



Blue Knights® International Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club, Inc.



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

September 2023

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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,

I hope everyone is doing well and staying safe. As Summer comes to an end and temperatures for some of us have become milder, we can take those rides without sweating, “our you know what’s off.” These rides are now worth taking just to explore the countryside.

September 09, 2023 I attended NY XV 3rd Annual Lighthouse run from Southaven County park to Horton Point Lighthouse park in Suffolk county NY. I did not participate in the ride as I had a wedding to attend that afternoon.

During that ride NY XV member Lee Zdenek was involved in an accident resulting with another member going to Heaven One. Lee will be missed, but never forgotten. The family has sent up a “gofundme” page to help with funeral and medical expenses. You can also contact any member of chapter XV if you need more information.

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#65 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.

Conference Information

The raffle tickets for the “Big Buck Raffle” have been received and each representative will be calling their respective chapters to see how many books each chapter would like. If each chapter in the conference took two books, we would have 100% participation and that would be awesome. The drawing will be at the Spring Presidents meeting on May 04, 2024, in NY. Our Vice President (NA,) Cal Ennals, will be overseeing the disbursement of the raffle tickets this drawing.

If you have sold any raffles tickets and you are attending the Fall meeting, please bring the stubs and money to the meeting and give to Cal.

NJ 8 - Irv Halpern and his chapter members are ready to host the TSC Winter Conference meeting and weekend. All the information has been sent out via email and you can also log onto the Tri-State website for information. I have booked my room and I am looking for a few friends to book theirs (Hint, Hint). Please remember that it takes a lot of work for a chapter to host an event, so let’s show our appreciation by attending.

WE WANT YOU,

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; and
3. I have completed the member selection for the By -Laws committee as it is time to review and update them. The committee will be meeting shortly to begin the process of updating the By-Laws. If you have any thoughts or comments or suggestions, please reach out to any of the following members: Albert (Bud) Dinnell PA XXII / committee chairman / Jim Storz NY 1, Ken Rice NY XVIII, Jason Rudnitsky NY XVIII and Robert Ridarick NJ II.

Please remember we have a website and FB page for all to view and add information at any time. Don Parker (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



Secretary: Joe DeFelice, NY I

Greetings Fellow Blue Knight's

Well, the Fall season is upon us. Please ride safe and look out for those falling leaves.

Our TSC Fall President's meeting will be held over the Columbus Day weekend. NJ VII will be hosting this weekend event. So let show them our support. The meeting will be held Saturday October 07, 2023. If you plan on attending and did not register as of yet please do so ASAP.

If there is anything you need to be placed in the monthly newsletter, you can email it to me by the 25th of every month.

If you have any item to be put into the newsletter, please send it to me 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.

Please remember that Chairman Joseph is no longer the TSC Secretary. So please send all your items (Articles, flyers, and Pictures) to me to be put into the newsletter. Just send it to bktscsec@gmail.com. This will ensure that I receive your items and that it will be put into the monthly newsletter.

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

Ride With Pride



Treasurer: Gus Faella, NJ XI

Greetings,

Here we are the end of September the weather is changing and not for the good. Before the weather changes let's get out and ride. The Tri state Conference will be here before you know it, and you still have time to make reservations. All conference information is on the Tri State Conference and NJ VIII websites so check it out hope to see you there.

Irv and the members of NJ VIII are working hard to give you a weekend you won't forget.

I will have our Tri State Conference Knives, Patches and Pins for sale all weekend long. Knives 25.00, Pins and Patches 5.00.

Ride With Pride.



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

Greetings Blue Knights. Hope all is well and miles adding to your motorcycle odometer reading. The season is nearing to a close, but it's not over yet.

I was unable to offer an article for August, so I will include a little connection.

September 8-10, I attended the NEC in Warwick, RI and had a great time. When I got back I had a long overdue oil change with new plugs put it.

Doing more single & small group scoots lately.

Heading to Spring Lake next week, as Franny Boo loves that part of the Jersey Shore.

Saturday September 30th, NY X is hosting their Ride to Remember I plan on attending.

Hope to see ya'll at the TSC in NJ, hosted by NJ VIII, this Columbus Day weekend.

Be blessed & Ride With Pride,



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 from Tri-State.

This past Labor Day weekend I attended the Mason Dixon Blue Ridge Fiesta in Culpeper VA. I arrived there on Thursday and the fun never stopped until I left Monday morning. I visited estates of past U.S. Presidents, James Madison and James Monroe as well as the Trump winery. On Saturday the host chapter took us on a ride covering 128 miles in the Shenandoah area, the views were amazing. But the day was just getting started as the Fiesta party was Saturday evening and all I will say it was a hoot! A great bunch of good people from that conference which I had a pleasure to meet.

I have Tri-State Big Buck Raffle tickets for sale so if anyone is interested in purchasing a few let me know.

Finally, I am looking forward to our Tri-State Fall Conference next month during Columbus weekend. Safe travels to all. If anyone is looking for me I'll be where there is plenty of laughter and cigar smoking .



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



Greetings to all.

There has been a lot going on since last month's newsletter. The weather has been pretty decent and there have been many events and rides throughout the Tri-State. There has been much to celebrate and be proud of, and there has been some tragedy and sadness as well. Please keep our brothers and sisters affected by these tragic events in your thoughts and prayers.

The benefit ride for "Maz" on August 26, 2023 was a success. Approximately 120 motorcycles participated in the ride, with over 200 people attending the after ride cookout. The 50/50 drawing was won by Tim Kinney (BKNY5), who donated his portion back to the Mazurkiewicz family, making the total donation to the Mazurkiewicz family just over \$9,000.

On September 11, 2023 there were many events to honor all those who lost their lives during the terrorist attacks on our Nation. Members of NY4 joined members of NY5 and attended the 9/11 Remembrance Ride hosted by the Red Knights NY47 Chapter, starting at Millgrove Volunteer Fire Company and ending at Heroes and Patriots Park, which is a magnificent park created by Russell Salvatore. Over 200 motorcycles participated in this ride which ended with a short ceremony. As we entered Heroes and Patriots Park the roadway was lined by a local group of citizens holding American flags. As we gathered for the ceremony we were joined by some non-riders, bringing the total in attendance to over 400 people. As always the Red Knights did an awesome job, the Lancaster Police provided a lead escort, and volunteers covered traffic control at every intersection.

September 20, 2023 was the first of two NY4 Chapter rides. The purpose of these rides is an attempt to pick a location that would allow members from multiple Chapters to enjoy a nice ride, grab some good food and pull up a seat next to a "friend they haven't met yet", and build some comradery amongst different Chapters. Members of BKNY4 were joined by BKNY5 as we headed to Big Mike's Steaks and Hoagies in Forksville, PA. We traveled some beautiful roads, had some decent weather and stopped at Eisenhower's Tioga Harley Davidson in Mansfield, PA along the way. At Big Mike's we were greeted by Blue Knights members Mike Flanagan (PA14), and Kevin Coker (NY7) who postponed a trip out west by a day so he could participate. We pulled a couple picnic tables together in the outside picnic grove and shared some stories and contact information before parting ways. The next lunch ride is September 27, 2023 to Knucklehead's Brew House in Westmoreland, NY and I am looking forward to this meeting as well. The weather looks to be decent for this ride as well. Hope to see a bunch of you there.

The Tri-State Conference in Parsippany, NJ is right around the corner, hope to see you there as well.

I have tickets for the Big Buck Raffle as well and will bring them with me to the Tri State Conference, please see me if you would like to purchase some tickets.

As always Ride Safe and RWP.



New Jersey State Rep: Russel Davis, NJ XI

Greetings everyone. The riding season might be coming to an end soon, but there is no shortage of Blue Knight events available. I attended NJ V's event in Wildwood last month, and it was well attended. Riding on the Boardwalk is always fun, and there was plenty of BK brotherhood at their end site. NJXV is having their annual "Frost on The Pumpkin Fun Ride," on Sunday, October 1st. Registration is from 9-11 am at McDonalds of Hazlet, Rt. 35 and Hazlet Avenue. End site is 11:30 at the American Legion Post 129, Church Road in Toms River. See their flyer for more details. Food, music and door prizes. For those attending the Tri-State weekend in October, I will have books of Big Buck Raffle tickets to give to NJ chapters who are in need of them. We have a lot of time to sell them, and the drawing will be at our Spring meeting. Patches for Jax is ongoing and I will be collecting any law enforcements patches you have available. Check our rides and flyers for Blue Knight events coming to your area, and please get them to Joe, our Tri State Secretary. As always, stay safe on your bikes.



Pennsylvania State Rep: Pamela McClaren, PA XIII

Happy Fall everyone,

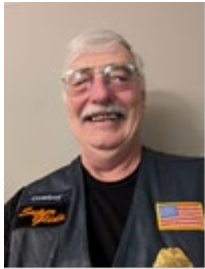
As the weather turns cooler I'm hoping that there will still be a few nice days to get out and ride. I've been unable to take any long rides due to a reoccurring shoulder injury but I'm hoping to find out soon what the next step in the process is to relieve the constant pain. I attended MDC Blue Ridge Rally in Culpeper, VA and had a great weekend with my brother and sister knights and I am looking forward to my last hurrah of the year in NJ at the TSC conference.

I received a fantastic email from Fran Suppok from PA XVI - their chapter just completed their 20th Annual Blue Ride and it was very successful. Together with the Blue Lodge 164 of the Free & Accepted Masons, their chapter was able to raise over \$75,000.00 this year to be distributed to organizations such as The Salvation Army, various Catholic Charities, St Jude's Hospital, Ronald McDonald house, local food banks and animal rescue groups. Over 400 motorcycles rode about 90 miles with a rest stop along the way and food provided at the end of the ride. They work year round to raffle off a Harley Davidson motorcycle valued at approximately \$35,000.00. The total monies raised for the 20 years they have been holding the ride is \$759,415.00!!!

Pictured below from left to right is: Sales Rep DJ Vicack and General Manager Pokie Weiss - Steel City Harley Davidson, Bike winners Ivan & Toni Ullom, Dave Richards - PA XVI Ride Chairman & Fran Suppok - PA XVI Sec/Treas



Be safe everyone and hope to see you in the near future. Please contact me if I can be of any assistance, here in PA or otherwise.



Pennsylvania State Rep: Rick Vobis, PA XXVI

Hey all,

I'm sitting here looking out my window seeing that the trees have already started to change color some and wondering where the riding season has gone. It seems like just yesterday I was changing the oil, checking the tire pressure, and polishing the chrome on the bike in preparation for all the rides to come this year. The memories of the many fun times 2023 has presented me bring a smile to my face and I realize that being a member of the best and largest Law Enforcement motorcycle club in the world isn't a seasonal thing but in all actuality is a lifetime; daily thing. The friendships I've made and Brotherhood I have experienced since joining the club around 23 years ago are strong and will carry me through the cold of winter until new friendships are formed and old ones are renewed. So far I've been able to attend various Chapter events, The International Convention in Pennsylvania and am looking forward to attending the Tri States Conference Fall weekend in about a week that sounds like its going to be a blast due to the efforts of our Brothers and Sisters of Blue Knights New Jersey VIII in Parsippany, NJ October 6th – 9th. Just yesterday at my Chapter's monthly meeting we were visited by 2 fellow Blue Knights from Blue Knights New York XI. They were not only a welcome addition to our meeting, but also won the 50/50. As an example of Brotherhood they donated the winnings back to our Chapter and even bought a ticket to the Tri States Big Buck Raffle from me. It doesn't get any better than that. If you have not attended events of other Chapters and the Tri States Conference's weekend you are, in my opinion, missing out on a vital benefit of our Club...Making lifetime friendships! Get involved and see how full of adventures our Club is. Until I see you at an event...Ride With Pride - Rick



Pennsylvania State Rep: Mike Hoover, PA XXI



Chaplain : Odie Odenheimer, PA VII

Greetings and Salutations Tri-State Blue Knights,

As I write this message I sit and wonder "where did the summer go"? Then I smile and remember, there are only 92 days left until Christmas. Tomorrow Autumn begins and the weather becomes brisk and refreshing. The leaves begin to turn brilliant and vivid colors, and Pumpkin spice rules supreme. What's not to love? My original intent was to continue my thread from last month's message, but whenever I begin to focus on what I think is important the Holy Spirit gives me a "Gibbs slap" upside my head and reminds me that I am but simply a messenger for my Lord, not His press secretary.

Earlier this month my wife and I were blessed to escape a potentially deadly situation when we were involved in a motorcycle crash while returning from the Blue Ridge rally on Labor day. The condensed Reader's Digest version is that a situation developed in front of me that caused both of us to be thrown from our trike onto the highway. Praise be to God that neither of us were hurt beyond some minor road rash, and some major bumps and bruises. What is more amazing is that there wasn't a mark on the bike. When all the excitement died down, we were able to get back on the bike and return home. As I told the story to friends they all said, "Boy your GuardianAngel was looking out for you". That got me to

thinking about the belief in Guardian Angels beyond just giving them lip service when things seem to work out in our favor. For the record, I absolutely believe I have a guardian Angel. Following my bike adventure I looked back on my life and can list at least five different events in my life that could have had serious or even deadly outcomes. I know that the favorable outcomes were not due to luck because try as I might, I can never win more than \$4.00 on the Powerball, so luck has never been a factor.

The Bible is full of stories mentioning the existence of Angels. I have chosen three that specifically point to the presence of Guardian Angels. They are:

1. Hebrews 1:14- "Are not all Angels ministering spirits sent to serve those who will inherit salvation"?
2. Hebrews 13:2- "Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing so, some people show hospitality to Angels without knowing it".
3. Psalms 91:11- "For He will command His Angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways".

Guardian Angels are an intricate part of God's divine plan. For each of us to reach our full potential we must follow God's word and live His values. For some of us the gift of free choice makes it difficult for us to live a christian life. John Wayne famously said in *The Shootist*, "Life is tough, it's tougher if you're stupid" It's also been said "You can't fix stupid". God in His infinite wisdom knows that is sometimes true, but if you can't fix stupid, sometimes you can protect it long enough for the truth of God's word to resonate in your soul, and suddenly the light bulb comes on. That's where your Guardian Angel comes in! He or She is on duty 24/7/365 to guide you through all of life's pitfalls and Satan's temptations until your feet are firmly planted on the road to salvation.

I want each of you to take a moment, sit down with a cup of coffee, tea or good Bourbon, away from any distractions, and just look back on your life. I think you will see clear evidence that your Guardian Angel has always had your six and always will. You are never alone, and never helpless.

Each week has 7 days. Someday is not one of them. Whatever your heart is yearning for, do it NOW! tomorrow is promised to no one.

I hope to see all of you at the Tri-State conference in New Jersey in October. Safe travel and blessings be with you.

Faithfully yours in Christ,
Chaplain Odie



Safety Officer: Sal Salamone, NY XVI

HOW TO GET THE MOST OUT OF YOUR MOTORCYCLE BATTERY

Motorcycle batteries. We tend to take them for granted. They're reliable (most of the time), easy to maintain (if done correctly) and economical. But there are a few things you should know before you buy one and, more importantly, after you buy it that will save a major headache down the road — literally!

When preparing to purchase a new battery, make sure you've got the right one. Over the years, Harley has utilized several different types and styles of batteries. In the old days, when the kicker was the only means to start the engine, batteries had a relatively easy life. All they had to do was power the lights and provide the juice for an occasional toot of the horn. Then things got tough for batteries. The electric starter began making demands on batteries that really taxed the conventional 12-volt lead acid battery. These days, we still have the traditional design along with the low maintenance, lead calcium battery. Many people use the sealed cell batteries, introduced on the new H-D models in the 1997 model year. In addition, we also have some newcomers from the aftermarket. A couple years ago, we saw the introduction of true sealed cell batteries, maintenance free (sic) for electric start Harley-Davidson motorcycles. This "maintenance free" technology (there is always some maintenance involved) carries a price however, so be prepared to pay a little more for this type of battery.

Regardless of what type of battery purchased, take the time to set it up properly. The first time a battery is charged is the most important charge of its life. Most batteries are "dry charged" and although they will perform adequately (for a while) without additional charging, the state of charge is normally about 45% to 50% after servicing. As soon as the battery is connected to

your motorcycle's electrical system and loaded (this happens as soon as you turn the ignition switch on) the battery takes a "set." In other words, if your new battery only has a 50% charge when you install it, it will never reach a higher state of charge. Talk about operating under a handicap!

To get as much as possible out of your new battery, follow these guidelines:

1. If you're dealing with a conventional battery (lead acid or lead calcium), fill the cells slowly. Allow the air to dissipate from the cells, this usually takes 20 to 30 minutes. Then top off the cells. Never over fill the cells!
2. After letting the electrolyte settle and soak into the plate material, charge the battery for at least 8 hours at a rate of 1/10th the battery's amperage rating (not to be confused with cold cranking amps). I prefer a manual, fixed rate charger. You can usually purchase a good 12-volt, 2/6-amp manual charger for under \$35. My favorite method is to charge the battery at 2 amps for about six or seven hours, then switch it to 6 amps for that extra push.
3. Keep tabs on the battery temperature while it's charging. The battery case should not be warm to the touch. If the battery plate temperature exceeds 115°, the plates can warp, creating the possibility of an internal short. If it becomes warm (not likely if you keep the charge rate at 2 amps), simply disconnect the charger until it cools off.
4. After you install the battery, make sure the vent hose (if it has one) is routed correctly. This means keeping it away from hot things, like cylinder fins, exhaust pipes, etc. Also make sure the hose doesn't become pinched or kinked. It's also important to ensure the hose doesn't terminate close to parts such as drive chains or belts, wheels/tires and exhaust pipes. It should be long enough to hang at least 1"-2" below the bike's frame.
5. Coat the battery connections with some type of protectant. I've used everything from terminal coat to wheel bearing grease. Something that works extremely well is the chain lube, particularly the non-foaming O-ring type.
6. Match the care you give your battery to your riding habits. If you tend to take a lot of short hops (stop-and-go city riding conditions), the battery tends to become discharged. Each time the engine is started, it takes 10 to 15 minutes of operation at highway speeds to restore the battery's charge. This rarely occurs if most of your riding is in the city. If this profile fits you, invest in a good trickle charger to help maintain the battery whenever you're not riding. A little trick many people use is to connect a regular charger to a programmable timer (the kind you can buy for \$5 at the local Wal-Mart). Set the timer to charge the battery for an hour or so every day and you'll add years to your battery life.

The old saying goes "out of sight, out of mind." As part of your regular weekly maintenance ritual, make it a point to keep an eye on your battery. Make sure the connections are clean and the electrolyte is at the upper level. Don't fill the cells up to the top! This can ruin a battery by allowing one bad or weak cell to contaminate the others. Use only distilled water for topping off the low cells.

Some people prefer to remove the battery from the bike for long periods of storage. This really doesn't matter, one way or the other. Whichever way you prefer, make sure the battery is regularly maintained. By this, I mean never let the battery go for more than a two-week period without charging it. Even on a wooden bench, with clean terminals, the best batteries in the world will become discharged. When this happens, it's all over for the battery (particularly with today's low maintenance lead-calcium batteries).

Well, that about wraps it up for now. Hope you got a charge out of our look at batteries!

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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 25th 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* ***



**Blue Knights® International
Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club, Inc.**
TRI-STATE CONFERENCE
(YEAR) RIDE EVENT SCHEDULE
(As Of 01/01/2023)



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	JULY	Contact or Website	Flyer
16-21	PA V	International Convention			Y
02-06	AB I	West Coast Conference			
30	PA XVI	20 th Annual Blue Ride		724-263-6281/pa16blueknight.com	Y
30	NY XX	Battle Of Minisink Run		845-649-0176/paulbrower@gmail.com	Y

Date	Chapter	Event	AUGUST	Contact or Website	Flyer
01-04	VA II	Annual Blue Ridge Rally		603-660-0761	Y
5	NY XVIII	NY 18 Poker Run		917-299-3560	Y
11-13	NY II	Suicide Run			Y
18-20	Indiana X	GRLC Summer Conference			
27	NJ V	Annual Picnic/Boardwalk Ride		856-364-6843	Y

Date	Chapter	Event	SEPTEMBER	Contact or Website	Flyer
01-04	VA II	47 th Annual Blue Ridge Rally		603-660-0761/VA2@blueknights.org	Y
9	NY XV	Lighthouse Run			Y
14-17	MO III	MWRC Fall Conference			
30	NY X	5 th Ride 4 Remembrance			Y

Date	Chapter	Event	OCTOBER	Contact or Website	Flyer
01	NJ XV	Frost on the Pumpkin		732-232-3286/jakapp631@gmail.com	Y
06-09	NJ VIII	Fall President's Meeting		908-878-7844/bktsc23@gmail.com	Y
18	NYXV	BKNJXV Golf Outing		732-995-7144/blueknights15.com	

Date	Chapter	Event	NOVEMBER	Contact or Website	Flyer
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Date	Chapter	Event	DECEMBER	Contact or Website	Flyer
03	NJ XV	Rockefeller Center Toy Run		917-731-7849/blueknights15.com	

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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

