

THE KNIGHTLY NEWSLETTER

Blue Knights © California VI



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OCTOBER 2023



We are not our best intentions. We are what we do.
Amy Dickinson

**MEMBERSHIP
MEETING DATE
November 11, 2023**

**Featured in
this edition**



Poker Chip drawing was held. Bill Crow's name was drawn. Since Bill was present he won the \$10.

By being present at the monthly Blue Knight Chapter meeting you become eligible for the drawing. If you are present, you win the amount in the pot. If you are not present \$5 is added to the pot. Currently the amount is \$5.



THE BLUE KNIGHTS



The Blue Knights® International Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club, Inc., is an International fraternal organization comprised of law enforcement officers and their families who are also motorcycle enthusiasts.

Headquartered in Bangor, Maine, the Blue Knights® operates under an international constitution and bylaws within an organizational structure of an international board of directors and eleven regional conferences, each conference including a number of local chapters. The Blue Knights® promotes safe and responsible motorcycling and sponsors fund raising in support of numerous charities.

The inception of the Blue Knights® came in April 1974 when a Bangor Maine, police officer had the idea of forming a motorcycle club for people in law enforcement. Since then, the club has grown to become the foremost and largest international law enforcement motorcycle club. Today, there are over twenty thousand Blue Knights® worldwide in six hundred in six hundred chapters in the twenty-nine countries and one commonwealth.



OUR CHAPTER IN SAN DIEGO

CALIFORNIA VI



Chapter California VI was formed in 1987 by a group of seventeen San Diego area law enforcement officers, some retired and some on active duty. We have been chartered since January 1988, making us one of the oldest currently existing Blue Knights® chapters in California. Our members are full-time, part-time and retired law enforcement officers from local, county, state and federal levels.

We are presently one of the largest chapters in the Southwest Conference, with over 40 members on our rolls. Chapter California VI members strive to promote a positive image both of law enforcement and motorcycling. We are active in community service projects, and each year we donate to local charities.

Chapter meetings are held at 0900 on the second Saturday of the month at the Broken Yolk Restaurant, 1851 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach, CA. (Unless that is a holiday weekend) After the breakfast and one hour meeting, we go for a ride.

Persons interested in becoming a member may contact Vice President Alan Wheeler by email at: BlueKnightsCAVI.VP@gmail.com



CALIFORNIA VI OFFICERS AND STAFF



PRESIDENT

Ken Smith

VICE-PRESIDENT

Alan Wheeler

SECRETARY

Mike Wagner

TREASURER

Chuck Belletti

DIRECTORS

Richard Bennett

Mike Harrison

Ray Juanengo

MORALE & WELFARE

Michelle Juanengo

IMMEDIATE PAST-PRESIDENT

John Lopotosky

WEBMASTER

Stephen Roche

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Richard Bennett

RIDE COORDINATOR

Marcus Sanchez

SAFETY OFFICER

Mike Manen

QUARTERMASTER

Arturo Romero

GREETER

Tina Lopotosky

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 motorcycling law enforcement community and the general public. The fraternal spirit will always guide me in relating to other Blue Knights®



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Ken Smith President

Greetings Blue Knights!



BOO!!! I hope you are all getting ready for Halloween. It's one of my favorite holidays and time of year. Could I do without all the extra candy and sugar? Sure, but where's the fun in that. I'll just do like most people do...take the extras to work in a big bowl and watch the staff eat it all!

This month we had a great after meeting ride; big thanks to Alan Wheeler for setting it up. We went to the old Top Gun house which is now a pie shop. Of course, we ordered pies! We even had one potential member ride with us to show him how we do it in BK CAVI. Hopefully he'll fill out an application soon. Remember, we are all recruiters.

Lots coming up in the next two months. Holidays for sure, but also the November Knights and the BK CAVI Christmas Party!

I hope even more of you make it to the Christmas party this year. Last year was a very fun time for everyone who attended. This is our one time of year we can all dress up and get a little spoiled. I KNOW you all deserve it.

Long range planning for our Chapter includes leadership positions. Yes, we have elections every two years but there are always opportunities for folks to step up. Sometimes we get vacant positions between elections, and it's nice to have a stable of candidates who have expressed interest in participating. If you are one of those people, enjoy the challenge, and want to help shape the future of this Chapter and all Blue Knights, let someone know! We can always use your talents. We have so much untapped potential in this Chapter.

I always look forward to our meetings and functions. I get so busy with other commitments it's sometimes the only time block of time that I can carve out to actually hang out and have fun. I hope everyone can carve out a little time for your Blue Knights Brothers and Sisters now and then; it is always a positive thing.

If you're carving out a little pumpkin as well, I wish you a Happy Halloween!

See you soon and RWP!



VICE-PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Alan Wheeler, Vice-President



Sgt. Major Sam Walls USMC (Ret) Annual Motorcycle Benefit Run Sept. 23, 2023 Hosted by Blue Knights CAIV (Corona)



What a beautiful day for a motorcycle event. President Enrique Duran and other members of CAIV hosted their annual Benefit Run in the late Sgt. Major Sam Walls honor. Sam's widow (Regina) and daughter (Samantha) were kind enough to attend and be honored as well. Thank you, Dave Navarro, for your eloquent oral presentation to the family of Sam Walls.

Members of CAVI (Jorge, Miguel, Mike, Alan) and spouses rode up early, the night before, to make a rested and fresh entrance on Sept. 23rd. Ray joined the above members at the new benefit run start location of Indian Motorcycle of Redlands.



The benefit run ride route was new and exciting to this writer. A fantastic 60-mile ride high into the San Bernardino National Forest near many U-pick apple orchards and cider mills of Oak Glen, CA. Twisties galore! The one-and-only stop, El Dorado Ranch Park was an appreciated leg stretch.

Down the mountain and back to the dealership for a BBQ lunch, raffle prizes, 50/50 and the drawing for two lucky gun raffle prize winners (a Glock-19 and Mosberg Shotgun). Our own Miguel scored a humidor full of tasty cigars.

The fellowship enjoyed between multiple Blue Knight chapters was front and center. In fact, Chris Allen a BK member of England XIII—on vacation in the San Bernardino area—joined this benefit run. Supporting the BK adage: "There are no strangers, only friends you haven't met."



Photos by Alan Wheeler

Many thanks to CAIV for hosting another fine benefit run!



SECRETARY'S MESSAGE

Mike Wagner, Secretary



**October 14, 2023
MEETING MINUTES**

Call to Order: Chapter President Ken Smith at 0900 Hours

Pledge of Allegiance led by Alan Wheeler

Moment of Silence for Members of Heaven I
Recognition of Fallen Chapter Members

Introductions/Guests: Walter McDaniel and Dave DeLong

Blue Knights 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 motorcycling law enforcement community and the general public. The fraternal spirit will always guide me in relating to other Blue Knights."

President Ken Smith

1. Blue Knight Lord and Lady of the Year. Need submissions
2. Xmas Party: Establish a committee, number to attend and possible price increase.
3. Hoodies Update: Prototypes being made. There is a minimum of 36 orders that have to be made. Members interested in purchasing a hoodie or T-shirt need to inform a staff member
4. Nov 11, 2023 will be the General Meeting. Possibility of AMR to Veteran's home and give gift cards. Collection made to purchase gift cards

Vice President Alan Wheeler

1. After Meeting Ride to the house in Oceanside where a scene from Top Gun was filmed.
2. Purchased a home in Arizona and will be spending 6 months there and 6 months in Alpine. Remotely will remain Vice President or until a Vice Pres. is selected in the future

Treasurer Chuck Belletti

1. Fiscal status
2. Report given to membership

Secretary Mike Wagner

1. Working on updating our current club roster.
2. Kaz and I will be celebrating our 51st Anniversary tomorrow

Past President John Lopotosky -

1. We need to start collecting dues for 2024 chapter renewals which are due in January. \$25.00 International and \$20.00 chapter dues. There will be an additional \$5.00 for members renewing via SQUARE.
2. Replenish chapter sales items with Blue Knights International Patch
3. Members need to log onto the International Website and update their personal information. To log onto the site: Name: ID # and the Password is last name in caps
4. Checking on reflective patches

Chapter Directors:

Ray Juanengo

Richard Bennett (Safety Officer and Newsletter Editor)

1. Door Prizes of long sleeve BK shirts
2. Christmas Party Items: Sign Up, meal selection and payment form
3. Who is the contact person
4. Who will make the form?
5. Where to send it
6. Will be included in the Newsletter
7. The Newsletter will have nomination forms for selecting the Blue Knight Lord and Lady of the Year

Mike Harrison –

1. Introduced Dave DeLong as a possible new member

Bill Crow

1. Need to review the By – Laws
2. Started collecting funds for Veteran gift cards

Staff:

Safety Officer– Mike Manen –

1. An article in the International Blue Knight magazine about an inflatable vest to protect riders. There are articles on U-Tube demonstrating the vest

Webmaster – Stephen Roche

1. Out of State

Arturo Romero (Quarter Master)

Marcus Sanchez – Ride Coordinator

Michelle Juanengo (Morale/Welfare Coordinator)

1. Volunteered to be Xmas Chair Person
2. Schedule a Woman's Evening

Jorge Ortiz – SWC International Rep

1. The conference is working on the 50th Anniversary

Good of the order:

1. John Lopotosky mentioned the International Website (Facebook) contains articles on Blue Knight members who have been injured or hospitalized
2. Miguel Martinez reminded members selling raffle tickets to make sure the tickets are sold by the end of November. Drawing held on December 9, 2023

Poker Chip Drawing: Bill Crow collected \$10.00

50 – 25/25 Winners: \$30.00 Miguel Martinez \$30.00 Ken Smith (Donated to Veteran's Benefit)

Motion to Adjourn by: Mike Manen

Seconded by: Mike Wagner

Meeting Adjourned at: 10:04 A.M.

Next Meeting:

0900 Hours – Broken Yolk on November 11, 2023 (Veteran's Day)



SAFETY MESSAGE

Mike Manen, Safety Officer



Facts about Lane Splitting

Recently a few of us rode north to Redlands, CA for the CAL IV ride, which was very pleasant, and a good time had by all. I don't want to start splitting hairs here but what about splitting lanes?

The Wheeler's plan was to leave around noon to avoid traffic, a great idea! But the SoCAL traffic gods had a different idea. Personally, I'm not a fan of splitting lanes, but had we not, the 113-mile ride would have taken longer than the three hours it took us. So, I decided to do some research.

In CA its legal to split per the CHP: **21658.1 (a) For the purposes of this section, "lane splitting" means driving a motorcycle, as defined in Section 400, that has two wheels in contact with the ground, between rows of stopped or moving vehicles in the same lane, including on both divided and undivided streets, roads, or highways.**

CHP does suggest its safer to split the 1 and 2 lanes, and to stay away from big rigs, RVs, etc. This also from the Vehicle Code is interesting: Intentionally blocking or impeding a motorcycle in a way that could cause harm to the rider is illegal. Opening a vehicle door to impede a motorcycle is illegal. Drivers in the far-left lane should move to the left of their lane to give motorcyclists ample room to pass.

And finally for your reading pleasure here is an interesting article <https://news.berkeley.edu/2015/05/29/motorcycle-lanesplitting-report>.



Road Wisdom



I'm back in the saddle again. Out where a friend is a friend.(Gene Autry)

2023 Annual Hugo Schreiner/Porterville Ride

A ride with BMW Owners Club of San Diego

"This Ain't No Bus Tour". The quotation from Hugo Schreiner didn't mean much to me when I received ride information from our leader, **Greg Dietrich**. After 637 miles of mountain roads (I kept track) I am a believer; we never saw a bus.

I will admit that I was aware of the Porterville Ride before, but with a little encouragement from **Mike Lynch** and **Dennis Way**, I finally signed up. I have followed Greg Dietrich when he was the club Road Captain, and I was looking forward to his leadership on this ride.

Departure was from the familiar Mc Donald's eatery, located conveniently next door to a service station at I-15 and Highway 138. Leaving precisely at 9am, we picked up some chatter on our Sena headsets from three tardy riders. They had been delayed by an unexpected ignition key problem, but quickly joined our group, making 12 in all.

Greg set a brisk pace, leading us through miles of scenic, twisty roads. The pace and the roads were challenging enough, but our motorcycles were all packed with enough personal gear to stay three days in Porterville. Handling was much better on the next two days when we had no extra luggage.

In Tehachapi we stopped for gas and lunch. I was impressed by two sites in Tehachapi: The Keene Café (where we lunched) and the Tehachapi Loop, made over 100 years ago to accommodate long trains climbing to altitude.



The Keene Café dates back to the 1920's, and is still open seven days a week for breakfast and lunch. The Café motto is "Conveniently located in the middle of nowhere". The café was briefly converted into a Boarding House in the 1930's for miners working at the Tweedy Canyon limestone mine and kiln.

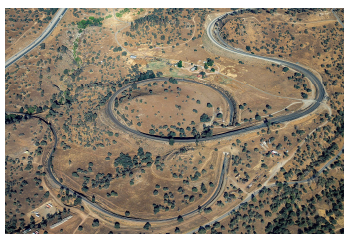
In 1940, Ethel Stuck returned it back into a roadside café, serving travelers on US 466. As luck would have it, World War II would work in her favor. Soldiers stationed in the Keene area, to guard railroad tunnels and bridges from possible saboteurs, became Ethel's best customers.

Ethel continued to operate the Keene Cafe until 1954. Since that time US route 466 has become Hwy 58 but people like Pete Errecart, Ruby and Woody Woods, Ed and Ethel Melton, and Charlie Lund continued serving good home cooked meals to locals and hungry travelers alike, in an atmosphere of days gone by. It's a tradition started over 80 years ago that continues today.



Inside Keene Cafe

A fun fact: United Farm Worker's Union leader Cesar Chavez was good friends with café owner Ruby Woods, and frequented the café from the 1970s until his death in 1993. A Cesar Chavez National Monument is nearby.



Tehachapi Loop

Along with seeing hundreds of oil-pumping rigs, I was surprised to see the Tehachapi Loop. Located just north of the Keene Café on Woodford Tehachapi Road, the Union Pacific rail loop is .72 miles long, on the Mojave subdivision through Tehachapi Pass. Rising at a steady 2 percent grade, the spiral (or helix) elevates trains 77 feet through the Tehachapi Pass. It is not open to passenger trains, and only accommodates freight trains that are more than one mile long.

Construction began in 1874 and the loop was opened in 1876 (147 years ago). About three thousand Chinese workers, used hand tools, picks and shovels and horse-drawn carts. They had to tunnel through a section so the loop could pass over. An impressive achievement, even by today's standards.

The Tehachapi Depot Museum is located near-by in the town of Tehachapi.

While the experience of riding mountains roads was exhilarating, one site proved to be a depressing visit for us all. The Ponderosa Lodge, a long-time destination for mountain visitors, was burned to the ground. The sight of the ruined Lodge was an epiphany for those who remembered it from past visits.



Ponderosa before March 10, 2023



Fire on March 10, 2023



Ponderosa today



Located at 56692 Aspen Drive in the Sequoia National Forrest, the Lodge was uninsured. The Insurance company had previously dropped the Lodge during wildfire season. On March 10, 2023 the Lodge caught fire. Ongoing storms had created washouts, preventing fire trucks from reaching the Lodge. The Ponderosa Lodge was a total loss.

To those of us who were present at the fire site, it was a humbling experience.

Paying our respects to the Ponderosa

At the end of each day, we showered and gathered at the Best Western swimming pool area. Libation was shared and the assembled members solved the world's problems with our insightful wisdom. Dinner followed, which was usually at the Denny's Restaurant next door. On one occasion, an attempt was made to visit an Italian Restaurant in Porterville, but was stymied by the lack of public transportation. As responsible adult beverage imbibers, we once again visited Denny's.



Dinner at Denny's



Some personal observations from a first-timers view.

The mountain roads were longer and in worse repair than I imagined. Still, no one crashed and we all had a good time. The front tire on my RT was peaked like a Boy Scout tent when I got home, testimony to the hundreds of tight turns on the adventure. A new tire was immediately installed when I returned from our trip.

Our Leader Greg

Members who do not often have a chance to get together bonded around the pool area and at lunch stops. On one occasion the hotel lost water, and several of us used the pool to refresh ourselves that evening. (Sorry about violating the pool sign: "shower before entering the pool".)

As a "newbie" I felt welcomed by the veterans who have ridden the Porterville Ride over the years. For me, it was a once-in-a-lifetime experience. I have a new respect for the riding talent of my fellow BMW companions. A special "thanks" to Greg Dietrich for making this happen.



Seen on the road

This years' riders included Greg Dietrich, Rick Alvarado, Josh Pava, Mike Lynch, Dennis Way, Ed Hummel, John Tyler, Joe Davidson, Bob Lakes, Kurtis Thrasher, Lily Thrasher, Richard Bennett and Ed Kolker.

Photos were contributed by John Tyler, Kurtis Thrasher and Warren Young.

Blue Knights, California VI

Christmas Party

Saturday, December 9, 2023

Embassy Suites, 4550 La Jolla Village Dr., San Diego



**Same great location as last year!
Easy access by Interstates 5 and 805
Convenient indoor parking
Overnight accommodations on site
Breakfast included in hotel rate
Chapter will underwrite part of dinner cost**

**This is the premier annual event for our Chapter
Wrap up the year with friends
Enjoy the holiday season; dress in your finest attire**

**December membership meeting included
Gift exchange with White Elephant fun
Adult beverages on site
Group photo for great memories**

**Submit your reservations and payment now!
Less than two months away!**

Reservation Form

Blue Knights, California VI

2023 Christmas Party

Saturday, December 9, 2023

5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Embassy Suites

4550 La Jolla Village Dr, San Diego, CA

The event will be held in the **Indulge East Room**. Attire is "Holiday Festive" but no weapons or "colors." A short business meeting will be conducted, and we will be announcing the awards for the 2023 Chapter CA VI Blue Knight and Lord/Lady Knight of the Year.

The Christmas Party will include a voluntary gift exchange. If you wish to participate, bring a "male" or "female" gift to exchange. The suggested gift price is around \$25. **Please, no gag gifts.** (See the included page for meal descriptions and gift exchange procedures.)

Parking fees and gratuity are included in the meal price. CA VI is underwriting a portion of the cost for our Blue Knight members

Members are free to book rooms, and can negotiate individually for better rates (AAA, AARP, govt, or other group rates)

Blue Knight member: _____	\$ 60	\$ _____
Name of Guest: _____	\$ 60	\$ _____
Additional Guests: _____	@\$85 each	\$ _____
	Total amount:	\$ _____

Meal Request:

Beef _____

Chicken _____

Other _____

Make your check to: **Blue Knights California VI**

Mail your check and this reservation form to:

Blue Knights CA VI c/o Michelle Juanengo

32822 Forgcroft Street

Menifee, California 92584

Deadline for payment is November 18, 2023. Late reservations cannot be guaranteed.



It's that time again! Special Blue Knights

They walk among you



It is not too early to think about recognizing a brother or sister Blue Knight for their contributions. We see them often. We appreciate what they do to improve the quality of the Chapter and of our members. What we don't often do is tell them how we feel, and that is the point of this message.

We know our elected officers have committed to serve the Chapter as outlined in their roles and responsibilities. We are lucky to have a qualified, dedicated Board of Directors. But this is about more than that.

Appointed, non-elected volunteers also deserve recognition. They step up to handle auxiliary functions that keep the Chapter running well. For example, Welfare & Morale, Webmaster, Ride Coordinator and Quartermaster positions help make things happen. Working on committees, hosting or assisting at events, and volunteering to do hands-on tasks make for a healthy Chapter. We could not be as great as we are without them.

You all know someone in the Chapter who gives generously of their time. They often represent our Chapter at gatherings or official events. They may lead rides, take photos at events, or step up to help on short notice.

Now is the time to recognize these Blue Knights with a nomination for Chapter Awards.

The Christmas Dinner on December 9th will be a celebration of Christmas holidays, a gift-exchange and a wonderful dinner. We get to dress up and enjoy the season with our friends.

We will present recognition awards to the Chapter Blue Knight of the Year, and The Lord / Lady Blue Knight of the Year.

Winners of the Chapter awards will be forwarded to the Southwest Conference Awards Committee for Conference-wide recognition.

Here are the criteria for the awards:

Blue Knight of the Year is a member in good standing, has a high participation level in the

Chapter and supports its activities. Demonstrating a positive image of the Blue Knights and the motorcycling community. Works at all times to improve relationships between law enforcement community and general public. Maintains fraternal spirit relating to other Blue Knights.

Lord / Lady Knight of the Year given to spouse or significant other of a Blue Knight. Has high participation level in the Chapter, supports activities, supports law enforcement community. Demonstrates a positive image of the Blue Knights, works to improve relationship between motorcycling law enforcement community and public, guided by fraternal spirit relating to Blue Knights.

We all know brother and sister Blue Knights who qualify. Take a moment and nominate them. It is easy:

- Use "Memo" format (date, to, from, subject)
- Review qualifications based upon award criteria.
- List examples of nominee doing these criteria.
- Submit via Email or "hard copy" to Chapter President.
- Do this on or before the October 8, 2022 membership meeting.

Forms are on the pages following this article.

We have a healthy Blue Knight Chapter, with an active membership. Recognition of our deserving members perpetuates the fraternal spirit, and rewards those who contribute to our success. You know who they are, now let them know you appreciate them.

Your Board of Directors can help with creating the nomination, if necessary. We will be available to discuss any aspects of the nominations between now and November.

Nomination CA VI Blue Knight of the Year

Blue Knight of the Year is a member in good standing, has a high participation level in the Chapter and supports its activities. Demonstrating a positive image of the Blue Knights and the motorcycling community. Works at all times to improve relationships between law enforcement community and general public. Maintains fraternal spirit relating to other Blue Knights.

To: President, California VI

Today's date _____

From: _____

Name of nominee: _____

Give examples of:

High participation level in the Chapter

Supports activities

Demonstrates positive image of Blue Knights and motorcycling community

Improves relationships between Law Enforcement and general public

Maintains fraternal spirit relating to other Blue Knights

(Use additional pages, if necessary)

Nomination
CA VI Lord / Lady Blue Knight of the Year

Lord / Lady Knight of the Year given to **spouse or significant other** of a Blue Knight. Has **high participation level in the Chapter, supports activities, supports law enforcement community. Demonstrates a positive image of the Blue Knights, works to improve relationship between motorcycling law enforcement community and public, guided by fraternal spirit relating to Blue Knights.**

To: President, California VI

Today's date _____

From: _____

Name of nominee: _____

Give examples of:

Relationship to Blue Knight member

High participation level in the Chapter

Supports law enforcement community

Demonstrates positive image of the Blue Knights

Improves relationship between motorcycling law enforcement community and public

Fraternal spirit relating to Blue Knights

(Use additional pages if necessary)



A Blue Knight Connection

Terry Bennett training and competition event

By Richard Bennett



Officer Terry Bennett

Arriving at the Oceanside parking lot, my first impression was the huge magnitude of the event. A large stage and PA system were on site with dozens of motor homes and trailers. Portable toilets, tables chairs and pop-up shades were in place at various locations. Police motorcycles were parked all around the perimeter.

Thousands of pylons were laid out on about an acre of parking lot, with a seemingly impossible maze of patterns. Eighty active-duty Motorcycle Officers were gearing up for practice rounds at the 21st Terry Bennett Memorial Training and Competition.

Presented by the San Diego County Motorcycle Officers Association, this event draws competition from all over the southern part of the United States. Officers and Deputies were present from Nevada, Arizona and several counties in California. Rules require participants to compete in full on-duty dress and equipment. It was amazing to see the riders in full uniform complete the intricate, tight patterns riding motorcycles with long guns, radar, batons, and side arms.

This two-day event is run rain or shine. On the first day, participants could practice the main course as often as they wanted. On the second day, the scored competition included the southern (main) portion and a previously unriden second area on the north side of the field. Riders got one free trip through the pylons, and could buy additional tries for \$5. No matter how many runs, their best time was their score for the event, so the more runs the better their chances for winning. All money collected by the SDCOMA goes to charity.



Part of south course



Chief Sadler

This year's event was hosted by the Oceanside Police Department. At the opening ceremony on Saturday, **Chief Kedrick Sadler** welcomed riders at the beginning of competition. SDCMOA President **Jerry Kriebel** was the Master of Ceremonies as well as a competitor in the events. Jerry was assisted by a host of volunteers. His wife **Stacy**, mother-in-law retired lieutenant **Joyce Edgar** and her husband as well as SDCMOA members carried the most responsibility. Adding to the SDCMOA members, volunteers were recruited from Vulcan Riders, Patriot Guard and Blue Knights, among others.

Each year the course is changed from the previous year. Arriving on Wednesday prior to the event, the staff coordinated the placement of temporary fencing and thousands of pylons and cones on the course. Cones are laid out in precise measurements, with each cone marked on the pavement in case of displacement. (Just touching a cone resulted in disqualification of a riders' run.) Start / finish locations are established and marked on the pavement for precise timing.

Day one: The "south course" was opened at 0700 hours. Each rider was assigned a number, which was marked on their motorcycle windshield. This number was their identification for the entire two-day event. Of the participants present, only one agency had full size Harley Davidsons. All other motorcycle were BMW's. Noteworthy were the two BMW GS models from Escondido PD and the one female competitor from Coronado PD. Also, San Diego Police **Captain Alberto Leos** made several unofficial runs through the south course. A very skilled rider, and on a PD motorcycle with "Captain" on the fairing.

Music played on the PA system, and volunteers were stationed throughout the course, replacing cones and helping to right downed motorcycles. Although the first day saw about 12 riders drop their motorcycles, the talent and skill was amazing. Day one did not include the most popular events: Tethered riders, four-man competition and the slow ride.



Day two: This was the “Main Event”. The presentation of the American flag was done with the backdrop of the sweetest rendition of the National Anthem, played on a trumpet by a uniformed Fire Fighter. VIPs addressed those assembled, and the riders received final instructions. This time, in case of a spill, riders were not allowed to be assisted in righting their motorcycles, as they were on day one.

After each rider completed the south course, they went to the north course. Riders were allowed one free pass through the cones, and then paid extra to ride as many times as they wanted. Blue Knights **Rick Carlson** and **Jack Knish** were the time-keepers and scorers of the tethered event, with Blue Knights **Chuck Belletti** and **Richard Bennett** at the slow ride. The four-man event was scored by retired SDPD motor officer **Greg Jebb** and his partner.

The **Tethered event** tied two riders together with a cord. The cord could not be broken during competition, causing the riders to be in perfect synchronization as they did a U-turn to the right, followed by a U-turn to the left. As with all events, this was timed.



The **Slow ride** was just that: the slowest time through a course that included three tight turns. **Note the orange tether**



The **four-man event** had four riders start in a line, with the lead rider changing as the group navigated several circles. At the end, the first rider had worked from first position, through the line and back to first position again.

Sometime around 1300 hours, a rain squall came through. Brief high winds and significant rain made the north course very wet. Water puddled in several areas of the course, making competition impossible. Fortunately, the riders had all completed the north course, and after a pause, the riders elected to continue on the south course until the end of the day.

The end of day two included a banquet dinner and competition awards. Traditionally the SDCMOA posts winning rider information on their website: <http://sandiegocountymotors.org>

Our Blue Knights wore their vests all day, each day. We were well received by everyone there, who appreciated our help. As a former motor officer, this was a catharsis moment, and I am looking forward to helping again.

Blue Knights who helped at the 2023 Terry Bennett Training and Competition were: **Jack Knish, Chuck Belletti, Richard Bennett and Rick Carlson**



The San Diego County Motor Officers Association was founded in 1981 by San Diego Police Motorcycle **Sergeant Willie P. Smith** and several area law enforcement motorcycle officers. It has been incorporated as a 501 (c7) non-profit organization. Members include past and present active duty and retired motorcycle officers in the county of San Diego.

The SDCMOA supports and sponsors various law enforcement charity organizations. Each year the SDCMOA hosts the San Diego County Memorial Law Enforcement breakfast, the San Diego County Memorial Ceremony, and the Terry Bennett Memorial Police Motorcycle Training and Competition. For more information, visit their website.

The members of Blue Knights California VI - San Diego, are honored to support the following charities. Donations are encouraged.



<https://thewishesgrantedfoundation.com/>



<https://nextstepservicedogs.org/>

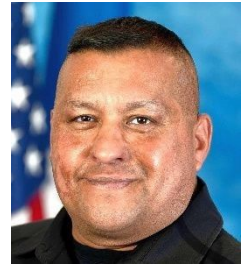


FINAL HONOR
*Horse-Drawn Funeral Carriage
At Miramar National Cemetery*

<https://www.finalhonor.net/>



FOR EXCLUSIVE USE OF BK CA VI MEMBERS



ARTURO ROMERO



\$45



\$10



\$45



\$10



\$10



\$10



\$5



\$10



\$10

The above items are immediately available from the Quarter Master. Contact Arturo at the monthly meetings or by email.

Submit your Blue Knight articles to the Knightly News

The Knightly News is published monthly by Blue Knights California VI. All members are encouraged to submit articles. Articles deemed appropriate include but are not limited to: articles regarding motorcycle-oriented stories, personal travel, police functions or informational / technical topics.

As a reminder, any submissions of re-printed articles must clearly give credit to the original author. Copyrighted material must have permission of the author to be eligible. This can be remedied by writing up an outline of the article and by referencing the original author.

Articles that are deemed inappropriate for publication include and are not limited to: articles regarding controversial, personal choices, religious positions or advocacy for questionable action. Questions about material that does not fall clearly within the guidelines will be brought to the attention of the Chapter President by the Editor, for a decision of appropriateness. If necessary, the Board may review the article and make a decision to publish or not to publish.

Submit articles to Editor: electrotalk2610@outlook.com

DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES

SUNDAY WEEK AFTER MEMBERSHIP MEETING

UPCOMING RIDES



NOVEMBER KNIGHTS
November 16 - 19
2023

BLUE KNIGHTS
ARIZONA VI

** No meeting, No agenda, - Just Brotherhood
** Guided ride with lunch Saturday
** Multiple restaurants, bars and shopping
all walkable from the hotel

THU, NOV 16 - NOV 19
**7th Annual November Knights
Gathering**

✓ **Going** ▾

Have a ride or event you would like listed here? Send your flyer and information to: electrotalk2610@outlook.com