



Affiliation No. 72

## OAKLAND MOTORCYCLE CLUB, INC.

ORGANIZED 1907

1116 - 36TH STREET  
OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

5/27/77

The Oakland Motorcycle was formed at the encouragement of the motorcycle dealers in the area that wanted to organize runs and tours for their friends. This was in the spring or early summer of 1907. There are few records or pictures prior to 1912. Most of the early pictures are enlargements that are well faded with age and not really fit for duplication. The earliest club by-laws are 1923. In 1916 club dues were 50¢ a month. The club has always met once a week except during the depression and WW II when the membership was down and they met twice a month. Dues now are \$3.00 per month. Our oldest living member is now in his 80's and joined the club in 1918. At the present time we have an active riding member who participates regularly with the club who just turned 70. he joined the club in 1932. This man keeps up with us on a 350 SL Honda. Our youngest member is 16.

The oldest club participation trophy in our possession was won in July 1914. The club officially joined the American Motorcycle Assoc. in 1933 after a rare visit to the West Coast by E. C. Smith, the long time president of the A.M.A. We hold charter #72. The womens auxiliary was formed in 1934.

During the depression when things were tight for everyone one member paid the bills and so forth until such time that the membership could repay him.

A well known event in Northern Calif. was the Lost Mines Enduro run for the first time in January 1938. The permanent trophy for this event was won for the third time by Windy Lindstrom, a national hill climb champion and member of O.M.C. who holds A.M.A. # 100. In the early 30's the members would start with chains on their front and rear tires even in the city so that they would be ready for the mud after the few brief miles it took to reach the hills of Oakland and the open country with few paved roads.

In the summer of 1932 the OMC in competition with the opening of the Oakland Speed Way and a 1 mile national championship auto race, sponsored a championship hill climb that drew between 4 & 5 thousand people.

During WW II the few club members available took police training and participated in the Civil Defense in the area.

Since the early 50's the club has participated in many of the charities such as the Heart Fund, March of Dimes, etc. In 1964 we sponsored one of the first benefit scrambles races for Cerebral Palsy. Presently we are very much involved with the Hemophilia Foundation in co-operation with the American Motorcyclist Association. Last year we contributed \$4040. Plans are already underway for an even bigger event for 1977.

As with any motorcycle club, membership has fluctuated up and down over the years, however we have gained steadily for the last several years to where we now have more than 90 active members besides the old timers and life members. There were over 300 people at our 21st annual reunion banquet this past February.

In 1976 the club finished 9th nationally in AMA competition and #1 in District 36, Northern Calif. The club rode a total of 141,215 aggregate miles on AMA sanctioned events to achieve this. On one poker run we had 56 motorcycles participate.

We sponsor a Road Rally for street riders and a National Enduro for dirt riders. Enclosed is a black and white picture of the overnight camp for this years Road Rally. The JackHammer Enduro has always drawn a full complement of 750 entries including national manufacturers team entries.

We have been in our present club hall since 1937, but we are now in the process of acquiring a new location.

Enclosed: One picture of OMC in 1937, One picture of our 70 year old member, Art Sullivan in 1939. One picture of the club in 1977. One picture of the camp site on 1977 Road Rally. A copy of 1923 club calendar. A copy of 1977 club calendar. A recap of 1976 club activities typical of the past several years. Most of the preceding information was from the memory of 4 of the oldest active members.

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Please return pictures