



# *Blue Knights® International Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club, Inc.*



## **TRI-STATE TIMES - CONFERENCE NEWSLETTER NEW JERSEY – NEW YORK - PENNSYLVANIA**

### **APRIL 2024**

### **TRI-STATE CONFERENCE BOARD**

#### **CHAIRMAN**

Myron Joseph, NY IX  
720 Pelham Road  
New Rochelle, NY 10805  
Cell: 914-879-9394  
[mjnrsgt@aol.com](mailto:mjnrsgt@aol.com)

#### **VICE CHAIRMAN**

Lon Strayer, PA XII  
60 Pine St.  
Dillsburg, PA 17019  
Cell: 717-432-5289  
[bkbikers@comcast.net](mailto:bkbikers@comcast.net)

#### **SECRETARY**

Joseph DeFelice, NY I  
67-39 Cooper Ave.  
Glendale, NY 11385  
Cell: 917-939-7420  
[bktsec@gmail.com](mailto:bktsec@gmail.com)

#### **TREASURER**

Gus Faella, NJ XI  
459 Northern Blvd  
Bayville, NJ 08721  
Cell: 732-267-9434  
[gj5298@comcast.net](mailto:gj5298@comcast.net)

#### **INT'L REPRESENTATIVE**

Russ Harper, NY XVIII  
22 Crescent Ct. S  
Palm Coast, FL 32137  
Cell: 914-588-4912  
[rh57@aol.com](mailto:rh57@aol.com)

## STATE REPRESENTATIVES

### **NEW JERSEY**

Russell Davis, NJ XI  
1808 Breakers Drive  
Manahawkin, NJ 08050  
Cell: 609-709-8671  
[russdavis@verizon.net](mailto:russdavis@verizon.net)

### **NEW YORK**

Keith Lipsey, NY XVIII  
61 Stewart Avenue, Suite 301  
Newburgh, NY 12550  
Cell: 845-505-1557  
[bknyxx@gmail.com](mailto:bknyxx@gmail.com)

### **NEW YORK**

Vinny Calderon, NY X  
8733 21<sup>st</sup> Avenue  
Brooklyn, NY 19335  
Cell: 917-748-9442  
[vinnycalderon@aol.com](mailto:vinnycalderon@aol.com)

### **NEW YORK**

Steve Nieves, NY VI  
14 Peach Tree Ln  
Wilton, NY 12831  
Cell: 518-466-1833  
[Esnieves618@gmail.com](mailto:Esnieves618@gmail.com)

### **NEW YORK**

Kevin Durawa, NY IV  
21 Dewey Ave.  
Batavia, NY 14020  
Cell: 585-356-6200  
[kdurawa@rochester.rr.com](mailto:kdurawa@rochester.rr.com)

### **PENNSYLVANIA**

Pamela McClaren, PA XIII  
141 Ascot Court  
Downington, PA 193  
Cell: 610-637-5881  
[pamelaabk@aol.com](mailto:pamelaabk@aol.com)

### **PENNSYLVANIA**

Rick Vobis, PA XXVI  
163 Heaters Hill Rd.  
Matamoras, PA 18336  
Cell: 845-796-6006  
[rvbkpaxxvi@yahoo.com](mailto:rvbkpaxxvi@yahoo.com)

### **PENNSYLVANIA**

Mike Hoover PA XXI  
201 LaRue Dr.  
Moon Township, PA 15108  
Cell: 412-973-1338  
[paknght@yahoo.com](mailto:paknght@yahoo.com)

## CHAPLAIN

James "Odie" Odenheimer, PA VII  
408 Cline St.  
East Pittsburgh, PA 15112  
Home: 412-823-8292  
Cell: 412-260-7058  
[Odie408@gmail.com](mailto:Odie408@gmail.com)

## SAFETY OFFICER

Sal Salamone, NY XVI  
196-56 45<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Flushing, NY 11358  
Phone: 718-423-5948  
[ssalfund@msn.com](mailto:ssalfund@msn.com)

**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 will be held at the Georgian hotel, In Lake George on Saturday May 4<sup>th</sup>, Make sure you do your basic safety checks on your motorcycle before the ride there.

On April 05, 2024, I attended the Southern Regional Conferences Spring meeting held in Statesboro, Georgia.

On April 20, 2024, I attended the Frank Gennari Officer Down Memorial ride which began in Wilmington, NC and ended in Shallotte, NC. The ride transversed through the back roads of Brunswick County, NC to Ocean Hwy (RT 17.)

IF you plan to attend The BLUE KNIGHTS 50<sup>th</sup> 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 50<sup>th</sup> 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.

As of this writing, no NY chapter as submitted a bid to host the 2024 Tri-State Conference Presidents fall meeting or weekend. We are opening the bidding to any chapter within the conference to host the 2024 Fall Presidents meeting/weekend. Please submit your bid to TSC Secretary Defelice at your earliest convenience.

The newsletter is yours, so remember to send your articles to our TSC Secretary, Joe DeFelice, by the 25<sup>th</sup> 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 ( [dapnyiv@yahoo.com](mailto:dapnyiv@yahoo.com)) 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**



Greetings to everyone.

It's been a chilly start to the riding season here in central PA. We have had intermittent cold, rain and wind most of the month. But some days have been sunny so I've taken advantage of them to ride as much as possible. I'm breaking in a new 1800 Goldwing trike so I try to get a lot of seat time. Not a lot more to report at this time. Just a reminder to always maintain your bike. Your life depends on it. We're hoping to see you all at Tri-State in NY.

**Secretary: Joe DeFelice, NY I**



Greetings Fellow Blue Knight's

Our Spring Conference President's meeting will be held on May 4, 2024 up in Lake George NY. If you or your chapter would like to put any items on the agenda, please get it to me by no later than April 5, 2024. This will give me time to put the agenda together and send it out to everyone. Thank you

The TSC Borad has now opened the 2024 TSC Fall Conference weekend (Held over Columbus Day Weekend) up to any Chapter in the TSC Conference. As of now NO New York Chapter has volunteered to host this event. If your Chapter is interested in hosting this event, please let the TSC Board know ASAP.

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

**Treasurer: Gus Faella, NJ XI**





**New York State Rep, Central, West: Keith Lipsey , NY XVIII**



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



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



**New York State Rep, North West: Kevin Durawa, NY IV**



**New Jersey State Rep: Russel Davis, NJ XI**



**Pennsylvania State Rep: Pamela McClaren, PA XIII**

Good day all,

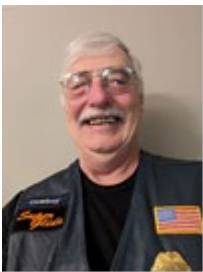
I don't have much going on at this time in reference to the Blue Knights because as I write this I am sitting in the airport in Los Angeles, CA awaiting my flight back towards home after a 25 day trip with my brother. We traveled to Waikiki, Hawaii, Auckland, New Zealand, Sydney, Australia and a 10 day cruise up the eastern side of Australia and spent a few days in LA...

I'm ready to get home, get my motorcycle inspected and get out and enjoy the warmer weather we hopefully have coming up. I hope to see a good number of you in Lake George at the Tri-State meeting on May 4th.

I am running for the BOG Secretary position in the upcoming election, so please vote for me.

All the best to you and your families as we move into Spring.

Be Safe and Ride With Pride



**Pennsylvania State Rep: Rick Vobis, PA XXVI**



**Pennsylvania State Rep: Mike Hoover, PA XXI**



**Chaplain : Odie Odenheimer, PA VII**

Greetings and salutations Tri-State Blue Knights,

When you are asked "how are you doing" or "how do you feel" usually we all answer "fine" or "ok". The honest truth usually is we are feeling anything but fine or ok. We are just repeating polite banter not wishing to open up a can of worms. Sometimes the best answer I can come up with is weary. The words of the old Tennessee Ernie Ford song from the 50's, 16 Tons come readily to my mind, "another day older and deeper in debt, St Peter don't call me cause I can't go, I owe my soul to the company store". Our lives and daily routines are starting to resemble the Bill Murry movie Groundhog Day. Each day is just a repeat of the lousy day before it. While we are past the worst part of the Covid 19 pandemic, now we are faced with natural disasters of epic proportion. Our country and many others are experiencing once in a century floods every year or more. Once again the threat of uncontrollable wildfires threatens our western states and Canada. It seems that every few weeks someone experiences a severe earthquake, often in areas that have never had one before. Life on our college campuses has erupted into an out of control level of anti semitic hatred reminiscent of the rise of Nazi Germany. Just when we think that this chaos is more than we can handle, some idiot runs a cargo ship into the Francis Scott Key bridge shutting one of the largest ports in our country down. Instead of pulling together and rising to the occasion, what do we do? Our society turns

on itself. We are at each other's throats. Violent crime is out of control. We are divided by race, religion, economic status, gender confusion, being politically correct, economic uncertainty, and just plain fear and utter disgust. In other words, just like Adam and Eve, we had the keys to paradise in the palm of our hands and instead of basking in the glory the Lord intended for us, we trashed it like everything else we try to do on our own. Have you ever bought a piece of furniture from Ikea and got it home and thought to yourself "this is simple, I don't need to read the instructions, I can put this together myself". Well how did that turn out? How many screws did you have left over? There is a cottage industry that has sprung up in our society where you can hire someone to come to your home and assemble items for you. These folks are patient, have an analytical mind, and can read and follow the printed instructions. Those folks exist in our communities right now. They are called Pastors. They can look at problems from many different viewpoints, and turn to their instructions, (the Bible) and almost always come up with an answer that God approves of. When even they are stymied or met with resistance, they, like the Pawn Stars, can call in an expert, (The Holy Spirit) and the truth of God is readily exposed for all to see.

Over the post pandemic months I have explored many Biblical verses that relate to the current state of disarray that our society now finds itself in. While there are many that give partial answers to our predicament, one stands out as "The Big Kahuna". That is II Chronicles 7:14 "If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves and pray and seek My face and turn away from their wicked ways, then I will hear their prayers and will heal their land". Many who read this verse misinterpret it. They believe that God has sent a deluge of plagues to punish us for straying from His word and His teachings. Nothing could be further from the truth. God is not a vengeful deity, but instead, a God of mercy. II Chronicles 7:14 is not an admonition punishing us for our disobedience, but instead an invitation to the 21st century world we live in from God to return to His word and enjoy His blessings once again. This sounds hard, but it really isn't.

First, we must humble ourselves. We must put God first, not ourselves. We must admit that we don't know everything. We must choose wisely, and not on a whim.

Second, we must pray to God first, not just as an afterthought. We must ask Him to take control of our lives and admit that we have made a mess of things without His help.

Third, we must seek God's face. With Christ all things are possible, without Him nothing can prosper.

Fourth, we must turn away from our wicked ways. We can't have our cake and eat it too. The International Bible Encyclopedia gives the definition of wicked as "The state of being wicked, a mental disregard for justice, righteousness, truth, honor, virtue, evil in thought and life, depravity, sinfulness, and criminality. Does that sound remotely familiar? While we certainly don't want to see ourselves as wicked or sinful, the truth is sinfulness and wickedness go hand in hand. You can't have one without the other. Proverbs 28:13, "He that seeks to hide his sin shall not prosper, but whoever will confess and forsake them shall find mercy". Redemption will never happen in our life until we let go of our sin. Sin is nothing but pure bondage. When we recognize our wrongdoing and confess, we renew our relationship with God and He sets us free. Admitting we are wrong in thought, word, and deed is one of the hardest things a person can do, but it is also the simplest way to get right with God. When we put God first, EVERYTHING else falls into its proper place.

"There is no Saint without a past, and there is no sinner without a future" -St. Augustine.

On a lighter note,  
Aristotle-I do, therefore I am  
Plato-I am, therefore I do  
Scooby says-Dooby, Dooby, Do.

Smile, God wants you to be happy.  
Faithfully yours in Christ:  
Chaplain Odie



## Motorcycle Safety is a Two-way Street

When spring is in the air, motorcycles are everywhere. Do you long for the freedom that comes with riding on the open road? Then it's critical to respect your machine and improve your skills throughout your lifetime.

But that's only half the story. Motorists interested only in four-wheeled vehicles still have a major responsibility in keeping motorcyclists safe on the road.

In recognition of [National Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month](#) in May, the National Safety Council reminds riders – and drivers – to do their part.

### Most Drivers Don't Ever Think About Motorcycles?

The vast majority of vehicles on the road are not motorcycles. They're cars, SUV and trucks. It's quite possible that a driver rarely think about motorcycles.

This is a problem.

"When motorcycles and other vehicles collide, [it is usually the other \(non-motorcycle\) driver who violates the motorcyclist's right of way](#)," according to an issue statement from NHTSA. "There is a continuing need to help other motorists 'think' motorcycles and to educate motorcyclists to be aware of this problem."

Why do drivers often violate motorcyclists' right of way?

- Motorcycles are relatively small and drivers don't see them
- Drivers don't anticipate motorcycles' movements
- The driver's view of the motorcyclist is obstructed, often by the vehicle's blind spots or other vehicles
- **Today drivers are often distracted mainly with cell phones.**
- [Driver education programs](#) should emphasize these issues – especially in programs for mature drivers who may have diminished abilities.

### 36% of All Fatalities are with Older Riders

[Riders 50 and older made up 36% of all motorcycle fatalities .](#)

So-called "re-entry riders," who rode in their 20s and decided to take it up again in their late 40s to 60s face additional challenges today: more traffic, more powerful bikes, more distracted drivers and diminished physical skills.



If you're going to ride a motorcycle, it's important to commit to a lifetime of learning new skills and brushing up on the old ones.

### **Skill and Gear Can Protect You**

A helmet is the most important equipment a biker can use. Helmets are estimated to be 37% effective in preventing fatal injuries.

- A full-coverage helmet offers the most protection
- Look for the DOT sticker, which guarantees the helmet meets safety standards required by law
- Never buy a used helmet; helmets are useless after they've been worn in a crash

[Not every state has a helmet law](#), but even if yours doesn't, wear one anyway. [A motorcycle crash is a "violent event."](#) More than 80% of all reported motorcycle crashes result in injury or death. In addition to wearing a helmet:

- Choose a bike that fits you; ["supersport bikes" have driver death rates about four times that of cruisers or standard bikes.](#)
- New riders should take a motorcycle safety course, and experienced riders should take refresher courses after being off their bikes for a while
- Know the rules of the road
- Be aware that riding with a passenger requires considerably more skill
- Never drink and ride
- Drive defensively, especially at intersections, where half of all collisions occur
- Watch for hazards like potholes, manhole covers, oil slicks, puddles, debris, railroad tracks and gravel.
- Assume you are invisible to other motorists and position yourself to be seen
- Be courteous; don't weave in and out of lanes, or ride on the shoulder or between lanes
- Don't speed
- Wear bright and/or reflective clothing that is durable and boots that cover the ankles
- Wear goggles, glasses or use a face shield that is ventilated to prevent fogging, and make sure it's clear if riding at night.

### **INTERNATIONAL OFFICERS**

<b><u>PRESIDENT</u></b>	DJ ALVAREZ	<a href="mailto:dj@blueknights.org">dj@blueknights.org</a>	281-642-8716
<b><u>VICE PRESIDENT NA</u></b>	CAL ENNALS	<a href="mailto:bktscsec@verizon.net">bktscsec@verizon.net</a>	856-364-6843
<b><u>VICE PRESIDENT EUROPE</u></b>	Holk Opitz	b <a href="mailto:vicepresidenteuropa@blueknights.org">vicepresidenteuropa@blueknights.org</a>	
<b><u>SERCRETARY</u></b>	GLEN WHEAT	<a href="mailto:secretary@blueknights.org">secretary@blueknights.org</a>	
<b><u>TREASURER</u></b>	JOHN BULL	<a href="mailto:treasurer@blueknights.org">treasurer@blueknights.org</a>	410-255-8062
<b><u>PAST PRESIDENT</u></b>	GUY O/CONNOR	<a href="mailto:pastpresident@blueknights.org">pastpresident@blueknights.org</a>	928-713-4968
<b><u>BOG CHAIRMAN</u></b>	DOMINIC SQUILLACE	<a href="mailto:bog.chair@blueknights.org">bog.chair@blueknights.org</a>	610-888-7877

### **INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE REPS**

<b><u>EUROPEAN</u></b>	KOENRAAD HUTSE	<a href="mailto:koen.hutse@gmail.com">koen.hutse@gmail.com</a>	32-477-653-060
<b><u>GREAT LAKES</u></b>	DENNIS HAFEMAN	<a href="mailto:bkwrongway1@aol.com">bkwrongway1@aol.com</a>	262-971-5084
<b><u>MASON-DIXON</u></b>	JOHN POLLINGER	<a href="mailto:mpbkdel@comcast.com">mpbkdel@comcast.com</a>	302-545-5301
<b><u>MID WEST REGIONAL</u></b>	DOUG CASTEEL	<a href="mailto:mwrc.rep@blueknights.org">mwrc.rep@blueknights.org</a>	314-412-4449
<b><u>NORTHEAST</u></b>	GUY POIRIER	<a href="mailto:nec.rep@blueknights.org">nec.rep@blueknights.org</a>	450-601-2040
<b><u>RIO GRAND</u></b>	JAY GRAY	<a href="mailto:jaybird793@yahoo.com">jaybird793@yahoo.com</a>	510-538-6902
<b><u>SOUTHERN REGIONAL</u></b>	BOB AWTREY	<a href="mailto:src.rep@blueknights.org">src.rep@blueknights.org</a>	706-773-5250
<b><u>SOUTHWEST</u></b>	JORGE ORTIZ	<a href="mailto:swc.rep@blueknights.org">swc.rep@blueknights.org</a>	
<b><u>TRI-STATE</u></b>	RUSS HARPER	<a href="mailto:rh57@aol.com">rh57@aol.com</a>	914-588-4912
<b><u>UNITED KINGDON &amp; IRELAND</u></b>	GRAHAM BUXTON	<a href="mailto:grahamb638@gmail.com">grahamb638@gmail.com</a>	44-115-939-1753
<b><u>WEST COAST</u></b>	LISA O'OBRIEN	<a href="mailto:wcc.rep@blueknights.org">wcc.rep@blueknights.org</a>	707-266-6349

### **BLUE KNIGHTS INTERNATIONAL OFFICE**

JANA CLARK (Office Manager) 38 ALDEN STREET [international@blueknights.org](mailto:international@blueknights.org) 207-947-4600  
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<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.bktsc.org)

Joseph DeFelice, Tri-State Conference Secretary

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



**Blue Knights® International**  
**Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club, Inc.**  
**TRI-STATE CONFERENCE**  
**(YEAR) RIDE EVENT SCHEDULE**  
**(As Of 01/01/2024)**



**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

Date	Chapter	Event	<u>JANUARY</u>	Contact or Website	Flyer
01	NJ IX	DALE'S CHILLY CHILI RUN		<a href="http://TREVORFLOYDCOEME.COM">TREVORFLOYDCOEME.COM</a>	N
Date	Chapter	Event	<u>FEBRUARY</u>	Contact or Website	Flyer
Date	Chapter	Event	<u>MARCH</u>	Contact or Website	Flyer
Date	Chapter	Event	<u>APRIL</u>	Contact or Website	Flyer
10-13	LO XVI	2025 SOUTHERN REGIONAL CONFERENCE		BKLouisian16.org	Y
Date	Chapter	Event	<u>MAY</u>	Contact or Website	Flyer
05/27-6/2	NY XXII	BLUE KNIGHT'S ON THE LAKE		<a href="mailto:MMCCOTTER1@GMAIL.COM">MMCCOTTER1@GMAIL.COM</a>	Y
Date	Chapter	Event	<u>JUNE</u>	Contact or Website	Flyer
05/27-6/2	NY XXII	BLUE KNIGHT'S ON THE LAKE		<a href="mailto:MMCCOTTER1@GMAIL.COM">MMCCOTTER1@GMAIL.COM</a>	Y
02	NJ XI	PUZZLE PIECE RUN		<a href="mailto:CAPT.RAY@VERIZON.NEY">CAPT.RAY@VERIZON.NEY</a>	Y
08	PA XIV	BKPAVIV COUNTRY TOUR		<a href="tel:570-419-8658">570-419-8658</a>	
25	PA XXV	Fallen Officer Memorial Law Ride			Y
Date	Chapter	Event	<u>JULY</u>	Contact or Website	Flyer
13	NY XVII	Vietnam Veterans Memorial Highway of Valor		607-351-9919	Y
28	PA XVI	21 Annual Blue Ridge		724-263-6218/pa16-blueknights.com	N
Date	Chapter	Event	<u>AUGUST</u>	Contact or Website	Flyer
04	PA XXVI	Minisink Battle Run VI			Y
25	NJ V	Wildwood Boardwalk Ride		856-364-6843/blueknightsv.org	N
Date	Chapter	Event	<u>SEPTEMBER</u>	Contact or Website	Flyer
09	NY XV	Lighthouse Run		631-807-6099	N
Date	Chapter	Event	<u>OCTOBER</u>	Contact or Website	Flyer
Date	Chapter	Event	<u>NOVEMBER</u>	Contact or Website	Flyer
Date	Chapter	Event	<u>DECEMBER</u>	Contact or Website	Flyer

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