Upper Valley CVMA

New Member Induction Ceremony

**CO** Members of the Upper Valley Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association, let us begin our induction ceremony with the reading of Patch on My Back.

**SEC** 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 make 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!*

**CO** Sargent at Arms, will you please present and post the candidates.

**Sargent at Arms** I have the honor of presenting the following candidates for membership:

Full Member: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Supporter: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Auxiliary: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Sec** The Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association is guided by the vision of Veterans helping Veterans. In Order to become a Full Member, a candidate must present to the BOD verification of deployment to a combat zone, and operate a motorcycle of 500cc or greater. In order to become a Supporter, a candidate must present verification of veteran status, and operate a motorcycle of 500cc or greater. To become an Auxiliary Member, a candidate must be the spouse, widow, or widower of a Full Member.

**SEC** Upon review of your documented combat experience, your desire to help your fellow Veterans, and in accordance with National and Chapter Bylaws, we find you meet our specific requirements for membership.

**SEC** It is customary and appropriate that people unite with common bonds of interest. To display these bonds, characteristic symbols are used as identification. To the world, the symbols represent a society with particular goals and interests; however, to the membership these symbols have a more significant meaning, since they represent the unique association of the members within their society. So it is so with the CVMA.

**SEC** The emblem of the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association is in the shape of a skull encompassed by the following colors. The incorporated colors are: Red, representing the blood that has been shed on the battlefield. The Military Gold, representing all branches of the military service of the United States. Black, representing the heavy hearts possessed for those who gave their lives and for those that are considered missing in action or prisoners of war. The Skull and ace of spade represents the death that war leaves in its wake.

**SEC** Raise your right hand, and repeat this pledge after me. I (state your name), having heard and understood ....The purpose and mission of the CVMA.....do solemnly pledge ....always to respect and promote ...the aims and ideals of the CVMA. (Lower your right hand)

**SEC** With this pledge you become one of us, a member of the CVMA. Remember your life and your acts will bear witness to the Honor of the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association. Let our minds close upon the uniqueness of our individual qualifications and experiences which allow us the brotherhood and camaraderie not found in any other organization. So, let our minds be open to new truths and greater understanding of life after combat.

**CO** Sargent at Arms please advance our newest member through the welcoming of our membership to receive their patch.