



EASTERN CANADA

# Motor Maids Inc.

Version 21, Edition 1, November 2009

## *A message from the District Director*

### District Director:

Dora C. Cook, Lanark 2008

### Assistant District Directors:

Laurie Esseltine, Kingston 2007  
Sue Bools, Ottawa 2005  
Corey Pullman, Wingham 2006  
Heidi Roy, Golden Horseshoe 2004  
Dale Smillie, GTA 2008

### Safety Officer:

Jean Hutcheon 2008

### Past Ass't Directors:

Nancy Maloney, 2001-2005  
Joan Appleton, 2000-2004

### Past District Directors:

Lynn Cox, 2003-2007  
Audrey Stargratt, 1995-2002  
Connie Ray, 1992-1994  
Sandra Clarke, 1990-1992

### Past Provincial Director:

Linda Harris, 1981-1988

### Past State Director

Audrey Alexander, 1949 -1953

### Motor Maid National Executive Directors:

#### Vice President

Dorothy Seabourne, 2005- 2006  
Lise Sculland, 1996 – 1999

#### Advisory Editor:

Lynn Cox, 2008

#### ECN Web Editor:

Bev Hannington, 2008

#### Historian:

Linda (Williams) Harris 1987-1995  
Dorothy Seabourne 1996

#### Cdn. Hall of Fame Inductee

Audrey Alexandre 2008

Well what a month we have had! If you missed the Christmas Meeting, you missed a lot! We had such fun! Valerie Carl even rode her motorcycle to our event! The meeting started with a recap of the financials up to mid-November to be finalized as we close off the year on Dec 31. We then took a look at our membership status and we are sitting at 124 members for EASTERN CANADA. Did you know that we have the most members in our district! And I mean nationally! 60 Years ago we started with one member and look at us now.

We then reviewed in the form of a PowerPoint presentation, the events of 2009 with a photo gallery of you! It was a huge success! I'm happy to report that in 2009, we rode over 600,000 kms (as reported by some 50 members who sent me their mileage). The Audrey Alexandre of the Year Award went to Patricia Diak who rode 39,470 kms between April and November of this year. Patricia rides a lot, don't you think! WOW. Congratulations Patricia!

The Motor Maid of the Year Award was presented to Michelle Murray. Michelle participated in all events this year, attended convention, rode to Quebec City, hosted Motor Maid events in her home, welcomed many overnight guests this year, participated in charitable events, i.e. K-Triathlon, Ride for Dad, Breast Cancer Walk, International Female Ride Day and continues to promote the Motor Maids at local bike shops in Kingston. Michelle is truly a friend to all Motor Maids and a shining example of a Canadian Motor Maid! Congratulations Michelle ... well deserved!

Laurie Esseltine, Heidi Roy and Dale Smillie have reconfirmed their commitment as Assistant District Directors for 2010. I am sad to announce that Sue Bools, Ottawa and Corey Pullman, Southwest Ontario will not be continuing as ADD for 2010. While we are looking for replacements for them, please join me in thanking these wonderful ladies for all their hard work and efforts in making Eastern Canada, the best Motor Maid group ever!

The Yahoo Group site will be closing down for good on December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2009. Please get yourself up and running on [www.ecnmotormaids.ca](http://www.ecnmotormaids.ca). If you don't have an email address, please contact Bev Hannington at [gumby325@sympatico.ca](mailto:gumby325@sympatico.ca) to get on the new website and forum. This will allow you access to the chat group, upload your pictures and join in group discussions.

As we close 2009, we celebrate 60 Years of Canadian Membership in the Motor Maids. We attribute this to our beloved Audrey Alexandre who became a member of the Motor Maids on November 7, 1949. We had a beautiful blanket made that shows her vest and licence plates that she had donated to the Welland Motorcycle Club over the years. Lynn Cox donated our 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Cake which was enjoyed by all. The evening was followed by a tasty turkey dinner, Silent Auction, Live Auction with Norma Cyr, 50-50 draw and of course Secret Pal gift exchange.



I would like to thank everyone for helping with the meeting particularly Dale Smillie who coordinated our dinner at the Stouffville Legion; Marybeth MacDonald and Lesli Forrester who helped with the technical portion of the meeting and dinner and Laurie Esseltine who prepared a map of Ontario which shows where our members live.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Great Riding Year for 2010! Sincerely, **Dora C. Cook, District Director, Motor Maids**

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## *New Members*

Please join me in welcoming Lou LaRocque from Kingston, Ontario. She can be reached at [loularocque@hotmail.com](mailto:loularocque@hotmail.com). If you know of anyone interested in the becoming a Motor Maid, please have them contact myself at [dora.cook@hotmail.com](mailto:dora.cook@hotmail.com) for more information and an application form. Every member that signs a new member receives a Motor Maid charm.

## *Upcoming Convention* July 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>, 2010 Cody, Wyoming

Book your room today. Call the Buffalo Bill Village Resort in Cody, Wyoming has something to offer for everyone. You have a choice of Holiday Inn, Comfort Inn or Buffalo Bill Cabin Village. You can reserve your room by calling our toll free number 1-800-527-5544 or visit their website at <http://www.blairhotels.com>.

## *News from the National Office*

Make sure your *dues* are up-to-date. Your *dues* are payable on your anniversary date of joining and are to be sent directly to the treasurer Patti Kientz. You will not receive any notice of this so check your membership card for the expiry date. Don't let it slip by; you can always pay in advance. Keep your membership in good standing and get this little task done and out of the way today! **New Address** for Treasurer and Membership Secretary: Motor Maids, Inc. PO Box 1654 Toccoa, GA 30577 Please send all new member applications and all dues payments to this address. LuAnn Boger, Membership Secretary and Patti Kientz, Treasurer

## *Cdn. Motor Maids – [www.ECNMOTORMAIDS.CA](http://www.ECNMOTORMAIDS.CA)*

This ECN Website is designed to enable communication among the Eastern Canadian Motor Maids. The site can be used as a forum to post messages, events, photos and necessary information for all members of the ECN Motor Maids. Please keep messages to Motor Maid business only. In order to join you must be a Motor Maid in Eastern Canada. To sign up for the forum enter the calendar and create a password for you.

## *2009 ECN Motor Maid Events*

*Check your local area for Christmas meetings.*

## *2010 ECN Motor Maid Events- stay tuned for details*

Toronto Bike Show, Fri. Jan 15 – Sun. Jan 17, 2010  
Spring Planning Meeting, March 20<sup>th</sup>, Sherkston  
International Female Ride Day, Friday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2010  
Mothers Day Brunch, May 8<sup>th</sup>, Perth, Ontario  
Ride for Dad, May 29, 2010 Ottawa  
Ride for Dad, May 30<sup>th</sup> Kingston  
Dot Robinson Ride, June 13<sup>th</sup>  
Annual Convention, Cody, Wyoming July 6-8<sup>th</sup>

Eastern Canada and Atlantic Canada Rally, Civic Holiday, July 30 – Aug 1<sup>st</sup>  
Int'l Women's Riders Congress, Huntsville, Ontario Aug 11-15  
Dale Smillie's, BBQ August 14<sup>th</sup>,  
Canada 911 Ride, August 21  
Fall Meeting, September 18<sup>th</sup>  
York Bike Night, September 24<sup>th</sup>  
Winter Meeting, November 27<sup>th</sup>

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## *Feature Article of the Month- Volunteering for Breast Cancer*

by: **Caren Weinstein**

Breast Cancer Action Ottawa and Breast Cancer Action Kingston although unaffiliated with each other both help people going through the breast cancer journey by providing support for the person rather than the disease. Having been involved as a corporate sponsor and graphic designer for the Ottawa BCA I know first hand the work that volunteer members provide for anyone who has been diagnosed with breast cancer. All of the ladies are survivors themselves and are really unsung Heros. Because they have been there they are able to help people navigate the very daunting process from diagnosis, treatment and life after breast cancer.

On a very rainy Sunday this past September several of us attended the BCA Ottawa fun run. Our job was to staff the T-Shirt distribution table.

This is the third year we have attended as a group. Nancy Maloney and her grandson, myself, Jennifer Marsh and Marybeth all huddled under the tent and passed out the t's to some very remarkable ladies and gentlemen. I think we were all in awe of the woman who had cycled to Mooney's Bay and was a recent Breast Cancer patient. She mentioned that she cycled to her treatments on a regular basis. Now that is strength! Overall they raised a little over \$18,000 which is a shortfall from other years but a date change and the weather played a very big part in that.



**Nancy Maloney & her grandson, MB  
MacDonald, Jennifer Marsh,  
Caren Weinstein**

Later this month, November 20, BCA Ottawa is hosting their second annual gala and silent auction at Sala San Marco. I attended last year and will be attending again this year. You can get information on this by calling them at 613-736-5921 or visiting their web site and registering online [www.bcaott.ca](http://www.bcaott.ca). The Run and the Gala are the two major fundraisers and I am sure that this year's gala will definitely be a great success. Perhaps we will see some Motor Maids there as well and I will put out a challenge to put together a Motor Maids table of 8!

The Kingston Gals attended the BCA Kingston's first Share the Care Motorcycle Ride this past October 3. The day included a 200km Poker Run starting in Kingston at MotoSports Plus and stopping at checkpoints in Verona, Westport, Perth, Smith Falls and returning to Kingston. It was a cool start to the day but turned out to be sunny and warm, a lovely fall ride. There was a BBQ and band after the run and several door prizes. Almost everyone attending won something.

Laurie Esseltine writes: "The Motor Maids were asked by the organizers to ride out and take care of the Poker Run stops in Verona, Westport and Perth. Our volunteers consisted of Joan R. and her hubby Kevin, Michele M. and Shannon L., Bonnie S., Pat U., Nancy H. and myself. We had a great time and met some wonderful and generous bikers. Collectively, the Motor Maids who volunteered donated approx. \$400 in pledges as well. We were asked to help out again next year, and we would be honoured to do it. It's a great thing to have woman riders helping out a charity for women!!"

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**Bonnie Smith, Nancy Hooper, Pat Urquhart,  
Michele Murray**

Both these organizations are a great fit for the Motor Maids. I am sure we will be actively involved with both these cities in the future. Breast Cancer touches us all and organizations like the two BCA's are vital in caring for the person. Even though they are so important they do not get regular funding from the major Breast Cancer charitable events so must struggle with very little to both fundraise and do the wonderful work they do. Until we no longer have cancer these organizations are vital and I am proud to be able to help.

When thinking of a neat way to celebrate an event why not consider Breast Cancer Action as a charitable giving program to mark a milestone as I did this year for my 50th birthday. I called it the 5 for 50 giving campaign and encouraged my friends and network to celebrate my 50 years by donating to the Ottawa BCA. With very little effort we raised over \$1300.00. Motor Maids are a smaller organization but can do big things. These two groups donating their time to the Kingston and Ottawa BCA's are a great example of making a difference.



## *Letters to: "Dear Motor Mouth Mama"*

*Dear Motor Mouth Mama?*

*Please send your questions to [ecnmotormouthmama@yahoo.ca](mailto:ecnmotormouthmama@yahoo.ca) and Motor Mouth Mama will be happy to answer all your motorcycle etiquette questions. Until next time .... Ride safe!*

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## *This Month's Feature Motor Maid, Deb Benn*

When I was about 19 years old, my younger brother bought a bike. One day, he decided he was going to teach me to ride it, so we rode it down to the Town Park, which had a dirt race track. I didn't even get half way around the track, and the police showed up! Someone saw us and called the police, who told us we couldn't be using the track to ride a motorcycle, but I was hooked!!

Then, about 10 years later, a friend of my husband's and mine, took me for a ride on his Harley. Well, that did it. I wanted one! But of course, my husband disagreed. Therefore, no bike!

So, about six years later, after shedding about 200 pounds (my husband), I went out and bought a brand new 1981 Honda 400 Hawk, and taught myself how to ride. Back then, I don't remember there being anyplace that you could go to learn how to ride, and you weren't allowed on the road, so I had to learn in large parking lots, when there were no cars in them. Schools were good (after hours, of course).



So after several hours in parking lots, I went and tried for my license, but, of course, I dropped the bike going around a pylon. Feeling very discouraged, I decided I needed to get out on the streets and roads, and ride under normal circumstances! It just so happened, I started dating a policeman, who just happened to have a bike, and when I told him of my dilemma, he said, no problem! We'll ride together!

At the end of the summer, after several miles under my belt, I tried for my license again. There was about twelve to fourteen males, and me, the only woman, in the group, and I was the only one who passed!!! With flying colors!! I can't tell you how much that alone, built up my confidence, and I've never looked back!!

I first read about the Motor Maids just after I started working in Peterborough in 2001. There was an article in the local newspaper, along with a picture, of all these 'mature ladies' who had just got back from Convention out in California! And right away, I thought, that's the kind of riding I would love to do! But there was no contact number to get in touch with any of these ladies.

Then, in the fall of 2004, I traded my 1985 Yamaha Magna 750 for a brand new 2004 Honda Shadow 750 Aero. That same fall, I attended a women's high school reunion in Port Hope, and after talking to a woman that I hadn't seen since school, we got on the subject of motorcycles, and she said she golfed with a lady from Peterborough who belonged to a group called the Motor Maids. Bingo!! I couldn't believe it!! So she gave me her e-mail address, and it was our dear friend Muriel Wilson! The following summer, I e-mailed Muriel and she invited me to her Field Event up on Fife's Bay. After spending the whole day with this group of ladies, I knew I had to join and become one of these interesting, and charming ladies, who all loved riding motorcycles!!!

Since that day, I've put more miles on my "bikes", than I ever did before I met the Motor Maids. I can't tell you what a wonderful array of ladies I've met since joining the group. It's like I've finally reached home!!!!

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## *Local Area Scheduled Events – Everyone Welcome!*

### *Dale Smillie A.D.D. (Greater Toronto Area)*

Call Dale Smillie or e-mail her at [chrisanddale@can.rogers.com](mailto:chrisanddale@can.rogers.com) you can meet up with Dale every month at the Dutch Oven Restaurant, Hwy 115 just north of the 401 on the 4th Sunday every month at 11 am. See you there! Call Dale Smillie for details. [chrisanddale@can.rogers.com](mailto:chrisanddale@can.rogers.com)

### *Corey Pullman, A.D.D (Wingham & Area)*

Corey's group meet regularly throughout the year, times, dates and locations to be determined. For more details contact [wormster@bmts.com](mailto:wormster@bmts.com).

### *Sue Bools, A.D.D. (Ottawa)*

The Ottawa area meets the second Saturday of the month. For more details contact Sue Bools at [suevstar650@yahoo.com](mailto:suevstar650@yahoo.com).

### *Laurie Esseltine, A.D.D. (Kingston)*

Kingston Motor Maids meet every third Sunday of the month at 11am for brunch. Location varies. Please contact Laurie at [laurie@ecnmotormaids.ca](mailto:laurie@ecnmotormaids.ca) or call 613-329-5559 for more information.

### *Heidi Roy, A.D.D. (Golden Horseshoe)*

The Golden Horseshoe gang meets every 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday. Summer location is at Barangas on the Beach - May to October at 9 a.m. - 380 Van Wagner's Beach Rd., Confederation Park, Hamilton, ON 905-544-7122 [www.barangas.ca](http://www.barangas.ca)



Happy Birthday Wishes to

Joan Bowley, Marjorie Neilson, Anne Shipley

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