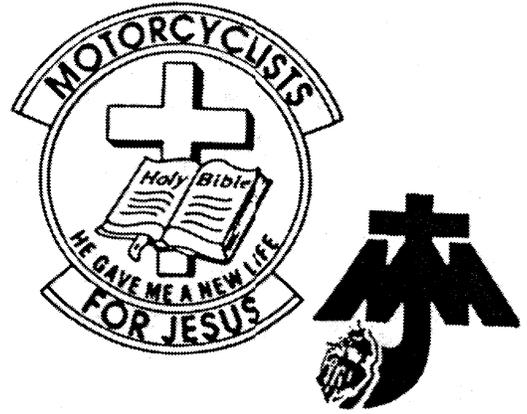


# *The History of Motorcyclists For Jesus Ministries Incorporated*



## **In the Beginning God Created (Gen 1)**

The late Ralph Philpott (1927-2007) was instrumental in starting Motorcyclists for Jesus Ministries, the history of MJM goes back even before he started MJM. Ralph and his wife Joan joined the Christian Motorcyclists Association (CMA) in January 1978. They were very active in the CMA years before MJM. Ralph started the Kentucky JOY Riders Chapter in 1978, the first CMA Chapter east of the Mississippi. He was also instrumental in getting CMA Chapters started in Virginia, North & South Carolina, Tennessee and West Virginia.

In August 1980 Hubert & Jean Gregory saw an article in the Louisville Times about a Christian based motorcycle association having a state rally. Hubert sent a letter to Ralph and requested information about the rally and for a membership application. They attended the 1983 State Rally held at the Kentucky Horse Park Campground and joined the CMA. Hubert later became a State CMA Rep in Kentucky. The Philpotts and Gregorys became very close friends. They served the Lord through the JOY Riders Chapter of the CMA for ten years. In 1988, the CMA started imposing some strict guidelines on their chapter officers which were almost impossible for chapters to follow. Ralph was the JOY Riders President at this time. Hubert mailed a letter to the CMA National Office expressing their concern about meeting the new officer guidelines. His letter to the CMA headquarters was to no avail. A copy of his letter is part of MJMs Historical Records.

## **MJMs Ten Founding Members:**

The idea of starting a new and different motorcycle ministry had been on Ralph's mind for some time. Ralph had been talking with Hubert about the idea and he supported the idea. After the new CMA Officer Guidelines came out, the two of them began meeting regularly. They met at Ralph and Joan's house in Fern Creek, Kentucky several times discussing ways of turning this idea into a reality. They knew they would need help, that starting a national motorcycle ministry would be a major undertaking. In late 1988 they shared their ideas with a few other disheartened CMA members and recruited six additional individuals: Ron & Shirley Elliott from Pottstown, PA., L.B. & Lila Oliver from Lancaster, KY. and Don & Fran Cheser from Frankfort, KY.

In January 1989, the Lord brought these ten individuals together to form Motorcyclists for Jesus. They became the founders and the catalyst which held Motorcyclists for Jesus Inc. together during its first few years.

Ralph & Joan Philpott, (Corporate Pilot),                      Hubert & Jean Gregory (CPA),  
Don & Fran Cheser (Ph.D. Counselor),                      Ron & Shirley Elliott (Dairy Farmer)  
L.B. & Lila Oliver (School Teacher).

Joan Philpott, Jean Gregory, and Ron & Shirley Elliott are still active in MJM. Ralph Philpott passed away October 2007 and Hubert Gregory passed away December 2008. Don & Fran Cheser moved to Florida and became involved in a different ministry in 1998. L.B. & Lila Oliver left MJM in 2001 for family health reasons.



**Founders**  
Ralph & Joan Philpott



**Founders**  
Hubert & Jean Gregory



**Founders**  
Ron & Shirley Elliott



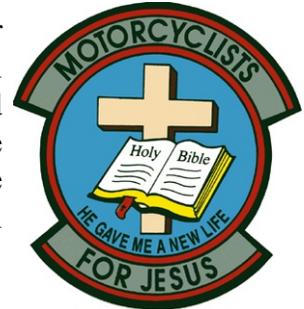
**Founders**  
L. B. & Lila Oliver



**Founders**  
Don & Fran Cheser

The first pre-organizational meeting was held January 21, 1989 at Ralph & Joan's house in Fern Creek, Kentucky. The first organizational meeting was held January 29, 1989 in Bardstown, KY. These five men all had the same desire; to start a motorcycle ministry to provide Christian motorcyclists with a non-denominational and democratically led organization, with the sole purpose of reaching others for Christ, where the members could have input to the operation of the ministry. *The ministry was to have only one leader, that being our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.*

Ralph had already drafted 90% of the proposed organization's By-Laws for the ministry to possibly use. Ralph and Joan had also designed a potential organization logo seal. Ralph's proposed By-Laws were reviewed, added to, and were adopted. The corporate seal (logo) was unanimously approved as the corporate seal of the corporation. The original drafted By-Laws and sketches of the corporate Logo were donated by Joan Philpott in 2007 to become part of the MJM Historical Records.



To accomplish their goal, this was the organizational structure they set in place. Motorcyclists for Jesus would be governed by a board of directors consisting of 4 to 10 members. Ralph was very adamant about this. He did not want MJM to be controlled by just one or two people. Each board member must be a born-again, loyal Christian. They could be nominated by and then be voted on by the general membership. Board members could only serve for a term of three years. (This was later modified to include two consecutive terms of three years) Since there is only One Lord, One Faith, One Baptism, and One God (Eph 4:5-6) they established only *One Purpose* and *One Mission* for Motorcyclists for Jesus.

*The purpose* of Motorcyclists for Jesus Ministries **is to guide the motorcyclist into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ** and to give positive, directive counsel on how to live one's life through the authority and power of God in Jesus Christ by the Holy Spirit.

*The primary mission* of Motorcyclists for Jesus is to organize witnessing oriented TEAMS (Telling Everyone About Messiah) to attend and witness at motorcycle rallies and events.

Taken from Page 4 of the February 1989 (By-Laws) Membership Handbook.

### **The First MJM Officer Team**

The first Motorcyclists For Jesus officers were, **BOARD of DIRECTORS:** Board Chairman Hubert Gregory, **Directors:** Don Cheser, L.B. Oliver, Al Johnson, Ralph Philpott and Ron Elliott. **National Treasurer and Financial Secretary** . Jean Gregory, **Newsletter Editor** Joan Philpott, **Director of Road Representatives** Don Cheser, **Rally Coordinator** L.B. Oliver, **Membership Secretary** Lila Oliver, **Business Administration** Ralph Philpott. A complete list of all MJM Board of Directors and the National Officers showing years served is located in the National History folder.

### **Motorcyclists For Jesus Becomes a Reality**

With the guidance of the Holy Spirit and the Lord Jesus Christ, these five men and five women devoted their time, diversified talents, and personal funds (undisclosed amounts) to form Motorcyclists For Jesus Inc. Motorcyclists For Jesus Inc. officially became a motorcycle ministry in February 1989. Due to the efforts of these five men and their wives, Motorcyclists For Jesus Inc. was incorporated in the

Commonwealth of Kentucky. The Motorcyclists For Jesus logo (back patch) and written materials (By-Laws) were also copyrighted in 1989. Motorcyclists For Jesus Inc. was granted non-profit status by the IRS under section 501 © 3. in February 1989.

### **Membership Opened to Public**

The founding members opened membership to the general public in Feb 1989. The requirements for membership since the very beginning, are very few: Be a born again believer, want to serve the Lord using your motorcycle and pay annual membership dues. The annual dues which have never been increased, are \$25 for husband/wife (couple), and \$15 for a single member. (See Membership Application on Pg-17 for more on dues.) A high percentage of the member's dues go right back to the member through the monthly newsletter. The membership secretary sends each new member a "New Member Starter Packet." The starter packet is always being updated. The current packet contains Member Handbook, Membership ID card, Membership pin, one 3" decal, one 4" cloth MJM Patch, sample MJM Tracts and other helpful ministry tools.

An original March 1989 membership roster is part of this history record. It shows MJM's membership being 122 after its first month. It's recorded in the September 1989 Voice Newsletter that MJM had in its "Charter Member Year" 240 members join. Many of MJM's 1<sup>st</sup> year "Charter Members" were former CMA members. In a way, MJM owes its founding to the CMA. If the CMA had not enacted their stringent guidelines for its chapter officers in 1988, one founder stated "we would not have started MJM when it did". Instead of totally leaving the motorcycle ministry, some CMAers began joining MJM or the Sons of God Motorcycle Ministry. Today, MJM still has 30 of its original Charter Members, many of which got their M/M start in the CMA.

### **Funding the Ministry**

By MJM being a 501 © (3) non-profit organization, it is not eligible for, or receives any funds from the state or Federal Government. All of MJM's income is obtained from the annual membership dues and from donations. This is not a well know fact, but during the first few years, donations did not keep up with expenses. MJM's founders dug into their own pockets to keep the bills paid. Today, a very high percentage of MJM's income comes from within its own membership. In 2007, MJM member donations averaged about \$400 per month. At the February 1994 board meeting under the direction of Hubert Gregory and board members L.B. Oliver, Ray Ward, Curtis Daniels, and (proxy) Bob Dillon, the "Consistent Contributor Award" was established. Any MJM couple (husband/wife) who donate \$100 or more a year or any single member who donated \$75 or more a year would receive a Consistent Contributor Pin. This donation was to be over and above their annual membership dues. For each succeeding contribution year, a year bar to be added to the pin would be given. In 2007, MJM had 12 Consistent Contributor members/couples. Since MJM owns no property and has no paid officers (employees), a high percentage of MJM's income goes directly back to help its members. This is accomplished in two ways. All printed MJM witnessing material is FREE to MJM Members. This includes New Testaments, Board approved Tracts, Application, and MJM informational brochures. The second way is by the National financially helping their chartered TEAMS and Road Reps with funds. Appendix #1 of the Membership Handbook lays out the procedure for obtaining MJM Funds. The national helps TEAMS, Reps, and individuals by paying for booth space, AMA event sanctioning and insurance to name a few. Funding is also addressed in the LifeTime Members Topic.

The newly founded Board met again on May 16<sup>th</sup> 1989 in Indianapolis, IN. The sole purpose for this meeting was to finalize the By-Laws & Road Representative Manual and to put the final touches on the first MJM Rally. These items were accomplished. The first Road Representative Handbook was published

in May 1989. The original handbook was printed in a small 5½” x 8½” size. The board made revisions in October 95, Oct 96, Oct 97 and added Appendix “A” in 1998. Other than those few changes, the same Road Representative Handbook is in use today that was Board approved in 1989. A copy of the original May 1989 Road Rep Handbook is located in the National History folder.

### **1989 (By-Laws) 1993 & 2000 Handbook Revisions**

The one thing the founding board wanted in the Membership Handbook was a simple guide for the members, not a book of do’s and don’ts. Scripture was used throughout the entire handbook to back up the By-Laws.

To become a tax exempt organization, the founders had to supply MJM’s Method of Operation (MJM Membership Handbook) to the **IRS Exempt Organization Determinations Office** for review and approval. After the IRS review of the MJM’s Method of Operation (Membership Handbook) in February 1989 Motorcyclists For Jesus was granted their **first** non-profit 501 © (3) Organization status by the IRS. This 501 © (3) IRS ruling meant that Motorcyclists For Jesus was granted by the Internal Revenue Service to be a tax free organization. MJM does not have to pay **any** state or federal taxes. Shortly after being granted a non-profit 501 © (3) Organization, the IRS issued MJM a Federal Tax ID Number. If needed, the MJM Treasurer retains our tax exempt number. Being granted as a non-profit 501 © (3) organization also allows financial donors to deduct their donations to MJM from their annual Federal Income Tax. This deduction also applies to many state income taxes. Other than a few items being changed for clarification and a few appendixes added through the years, the basic handbook content has not changed. The first DRAFT COPY of the (By-Laws) Membership Handbook was printed in February 1989. When the founding board developed the first Membership Handbook (By-Laws) it was printed in a small 5½” x 8½” size. The reason was so it could easily fit in a motorcycle trunk or saddle bag. In order for MJM to maintain it’s non-profit status, we have agreed to comply with three IRS requirements: **#1)** Submit an annual report at the end of MJM’s physical year. **#2)** Use and follow *the IRS approved* organization method of operation as submitted. And, **#3)** Comply with the Exempt Organization Operational Requirements. When changes to our Method of Operation (Handbook) are made. MJM has followed this compliance with our three handbook changes. The 1991, 1993 & 2000. A complete list of the tax exempt requirements can be found on the IRS web-site. <http://www.irs.gov> Once on their web-site click on “Charities and non-profits”.

With the ministry’s name was change in 1991, the corporation name needed change approval through the Common Wealth of Kentucky. This was done under the direction of Hubert Gregory, and board members L.B. Oliver, Ron Elliott, Don Cheser, Curtis Daniels and Chuck Blosser. The same BoD updated the handbook in 1993 and the Member Handbook was also changed to the standard 8½” x 11” size. This was done because the previous size was not a standard size, making it much more costly to have printed. The first handbook revision received IRS re-approval on July 1993. The second major revision and update began in 1999 under the direction of Karl Wardlaw and Board Members Earl Dudgeon, Bob Smith, Geneva Davis, Gary Matson, James Brockman, Jim Carter and Gary Cobb. It was resubmitted to the IRS for re-approval of our 501 © (3) status in January 2000. MJM received the IRS re-approval on May 2, 2000.

The same board members met May 12, 2000. Geneva Davis made the motion to accept the new IRS approved by-laws for member use, seconded by Gary Matson. Motion was unanimously approved. After additional discussion, Bob Smith made the motion to make the MJM Logo on the cover in full color, seconded by Gary Matson: motion carried. Gary Matson then made the motion that the members be notified through the Voice that for a five dollar donation, they could receive a new copy of the handbook, seconded by Gary Cobb: motion carried. The board also decided that the new Membership Handbook should be hole punched to fit a three-ring notebook when printed. That way all future national publications and handbook changes could be easily added by punching holes, without re-printing the entire handbook. The board then began updating the Road Rep and TEAM handbooks so they would correspond with the new Member

Handbook.

A copy of the original first 1989 draft handbook, the 1993 and 2000 Membership Handbooks, are a part of the MJM Historical Archives. More Handbook changes were made in MJM's 2010 History.

### **The Beginning of the MJM TEAM Voice Newsletter:**

By being a national organization, communication between the organization and its members was difficult. Knowing this, the founding board members adopted the plan of sending a monthly informational letter to all members. The first Newsletter was published in March 1989 by Joan Philpott. It contained only four pages.

A contest was held among the members to name the newsletter. At the July 29, 1989 Board Meeting a name was chosen. Brenda Glass of Glasgow, Ky submitted the name TEAM (**T**elling **E**veryone **A**bout **M**essiah). The board declared Brenda as the winner. She was given an MJM Back Patch for the winning name. The board then added the word "Voice". The Motorcyclists for Jesus newsletter was to be called the "TEAM Voice." The TEAM Voice was to provide national information, encouragement for Christian growth, witnessing helps and motorcycle events to attend.

A monthly newsletter was published every month through 1989. From 1990 through 1993, only quarterly (4) issues per year Voice were published. However, the board members shared the responsibility of producing a smaller monthly Voice Supplement the months the Voice was not published. Since 1994, a monthly newsletter per year (12) has been published.

At the November 1996 meeting the board approved the spending of \$400 to print a "Special Edition" newsletter. Its primary purpose was to be used at rallies and MJM Booths. It was printed for the 1997 season. A copy of this Special Edition Newsletter is in the Voice Archives.

In the attempt to save MJM some money, at the December 2001 Board Meeting under the direction of Ralph Philpott, board members Geneva Davis, Hubert Gregory and Gary Cobb decided to try a suggestion submitted by Bob Dillon. Since many members were on the internet and had e-mail, why not have them download it electronically. There was much discussion on the By-Laws which state (page 8) "A newsletter will be **mailed** to each member monthly." It was decided that electronically downloading was another form of mailing. On a voluntary basis, members were asked to download their newsletter off the National web-site. There were a few initial download problems, but they were resolved. Downloading was voluntarily done for two years, and it did save on printing and postage. At the April 2004 board meeting under the direction of Bob Dillon and board members Jim Strous, Gary Cobb, Wes Miller, Fred Hendrickson, Phil Guica and Fred McClincy, it was decided that all members with internet, unless they requested a hard copy, would have to download their newsletter. This was the primary way of delivering the newsletter for two years.

At the May 2006 board meeting under the direction of Bob Dillon and board members Wes Miller, Phil Guica, Fred McClincy, Jack Senior and Mark Tronerud, it was decided to again start sending every member a hard copy of the newsletter. The board felt that most members prefer having the newsletter delivered to their front door. The newsletter was to still be put on the web-site so it could be viewed by both our members and non-members.

For many years, non-renewed members continued to receive the Voice Newsletter for three months past their renewal date. This was done in the hope of them renewing. Research was done and it was found this enticed very few non-renewals to renew their membership. As a cost-saving measure, at the November 2006 Board Meeting under the direction of Bob Dillon, members Wes Miller, Phil Guica, Mark Tronerud, and Jack Senior voted to stop sending the newsletter the month after the non-renewals renewal date.

MJM has an archive of newsletters which is maintained by the MJM Historian. Not all, but many issues of the Voice Newsletter can be found in this archive. MJM has had nine different members serve as newsletter editor. The December 2007 issue was the 154<sup>th</sup> edition of the Voice Newsletter printed. A complete list of all Voice Editors is located in the National History book.

## First MJM Rally

The very first MJM Rally was held July 16, 1989 at the Horse Park in Lexington, Ky. A bike show was held and eight trophies were awarded. Fifty bikes rode into Lexington for an inter-city mission run. Joyce Jackson did a children's talk. Joyce and Brenda Glass sang a series of songs which the crowd enjoyed. The Board met again at this rally. They approved "Pappy" Flora as the first *National Chaplain*.



## 1989 First MJM Evangelist (Was Full Time)

To fulfill the mission and purpose of MJM, the board decided to hire a full time evangelist. They contacted and hired Alvin & Joyce Jackson from Hernando, MS. They both had experience as motorcycle evangelists through their previous evangelistic experience in the Christian Motorcyclists Association. Alvin was a good preacher and Joyce had a beautiful voice. L.B. Oliver had 15 rallies lined up to do their first year. At the July 16, 1989 Board Meeting, "Pappy" Flora became the first unpaid MJM National Chaplain. Due to finances, Alvin & Joyce were not rehired for the 1990 year. "Pappy" Flora remained National Chaplain until June 1991.



At the December 1990 Board Meeting, under the direction of Hubert Gregory, board members L.B. Oliver, Ron Elliott, Don Cheser, Curtis Daniels, and Chuck Blosser approved Don & Mae Marshall from Kenova, WV. as MJM's new National Road Chaplains/Evangelists. They remained faithful unpaid evangelists until they retired in November 1999. They remain MJM Road Reps in Florida. At the November 1999 board meeting under the direction of Karl Wardlaw and board members Earl Dudgeon, Geneva Davis, Bob Smith and Gary Matson, the board voted Gerald & Dorothy Nuzum to be the new MJM Evangelists starting in 2000. At the May 2001 board meeting under the direction of Ralph Philpott, board members James Brockman, Gary Cobb, Geneva Davis and Hubert Gregory approved and appointed Jack Senior from Taylorsville, KY as an "as needed" MJM

Evangelist.

## MJM's First Road Reps

On July 29, 1989 the board met in Bardstown, Ky. for the sole purpose to appoint the first MJM Road Reps. The following members were approved as the first MJM Road Reps. (The baker's dozen): Harold Anderson (KY), Jerry Berner (NJ), Chuck Blosser (OH), Chuck Cagle (TX), Russ Cooper (MA), Earl Dudgeon (KY), Jerry Mestek, Don Marshall (WV), Les Potrafka (MI), Homer Trammell, Bob Smith (MI), Webb Sullivan and Karl Wardlaw (OH). Don & Mae Marshall and Bob & Sandra Smith are still road reps today. (Jan 10) A complete list of all MJM's Road Reps is located in the National History book.

## **MJM TEAMS (Telling Everyone About Messiah)**

Shortly after the board opened membership, they wanted the new members to start forming local organized groups. Since all other motorcycle organizations have small chartered clubs or chapters, it was decided that MJM would not refer to their local groups as clubs or chapters. Since the newsletter

was called the TEAM Voice, chartered MJM groups would be called TEAMS. The ministry needed someone to oversee the chartered TEAMS. Since the Road Rep Administrator worked closely with the road reps and board of directors, and the road reps were to work closely with the TEAMS, it was decided that the Road Rep Administrator (Don Cheser) would also be the TEAM Coordinator. His job was to now include approving and chartering new MJM TEAMS. The complete job descriptions for Road Reps and the Road Rep Administrator can be found in the MJM Road Rep Manual.

The MJM By-Laws allow one or two couples to start a TEAM (See page 9 of Membership Handbook). The idea behind this was two-fold. The founders wanted starting a TEAM to be an easy process for the members with few rules. The hope was that those 2 to 4 members would acquire more members and the TEAM would grow into a strong local witness for our Lord. This concept worked well for some TEAMS. However, many of the early TEAMS were started with just a husband and wife making up the team. Many of those two-people TEAMS never gained any additional members. When the TEAM couple dropped out of MJM (non-renewed), that left the TEAM with no members and it was disbanded. This sadly happened to (9) of MJM's early TEAMS.

Between February 1989 and August 1990, Don Cheser established ten (10) MJM TEAMS. Two (2) of those TEAMS are still active today. The Kentucky "JOY Riders" (the first MJM TEAM) and the Pennsylvania "Gospel Riders." In October of 1990, Karl Wardlaw became the new Road Rep Administrator. Karl established thirteen (13) new TEAMS. Four (4) of those TEAMS are still active today. In November 2001, Bob Dillon became the Road Rep Administrator. Bob established nine (9) new TEAMS. All nine (9) of them are still active today. In May 2004, Fred McClincy became the 4<sup>th</sup> Road Rep Administrator. Fred has established eight (8) TEAMS. Four (4) of those TEAMS are still active today. MJM has had a total of forty (40) TEAMS start since 1989. Sixteen (18) TEAMS have been disbanded. MJM currently has twenty-three (21) active TEAMS in fourteen (14) states.

## **MJM's Goodie Department**

Ralph & Joan Philpott were the first MJM Goodie People, from March 1989 through December 1989. At the December 2, 1989 Board Meeting, Ray Ward was appointed as the first Official MJM Goodie Administrator. Then at their December 10<sup>th</sup> meeting it was decided that the Goodie Department should not be operated through the general fund. Ray was to set up a separate Goodie account to run the MJM Goodies though. The idea was for the Goodie Department to be as self-supporting as possible. All goodie items which are purchased by the members are to be run through the Goodie account. Items the Goodie Department gives free to the members (new testaments, tracts, member applications, bike blessing pins, etc.) are to be paid for through the National Treasury. The Goodie account books are to be made available for audit once annually. MJM has only had four Goodies Administrators. Ray held the job for seven years. The third MJM Goodie People were Jim & Jean Abbott from Sheperdsville, Ky. They took over for Ray in April 1996. The Goodie job came back to Ralph and Joan Philpott in March of 1999.



## **1990 MJM Establishes Six Regions**

Ralph Philpott was not only a great planner, organizer and leader, he was also a great visionary. Being a national organization, he envisioned someday MJM needing regions to better meet the members needs. In January of 1990 he proposed that MJM be broken down into six regions. As the membership grew, regions would be established. Each region would have a regional coordinator who would report back to the board. The coordinator would hold an annual regional rally for the members of that region. The current MJM membership has not required Ralph's 6 region program to be developed.



## **1990 First MJM Road Rep Meeting**

March 23-25 of 1990, MJM held its first Road Rep Conference. It was held at Don & Fran Chesers church in Frankfort, Ky. (An original agenda is in the 1990 Voice Archives) Being a motorcycle ministry, many members rode to the gathering. Attenders awoke Saturday morning to an overnight snow fall which had covered everything (about 1"). Don set up three mission rides for us to go on Saturday afternoon: a hospital, nursing home and local jail. This was the first of many visits MJMers have made, and are still making to incarcerated men and women. This spring event evolved into what is today's annual MJM Spring Kick-Off. Road Rep meetings were held for a number of years as part of the annual kick-off. A complete list of the MJM Spring Kick-Off history is located in the National History book.

## **MJM Charters with American Motorcyclists Association (AMA)**

At the December 1990 Board Meeting, under the direction of Hubert Gregory, and the board members L.B. Oliver, Ron Elliott, Don Cheser, Curtis Daniels and Chuck Blosser unanimously voted that MJM should charter with the American Motorcyclists Association. They applied for an AMA Charter in 1991. To charter with the AMA, MJM needed at least (10) AMA active members. All club officers had to be AMA members. The AMA first granted MJM Charter #06233 in December 1992. MJM ran advertisements in the AMA Magazine "American Motorcyclist" for six months. In 1996 & 97 MJM did not have enough active AMA Members to renew our Charter. In 1999, Fred McClincy wanted MJM to renew with the AMA as MJM had enough AMA Members to renew. Fred has been our National AMA Officer since 1999. MJM TEAMS can host/hold AMA Sanctioned events using our AMA Charter #06233. Contact Fred McClincy for AMA Event Sanctioned details.



## **1991 Ministry Name Change**

No matter how much pre-planning is done, there is always something which cannot be foreseen. Most organizations shorten their names with abbreviated letters: American Motorcyclists Association (AMA), Christian Motorcyclists Association (CMA), Sons of God MM (SOG). Shortly after Motorcyclists For Jesus became known in the motorcycling community, people started calling it "MFJ" for short. Because of what the letters "MF" represent in the secular world, having them associated in any way with Jesus was totally unacceptable to all the membership. At the March 1991 board meeting under the direction of Hubert Gregory, board members L.B. Oliver, Ron Elliott, Don Cheser, Curtis Daniels and Chuck Blosser voted to change the name. It was changed from Motorcyclists For Jesus Inc. to Motorcyclists For Jesus Ministries

Inc, shortened version to be “MJM.” One would think that simply changing the name would be a simple task. Wrong. This simple name change required the re-submission to the Commonwealth of Kentucky for a corporation change and to the IRS for re-approval of MJM’s 501 © (3) status. Within one year the Membership Handbook was updated and the new By-Laws submitted for re-approval. The Commonwealth of Kentucky granted in July 1991 the amended corporation name change to “Motorcyclists for Jesus Ministries Inc.” It took until July 12, 1993 for the IRS to re-approve “Motorcyclists for Jesus Ministries Inc.” as a Non-Profit 501 © (3) organization. Every time there is a By-Laws (Handbook) change, the changes must be resubmitted to the IRS for approval to maintain our Non-Profit 501© (3) status. It was again submitted to the IRS for re-approval in 2000 when the 2000 Handbook Revision were made.

### **1991 Board Approves Balloons and Booth Banners**

At the April 12, 1991 Board Meeting discussion was heavy on ways to better advertise MJM. Three ideas were presented. Karl Wardlaw proposed the idea to purchase large blow-up balloons with the MJM Logo and “Jesus Loves You” imprinted on them. They were to be handed out to children at rallies, parades and MJM booths. The second idea, submitted by Ralph Philpott, was to purchase two large (4' x 8') banners. The banners would be used as back drops at MJM booths. The third way was to advertise in motorcycle magazines. The board approved all three ideas to the point of getting cost figures to be submitted at the October 24<sup>th</sup> board meeting.

At the October 24<sup>th</sup> meeting under the direction of Hubert Gregory, board members L.B. Oliver, Ron Elliott, Don Cheser, Chuck Blosser and Ray Ward approved the purchase of 3000 imprinted balloons. Karl Wardlaw was given the job to purchase them and 2000 of the balloons were to be distributed to road reps and MJM TEAMS, and 1000 were to be given to the MJM Goodie Department to be used for MJM Booths and the general membership. They also approved Ralph Philpott to have two 4ft X 8ft booth banners made. At that time, magazine advertising proved to be too costly. The balloons went over well and were reordered one time. At the November 1996 Board Meeting it was decided not to order any additional balloons. The large banners have been used as back drops since 1992 at many secular rallies, MJM booths, and at almost all MJM Annual Spring Kick-Offs.

### **1993 Cave City Get Together**

In the fall of 1993, founders Hubert & Jean Gregory, came up with the idea of having a MJM “Winter Get Together”. Up till now, MJM had not had any winter events. Their invitation was in the October/November/December 1993 Voice, (the Voice was only printed quarterly in 93). The invitation went out to all MJMers, CMA members, and any other Christian bikers which wanted to attend. Being a winter event, they figured having a maximum of 75 attending would be great. So, that’s what Hebert told the host hotel to plan for. The reservations just kept coming in, Hubert and Jean had to keep calling the hotel, to increase the number count. It was a cold snowy weekend for the first MJM “Winter Get Together” which was held January 22-23, 1993 at the Days Inn (the old Oasis) in Cave City Kentucky. The weather did not stop 104 people from showing up (including your author) for MJMs first “Winter Get Together”. Cave City is just over the hill from the Historical Mammoth Caves National Park in Western Kentucky. Hubert’s first get together was such a great success, he held the event again at the same location in January 1994 and 95. At each of these “Winter Get Together’s” everyone enjoyed a great time of fellowship. The attendance dropped off some in 94 and more in 1995. Hebert contributed the attendance drop of to the time of year with it’s continual threats of bad weather. He thought it best if he not hold another winter “Get Together”. The 1995 winter “Get Together” was the last national winter event MJM has held.

### **1996 Missionary Of the Year Award Adopted.**

There had been talk about honoring one MJM member or couple (husband/wife team) for their outstanding service to our Lord by meeting the spiritual needs of motorcyclists through MJM. At the April 1996 board meeting, under the direction of Chairman Ralph Philpott and board members Don Cheser, Karl Wardlaw and Steven Viar, the guidelines for the "MJM Missionary of the Year Award" were established. **This Award is to be the Highest Member Award to ever be Awarded by the Ministry.** Only one award per year is to be presented. It is to go to one outstanding member or couple at the annual spring kick-off. The recipients of the award can be nominated by the membership by submitting name(s) of member(s) to the board. The first year for the award was to be for the 1997 year, and the recipients would be honored at the 1998 Spring Kick-Off.

At this meeting the board also decided to start a member recognition/awards program, a project to recognize our MJM members for their service to MJM and the MJM membership. Certificates were to be given to: Past and Retiring Directors, Retiring Officers, Members with 5, 10, 15 or more years service and the Missionary of the Year. The first member awards were presented at the 1997 Spring Kick-Off. Since then, many certificates and plaques have been awarded to MJM members. A complete list of all 5, 10, 15 & 20 Year recipients is located in the National History book.

The first recipients of the Missionary of the Year award were Bob & Sandra Smith of Grand Rapids, Michigan at the 1998 Spring Kick-Off held in Dayton Ohio. The award has been presented at every annual Kick-Off since then. A complete list of all Missionary of the Year recipients is located in the National History book.

### **1997 LifeTime Membership Adopted**

As early as the April 12, 1991 Board Meeting, the board members started talking about having an MJM LifeTime Membership. At the 1997 spring board meeting it was again discussed to have a LifeTime Membership. The idea was tabled until the November board meeting. At the November 1997 Board Meeting under the direction of Chairman Ralph Philpott and Board Members Don Cheser, Fred McClincy and Karl Wardlaw, an MJM LifeTime Membership was adopted and put in place. A LifeTime Membership could be purchased by a single member for \$200 and husband/wife for \$300. All LifeTime Membership monies were to be put in an interest bearing account, separate from the general fund. All interest money earned was to be put into the general fund once each year. The MJM LifeTime Membership enrollment notice was put in the December issue of the TEAM Voice. At the March 1998 board meeting under the direction of Ralph Philpott and board members Earl Dudgeon and Karl Wardlaw a LifeTime Membership Patch was approved. Each patch will be custom made for the member, showing the date they joined MJM. The first LifeTime MJM Membership was granted to Charter Members James and Gail Towle from New Hampshire in January 1998.

At the May 2001 board meeting, under the direction of Ralph Philpott and board members James Brockman, Gary Cobb, Geneva Davis and Hubert Gregory, it was decided to leave the interest in the LifeTime Member account unless needed.

At the May 2007 board meeting under the direction of Phil Guica and board members Bob Dillon, Vernon Hawkins, Fred McClincy and Mark Tronerud, it was decided to give the treasurer permission to put part of Lifetime funds into a higher interest bearing account. A portion of the LifeTime Fund was put in a CD November of 2007 by the National Treasurer. At the time of this document, MJM has (55) LifeTime Members. There is a complete list of all LifeTime Members located in the National History book

### **1998 Charter Member Rocker**

1998 being the 10th year anniversary for the ministry, it was decided at the November 1998 meeting to present all current active charter (1989) members with a special award. Under the direction of Ralph

Philpott and board members Earl Dudgeon, Bob Smith and Karl Wardlaw, they decided to present each Charter Member with a “Charter Member Rocker.” This rocker could be sewed under their 3" MJM Patch. Members with ten consecutive years of service was to be awarded a “Ten Year Service Award” at the Spring Kick-Off. In 1999, 44 charter members were presented with a “Charter Member” rocker and 24 members received the “Ten Year” Service Award.

### **1999 MJM Colors Award**

At the May 1999 board meeting under the direction of Karl Wardlaw and Board Members Earl Dudgeon, Bob Smith, Geneva Davis, Gary Matson and Fred McClincy, a new member award was approved. The award would be given to members for wearing the MJM Logo (Back Patch or a Shirt). They had to ride a minimum of 2000 miles during the 2000 season displaying the MJM Logo. At the end of the season, they had to submit a “Colors Award” application. The award would be presented at the 2001 Kick-Off.

At the November board meeting the same board members decided to present a “Colors Award Pin and Certificate” to all award winners. After the first year, only the certificate was given with no pin. The last year for the Colors Award was in 2004.

### **1999 Chaplain/Educational Director**

At the 1998 fall board meeting under the direction of Ralph Philpott, the directors Earl Dudgeon, Bob Smith and Karl Wardlaw began discussing ways to better communicate with the members. Two ideas were looked at. MJM had not had a National Chaplain since Pappy Flora resigned. Installing a new National Chaplain to work closely with the membership was one idea. The other idea was to have a National Educational Director, someone who could lead, encourage and instruct the members in various ways to lift up Christ. Both ideas were merged into one having a National Chaplain/Educational Director, someone who could meet the spiritual needs, lead, encourage and instruct the members to lift up Christ. The board began putting together some guidelines for this new office. At the November 1999 Board Meeting under the direction of Karl Wardlaw, board members Earl Dudgeon Geneva Davis, Bob Smith and Gary Matson approved the MJM Chaplain/Educational Director Guidelines. Life Member Guy Gilberts was approved to fill this new office beginning Jan. 1, 2000. At the May 2000 board meeting, Guy was not reinstated for the ensuing year. The office remains vacant to this day.

### **1999 MJM’s African Experience**

In late 1998, a few MJM members began receiving letters from Baofa Yaw a boy in Ghana, West Africa. His letter stated he was a Christian boy attending a Motorcycle Training School in Ghana. He requested American motorcycle magazines, pins and stickers. He also requested school supplies (pens, paper, pencils) to help him with his schooling. These letters of request were made known to the board of directors. At the May 1999 Board Meeting under the direction of Karl Wardlaw, board members Earl Dudgeon, Fred McClincy, Bob Smith, Geneva Davis and Gary Matson made the decision to approve helping this boy. Gary Matson put a copy of the boy’s letter and an article in the Voice requesting MJM member support. A few MJM members sent items to Baofa Yaw. It was not long until more and more letters began to come in requesting more and more items. More expensive items were now being requested as well as money. Larger quantities of items were also being asked for. In all the letters, only one request for Bibles or Christian items was made.

At the November 1999 Board Meeting, the board decided to do some investigating and research on these claimed schools. Not one request came directly from the church or school for our help. The board chairman drafted letters which were sent to the church the boys listed in their letters and to the West African

Embassy requesting information about the motorcycle schools.

At the May 2000 board meeting, Karl gave this report. He made numerous attempts to acquire information from the West African Embassy and the Church of God in Ghana. After six months, not one reply from either place had been received. The letter requests for help had also stopped coming in. The same board that approved helping them, made the decision that as an organization we would no longer support these requests, that we more than likely got hooked into some type of black market scam. If any members feel lead to continue their support, please do so.

### **2000 MJM Gets Imprinted New Testaments**

MJM had a small pocket size New Testament since the November 1992 board meeting. At the May 12, 2000 Board Meeting under the direction of Karl Wardlaw and board members Gary Cobb, Bob Milne, Earl Dudgeon, Geneva Davis and Bob Smith, after much discussion, a motion was made by Earl Dudgeon that MJM purchase New Testaments with the MJM Logo on the front, seconded by Jeep Davis, motion carried. The chairman was to get prices, get back with board members for final approval on how many would be purchased.

Chairman Wardlaw obtained the Bible cost information and it was sent to each board member. The best price for Bibles was obtained from the International Bible Society. By means of a phone conference, the board members approved the purchase of 400 NT with Psalms & Proverbs for the price of \$850.00, including shipping. It was also decided to request Bible donations from the membership through the TEAM Voice. The first MJM Bible order was placed August 2000. Members were notified of the Bible availability in the December 2000 Voice.

At the Nov. 11<sup>th</sup> board meeting, Karl gave a brief update report on the MJM Bible donations. Total amount received through member donations as of meeting date was \$1,750 which amounted to \$900 over the initial purchase cost. Each board member was given a copy of the imprinted New Testament. After decision, Earl Dudgeon made the motion that we give the New Testaments to our members free with the request for a \$.50 each donation to cover shipping and handling, seconded by Jeep Davis. Motion carried unanimously. It was also decided that the Goodie Representative would be responsible for the MJM New Testaments, set up a separate account for MJM Bible money, and given the authority to purchase additional New Testaments when needed.

Free New Testaments were being offered to the general public through our MJM web-page. We started getting requests for 3, 4 or more Bibles at a time. At the December 2001 board meeting under the direction of Ralph Philpott and board members Jeep Davis, Hubert Gregory, and Gary Cobb, it was decided that only one Bible per web-page request was to be given.

### **2000 New TEAM Handbook Approved**

At the May 1999 board meeting, work began on a handbook for MJMs Chartered TEAMs. At the November 2000 Board Meeting under the direction of Karl Wardlaw and board members Gary Cobb, Bob Milne, Earl Dudgeon, Geneva Davis and Bob Smith, after many changes and discussion on the handbook, Geneva Davis made the motion for the board to approve the distribution and use of the new "TEAM Handbook". Motion seconded and passed. A second motion was then made by Bob Smith for a master copy to be printed for the Road Rep Administrator. He then would make copies and send a copy to all present TEAMs, and all future TEAMs which he approved a Charter for. Motion seconded by Earl, motion passed. Retiring Chairman Wardlaw presented a master copy to Chairman Philpott. At the May 2001 board meeting, the board gave approval for the initial May 2001 printing, and any future printing.

### **2001 MJM Gets Web-Page**

At the Nov. 8, 1997 board meeting it was first discussed the possibility of MJM getting a web-site. At the Nov. 13, 1999 board meeting two years later, the board of directors discussed at length ideas to move MJM into its 2<sup>nd</sup> decade. The most receptive idea was to have MJM obtain a web page. It was decided that Chairman Wardlaw would investigate our internet options and report back at the May 2000 board meeting. Chairman Wardlaw contacted member Fred McClincy in Pennsylvania. Fred advised the board on setting up a web-site. The web-page was again discussed at the May 12, 2000 meeting. It was then decided that after thought and prayer, the final decision would be made at the November board meeting.

After much discussion at the Nov. 11, 2000 meeting, under the direction of Karl Wardlaw and board members James Brockman, Jim Carter, Gary Cobb, Geneva Davis, Earl Dudgeon and Bob Smith, the motion was made by Geneva “Jeep” Davis for MJM to go on the Internet, seconded by Gary Cobb. Motion carried. Gary Cobb then made the motion that a “Web-Page Committee” be established at the 2001 Spring Kick-Off to investigate and improve our web-page, seconded by Earl Dudgeon. Motion carried. (Footnote) Chairman Wardlaw is to notify Fred McClincy with the board’s decision and give him the OK to put MJM on the internet. MJM officially went on the internet on **Sept. 3, 2001**. With the web-site name [WWW.Go2MJM.com](http://WWW.Go2MJM.com). At the 2001 Kick-Off a Web-Page Committee was established with Fred McClincy chairing the committee. Fred has maintained and updated the MJM Web-Page ever since. As of November 2007, the web-site has been visited almost 86,000 times. MJM has gained numerous new members through the web-site. At the November 2008 board meeting under the direction of Phil Guica, board members Dave Topalis, Vern Hawkins, Fred McClincy, Mark Tronerud and proxy for Bob Williams Walter Landerer voted to change the “Member Password” annually

In the past few years, many of the local MJM TEAMS have also gotten their own web-sites. Our TEAM sites are linked to our National [WWW.Go2MJM.com](http://WWW.Go2MJM.com) web-site.

### **2002 MJM’s White Pages/Tour Directory**

At the May 11, 2002 board meeting, under the direction of Ralph Philpott, the board approved a suggestion submitted by Karl Wardlaw for MJM to offer a Tour Directory to its members. The board approved with the stipulation; it would only contain the member’s name, address and phone number and be sent to only the members who signed up to be in the directory. The first directory went out as a TEAM Voice Supplement the summer of 2002. At the April 2004 board meeting it was suggested the White Pages/Tour Directory be put on the MJM Web-Page. At the November 2004 board meeting under the direction of Bob Dillon, board members Gary Cobb, Wes Miller, Phil Guica and Jack Senior approved putting the “White Pages/Tour Directory Application on MJM’s Web-Page “Members Only Area.” At the May 2006 board meeting under the direction of Bob Dillon, board members Wes Miller, Phil Guica, Fred McClincy, Mark Tronerud and Jack Senior decided that once a member signed up to be in the directory, their permission form would remain on file and they would remain in the directory until they requested to be removed. This would eliminate the need for them to fill out a new Tour Directory form every year. The 2009 directory was the 7<sup>th</sup> and final year for the MJM “White Page/Tour Directory.” In 2010, it converted to a MJM Photo Directory.

### **2002 MJM Supporter T-Shirts**

At the May 11, 2002 board meeting, the board approved a suggestion submitted by Fred McClincy for MJM to offer a “Supporter T-Shirt” to non MJM people. Fred’s suggestion was approved. The supporter T-Shirts was not a very popular selling item and was discontinued in 2007.

### 2003 Bike Blessing Pins

At the Nov. 8, 2003 board meeting, the board approved a suggestion submitted by “Pappy” Strous to purchase Bike Blessing Pins. “Pappy” designed a pin which the board approved and gave “Pappy” authorization to initially purchase 500 pins. Since then many pins have been given out at MJM Bike Blessings. The MJM Goodie Department began purchasing the pins after “Pappy’s” initial purchase. It was also decided to have a “15 Year Member Award”. All members with 15 consecutive years of service were to be awarded a “15 Year Service Award”. This award was to be given at each Spring Kick-Off with the 5 & 10 year awards. At the 2004 Spring Kick-Off, 18 members received the “15 Year Membership Award”.

### 2005 MJM’s Back Patch Resolution

First, a little background. For many years, MJM has had a problem with 1<sup>st</sup> year non-renewals. Many new members only stay for one year and then do not renew for their 2<sup>nd</sup> year. The member first year seems to be a “let’s check MJM out” year. The big question was, and still is, what has become of that one year member’s back patch?? This question has been asked by many board members through the years. Is it hanging in a closet, was it given to Goodwill, is it being used to lift up our Lord? It was suggested at two previous board meetings that MJM should have a back patch “Assessment/Evaluation period” for new members. That would help assure there being fewer 1-year non-renewal back patches floating around. However, no board decision on this ongoing concern was ever made.

The first-year non-renewals for years 2000 through mid 2004 was very high. At the November 2004 board meeting, this first-year non-renewal/back patch issue was again brought up. For the first time the board took action to address this ongoing question. Under the direction of Bob Dillon and board members Gary Cobb, Jack Senior, Jim Strouse, Wes Miller, Phil Guica and Fred McClincy, a New Member “Back Patch Evaluation” period decision was made. The board’s decision was made known in the Jan. 2005 Voice Newsletter.

**“Only members that have been in good standing for a full year shall be granted the privilege to wear the Large Back Patch. After one year you may acquire the Large Back Patch with an appropriate donation. If you leave MJM you are expected to return the patch, regardless of its condition.”**

This board’s attempt to address and correct one problem, created a new problem. Mixed emotions on the board’s decision was created within the ranks of the MJM membership.

At the April 2005 board meeting the same board members reviewed their January back patch decision due to member concerns. After much discussion they decided there would not be a one year waiting period as first proposed. Instead, all new members **“before obtaining a Back Patch would have to acknowledge the reading and understanding of the newly developed “MJM Educational Guide.”** This guide contains valuable information on the “Interaction with Secular Motorcycle Clubs.” The entire guide focuses on the pros/cons and do’s/don’ts of wearing a motorcycle back patch. This board ruling obtained support from the general membership.

### 2007 National Treasurer and Financial Secretary Change

MJM’s tax period is not like the personal tax period running from January through December. Due to MJM becoming incorporated and granted non-profit status in February 1989, MJM’s fiscal year begins in April. Even though MJM is tax-exempt, the MJM financial records must be audited annually. An Audit Committee made up of Board Members usually audits the books at the Spring Kick-Off Board Meeting. The first change of MJM’s National Treasurer and Financial Secretary officers did not take place until January 2007. Hubert & Jean Gregory maintained both the treasurer duties and membership records since day one. Due to health problems, after 18 years, Hubert & Jean resigned their office December of 2006. On January

2007, Donna Tronerud of Dayton, Ohio took over as MJM's second National Treasurer.

### **1989 -2007 New Membership Secretaries:**

MJM has had three Membership Secretaries (Lila Oliver (Ky. March 1989- May 2000), Barbara Miller (Pa. June 2000 - May 2005), and Ralph Bainbridge (Pa. June 2005- November 2006). During this time period, the Membership Secretaries did not actually maintain MJM's Membership Records. Jean Gregory also kept/maintained all the personal membership records, not the Membership Secretary. Jean supplied membership information to key MJM Officers (Chairman, Goodie Dept., and Membership Secretary). The Membership Secretary helped Jean by making up and mailing out the membership renewal cards and welcome packets to our new members. When Jean resigned, someone needed to take over keeping the membership records. The Membership Secretary would now have to start maintaining membership records as well as doing all the mailing. In the event of a catastrophe and Jean lost her membership records, Karl Wardlaw of Brookville, Ohio had been maintaining a back-up membership data base file. Karl assumed the position of National Membership Secretary on January 2007. (More on this new office below) These two officer changes required a lot of planning and work. The Troneruds and Wardlaws spent a weekend in December 2006 at the Gregorys in Glasgow, Ky making the transition. New banking accounts needed to be set up for the treasurer. Karl's data base was not adequate to maintain renewal records, so he set up a new expanded membership data base file. MJM's mailing address also had to be changed. For the next few months, the new Membership Secretary worked closely with the Goodie Department to change the address on over 7,000 pieces of MJM literature. The IRS had to be notified of the address change as well.

### **2007 New Membership Application Approved**

MJM has used three different tri-fold membership applications. The original 1990 Membership Application was used for the first ten years. At the May 2000 board meeting, Hubert Gregory suggested the application be updated. It should start reflecting more information about the new member, i.e. date of birth, anniversaries and e-mail addresses. It was also decided to include the verification statement "I'm a born again Christian [ ]". Under the direction of Karl Wardlaw and board members James Brockman, Jim Carter, Gary Cobb, Geneva Davis, Earl Dudgeon and Bob Smith, this proposal was unanimously approved for use. The updated 2000 application was used for another seven years with no problems.

MJM received a few membership applications from foreign countries. At the May 2002 board meeting under the direction of Ralph Philpott and board members Gary Cobb, Hubert Gregory, Bob Dillon and Wes Miller, this was looked at. It was decided to help cover the additional postage needed to mail the Voice out of the country the membership fee should be increased. The membership fee for foreign members was set at \$35 for single and \$45 for Husband/Wife.

In 2007, MJM encountered its first problems with the 2000 Membership Application. On two separate occasions in 2007, a non-married man and woman tried to join as a couple. Since day one, an MJM Couple Membership is reserved for a husband and wife. At the November 2007 board meeting under the direction of chairman Phil Guica and board members Bob Dillon, Vernon Hawkins, Fred McClincy and Mark Tronerud, they unanimously agreed to make two changes on the application to prevent this from happening again: 1, the words "**Husband/Wife**" would replace the word "couple"; 2, to clarify Husband/Wife, this statement would also be added below the spouse name and spouse signature line "**One woman legally married to one man**". The approved application change was given to Karl Wardlaw who retained the original 2000 application on his computer. Karl made the changes and sent the revised application to the board via e-mail. A copy of all the MJM Membership Applications from 1989 to present are located in the National History book.

## **2007 Founders Award Adopted**

At the November 2007 board meeting under the direction of Phil Guica, board members Bob Dillon, Vern Hawkins, Wes Miller, Mark Tronerud and Fred McClincy adopted a new "Founders Award". It was decided this award would be presented at the annual Spring Kick-Off along with other MJM Member Awards.

The board voted that Hubert & Jean Gregory would be the recipients of the first Founders Award at 2008 Spring Kick-Off. At the November 2008 meeting under the direction of Phil Guica, board members Dave Topalis, Vern Hawkins, Fred McClincy, Mark Tronerud and proxy for Bob Williams Walter Landerer clarified the verbiage for the award. This award was established in remembrance and honor of our MJM Founders. It will be presented annually to an outstanding servant to our Lord. A list of all recipients is located in the National History book

## **2008 Four MJM Officers Resign**

Prior to the May 2008 board meeting, MJM Voice Editor Mark Tronerud turned in his resignation as editor to be effective August 2008. Prior to the November 2008 board meeting Treasurer Donna Tronerud submitted her resignation as treasurer to be effective November 2008. Karl Wardlaw turned in his resignation as MJM Membership Secretary to be effective December 2008. Bob Dillon also turned in his resignation as the MJM Rally Coordinator. Under the direction of Phil Guica, board members Dave Topalis, Vern Hawkins, Fred McClincy, Mark Tronerud and proxy for Bob Williams Walter Landerer accepted these resignations. Linda Hawkins of Finchville Kentucky was appointed as the new MJM Treasurer and Fred and Anna Shafer of Gettysburg Pennsylvania were appointed to fill the MJM Membership Secretary position. The Rally Coordinator position was not filled until further need for this position was proven. Fred McClincy volunteered to be temporary editor until a full time editor could be found.

## **2009 New Rally Coordinator**

Dorothy Miller volunteered to be the new MJM Rally Coordinator. She was BoD approved and started In January 2009.

## **2009 Family Membership/ Dues Increase**

Some major national changes took place at both the May and November 2009 board meetings. The board decided the MJM Ministry needed to get the children of MJM members involved in the ministry. After a lot of discussion on having a "Family Membership", under the direction of Vern Hawkins, board members Dave Topalis, Fred McClincy, Fred Shafer, Walter Landerer, Bob Williams and Dan Shinnars the following board action was passed at the May meeting.

Santo Landerer made the motion to add a by-law to provide for a new "MJM Family Membership". Seconded by Fred Shafer, motion passed.

The board meeting minutes indicated a "Family Membership" will consist of either a father and mother or legal guardian with children under 18. Once they turn 18, they will no longer be covered under a family membership, they must chose to join on their own. The family membership fees will be \$20.00 for a single parent and \$30.00 for a family. Children will be permitted to wear the small MJM 3" patch with a "Junior Member" rocker (which parents will purchase) on a vest over the small 3" MJM patch.

At the November board meeting the same board members had additional discussion on the Family Membership. Santo Landerer made the motion to change the paragraph in the handbook on membership dues to increase dues to: Single \$20.00 and Family Membership to \$30.00 beginning January 1, 2010. Fred Shafer seconded the motion, the motion passed. The MJM membership was notified of this board decision in the February Voice Newsletter. This was the first board passed dues increase since MJM was founded in 1989.

This dues increase caused some members to have concern. The board did not give the members any reason for their need to increase the membership annual dues. Or, how they planned to get the members children involved in the ministry by creating this new Family Membership by-law.

### **2009 Reinstatement Policy**

Under the direction of Vern Hawkins, board members Dave Topalis, Fred McClincy, Fred Shafer, Walter Landerer, Bob Williams and Dan Shinnors the following board action was passed at the May meeting for non-renewals being reinstated. Santo Landerer made the motion that each reinstatement for MJM membership must be researched and members which are reinstated can earn back some or all of their lost time. Seconded by Fred Shafer, motion passed. Bob Williams made the motion that a hard copy of the Voice be mailed for three months after a lapsed renewal date. Then place them on an e-mail list for 1 year, or until their membership is renewed. Seconded by Fred Shafer, motion passed. Fred McClincy made the motion that the MJM BoD will have the final say on removal of members from the membership list. Seconded by Bob Williams, motion carried. At the November meeting, the reinstatement policy was again discussed. It was felt this policy should be part of the membership handbook.

### **MJM Photo Directory**

Also at the May meeting, Fred Shafer made the motion that Ralph Bainbridge create a MJM Photo Directory. Seconded by Santo Landerer, motion carried. At the November BoD meeting Santo made the motion the board approved all reimbursement for Ralph. Seconded by Fred McClincy, motion passed. Ralph contacted Karl Wardlaw the MJM White Page Coordinator. They talked about and agreed to the advantage of combining the two publications into one. Ralph presented the proposal to the board February 18. On February 23, Ralph supplied the board (by e-mail) a copy of his labor of love directory. He also supplied a cost of \$14.21 each to print which equated to about \$1400. Through e-mails, the board decided it would not be a cost effective endeavor. I was decided again through e-mail votes to put the directory in the “Members Only” area of the MJM web-site. Members wanting the directory could download and print the directory on their own home printers, not adding any direct cost to the ministry. This photo directory will be replacing MJMs “White Page Tour Directory.”

### **Help For TEAMS**

Two board actions at the November BoD meeting was designed to give additional help to our MJM TEAMS. Under the direction of Vern Hawkins, board members Dave Topalis, Fred McClincy, Fred Shafer, Walter Landerer, Bob Williams and Dan Shinnors the following board actions were passed. The BoD wants to start helping TEAMS which have to travel long distances to attend the annual Spring Kick-Off. Santo Landerer made the motion, at the boards discretion, to pay the SKO registration and housing fee for (1) one or (2) couples from new TEAMS to come to the SKO for one trip only. Fred Shafer seconded motion, motion passed.

The Dayton Believers TEAM suggested to the board they consider replacing the current 4 x 8 National Banners which were purchased in 1991. The board approved the purchase of two new National Banners to be kept by the MJM Goodie Department. Any MJM TEAM or Member in good standing may borrow a National Banner for their event. It must be returned within one week of their event. They must also be willing to pay for the 1<sup>st</sup> class postage both ways for the use of the banner. To further help our TEAMS, Fred Shafer made the motion for the National Treasury to pay for ½ of the banner cost for any TEAM wishing to purchase a 4 x 8 TEAM Banner. Dave Topalis seconded, motion passed. Fred McClincy showed a form to the BoD he wants to send out to all TEAMS. The TEAMS are to fill out the form showing their activities for the past year. The forms are to be returned to Fred prior to the SKO board meeting. Motion was made by Bob

Williams for Fred to send out the forms. Seconded by Santo Landerer, motion passed.

### **Spanish New Testaments**

Fred McClincy made the motion to purchase Bibles/NT in Spanish for the membership to use in prison ministry, rallies, etc. Seconded by Santo Landerer, motion passed. Spanish NT are available through the MJM Goodie Department.

### **Handbook Update**

The Member Handbook has not been updated since 2000. Under the direction of Vern Hawkins, board members Dave Topalis, Fred McClincy, Fred Shafer, Walter Landerer, Bob Williams and Dan Shinnors the following handbook update was approved in November 2009. Santo Landerer made the motion to make changes/clarifications in the by-laws to eliminate gray areas. To submit the revised handbook to the IRS to retain our corporations tax deferred status. Seconded by Fred Shafer. More discussion, motion passed. A non-board committee was established to update the 2000 edition handbook. Committee Chairman Chris Cooter (Pennsylvania Rolling Saints President), John Lake Pennsylvania, Anna Shafer (Pennsylvania MJM Membership Secretary), Ralph Bainbridge (Pennsylvania MJM Voice Editor) and Phil Guica (Vermont 2007-09 Board Chairman). There is a question as to weather this committee falls in line with the handbook update requirements as laid out in the 2000 Handbook update by-law on the bottom of page 4.

### **SKO Board Meetings Time Established**

Bob Williams made the motion for the SKO Board Meeting be held on Friday night. That it be advertized in the Voice that the meeting will be open to all the membership. Doing this will leave Saturday open for the BoD to take part in the SKO activities, witnessing and outreach. Seconded by Santo Landerer, motion passed.

### **Supporter T-shirts/Pay Pal**

Fred McClincy made the motion to have non-member "Supporter" T-shirts. Seconded by Santo Landerer, motion passed. The design (wording and logo) has not yet been designed. Fred proposed to the board we could use Pay Pal to purchase goodies at a 1% fee charge. Fred made the motion MJM starts using Pay Pal. Seconded by Dan Shinnors, Under the direction of Vern Hawkins, board members Dave Topalis, Fred McClincy, Fred Shafer, Walter Landerer, Bob Williams and Dan Shinnors passed Freds motion. Dave Topalis abstained from voting.

### **2010 Board Rotation**

MJM seen the largest number of director changes in it's history during the first four months of 2010. At the November 2009 BoD meeting, under the direction of Vern Hawkins, board members Dave Topalis, Fred McClincy, Fred Shafer, Walter Landerer, Bob Williams and Dan Shinnors, (7 members) followed our by-laws and approved 5 new candidates for the membership approval, to serve as directors. In January, the membership approve three of those five candidates to serve on MJMs Board of Directors. In January, Santo Landerer resigned from the board for health reasons. (6 members) In March, the board voted Fred Shafer in to be the new board chairman to start on April 1<sup>st</sup> when chairman Vern Hawkins rotated off the board. Following our board replacement by-law, Fred Shafer nominated past board member Phil Guica to replace

Walter Landerer after he resigned, whom the board approved. (Back to 7 members) Then on March 31, Vern Hawkins and Fred McClincy completed their term and retired off the board. (5 members) This had completed Fred's third term as a board member. On April 1st, Fred Shafer became the new BoD Chairman and Bob Dillon, Charlie Nelson and Joan Philpott came on the board to start their three year term. (8 members) On April 5, our newly elected chairman Fred Shafer resigned from the board after serving as chairman for 4 days. Dan Shinnors also resigned on the same day. (6 members) The remaining board members through e-mails and phone calls decided to call for a special board meeting following our by-laws. It was held on April 24 at board member Joan Philpotts home. (More on this meeting later) Bob Dillon notified the board that due to health reasons Charlie Nelson had also resigned from the board. (5 members) Charlie had a heart attack and went on kidney dialysis. Bob nominated past board member Jack Senior to replace resigning Charlie Nelson. The board members present, Bob Dillon, Joan Philpott, Dave Topalis, and Bob Williams unanimously agreed and voted Jack in to replace Charlie. (Back to 6 members) Recently appointed member Phil Guica could not be at this meeting. During this short period, MJM had eleven board member rotations. Six rotated off and five came one. Amazingly, when it was all said and done, the board ended up with only one less member then they started with in January.