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MEMBERSHIP MEETING DATE April 8, 2023



Featured in this edition







Poker Chip drawing was held. Mike Manen's name was drawn. Since was Mike was present, he won the \$35.

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: vice_president@bk-cavi.org



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 Communication



Greetings my fellow Blue Knights,

Communication. Communication is everything. It will make or break your business, your relationships, and for first responders, could be life threatening.

We are blessed to have such a great chapter and for all the folks in it who make it tick. What I would love to improve upon is our communication with our members who don't or can't come to meetings or events, and don't have many or any personal relationships with other members who are more active.

I know we have done email surveys in the past to see if there is anything we could do as a chapter to entice folks to be more active, or assist members in some way to allow them to be more active. I also suggested some time ago maybe during our AMRs we swing by a member's home and "fly the colors" for those who can't ride. We have also done the same and delivered membership cards. Any and all suggestions are welcome. The only hurdle stopping us is time and a number of members to step up and "make it happen!"

The Annual Southwest Conference is coming up in May in Lost Wages, Trailer Park to the Stars (otherwise known as Las Vegas). I know many of you are going, and I hope to see even more members at this one than we did at last year's. Those Cal X folks sure know how to throw a good time based on last year's event, and I'm hearing that Nevada I is working hard on making this a great one for the entire conference.

I hope everyone is doing what they need to do to stay safe during all this turbulent rainfall. As for me, I need a new roof. Guess that kitchen remodel for the Mrs. is gonna have to wait lol. Look forward to getting out there and riding with you all. RWP, always!

BLUE KNIGHTS CA VI General Membership Meeting



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: Dave Devore, former CAVI Quartermaster who moved to Tennessee

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. Gun Raffle Need suggestions for prizes since Guns no longer an option (YETI, etc)
- 2. Member spotlight need member submissions for newsletter
- 3. Next Month AMR maybe Carlsbad Flower Fields? Need Reservations
- 4. Club photo on deck of USS Midway in the works, stand by, probably a weekday morning

Vice President Alan Wheeler

- 1. 2023 Christmas Party search and costs update, still awaiting Embassy Suites contact
- 2. Venue still hunt in progress restaurants suggested
- 3. Update on August 19, 2023 CAVI Poker Run: The 2023 LtCol Grant V Frey USMC Memorial Poker Run. SAVE THE DATE.
 - a. Getting quotes on food
- 4. Kudos to webmaster Steve on BK CAVI website
- 5. Kudos to Richard Bennet for newsletter
- 6. April 15th is the CVMA ride at Elks Lodge, chapter should support it.

Treasurer Chuck Belletti

1. Financial Update was given.

Secretary Shari Stegall

Excused

BLUE KNIGHTS CA VI General Membership Meeting

Chapter Directors:

John Lopotosky (Past President)

- Next month Chapter needs to decide which charities we will donate to this year, need suggestions.
- 2. BK election year
 - Members need to make sure addresses are correct due to international elections
- 3. 2024 SWC is in Colorado Springs, SWC wants SD as a possible location for 2025. John reminded us we could do it with another Chapter as co sponsor and the event does not have to be in SD proper (Big Bear, etc). Hunt for SD cheap hotels? MEMBER INTEREST IN HOSTING?

Ray Juanengo

- 1. Welcome back Dave Devore, former member who moved and transferred to Tenn. IV.
- 2. Has been attending BIKE Nights at Motorcycle Monkey, great fellowship and brotherhood, next one is next Thursday 3/16. Great networking opportunity.
- 3. MAY Ride for Veterans May 20th, BK CAVI was offered a booth.
- 4. Vulcan Riders BBQs have had great success in doing these to raise money, BK CAVI can try to do the same? Great idea to try.

Richard Bennett (Director and Safety Officer)

- 1. Get AMR info in advance for Newsletter, perhaps even as far out as 4-5 months.
- 2. Recruiting Difficult to get new members, need to pursue venues where it's conducive to recruiting.
- 3. Every member is a potential recruiter, share our Chapter and mission and message with all you meet.
- 4. Its good to always check the website and newsletter.

Mike Harrison

1. Opened discussion about raffle prizes for BK CAVI Poker Run, suggested similar method Am Legion does in obtaining sponsors and donations for prizes. Am Legion gets a signed letter from their president to give to businesses to seek donations for prizes for charity. Works well.

Staff:

Arturo Romero (Quarter Master)

1. Asked we keep Ride Coordinator Marcus Sanchez in prayers as he had a family passing.

Stephen Roche (Webmaster)

1. Heaven I Section underway, will be making tweaks and looking for additional info missing on passing members.

Michelle Juanengo (Morale/Welfare Coordinator)

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

Marcus Sanchez - Ride Coordinator

1. AMR info to Alan

BLUE KNIGHTS CA VI General Membership Meeting

Jorge Ortiz - SWC International Representative

- 1. Election Year, make sure your contact info is up to date with International.
- 2. New Chapters for International very expensive for a license in a new country for the Blue Knights Logo, costs have doubled. Columbia and Mexico trying to start, International to a big budget hit to cover licensing, working on ways to generate funding.

Good of the order:

- SWC is coming up in May, let's get as many members as we can to participate!
- Alan is doing the ride to Yuma on the 18th for Arizona X Poker Run, asked anyone else going to coordinate with him.
- Member Chris Hoyer is now a certified CCW instructor/testing and offered his services to BK CAVI at the good guy rate.

Poker Chip Drawing: Mike Manen

50 - 25/25 Winners: Arturo and Mike Manen

Raffle Prizes: record setting money collected, \$40 each to the 5025/25 winners!

Motion to Adjourn by: Jorge.Ortiz Seconded by: John Lopotosky

Meeting Adjourned at: 0959 Hours, on time, and under budget!

Next Meeting:

0900 Hours – Broken Yolk April 8, 2023



SAFETY MESSAGE

Richard Bennett, Safety Officer



Lane Splitting General Guidelines

This month's message comes from the CHP California Motorcyclist Safety Program

Lane splitting in a safe and prudent manner is not illegal in the state of California.

The term lane splitting, sometimes known as lane sharing, filtering or whitelining, refers to the process of a motorcyclist riding between lanes of stopped or slower moving traffic or moving between lanes to the front of traffic stopped at a traffic light.

Motorcyclists who are competent enough riders to lane split, should follow these general guidelines if choosing to lane split:

- 1) Travel at a speed that is no more than 10 MPH faster than other traffic danger increases at higher speed differentials.
- A speed differential of 10 miles per hour or less allows an alert, competent rider enough time to identify and react to <u>most</u> dangerous situations that can occur.
- The greater the speed differential, the less time a rider has to identify and react to a hazard.
- 2) It is not advisable to lane split when traffic flow is at 30 mph or faster --- danger increases as overall speed increases.
- At just 20 mph, in the 1 or 2 seconds it takes a rider to identify a hazard, that rider will travel approximately 30 to 60 feet before even starting to take evasive action. Actual reaction (braking or swerving) will take additional time and distance.
- Braking and stopping distance varies
- greatly based on a multitude of
- factors (rider, machine and environment).
- As speed increases, crash severity increases.
- 3) Typically, it is safer to split between the #1 and #2 lanes than between other lanes.
- Other road users are more accustomed to motorcycles splitting between the #1 and #2(furthest left) lanes.
- Avoid splitting in lanes near freeway on-ramps and exits.
- Avoid splitting lanes when another motorcycle rider is splitting between other nearby

lanes as cars may make additional room for one rider and accidentally reduce space for another.

- 4) Consider the total environment in which you are splitting, including the width of the lanes, size of surrounding vehicles, as well as roadway, weather, and lighting conditions.
- Some lanes are narrower than others, leaving little room to pass safely. If you can't fit, don't split.
- Some vehicles are wider than others -- it is not advisable to split near wide trucks. If you can't fit, don't split.
- Know the limitations of your motorcycle --- wide bars, fairing and bags require more space between vehicles. If you can't fit, don't split.
- Avoid splitting on unfamiliar roads to avoid surprises such as poor road surfaces.
- Seams in the pavement or concrete between lanes can be hazardous if they are wide or uneven.
- Poor visibility, due to darkness or weather conditions, makes it difficult for riders to see road hazards and makes it more difficult for drivers to see you.
- Help drivers see you by wearing brightly colored protective gear and using high beams during daylight.

5) Be alert and anticipate possible movements by other road users.

- Be very aware of what the cars around you are doing. If a space, or gap, opens up next to your lane, be prepared react accordingly.
- Always be prepared to take evasive action if a vehicle changes lanes.
- Account for inattentive or distracted drivers.
- Riders should not weave back and forth between lanes or ride on top of the line.
- Riders should avoid lingering in blind spots.
- Never ride while impaired by drugs, alcohol or fatigue.
- Constantly scan for changing conditions.

The Four R's or "Be-Attitudes" of Lane Splitting:

Be Reasonable, **be** Responsible, **be** Respectful, **be** aware of all Roadway and traffic conditions.

- **Reasonable** means not more than 10 MPH faster than traffic flow and not over 39 MPH.

- You are **Responsible** for your own safety and decisions.
 - Don't put yourself in dangerous positions.
 - If you can't fit, don't split.
- Be **Respectful** --- sharing the road goes both ways.
 - Don't rely on loud pipes to keep you safe, loud pipes often startle people and poison the attitude of car drivers toward motorcyclists.
 - Other vehicles are not required to make space for motorcycles to lane split.
- Roadways and traffic can be hazardous.
 - uneven pavement
 - wide trucks
 - distracted drivers
 - weather conditions
 - curves
 - etc.

Disclaimers:

These general guidelines are not guaranteed to keep you safe.

Lane splitting should not be performed by inexperienced riders. These guidelines assume a high level of riding competency and experience.

The recommendations contained here are only general guidelines and cannot cover all possible combinations of situations and variables.

Personal Safety: Every rider has ultimate responsibility for his or her own decision making and safety. Riders must be conscious of reducing crash risk at all times. California law requires all motorcycle riders and passengers wear a helmet that complies with the DOT FMVSS 218 standard.

Risk of getting a ticket: Motorcyclists who lane split are not relieved of the responsibility to obey all existing traffic laws. With respect to possible law enforcement action, keep in mind that it will be up to the discretion of the Law

Enforcement Officer to determine if riding behavior while lane splitting is or was safe and prudent.

When is it NOT OK to split?

You should **NOT** lane split:

- If you can't fit.
- At a toll booth.
- If traffic is moving too fast or unpredictably.
- If dangerous road conditions exist --- examples include water or grit on the road,

slippery road markings, road construction, uneven pavement, metal grates, etc.

- If you cannot clearly see a way out of the space you're going into (for example, if a van or SUV is blocking your view).
- Between trucks, buses, RVs, and other wide vehicles.
- Around or through curves.
- If you are not fully alert and aware of your surroundings.
- If you are unable to react to changing conditions instantaneously.
- If you don't feel comfortable with the situation.

Messages for Other Vehicle Drivers

- 1) Lane splitting by motorcycles is not illegal in California when done in a safe and prudent manner.
- 2) Motorists should not take it upon themselves to discourage motorcyclists from lane splitting.
- 3) Intentionally blocking or impeding a motorcyclist in a way that could cause harm to the rider is illegal (CVC 22400).
- 4) Opening a vehicle door to impede a motorcycle is illegal (CVC 22517).
- 5) Never drive while distracted.
- 6) You can help keep motorcyclists and all road users safe by
 - Checking mirrors and blind spots, especially before changing lanes or turning.
 - Signaling your intentions before changing lanes or merging with traffic.
 - Allowing more following distance, three or four seconds, when behind a
 motorcycle so the motorcyclist has enough time to maneuver or stop in an
 emergency.



Road Wisdom

There is a difference between wisdom and knowledge.

Noah Webster



by Richard Bennett



Foreword: My first real motorcycle camping trip was with five friends in 1987, when we rode California Highway 49 from end to end. We learned a lot on that trip, which spawned an annual motorcycle camping trip each year for the next 35 years. In 2003 I wrote an article about motorcycle camping, which I share with you now.

Camp Sites

The early morning fog was cold, making me glad I was wearing my heavy leather jacket and chaps. The road south on highway one from Big Sur twisted left and right, rising and falling with the terrain. Days in the saddle blended me to the motorcycle, easily banking into turns without hesitation. Behind me was Bruce Pfefferkorn, his headlights fading in and out of the grayness. He laughed when we passed a "view point" sign, and I suggested on the CB that we stop for photos.

We were ending an eleven-day trip that had emphasized motorcycle riding and camping in some of the most beautiful places in California. This was our third annual ride & camp trip, and we were getting better at camping each year. Every year we have done more camping, and relied less on motels.

Our trip had taken us to Big Sur, San Francisco, Richardson's Grove, Lassen National Park, Reno, Virginia City, South Lake Tahoe, Highway 49, back to Big Sur and south again. We alternated camping with motel stays. With each camping experience we learned something that made it easier at the next campsite.

If you have never combined motorcycle touring with camping, I recommend you give it a try. The campsites are plentiful, and the extra equipment is manageable. Here are some things we have learned from our experiences.

Motorcycle camping makes on-site meal preparation difficult. I recommend you leave the cooking utensils behind and plan to eat at cafés. Our only regret is the absence of hot coffee upon rising, and we are working on that one. The next time we will bring a thermos and ask for a fill-up at dinner. In the morning we should be able to pour a hot cup.

Equipment: Each rider should be self-sufficient. While some campers share equipment, there is always a chance one of your riders may leave the group unexpectedly. So, tote your own gear.

Basic creature comforts should include a tent, ground cloth, inflatable mattress, warm sleeping bag, and flashlight. These items can easily be lashed to most motorcycles on the passenger seat area. Younger, tougher guys sleep on the asphalt parking lot next to their motorcycles. We ain't that tough. Or young.



Our tents of preference have been the "dome" style. They are light, roomy, and inexpensive. Mine is 7x7. Be sure you get one large enough to accommodate your gear, with room to change clothes. Set up the tent before you go, so you know it will work for you.

On a trip in 1990, former Blue Knight George Goland was surprised that a tent given to him by a family member was smaller than he imagined.

Former Blue Knight George Goland

Each year I have added additional camping gear that has increased my enjoyment and justified the extra luggage. I recommend a lightweight back packer's cot, inflatable pillow and small folding chair. Most campsites have picnic tables, but for comfortable around-the-fire time, my folding chair works better. When you pack personal items, remember to bring your own towel. I also use a battery-powered shaver.

Campsite selection: During busy times of the year, I recommend reservations in advance, at least for the first couple of days. I chose two camp grounds on the Internet; one in Big Sur and the other was Richardson's Grove. In each case I made it clear we were on motorcycles in case there were restrictions. When we arrived at each reservation, we were given prime spots that accommodated our tents and motorcycles. For the remainder of the trip we relied upon availability where ever we were when it was dinner time, and we never had a problem.



Bruce at Big Sur

On the road we often visited the Visitor's Information Centers to find camp grounds. The centers are everywhere, and the staff will often call the campground to inquire of availability. They will also give an opinion of the different campgrounds that are available. We found an excellent campground on the shore of Lake Almanor this way.

Our campsites always had hot showers and flush toilets. Some even had laundry facilities. Manly-men may be content to whiz in the bushes and sponge-bathe from a spigot, but given the choice, I recommend full bath conveniences. Your next waitress will be grateful.

Once we had located a campsite, we bought two perishable items; a bag of ice and two bundles of firewood. The ice kept our drinks cold while we visited around the campfire, and the wood provided the flames.

Be careful to place your tents up-wind from the fire pit. On one occasion I was down-wind and the smoke filled my tent as the fire smoldered all night. I awoke with emphysema and a tent that always smelled like cheap firewood.

Meals: Camping by motorcycle should allow for sampling of local cafés. Local eateries usually have affordable meals, and you don't have to lug cooking gear or clean up afterward. We always looked for the non-chain restaurants, which offered "lunch specials" and local info about the area. We were never disappointed.

We did stay in motels part of the time, and used the opportunity to do laundry, charge our cell phones and swim in the pool. But we enjoyed the camping the most, and next year we will be emphasizing camping and minimizing motels. Who knows? Someday we may perfect our camping luxuries and save the motel money for other things. Like a thermos for hot coffee.



Original Hiway 49 Group

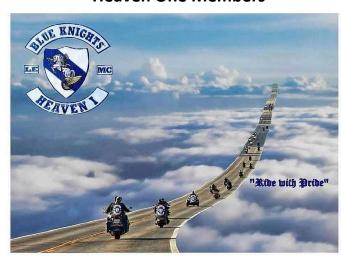


Reaching the end of California Highway 49

Blue Knights, CA VI

Heaven One Members







Vice President **Alan Wheeler** and Webmaster **Stephen Roche** are working to create a meaningful Heaven One page for our Web Site. It is a work in progress, and we need your input to make it great.

Listed here are the California VI Blue Knights who have transferred to Heaven One while they were a member of our Chapter. The Web Page will have basic information about our Blue Knights, but we are asking for other details about our Heaven One members.

Have a story or memory of a Blue Knight in Heaven 1? Details and memories about our Blue Knights will help memorialize them. We realize there are names on the list whose history may remain a mystery, but for all others, please look forward to sharing your stories and memories.

Look for more information on how to contribute in future editions. In the meantime, jot some notes and be ready.

Members of CA VI Heaven One

<u>NAME</u>	DATE OF TRANSFER TO HEAVEN ONE
Jack Lucarelli	1989
Don Huey	1991
Richard Parkes	1991
Arnold Horowitz	1994
Forrest "Sparky" Sparks	1997
Donald Shirley	1997
Harold Crosby	2000
Edward Morris	2004
Robert Gregorio	2006
Earl "Nick" Matchett	2007
Thomas Slaughter	2019
Grant Frey	2020
Thomas Capers	2021
Genero "G-Man" Guerrero	2021
Gary Mc Laughlin	2021



News You Can Use

When all else fails, read the directions (Anonymous)



I was browsing the Blue Knight CA VI Website, discovering the wonders brought by Webmaster Stephen Roche. The public access area contains a lot of interesting links to Chapter info, but it wasn't until I visited the "Members Only" link that I was truly impressed.

The Members Only link has been a work in progress, often discussed at your Board of Directors meetings. The content, and who qualifies for "Member" access has pretty much been resolved. Be assured, if you are a current, active member of CA VI you have access.

And, if you have not used your access privilege, you are missing out on a lot. Here is all you need to do:

- Go to www.bk-cavi.org
- Go to "More" in the upper right-hand corner.
- Click on "Members Only"
- Follow directions to establish entry
 - List your email address
 - Create a password
- Enter the Members Only section and open news you can really use.

Full disclosure: Prior to our Webmaster's remake of the CA VI website, I rarely went there. I would visit to post or read the Knightly News newsletters, but would skip the other gems that resided there. I wouldn't blame you if you did the same. Much of the content was out of date, and therefore inaccurate.

It wasn't until recently that I was scanning the improvements made by Steve Roche that I had the epiphany of the Members Only content. It's new; and like the rest of the Website, it's better!

Here is what you will find; some nice to know, some essentials to know.

- Chapter Officers and Staff email and telephone numbers
- Blue Knight Charter locations world-wide
- Blue Knight Proposal Form (proper way to submit your ideas)
- Chapter Addresses world-wide (planning a vacation to their area?)
- Blue Knight Application Form (recruiting tool)
- Roberts Rules of Order (meeting guidelines)
- Blue Knight recruiting poster
- Blue Knight Chapter President Handbook (authored by our own Jack Kaylor)
- Modern Blue Knight flyer
- New Member Handbook (a must-read, even for existing members)
- Blue Knight poster, version two
- International Blue Knight Social Media policy (learn it, love it, live it)

Take a moment and give it a look. All Blue Knights should read and know this stuff. They say knowledge is power. Give yourself an edge - Get powerful!

Editor



FOR SALE

Treasures and Bargains From our Members



2005 Yamaha FJR 1300 — \$4300 obo







This luxury sport tour bike has low mileage and was owned by a former Blue Knight. Bike has been garaged since 2018 (on a battery tender). Very good condition. Running in tip-top condition after recent maintenance, which included: all major fluids exchange—including gasoline, all filters, four new spark plugs, rebuilt fuel pump. Adjustable height electric windscreen, aftermarket speed control, and battery tender ready. Not registered since 2018. Title may need replacement (DMV form Reg 227). Tires in fair to poor condition. Located in Alpine, CA. Test rides authorized. All offers considered.

Mileage: 28,200

VIN: JYARP07Y85A000565

Call 619-890-7273 mobile

MOTOHORN 2.0 \$90



Never installed. All needed hardware included Mike Manen (619) 820-4429

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/

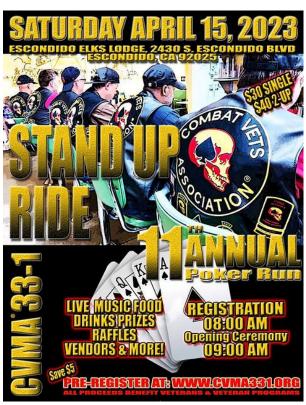


https://www.finalhonor.net/

UPCOMING RIDES







Blue Knights International Motorcycle Club

Southwest Conference Las Vegas, Nevada 2023 May 7-11, 2023 Hosted by Nevada I Chapter, Las Vegas