



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

BLUE KNIGHTS® FLXVIII NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2023

MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Greetings Brother and Sister Knights,

April is upon us and so is the Spring 2023 SRC Venice April 27th, 28th, 29th and 30th. Our chapter has done a lot of plotting and planning to provide our guests with the best time possible. Our committees will be finalizing everything over the next few weeks.

During the event FL XVI and FL XVII our sister chapters will be helping us with some of the activities and rides. In the true spirit of brotherhood and what this organization was founded on both chapters volunteered to help in anyway needed. This is one of the things that makes me proud to wear the Blue Knights patch. Having brothers and sisters that are willing to help in any circumstance. Having the same goals and vision following what the founding fathers created for all of us to enjoy.

Speaking of founding fathers we will have one as our special guest of honor! Chuck Shuman founding father of the Blue Knights LEMC and his lovely wife are coming to our event. Im looking forward to hearing some stories on how this organization was .started some forty nine years ago. Times may change and so do people but the foundation that was laid for this organization was surely strong to grow worldwide and do all the great work that we all do each and every day.

It truly amazes me that a few guys had an idea and created the best law enforcement motorcycle club in the world. It just goes to show that the dreams and visions we have are all possible with some hard work, grit and determination.

Ride with Pride
Patrick Gibbons
President, FLXVIII



April Ride and Event Schedule

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



Saturday April 1st

Arcadia Bike Fest 2023. We will meet up at the Speedway 8604 SR 70E Bradenton. At 9:30AM. KSU 9:45AM. Plenty of options for lunch in Arcadia.



Tuesday April 4th

5:30 PM Dinner at the Hot Sands Tiki Bar 600 N Beneva RD Sarasota

Tuesday April 4th

7:00PM Monthly General Membership Meeting. This month we will be having the meeting at the FOP 3 Lodge 3600 Circus Blvd Sarasota.

Tuesday April 11th

9:00 AM Breakfast at Der Dutchman 3713 Bahia Vista St Sarasota

****Save the Date****

Sunday April 16th. We were invited to the 10-13 Club picnic waiting on details.

Monday April 17th

6:00 PM at the FOP 3. SRC Spring 2023 Venice Committees meeting. This will be our last meeting to finalize our schedule and finish up the work.

Spring 2023 Southern Regional Conference
Thursday, April 27th thru Sunday, April 30th

Wednesday April 26th

SRC set up at the host hotel. Start time to be determined

Thursday April 27th Through Sunday April 30th
we will be hosting the Spring 2023 SRC in Venice. We have a full schedule with rides and activities for the whole event. Register now if you haven't. If you would like to help please come out April 26th to the meeting.



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

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

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TIMOTHY VAN SCHULTZ / QUARTERMASTER
MICHAEL KLEIN / 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

alexandjav1988@gmail.com

Dom Ceccanecchio

dcc444@comcast.net



For career day kevin dressed up as a
15 year detective
with two ex-wives, crippling childsupport
and a drinking problem

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: 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

FOR SALE: 2008 Copper and Black FAT BOY - MODEL FLSTF, 1584 CC, 6-Speed transmission, regular maintenance by Rossiter's Harley, 38,600 MILES. This is the 105 year anniversary edition is #1124 out of 4000, with extras, This bike is set up as a Soft Tail, 96 ci-1584cc, windshield, passenger back rest, driver backrest, freeway bar, Kuryakyn grips, cupholder, HD floorboards, handlebar extenders, foot pegs, luggage rack, saddlebags, passenger footboards, battery tender, back off tail light flasher, good tires, excellent condition. CALL ED, 630-886-5959 **\$7500 - OBO**





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APRIL

ZODIAC SIGNS

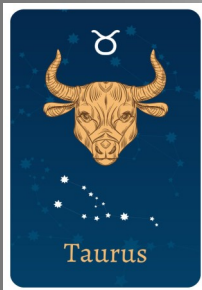
Aries (March 21 - April 19)

Aries loves to be number one, so it's no surprise that these audacious rams are the first sign of the zodiac. **Bold and ambitious, Aries dives headfirst into even the most challenging situations** (which is appropriate, since the body part associated with Aries is the head).



Taurus (April 20-May 20)

As a Taurus, you're a wonderful combination of laid-back and hard-working. You're honest and loyal, occasionally to a fault. Your determination and attention to detail will take you far in life.



Due Diligence ...

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

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

Fellow Knights

- **Current Financial Position:**
All accounts are current and all outstanding bills have been paid.
- To date—209 people have registered for the SRC conference
- President Gibbons has obtained 50, \$5 gift cards from Brewberger Restaurant in Venice.

Treasurers Report

John Emerick
Chapter Treasurer



INTERNATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT RORY MACCONNELL

International Convention 2023

Dates: July 16 - July 21, 2023

Chapter: PA V - Harrisburg, PA

Convention Information: The web site for the 2023 event has been activated for Blue Knights around the world.

Visit the web site at www.BKI2023International.com

Blue Knights International
Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club, Inc.



WE STILL HAVE SOME OPENINGS FOR HELP AT THE SPRING SRC. CONTACT RORY FOR DETAILS

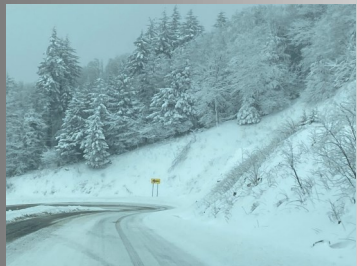
RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION IS ALL MEMBERS JOB.... ALWAYS WEAR YOUR COLORS AND PROMOTE OUR ORGANIZATION



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Contemplating God in the Beauty of Nature



While traveling over spring break, enjoying the Virginia and West Virginia Mountains, with my Mom. The feeling of relaxation that the beauty of the mountains provided, inspired this month's message.

Nature provides a basic knowledge of God; the biblical position is that nature can provide a basic knowledge of God. All people, at all times, know that God exists through what He has revealed. A primary way God nourishes our souls with his loving presence is through the beauty of nature.

The face of the Lord shines on his in the sun. The moon and stars remind us that God's light and love shine to us even in the dark. The Lord is speaking to us and warming us from the heavens, the Psalmist says (Psalm 19:1-6). The joy of the Lord comes to us in splashing waves and playful animals! (Psalm 29:3, 6)

Just a walk in the woods or a stroll by the beach on a sunny morning can awaken the innermost feelings of happiness and peace, and Environmental Psychology has gone a long way proving this fact (Bell, Greene, Fisher, & Baum, 1996).

Have you wondered why most people prefer to book accommodations that have a great view from the balcony or the terrace? Why sick patients in hospital rooms with the view of nature and the sun heal faster? The fact is that nature impacts health.

Frank Lloyd Wright had said, "Study Nature, love Nature, stay close to Nature. It will never fail you.". We as god's people feel so empowered when we are close to Nature?

This message this month is to get out and enjoy the beauty that God has provided us. Nature is god medicine for the soul!

Chaplain

Jimmy



James Kirkpatrick, Chaplain



SICK AND DISTRESSED

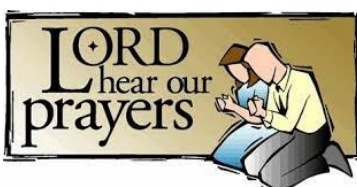
PLEASE KEEP OUR SICK AND DISTRESSED MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES IN YOUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS.

RORY MACCONNELL

CECE MACCONNEL

GERI BUSCEMI

JOSEPH FANCIULLI



JEFFREY LONGWELL

PAUL FIEBER

VERONICA ANDERSON



March Chapter Meeting Highlights

BLUE KNIGHTS® LEMC

BLUE KNIGHTS® FLXVIII NEWSLETTER

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Meeting Call to Order: by VP James Thomas @ 7:00PM

In attendance: Executive officers: 4 Officers: 2 Members: 13 Guests: 12

Pledge of Allegiance: Led by [VP James Thomas](#)

Invocation: John Chiusano

PRESIDENTS REPORT: VP James Thomas (for President PATRICK GIBBONS)

- The Thunder by the Bay (TBB) .38 special raffle generated a total \$2946 revenue. All but 31 tickets out of 500 sold. We will begin planning on doing something similar next year. Thanks to those who or helped with the TBB Freedom ride work. The extra help with the VIP Security went well and we received a big thank you from Lucy.
- Sunday 3/26 we will be doing the SRC North East test ride. 9:00 AM, Skilletts Restaurant 4115 S Tamiami Trail Sarasota. We will map out and ride the route.
- Committee's need to get together to work on what needs to get done. We have extended until March 15th the lower SRC registration rate for everyone outside the chapter. Please register if you haven't, your cost is \$40 per person and the shirts will cost \$15.
- Introduced new member Edward Blizzard and his wife Melany. They come to us from Memphis Tennessee.

TREASURERS REPORT: JOHN EMRICK

Motion to accept FEBRUARY Treasurers Report: Motion: Brian MacConnell 2nd: Jim Ryan, Approval ALL Yea

- Current Financial Position: All accounts are current and all outstanding bills have been paid.
- 209 people have registered for the conference
- President Gibbons has obtained 50, \$5 gift cards from Brewberger Restaurant in Venice.

SECRETARY / WEBMASTER'S REPORT: DOMENIC CECCANECCHIO

Motion to accept FEBRUARY Minutes: Motion: Rory MacConnell, 2nd: Brian MacConnell [Approval All Yea](#)

CHAPTER NEWSLETTER:

- The March Newsletter, ride schedule and Thunder by the Bay pictures have been posted on the website.
- Reminder: We are always looking for new, up-to-date content for the Newsletter. 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.
- Reminder: We can generate revenue for the Chapter with minimal work by simply selling ads. Contact anyone on the Executive Board if you find a potential sponsor.

SAFETY OFFICER: MICHAEL KLEIN

Call for additional (new) road captains. If interested contact Michael.

SRC / INTERNATIONAL REPORT:

- Rory introduced Rich Farrington who is rejoining the chapter.
- INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION 2023, Dates: July 16 - July 21, 2023, Chapter: PA V - Harrisburg, PA
Convention Information: The web site for the 2023 event has been activated for Blue Knights around the world. You can visit the web site by clicking on/going to www.BKI2023International.com.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- James Ryan - Mike Hall (one of the Founding Fathers) was invited to the 2023 SRC Conference but cannot attend.
- Rory MacConnell (International Vice President) asked for chapter support in his long standing (2 years) dispute with SRC leadership who disparaged him. Motion: Larry Kudrow, 2nd: John Emrick, Unanimous approval with one abstention (Rory)
- Rory MacConnell asked for recognition of the woodworking contributions by James Ryan. All agreed.
- 2023 SRC Conference:
- Rory informed the members that the conference hotel has placed restrictions on our serving of alcohol after 6:00 PM.
- Jim Thomas is working on finding relief volunteers for the bar servers.
- There was a request by Rory to purchase 20 tumblers. Motion: Brian MacConnell, 2nd Jim Ryan, Approved by all
- There was a discussion to increase the SRC shirt budget from \$1830 to 2500. Motion by Rory MacConnell, 2nd James Ryan. All voted in approval and included a provision to allow an increase to \$3000 with board approval.

NEW BUSINESS: There was a proposal by Rory MacConnell to spend up to \$750 for three types of specially designed chapter patches. Motion: James Thomas, 2nd: Tim Van Schultz, Motion was approved unanimously.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING: TUESDAY, APRIL 4th, 2023

Submitted By: Domenic Ceccanecchio, Secretary BK XVIII



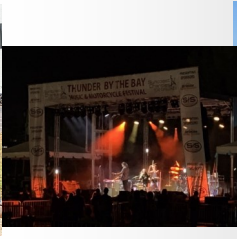
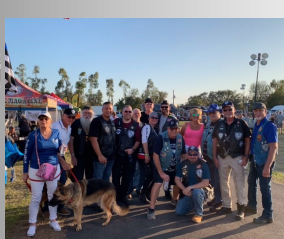
APRIL 2023

Michael Klein
Safety Officer



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 help keep our members safe!
We still plan to have an informal class and fun riding times sometime in early 2023.**



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VP Message Jim Thomas

Hello Brothers and Sisters,

The SRC is just around the corner and we have been ramping up for some time now. I am looking forward to spending some quality time with the lot -o-ya! When I joined the BK family, it was a way for me to stay in touch with those who shared the same life's experiences as I and know the paths that I have walked. I was drawn to the environment of spending days with Brothers that love to ride and hold their heads high when they walk into a room. Not because of arrogance, but pride. Pride in the service of others. Pride in the honesty of a day's work at the risk of never coming home. Pride in a job well done.

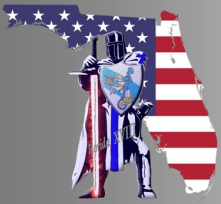
I also am drawn to the part where integrity and honesty are a part of our life's work. Integrity by definition of the dealing of one's own behaviors through honest and true values. Integrity is doing the right thing regardless of pressures from others to do otherwise at the risk of another's reputation or position. Truth is the common thread that drives integrity and without said truth, a man has no absolute value. Every report I have ever written was done with such integrity and honesty and I love to have a place to call home that dwells, or should dwell in such beliefs. Because without integrity, we are no better than the perps we either cuffed or housed or managed upon release. It is honor that binds this club and its the membership that holds the key to that binding. This is the reason Patrick and I want the voice of the chapter to be that of the membership. This is your chapter. The board is 100% in agreement that we should be an extension of the members' voices and not in a seat to command those voices. To hear the voice of the chapter is to be one with the family. We are here for you and if you have things you would like us to address in session, please bring us your inquiries. We listen and will be honest in our efforts to bring it to the membership for voting. This is your chapter and with that, , we are your heralds. Truth, integrity, honesty guide the gavel that serves you. Be one with the hand that drops the gavel my brothers and sisters. We are family and that has been proven to me many times since September and I believe in what our organization represents, I believe in looking out for every member of this family, because they have done the same for me.

Much love yall!! VP out!!

IMPORTANT DAYS IN APRIL

- | | | |
|------------|---|---------------------------|
| APRIL 1ST | - | APRIL FOOLS DAY |
| APRIL 4TH | - | HUG A NEWSPERSON DAY |
| APRIL 5TH | - | DEEP DISH PIZZA DAY |
| APRIL 7TH | - | NATIONAL BEER DAY |
| APRIL 9TH | - | NATIONAL UNICORN DAY |
| APRIL 17TH | - | NATIONAL HAIKU POETRY DAY |
| APRIL 18TH | - | TAX DAY |
| APRIL 20TH | - | NATIONAL HIGH FIVE DAY |
| APRIL 25TH | - | WORLD PENGUIN DAY |
| APRIL 27TH | - | NFL DRAFT |
| APRIL 28TH | - | NATIONAL SUPER HERO DAY |





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APRIL 2023

FROM THE WEB

WWW.BLUEKNIGHTSFLXVIII.COM

Dom Ceccanecchio, Webmaster

What Is Spam Email?

Spam email is unsolicited and unwanted junk email sent out in bulk to an indiscriminate recipient list. Typically, spam is sent for commercial purposes. It can be sent in massive volume by botnets, networks of infected computers.

Why do people send out spam email?

Often, spam email is sent for commercial purposes. While some people view it as unethical, many businesses still use spam. The cost per email is incredibly low, and businesses can send out mass quantities consistently. Spam email can also be a malicious attempt to gain access to your computer.

How do you deploy anti-spam tactics?

Spam email can be difficult to stop, as it can be sent from botnets. Botnets are a network of previously infected computers. As a result, the original spammer can be difficult to trace and stop.

If you receive a message that appears to be spam—for example, if you don't recognize the sender—mark the message as spam in your email application. Don't click any links or attached files, including opt-out or unsubscribe links. Spammers sometimes include these links to confirm that your email address is legitimate, or the links may trigger malicious webpages or downloads.

Is spam email dangerous?

Spam email can be dangerous. It can include malicious links that can infect your computer with malware. Dangerous spam emails often sound urgent, so you feel the need to act.

No one can entirely stop spam emails. However, there are steps you can take to limit the risks that spam poses to your devices and personal data, and to avoid falling victim to online scams.



1. Report the email as spam.
2. Block spam email addresses.
3. Change your email privacy settings.
4. Unsubscribe from unwanted newsletters or mailing lists.
5. Use a secondary email address.
6. Use a third-party email filter.
7. Delete suspicious emails.
8. Do not click links in spam

Anti-spam solutions should address a wide range of known threats beyond spam, phishing and botnet attacks that include hard-to-detect short-lived and low volume email threats.



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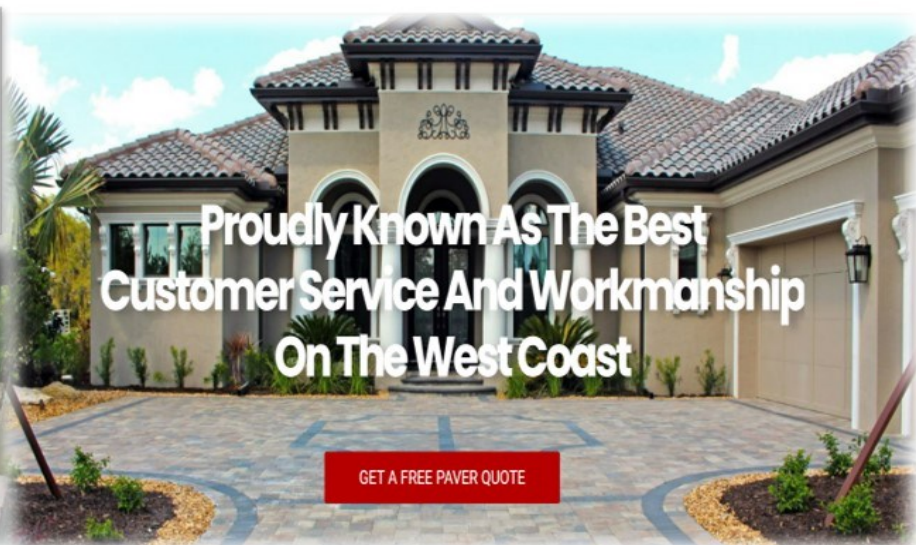
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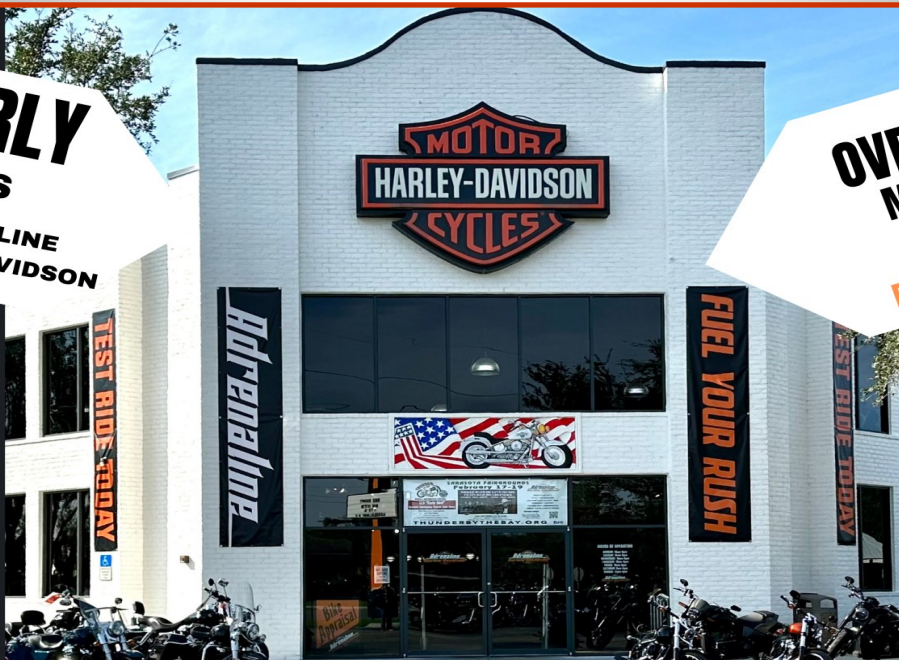
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