



CHANGING THE WORLD ONE HEART AT A TIME!

Minnesota CMA

March 2018

CMA Minnesota State Newsletter

by Jim Hall

Welcome to the inaugural CMA MN State Newsletter. The CMA theme this year is "CMA Family", and this is exactly how I feel about CMA Minnesota. As we make the effort to get to know one another better, we will become stronger as a state and able to have a greater impact for Christ.

The primary purpose of this newsletter is to improve communication regarding what is going on around the state and also help chapters become more connected to each other. There are many great ministries going on in CMA Minnesota and we want to make sure the word gets out as to the difference that is being made for the Kingdom of God. Also, as we share information, there may be things that other chapters are doing that might be useful to your chapter. Our goal is to send a newsletter out approximately every other month.

Isolation and weariness are tools of the enemy. Without regular communication we have heard that chapters often feel isolated and on their own. We want every Minnesota CMA member to understand that they are part of a dynamic and significant ministry that is having a great deal of impact. CMA Family is who we are.

Along with feature articles we would like to regularly include information regarding:

Run for the Son- Including updates from our state RFS lead as well as RFS fund raising ideas from other chapters around the state and throughout the nation.

Chapter Function- We will share creative ideas about chapter meetings, rides, fellowship, prayer, activities and chapter officer specifics

Getting to know a chapter or individual- We will highlight a particular chapter and/or individual regarding what they are doing and how they are impacting those around them.

Youth Movement- Including updates from the Youth Movement Area Rep along with chapter youth activity and vision for future growth.

Off Road and/or Motocross- This would include chapter and state activity as well as vision for future growth.

State Events- We will keep you informed on upcoming state events and details as they become available.

To really make this newsletter a long-term success we will need your help.

Think of this as more of a CMA Minnesota community newsletter. We need articles from members across the state on virtually any topic that you have found to be helpful to the chapter and/or to community impact. We also need articles that help readers get a feel for your chapter, with its passions and community impact. State leadership will also be reaching out and asking for articles.

Again, CMA Family is who we are. We truly need each other as we share our gifts and lift one another up, as together we strive to serve the Lord. My prayer is for unity as a state in our mission to reach the world one heart at a time.



Experiencing God On The Battlefield

By David Adams

After retiring from the Minnesota CMA state leadership team, I have spent some time looking back over the past twenty years since I completed my first ministry team training course and sewed on my first back patch. It has been an awesome journey that has covered over 200,000 miles, thirty-one states, and three Canadian Providences. It has been filled with the joys of building friendships, the grief of losing some who have passed on, and on occasion the heartache of broken relationships, but most important of all, victories. It is a journey that cannot be made without experiencing all of these emotions because it is a journey through the great spiritual battlefield.

I had been riding for seven years and a Christian for eighteen years when I first connected with CMA. I never had a desire to be a part of a group or club. The idea just never appeared on my radar. I was sinking into a deep depression and Mary Ann pushing me to get involved in something that would take my mind off my downward spiral. That unending inward focus on self that can ultimately end in self destruction that brought me to a point of taking a chance

with a group Christians that loved riding. I was reluctant because I didn't want to talk about the dark place I was dwelling in. I was amazed that there weren't any probing questions. Just a warm welcome that made me feel I had been part of the chapter since it was started two years earlier.

As I followed them to secular events, helped with the booth at swap meets, and prayed with other bikers at bike blessings I quickly realized that it was like walking in Christ's footsteps as He gathered His disciples, ate in the homes of sinners like Matthew, and met the woman at the well. It was actually more than that. It occurred to me I was actually walking with Him each time I dismounted my bike at a secular event or club meeting. As my ministry experiences accumulated I realized I was much closer to Christ at a secular event than I was within the four walls of the church. CMA gave a purpose to my riding. It opened a whole new window to the motorcycling world where I would not only share my love of riding, but the love of Jesus for each and every person I met. I was being a fisher of men by just being there.

After beginning my tenure in state leadership, I quickly realized not being a part of a chapter created a gap in the close family ties that develop when ministering with chapter members. Like commissioned military officers, as they rise in rank they are distanced from their charges and the front lines of battle. So, returning home from the State Rally it was with great joy that I pulled my yellow CMA name badge out of my drawer and put it on my vest along with my chapter patch. I was once again with a chapter family and moving out with them onto the Spiritual Battlefield where we will be walking side-by-side with Jesus sharing His love and message of hope.

I know those of you who have ventured out to secular events, walked into prisons, and participated as members of secular groups know the joy I have experienced. If you are new to CMA or haven't taken that first step yet, pray and ask the Lord to take your hand and guide you to the battlefield alongside your fellow chapter members. Do not worry about what you have to say or do. Just be yourself and be a witness by your actions. God

will build your strength and courage. You will be returning home with a joy and spiritual high from a day walking alongside Him. If you're just not sure ask yourself this; "If Christ could submit Himself to the brutality of crucifixion for us, how little are we being asked to walk with Him on to the battlefield. The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Pray for God to send you to the harvest field.



Passion

By Brian Deml

I'm writing this article to describe a couple of passions in my life.

I am a biker. It's no secret to those who know or have met me. Some call me hard core (hardly) some say extreme (again not really) most say crazy....this one might be true. I do ride and I take it seriously.

I am also a Christian. Many people think that this would present itself as a conflict, but for those of us in CMA we know otherwise. The two actually work very well together. When I joined CMA, I felt that I was finally home, that I had found my niche into ministry opportunities that never existed for me before. God has given so many moments to share and teach. All I need to do is pray and ask for his guidance and that he uses me as His Will needs.

My newest venture will take place this summer. I will be competing in an event titled "Hoka Hey". It's a Native American motorcycle challenge that pits a rider against all odds. Some of the rules includes: no gps, no other electronic aids, sleep with the bike (no hotels), no chase vehicles, navigate by written

directions along mostly 2 lane roads, travel 10,000 miles in roughly 13 days.

Some of the challenges that I will face in this event will be: weather - not enough time to wait out the rain, fatigue - to complete this in time I must average. 770 miles/day, separation from family - I am a family man - never being away from my family for more than a few days will make this tough.

But being a man of faith, I have no doubts that God will watch over my travels. He will guide me as needed; giving me wrong turns to give me more lively testimony. He will give me opportunity to share my story and to learn of other people's paths. He will allow obstacles to lie in front of me to make me stronger. He will show others that there is strength where normally there is doubt.

The Hoka Hey Challenge would like each of us participants to fundraise for a charity we believe in. For me that was an easy choice.... I want to support "Run for the Son".

People that want to support my efforts please go to my "GOFUNDME" page, all money raised will go to RFS since I am paying for the event 100% out of pocket https://www.gofundme.com/brianshokah_eycma.

There is more to my story here as well as a link to the event page <http://www.hokaheychallenge.com/>. During the event there will be a tracker mounted on my motorcycle that will update regularly so that people can follow my progress and pray for my well being.... Just look for rider #874.

The event and its other participants want to call attention to many different causes, please read through some of their blogs. Share this with as many people as you can. It will be a challenge like no other. Just remember....we are all brothers and sisters in the wind and in God's Word.

Meaning it's a Good Day to Die, "Hoka Hey" reminds us that we have just one life to live and that a life spent standing idly by is no life worth living.

Prayer Notes

By David and Ann Hartsook

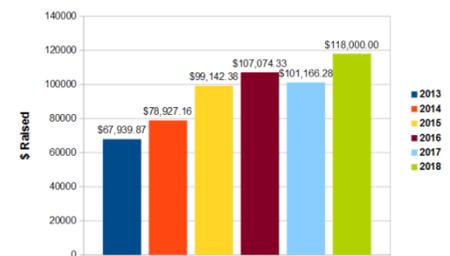
In the days ahead, you will see much emphasis being placed on prayer. For those of you who say, "I haven't really been able to develop a good prayer life", our desire would be to encourage you. Author Mike Bickle described prayer best in this way: "The essence of effective prayer is that we speak in agreement with God. Therefore, one important aspect of prayer is telling God what He tells us to tell Him. The Word of God shows us what He promises to release to His people, and we simply pray these things back to Him" (from *Growing in Prayer: A Real-Life Guide to Talking With God*, p.7). He also said, "Intercession is God's brilliant strategy for including the saints in ruling with Him in power. Yet, it has such a great impact on us as it draws us into intimacy with God, protects with humility, transforms with holiness, anoints with power, unifies in community, releases revelation, and increases our inheritance while it trains us to rule with His wisdom."

By this definition, we can see that the will and plan of God come to pass in our lives and the lives of others through prayer. Through His Word, God breathes into us a breath of life, and through prayer we breathe back to Him. So we see that prayer is not just a task to undertake on the behalf of another. It is one of the most powerful and intimate forms of life-sustaining relationship with Him.

All of us struggle with balancing time for work, rest and play, along with finding time to spend in the Word of God and prayer. However, we can pray all throughout our day, keeping God's presence manifested to us at all times. God does not require flowing speeches and extravagant articulation. He's a "come as you are" God. He deals in truth. He's not confused by more than one person praying at the same time. His desire is to fellowship with us. When we draw near to Him, He draws near to us. (James 4:8). Prayer is every form of expression known to man, including cries, laughter, song, grieving, rejoicing, wailing, tears, and even the use of simple

words. Sometimes the most powerful prayers are when no words will come at all. Our great and powerful God has no difficulty interpreting. Pastor Bill Johnson of Bethel Church in Redding, CA, shared that people have come to him expressing their frustration and anguish over the fact that every time they sit down to pray or read their Bible, they fall asleep. His response is, "I've never once been angry with my children for falling asleep in my arms." So likewise, our Heavenly Father is eager to speak to us and hear from us in response. He is eager for time with us, no matter where or how much. Let's pray.....

MN RFS Funds Raised + Goal



RFS Monthly Tidbit

By Rollo Cain

Well it's that time of year again when CMA members start their final RFS fund raising push before May 5. RFS fund raising should begin June 1, so you are doing things all year, culminating on May 5 the following year.

I have seen many chapters doing incredible work in putting on events to raise RFS funds, which is exciting to see and remember GOD opens the hearts of the people you come in contact with to distribute the needed funds He manages, to do CMA Ministry throughout the world & at home. For every \$100 raised there are on, average, 27 decisions for Jesus Christ to become LORD of their lives. He is doing a good work in us, through our hands & feet in seeking His funds for RFS! Remember, if we are NOT moving we are almost useless to Him!

We set some goals for 2018 RFS last year and I am seeing great effort to reaching those goals. Nationally, the goal is

\$5,000,000 (Minnesota's part of that is \$118,000), which will allow CMA to give each of our Ministry Partners (Missionary Ventures, Jesus Film Project, Open Doors) a \$1,000,000 check. THIS WOULD BE AWESOME!!

As Paul said in Philippians 3:14 - "I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of GOD in Jesus Christ." Our goal & upward call, like Paul's, is to be obedient & do GOD's work in spreading the GOSPEL to ALL. He will provide the resources and the people we are to talk to.

NOTHING happens automatically; if you don't ask the answer is always NO.

Don't get discouraged! Be moving & talking to people and businesses.

Let the Holy Spirit do the work, leading you & preparing hearts!



MN Youth Area Rep

By Gwen Harrington

Five years ago, Minnesota CMA Youth Movement sent 4 students to Flame On with the Iowa bus. Four changed youth came back – one of them a new Leader in Training (LIT). I became the new Youth Movement Area Rep in January, right after that event, and was excited by what I heard and determined to check it out myself. The following December I went down with 4 youth - one who had been there the previous year, and 3 new. What a life changing event! I was definitely hooked and looking forward to the next one. Claiming to be the biggest sleepover in the south, with 700-800 Youth from around the country attending, you can just imagine the energy!

The following year the weather turned bad (as often happens that time of year!), and we had some pretty disappointed students (and myself!) when we had to

cancel our trip and watch it on livestream.

Two years ago we again headed down, and this time we had 4 adults and 6 students! One of the comments that touched my heart was from a student that is usually one who would sit in the corner. He said what meant a lot to him was that he was accepted as himself and felt welcome – no one was singled out or left out, it was one big family.

This year, we outgrew the van we had used the previous year and joined with Iowa to rent a bus again. We had 4 adults and 16 students attending this year! We were growing and the excitement was catching hold in the Youth and adults! I can't wait to see what the next year will bring and how God will continue to move in the lives of our Youth!

*** From Gwenn's article above regarding Flame On, it is evident that God is growing the youth impact in the state and we truly want to build on what we see as a movement of God in CMA.

One of the initiatives that we will be taking is to identify a Youth Lead in each chapter. This is not necessarily a stand-alone position and any member in good standing is eligible. This should primarily be someone who has a heart for youth and would like to see youth opportunities and youth presence grow in CMA Minnesota.

This contact will receive all youth updates and event information. Even if there is no youth presence, we want to keep every chapter updated as to what is going on around the state with youth activities and resources. We want to create an atmosphere where we are ready at the chapter level as God leads us to youth opportunities.

If you have any questions please speak to your Area Rep. We believe that God is doing great things in CMA MN youth movement!



Chapter Ideas!

From Revelations: During each chapter meeting we gather the names of all who attend and have the names randomly pulled from a bucket without revealing the choice. The name that each person pulls (putting back their own name if they happen to pull it!), is the person that they pray for until the following month's meeting. We also gather individual prayer needs that may help make the prayers more specific. This is a great way to keep members covered in prayer.

2018 State Events

- **Abate Bike Show** – Apr 14 & 15, Alexandria, MN
- **Seasons of Refreshing** – Apr 27 & 28, New location - Trinity Church, Lakeville
- **Little Falls Flagging** – May 11-13
- **Roads and Trails Event** – Jun 8-10
- **Spring Creek National Motocross**, Jul 21 – Millville, MN
- **No Borders** – Jul 25-28 – International Falls
- **MN State Rally** – Aug 17-19
- **Dalbo/Cambridge Flagging** – 6 dates
- **Thrivefest** – Aug 10-12 – Fargo, ND
- **Flat Track** – Sep 29 – Canterbury, Shakopee