

Treasurer's End of Year Report

I have lost track of how many meetings I attended in 2024, but I do know I attended all the International Board meetings that were called – in person and virtually. This included, of course, the Annual meeting in Leipzig.

For me, in one way, it was a quieter year regarding rallies. I wasn't able to attend as many regional rallies as I have in the past but I was able to, with my chapter, host a very successful Atlantic Association Rally.

I was honoured at the European Association President's Meeting this year to be recognized for the distance I had ridden in 2023. A part of that accomplishment included over 7,000 km in South-East Europe. In 2024, I was fortunate to put on another 7,000 km in Europe, this time taking a loop around the Baltic Sea. There certainly is some beautiful riding in Region 7! That said, I definitely encourage those of you in Regions 1-6 to get out and explore, the variety of landscape, architecture, and personalities throughout North America can make for some great adventures as well. Region 8, I'm looking forward to having good things to report about your area after convention 2026!

I have recently updated the chapter roster spreadsheet I send each chapter in the fall of the year. It now includes a note at the bottom of the dues tab with instructions on how to pay through our website. The more often Chapter Treasurers pay dues, the easier it gets, but Chapter Treasurers change frequently so little tricks like this are helpful. If any Treasurers out there want additional tips and tricks in the annual dues spreadsheet, let me know, they can be added.

At the convention in 2024 we added some clarity to our Social Membership. This was spurred by me seeing inconsistent interpretations amongst Chapters. There was great discussion on the floor about this and I would like to point out that eligibility is not automatic membership. At the time I did not fully appreciate the comments of how this change could dilute our membership. My thoughts were similar to another member who noted the challenges around Junior Members and him being able to bring his son into the club but not his step-son. It was these types of situations I had in mind. On the other side I can see how it could be "watering down" our membership if my 80 year-old father remarried and I brought all my new step-brothers and step-sisters into the club. Although either of these situations are now eligible, I would hope the Chapter would consider the validity of the second scenario before voting to approve those relatives. To help understand if this change did fully clarify Social Membership, please, when you submit a new Social Member, in addition to noting who their sponsor is, include what the relationship is.

Once again, thank you to all the Chapter Officers and others who I have worked with over the year, I'm here to make your jobs easier so you can just have fun and ride. I appreciate how so many of you make that possible for me as well. Something that can make it even easier for you and for me, when you are submitting roster updates with added members, please make a note if they are already members of another chapter and which one is their Home Chapter. With 10,000 members, I don't recognize all the names, if a name pops up on your chapter roster that wasn't on the last version, I assume they are a New Member and look for \$20.

Ride safe, I hope to see you soon.
Scott