



The Siren

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION
OF THE MUNICIPAL MOTORCYCLE OFFICERS OF CALIFORNIA
JANUARY 2019

From the Sofa of The President

Doug Wayne - OPD - Retired

First order of business is the annual Cioppino Feed. Folks, it's that time again. We are only TWO months away from this great event which we have held for so many years. As of this writing we have twenty(20) people signed up for the feed. It is imperative that we get those numbers up, significantly!

This year I am pleased to announce we have comedian/magician Brad Bonar. Brad is a double threat. One of the most talented magicians in the country, he is also a very funny stand-up comedian. He is going to put on a great show for us right after dinner. This will be a must see!

We will have our usual raffle with over twenty very nice prizes, including a Fire Tablet, Amazon Echo Dots, items for your home, portable gun safes, and much more. REMEMBER, you can't win if you don't attend.



At the end of the raffle it'll be time to kick-up your heels and dance to the stylings of DJ Rynell Williams. He has thousands of musical selections and loves to have you give him your requests. There's no question why Rynell has been staple of our annual cioppino feeds.



REMEMBER, you can't request your favorite song if you don't attend. See the flyer later in this issue for details. I hope to SEE YOU THERE!!!!!!

2018 CONVENTION RECAP - From the President

I would like to thank all of this year's attendees for making the 89th Annual Convention a very memorable event! Some traveled from Southern California (Gene Gray & Nancy Todd) while others came from as far away as Oregon (Steve & Irene Armbruster) and Arizona (Baron & Kathy Laetzsch). The Flamingo Conference and Spa Resort was the perfect setting for our convention. Although MMOC held four previous conventions at this location, this one was my first at this resort.

Recently modernized, the Flamingo has an "old school" feel to it with each housing section within its own wing. Most of us occupied the 300 wing. At the beginning of each wing are the two suites, which we used for our hospitality rooms. They have sliding glass doors which lead out to private patios and then to the very large pool area. There were times we may have been a bit loud (for senior citizens) but since we owned the entire wing, we were good to go. I myself, since this was a dog-friendly hotel, was put in a different wing, but the accommodations could not have been better, as evidenced by "Rocky" hanging out in the hospitality room, receiving all the attention he could handle. This really was an ideal hotel to hold our 89th Annual Convention.

As for the convention's events, fifteen of us enjoyed **Sunday** night's Past-President's diner under the stars at the hotel's Terrace Grill. Their "House-Made Meatloaf" seemed to be the choice of many, although I'd have to admit, I felt the dish's name was a bit strange because I thought most all restaurant food is ***made in "House"***. After dinner it was off to the hospitality room for many of us. On **Monday**, everyone registered and received their "goodie-bags". I'd be remiss if I didn't thank my wife, Cathy, for putting those together. I put her on a tight budget and she delivered. Next was the general membership meeting where we went over many issues. The issue receiving the most comments was the discussion of our annual convention and whether we should reduce the convention from three days to two days. The reason for the discussion was it has become increasingly more difficult to find locales that offer an affordable excursion on our "free" day, typically a Tuesday. You can only do so many wine tours before you have to find something else to do. A vote was taken and we agreed that we will keep the three day convention, aware of the fact that there may not be an organized MMOC function on that "free" day. Meeting adjourned, it was off to the hospitality room for many. **Tuesday** was the much anticipated ***Ferrari-Carano Winery Tour***. Unfortunately, I was not able to attend due to the funeral of a retired Oakland P.D. motor sergeant. I was told, by Dennis Brown, that it was a special, one-of-a-kind, tour which was magnificent. (Please read Dennis Brown's wine tour recap on pages (6 - 9). Enroute back to

the hotel the group stopped at the Dry Creek General Store and Deli for a nice lunch. Our group was nice enough to bring back leftover sandwiches to the hospitality room for those of us who missed the tour. And of course, upon being dropped off at the hotel, and getting a very quick nap, many made their way back to the hospitality room. (You see a pattern here?) Everyone had a free morning and afternoon on **Wednesday**. The President's Ball was a special occasion. As I had written about in prior Siren issues Denis Brown was retiring as



MMOC's Executive Ride Director after coordinating rides for the past twenty-five years. I put together a short Power Point presentation showing some of Dennis' finer moments during those rides. Of course I took the liberty to add a few comments on most of the slides. There were quite a few laughs directed at Dennis, which were certainly well deserved. We gave him very appropriate coffee mug and a one-of-a-kind MMOC plaque. But, as much as we wanted to have fun with Dennis, we also wanted to recognize his MUCH better half,

Rhoda, for all her behind-the-scenes work for the past twenty-five years, helping organize and handling the logistics on the rides. She was there for all of them and we could not have been more appreciative of everything Rhoda did for us. It was my honor to present her with a nice gift at the dinner. After the presentations, we held the raffle, and everyone won a prize, with the exception of a few of us not eligible (per the by-laws). The big winner was Dan Armtrout, who not only won the cash drawing and the Lofthouse Fund drawing (free 2019 convention fees) at Monday's General Meeting. but he also won the grand prize 85" HD TV, that was switched by someone and replaced with a 32" TV. Hey, it was still a TV! We finished off the night with a lot of dancing, led by DJ Rynell Williams. I haven't seen that many people on the dance floor at one of our conventions in a long time. It was nice to see!



Next year's convention will be at the Embassy Suites in La Quinta. We've arranged for some great rates! We'd really like to see more SoCal faces this year. See the Convention flyer later in this issue for hotel & registration information.

2019 MMOC Events

9 March 19 – Annual Cioppino Feed – San Jose POA Hall

It's that time again. The annual Cioppino Feed, with a hosted bar, raffle, music and dancing!

*** New for this year is comedian/magician Brad Bonar. Brad is a double threat. One of the most talented magicians in the country, he is also a very funny stand-up comedian. He is going to put on a great show for us right after dinner. This will be a must see! Cioppino registration and hotel information can be found on the flyer in this issue or by going to www.mmoc.org.

7 – 13 July 19 – The 26th Annual Motorcycle Ride Destination SoCal & Big Bear Mountain.

Folks, this is Director Ed Pressnell's first attempt at taking the reins from Dennis Brown who "retired" as MMOC's Ride Director. Ed has put together a great ride, which will include touring the Ronald Regan Presidential Library. We are going to try something a bit different this year. This year you will have the opportunity to choose your ride groups and the times you want to depart each day from the hotels. There will not be long riding formations. If that appeals to your riding style let's show support for Ed and sign-up for the ride. For more information please see Ed's article on pages 10—12.

9 - 12 Sept 19 - 90th Annual Convention – La Quinta

Last year's attendee numbers were small, but we had a great time! I encourage all of you to check out this year's convention at the Embassy Suites La Quinta Hotel & Spa. You can't beat the accommodations and the low cost. Oh, and don't forget your swim suits. It should be warm!

Please see the flyer on the last page of this issue for more information and registration details or you can go to our website www.mmoc.org to register.

MUNICIPAL MOTORCYCLE OFFICERS OF CALIFORNIA PRESENTS

THE ANNUAL CIOPPINO FEED



SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 2019

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



\$48 per person includes:

**Hosted cocktails, Cioppino, Chicken (by request), Pasta, Salad, Bread
and Nicosia's Famous Sausage**

**Added Bonus: Comedian/Magician Mr. Brad Bonar Jr, will entertain us after dinner!!!
Dancing with music provided by DJ RYNELL WILLIAMS!**

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

**Make checks payable to MMOC Cioppino Feed and send to:
MMOC Cioppino Feed ~ 208 S. Barranca Ave, #8, Glendora, CA. 91741**

Ticket payments must be postmarked by March 1, 2019

Register online at www.mmoc.org

TICKETS WILL NOT BE SOLD AT THE DOOR

Hotel Accommodations

Holiday Inn

1350 N. 1st Street, San Jose, CA (888) 465-4329

(Mention MMOC for group rate) or online at www.holidayinn.com/sanjosesvca

(Group code: MMC2019) (Group rate good only thru 02/06/19)

RATE \$109.00 + tax (\$13 parking fee, per day)

INCLUDES shuttle to/from SJC Airport

Please complete this section and return with your payment (Please Print Clearly)

Name _____ Spouse/Guest _____

Department _____ Number attending _____

(To reserve a FULL "Table of 8", list names of your party below or on the back.

Telephone # _____ Email _____

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

*If requesting CHICKEN (In lieu of Cioppino) please indicate CHICKEN next to the requestor's name.

MMOC's tour of Ferrari-Carano Winery and Vineyards,

The Circuitous Long-Winded Version

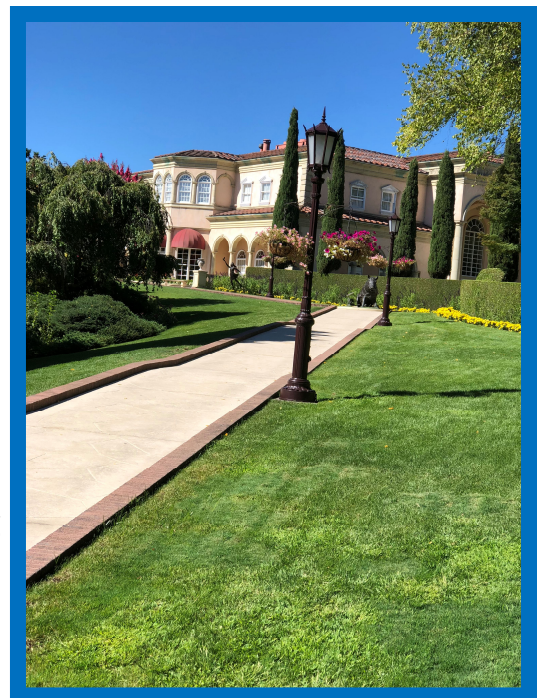
If the Municipal Motorcycle Officers of California has any one strong suit, it is unequivocally the camaraderie of Law Enforcement Officers throughout the state blessed with the mission of riding a Motor for a living. Moreover, geographic and political boundaries of this 164,000 square mile state disappear with the sight of our winged-wheel logo patch.

So it was, in early 1981, the phone rang at home and I unwittingly answered it. "Dennis Brown?" Yes. "Thomas here, Keith Thomas, Santa Rosa Motors." Yeah? Over the course of the next 5 minutes this George Raft, super-slick-Dick wannabe grilled me like a Swiss cheese sandwich: "You going to the MMOC Convention in Sacramento?" Yeah. "I hear you're going by yourself." Yeah, if you knew that, why'd you ask me if I was going? "You looking for a roommate?" Not necessarily, why? "I'm going solo and we could save some bucks doubling up." You got a penchant for little boys or farm animals? "What!?" If the answer is no, consider it done. I'll change my room to double queens on the ground floor. Click!

What I conveniently forgot to tell Super Cop, my new country bumpkin friend, was my, now our room, was the Oakland Police Department hospitality room and there may be 100 or so liquid-Louie's keeping us company nightly. If the noise doesn't keep you up, surely Shirley the fumes will. Dare I say Keith was in shock the day he checked into the hotel and followed the noise to *our* room!

Fast forward nearly 4 decades and it was now my turn to ask for a favor. Would he reply in like kind? Ya know, paybacks can be a bitch, so please read on!

For 2018, the Board of Directors were desirous of a Northern California convention so I volunteered to visit sites and give them recommendations. Santa Rosa and Healdsburg were ideal for ambience, airport access and lodging facilities; after a couple weeks of research, Santa Rosa emerged #1 for value and quality, surrounding activities and amenities.



One more item: perhaps a wine tasting tour on our open day of the convention; couldn't be too difficult to coordinate, right? Emphatically wrong!

San Francisco's Northern Bay Area has more than 400 *major* wineries interspersed throughout just 4 adjacent counties. Mostly remote establishments, it would be far better to assuage our imbibing attendee's anxiety and hire a tour bus for 4 or more hours rather than ask them to play follow the leader on unfamiliar serpentine country roads.

After a month of calls to dozens of major wineries in *relatively* close proximity to our Flamingo Hotel, shell-shock set in.

We realize the days of free tasting are long gone and we accept one, two or perhaps three couples arriving simultaneously can expect per person (PP) fees of \$25.00 to \$50.00 dependent on ambiance, finger food/cheese pairings, the number of pours and other infinite criteria. However, a recent "trend" of this very lucrative tourism industry is, with the mere mention of a tour bus or 6 or more people in a limo, tasting fees rise exponentially, from the aforementioned prices to \$175.00 or *far* higher PP, without edibles. Do you want a meal from most establishment's very restricted menus? The sky's the limit. And, without reservations, fugetabowdit! Did I mention those fees would doubtfully include a tour of the winery but usually guarantees group seating in a restricted area more suited to a leper colony and then 2 to 3 bottles of vino per 8 to 10 people to "sample" at will? Your "Certified Tourism Ambassador", if not a sommelier, will point out nose aromas, proper food pairings and in general the misgivings you and I have because we're not appropriate wine aficionados.

In a quandary and in need of help, I asked my own self, *Self*, is it time to cede to Thomas and hope in senility he forgot my immature ploy of decades ago? The mind and memory are a precious thing to lose, and so, within seconds of my call, Keith blurted out "sure, I've got just the right guy at Ferrari-Carano Winery."

If that name sounds familiar, attentive readers will recall our 2010, 17th Annual MMOC Ride, "*The Wine Country Tour*." Central to that excursion was riding more than 300 miles of convoluted Northern California backroads bisecting hundreds of pastoral vineyards, then over 150 miles of coastline, south from close to the Oregon border back to Fort Ross in Northern California and along the way visiting





lighthouses, some decommissioned, some still navigation mediums today. We would then venture inland for about 150 miles, eventually to our terminus at Woodland.

Our largest group ever, we had more than 40 riders on that epic journey and to this day I still get hate mail from a few participants bemoaning the 35 mile section of Stewarts Point-Skaggs Springs Road inland from the coast

near Fort Ross State Park that undulates over two mountain peaks. Sonoma County maintained road, it is barely a lane and one half wide and more aptly described as a pothole infested goat path which eventually becomes pristine Dry Creek Road at Lake Sonoma before heading the final 35 or so miles into Healdsburg at US-101. Best of all, Ferrari-Carano Winery is very near the confluence of the two “roads” by the lake and on that eventful day more than 8 years ago I promised the aggrieved snivelers we would stop at the winery’s spectacular and pastoral grounds to seek respite for their aching posteriors and heat of the day. Perhaps such a visit would bring me once again into good stead? And hero status? Don’t push it!

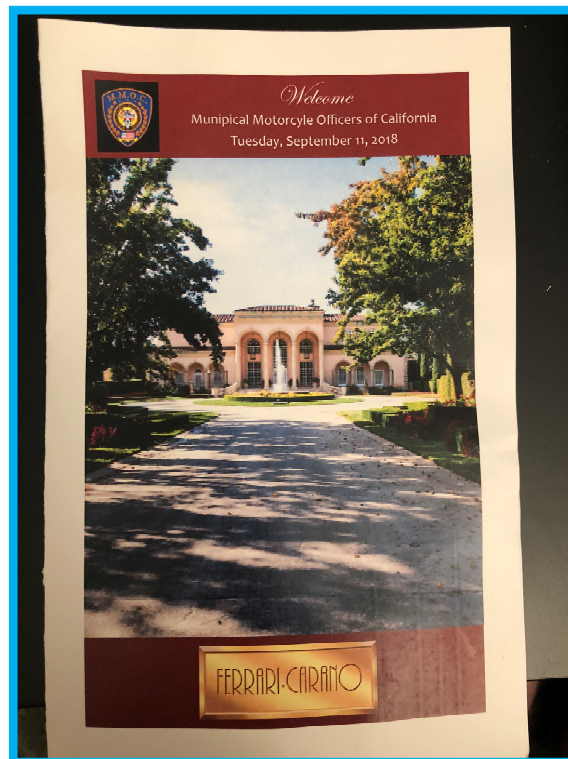
Back to present day and our 89th Annual Convention; I was introduced to Patrick Mukaida, Director of Hospitality for Ferrari-Carano. Patrick set us up with a private personal tour on Tuesday, September 11th after Pure Luxury Transportation delivered our 22 tasters to the incomparable oasis. Quite simply, the 5 acres of lavishly appointed grounds surrounding Don and Rhonda Carano’s estate-house and fronting the spectacular wine tasting and sales rooms are exquisite, her masterful botanical vision created in 1981, with the founding of their winery. Mere words and photographs cannot accurately capture the stunning and immaculately maintained pathways that meander throughout the domain gardens. Sixty acres of varietals on-site in the scenic valley below are bolstered by their 24 other vineyard ranches in Sonoma, Napa and Mendocino Counties totaling more than 1900 acres, although all processing is done here at the Dry Creek Road facility.

Our star-struck group, led by Patrick Mukaida, His Own Self, toured the entire facility including Ferrari-Carano’s state-of-the-art-processing and bottling plant. Designed to artfully blend in with other on-site buildings décor, we male tourists were all jealous of, and wished we had

stock in, the company that manufactures their stainless steel tanks, hoppers, vats, stairs, etc., etc., etc. Simply said, sanitary, pristine eye-candy elegance and cubic money! A short walk away, more eye candy for the ladies, too. In one of the massive underground caverns we explored, a cask room nearly the size of a football field contained millions of dollars of imported oak barrels fermenting untold liquid wealth within the temperature and humidity controlled confines. Inside this musky barrel room Mukaida had set up an exquisite pour of 7 to 8 varietals and a chocolatey dessert wine treasure for our participants to savor. Patrick's 25 years at the helm shone bright and clear. With explanations of pairings and bouquets geared to my gasoline and burnt oil senses and mentality, I was pacified; the women somehow were in 7th heaven, too, with probing questions and expressions of contentment between slurps. Go figure. After more than 2 hours of touring, tasting and talking it was time to bid adieu to our truly fantastic and educational host. We paid almost nothing for the phenomenal and genuinely informative tour, then gladly paid dearly at the cash register as the wives stocked up on vinos for our home wine racks.

So there you have it folks, in *one million* words or less, Past President Keith Thomas came through once again, although I question why, and current President Doug Wayne has my *brief* recap of our excellent adventure. Now you do, too!

Dennis M. Brown, His Own Self



26th Annual Ride – A New Beginning

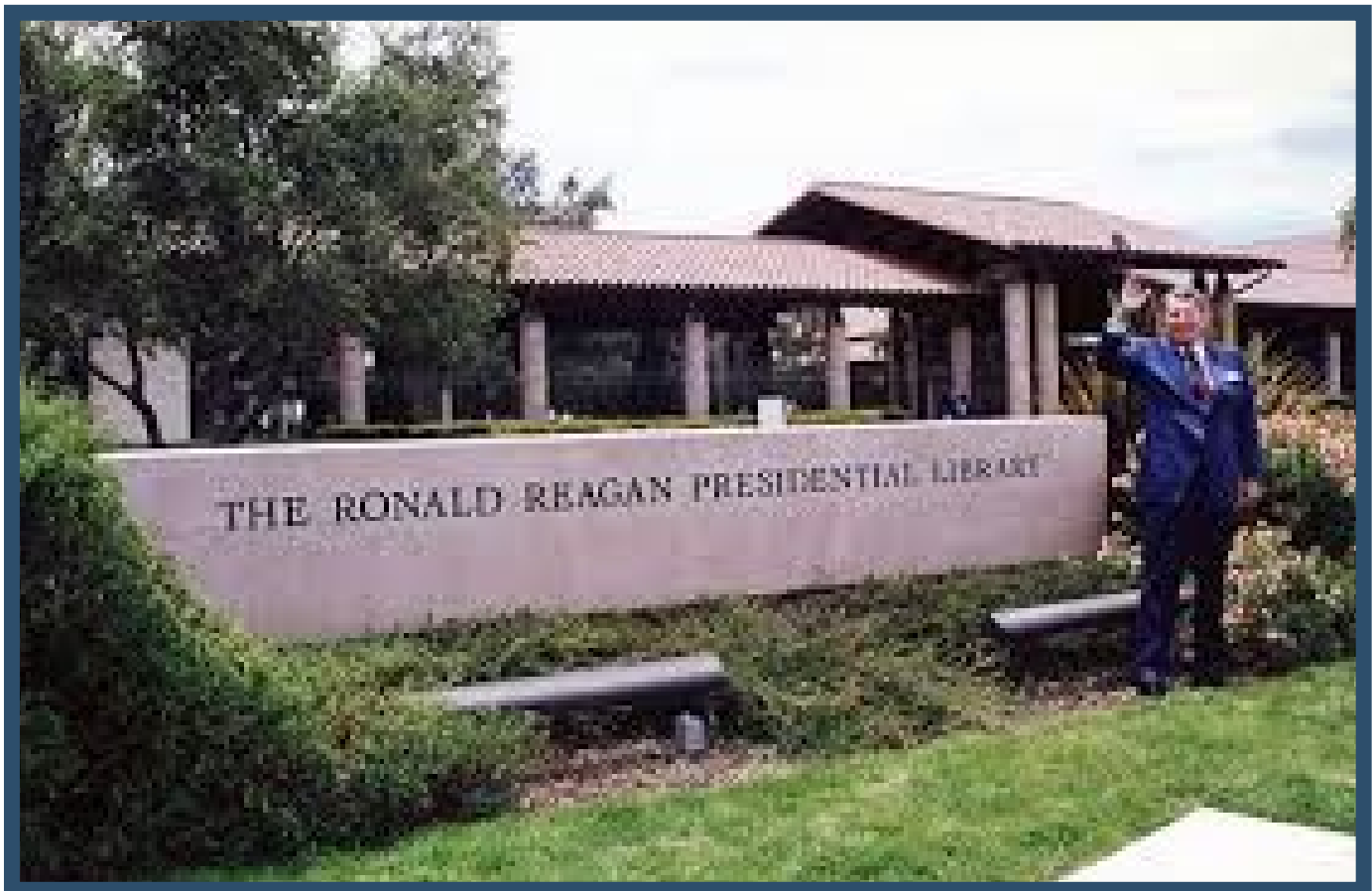
Edward Pressnell – Director

Retired Police Officer

Oakland Police Department

As many of you know, last year's ride to Mt. Rainier was Dennis Brown's last as MMOC's Ride Director. He will continue to ride but his planning days are over and as such I volunteered to take a shot at it. This will be my first year planning the MMOC ride. Doug Wayne and I have put together a great route, including highways 33, 166, 2 and Big Bear Mountain. Of course, I ran it by Dennis who gave it his blessing. As many of you have requested, we will make a stop at the Reagan Library in Simi Valley. We will spend an entire day in Simi Valley, visiting The Reagan Library and relaxing by the pool. We will be staying at the Best Western Posada Inn less than 3 miles from the Museum. (Big pool and bar).

We will try to make this year's trip a little different than the other years. The format will be more like a rally. You will have the planned route for each day, giving you the option to leave at anytime with your chosen group. Along the route we will have a designated place to meet up for lunch, time permitting.



I have reserved 15 rooms at each hotel. Make sure to mention Municipal Motorcycle Officers of California (or MMOC) when making reservations. A word of caution to **PROCRASTINATORS**: a couple establishments will only guarantee room availability up to 30 days out with a credit card transaction. Make your reservations early!

Sunday, July 7, 2019: Meet and greet

Best Western Plus Forest Park Inn, 375 Leavesley Road, Gilroy, CA. 95020,
(408) 848-5144
Room rate \$129.00 Book by 6/7/2019 for preferred rate
24-hour cancellation prior to arrival

Monday, July 8, 2019

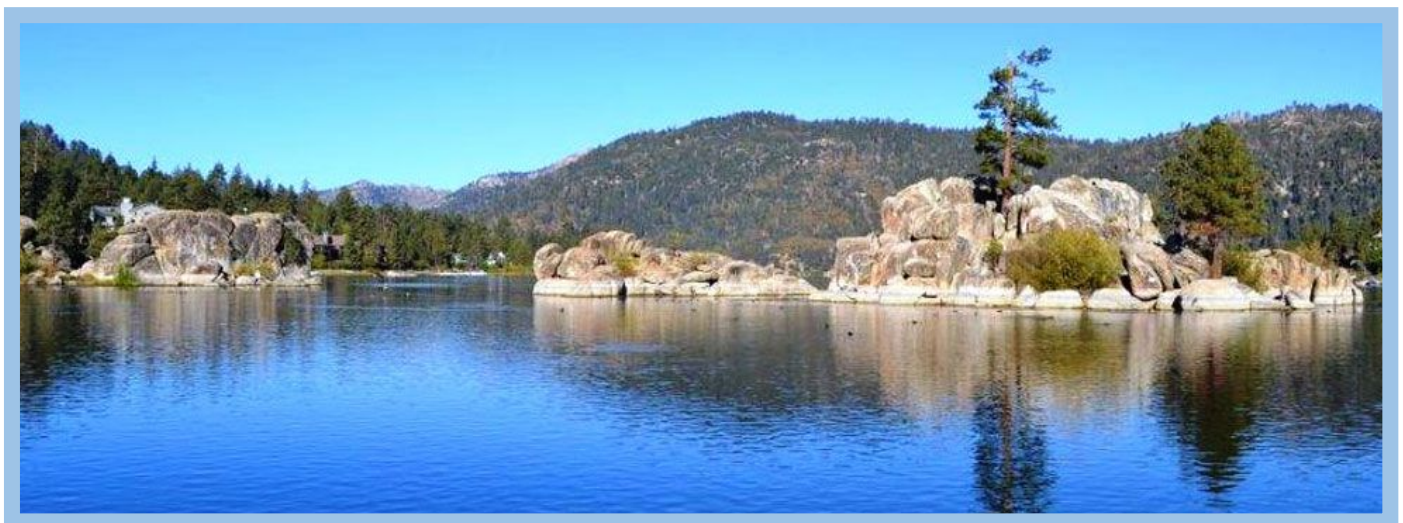
SpringHill Suites by Marriott Paso Robles Atascadero, 900 El Camino Real, Atascadero, CA. 93422
(805) 462-3500
Room rate \$129.00 Book by 6/4/2019 for preferred rate
72-hour cancellation prior to arrival.

Tuesday and Wednesday 9-10 July 2019 (2 nights)

Best Western Posada Royale Hotel 1775 W. Madera Rd Simi Valley Ca.
(805) 584-6300 \$139.00 for a deluxe room, \$159.00 for an executive room. Book by 6/4/2019 for preferred rate.
24-hour cancellation prior to arrival

Thursday and Friday 11-12 2019 (2 nights)

Hilton Garden Inn Victorville 12603 Mariposa Rd. Victorville Ca. 92395
(760) 952-1200
Room rate \$105.00
Use MMOC 18 for the preferred room rate. Must be booked by 6/4/2019



If you have any questions, ask them; please confirm your attendance by either sending an email to me at deweys76@aol.com or calling me at (510) 301-1804. I will forward the initial detailed routes, gas and food waypoints in Feb/March 2019. Should there be updates I'll keep you posted via email.

With the noted exception above, gas up at each day's end and as always, prepare your bike for the long haul. (especially tires and battery) The weather should be warm and probably no need for rain gear, but that decision is ultimately yours to make.

As always, Rhoda and I hope to see you on this historic ride. Inizio!

Dewey Pressnell Touring Understudy Ride Director.



2018 Staff

President - Doug Wayne

Vice President - Larry Hodson

Director - Ed "Dewey" Pressnell

Treasurer - Gene Gray

Secretary - Rhoda Nishiyama

Siren Editor - Larry Hodson

Quartermaster - Cliff Heanes

Webmaster - Doug Wayne

Membership – Doug Wayne

Ride Director - Open

Humor Corner

"Curse"

An old man goes to the Wizard to ask him if he can remove a "Curse" he has been living with for the last 40 years.

The Wizard says "maybe, but you have to tell me the exact words that were used to put the curse on you."

The old man says without hesitation, "'I now pronounce you man and wife'".

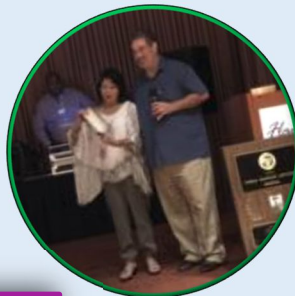
2018 Cioppino Feed



2018 Annual Ride



2018 Annual Convention



Municipal Motorcycle Officers of California
90th Annual Convention
September 9 - 12, 2019



Embassy Suites La Quinta Hotel & Spa
50-777 Santa Rosa Plaza
La Quinta, California, 92253



ROOMS

All Suites - \$110.00 + tax

Hotel Registration

(Deadline is 1 Aug 2019)

Register by Phone – (760) 777-1711– Reference “Municipal Motorcycle Officers of California”

Register Online by simply clicking [Here](#)

****Embassy Suites La Quinta is 30 miles from Palm Springs Intl. Airport – [Click here for more info.](#)**

Convention Itinerary

Monday - Registration 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm - Luncheon 1:00 pm - Annual Membership meeting 2:00 pm

Tuesday – Free day

Wednesday – President’s Ball

Thursday – Checkout

MMOC REGISTRATION (Remove and Return with Payment)
(Please Print)

Name _____ Spouse/Guest _____ Department _____

Phone _____ Email _____ Amount Enclosed _____

OR Register online @ www.mmoc.org using PayPal

Registration deadline is 1 Aug 2019. If you have questions please contact us at - 2019convention@mmoc.org

Attendance Fee \$110.00 Per Person – Payable to MMOC – Mail to 208 S. Barranca Ave, #8, Glendora, CA. 91741