



# The Siren

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE  
MUNICIPAL MOTORCYCLE OFFICERS OF CALIFORNIA  
3RD QUARTER ~ 2013

## Dual Sportin'

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

Well, we are well into Summer, and by the time you read this, the 20th Annual July ride, led by HOS Dennis Brown, will be over. I'm sure we'll get the blow-by-blow details in the next Siren.

The Convention will be upon us soon. This year it will be in Pacific Grove from September 9th through the 12th. Rich Bailey and Cliff Heanes have been working hard, securing the details, lodging and events to make it a memorable event. The flyer is attached, so make your reservations and send a check. Let's make this convention a record breaker in attendance.

We are still ironing out some minor wrinkles resulting from the move north, but everything is going well. Our biggest problem is recruiting new members, so I would ask everyone to go out and actively recruit. Without new blood, the MMOC will not be around long, much less another 80 years.

I would also like to mention two long-time members, Herb Fuentes (retired Alameda P.D.) and Matt Greb (retired Oakland P.D.), who are motor instructors at the Alameda County Sheriff's Office Regional Training Center. I had the opportunity to take the 80-hour Dual Sport

class, which I hope to also help instruct. I was probably the oldest student, at 60, to take the course, and not having any motor training in over

10 years, I was a little rusty -- okay, a lot rusty. Anyway, Herb and Matt are excellent teachers and coaches, and were very patient with me and the other students.

Having taken both the dual sport class and the regular motor class, I must say the dual sport class is much more challenging, as you do everything the regular motor class does, in addition to riding several hours in the dirt and learning a whole new skill-set.

Thanks again to Herb and Matt. We should all be proud to have these two pros as members of MMOC.

Hope to see many of you at the Convention. Until then, ride safe and keep those two wheels up.



President	Michael Rores Retired Sergeant Alameda County SO
Vice President	Michael Nichelini Sergeant of Police 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***

## Onward and Upward

Michael Nichelini, Vice President  
Sergeant of Police  
Vallejo Police Department

Lots is going on within the MMOC. By now, you should have received your dues renewal notice in the mail. The new notices save us money in time and postage. We are also pleased to announce that you can pay your dues online by going to [www.mmoc.org](http://www.mmoc.org). Online payments are processed through PayPal just like the online store purchases. It is fast, easy and secure. You may have noticed, albeit too late, that the new dues notices ask you to reuse the envelope as your return envelope. We plan to stick with this format so next year, follow the directions on the envelope and you'll be able to use it to return your payment and dues slip to us. The old renewal envelopes were reusable as well. These just have a slightly different look.

We will also be rolling out newly designed and formatted membership cards this month. They will keep the tradition and feel of the old membership cards but again, save us time and money in production.

We would also like to keep everyone connected with up to the minute information. We often have info that we would like to get out that does not "line up" with the quarterly Siren. If you haven't already done so, please go to [www.mmoc.org](http://www.mmoc.org) to register your

e-mail with us. Those e-mail addresses are kept "in-house" and will not be sold or used for any other purpose than the occasional e-mail from MMOC.

As with any new process or program, there are bound to be hiccups. We are working diligently to minimize the inconvenience to our members. I ask that you be patient as we work out the bugs. I also ask that you keep an open mind as we roll out some of these new procedures. I can assure you that I push very hard to keep the spirit and tradition on MMOC alive. We are working hard to bring a more efficient system that carries the tradition of yesteryear.

The convention is right around the corner. Your Board of Directors is working hard to put together a great time in beautiful Pacific Grove. Be sure to check out the details on Page 9 and make your reservations.

I'm always looking for photos and other interesting things to use in *The Siren*. If you have some cool shots of MMOC members, your motor units or whatever, send them to me at the email below and look for them in an future issue of *The Siren*.

If you have any comments, questions or suggestions, my "door" is always open. Feel free to leave me a message at (707) 948-6662 or send me an e-mail at [mnichelini@mmoc.org](mailto:mnichelini@mmoc.org).

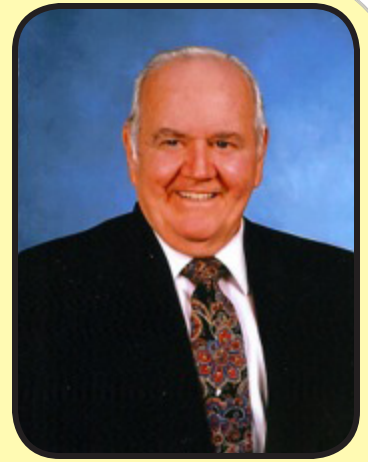
See you in Pacific Grove!

*Mike*



# *In Memory James Needham*

## *1925 - 2013*



Jim was born in Chicago, IL Oct. 3, 1925 to parents John and Margaret Needham. He had 2 brothers, Jack and Bob. He attended parochial grade school. After high school Jim worked at the Illinois Central Railroad and attended DePaul University until he enlisted in the U.S. Navy Submarine Division. He served 2.5 years in the South Pacific during WWII.

After his honorable discharge from the Navy he returned home to Chicago and back to his former job at the Illinois Central Railroad. He also rekindled his friendship with his high school friend Ellie and they were married in 1948. They had three sons, Bill, Jim and Rick. His son Jim is married to Carol and gave us two wonderful grandchildren, David and Alyssa.

In 1952 he joined the Chicago Police Department for 7 years but after a few vacation trips to California they decided to move there. In 1958 he applied for and was accepted to join the Santa Monica Police Department. He loved working there. His various duties included Patrol and Traffic; he was trained to be a helicopter pilot, Administrative Sgt, juvenile officer, undercover burglary detail, narcotics and robbery division and detective among others. He retired in 1978 due to a heart condition but that was not the end of his illustrious career. Jim went into the real estate field for about 5 years. In 1982 he became Vice President and General Manager of a Security Company for another 5 years.

In 1992 he ended his working career as Director of security for the Marriott Hotel in Woodland Hills. Somewhere in between this title he also taught and operated a traffic school and gave tear gas classes. He also joined the West Valley Police Dept Response Division

Jim also got interested in gourmet cooking. We had many dinner parties testing out his new concoctions.

He cooked and Ellie set the table. His corned beef and cabbage was great and everyone loved his rum cake.

He enjoyed traveling, especially cruises, sports and retired police officers activities and spending happy times with family and friends. Church was a very important part of his life. He always told people he had a "wonderful life."

Jim was the family counselor - he solved all the problems - Just ask the kids. Jim loved and enjoyed life. He was a kind, caring, generous, intelligent, happy, helpful, and Christian person with a great sense of humor. That describes him pretty well.



Submitted by Ellie Needham



## Summertime

Bob Lobach, Director  
Retired Police Officer  
San Jose Police Department

Here we are, it's summer time already, the state Law Enforcement Memorial was a success, our children's school is out, high school and college graduations are winding down, now it's time to concentrate on my MMOC duties.

Cliff Heanes, Rich Bailey, Kim Wirht and are working hard to make the upcoming 2013 MMOC Convention a success. This year, the convention will be in beautiful Pacific Grove (Monterey Bay). As in years past, many of us have stayed at the beautiful Lighthouse Lodge, when we supported and sponsored the Statewide Pacific Grove Police Motorcycle Competition and the 'Good Old Days Parade and Craft Fair. We are hoping this event will attract everyone, especially the members that we have not seen in years, to come, along with members up and down California's coast.

On my second agenda is membership, a problem that we have been having for many years, our declining membership. If you have any ideas on how to increase our membership, I would like to hear from you. Please let me know if it's more motorcycle rides? Or if it's more activities? I am at a loss and am eager to hear your ideas. I know it can't be the membership fee because I don't remember when it was last increased. I along with other board members sponsored barbecues at riding academies, gone to traffic units to recruit more members and it has not worked. I ask everyone that reads my article if they could try to at least go out and recruit someone with new and fresh ideas that could help the MMOC organization. As your board we have been working hard to keep the organization financially solvent, but without members we will not be able to exist. So again I ask any member to contact me or any board member, President, Vice President, etc., with any ideas you may have.

In conclusion, have a very safe summer and I hope to see a large turnout for our convention in Pacific Grove, where we will hopefully see many new faces along with old faces there.



## Old School Motors!



## Summertime

Rich Bailey, Director  
Retired Police Officer  
San Jose Police Department

I want to thank everyone who attended the 2013 Cioppino Feed in March at the San Jose Police Officer's Association. I'm also taking this opportunity to thank everyone who volunteered and assisted us in putting on this event making it as successful as ever.

Cliff Heanes, Bob Lobach and I are working hard to make the upcoming 2013 MMOC Convention a real success. This year, we decided to shake it up a little and host the convention in beautiful Pacific Grove ( Monterey Bay). As in years past, many of us have stayed at the beautiful Lighthouse Lodge; just a stone's throw from the Beach. It was in those days, we supported the Statewide Pacific Grove Police Motorcycle Competition and the 'Good 'Ol Days Parade and Craft Fair.

This year, we are doing things a bit differently. Instead of attending one venue, our activities will take place throughout the Monterey and Carmel area, known worldwide for a wide array of activities. Each of our so called "Free Time" will actually have several features attendees can choose from: i.e. the Monterey Bay Aquarium, 17 Mile Drive or shopping in Carmel. We will also have an opportunity to visit the Hogs Breath Inn in Carmel for lunch and some refreshments. This place was once owned by former Mayor, Clint Eastwood. Also, a visit to Cannery Row/Fisherman's Wharf. If time permits, on Wednesday, we will have lunch at Carmel Valley's Baja Cantina. We might be able to take a lap around Laguna Seca Raceway in Bill's bus! Or just hang around the swimming pool!

So stay tuned for further information, BUT don't hesitate to book one the beautiful rooms (all with fireplaces) at Lighthouse Lodge. Go to reservations at [www.lighthouselodge.com](http://www.lighthouselodge.com)  
Well, I'm looking forward to another great party with our friends at MMOC.



## MMOC

7 - 11 Azusa  
Art Lambert  
Atty. Steven Sobo  
Barbera Gonzales  
Barbera Hull  
Bea Jacobs  
Billie Smith  
Cintas Corporation  
Citrus Valley Florist  
Crest Home Retirement  
Dorine Edmonds  
Dorothy Chambers  
Elizabeth Weinstein  
Elsie Omlin  
Esther Garcia  
Eva Morris Co.,  
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Guylene Hartman  
Jack Oda  
Janice Scott  
Jean Gronbach  
Jose Arriola  
Josefina Garcia  
Lakeside Transmission Co.,  
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M. Todd Henry  
Maria Gonzales

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# Lane Positioning in Street Riding

Bill Loveless, Director  
Retired Police Officer  
California Highway Patrol

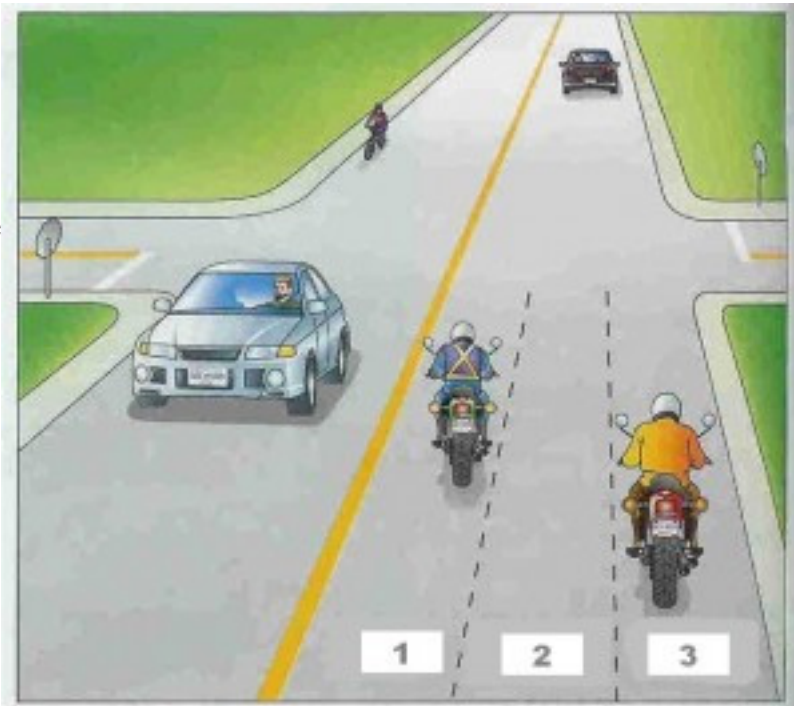
One aspect of street riding we see many riders struggle with is where they position themselves in the lane of traffic. In preparation for this article I met with Sgt. Ted White, who is the motorcycle instructor supervisor at the California Highway Patrol academy. Sgt. White's opinions and mine are the same, since we were both trained at the CHP academy.

In general the center of any traffic lane is best avoided. Vehicles leak fluids and drop small parts, and that refuse all collects in the center of the lane. Passing vehicles tires with keep the wheel tracks fairly clear. Some people say it okay to ride in the center of a lane when you're away from an intersection. Because it's the traffic stopped at intersections that drop the most fluids. True most fluids are dropped at intersections but fluids are still dropped on other parts of the roadway. Just look down the road and you can see that the wheel tracks are cleaner than the center. And anywhere there is a bump in the road you will see a dark spot of fluids.

Whether you ride in the right or left wheel track depends on many factors. Oncoming traffic, passing slower traffic, visibility around curves etc. When you are riding in a group you stagger yourselves. One bike in the right track the next one in the left track back a couple seconds and so forth. This gives you a little more room to stop if traffic ahead slows and you're not paying attention.

One thing that was stressed at the CHP academy is what we call "clean foot, dirty foot". If you are riding

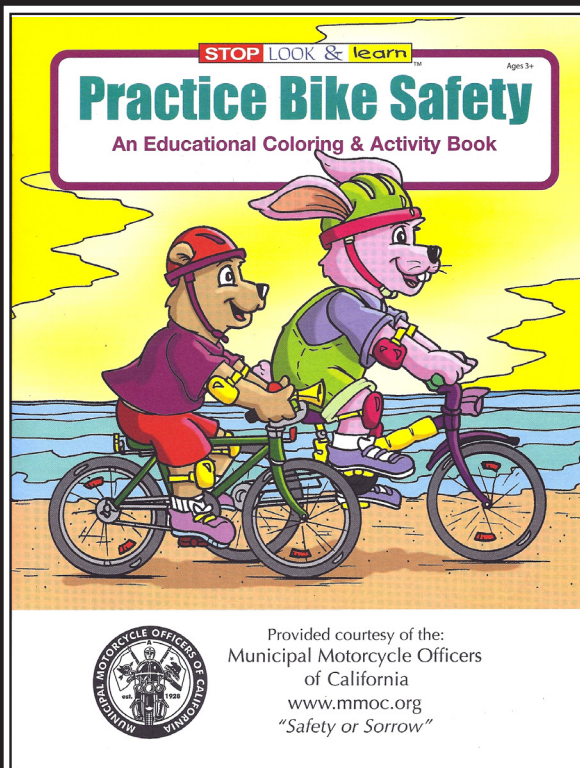
in the left wheel track when you come to a stop put your left foot down. If you are riding in the right wheel track put your right foot down. To put down your other foot is putting it into the center of the lane where all the slippery fluids are and if your foot



slips most likely you will dump your bike. And if you dump your bike for what ever reason I can tell you from personal experience It is embarrassing. So keep the rubber down and the plastic up.







# 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



Oakland Police Department Traffic Division c. 1928  
Indian Four Motorcycles  
Oakland Auditorium

## Swan Song

Dennis HOS Brown, Touring Executive Ride Director  
Retired Police Officer  
Oakland Police Department

As you receive this 3rd Quarter Siren, more than 28 of us are motoring through California's vast central valley celebrating the 20th Anniversary of MMOC's annual rides. Born of a cocktail infused concept by yours truly and LA's Bob Hossfeld at the 1994 MMOC Convention in San Diego, these rides have been non-stop fun and very rewarding when annually we meet and greet then ply the roads of western states. From Washington to Utah, for returning and new riders alike, the camaraderie has been fantastic and the scenery as varied as our riding styles and motorcycles.

Over the course of the next few days, and as is our protocol, part of our pool-side discourse will establish prospective locations for the 2014 ride based on many variables to engender enthusiasm and continued participation. Once home, my small but nimble mind will then research various routes to and from chosen havens, the locations of which must above all else provide a unique riding and visual experience. On rare occasion, the access routes and daily rides at the destination itself combine to provide spectacular scenery and sensory overload. Various periodicals, AAA maps, Google Earth and other search engines, for the most part, finesse the course.

Now, onto my swan song. Because I am very detail oriented and the planning, execution and to a lesser degree, recap, can be very time consuming, it is time for me to vacate my throne as your exalted Touring Executive Ride Director effective at the end of the 2014 21st Annual Ride. Just as we evolved from the Hossfeld era, my decade long reign-of-terror must come to an end too. This is not to say that Rhoda and His Own Self won't be mid-pack or bringing up the rear on future rides; we will because our road trips are above all else....entertaining and fun! However, evolution and time constraints dictate it's time for new blood, hopefully with youth and enthusiasm to carry the torch for MMOC. Rhoda and I have our sights set on more travel; both abroad and within the states and stepping down will allow us to do so.

In closing, I echo those most eloquent words of famous 1970's and 1980's chameleon star of stage, screen, television's Ivory Snow commercials and one-time Vice Presidential candidate Marilyn Chambers. Upon finishing the filming of '72's Behind The Green Door..... Ms. Chambers blurted out "WHAT A RIDE"! No truer words were ever spoken.



“Safety or  
Sorrow”



# Municipal Motorcycle Officers of CA

## 84th Annual Convention

### September 9-11



#### LOCATION:

Lighthouse Lodge & Cottages  
1150 Lighthouse Avenue  
Pacific Grove, Ca 93950  
(831) 655-2111

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

Reservations (800) 858-1249 (MMOC Room Rate)

#### ITINERARY:

**Sunday - 8 Sep 13**

1300 - Board Meeting  
Past Presidents Dinner

**Monday - 9 Sep 13**

1000 - 1200 - Registration  
1300 - 1500 - Luncheon  
Taco Bar Buffet

**Tuesday - 10 Sep 13**

Free Day (possible excursions TBA)

**Wednesday - 11 Sep 13**

Presidents Dinner  
Pebble Beach Buffet

**Thursday - 12 Sep 13**

Check Out

**\$95 per person**

#### ACCOMMODATIONS:

Cottage Junior - \$140 / night

Cottage Studio - \$135 / night

Lodge Double/Double - \$116 / night

Lodge King - \$116 / night

**\*All rooms have fireplaces\***

To register, send this form and a check for \$95 per person to: MMOC ~ PO Box 531 ~ San Lorenzo, CA 94580  
You may also register and pay online at [www.mmoc.org](http://www.mmoc.org)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse/Guest : \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

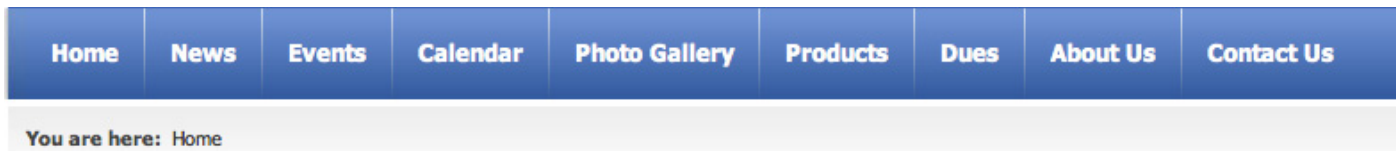
Make checks payable to MMOC. Registration includes Monday lunch, Presidents Ball Dinner & Dancing and some other goodies. Please make your own hotel reservations.



## Trouble Viewing the MMOC Website?

Doug Wayne, Web Master  
Retired Police Sergeant  
Oakland Police Department

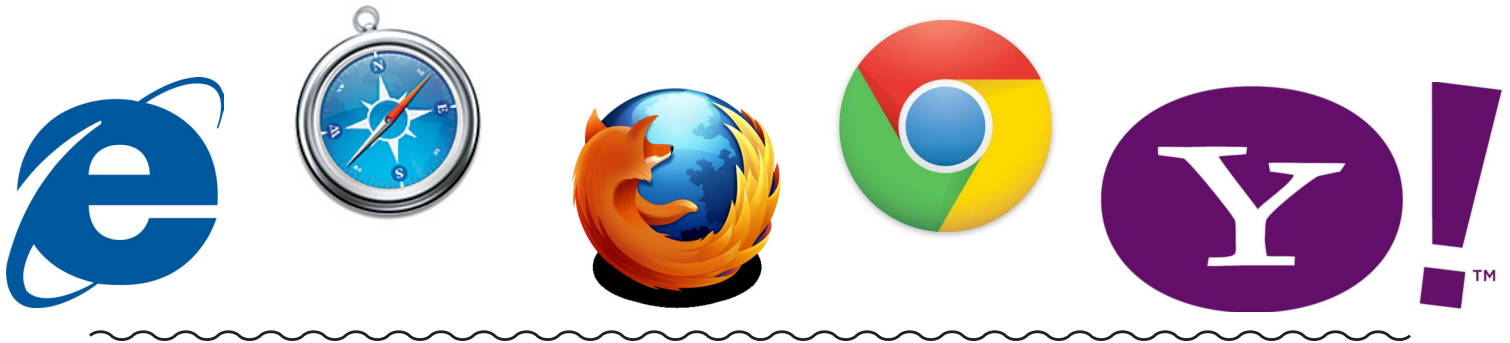
Recently, many of you have contacted board members, as well as me, regarding troubles viewing the entire MMOC website. Specifically, many of you cannot view the menu bar, which contains the following headers:



We have found the problem lies in Internet Explorer 10 (IE10). As of Thursday, 6/27/2013, I believe we have found a fix. Please try it again and if there are problems, please feel free to contact me.

If you are interested, there are many more free browsers out there, such as Google Chrome, FireFox, Mozilla or Safari. All these browsers will enable you to view the MMOC web site menu bar, and have less problems, than those experienced in IE10.

If you need help with the installation of another browser please feel free to contact me at [dwayne@mmoc.org](mailto:dwayne@mmoc.org).







# 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.



*Looking  
Sharp!*

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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

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

