



Masonic Motorcycle Club International® Inc.



RIDER'S DIGEST

Available Online at www.masonicmotorcycleclub.org

"Ride With Discretion"

FALL 2013

Minutes of the Annual Meeting held August 15, 2013

The 2013 Annual Meeting of the Masonic Motorcycle Club International was called to order on Thursday, August 5, 2013 at 9:00 AM in the conference room of the Canaan Valley Resort in Davis, WV by President Ken White. All Officers except David Page (Two-year Trustee) and Gordy Aune, Jr. (Four-year Trustee) were present, and 12 Chapters were represented. Immediately following the roll call of Officers and Chapters, Ken led the Members in the Pledge of Allegiance. An opening prayer was given by Chaplain Jeff Killian.

Minutes of the 2012 Annual Meeting were approved as published. A brief Shiny Side Up report was given.

Officers Reports: The President's report and Vice-President's report were published in the meeting handouts. The Secretary's report was published in the handouts, Jeff gave an update about the Chapters that were still outstanding in dues payments. He also thanked the Club membership for their support, and he was thanked for his hard work. The Treasurer's report was distributed in the meeting handouts; George gave a brief summary and reported that the Club has no outstanding debts. The Treasurer's report was approved. The Trustee's report was published in the meeting handouts.

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. 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. The Audit Committee reported that the Treasurer's books and the DBF Committee books were in order, with no discrepancies.

Old Business: An explanation was given as to why the 2014 Annual Conference was moved from Gettysburg, PA to the Dells, WI. Cost was the determining factor. The move was approved by the Executive Board at its last meeting on April 6, 2013. Ron Thompson, a member of Chapter 49, indicated that the Conference venue is Chula Vista Resort in the Dells, and the proposed dates are 8/17/14 – 8/22/14.. Ron gave a list of possible activities during the Annual Conference.

New Business: Possible future Annual Conference locations include Minnesota, Arkansas, and South Dakota. There was a discussion about the dates of the Annual Conference. It is up to the hosting Chapter to set the dates of the Conference as long as it falls in August, per the Constitution and Bylaws. There will always be some conflicts in scheduling which can't be avoided.

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 Ron Ferraro (Chapter 8) - President; Dean Gonya (Chapter 8) - Vice-president; Kent Dorney (Chapter 12) - Secretary; George Detweiler (Chapter 8) - Treasurer; Gary Lippert (Chapter 3) - Four Year Trustee; and Randy Heddings (Chapter 25) - Six Year Trustee. Gordy Aune, Jr. (Chapter 24) moves to Two Year Trustee.

There was a question about MMCI purchasing safety vests for Annual Conference road captains. This will be addressed by the Executive Board at its next meeting.

Announcements: It was announced that the Open Road Degree would be conferred at the end of the evening's banquet. Instructions were given about the lunch following the Annual Meeting. Ron Ferraro and Dick Morse presented Jeff Kaplan with plaques acknowledging his service as International Secretary.

Jeff Killian gave the closing prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 AM.

Submitted by Jeff Kaplan, International Secretary 2009-2013

CONFERENCE 2014 Update

Dates:

August 17-22, 2014

Host Chapter:

49 Columbus, WI

Proposal from:

Wintergreen Resort & Conference Center
60 Gasser Road, Lake Delton
Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin 53940
<http://www.wintergreen-resort.com/>

Location:

The Wintergreen is located right off Exit 92 on I-90/I-94 (Rte. 12 exit), next to the Tanger Outlet, minutes away from Ho-Chunk Casino, and walking distance to many restaurants.

Meeting Space:

Wintergreen will provide the Grand Ballroom for the Event from Sunday afternoon until Friday evening as a hospitality room and banquet room. Motorcycle access to the ballroom is available.

Wintergreen will also station a registration area in our lobby during the event. Wintergreen will also block off any area of the parking lot requested and provide hose and bucket stations for washing cycles.

Guest rooms:

Wintergreen to provide 80 guest rooms for the rate of \$69.00 per night plus tax.

Rooms will be held in a block until 3 weeks prior to the event.

Rooms available will be 2 queen beds, a king or a king with a whirlpool.

The rooms will accommodate up to 4 per room. All have microwaves, refrigerators, and coffee makers.

Wintergreen will also offer this rate the following weekend for anyone wanting to stay additional nights. The Saturday before the evening day would be \$119.00 per night.

Wintergreen will reserve all rooms facing the parking lot first or as requested.

Wintergreen will require a credit card hold to reserve rooms and has a 3 day prior to arrival cancellation policy that applies to all reservations.

The Wintergreen has a full service restaurant open for breakfast and lunch, full service lounge, and an indoor pool with a whirlpool.

Additional Information and Registration Forms:

Will be available in the Winter 2013/2014 newsletter.

MASONIC MOTORCYCLE CLUB INTERNATIONAL ® INC.
Executive Board, 2013 – 2015

Elected Officers

President: Ronald Ferraro

31087 Indian Mission Road
Millsboro, DE 19966
302-947-4625

ronpferraro@yahoo.com

Vice-president: Dean Gonya

895 Park Avenue
Lock Haven, PA 17745
570-769-3282

dirq46@yahoo.com

Secretary: Kent Dorney, Past Pres.

49 Simson Street
Tonawanda, NY 14150-2312
716-694-1595 / Cell: 716-531-2312

Ch8MMCI@verizon.net

Treasurer: George Detweiler

15173 Holleyside Drive
Dumfries, VA 22025
703-670-2313

ghdetweiler@comcast.net

2 Year Trustee: Gordy Aune, Jr.

2432 Pearson Parkway
Brooklyn Park, MN 55444
763-585-1766

GRANDPAAUNE@aol.com

4 Year Trustee: Gary Lippert

81164 Duck Creek Rd.
Berlin Center, OH 44401
330-565-1209

galipp@msn.com

6 Year Trustee: Randy Headdings

473 Jackson Twp. Rd.
Herdon, PA 17830
570-850-6327

wheelierider1@tds.net

Honorary Trustee: Kenneth White, Past Pres.

1621 Independence Ave North
Golden Valley, MN 55427
612-202-9653

mmci24.1@gmail.com

Appointed Committees

Audit: Mark Dreyer (Chair), Gordy Rudd, Chris Alexander, John VanKirk

By-laws: John VanKirk (Chair); Kent Dorney, PP; Gary O'Neal, PP

Death Benefit Fund: Dick Morse (Chair), Kent Dorney, Dick Foxen (Sec-Treas), Neal Forbes, Jeff Kaplan, Cliff Wilson (Vice-chair/PP),

Grievance: Neal Forbes (Chair); Jeff Killian; Kent Dorney, PP

Finance: George Detweiler (Chair); Kent Dorney, PP; Gordy Aune, Jr.

Membership: Kent Dorney (Chair/PP); Doug Kelley, PP

Nominations: Don Crete (Chair/PP); Ken White, PP; Dick Morse

Positive Growth & Retention: Ken White (Chair/PP), JohnVanKirk

Quartermaster: Cliff Wilson, PP

Safety: Tom Boyle (Chair); Cliff Wilson, PP; Robert Boss; Jeff Johnson

Shiny Side Committee: Connie Dorney (Chair), (Connie.62@verizon.net), Kim Crete, Bonnie Baker

Website: Doug Kelley (Chair/PP)
(dougkelley@windstream.net)

Newsletter Editor: Kent Dorney, PP

Change of address, articles and material for publication to:

Ch8MMCI@verizon.net

or mail to:

49 Simson Street
Tonawanda, NY 14150

Conference 2013: Chapter 49 – Wisconsin Dells
Larry Herzog, Jr (Chair); Joe Nemeth; Dan Roe;
Ron Thompson; Dean Gonya (Vice-Chair)

International Chaplain: Jeff Killian

Lifetime Trustees: Doug Kelley, Richard Kovac, Richard Morse, Cliff Wilson



President's Message...

First I would like to say that our hats are off to Uncle Dick and his committee for a very successful Conference. All the members of this committee did a great job! Second I would like to thank all the members for the honor to serve you, as your President for the next two years. I believe you have assembled a great team to lead this Club into the future. I would also like to welcome Gary Lippert and Randy Headings aboard; I know they will be a great addition to the Executive Board.

The 2014 Conference planning is well underway, with Brother Ron Thompson riding from Wisconsin to West Virginia just to learn some of the dos and don'ts in running a conference and then taking this information and reporting back to the committee, I know this will be another great Conference. However as of now we have nothing set for the 2015 Conference. If there are any chapter or others, who would consider hosting a conference please contact Dean Gonya or myself.

Last year President Ken White started a Sunshine Committee (Sunny Side up) headed by Connie Dorney. This committee went over so well, I am making it a permanent committee in the Club. Also I have asked Ken White to head up a Positive Growth and Retention Committee this year. Ken will be reporting to the Ex-Board some ideas on how to get the name of the club out to support a positive growth and things we can do to retain our current membership. If anyone would like to serve on any of the committees, please contact me or the Chairman of the committee that you would like to serve on.

If you have any ideas or suggestions you would like the Ex-Board to consider please contact anyone of us. Remember this is your club and we are here to serve you.

Until we meet again please ride safe and always "Ride With Discretion"

Fraternally Yours,
Ron Ferraro



Vice President's Message...

Brothers

Fall is in the air; cool air is all around. Hope all of My Brothers and Sisters in MMCI are doing well.

As the Seasons change, so does the way we go about our Lives.

Calvin Coolidge's words reflect the feelings that I have for my MMCI Brethren and Sisters.

"It has not been my fortune to know very much of Freemasonry, but I have had the great fortune to know many Freemasons and have been able in that way to judge the tree by its fruit. I know of your high ideals. I have seen that you hold your meetings in the presence of the open Bible, and I know that men who observe that formality have high sentiments of citizenship, of worth, and character. That is the strength of our Commonwealth and nation." -Calvin Coolidge.

Fraternally Yours – Dean Gonya

Positive Growth and Retention

Greetings Brothers and Fellow Riders:

Just when you thought you'd heard the last of me, Poof, our President asks me to chair a new committee. President Ron has formed a new committee called the Positive Growth and Retention Committee and has asked me to lead its start-up. Not one to say "no" and always willing to help out good folks, you have me in the newsletter for at least another year or two.

I brought up the idea to Ron of such a committee with a couple months left in my term as the president and told him I would help out anyway I could. It is my intent to search and reach out ways to inform fellow Masons and bikers of the MMCI.

I am looking for help from any member who wishes to be a part of this committee. The only qualifications are: You must be willing to think outside the box. You must be willing to take on a project and complete it.

The intent of the committee is to maintain our numbers, help support other chapters with ideas for growth, promote Masonry and fellowship within the MMCI and from without the MMCI. I would like to come up with promotional ideas that can be used through Grand Lodge contacts, maybe through local Blue Lodges, maybe local papers. The committee has no bounds except our own imagination.

I welcome you join and help promote the MMCI. If you are interested on joining the committee, or at any time have an idea or thought that you think may help our purpose, please feel free to contact at any time.

For now, Ride with Discretion and Keep the Shiny Side Up.

Ken White PP
1621 Independence Ave N.
Golden Valley, MN 55427
Cell: 612-202-9653
Email: mmci24.1@gmail.com

The International Secretary's musings...

Changing of the guard...

With a new line of officers comes changes. Please note that the address to send items to the International Secretary has changed to:

49 Simson Street
Tonawanda, NY 14150-2312
716-694-1595 Residence & Fax
716-531-2312 Cellular (Verizon)
Ch8MMCI@verizon.net

Riders Digest...

We are always looking for articles, please let us know what your Chapter is doing.

You will also note that this month's Riders Digest (snail mail recipients only) arrived in a new envelope with a Buffalo, NY return address – this is because we have engaged the Masonic Service Bureau, Inc. to produce and mail the newsletter. MSB was founded in 1926 as a service provider to the Lodges and concordant bodies of the Erie Districts in New York. MSB employs a small staff, all of whom are from the Masonic Fraternity. Utilizing the MSB will permit the Club to take advantage of bulk mail rates.

Dues are PAST DUE...

The following Chapters have not paid their dues: **31 & 50**. Additionally there are several Chapter 8 members whose dues are now overdue. Please send your payments and Chapter forms into me as soon as possible.

Keep The Shiny Side Up

I would like to start out by saying thank you to everyone who sends out cards to our MMCI family members when they are in need of our kindness. I received a card from Ellen Rudd today telling me how much the cards she has received meant to her. To update everyone the following members are still in need of your thoughts and prayers:

Cancer in remission:

Charlotte VanKirk (CH 15)

3 Sand Bank Hill Rd.

Burlington, CT 06013

joncharvan@aol.com

Fighting Melanoma:

John Comstock (CH 12)

5446 Mapleton Road

Lockport, New York 14094

comjw@roadrunner.com

Recovering from motorcycle accident:

Allen Jensen (CH 24)

14111 Garden View Court

Apple Valley, MN 55124

odin@charter.net

In poor health:

Robert Wicke (CH 24)

1601 Duluth Street

St. Paul, MN 55106

bobwicke@hotmail.com

Final Journeys...

The Mother of Bro. Paul Peacock (VP - CH 52) on September 11th

In better news please join me in wishing Gordy & Ellen Rudd (CH 1) a Happy 50th Anniversary...

Gordy & Ellen Rudd (CH 1)

5162 Lockwood Road

Perry, Ohio 44081-9724

Anyone who is currently not receiving e-mail updates from me and would like to be getting them please send me an e-mail at Connie.62@verizon.net with your name & address and I will add you to my list. Don't forget when any of our MMCI is in need of thoughts & prayers or if something good is happening in their lives please let me know.

Late Breaking News

Welcome to our newest Chapter - #53 located in Stevensville, Montana.

More to follow in the next Riders Digest, or on the web.

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 Ch8mmci@verizon.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!