

**Atlantic Canada Motor Maids**

**Wrap Up & Planning Meeting**

**October 17 & 18, 2009**

**Rodd Park House Inn, Moncton, New Brunswick**

**MEETING NOTES**

**Present:** Christine Austin, Lynne Campbell, Peggy Dingle, Vicki Gesner, Coleen Murphy, Gail Neilson, Elizabeth Pass, Cheryl Veinot, Anne Weeden

A. Weeden called the meeting to order at 2:30 pm.

**1. Reports**

**1.1 District Director (Anne W.):** Anne thanked everyone for their participation in the District's activities and events over the 2009 riding season. She also thanked everyone for their support as she becomes familiar with the District Director's responsibilities and welcomes any suggestions/comments from all members. In response to members' initial feedback, she indicated that the goal for 2010 will be to have more group rides.

Anne thanked Coleen for all the work she had done over the past months in getting our website up and running. She also thanked Lynne and Elizabeth for their help in organizing today's meeting. She has taken to heart one piece of advice received from another District Director -- Delegate, Delegate, Delegate! She stressed that it is everyone's club and we should all feel involved and engaged.

**1.2 Treasurer's Report (Lynne C.):** Lynne reported that she had received an e-mail from Manu regarding the status of District funds that she still has including:

\$200	Received from sale of calendars earmarked for Breast Cancer Research
\$45	Collected from 50/50 Draws at monthly meetings

**Action:** Lynne will make arrangements with Manu regarding the transfer of these funds.

In addition to the above funds, \$35 had been collected from 50/50 draws at the July and September meetings and was given to Elizabeth as reimbursement for gifts and supplies totaling \$85.35; therefore, the District owes Elizabeth \$50.35. When the money is received from Manu, Elizabeth will be reimbursed in total with \$5 borrowed from Breast Cancer Research fund (this will be paid back with future funds from 50/50 draws).

**1.3 Safety (Peggy D.):** Peggy handed out a safety sheet on hypothermia and advised that she will be posting a safety tip on the website each month. She welcomed comments/suggestions on any future topics.

- 1.4 Website (Coleen M):** Coleen reported that the Florida District has been extremely helpful in getting our website started. The Multiply site has worked well although for \$20 (US) an upgrade is available. Elizabeth can also post pictures on the site.
- 1.5 Ride Coordinators (Vicki G. & Lynne C.):** Several rides were held in 2009 despite 2 hurricanes passing us by including to Lake Charlotte, Tatamagouche, Sugar Moon Farm, and Dempsey's Orchard. These were in addition to the ride to and from our monthly meetings.
- 1.6 Historian (Elizabeth P.):** Elizabeth showed several albums she has created containing past issues of The Advisory and pictures chronicling the Atlantic Canada District. She will continue to work on this project with the assistance of Lynne and Gail.
- 1.7 Lewiston Convention:** All those who attended the Convention in Lewiston commented on how inspiring the event was and in particular, how it motivated everyone to actively grow our own District. Lynne and Elizabeth are planning to attend Convention in Cody, Wyoming in 2010. Anne and Coleen can't ride due to time constraints, however, they are considering flying in order to take part in most events.
- 1.8 AMA Conference (Gail N.):** Gail reported that she travelled a total of 11,000 kms to attend the Women's AMA Conference in Colorado. Overall, she felt the conference was worthwhile, although, the ride to and from Colorado was probably the best part.

## 2. Recognition & Awards

Elizabeth and Lynne presented the following awards:

3 <sup>rd</sup> Highest Mileage	Vicki Gesner
Most Events Attended	Coleen Murphy
Oops Award	Peggy Dingle
Longest Trip	Gail Neilson

Congratulations everyone!

Since they were unable to attend the meeting, certificates and gifts will be presented to Amanda J. and Manu P. at another time to recognize their contribution and leadership.

## 3. A Brief History of Motor Maids Inc.

Elizabeth and Lynne led us through a game of "Are You Smarter than a Motorcycle Peg" which everyone enjoyed immensely!

## 4. Planning for 2010 Riding Season

- 4.1 Monthly Meetings:** It was agreed that our monthly meetings will be held at various locations throughout the region in 2010.

**Action: Members are asked to post suggestions on the website.**

**4.2 Contests:** Coleen presented several contest ideas for everyone's feedback and discussion. The following two contests were agreed upon for 2010:

- i) **Most Wanted:** Participants will visit as many post offices as they can and take a picture of themselves/their bike at the location. Entry fee is \$10 with the proceeds split between the winner and a charity (to be determined). The rider who has the most pictures at the end of the season will be the "Most Wanted."
- ii) **The Polar Bear Riding Challenge:** Participants will ride their bike on at least one day of every month. They will take a photo of themselves on that day, with their bike, and note the date, kilometres ridden, and temperature. At next year's wrap-up meeting, all the participants will be entered into a draw to win a prize. Participant's photos will be posted on the web-site throughout the year.

Instructions will be posted on the website.

**4.3 Brochure & Banner Design:** Elizabeth circulated a proposed brochure for our District which includes our website and e-mail address.

**Action: Anne will send to Brenda for her review and comments. Once finalized, Elizabeth will e-mail to everyone.**

Elizabeth showed a sample of a banner that she had developed for us to use at various events like Biker Bash, Convention, etc. A few suggestions were made.

**Action: Elizabeth will circulate to everyone for their review before it is printed.**

There was a question as to whether we can use the display material used at previous Biker Bash events.

**Action: Elizabeth will contact Manu and Amanda to see if this material is available.**

**4.4 Meeting/Ride with Eastern Canada District:** The 2010 ride with Eastern Canada was discussed and it was agreed that we would invite them to come to the 2010 Chocolate Festival in St. Stephen. It was also suggested that we invite members from Maine.

**Action: Anne will contact Dora Cook to determine their interest. Anne will send this invitation to Maine's District Director as well.**

**4.5 Membership Promotion Events:** All agreed that the annual Biker Bash is an excellent way of promoting our District although we would probably only need to be onsite for Saturday. It was also suggested that we split the day up into shifts of 2 people.

**Action: Anne will contact the Biker Bask organizers to find out how much it will cost to have a booth for Saturday. Coleen will organize a sign up sheet for volunteers.**

A suggestion was made to hold information sessions on Saturdays at various dealers throughout the region. A couple of members would be present to answer questions and hand out

brochures to interested women. We could also have a laptop set up with a visual presentation of our rides and Motor Maid historical material.

**Action:** Anne will coordinate this with members in early spring 2010.

**4.6 Proposed Rides:** Vicki's Proposed Runs for 2010 Riding Season (details to be finalized at a later date):

**Frenchy's Through the Valley – Full Day Run**

- Highway-101 from Metro to Coldbrook (1 hour) to visit Frenchy's on Highway-1.
- Lunch at Farmers Family Diner outside Aylesford
- Continue westbound along Highway-1 to Wilmot Frenchy's

**Peggy's Blandford Loop – Apx 3 hours**

- Highway-3 or 103 to Hubbards Exit for Blandford Loop
- Lunch at Peggy's favourite restaurant in Blandford
- Continue loop and return to Metro via #3

**Yarmouth/Digby Neck Overnighter/Weekender**

- Highway-101 from Metro to Middleton
- Highway-201 west to Annapolis Royal
- Lunch in Annapolis Royal at the Fort Anne Cafe
- Continue to Digby Neck via Highway-1
- Digby rest/gas stop and Frenchy's?
- Option of whale-watching from Long Island or Brier Island (would require 2<sup>nd</sup> night)
- Overnight on the Islands or Yarmouth
- Return to Metro via Highway-103 with rest/gas stops
- Lunch at the Knot Pub in Lunenburg
- Continue to Metro via Highway-103/3

**Tour a Mine in Springhill – Full Day**

- Highway-102 from Metro to Springhill (2 hours)
- Tour a Mine (<http://www.town.springhill.ns.ca/Attractions.html>)
- Coffee in Springhill
- Lunch in Parrsboro at the Harbourview Restaurant
- Return to Truro via Highway-2 along Minas Shore
- Truro to Metro via Highway-102 (1 hour)

**Vicki's Valley Tour – 4-5 Hours**

- Highway-101 to Just Us! Coffee Roasters in Grand Pre (<http://www.justuscoffee.com/Contact.aspx>)
- Gaspereau Valley to Prospect to Cambridge via South Mountain
- Backroads to The Port Pub in Port Williams for Lunch (<http://www.theportpub.com/>)
- Back to Metro via secondary roads

Other suggestions include a 2-day trip to Cape Breton to do the Cabot Trail, a 2-day trip to PEI and a covered bridge tour of New Brunswick.

Anne reported on recent discussion she had with Lil Charron, District Director of Maine, in which Lil proposed a meeting at the border of New Brunswick and Maine to celebrate May 7<sup>th</sup> (International Female Riding Day). We would meet in the middle of the bridge between Canada and the US to exchange flags. Gail showed an example of a “friendship” flag that could be used for the exchange as well as for pins. Given the weather at the time of year, we may not be able to ride our bikes, however, it was agreed that we could go in cars the night before (May 6<sup>th</sup>).

**Action: Anne will coordinate event with Lil.**

- 4.7 Fundraising Events:** It was agreed that the group would participate in organized rides/fundraising events in 2010 as a way of contributing to our community as well as raising our profile.

**Action: Information about organized rides/fundraising events will be posted on the website’s calendar.**

- 4.8 Organized Safety Courses:** Christine reported that she has been in contact with someone from the Nova Scotia Safety Council who has agreed to put on an advanced rider course for our group.

**Action: Christine will coordinate and will advise everyone of the date and the amount – anyone interested in participating should let her know.**

## **5. Fall//Winter Social Events**

Everyone agreed that it is important that we all stay in touch over the winter months and it was proposed that we get together at least once a month even if it’s only for coffee and a chat.

December: Vicki agreed to host a Christmas Dinner at her home (date to be confirmed)

**Action: Anne will send out proposed dates and events over the winter months to determine interest and availability. Members are asked to send proposed events to Anne or post them on the website.**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:15 p.m. with dinner and games planned for later in the evening.

Thank you to everyone who attended!