

THE KNIGHTLY NEWSLETTER

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JUNE 2025



Tough times don't last; tough people do.
Robert H. Schuller

MEMBERSHIP MEETING DATE

July 11, 2025

**Featured in
this edition**



**Poker Chip drawing was held. Dave Campagna's name was drawn.
Since Dave 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.



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 Ray Juanengo by email at: BlueKnightsCAVI.VP@gmail.com



CALIFORNIA VI OFFICERS AND STAFF



PRESIDENT

[Ken Smith](#)

VICE-PRESIDENT

[Ray Juanengo](#)

SECRETARY

[Mike Wagner](#)

TREASURER

[Chuck Belletti](#)

DIRECTORS

[Richard Bennett](#)

[Mike Harrison](#)

[Arturo Romero](#)

MORALE & WELFARE

[Michelle Juanengo](#)

IMMEDIATE PAST-PRESIDENT

[John Lopotosky](#)

WEBMASTER

[Stephen Roche](#)

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

[Richard Bennett](#)

RIDE COORDINATOR

[Michael Belluso](#)

SAFETY OFFICER

[Mike Manen](#)

QUARTERMASTER

[Alex Cross](#)

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®



PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

KEN SMITH PRESIDENT

Much to be thankful for!



Hello Blue Knights far and wide and welcome to summer 2025! I hope all of you are ready to enjoy this outdoor time of year and do what we all love best...RIDE!!!!

As for CAVI, we have lots going on and a lot to do. First, the Southwest Conference. Our very own CAVI Ride Coordinator Mike Belluso gave a stellar presentation at the Southwest Conference and it's been decided we will indeed host the 2026 SWC right here in Sunny San Diego! Hats off and many thanks to Mike and the entire committee, including Betsy Wheeler, Sistiana Chestnut, Director Richard Bennett, and Janice Bennett. I know a few others were assisting and they get our thanks as well!

Congratulations are very much in order! Seems the SWC awarded the coveted Blue Knight of the Year Award to our very own Director Richard Bennett! Richard will be receiving his 35-year award this year, and has held just about every position a chapter can have! You all get to read our outstanding and benchmark-setting newsletter each month, all thanks to Richard. I know there are several candidates each year from around the Conference for this award, and my gratitude to all the other nominees for their extraordinary efforts to make Blue Knights the beacon we are today. We are grateful we have Richard in our Chapter, and I am so glad the Conference awarded him this honor.

The award is not just based on doing one or more good works throughout the year, but also the entirety of what the nominee brings to the organization, and very much as in this case, what kind of example have they set for themselves, the organization, and the communities in which we support. Any Blue Knight that has persevered for 35 years, and has accomplished the body of work Richard has, is more than deserving of this honor. Blue Knights are truly good and wonderful people, and as always, I am proud to be part of it. Well done sir!!!!

The CAVI annual Grant V Frey Memorial Poker Run is nearly upon us and we need many more work party signups, as well as raffle baskets. The Chapter has a form letter that members can give to companies in requesting they donate goods and services to our Chapter. The form will be available by email and on the website. Feel free to hit up as many local businesses as you can and get them to donate items to make raffle baskets. The more baskets we have, the more successful our poker run will be!

Lastly, I just want to remind everyone not to get too down about all the things happening in the news right now. This too shall pass. I use the news as a reminder to myself of all the things I am grateful for, and to motivate me to cherish the people I care about, and to be grateful for all I have, and to make use of any and all opportunities to lift up those around me that need it. As Law Enforcement professionals, these events are a constant reminder to stay safe, stay vigilant, stay prepared. Have a plan for you and your family. As Blue Knights, we have each other's backs, and the best way to return that honor, is to be more than prepared to help yourself, and the buddy next to you. Just my little tactical rant for the month!

I look forward to seeing more of you at the next meeting and at our Poker Run. I am proud to serve this awesome Chapter.

Until then, Ride With Pride!!!!



SECRETARY'S MESSAGE

Mike Wagner, Secretary

June 14, 2025

Minutes taken by Richard Bennett



Call to Order: President Ken Smith at 0907 hours

Pledge of Allegiance: Led by Kory Cross

Moment of Silence for Members of Heaven I, members of military and first responders.

Recognition of Fallen Chapter Members

Introductions/Guests: (Around the room)

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 me in relating to other Blue Knights."

President Ken Smith -

Gave Poker Run updates. Still has a list of "to-do" items.

Southwest Conference Blue Knight of the year announced: Richard Bennett, CA VI.

Chapter to reimburse website fees to Webmaster Stephen Roache.

Webmaster Steve Roache doing an excellent job working on SWC information.

Discussed Poker Run; Need prize baskets. Suggested getting donations. Charity letters are available. Still working on details with Alan Wheeler and Arturo Romero.

Vice President Ray Juanengo -

Discussed low meeting attendance; Illness, Southwest Conference and call to duty.

Secretary Mike Wagner - Excused

Attending Southwest Conference in Red River, New Mexico

Treasurer Chuck Belletti -

Gave financial report to members.

Asked for update from Alan and Arturo about Poker Run food, raffle baskets, head count and work assignments.

Asked about sign-up sheet for working positions. First sheet was lost. Does Alan have a new one? Are there some assignment conflicts?

Webmaster - Stephen Roche - Excused

Immediate Past President - John Lopotosky Excused

Has sent multiple reminders about voting for International Board of Director Officers.

Has ordered raffle tickets. Expects to have them for the July meeting.

Chapter Directors:

Director and News Editor Richard Bennett -

Discussed the concept of "Alumni Members". Would be former Chapter VI members who would like to stay in touch. Could be listed on roster, and receive Chapter emails. Could attend annual Christmas dinner at half price. Good for networking, recruiting, donations and raffle tickets.

Director Mike Harrison – Excused

(Notes from Board of Director meeting)

His American Legion Chapter holding annual Poker Run June 21st. (See info on "Upcoming Rides")

Said his American Legion Chapter has a donation letter to present to businesses for prize baskets. Also mentioned they asked each member to donate \$50 of merchandise towards prize baskets.

Director Arturo Romero - Excused

Staff Members

Safety Officer Mike Manen - Excused

Ride Coordinator Mike Belluso - Excused (At Southwest Conference)

(Notes from Board of Director meeting)

Made presentation of San Diego 2026 Southwest Conference event. Website is active now. Poker chips with QR code info re: event was a big hit. First reservation made by International Rep. Jorge Ortiz. Treasurer Chuck Belletti is keeping a spreadsheet on purchases.

Quartermaster Alex Cross - Nothing to add

Morale/Welfare Coordinator Michelle Juanengo -

Looking for a VIP to attend our Poker Run.

Greeter/Raffle Sales/Welfare Coordinator Tina Lopotosky - Excused

Poker Chip Drawing

Dave Campagna's name was drawn. He was not present, and did not win the \$20. The drawing amount is now \$25.

50-25-25 Winners: First: Chuck Belletti Second: Michelle Juanengo

Around the room/ Good of the order

Bill Crow will store the Poker Run handouts.

Motion to adjourn: First by Bill Crow Seconded by Vic Slater

Meeting Adjourned at 0951 hours.

Next General Meeting: Saturday, July 11, 2025 at the Broken Yolk Café, located at 1851 Garnet Av., San Diego

Arrive early for breakfast; Meeting begins at 0900 hours.



2025 Southwest Conference Red River, New Mexico

June 8–11, 2025
by Mike Wagner, Secretary



From June 8th through June 11th, seven members of our chapter attended the 2025 Southwest Conference held in Red River, New Mexico. Attendees included Mike and Kaz Wagner, Mike and Sistiana Belluso, and Alan and Betsy Wheeler and Jorge Ortiz.

The Wagner's flew to Albuquerque, New Mexico, on June 8th, rented a car, and drove to Red River. They made this adjustment because their granddaughter, Selah Jade Iliana Snowden, graduated from High Tech High in San Marcos, California, on June 7th. Selah will be attending the University of Hawaii at Mānoa in the fall, majoring in Business.



Betsy, Christie, Kaz and Sistiana

Mike and Sistiana Belluso drove their own car to the conference because they are the proud parents of two three-month-old Vizsla puppies named Hercules and Tinker Bell. On June 6th Mike and Sistiana joined Alan and Betsy Wheeler at their home in Carefree, Arizona. On June 7th Alan and Betsy rode their motorcycles while the Belluso's followed in their car to Gallup New Mexico and then completed the journey to Red River, NM on June 8th.

Upon arrival on Sunday, June 8th, all members checked into their cabins and registered for the conference at the Conference Center. From **5:00 to 10:00 PM**, all Blue Knight members gathered and relaxed at the Hospitality Room located at the Riverside Lodge.

Monday, June 9th, 2025



2025 Southwest Conference Board of Directors

The President's Meeting took place from **8:30 to 10:00 AM**. During roll call, when California VI was announced, Mike Wagner stated he was representing Chapter President Ken Smith, while Mike Belluso stated he was representing Vice President Ray Juanengo. Eighteen out of twenty chapters were in attendance. California XIII (Victorville) has officially closed.

Originally, chapter presidents were scheduled to speak to the Southwest Conference Board about the status of their chapters during the morning session. However, due to extended discussions on several key topics—including member retention and communication, requesting help within the SWC, the use of a designated spot on the International Website for chapter updates, and a \$50,000 fundraising opportunity in Albuquerque, New Mexico, during a nine-day Balloon Event—the chapter reports were postponed until the General Meeting in the afternoon.

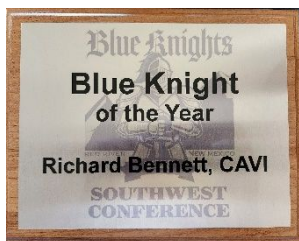


California VI members with SWC BOD

During the General Meeting from **3:30 to 5:30 PM**, chapter updates were presented. At the conclusion of the meeting, Mike Belluso and Alan Wheeler gave an outstanding PowerPoint presentation showing our chapter hosting the 2026 Southwest Conference in San Diego, California. Mike also gave special thanks to Betsy Wheeler and Sistiana Belluso for their hard work in securing a contract with the Handlery Hotel, the 2026 SWC conference venue.

Tuesday & Wednesday, June 10–11, 2025

Despite the rain on both days, attendees participated in group rides, including one to the Taos Gorge and Rio Grande Gorge Bridge and another to the Angel Fire Vietnam Veterans Memorial with a guided tour.



The highlight of the conference was the **Awards Banquet**, held Wednesday evening from **6:00 to 8:00 PM**. Mike Wagner accepted a plaque on behalf of Richard Bennett, who was named **Blue Knight Man of the Year for 2025**.



In a special moment, all CA VI members were called to the front of the banquet hall to receive the **Blue Knight Statue**, symbolically transferred from Blue Knights NM VI to Blue Knights CA VI.

Thursday, June 12th, 2025

This was designated as **Farewell Day**, concluding the 2025 Southwest Conference.



Conference Center Red River, NM



Alan and Betsy Wheeler



SAFETY MESSAGE

Mike Manen, Safety Officer



Keep Your Distance (Don't be "That Guy")

I am thinking about changing the name of this column from Safety Message to Don't be like Mike. My last few articles have dealt with my mishaps, and this month is no exception.

Last month I went to my high school reunion, and while there rode the Ozarks and the Pig Trail, which is one of the top rides in the country. Beautiful country, mountains, twists and even a small ferry into Missouri.

The lead bike decided to make a quick turn into a parking lot with very little notice. We almost had a pile up of bikes. This is a combination of errors on all parties.

The lead bike should have given more notice, and the rest of us should have been more spaced out. Here is some info from the BK Safety Handbook.

7. FORMATION RIDING

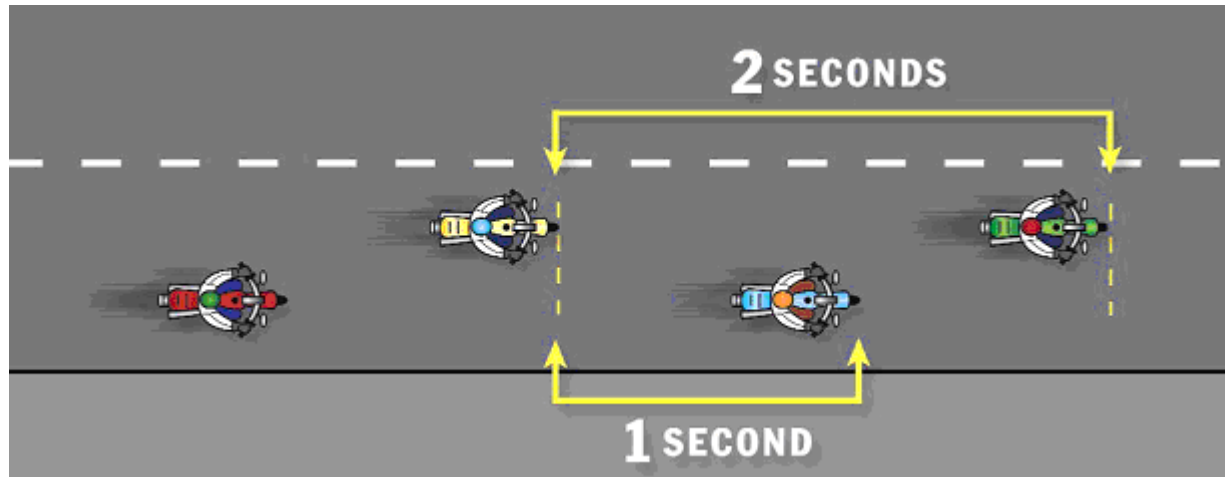
7.1. Staggered: The standard group riding formation will be the staggered formation. The Ride Leader always leads the group from the left. The hand signal for staggered formation is the left hand raised in the two-finger victory sign and the wrist rotated back and forth on a vertical axis.

7.2. Single File: It is often desirable to ride single file because of narrow curvy roads, obstacles, or other hazards. The hand signal is the left hand raised above the head with the "index" finger pointed up.

7.3. Positioning. The staggered formation increases the distance from the rider in front, yet, maintains a compact group. Give yourself enough room to stop in an emergency, but do not give unnecessary space and cause the group to be drawn out or lengthened. Remember, you or the riders on the other side of the lane may need to change lane sides in an emergency. You should be able to see the face of the rider in front of you clearly in their mirror.

7.4. Consistency. Be consistent. Do not continually open and close the gap between you and the person in front of you. The safest method is to be seen in the mirror of the rider in front of you and to look for the rider to the rear of you in your mirror.

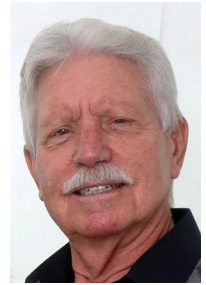
7.5. Safety. Formation group riding is intended to promote safety by increasing our visibility to automobile drivers. It is not intended to be mandatory if a situation dictates otherwise. Staggered formation increases our visibility to automobile drivers. Single file adjustments, or emergent evasive action should take place safely and whenever warranted; this remains the rider's individual responsibility. Safety remains the prevailing factor for all rides. Formation adjustments may be warranted and necessary without and/or before a Ride Leader demonstrates such a signal. E.g. A narrow or winding section of road may require changing from staggered to single file.





Road Wisdom

There is a difference between wisdom and knowledge
Noah Webster



The invisible rider

In 1938 H.G. Wells wrote a novel about a man that turned invisible. It was made into a movie which showed the man becoming “visible” when he wrapped himself in cloth. A very popular novel, but no one actually believed a man could be invisible.



Invisible man?

Fast forward to 2025. The American Motorcyclist Association revealed a study by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS) that found some automobiles with Autonomous Emergency Braking (AEB) failed to recognize a mannequin wearing reflective clothing. In fact, the reflective clothing may actually hinder the ability of AEB to detect pedestrians, bicycle *and* motorcycle riders.

When we prepare to ride, especially after dark, common sense tells us that reflective clothing makes us safer. (Consider that our Blue Knight vests now come with reflective patches.) The reflective clothing may make us more visible to most drivers, but those who become distracted and rely on AEB instead of vigilance could collide with us.

If you are not familiar with AEB, it is the latest crash-avoidance tech in cars. The AEB notifies drivers when they are at risk of a collision, and if the driver fails to take action the system will automatically apply the brakes. These driving aids rely on cameras, with some also using radar to identify potential collisions with pedestrians. Some AEB systems perform worse after dark.

The IIHS did a study in 2023, using a Honda CR-V, Mazda CX-5 and a Subaru Forrester. The Honda CR-V hit a dummy pedestrian 84 percent of the time, and the CX-5 hit the dummy 88 percent of the time. Neither model slowed at all when the crash dummy was wearing reflective strips on its limbs.

The Subaru results were much better. In all but one test the Forrester decelerated to a full stop without striking the pedestrian dummy. During the one failed test, the dummy wore the suit lined in reflective strips. The Forrester slowed by 82%, but still made impact.

The good news is that 22 of 30 vehicles tested earned a good, or acceptable rating. While much progress has been made, there are still eight vehicles out there that failed the test. In fact, despite improved results, even acceptable-rated vehicles performed sub-par at higher speeds, especially with a motorcycle target. For the eight vehicles that rated below-acceptable, *every one* failed to prevent a collision with a motorcycle target.

The cameras in the AEB have been found to be deficient in recognizing reflections from strips on clothing. It has been described as driving at night while someone shines a flashlight into a driver's eyes. Without being able to "see" and recognize reflective strips, the AEB fails to adequately activate.

Some studies have suggested that high visibility clothing without reflective strips is more practical as night time motorcycle apparel; Daytime use has been proven to attract the attention of other drivers. While less effective at night, hi-vis clothing does not have the reflective strips that make us invisible to some AEB systems.



"Invisible rider"?

To put this into perspective, this is a minor safety issue, but still noteworthy. Whether AEB will recognize motorcycle riders at night may be important, but the reality is that most drivers will see us despite the AEB faults. The trend in vehicle safety is to provide automatic reactions to situations that drivers should already be aware of. An unintended consequence is that drivers may feel free to be distracted and let the vehicle take over traffic safety.

Technology is continuing to improve vehicle safety features. While some vehicle AEB systems can recognize pedestrians and motorcyclists, there are still those that do not. The American Motorcyclist Association has been following this subject closely, advocating that vehicle manufacturers include motorcycle recognition into any autonomous sensing.

The news that reflective clothing hampers some AEB recognition at night should give us a reason to consider what we wear when we ride at night, but not to dictate a change. We are fortunate that the American Motorcyclist Association is advocating for motorcycle safety. Look for updates in this topic in coming months. If you are not a member of the AMA, I recommend you support them by joining their organization. <https://americanmotorcyclist.com>

Hopefully, this issue will be resolved and all AEB systems will recognize motorcycle riders. Until technology catches up, our motto should be: All the gear, all the time; but maybe not reflective gear at night.



FORT ROSECRANS MEMORIAL DAY RIDE

by Michael Wagner

Prior to the Fort Rosecrans Memorial Day Ride on May 26, 2025, I asked my grandson, Levi Snowden who is a United States Marine assigned to 7th Engineer Support Battalion at Camp Pendleton, California if he would like to ride with me in the Rosecrans Memorial Day Ride. He said "Sure Gramp Pa I have a four-day weekend and would enjoy riding with you".



Levi and Mike

On May 26, 2025, at 07:30 a.m. Levi and I left Oceanside, California on my 2007 Harley Davidson, Heritage Softail motorcycle and headed towards San Diego, California. This was a very special time for both of us because this was the first time my grandson has ever ridden with me on my motorcycle. Everyone participating in the ride were meeting at Peet's Coffee parking lot located at 955 Catalina Blvd, San Diego, California.

We arrived around 08:20 at Peet's Parking Lot and there were over 200 motorcycles and riders already there. We registered for the event and were walking around looking at all the different types of motorcycles when we met some other Blue Knight members from Chapter VI, San Diego, California. They were Alan and Betsy Wheeler, Randy and Michele Aldredge, and a friend named Chris who was with Alan and Betsy Wheeler.



California 6 Blue Knights

We had a safety brief around 09:30 a.m. At this time, I estimated there were over 375 motorcycles and riders present. At 09:40 we rode in a staggered formation until we arrived at Ft. Rosecrans National Cemetery. We then proceeded single file through the cemetery.

It was an awesome experience for both my grandson and I! We were honoring and paying tribute to 120,000 men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice for the security and freedom of our nation.

In closing, I would just like to say each year on Memorial Day when families and friends are gathered together celebrating this National Holiday whether you were in the military or not; take a few minutes and pray for all the men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice so we can enjoy the freedoms that we enjoy today.



May Ride 2025

Annual Veterans Benefit Ride

by Michelle Juanengo
Winner of CA VI and SWC Lady BK of the Year



On May 17th, Armed Forces Day, the annual May Ride was held at Biggs Harley Davidson, San Marcos, benefiting Veterans. As usual, Radio Personality Clint August, from the local radio station, - KGB 101.5 FM, organized an amazing event, with Biggs Harley Davidson allowing us to use their parking lot, and side street, while the UPS Distribution Center across the street, generously allowed the use of their parking lot for bike and vendor parking.



This year's event had the Coast Guard Blackhawk helicopter do a fly over, the Purple Heart Veterans led the Pledge of Allegiance, and a Mira Mesa Boy Scout Troop presented the colors during the National Anthem.

Approximately \$15,000 was raised for our veterans during the event, via bike ride registration fees, vendor registration fees, donations of raffle baskets and prizes, and cash donations from sponsors.

This year had 80 vendor booths with a wonderful variety of items for sale; a food court, a kid zone, an artist alley, and biker games that included a wienie bite game that Clint August won.

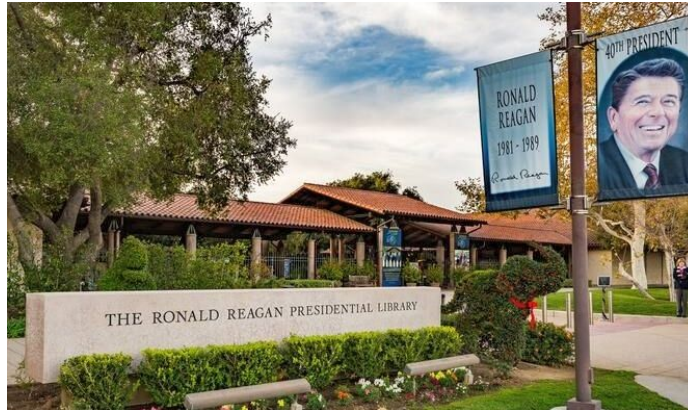
While we had a bit of inclement weather in the morning, it turned out to be a beautiful day. Nine of our own Knights were in attendance along with their spouses, supporting the annual event. Approximately 5,000 people were in attendance throughout the day, enjoying the food, vendors, and the live music.

Next year's event is on the calendar for May 16th, and as usual is being held on Armed Forces Day. We hope to see you there!



California VI members

Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum Road Trip



May 20, 2025 By Alan Wheeler

California with its many millions of inhabitants lends itself to two of America's past Presidents - and their libraries. Both Ronald Reagan and Richard Nixon have their libraries in the greater Southern California area.

With this in mind the Belluso's and Wheeler's made a riding overnight trip to the nation's largest presidential library: the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum in Simi Valley on May 20th.



Both the weather and traffic cooperated nicely for a 1030 hrs. arrival. Midweek entry, and in-session school day is the way to see this most visited of all presidential libraries without the crowds. To say it's large is an understatement: Reagan's Boeing 707 Air Force One resides inside this massive library.

Both Nancy and Ron have numerous personal effects, news media videos, interactive displays and exhibits which chronicle their life and times. Helpful docents had every answer to our questions. On a side note: many docents began their careers in law enforcement.

Reagan's two consecutive terms spanning 1981-1989 was perhaps best remembered for the fall of communism and the Berlin Wall in late 1989. However, his second term also saw great American prosperity with low unemployment, high productivity and great economic expansion. Reduced tax rates and economic deregulation along with cuts to government spending ushered in what is now known as Reaganomics.

Reagan's first term almost ended before it started with his March 1981 assassination attempt by the deranged John Hinckley Junior. Using a .22-caliber revolver, Hinckley shot President Reagan and three others. Hinkley was found not guilty on all counts by reason of insanity.

The Reagan library is also a museum: in fact, the Belluso's had intentionally designed this trip so they could see the traveling exhibition DEAD SEA SCROLLS on display through September 2, 2025. We journeyed through time to explore one of the most significant architectural finds of the 20th century.



A Bedouin Shepard happened upon this exceptional discovery in the year 1947. These scrolls, found in the Judaeian desert date back two millennia. It's amazing that parchment and papyrus writings went undisturbed in desert caves since the 3rd century BCE.

President Reagan passed at the age of 93 with his wife and family at his side. 118,000 mourners from all over the world paid their respects while Reagan lay in repose at his library, on June 7, 2004. His wife Nancy Davis Reagan joined Ron on March 6, 2016. Their final resting place is the library's West-side memorial site with grand views - which go on forever.





BK News You Can Use

The Town Crier

Stuff that is good to know



For all you BMW riders (you know who you are) there is finally some relief from the expense of replacing your final drive units. BMW of North America, LLC announced it has a new maintenance schedule which includes replacement of the final driveshaft every 36,000 miles; and at no cost to you (the owner).

Some background history. Many, if not most, BMW motorcycles have a shaft final drive. That has been the initial design since the first models were ever made. Other brands have shaft final drive also, but BMW owners have faced replacement costs due to occasional failure. Driveshaft failures became most notable after the single-sided swingarm designs were introduced. Splines on the shaft were the most common cause of failure, despite a grease fitting designed for regular maintenance.

Sometime around 2005 the design was changed to a "permanently lubricated" shaft that did not have a grease fitting and was said to have solved the failure of the driveshaft splines. Despite this improvement, many owners paid to have extra maintenance done to the driveshaft. A grease fitting was often added to allow splines to be greased during scheduled maintenance, offering the owner the assurance of extra longevity.

Some failures still occurred. If your BMW was out of warranty, parts and labor could reach \$7,000. I know this from personal experience.

In November 2024 a notice from BMW of North America LLC was sent to all known owners of BMW motorcycles regarding the change of maintenance schedule and replacement of the final drive unit. If you received this notice, you know about the change. If you are a BMW owner, and were not included in this announcement I recommend you contact your local BMW Motorrad dealer. For full details, email: CustomerRelations@bmwusa.com or by internet at bmwusa.com. They can also be reached by phone at 800-831-1117.

Good to know.



FOR EXCLUSIVE USE OF BK CA VI MEMBERS



ALEX CROSS



\$45



\$10



\$45



\$10



\$10



\$10



\$5



\$10



\$10

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



FOR SALE

**Treasures and Bargains
From our Members**
Offered by Alan Wheeler



I am selling my 2013 Wing due to my purchase of a 2021 Wing.



2013 Honda Goldwing F6B Deluxe (The Dark Knight). 35,939 miles. Well maintained and 100% garage stored. Full power and ultra clean! 100% OEM with one exception—throttle lock or speed control. Selling due to purchase of a newer Goldwing. Original owner. Read RIDER MAGAZINE: 2013 HONDA F6B ROAD TEST REVIEW, May 3, 2013 for more info and specs. Bike is located in Alpine CA. \$6,500 or best offer. 619-890-7273 mobile.



Coming to San Diego for the 2026 Southwest Conference?



Check out what's here, and reserve early.

Excellent Hotel accommodations; Centrally located.

Come early, and stay late; BK room rates honored.

Come for the Conference, stay for the family vacation.

Details on our California VI Website: <https://bk-cavi.org>

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/>



www.sdpolicemuseum.com



San Diego Police Widows and Orphans Fund

www.sdpoa.org