



The Siren

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE
MUNICIPAL MOTORCYCLE OFFICERS OF CALIFORNIA
1ST QUARTER ~ 2012

MMOC - 84 Years.....

Gene Gray, President
Retired Police Lieutenant
Pasadena Police Department

Pretty amazing, MMOC is still alive after 84 years of existence. I don't believe this would have happened without the dedicated membership and those sitting on the Board of Directors all these years. I'm very proud to be part of this organization and what it stands for as are all of you.

As another year begins with a new Board of Directors and many thoughts for the future we look back to see where we made mistakes and what we can do to make MMOC better. I'm excited that our newest Director, Mike Nichelini (Vallejo PD) has joined us. Mike took over the quarterly Siren from start to finish, the October 2011 Siren was his first edition. Great, wasn't it? I thank the 2011 Board for all their assistance throughout the year, especially William N. Loveless (CHP) for setting up our 2011 Convention on the Delta Queen in Old Town Sacramento. I also thank Rich & Kim for putting together the 2011 Cioppino Feed and look forward to the 2012 Cioppino Feed. Mike Rores, retired Alameda County Sheriff, probably thinks I would forget him but no-way. Mike is probably the most stable Board member we have and gives continued support and good advice to the rest of the Board.

We should never forget the "behind the scenes" volunteers that keep us going strong. First there is our retired Oakland PD Quartermaster, Cliff Heanes, who keeps the products up to snuff and available. Then there's

another retiree from Oakland PD, our MMOC Tour Director, His Own Self, Dennis M. Brown, who creates the annual Northern M/C ride. And another Oakland PD retiree, Doug Wayne, who is our web-master. Doug keeps us up to date no matter when we visit the web. Last, but not least, we have Pasadena PD retiree Don Winslow who, along with his group of Honor Guards, lead parades throughout the state which included the 911 Parade this year. Don's group is in full police uniform wearing our MMOC shoulder patches. Don has been a member of MMOC for over 50 years and is still going strong.

These are a group of men volunteering their time. They ask for nothing and give us so much. Think about it, none of these projects are an easy task yet all the men listed in the last two paragraphs still come together to make it happen.

As most of you know Bruno & Ellen Tonin (LAPD) have retired for good now living by the ocean in Cambria, CA. This leaves a giant empty space in MMOC's office. We are currently looking for someone that would like a part-time job running the corporate office in Canoga Park, CA. If anyone is interested please contact me, gene6t3@verizon.net or my MMOC e-mail address ggray@mmoc.org.

Take care,

President Gene Gray
Retired Lieutenant
Pasadena PD

Vice President Michael Rores
Retired Sergeant
Alameda County SO

Director Rich Bailey
Retired Officer
San Jose PD

Director William Loveless
Retired Officer
CA Highway Patrol

Director Michael Nichelini
Officer
Vallejo PD



Quartermaster Cliff Heanes
Retired Officer
Oakland PD

Webmaster Doug Wayne
Retired Sergeant
Oakland PD

Motorcycle Tour
Director Dennis Brown
Retired Officer
Oakland PD

Honor Guard Don Winslow
Retired Officer
Pasadena PD

SAFETY OR SORROW

MEMBER RECRUITMENT

Alameda County Sheriffs Office

Motor School

Cliff Heanes - Quartermaster
Retired Police Officer
Oakland Police Department

On October 25, 2011, Past President and current Ride Director Dennis Brown (Oakland PD), along with newly elected Director Mike Nichelini (Vallejo PD) and yours truly sponsored a BBQ for the students at the Alameda County SO's EVOC law enforcement motorcycle course. While the students chowed down on some very delicious ½ lb. cheeseburgers with all the condiments and refreshments, Dennis provided a history of the MMOC organization and that special camaraderie that exists among all motorcycle officers throughout the State of California. Mike then explained the goals and functions of MMOC as well as the benefits of membership. Following these presentations, applications were handed out to each student with an invitation to join us.

Front Row, L-R: Scott Neison – Modesto PD, Ryan Foiles – Rohnert Park PD, Andrew Barrington – Novato PD

Second Row, L-R: Shawn Maples – El Cerrito PD, Craig Breckenridge – Modesto PD, Rosemerry Blankswade – Foster City PD.

Back Row, L-R: Bruce Hahn – Walnut Creek PD, Chet Rosser – Ridgecrest PD, Jerry Fernandez – Red Bluff PD



From “The Kid”

Michael Nichelini - Director
Police Officer
Vallejo Police Department

Happy New Year! I hope this edition of the *Siren* finds all of you happy and healthy. It's been a busy few months since the last newsletter and a lot is going on behind the scenes. We are working to get the web store up and running again with an online payment option that will make buying MMOC items quick and easy for you and not kill us in fees. Items will be for sale at the Cioppino Feed and credit cards will be accepted. We have a lot of nice items available. Looking forward to seeing all of you there.

The Siren was produced in house last time. We have a few bugs to work out and hopefully this issue will be crispier and cleaner than the last. If not, rest assured it will. I'm working hard to get the *Siren* to each and every member in a timely fashion and have it produced in a cost effective manner. As always, let me know if you have any comments, questions or submissions for the Siren. You can email me at mnichelini@mmoc.org. We plan to keep each issue to eight pages which should keep the pages of rambling about this and that from some “contributors” to a minimum. We would love to hear from our members. Drop me a note and/or a photo and let us know what you have been up to. Active guys. Retired guys. We all share a common bond of keeping the motoring public and the mean streets safe atop our iron horses.

We all know it's becoming increasingly more difficult to do this job. It's tough enough to hit the often crime ridden streets in an effort to make them safe for the citizens to enjoy. City leaders and politicians have ramped up attacks on public safety employees and retirees. If it's not pay and benefits for us active guys, they are trying to take away benefits from those of you that have already given 30+ years of your life to a city that doesn't always appreciate your sacrifice and service. Let the MMOC be a useful resource to connect with other active guys fighting the good fight. Let MMOC activities be a good “time away” to enjoy some camaraderie.

Until next time, enjoy this issue of the *Siren* and keep the shiny side up!

Mike

MMOC SUPPORTERS

ADELLE FAGAN
B. J. PAGE
B. JACOBS
BARBERA UTTERBACK
BILLIE SMITH
BRITOS BURRITOS FAMILY RESTAURANT
CHARLES PETERSON
CITRUS VALLEY FLORIST
COLTON TRUCK GARAGE
CYNTHIA GORDON
DEBBIE MILLER
DENNIS SOTO
DR. JOHN PLASEK
FIRST STEP COMPUTERS
FRANCES DELGADO
G. A. REEDER
GEORGE GOODARD
HAROLD SPRAGUE
HELEN BURTON
HI - LINE MUSIC INC
HIGHLAND SHELL GAS
ISABELLA HUMACIU
JOSEPH ALSTON
JOY KLOMP
JUHL ELECTRIC
KATHERINE TAI
LA CASCADA RESTAURANT
LOMA LINDA ORIENTAL MARKET
LUPE SERGENT
MARIE MILLER
MARILYN VESSLEY
MYRNA HENSLEY
NANCY EVANS
NU WAVE WATER CONDITIONING
PAMELA WHEELER
PATRICIA MORENO
ROBERT IHSEN
ROGER GOSSWEIN
ROSARIO MARTINEZ
S & S SHOES
TIM MALDONADO
UNIQUE AUTO CENTER



Mount St. Helens Flipped Her Lid The 19th Annual MMOC Ride

Dennis Brown - MC Tour Director
Retired Police Officer
Oakland Police Department

The May 18, 1980 eruption of Mount St. Helens forever changed the topography of Washington State and showered many of us thousands of miles away with white ash so thick you'd think Johnson & Johnson bombarded the U.S. with talcum powder!

In our quest to educate the rocket scientists and nature lovers within our ranks, let's take our 2012 ride on a northerly journey to that remote mountain top in southwest Washington via scenic California and Oregon back roads, where possible. Meeting in Williams, California on Sunday, July 8, 2012, we'll head to Medford, Oregon Monday morning the 9th, via Lassen Volcanic National Park, a 335 mile trek. Tuesday the 10th we're going to skirt Crater Lake on our way to Chemult, Oregon for breakfast, then ride over the Cascade Mountain Range and on to Kelso, Washington, a projected 365 mile expedition to this hamlet central to Mt. St. Helens. Kelso will offer us approximately 350 miles of riding spread out over two full days in very scenic and changing terrain, including the majestic Pinchot National Forest.

Lodging information is below and note that these discount rates on the 25 rooms I have reserved at each establishment are guaranteed UNTIL JUNE 16, 2012; after that, you're on your own. Each hotel has programmed their computer for the respective dates of our stay and block of rooms to the key words: "MMOC GROUP RESERVATIONS". Also, each hotel has a no penalty cancellation clause up to 24 hours before arrival.

Sunday night July 8, 2012; Quality Inn, 400 C St., Williams, Ca. 530 473 2381. All rooms \$64.99 + tax. Request poolside. Monday night July 9, 2012; Red Lion Hotel, 200 N. Riverside Ave., Medford, Or. 541 779 5811. All rooms, except suites \$79.00 + tax. Request poolside. Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday nights, July 10, 11 & 12, 2012; Red Lion Hotel, 510 Kelso Dr., Kelso, Wa. 360 636 4400. All rooms, except suites \$79.00 + tax.

As usual, we'll be looking for a chase vehicle and as our norm, ride participants will be asked for a contribution to that vehicle's gas fund. Please do a pre-ride inspection on your iron steed to ensure road worthiness. If you have a National Parks Golden Age Passport, bring it. Remember,

Oregon and Washington are heavily forested states, and applying police forensics, sun and water equal green vegetation. Bring your rain gear! In more than 50 years of motorcycling, the worst snow, hail and rain storm I've ever been in was in August 2006 in the Cascade Mountain Range.

If you have any questions on lodging, the itinerary or route, I can be reached at hos6350@sbcglobal.net and I'll have turn by turn route sheets for all riders. Please send me an email if you're joining us on our excellent adventure, and where, as past history dictates we'll have riders from the North, South, East and West, some of which will filter in as the ride progresses.

I remain,

Dennis M. Brown
His Own Self



Mount Saint Helens Facts

Elevation: 8,365 feet

First ascent: 1853 by Thomas J. Dyer

Age: 40,000 years

Average rainfall: 140 inches

Last eruption: July 10, 2008

Closest structure: Johnston Ridge Observatory

1980 Eruption

- 1980 eruption flattened 230 square miles
- 1.5 million metric tons of sulfur dioxide released into the atmosphere.
- Eruption lasted nine hours
- Created a crater up to 2 miles wide
- Reduced its height by 1,300 feet

All Gave Some ~ Some Gave All



Left: Officer Jim Capoot, Corporal Kevin Hamrick & Chief Bob Nichelini after a Pacific Grove win.

Right: Officer Jim Capoot

End of Watch:
November 17, 2011
Vallejo Police Department



On November 17, 2011, Vallejo Police Officer James Capoot responded to an in progress bank robbery in east Vallejo. Upon arrival, Officer Capoot observed the suspect fleeing from the scene and gave chase. Officer Capoot chased the vehicle for several minutes and attempted to end the pursuit with a PIT maneuver. After a successful PIT, the suspect fled on foot. Officer Capoot ran after the suspect and chased him into a backyard of a house in a residential neighborhood in North Vallejo. Officer Capoot was shot several times by the suspect as he rounded the corner. The suspect was then captured a short time later by other responding officers.

Officer Capoot was a member of the United States Marine Corps, the California Highway Patrol and a Vallejo Police Officer for the last 19 years. Jim worked in the Patrol and Traffic Divisions. Jim was a solo motorcycle officer and instructor and led the Junior Safety Patrol for many years. Jim also competed and won the Pacific Grove Motorcycle Competition several times. A decorated veteran of the Vallejo Police Department, Jim gave his life attempting to apprehend a fleeing felon and protecting the citizens of Vallejo. Jim is survived by his wife and three children.

A Piece of History

I recently received a piece of history from a family friend who, ironically enough, was a longtime motorman with the San Francisco Police Department and past MMOC member. Cliff Walker was a "soft cap solo" during the 40s and 50s. I'm hoping to chat with him for some more stories of the good old days and will share them here.

Pictured at right is a very cool MMOC plate commemorating its 50th Anniversary. It is about 10" in diameter with gold lettering. The plate is a smoke tinted clear glass.

Have an interesting piece of MMOC history you would like to share? Drop me a note at mnichelini@mmoc.org. I hope to feature a piece of history in each edition of the *Siren*.



2012 Cioppino

The Countdown to March 31!

Calling All “Crabby” Attendees.....

Rich Bailey - Director
Retired Police Officer
San Jose Police Department

Welcome friends and colleagues! It's time for yet another great Cioppino Feed! The event will once again be hosted by Municipal Motorcycle Officers of California and will be held at the beautifully renovated San Jose Police Officers Association Hall on 4th Street in San Jose.

Last year's event was a resounding success and this year promises to hold surprises once again. Hopefully, you all have saved the date on your 2012 calendars for Saturday, March 31st, 2012.

It took a little time for bay area crabbers to settle a strike and to set their prices. But a trip to the docks revealed crab is once again selling and is plentiful.

The cost for Cioppino Feed night is \$40.00 and the night will not disappoint. Dinner will include delicious cioppino, tasty pasta and Dennis Brown's Nicosia Italian sausage. Of course, salad, garlic bread and open bar. We will listen to great music and dance the night away and enjoy good fellowship and entertainment.

To accommodate our weary guests, the Clarion Hotel is the host hotel and they are still holding prices steady for us at \$79+tax. We love that it is located only two blocks away from the SJPOA!

Your stay includes all amenities including a full breakfast in the morning at their well appointed café, outdoor pool and whirlpool spa, putting green with putters at the desk, free parking, free wireless and direct high-speed internet, laundry and ATM with a 24 hour gift shop. Shuttle service to and from San Jose Norm Mineta Airport is complimentary.

Please book your rooms now by calling the Clarion San Jose at (800) 453-5340. Mention “MMOC” for the group rate. Reservations can also be made by visiting <http://www.clarionsj.com>. We are ready to receive your “YES, WE’LL BE ATTENDING” FORM AND PAYMENT so we can get a head count. See attached flyer in this issue of the Siren Newsletter. Remember! ONLY 160 TICKETS WILL BE SOLD. First come, first served. Your prompt response is recommended. Payment should be mailed to and postmarked no later than Friday, March 23, 2012:

MMOC CIOPPINO FEED
PO BOX 2422
APTOS, CA 95001

Attendance is confirmed by email back to you. If you do not have email put your phone number and we will contact you.

As in the past, we will honor requests for “Tables of 8” when all seats are confirmed by payment.

Of course, the evening would not be a success without your support. So, we are looking to serve you a wonderful meal with lots of fun and entertainment! See you there!

“Crabby” Rich Bailey and Kimberley Wirht



What is Cioppino you ask?

Cioppino was developed in the late 1800s by Portuguese and Italian fishermen who settled in the North Beach section of San Francisco, many from Genoa, Italy. Originally it was made on the boats while out at sea and later became a staple as Italian restaurants proliferated in San Francisco. The name comes from ciuppin, a word in the Ligurian dialect of the port city of Genoa, meaning “to chop” or “chopped” which described the process of making the stew by chopping up various leftovers of the day's catch.



**MUNICIPAL MOTORCYCLE OFFICERS OF CALIFORNIA
PRESENTS**



RAFFLE PRIZES
Music and Dancing

www.mmoc.org
For information
and updates!

THE ANNUAL CIOPPINO FEED

MARCH 31, 2012

**SAN JOSE POLICE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION HALL
1151 North 4th Street ~ San Jose, CA**

\$40 per person includes:

Hosted cocktails, Cioppino, Nicosia Sausage, Pasta, Salad & Bread

Doors open at 6:00PM ~ Dinner served at 7:00PM

Tickets sold only until March 23, 2012

TICKETS WILL NOT BE SOLD AT THE DOOR

Make checks payable to **MMOC Cioppino Feed** and send to:
MMOC Cioppino Feed ~ PO Box 2422 ~ Aptos, CA 95003

Hotel Accommodations

CLARION HOTEL

1355 North 4th Street ~ San Jose, CA

(800) 453-5340 or www.clarionsj.com

RATE \$79.00+tax (Mention MMOC for group rate)

INCLUDES: Buffet breakfast & free shuttle to/from SJC Airport

Remove and return with payment

Name _____ Spouse/Guest _____

Please print clearly

Number attending _____

(To reserve a table of 8, contact Rich Bailey - (408) 316-6114 or rbailey1379@gmail.com)

Telephone # _____ Email _____

Telephone and/or email address will be used to confirm receipt of your payment/reservation

Municipal Motorcycle Officers of California

80 West Sierra Madre Boulevard #391

Sierra Madre, CA 91024

(818) 884-5576 Office

(626) 633-1801 Fax

www.mmoc.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

Annual Cioppino Feed

March 31, 2012

San Jose Police Officers Association Hall

1151 North 4th Street

San Jose, California

19th Annual MMOC Ride

July 8 - 13, 2012

Mount Saint Helens

