



**MASONIC MOTORCYCLE CLUB INTERNATIONAL® INC.**

## ***RIDER'S DIGEST***

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

*"Ride With Discretion"*

FALL 2010



### **NEXT INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING**

**Saturday, October 30, 2010 4:00 – 6:00 PM**

**Quality Inn ~ 7666 Route 434, Apalachin, NY 13732 (607) 625-4441**

**Winchester Annual Conference Wrap-up...** The 2010 Annual Conference for the **Masonic Motorcycle Club International® Inc.** was held at the Quality Inn in Winchester, Virginia, from August 2<sup>nd</sup> through August 6<sup>th</sup> 2010. It was hosted by Chapter 8, the Member-At-Large chapter. The number of attendees was 97 (56 Members and 41 guests). The Chapters represented and their number of attendees was (chapter # (attendees)): 1 (8); 3 (3); 6 (5); 8 (11); 12 (1); 14 (2); 15 (1); 16 (1); 24 (11); 25 (7); and 32 (6). Overall, the Conference appeared to be very successful. The Conference Committee had two goals for the Conference. Our first goal was to provide the maximum number and different types of activities to keep the attendees busy and ensure maximum interaction between them. Our second goal was to ensure that any new **MMCI** members and first time conference attendees had a good time. We believe both goals were met. **(Editor's note: they sure were!)**

Major highlights and events of the conference included a chartered bus trip to Washington, D.C.; an ice cream social; a pizza party; a group motorcycle ride to the United States Marine Corps Museum; and the banquet followed by a band for dancing and listening after the banquet.

The bus trip was probably the highlight of the conference. It was scheduled to tour some of the monuments in Washington, D.C., the House of the Temple, and the George Washington Masonic Memorial. It was an all day affair – departing the hotel at 7:00 AM and returning at 6:00 PM. From the comments, it appeared that a good time was had by all. A special thank you is given to Brother Bob Hume, Chapter 47, for being an outstanding tour guide.

This conference also marked the return of the famous **MMCI** Bike Show after a one year hiatus from the conference. A special thanks to Chapter 25 for organizing, running, and donating the awards for the Bike Show.



A first time occurrence for this conference was the scheduling of the Annual Meeting for Wednesday evening after the pizza party. Since everyone attended the pizza party (we do like free food), almost everyone stayed for the meeting that followed. Having the meeting on Wednesday evening also allowed for more riding time on Thursday which everyone seemed to enjoy.

Our major motorcycle ride was from Winchester to Quantico, Virginia, to tour the USMC Museum. As part of the ride, riders either carried toys to donate or donated money to Toys for Tots upon arrival at the museum. Approximately 12 – 15 toys were donated along with \$165.00.

We visited Winchester Hiram Lodge #21 for dinner and a tour of their lodge which is famous for its beautiful frescoes on the walls and ceiling. Dinner was provided (attendees paid for their own). Lodge members were most gracious hosts. The lodge also allowed us to perform our Order of the Open Road Ceremony. We also heard the story of the Lodge's charity jar and were given an opportunity to contribute. Overall it was a fine evening and we wish to thank Brother Chip Bennett, a member of Winchester Hiram Lodge #21, for scheduling and organizing the event.

The Conference Committee - George Detweiler, Ron Ferraro, Jesse Imhof, Gary O'Neal, and Ken White - considered it a privilege to serve and hope that all conference attendees had a wonderful time.

Submitted by George Detweiler

**MASONIC MOTORCYCLE CLUB INTERNATIONAL, INC. ®**  
**Executive Board, 2009 – 2011**

**Elected Officers**

**President: Kent Dorney**

49 Simson Street  
Tonawanda, NY 14150  
716-694-1595  
**fltmedic@verizon.net**

**Vice-president: Kenneth White**

1621 Independence Ave North  
Golden Valley, MN 55427  
763-545-0491  
**mmci24-1@msn.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: Cliff Wilson**

925 Madison Avenue  
Painesville, OH 44077  
440-357-6658  
**cliffwilson65@msn.com**

**4 Year Trustee: David Page**

137 East Main Street  
Middleburg, PA 17842  
570-837-7079  
**dwptruck@aol.com**

**6 Year Trustee: Gordy Aune, Jr.**

2432 Pearson Parkway  
Brooklyn Park, MN 55444  
763-585-1766  
**GRANDPAAUNE@aol.com**

**Honorary Trustee: Don Crete, Past Pres.**

188 Coleman Road  
Auburn, NH 03032  
603-483-0714  
**cretedanm@comcast.net**

**International Chaplain: Jeff Killian**

**Appointed Committees**

**By-laws: John Van Kirk (Chair).**

Rex Baker, Dick Morse, Gary O'Neal

**Safety: Dean Gonya (Chair);**

Ron Baldwin, Robert Boss, Ian Mountfield

**Nominations: Don Crete (Chair,**

Gordy Aune, Dave Page

**Audit: Ed Lewis (Chair),**

Lloyd Jackson, John Bennett, Chris Alexander

**Finance: George Detweiler (Chair),**

Jeff Kaplan, Gordy Aune, Dave Page

**Membership: Rex Baker (Chair)**

(1567 Kinsman Rd., NE., N. Bloomfield OH 44450  
**summerrider5054@embarqmail.com**),  
Doug Kelley

**Grievance: Neal Forbes (Chair),**

Bumpy Geortz, Tom Boyle, Jeff Killian

**Website: Doug Kelley (Chair)**

(**dougkelley@windstream.net**), Scott Rose

**AMA Rep/Liability Insurance: Dick Morse**

**Quartermaster: Cliff Wilson**

**Death Benefit Fund: Dick Morse (Chair),**

Rex Baker (Vice-chair), Dick Foxen (Sec-Treas),  
Cliff Wilson, Neal Forbes

**Conference 2010: George Detweiler (Chair),**

Ken White (Co-chair), Ron Ferrero, Jesse Imhof,  
Gary O'Neal

**Conference 2011: Dayton Berg (Co-chair),**

Ken White (Co-Chair)

**Lifetime Trustees:**

**Richard Kovac, Richard Morse**  
**Rex Baker, Doug Kelley**

**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...** The Executive Board's hats are off to George Detweiler, Ron Ferraro, Jessie Imhof, their wives and family members for all of their efforts in hosting this year's highly successful Annual Conference in Winchester, Virginia. These Chapter 8 members did a wonderful job. And a special mention to Gary and Sandy O'Neal of Chapter 25 for all of the assistance they lent to the Chapter 8 group to make the conference a success. I hope everyone who attended had as good a time as I did.

Most members seemed to like changing the Annual Meeting to the evening hours, immediately after the pizza party. This gave us much more quality riding time. I propose to do the same next year, but as it will be an election year I may not be able to keep the meeting to under 47 minutes again.

The 2011 Conference planning is well underway, with Dayton Berg and the rest of Chapter 24 promising to give the Club just as good of a time as we had this year. However, we have no proposals currently on the table for 2012 or 2013. I do know there is one group looking at some possibilities for 2012, but nothing is firm as of yet. If there are any Chapters, or others, who would consider hosting a conference either year please contact Ken White or myself.

As with all well governed institutions there needs to be a group who runs the show, and the show must go on! The Executive Board is looking for a few good men who would be interested in serving the Club for the ensuing term. The Club is currently looking for candidates for the office of Vice President for the 2011 - 2013 term. Also, the Club will be in need of a Six Year Trustee (2011-2017) as Bro. Cliff Wilson will not be running for any future offices at the conclusion of his term as Trustee that expires this August. Any interested Brothers are encouraged to contact the Nomination Committee (Don Crete, CH 14, Chairman; Gordy Aune, Jr., CH 24; or Dave Page, CH 25 ). Or you may contact any Executive Board member to discuss any elected positions or assistance in contacting the Committee.

As this year's motorcycling season is slowing winding down for many of us, I wish you all good weather and safe roads until we meet again. - Kent



**Vice-President's Message...** I hope all of you who were able to make it to Virginia made it home upright and in good shape. A **BIG** "THANK YOU" needs to go to George and his team for putting on one of the nicer conferences I've had the pleasure to attend. George, I can't thank you enough or say enough about the time you put into this event. You did a great job and I'm looking forward to next year's Conference in Minnesota. We are pretty well set and details will be coming shortly. In all, the Minnesota guys had a great time and enjoyed your hospitality.

Our visit to Washington D.C. was something I was really looking forward to and it turned out fantastic. A first class tour bus with a volunteer brother guiding us and a very capable driver made the day one to remember. Our visit to lodge for dinner and the **MMCI** ceremony was truly a beautiful step back into time. Our Annual Meeting was short and fun. I want to thank the three brothers who stepped up and will work with me on lining up an organization we can be associated with after presenting my idea of "hitching our wagon" to a cause. We will put together a presentation for next year's conference in Minnesota and I hope to have more information in upcoming newsletters.

I was presented with a hat and a little partner from my fellow brothers in Chapter 24 and want to say thank you to Brother Mark Dreyer for all the love. As I said after the presentation "payback's a bitch" but thanks for thinking of me.

With summer winding down and the fall colors coming out, I wish to say I had fun during my first year as your Vice President, and I'm looking forward to the second year. If any of you have any ideas or suggestions you think the Board should be looking into or doing, please feel free to contact us by email or just a call. We are here to serve you and it's your club. Remember also to visit your clubs web site once in a while. We have tried to make it interesting and if you think something should be added or changed, throw us your comments. Put August 1 - 5, 2011 on your calendar now and we'll see you in Red Wing, Minnesota. We guarantee you a good time and great fellowship. Fraternally yours – Ken

## HAS YOUR ADDRESS CHANGED???

Please notify the International Secretary of any address change as soon as possible. Send an email to **bmw\_jeff@ameritech.net** with your new contact information and membership number, or send a USPS change form to **M.M.C.I., 2417 Elmdale Road, University Heights, OH 44118**. Please include your correct phone number and email address. Thanks!

## **RIDER'S DIGEST BY EMAIL OR SNAIL MAIL – IT'S YOUR CHOICE!!!**

You can choose to have your copy of the **RIDER'S DIGEST** sent to you by email instead of waiting for it to be delivered to you by the Post Office. It's fast and convenient, and it saves trees! To receive your newsletter by email, send an email to **bmw\_jeff@ameritech.net**, and type "Newsletter by email" in the subject line. Include your name, membership number (**XX-XXXX** format – look for it above your name on the envelope this newsletter came in), and the email address you want the newsletter sent to. You'll receive an acknowledgement as soon as your request is processed. Thanks!

**2011 Annual Conference – Mark Your Calendars...** Here's a heads-up from Dayton Berg, 2011 Annual Conference chairman. Our 2011 Annual Conference will be held in Red Wing, Minnesota at the Treasure Island Resort and Casino on August 2<sup>nd</sup> through August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2011. Room rates are \$69.00 per night plus tax. The discounted room rate starts July 31 2011 and is guaranteed through the night of August 4 2011. Contact the hotel at **1-800-222-7077** and mention the **Masonic Motorcycle Club International Conference** to get the room rate. You can check out the resort by going to their website: **www.treasureislandandcasino.com**.

We are planning on riding southeast Minnesota and southwestern Wisconsin. We will have a poker run, a lot of self-guided rides and possibly a group ride to Elmer's Auto and Toy Museum located in Fountain City, Wisconsin, which has one of the largest Pedal Car displays in the country. Check out their web site: **www.elmersautoandtoymuseum.com**.

Another place of interest is the National Eagle Center in Wabasha, Minnesota, a bald eagle conservation and observation center. Locally there's the famous Red Wing pottery and stoneware along with the well known Red Wing shoes and boots. At the company museum they have on display a size 638 1/2 d class work boot. We may offer a bus to Mall of America if enough interest is shown.

These are only a few of the places you can visit while attending the Annual Conference. The registration form and additional information will be published in the Winter 2011 **RIDER'S DIGEST**. Your contact for the 2011 Annual Conference is Dayton Berg. Contact info: home phone: **320-358-3768**; cell: **651-434-8031**; and email: **dayton55@q.com**.

**Reflections on 25 Years from Chapter 6...** Our membership has declined during the past few years, partly due to employment, family, health and relocation issues. We remain, however, an active (more social) type of Chapter. Chapter 6 is celebrating its 25th year anniversary in 2010. We decided to have a picnic at a local park and invite all members, active or inactive, to gather together and renew friendships, introduce newer members and cast aside our concerns for an afternoon. It was a perfect day weather wise, and the private park was ideal to meet our needs. We enjoyed steaks from the grill with all the accompaniments, and lots of good conversation and loud laughs. History is always fun when we can laugh at ourselves.

Twenty-five years has come and gone with many changes in our wake; however, while our number may be small, our heart and enthusiasm is large. We've enjoyed the annual **MMCI** Conferences and plan to continue attending, and to encourage others to participate in this great organization.

Submitted by Lee E. "Bumpy" Geortz, Secretary, **MMCI** Chapter 6, Pittsburgh, PA

**The DEADLINE for articles and information for the next RIDER'S DIGEST is December 15, 2010!**  
**And a big THANK YOU and JOB WELL DONE to George and his 2010 Conference Committee!**

**Minutes of the 2010 Annual Meeting...** The 2010 Annual Meeting of the Masonic Motorcycle Club International was called to order on Wednesday, August 4, 2010 at 8:00 PM in the banquet hall of the Winchester (VA) Quality Inn by President Kent Dorney. All Officers except David Page (Four-year Trustee) were present, and 11 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 Chaplain Jeff Killian.

Minutes of the 2009 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 met and re-elected all officers to their current positions. Dick thanked the International Secretary for his article describing the Death Benefit Plan. Dick 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. Lifetime Trustee and webmaster Doug Kelley made a motion that the Club purchase a computer for the Treasurer. Purchase price of the computer and software are not to exceed \$1500. Motion was seconded and passed.

**Committee Reports:** the By-laws Committee had previously presented to the International Board a motion to amend **Article V** of the Constitution to add Cliff Wilson as a Lifetime Trustee effective at the Annual Meeting, 2011, and **Article VIII** of the By-laws to separate the Audit and Finance Committee into two standing committees, the Audit Committee and the Finance Committee. The Executive Board approved the proposal at its February 6, 2010 meeting, allowing for a vote by membership to be taken at this Annual Meeting. The full text of the changes was published in the Summer 2010 **RIDER'S DIGEST**. A motion was made and seconded to approve the changes. The vote passed unanimously, and the changes are effective immediately. Cliff will be installed as a Lifetime Trustee at the expiration his current term as two-year Trustee. The Audit Committee reported that the Club's financial records and books were in excellent shape, and congratulated George on a fine job. All other Committee chairmen submitted written reports that were included in the meeting handouts. All distributed reports are available by email upon request to the International Secretary.

**Old Business:** Kent gave an update and final report on the Widow's Sons situation in the Jurisdiction of New York.

**New Business:** Ken discussed his idea to propose that **MMCI** select and financially support a worthy organization which in turn would give **MMCI** national exposure and recognition. His personal choice for an organization is the National Archery in Schools Program (NASP). After some discussion Dick Foxen of Chapter 1 made a motion that a committee be formed to work with Ken to look at the Ken's request to support a program such as NASP, and report back at the next Annual Meeting. The motion was seconded and passed.

**Announcements:** Chapter 3 announced that Hiram, the traveling stuffed bear, needs a new home and some worthy Member to adopt him for the coming year. Lee "Bumpy" Goertz announced that Chapter 6 was celebrating its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a chartered **MMCI** club. A number of Members and Officers congratulated George Detweiler, his wife and mother-in-law and his 2010 Annual Conference Committee for a tremendous job very well done.

Chaplain Jeff Killian gave the closing prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 8:52 PM.

**Submitted by Jeff Kaplan, International Secretary**

**A Special "Thank You"...** to all the Chapter Secretaries who sent their dues checks and roster update forms to the International Secretary, and the Chapter 8 Members-at-Large who sent their checks and renewal forms to Rex Baker, Membership Chairman as requested before the Annual Meeting. The following Chapters have not paid their current dues: **Chapter 19, Chapter 41 and Chapter 44**. Some Members in local Chapters, as well as a few Chapter 8 Members have not paid their current dues. If the year after your membership number on the mailing label this newsletter came in is **2010 or earlier, your dues are PAST DUE!** Local Chapter Members – pay your Chapter secretary. Chapter 8 Members – send your check and form to Rex.



## Chapter 45 (Italy) Hosts Its First Annual MMCI Italian Masonic Biker Meeting...

The beautiful coastal area of Marina di Cecina, located in Tuscany, was the site of **MMCI** Chapter 45's first annual Italian Masonic Biker Meeting, held from Friday, October 1 through Sunday, October 3, 2010. The Hotel Mediterraneo and the Hotel Aurora were the site of the meeting. The hotels are adjacent to each other, and the rooms are 150 feet from the seashore. According to Roberto Caroti, Chapter 45 secretary, the weekend schedule was full of socializing and riding opportunities, and included rides and tours to the cities of Florence and Pisa, the Etruscan Coast Wine Route, a stop at Calidario (thermal lake) in Venturina and the Leaning Tower of Pisa, with visits to the Masonic Homes in Florence and Pisa. While Chapter 45 hosted the gathering, the Members opened the meeting and associated activities to all Italian Masonic motorcyclists to increase attendance and interest in **MMCI**. 50 Brothers, 30 wives and four or five children were expected to attend. The Chapter has grown rapidly in its first year, and now has close to 40 Members. The photos above are from an earlier group ride and meeting, and hopefully we'll have more details and some pictures from a very successful first annual meeting to share in the next **RIDER'S DIGEST**.

**MMCI Website News and Updates...** The Club website – [www.masonicmotorcycleclub.org](http://www.masonicmotorcycleclub.org) – has been recently updated to include **Google Translator**®, an application which allows the user to select from a list of languages and have the site being viewed translated to that language. This should be very helpful for our Members whose primary language is not English. The website includes lots of good stuff including back issues of the newsletter, Chapter 8 membership applications, instructions for setting up a new Chapter, a copy of the **MMCI** Constitution and By-laws, the Club Store, announcements and an event calendar, a Forum for Members to post messages and feedback, and a “**Stuff For Sale**” section where Members can post motorcycle-related items they want to sell or buy. Visit the website today and if you haven't already done so, register to access the Members Only areas of the site by completing the request on the right side of the home page and submitting it to Doug Kelley, Club Webmaster.

**Secretary's Musings...** As I write this I have been **MMCI** International Secretary for almost 14 months. Time flies when you're having – um – fun. Things I've discovered in the past year as secretary: there are a lot of responsibilities being Secretary. I need a larger office to house all the **MMCI** stuff I need to access or store. There are a lot of great Members in this organization, and I've had the opportunity to meet and talk to or correspond with quite a few of you. Maintaining the Club master roster is no easy job, and I'm amazed how much paper is still involved even though we try to depend on the computer and email for most correspondence. Putting the quarterly newsletter together is no easy feat either. It takes hours and hours to edit and format articles I receive, and even more hours to write the remaining content for each newsletter. And I haven't even mentioned labeling, stamping and stuffing the envelopes. But it gets done and I'm not complaining. And speaking of stuffing envelopes, **thanks** to the Members who have selected the **Newsletter by Email** option. And a special **THANK YOU** to Chapter 6. All the members of that Chapter who have email access have chosen to receive their newsletters by email. They, like the rest of the newsletter by email recipients, will receive the **RIDER'S DIGEST** at least a week earlier than everyone else, and they will be able to view any photos in the newsletter in color rather than black and white. If you would like to receive your newsletter by email, simply follow the directions listed in the box at the top of Page Four.

Finally, an explanation of the **MMCI** Club membership year. Our membership year runs from Annual Meeting to Annual Meeting (usually the beginning of August to the beginning of the following August). Local Chapter and Chapter 8 dues for the coming year are due **BEFORE** the Annual Meeting. So dues for Club membership year **2011** were due **before** the **2010 Annual Meeting**. Members who join local Chapters during the Club membership year will not receive newsletters or be considered **MMCI** Active Members until I have received their dues and contact info so I can add them to the master roster. Questions? Let me know. **Thanks!**