

Blue Knights. International Law Enforcement Alotorcycle Club, Inc.









TRI-STATE TIMES - CONFERENCE NEWSLETTER NEW JERSEY - NEW YORK - PENNSYLVANIA

MAY 2024

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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.

Chairman: Myron Joseph, NY IX



Greetings and salutations my fellow BK sisters and brothers, 2024 TSC Spring President's Meeting was held at the Georgian hotel, In Lake George on Saturday May 4^{th.}, there were twenty-two-chapter presidents in attendance, plus the Tri-State board. Our International Vice President, NA; Cal Ennals, BOG Secretary Pam McClaren, Treasurer Mike Rickard along with Past International officers Karen & Jim Borza also joined us. President Mike McCotter (NY XXII) and his members

went above and beyond hosting a memorable Spring Presidents meeting. They offered a hospitality room Friday night and also Saturday night for those who chose to make a weekend out of it.

During the meeting, the Tri-State Conference is second in membership within the club with 1,927 members, UK & I with 2,465 members.

At the meeting no chapter but in a bid to host the Fall Presidents meeting/weekend in October. As of now the meeting ONLY, will be held on Saturday October 12, 2024, in New Rochelle, NY at 1300Hrs. location TBD.

The three winners for the Big Buck raffle were drawn and notified, congratulations to the winners. The presidents did approve another raffle to end May 2025.

Candidates for the upcoming BOG elections were announced: incumbent Chairman Dominic Squillace – PA X, Mark Howard [TN III, incumbent Vice – Chairman Andreas "Schlagi" Hohendorf – GER V, Roger "Crash" Byars TX XXXI, Secretary Pamela McClaren, and treasurer Michael Rickard. The elections will run June 17 – July 19, 2024. Presidents, please make sure your personal email addresses are correct at the international office. The ballots will not be sent to work or BK corporate email addresses. Chapters that had recent changes on their boards make sure the New Presidents email is on file with the international office.

May 09 – May 12, 2024, I (as a member) participated in the 2024 Law Enforcement United, Honor 37 Chapter, "Road to Hope." The four days of riding were an amazing and memorable journey from the Freedom Tower (NY) to Washington DC. Our chapter donated \$80,000.00 which will help support Concerns of Police Survivors (C.O.P.S,) the Officer Down Memorial page and Spirit of Blue Foundation organizations. I thank all of you who helped make this possible with your donation to my fund-raising efforts.

May 13, 2024, I attended the 36th Annual National Law Enforcement Officer Memorial Candlelight Vigil at the Capitol Mall. Those who have sacrificed all, and they will never be forgotten.

May 10 – 19, 2024, I attended the 85th Annual Myrtle Beach (Bike Week) Spring Rally. On May 21, 2024, members from the Tri-State, Southern Regional and Mason Dixon conferences (NY IX, NY VII, NY X, SC V and NC XIV) met for a lunch ride from Myrtle Beach, SC to Ocean Isle Beach, NC. John Flynn (Pres SC V) organized the adventure. The route was scenic, the food was good, the camaraderie was outstanding, and the laughter was infectious. (See Picture)

IF you plan to attend The BLUE KNIGHTS 50th Anniversary at Sugarloaf Resort in the beautiful state of Maine in 2024, you should call the resort asap. Cindy Fletcher is up to tip #121 on the Blue Knights International LEMC 50th Anniversary Convention site on FB. Log in and review the tips as they are very helpful to what's going to happen at the convention.

The newsletter is yours, so remember to send your articles to our TSC Secretary, Joe DeFelice, by the 25th of the month. Whether it's one sentence or a dissertation, we want it along with a flyer. Please say something about your future events so it may be included in the newsletter under your chapter contact information.

As you are aware, we have created several committees to assist us in our mission to open a constant line of communication within our conference and beyond. They are as follows:

- 1. We are still looking for members for the Innovation Steering committee to help with retention and recruitment which will be chaired by Jay (Jay Maz) Mazeski. We are looking for members who are between the ages of 25 35yrs to sit on this committee.
- 2. Let's not forget the Sunshine committee chaired by Cal Ennals to help keep up to date information of the health and welfare of all Tri-State members and their families. So please contact him or any member of the board with any pertinent information.

Please remember we have a website and FB page for all to view and add information at any time. Don Parker (<u>dapnyiv@yahoo.com</u>) is our website administrator and Teresa Hartley along with all Board Member are FB administrators.

I am looking forward to seeing friends and making new ones at the Presidents Fall meeting / weekend in a couple of weeks in Parsippany.

Until I see you or I prepare my next message, stay safe and healthy.

Vice-Chairman: Lon Strayer, PA XII



Hello Everyone

My first adventure in the month of May was to travel to Lake George in New York to attend the Tri-State spring presidents meeting. It was a wet trip to be sure. The rest of the month was spent turkey hunting and handling chapter issues.

I am proud to report that PA Chapter XII is 40 years old next month. I am the last of the founding members. We are planning an anniversary party for later in the

summer.

I am spending the Memorial Day weekend at the MDC convention in Pipestem West Virginia. WV 2 always puts on a great event.

My final note is to announce that I am running for the office of Tri-State ViceChairman. I have been a Blue Knight for 42 years. You all know me and what I stand for. I ask that the chapter presidents please vote for me and give me the chance to continue serving this great conference.

Secretary: Joe DeFelice, NY I



Greetings Fellow Blue Knight's

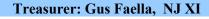
I hope everyone had a wonderful and safe Memorial Day weekend.

This year will be the Tri-State Conference elections. If you are interested in running for any Board position, please submit to me via email a letter of intent. This email must be submitted no later than **July 12, 2024**. I will answer your email which will be your receipt.

If you have any item to be put into the newsletter, please send it to me and not to any other Board member. This will save a lot of time. By the time you send the information to another Board member and they send it to me your Chapter event could be over. So, to make sure we do not miss your event, please send it directly to me. Thank you. Also send your item either in a word doc, PDF file, or a jpeg file. This will make it easier for me to save and input the files in the newsletter.

Until next time, keep the shiny side up and the rubber on the road.

Ride With Pride





Greetings,

Our Spring Presidents meeting went well thanks to Mike McCotter and members of NY XXII for hosting in beautiful Lake George NY. Mike and his crew will also be hosting their annual event during the Americade week. Unfortunately I will not be able to attend due to family event.

I hope you are getting out riding as the weather is starting to warm up.

Just a reminder we still have Tri State Conference patches, pins, and knives for sale. Knives 25.00, Patch or Pins 5.00 each

Hope to see you down the road. RWP





Dear Blue Knights & Families of New York,

Greetings Blue Knight NY families:

Hoping all are deep into their riding season and memories being made by the photo albums full.

Well, the Spring TSC President's meeting is in the books for 2024, held in Lake George. Unfortunately, I was unable to attend due to a medical condition. I do know that Jason

Rudnistky aka Doc of NY 18 won 2nd prize in the Big Buck Raffle.

In a couple of days, we will be back up to Lake George for the Blue Knights on the Lake at Americade. Hope to see you there.

The Blue Knights on the Dragon is also in the books for 2024, held annually at Fontana Village Resort in North Carolina.

Well, keep the Blue Line of Communication going with stories, photos and great memories to share, as these are a big part of our gems in the Blue Knights life.

Be well and make those Iron Horse memories.

Oh, don't forget, June 9th is the First Annual New Rochelle, NY 'Detective Sergeant Myron Joseph Day' by Proclamation of the Westchester County Legislators. Congratulations to our esteemed TSC Chairman.

Roulez avec Fierte',



New York State Rep, Metro Area: Vinny Calderon, NY X



New York State Rep, North East: Steve Nieves, NY VI

Greetings to all Blue Knight Brothers and Sisters in Tri-State.

Last month on Monday April 22, I along with my Blue Knight Brother Gerry Geoghegan from NY VI headed out to the RGC in Arkansas. While heading down we rode the entire Skyline Drive in VA. The following day we pointed our iron horses toward Nashville TN where we stayed overnight. Now that is a two-step party town. Nashville should be on everyone's bucket list. Finally, we arrived in AR on Thursday. No sooner did I step off the bike and the party time

was non-stop. The Brotherhood/Sisterhood at the RGC was amazing. Gerry and I got to meet folks from AR, TX, CO, MO, NE, LA and OK. AR III did a great job hosting the event. On Saturday, a convoy of 89 Blue Knight motorcycles headed down to the U.S. Marshals Museum escorted by AR State Police and assisted by the local Sheriff's Dept MC detail. When those boys say we are moving they don't mess around, haha. On the way back we visited historical Eureka Springs, AR, The Archway in ST. Louis MO, Numerous historical Route 66 locations, Louisville KY where baseball bats are made. We covered 12 states for a total of 3682 beautiful miles. Not a bad way to start my riding season.

Two days later I attended the 2025 Spring Presidents Meeting in beautiful Lake George. NY XXII hosted the event which was a huge success. Ralphie Ferer from NY IX was out taking photos as usual putting together a great video of the day's event. I'm sure there were others in the background who helped out. I mention this because every little bit of help from others is what makes an event a success!

Finally, the village of Lake George is working diligently in getting the village ready for Americade which is almost here. I look forward to seeing as many Blue Knight Brothers and Sisters in Lake George. For information go to www.blueknightsonthelake.org.



New Jersey State Rep: Russel Davis, NJ XI



Hey, New Jersey Blue Knights,

There are many rides coming up and some already took place. NJ 8 had a Bike Blessing and NJ 15 had their Annual Golf Outing this month. In June, NJ XI is having their 3rd Annual Autism Run on Sunday June 2nd from 10 am to 3pm. Lunch, Door prizes and more. I had the opportunity to visit NJ Chapters 3 and 15. Both Chapters are very busy this Year. The spring meeting Lake George was a great success. Many places to see, and for those attending Americade 2024 you will not be disappointed. To the winners of the Big Buck Raffle, Congratulations. NJ had one winner.

For future Blue Knight events keep checking the Tri State webpage and event flyers. RWP.



Pennsylvania State Rep: Pamela McClaren, PA XIII

Our TSC meeting was held up in Lake George, NY on May 4th and although it is usually just a day event, Mike McCotter and chapter turned it into a fun weekend. Joe DeFelice got the minutes from the meeting out quickly so if you want to know what was covered in case you couldn't make the meeting, they are out there and hopefully passed on to the chapter contacts.

I wanted to congratulate PA Chapter I on the grand achievement of being a chapter for 40 years!! I couldn't travel to get them their plaque but received a great picture of Irv Shipley with the plaque - what a great milestone!!

Be safe out there riding everyone and enjoy the rest of spring!! Ride with Pride!!



Pennsylvania State Rep: Rick Vobis, PA XXVI

Greetings Brothers and Sisters of the Tri States Conference.

Well the riding season has started although to be honest it has, so far in my area of PA, been a very wet season.

The Tri States Spring/President's meeting went off without a hitch thanks to the wonderful efforts of President Mike McCotter and the crew Blue Knights New Your XXII. For the first time in my memory, this event had a hospitality room with a full bar of top shelf booze, Beer, and assorted munchies for the taking. I stayed the full 3 days offered as did many others and had a wonderful time reconnecting with "old" friends and making new friends as we sat around the fire pits and enjoyed the Brotherhood that represents our great club. I can't wait for the "Blue Knights on the Lake" event that this chapter is putting on in Lake George during the Americade if the TSC Spring meeting is any indication of how they put on a party! REMEMBER there is no registration or fee for this event, just that you are part of the family so show up if you are in the area.

I intend on attending Blue Knights PA XIV's "Pennsylvania Country Tour" being held on Saturday June 8th, 2024. My registration is already sent. This is the "34th Annual Tour" and promises to be a fun filled day of escorted ride, Door prizes, 50/50 raffles, and lots of food! Check the flyer and registration form out on the TSC website under events.

There has been little to report business wise in my area except the usual change of some of the Chapter Executive Board members due to either a Chapter election, resignation, or unfortunate passing. Please, if there has been a change in your chapter board, allow our TSC Secretary to know so he can update his files and keep every chapter properly informed of all newsletters etc.

Well the road calls and it is time to ride. I hope to see you all on the road. Stay safe and as always Ride with Pride - Rick

Pennsylvania State Rep: Mike Hoover, PA XXI

Greetings from Southwestern Pennsylvania.

Weather is great for riding once again. I'm sure i don't have to tell anyone that there is nothing like the wind blowing through your hair, the sound of rumbling pipes and the smell of fresh cut grass.

I participated with PA 16 on May 19 on a ride to Murrysville church for the Blessing of the Bikes event. The church also honored all first responders, and the church was packed to the raters. The main message was delivered by the Chief of Murrayville.

All responders were presented with gifts as a token of their graduate of service.

Keep the wheels rolling and RWP





It is sad to report that Odie is in rehab with many illnesses and will be in rehab for several months to come. Odie would like very much to hear from you. You can reach him on his

cell phone at 412-260-7058.



Safety Officer: Sal Salamone, NY XVI

The Key to Motorcycle Safety (and Fun)

If you thought that the most important part of riding a motorcycle is to learn the physical skills, such as braking, cornering, slow speed maneuvers, and perhaps swerving. While those are very important skills to master, it is the mental skills that are the most critical skills to develop when it comes to reducing injuries and death. And the

most important mental skill of all is ATTITUDE

Wait, what?

Yes, *attitude* is the most critical thing to get right; before cornering, or braking, or strategies for managing traffic. **Attitude** colors the relationship a rider has with motorcycling. A positive and committed **attitude** toward safety needs to be established from the start and maintained throughout a rider's career.

Shut Up and Ride

We know that this kind of talk can be a buzz kill. We would rather ride without the need to consider the limits of the riding environment. Sometimes We just want to ride like the twisty public roads are your own personal racetrack, and there are times We just don't want to play well with other drivers. Unfortunately, we know too many motorcycling friends who died too young to not take the limits seriously. It's not enough to be very skilled at controlling a motorcycle. If your attitude stinks and you can't seem to keep a healthy balance between fun and safety, So, I say *Shut Up and Ride WELL!*

You Have to Want It

How badly do *you* want to survive? Perhaps I'm being melodramatic, but it's a serious question. When it comes to participating in a sport where people die, you owe it to your loved ones and yourself to ask that question. If the answer is "I really, really want to survive", then do something about it. It's important to have excellent physical skills, such as cornering, braking and the ability to perform evasive maneuvers. However, superior *mental* skills prevent the vast majority of close calls and crashes. Learn to play the mental game and you'll be a winner. Refuse to learn the tricks of motorcycle control and survival and you'll lose. So, it all starts with a committed **attitude**. Without an **attitude** that prioritizes risk management, then it's unlikely that really proficient mental and physical skills will ever develop. It takes a commitment to be really good at anything, including motorcycling.

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BANGOR, ME 04401

50th Anniversary International Convention July 21 - 26, 2024 - Sugarloaf Mountain, Maine.

** REMINDERS **

Please send me an updated Chapter Contact Form whenever your Chapter changes Officers and/or Contacts.

The form is available on the Join us/Chapters page of the TSC Website.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: SUBMIT YOUR CHAPTER INFORMATION BEFORE THE 25^{th} OF EACH MONTH.

Please email me your event fliers. All fliers will be forwarded to Chapters &

posted on the Events Page of our website www.bktsc.org

Joseph DeFelice, Tri-State Conference Secretary

*** As always: Ride with Pride ***



Chapter

Date

Date

Chapter

Event

Blue Knights® International Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club, Inc. TRI-STATE CONFERENCE (YEAR) RIDE EVENT SCHEDULE



Flyer

Flyer

(As Of 01/01/2024)

Contact or Website

NEW FOR (YEAR) – I have also added the surrounding
Conference Meetings and Weekends to the Schedule in GREEN

BLACK is Chapter Events, RED is TSC Conference Events, BLUE is International Events

JANUARY

DALESS CHILLY CHILLDIN

01	NJ IX	DALE'S CHILLY	Y CHILI RUN	TREVORFLOYDCOEME.COM	N
Date	Chapter	Event	FEBRUARY	Contact or Website	Flyer
Date	Chapter	Event	MARCH	Contact or Website	Flyer
Date	Chapter	Event	APRIL	Contact or Website	Flyer
10-13	LO XVI	2025 SOUTHERN I		ENCE BKLouisian16.org	Ÿ
Date	Chapter	Event	MAY	Contact or Website	Flyer
05/27-	6/2 NY XXII	BLUE KNIG	HT'S ON THE LAKE	MMCCOTTER1@GMAIL.COM	Y
Date	Chapter	Event	JUNE	Contact or Website	Flyer
)5/27-			HT'S ON THE LAKE	MMCCOTTER1@GMAIL.COM	Y
02	NJ XI	PUZZLE PIEC		CAPT.RAY@VERIZON.NEY	Y
08	PA XIV BKPAVIV COUNTRY TOUR 570-419-8658				
25	PA XXV	Fallen Officer I	Memorial Law Ride		Y
Date	Chapter	Event	JULY	Contact or Website	Flyer
13	NY XVII	Vietnam Veterans N	Memorial Highway of V	alor 607-351-9919	Y
28	PA XVI	21 Annual Blue Ridg	ge	724-263-6218/pa16-blueknights.com	N
Date	Chapter	Event	<u>AUGUST</u>	Contact or Website	Flyer
04	PA XXVI	Minisink Battle R			Y
25	NJ V	Wildwood Boardy	valk Ride	856-364-6843/blueknightsv.org	N
Date	Chapter	Event	SEPTEMBER	Contact or Website	Flyer
09	NY XV	Lighthouse Run		631-807-6099	Ň
Date	Chapter	Event	<u>OCTOBER</u>	Contact or Website	Flyer
Date	Chapter	Event	NOVEMBER	Contact or Website	Flyer

This is the (YEAR) Tristate Ride Schedule to date. Contact me with you Events or correction at bktscsec@gmail.com. The schedule and uploads of event fliers may be found on the Events page of the Conference website: www.bktsc.org

Contact or Website

DECEMBER







