



Sunday
June 14th

BLUE KNIGHTS® FLXVII NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2026

MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Greetings Fellow Knights,
Happy Summer!

As I am typing this I am sitting in the North Georgia mountains and the weather is absolutely beautiful. This area has some great riding roads with lots of twisty curves and fabulous views such a shame I am driving the RV. If you have never been to the area I recommend the towns of Helen and Blue Ridge as wonderful places to start exploring.

Driving over to Blue Ridge I spotted three of our fellow Blue Knights out for a ride. They went by fast but were proudly sporting their colors. A nice sight to see when you are away from home.

Please remember we are not having a June, July or August meeting. A schedule will be made for lunch and breakfast runs. If anyone wants to lead a ride or you would like to host a lunch, breakfast or dinner please let me know and I will add it to the list.

I will be away for most of June spending some time with my daughter in NJ. I will be taking her on a trip to the NY finger lakes for some hiking, camping and wine drinking.

Have a great and safe month, pack the rain gear and the sun block and enjoy.

Patrick Gibbons
President, FLXVIII



June Ride and Event Schedule

BREAKFAST, LUNCH AND DINNERS
WILL TAKE PLACE RAIN OR SHINE
RIDES ARE SUBJECT TO MOTHER
NATURE'S APPROVAL

Tuesday 6/2 5:30 PM

MONTHLY CHAPTER MEETINGS HAVE
BEEN SUSPENDED UNTIL SEPTEMBER

Saturday 6/6 9:00 AM

Breakfast at Skilletts
8635 S Tamiami Trail
Sarasota



Saturday 6/11 11:30 AM



Lunch at Mission BBQ
University Parkway,
Sarasota

Saturday 6/20 11:30 AM

Lunch at Miller's Ale House
7175 SR 64E
Bradenton 34212



Sunday 6/28 9:00 AM



Breakfast at Bob Evens
5903 Brookhill Blvd /
Fruitville Rd. 34232

REMEMBER, IF ANYONE WANTS TO HEAD UP
A RIDE OR EVENT THROUGHOUT THE MONTH
ON OPEN DAYS, PLEASE LET PRESIDENT
GIBBONS KNOW AND HE WILL PUT IT OUT
FOR YOU.



OUR PLEDGE

“AS A BLUE KNIGHT I PLEDGE TO ACT WITH HONOR AND PRIDE TO PROMOTE MOTORCYCLING AND MOTORCYCLE SAFETY BY BEING AN EXAMPLE OF THE SAFE USE, OPERATION AND ENJOYMENT OF MOTORCYCLES. I WILL WORK AT ALL TIMES TO IMPROVE THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE LAW ENFORCEMENT MOTORCYCLING COMMUNITY AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC.THE FRATERNAL SPIRIT WILL ALWAYS GUIDE ME IN RELATING TO OTHER BLUE KNIGHTS”

BLUE KNIGHTS® FLXVIII NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2026

CHAPTER EXECUTIVE BOARD

PRESIDENT PATRICK GIBBONS
VICE PRESIDENT RALPH SMITH
TREASURER TRACY DUNN
SECRETARY DOMENIC CECCANECCHIO
SERGEANT AT ARMS JAMES RYAN

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SID JONES / PAST PRESIDENT
MICHAEL KLEIN
BOBBY GROTZ

OPERATIONS

DOMENIC CECCANECCHIO / WEBMASTER
BRIAN MACCONNELL / QUARTERMASTER
JIM KELLY / SAFETY OFFICER
DOMENIC CECCANECCHIO / NEWSLETTER
CHAPLAIN / VACANT

In the Chapter Market

Jim Ryan — Woodworking made to order.
Tell me what you want, size, and specific wood (if requested) and I will make it. Very reasonable prices.
941-313-1363 or jryanretired@aol.com



PRICE REDUCED

2016 Harley Davidson FLSTFBS “Fatboy” All Black, 25645 Miles. Price - ~~\$12,000~~ **NOW \$11,000**.
Purchased from Rossiter’s HD August 15, 2022 and has been garage kept everyday. Price includes a brand new windshield still in the box, never opened. Contact John Emrick at 410-991-8161 (okay to leave a message) or mddre3077@aol.com



2014 FLHTK Harley Davidson Ultra Limited
Color- Daytona Blue Mileage- 17500
Includes headsets for rider and passenger
Price- \$12,200 FIRM

John Emrick Mddre3077@aol.com

SEND YOUR SALE ITEMS TO ADD TO OUR MARKET

We need and want your input

Send your letters, suggestions, or any special event you would like to share to:

Patrick Gibbons
pjgibby1969@comcast.net

OR

Dom Ceccanecchio
dcc444@comcast.net



BLUE KNIGHTS FLORIDA XVIII

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING - MINUTES

May 5th, 2026



7:00PM - 2nd floor Sahib Shriners, 600 N Beneva Rd, Sarasota FL

President: Patrick Gibbons - Vice President: Ralph Smith - Treasurer: Tracy Dunn - Secretary/Webmaster: Dom Ceccanecchio
Sergeant At Arms: James Ryan - Past President: Sid Jones - Director: Bob Grotz - Director: Michael Klein
Quartermaster: Brian MacConnell - Chaplin: Vacant - Safety Officer: Jim Kelly

BLUE KNIGHTS[®] FLXVII NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2026

Meeting Call to Order: by [President Gibbons](#) @ 7:02PM

Pledge of Allegiance: [led by](#) President Gibbons

Invocation: by Ralph Smith

Welcoming Remarks: President Gibbons.

PRESIDENTS REPORT: PATRICK GIBBONS

- **Stop the Bleed Class** was given on May 4th with 12 attendees. The class was given by Bradenton PD
- **Thunder By The Bay** raised \$310,000 The thank you party was great we were recognized for our help with the dice run and our donation.
- **The 29th annual Thunder By The Bay will be held February 19th - 21st 2027**
- **Monthly chapter meeting schedule:** It was decided to forego chapter meetings in June, July and August. This was voted on voted and approved at the March meeting. All other chapter activities and ride will continue.

VICE PRESIDENTS REPORT: RALPH SMITH

- Reports that the chapter trailer was cleaned and old unwanted items were discarded.

TREASURERS REPORT: TRACY DUNN

- Motion to accept the April financial report Brian MacConnell, 2nd Jim Thomas, all approved.
- Specific financial data is available by request to our Treasurer.

SECRETARY / WEBMASTER'S REPORT: DOMENIC CECCANECCHIO

- Motion to accept the April minutes was made by Brian MacConnell, 2nd Jim Thomas, all approved.

SAFETY OFFICER: JIM KELLY:

- Make sure that you have good visibility when turning from in back of a truck

CHAPLIN: JAMES KIRKPATRICK:

- Sadly, Jimmy is stepping down as Chaplain. Anyone interested in filling this position should contact President Gibbons.

SRC / INTERNATIONAL REPORT:

- See Newsletter for details.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Brian MacConnell is selling bike shades for \$30 each.

NEW BUSINESS :

- Brian MacConnell will provide details for the Manasota 9/11 ride as soon as they are determined

SICK AND DISTRESSED:

PLEASE KEEP OUR SICK AND DISTRESSED MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES IN YOUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS.

Geri Buscemi

Jim Ryan

50-50 DRAWING: Amount: \$55 Winner: Ralph Smith \$28

MOTION TO ADJOURN: Time: 7:28PM Motion: Ralph Smith 2nd Dan Thompson, all approved

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING: TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 8th

Prepared and submitted by Patrick Gibbons, Chapter President and Domenic Ceccanecchio, Secretary BK XVIII



In the News

BLUE KNIGHTS[®] FLXVIII NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2026

FLORIDA: SECOND AMENDMENT SALES TAX HOLIDAY PASSES LEGISLATURE

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

▼ When is the Florida gun tax holiday in 2026?

The Florida Hunting, Fishing, and Camping Sales Tax Holiday runs September 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026. During this four-month window, firearms (pistols, rifles, shotguns), ammunition, and qualifying firearm accessories are exempt from Florida's 6% state sales tax plus local surtaxes.

▼ Are suppressors tax-free in the 2026 Florida holiday?

Yes. The 2026 bill (HB 7031-E) explicitly lists silencers/suppressors as exempt firearm accessories. This is a change from 2025, when suppressors were specifically excluded from the holiday. The 2026 conference committee agreement also includes a separate permanent firearm accessories exemption running July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027 that covers suppressors.

▼ What firearm accessories are tax-free under HB 7031-E?

Under the 2026 bill, the exempt firearm accessories include range bags, holsters, magazines, mats, sights and optics, slings, stocks, cleaning kits, silencers/suppressors, and triggers. These accessories qualify during the September 1 to December 31, 2026 holiday period. A separate permanent exemption covering the same accessory list runs July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027.

▼ Is there a price cap on firearms during the Florida 2026 holiday?

No. The 2026 bill does not impose a price cap on firearms or ammunition. Any rifle, pistol, or shotgun purchased during the holiday qualifies for the sales tax exemption regardless of retail price. This was also the case in 2025.



DON'T FORGET

BLUE KNIGHTS® FLXVIII NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2026

Monthly Chapter Meetings

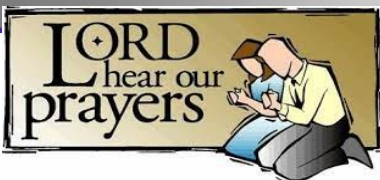
SUMMER BREAK

THE NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING IS
7:00PM ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1ST, 2026
2ND FLOOR OF THE SAHIB SHRINE
600N BENEVA RD SARASOTA

ALL OTHER CHAPTER ACTIVITIES AND RIDE WILL CONTINUE



SUNDAY
JUNE 21



REMEMBER OUR SICK AND DISTRESSED

PLEASE KEEP OUR SICK AND DISTRESSED MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES IN YOUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

GERI BUSCEMI

JIM RYAN



DID YOU KNOW ?

History of Flag Day

Flag Day is celebrated annually on June 14 to commemorate the adoption of the official United States flag by the Second Continental Congress in 1777. Though it is an official national observance established by Congress in 1949, it is not a federal public holiday.

- **First Official Proclamation:** President Woodrow Wilson first issued a proclamation establishing June 14 as Flag Day in 1916.
- **The "Father of Flag Day":** Bernard J. Cigrand, a Wisconsin schoolteacher, is widely credited with initiating the campaign for a national Flag Day, famously celebrating "Flag Birthday" with his students in 1885.
- **State Recognition:** Pennsylvania is the only state to recognize Flag Day as an official paid state holiday, an honor it has held since 1937.
- **Original Design:** The 1777 resolution dictated that the flag consist of 13 stripes (alternating red and white) and 13 stars (representing a new constellation).
- **Current Design:** The current 50-star flag was designed by 17-year-old Robert G. Heft in 1958 as a school project. It was officially adopted on July 4, 1960.

Stripes vs. Stars: While stars are added to represent new states, the number of stripes has remained at 13 to honor the original colonies.

Red: Signifies valor and bravery.

White: Represents purity and innocence.

Blue: Stands for vigilance, perseverance, and justice



Interesting Flag Facts

- **Permanent Display:** By presidential proclamation and law, the American flag must be flown 24 hours a day at specific locations, including the White House, Fort McHenry (home to the *Star-Spangled Banner*), and the Iwo Jima Memorial.
- **Apollo Missions:** There are still five American flags standing on the Moon, although radiation from the Sun has likely bleached them completely white.
- **New States:** The Flag Institute has already designed multiple versions of a 51-star flag in preparation for the potential addition of a new state to the Union.



Blue Knights® International Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club, Inc.



BLUE KNIGHTS® FLXVIII NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2026



Host Hotel

Grey Eagle Resort
3777 Grey Eagle Dr.
Tsuut'ina Nation,
Calgary, Alberta
Canada



Registration

Adults \$265 CAD
(Until Apr. 30, 2026)
Children \$150 CAD
Adult Late \$315 CAD
(After Apr. 30, 2026)

Blue Knights International Convention & West Coast Conference July 19-24, 2026

Registration Includes: Welcome Package, Challenge Coin, Opening Ceremony, Live Entertainment, Hospitality Suite, Drink Tickets, Cookout BBQ, Slow Races, Vendor Night, Guided Rides, Banquet



Register Online At: <https://www.blueknightscalgary.com/>

Host Hotel: Grey Eagle Resort - SOLD OUT!!!, **Alt. Hotel:** Hotel Blackfoot - Call: 1-403-252-2253

Additional information & offers will be added to our website periodically, Check back regularly!!



Ride with Pride!

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Randy Hoagland - Chairman
Eddie Henderson - Vice-Chairman
Mike Shockley - International Rep
Sal Anicito - Secretary
Al Fryer - Treasurer

THE SRC REGION INCLUDES:

Alabama
Florida
Georgia
Louisiana
Mississippi
South Carolina
Bahamas
Bermuda
Puerto Rico
Virgin Islands

SRC WEBSITE— <https://srcknights.org/>
NEWSLETTER: <https://srcknights.org/>

BLUE KNIGHTS® FLXVIII NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2026

**BLUE KNIGHTS
SOUTHERN REGIONAL
CONFERENCE**

RIDE WITH PRIDE

**2026 FALL CONFERENCE
MYRTLE BEACH SOUTH CAROLINA
October 6, 7, 8, 2026
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday**

RIDE WITH PRIDE ON THE GRAND STRAND

The Grand Strand is a 60-mile stretch of beautiful sandy beaches located along the Atlantic Ocean in South Carolina, primarily in Horry and Georgetown Counties. It is a popular tourist destination known for its attractions, golf resorts, and family-friendly activities, with Myrtle Beach being the main city in the area.

HOST HOTEL: The Ellie Beach Resort Myrtle Beach, Tapestry by Hilton

Address: 3200 South Ocean Boulevard Myrtle Beach, South Carolina 29577

Group Room Rate: \$199 per night plus tax

Parking: Reserved and secure parking for motorcycle, trailer and vehicles.

Hotel Rate Cutoff: September 7, 2026

Link To Book Hotel: <https://www.hilton.com/en/attend-my-event/blue-knights-motorcycle-2026/>

Call to Book Hotel: 1-800-774-1500 (Group Code 91N)

Check In/Registration: Tuesday 3:00pm to 7:00pm

Guided Rides: Wednesday & Thursday with self guided options

President's Meeting: Thursday 8:00am to 9:00am

Banquet: Thursday 7:00pm at DoubleTree Resort Carolina Ballroom

Hospitality Room: Every Night- (Attending Presidents asked to bring a minimum of one (1) bottle of liquor of choice to help stock the bar.)

Raffle: 50/50 Raffle Every Night

Sales: Vendor and Chapter Sale Space Available. \$25 a table.

Contact: SC V President John Flynn 910-367-6500 or fuzzyoflynn1@gmail.com.
Any difficulties registering online, contact John.

REGISTRATION: \$140 per person. Includes daily breakfast, banquet, hospitality beverages with a bag, patch and pin with 2026 Fall SRC logo. Pre-registration cutoff July 15, 2026 to guarantee banquet attendance.

LATE REGISTRATION July 16, 2026 to September 29, 2026 is \$160 per person. No refunds after September 21, 2026.

INFO: 2026 Myrtle Beach Fall Bike Week will be September 27, 2026 to October 4, 2026.

Register Online at: <https://bkscv.com/2026-src>

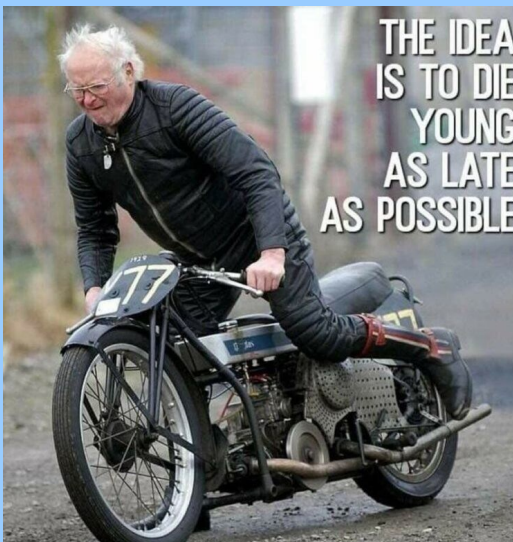
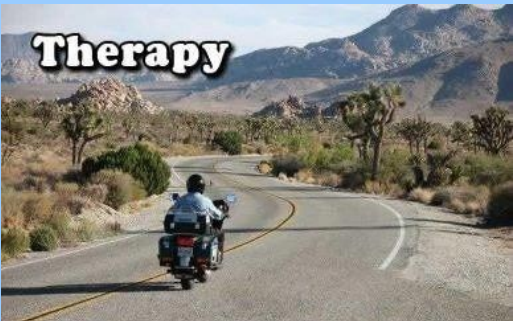
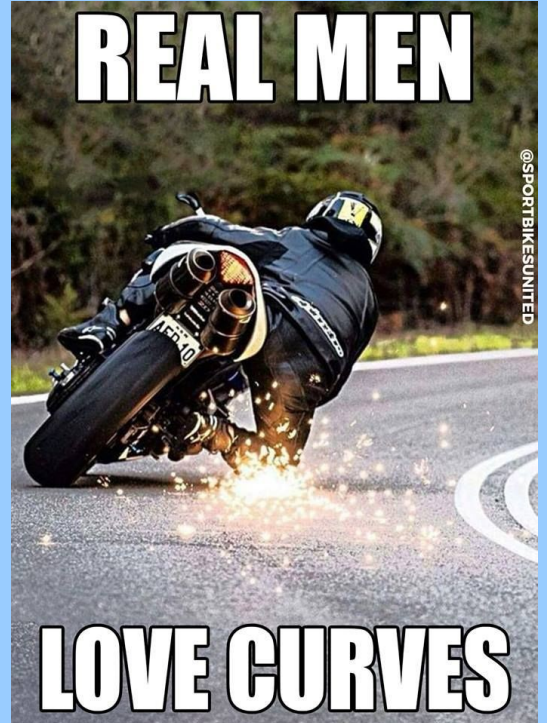
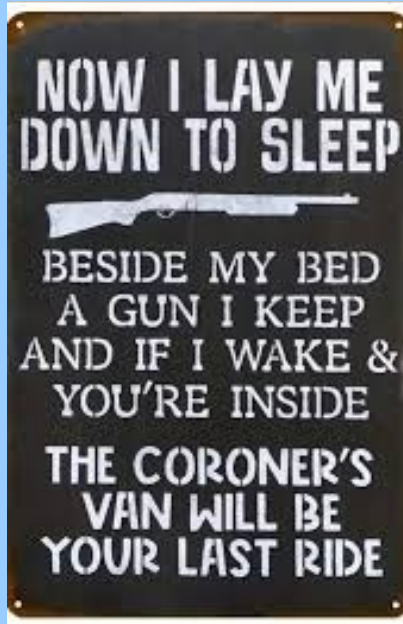


On The Lighter Side



BLUE KNIGHTS® FLXVII NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2026





Blue Knights FXVIII Marketplace

Support our Sponsors

BLUE KNIGHTS® FLXVIII NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2026



Elevate your outdoor experience

Say goodbye to sun-damaged surfaces and endless maintenance. Choose from durable, beautiful hardscape options.

Trusted professionals, budget-friendly, and fully licensed.



concrete pavers | natural stones | pool decks | driveways | custom patios | clean & seal | repairs



Call today for a FREE ESTIMATE
941-306-3418
pavingcrew.com



5,000 sq ft SHOWROOM - 2150 17th Street - Sarasota, FL 34234



Beverly Hills Dog Premier Doggy Daycare

For tiny, small and medium sized dogs
2030 Bispham Road Sarasota 34231

941-822-0888

CONCIERGE OVERNIGHT CARE AVAILABLE

<https://www.dogdog.org/pet-boarding-service/beverly-hills-dog-sarasota>

OLIVER "OG" GIESSER

SALES

941.883.8000 | cell 941.356.4818 | TEXT BBWHD 57780

O.GIESSER@BERTSBLACKWIDOW.COM

BERTSBLACKWIDOWHD

BERTSBLACKWIDOW

2224 EL JOBEAN ROAD
PORT CHARLOTTE, FL 33948

WWW.BERTSBLACKWIDOW.COM





Blue Knights FXVIII Marketplace Support our Sponsors

BLUE KNIGHTS® FLXVIII NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2026



TRANSPARENCY MEANS TRUST.

**South West Florida's
Dealer of Choice!**

At Adrenaline Harley-Davidson,
our team offers honest pricing and genuine
service to help you find the perfect ride.

No gimmicks,
just real support for fellow riders like you.



**VISIT US AS
ADRENALINE H-D NOW!**

941.951.6103 | www.adrenaline-hd.com
330 Cattlemen Road Sarasota, FL 34232

Mission BBQ

 118 Reviews
Hours: 11am - 9pm



WEBSITE: <https://mission-bbq.com> 



Gulf Sands Realty is your home for
buying and selling in Sarasota and
Manatee Counties

Contact Us

-  7061 S Tamiami Trail, Suite #109
Sarasota, FL 34231
-  (941) 400-6237
-  hello@gulfsandsrealty.com



Greg and Cynthia Brock
Broker/Owners



Blue Knights FXVIII Marketplace Support our Sponsors

BLUE KNIGHTS® FLXVIII NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2026

