

Meeting Minutes for March 12, 2010



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, Jerry Pereira, Ken Cozzens, Richard Diaz, George Conahey, Ron Large and Mark Boltinhouse.

Old business:

- March after meeting ride to Noriega's Hotel and restaurant.

California's Gold host, Huell Howser, visited this watering hole in Bakersfield about ten times on his public television show. It is one of many Basque hotels serving family fare throughout California's sheep herding areas.

Like sheep, four of our brave Blue Knights traveled the back roads of Ventura, Santa Barbara, Kern, and Los Angeles counties to graze. And graze we did, but not before taking the scenic route up interstate five to Old River Road, eastward through towns with no name, and friendly town folk offering directions.

We arrived forty minutes late. As we quickly stowed out helmets and gear in the parking lot, a family from L.A. parked and ran into the restaurant ahead of us. Our ride leader approached the front door that seemed to automatically open. Out the door came the L.A. family. They were turned away for being late. The mother, pulling her hungry children out of the restaurant, said, "I hope you are more persuasive than we were."

Our ride leader, the same one that got us the great corner table at Santa Monica pier's Bubba Gump's Shrimp, boldly and undauntedly entered the establishment. Seeing the hostess seated at the entrance to the dining room, he stated, "Hi, we are the Blue Knights from Ventura and we had reservations." Her eyes narrowed as she looked at his motorcycle helmet and vest. Not noticing a trace of pity on her face, he sheepishly said, "I'm sorry we're late, but we got lost looking at all the cows and all."

Somehow our ride leader, now on his knees, said the right thing. Seated at the long bar behind him, ranchers and shepherds heard the mention of livestock and gave the woman guarding the door the thumbs up, the 'Ok to Graze', the 'Basque Pass'. Our

faithful ride leader had done it again, we were in. He looked around and thanked the mellow mob with red eyes and wrinkled faces at the bar. Looking at the front door, he saw the friendly but doubtful face of the Ken Cozzens. "Really, I'll go get the others," he said, shaking his head as he was waved inside.

The hostess returned and said that the kitchen had just enough food as the Blue Knights came through the front door. We sat down to a feast of lamb, rice, sausage, pinto beans, homemade bread, cabbage soup, and red wine. Fourteen dollars was just not enough for the hospitality and each meal so a goodly tip was left. Our waitress thanked us and said, "Ewe'all have a great ride home."

We did. We rode the most direct route home fearing the effects of such a powerful meal and the great distance between facilities. I mean rest stops.

- **City Corps Poker Walk.** City Corps of Ventura is a civic organization that promotes good will to the community through providing youth with leadership, direction, and organization skills. Blue Knight's Chapter members Larry Meyers, Ken Cozzens, Jerry Pereira, Mark Englander, Mark Boltinhouse, and Richard Diaz volunteered to man the poker tables down Main Street.

New business:

- **Have you seen our new Chapter's logo?** It is now viewable on our web site. Have you seen our new Chapter tee shirts with the logo on the back? NO? The order was place this last week with the Embroidery Studio in Westlake. We will be seeing them soon.
- **After meeting ride to Avila Beach** on 04-10-2010. We will ride after breakfast at Mike's Fiesta Restaurant to Avila Beach. We plan to eat lunch at Fat Cat's restaurant. Some of us will make it an over-night by staying at the Apple Farm in San Louis Obispo. The Madonna Inn is close by also. This will be a good ride for our families to attend.
- **Ride for Kids- Torrance** this year will be held on 05-02-2010.
- **May meeting: 05-08-10 will be a support ride for Blue Knights XIII. We will not meet at Mikes Fiesta.** We will meet at 0600 hours, Fillmore donut shop (near Starbucks and Vons) at the 126 and 23 hwy. The ride starts in Victorville at Cycle Gear, 14052 Park Ave. Pre-registration is \$25.00 by 04/30/10. Day of ride registration is \$30.00, includes lunch, drink, poker run, prizes, and chance to win a dinner cruise for two. Registration forms available at bkca13president@hotmail.com.
- **Biker's for Christ 7th annual benefit Ride.** On Saturday, June 12, 2010, the Teen Challenge charity and fundraiser will start at 800AM at Cal Coast Motorsports in Ventura and end at Teen Challenge, 6790 N. Ventura Ave. Ventura with a BBQ. \$25.00 registration fee includes one poker hand; five raffle tickets, ride pin, and meal.
- The date for the **Blue Knight's Southwestern Conference** of 2010 is July 22-27, 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)

- **The 3rd Annual West Valley LAPD Memorial** will be held on 08-28-2010.
- 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 **April 10, 2010** is the date for the next meeting of the Blue Knights CA XVII. We will meet at Mike's Fiesta Restaurant. Meet there at 0800 hours for breakfast; monthly meeting will begin at 0830.

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

Treasurer's Report: We have \$4520.00 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

