



BLUE KNIGHTS® FLXVIII NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2023

MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Greetings fellow Knights,

As we head into the autumn season on the Suncoast it doesn't really change much for us maybe a few cooler days and more beautiful evenings. However it does kick off our riding season with more bike nights and weekend events. If you see something you would like us to attend or you would like to lead a ride to a bike night please let me know.

I'm looking forward to our Blue Knights appreciation day (10/7) at Bert's Black Widow Harley Davidson and the Twisted Fork.

On October 28th we will be helping with the Bikers for Boobies Poker Run. We will be handing out cards at one of the stops and hopefully we can get some of our friends and members to join in and sign up for this great event for a great cause they need all the riders they can get.

Every other October for our chapter is the start of the chapter elections. We will be discussing this at our meeting. This is the opportunity for you to step up and give back to the club and help us grow and keep moving forward. A wise man once said " you get what you give."

Ride with Pride
Patrick Gibbons
President, FLXVIII



October Ride and Event Schedule

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

Tuesday 10/3

5:30 PM Dinner at the Hot Sands Tiki Bar 600 N Beneva Road SRQ

7:00 PM Monthly Membership Meeting. 2nd floor Sahib Shriners 600 N Beneva road SRQ

Saturday 10/7

"Blue Knights Appreciation Day" at Bert's Black Widow Harley Davidson, 2224 El Jobean Road, Port Charlotte. The event starts at 12:00 PM. Come by car if you like. We need a head count so please RSVP by October 1st to President Gibbons at pigibby1969@comcast.net. Lunch will be provided and they need a head count.

**** Northern riders will meet up at the Speedway gas station 8604 SR 70 E, Bradenton at 10:30 AM. KSU 10:45 AM. We will then meet up with the Southern riders at the Wawa 19289 Times Circle, Venice. Exit 193 off of RT 75 at 11:15 AM. KSU from Wawa 11:30 AM. ****

Saturday 10/14

11:00 AM Lunch at Fuzzy's Taco Shop 2515 University Parkway SRQ (Ride After)

Saturday 10/14

2:00 PM—Pre-ride Meeting for the Bikers for Boobies at Adrenaline Harley. If you would like to attend this meeting and help with working this poker run please come out.

Saturday 10/22

9:00 AM Breakfast at Der Dutchman 3713 Bahia Vista st SRQ (Ride After)

Saturday 10/28

The "Bikers For Boobies Poker Run:

10:00 AM Adrenaline Harley Davidson. If you would like to work this event and not ride (handing out cards at one of the stops) Additional details are forthcoming.



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

OCTOBER 2023

By Law Review ...

A by-laws committee has been formed to ensure that we are in compliance with Blue Knight International standards.

The committee consists of John Emrick, Dom Ceccanecchio, Jimmy Kirkpatrick, Jim Thomas and Patrick Gibbons. Results of the committees findings will be presented to the membership for approval.

CHAPTER EXECUTIVE BOARD

PRESIDENT PATRICK GIBBONS
VICE PRESIDENT JAMES THOMAS
TREASURER JOHN EMRICK
SECRETARY DOMENIC CECCANECCHIO
SERGEANT AT ARMS JAMES RYAN

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

TRACY DUNN
CHRISTOPHER SCARDINO
RORY MACCONNELL / PAST PRESIDENT

OPERATIONS

JAMES KIRKPATRICK / CHAPLAIN
DOMENIC CECCANECCHIO / WEBMASTER
TIMOTHY VAN SCHULTZ / QUARTERMASTER
VACANT / SAFETY OFFICER
DOMENIC CECCANECCHIO / NEWSLETTER

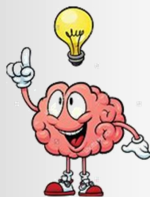
We need and want your input

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

Patrick Gibbons
pgibbv1969@comcast.net

Jim Thomas
alexandjay1988@gmail.com

Dom Ceccanecchio
dcc444@comcast.net



In the Chapter Market

Woodworking made to order. Tell me what you want, size, and specific wood (if requested) and I will make it.

Very reasonable prices.

Jim Ryan - 941-313-1363 jryanretired@aol.com BK Florida XVIII



FOR SALE (Free for FLXVIII Chapter Members): SunHeater Solar Pool Heating System. Two 2'x10' solar panels, diverter valve, instructions and complete mounting kit to mount panels on roof, ground or fence. Works on either above ground or inground pools. 2 years old. Sells for \$400+ new for just the panels, asking \$150 or B/O for everything. Call Don 585-739-3465. Leave message for call back or email: dapnyiv@yahoo.com

SEND YOUR SALE ITEMS TO ADD TO OUR MARKET



BLUE KNIGHTS® FLXVIII NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2023

OCTOBER

ZODIAC SIGNS



Libra (September 23 – October 22)

Librans are **extroverted, cosy, and friendly people**. Librans, like the Scales that symbolize the sign, are often concerned with attaining balance, harmony, peace, and justice in the world. With their vast stores of charm, intelligence, frankness, persuasion, and seamless connectivity, they are well-equipped to do so.



Scorpio (October 23 – November 21)

Scorpios are known for their **loyalty and devotion** — and also their **passion**. In fact, they are known to have such intense personalities that they are often confused with vibrant fire signs. Alas, they just have deep feelings and emotions.



VP Message Jim Thomas

Hello Brother and Sister Knights,

And good day to all,

I am feeling a little nostalgic today and would like to talk about fellowship. I have been doing a lot of traveling to the various out of town functions for BK and have found one thing to be consistent in all events. That thing is fellowship. When I joined the Knights, I had very low expectations due to experiences in other organizations that left me feeling underwhelmed with the extended family effects of a club. So when I joined in Indiana, I gave little effort to the club and steered clear of getting close to its members. Since I arrived at Florida XVIII, I have found a more wholesome chapter with a lot of lasting friendships. I have met people from around the globe at the get togethers and have made new and very interesting memories and connections. The ability to meet the international on a new level has been fun and the brotherhood has been an exciting time for me. I guess the point is that in order to fully immerse into the Blue Knights, you need to participate. And by participate, I mean to be there and to take part in the family. Yes, everyone has a life, but, you came looking to be part of something. It's a wonderful club full of fantastic people. Take advantage of the opportunity to meet them. Come out and get involved.

Looking forward to our next meeting and have a safe and blessed month my friends.

Who knows, you may actually enjoy having friends around to bless your days with fellowship.



Listening Devices and Motorcycles

Compliments of Rodney Stearns



Motorcyclists rely on their senses to operate safely. We know the importance of being able to hear oncoming traffic, horns, sirens, and other sounds that could indicate unsafe situations or a need to adjust our speed. Unlike those days in a patrol car, for those that had that privilege, we commonly were being paid to be inattentive to driving...simply because we had to be cognizant of so many other things.

As people age, it's common to experience hearing loss, as well as night vision. Hearing issues affect almost 27% of individuals over the age of 64. Although this number drops when considering all adults over 17, 13% of all adults have hearing issues.

Florida laws, subjective to the driver only, allow those of us who need hearing aids to wear these assistive devices while operating a motorcycle. However, these laws also prohibit drivers from wearing headphones or other listening devices that sit on or in their ears. Drivers are permitted to wear helmets with headsets as long as the headsets aren't touching their ears. Under certain conditions, drivers are also allowed to wear headsets that only transmit sound to one ear, and they may also use a headset that connects to their smartphone again only transmitting to one ear. In these scenarios, the

Blue Knights International Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club

Blue Knights® International
Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club, Inc.



50th Anniversary

Date: July 21st – 26th, 2024

Location: Sugarloaf Mountain Hotel & Conference Center
5092 Access Road
Carrabassett Valley, Maine 04947

Phone: 1-800-843-5623

HOTEL ROOM RESERVATIONS ARE FULL. Condos are available. Go to the Sugarloaf web page and go to the lodging link; you can then scroll through the various condo photos and descriptions and choose what type you would like with the bed configuration you want. You will then need to call and they will take your information to make your reservation. Tell them what you want... If they do not have one available right away, they will take your info (type of condo, etc) and put you on a wait list and call you when one is added to their inventory.

RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION IS ALL MEMBERS JOB.... ALWAYS WEAR YOUR COLORS AND PROMOTE OUR ORGANIZATION

Chaplains Message



BLUE KNIGHTS® FLXVIII NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2023

What is the role of religion and spirituality in policing? By: Pastor Ed Kelley



Many officers take the stress they experience from their job back to their home lives, which can cause even more turmoil.

A typical table has four legs. We have all experienced a table that is out of balance, where one leg is "off", and the silly table unsteadily rocks back and forth. I like to think of life like the four legs of a table, each representing the four key areas of our existence: physical, emotional (social), mental and spiritual.

A table needs equal strength from all four legs in order to handle any significant weight placed upon it. If one leg is weak, the table can come crashing down. Life is the same way: The human life needs physical, emotional, mental and spiritual balance so when life's stresses land in our life—as they always do—we can handle it. Officers tend to hold their actions and behaviors to very high standards.

Stress can feel really heavy law enforcement, as a profession, is extremely stressful. Officers can experience stress from all sorts of sources: responding to calls for service; leadership within the department; society's expectations; spouses and family members; finances; or even from within, as officers tend to hold their actions and behaviors to very high standards. Officers often feel they are under constant stress, and this weight can accumulate over time. High levels of stress can also come from a single event, whether it's responding to a car accident or being involved in a use-of-force incident. Unfortunately, many officers take the stress they experience from their job back to their home lives, which can cause even more turmoil.

I have worked with law enforcement for 30 years. I have counseled officers whose out-of-balance work lives ended up crashing their personal worlds. Quite often, officers crash when their lives are out of balance over an extended period of time. Whether it's the emotional (social) or mental sides of life that are weak—or if they are ignoring the spiritual aspect—out-of-balance lives create risk. After all, a three-legged table is not very good at handling weight that is thrown on it.

As a Christian pastor, I help officers deal with the emotional and spiritual aspects of their lives. I have found that many officers ignore spirituality. That worries me because I know how valuable faith, be it Christian or otherwise, can be for helping the average person get through life's stresses, so it's even more important to officers who experience much greater levels of stress.

Part of the reason officers do not address the spiritual side of life can be attributed to their inconsistent and downright crazy work schedules. Many officers work night shifts, weekends, and are on call, so attending religious services or maintaining relationships at a house of worship can be difficult to manage.

Another reason officers often neglect the spiritual side of life is that they have seen so many bad things. Officers deal with the lowest of the low in society and they've also seen horrific things, from gruesome crimes to tragic accidents. This can harden a person's outlook towards people and life in general. However, this is even more of a reason why officers need to find some element of spirituality in their lives. Spirituality helps people gain perspective on their life's events and can help bring balance, perspective, and even gratitude for what they have. Finding spirituality also drives many people into a service task such as participating in missions and local charities to help them give back and contribute in a different, and often therapeutic, way.

Throughout my 35 years as a pastor, I have found that almost all the officers who share with me their frustrations, challenges and pain are able to find some sort of solace when they focus on their spiritual life.

Officers come to me with all different backgrounds and experiences in spirituality. Those who start with no spiritual foundation and spend some time investigating faith are usually drawn out of the malaise of their daily life. Officers who have a moderate understanding and practice of faith normally just need to be reminded of what is important in the grand scheme of life and are able to renew their focus on the spiritual leg of their table. For those who are strong in faith, reiterating together what is true in divinity usually helps strengthen their life's spiritual journey even further.

My message to every officer I work with, regardless of their faith, is that stress is a killer. It destroys lives and can cause incredible damage to a person's well-being. Officers need to find ways to cope with and address their stress, so it doesn't eat them from the inside out. My job is to help people think through what is right, and what is important in life, so that stress doesn't get a hold of one of their "legs." For me, as someone who has a Christian worldview, I believe that stress can be lessened when one understands his or her purpose in life. When officers take the time to ensure that the legs of their own table are in balance, they are much better equipped to handle the weight of life.

About the Author: Ed Kelley has been a pastor for 35 years and is currently working as the Executive Pastor of the Bay Area Community Church in Annapolis, Maryland. As part of his ministry, he has been working with law enforcement officers for the last 30 years and is the Chaplain for the last three years with **INLETS**. If you have questions about life, "legs," or the Christian worldview, To contact the author, please send an email to IPSauthor@apus.edu.



Chaplain Jimmy Kirkpatrick



September Chapter Meeting Highlights

BLUE KNIGHTS® LEMC

BLUE KNIGHTS® FLXVIII NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2023

Meeting Call to Order: @ 7:00PM by [Dom Ceccanecchio](#) (Secretary) on behalf of President Gibbons

In attendance: Executive officers: 3 Officers: 5 Members: 11 Guests: 2

Pledge of Allegiance: by [Secretary, Dom Ceccanecchio](#)

Invocation: by John Emrick (Treasurer)

Welcoming Remarks: by Secretary, Dom Ceccanecchio

PRESIDENTS REPORT: SECRETARY DOM CECCANECCHIO FOR PATRICK GIBBONS

1. Discussed the walk through on Saturday 9/9. We will meet at the FOP 3 parking lot at 9:00 AM and ride to Adrenaline HD to map out the route back to the Shrine. We can eat before (Breakfast) or after (Lunch) depending on the weather. The event is planned to take place on Monday 9/11 @ 2:00 PM Meet up At Adrenaline Harley for set up, registration, T shirt sales, and bike line up. We will need help and it doesn't matter if you are riding the ride or you come by car. Please start letting us know who plans on attending 9-11
2. An exact date in March, 2024 is yet to be determined for the Dante's Den Animal Sanctuary and Hospital Ride. We are asking for volunteers and the assistance of the Queen Bees is requested.
3. Ralph Smith provided a detailed update on the renovation of the chapter trailer. John Emrick volunteered space in his personal storage facility to relocate the trailer contents until the work is completed. It was decided that an inventory of the chapter assets in the FOP be conducted and that contents be transferred to the Shrine for storage. Some materials will also be stored in the trailer. Updates on Christmas party preparations to be presented and discussed at the October meeting.

VICE PRESIDENTS REPORT: JAMES THOMAS N/A

TREASURERS REPORT: JOHN EMRICK

Motion to accept July Minutes: [Motion: Jim Ryan 2nd: Don Porter Unanimous Approval](#)

Current Chapter Financial Position (June to September): See minutes sent via email.

SECRETARY / WEBMASTER'S REPORT: DOMENIC CECCANECCHIO

[Motion to accept August Minutes: Motion: Jim Ryan 2nd: Rory MacConnell Unanimous Approval](#)

The "Let's Shoot with Bobby G" have been posted until further notice.

REMINDER: Visit our website BLUEKNIGHTSFLXVIII.COM password is password 1234680.

The AUGUST newsletter has been posted on the website

The We are always looking for new, up-to-date content for the website. Email me (Domenic) OR Patrick Gibbons your letters, feedback, items for sale, special events etc. for inclusion in the Newsletter (all content will be vetted to meet BLUE KNIGHT Standards). The drop-dead date for submissions is the 21st of each month.

We can generate revenue for the Chapter with minimal work by simply selling sponsorships. Contact anyone on the Executive Board if you find a potential sponsor.

SAFETY OFFICER: Need volunteer to fill position.

CHAPLIN: JAMES KIRKPATRICK: N/A

NEW BUSINESS :

Jim Ryan proposed hosting a fundraiser "Corn Hole Tournament" at the Shrine. Taken under advisement and Jim will provide specifics at the October meeting.

SICK AND DISTRESSED:

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

RORY MACCONNELL, CECE MACCONNELL, GERI BUSCEMI, JEFFREY LONGWELL, PAUL FIEBER, JACK OVADIA

50-50 DRAWING: No 50-50 - Tickets unavailable

MOTION TO ADJOURN: Time: 7:40PM Motion: Bob Grotz 2nd: Tim VanShultz Unanimous Approval

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING: TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3RD, 2023

I'M A BIKER
I DO WHAT I WANT
WHEN I WANT
WHERE I WANT
EXCEPT I GOTTA ASK
MY WIFE... ONE SEC

On The Lighter Side

BLUE KNIGHTS® FLXVIII NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2023

Biker Humor



HELL YEAH...

I used to ride with a chick,
but then I got hungry.

BIKERS



**THE ONLY PEOPEL WHO
TRULY UNDERSTAND WHY
DOGS DO THIS.**

RIDE WITH PRIDE

but do so safely!

BLUE KNIGHTS® FLXVIII NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2023



Well, it's time to start getting in shape! I already wrote articles on stretching, endurance vs strength training and choosing the right diet that fits your needs.

Now we will start with an upper/lower split.

Training upper/lower splits means you are targeting each muscle group at least twice a week, and if you have time, even three times per week. Each workout could include 2-4 different exercises per muscle group on a given day. Which can lead to 4-12 different ex-

ercises per muscle group per program.

The first question people ask is how many exercises should I do? Well, that answer depends on you and what your goals are? To simplify things, let's start off with a routine of two exercises per body part.

(Note): YouTube is a great source for getting familiar with the exercise movements, form is very important and go with light weights to start.

(1) **Warm-up:** 10 Minutes of cardio, followed by good stretching!

Chest: Flat bench 3 sets at 10 reps

Incline bench 3 sets at 10 reps

Back: Wide grip pull downs; 3 sets at 10 reps

Close grips pull downs; 3 sets at 10 reps.

Shoulders: Seated shoulder press machine; 3 sets at 10 reps

Side lateral dumbbells; 3 sets at 10 reps

Legs: Leg Press machine; 3 sets at 10 reps

Leg Extension machine; 3 sets at 10 reps.

Let's wrap things up, don't forget to stretch, and do another 10 mins of cardio (your choice)! Also, drink plenty of water before, during and afterwards, hydration is very important part of the process.

**Chris Scardino, Director
Fitness Advocate and Trainer**



SICK AND DISTRESSED

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

RORY MACCONNELL

CECE MACCONNELL

GERI BUSCEMI

JEFFREY LONGWELL PAUL FIEBER

ROBIN GRUTERS

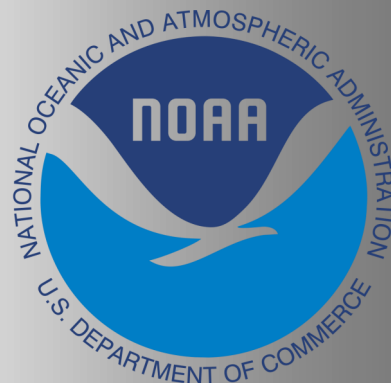


A CAREER WITH NOAA

by Tracy Dunn, Director

BLUE KNIGHTS® FLXVIII NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2023



Since receiving the honor of joining the Blue Knights the question of what NOAA's Office of Law Enforcement (NOAA OLE) is all about has come up from time to time. No doubt it is not the usual law enforcement background. I thought I would take a moment to offer some information on NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) and the two organizations with which I was privileged to be associated during my 33 year career with the federal government, the NOAA Corps and NOAA's Office of Law Enforcement.

NOAA is under the US Department of Commerce (a mystery to us all as to why) and is the umbrella agency for several organizations, the most well known being the Weather Service which is a huge component. The others are listed below.

NOAA Line Offices

- NOAA Marine & Aviation Operations (OMAO)
- NOAA Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)
- National Ocean Service (NOS)
- Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR)
- National Weather Service (NWS)
- National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service (NESDIS)

Another major responsibility of the Agency is to serve the public through management of the marine environment and its resources. That was the mission to which I devoted my career, first in the marine research side of the organization through the NOAA Corps under the Office of Marine & Aviation Operations, and then by joining NOAA's law enforcement section in the Marine Fisheries Service.

I was unaware either of these agencies existed during my college days at Ball State University in Indiana. After all, Indiana was not known for its oceanic connections and history. In fact, my goals at the time were far from where I ultimately landed.

I originally wanted to join the Indiana State Police when I was of age, but as it turned out I did not meet the minimum height requirement in place at the time. Ultimately, I ended up in the sciences in college and later found employment as an environmental scientist for the State of Indiana and thought my career would be in the earth sciences. However, I made the decision to take a different route and applied for a commission in the NOAA Corps.

The NOAA Corps is a non-military, uniformed corps of commissioned officers, much like the Public Health Service except with science and engineering backgrounds. The mission of the NOAA Corps is to support NOAA by operating NOAA scientific platforms (ships and aircraft), managing research projects, conducting diving operations, and serving in staff positions where needed. [<https://www.oma.noaa.gov/learn/noaa-corps/about>].

I could write a short novel on my brief time with the NOAA Corps, but for this discussion I will leave it as just my pathway to NOAA's Office of Law Enforcement. I will only say that the old adage of "Be careful what you ask for" certainly applied.

It was near the completion of my first sea assignment when I found out that NOAA OLE existed. I heard there was an opportunity to work with the enforcement section of NOAA as a land assignment. I eagerly volunteered and was sent to the same training as the civilian enforcement personnel at FLETC and quickly exported to the field so they could get the maximum use of my two year rotation.

I was lucky to have been sent to the Southeast Division where they put me to work. The experience allowed me to transfer to civilian status at the end of my obligation to the NOAA Corps. The rest, as they say, is history. However, that brings me back to the original question of what does NOAA enforcement actually do?

A CAREER WITH NOAA

by Tracy Dunn, Director

BLUE KNIGHTS® FLXVIII NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2023

Although NOAA OLE is housed in the Marine Fisheries Service it is the enforcement arm of all of NOAA through line authority. This gives OLE jurisdiction to enforce all laws administered by NOAA as well as all statutes related to its mission which involves over 100 legislative acts under 32 statutes pertaining to the conservation and protection of marine resources.

The NOAA OLE website [<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/about/office-law-enforcement>] provides the following.

“OLE is dedicated to enforcing laws that conserve and protect our nation’s marine resources and their natural habitat with the goal to ensure a level playing field for honest fishermen, defend U.S. economic and public health interest from illegal international and domestic fishing activities, and protect vulnerable marine species in order to ensure these global resources do not disappear.”

The description is a bit generic. In layman’s terms, NOAA OLE investigates violations of federal living marine resource and habitat protection laws and regulations from minor infractions to complex criminal cases. The five main acts enforced are,

- Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act
- Marine Mammal Protection Act
- Endangered Species Act
- National Marine Sanctuaries Act
- Lacey Act (International and Interstate smuggling of fish and wildlife).

There were very few enforcement personnel to cover NOAA’s area of responsibility. When I was in the Florida Keys I covered the entire length of the Keys from south of Miami out to the Dry Tortugas. When I transferred to South Carolina I was the sole agent for the state. Another agent was north in Morehead City, NC, and one to the south in Brunswick, GA. I covered between Wilmington, NC, to Savannah, GA, and worked a couple of larger cases out of Miami, FL.

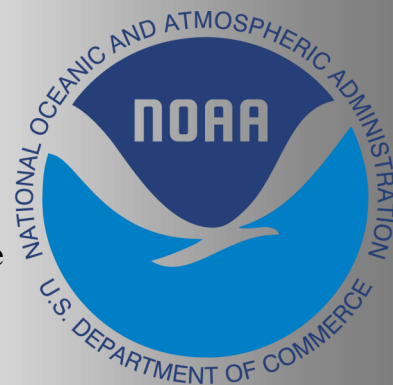
A NOAA agent may be working with the USCG or a state agency on a violation committed by a local commercial vessel or business one day, and then the next be dealing with the US Attorneys Office on a multi-year, international poaching investigation involving several jurisdictions and companies. As such, NOAA enforcement personnel have to be well versed in both civil laws and legal authorities as well as criminal laws and authorities. And, more importantly, when a case transitions from civil to criminal triggering a change in legal limits.

NOAA agents utilize all of the techniques and resources traditional law enforcement uses in their investigations, such as confidential informants, undercover operations, surveillance technologies, and forensics. But, unfortunately, most NOAA cases are not hot news items nor does the Agency really try to seek widespread reporting of enforcement cases. So, few know of the great work by the enforcement personnel in NOAA or their contributions to other federal enforcement efforts.

In addition to the Agency’s mission, NOAA enforcement personnel are assigned to other agencies in times of national disasters. The Agency routinely assigns personnel to work with FEMA teams in areas affected by hurricanes to keep the team’s personnel and equipment safe.

In the past it has provided investigators to narcotics task forces when fishing vessels or businesses are involved, and also to national enforcement efforts such as the FBI’s World Trade Center investigation and Federal Air Marshal duties.

At one point in my career I seriously considered transferring to another agency for various reasons. In reviewing the options and talking to other agents I came to the conclusion that, at least for me, I was in the best agency and role possible. I never regretted that decision in all of the years I remained with NOAA (Well, maybe a couple of times).





Ride with Pride !

BLUE KNIGHTS® LEMC

BLUE KNIGHTS® FLXVIII NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2023

SRC Election and Voting Update

Greetings:

With the opening of the SRC electronic voting here, it has come to the attention of the SRC Board that many chapters are confused as to who the actual candidates for SRC offices are in the upcoming election.

Social media posts, the recent campaigning for the International election, and other factors have contributed to the confusion.

Thus, a **preview web page** of all candidates has been set up on the SRC website so that chapters will know officially who the candidates are.

To access the **Election Preview Page**, go to the SRC Website (<https://srcknights.org/>) and click the **Elections Info** button on the front page or the **Elections** button on the Main Menu.

Electronic voting is new to the SRC election process. The voting **will not** occur on the SRC Website.

The voting will be handled by the International Webmaster Joe Ball, and oversight will be by the SRC Elections Committee which was approved and put in place at the last President's meeting.

Voting will open on September 20th, 2023 for 30 days.

Each Chapter will have one vote cast by the Chapter President.

Election results will be announced at the Fall 2023 SRC Presidents meeting on October 21st, 2023 in Biloxi, MS.

More information about electronic voting will be made available as we get closer to the opening of the voting.

Notice: You are one of many recipients of this SRC group email because you are listed as a current SRC President, SRC State Rep, or Executive Board Member.

If you are not in one of the above categories of individuals, or your information is incorrect, or if your chapter has a new or different President, or other Officers that should be on this list, please let us know so we can make corrections or updates.

Ride with Pride!

Brotherhood before Politics!

Mike Shockley

Blue Knights International

SRC Chairman

706-338-1742

msshockley@gmail.com



BLUE KNIGHTS® LEMC

BLUE KNIGHTS® FLXVIII NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2023



Blue Knights International Fall 2023 Southern Regional Conference Hosted by Mississippi II



Schedule

Thursday, Oct 19

- Hotel Check in after 4 pm
- Registration (at Ballroom 2 Foyer on 2nd Floor) 4-7 pm
- Hospitality Suite 4 pm - midnight

Friday, Oct 20

- Registration 8am-6pm
- Vendor Room 12:00 pm-8:00 pm
- President's meeting 8:15 am-9:45 am
- Organized Ride from Biloxi to Dauphin Island and return- 10:00 AM-3:00 PM
- Meet and Greet BBQ with Beer and Band at Coast Harley Davidson 4:30 pm-8:30 pm
- Hospitality Suite 7:00 pm - midnight

Saturday, Oct 21

- Registration 8:00 am - 6:00 pm
- Organized Ride along the beach and back country-Breakfast at Boogies 9:00 am - 10:30 am, KSU 10:30, Ride from 10:30 am until 3:00 pm
- Vendor Room Available 11:00 am-4:30 pm
- Cocktail Hour in Ballroom 6:00 pm until 7:00 pm
- Banquet 7:30 PM until 10:30 PM
- Hospitality Suite available following banquet until ???

Sunday, Oct 22

- Conference ends/Check out

For More Information

Go to BKMSII.com for online registration

Or contact

Chapter President Mark Jenkins @ bkms2president@yahoo.com
(228) 238-1312

Chapter Secretary Patrick Davis @ bkms2secretary@yahoo.com

(228) 243-4477





Support our Sponsors

BLUE KNIGHTS[®] FLXVIII NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2023

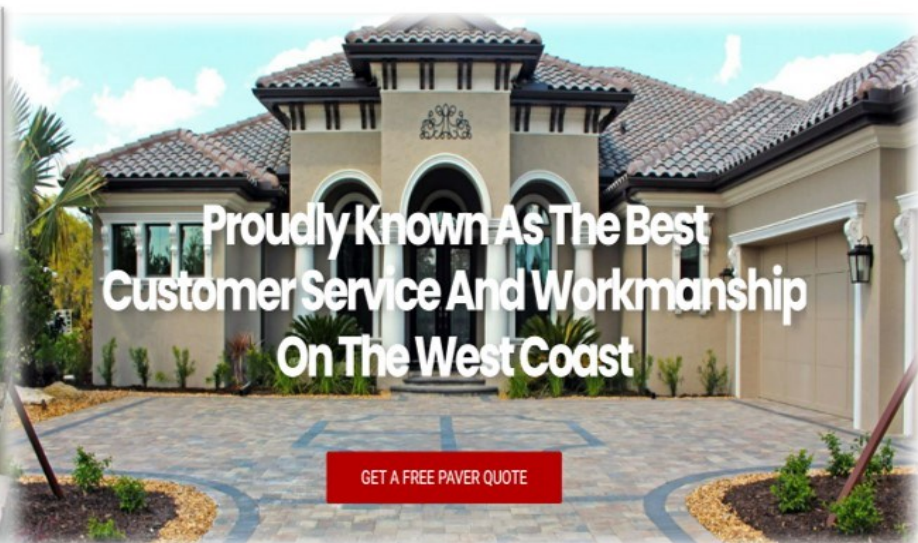
**BRICK PAVERS
& TRAVERTINE**

By **PAVING
CREW, INC.**



Pool Remodel and Paver Specialists

Visit our 5,000 square foot showroom



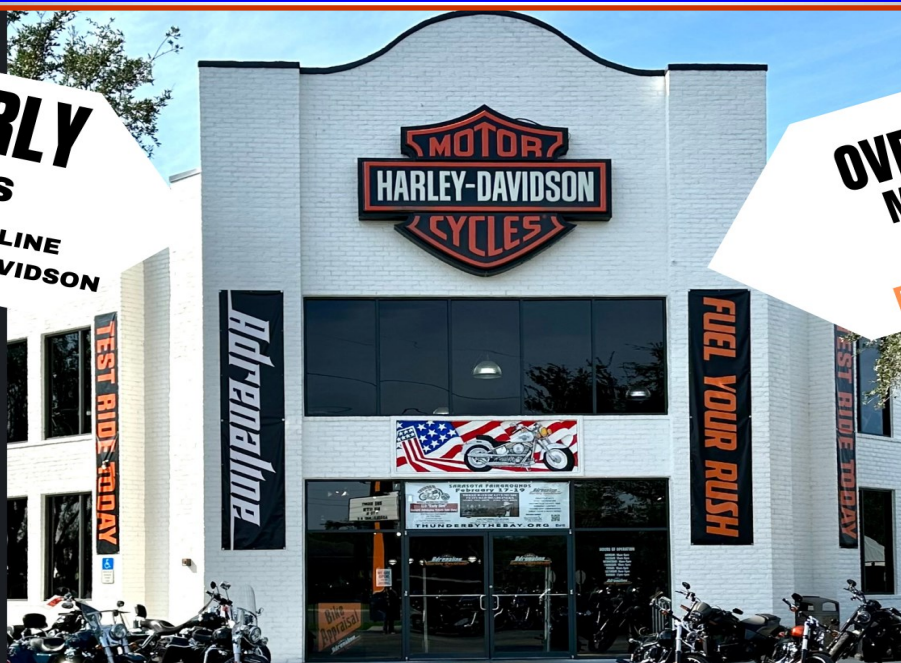
Proudly Known As The Best
Customer Service And Workmanship
On The West Coast

GET A FREE PAVER QUOTE



2150 17th Street, Sarasota FL 34234 | (941) 360-0203 | info@pavingcrew.com

**FORMERLY
ROSSITER'S
NOW!** ADRENALINE
HARLEY-DAVIDSON



**OVER 200
MOTORCYCLES
IN STOCK
EVENTS EVERY WEEKEND**



NEW OWNERSHIP



NEW MANAGEMENT

330 Cattlemen Rd.
Sarasota, FL 34232

Fuel Your Rush

941.951.6103
www.adrenalinehd.com



Support our Sponsors

BLUE KNIGHTS® FLXVIII NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2023

Beverly Hills Dog Premier Doggy Daycare

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

941-822-0888

<http://www.beverlyhillsdog.net>

CONCIERGE OVERNIGHT CARE AVAILABLE



ARE YOU LIVING VOGUE

LIVING VOGUE

REAL ESTATE

REALTOR - Charles Ratliff
1540 Main St, Sarasota, FL 34236
732-735-0738
charles@livingvogue.com



WHERE LIFE MEETS STYLE

Mission BBQ



118 Reviews

Hours: 11am - 9pm

5231 University Pkwy, Sarasota

(941) 841-9279



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

