



MONDAY, MAY 27TH



BLUE KNIGHTS® FLXVII NEWSLETTER

MAY 2024

MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

May Ride and Event Schedule

Greetings Blue Knights Family,

Another busy month passes with plenty of fellowship and charity. We enjoyed a multi chapter picnic, a great night out celebrating our hard work, Sunday breakfast, running a charity ride and making a \$1000 donation to that charity. I call that a good month. Thank you to all that helped make all this happen.

I can't help but think that everything we do together is because of a motorcycle and the love of motorcycling. I have made more friendships and have met some of the nicest people because our mutual love for this lifestyle and the passion for riding the wind.

This love affair with two and three wheels bit us all at some point in our lives, I can remember the day it pulled me in. I was around eight years old. My brother was 21 and had this late 60's blue and white BSA. As most late 60's BSA's it had problems and was usually parked on the side of the house. I would climb up on the seat, grab the bars and dream that I was Evil Knievel during one of his successful jumps, or maybe the Fonz or James Dean.

One lucky summer day my brother was able to start this beautiful machine. I can still smell the gas, oil, and exhaust. I guess my brother could see the excitement in my face, he told me to hop on. As we flew through the neighborhood I held on for my life with this huge grin. We probably hit forty miles per hour but it felt like one hundred.

I was hooked that was it for me I wanted to ride a motorcycle, Dad had another opinion that I didn't agree with so I had to wait until I was out of the house and an adult luckily I'm patient.

My brother passed back in 2013. This perfect summer day is one of my fondest memories of him and the love we both had for motorcycles.

Every once and a while on that perfect riding day of each year (*you know the one*) I can feel him hanging on I'm Sure he has a huge grin as I work through the gears I know I do.

So why do you ride motorcycles?

Whats your story? I want to know!

Please share your story I would love to hear it. E-mail it to me and I will share it with our newsletter readers.

As always "Ride with Pride"

Patrick Gibbons
President, FLXVIII



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

Saturday May 4th 9:00AM

LONG RIDE TO BOK TOWER GARDENS LAKE WALES. MEET UP AT THE WAWA ON Rt70E AT 9:00AM KSU 9:15AM 85 MILE RIDE 1 HR 14MIN TO THE TOWER. \$20 PER PERSON TO ENTER. WE CAN EAT AT THE CAFE ON SITE. FOR MORE INFORMATION AND MENU PLEASE GO WWW.BOKTOWERGARDENS.ORG PLEASE RSVP PRESIDENT GIBBONS PJGIBBY1969@COMCAST.NET FOR THIS RIDE. HE NEEDS A HEAD COUNT

Tuesday May 7th 5:30PM

DINE AT THE SHRINE. HOT SANDS TIKI BAR. 600 N BENEVA RD SARASOTA

Tuesday May 7th 7:00PM

MONTHLY GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING. 2ND FLOOR OF THE SAHIB SHRINERS, 600 N BENEVA RD SARASOTA

MOTHERS DAY
Sunday, May 12TH



Monday May 13th 11:30AM

LUNCH AT THE SPANISH POINT TIKI BAR (EVI'E'S) ON THE BAY. 135 BAYVIEW DR OSPREY 34229. WE CAN TAKE A RIDE DOWN CASEY KEY AFTER LUNCH.

Sunday May 19th 10:30AM

LUNCH RIDE TO TT'S TIKI ON CHARLOTTE HARBOR. 33 TAMIAMI TRAIL PUNTA GORDA 33950. 10:30 AM MEET UP AT THE WAWA 2970 EXECUTIVE DR VENICE 34292. (EXIT 193 RT 75S JACARANDA BLVD) . PRESIDENT GIBBONS NEEDS SOMEONE TO LEAD THE RIDE FROM SARASOTA DOWN TO VENICE LET HIM KNOW IF YOU CAN AND THE LOCATION YOU WOULD LIKE TO MEET UP.



MEMORIAL DAY
Monday May 27th





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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MAY 2024

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

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DOMENIC CECCANECCHIO / NEWSLETTER

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



2016 Harley Davidson FLSTFBS "Fatboy" All Black, 25645 Miles. Price - \$ 17,000.00. 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



Sale 2008 Harley Softail 31K miles, asking \$6,700



IF INTERESTED EMAIL BGROTZ2@YAHOO.COM

SEND YOUR SALE ITEMS TO ADD TO OUR MARKET

We need and want your input

Send your birthdays, anniversaries, letters, suggestions, items for sale, complaints or any special event you would like to share to:

Patrick Gibbons

PJGIBBY1969@COMCAST.NET

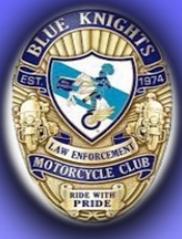
Jim Thomas

ALEXANDJAY1988@GMAIL.COM

Dom Ceccanecchio

DCC444@COMCAST.NET





BLUE KNIGHTS® FLXVII NEWSLETTER

MAY 2024

VP Message Jim Thomas



Hello Brothers and Sisters,

Well, another month down. Apparently, I am continuing to remain two feet up so here we go. Had a great time at the all state picnic. Thank you Tracey for the ride over. Had great brotherhood and some good vittles. Last night we enjoyed dinner at the Venicia Hotel with about 24 or so in attendance. I really would love to see more members and wives get out and enjoy these gatherings. The more we see attendance growing, the more events we would like to plan as a club. Brotherhood is always the theme and of course sisterhood as well. There are still a lot of spouses who don't really know each other. We would love to have all of the wives involved and having fun. BRING EM. Remember this is a family focus entity, not a high school with cliques. We promote bonding and friendship. We have had months of drama and losses. Now it's time to focus on having fun. Pull back the drapes and let some light in. Summer is on the way and riding will be getting some additional heat. Remember to bring water for the rides and cover that precious skin. Ya only get one birthday suit. Help it last.

We have been in discussion with our sister chapters and we are working on a bigger and better All-state picnic for the next season. maybe a XMAS in the park where families can come and have activities and enjoy all the park offers. More plans and announcements to follow. Nothing has been written in stone yet. I would like to say thanks to Patrick for arranging the hotel dinner for us. It turned out to be a lot of laughs and a very nice evening. Bobby has had another firing line day and I am sure it was a lot of fun. I can't quite partake of those things yet but soon.

It's my understanding that the QBs are planning some luncheons for the ladies. I am sure all of the ladies will enjoy that. It was said they would be contacting everyone by phone or email. I know my wife is looking forward to enjoying some time getting to know the rest of the girls.

Its time for the spring bike check. You should check before every ride but if you prefer to check every three or four months then its time for tread, fluids, brake pads, spokes and battery as well as cleaning your fuel ports with some injection cleaner. Getting old grit off the bike and making sure she purrs like a kitten when you fire her up. Better safe than sorry. It's also a good way to see if you have a problem festering. Check your lights., Not for you but for those who are behind and in front of you. They use your signals almost as much as you do, if not more. Go over your group ride rules and safety guidelines for the enhancement of the group rides. Always remember, ride courtesy makes for a peaceful group ride. As always your board wants you to enjoy our time together and remember "family first".

There will be charity rides coming up across the area and we will see if there may be interest and attending any. Remember, charity is about giving, not getting credit. Sometimes attending and paying \$20. to ride can make a huge difference in someone's life. I am looking forward to getting back on Elvira and hitting the concrete with all of you. And if you can no longer hit the handlebars, come out and hang with us. We don't mind cages. We would rather have your company than your bike. We will all get there someday and we all know that. Don't be a stranger. We still love ya.....bike or not. Its about the bond. God bless and have a good month.

Ride with Pride

Chapter Event

BLUE KNIGHTS® LEMC

BLUE KNIGHTS® FLXVII NEWSLETTER

MAY 2024



April Chapter Meeting Highlights



BLUE KNIGHTS® FLXVIII NEWSLETTER

MAY 2024

Meeting Call to Order: by [President Gibbons](#) @ 7:04PM

In attendance: Executive officers: 4 Officers: 1 Members: 10 Guests: 5

Pledge of Allegiance: led by President Gibbons

Invocation: by John Chiusano

Welcoming Remarks: by President Gibbons.

PRESIDENTS REPORT: PATRICK GIBBONS

Monday April 8th Combined chapter BBQ. President Gibbons has tickets for \$20 a head. This includes entry and a BBQ lunch from Sonny's BBQ. We will have a 50/50 to help with the bills to keep the ticket price down. We were unable to get a weekend date and went with the 8th (Monday) We didn't want to run into the summer with the heat and storms also we are hopeful we will still have some snowbirds around to enjoy the day. Send your RSVP and headcount to President Gibbons.

April 20th Saturday. We are running the Suncoast Charities For Children "Ride So Children Can Thrive". 9:00AM at Adrenaline Harley Davidson. Registration starts at 9:30AM ride heads out 11:15AM. We will return back at the Harley around 12:30 PM. We do have other clubs who will be helping out with this event. This Ride is dedicated to one of our own (Rory MacConnell) so it would be nice to see FL XVIII Blue Knights coming out to support this event. \$20 per person includes pancake breakfast. Come by car, bicycle, or horse just come out and show yourself to the public and represent this chapter. Just stop by at some point of the day if that is all you can do!

VICE PRESIDENTS REPORT: JAMES THOMAS

VP Thomas thanked everyone for their support before and after his heart surgery.

TREASURERS REPORT: JOHN EMRICK

Motion to accept March report: Motion – Brian MacConnell, 2nd – Tracy Dunn, Unanimous approval

Financial Position: The chapter is in solid financial position. Exact numbers can be obtained by contacting the treasurer.

SECRETARY / WEBMASTER'S REPORT: DOMENIC CECCANECCHIO

Motion to accept March minutes: Motion – Jim Thomas, 2nd – Brian MacConnell, Unanimous approval

March Minutes have been posted on our website in the MEMBERS section. Password 1234680

April Newsletter has been posted on our website.

The chapter activity calendar on our website lists all April activities

SAFETY OFFICER: Need volunteer to fill position.

President Gibbons reminded everyone that it is important to hydrate during a ride,

CHAPLIN: JAMES KIRKPATRICK: N/A

SRC / INTERNATIONAL REPORT:

50th Anniversary approaching. See Newsletter for details.

NEW BUSINESS :

April 17th – Anniversary of our hosting the 2023 SRC Conference. Dinner at the Venice Hotel at 6:00pm.

John Chiusano suggested that the Board consider establishing a scholarship in the name of Rory MacConnell. The Board is looking at the possibility and will discuss at next meeting

SICK AND DISTRESSED:

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

Jeffrey Longwell

John Chiusano

50-50 DRAWING: Amount: \$90 Winner: Clair \$ 45 (donated to chapter)

MOTION TO ADJOURN: Time: 7:45PM, Motion: John Chiusano, 2nd: Jim Thomas, Unanimous Approval

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING: TUESDAY, MAY 7TH, 2024

*Submitted By: Domenic Ceccanecchio
Secretary BK XVIII*

SRC ANNIVERSARY DINNER



BLUE KNIGHTS® FLXVII NEWSLETTER

MAY 2024



Suncoast Charity Ride



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MAY 2024



Compliments of Rodney Stearns



Dead Red Law

Motorcyclists often may come to a red light or while making a left on red and the light does not change. In many states there are rules of the road referred to as the dead red law that enable you to legally proceed through a red light when the light is not triggered by their presence. This may be attached to a wait time, referred to as “unreasonable” or a cycling number with the light, either way it allows you to safely proceed. This is not a problem in all states because many use a timed rotation and not a triggered system. Before we argue the frustrations of the demand actuated systems and the weight of the cycle or the inadequate digital sensor issues that cause this, the standard for detection is often an inductive loop system. It is commonly a groove cut in the pavement and sensors put in the groove and calibrated for cars and trucks.

In Florida, there are no dead red laws and proceeding on a red is a violation.

There are some hints to correcting the non-detection by moving your motorcycle to the groove of the vehicle tires rather than being centered and some suggest putting down the kickstand to create a better metal connection to the sensors. However, the claim is that most law enforcement will likely understand the issues with the cycling of the light and let you pass with a warning.... but they also cite ignorance of the law as no excuse.



So, to prevent this from occurring...guess we better ride with others.

May Chapter Meeting



THE NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING IS
7:00PM ON TUESDAY, MAY 7th, 2024
2ND FLOOR OF THE SAHIB SHRINE
600N BENEVA RD SARASOTA.

COME OUT EARLY AND HAVE DINNER



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/>

BLUE KNIGHTS® FLXVIII NEWSLETTER

MAY 2024

From SRC Chairman Mike Shockley

Greetings: With Winter behind us, and the weather warming up in the SRC its time ride!

Chapter membership renewals have been good this year. Fewer Chapters have appeared on the late renewal report. I want to thank SRC Board members Randy Hoagland and Bob Awtrey that helped save a few Chapters that were on the verge of folding. Also, the recent change in the Blue Knights International by-laws that allow Chapters to operate with fewer members (8) has contributed to some chapters staying chartered, and some new Chapters getting started.

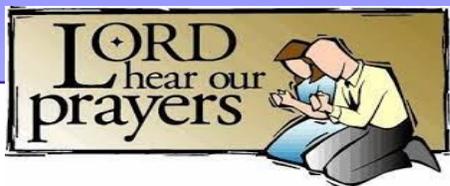
In April the “SRC Meeting” is happening in Statesboro, GA, hosted by GA II and the SRC. It will be a two-day event that will include our Spring Business Meeting. There will be rides, hospitality and comradery. This is an abbreviated version of a traditional SRC Conference because there were no bids for a full conference. On the upside we can offer this event without a registration fee, and it will include a free Saturday evening meal. This may serve as a model of the way some of our conferences are held in the future. I will certainly be interested in everyone’s comments and feedback after the event.

We are expecting a bid to be presented at the upcoming meeting for a full Spring 2025 conference. However, there is no indication of bids for Fall of 2024 or Fall of 2025. In talking with other Conference representatives, it seems this is the new normal, whereas they are having problems finding Chapters willing to host large events as well. If any Chapter is interested in hosting an SRC Conference or SRC Meeting, please contact us.

I encourage everyone to continue to work diligently to make 2024 a great year for the SRC.

Let’s ride with pride and put brotherhood before politics!

Spring 2024 SRC Conference
Baton Rouge, LA
April 10-13, 2024
(more info coming soon)



SICK AND DISTRESSED

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

JEFFREY LONGWELL

JOHN CHIUSANO

Blue Knights® International
Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club, Inc.



Blue Knights International Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club

50th Anniversary

Date: July 21st – 26th, 2024

Location: Sugarloaf Mountain Hotel & Conference Center

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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 YOU COLORS AND PROMOTE OUR ORGANIZATION

On the LIGHTER SIDE

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MAY 2024

MAY

ZODIAC SIGNS



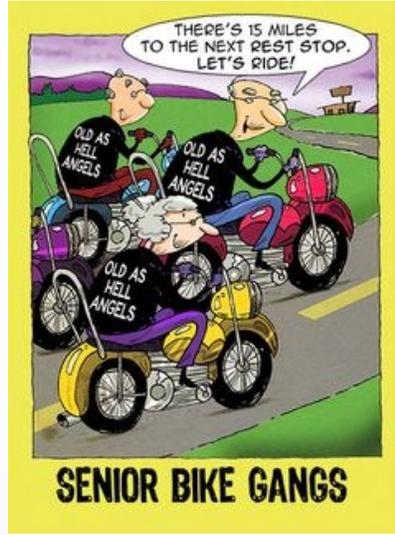
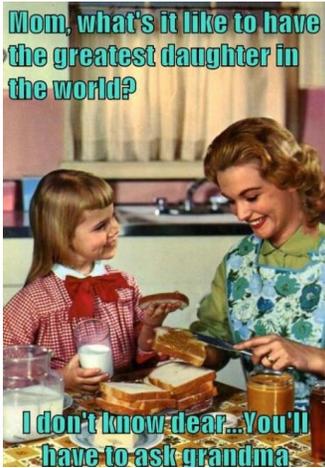
Taurus (April 20th - May 20th)

Taureans don't sweat the small stuff, and this means they're calming to be around. Taurus also knows how to have a good time, so they are fun and always-up-for-it company. They love pleasure and indulgence, and are more than happy to indulge you too. They are soothing, stoic, chilled, and happy in their own skin.



Gemini (May 21st - June 20th)

Geminis are gregarious people who like spending time with their friends and family. Geminis are curious, clever, and outstanding communicators who are pretty unpredictable. Uncertainty, recklessness, unpredictability, and snobbishness are among of their weaknesses, so don't reveal your darkest worries to a Gemini.



Meeting the Daughter-in-Law

My cousin was in love and wanted to introduce his bride-to-be to his hypercritical mother. But in order to get an unbiased opinion, he invited over three other female friends as well and didn't tell his mom which one he intended to marry. After the four women left, he asked his mother, "Can you guess which one I want to marry?"

"The one with short hair."



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