



Proud Host of the
Spring 2023 Southern Regional Conference
Thursday, April 27th thru Sunday, April 30th



BLUE KNIGHTS® FLXVIII NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2022

MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Greetings brother and sister knights,

As we head into November and the holidays I just would like to reflect on the past month dealing with hurricane Ian. I'm so thankful for my Blue Knights family and how just knowing you have brother and sisters that are ready to help means everything in the world. Geri and I as many had some damage to our house and our Motor home was totaled by the insurance company due to the two trees that landed on it. Everything can be fixed and replaced and we both feel blessed after witnessing first hand the destruction in Englewood Charlotte County. We truly appreciate the phone calls and messages and if by some chance I didn't respond I'm sorry but our communications were awful.

I truly feel that our organization and chapter is much more than a biker club and is so much more than most think. I have witnessed and heard stories from other knights who when traveling have had emergencies or mechanical problems after a few phone calls or a post on Facebook and the Blue Knights family comes to the rescue! Usually some one you have never met. Some when traveling reach out and find the best route or place to stay or where to stay away from. When we are sick you have people who care and check up on you. When we have a loss we have brothers and sisters to hold us up. When we pass we have brothers and sisters who help our family and who come out and honor us. If we need a ride to treatments or to the Doctor you know you can count on one of your fellow knights. If your having a bad week you know you can always reach out and find someone for some wind therapy. So during this month of Thanksgiving I'm truly thankful for you all my Blue Knights family.

Sincerely,
Patrick

Ride with Pride
Patrick Gibbons
President, FLXVIII



November Ride and Event Schedule

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

Tuesday November the 1st

**General membership meeting 7:00PM FOP 3 Lodge.
Entertainment committee meeting at 6:00 at the
FOP Lodge. Come out to the Hot sands tiki bar at
the shrine for dinner at 5:30 PM or earlier if you
have a committee meeting.**

Friday November the 11th

**Veterans Day Ride to Venice Patriot Park for the an-
nual Ceremony. Meet up at the FOP 3 Hall at
10:00AM KSU 10:15 AM. The ceremony is over at
12:00PM we will ride to lunch afterwards. We did
this last year and it was a nice day out to honor our
Veterans please come out if you can you can follow
with your car if you like.**

Tuesday November 15th

**11:00 AM Lunch at Mission BBQ University Parkway.
One of our favorite lunch spots. We can take a ride
after lunch if we have any takers.**

Saturday November the 19th

**Hap's Honda 74th Anniversary party. 2530 17th
street Sarasota. 9:00 AM set up at the dealership.
We will be set up for the day enjoying music and
food. The 9/11 Manasota Ride will also be giving
Hap's a thank you banner. Come on out and check
out haps museum and the festivities.**

Featured Event

Saturday November the 19th

**FL XVI 11th annual Dinner Dance.
Doors open at 5:30 PM till 10:30 PM
Location is the Port Charlotte Beach Recreation
Center, 4500 Harbor Boulevard Port Charlotte
33952. Tickets are \$30.00 per person. Please let
President Gibbons know if you need tickets.
Buffet Dinner, Beverage & Dessert. BYOB. Music,
Raffles, 50/50, Baskets of Cheer and door prizes.
We had a great time last year with our sister chap-
ter. Let's show some support and have a nice eve-
ning out while helping our sister chapter with their
charity drive.**



Proud Host of the
Spring 2023 Southern Regional Conference
Thursday, April 27th thru Sunday, April 30th



BLUE KNIGHTS® FLXVII NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2022



VP Message Jim Thomas

Hello Brothers and Sisters,

As we slowly withdraw from hurricane season and people have been picking up the pieces from their homes, I hope this finds all of you well and in good shape from recovery. We will be having more rides as the weather gives way to open roads and nicer days with less rain and heat. The new schedules are out and please feel free if you know of an event that may peak interest in members, let us know. It does not have to be on schedule to become a ride. If you have any events that you would like the club to attend for support, please let us know. I love a good evening out with friends and family.

On a personal note, I want everyone to know that the club should be more than just Bikes and Booze. We are a fellowship. That to me means we are there for each other. We police our own so to speak. I am fairly new to this chapter in regards to time but I had need to reach out and request moral support from a few members of this chapter and they were 100% in my corner picking up the sections that needed to be reinforced. My eternal gratitude goes out to those of whom I speak and that support will never be forgotten as you exemplified the very meaning of brotherhood. Thank you from the depth of my heart.

Now, As we prepare to move our meetings to the Shrine, we have been requested to assist in cleaning up the FOP. I have my own thoughts on this matter as I sought a habitable place for our membership to meet because of the substandard conditions of the building. Once I attained an appropriate place with humane standards to host us, it became important to the cross membership brothers to clean up the hall. I personally do not believe that we, as an afterthought, should clean the disaster that resides in that hall but that's just me. The FOP has asked for volunteers to assist in cleaning up the hall and doing the maintenance they have ignored for so long. In good faith I would say if you are driven to assist then by all means please contact the past President Rory to make your interest known. I feel that if it were important, they would have done this prior to us locating a inhabitable place to meet. Nuff said on that. If ya wanna help, Call the FOP and volunteer.

We are gearing up for Santa's big ride and getting the SRC committees going. Please, if you volunteered for the entertainment committee call me @ 941-725-2239. I plan on meeting at 6pm the night of the meeting. I need some ideas and lets face it, you ladies have all the best ideas. I am so charged up to get this event rolling.

Well thats about it for me. Thanks again for putting your faith in me and I will strive to always place membership above my own accolades and needs. God bless and see ya soon.

Due Diligance ...

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.

SICK AND DISTRESSED

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

RORY MACCONNELL IS RECEIVING AND DOING WELL FROM HIS RADIATION TREATMENTS AND WILL BE RECEIVING LONG TERM CARE!

TOM POST IS HOME AND CONTINUES TO BE UNDER DOCTORS CARE.

SRC UPDATE

We want to congratulate Jerry Hunt President of FLXVII (Tampa) on becoming our new State Representative. Jerry has been down to our chapter on several occasions in support of several of our chapter events, most recently the 9/11 Memorial ride. Again, our congratulations to Jerry and we wish him much success on his new position. Chapter FL XVIII is next door if you need us.



Proud Host of the
Spring 2023 Southern Regional Conference
Thursday, April 27th thru Sunday, April 30th

BLUE KNIGHTS® FLXVIII NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2022



FLORIDA XVIII
Presents
SPRING 2023
SOUTHERN REGIONAL CONFERENCE
APRIL 27TH-30TH
THURSDAY - SUNDAY



Host Hotel	Room Fees and Info	Registration
HOTEL VENEZIA Ramada by Wyndham 425 US-431 Bypass Venice, Florida 34285 Phone: 941-308-7700 AMMENITIES *On-Site Restaurant *Outdoor Pool and Bar *Large Spa Jacuzzi *Fire pit Lounge *Outdoor Fireplace *Fitness Room *Wireless Internet	\$109 per room +tax Call Directly: Use Booking Code: "BK SRC" 147 rooms available - pet-friendly rooms are available 3 Night Stay minimum to include the \$10 per couple breakfast special. 2 breakfasts per day/room for \$10 (4/\$20 must be 4 in same room) **must call hotel to add to RESV** There are 3 Campgrounds in the area	\$70 per person \$80 per person after March 1, 2023 REGISTRATION LINK: srcknights.org 

BLUE KNIGHTS® FLORIDA CHAPTER XVIII
Calls all Ye BLUE KNIGHTS to Beautiful Venice Florida!!!



Extras being planned -- Sunset Cruises and Charter Fishing

 **Daily:** Draft Beer Truck, wine, soda, snacks, rides and Chapter Sales Room
Nightly: Adult games, Texas Hold 'em Tournaments, Raffles and 50/50
Thur-Sat Evenings: President's Hospitality Lounge will be open
Friday: Late Lunch, off-site Grill-out with burgers, dogs and brats
Friday Night: Blues Pig Band (cops) w/Blues Brothers Show in the banquet room
Saturday Night: Dinner Banquet with Awards & Auction winners

For More Information contact:
Patrick Bibbons at pjgibby1969@comcast.net or Rory MacConnell at mac71037@verizon.net

WE ARE STILL NEED VOLUNTEERS FOR SOME OF THE COMMITTEES LISTED BELOW.

PLEASE CONTACT ONE OF THE BELOW CHAIRPERSONS:

The conference chairmen are Rory Mac Connell and President Patrick Gibbons.

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Chairman --- John Emrick Treasurer (mddre3077@aol.com)

BANQUET / BBQ COMMITTEE: Chairman Tom Yacca (rotocycle44@yahoo.com)

OPERATIONS: Paul Fieber (acegolf3@msn.com)

HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE: Chairman -- Jim Thomas (jthomas@berlinwall.us)

SOCIAL COMMITTEE – GAME NIGHT THURSDAY: Chairmen Rory Mac Connell (mac71037@verizon.net)

CAPPUCCINO / ESPRESSO TRAILER EVENINGS - Jack Ovadia (jbvtx1300@gmail.com)

THEME DECORATIONS BANQUET / SOCIAL AREAS: Chairwomen Lydia Grotz (bgrotz2@yahoo.com)

RIDE COMMITTEE: Chairman Vinny Spadaro (vinnie189@verizon.net)

AUCTION / CHAPTER SALES: Chairman Tim Van Shultz / Jim Ryan (jryanretired@aol.com)



NOVEMBER 2022

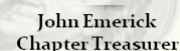
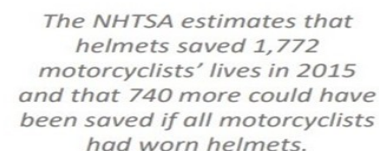
Visit the web site at www.BKI2023International.com



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

many, many studies confirm this

Motorcycle helmet laws in the US are a **hot button topic** and for good reason as issues such as personal choice & personal responsibility clash against governmental interest & jurisdiction ... the below stats are simply meant to point out the effectiveness of motorcycle helmets **in the event of an accident**.





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

NOVEMBER 2022

Chapter Executive Board

President ... Patrick Gibbons
 Vice President James Thomas
 Treasurer John Emrick
 Secretary Domenic Ceccanecchio

Board of Directors

Domenic Ceccanecchio / Webmaster
 Vincent Spadaro
 Christopher Scardino
 Rory MacConnell / Past President
 James Ryan / Sergeant at Arms

Operations

Timothy Van Schultz / Quartermaster
 James Kirkpatrick / Safety Officer
 James Kirkpatrick / Chaplain

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



THE SAFETY ZONE

Greeting Follow Blue Knights,



We are in search of Road Captains for the chapter that can help with the rides for the upcoming SRC Conference in April. What makes a go Road Captain? A person with leadership qualities the provides for the safety and welfare of a group of rides. Someone who is well organized, disciplined and avoids creating exacerbating hazardous situations. So, please consider stepping up to take on this role. I can provide the Road Captain Manual for your review, as we plan to have an informal class and fun riding times sometime in November. The manual consists of the following sections.

OBJECTIVES	THE LEADER	THE CHASE RIDER
Qualifications	Responsibilities	Safety Equipment
Road Captain Briefing	Pre-Ride Briefing	Riding Formations
Traffic Lanes	Lane Changes	Passing
Mentors	Practical Exercises	Final Approval
Maintaining Qualifications	Large Group Staging	

Anyone can learn to be a Road Captain and help keep our members safe!
 Looking forward to October training.

Jim Kirkpatrick
 Safety Officer





BLUE KNIGHTS® FLXVIII NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2022

Chaplains Message



When a natural disaster happens, victims in the line of fire can lose their loved ones, their homes, and their property. In such terrible times, not much can help those affected, but words of comfort from friends, family and neighbors are generally appreciated. What can you say that won't exacerbate the pain and hopelessness the victims are already feeling? Here are some examples:

The only good piece in all of this is that you're safe. I'm praying for you and all the other victims.

We want you to know that we are all standing with you and praying for you. Don't give up.

I am here for you, whatever you need, anytime you need it.



God comforts you with His presence "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God." (2 Corinthians 1:3-4) The Father of compassion. The God of all comfort.



James Kirkpatrick, Chaplain

Members Corner . . .

We want to hear from you

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

Patrick Gibbons pjgibby1969@comcast.net

Jim Thomas jthomas@berlinwall.us

Dom Ceccanecchio dc444@comcast.net

We need and want your input



This biker lady has a heart attack and is taken to the hospital. While on the operating table, she had a near death experience. Seeing God, she asked, "Is my time up?" God said, "No, you have another 43 years, 2 months, and 8 days to live."

Upon recovery, the woman decided to stay in the hospital and have a facelift, liposuction, and tummy tuck.

Since she had so much more time to live, new roads to ride, she figured she might as well look even nicer. After her last operation, she was released from the hospital. While riding her motorcycle home, she was run into by a delivery truck and killed. Arriving in front of God, she demanded, "I thought you said I had another 40+ years? How come you didn't pull me out of the path of that freakin' truck?" God replied, "I didn't recognize you."



What kind of a bike does a cow love riding?

A cow rides a Cowasaki Mootorcycle!



BLUE KNIGHTS® FLXVIII NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2022



FROM THE WEB
WWW.BLUEKNIGHTSFLXVIII.COM

BACKUPS! BACKUPS! BACKUPS!

People lose extremely important information due to computer hardware failures, natural or manmade disasters and sometimes from common mistakes. Have some kind of [backup](#) regimen in place to safeguard your important files such as financial records, calendars, photographs, videos. And so on.

Do a backup of your DATA FILES on a regular basis. You can back your files up to an external device such as a thumb drive or external hard drive. You do not need to backup the software installed on your computer because the software can be reinstalled from CD's or downloaded from the manufacturer or the cloud. If you are not computer proficient you can purchase software programs that can automate the backup process and there is tons of instructional information on the internet.

The problem with those backups, however, is that they tend to remain on site. That means if something happens to the site — meaning your home or business — both your computer and your backups are at risk. So, find an off site location to store the device.

Online services (like Dropbox, OneDrive, Google Drive and other [cloud](#) storage providers) provide off-site backup. Another benefit is that anything you put there (into, say, Dropbox) so you can share it with someone else if you choose. There are cloud-based backup programs that focus exclusively on backing up without the additional sharing/storage/online access aspects of more general purpose cloud storage services.

I will post more information on this topic in future newsletters,

So stay tuned in!!!



Dom Ceccanecchio, Webmaster



Thank You!

to our Sponsors

BLUE KNIGHTS® FLXVIII NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2022

**BRICK PAVERS
& TRAVERTINE**

By **PAVING
CREW, INC.**

2150 17th Street, Sarasota FL 34234

(941) 360-0203

info@pavingcrew.com

<https://pavingcrew.com>



Mission BBQ

★★★★★
118 Reviews

Hours: 11am - 9pm

5231 University Pkwy, Sarasota
(941) 841-9279

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

yelp



DEALERSHIP HOURS

Monday - Friday	10:00 AM - 6:00
Saturday	9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Sunday	12:00 PM - 4:00

330 Cattlemen Road
Sarasota, FL 34232

Phone : [941 951 6103](tel:9419516103)

Website: [Buy a Harley!](#) | [Adrenaline](#)

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

