



CVMA Chapter 49-1 The ROCK Chapter

Sergeant at Arms Brief

Anthony "Fat Tony" Sorro
CVMA Chapter 49-1
Sergeant at Arms



COMBAT VETERANS MOTORCYCLE ASSOCIATION



VETERANS HELPING VETERANS

THE PATCH ON MY BACK

MY VEST IS FULL OF PATCHES BOTH OLD AND NEW,
REPRESENTING PLACES I'VE BEEN AND THINGS I DO.

MOST ON THE FRONT AND LAYERED IN A STACK,
BUT NONE SAY MORE THAN THE PATCH ON MY BACK.

I EARNED IT IN BATTLE AS A COMBAT VET,
IT SERVES AS A CONSTANT REMINDER TO NEVER FORGET.

THE FIRST THING YOU'LL NOTICE IS THE SKULL AND SPADE,
A REMINDER THAT THE DEBT OF WAR IS NEVER PAID.

EVERY COLOR HAS A MEANING AND A STORY TO TELL,
AND EVERY STORY HAS A MEANING WE KNOW ALL TOO WELL.

TO SHOW UNITY AS WARRIORS WE USE THE MILITARY GOLD,
FOR EVERY BRANCH OF SERVICE BOTH NEW AND OLD.

RED REPRESENTS THE BLOOD THAT MY BROTHERS HAVE BLED,
NOT ALL KNOWN BY ME, BUT A TEAR FOR EACH I'VE SHED.

WITH HEAVY HEARTS WE DISPLAY THE SYMBOLIC COLOR BLACK,
FOR THE MISSING, THE PRISONERS AND THOSE WHO NEVER MADE IT BACK.

YES, I KNOW IT'S JUST A PATCH - MADE OF CLOTH AND THREAD,
BUT BECAUSE OF WHAT IT MEANS I'LL RESPECT IT UNTIL THE DAY,
I'M DEAD!



Who We Are

We are an Association of Combat Veterans from all branches of the United States Armed Forces who ride motorcycles as a hobby. Our membership is comprised of Full Members (those with verified combat service) and Support Members (those who have non-combat military service, and have a sincere dedication to helping veterans). Many members continue to serve in our Armed Forces, with several serving in combat areas now.

MISSION

As a 501(c) 19 War Veteran's Organization our goals and missions consist of: Support for veterans and veteran organizations; promoting interest in various forms of motorcycle activities associated with veterans; raising awareness of the plight of POWs and MIAs, and the health problems veterans (and their families) face when returning from combat theaters; and conducting functions and activities in a manner consistent with high moral, legal and ethical values. We will endeavor to further camaraderie among persons who are or have been members of the Armed Forces; honor the memory of deceased veterans and members of the Armed Forces and aiding and comforting their survivors; encourage patriotism, and aid hospitalized, disabled and needy war veterans and their dependents. or simply to say "Thank You." and "Welcome Home."

What We Are Not

- **We ARE NOT nor do we claim to be a Motorcycle Club (MC).** We respect Motorcycle Clubs and what being in an MC represents; however, our mission is solely the support of our fellow veterans.
- We DO NOT have colors, we have patches.
- We DO NOT prospect, nor do we actively recruit.
- We DO NOT claim territory.



What We Do

- We sponsor and/or participate in many motorcycle-related charity events each year, and as a non-profit organization, donate to various veteran care facilities and veteran charities.
- Promote interest in various forms of motorcycle activity associated with Veterans.
- Create and maintain camaraderie among Combat Veterans from all U.S. Branches of Service and its allies.
- Support Veteran Organizations.
- Raise awareness for the plight of POWs, MIAs and their families.
- Conduct Association functions and activities in a manner befitting the members of the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association and as well as the association's Auxiliary Members.
- Encourage a better understanding of motorcycle riders as a constructive sport group among members of the public, press, and law enforcement agencies.



National Chain of Command

President:
Vice-President:
Treasurer:
Secretary:
Sergeant At Arms:
Public Relations Officer:

Region 8 Chain of Command

Regional Rep:
Utah State Rep:

Chapter Chain of Command

Commander:
Executive Officer:
Sergeant at Arms:
Treasurer:
Secretary:
Public Relations Officer:



HISTORY

In 1999, the Combat Vets Motorcycle Club was introduced to the internet. Up until the first part of 2001 many were led to believe it was a true and established motorcycle organization.

Through many turns of events it was found out that CVMC was an internet scam to bilk money from Combat Veterans. In the early months of 2001 many of the members found this scam out and alerted one another, 45 members decided to form a Combat Veterans Association.

The birth of the CVMA appeared as a nonprofit Association approximately May 1st 2001. The 2 main things that brought them together were motorcycle riding & being Veterans from Combat zones. The original 45 members adopted a patch to wear, indicating that they are the original founding fathers of the CVMA.

In May of 2001, the CVMA adopted the CVMA/VFW patch.

This was done with the VFW's ok as all CVMA members were or became VFW members and entitled to wear the VFW patch. Over the next year and a half, the CVMA was well accepted at Post and Division levels within the VFW. Many meetings, conversations, and letters over this period with the VFW National BOD always sounded positive but with no results of developing a relationship.



HISTORY

In December 2002, the CVMA membership voted to move on towards the Association it was to become. VFW membership was no longer required, opening the CVMA up to all Combat Veterans who rode motorcycles. 15 December 2002, it was voted that the CVMA would wear a combination of the CVMA background and the old skull logo as a one piece patch. Membership requirements for being a new member were; Combat Veteran and rode a motorcycle as a hobby. The patch is worn by full members only.





Biker Lifestyle 101

Introduction

As a member or a potential member of the CVMA you enter into the organized biker world. This world has its own processes and protocols that must be adhered to, but that are not commonly known to most people, even those who have ridden motorcycles for years. In order for all members of the CVMA to maintain good relationships in the area we operate, it is imperative that anyone who wears a CVMA patch, understand the principles and protocols of interacting with other organizations. It's difficult to convey the complete understanding of this culture in a small brief, but reading this will help.

This information is to educate you on the MC lifestyle, not to scare you away from riding. First off, the likelihood of anyone getting into a scrape with a MC 1%er is slim to none, unless you frequent their bars or hangouts. But make no mistake, this is very real. Since most bike clubs are "NOT" MC clubs, they will have no issue with you as long as you stay out of their "business" and follow biker protocol. There is rarely a problem at a public event or poker run but it is always possible.



Biker Lifestyle 101

Protocol Basics- Respect

"SHOW MCs RESPECT." That is #1 with them! (*and worth repeating*).

- Have absolutely no doubt that MC's are serious and many have been known to physically educate a person who shows disrespect.
- A MC demands respect for one reason. To recognize the deep level of personal commitment and self-discipline that a man has to demonstrate and sustain in order to wear the club's colors (patch).
- Realize that a club's Colors" are closely guarded and the membership process is long and difficult. This respect is born out of recognition of dedication and accomplishment. The MC strives for respect for this reason.
- Being a member of a motorcycle club is more than getting together for good times. It also means getting together for the other times too. It's committing themselves to a lifestyle in which they do not look for how their brothers can help them, but for ways that they can be of help to their brothers.
- A prospect can usually be identified by the back patch they are wearing. There are many different ways MC's identify prospects. You want to treat a prospect the same way you would treat a MC member - with respect and courtesy. MC's will take offense to any outsider using the "Prospect" term. Calling someone "Prospect" if you are not a member of that MC is considered disrespectful.
- MCs understand that it is not good business practice to be seen as "Biker Scum", and will regulate themselves so as to show to the public they are good neighbors. The dominate club in the area will also regulate how many and which MCs are allowed to be in the state. This effects the CVMA, because without the blessing of the local motorcycle clubs, the CVMA would face difficulty in trying to operate. This makes the issue of respect and respectful behavior to clubs and the community paramount.
- Remember, if you're wearing your CVMA patch, you are considered by everyone to be a representative of the Chapter. If anything were to turn sour, then the whole Chapter would wind up with problems down the road.



Biker Lifestyle 101

Protocol Basics- Respect

- If someone from a MC requests that you remove your vest, don't argue. The best reply is, "No Problem" and take it off. Then let a Chapter Officer know what MC it was so they can deal with any potential problems. They normally only ask once.
- Be aware that problems created in one part of the country by a CVMA member or issues with the chapter in one area have the potential to affect CVMA members in other areas and states.
- If an establishment has a sign indicating "No Colors", even though your patch is not considered "colors", the vest should be removed out of respect for the other MC's and the policy of the establishment. While we may just be an Association, it's only respectful to honor the house rules. MC's that honored the "house rules" would probably be deeply offended that you didn't. Also remember, many establishments choose to have this policy and it applies to all organizations that use any kind of patch.
- Do not wear your Patch into any MC's clubhouse unless you have asked if it's ok to do so or have been invited for a "sit down" with the officers of the MC or been invited as a CVMA Member.
- In regard to women who are with a MC, but not in the club: Old Lady is not a negative or derogatory term, it's just a slang term commonly used. "Property Of" patches are their way of showing support for their man and the MC he's in.
- A MC member may not, and many times will not, acknowledge your wife or girlfriend, especially upon a first meeting.
- Be aware of the behavior and attitude other CVMA members who are with you, especially if anyone has been drinking. If necessary, take action to avoid problems before they happen. i.e. if someone appears to be getting too angry, loud, and possibly disrespectful; take them aside or go somewhere else until things settle down. If an incident should occur in spite of your efforts and no officers are present, make sure to let your officers know as soon as you can.
- Don't ever touch any part of another MC member's colors, which includes the vest or jacket it's sewn on. That is considered a SERIOUS sign of disrespect, which could cause them to aggressively educate the un-informed.



Biker Lifestyle 101

Protocol Basics- Greetings and interactions

- Greet the MC member as you would meet anyone else but wait until the offer is made to shake hands. DO NOT be offended or make a big deal if they do not offer to shake your hand. Many times they want to get to know about you and your Association a little better before they will offer to shake your hand.
- When you introduce yourself, confidently, but not cockily, state your name, officer position—if applicable, Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association and your chapter.
- Don't ever touch an MC member's back. When giving the standard biker handshake/hug, touch the MC members shoulder, never touch their back.
- Do not call a MC member Brother or Bro. Their Brothers are fellow MC members and those that have earned that term.
- If you know a MC member, don't throw the MC Member's name/nickname/MC's name around like you're a great buddy of theirs (even if you are). MC's consider that major disrespect towards their MC.
- Never lie. You can politely refuse to answer a question by saying something as, "That seems like association business, and I should refer that to one of my Chapter officers to ensure that you get the correct information." Be prepared to answer questions about what your Association is about.
- Women in a leadership position or as a member of a MC, while not totally unheard of, is very rare. Most MC's would also rather deal with a man if there is business to conduct. Most realize what our association is about & will for the most part accept a woman as an officer, and a woman officer will most likely be allowed to attend any meeting. Whether or not they will deal directly with a woman officer or not depends on the individual MC. There is no set rule for this and they will let you know if it's ok with them or not. Most MC's do not care to deal with the National officers. They would prefer to deal with the local representatives.



Biker Lifestyle 101

Protocol Basics Protocol Basics- Greetings and interactions

- If you already know a MC member, don't just walk up to him and interrupt when they are with MC members. Wait till he acknowledges you first and NEVER touch them or put your arm around them like a buddy. Don't put your hand out to shake theirs. Wait for them to extend their hand first. If for some reason you're not acknowledged at all, and then just keep walking.
- Watch where you are when speaking about them, and never say anything about them in public because you never know which person could be one of them, or a "support member". MC members do not always wear their colors. By the time the story gets back to the Dominant Club in our area, it will have been changed many times over and could be blown up way out of proportion.
- Anything said about them between MC members is MC business ONLY. If comments, even those said in a joking manner were to get out, problems could start. Discussion outside the privacy of the chapter can start rumors which could cause a lot of problems for not only this chapter but also for other chapters in and out of the state.
- If for some reason you have to say something while in public about a MC, take the person you're talking to aside, alone, and say ONLY what you need to say to get your meaning across.
- Watch where you wear your patch, it's just common sense to stay in numbers when wearing your patch. If you are unsure of the areas or places normally frequented by MC's, ask your Chapter Officers. If you are planning a trip and are concerned, talk to a Chapter officer and ask if they can find something out by contacting the officers in the areas you will be in.



Biker Lifestyle 101

Protocol Basics- Club Business

- A club member will not discuss any club business, so don't ask them, no matter if it's about a specific patch on their vest, membership numbers, club goings on, or any member's personal information. They understand that they are a MC member 365/24/7, regardless if they are wearing their colors. Everything they say or do in public can affect the club. They also understand that if they get out of line, that they are subject to be counseled for their own good and for that of the club. Asking specific questions may also lead them to believe you want to become a prospect, so unless that's your intent, don't ask.

- If you need to talk to an officer of a MC the proper way is to go through the Chapter SGT at Arms who then will go through their SGT at Arms or one of the MC members for you to talk with their officer.



Biker Lifestyle 101

Protocol Basics - Summary

- "We are an Association & not a MC and have no intention of ever trying to become a MC".
- The CVMA Patch is earned through combat service, not prospecting.
- All makes and models of motorcycle (500cc or larger) are welcomed in the CVMA.
- We are a non-territorial Association.
- We are a neutral Association and do not wear any MC support patches.
- Women Combat Veterans are welcomed and in many cases are club officers.
- Do not offer forum links or web sites, it's better to refer them to a Chapter officer.
- Do NOT brag about how large the local or national membership is.
- Do not volunteer Association information. If they ask a question about the local Chapters answer it if you can. If they start asking questions about the number of members, or the National chain of organization refer them to one of the Chapter Officers.



Biker Lifestyle 101

What Patch Can I Wear



Right Side Front:

- POW/MIA Patch.
- Road Name.
- Officer Patch (as required)

Left Side Front:

- US Flag with Union on the wearer's right.
- CVMA Chapter Patch below flag.

Bar Patches:

- "Vets Helping Vets" or "Brothers for Brothers" Bar patches are authorized.
- Variations of deployment bars to add years or number of deployments is also authorized.

Note: All patches are optional.



What Patches are Prohibited?



No Rocker Style Patches



No State Patches



No Diamond, "%", or "MC" patches



Nothing that brings discredit



What Patch Can I Wear



Additional patches are authorized as long as they do not violate CVMA Bylaws or policy. If you have questions please ask your Sergeant at Arms.



List of some patch abbreviations

***.F.F.*.:** This acronym is used by clubs to denote "*Club Name Forever, Forever *Club Name." Variations of this also occur; as clubs use the first letters in their club name (Combat Vets would use C.V.F.F.C.V.)

1%: This patch is associated with any bikers who consider themselves part of the MC biker community. It is in reference to the American Motorcycle Association stating that 99% of motorcyclists are law abiding citizens.

9: or **9er** A patch denoting American Indian descent ("I" being the ninth letter in the alphabet) most commonly found among members of the Indios MC.

13: This can be found on a patch alone or in conjunction with other symbols. There are three definitions to what it means, the most common being associated with drugs and narcotics.

- The letter M, being the 13th letter of the alphabet, often is said to stand for marijuana or motorcycle. Generally, it is assumed someone wearing a 13 patch is either a user of marijuana or other drugs, or is involved with the sale of them rather than 13/M simply standing for Motorcycle.
- The second definition states that the M stands for "methamphetamine"
- The third definition of a 13 patch is that the wearer is his own judge & jury - this is due to 13 standing for 12 jurors and a judge.
- There are more definitions of what a "13" patch stands for, most of which are specific to a particular club and usually known only to members of that club.

Ace Of Spades: This can mean several things, but the general meaning is that the wearer will defend themselves to the last breath should the need arise, even if it results in someone else's death. This is particularly the case if the AOS patch contains a skull or the words: "Bringer of Death".

Bad Influence: means that the wearer is a mad man

Charity Run Pins: Charity pins are pins awarded for attending and riding in a charity run. In the run donations are made, and support for the cause is shown through riding in a large group with other supports. Charity pins usually state the year, particular charity, and often the club that hosts the run.



D.B.B.N.F. Downed Brothers, But Never Forgotten

DILLIGAF: Do I look like I give a fuck.

DTA "Don't trust anybody"

Flags: These usually mean one of two things.

- The first meaning could indicate where the person is from, or where they draw lineage or family from.
- The second meaning, particularly in the case with Harley Davidson riders, the flag indicates the country the brand of their motorcycle comes from.

FTW "Fuck the world"

G.F.O.D.: "God Forgives Outlaws Don't", worn to indicate the disdain bikers have for snitches.

I.T.C.O.B.: "I Took Care Of Business", usually worn by a club member who has committed a murder on behalf or in the best interest of the club.

Less than 1%er Patch commonly worn by members of the Indios MC, a humorous play on the fact that American Indians constitute less than 1% of the American population.

MC/MCC: MC or MCC stands for Motorcycle Club, often worn on the back of a vest in addition to top and bottom rockers and club logo.

Memorial Patches: These patches usually start off with "In Memory Of...", followed by a name and either the date the named person has died or the years in which they were alive. Sometimes the patch will also contain a message in their honor, such as "We will never forget you". These patches are worn to memorialize friends or club mates who have died for any number of reasons.

Men of Mayhem: This is usually worn by a club member who has committed violence against someone on behalf or in the best interest of the club. Usually it is given for committing murder.

OWOF This is usually worn by a club member of the Boozefighters MC and stands for Original Wild Ones Forever.



President: This indicates the wearer is the president for either the club he/she is involved with, or president for the chapter of the club he/she is involved with.

Rally Badges/Pins: Rally badges or pins are awarded for attendance to a bike rally. The rally itself may be for charitable causes, but the difference between a rally and run is that the rally is often set over one or two nights, with live entertainment and other activities. Bikers often pitch tents and rough it over the duration of the rally.

Road Names: Often worn on a bikers vest is a patch strip with a name on it. This is the road name, or name they go by while riding. These names can simply be a nickname given by friends, or a designation given to the biker by someone higher in rank in the club they are in.

Secretary: This indicates the wearer is the secretary for either the club he/she is involved with, or Secretary for the chapter of the club he/she is involved with.

Sergeant At Arms: This indicates the wearer is the sergeant at arms for either the club he/she is involved with, or sergeant at arms for the chapter of the club he/she is involved with.

Skull & Crossbones: This indicates the wearer has physically fought and possibly caused a death, in defending themselves, friends, or club mates.

SMD "Suck my dick"

Vice President: This indicates the wearer is the vice president for either the club he/she is involved with, or vice president for the chapter of the club he/she is involved with.

Wings: A number of clubs use patches containing wings, to indicate achievements the person has reached within the club. The meanings of the different colored wings vary depending on the club. Some clubs use other forms of patches to indicate achievements.

Must read for all new members just stepping into the Biker World

Biker Lifestyle 101

Riding Club and Motorcycle Club Education

<http://www.rcvsmc.net/>