

DEFENDANT LAYS MURDERS TO A FELLOW CLUB MEMBER

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Paul (Rocky) Dye, president of the **Forbidden Wheels motorcycle club** who is charged with murdering two women last summer, testified Tuesday that another club member -- a key prosecution witness -- actually killed the women.

Dye said Bruce Sidell shot Glenda Collins and Donna Bartels because the women overheard two other club members confess to firebombing the home of former club president William (Mr. Boo) Scherra. Scherra had reportedly disappeared with the club's treasury.

The murders were linked to the clubhouse, in the 21600 block of Fenkell, when Detroit police and fire arson investigators, looking for evidence in the Scherra bombing, found blood splattered on the clubhouse floor and ceiling and pieces of skull in a trash can.

However, Dye, 28, admitted that he drove the car from which the bodies were dumped into a vacant lot.

Under cross-examination by prosecutor Walter Piszczatowski, Dye said he named Sidell as the killer and Steve (Smooch) Stepher and James Dawson as the bombers after he was "shocked" by their testimony against him during his preliminary examination.

DYE, WHO faces mandatory life in prison if convicted, testified before Recorder's Court Judge Henry Heading that he and Sidell were at the club the early morning of Aug. 29 when Bartels and Collins came over uninvited.

Soon after their arrival, Dye said that Stepher and Dawson ran in, announcing they had bombed Scherra's house. Dye said that after Dawson and Stepher went upstairs "to watch for the smoke and look for the flames" from the bombing, he went to sleep on a sofa near the club's bar.

"The next thing I knew I was being awakened by a loud noise. I sat up. There was a second noise -- like a gunshot or a firecracker -- then I heard a thump," he said. Standing up, he said, he saw Sidell, pistol in hand, standing over the women's bodies.

"I asked him what the hell he was doing or had done," Dye said. "He didn't give me a reply. He just looked around at me -- a very strange look on his face. Then he said, 'Rocky, what are we going to do?' "

Sidell had testified that he saw Dye shoot the women and then explain that they were "fat c---s."
Stepher said Dye told him he killed the women because "they were messing with him."

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