



# The Siren

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE  
MUNICIPAL MOTORCYCLE OFFICERS OF CALIFORNIA  
2ND QUARTER ~ 2013

## Movin' On

Mike Rores, President  
Retired Sergeant  
Alameda County Sheriff's Office

Well, Spring is here and the holidays are just are memory.

The Cioppino Feed was a success with nearly 200 in attendance. Thanks again to Rich Bailey and Kim Wirht for all their hard work to make it such a great event, as they have done for the past several years. Also thanks to Dennis Brown and his crew for cooking up all that delicious sausage, and to the many other members and their spouses who helped set up.

The MMOC is moving on, with the transition from south to north complete; thanks to the hard work of our VP Mike Nichelini, who did most of the physical move himself. Due to his computer skills, he has also streamlined the printing and distribution of the Siren, saving the organization money.

Past President Gene Gray has volunteered to be the Treasurer, keeping track of our financing. The organization is back on track and running smoothly.

The 2013 convention will be held in Pacific Grove, Ca. which is a beautiful venue with much to do and see (see attached flyer).

The annual July ride, led by our Touring

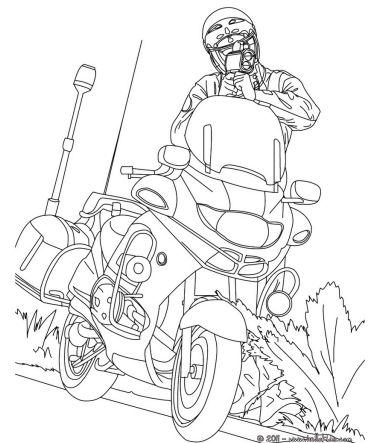
Executive Ride Director, Dennis Brown, will be the long way around to Sequoia National Park. If you've never been there, it is well worth the trip.

For more info, be sure to read Dennis' article. Hope to see many of you on the July ride.

In the meantime, be safe and keep the rubber side down!



*Mike*



President	Michael Rores Retired Sergeant Alameda County SO
Vice President	Michael Nichelini Officer Vallejo PD
Director	Rich Bailey Retired Officer San Jose PD
Director	William Loveless Retired Officer CA Highway Patrol
Director	Bob Lobach Retired Officer San Jose 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***

## Lobach Part Deux

Bob Lobach, Director  
Retired Police Officer  
San Jose Police Department

As the newest director of the MMOC I would like to introduce myself. Some people know me from my past involvement with MMOC. I began my law enforcement career in 1975 and in 1981 transferred to the San Jose Police Department. A few years later I became a traffic officer began riding dirt bikes and then on the big bikes. In 1982 Dick Tush who was the current MMOC president and Dick knell gave me an application and ordered me to join. Back in those days you did what the senior officer told you to do. I became very involved in the MMOC and in 1994 I became a director, in 1997 I became vice president, in 1998 I became president and I stayed director the for following two years.

I became in charge of the Bay Area Crab Cioppino Feed back in 1998 and continue this tradition along with my partner of 18 years Rich Bailey. We do a lot of work to keep this tradition going when it was started by Dick Tush long before I was a police officer.

I became a new director because I see our organization in a slump. Some of the other organizations I belong to are in the same situation. It's hard to get membership, it's hard to get people

involved, and most of all it is hard to get funding. I felt this organization is too important to be forgotten. I had heard about the hard work that Gene Gray, the new president, new Board of Directors, the webmaster and other people attempting to keep the organization afloat. I decided I would do whatever I can to help out. These are a very dedicated group of people and I wanted to get on board.

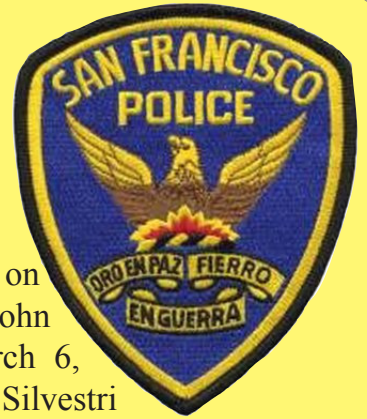
Please bear with me for a while as I am recovering from foot surgery. Rich Bailey and I along with many others put the cioppino feed on, I was not much use this year but, the good part was I got to sit at a table for a change and eat my crab cioppino in peace. I am not going reiterate about how great the crab cioppino was. If you were there you know how great it was and I will let the others on the board discuss in more detail what went on. With my current situation I have not been able to do much for the MMOC however as I heal up I hope to be very involved. Keep the shiny side up.

Bob Lobach





# *In Memory* *John J. Ruggiero* *1917 - 2013*



John Julian Ruggiero passed away on February 15, 2013 at the age of 95. John was born in San Francisco on March 6, 1917 to Philip Ruggiero and Theresa Silvestri Ruggiero (natives of Verbicaro, Italy). John attended Galileo High School and entered the police academy to become a police officer in 1949. He was a member of the San Francisco Police Officers' Association since 1949 and the Municipal Motorcycle Officers of California since 1953. John was predeceased by his parents Philip Ruggiero and Theresa Silvestri Ruggiero. He was also predeceased by his brother Joseph Ruggiero and his sister-in-law Mary Ruggiero, his sister Florence Johnstone and his brother-in-law Dave Johnstone and his grandson Kenneth

John Green. John is survived by his loving daughters Virginia Green and Denise Nasey, grandson Jonathan Green and his wife Carrie Green, his granddaughter in-law Li Green and his great-granddaughters Caitlin Green, Meghan Green and Yaeko Green. He was cherished by his niece Arlene Fife and her husband Bob Fife and their sons, Rob Fife and Chris Fife and his nephew David Johnstone. He will be missed by many loving relatives and numerous friends. John's family will be forever grateful for the wonderful care he received at Home Sweet Home in Daly City. Services are private and internment will be at Holy Cross Cemetery in Colma. Memorial donations in John's memory to be made to a charity of your choice .



# *In Memory* *Leland Michelsen* *1923 - 2013*

Leland Michelsen passed away on February 24, 2013 in Glendora, California. Leland served proudly with the San Marino Police Department for many years. He was an active member of the Municipal Motorcycle Officers of California since 1965.

# Cioppino Feed Report

Rich Bailey, Director  
Retired Police Officer  
San Jose Police Department



Another Cioppino Feed is behind us and we can put it into the history books. For those who attended, thank you for coming!. We had a great time. For those who missed it or were not able to attend, we hope to see you next year. Some of the highlights include the fact that we broke our record for attendance at 190. We didn't expect so many hungry mouths. There wasn't a lettuce leaf, pasta, garlic bread, piece of chicken or Nicosia Fine Sausage spared before we could get the Cioppino out to the tables! No doggy bags needed this year. We know to order more next year.

The raffle was a huge success. The grand prize went to very own MMOC members, Bob and Jackie Holland. Other prizes included a Kindle Fire HD, Surround Sound Home Theatre set, Sony Blue Tooth hands free ear set, a Sony Wireless Head phones and of course, the LG 55" TV. Since our members were so generous, we included a cash prize give away of \$150.

On a more somber note, we honored our fallen officers including City of Santa Cruz who lost Elizabeth Baker and Loren "Butch" Butler, killed in the line of duty the week before. At this event, we all contributed to raising funds for the Baker/Butler fund for the families. Kim and I were particularly touched when our San Jose State Law Enforcement Fraternity, Chi Pi Sigma donated all of their tips raised during Cioppino Feed night to aid the families. We raised \$600 which will help offset the initial costs of starting over.

We couldn't host an event like this without the help of our volunteers. A special thank you to MMOC member, former SJ POA Director, Steve Windisch retired, who donates his time each year to ensure we have use of the facilities saving us a huge cost. Many thanks go to our co-coordinators, Dennis and Rhoda who tirelessly helped to ensure we had everything we needed for a successful event. Our bartenders included famous Mickey and Bonnie Metcalf and Mark Murray. Joe Ross and the SJSU Fraternity students, Cliff and brother Jeff Heanes for the hours spent putting together our slide show. Bill Loveless for use of his van and helping with registration. Many more volunteers assisted as well and your efforts are greatly appreciated.

A special thanks to Renee LaPrevotte for reserving three tables for the San Francisco PD and motor squad. Oakland PD wasn't far behind, as Dennis Brown rallied the troops as well with three tables. Speaking of departments; We had:

San Francisco PD  
San Mateo PD  
Milpitas PD  
Santa Cruz PD  
Los Angles PD  
Broadmoore PD

Oakland PD  
Alameda County SO  
Sacramento CHP  
Santa Rosa PD  
Pasadena PD

San Jose PD  
Santa Clara PD  
Pleasanton PD  
San Leandro PD  
Vallejo PD

We also give special thanks to COPS (Concerns for Police Survivors), CAL TEX Riders and Santa Cruz HOG for their support.

In closing, because of your support , the MMOC Cioppino Feed continues to be one of our best venues and we owe that to the attendees, supporters and volunteers. We are looking forward to next year and hope you will too.

*Rich*



# LAST ROLL CALL

Tom Vlassis Santa Cruz PD Retired

February 26, 2013 will be a day long remembered by all those within the Santa Cruz community. It was the day Santa Cruz PD's Detective Sergeant Loran "Butch" Baker and Detective Elizabeth Butler were shot and killed in the line of duty. This was the first time in its 150 year history that the Santa Cruz PD lost any of its officers in the line of duty.



Sgt. Baker was a 28 year veteran of the SCPD. During his tour of duty he worked numerous assignments including patrol, field training officer, traffic, training, the drug task force and investigations. In addition to numerous state and federal awards during his career, Butch also received the Department's Medal of Valor for his heroic actions in the 1989 earthquake. Sgt. Baker is survived by his wife Kelly and his grown children Jillian, Adam (who is currently serving as a Community Service Officer for the SCPD) and Ashley.

Detective Butler was a ten year veteran with the Santa Cruz PD. During her career she she also worked numerous assignments including patrol, downtown bicycle patrol, the drug task force, the hostage negotiations team and investigations. Detective Butler is survived by her life partner Peter Wu and their two sons, Joaquin Wu, age 5 1/2, and Stellan Wu, age 2 1/2.

The outcry of support from the Santa Cruz community was tremendous. The March 8, 2013 services for the two officers had to be held at the HP Pavilion Arena in San Jose in order to facilitate the enormous number of people attending. Law enforcement personnel from all agencies within Santa Cruz County as well as the California Highway Patrol assumed the law enforcement duties for the City of Santa Cruz allowing all members of the SCPD to attend the services. The motorcade that stretched for several miles consisted of law enforcement and other emergency service agencies throughout the State of California. It traveled through the City of Santa Cruz, then along Highways 17 and 85, and into the City of San Jose.

The entire route was lined with thousands of people paying their respects, holding signs of support, placing their hands over their hearts while standing curbside, sitting in their parked vehicles pulled over along the highway, and along every overpass and on ramp from Santa Cruz to the HP Pavilion. To say it was humbling is an understatement.



Sergeant Butch Baker



Detective Elizabeth Butler

Personnel from the California Highway Patrol, as well as San Jose PD, Sunnyvale, and other agencies did a fantastic job of traffic control along the motorcade's route. As said before, it was a sight to behold.

At the services, Santa Cruz PD Chief of Police Kevin Vogel began with a very honest and moving reflection of the two officers and their roles within the SCPD. It was very clear that Chief Vogel not only lost two of his finest officers in this tragedy, but he lost two very dear friends as well.



This loss rang out loud and clear as speaker after speaker, including Capitola PD's Chief Rudy Escalante (who also started his career within the SCPD), Santa Cruz PD's Deputy Chief Steve Clark, Santa Cruz PD officers Wendy Bunes and Laurel Schonfield as well as Chief Deputy Santa Cruz District Attorney Jeff Rosell provided their own insights and personnel reflections regarding the two officers and their careers within the SCPD.

Those of note attending included Governor Brown, State Attorney General Kamala Harris, and former Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta. Additionally, our local representatives included the Mayor of Santa Cruz Hillary Bryant as well as our 2nd District Supervisor (and former SCPD employee) Zach Friend. Most of them spoke to the thousands in attendance. Santa Cruz's James Durbin (of American Idol fame) sang a wonderful solo rendition of "Arms Wide Open". Both families were given folded American Flags by members of the Honor Guard.

When the services inside the HP Pavilion were completed everyone filed outside. While listening to a lone bugler, being played by Santa Cruz PD motor officer Pat Bayani, playing taps, a missing man air-ops fly over consisting of seven helicopters from the California Highway Patrol as well as other agencies finalized the ceremony. All those attending were deeply moved. The support shown by all was totally and absolutely overwhelming.

Attendees rejoined the motorcade and returned to Santa Cruz where a reception was held at the Beach Boardwalk's Coconut Grove and Sun Room.

While I can't thank everyone independently, I'd be amiss if I didn't thank everyone, businesses and citizens alike, for all their donations, volunteered time and labor, efforts and support. There truly are too many to list individually. It's best to simply say the entire Santa Cruz community did all it could to show

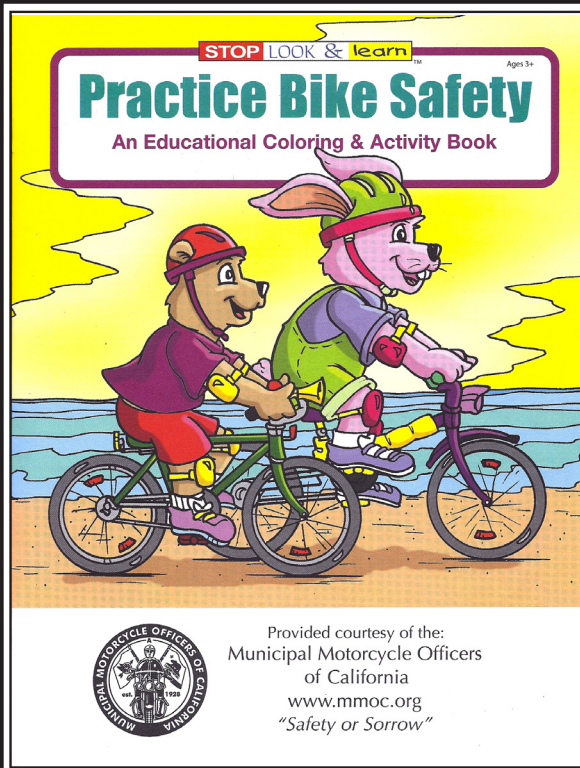


their support for the Santa Cruz Police Department and its fallen officers.

Let me close by saying I am proud to advise all those reading this that the Municipal Motorcycle Officers of California did not hesitate to show their support as well. The MMOC proudly gave a \$1,000 donation to the special Santa Cruz PD POA fund established for the fallen officers. I know first hand that both families are extremely appreciative for MMOC's generous offering.

Past President Tom Vlassis presents a check from the MMOC to Santa Cruz PD POA President Sergeant Joe Hernandez and Officer Karina Cecena





## MMOC Bicycle Safety Coloring Books

We still have bicycle safety coloring books available for kids. If your Department has a use for some coloring books to use for making presentations to schools let us know.

Contact Michael Nichelini  
mnichelini@mmoc.org  
(707) 948-MMOC



## NATIONAL POLICE MEMORIAL DAY

May 15, 2013



In 1962, President John F. Kennedy signed a proclamation which designated May 15th as Peace Officers Memorial Day and the week in which that date falls as Police Week.

Currently, tens of thousands of law enforcement officers from around the world converge on Washington, DC to participate in a number of planned events which honor those that have paid the ultimate sacrifice.

The Memorial Service began in 1982 as a gathering in Senate Park of approximately 120 survivors and supporters of law enforcement. Decades later, the event, more commonly known as National Police Week, has grown to a series of events which attracts thousands of survivors and law enforcement officers to our Nation's Capital each year.

The primary purpose of the Police Unity Tour is to raise awareness of Law Enforcement Officers who have died in the line of duty. The secondary purpose is to raise funds for the National Law Enforcement Officer's Memorial and Museum.

The Police Unity Tour is a bicycle ride from New Jersey to Washington, D.C., during Police Week. A 300 plus ride escorted by police motors from around the Nation. For more information or to donate check out the websites below.

Northern CA Chapter  
[www.unitytournorcal.com](http://www.unitytournorcal.com)

Police Unity Tour  
[www.policeunitytour.com](http://www.policeunitytour.com)

Southern CA Chapter  
[www.socalput.com](http://www.socalput.com)



# The 20th Anniversary MMOC Ride

In celebration of two decades of plying the back roads of our Western States, this year's MMOC ride will have us journey from Gilroy to Bakersfield in search of motorcycle nirvana; and like last year's highly successful experiment, we will again separate into two groups, Touring and Sport Touring, each with dedicated chase vehicles. Our serpentine and scenic route through the agricultural empire of the arid central valley on secondary roads will occasionally touch on coastal waters for a cooling respite before turning east towards the Sequoia National Forest and much higher elevations. Warm temps will be the norm 70% of the ride and in lieu of rain gear, I suggest you pack a cool vest which can be a god-send on days over 90 degrees.

I have guaranteed 15 rooms at each of the hotels below (with the proviso there may be requests for more) at substantial group discount rates, listed under "MMOC ROOM BLOCK". Each has a 3 week cutoff date and 72 hour cancellation policy and awaits your reservations.

Monday, July 8th 2013: Best Western Forest Inn, 375 Leavesley Road - Gilroy (800) 237-7846 \$99.00 + tax.

Tuesday, July 9th 2013: Holiday Inn Express, 9010 W. Front Street - Atascadero (805) 462-0200 \$99.00 + tax.

Wednesday, July 10th and Thursday, July 11th 2013

Best Western Crystal Palace, 2620 Buck Owens Boulevard - Bakersfield (661) 327-9651 \$69.00 per night + tax.

This will again be a men's size only monogrammed T-Shirt year (\$22.00 S-XL, \$25.00 2X-4X) and I will need your size and name "imprint" information at least 45 days in advance for this commemorative gem. We'll settle up in Gilroy when I pass out route directions if you're GPS addled or, if you want to pre-program your "magic teleprompter", I can forward the route info to you a couple months before.

Hope to see you at our milestone celebration.

Dennis M. Brown @ [hos6350@sbcglobal.net](mailto:hos6350@sbcglobal.net)



## 20th Anniversary Ride





# 2013 MMOC Convention

The 2013 MMOC Convention will be held in Northern California this year and the backdrop will be beautiful Pacific Grove at the Pacific Grove Lighthouse Lodge. The convention will be September 9th through September 12th. This is the same hotel that previously hosted MMOC for the Pacific Grove Motorcycle Competition and 'Good 'Ol Days' Parade and Craft Show. We have secured various rooms; some regular lodge rooms and some suites. All have fireplaces! Make your reservations early.

We are in the process of creating our three day itinerary to include sightseeing and activities which will appeal to many tastes. Suggestions have included visits to Monterey Bay Aquarium, downtown Carmel, lunch at Hog's Breath Inn (formerly owned by Clint Eastwood), Tour of Laguna Seca Raceway, Tour of the Monterey Mission, 17 Mile Drive, Cannery Row, Monterey's Fisherman Wharf. Many things to do, so little time. So stay tuned and mark your calendars.

[www.lighthouselodgescottages.com](http://www.lighthouselodgescottages.com)

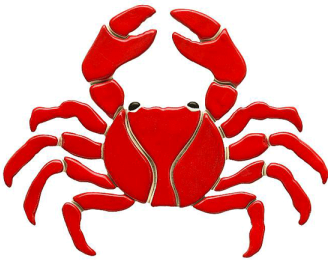






# CIOPPINO FEED PHOTOS

Photos by Angie Jacquard







# MMOC Store

The “new and improved” MMOC store is up and running. Stop by and check it out. Many items are available and we are proud to introduce our newly re-designed Challenge Coin. You definitely want to get out hands on these and surely don’t want to be caught at the next MMOC event without one....it may cost you a drink. We will be adding to our inventory of shirts and also like to hear from you. If there is a product that you would like to see the MMOC logo printed on, please let us know. To access the store, go to [www.mmoc.org](http://www.mmoc.org) and click on “Products” on the menu bar at the top.



## The History of the Challenge Coin

The tradition of a challenge is the most common way to ensure that members are carrying their unit’s coin. The rules of a challenge are not always formalized for a unit, and may vary between organizations. The challenge only applies to those members that have been given a coin formally by their unit. This may lead to some controversy when challenges are initiated between members of different organizations and is not recommended. The tradition of the coin challenge is meant to be a source of morale in a unit, and forcing the challenge can cause a reverse effect.

The challenge, which can be made at any time, begins with the challenger drawing his/her coin, and slapping or placing the coin on the table or bar. In noisy environments, continuously rapping the challenge coin on a surface may initiate the challenge. (Accidentally dropping a challenge coin is considered to be a deliberate challenge to all present.) Everyone being challenged must immediately produce the coin for their organization and anyone failing to do so must buy a round of drinks for the challenger and everyone else who has their challenge coin. However, should everyone challenged be able to produce their coin, the challenger must buy a round of drinks for the group.

While most holders of challenge coins usually carry them in their pockets or in some other readily accessible place on their persons, most versions of the rules permit a challenged person “a step and a reach” (particularly useful if one is challenged in the shower, a tradition in the Navy).

Variants of the rules include the following. If someone is able to steal a challenge coin, everyone in the group must buy a drink for that person. During a challenge, everyone in the group must buy a drink for the holder of the highest-ranking coin. Some units provide strict time limits to respond to a challenge.

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## Municipal Motorcycle Officers of California

PO Box 531  
San Lorenzo, CA 94580  
(707) 948-MMOC  
[www.mmoc.org](http://www.mmoc.org)

### UPCOMING EVENTS

20th Anniversary Ride  
July 8-12, 2013  
Gilroy to Bakersfield

Annual Convention  
September 9-12, 2013  
Pacific Grove, CA

