



**Masonic Motorcycle club international ® Inc.**



## ***Rider's digest***

Available Online at [www.masonicmotorcycleclub.org](http://www.masonicmotorcycleclub.org)

***"Ride With Discretion"***

**FALL 2012**

**Annual Conference 2012 Wrap-up...** From the 2012 Conference Committee - The 2012 Convention Committee would like to thank all who came out to the Ramada Inn in Cortland, NY for the 28<sup>th</sup> Annual, and the first Conference ever held in New York State. We hope that all enjoyed the region selected.

To recap, 103 people registered, but unfortunately not all could attend as 10 cancelled in the preceding week. The Tuesday ride to Corning was well attended by an estimated 45 riders and passengers, but about 20 others decided to do a ride to the Curtis Wright Museum in Hammondsport, NY. That night we ventured to the local A&W Drive-in for our Ice Cream Social, and yes it was an actual old-time Drive-in. Unfortunately, we got rain shortly after arriving despite being in the middle of one of the worse draughts in over 20 years. Shortly after the last bike arrived back at the hotel we had a 6 inch river running through the parking lot, thunder & lightning, a tornado warning and lost electric for 10 minutes; which was not on the itinerary. Needless to say, in the morning the bikes were remarkably clean.

On Wednesday 65 attendees rode to Cooperstown, NY, the home of the Baseball Hall of Fame. Kurt Prager, his wife and the Brothers of Otsego Lodge #138 arranged a wonderful Chicken BBQ lunch and a tour of the lodge for the Club. Otsego #138 has been in operation for over 200 years and shares in the rich history of Cooperstown. Upon our return to the hotel we were joined by several Brothers from CH 38 who rode in for the Pizza & Wing party, followed by the Annual meeting. **(see 2012 Wrap-up, Page 4.)**

**2013 Annual Conference set for Canaan Valley, WV...** Greetings from the 2013 Annual Conference Committee. The Committee is hard at work getting all items set for the Annual Conference. We know that we are going to have a tough act to follow, as the 2012 Committee did an outstanding job. But we will try to make next year's Annual Conference bigger and better if possible. The location and dates for the 2013 Annual Conference are: **Canaan Valley Resort & Conference Center, Davis, WV, August 12-16, 2013.**

There will be two room packages offered for next year's Conference. One is the **Vacation Package**: arrive on Sunday, stay five nights and get one night free. Total cost for the five-night **Vacation Package** is \$300 plus tax. The second is the **Economy Package**: arrive on Tuesday and stay three nights. Total cost for the three-night **Economy Package** is \$225 plus tax. It's important to **mark your calendars now** and plan next year's vacation. The **Vacation Package** is the best deal, and there's plenty to do in the hills of West Virginia! The reservations number for the resort is **1-800-622-4121**, and the website is **[www.CanaanResort.com](http://www.CanaanResort.com)**. Please make sure you mention "**MMCI Annual Conference**" when making your reservations.

We have put together a tentative agenda and it will be published in the Spring issue of the **RIDER'S DIGEST**. Some of the items already on the agenda include a ride to the site of the Flight 93 memorial, a ride to Cass, WV for a scenic railroad trip, a ride to Black Water Falls with lunch. We also have some of our yearly favorite activities planned: an Ice Cream Social, Pizza Party, and Bike Show. Some other sites to see and things to do in the area are the Quecreek Mine Memorial where nine miners were rescued after being trapped underground for 78 hours. Take a tour of Tucker County Micro-Breweries. Seneca Rock, Smoke Hole Cavern, the Green Bank Radio Observatory, and much more.

On the grounds of the resort there are nature trails, a miniature golf course as well as an 18 hole championship golf course. There are indoor and outdoor pools, and tons of parking for our bikes.

Please mark the dates on your calendar. Book early and we hope to see you all in Canaan Valley, WV. Ron Ferraro and Dick Morse for the 2013 Annual Conference Committee.

**NEXT INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING**  
**Saturday, November 3, 2012 4:00 – 6:00 PM 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room**  
**Quality Inn ~ 7666 Route 434, Apalachin, NY 13732 (607) 625-4441**

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

**Elected Officers**

**President: Kenneth White**

1621 Independence Ave North  
Golden Valley, MN 55427

612-202-9653

**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),**

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 Bendickson, 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**),

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),**

Dick Foxen (Sec-Treas), Neal Forbes,

Cliff Wilson (Vice-chair), Jeff Kaplan

**Lifetime Trustees: Doug Kelley,**

**Richard Kovac, Richard Morse,**

**Cliff Wilson**

**Conference 2013: Dick Morse (Chair);**

**Ron Ferraro (Co-Chair)**

**Sunshine Committee (Shiny Side Up**

**Club): Connie Dorney (Chair),**

**(Connie.62@verizon.net)**, Kim Crete, Bonnie Baker

**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...**

Greetings my Brothers, and I hope this fall issue finds everyone well and in good spirits.

With this message I start my second year as your President. I can say it has been a very enjoyable time serving all of you and I'm looking forward to my second year with anticipation and some sadness. I've enjoyed my experience and have made many good friends from out East that I never would have met if I hadn't had this opportunity. I will miss being so involved with this club but time marches on and Ron is looking forward to his turn at the top.

At this time I would like to thank the 2012 Conference Committee for the excellent job they did in planning this year's event. I'm pretty sure everyone was thanked with a hand shake or hug during the Conference and acknowledged during the banquet., I will just say again to all involved, "Thank You" for this Conference and you have set the bar a little higher for the next committee.

Speaking of upcoming Conferences, make sure to see the info in the VP's Message. If you've never been to a Conference you should really plan on attending one. You will find you're a stranger only once and for a very short time. This club has some of the friendliest folks you will ever meet and everyone tries to make you feel at home and welcomed.

I would like to make everyone aware that I have appointed a new committee that will serve as a sunshine committee for the members of our club. Connie Dorney has agreed to head a few ladies to send cards to our members or family who are ill or hospitalized. If you know of anyone we should contact, PLEASE let Connie or myself know. My contact information and Connie's are listed on Page 2. It's a little thing but we know getting a card means a lot when one is ill or in the hospital. PLEASE contact us when you know of someone who needs a card.

In closing, I would like to mention to everyone that this is your club and if you would like to serve on any committee or even the Board just let any of the board members or me know.

Fraternally yours - Ken White



## **Vice President's Message...**

I hope this message finds everyone well, and all those that attended the 2012 Conference had a safe and uneventful trip home.

Our hats (helmets) are off to the 2012 Conference committee for a job well done! I know everybody had a great time. It was nice to see some old friends and also to see some new faces.

I would like to remind everyone that next year is an election year for Officers. Any member interested in becoming more active in the Club, please let me or any member of the Board know. We have quarterly Board meetings which are open to all members. The meetings are usually held in Apalachin NY at the Quality Inn. (Phone number to make reservations is 607-625-4441) Attend one of these meeting and learn how your Club operates and get involved. Our next meeting is Nov. 3, 2012.

We have great news as far as the Conferences go for the next couple of years. It was approved at the Annual meeting that the 2013 Conference will be held in Canaan Valley, WV, August 12 – 16, and the 2014 Conference will be in Gettysburg, PA, August 11 - 15. And we have been contacted by a Chapter that would like to host the 2015 Conference in the Dells, Wisconsin. This is great to have the Conferences set for the next three years. Thank you to all the members that are stepping up to help.

If there is anything I can do for you please contact me. Fraternaly yours - Ronald Ferraro

**(2012 Wrap-up, cont'd.)** On Thursday people went off to explore the region on their own, with a small group taking a guided tour to the small Village of Skaneateles. Thursday night we ended the Conference with a wonderful banquet dinner followed by drawing the Chinese Auction Basket winners; announcement of the winners of the Farkle Tournament and Bug Dots; and the bike show awards, to which it seems Cortland Lodge sent a ringer as Charlie Delloco walked away with the Best Trike and Best of Show plaques. Friday morning it was time to say goodbye to all with the sendoff breakfast.

Between Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 32 members and guests enjoyed tours and sampling at 7 Cayuga Lake Wineries and 1 Brewery. Thanks to Connie Dorney's dad, Bob Blow, for being one of our Designated Drivers so that all could enjoy their wine tour without any concerns.

Additionally the Committee would like to thank Connie's mom, Evelyn Blow, who manned our Hospitality Room; Tristan Dorney, who assisted his grandmother; Don and Kim Crete (CH 14), who filled in many of the gaps; and Gary Lippert (CH 3), who assisted with a multitude of essential tasks.

At the conclusion of the conference the Committee donated a total of \$1400.00 to the New York Masonic Brotherhood Fund for allocation to the Most Worshipful James E. Sullivan's Grand Master Projects: The Masonic Safety ID Programs (Child & Senior ID) and The Masonic Student Assistance Training Program (MSAT). The Club rose over \$800 from the various basket draws and raffles, with an additional \$450 being donated by individual members. The remaining balance came from shirt sales, extra pins sales, and small amounts left from registration and wine tasting fees. In addition, President Ken White secured a matching pledge from the Grand Master of Minnesota.

Once again we would like to thank everyone who attended, but we missed those who could not. As we stated at the Conference it does not matter how much work you put into a Conference, it is only a good time because you were there enjoying yourselves.

**MMCI Members show the spirit of Brotherhood at Otsego Lodge...** Received from George and Cathy Detweiler - On Wednesday, August 15, 2012, almost 65 riders and passengers headed to Cooperstown, NY to tour the town, visit the National Baseball Hall of Fame, and have lunch at historic Otsego Lodge #138, F&AM. The ride was almost 200 miles from start to finish. High points of the tour were the Hall of Fame, of course, but those of us who visited the Lodge were treated to a great chicken barbeque and a fascinating lecture by Richard Vang, past master of Otsego Lodge and author of numerous articles and the children's book, "My Dad Is A Mason."

As we normally do at events like this, the attending MMCI members and guests usually pass the basket to aid the hosting lodge in defraying costs. However, in this case, Brother Vang told us that the passing of the basket was unnecessary; that the luncheon was provided free of charge. While we were eating lunch, Brother Vang did ask us to sign a get-well card for Shirley Dickison, the wife of Senior Warden Keith Dickison, who was recovering from surgery. At the initiative of MMCI Member Randy Hedding, the basket was passed and the money collected was given to Brother Vang for presentation to Brother Dickison and Shirley on behalf of MMCI.

As the saying goes; "It's not the gift – it's the thought that counts." Here's the thought given to us by Brother Dickison through an e-mail to Kent Dorney. "I am writing to extend my most heartfelt thanks to everyone who recently rode to Cooperstown, for the wonderful card and gift you gave to my wife Shirley (who is recovering from surgery). It was and always will be the shining example in my life as to what our wonderful Brotherhood is about. I have no words to explain the emotional boost you provided to both of us by your thoughtfulness. I am sorry I couldn't be there that day, and hopefully we will meet in person someday. Please pass this thank-you on to everyone who signed the card, God bless, and happy riding."

This story is why and what makes us proud to be a member of the greatest fraternity in the world and the best Masonic Motorcycle Club bar none. Thanks to the organizers for a great Conference – we can't wait to ride to Canaan Valley!

***Have You Visited the Club Website Lately? If Not, Why Not??***  
Go to **[www.masonicmotorcycleclub.org](http://www.masonicmotorcycleclub.org)** and check it out.

**Minutes of the August 15, 2012 Annual Meeting...** The 2012 Annual Meeting of the Masonic Motorcycle Club International was called to order on Wednesday, August 15, 2012 at 7:400 PM in the banquet hall of the Ramada Inn by President Ken White. All Officers except David Page (Two-year Trustee), Gordy Aune, Jr. (Four-year Trustee) and Dick Morse (Lifetime Trustee) were present, and 11 Chapters were represented. Immediately following the roll call of Officers and Chapters, President Ken led the Members in the Pledge of Allegiance. An opening prayer was given by Jeff Killian, International Chaplain. President Ken told all in attendance that it was his intent to move the meeting along quickly.

Minutes of the 2011 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.

Cliff Wilson reported briefly that the Death Benefit Committee submitted a written report that was distributed with the meeting handouts.

**Officers Reports:** the President's report, 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. No discussion was held concerning the reports.

**Committee Reports:** Various committee reports were distributed in the meeting hand-out. All distributed reports are available by email upon request to the International Secretary. No verbal committee reports were given at the meeting.

**Bylaws Balloting:** President Ken White, on behalf of the Bylaws Committee, indicated that the proposed changes to the Constitution and Bylaws (Constitution Article IV, addition of Article IX, Bylaws Article III) 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 and present at the Annual Meeting. The voice vote was unanimous to approve the changes.

**Old Business:** Nothing to address.

**New Business:** A discussion was held regarding who may wear the MMCI Club logo. President Ken stated that based on a review of the Constitution and Bylaws and discussions with a number of people, the official MMCI policy is that women may wear the shirts distributed at Conferences or by their local Chapters, but that woman my not wear the three-inch and ten-inch patches, or any clothing that has the patches affixed to it.

A motion was made and seconded that the 2013 Annual Conference be held at the Canaan Valley Resort in Davis, WV. The dates will be August 12 – 16, 2013. After brief discussion the motion was passed.

President Ken stated that he and several other members of Chapter 24 had stopped in at the Eisenhower Conference Center in Gettysburg, PA on their way to Cortland. They met with the sales staff at the Conference Center who said that they would be thrilled to host the 2014 MMCI Annual Conference. A motion was made, seconded and passed to hold the 2014 Annual Conference at the Eisenhower Conference Center in Gettysburg, PA. Per President Ken, members of Chapter 24 will work with any Chapters in the Gettysburg area to set up and run the Conference. The date is tentatively set for mid-August, 2014.

President Ken announced that he has established a Sunshine Committee to assume responsibility for sending get well wishes to Members and their families during hospitalizations and illnesses. Funding for this committee will come through donations and other fund raising activities. President Ken has asked Connie Dorney to chair this committee, assisted by Kim Crete and Bonnie Baker. It was noted that this is not a standing committee, and must be reappointed by each succeeding MMCI President.

A discussion was held about where the charitable donations for the 2012 Annual Conference will be directed. Kent Dorney, co-chair of this year's Conference, indicated that any excess funds would be donated to two programs (Children and Seniors ID program, Masonic Student Assistance Program) conducted by the Grand



Lodge of New York. President Ken announced that he had received a commitment from the Grand Master of Minnesota that he would match any donations made to these programs by the Conference Committee.

**Announcements:** It was announced that the Open Road Ceremony would be conducted immediately following the Annual Meeting. President Ken White thanked the 2012 Annual Conference Committee for their hard work and wonderful event. He also thanked everyone for coming to Cortland.

Jeff Killian gave the closing prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 8:21 PM.

**Submitted by Jeff Kaplan, International Secretary**

### **A few scenes from the Hospitality Room and Wednesday evening's festivities...**



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