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**MOTOR MAIDS ENROUTE TO GRAND RAPIDS**  
**Grand Rapids to host 71st anniversary convention of North America's**  
**first and oldest women's motorcycle club**

*Grand Rapids, Mich. (June 28, 2011)* – More than 350 motorcycle enthusiasts will roll into Grand Rapids July 4, 2011, for the 71<sup>st</sup> Anniversary Convention of [Motor Maids, Inc.](#), North America's first and oldest women's motorcycle riding club. The three-day annual conference will be held July 5-7 at the Crowne Plaza, 5700 28<sup>th</sup> St.

**The Anniversary Convention's opening ceremonies will kick off July 5 at 7 p.m. with a Motor Maid tradition, a two-mile parade of 300 members clad in their uniform of white gloves and vests adorned with the club's emblem.** Led by a police escort, the parade will begin at Crowne Plaza and loop around Centennial Country Club. (A parade route is attached.)

Other conference highlights include:

- The Motor Maids Awards Ceremony will be held July 5 at 8:30 a.m. at the Crowne Plaza. The event will recognize members who traveled the farthest to attend as well as new members and members who have been with the organization for 10 to 60 years.
- On July 6, beginning at 8:01 a.m. at the Crowne Plaza, Motor Maids will ride in honor of the club's co-founder at their annual Dot Robinson Run. The object is for each participant to average a speed of 30 miles per hour and follow the route to the endpoint. Various checkpoints will be stationed at undisclosed locations along the course to check speed. The first person to reach the end of the timed run with the least number of deductions wins.

"We are excited to welcome such a fun and spirited group to Grand Rapids and are delighted the Motor Maids selected our city for their annual meeting," said Experience Grand Rapids President Doug Small. "Their meeting is a perfect example of the diverse array of conventions our city hosts. From rabbit breeders to watch collectors, we are able to accommodate them all."

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The club's annual convention is held in July in different parts of the country. Local Motor Maids members Joan Farnol, Rene Anderson and Jennifer Dwyer helped bring the group to Grand Rapids for the first time. This year, they expect record high attendance, with more than 350 members and spouses registered. To fully participate in all activities, members are required to ride their motorcycles to the conference site each year. Next year's convention will be held Spartanburg, S.C.

Founded in 1940, Motor Maids, Inc. is comprised of a diverse group of 1,200 women motorcyclists throughout the U.S. and Canada, who share a passion for riding. Many of its founding members were motorcycle couriers in World War II. The organization helps foster a positive image for the sport and promotes safe riding skills. Its members are required to legally own and operate their own motorcycle or one belonging to an immediate family member.

For more information, visit: <http://www.motormaids.org>

For onsite interviews or photos contact:

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