

**MASONIC MOTORCYCLE CLUB
INTERNATIONAL ®, INC.**



FALL 2009 NEWSLETTER

"RIDE WITH DISCRETION"

www.masonicmotorcycleclub.org

**MASONIC MOTORCYCLE CLUB
INTERNATIONAL, INC. ®
2417 ELMDALE ROAD
UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS, OHIO 44118**

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MASONIC MOTORCYCLE CLUB INTERNATIONAL ® INC.

Executive Board, 2009 – 2011

ELECTED and APPOINTED OFFICERS; APPOINTED COMMITTEES

President: Kent Dorney
49 Simson Street
Tonawanda, NY 14150
716-694-1595 fltmedic@verizon.net

Vice-president: Ken White
1621 Independence Ave., N.
Golden Valley, MN 55427
763-545-0491 mmci24-1@msn.com

Secretary: Jeff Kaplan
2417 Elmdale Road
University Heights, OH
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 Ave.
Painesville, OH 44077
440-357-6658 cliffwilson65@msn.com

4 Year Trustee: Doug Kelley
13 Eagle Street
Madison, OH 44057
449-498-6933 dougkelley@windstream.net

6 Year Trustee: Gordy Aune, Jr.
2432 Pearson Pkwy.
Brooklyn Park, MN 55444
763-585-1766 GRANDPAAUNE@aol.com

Honorary Trustee: Don Crete, P. Pres.
188 Coleman Rd.
Auburn, NH 03032
603-483-0714 cretedamm@comcast.net

International Chaplain: Jeff Killian

Lifetime Trustees:
Richard Kovac, Dick Morse,
Rex Baker, Doug Kelley

By-Laws: John VanKirk (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
Bendickson; John Bennett;
Chris Alexander

Finance: George Detweiler (Chair);
Jeff Kaplan; Dave Page, Gordy Aune

Grievance: Neal Forbes (Chair);
Bumpy Geortz; Tom Boyle; Jeff Killian

Membership: Rex Baker (Chair);
Doug Kelley

Website: Doug Kelley (Chair);
Scott Rose

AMA Rep/Liability Insurance:
Dick Morse

Death Benefit Fund: Dick Morse (Chair);
Rex Baker (Vice-Chair), Dick Foxen (Sec-
(Treas); Cliff Wilson; Neal Forbes

Quartermaster: Cliff Wilson

Conference 2010: George Detweiler (Co-
Chair); Ken White (Co-Chair); Ron
Ferrero; Jesse Inhof; Gary O'Neal

Conference 2011: Dayton Berg (Co-
Chair); Ken White (Co-Chair)

Newsletter Editor: Jeff Kaplan
*Send articles and material for
publication to bmw_jeff@ameritech.net.*

Kicking Tires, Sharing News...

As noted in the Secretary's Report, two By-Laws changes were approved at the 2009 Annual Meeting. Both changes concerned increasing the annual International dues for members from \$10.00 to \$12.00 per year. The actual changes to the By-Laws are as follows:

ARTICLE IV - FEES

(A) ... Each Chapter will be assessed **Ten dollars (\$10.00)** per Active Member per fiscal year for M.M.C.I. dues effective at the Annual Meeting in 2005... **Changed to:** ...Each Chapter will be assessed **Twelve dollars (\$12.00)** per Active Member per fiscal year for M.M.C.I. dues effective at the Annual Meeting in 2009.

ARTICLE XI - MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

.... The dues for Members-at-Large shall be **Ten Dollars (\$10.00)** per Member per fiscal year effective at the Annual Meeting in 2005 with a two Dollar (\$2.00) initiation fee at time joining. **Changed to:** ... The dues for Members-at-Large shall be **Twelve Dollars (\$12.00)** per Member per fiscal year effective at the Annual Meeting in 2009 with a two Dollar (\$2.00) initiation fee at time joining. Annual dues shall be due by the Annual Meeting.

Past Chapter President Pins Available...

Quartermaster Cliff Wilson has a supply of pins for presentation to Past Chapter Presidents. Similar in design to both the MMCI pin issued to members, and Past International President pins, the face color is different on the PCP pin. Cost is \$4.00 per pin. These are great for presentation to your Chapter's past presidents, and could be done at a ceremony at your Chapter's next annual meeting. For more information and to order, contact Cliff at his email address or phone number listed on page 2.

Chapter 24 hosts 3rd Annual Picnic at the MN Masonic Home

Gordy Aune, Jr., secretary/treasurer of MMCI Chapter 24, reports that the Chapter held another successful bike show and parade of motorcycles on July 17, 2009 for the residents of the Minnesota Masonic Home in Bloomington, MN. Many residents and caregivers came out to view the bikes and have their pictures taken with the bikes and riders. After the show and parade, the members and their ladies gathered for a picnic on the grounds of the Masonic Home.

Nova Scotia Hospitality...

A note received from Chapter 8 member Fraser Sypher who reports that hopes to start a Chapter in Nova Scotia. He also writes that he would be happy to provide accommodations for one or two nights for members traveling in Nova Scotia. He would prefer that you bring your own sleeping bag. Bro. Fraser resides in Cornwallis, NS. His phone number is 902-638-1932, and a prior phone call would be appreciated.

To ALL Chapter Presidents and Secretaries - Contact Info, Please...

Please send your names, office held, Chapter and email address to International Secretary **Jeff Kaplan** at bmw_jeff@ameritech.net. Thanks!

From The President...

Brethren and Ladies,

First I would like to thank the members of Chapter 34 for the wonderful job they did hosting the 2009 Conference. Despite the weather being less than ideal, it appears that a good time was had by most. However some brothers who have attended several conferences had some concerns that arose because things were done differently then what we've grown accustomed at an MMCI Annual Conference.

While I understand that change can be unsettling for many folks, it is a necessary element of all successful long term endeavors. The world around us changes constantly; our choice is to either bend and transform with the changes that are imposed upon us, or break under their pressures. Changes and differences can keep us fresh, allowing each of us to experience new things, learn, and grow. The Club is no different and requires itself to continually transform if it is to meet its members' needs. Change has been imposed upon the Club by our own growth; the simple demands of geography; and the will of its membership as we now stretch across the USA, into Latvia and Italy, with more to follow. But change must be a well thought out and carefully planned process that occurs at a reasonable pace. For the most part I envision that change will be slow, with the occasional burst of suddenness when the situation warrants.

I am excited and looking forward to the next two years working with an Executive Board that is comprised of three out of the top four officers and one Trustee being fresh blood on the Board (hence my will of the membership). Equally important is the perspectives the Board will gain from the members out west and Chapter 8. For this reason, you may notice that the proposed committees for the next two years are comprised of some of our old stalwarts; yet balanced with some new and diverse perspectives. My goal is to widen the Board's base of input and ideas to better ensure that the Club meets the needs of its membership.

I met with a group of Brothers earlier today who are interested in joining MMCI. They asked me "what does International do for its members and the chapters?" I think this question is best answered by the membership at large; so I ask you, "What do you need the Executive Board to do for you or your chapter?" If you have any ideas or suggestions that could increase your enjoyment of the Club and further the Club's purposes, please do not hesitate to contact me or any member of the Executive Board. We look forward to your thoughts, ideas, and most importantly, your fellowship.

Fraternally, Kent

Next International Executive Board Meeting: Saturday, October 31, 2009 at the Quality Inn, 7666 Route 434, Apalachin, NY 13732, (607) 625-4441. 4:00 – 6:00 PM.

(Minutes, cont'd.) Announcements: Several suggestions were presented to the President-Elect and so noted. Details of the Mt. Rushmore trip was presented and all bikes should be gassed up and ready to leave at 10:30 AM.

Closing Prayer was presented by Jeff Killian. Motion to adjourn. Passed.

Dick Morse, International Secretary.

NOTE: The Death Benefit Fund Committee would like to thank the Chapters and Members –at-Large for your generous donations to the plan, also the member at the Convention who donated the 50/50 profits to the Fund. That took the plan over the limit so we now can purchase another CD. Thank you so much. Also, I would like to thank all the Members and Officers that over the last ten years gave me support and cooperation in doing my Secretary duties, especially, Rex Baker and John Vankirk. Great Team!

Congratulations to the new Officers and we are looking forward to watching them move this Club to the “Next Step.” Uncle Dick Morse

CONFERENCE 2010...

For those of you that attended the 2009 Conference in Lead, SD, you already know where the 2010 Conference is going to be held. However, for the rest of you we thought we would provide some information that would get you to start planning for next year.

The 2010 Conference will be hosted by Chapter 8 in Winchester, Virginia. Dates of the Conference are August 3rd through 6th, Tuesday through Friday. Early bird registration will be on Monday, August 2nd. Our Conference Headquarters will be the Quality Inn in Winchester. Room rates are \$69.00 + tax = \$73.83 (1-2 people) with \$10.00 per each additional per room (ex 3 = \$79.00+tax = \$84.53). A hot breakfast is included each day for all room occupants. The room rates will be the same if you arrive earlier and want to stay later. The hotel is also pet-friendly for an additional charge.

The Committee is feverishly working on a pin and t-shirt design as well as the activities schedule. Also some interesting rides are planned both near and far from Winchester. So don't forget to mark your calendar and start saving your pennies for the 2010 Conference. Hope to see you there! More particulars and registration form will be provided in the next newsletter. So, until then – Ride Safe and Ride with Discretion. Your 2010 Conference Committee: **George Detweiler; Ken White; Ron Ferrero; Jesse Imhof; Gary O'Neal**

ARE YOUR DUES UP-TO-DATE? If 2010 or later is NOT displayed on your mailing label, your dues are PAST DUE. Please send a check TODAY. Chapter 8 members – send your check to Rex Baker. Local Chapter members – pay your Club secretary. Thanks!

From The Vice-President...

Greetings Fellow Riders:

I was asked if there was anything I'd like to write or put in the upcoming MMCI newsletter as the new VP of the club. I feel that as the VP, I should have something in every newsletter and will try to be informative and helpful in my ramblings. With that said, I will start my journey as your VP of the MMCI by telling you what I would like to see during my term of serving you.

I just turned 60 in August and have been married to Chris since Oct 16, 1976. We live in Golden Valley, MN. I ride a 1999 Honda Valkyrie Interstate and love it. My hobbies are my family, riding, hunting, fishing and just about anything outdoors. I was raised a Mason in November 1971. My home lodge is Montgomery #258 in St. Paul, MN where I served in the line and then the Master in 1987.

I have served the Grand Lodge of Minnesota as a District Rep as the Metroeast Area Deputy Grand Master. I also served as the Grand Chaplain. Just about 12 years ago I heard of the MMCI and after doing a little checking into them I decided to become a member, first of Chapter 8, then Chapter 24 which I filed the paperwork to charter. The brothers of Chapter had some of the finest officers and members as anyone could have dreamed of 10 years ago and it's here I would like to say "Thank You All" for your time and service given.

What I would like to see during my two year term as VP and as I mentioned at the conference in SD in July, is a growth in membership and that our club will not be one of the Masonic secrets. Feel free to keep our pancake breakfasts and fund raisers one of the Masonic secrets, but I will personally take on the task of introducing the MMCI to every Grand Lodge jurisdiction in the US. I have put together a letter that will soon go out to every Grand Master and Grand Secretary informing them of our club and request that they link our website to their Grand Lodge website.

The Grand Lodge of MN has been a source of growth for Chapter 24, but, we also have new Masons in Minnesota because of Chapter 24. Please contact your Grand Lodge and request they link to our website. They need to hear from their own brothers and not just a brother from another state.

I also intend or hope for better communication among the members of MMCI everywhere and the Executive Board. I know the board is good with this and wants your input too. Our meeting dates are on the web calendar and anything you wish to have brought up at a board meeting should be addressed to anyone of us. Your questions and concerns are welcome and will be answered. We will keep you posted through the newsletter and on the website.

With that my brothers, I will close my first correspondence to you and ask for your help in making the MMCI grow and the group you love to promote.

Fraternally yours, Kenneth White

MINUTES OF THE MMCI 2009 ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the Masonic Motorcycle Club International Inc was called to order by President Don Crete at the Golden Hills Resort in Lead, SD, July 31, 2009 at 7:30 AM. Roll Call found all the International Officers in attendance with the exception of Trustees Dave Page and Rex Baker who were excused. Roll Call of Chapters called and there was a quorum. Opening prayer was presented by Chaplain Jeff Killian followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Sickness or Distress: Rex Baker recovering from surgery; Ken White's wife was not feeling well; and Judy Geortz recovering from an accident. Cards to be sent.

Minutes of the 2008 Annual Meeting accepted as published. Treasurer's Report read and accepted. John VanKirk stated that the club is in fair financial condition, Motion made to pay the bills. Passed.

Officers Reports: President Don Crete, Vice President Kent Dorney, Trustees, Doug Kelley, Cliff Wilson, David Page and Gary O'Neal reports are in the Conference hand out. (Available on request.) Committee Reports: Death Benefit Fund - Dick Morse said that two members passed away last year, Howard Turner, Chapter 4, and Richard Hoke, Chapter 8. Cards and checks were sent.

By-Laws: By-Laws changes read concerning the International dues increase. Membership: Rex Baker' report was read and accepted (Report in the handout). Quartermaster: Cliff Wilson has Past President Pins available to Chapters who want them for a Chapter presentation. Cliff prepared an International vest to present to the Motorcycle Museum in Sturgis for their display. Website: Doug Kelley discussed the Club Website, also said he purchased several domains to protect our name and Logo. Audit and Finance: No report. Grievance: No Report. Nomination: Nominees of Members running for Office were read.

Old business: A motion to accept Chapter 43, Rochester, MN, Chapter 44, Estill SD, Chapter 45 in Italy, and Chapter 46 in Plant City, FL. Motion passed. Conference 2010 in Winchester Virginia and Conference 2011 near Duluth Minnesota were presented, discussed and passed.

New Business: Nomination of Officers and By-Laws changes were read. Several nominations were presented from the floor. Ballots passed out, one per member. The appointed Tylers presented the results to the Secretary and read; President; Kent Dorney, Chapter 12; Vice President, Ken White, Chapter 24; Secretary, Jeff Kaplan, Chapter 1; Treasurer, George Detweiler, Chapter 8; 6 Year Trustee, Gordy Aune, Jr. Chapter 24. By-Laws changes were passed. Article IV Fees and Article XI Members- at -Large - annual dues have been increased from \$10.00 to \$12.00. Ballots were ordered to be destroyed by the Tylers. Committees will be appointed and announced at a future time.