

THE KNIGHTLY NEWSLETTER

Blue Knights © California VI



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MAY 2023



You only live once, but if you do it right, once is enough.

Mae West

MEMBERSHIP
MEETING DATE
June 10, 2023

Featured in
this edition



Poker Chip drawing was held. Alan Wheelers name was drawn. Since Alan was present, he won the \$5.

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 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

[Shari Stegall](#)

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

[Richard Bennett](#)

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

2023 Southwest Conference, Las Vegas, Nevada



Fellowship. Brotherhood. Honor. Comradery. Just a few of the words I would use to describe the 2023 Southwest Conference in Las Vegas.

Over 200 people at the banquet. 18 of 21 Chapters represented. 16 Chapters from outside our conference represented. It was an amazing time. Our Chapter was well represented and we were in the running for the award for having the most members from a single Chapter at the conference (Cal X won again). If we had a few more members, I think we would have won.

We had 26 bikes in one convoy when we rode into Vegas. We were joined by brothers from CAIV and CAXVII. It was quite impressive seeing everyone flying the colors! So for those members I don't get to see often or at all, or are proud members but don't ride as much or at all, its all good. You can still come to our monthly breakfasts, our picnic, our annual Poker Run, our Christmas party, and any other event we attend. We had members drive their cars to Las Vegas, so not riding a motorcycle does not detract from the good times. We would just love to spend time with you. Blue Knights from everywhere have the same feeling – unity!

I look forward to next year's conference in Colorado Springs. In the meantime, we have plenty to do right here in San Diego, so let's get to it! Stay safe and RWP!



Ride briefing by Dave Navarro



Day ride to Pioneer Saloon



VICE-PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Alan Wheeler, Vice-President



Notes from the Southwest Conference

Here is some of the info I collected at the general membership meeting (May 10). I learned from this meeting:

1. 18 Chapters present at this SWC—including many from outside of SWC.
2. All Colorado chapters present at this SWC—a first in recent memory.
3. Next SWC awarded to CO VI, of Colorado Springs. **Scott "Scooter" Deeds** is the charismatic President of CO VI. His phone # is 719-641-2137. Registration costs are pending. Dates are June 16-20, 2024.
4. Three BK International candidates gave in-person presentations at this meeting.

Karen Borza running for International Secretary. 28 yrs. with the BK's and current member of Florida XXX.

Jim Trachta running for North America VP. 31 years on-the-job Police experience. Currently Chapter VP for Florida XXX, in the Daytona area.

Cal Ennals running for North America VP. Currently VP for a New Jersey Chapter (unknown which one).

5. Three BK International candidates gave prepared remarks, read by **Salvador "Sal" Quesada**.

DJ Alvarez running for President.

Rory Mac Connell running for President.

Glen Wheat running for Secretary.

6. There is a new SWC website: bk-swc.org

7. CA VI very own **Jorge Ortiz** gave a short speech as SWC International Representative.

8. 2025 SWC may be hosted by New Mexico VI?

9. Today was **John "Juan Lopez" Lopotosky's** birthday.

NV I hosted one guided ride to the Chicken Ranch Brothel, located in Pahrump NV.

NV I also prepared four self-guided rides to:

1. Valley of Fire State Park
2. Mt Charleston Lodge and Cabins
3. Hoover Dam
4. Red Rock Canyon Scenic Drive

The Tuscany Suites and Casino was a fantastic conference location. So clean. So reasonably priced.



May 13, 2023 MINUTES

Call to Order: Chapter President Ken Smith at 0900 Hours

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Introductions/Guests:

Blue Knights Pledge (**Read aloud by Ken**)

"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. SWC – my review
2. John Lopotosky interjected a brief history on the Blue Knights Pledge, written by Jerry Bryant
3. Christmas Party Update – contract has been signed, final cost not too far above last year, quoted currently for 30 people, hope to get more! Will publish final numbers soon and calculate cost for each member to attend. Will advise Chuck the amount of the deposit check to be sent.
4. Ride Out Together, hugely successful, great road captain Dave Navarro Cal IV
5. SC Blue Knight of the Year – Alan Wheeler!!!!
6. Tina sold \$240 in patches at the SWC!

Vice President Alan Wheeler

1. Poker run update – flyers are out and being distributed
2. Review of SWC
3. AMR – There is a car event at Campland, so ride will stop there for an hour then continue for 2 stops of the August Poker Run, ending in VFW in Imperial Beach
4. Chris Hoyer – asked to take a Betsy Ross style flag to the SWC and have everyone sign it, for use at the Chapter later and other events. Blue line flag was brought to SWC by Alan.

Treasurer Chuck Belletti

1. Financial Update
2. Update on changing banks – will take a week or two to get new checks, new bank is B of A
3. Corporate name on account is too long, will get a fictitious business license name to shorten it for check writing and receiving.

4. Currently no debit card with account
5. Square account has been changed over; John Lopotosky will continue to help with that account
6. Will mail new check to Arturo for jersey refund, Arturo never received
7. Fiscal status (checking and savings combined)
8. Review of SWC – Hotel was GREAT, probably the best ever for a SWC

Chapter Directors:

Past President John Lopotosky

1. John is ordering name tags for Chapter members who don't have them and for Board members without Title tags.
2. We need to finalize this year's charity donations so the chapter can vote at our next meeting, will bring motion to next meeting. Discussed current charities, dropping the COPS Charity. Donating to Wishes GRANTED, Next Step Service Dogs and Final Honors. John asked to have Next Steps Service Dogs to come to a meeting. Each to receive \$650.
 - a. John made a motion on dollar amount, Seconded by Bill Craw, passes unanimously.
3. Establish a committee to identify raffle prizes so we can order tickets. Suggest a gift certificate to 5.11 as one prize, cash prize and Yeti cooler.
4. Review of SWC

Ray Juanengo

1. Feels 100% better after surgery, thank you for Grub Hub gift card
2. Michelle discussed the MAY Ride, May 20th – We have been offered to put up a free recruiting booth, do we want it? There will be 70 vendors, John will be there and bring easy up. Last one low turnout with only 2 cops stopping by but we will try again.
3. Michelle asked for 2 volunteers for poker stops, still need at least one more
4. Review of SWC – Friends you haven't met yet!!

Richard Bennett (Safety Officer)

1. Feedback on member spotlight; who will be next? Everyone made positive comments on the Mike Wagner spotlight, Ken Smith volunteered to go next.
 - a. Michelle suggested spouses to be spotlighted as well, unanimous.
2. Anything for "News you can use"? It has been a couple of months
3. Review of SWC
 - a. Impressed with Dave Navarro, ride captain Cal IV who routed us to Vegas and back complete with full Safety briefs, following Blue Knights ride protocols to the letter and then some!
 - b. During a day ride to the Hoover Dam there was a checkpoint for weapons, no one from SWC advised of this.
4. John mentioned both our website and newsletter were recognized at the SWC as models of how to do it right!

Mike Harrison

1. There are 2 ALR Chapters with rides coming up, Chapter 364 in Santee on May 6th and Chapter 555 Midway City.
2. Mike Harrison updated us on his recent hospitalization, he too had a heart issue like Ray and will be back to 10% soon!

Secretary Shari Stegall

1. Excused

Staff:

Safety/Risk Management – Richard Bennett

1. Everyone should read the BK Rider Handbook, it is very well done
2. Semi-Truck safety demo at SWC was very well done, extremely important for drivers and riders to know all the limitations on the road with visuals and positioning.
 - a. Bill Crow mentioned that even at 60 feet behind a semi, they still cannot see riders
 - b. Wendy Cross mentioned the same limitations apply to buses as well!

Webmaster – Stephen Roche

1. Steve has been recruiting friends from SDPD, inquired about an info flyer for recruiting to hand out. John Lopotosky has digital versions and will provide. Specific locations like police stations to recruit/advertise.
2. Richard Bennett suggested the Chapter do more by advertising in the DSA and SDPOA magazines
3. Steve and his wife are moving to North Carolina, will continue membership and webmaster duties. Wife's transfer happened sooner than expected.

Director Emeritus – Bill Crow

1. Review of Southwest Conference

Quarter Master Arturo Romero

1. Review of SWC

Ride Coordinator Marcus Sanchez

1. Will be out 2 months for shoulder surgery

Michelle Juanengo (Morale/Welfare Coordinator)

1. Please notify Michelle if anyone is sick/ill/ hospitalized/in need of assistance
2. Review of SWC

Jorge Ortiz – SWC International Rep

1. Next SWC in Colorado Springs, June 16-20 2024
2. This year's SWC went very well!

Good of the order: None

Poker Chip Drawing:

50 – 25/25 Winners:

Motion to Adjourn by: Bill Crow

Seconded by: Mike Manen

Meeting Adjourned at: 1000

Next Meeting:

0900 Hours – Broken Yolk

June 10, 2023

2023 Blue Knights Southwest Conference

Las Vegas, Nevada

Overview and comments by Richard Bennett

For Blue Knights, participation in an annual Conference is more than being present at the event site. It begins when we leave the house to go to the event, and ends when we return home.

Travel to the event.

California VI members gathered at the home of **President Ken Smith** and his wife **Patti**. Ken and Patti hosted with bagels and refreshments while members arrived. Nine riders and an SUV left to join Ride Coordinator **David Navarro** from California IV.

Dave Navarro coordinated three Blue Knight chapters into one large contingency to arrive in Las Vegas together. He worked with Chapters 6 and 17 to meet along the route. After all three chapters joined together, we had 26 motorcycles and three passenger vehicles in our caravan. Arriving at the host resort, Tuscany Suites and Casino, was an inspiring sight.



California 6 members at Ken and Patti Smith's house

The Venue.

Tuscany Suites and Casino had been the site of the 2016 Southwest Conference, which had also been hosted by Nevada 1. Returning to the venue, we found the rooms were large and clean. Tuscany has undergone some renovation since our last visit, and received many compliments from our members.

Tuscany Suites has a pre-registration process that made checking into our rooms faster and easier. A few days before our arrival, Tuscany sent emails to reservation holders with a form to fill out. Once done, all we had to do was show ID and swipe a credit card to get a room assignment. After a long ride, the efficiency was appreciated.

The location was easy to get to, and was within blocks of the Las Vegas Strip. Parking was reserved for over 100 motorcycles in a central location within the facility. Hotel Security was omnipresent, assuring our steeds were safe.

Restaurants and entertainment were on site. Most of us visited the Coffee Shop or Marilyn's Restaurant during our stay. Off-site restaurants were listed in our registration packets as well.

The event.

There were gathering points where you could always find a fellow Blue Knight; the Hospitality room next to the swimming pool and the upstairs registration / raffle prize room. All of the official Blue Knight functions happened on the second floor of the main building. There were only two floors, so it made operating the elevator easy for lieutenants.

Door prize tickets were drawn on the last day of the event, but 50-50 tickets were drawn each night. All winning tickets were posted in the Hospitality Room.

Registration was the simplest I have seen. Pre-registered Knights had only to give their name at the registration desk, and a generous “goody bag” was immediately produced. In addition to the usual lanyard-attached registration card, the bag contained several trinkets that were provided by a motorcycle Law group. Daily activities were listed as well as local attractions. Well done, Nevada 1.

The first full day of activities included a static display of a semi-truck with trailer in the parking lot. Southwest Conference Safety Officer **Jim Jackson** arranged for Ryder trucks and Ryder safety instructors to demonstrate blind spots encountered by truck drivers.



Static display of Semi-truck blind spots



SWC Safety Officer Jim Jackson



Ryder Instructor Kevin Breen

Many of us have frequently encountered large trucks on the highway, not knowing how invisible we were to truck drivers. Blind spots for trucks are far more numerous than for passenger vehicles.

Knights and spouses were individually seated in the driver seat with Ryder safety instructor **Kevin Breen** in the cab. Several motorcycles were positioned around and behind the truck to simulate highway travel. Kevin described how drivers had to react to unexpected motorcycles emerging from blind spots, and gave suggestions on how to safely maneuver in the presence of big rig trucks on the highway. Very enlightening.

The President’s meeting and a “Ladies Paint Night” occurred in the afternoon after the truck demo. A record 18 of 21 Chapters were represented at the 2023 Southwest Conference President’s meeting.

Day two activities included a “Cat house run to Pahrump” and an alternative “Walking Scavenger Hunt” for those not going to the Chicken Ranch. The ride was led by Nevada 1, and was well attended. A tour and lunch were provided at the Chicken Ranch, and evidence photos were taken at the event. Alternative rides were taken by small groups to the Valley of Fire and Hoover Dam. Almost everyone was out on the road and sight-seeing in the Las Vegas area.

Wednesday was the big finale. A general membership meeting was held in the morning, with a few hours for lunch and preparation before the banquet in the evening. Many of us used the time to get our duds ready for the banquet, and get our luggage organized for an early departure the next day.

The Banquet.

No matter how much we enjoy Southwest Conference activities, the Banquet is the major event. It is a time for dressing up, with many Chapters were sporting matching outfits. There is quite a contrast to Blue Knight attire from 20 years ago to now. Back in the day, men wearing a tie was a rarity. Now it is common, complementing the Knights’ lady’s attire.

There were 220 people at the banquet, filling the room. In addition to Southwest Conference chapters, there were 16 “outside” chapters represented as well as several International Board of Director members.

Nevada 1 president **Dave Padilla** was the Master of Ceremony along with Southwest Conference Chairman **Martin Cuesta**. After introduction of VIPs and guests, dinner was served. After the meal, awards were given for Amos Elliot, Lady Knight of the Year and the Blue Knight of the Year. Our own **Alan Wheeler** was awarded Southwest Conference Blue Knight of the Year. After the banquet, Knights took group photos, and mingled together before leaving.



Dave Padilla, Martin Cuesta BKOY Alan Wheeler



California 6 members with Chapter flag

Travel home.

Thursday morning saw lots of activity in the parking lot, as Knights left for home. Once again Dave Navarro gathered our chapters together for the ride home. We left Las Vegas with 21 motorcycles and two passenger vehicles. Stops along the way accommodated the motorcycles with smaller gas tanks. At two of the stops, chapters 17 and 4 split off from the group. By 3pm everyone had arrived home safely.

And finally.

The 2023 Southwest Conference was one of the best ever. Gathering of riders at President Smith's home and the hospitality of Patti Smith before the ride created group camaraderie. The coordination of our group ride by CA IV Ride Coordinator David Navarro was a huge success. The Venue and activities provided by Nevada I included a unique safety presentation and plenty of meaningful activities at the event. The Banquet dinner and meeting was efficiently run and provided a perfect ending to a great event. Our heartfelt thanks to Nevada 1 Blue Knights and their families for a wonderful event.



Nevada I Southwest Conference committee members

Memories from 2023 Blue Knights Southwest Conference

Las Vegas, Nevada

May 7 -11, 2023



Chapters 4, 6 and 17 enroute the Southwest Conference



On the road



Designated parking



Dave Padilla & J T Tenuta



Glenn and Siusan at the Registration Desk



Kevin Breen & Brother Knight



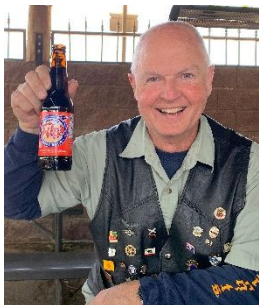
Michelle and Ray Juanengo



Door Prizes (Partial amount)



Chapters 17, 10 and 4 on the road



Here's to good times!

Photos provided by Ron Friend,
Alan Wheeler, Ray Juanengo and
Richard Bennett



Mystery Knight



President's meeting



Banquet Opening



Honor Guard



Pepe Hernandez and Director Ray Juanengo



California 6 with ladies

From Ray Juanengo, Director

It's true what they say in our club. In the Blue Knights, there are no strangers, just friends you haven't yet met. I was fortunate to meet Pepe Hernandez with the BK New Mexico Chapter. A retired Albuquerque PD Sgt and former motor officer, Pepe, like the rest of us still loves riding on two. If you haven't been to a BK Conference, I highly recommend you go. You won't regret the riding and breaking of bread with your brother and sister Blue Knights.

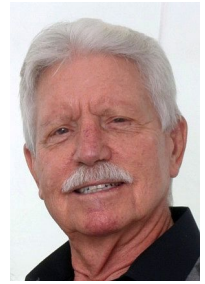


SAFETY MESSAGE

Roll Me Away

Group Riding Done Right

Richard Bennett, Safety Officer



One of the most impressive motorcycle sights is to see is a group of disciplined riders in formation on the highway. You know what I mean; motorcycle officers, or a drill team. Maybe even a civilian motorcycle group like the Blue Knights.

One of the most dangerous motorcycle activities, however, is group riding. Police officers and drill team members know that, and they follow well-rehearsed plans. To that end, Blue Knights International has developed a Group Riding Handbook which is meant to be used by all Blue Knights. That is *our* plan.



The Blue Knights Handbook is a well written description of what to do, how to do it, and who should do it. It is a 13-page easy to read document with plenty of illustrations. Even a lieutenant can understand it.

This Handbook should be required reading for all of us, especially Ride Leaders and Ride Guides. I have been on too many Blue Knight group rides where these simple guidelines were not followed. Our Chapter, and all Blue Knight Chapters should be concerned about this. Why? Let me pontificate.

As a group activity, the Blue Knights are exposed to liability that individuals or non-group activities do not suffer. A Blue Knight group activity assumes that the Chapter endorses the behavior of the Ride Leader and the riders in the group. Assumed by who? Attorneys for the plaintiff.



We are a fraternal group. As such, we are pretty casual about our rides together. An after-meeting Ride Leader may assume the ride participants don't need reminding of familiar briefing topics. As a result, the pre-ride info is often incomplete or skipped altogether. Important dynamics, such as communications and how to handle splits in the group are left to the individual rider. Without the guidelines or directions from the Ride Leader, members make up their own remedies. Speeding, running signals and taking unnecessary risks

are common. It is these off-script behaviors that lead to problems, from negative image to collisions.

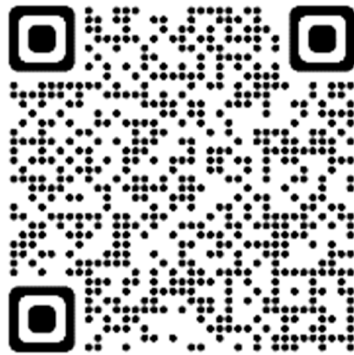
To be clear: Ride Leaders and ride participants who know and follow the Blue Knight Group Riding Handbook have the support of Blue Knights International. It was they who created the Riding Handbook, issued on July 30, 2010. Therefore, following the guidelines does two important things: The group ride is safer, and any issues arising from rider behavior is supported by Blue Knights International. Safer riding and minimized liability; what could be better than that?

Having led multiple group rides in my 34 years with Blue Knights, I keep these things in mind when I lead: I take responsibility for the welfare of every rider following me; I make the guidelines clear to everyone with a pre-ride briefing (anyone who breaks guidelines is on their own); I imagine that I am the head of a long snake, keeping the line in mind when I do traffic maneuvers; I always try to use a “sweep” or “back door” rider with radio communication; I count headlights so I can know when riders get separated and I need to slow or pull over to regroup; If the group activity is over at the end of the ride, I make the announcement that riders are on their own again. That includes those who want adult beverages – they are no longer a Blue Knight responsibility.

Done correctly, group riding can bring a lot of positive feelings. The comradery of friendship and the informal mentoring by more experienced riders enhance the benefits of membership. That *is* the Blue Knight experience.

To access the Blue Knight International Group Riding Handbook, go to:
[International Group Riding Handbook.pdf \(bkswc.org\)](http://bkswc.org/International%20Group%20Riding%20Handbook.pdf)

Or scan this QR code:



**Learn it.
Live it.
Love it.**

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

Old Bull, Young Bull

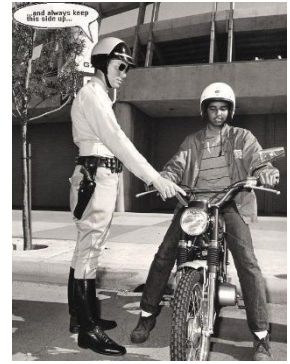


Road Wisdom

There is a difference between wisdom and knowledge.
Noah Webster

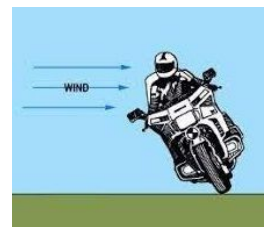
Tips from a Veteran Rider

Richard Bennett, Director



Some things are worth sharing. Here is my list from 60 years of riding. May your journeys be better for it.

- Never follow behind a truck carrying cattle or sheep.
- Always wear gloves.
- Buy and use a good helmet.
- Never ride one-handed. (Looks “cool”, until something unexpected happens.)
- Don’t leave your helmet on your motorcycle when you walk away.
- Don’t leave your jacket on your motorcycle, either.
- Drink or Ride; Don’t drink AND ride.
- Stay out of blind spots.
- Don’t pass over double lines.
- When in a group, follow the leader (even if he takes a wrong turn).
- Stay in formation when group riding.
- If you want to lag behind, do it from the rear.
- Check your bike when you wash it.
- Wash it often.
- Keep good tires on your bike, and check inflation levels before each ride.
- Tie “luggage” securely on your bike; Should stay with motorcycle if you have a spill.
- Don’t use Bungee Cords to secure luggage (Dangerous when stretched and snaps back into your face.)
- Tie Down Straps are best way to secure luggage.
- Don’t ride side-by-side in the same lane (Unless you are Motor Cop or Drill Team.)
- Always use BOTH brakes, especially in emergencies.
- Don’t trust vehicles with turn signals on.
- Don’t trust left-turning vehicles either.
- Never stop learning about riding techniques.
- Practice, practice, practice!
- Don’t split lanes faster than 10 MPH (Not 10 MPH over the speed limit.)
- Always carry rain gear.
- Don’t try to keep up with aggressive riders; You will quickly be beyond your skill level.
- Adjust your speed in corners; don’t be surprised by unseen hazards.
- Watch for animals; they are everywhere at all hours. (Especially dawn and dusk)
- Don’t ride in a thunderstorm.
- Stay hydrated, especially when crossing the desert.
- Eating a large meal and immediately riding will cause you to be drowsy.
- Don’t ride with the chin bar up on convertible helmets
- Pack luggage with the lowest center of gravity.
- Learn how to ride in high winds.
- Keep jacket or long sleeves on when crossing the desert, no matter what the temperature.
- Carry a spare ignition key.
- Carry extra batteries that power the ignition key.
- Remain calm if a bee enters your clothing. Stop safely, then deal with the bee. (A sting is better than crashing)





A note from the Editor

Why the Deadline?

Publishing the Knightly News is a labor of love. By that I mean it is more than assembling pages into a newsletter format and presenting it to the membership. It is a measured process which leads to the finished product.

Back in the day, my journalism class was taught the basics of writing and producing news stories. No matter what the story, or the complexity, there was always a deadline.

Deadlines are important. They establish a predictable publishing date, and they motivate writers to get their assignments in on time. Deadlines are necessary so that assignments are completed on time and the publication dates are predictable. (Can you imagine getting your daily newspaper without deadlines?)

As the Newsletter Editor I have a routine that assures timely publication of the Knightly News with a meaningful content. As you will see, I can not do it alone. Here is some insight to how the Knightly News becomes your monthly newsletter.

I have templates. In the beginning I spent a long-time developing banners, photos and logos that are frequently used. Once established, it allows me to recreate regular pages in an efficient manner. You can see the templates in the Cover and reoccurring pages. Templates are a great time saver.

I work on newsletters two months ahead. The newsletter you see today started being developed 60 days ago. Things like the Safety articles and Road Wisdom are researched and written; and then re-written and edited until they can be as accurate and error-free as possible. Also, articles that are submitted by members for publication take time to edit and format. I work with members to present the best possible article that will have their names on it.

As you can see, a lot goes into making the Knightly News your newsletter. Conservatively, I put about 20 hours into each issue. And that is why deadlines are important.

I aim to publish the monthly edition one week after the monthly general membership meeting. By the meeting date I have done 90 percent of the heavy lifting. The last articles to be added before publication are the Presidents' message and the meeting minutes.

Once complete, I send the draft to our President for review. With his approval, I ask the Webmaster to put the newsletter on our website. I also send notices to various other Chapter members that the newsletter is available.

So – Hopefully this gives you some insight into why I ask for articles on or before the Sunday of the week following the general membership meeting. It will also explain why late articles will be held until the next month.

Please keep those contributions coming in. I appreciate your help to keep our newsletter current and on time. It is our link to sharing our Chapter with the world.

Richard Bennett, Director
Newsletter Editor



FOR SALE

Treasures and Bargains From our Members



This is a new feature of the Knightly News. Personal ads placed here will be visible via our webpage posting. The postings are free to BK CA VI members.

YOUR AD HERE:

Ads submitted to the "For Sale" page of the Knightly News are intended for the exclusive use of Blue Knights California 6 members.

Guidelines for submitting Ads to the For Sale page of the Knightly News.

1. Name the item with a brief description. (Men's riding jacket, size XL)
2. State the price. (\$75 or best offer)
3. Give details. (Deerskin leather with insulated collar. Like new)
4. Provide at least one photo, but no more than three.
5. List contact information. (Email, text or telephone)
6. State any restrictions. (No trades, text only, etc.)

Instructions:

Compose an email to electrotalk2610@outlook.com

Give description of item(s) as listed above.

Attach photo(s) to the email.

JPG photos are preferred.

Literary license:

Ads may be edited for clarity and space.

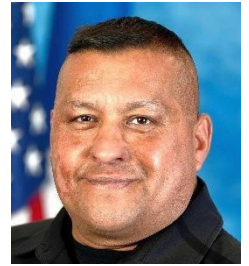
Photos may be cropped or enhanced for best use of space.

Questionable ads will be referred to the Board of Directors for decision.

Ads will run for three months, or less if sold. Ad renewal required after three months.



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.

In the pipeline: Past President Lopotosky is ordering five sets of reflective vest patches at \$70 per set. Additionally, five sets of "LE" and "MC" patches are being ordered at \$20 per set. These will be available from the Quarter Master when they arrive.

Also, John is compiling a list of members who want custom Blue Knight name tags. Contact him by email if you would like to make an order.

UPCOMING RIDES




**BLUE KNIGHTS CA VI
SAN DIEGO**

**2023
LtCol Grant V. Frey, USMC (Ret.)
MEMORIAL POKER RUN**

SATURDAY, AUGUST 19TH
REGISTRATION 0830-0930 hrs | KSU at 0930 hrs

START & END
VFW IMPERIAL BEACH BBQ LUNCH INCLUDED
123 Palm Ave
Imperial Beach,
CA 91932 \$30/rider | \$10/passenger

Raffle prizes & 50/50 | High Hand \$200 | Low Hand \$75




BLUE KNIGHTS

SGT. MAJOR SAM WALLS
USMC (RET)

**ANNUAL
MOTORCYCLE
BENEFIT RUN**

Venue At :
Quaid
25160 Redlands Blvd.
Loma Linda. CA 92354

Date & Time :
23 September, 2023 | 8 AM

Grand Prizes : Tickets \$10
A-Glock or Shotgun

FUN • FOOD • RAFFLE

SINGLE RIDER \$30
DOUBLE RIDER \$40
FIRST RIDERS LEAVE AT 10AM

www.BlueKnightsCA-iv.org

In Honor of Deputy Darnell Calhoun & Isaiah Cordero



**HELLS KITCHEN
MOTORSPORTS BAR & GRILL**

**2023 FIRST
RESPONDERS
Appreciation Day**

ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND
SATURDAY APRIL 22ND 11:00-5:30
BBQ FOOD*VENDORS*RAFFLES
FREE MEAL TO ALL FIRST RESPONDERS

11:30 Flag Ceremony & National Anthem
11:45 Word & Prayer by Pastor Tim Thompson
12:00 Words from Sen. Melissa Melendez, Riverside
County Sheriff Department, CalFire & Local
Representatives
1:30 Live Music & Food Throughout the Night

Live Music By

**Please Come and Show Your
Support!**

FRANKLIN WALL
**RUSS BROWN
MOTORCYCLE ATTORNEYS**

530 Crane St. Lake Elsinore CA 92530