



UNCLE TOM'S BOOK

Revised 2016

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My Chain of Command

National President

National Vice President

National Sergeant at Arms

National Secretary

National Treasurer

State President

State Vice President

State Sergeant at Arms

State Secretary

State Treasure

Chapter President

Chapter Vice President

Chapter Sergeant at Arms

Chapter Secretary

Chapter Treasure

Chapter Membership Chair

Chapter Delegate

Chapter Road Captain

My Sponsor is

His Phone number is

MISSION STATEMENT

As Combat Veterans we proudly ride in honor and respect of all Prisoners of War, Missing in Action, and those brothers and sisters who were killed in combat supporting our country, in past, present and future military actions.

Our mission shall be: To support all Veterans, especially Combat Veterans, to the best of our ability, regardless of race, religion, age, sex or country of origin. To fit into the areas where we live, as a non-confrontational/non-territorial motorcycle organization, showing respect for all human kind. Combat Veterans Motorcycle Organization is open to all verified Combat Veterans that meet specific criteria, and successfully complete a probationary period.

Combat Veterans international is a non-profit organization dedicated to assisting all veterans to the best of our ability, with emphasis on combat veterans. We share a fellowship and common interest in motorcycling. We are based in Washington State and have chapters in several Northwest states and are working with groups to form new chapters. Please click on our patch at www.combatveterans.com to get more information on the Combat Veterans International organization, contact information, veteran information and links to related sites.

QUESTION AND ANSWERES

Note: It is imperative for you as a new probationary member of Combat Veterans International to have an understanding of our HISTORY and how we operate. These questions and answers are only a beginning. You will continue to have questions and continue to learn.

REMEMBER: THE ONLY DUMB QUESTION IS THE ONE YOU DON'T ASK!!!

Note: It will take you at least nine (9) months to qualify to be voted on to wear a FULL BACK PATCH.

The reason for this seemingly long probationary period is to give you a good chance to get to know the men and women in our organization and to give us a chance to get to know you. We have worked very hard to develop CVI. It is important to us that CVI continues to grow in the way the founders envisioned. Our goal is now and has been to help Brother Veterans in any way we can.

The reality is that everybody doesn't fit into CVI, or they may not see things our way. Sometimes it may be necessary to extend a probation period for a time in order that the new person can address any problems he/she may have with Voting Patch Holders. Remember, when it is your turn to be voted in as a full patch holder, it takes a 100% yes vote from all Patch Holders Present!!!

1. When is the official birthday for Combat Veterans International?
(A)March 3, 1998
2. Who are the five founding members of Combat Veterans International?
(A)Jack Palmer ("Tracker Jack"), Ken Berryhill ("Slider"), John Hopkins ("Hoppy"), Bob Harris ("Bo-Bo" Retired), and David Bush ("Professor") who is no longer with us.
3. Where and how did these men first come together?
(A)In a PTSD therapy group run by Hayyim Grossman, on Cederwood Dr. in Bellingham, Washington.
4. What kind of Support Patch do we fly?
(A)POW-MIA - PERIOD, NO EXCEPTIONS!!!!
5. Name your National President, State President, Chapter President, National Sergeant at Arms (SA), State SA, Chapter SA.
(A)Remember these names change at least every two years. Check your By-laws to find out when these officers change.
6. Will the organization check you out? WHY?
(A)YES!! (Phonies and wanna-be's ARE NOT WELCOME!!!!!!)
7. Why do we pay yearly dues?

(A)To help defray the cost of running this organization, and to help Veterans in need.

8. If you are asked about CVI and how to join, how do you respond?
(A)Talk to him, share any information you may have, introduce him to any other members present. Invite him to the next scheduled meeting.

9. What are the two Primary Qualifications for Membership in CVI?

(A)Be a verified veteran with combat experience (also verified)

(B) Ride a motorcycle of at least 500 cc or more.

10. Should you meet each full Patch Holder on a personal level?

(A)Yes, to the best of your ability, you should meet all members and Probationary members! It's important that we get to know you, and you get to know us.

11. Is our PATCH copyrighted?

(A)YES

12. Who is in charge of the group during a ride? Who is that for your chapter?

(A)The Road Captain

(B) Name your Road Captain

13. If the Chapter President and Vice President are not present or available, who is in charge?

(A)Sergeant at Arms

14. Where do we place the organization in relationship to family and job?

(A)Family – Job – CVI

15. What is the difference between our patch and that of an outlaw club (MC)?

(A)See your Sponsor!!!

16. What is MOTORCYCLEISM?

(A)The ability to deal with other organizations and/or MC's with RESPECT, using proper PROTOCOLS!!

17. Why is it improper protocol to wear your CUT in a car?
(A) It could be seen as an act of aggression by some outlaw clubs. At the very least, it is a sign of DISRESPECT!!
18. Do you do anything illegal for a Patch holder?
(A) HELL NO!!!!!!!
19. Who do you contact at least once a week?
(A) Your Sponsor!!!
20. Can you drink alcohol while wearing your COLORS?
(A) NO!!! Never consume alcohol while wearing your colors. If you stop for a drink, remove your CUT before entering the bar. Secure in saddle bag, car or with a Patch holder. (We NEVER take a chance on bringing DISHONOR to our COLORS or putting CVI in a bad light.)
21. Is it okay to consume alcohol or any other non prescription mood altering chemicals during a CVI function? (For example; Runs, Parties, Meetings.)
(A) NO!!!
22. If a PATCH HOLDER is in a conversation with any other PATCH HOLDER, how should we approach?
(A) Never just walk right up!!!
1) Approach to within sight of the person you need to talk to.
2) Wait to be recognized, (he/she may be conducting CVI business.)
THIS IS ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT IF YOUR PATCH HOLDER IS TALKING TO A PATCH HOLDER OF AN MC!!!! REMEMBER ALWAYS KEEP PROTOCOL IN MIND!!!
23. Name the remaining Founding Members of CVI and the remaining Charter Members of CVI. What is the difference?
(A) **Tracker Jack and Hoppy** – Founding Members still active.
(B) **Uncle Tom, Joker, Wild Bill** – Charter Members still active.
Founders are the BROTHERS WHO STARTED CVI. Charter Members are those who are lucky enough to be among the first twelve to join CVI.
24. What is the number one rule for everyone?
(A) USE COMMON SENSE!!!!!!!

25. WHAT IS THE "GOLDEN RULE" while traveling in CLUB CIRCLES?
(A)**If you give RESPECT you will get RESPECT. If you act like an ASSHOLE you will be treated like an ASSHOLE.**
26. What does do Article Nine (9)/ Section Three (3) in our By-Laws address?
(A)Discipline
27. What must be on a Patch Holder's or a probationer's driver's license?
(A)A motorcycle endorsement
28. Who do we ride for?
(A)Veterans, in particular COMBAT VETERANS!!! And the POW's, MIA's still unaccounted for from all CONFLICTS!!!

QUESTIONS A PROBATIONARY MEMBER IS EXPECTED TO KNOW

1. How long is the required probationary period?
(A)Six (6) months, possibly longer if circumstances call for that to happen.
2. Are you required to have a sponsor, and why?
(A)Yes, because everyone needs a guide, and advocate in the beginning.
3. Can you be asked to do anything illegal?
(A)Hell No!!!
4. Can your Colors be worn in a car? Why?
(A)No!! This could be seen as an act of aggression by the Outlaw Clubs.
5. Who do you call or see at least once a week?
(A)Your Sponsor.
6. What is you reason for wanting to be part of this Organization?

(A)This is a personal question, answer truthfully and from the heart.

7. Do you hug an outlaw patch holder or touch his Patch in any way?

(A)NO! But if you are approached, you hug his shoulder and never across or touching his back! (This is a sign of total disrespect.)

8. What side of your cut/vest is the American flag on?

(A)The left side top of the cut.

9. Do you give out CVI members' phone numbers to anyone?

(A)Not without permission!

10. Can you carry a weapon?

(A)No, check out article 16 all sections for the reasons why.

11. What should a probationary carry with him at all times?

(A)A pad and pen, first aid kit and survival guide.

12. When approaching a Patch holder from an Outlaw Club, how should you do it?

(A)Unless absolutely necessary, DON'T!! If you can, ask one of your officers to ask the question. This officer should probably be your Chapter Sergeant at Arms. If he isn't available, go to the next officer available. Full Patch outlaws often times don't acknowledge non-patch holders from other organizations.

13. What is the number one rule for everyone?

(A)Use COMMON SENSE AND ABOVE ALL!! GIVE AND EXPECT RESPECT!!!

14. WHO DO WE RIDE FOR???

(A)Combat Veterans from all conflicts and all veterans who may need our support, including **POW'S AND MIA'S NOT ACCOUNTED FOR!!!**

15. Will the organization check you out, even if you give us a DD-214?

(A)YES!

16. Is there any difference between a Combat Veteran and a veteran who has not served in a combat zone?

(A)Yes, a non-combatant can not join CVI. Ask your Sponsor why this is.

NEW MEMBER TRAINING

If I were you I would be asking myself and anyone else that might be able to have some insight, WHY DO I (A PROVEN VETERAN) HAVE TO GO THROUGH A PROBATIONARY PERIOD????

It's real simple, we want to get to know you and we want you to get to know us. This is so that you decide if we can meet your needs and if we think you will be able to blend with us.

By requiring a Probationary period, we can effectively protect the integrity of CVI.

REMEMBER, **Some folks just don't fit, for whatever reason!!!**

COVER LETTER FOR PROSPECTING PAPER

This paper is not CVI rocker expectations. It is given to all CVI members as a learning tool only. It was given to us by a member of an Outlaw Club so we could begin to understand their world and some of what they are expected to do while prospecting for their Club. Remember a person who hopes to join a certain club has to prove himself on a daily basis while prospecting and even after he receives his full Patch.

A GOOD RULE OF THUMB IS THE FOLLOWING:

IF YOU ACT LIKE AN ASSHOLE YOU WILL BE TREATED LIKE AN ASSHOLE!!!!!! Always treat a Patch holder from any M/C with Respect.

Even if you don't like the person Always Respect the PATCH and what it took to get it.

(1) The first thing that a new CVI rocker needs to understand is that our world is a little different than some other motorcycle riders. We are often times involved with folks that are considered outlaws.

LET ME BE CLEAR ON THIS POINT!!! We are not now, nor will we ever be an OUTLAW Motorcycle Club. We are a Veterans Service Organization that just happens to ride motorcycle. PERIOD.

However we are often around motorcycle clubs for a variety of reasons, and need to have an understanding of the way they look at life.

Remember, even if you don't like the man, he had to go through a lot to earn that patch that he carries on his back, RESPECT the Patch.

EXPECTATIONS

1. Obtain a Sponsor as soon as you know you will be starting your probationary period.
 - (A) A sponsor is responsible for your training and will be called upon to report on your progress during your first six (6) months in our organization. He will meet the membership committee with you at your three (3) month review.
 - (B) A sponsor needs to be well versed in the bylaws of our Organization and be available to you when needed.
 - (C) Remember, your sponsor is your representative to the membership committee, and can be the person who recommends you for membership or not, SO PICK WELL, AND WOKE WITH HIM CLOSELY.
 - (D) During your Probationary period, you will need to meet and get to know at least Ten (10) CURRENT PATCH HOLDERS. When you come to your 3 month review and your final review, you should be able to present the membership committee with ten SIGNED signatures of the Patch Holders you have become familiar with. (Remember! These MEN will be voting for or against your membership when you have completed your probate period.)

Combat Veterans Survival Guide

Before I really get into this training, I would like to take the time to acknowledge the founders of this organization. These MEN HAD A VISION that started prior to 1998. To my brothers Tracker Jack, Kenny Slider, Bob-O, Freedom One, Wolf and Hope. From the bottom of my heart, THANK you and WELCOME HOME!!!! Uncle Tom.

WHAT DO YOU NEED TO BRING WITH YOU TO YOUR FIRST MEETING?

1. *Your DD-214*, this gives us proof that
 - a. you are a Veteran, and
 - b. Shows that you did serve in a Combat Zone.

(You can't be a full Patch Holder unless you were in a combat theater of operation. Your DD-214 will be verified.)

2. Since we are a motorcycle organization, you will need to show your driver's license with proper Endorsement for motorcycles. IF you aren't endorsed, you won't be allowed to ride with us until you are. Because it is sometimes difficult to get into a motorcycle safety course, you can either go to your local DOL office and try to set up a time to take their written and rider skills test, or you can get a three month learning endorsement while you wait for the next available safety course. As long as you are legal, you can ride with the group. (If you aren't legal and you get stopped while in a pack, it could cause unnecessary problems and delays for your brothers.)
3. Probationary members are not allowed to carry any open or concealed weapons. Article 16 (all sections apply)
4. Oh Yeah!!! You need a motorcycle, of at least 500cc in order to ride with us. This is so you can keep up with the pack on a run.
5. We would like you to write a short biography about yourself so we have a starting point in getting to know you. (One page will do fine)
6. New members will meet with, or contact the membership committee at least every two weeks or more, so we know how you are doing.

7. **We will do our best to have you meet the membership committee your first meeting.**

COMBAT VETERANS INTERNATIONAL HISTORY

Our official Birthday is March 03, 1998

The way I was told it happened is that two groups of Veterans had similar ideas at about the same time. It took some time for them to get it together as is often the case with Veterans, (at least the ones I have come to know and love as brothers). However they did finally get together. It took a lot of work, and research for them to get to the place where they were sure of the direction they wanted this organization to go. When they were comfortable with the nuts and bolts, they were finally ready to approach the Viet Nam Vets Motorcycle Club to seek their blessing sometime at the end of April 1998, and received it. Then they were ready for the Banditos. I personally was a witness three Brothers who were at that meeting were Kenny (Slider) Berryhill, (Bob-O) Bob Harris and The Professor (No longer is with us).

On Memorial Day weekend, our organization was able to sponsor its first event, a ride to Vancouver, Washington, to help HONOR OUR FELLOW VETERANS who are listed on the replica wall of the VIETNAM Memorial in Washington DC, (THE WALL THAT HEALS).

In October of 1998, our Brother (GQ) Jon Andriesen traveled to Australia to contact more Veterans who had heard about our Organization. That was the beginning of the International part on our Back Patch. At about the same time Brothers Slider and Bob-O had made contact with some other Veterans in Canada who had heard about us.

This isn't the entire story, it is just the beginning, stay tuned for much, much more. Our Organization is very dynamic and growing faster than the five founders ever imagined. Maybe you can be a part of us.

August 6, 2000, largely thanks to the extreme effort of our National President Tracker Jack Palmer, we were able to help sponsor the traveling VIET

NAM WALL in Ferndale Washington. The wall was in Ferndale from 8/8/2000 through 8/14/2000. The week started in Silverdale, Washington with a motorcycle escort all the way to Ferndale. Wow! What an experience, it was one of the most important events of life bar none. The newspaper estimated 200 bikes, but I personally think there was closer to 500 bikes if not more. I think I heard that when the wall was opened to the general public that the average number of visitors was Five thousand (5000) people per day. We were able to touch that many people's lives in just seven days.

Can you imagine what good we can do in the future!!!

Since this work was started, our organization has grown more and faster than we ever hoped.

CVI QUESTIONNAIRE

1. How did you hear about us?
2. We are clean and sober at all of our functions. Will you be able to remain clean and sober at all of our events?
3. Part of what we do is to seek out other veterans to assist in any way we can. Is this something you can support?
4. Have you discussed this with your wife or other person in your life?
5. We are about respect to everyone; we are not biased, or racial in any way. We treat women with respect. None of our ladies will ever wear a "property of" patch. Agree to this?
6. When we gather we bring along our children and grandchildren. Will this bother you?
7. We are not an M/C (Motorcycle Club). Is this what you are looking for?
8. During your probationary time with us you will not be hassled or hazed.
- 9. What do you never do with your cut?**

PROSPECTING

A brother's view on the subject that he would like to pass along to the new prospective member.

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-Introduction-

From time to time there is found to be some confusion about the reasons for prospecting and what prospecting is supposed to accomplish. In some cases this "purpose" may not even be clear to the Prospect himself.

This text was therefore put together to give you a clearer understanding of where you stand in the eyes of the organization and what will be expected of you. It will also give you a sense of the level of commitment that will be required for you to earn and keep your Patch.

Once you understand the scope of the task you are undertaking you should examine your feelings and question your motivations for wanting to become a part of the Brotherhood. Be certain that you are both willing and able to commit yourself to the level that will be required. Be certain that your

family understands the demands that the Organization will make on your time. And, that those demands will continue to an even greater extent once you become a Patch Holder. There are many veterans' organizations, touring clubs and motorcycle associations that expect to receive only casual participation. This organization is not one of them!

If after reading these remaining pages you have any doubt about being able to meet the responsibilities outlined, it would be better not to consider moving forward at this time. Instead, continue your association with this organization in your present status until you feel you are ready and are confident of your success. Such a decision will be respected and be a credit to your character.

-What is an M/C-

The intention of this section is to give you an overview of the structure and philosophy of the traditional motorcycle club (M/C). In some cases, this does not necessarily describe the Viet Nam Vets M/C, as all motorcycle clubs differ on some points. It will be left to your sponsor to explain those particular differences where they may apply to our organization. This section is given considerable space as it is important that you understand the perspectives of some of the other clubs that you will be associating with from time to time.

If your lifestyle is influenced by motorcycles, you are part of the motorcycle community. Of all the types of organizations found within that community, the motorcycle club stands apart and ranks the highest in structure.

A serious M/C commands respect for one, or both, for two reasons:

1. Those who are informed recognize the deep level of personal commitment and self-discipline that a man has to demonstrate and sustain in order to wear a patch. So much so that it is akin to being a full time profession for the individual. They realize that a club's colors are closely guarded and the membership process is long and difficult. All else put aside, you have to respect the man for what he has accomplished by being able to earn and keep the Patch he wears.
2. Those who are less informed see only the surface of things. They see the vigilance of mutual support. The potential danger of invoking a response

from a well organized unit that travels in numbers and is always prepared for confrontation. They know that no one can provoke one club member without being answerable to the entire club. And that such an answer is a point of honor that must come, to the last man. The type of respect that this generates is one born out of fear.

The serious motorcycle club will conduct itself publically in a highly professional manner. They will not go out of their way to cause trouble or to present themselves as an intimidating force, without purpose or provocation. Their respect is gained from both of the items cited above.

There are many lesser clubs whose membership is made up of equally lesser individuals. These clubs, without a continual show of strength, would have no respect at all. However, the majority of these types of clubs are short lived. The general public does not draw a distinction between different club colors. If one club causes a problem that touches the public sector, the offending club's identity is either confused or ignored, and heat comes down to suppress ALL clubs. As a result of this, within the given community, motorcycle clubs will tend to police themselves.

There is also a natural hierarchy that is recognized between motorcycle clubs themselves. The strongest and most established club will assume charge of the particular state in which they ride. For reasons that are beneficial to all, the dominant club will:

- a) Authorize the establishment of new clubs within the state
- b) Disband clubs that cause continual problems
- c) Act as mediators to resolve problems between existing clubs
- d) Step in and enforce their own solutions if the feuding clubs cannot come to terms on their own
- e) Provide communication links and coordinate interclub events
- f) Call on the clubs within a state for additional support if needed when dealing with a threatening external force.

It is also not uncommon for the major club of the area to select some of their prospects from the best of the ranks of other clubs. In fact, some clubs have been established with that sole purpose in mind.

If it were not for the major club of a state taking this leadership position, clubs would not enjoy the luxury of putting their time and resources to the benefit of their individual brotherhoods. Nor would we enjoy the mobility and freedom of the movement that comes with peace and order.

Within the motorcycle club itself, officers are elected to the traditional post of President, Vice President, Sergeant at Arms, Secretary, Treasure, etc. In addition, you will find the less traditional post of Road Captain, Enforcer and War Lord. The road captain is responsible for the logistics of effectively moving the club from point A to point B. The Enforcer answers only to the President and see's the President's orders are carried out. He will also be the one who travels if a problem has to be addressed at a distance. The War Lord is in charge of tactics and strategies in a time of stress. In some instances he is responsible for the club's security issues. In most clubs the positions of War Lord and Enforcer are combined and may carry the name of either.

Given this limited background information, let us now turn our attention to the individual Patch Holder and how he views his club.

In most cases the Patch Holder was a HANG AROUND for the club for at least a year. Before that he was a long standing acquaintance and his attitude and overall conduct was well known. He then prospected for the club from one to two years before he was awarded his Patch.

Of all things in this man, his life, his loyalty and commitment to the well being of his club come first. Above family, friends, job, personal possessions and personal safety. There is never, ever, any doubt or time spent on even considering which comes first. The only thing that approaches his commitment to the club is his commitment to his brothers. But even here, the interest of the club always comes before that of the individual. He knows that his family can walk out on him without a seconds notice, he can lose his job overnight, and even good close friends come and go with time. But, his club and his brothers will always be there for him. It is one of the few, if not the only thing, that can be counted on. He knows this because he, himself, is committed to always being there for them.

To be certain that new members carry this ethic and standard of attitude, he participates in conditioning, education and, at times, testing the clubs Prospects. The term Prospect comes from "Prospective Member". As such, before he allows another man to wear his Colors, as a symbol of their mutual commitment, he will feel certain that the new member brings with him the same loyalty and dedication that he himself displays.

He has the attitude that there are two types of people in the world, his BROTHERS and those who are a potential threat to the club. For this reason he will not discuss club related business, membership numbers, the club's movements or personal information about his brothers with anyone outside of the club. Anything that could possibly be used by anyone to piece together an informative picture of the club is a very serious security issue. For this reason he will choose carefully the subject and content of the casual conversation. He will be Aware of how loudly he speaks in public when discussing club business and will view with suspicion anyone that appears to move within earshot.

He understands that he is a Patch Holder 24 hours a day. If he is wearing his Colors or not is of no consequence, the day that he accepted his Patch, he surrendered the luxury of having a personal public opinion. Everything that he does and says in public is taken to be the entire club's position or attitude. He can no longer settle personal differences without involving his club. Regardless of his personal feelings, he will agree with and fully support his brothers' actions and words in public. If a hand is raised to his brother he is committed to participate in neutralizing the threat without delay, whether the odds are 10-to-1 or 1-to-10.

He accepts the fact that wearing a Patch carries responsibilities that affect the lives of a lot of people in and outside of his club. He also accepts the fact that if he, himself, gets out of line in the club's eyes that he is subject to being counseled by his Brothers, for his own good and the "good of the Club".

Wearing a Patch is more than getting together for good times. It is also getting together in bad times. It constitutes a lot of work. It is committing yourself to a lifestyle in which you don't look for how your Brothers might help you, but for ways in which you can be of help to your Brothers. You always look to give, but never expect to receive.

Now, all of this may sound very idealistic to you, and in some cases it is just that. But, it is an idea that all clubs profess and are always striving to achieve in principle and practice.

In closing you should be aware of a "Golden Rule" of conduct that you should bear in mind while traveling in club circles: **"If you give respect, you will get respect", "If you act like an asshole, you will be treated like an asshole".**

-PARTICIPATION-

It is important that you understand that it is the Patch Holders that run the Club, not the Club's Officers. This may seem a moot point to some but it cannot be over stressed.

Officers are elected to act as the central spokesmen of the Club and to perform various logistical tasks. But, they do not run the Club. When they speak or act on Club matters, it is in a manner that they believe the majority of the membership would agree upon if a quick spot vote were taken. If an Officer cannot second guess the membership's consensus in various matters, then he is out of touch with his Brothers' feelings and will step down, voluntarily or forced.

This is a critical point because the strongest and most representative form of rule is one in which the leadership comes from the bottom up. The figureheads of the Club are in place to merely carry out the wishes of the membership.

If things were the other way around and the leadership was continually dictated down the chain of command, a sense of apathy and non-involvement would eventually settle in. If this were to happen, the individual Patch Holder would have no intuitive sense of his Club's direction and would hesitate when he feels that he should act in the best interest of the Club. He would adopt an attitude of "wait and see" or "somebody else will do it". Having little or no say in what is going on destroys a man's motivation to get involved, or to voice his opinion. It will also drain his feelings of unity and oneness, of thought and action, with his brothers. Without such unity a Brotherhood is nothing.

Remember that the strength of a Brotherhood rests with the membership at the bottom of the chain of command and is passed up. This is why aggressive

participation is such a prized quality that is expected from the Patch Holder, and is looked for in the Prospect.

-LEVELS OF COMMITMENT-

When a man has earned his Patch, it does not mean that he has reached a goal and from that point can just kick back and coast. Moving from Hang Around, to Prospect, to Patch Holder is not climbing from one level to the next. Instead, progressing through the Club is like moving up an ascending slope, and in time becoming a stronger and more committed Brother.

A man's prospecting rocker, and later his Patch are merely presented in recognition of what he has demonstrated along the way. In this fashion, the more senior that a Patch Holder is in the Club and the more he experiences, the more of a Brother he should be to all.

-POURPOSE OF PROSPECTING-

Prospecting is not an initiation, as you would find in a fraternity. It is instead a period of training that is sustained until the Prospect, in every sense, conducts himself as a Patch Holder.

It is a time in which:

1. The man's attitude is conditioned so that he displays a sense of responsibility and respect towards the Patch Holders of the Club. Without which, he will not develop a sense of Brotherhood.
2. He is educated in basic M/C protocol and etiquette.
3. He is given the time to develop the habits that are basic to security and good communication.
4. To get the man into the habit of participating.
5. To give the man's family time to adjust to the demands of the club.
6. To experience and to learn an essential degree of humility.
7. To become acclimated to trusting the judgment, at times blindly, of those Patch Holders who will someday be his Brothers.
8. To break the man of habits and attitudes that are self-centering and self-serving.

The list could go on but the point here is to demonstrate that prospecting has definite objectives. A Prospect will go nowhere in the Club if he is not aware of this and does not apply himself to those ends.

It is not possible to make a checklist of what is expected from a Prospect in all cases. There is no formula for success. However it can be said that the key ingredient is ATTITUDE. Everything else can be learned in time, but a man's attitude has to come from the heart.

The testing of a Prospect may come in many ways. It may be premeditated or it may be spontaneous. In any event, when a Prospect is given a task, the Patch Holder is going to be looking for the man's attitude and the spirit in which he carries it out. The Prospect should be alert and attentive to the needs and comforts of the Patch Holder. He should be aggressive and always looking for more to do. If he is ever in doubt of his priorities or if he cannot find something to tend to, he should ASK.

The Patch Holders know which of the Prospects hustle and those are the Prospects that are spoken of with the greatest pride and respect. It is also the vehicle by which confidence and trust are developed. These, then, are the seeds of Brotherhood.

In closing, let me remind you that you will be Prospecting for the Club, not just an individual chapter. The Patch Holders of one Chapter are always held accountable for the actions of a Patch Holder in another Chapter. It is therefore only right that the Patch Holders of all Chapters have a hand in developing all Prospects, and have a say in who wears their Patch. Although the Chapter that is closest to your place of residence is assigned the voting power over a Prospects Patch, input to that vote will be gathered from all Chapters. If a Brother in another Chapter has negative feelings about you, the voting Patch Holders of your home Chapter will respect and trust their Brothers judgment over any positive feelings that they may have for you. Their Brother always comes first. So if you should find that a Patch Holder in another Chapter has a problem with you, it will be up to you to square things with him and keep the ball rolling.

-SOME DO'S AND DON'TS-

- As a Prospect, strive to conduct yourself as a Patch Holder at all times.
- Always display an aggressive positive attitude.
- Participate more than what you think is the minimum.

- If you should see a Patch Holder that you have not met, take the initiative to introduce yourself.
- At a gathering, make it a point to circulate and greet every Patch Holder that is there.
- Don't wait to be told, anticipate the Brother's needs and offer to supply them.
- Don't get overly friendly with someone that is not a regular acquaintance of the Club. If someone has questions about the Club, refer them to a Patch Holder.
- Never give a Patch Holder's name, phone number, address or any other personal information to anyone outside the Club.
- Be security minded. Look around and see what is going on around you in public places and report anything that seems suspicious.
- In public places never, ever, let a Patch Holder walk off unescorted. If he is going to the men's room, to make a phone call, across a crowded bar, out to his bike or car, etc... Go with him, keep him in sight and always be watching his back.
- If you are at an open function and pick up on some negative attitudes, especially from another club, report it immediately to a Patch Holder.
- Keep your ears open and feed any information that you may pick up to a patch holder, especially information regarding other clubs.
- Remember that you are a Prospect for the Club 24 hours a day. Your association with the Club does not go off with your vest.
- Remember that you are every Patch Holder's Prospect, not just your sponsor's, or your Chapter's, or your State's.
- If two or more Patch Holders are having a private discussions do not approach them within earshot, especially if they are engaged in discussion with a Patch Holder of another club. If you need to interrupt, put yourself in a line of visibility and wait to be acknowledged. If it is important that you interrupt, ask another Patch Holder to break for you.
- Never, ever use the term "Outlaw Club" when speaking to members of another Club.
- Never, ever, lie to a member of another club about anything. If you are in a situation that you were asked something about the Club or its membership it is totally acceptable to say that the subject touches on Club business and you really can't talk about it. If that doesn't put it to rest, make an effort to find a Patch Holder for him to speak with.

- Always show respect to the Patch Holders of other Clubs. In the M/C community a Patch Holder is a Patch Holder and a Prospect is a Prospect. Even if the man is in another Club he has earned his Patch, you haven't.
- Never, ever, establish what you think is a personal friendship with a member or associate of another Club. Don't be naive and believe that you can separate your personal life from your Club life, or that such a move on their part is not without purpose. Their Club and Brothers come first, as should yours. Be on guard as this sort of positioning occurs frequently.
- Always carry a note pad and pen.
- Frequently ask Patch Holders how you are doing and if you should be doing anything differently.
- Never ask when you may be getting your Patch.
- Never, ever, call a Patch Holder "Brother".
- Never, ever, ever, call a Patch Holder of another Club "Brother".
- Your Patch is earned, it is not "GIVEN" to you.
- Never bring a personal friend or a stranger into the presence of Patch Holders without getting permission to do so first.
- At an open function, never turn your back to a Patch Holder of another Club. This is not so much for reasons of personal safety, but it is a method for showing a lack of respect for the Patch Holder and his Club.
- Show respect and courtesy to Patch Holders of other Clubs, but don't come across like you want to be buddy-buddy. Be professional about such encounters, keep it short and sweet, and then move along.
- Keep away from women that you have seen associated with other Clubs.
- Never, ever, be quick to walk up and greet a Patch Holder of another Club in a public setting. Even if you have met the man before or your Clubs are on friendly terms. If you want to greet the man, approach him slowly and wait for him to give an indication that he wants such a public display to take place. He may be on Club business or may not want to give the general public the impression that the two Clubs are on such friendly terms. So if it looks like he is going to ignore you, ignore him and keep your distance. The best approach though is to always wait for them to come to you, and let everyone else see that.
- Understand what the different parts of your Patch represent and what the various color combinations represent.

- If you are out riding with some friends, do not wear your Prospecting rocker unless you fully intend to ride in the position of Honor at the front of the pack.

In closing, refer to this paper from time to time. As you gain experience with the Club you will begin to see the importance of some of the points it is intended to make.

Although no amount of writing can convey all that you will need to know, it is hoped that this will at least help you get off onto the right foot.

Good Luck

MEMBERSHIP

In an effort to standardize our training of Prospective and Probationary members, the membership committee would like to submit the following idea for consideration by the chapter.

- A. The membership committee will develop a check list of those topics that can be considered imperative.
- B. The check list will be used by the sponsor to train our Prospective and Probationary members.
- C. The check list must be completed and signed by the sponsor and trainee and the Chapter President.
- D. The check list must be completed before the Prospective member can be Rockered.
- E. Current Probationary members will not be considered for Full patch until check list is complete.

Respectfully, A. Daniel Beattiger

PROSPECTIVE MEMBER CHECK LIST

1. Review National Bylaws

Signature:

Signature:

Signature:

2. Review "Questions and Answers"

Signature:

Signature:

Signature:

3. Review "Prospecting"

Signature:

Signature:

Signature:

4. Review CVI SOP

Signature:

Signature:

Signature:

5. Review "Combat Veterans Survival Guide"

Signature:

Signature:

Signature:

History of the Three-Piece Patch

The AMA was founded in 1924 as an organizing arm of Motorcycle Manufacturers to promote motorcycle riding in America. They sanctioned groups of riders from the same area that rode together as motorcycle "clubs". Some wore complete matching dress outfits with the name of their motorcycle club stitched on the back of their shirts and jackets. At events, the AMA gave awards for the best dressed club so this was the start of motorcycle club's patches.

During an event in 1947 in Hollister CA when a member of the Booze Fighters Motorcycle Club made the headlines with an exaggerated news story that was later made into a movie called "The Wild Ones". The AMA wrote an article in their magazine, shortly after stating "99% of all of their members are law-abiding citizens and only 1% are "outlaw". This began what is today known as Outlaw Motorcycle Clubs and one percenters. Clubs that were not sanctioned by the AMA and non-members of the AMA were banned from attending AMA events.

In order to designate themselves as an outlaw club to all other clubs, the one percenters cut their club patches into three separate pieces. The top rocker was the name of the club, the center was the emblem of the club, and the bottom rocker was the local from which they came. These outlaw motorcycle clubs put on their own events and parties and did the opposite of what the AMA had been doing. There were no "Best Dressed" awards, they "chopped" down their bikes to go faster and look different, rode with no mufflers, they would drink, and do other "wild" things. Such is history.

The term "colors" is used in referring to a motorcycle club's patch with two "rockers". One is placed over the top of the middle large graphic patch and one is placed underneath it. The "rockers" are usually curved bars with the top bar designating the club name and the lower bar designating the location of the club. The two rockers are separate from the middle, larger graphic type patch, hence the term three-piece patch. Motorcycle clubs differ from motorcycling organizations as they traditionally have "prospecting" time required before the club members decide whether the individual will be accepted into the group and allowed to wear or "fly" the "colors" of the group. Most club "colors" will also have M/C printed on the "rocker" to further clarify it as a club rather than an organization.