

Meeting Minutes for January 10, 2008



Blue Knights Law Enforcement Motorcycle Group California Chapter



Blue Knights CA XVII
P.O. Box 5197
Ventura, CA 93005

'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.'

Members in Attendance:

Larry Meyers, Mark Boltinhouse, Ken Cozzens, Dan Kiernan, Dick Diaz, Tony Biter, Stan Hibdon, and Larry Baugher.

Old business:

- Meeting and ride for December was held at County line Cycles in Simi Valley. Our members (above) participated in the 9th annual Bikers for Christ Toy Run. This annual event benefits the boys and girls in the El Rio School District by providing hundreds of unwrapped toys for their Christmas. We had a free breakfast of donuts, rolls, tamales, and coffee. It was great to meet and speak with riders from all over Southern California. From Simi we rode over back roads to Oxnard and arrived at the elementary school. I saw at least 300 motorcycles and riders fill the playground area. The kids met us with smiles and handmade Christmas cards thanking us for remembering them at Christmas time. I know we are tough guys but the laughter, smiles, and warmth from these kids opened a soft spot and made us feel good too.
- Blue Knight members escorted Santa Claus in Santa Paula. Ten to Thirteen members and family escorted Santa to the Boy's and Girl's Club of Santa Paula. We had Santa Paula P.D. units and S.P. Fire running code 3 all through the City with Santa in a Barco-lounger in the back of a City flatbed. Several members fancied up their motorcycles with Christmas decorations. Pictures are on our Chapter website.
- This month's meeting ride was to L A Cycles instead of to the desert and the "singing road." The Santa Ana winds were gusting to 70 miles an hour....not a pleasant ride idea. So, the guys came up with plan B and they went bike shopping. I guess someone bought a new Gold Wing!
- Talk around the table at the meeting was about JBJ's Honda and Victory repair shop in Santa Ana. Larry Meyers, Ken Cozzens, and Dick Diaz were saying the mechanics at JBJ's were the best. We were told stories of competent repair but also extra work by the shop to repair a different shop's mistakes. It's always good to hear there is a "Mr. Goodwrench" somewhere looking out for us.

New business:

- **Valentine's Run, February 21, 2009**

The GWRRA Covina Chapter I presents their 27th annual Valentine Run. Check in is 0730-0930 at Charter Oaks High School 1430 E. Covina Blvd. Covina. Pre reg. Is \$20.00, at the ride \$22.00 and includes coffee, tea, hot cocoa, donuts, lunch, and ride pin.

Blue Knights will meet at McDonalds at Santa Rosa Road and the 101 FWY at 0700 hours.

- **Ride for Kids—May 3rd**

\$35.00 donation goes to the Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation. Your money goes to a great Foundation and buys you a box lunch and ride pin.

We will meet at Hwy 1 and Statham Blvd. (McDonald's) at 0700 hours.

- **June 3rd—6th, 2009, We will co-host the 2009 Southwest conference of the Blue Knights.** Blue Knight's Chapter CAXI (Santa Maria) will run the hospitality room and plan a Solvang ride and BBQ. BOL for door prizes, grand prize gifts, and a guest speaker for Saturday night June 6th, 2009.
- Ron Large brought the **New Chapter Patch** artwork to the meeting, and by now, you have had a chance to see for yourself on line. We are ordering light blue, short and long sleeve T shirts with the logo "sublimated" on the front and back. Even classier, we will have a front pocket. Those interested in the T shirts, start thinking about the size, ss or ls, and number of shirts. We are getting bids as this newsletter goes to print.

Note

Date **February 14, 2008 is the date for the next meeting of the Blue Knights CA XVII. We will meet at Mike's Fiesta Restaurant at 0800 for breakfast and 0830 for the meeting.**

Member's Corner: Share your recent ride story or other Motorcycle info.

Treasurer's Report: We have \$850.00 Plus 100.00 in petty cash.

Come to the next meeting and plan the rides and events that you want, on the schedule you want. Remember to "RIDE WITH PRIDE!" www.blueknights-ca17.org



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Members in Attendance:

Larry Meyers, Mark Boltinhouse, Ken Cozzens, Dan Kiernan, Ernie Eglin, George Conahey, Jerome "Jerry" Pereira (new member from CHP).

Old business:

- A big THANK YOU was said to Chapter President, Larry Meyers, for his continuing work on the upcoming Southwest Conference. Larry brought a sample conference pin to show, depicting the Knight riding the unofficial law enforcement dolphin. Our Chapter is proud to be based in Ventura and to be associated with the sea. The dolphin on the pin is an easily recognizable symbol of the unique, geographical location of this year's Southwest Conference.
- The following is a thank you letter for our members written to our treasurer Dan Kiernan:

January 6, 2009

Dear Dan,

Please extend our thanks to the Blue Knights for joining our "Santa & Me" program. The escort they provided for "Santa & Mrs. Claus made the entire program a success, not to mention how impressive it looked.

As a point of interest, we were able to provide gifts for 1,125 children that day. We look forward to having you join us this year at our 11th Annual "Santa & Me" program. Please do not hesitate to call if we can be of assistance to you.

Sincerely,
Calla Dominquez
Coordinator
Santa Paula Police Storefront
Las Piedras Park 805-933-0701

New business:

- **March 14, 2009 is meeting day.** After the meeting we plan to ride to The Beach Café, 5905 Sandspit Road, Goleta Beach for lunch. Have lunch and walk on the beach and enjoy the sun. For reservations of the sun: 805-964-7881.
- **Ride for Kids—May 3rd**
\$35.00 donation goes to the Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation. Your money goes to a great Foundation and buys you a box lunch and ride pin.
We will meet at Hwy 1 and Statham Blvd. (McDonald's) at 0700 hours.
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- Ron Large brought the **New Chapter Patch** artwork to the meeting, and by now, you have had a chance to see for yourself on line. We are ordering light blue, short and long sleeve T shirts with the logo “sublimated” on the front and back. Even classier, we will have a front pocket. Those interested in the T shirts, start thinking about the size, ss or ls, and number of shirts. We are getting bids as this newsletter goes to print.

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Treasurer's Report: We have \$1000.00 Plus 100.00 in petty cash. We also have three full sets of patches.

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Meeting Minutes for March 14, 2009



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Members in Attendance:

Larry Meyers, Jean and Mark Boltinhouse, Ken Cozzens, Dan Kiernan.

Old business:

- Cancellation: For those of you who look forward to this event every year, the Rider magazine event at the Ventura County fairgrounds is canceled this year. The staff at Rider stated the poor economy, gas prices, hotel prices, laundry and maid services as the reasons for the cancellation. Yeah, see you next year when things get better!
- Next month's Blue Knights meeting is canceled. I am not kidding. No, Mike's Fiesta Restaurant is not renovating. We will all be at Pacific Grove the weekend before and will be sick of each other for at least a week after.
- The following is a thank you letter for our members:

January 6, 2009

Dan Kiernan
Detective
Santa Paul Police Department
215 S. 10th Street
Santa Paula, CA 93060

RE: Blue Knights International
California Chapter 17
Dear Dan,

Please extend our thanks to the Blue Knights for joining our "Santa & Me" program. The escort they provided for "Santa & Mrs. Claus made the entire program a success, not to mention how impressive it looked.

As a point of interest, we were able to provide gifts for 1,125 children that day. We look forward to having you join us this year at our 11th Annual “Santa & Me” program. Please do not hesitate to call if we can be of assistance to you.

Sincerely,
Calla Dominquez
Coordinator
Santa Paula Police Storefront
Las Piedras Park
805-933-0701

New business:

- **First things first:** Our mighty President, Grand Poobaw, Tireless Leader, and Great Rider, without accidents, is **Retiring!!! Yes, after 50 years**, if you add in the stress factor, Larry Meyers is leaving the Ventura County Sheriff’s Department the way he found it, strapped for cash and an unknown future. Larry stated he is going to take time off from everything after retirement and then return to The Department and teach a class at the Academy (Goal setting for leadership).
A two hour ride will precede Larry’s retirement BBQ at the VCDSA. The start will be at 1000 hours, at Chevron Gas/ 118 Fwy at Sycamore in Simi. We will ride through the foothills of Ventura County and work up a powerful desire to rip cooked meat off of hot bones. Word is that there is going to be a BBQ and a ROAST! (poor Larry, he turns so red at these things)
- Here we go again. The **Good ol’ Days in Pacific Grove, April 3, 4, 5th. Make reservations at the Lighthouse Lodge**, (831) 655-2111. Ask for the Blue Knights rate. Breakfast and dinner are included in the price of the room. Other chapters of BK will be there to meet and reestablish friendships. Go for the parade, the views of Monterey Bay, and the Grove’s festival, but GO! Start at McDonald’s on Harbor Blvd. at 0900 hours and on to lunch in Paso Robles at 1200-1230 hours.
- April 18th: Picnic ride to Solvang and Nojoqui Falls. Get your favorite lunch in Solvang and take it to the park. They have great sandwiches and pretzels and cheese/wine. Start at 0900 hours at Mike’s Fiesta Restaurant. Some of us will be early and having breakfast at 0800 hours.
- **April 26th:** Ride to the “singing road” in the Palmdale/ Lancaster area. Meet at Starbucks in Fillmore at 126 Hwy/A St. at 0800 hours.
- **Overnighter at the end of the month:** Get your \$15.00 reservations in at Buffalo Bills/State Line (702)679-5460, special Blue knight rate. Ken Cozzens leads this one to ZZZZX on March 29th/30th. The start is in Fillmore at Yanni’s at 0730 hours.
- **Ride for Kids—May 3rd**
\$35.00 donation goes to the Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation. Your money goes to a great Foundation and buys you a box lunch and ride pin.
We will meet at Hwy 1 and Statham Blvd. (McDonald’s) at 0700 hours.
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- Ron Large brought the **New Chapter Patch** artwork to the meeting, and by now, you have had a chance to see for yourself on-line. We are ordering white, short and long sleeve T shirts with the logo “sublimated”

on the front and back. Even classier, we will have a front pocket. Those interested in the T shirts, start thinking about the size, ss or ls, and number of shirts. We are getting bids as this newsletter goes to print.

- Larry Meyers paid for our Chapter's web domain for the next two years. Thanks Larry.

Note

Date **May 9, 2009** is the date for the next meeting of the Blue Knights CA XVII. We will meet at Mike's Fiesta Restaurant at 0800 for breakfast and 0830 for the meeting.

Member's Corner: Share your recent ride story or other Motorcycle info.

Treasurer's Report: We have \$1000.00 Plus 100.00 in petty cash. We also have three full sets of patches.

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**Meeting for April, 2009 Cancelled for Final planning Meeting
SWC at Ventura Marriott**



Meeting Minutes for May 09, 2009



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Members in Attendance:

Larry Meyers, Mark Boltinhouse, and Dan Kiernan.

Old business:

- Pictures of our recent rides, (Solvang, singing road, ZZYZX, etc.) are posted on our web site.
- Drawing prizes and cash donations are coming in for the Southwest Conference, however we still need more. It is time to beat the bushes and ask all your contacts.

New business:

- Just off of craigslist: **Vintage Bike Rally to the Rare (805).** May 30, 2009, 45 mile run to Ojai. Ride starts at the Cactus Patch restaurant, 197 High Street, Moorpark, at 0800 for breakfast, 0830 start. Destination is Guy Webster/ Mike Taggart's private moto-museum. Lunch after is at Boccali's Café. No fee, just ride and seek. Chase trucks will be on hand for broken/crashed bikes and riders.
- **June 3rd-6th, 2009, We will co-host the 2009 Southwest conference of the Blue Knights.** All members are needed to help during the three and one half days of the conference. Go to our web site and locate the agenda. Call Larry Meyers and tell him what you can help with. BOL for door prizes, grand prize gifts. The guest speaker for Saturday night will be Brian Roberts.
- Larry Meyers paid for our Chapter's web domain for the next two years and our picture site. Thanks Larry.

Note

Date **June 13, 2009** is the date for the next meeting of the Blue Knights CA XVII. We will meet at Mike's Fiesta Restaurant at 0800 for breakfast and 0830 for the meeting.

Member's Corner: Share your recent ride story or other Motorcycle info.

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Southwest Conference Annual Membership Meeting Ventura Beach, California

Saturday June 6, 2009 0900 – 1200 hours

Meeting Called to Order by Chairman Jack Kaylor : 0908

A moment of Silence observed for members of Heaven 1, all Law Enforcement officers slain in the line of duty, along with those Blue Knights that are sick and distressed.

BLUE KNIGHT PLEDGE was read by: Jack Kaylor *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.*

SECRETARY TO TAKE ROLL CALL:

Chairman: (JK) Jack Kaylor - Present
Vice Chairman East: (RP) Rick Parsons Not Present
Vice Chairman West: (GO) Guy O'Connor - Present
Secretary (GC) Glenn Carpenter - Present
Treasurer: (TS) Tom Slaughter - Present
Safety Officer (RB) Richard Bennett - Present

GUESTS: Russ Harper, International Treasurer
Karl Hutchinson, West Coast Conference Chairman

Chapters represented: (Quorum Present)

ARIZONA VI
ARIZONA IX
CALIFORNIA II
CALIFORNIA IV
CALIFORNIA VI
CALIFORNIA XVII
NEW MEXICO I
NEW MEXICO II
NEW MEXICO VI
NEVADA I
TEXAS III

Chapters not represented:

ARIZONA I
ARIZONA II

CALIFORNIA X
CALIFORNIA XI
CALIFORNIA XIII

CALIFORNIA XIV
CALIFORNIA XX

COLORADO I
COLORADO II
COLORADO III
COLORADO VI
COLORADO VII
COLORADO IX

NEW MEXICO III
NEW MEXICO VII
NEW MEXICO VII

HOUSE KEEPING WELCOMING STATEMENT: Larry Meyers Chapter President CA XVII

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Reading of Minutes of last Annual Membership Meeting Santa Fe, NM June 13th 2008.

MOTION TO ACCEPT? TX III Kunard SECONDED BY: NV I Lawrence

VOTE: All in favor: Unanimous All Opposed 0 Abstentions 0

MOTION: Carries.

Newsletter: At the 2008 Southwest Conference a newsletter was negated in favor of trying email. It was the consensus that emails have been quite effective and no newsletter was needed.

Digital Recorder: The Secretary reported that in the past we had to rely on the host hotel, contract out, or rely on the benevolence of someone for a system to record the business meeting. This past year we purchased a digital recorder so that we can adequately document the meeting. When you have a question, or wish to address the meeting, please step up to the microphone (identify yourself/chapter) and then say your piece. This will greatly help in getting an accurate accounting of this proceeding.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Amount in bank: \$4099.71

Outstanding debt: Nothing Outstanding

Issues: purchased audio recorder this year, gave \$250 to International Special Fund

Jim Harkins/CA VI: asked if we could spend more of the money we have in our bank account to the betterment of the chapters.

Jerry Lawrence/NV I: Asked if host chapter will be breaking even. Larry Meyers stated that they would actually be turning a couple hundred dollar profit.

MOTION TO ACCEPT?: Jerry Lawrence NVI

SECONDED BY: Larry Kunard TX III

VOTE: All in favor: Unanimous All Opposed 0 Abstentions 0

MOTION: Carries.

SOUTHWEST CONFERENCE SAFETY OFFICER REPORT: (Richard Bennett)

- thanks host chapter
- thanked those who attended the Safety Briefing on 06/04/09
- will be leading the ride to Solvang

SWC VICE-CHAIRMAN EAST REPORT:

- Not Present but had Nothing to Report

SWC VICE-CHAIRMAN WEST REPORT:

- purchased digital recorder
- -involved in organizing the 2010 Joint WCC/SWC Conference

SWC CHAIRMAN REPORT:

- thanked executive committee for their help
- thanked the host chapter for their efforts
-

CHAPTER REPORTS:

ARIZONA VI

47 active members

1 into Heaven I this year

Taser Foundation Ride had approx 250 riders

ARIZONA IX

53 members

CALIFORNIA II

12 members (10 active officers)

Working on recruitment

CALIFORNIA IV

Twin Pines Run – most successful to date \$60,000

CALIFORNIA VI

83 members

Celebrated chapter's 20th Anniversary (issued commemorative coin)

Annual Poker Run was very successful with 121 riders

Annual Benefit Ride for C.O.P.S. on June 28th

Celebrated our first Silver Tier member – Cameron Nouriani

Conducted Safety Stand Down – well received by membership

CALIFORNIA XVII

Hosted 2009 Southwest Conference – profits to go to “Ride For Kids”

27 members

Over \$750 donated to charity

NEW MEXICO I

14 members

Participated in Ride for Kids in Albuquerque

Had two charity rides for “Child Abuse”

NEW MEXICO II

22 members

Rode in Battan Memorial Parade (Battan Death March Memorial)

NEW MEXICO VI
28 members (8 rode to 2009 SWC)

NEVADA I
@30 members
Had Poker Run for Shriners – best year yet

TEXAS III
26 members

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Southwest Conference Procedures Manual Explanation and Chapter Presidents to vote to accept or oppose (Glenn Carpenter)

Larry Kunard(TX III) asked questions about conference guidelines for hosting a conference and whether these were to be included in these procedures. It was explained by Secretary Carpenter that these were to be two separate documents.

Jim Harkins (CA VI) stated that he felt that there was not enough participation to have a vote for these procedures. He felt that there should be a minimum of 14 of the 27 SWC chapters.

Larry Kunard (TX III) spoke to believing that there had been enough notice to all Presidents regarding the votes and that each of the presidents had been involved in the procedural development. (SWC Secretary note: five emails had been sent out to all conference presidents outlining proposed new procedures and asking for input. Each email had also highlighted the need for attendance at 2009 SWC business meeting or proxies for accepting/negating the conference procedures)

The procedures called for 10 Presidents/Proxies for a quorum. As 11 Presidents/Proxies are present a quorum was established.

MOTION TO ACCEPT FOR A VOTE?: NM I Robert Surran
SECONDED BY: TX III Larry Kunard
VOTE: All in favor 10 All Opposed 0 Abstentions 1
MOTION: Carries.

2. 2010 Southwest Conference annual meeting Report (Karl Hutchinson & Guy O'Connor)
2010 Joint WCC/SWC to take place in Grand Junction, CO. Cost is \$89.00/person until 06/15/10.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. 2010 is an election year. Candidates for Southwest Conference offices should submit their intentions to run for office to the SWC Secretary by November 30th with a short statement describing their qualifications and platform. This will then be made available to the SWC Web Site Administrator for placement on website for all members to view.
2. Open bidding for hosting 2011 SWC.
 - June 2011 Prescott Resort & Casino – Guy O'Connor presented bid
 - Motion to accept TX III Kunard
 - Seconded by NV I Lawrence
 - Vote: In Favor – Unanimous Opposed – 0 Abstentions – 0

- Motion: Carried

- 3. Russ Harper - International Treasurer
 - Spoke of International Longevity awards (15/20/25/30/35 yrs)
 - 18, 713 members
 - 602 chapters
 - Spoke of issue involving Australian governments prohibiting membership in Outlaw Motorcycle Clubs and their definition being any club with a 3 piece patch. International looking into having an alternative patch for the Australian chapters.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Nothing for the "Good of the Order"

MOTION TO ADJOURN: TX III Kunard **SECONDED BY** NV I Lawrence

MEETING ADJOURNED: 1107

NEXT MEETING JULY 2010 in Grand Junction, Colorado.

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Members in Attendance:

Anthony Biter, Mark Boltinhouse, George Conahey, Ken Cozzens, Dick Diaz and daughter, Mark Englander, Ernie Eglin, Dan Kiernan, and Jerry Pereira.

Old business:

- 2009 Blue Knights Southwestern Conference--- A Great Success! Four days of rides, meetings, hospitality, hobnobbing, and a little weather. During the planning stages, the turnout and support did not

look abundant. However, with Larry Meyers, Jackie Meyers, Dan Kiernan and wife Theresa, and a few others, our Chapter was well spoken of and we made money.

The Ventura Marriott returned our deposit, charged us normal rates, assessed no penalties, and was pleased that we brought them business for a profitable week.

Grand prizewinner, Jim Aichele, wrote me today to say he loved his new Tour Master Pivot 3 jacket. Jim said he will wear it to his next Blue Knight function and make everyone jealous.

We served ninety-nine attendees at Saturday night's dinner and ceremony.

Thank you letters will be sent to all those involved that made the year's Conference a success.

Dan Kiernan estimated the net dollar amount added to our treasury to be between \$2600.00 and \$2800.00.

New business:

- Dan Kiernan and Ron Large are working on our Chapter's white T shirts. These will have our Chapter logo on the front and back and have long sleeves.
- Most Chapters of the Blue Knights support a charity. Their members participate in many charity rides during the year. This is what the Blue Knights do. Chapter XVII needs to vote on one charity and support it in the future. Many charities such as Boy Scouts of America, ARC, and Veterans were named as possible charities at the meeting. Please email the Club secretary at velocipete@aol.com to add you choice to our local list of charities.
- **Cal Coast Riders** are riding to Mammoth and Pacific Grove **June 26,27,28**. Details are on their web site.
- July's after-meeting ride is a lunch-dinner ride to Kelso, California. Ken Cozzens will lead this one to this revitalized mining town near Baker, California.
- The date of this year's **Downed Officer's ride is 08-16-09**. More details later.
- Larry Meyers paid for our Chapter's web domain for the next two years and our picture site. Thanks Larry. Check out the terrific Southwestern Conference pictures now on our site.

Note

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Members in Attendance:

Mark Boltinhouse, George Conahey, Ken Cozzens, Ernie Eglin, Jerry Pereira, and Landis Potter.

Old business:

The after-meeting ride to Kelso in the desert was postponed and replaced by a cooler, shorter ride up the California coast. Kelso was 128 degrees in the shade. We will plan that ride for early spring. Off we went. The first stop was to the secret clubhouse on the beach at Port Hueneme. Off again, in the sun and cool wind, up the 101 to 150. Landis led the way through Ojai to Summit drive-in. After a quick drink, we rode down to Garmin's Bar in Santa Paula. We met Dan Kiernan for lunch.

All in all, it was a great ride with great friends.

New business:

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- Most Chapters of the Blue Knights support a charity. Their members participate in many charity rides during the year. This is what the Blue Knights do. Chapter XVII needs to vote on one charity and support it in the future. Many charities such as Boy Scouts of America, ARC, and Veterans were named as possible charities at the meeting. Please email the Club secretary at velocipete@aol.com to add you choice to our local list of charities.
Ken Cozzens submitted an idea to help Deputy Larson's wife with around the house fixes. For that matter, we could extend help to any of the widows of fallen Police or Sheriff.
- The date of this year's **Downed Officer's ride is 08-16-09 at 0800 to 1500 hours. At Westfield Valencia Town Center**
24201 Valencia Blvd.
Valencia, CA 91355
For an online registration go to: www.downedofficers.com
- Larry Meyers paid for our Chapter's web domain for the next two years and our picture site. Thanks Larry. Check out the terrific Southwestern Conference pictures now on our site.

Note

Date **August 22, 2009 is the date for the next meeting of the Blue Knights CA XVII. We will meet at Larry Meyers home for our annual BBQ at 1pm at 3631 Pier Walk, Oxnard, CA (805) 985-4794 for the meeting.**

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Meeting Minutes for August 22, 2009



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Members in Attendance:

Jean and Mark Boltinhouse, Linda and George Conahey, Ken Cozzens, Kathy and Ernie Eglin, Dan Kiernan, Jackie and Larry Meyers, Jerry Pereira, Alma and Juan Olmos and Landis Potter.

Old business:

- The Downed Officer's Ride was held on 08-16-09 in Valencia. Seven of our Club members participated-- Kathy and Ernie Eglin, Chris Collier, Jerry Pereira, Rene Machado, Nolan Stoyko, and Mark Boltinhouse.

After meeting at the Rancho Road Park and Ride, we rode to the Lost Hills Sheriff's Station. We arrived at 0645 hours, had coffee and donuts, and met approximately 75 other riders. At 0715, the CHP, in cars and on motors, escorted all of us east on the 101 to the 405, to the 5 and north to Santa Clarita. I think this part of the day was the best. We road in the number one lane at 60 MPH. The CHP stopped traffic on the 101 and 405, as we entered and exited each freeway. I won't get that kind of attention even when I die! We arrived at the Town Center without any trouble.

The ceremony was the same as years past, with the rider-less horse, the honor guard, the speeches. Year after year, very little changes....except the list of names gets longer. That's why we go. We all want to honor those who gave the ultimate sacrifice and we are proud to do so.

The poker run was an out and back ride to Ojai. As we left Ojai, I told the group of riders we were in to be careful of the ride up Balcom Canyon...very steep. I should have had a bull horn. As we made our way into the canyon, the ascent got steeper and steeper. We got to the old slide area near the top. I was leading the ride, and I saw them first. Full dressed Harley's, one on its side, others with no riders on them but former riders holding them as if they were possessed. On my second scan of the scene, I saw Harley's falling over like dominoes. I saw helmeted people on the ground.

I drove past this unbelievable scene and parked my Honda twenty feet past the last fallen bike on the paved shoulder. I couldn't get off my bike. I knew if I did it would slide backward into the mountain. "What kind of place is this, I asked myself?" I tried to start my engine and it would only crank over and over. My 700 pound machine would not come back to life. It started slipping backward into a gully that was paved into the mountain for rainwater to drain at the base of the mountain. Before the paving, the water cut into the mountain and caused a huge landslide and a yearlong road closure.

I knew that I had to help those riders behind me who had fallen, so I let my bike slowly rest on the right saddlebag. I got off and started back toward the Harley's. I looked up the road and saw Chris Collier park his Honda. He got off and his bike went over, crashing to the pavement as parts of his bike exploded on impact. A stranger stopped me and said he would help me right my bike. I straddled it, started the engine, revved the engine and let the clutch out. Nothing happened. All the weight was on the rear wheel, the front wheel was off the ground, and I could not steer. We pivoted the bike on its rear wheel to a less steep angle. I was suddenly moving forward, up the road. I finally parked on a more level spot and ran back to help the others.

We got all the bikes up on two wheels and realized that no one was injured. Everyone was able to ride away. Apparently, one Harley had pulled over to the right side of the shoulder to wait for his friends. Not knowing about the danger of the downward angle of the paved shoulder, he lost control and his bike and passenger went down. I think I later heard her say, "This is not what the Downed Officer ride is all about!" She was beside herself.

I did not see Ernie and Kathy fall. At our next stop in Moorpark, Kathy told me she gracefully fell off (at Ernie's command, "Get off, Honey!") and stumbled backward into a barbed wire fence. Stuck in the fence, she tore her jacket to get off and out of the wire.

Ernie helped Chris snap the shattered right mirror/turn signal back on his Honda. Chris estimated the damage to be around \$500.00. Chris said later, "This proves that no good deed goes unpunished."

Of our group of riders, Jerry Pereira, was the only one who did not fall, his bike did not fall, and he was able to help the fallen Harley riders. I think this raises the rationale thought that he should be our new Ride Safety Officer.

- Blue Knight's Chapter XVII BBQ. Our annual barbeque and August meeting was held 08-22-09. Attending were: President Larry Meyers and his wife, Jackie, Director Ken Cozzens, Jean and Mark Boltinhouse, Treasurer Dan Kiernan, past Secretary Landis Potter, Alma and Juan Olmos, Linda and George Conahey, and Kathy and Erie Eglin.

Tri-tip, salad, chips and yummy guacamole, pot stickers, beans, bread, potato salad, and drinks made up the afternoon meal.

Larry is resting and doing what the doctor told him. He might be on the West Valley Ride on Sept 12!

So many members had funny stories to tell from the years past. The afternoon went quickly as we laughed and ate. We all thank Jackie and Larry for their hospitality.

New business:

- The date for the Blue Knight's Southwestern Conference of 2010 is July 24-28, 2010 in Grand Junction, CO. For details, go to the Blue Knight's web site.
- **2nd Annual West Valley Memorial Ride** is Saturday, September 12, 2009. Info:

Go to www.westvalleymemorialride.com

Registration: 9-11 AM

West Valley Police Station

19020 Vanowen St. Reseda

Live band 1-4 PM "Girl Up Front"

Escorted ride to Paramount Studios, Hollywood

Lunch provided – catered by Alex's Gourmet Catering

\$35.00- rider Day of event- \$45.00

\$10.00 for passenger

T-shirt for the first 100 entrants only

One raffle ticket

Partial proceeds go to benefit the Randal D. Simone Outreach Foundation and the LA Police Memorial Foundation

Contact info: Officer Lyle Snyder, 818-374-7617 or e-mail: 24416@lapd.lacity.org

Blue Knights will meet at the Rancho Road Park and Ride in Thousand Oaks at 0815 hours and leave for Reseda at 0830 hours. Breakfast before the ride at Roxie's Famous Deli on Thousand Oaks Blvd, at 0730 hours.

- The date of next year's **Downed Officer's ride is 08-22-10 at 0800 to 1500 hours. At Westfield Valencia Town Center**
24201 Valencia Blvd.
Valencia, CA 91355
For an online registration go to: www.downedofficers.com
- Larry Meyers paid for our Chapter's web domain for the next two years and our picture site. Thanks Larry. Check out the terrific Southwestern Conference pictures now on our site.

Note

Date **September 12, 2009 is the date for the next meeting of the Blue Knights CA XVII. We will meet at The West Valley Memorial Ride for the meeting.**

Member's Corner: Share your recent ride story or other Motorcycle info.

Treasurer's Report: We have \$2600.00 Plus 100.00 in petty cash. We also have three full sets of patches.

Come to the next meeting and plan the rides and events that you want, on the schedule you want. Remember to "RIDE WITH PRIDE!" www.blueknights-ca17.org



Meeting Minutes for September 12, 2009



Blue Knights Law Enforcement Motorcycle Group California Chapter



Blue Knights CA XVII
P.O. Box 5197
Ventura, CA 93005

'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.'

Members in Attendance:

Jean and Mark Boltinhouse, Ken Cozzens and Larry Meyers.

Old business:

The above four members of our Chapter attended the 2nd Annual West Valley Memorial Ride on September 12th. This was our monthly Chapter meeting and ride.

We started the ride in Thousand Oaks and arrived in Reseda at approximately 8:45 AM. Arriving at West Valley Police Station, we were surprised to see over 300 bikes already there. We ate free bagels and coffee, visited booths, and talked with old friends. Many of you in the Ventura County Sheriff's Department remember Bill Bettis. He is in the center of the attached picture from the ride.

Ride sponsors, volunteers, and organizers were acknowledged as the music from 95.3 FM was turned down and the microphone came alive. The ride funds were in part going to the family of the first slain LAPD SWAT officer, Randal D. Simmons. Randy's wife and family were there and she spoke of her appreciation for the LAPD family and all the riders who came out to honor her husband. Randy had been shot by a crazed, barricaded man just a few blocks from where we stood. The ceremony ended with an honor guard, singing of the Nation Anthem, Bagpipes, and a flyover by one of LAPD's helicopters.

We left the Station as an escorted group of over 400 motorcycles. Our route took us westbound on the 101 to Las Virgenes Canyon, south to PCH, on toward Santa Monica, inland on the Harbor freeway, to the 101 again, and down to Hollywood and the Paramount Studio's lot. The freeways and PCH were all closed for us by the CHP and LAPD. The LA County Sheriff closed the side streets of Las Virgenes. We rode about two hours without our feet touching the ground for stop signs and signals.

Waiting for us at Paramount, were booths, bands, and BBQ. WOW. What a feast put on by Alex's Famous BBQ. The spread of beef, chicken, green salad, pasta salad, rolls, and four different kinds of desserts loaded us all down except Larry. He only ate what his doctor said he could eat. Larry was tempted because it was all-you-could-eat.



It was a great day of riding, eating and socializing. The weather could not have been better. We will make this an annual Chapter ride!

New business:

- The date for the Blue Knight's Southwestern Conference of 2010 is July 24-28, 2010 in Grand Junction, CO. For details, go to the Blue Knight's web site.
- The date of next year's **Downed Officer's ride is 08-22-10 at 0800 to 1500 hours. At Westfield Valencia Town Center**
24201 Valencia Blvd.
Valencia, CA 91355
For an online registration go to: www.downedofficers.com
- Larry Meyers paid for our Chapter's web domain for the next two years and our picture site. Thanks Larry. Check out the terrific Southwestern Conference pictures now on our site.
- **At our next meeting, October 10th**, we will be planning rides and holiday parties. Come and join us. Bring ideas and new members.

Note

Date **October 10, 2009 is the date for the next meeting of the Blue Knights CA XVII. We will meet at Mike's Fiesta Restaurant at 0800 for breakfast and 0830 for the meeting. Call 805-495-2238 for directions.**

Member's Corner: Share your recent ride story or other Motorcycle info.

Treasurer's Report: We have \$5500.00 Plus 100.00 in petty cash. We also have three full sets of patches.

Come to the next meeting and plan the rides and events that you want, on the schedule you want. Remember to "RIDE WITH PRIDE!" www.blueknights-ca17.org



Meeting Minutes for October 10, 2009



Blue Knights Law Enforcement Motorcycle Group California Chapter



Blue Knights CA XVII
P.O. Box 5197
Ventura, CA 93005

'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.'

Members in Attendance:

Larry Meyers, Dan Kiernan, Dick Diaz, Keith Lazz, Jerry Pereira and Ernie Eglin.

Old business:

The California Challenge is a seven day event and our chapter was able to help out one of those days this past **October 9th**. Attended by Ernie Eglin, Dick Diaz, Ken Cozzens, Mark Englander and Jerry Pereira. This is a disabled veteran bicycle ride to raise money from sponsors and raise awareness of the Ride 2 Recovery Program (R2R). They raise money to support Spinning® Recovery Labs and outdoor cycling programs at Military and VA locations around the U.S. to help injured veterans overcome obstacles they face. Cycling is an important part of the recovery and rehabilitation program for two reasons:

1. Cycling is an activity that almost all patients with mental and physical disabilities can participate.
2. Participation in the Ride 2 Recovery Program helps speed up the recovery and rehabilitation process.



From **October 4 - 10, 2009** they traveled down the beautiful and scenic Highway 1, while enjoying stunning views of the Pacific Coast at every turn! Starting in San Francisco and traveling south through great cities like Santa Cruz, Big Sur, San Simeon, Pismo Beach, Solvang, Ventura and finishing at the West Los Angeles Veterans Association. There a concert and ceremonies featuring veterans and their families was held. The American Legion Riders provided a motorcycle escort during the event and several Posts sponsored rest stops and dinners including the Elks and City of Solvang, which hosted a fundraising dinner on Thursday, October 8. The riders are limited to 200 participants with a minimum donation. The riders received a Ride 2 Recovery jersey, socks, and T-shirt. The donation also included housing, limited rider support, luggage transportation

(70lbs max), daily route guides, marked course, rest stops, snacks, meals. There was also nighttime entertainment on selected evenings.

The motorcyclists from various areas along the route provide security and a safety zone for the bicyclists. Ernie was contacted by his brothers at the Oxnard American Legion Hall and asked if he could get the Blue Knights to help out. With less than a week's notice we did pretty well by getting five bikes together. They met at the Oxnard Hall and then picked up the Challenge as they started off on Friday's segment, Cold Springs to the Ventura Beach Marriott. One Vet had no legs and powered his bike totally with his hands. Others were either missing one limb or had prosthetic devices. One reporter tried to complete the ride with the Vets to experience just how difficult the ride was despite not being disabled. He did not make it up the hill into Santa Barbara after Cold Springs and had to get a ride from one of the support vehicles. He finished the ride the following day into Los Angeles.

The most difficult part for the motorcyclists was the slow pace up the hills and maintaining a buffer from vehicular traffic on the narrow parts. How strong is your clutch hand? A wonderful job was completed by the Blue Knights when they rolled into the Marriott's parking lot. New friends were made and they were even invited to stay for dinner and evening activities. All declined, having been delighted in just being able to help out this worthy cause. Next year we plan to provide a larger contingent of support rider's and make this an annual event.

The after meeting ride Oct 10th - was to the Screaming Squirrel Cafe near Lockwood. It was a great day of riding, eating and socializing. The weather could not have been better. The roads were in great shape and the views fantastic. We stopped by Wolf's on 33 where the flies were thick and the owner friendly. They are not open for business but you can get a drink of water and talk about old times for as long as you could stand those pesky little flies buzzing about. Our next stop up 33 was in Ventucopa at the Santa Barbara Pistachio Company. This is a little store and gas station that has clean rest rooms. They specialize in selling fresh honey and various flavors of pistachio nuts but they also have cold drinks and a few convenience store items. A great stop as they also have shaded parking set aside just for motorcycles.

We trekked north to Hwy 166 and then later turned south-east on **Cerro Noroeste Rd.** This is one of the best little known motorcycle roads leading from 166 into the back side of Lockwood. At Mil Potrero Hwy we turned left and into Pine Mountain where the Screaming Squirrel Cafe is across the street from the golf course. It is also an excellent place to meet other motorcyclists as this is becoming a very popular lunch stop for the two wheeled set. We met several others there that we've come to know from other clubs in the Ventura area. The food was delicious and their special soup of the day (spicy chicken) was fantastic. I couldn't believe the size of the bowl when Keith got his order and it was loaded with chicken. I wish I hadn't ordered the burger but not too disappointed because the burger was large and delicious also.

After lunch and a good visit with friends we headed back through the Lockwood Valley and then down the 33 Hwy into Ojai. A short stop in Oak View and then home to finish the day. I saw several squirrels run across the road in front of me but I never heard any of them scream, even on my quiet Goldwing.



(Submitted by Larry Meyers)

New business:

- October 25th - Sidecar Rally at Griffith Park, meet at Rancho Rd. Park N Ride at 0800 hrs. This is a great display of sidecars in one location.
- We will check on a Helmet House Night possibly in November.
- We will be making a donation to several Law Enforcement Explorer Posts in November.
- Keith Lazz will be leaving on a winter ride November 29th. Contact Keith at kdlazz@netscape.net
- The date for the Blue Knight's Southwestern Conference of 2010 is July 24-28, 2010 in Grand Junction, CO. For details, go to the Blue Knight's web site www.bkwcc.org
- The date of next year's **Downed Officer's ride is 08-22-10 at 0800 to 1500 hours. At Westfield Valencia Town Center** Valencia, CA 91355
For an online registration go to: www.downedofficers.com
- **At our next meeting, November 14th**, we will be planning rides, nominating officers and collecting dues for 2010. Come and join us. Bring ideas and new members.

Note

Date

November 14, 2009 is the date for the next meeting of the Blue Knights CA XVII. We will meet at Mike's Fiesta Restaurant at 0800 for breakfast and 0830 for the meeting. Call 805-495-2238 for directions.

Treasurer's Report: We have \$5,380.00 Plus 100.00 in petty cash. We also have three full sets of patches.

Come to the next meeting and plan the rides and events that you want, on the schedule you want. Remember to "RIDE WITH PRIDE!" www.blueknights-ca17.org



Meeting Minutes for November 14, 2009



Blue Knights Law Enforcement Motorcycle Group California Chapter



Blue Knights CA XVII
P.O. Box 5197
Ventura, CA 93005

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Members in Attendance:

Ken Cozzens, Larry Meyers, Dan Kiernan, Dick Diaz, Ernie Eglin, George Conahey and Mark Boltinhouse.

Old business:

- The annual Griffith Park Side Car rally was a Blast. Pictures are posted on our web site.

New business:

- **Now is the time to renew your membership** \$45.00 for renewals, \$50.00 for new members. Dues will include our club's newly designed T-shirt. Send to: [Blue Knights Chapter XVII](#), PO Box 5197, Ventura, CA 93005.
- **Your participation is WANTED**
[December 4th](#) at the Grand Opening of the Regional (Cal Vets) Veteran's Center of California in Ventura. We will meet at 8:00 AM at 10900 Telephone Road, Ventura, CA. (Telephone Road east before Wells Road)
- **Salvation Mountain/ Palm Springs get-a-way**
January 16,17,18. Dick Diaz and company is planning a two night stay in Palm Springs and ride to the mysterious Salvation Mountain (near the Salton Sea).
- The date for the Blue Knight's Southwestern Conference of 2010 is July 24-28, 2010 in Grand Junction, CO. For details, go to the Blue Knight's web site.
- The date of next year's **Downed Officer's ride is 08-22-10 at 0800 to 1500 hours. At Westfield Valencia Town Center**
24201 Valencia Blvd.
Valencia, CA 91355 (For an online registration go to: www.downedofficers.com)

- Our Chapter recently donated \$200.00 to each of the following Police Explorer Groups: Oxnard Police Department, Santa Paula Police Department, and Ventura County Sheriff's.

Note
Date

December 12, 2009 is the date for the next meeting of the Blue Knights CA XVII. We will meet at County Line Cycles, 185 E. Easy Street, Simi, CA 93065. Bring two unwrapped toys for the Biker's for Christ 10th Annual Toy Run. We will meet there at 0800 hours for our monthly meeting.

Member's Corner: Share your recent ride story or other Motorcycle info.

Treasurer's Report: We have \$4780.00 Plus 100.00 in petty cash. We also have three full sets of patches.

Come to the next meeting and plan the rides and events that you want, on the schedule you want. Remember to "RIDE WITH PRIDE!" www.blueknights-ca17.org



Meeting Minutes for December 12, 2009



Blue Knights Law Enforcement Motorcycle Group California Chapter



Blue Knights CA XVII
P.O. Box 5197
Ventura, CA 93005

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Members in Attendance:

Larry Meyers, Dan Kiernan, Jerry Pereira, and Mark Boltinhouse.

Old business:

- Our Blue Knight's Chapter honored the military Veterans in a big way on December 4th in Ventura. Larry Meyers, Dan Kiernan, Johnathon Abbey, Mike Baker, Larry Baugher, Jerry Pereira, Tom Convery, Stan Hibdon, Joe Galante, and Mark Boltinhouse attended the Grand Opening and ribbon cutting of Cal. Vets. Regional Center on Telephone Road in Ventura. Mark brought his 1942 Dodge Carryall (U.S. Army ¾ ton 4X4) all the way from Thousand Oaks. This restored vehicle was a hit with the WWII vets. It is the first 60 mile trip the Carryall has made since it was restored.

California's Governor, Arnold Schwarzenegger, spoke, we listened. We were asked to guard the interior doors of the complex during tours, we guarded. A BBQ was offered, some ate.

- December 12th was the date of the 10th Annual Bikers for Christ Toy Run. We met at County Line Cycles in Simi Valley. Each person brought two unwrapped toys for admission to the toy run. The event drew just enough participants to bring the total of toys over 350. The toys are taken to an elementary school in El Rio and given to the very excited children there. Some children would not have a Christmas without this toy run. In addition, our BK Chapter donated \$200 to Food Share.

Note: It did rain all day, however the Blue Knights and many other bikers still participated.

New business:

The weather is going to be perfect for the Santa Paula Christmas Escort!

Here is the information for the Christmas program for 2009. The program will be held at the storefront 12/19/09 from 11:00 to 1:00 PM. This year Santa will be leaving from the Police Dept on 10th and will arrive at the storefront about 10:30 AM. So arrive at Santa Paula P.D. at 0900 hrs to decorate bikes and then we'll escort Santa to the storefront.

They have toys for 300 children and are working on finding more, at least so that they can provide for 350. They will also be handing out small candy canes. Stay and watch the kids with Santa or leave after the escort.

- **Now is the time to renew your membership** \$45.00 for renewals, \$50.00 for new members. Dues will include our club's newly designed T-shirt. Send to: [Blue Knights Chapter XVII](#), PO Box 5197, Ventura, CA 93005.
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24201 Valencia Blvd.
Valencia, CA 91355 (For an online registration go to: www.downedofficers.com)

Note

Date **January 09, 2009 is the date for the next meeting of the Blue Knights CA XVII. We will meet at Mike's Fiesta Restaurant. We will meet there at 0800 hours for breakfast and our monthly meeting will begin at 0830.**