



The Siren

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE
MUNICIPAL MOTORCYCLE OFFICERS OF CALIFORNIA
1ST QUARTER ~ 2014

Where does the time go?

Michael Nichelini, President
Sergeant of Police
Vallejo Police Department

I am truly honored to serve as the President of the Municipal Motorcycle Officers of California. This past Convention was held in Pacific Grove and would normally have been the time and place when the new Board and Officers would be sworn in. I related this story at the Convention and it's still appropriate. When I was fourteen years old, I attended my first Pacific Grove Police Motorcycle Competition with my Dad. He worked at Oakland PD at the time and we went to support OPD motor teams in the competition and watch the Motorcycle Drill Teams. That day pretty much sealed the deal for my life. I knew I wanted to be a motorman, an Oakland motorman and I wanted to be part of the OPD Drill Team and I wanted to win Pacific Grove. I remember seeing all these guys and all the members of the MMOC. I wanted to be a part of it all.

Fitting that 26 years later, in Pacific Grove, and after many years in motors, leading the OPD Drill Team and winning Pacific Grove, the plan of succession as President of the MMOC would be formed. Truly amazing.

I'm excited about the future of the MMOC and with help from all of you and our new Board Members, it's going to be great. I have heard from many of you and we plan to try some new things to recruit new members, expand our outreach with traffic safety

materials, increase participation of our current members, and ensure that the MMOC lives on for another 85 years.

With that said, trying new things can sometimes mean people don't like the taste. We may find ourselves outside our individual comfort levels. I'm reminded about two phrases that are often used in organizations when a new idea is brought up; "We've always done it that way" or "We've never done it that way." We are working on some new ideas and, as always, please let me or one of the other Board Members know if you have and thoughts, ideas, concerns, suggestions or complaints.

Another big thanks to Mike Rores for serving the MMOC and continuing the traditions and mission of our organization.

Hopefully everyone has recovered from the Holidays. I wish all of you and your families and happy and healthy 2014.



Mike

2014 DIRECTORS

President Michael Nichelini
Sergeant of Police
Vallejo PD

Vice President Bill Focha
Retired Deputy
Somoma SO

Director Rich Bailey
Retired Officer
San Jose PD

Director Matthew Greb
Retired Officer
Oakland PD

Director Mark Murray
Retired Officer
San Leandro PD



***SAFETY
OR
SORROW***

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Retired Lieutenant
Pasadena PD

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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

2014 STAFF

MMOC Cioppino Feed

It's that time of year again...

Rich Bailey, Director
Retired Police Officer
San Jose Police Department

Ok, Everyone! Set Saturday, March 8th on your calendars for the MMOC Annual Cioppino Feed. Again, the event will be held in San Jose at the San Jose Police Association Hall. We will serve a delectable bowl of Cioppino featuring crab and loads of seafood. Also included is pasta, salad and bread. For those who do not prefer Cioppino, we are providing chicken, if requested.

After dinner, we will be dancing and having a great time until 11:00 pm.

If you are planning to stay late and wish to overnight; keep in mind, we have reserved a block

of rooms at a great rate of \$89+tax just down the block at the same hotel have stayed at over the years. However it is now known as the Wyndham Gardens Hotel. Formerly they were known as the Silicon Valley Airport Hotel/ Clarion Hotel at 1355 N 4th Street. (Hey, at least they honored the room rate, right?) They do not offer a free breakfast. However, they offered our group a 20% discount on a full breakfast the next morning. Mention you are with the MMOC Cioppino Feed group staying at the hotel. The hotel offers free shuttle pick up and drop off at the San Jose International Norm Mineta Airport.

You will be pleasantly surprised at the recent renovations and upgrade; We will enjoy a beautiful pool, nice rooms, our hospitality suite (Room 290) and amenities. Feel free to meet us their prior to dinner for social hour. Call now for reservations before the cutoff date of February 22, 2014 and receive last year's rate of \$89.00+tax Mention MMOC Cioppino Feed for this special rate of \$89+tx. (regularly \$149).



Flyrod...

Matt Greb, Director
Retired Police Officer
Oakland Police Department



I was hired by the Oakland Police Department on April 8, 1981, and after graduating from the 101st Recruit school, was assigned to Third Watch Patrol. I made FTO in late 1984, and remained on Third Watch Patrol. I attended our motor school, taught by Rich Cademartori, and assisted by Greg Loscher and Garrett Kyle, in October 1985. I was transferred to Motors in February 1986, to the Enforcement Section. In 1992, I was brought on as an instructor for our Motor School, where I continued to teach until my retirement in 2009. In Traffic Division, I worked the Taxi Detail for several years, and spent over eight years doing Commercial Enforcement, mainly in the port. I was transferred out to Patrol twice for my mandatory one year stints, once in 1998, and again in 2007, both times to Day Watch, but immediately returned to Traffic Division after each. In 2002, I began working part-time as a motorcycle instructor for Alameda County Sheriff's Department, where I continue to work in the same capacity after my retirement from OPD in December 2009.

I'm looking forward to the future of the MMOC. I have some new ideas that I think will keep the traditions, camaraderie and mission of the MMOC alive. From my family to yours - wishing you a safe and healthy 2014.

Meet your new Board Members!

and Stumpy.

Bill Focha, Vice President
Retired Deputy Sheriff
Sonoma County Sheriff's Office

My name is Bill Focha. I am a retired from the Oakland Police Department and the Sonoma County Sheriff's Office. I was in law enforcement for a total of 25 years between the two agencies. The bulk of my time was spent as a solo-motorcycle officer - 21 years. I currently own and operate North Coast Truck Inspections; a commercial vehicle safety and accident investigation consulting business. I have been a member of MMOC since 1991. I look forward to working with my fellow board members to further the goals of the organization.



The Oracle

Mark Murray, Director
Retired Police Officer
San Leandro Police Department

Mark Murray retired from San Leandro PD in 2003 having worked motors in 3 tours totaling just under 17 years. Mark joined MMOC in 1984 and served on the Board in 2004-2006 as VP and President. Mark no longer rides after serious collision with a deer in May 2009 which destroyed my '99 HD Peace Officer Special.

Mark currently lives in Chester, CA, 25 miles from Mount Lassen with my wife Helen. He is active in Elks lodge 2626, the Chester Volunteer Fire Department, Plumas County Hazardous Materials and is President of the Plumas County Grand Jury Association. Looking forward to the Cioppino Feed in March and Helen and I will be rolling as a "chase vehicle" for this years ride.

THE MMOC IS WORLDWIDE

Look carefully and you will see the MMOC flag proudly flying on board a catamaran sailboat in the waters of the British Virgin Islands. A great cruising tip is to mark your charter boat with distinctive flags to make your boat easier to find after a few too many Rum Punch's.

Have a great photo of an MMOC flag in an interesting place? We'd love to see it. Send it to me at mnichelini@mmoc.org and I'll be sure to share it



MMOC

Art Lambert
Betty Page
Bridget Burns
Cecil Gutierrez
Cherry Pick Restaurant
Dorine Edmonds
Dorothy Chambers
El Caserio Restaurant
Elizabeth Jacobs
Elizabeth Weinstein
Elsie Omlin
Isabel Pulvers



Sponsors

Kathleen Sowder
lois Hostetler
Maria Medina's Tires
Marianne Higdon
Mary Fortelny
Melinda Womack
Orchid Court Inc.
Redlands Diamond District
Regine Henry
Robert Ramos
Roy Berglund
Shiela Lammas
Stan Eberl

Passing the Torch

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

Twenty one years after LA's Bob Hossfeld and yours truly started the concept of an Annual MMOC Ride, I prepare to hand off the exalted title of Touring Executive Ride Director to OPD's extremely competent (but not as good looking) 23 year Motor veteran Matt Greb at the conclusion of this year's merriment. More than thirty thousand miles and 90-or-so group reservations later, it has been extremely rewarding getting together geezers and youngsters alike. We've been to and through State and National Parks in six western states and burned up countless sets of tires chasing horizons around the next bend of sundry roadways.

Before I pass the torch, I ask that you join me for one more twisted journey through hill and dale, with little or no freeway travel. Two hundred miles daily of mostly unending ribbons of curves on both sides of the Sierra Nevada mountain range within multiple National Parks and Forests should whet your appetite, and thirst too, at day's end. And, for those who prefer a more sedate smell-the-roses pace, Cliff Heanes returns again to ably guide that group.

Below is the reservation information and negotiated group discount rates. I have blocked 20 rooms at each establishment, and please note: This is peak tourist season at the first 3 establishments and they are (allegedly) always booked solid. Therefore, per written contracts, I had to agree to a May 15, 2014 reservation cut-off date or be liable for unused rooms. Also, in the very real chance we need more than 20 rooms, I strongly suggest making your reservations well in advance of the May 15th deadline. All the hotels have a 72 hour, no-penalty cancellation clause. Ask for the "MMOC room-block reservations."



Monday, July 7, 2014: Comfort Inn and Suites, 40820 Sierra Drive, Three Rivers, Ca. 93271. 559 561 9000. \$99.00 Dbl. Queen, \$108.00 Sgl. King.

Tuesday, July 8, 2014: Best Western Plus Fresno Inn, 480 E. Shaw Ave., Fresno, Ca. 93710. 559 229 5811. \$84.00 all rooms.

Wednesday, July 9, 2014: Aladdin Motor Inn, 14260 Mono Way, Sonora, Ca. 95370. 209 533 4971. \$99.00 all rooms.

Continued on page 6

We are replenishing our stock of traffic safety materials for children. The coloring books and crayon sets were a huge success. Look for details in next months siren for new products available to your agency.

MMOC Traffic Safety Materials making a difference!



**Bike
Safety**



Continued from page 5

Thursday, July 10, 2014: Super 8 Meadow Wood Courtyard, 5851 S. Virginia St., Reno, 89502.

775 825 2940. \$49.99 all rooms. Note: Retired Sunnyvale DPS Lt. and longtime MMOC member Bill Weber is sponsoring a hosted poolside cocktail party and appx. \$10.00 buffet!

Friday, July 11, 2014: Best Western Shadow Inn, 584 N. East St., Woodland, Ca. 95776.

530 666 1251. \$80.00 single, \$83.00 double occupancy.

As is our custom, we're looking for two chase vehicles, one per group, with fuel costs partially defrayed by participant contributions at ride's end. And for those who crave advance knowledge of how and where, I'll have route and turn-by-turn map/GPS info in the next month or so.

I remain, Dennis M. Brown

hos6350@sbcglobal.net for questions, comments, BS or attendance information.



MUNICIPAL MOTORCYCLE OFFICERS OF CALIFORNIA PRESENTS



RAFFLE PRIZES
Music and Dancing

www.mmoc.org
For information
and updates!

THE ANNUAL CIOPPINO FEED

MARCH 8, 2014

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

\$45 per person includes:

Hosted cocktails, Cioppino, Chicken (by request), Pasta, Salad & Bread

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

Tickets payments must be postmarked by March 1, 2014

ONLY 150 PRE-SALE TICKETS – TICKETS WILL NOT BE SOLD AT THE DOOR

Make checks payable to **MMOC** and send to:

MMOC Cioppino Feed ~ PO Box 2422 ~ Aptos, CA 95003

Contact Rich Bailey for more information (408) 316-6114

Hotel Accommodations

Wyndam Garden Hotel

1355 North 4th Street ~ San Jose, CA

(408) 453-5340 or www.wyndham.com

RATE \$89.00+tax (Mention MMOC for group rate)

INCLUDES: 20% off Buffet breakfast & free shuttle to/from SJC Airport

Remove and return with payment

Name _____ Spouse/Guest _____

Department _____ Number attending _____

Please print clearly

(To reserve a table of 8 list names of your party on the back. Please write chicken next to name of person preferring chicken over cioppino.)

Telephone # _____ Email _____

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

Municipal Motorcycle Officers of California

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San Lorenzo, CA 94580
(707) 948-MMOC
www.mmoc.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

Cioppino Feed
March 8, 2014
San Jose, CA

Annual MMOC Ride
July 7-12, 2014

