



**HAPPY
4TH OF JULY
INDEPENDENCE DAY**



BLUE KNIGHTS® FLXVII NEWSLETTER

JULY 2024

MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

July Ride and Event Schedule

Greetings Blue Knights Family,

July is upon us and the Blue Knights will be celebrating 50 years of "Riding With Pride!" Thinking back to 1974 I can remember listening to WFIL AM Radio Philadelphia on my brothers transistor radio while I was riding my Big Wheel. Not much has changed I now listen to satellite radio on my Big Bike.

Our Founding Fathers Joel Rudom, Bill Robinson, Doug Miner, Ed, Gallant, Mike Hall, Chuck Gesner, Wayne Labree, and Chuck Shuman all had a vision back in 1974. A vision that would become a huge success that circles the earth. Just a few guys who liked to ride motorcycles in the company of likeminded people!

Guys who wanted to include their families and enjoy the love of riding the wind together. Friends and family. The good guys not the wild bunch!

Thinking of how huge the Blue Knights International has grown in the last fifty years and sadly the declining numbers of membership in the past few years one thinks how do we stop the decline and increase membership? How do we keep it going? It seems that in this day and age people would rather stay home on the internet and not get involved in social clubs. This problem is not inherent to the Blue Knights it plagues many social clubs. We are all ambassadors and recruiters for the Blue Knights. We are entrusted with keeping this organization moving forward and hopefully growing for the next fifty years. I think if we listen to the founding fathers message and recently the words of Founding Father Chuck Shuman we will be alright. Don't loose that vision with politics and egos get back to our roots of friends and family.

Don that vest and patch with pride, keep up the good work with local charities, set an example for other LE/MC's make them want to become a Blue Knight not some Sons of Anarchy knock off. Be the good guys the Founding Fathers envisioned. Keep it simple, friends and family and friends you haven't met yet. Brother and Sisterhood doing good things together having fun with likeminded people.

God bless the Blue Knights and all who have made this the best LEMC in the world. "We are the Good Guys."

*As always stay safe and
"Ride with Pride"*

Patrick Gibbons



**BREAKFAST, LUNCH AND DINNERS WILL
TAKE PLACE RAIN OR SHINE RIDES ARE
SUBJECT TO
MOTHER NATURE'S APPROVAL**

THE JULY 2ND MEETING HAS BEEN CANCELED.

Sunday 7/7 9:00AM

**Breakfast at Skilletts
8636 S Tamiami Trail Sarasota.
Lets take a ride after.**



Thursday 7/18 11:30 AM

**Lunch at Mission BBQ
5231 University Pkwy Sarasota**



Friday 7/26 6:00 PM

**Dinner Fuzzy's Taco Shop
2515 University Pkwy Sarasota**



**Looking for pop up ride ideas for July.
Bike nights, morning rides, evening ice cream runs.
Let President Gibbons know if you have any sugges-
tions or want to post something.**





OUR 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 LAW ENFORCEMENT MOTORCYCLING COMMUNITY AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC.THE FRATERNAL SPIRIT WILL ALWAYS GUIDE ME IN RELATING TO OTHER BLUE KNIGHTS”

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CHAPTER EXECUTIVE BOARD

- PRESIDENT PATRICK GIBBONS**
- VICE PRESIDENT JAMES THOMAS**
- TREASURER JOHN EMRICK**
- SECRETARYDOMENIC CECCANECCHIO**
- SERGEANT AT ARMS JAMES RYAN**

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- DOMENIC CECCANECCHIO / WEBMASTER**
- BRIAN MACCONNELL / QUARTERMASTER**
- VACANT / SAFETY OFFICER**
- DOMENIC CECCANECCHIO / NEWSLETTER**

We need and want your input

Send your birthdays, anniversaries, letters, suggestions, items for sale, complaints or any special event you would like to share to:

Patrick Gibbons
PJGIBBY1969@COMCAST.NET

Jim Thomas
ALEXANDJAY1988@GMAIL.COM

Dom Ceccanecchio
DCC444@COMCAST.NET



**July Chapter Meeting
CANCELLED**



**THE NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING IS
7:00PM ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 6th, 2024
2ND FLOOR OF THE SAHIB SHRINE
600N BENEVA RD SARASOTA.**

**COME OUT EARLY AND HAVE DINNER
AND CHAT WITH YOUR BROTHER KNIGHTS**

June Chapter Meeting Highlights



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Meeting Call to Order: by [President Gibbons](#) @ 7:05 PM

In attendance: Executive officers: 4 Officers: 0 Members: 7 Guests: 3

Pledge of Allegiance: [led by](#) President Gibbons

Invocation: by Jim Ryan

Welcoming Remarks: by President Gibbons.

PRESIDENTS REPORT: PATRICK GIBBONS

- On May 30th we received an award from the Sun Coast Children's Charities. We raised almost \$7000 for the charity.
- Moving forward all meeting minutes will be delivered for your review in the monthly newsletter
- All of the specific financial numbers will be available by request to our Treasurer.
- There was a motion to skip the July 2nd meeting because of holiday and summer travelers. Motion by Jim Ryan, 2nd by Brian MacConnell, Unanimous approval.
- Thursday June 6th FL XVI will hold funeral services for brother Larry Larson

VICE PRESIDENTS REPORT: JAMES THOMAS

Membership Update: Recruitment flyers are being developed specific to our chapter.

TREASURERS REPORT: JOHN EMRICK

- Motion to accept May report: Motion: Brian MacConnell, 2nd: Michael Klein, Unanimous approval
- Financial Position: We are looking into interest producing financial instruments to park our funds.

SECRETARY / WEBMASTER'S REPORT: DOMENIC CECCANECCHIO

- Motion to accept May minutes: Motion: Jim Thomas, 2nd Brian MacConnell, unanimous approval
- May Minutes have been posted on our website in the MEMBERS section.
- June Newsletter has been posted on our website.
- Photo gallery has been updated with T&T ride photos.

SAFETY OFFICER: N/A

CHAPLIN: JAMES KIRKPATRICK: N/A

SRC / INTERNATIONAL REPORT:

See Newsletter for details.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: N/A

NEW BUSINESS : On Sept. 14th, Rory MacConnell's name will be added to the 911 Memorial.

SICK AND DISTRESSED:

PLEASE KEEP OUR SICK AND DISTRESSED MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES IN YOUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS.

Jeffrey Longwell

50-50 DRAWING: Amount: \$50 Winner: Lauro Perez - \$25

MOTION TO ADJOURN: Time: 8:05PM, Motion: Jim Ryan, 2nd: Dom C, Unanimous Approval

THE JULY MEETING HAS BEEN CANCELLED

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING: TUESDAY, August 6th, 2024

Submitted By: Domenic Ceccanecchio, Secretary BK XVIII

Blue Knights Appreciation Day

BLUE KNIGHTS® LEMC

BLUE KNIGHTS® FLXVII NEWSLETTER

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VP Message Jim Thomas

Hello Brothers and Sisters,

Brothers that ride together share, or should share a common bond. They love bikes and the road. They have each others backs and love to jab at each other. They are brothers outside of blood. They know that they can trust the brother next to them. They know that a true brother would never speak ill of them in any way less they be willing to speak those concerns to them one on one.

Time and miles develop this bond. It's an unbreakable bond. They are seen breaking each others backs when in a group because they know that it's in fun and not personal, but never think others can take that same vantage from outside the circle. Brotherhood is the fabric of an organization such as the one we are in. It's the camaraderie that we all seek. To be part of something larger than ourselves. Always inviting others to become part of it and enjoying getting to know new people and more riders. There is no greater experience other than children and marriage that we share with other human beings, than the bond of brotherhood. It brings a sense of family outside your own, and it gives you people with like interest to hang out with. As vice president, as my job to push the button of recruitment. So if you do know anybody who used to be in law-enforcement capacity that qualifies for the Blue Knights, then please talk to them and share with them what it's really about. As stated in the meeting, we do not get together for July but that doesn't stop people from being on their bikes so if you are inclined to go for a ride and want somebody to ride with you, please shoot a note to Patrick and he will put it out to everybody. If a ride is going out with people that means you can be on bikes, and if you have no choice, but to be in a cage, then you can follow along as well. Not a lot to put out this month. I wish everybody a wonderful month and I will see you again in August unless I see you behind the handlebars.

Don't live every day is if it were your last, live it as if it were your first.

Be safe and ride with pride..... JT



4th of JULY SAFETY

BLUE KNIGHTS[®] FLXVIII NEWSLETTER

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HEAT-RELATED ILLNESS

STAY HYDRATED

- Drink more than 8 ounces a day
- Drink even when you're not thirsty
- Avoid alcohol, coffee & soft drinks



APPLY SUNSCREEN

The sun is the strongest between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.
Reapply sunscreen often
Stick to SPFs between 15 and 50+



WEAR YOUR SHADES

Sunglasses must block 99 to 100% of UVA/UVB rays



MOST AT RISK

Adults over 65 and children under 4
Those w/existing medical conditions



GRILL SAFETY

in a 5-year period



8,900 house fires
160 injuries
118 mil. in damages
10 deaths

KEEP GRILL:

- AWAY FROM STRUCTURES
- IN WELL-VENTILATED AREA
- AWAY FROM CHILDREN & PETS

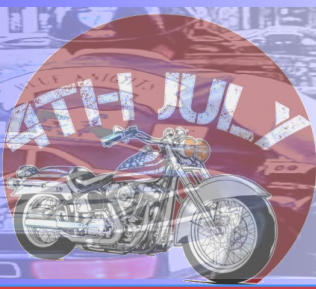
Fireworks Safety

NEVER allow children to play with or ignite fireworks

KEEP a bucket of water or hose nearby

MAKE sure fireworks are legal in your area

MORE THAN 14,000 4TH OF JULY FIREWORKS EXPLODE ACROSS THE NATION EACH YEAR



BLUE KNIGHTS® LEMC

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Chaplains Message



James Kirkpatrick, Chaplain

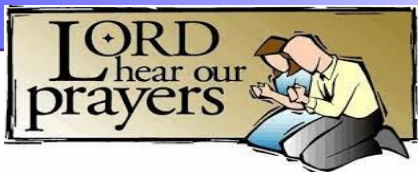
Greeting Fellow Blue Knights,

As we continue our journey into 2023, lets be reminded that we have several brothers and sisters with serve health issues facing them. Let's keep our Blue Knights family members in you hearts and prayers this coming year. The bible teaches us several healing prayers, in Jeremiah 17:14 we hear the cry "heal me Lord, and I will be healed...", and in Jeremiah 30:17 we hear God say, "I will restore your health, I will heal your wounds."

James 5:13 tells us "a prayer offered in faith makes a sick person well." God cares about our whole being - body, soul, spirit. Whether we are in need of physical, emotional, or spiritual healing - He knows and He cares. Let us pray in God's will that complete healing is ours. Use these prayers for healing as you seek God's strength and comfort for our fellow Blue Knights.

Please also keep the family members of those battling illness in your prayers and thoughts, they are also struggling and need our support. In the name of Jesus, "we ask that God Bless each and every one to protect us from illness, hurt and sadness.

Chaplain Jimmy



SICK AND DISTRESSED

PLEASE KEEP OUR SICK AND DISTRESSED MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES IN YOUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS.

JEFFREY LONGWELL



Ride with Pride!

Executive Board

Mike Shockley - Chairman
Randy Hoagland - Vice-Chairman
Bob Awtrey - International Rep
Justin Hartley - Secretary
Al Fryer - Treasurer

The SRC region includes:

Alabama
Florida
Georgia
Louisiana
Mississippi
South Carolina
Bahamas
Bermuda
Puerto Rico
Virgin Islands

SRC WEBSITE— <https://srcknights.org/>

NEWSLETTER: <https://srcknights.org/>

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SRC Fall Meeting 2024

September 13 – 14, 2024

Scottsboro, AL

Hosted by Alabama XVI

“No Registration or Fee”

Friday, September 13, 2024

Check-in & Meet and Greet

Saturday, September 14, 2024

SRC Business Meeting – 8:30 AM to 9:30 AM

Rides- 10:00 AM

- 1) Jack Daniel’s Distillery
Lynchburg, TN (65 miles)
- 2) Guntersville State Park / Little River Canyon
Guntersville, AL

Saturday Night BBQ (provided by AL XVI)

Games / Drawings / Raffle Prizes

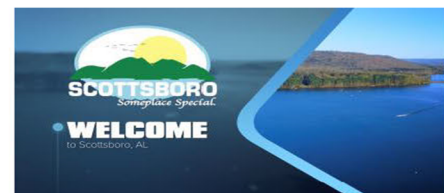
Host Hotel:

Comfort Inn
25775 John T Reid Pkwy
Scottsboro, AL
256-259-8700
Room Rate - \$104

Overflow Hotel:

Quality Inn Scottsboro
208 Micah Way
Scottsboro, AL
256-574-6666

Both hotels include breakfast.



For more information contact:
Patrick Lenhart, President AL XVI
619-823-4696



BLUE KNIGHTS® FLXVIII NEWSLETTER

JULY 2024



Blue Knights International Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club

50th Anniversary

Date: July 21st – 26th, 2024

Location: Sugarloaf Mountain Hotel & Conference Center
5092 Access Road
Carrabassett Valley, Maine 04947

Phone: 1-800-843-5623

HOTEL ROOM RESERVATIONS ARE FULL. Condos are available. Go to the Sugarloaf web page and go to the lodging link; you can then scroll through the various condo photos and descriptions and choose what type you would like with the bed configuration you want. You will then need to call and they will take your information to make your reservation. Tell them what you want... If they do not have one available right away, they will take your info (type of condo, etc.) and put you on a wait list and call you when one is added to their inventory.

RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION IS ALL MEMBERS JOB.... ALWAYS WEAR YOU COLORS AND PROMOTE OUR ORGANIZATION

JULY ZODIAC SIGNS



Cancer (June 21st - July 20th)

Nurturing and loyal, Cancers are also protective of their loved ones. While reserved, they stand on a foundation of strength – and aren't afraid to act when they feel it's necessary. The symbol of the crab offers a key to understanding Cancers' preternatural ability to know things without knowing how they know them.



Leo (July 23rd - August 22nd)

People born under the sign of Leo are natural born leaders. They are dramatic, creative, self-confident, dominant and extremely difficult to resist, able to achieve anything they want to in any area of life they commit to. There is a specific strength to a Leo and their "king of the jungle" status. Leo often has many friends for they are generous and loyal. Self-confident and attractive, this is a Sun sign capable of uniting different groups of people and leading them as one towards a shared cause, and their healthy sense of humor makes collaboration with other people even easier.



4TH JULY TRIVIA

© MEEBILY

- Q.1. In which city Fourth of July was first celebrated?
- Q.2. How many people signed the Declaration of Independence?
- Q.3. Who laid the cornerstone of Capitol Building on July 4, 1848?
- Q.4. When did Fourth of July became paid federal holiday?
- Q.5. What does 13 Stripes on U.S flag indicates?
- Q.6 Which U.S President was born on 4th of July?
- Q.7. In which year the Declaration of Independence signed?
- Q.8. Which country got independence from U.S on July 4th 1946?
- Q.9. Who died on 50th anniversary of Independence Day?
- Q.10. On which day did Congress vote for American independence?
- Q.11. Who wrote the lyrics to "The Star-Spangled Banner"?
- Q.12. Which institution first opened its doors on July 4, 1802?
- Q.13. What is the printed version of declaration called?
- Q.14. Who died on 50th anniversary of Independence Day?
- Q.15. Who was England's King on 4th July, 1776?

Answers on page 11

I HAVE TWO TITLES
VETERAN and GRUMPY
OLD MAN



The annual Fourth of July block party takes an ugly turn when former Rockette Alma "Pixie" Pitzer arrives.



The Chapter Marketplace



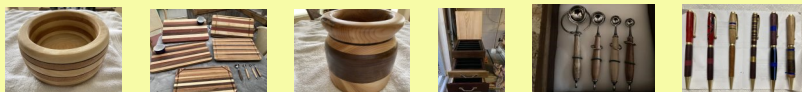
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Woodworking made to order. Tell me what you want, size, and specific wood (if requested) and I will make it.

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Jim Ryan - 941-313-1363 jryanretired@aol.com BK Florida XVIII



2016 Harley Davidson FLSTFBS "Fatboy" All Black, 25645 Miles. Price - \$ 17,000.00. Purchased from Rossiter's HD August 15, 2022 and has been garage kept everyday. Price includes a brand new windshield still in the box, never opened. Contact John Emrick at 410-991-8161 (okay to leave a message) or mddre3077@aol.com



SEND YOUR SALE ITEMS TO ADD TO OUR MARKET

4th of July Trivia Answers

- | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 6). Calvin Coolidge | 5). 13 original colonies | 13). Dunlap Broadside |
| 8). 1776 | 10). 2nd July | 11). Francis Scott Key |
| 9). Philippines | 2). 56 | 4). 1938 |
| 12). West Point | 15). King George III | 3). President James Knox Polk |
| | | 14). John Adams & Thomas Jefferson |

FOR SALE!



1992 HARLEY DAVIDSON MOTORCYCLE

- **FLTC Ultra Classic (PEACE OFFICER SPECIAL EDITION)**
- 1340cc 5 speed
- Color: Cadet blue/Midnight watch blue
- Mileage: 24,256
- Comes with the following: owner's manual, service manual (official factory manual), MC cover, and some extra parts.
- Garage kept, last fully serviced November 2022 (service record available). Just need to be cleaned.
- Asking price \$6,000.00
- **CALL: Ray (941) 497-1598 or (941) 716-1469**

FOR SALE!



2006 HARLEY DAVIDSON MOTORCYCLE

- **FLHRI ROAD KING with detachable tour pack**
- Color: Black Pearl
- Mileage: 9,461
- Includes RINEHART exhaust system with a change to the engine (equal to the performance of the pipes), owner's manual, MC cover & some parts.
- Garage kept & last fully serviced November 2022 (service record available).
- This MC is in MINT CONDITION as if it came out of the show room. It was washed & waxed every three weeks.
- Asking price \$11,000.00.
- If you were looking to buy a 2024 Road King without all of the extras, the listed price is \$24,999.00.
- THINK ABOUT IT!
- **CALL: Ray (941) 497-1598 or (941) 716-1469**



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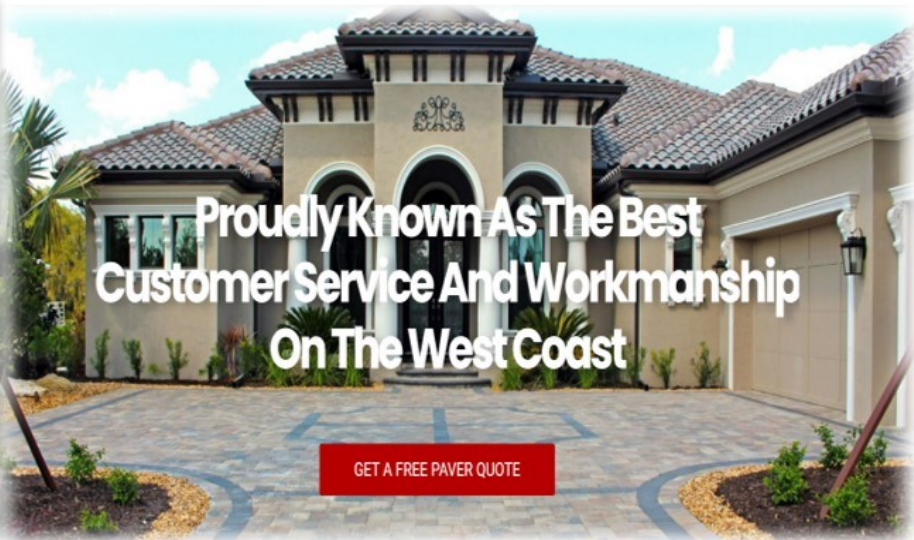
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Beverly Hills Dog Premier Doggy Daycare



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118 Reviews

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941-210-3495

Kristen

Owner / Groomer

2030 Bispham Road

Unit 4

Sarasota FL 34231

