

THE KNIGHTLY NEWSLETTER

Blue Knights © California VI



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MEMBERSHIP MEETING DATE

January 14, 2023



Poker Chip drawing was held. Cameron Nouriani's name was drawn. Since Cameron was not present he did not win the \$20

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 \$25.

December, 2022



Our greatest responsibility is to be good ancestors. (Jonas Salk)

Featured in
this edition





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 Ken Smith by email at: vice_president@bk-cavi.org



CALIFORNIA VI OFFICERS AND STAFF



PRESIDENT

[John Lopotosky](#)

VICE-PRESIDENT

[Ken Smith](#)

SECRETARY

[Shari Stegall](#)

TREASURER

[Chuck Belletti](#)

DIRECTORS

[Richard Bennett](#)

[Mike Harrison](#)

[Ray Juanengo](#)

[Alan Wheeler](#)

MORALE & WELFARE

[Michelle Juanengo](#)

IMMEDIATE PAST-PRESIDENT

[Grant Frey \(Heaven I\)](#)

WEBMASTER

[Stephen Roche](#)

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

[Richard Bennett](#)

RIDE COORDINATOR

[Alan Wheeler](#)

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

John Lopotosky, President



IT HAS BEEN AN HONOR

It has been my distinct honor to serve as chapter president for the past two years. I want to thank the members of the 2020-2022 board and those who volunteered as staff members for all of their support and hard work. It was truly a pleasure to serve with you.

In 2019 I returned to California VI, where I started my Blue Knights journey so many years ago. Little did I know that we, as a chapter, would suffer so many tragic losses in such a short period of time. The sudden losses of Grant, Gary, TC, and Genaro set our world reeling. The worldwide pandemic gripped us, and for close to a year we were unable to meet and fellowship. Throughout these hardships we worked hard to keep the lines of communication open. We used email and ZOOM to keep everyone informed and the chapter afloat.

As we entered 2022, we were able, once again, to gather as a chapter family. Through the efforts of our current members, we recruited new members in the Blue Knights family. These fresh faces brought new ideas and life to the chapter. Members once again began to "Ride with Pride."

It's hard to put into words what you all, and this chapter mean to me. I have had the privilege of serving in so many capacities in my journey as a Blue Knight. Starting as a chapter Quartermaster, Director, Vice-President, and President. Being elected to the Southwest Conference Board as Vice-Chairman West, Chairman and International Representative were some of the greatest honors of my life.

I want to wish the incoming 2023-2024 board the best of luck. Each of you has demonstrated your allegiance to the largest and oldest law enforcement motorcycle club in the world. Each of you makes a difference in this world. For that I am truly grateful. I look forward to seeing what lays ahead.

Fraternally,

John

**BLUE KNIGHTS CA VI
General Membership Meeting**



**December 3, 2022
Minutes
Chapter Christmas Party**

Call to Order: Chapter President John Lopotosky at 1905 Hours

Pledge of Allegiance

Introductions/Guests

"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 John Lopotosky

1. John thanked the chapter for the honor of serving as president for the 2020 – 2022 term
2. New member Raheem was sworn in by Alan Wheeler and welcomed to the chapter
3. The 2023-2024 Executive Staff and Board of Directors were sworn in and knighted
 - A. The board consists of:
 - a. President Ken Smith
 - b. Vice-President Alan Wheeler
 - c. Secretary Shari Stegall
 - d. Treasurer Chuck Belletti
 - e. Immediate Past President John Lopotosky
 - f. Director Ray Juanengo
 - g. Director Richard Bennett
 - h. Director Mike Harrison
4. President Certificates of Merit were present to:

Richard Bennett
Janice Bennett
Tina Lopotosky
Arturo Romero
5. Blue Knight and Lady Knight of the Year
 - A. Alan Wheeler and Betsy Wheeler were selected as Blue Knight and Lady Knight of the Year for 2022. They have demonstrated dedication to the chapter through their continued efforts of support.
6. Upcoming Events
 - A. 2023 SWC – Las Vegas May 7-11, 2023

BLUE KNIGHTS CA VI
General Membership Meeting

Good of the order

Gun Raffle Winners:

Announced at meeting

Winners notified by telephone

Poker Chip Drawing: Cameron Nouriani – Not Present

50 – 25/25 Winners: Mike Wagner and Wendy Cross

Raffle Prizes

White Elephant Gift Exchange

Motion to Adjourn by: Alex Cross

Meeting Adjourned at: 2110 Hours

Next Meeting:

0900 Hours January 14, 2023

Broken Yolk

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 IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING MEMBERSHIP MEETING



MANAGING RISK

By Richard Bennett, Safety Officer CA VI

Holidays and a New Year

Beware the Ides of December



Holidays are a time of reflecting and gratitude. As Blue Knights we have had a year of riding and sharing time with friends. We have spent a lot of time on the roads and highways, enjoying our sport of motorcycle riding.

We will remember our times at monthly meetings, after-meeting rides, attendance at the Southwest Conference in El Centro, Summer Picnic at the Wheelers home, November Knights in Arizona and of course the Christmas party.

We enjoy year-round riding weather in southern California which is the envy of other states. That means we have more time to be on the road. The same is true for the other traffic that share our roads. And that is this month's message for managing risk.

Southern California is known for traffic congestion, especially around large cities and during traffic rush hours. There are also many aggressive drivers that don't have an expectation of enforcement. Many drivers have various levels of sobriety or driving skills, especially during the Holiday season, from December to New Years. And there are the ever-increasing number of driver distractions.

Crashes increase during this time of year, bringing injuries or worse. During my law enforcement career my department experienced an uptick in collisions and impaired drivers during December. The California Highway Patrol also increases staffing during this time because they recognize our congested highways will have a higher percentage of impaired and distracted drivers.

So, as you enjoy the holiday season with all it's decorations, family time, sports events and good memories, keep this in mind: Driving and riding on the highways, especially during this time of year, requires your undivided attention and best defensive driving skills.

Having said all that, I wish for you the best of the holiday season and a prosperous New Year. I am grateful for my 32 years as a Blue Knight, and the opportunity to serve as a Director, Safety Officer and Newsletter Editor for our Chapter.



(This is not me)

Blue Knights CA VI

2022 Christmas Party

Embassy Suites



Sharing the Spirit



Lovely Ladies



Handsome Men



Janice & Richard



Heaven I Table



Betsy & Alan



BK News You Can Use

The Town Crier

by Sal Quezada SWC Secretary



The SWC Winter Gathering (formerly the Buster Hummel Palm Springs Winter Gathering) is our next event.

Traditionally this event is held in Palm Springs, but this coming year the SWC Board, in an attempt to spice things up, has moved the gathering to **Lake Havasu City, AZ**. This is a must if you still need to go to a Winter Gathering. Not only will you get a chance to partake in the tremendous camaraderie of your fellow Blue Knights from all over the SWC, but you will enjoy the beautiful scenery, rides, and delicious food of the area.

The Hampton Inn in Lake Havasu City, AZ. Is taking reservations for the **Winter Gathering on February 3-5, 2023**. You can book a room with 1 king or 2 queen beds for **\$143 a night** plus tax. Hit the link below:

[HTTPS://WWW.HILTON.COM/EN/BOOK/RESERVATION/DEEPLINK/?CTYHOCN=HIIAZHX&GROUP_CODE=CHHBK2&ARRIVALDATE=2023-02-03&DEPARTUREDATE=2023-02-05&CID=OM,WW,HILTONLINK,EN,DIRECTLINK&FROMID=HILTONLINKDIRECT](https://www.hilton.com/en/book/reservation/deeplink/?CTYHOCN=HIIAZHX&GROUP_CODE=CHHBK2&ARRIVALDATE=2023-02-03&DEPARTUREDATE=2023-02-05&CID=OM,WW,HILTONLINK,EN,DIRECTLINK&FROMID=HILTONLINKDIRECT)

Let's all go to Las Vegas for our **Annual Southwest Conference May 7-11, 2023**, hosted by Las Vegas, Nevada I.

This **Southwest Conference** looks excellent, so please attend and participate. First, visit the NV-I webpage for more information. Then, see the link below, register, and make hotel reservations. Blue Knights Member Registration Cost is **\$120.00 until December 31, 2022**. Then it will be \$145.00 starting January 1, 2023. So please hit the link below and register now.

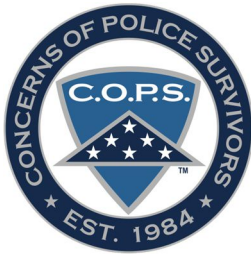
[Blue Knights of Las Vegas.](#)

The SWC is full of extraordinary events. Another exciting event that has gotten high marks for fun is the **Colorado State Rally held in Gunnison Co.** this past June. I haven't been to this event yet, but I hope to make it there next year. The host for next year's event is **Colorado II on June 9-11, 2023**, at the Alpine Inn and Suites of Gunnison, CO.

Those are some of the main events and gatherings around the Southwest Conference in the coming year. I look forward to seeing you all at least one of these exciting gatherings. Take care, my friends.

Ride With Pride! Sal Quezada, SWC Secretary, Blue Knights LEMC

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



<https://www.concernsofpolicesurvivors.org/>



<https://nextstepservicedogs.org/>



<https://thewishesgrantedfoundation.com/>



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

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

UPCOMING RIDES



SWC WINTER GATHERING

Lake Havasu City, Arizona

February 3 – 5, 2023

For lodging information go to:

[HTTPS://WWW.HILTON.COM/EN/BOOK/RESERVATION/DEEPLINK/?CTYHOCN=HIIAZHX&GROUPCODE=CHHBK2&ARRIVALDATE=2023-02-03&DEPARTUREDATE=2023-02-05&CID=OM,WW,HILTONLINK,EN,DIRECTLINK&FROMID=HILTONLINKDIRECT](https://www.hilton.com/en/book/reservation/deeplink/?CTYHOCN=HIIAZHX&GROUPCODE=CHHBK2&ARRIVALDATE=2023-02-03&DEPARTUREDATE=2023-02-05&CID=OM,WW,HILTONLINK,EN,DIRECTLINK&FROMID=HILTONLINKDIRECT)

ANNUAL SOUTHWEST CONFERENCE

Las Vegas, Nevada

May 7 – 11, 2023

Hosted by Nevada I

Visit NV I Webpage for more info

COLORADO STATE RALLY

Gunnison, Colorado

June 9 – 11, 2023

Hosted by Colorado II

Alpine Inn & Suites, Gunnison, CO.