



BLUE KNIGHTS® FLXVIII NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2025

MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Greetings Fellow Knights,

Summer is moving right along. For us in Southwest Florida, the cooler, dry days can't get here too soon. With our members away on vacations, our snowbirds who are away, and the oppressive weather, it has given us a light schedule. We have opted not to have a meeting for August. Come September, hopefully, we will start to ramp things up, especially looking forward to the Manasota 9/11 ride to kick off our long-awaited season.

On the international level, we now have a new board in place. I would like to congratulate our new international board and commend them for running clean and respectful campaigns.

International President: Russ Harper
International Vice President: Calvin Ennals
Vice President, Europe: Leonie Tromans
Secretary: Glen Wheat
Treasurer: Brian Arnold

This new board faces many challenges; one of them is recruitment and retention. We all need to step up and try to recruit new members if we can. We also need to be good brothers and sisters and help retain the members we have. This job doesn't fall on the shoulders of one person; this weight is for us all to shoulder.

Our organization has around 14,000 members, give or take, and only 4,004 members took the time to vote for the International President... That is truly sad. What happened to the other 10,000???

Old Cop's love to complain and all have the answer but never want to step up or follow through. This is our club and if we want to see the 75th or 100th year anniversary, you have to step up! If you have any ideas on how to make this club grow or how we can do better, please reach out so we can send your ideas over to the new board. Who knows, you might come up with the answer to the growing problem. Maybe it works, maybe it doesn't, but at least you tried.

The Blue Knights is definitely a special group no other LE/MC can come close to what we have. The family atmosphere makes it a welcoming organization. Some may want the typical Sons of Anarchy Big Bad Biker Club, not this guy!! We are the good guys who ride with pride!!

Patrick Gibbons
President, FLXVIII



August Ride and Event Schedule

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

Saturday 8/2

9:00am

**Breakfast at the Metro Diner
6056 Lockwood Ridge Road
Sarasota 34243**

Tuesday 8/5

**Dinner at the Shrine
CANCELLED**

Tuesday 8/5

**Monthly Chapter Meeting.
CANCELLED**

Tuesday 8/12

11:30AM

**Lunch at Gecko's
351 N Cattlemen Road
Sarasota 34232**

Sunday 8/24

8:30AM

Poker Run for a young mother who lost her 4 year old son in a house fire. Tara was also severely burned and has multiple surgeries she will have to endure. This Poker run will give 100 percent of the earnings to Tara to help pay her bills and mounting medical bills so she can hopefully start rebuilding her life after this tragic loss.

**Speedway gas station SR70E KSU 8:45.
Road Captain Brian MacConnell**



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"

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CHAPTER EXECUTIVE BOARD

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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SID JONES / PAST PRESIDENT
TRACY DUNN
BOBBY GROTZ

OPERATIONS

JAMES KIRKPATRICK / CHAPLAIN
DOMENIC CECCANECCHIO / WEBMASTER
BRIAN MACCONNELL / QUARTERMASTER
JIM KELLY / 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
pigibby1969@comcast.net

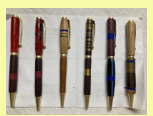
Jim Thomas
alexandjay1988@gmail.com

Dom Ceccanecchio
dcc444@comcast.net



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



Michael Klein is selling a DeWalt Drill Driver 12V 3/8".
Cost new \$100 asking \$50.

Comes with two batteries, a charger and carrying bag.

Michael Klein 941-809-9986

msk0217@gmail.com



SEND YOUR SALE ITEMS TO ADD TO OUR MARKET



OUR PLEDGE

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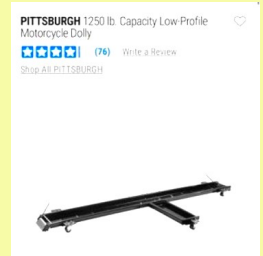
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In the Chapter Market

Michael Klein is selling a practically brand new motorcycle dolly. He used it 5 or 6 times with his new bike and it just isn't working out. His loss is your gain he paid \$120.00 and is looking for \$75.00 OBO. it is already assembled and ready to go. Contact info below.

msk0217@gmail.com 941-809-9986



August Chapter Meeting CANCELLED



**THE NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING IS
7:00PM ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2ND, 2025
2ND FLOOR OF THE SAHIB SHRINE
600N BENEVA RD SARASOTA.**

COME OUT EARLY, HAVE DINNER AND CHAT WITH YOUR BROTHER KNIGHTS



SICK AND DISTRESSED

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

GERI BUSCEMI

RICK DEAL

MELINDA PARKER



BLUE KNIGHTS FLORIDA XVIII

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING - MINUTES

July 1, 2025

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

President: Patrick Gibbons - **Vice President:** James Thomas - **Treasurer:** John Emrick - **Secretary/Webmaster:** Dom Ceccanecchio
Sergeant At Arms: James Ryan - **Past President:** Sid Jones - **Director:** Bob Grotz - **Director:** Tracy Dunn
Quartermaster: Brian MacConnell - **Chaplin:** James Kirkpatrick - **Safety Officer:** Jim Kelly

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Meeting Call to Order: by [President Gibbons](#) @ 7:03PM

In attendance: Executive officers: 4 Officers: 1 Members: 11 Guests: 1

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

Invocation: by Dom Ceccanecchio

Welcoming Remarks: by President Gibbons.

PRESIDENTS REPORT: PATRICK GIBBONS

- International elections: Congratulations to the winners. Check website for winners.
- Check email, website and newsletter for chapter news and updates.
- Let President Gibbons or Mike Klein if you want to ride or head up a ride or any event! Tell him what, where, when. You plan it out and carry it out. You can plan the route. Do a bike knight event, poker run, charity rides, ice cream run, pizza night. If you can give it to President Gibbons before the 18th of each month. If its a last minute thing no problem we will get it out to the membership.
- There was a discussion regarding chapter officer positions that will become available. More to follow.

VICE PRESIDENTS REPORT: JIM THOMAS N/A (Jim is recovering from surgery. Keep him in your prayers.)

TREASURERS REPORT: JOHN EMRICK

- Motion to accepted June treasurers report: Motion Jim Ryan, 2nd Mike Klein, all approved
- Financial Position: Chapter is financially solvent. Required annual documentation is up to date.
- All of the specific financial numbers will be available by request to our Treasurer.
- Current treasurer John Emrick will not seek reelection but will train interested candidate.

SECRETARY / WEBMASTER'S REPORT: DOMENIC CECCANECCHIO N/A

- Motion to accept June minutes Tracy Dunn, 2nd Jim Ryan, all approved.

SAFETY OFFICER: JIM KELLY - N/A

CHAPLIN: JAMES KIRKPATRICK: N/A

SRC / INTERNATIONAL REPORT:

See Newsletter for details.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Christmas Party:** Scheduled for Saturday, December 20th at the Venitian Hotel in Venice FL. Cynthia Brock and her partner Patrick have been retained. President Gibbons is working on getting special room rates.
- Jim Ryan is looking into another charitable event (Cornhole Tournament). Details to be determined.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Members voted to cancel the August meeting

SICK AND DISTRESSED:

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

Jeffrey Longwell Geri Buscemi Rick Deal John Chuisano

50-50 DRAWING: Amount: \$40 Winner: Tracy Dunn \$20

MOTION TO ADJOURN: Time: 7:40PM, Motion: Dom Ceccanecchio 2nd: John Emrick, all approved

AUGUST MEETING HAS BEEN CANCELLED

MEETING: TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2nd, 2025

Submitted By: Domenic Ceccanecchio, Secretary BK XVIII





Ride with Pride !

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Mike Shockley - Chairman
Randy Hoagland - Vice-Chairman
Bob Awtrey - International Rep
Justin Hartley - Secretary
Al Fryer - Treasurer

THE SRC REGION INCLUDES:

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

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

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SRC Fall 2025 Conference

September 14-17, 2025

(Sunday - Wednesday)

Hiawassee, GA

Hosted by GA XXII



Registration for the SRC Fall 2025 Conference in Hiawassee, Georgia, is coming to an end - the last day for online and mail-in registration is August 12th. Registration will close on August 13th. Registration can be accomplished by going to the Fall conference website at - <https://bksrcfall2025.com/>

The SRC President's meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 15th, 7:30 AM at the host hotel, Lake Chatuge Lodge. You do not have to be registered for the conference to attend the President's meeting.

If a chapter sends a proxy instead of the

President, ensure they have the appropriate written authorization from the President of their chapter.

Members and guests have to be registered to participate in any conference function.

Hospitality / Alcohol: Patterned after the rules for the BK International conventions, the host chapter will serve only beer and wine in the hospitality room.

Those who want hard spirits or something else are welcome to bring their own.

Some basic mixers and ice will be available.

The practice of each chapter contributing a bottle of alcohol is not a requirement.

Any chapter wanting a sales table should contact the host chapter as soon as possible.

For questions or more information, contact the host chapter:

Eddie Henderson

404-276-4705

Heh06@bellsouth.net



Ride with Pride !

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Mike Shockley - Chairman
Randy Hoagland - Vice-Chairman
Bob Awtrey - International Rep
Justin Hartley - 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/>

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Southern Regional Conference

2025 Fall Conference

September

14 – 17

Hiawassee GA

Hosted by GA XXII

Run of Show



Date	Time	Event	Location
Sunday September 14	3:00 - 7:00 PM	Registration	Lobby
	3:00 - 8:00 PM	Chapter/Vendor Sales & Silent Auction	Banquet Room 1st Floor
	5:00 - 11:00 PM	Hospitality Room	President's Room 3rd Floor
	9:45 PM	50/50 Drawing	President's Room 3rd Floor
Monday September 15	7:30 - 9:00 AM	President's Meeting	President's Room 3rd Floor
	8:00 - 10:00 AM	Registration	Lobby
	8:00 AM-5:00 PM	Chapter/Vendor Sales & Silent Auction	Banquet Room 1st Floor
	9:15 KSU 9:30	Guided Ride to Dragon	GA Mountain Fairgrounds 1
	9:15 KSU 9:30	Guided Ride Highlands	GA Mountain Fairgrounds 2
	6:00 - 11:00 PM	Hospitality Room	President's Room 3rd Floor
	9:45 PM	50/50 Drawing	President's Room 3rd Floor
Tuesday September 16	9:15 KSU 9:30	Helen GA Loop Ride	GA Mountain Fairgrounds 1
	9:15 KSU 9:30	Joe Brown Road Loop	GA Mountain Fairgrounds 2
	9:15 KSU 9:30	Cigar Connoisseurs	Host Hotel Lower Parking lot
	12:00 Noon	Silent Auction Closes	Banquet Room 1st Floor
	8:00 AM -2:00 PM	Chapter/Vendor Sales	Banquet Room 1st Floor
	5:30 - 6:30 PM	SRC Chairman Reception -Cash Bar	Anderson Music Hall Limited Shuttle Service Provided
	6:30 - 8:30 PM	Banquet - Cash Bar	Anderson Music Hall Limited Shuttle Service Provided
	8:30 - 11:00 PM	Hospitality Room	President's Room 3rd Floor
	8:00 PM	50/50 Drawing	Anderson Music Hall Banquet
Wednesday September 17	8:00 -11:00 AM	Departures	

To view the SRC Herald in it's entirety go to <https://srcknights.org/newsletter/>

On The Lighter Side



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SOME INTERESTING AUGUST CELEBRATIONS

Family Fun Month: Encourages families to spend quality time together and fun activities.

International Beer Day (August 1st): A day to celebrate and enjoy beer.

National Watermelon Day (August 3): A day to enjoy the refreshing taste of watermelon.

National Sisters' Day (August 3): A day to celebrate the special bond between sisters.

International Youth Day (August 12): A day to recognize the potential of young people.

National Filet Mignon Day (August 13): A day to indulge in the deliciousness of filet mignon.

National Relaxation Day (August 15): A day to encourage relaxation and stress reduction.

National Rum Day (August 16): A day to enjoy the flavors of rum.

Tell a Joke Day (August 16): A day to spread laughter by telling jokes.

Dom Ceccanecchio Birthday (August 17): Now how in hell did that get here.





Blue Knights FXVIII Marketplace

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RETIRED LEO & MEMBER OF BK FL XVIII

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AUGUST 2025

Mission BBQ



118 Reviews

Hours: 11am - 9pm

5231 University Pkwy , Sarasota

(941) 841-9279



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



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

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Greg and Cynthia Brock
Broker/Owners