

Greetings My Insurance Company Fleeced Friends!

It's peak color time in the U.P.! By the time you read this, visions of da tirdy point buck will be dancing in your head. Hopefully we won't be shoveling yet but ya never know.

Mimi and I were talking after our October meeting about all the changes our country has been going through in the last eight to ten months. She said that it must really be hard for me right now because I hate change. I responded that some change is good but most of the time when change is forced upon me it's never ends well. I have lost two cell phones complete with all contacts and irreplaceable vacation pictures due to forced updates from Verizon. When they force updates on my computer it usually takes me a couple of days to navigate the extra, unnecessary steps and windows I now need to access and work through. Maybe I'm more frustrated with results of forced changes that I have no control over and not necessarily the change itself. When Congress outlawed incandescent bulbs, I went out and bought cases of 100-watters. Screw them! I've almost run through my stash, but I hear they're making a comeback. I don't really know why it irks me that there will be no more gas-powered engines allowed in the USA by 2035. I think I'll be making my last minivan payment around then too, dammit! I've been reading up on the inevitable EVs (electric vehicles) and bikes. I guess it is the wave of the future, but it really cheeses me off! I was hoping that my grandsons would be able to experience what I did as a high schooler souping up a muscle car. That feeling you get. You have a date with the girl you've been trying to get to go out with you forever, but your car isn't done yet. You're working feverishly to finish installing your latest high-performance part so you can take her out and beat some guy's newer Torino with the Starsky and Hutch stripe. (Google it!). My grandsons will never know the feeling of crawling out from under a muscle car with grease-stained clothes and dirty fingernails and the back of their hair soaked in anti-freeze or oil. All in a hurry to fire that monster up and test it out in time to get you and the car cleaned up and to pick up the hottest chick around. The car fires up and you can't believe it's yours. You listen to that new cam chugging as you back down the driveway. The whole car is just shaking side to side as you push in the clutch and continue to roll backwards ever so slowly. You drop it into first gear, tromp down on the gas and dump the clutch. All Hell breaks loose as the tires beg for mercy and the ass end sashays around searching for traction and then the sweetest sound that you'll ever hear comes out of the smoke and above the tires' shriek. Drowning out the roaring engine - the secondaries kick in and give you that HUWAAAAHHHHH!!! pinning you to the seat as shiff outside starts to fly by. Then it's time to hit second and do it all over again. Is there a better feeling than that to be had while fully clothed? I get goosebumps just writing about it! Nope, my grandkids will never experience any of what I was lucky enough to have lived through. I suppose they can kick my old, wrinkled ass at whatever new video game they're playing. I could probably take them in PacMan or Pong though. Ya need more than just thumbs to play those. I had a wicked bank shot in Pong. Sometimes change has to happen but just not always for the best. These EVs have a lot of problems and drawbacks and I'm not sure if Americans are ready to shelve all of their freedom machines yet. Time will tell how the public feels about this change. Maybe we can rewind the armatures or replace a chip or somethin'. Like we did to our slot cars. (Google it!)

Well, we had pretty much a full house for our October meeting. I marvel at my memberships' dedication. I can't thank them enough. They make it easy to be an RC, Ill tell ya!

We opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. The minutes were sorta presented due to Mimi being sick during our September meeting. A recap was given from the RC agenda and our Treasurer's Report was accepted as read. There was no MRF report other than Butch's induction to the MRF Hall of Fame. Congratulations and well deserved! Our Legislative Update was kind of vague as we are still trying to gain our footing in Lansing. Several options are open to us so we'll wait for a course of action from the Legislative Committee.

Unfinished Business

- A.) A report on the Remembered Riders' Run was given.
- B.) A report on the 911 Remembrance Run in Region 4 was given and discussed. Thanks for the great time and great hospitality!
- C.) The latest Ore House Ride In Bike Show was reported on. We picked up more participants and saw our profits rise also.
- D.) Barbie and Jean reported on our Family Fun Day, Toys for Tots benefit. We made the front page of the Esky paper. Barbie, Jean, and Art Menard gave us the numbers which were quite good! Barbie relayed several "thank yous" from the participants. The new spook house was a big hit!

New Business

- a.) Bike raffle results are in and Region 17 sold the most and the winning ticket this year. Thank you all for making this achievement possible.
- b.) Our cash disbursement was discussed and voted on.
- c.) Our Member/s of the Year are Chuck and Sally Way! Very deserving and thank you for all that you do!
- d.) Seminar was discussed.

We added a feature to our meeting we call the Easel Talk. We have an easel and a whiteboard, and we discuss issues while writing notes or figures, etc. for everybody to take in ponder. This month's Easel Talk was on improving our Bike Night attendance since we are now having a club holding events on our Bike Night Thursdays. Solutions were suggested and actions will be taken. You are welcome to come aboard! Barbie presented papers from the Steam and Gas Show. Thanks to everyone that manned the booth!
We adjourned and went to Hudson's for dinner.

This insurance thing ain't gonna fix itself. Get involved or lose it all. Have fun at Camp and be safe!!

I'm sorry to report that Jerry Soto and Bea Malleck were in a bike accident in Kentucky. Bea did not survive it and Jerry is badly injured. We don't have details yet but probably will by the time this is printed. Bea was a past RC of Region 6 and a pleasure to work with. She always did everything right. I will miss her.