



# The Siren



## PROGRESS IS UPON US.....

Gene Gray  
President  
*Pasadena P.D., LT., Retired*

Well here we are again but things have changed. This is the first of several newsletters that will **not** be mailed to the membership without a formal request, we currently have ten members requesting the mailing. As mentioned over the last six months members may access the newsletter by entering our web-site, [www.mmoc.org](http://www.mmoc.org), and scrolling down the home page to the newsletter section on the left. Our web-master, Doug Wayne, has also entered newsletters from months back if you missed any.

As previously explained this is to cut costs and will last for a period of time which is still undetermined. MMOC has lost all of its fundraising partners due to the economy and other outside pressures. Our organization does not actively solicit donations only advertising sales.

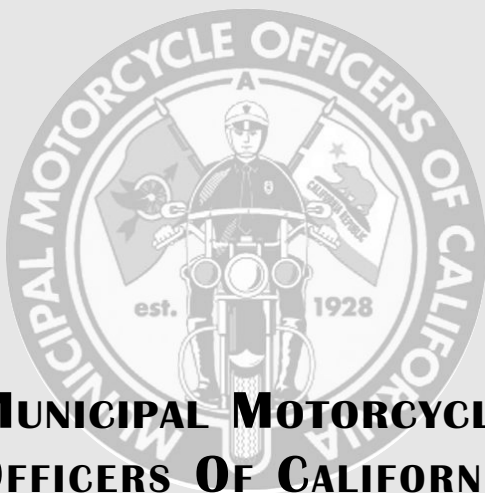
The future looks exciting with positive changes coming. We will be purchasing safety materials and safety products, examples; safety vests for the schools similar to the ones we donated through Rich Bailey and Kim Wirht several years ago, misc. safety literature including bicycle safety materials, and so on. Along with this we will send out a letter reintroducing MMOC to all entities within the 58 Counties of California. As the title reads "Progress is upon us."

Now the serious business our annual Convention held on the "Paradise" ship through Carnival Cruise lines. As of March 15th we have 27 cabins booked for this event, not counting those that opted to book on their own. For those who like putting things off until the last minute look out our cabin booking deadline is May 14, 2010, on that date all cabins go back to the going rate set by Carnival. All booked cabins must be paid in full by July 1, 2010 or the cabin will be canceled.

I would like to thank our Board of Directors and our Office Staff and membership for their valuable assistance through this trying period.

**Thank You** - the Prez.....





## **MUNICIPAL MOTORCYCLE OFFICERS OF CALIFORNIA**

**P.O. Box 9903  
Canoga Park, CA 91303-5576  
(818) 884-5576  
Fax: (818) 884-5485  
[www.mmoc.org](http://www.mmoc.org)**

### **2009 - 2010 OFFICERS**

President	<b>Gene Gray</b> Pasadena P. D. Lt., Retired
Vice-President	<b>Michael Rores</b> Alameda County Sheriff Sgt., Retired
Director	<b>Rich Bailey</b> San Jose P.D. Retired
Director	<b>J.J. Leonard</b> Los Angeles P.D. Retired
Director	<b>William N. Loveless</b> Calif. Highway Patrol Retired
Administrative Assistant	<b>Bruno Tonin</b> Los Angeles P.D. Sgt., Retired

## **THE CHIPPY.....**

William N. Loveless  
Director  
*CHP N. Sacramento, Retired*

Friends, that time of year again to talk to you about what's going on with the organization. Unfortunately not much. With the remodeling of the San Jose POA hall and the cancellation of the Cioppino Feed, we're not doing much. We are having the motorcycle ride in July which is lots of fun with friends and in September we have the Cruise which will be fun with friends, family, and members. Speaking of the Convention those of you who haven't signed up yet need to hurry up and get to it, July 1st is the deadline. The more the merrier. The travel agent Sandi Gray, (818) 553-3249, has a hotel that will give us a \$10.00 breakfast credit and a free shuttle to and from the ship, for those of you that drive down the night before, plus you can leave your car at the hotel.

Now for a more personal note. I haven't been a member of the MMOC for long and haven't met many of its members. But those I have met are not getting any younger. Like me, though I'm not quite ready for medi-care but I'm getting close. My grandmother passed last Aug. and I buried an Uncle three weeks ago. My point is I'm starting to feel my own mortality. I belong to the Patriot Guard Riders and go to a lot of Military funerals. Some of the veterans who passed were only in their 60's. Which doesn't make me feel good? I need to eat better and exercise more. A lot of my closest friends are in their 60's and 70's and a few in their 80's. Which means in the next 10 to 20 years I'll be going to a few more funerals? But for now I plan on socializing more with my friends, it will keep me off the street now that I'm retired. Most of my friends I only see once a month between Mar and Nov. on motorcycle rides. My family lives close and I see them often, sometimes too often, but hey they're family. I started last weekend with some friends who live in Murphys. A retired chippy who I worked with in Santa Ana. I went to Murphys and took him and his wife out for dinner. So everyone should call a relative and say hi if they live too far away to go see and get ahold of your friends more often. In today's electronic age it is easy. I have free long distance on my cell phone and now even I can e-mail. If someone is lonely even an e-mail is nice to get. Live long and prosper!



## OLD VS. NEW

Rich Bailey

Director

*San Jose P. D., Retired*

When I first became an MMOC member, it was 1985. I was working with Dick Tush, Dick Knell, Leroy Widman, Fred "Moon" Mullins, Bob Wirht, Tom Alexander, Dick Hunter, Dave Flory, Roger Malcolm, and others. All MMOC members! When I went through motor training, one of the "Rights of Passage" was to become a member of the Municipal Motorcycle Officers of California; which meant that you had joined an elite fraternity of motor officers throughout California who shared the knowledge and training unique to those of us who went through this type of program.

If you weren't a member of MMOC, you just weren't considered "one of the boys." It was serious enough to warrant MMOC reps to host "Recruitment BBQ's" on Graduation Day outside of the academies statewide. MMOC was there to congratulate and welcome new motor officers into the association. MMOC was very much alive with their annual conventions, the Cioppino Feeds, BBQ's, Santa Cruz Day at the Bay and the L. A. Christmas parties. We cheered on the various teams of motor officers who trained with the blessing of their respective departments to compete in the annual Pacific Grove Police Motorcycle Competition. Most of my off duty motorcycle rides were with MMOC members. We rode Hondas, Harleys, Kawasaki's and anything else that had two wheels.

During the past 20 years, it seems that today's motor officer has evolved into a disinterested bystander. In the past, you joined the police department; you became a motor officer for life. It was your profession and you could stay with motors until retirement. Today, departments have changed their policies and procedures requiring mandatory rotation after several years. Heck, back then, you could deduct your MMOC dues from your paycheck! Today's cop views his job as just that, a job, not a profession. Very few cops are committed to the full thirty years; they move on to other departments and other professions, following promotion and more lucrative fields. It just seems to me that this is at the crux of why there doesn't seem to be the camaraderie and bonding of fellow motor officers as was the case in the past. Like many other police departments, including San Jose Police Department, there is no longer a riding motor officer who can boast his/her membership to MMOC. Why? The attitude of

these motor cops is "What's in it for me?" They look for a hard benefit. They also say they live too far away and don't have time to be involved. They miss the most valuable benefit of all, friends and camaraderie. The sharing of stories and the excitement of those chases and the knowledge and experience of being one of the most elite group of professional motorcycle riders.

I ask you, the core members, "What can we do to convince this new breed of motor cop to WANT to join MMOC? What more can we tell them? What more can say? What more can we do to restore the attraction and need for MMOC in the lives of our motor officers like it was many years ago?

Something to think about..."

### **\*\* MMOC BILLBOARD \*\***

#### **NORTHERN M/C RIDE**

*Wine Country Tour*

July 6<sup>th</sup> thru 9<sup>th</sup>, 2010

Contact: **Dennis Brown**

hos6350@sbcglobal.net

#### **2010 ANNUAL CONVENTION**

Sept. 13<sup>th</sup> thru 17<sup>th</sup>

Carnival Cruise Lines

*presents*

**MMOC'S 82nd Convention**

Thru: Montrose Travel

Contact: **Sandi Gray**

(818) 553-3249

sgray@montrosetravel.com

see flyer enclosed

or view: **www.mmoc.org**

**Book Now – Everyone Invited!!**

\*\*\*\*\*

*Cabins must be booked no*

*Later than May 14<sup>th</sup>*

*Paid in full by July 1<sup>st</sup>*

# RIDING SAFE

Mike Rores

Vice-President

*Alameda County Sheriff's Office*

*Sergeant, Retired*

Well, Spring is here and the holidays are just a memory. I'm sure everyone is looking forward to the new riding season.

This year the July ride will be in the Napa wine country, and Dennis Brown has mapped out what looks to be a great ride. The routes and mileage will be shorter than past rides, but that just gives us more time at poolside! So be sure to call and make your reservations. The more the merrier! To ensure that we keep the rubber side down and keep our riding skills up, here is the third in a series of riding tips.

## **1. Leave your ego at home:**

The only people who really care if you were faster on the freeway will be the officer and the judge.

## **2. Beware of cars running traffic lights:**

The first few seconds after a signal light changes are the most perilous. Look both ways before barging into an intersection.

## **3. Left-turning cars remain a leading killer of motorcyclists:**

Don't assume someone will wait for you to dart through the intersection. They're trying to beat the light, too.

## **4. Don't troll next to -- or right behind --Mr. Peterbilt:**

If one of those 18 retreads blows up--which they do with some regularity--it de treads, and that can be ugly. Unless you like dodging huge chunks of flying rubber, keep your distance.

## **5. Mind the gap:**

Remember Driver's Ed? One second's worth of distance per 10 mph is the old rule of thumb, especially when riding in a group. Better still, scan the next 12 seconds ahead for potential trouble.

## **6. Excessive entrance speed hurts:**

It's the leading cause of single-bike accidents on twisty roads and racetracks. In Slow, Out Fast is the old adage, and it still works. Dialing up corner speed is safer than scrubbing it off.

## **7. Use both brakes:**

The front does most of your stopping, but a little rear brake on corner entry can calm a nervous chassis.

## **8. Keep your eyes moving:**

Traffic is always shifting, so keep scanning for potential trouble. Don't lock your eyes on any one thing for too long unless you're actually dealing with trouble.

## **9. Get your mind right in the driveway:**

Most accidents happen during the first 15 minutes of a ride, below 40 mph, near an intersection or driveway. Yes, that could be your driveway.

## **10. Stay in your comfort zone when you're with a group:**

Riding over your head is a good way to end up in the ditch. Any bunch worth riding with will have a rendezvous point where you'll be able to link up again.

If we all keep these riding tips in mind and practice them on a regular basis, we can hopefully tip the odds in our favor and keep from becoming statistics. Hope to see many of you on the July ride. In the meantime, be safe!



# 2010 Annual Convention



*Carnival Cruise Lines  
presents  
The Cruise of a Lifetime  
\*\*\*\*\**

*Monday, September 13th thru Friday, September 17th*

*\*\* Reserve your Cabins \*\*  
Deadline May 14, 2010  
Call or E-Mail*

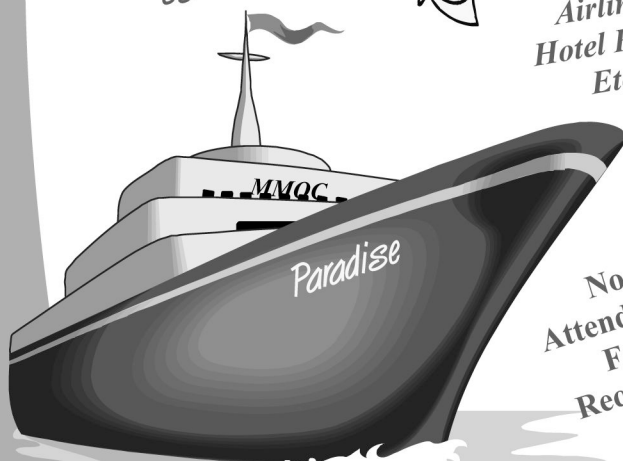
*Sandi Gray  
Montrose Travel  
(818) 553-3249  
sgray@montrosetravel.com*

*Depart from Long Beach  
Monday 4:30 pm  
To San Diego  
Then to Catalina  
and finally Ensenada  
Returning to Long Beach  
Friday afternoon*



*PASSPORT  
A MUST*

*\*\* Also available \*\*  
Rental Cars  
Airline Tickets,  
Hotel Reservations,  
Etc! Etc!*



*No  
Attendance  
Fee  
Required*

*\*\* MMOC Cost for the Week\*\*  
Ocean View Cabin —\$291.70 PP  
Inside Cabin—\$261.70 PP  
Suites—\$631.00 PP  
& \$731.00 PP*

*Cabin costs listed are  
per -person and include  
All Port Taxes and Fees  
(Does not include Gratuities)*



**\*\*\*\*\* OFFICE OF DIRECTOR \*\*\*\*\***

ACTIVE members of any MMOC Law Enforcement AGENCY may be nominated by ACTIVE members, to run for the office of DIRECTOR. Eligibility: ACTIVE MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING. If more than one member is nominated from any one agency, then a PRIMARY ELECTION for that agency must be held in AUGUST to determine the candidate who will run for office in the GENERAL ELECTION in September.

A DIRECTOR must be interested in the policies of MMOC particularly the generating of new Active, Associate, and Honorary members. The candidate must have some knowledge of ways to generate operating capital and additional funds.

The term of office is TWO (2) YEARS. It is not all fun and games. A candidate must have diplomacy, tact, and dedication to MMOC, public relations understanding and the attendance at MMOC functions. It will take up a great deal of time for the next two years. There are usually ten (10) weekends which a DIRECTOR is required to attend Board Meetings and be available for the planning and working of MMOC functions.



----- (fold & cut) -----

**NOMINATION BLANK – DIRECTOR**

I accept the above nomination, hereby certifying that I am an ACTIVE member, in good standing, of the Municipal Motorcycle Officers of California.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

This form must be filled in completely and returned to the Corporate office no later than June 10th.

**M.M.O.C.**

P.O. Box 9903

Canoga Park, CA. 91309-9903

NOTE: *NOMINEE should submit a brief resume with a black and white 5x7 photo before June 10th for publication in the July 1st quarterly newsletter. Both photo and resume may be submitted on disc.*

## ❧ MATT GREB RIDES INTO THE SUNSET



On December 23, 2009, 6'3" 180 lb. Matt "Flyrod" Greb capped his 29-year career at the Oakland Police Department, and as Chief Instructor of Motors, led his final rookie class on their 200-mile, fog-shrouded graduation ride to the Union Hotel in Occidental. About 50 of us former and current leather gods joined in the festivities at the luncheon to celebrate his colorful and rewarding career.

Matt was trained in 1985 by 3 tenured Motor legends: Rich Cademartori, Greg Loscher and Garrett Kyle; and in 1989, became one of the original 9 members (later increased to 16 in 1990) in our newly reinstated Drill Team. Their inaugural performance that year during the Pacific Grove Motor Competition was truly an inspiration to many of us old salts, as OPD's previous Drill Team founded in 1948, was disbanded February 14, 1962 due to monetary constraints by then Chief Ed Toothman.

Flyrod became an Instructor in 1992 and in '97 took over for Cademartori who service retired, sharing the Chief Instructor reigns with Doug Wayne, who himself is one hell-of-a-rider! Somehow Flyrod also found time to lead

the drill team for several years and design thrilling routines that were immense crowd pleasers.

In retirement, little grass will grow under Matt's feet as he continues to be an avid motorcyclist and has toured most of the U.S. for the last 2 decades, many miles shared with fellow MMOC brethren.

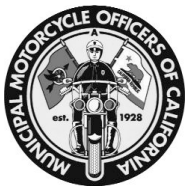
*Congratulations Flyrod and see you on the road!*

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### MMOC'S VOLUNTEER STAFF

Executive Ride Director	<b>Dennis Brown</b> Oakland P. D. Retired
Quartermaster	<b>Cliff Heanes</b> Oakland P. D. Retired
Webmaster	<b>Doug Wayne</b> Oakland P. D. Sgt., Retired





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**Municipal Motorcycle  
Officers of California**

Post Office Box 9903  
Canoga Park, CA 91309-9903  
(818) 884-5576  
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED