



CHRISTIAN MOTORCYCLIST

CMA - CANADA NEWSLETTER

P.O. BOX 521, RED DEER, ALBERTA T4N 5G1

PHONE (403) 343-1370 FAX (403) 342-1371

e-mail: admin@cmacanada.ca Website: www.cmacanada.ca

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Front Page News

Yvon (Ivan) and Irene Audette, Board Chair, CMA Canada

Irene and I pray that you will have a wonderful Christmas Season. It is a very important time of year to remember that Jesus Christ our Saviour **chose** to humble Himself to come down to earth. He **chose** to become as a simple man to identify with us, those whom He came to save. Jesus left the greatest location of Heaven itself, to walk the earth, starting as a helpless needy child. He was born under reproach, from a young woman chosen by God in very difficult circumstances. (His birth was not without controversy!)



That is who our God is. Always trying to bring us closer to Himself. Experiencing what we do and living a life beyond reproach so that we can have eternal life; all this from a baby born in a manger. Christmas is an amazing time to remember these facts and share this miracle with others.

As we reflect on the 2017 year we can say that God has been with us, in our family and with our CMA Canada family. We have had trials and challenges but God has brought us through these things. We were reminded during the International Leadership Conference that even though we have storms and they do come, our Lord has promised to bring us through the storms. By persevering to the other side of the tempest, we can trust

God that the storm will become a distant memory. I am thinking of two cases for us. One was when our minivan gave up the ghost as we just made it home from Bikers for Change in the west. We were able to purchase a reliable new van (an early Christmas gift) trusting God to provide for this need... and He has, thanks to incredibly generous hearts that have encouraged us beyond our imaginations! The other was when Irene had been scheduled for surgery just before our East and West 25th Anniversary Rallies and then it was postponed until September. This allowed us to be able to attend them and be very blessed! These rallies were a great success, going way beyond my expectations, but *that is the God we serve.*

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E-mail: admin@cmacanada.ca
Website: www.cmacanada.ca
Editor: Susan Derksen susan@cmacanada.ca

Submission Policy: Submissions for publications are welcome and encouraged. They may, or may not, be published and will not be returned unless accompanied by a suitable stamped and self-addressed envelope. All submissions are subject to editing. They should reflect a positive, uplifting Christian attitude.

Various points of view on every subject are common among people of goodwill. The publication of an article, or letter, does not necessarily indicate the endorsement of the Christian Motorcyclists Association of Canada.

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The Christian Motorcyclists Association of Canada (CMA)

CMA is an inter-denominational association of Christian motorcyclists, whose mission is to share the gospel of Jesus Christ with motorcyclist, or anyone who wishes to hear the gospel message. The heart and soul of the ministry is, and shall remain, evangelism.

CMA is a charitable, non-profit organization, funded through support from its chapters and members. All gifts made to CMA Canada, at the address listed, are tax-deductible.

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Prairie Region - James and Helene Rosso
(weagle@mts.net)
Atlantic Region - Malcolm and Gail Read
(twinklingofaneve@hotmail.com)

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(rbwolfe@shaw.ca)
Prison Ministries Coordinators: Jerry and Ruth Forst
(moonstone47@shaw.ca)
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(ranger@fulljames.org)
Region 2 – AB, YK and NWT: Rick and Sandy West
(2rcruisn@telus.net)
Region 4 and 5 – ON & QC: Clark and Jill Oakley
(oakleyfam@sympatico.ca)

2018 Events

Please note these details are still tentative and are subject to change. We are publishing them to give you an idea of the area we are looking to host these events. Keep an eye on our website and this newsletter for finalized details in the months ahead.

Bikers for Change

March 23-24

Rocky Mountain House, AB

April 6-7

Summerland Alliance Church

14816 Victoria Rd N

Summerland, BC

April 13-14

Christian Life Assembly

1042 Jefferson Ave

Winnipeg, MB

April 20-21

Windsor, ON

April 27-28

489 Abercrombie Road

New Glasgow, NS

**Deadline for submissions for
the next CMA National Newsletter is
Jan 15, 2018**

E-mail submissions to:
susan@cmacanada.ca

The CMA Office will be closed
from Dec 23 – Jan 1 inclusively
for the Christmas holidays.

Merry Christmas all!

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After Irene's surgery we didn't know how mobile she would be, but then God granted her a quicker recovery than quoted. We then were able to travel to the Leadership Conference, the Colours Rally and the International Leadership Rally in Hatfield Arkansas from which I am writing this now. Irene is doing well and though we still have to be careful to move a little slower and allow extra time, we still have the opportunity for her to rest up when she needs to.

I am also blessed to be able to attend the RFTS mission trip in Guatemala, again thanks to God's provision. I will be able to share the

details of this trip in the next newsletter or when we meet again.

We are looking forward to the coming year. We will be having our spring conferences and the regional rallies across Canada in 2018; the dates will be found in this newsletter and the locations should all be nailed down soon. It promises to be a great year so please mark it on your calendars and make it a point to join with the fellow members in your region for a time of fellowship and refreshing, and to hear what God has in store for us His CMA Family. We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year!

...Ivan & Irene

Christmas Greetings

By Lynne & Gary Ross, Board of Directors, CMA Canada



Merry Christmas, 2017! What a great year as we travelled across Canada attending CMA Canada's "Bikers for Change" and the East and West "25th Anniversary Rallies". As we fellowshiped and celebrated with both new and old friends, one thing remained the same - change. Changing landscape, changing seasons, and changing lives, to mention a few. For some, change comes easy and for others, it doesn't, but change is necessary to move forward and it is good for us! Our next big change is our address - we sold our home and have moved into an apartment. We think we know how this change will affect us, but in reality, we don't. So, with God's help, we'll face the changes ahead of us.

Now, imagine the changes that happened when Christ was born. His earthly family changed, the community changed and the world changed. Did people see all the changes ahead and embrace them? The Bible tells us about the people who embraced it and of the others who fought it. Do you ever wonder how you would have responded? I have and my hope is that I would have been open to what I saw God doing.

In 2 Corinthians 5:17-20 (NLT), it says, *..anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun! And all of this is a gift from God, who brought us back to himself through Christ. And God has given us this task of reconciling people to him. For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, no longer counting people's sins against them. And he gave us this wonderful message of reconciliation. So we are Christ's ambassadors; God is making his appeal through us. We speak for Christ when we plead, "Come back to God!"*

This is the change we hope for in the biker's lives when we share Christ's love with them. Christmas is when we celebrate the hope given to us when Christ came to earth as a baby and another opportunity for us to share it.

As we close out 2017, is there something God wants you to change in your life? If so, embrace this change, so you can be more effective in "Changing the world, one heart at a time". Happy New Year for 2018!

...Lynne and Gary

Year End Review

By James Rosso, National Evangelist Prairie Region, CMA Canada



Normally at the end of the year we have year-end appraisals at our work places - where our performance will be reviewed for the whole year. Our contribution, productivity, performance, involvement etc... will be reviewed – likewise specific smart objectives will be given for the coming year which we will have to accomplish.

Maybe spiritually we need to take a similar approach as we come to the end of another year - as a chapter & more importantly individually.

In order to have a scale to measure we could turn to the Book of Revelation – where we will find the seven churches – which at some point or the other can be compared to our present condition.

- 1) Ephesus (Revelation 2:1-7) - the church that had forsaken its first love (2:4).
- 2) Smyrna (Revelation 2:8-11) - the church that would suffer persecution (2:10).
- 3) Pergamum (Revelation 2:12-17) - the church that needed to repent (2:16).
- 4) Thyatira (Revelation 2:18-29) - the church that had a false prophetess (2:20).
- 5) Sardis (Revelation 3:1-6) - the church that had fallen asleep (3:2).
- 6) Philadelphia (Revelation 3:7-13) - the church that kept commandments & endured patiently (3:10).
- 7) Laodicea (Revelation 3:14-22) - the church with the lukewarm faith (3:16).

So let me ask you once again – reviewing our chapter's performance for the year 2017 – what rating or rather which church we can be best compared to.

Be honest now; perhaps it is 1, 5 and 7? Or somewhere between 3, 4? Or is it 2 – really?

Personally I hope your answer would be 6!!!

Now forget the local chapter and look at ourselves individually: So how did we conduct ourselves as an individual in 2017?

What kind of a year has 2017 been for you? Where would you place it on a scale of 1 – 10? Maybe you would give 2017 8 or 9 out of 10 – in other words, it was a really good year. Was it a good year because you had success in your business, a good year at work or at school, good family relationships, and new friendships?

Was it a year that included a lot of exciting things, new challenges, tasks completed, a great holiday. Or maybe you would give 2017 a 5. It was just another year, pretty much the same as any other year? Nothing very exciting happened, in fact, it was kind of dull and dreary. Just getting up, going to work, coming home, going to bed and then doing the same thing the next day and the next and the next. How about 2 out of 10. That's because it was a really dreadful year. Everything that could go wrong did go wrong. The year may have included tragedy, sickness, loss of friends, marriage problems.

As a CMA member and more importantly as a Christian how did I measure up in 2017? If I was able to have some part of the year over again, how would I have behaved differently? Would I have shown more understanding, cared more, been more patient, less critical, been more supportive and helpful? As I reflect on the year that has past there are certainly things that I wish I would have done differently.

How about my relationship with God? Did that flourish and grow during 2017 How much did my life reflect the fact that I am God's child? As an individual what was my contribution, productivity, performance, involvement in the kingdom of God? As we stand on the threshold of another year, Jesus tells us a parable. It's brief (Luke 13:6-9) but the point is clear. God wants some fruit from you!

The owner represented in this parable expected some fruit to be on the tree- it was a reasonable request. However every time the Owner came to the tree with a reasonable request, the owner kept receiving a disappointing report - This tree had no fruit.

Note that this tree had some advantages:

The first advantage was LOCATION; the tree was planted in a vineyard - meant that the tree was protected. The second advantage that comes to mind is the fact that the tree was PLANTED! (Not by chance or coincidence) For three years - that's a total of 36 months, 156 weeks, 1095 days, 26,280 hours, and 1,576,800 minutes. And the owner found nothing!!!

Why should that tree remain standing? Why should it keep taking up space, using up the goodness of the soil if it's serving no purpose? What's the point of having a tree that should bear fruit but does nothing?

Even then we hear the gardener saying, "Give the tree one more year." The owner wanted to chop it down but the gardener isn't going to give up. He's going to dig around it, turn over the soil, add some fertilizer, show it some more TLC and give it another chance! Isn't that just typical of the Spirit of God?

Listen to what Jesus tell us in John 15:5,

"Those who remain in me, and I in them, will bear much fruit; for you can do nothing without me".

The key is to be connected to Jesus. He is the one who can enable us to be what we ought to be. We need him to help our branches bear fruit. Without him, we will rate each year that passes below 5 on the 1 to 10 scale! The parable about the fig tree makes it quite clear that we may have been unfruitful, unfaithful, yet God is faithful. Armed with that promise, we can step forward into the New Year ready to let Jesus Christ do the work in us that only He can do.

My challenge to you is that regardless of what 2017 was like; As we prepare for 2018 lets determine that with God's help it should be a year where, individually and as CMA Chapters: Fellowship, Discipleship , Prayer and Evangelism will be our priority as we serve the King of Kings. May we be fruitful!
...James



Run for the Son

By Gary Ross, Run for the Son Lead, CMA Canada

By the time you read this, your chapter elections have occurred and the 2018 chapter officers are in place. Have you also chosen a chapter Run for the Son Secretary for 2018 and have you chosen a chapter Run for the Son Lead? The **RFTS Secretary** records all the data, is responsible for filling out all the forms, and makes sure the money is sent into Red Deer on time. The **RFTS Lead** is the person who promotes Run for the Son at every chapter meeting and may be better called a cheerleader for RFTS. They can be the same person. Remember, it's never too early to start promoting and raising funds for RFTS. As we have said before, it is not just a May/June event but a year long event. The most successful chapters start working on the next year's Run for the Son immediately after the close of the current year. Instead of making RFTS a one-day event, let's make the first Saturday in June the day we celebrate what we have been doing all year and what God will do with the money raised in the 2018.

Below is a chapter check list developed to help you as you plan your chapter's RFTS efforts. This list is not all inclusive but **it is intended to help you** plan and will hopefully spur additional thoughts and ideas. If you know of something that you feel should be added to this list, or have any questions, please send those directly to: gjross@shaw.ca

Chapter RFTS Check List:

- Pray
- Select Chapter RFTS Secretary/Lead
- Confirm communication with RFTS Team Lead.
- Order and distribute RFTS materials.
- Set chapter's annual RFTS, challenging but attainable, monetary goal.
- Set chapter's RFTS participation goal. (100%)
- Encourage members to set personal goals.
- Share a RFTS tip and chapter update at each meeting.
- Distribute sample letters and any other individual member helps required.

We still need people to step up to the RFTS Lead Team. If you have an interest, or you feel God leading you in that direction, let your Regional Leadership know so the information can be passed along to me. "Run for the Son" is a vital part of CMA's Ministry. People are being saved around the world because of the monies raised through RFTS.

CMA Canada is working on a 15-minute online seminar to help the new Run for the Son secretaries and will be a great review for all the secretaries continuing in their position. When we all do the paperwork the same, it will help Susan as she tallies up the numbers. I will let you know when it is ready to view on the website.

Thank you for all you do for RFTS.
Let's work together to make the 2018 RFTS the greatest ever.
Together we can change the world one heart at a time

...Gary

Christmas Greetings

By Andrew & Nancy Hertwig, Board Treasurer, CMA Canada

Dear brothers and sisters in our Lord Jesus,



Although I am not a big fan of winter and would rather go for a ride than shovel snow this time of year. As we prepare to celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus brings joy to one's heart. Not only is the Christmas story filled with prophecies fulfilled in miraculous events but it really demonstrates the love our heavenly Father has for us. As we read in *1 Peter 1:20* 'He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake' clearly shows us that Jesus was chosen to be our Saviour before the world even was created. There is no greater joy than to have the assurance that Jesus came, died and was raised on the third day for you and me. How great is our God!

It was very encouraging to see many of you at different events and rallies this past year. It often has been said that CMA events are like a big family reunion and we really appreciate you and the times we spend together. Especially at this time I would like to thank you for the support you have given us over the years in which we served in positions of regional and national leadership for CMA Canada.

We will experience some changes as this year comes to a close as I did not seek re-election as a director for the coming year. Yet we are sure that our friendships and desire to serve our Lord will not change.

Nancy and I would like to wish each and every one of you a very Merry Christmas and our Lord's richest blessings for the New Year. May you experience the peace and joy of knowing His endless love for you each and every day and the knowledge that He is with you at all times.

Grace be with you.

...Andrew & Nancy

Christmas Blessings

By Don & Elaine Wiens, Director, CMA Canada



Elaine and I would like to wish you a very blessed Christmas Season. I would like to thank the many CMA members in Canada that have supported us as a Board this past year. We have gone through many tests and yet we continue to strive to please our Lord and Saviour. God has been good to us. We pray for our many members in their individual situations as we are made aware of them. We wish you all blessings this season as you celebrate our Lord's birth with family and friends. In many ways CMA is a wonderful family to be a part of as we share sorrows and praises.

I would just like to share a scripture, Ephesians 3:14-15, says "When I think of the wisdom and scope of His plan, I fall down on my knees and pray to the Father of all the great family of God...that out of His glorious, unlimited resources he will give you the mighty inner strengthening of His Holy Spirit."

...Don & Elaine

Yearend Reflections

By Gaius & Janice Ricker, Director, CMA Canada



Well it's that time of year again, time for me/us to reflect on the great sacrifice that was made for us and the great love that exists that would prompt an Almighty God to send His own Son to take away the sin of the world.

I do not really have a Christmas message; what hasn't been said already? I want to just take this opportunity to say "thank you". Thank you to all of you who have ridden many miles this past season, thank you to those who have given of their valuable time; time away from family, church, your own responsibilities and the things that you could have been doing instead.

I believe the Lord will not allow those offerings to go unrewarded, and what better reward than to have had an influence in the lives of those you have built relationships with and to bring them to, or closer to a relationship with the Jesus whose birth we celebrate at this season.

Thank you to the "Heritage Group" who have not allowed their flame to be extinguished but have been generous with that flame to allow those of us coming after to light our torches from the flame of theirs. Their vision was and is to see people brought to Jesus. And after all, that's what its all about isn't it? It's all about Jesus.

Janice and I wish each of you a Merry Christmas, filled with family and friends, and a Happy, prosperous, and fruitful New Year.

...Gaius & Janice



Temporary End of the Road

By Malcolm & Gail Read, National Evangelist Atlantic Region

Wow what does that mean? Especially when we have a wonderful old hymn that ends with, "World without end, Amen." Gail and I have just returned from our first ever mission trip to Guatemala with CMA where we saw bikes on the road every day. Mostly there were one or two persons on the bike but from time to time you would catch one with folks hanging all over it as they motored along. Completely content with what they were doing and unconcerned about what they were doing, from our safety perspective☺. Eight Pastors will be riding new bikes for the first time ever and they will be making new roads with them. For them there is a temporary end of the road in one aspect.



Roberto, a pastor that Gail and I had the privilege of delivering a bike to, will not have to walk five and an half hours to get to one of his five churches; he will now be riding there. Down in Guatemala, life is simple; almost everyone lives a very uncomplicated life where we were. There always seemed to be a lot of hours in the day for them and few of them wore a watch, interesting. Perhaps we could learn something from them.

For those of us north of the 49th parallel we are having a temporary end of the road as well. Fall has all but come and gone and here we are with salt on the road already, another temporary end of the road. Our arrival in Halifax Monday saw salt on the road and we woke up to snow Tuesday morning. This is nothing new for us as we experience this all the time. However God has promised us four seasons within which to live our lives each year.

Gen 8:22 states that, "*while the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat and summer and winter and day and night shall not cease.*"

We can fit this all into what we call a year and within that year there are temporary ends to roads. Some we will never get back on again and some we will always look forward to. As this biking season comes to an end it is just a temporary end in the road of our lives here in the Maritimes. Our lives do not end, thankfully, but we do have fond memories of the roads that we travelled on this year and who we travelled them with. This will be our last newsletter in CMA Canada for 2017, another end in the road. But in all thoughts of reflection upon this year it is important to remain focused upon a road that is not temporary and the one road that will not end for us. That is the road that we are travelling upon with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. You see, he allowed us to get up and go on the highways and byways this year with our bikes. We did what He wanted us to do, did what He had called us to do. Will you go out there with your bikes and tell the lost about me, and we did go. It happened in Canada, it happened in the US and it happened in every country around the world that has a CMA presence in it. Yes we said goodbye to some friends ...temporarily. But as all roads in this life end somewhere is it not great that we are soldiering along on a road with the greatest travelling companion that we can ever have, Jesus.

At this time Gail and I want to extend a very Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New year to each and every one of you. Gail and I have been from one end of this country to the other this year for the first time ever and have made many new friends and yes travelled on roads that we will likely not travel again. May the Peace and Grace of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ permeate your lives. And as this year draws to a close remember that it is temporary and a whole new one awaits you. Till then May God Bless you all richly and good Lord willing we will see you on a new road next year.

... Malcolm & Gail