

Blue Knights. International Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club, Inc.









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

SEPTEMBER 2025

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<u>BLUE KNIGHTS PLEDGE</u>: 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: Joseph De Felice, NY I



Greetings

Well Fall has arrived and our riding season here in the Tri-State is coming to a close. For those of you who ride all year long, be careful and watch out for the falling leaves.

The Tri-State Fall Presidents meeting will be held over the Columbus Day Weekend (10/10/2025 to 10/13/2025). This weekend will hosted by PA 13 & 22. They have a great weekend planned and it looks like a lot of fun. As of this newsletter they should have about 100 members and guests attending. If you plan on attending this event, please register right now because time is running out fast.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Russell Davis for all his hard work that he put into being the New Jersey State Rep. After many years of service he has decided to step down.

Please remember that I can always be reached by phone, text, or email. My number and email address are on the first page of every newsletter. If I do not answer the phone, I will get back to you as soon as possible.

Well I guess that's all for now. Look forward to seeing you at the upcoming Tri-State weekend in a couple of weeks.

Keep the shinny side up and the rubber on the road and always remember to....
Ride With Pride

Vice-Chairman: Lon Strayer, PA XI



Hello Everyone

It has been an interesting, eventful and very sorrowful month. On Wednesday September 10th we traveled to Ocean City MD for Bike Week. We left late on Wednesday because we attended the funeral of a friend. We arrived at about 9:30 PM only to be told that Charlie Kirk had been assassinated. We enjoyed Bike Week and returned home on Sunday the

14th. On Wednesday the 17th three officers were killed and two were wounded in one incident right here in my home county of York. A fund has been set up to benefit these officers and their families. You can go to this website to donate either personally or from your chapter-yorkcountysafetycollab. org I hope you are all getting your registrations and reservations in for the Tri State weekend. I would also like to encourage all of you to purchase and/ or sell our Big Buck raffle tickets. Contact Pam McClaren (610-637-5881) and she will get you as many tickets as you need. Leaves are beginning to fall which means that roadways will be slippery. Please be careful on the highway. As a veteran of several serious motorcycle accidents I can tell you that bouncing/sliding down the road is NOT fun. Neither are the weeks and months of recovery afterwards. Be careful out there and ride safe. Hope to see you all at Tri-State.

Secretary: Terry Castris, NY 7



Greetings to my brother and sister knights

I am looking forward in seeing everyone at the Tri-State Fall Presidents meeting. The Tri-State Conference is Columbus Day weekend in Kulpsville, PA. You can go to our website for more information. I am also attaching flyers to this month's newsletter.

Prayers are being sent to Bob Tvaroha NY17 who is dealing with some health issues. Please keep Bob in your daily prayers. Congratulations to

David VanOrden on his new position as President of NY17.

This is perfect riding weather. My chapter just came back from Ocean City Bike Week. Great times. Leaves are going to start dropping which makes a slippery situation. Be aware and look out for those leaves.

If you have any item to be put into the newsletter, please send it to me at bktscsec@gmail.com. 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 jpg file. This will make it easier for me to save and input the files in the newsletter.

Ride with Pride

Treasurer: Vinny Calderon, NY X



Greetings to all our TSC Blue Knights members.

Our Tri-State Conference is right around the corner. Please send in your registration & book your room asap. Currently we have 100+ members registered. Our Tri-State Conference is always a great time. Stay safe and hope to see everyone at our Tri-State Conference...

International Rep. Myron Joseph, NY IX



Greetings and salutations my fellow BK sisters and brothers, I sat through my first BOD meeting as your International Representative, boy, I think I broke my cherry with it lasting about 6 hours. There were 2 disciplinary hearings on the agenda that were handled in executive session. I won't discuss those here. Both were resolved and are finished 100% now.

I forward to you what I am permitted to, in an informal recap, a copy of the minutes will also be posted on the BK International Website. I will post when the official meeting minutes are posted on the BK Int'l website.

The next BOD meeting (Dec 3), we will be discussing the cost and need of the existing corporate email system. We are finding it is getting clogged up with spam and many feel it has not provided the service intended and may not be worth the cost. Please feel free to share your thoughts on corporate email with me.

NA VP, Cal Ennals, is working on a new Recruiting Video highlighting the diversity of the club and featuring younger members, family involvement and female members and riders participating in conference rides and conventions. If you have photos to contribute, and your models agree to being in the video and on social media, please forward them to Cal.

As a result of recent changes in membership qualifications, there is a new member application available on the International Website. The new form has a QR code link to the revised membership qualifications on the public side of the Int'l website. Please download and print that new membership application form and replace the old forms. If you have any problems, please let me know.

There were some motions made that were not on the meeting agenda. One was a vote approving a new law firm and corporate attorney for International, as a result of the previous law firm closing abruptly.

Chairman of the Headquarters Association, D.J. Alvarez will be back at the next BOD meeting to request approval of a different law firm for the HQ Association. There were several appointments made by Int'l President, Russ Harper, approved by the International Board for several of the International Committees. More appointments will be forthcoming at future BOD meetings.

The deadline for bids for the 2028 International Convention is May 1, 2026 for voting on the 2028 IC bids at the BOG Meeting in Calgary. Please download a copy of the Convention Guidelines from the Website and contact Jana at HQ, if you are planning to put in a bid. There is help for you, please use it!

There was a motion made by our Int'l Treasurer, Brian Arnold, which was approved to loan Alberta V \$5000 in "emergency seed money" for the IC 2026.

Oct 5, 2025: Deadline for the Winter 2025 Issue of the Sword & Shield Magazine. Contact Publisher, Randy Gracy.

NOV 2, 2025: Deadline for the next BOD meeting agenda items, 4 pm ET. Contact Int'l Secretary, Glen Wheat .

NOV 19, 2025: Special BOD Int'l Budget meeting on ZOOM at 11 am ET.

DEC 3, 2025: The next BOD meeting on ZOOM at 11 am ET.

Chapter Presidents: Please ensure your personal email is up-to-date on the International Website. You can change it there very easily (please remember to hit "save" at the bottom of the update page though).

During the meeting the presidents present supported the Big Buck raffle being run again, as the proceeds help offset any donations made, plaques given to members, and most importantly delay any dues increases. This year's raffle prize will be monetary.

September 11, 2025, twenty-four years later we still honor the men and woman of all backgrounds and disciplines, who lost their lives that day, and honor those who have lost their lives to this day. I attended a 9/11 Memorial ride sponsored by Myrtle Beach Harley Davidson, approximately 400 Motorcycles and approximately 600 People. A retired FDNY Firefighter Dan Tompkins, who responded to the towers on that memorable day, was one of the speakers and he delivered a heartfelt message. Small world we live in. Dan and Russ Harper, our International President have known each other since childhood. (Croton-on-Hudson)

The Fall Presidents meeting weekend is right around the corner, October 10 - 13, 2025, in Kulpsville, PA, all the information is on the TSC website.

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.

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







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

Greetings TSC Blue Knights,

We are just a few weeks away from our TSC Fall Conference and all systems are a go! For more information, please visit our website bktsc.com
Big Bucks Raffle will be available and prayers for great riding weather are on the list.

President's please remember to bring your Blue Knights ID Card. And for those that cannot make the meeting, please send a Proxy with a signed note for the member to vote on your behalf, representing your chapter.

This is our new Chairman's first sitting at the TSC Fall Conference and with a great team around him, it will be a banner year.

I hope to see you there in our Blue Knights spirit.

Be well, God Bless and Safe Travels.

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

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

The weather for September has been exceptionally warm up north which has allowed many of us an extended riding season. Hopefully many of you are taking advantage of putting on the miles while experiencing some wind therapy. Up north the leaves are just starting to change which will provide an amazing time for some foliage riding. I

am looking forward to riding out to the local apple orchard for some fresh cider

doughnuts 🥯.

I have hopes to make it to the Fall Tri-State Presidents meeting in PA if my health improves. Wishing everyone who plans to attend safe travels along with beautiful riding weather.

Finally, Tri-State is once again selling Big Buck raffle tickets. Help support a good cause by purchasing tickets from your state Reps.

Until next time RWP & Always Ride Safely

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



Greeting Blue Knights Brothers and Sisters,

Glad to see the many posts from Members and Chapters, not only in our Tri State Conference, but from Chapters worldwide. From the looks of things our Club is very active and doing great things. Involvement from new and younger members is growing and the future is looking bright!

September 11, 2025 members from NY4 and NY5 attended the annual 9/11 Memorial Ride from the Millgrove Volunteer Fire Company to Russell's Patriots and Heroes Park, sponsored by Red Knights NY47.

September 18, 2025 11 motorcycles, 15 riders from NY4and NY5, including a special guest, Jana, who was visiting from Germany 17, participated in our 3rd annual multichapter ride to Big Mike's Steaks and Hoagies in Forksville, Pennsylvania, where we were joined by members of PA14 for a Blue Knights gathering, enjoying good food and comradarie in a beautiful picnic grove next to a creek and alongside a covered bridge. The weather was close to perfect, the roads were awesome and the fall colors were in full bloom. Several participants have stated this was "the best" or "one of the best rides" they have ever been on, when speaking about some of the fantastic/fun roadways we traveled to get there.

The next event on my schedule is the Tri State Fall Weekend in Kulpsville, Pa, October 10-13, 2025. I hope to see you there.

The riding season is quickly coming to an end for those of us in the WNY area, still hopeful to find some time for 1 or 2 more fall foliage rides before I have to put the motorcycle to rest.

RIDE SAFE and RIDE WITH PRIDE!

New Jersey State Rep:

Pennsylvania State Rep: Pamela McClaren, PA XIII



Happy Fall!!!

TSC - Myself, my chapter - PA 13, Bud Dinnell and his chapter - PA 22 and the Tri-State Board have been busy busy busy preparing for the Tri-State Conference in a few weeks!! We are planning a good, relaxing time with all of you and bring your dancing shoes because we have a DJ for the banquet on Sunday night.

We will have 50/50s each night and a buffet dinner both Sat & Sun nights. There are various places to visit in the area that include a casino,

a helicopter museum and Valley Forge National Historic Park. We will have pizza, hoagies and chicken strips Friday night and snacks and beverages (soda, water, beer) available each night as well - and alcohol depending upon who brings/donates what bottles. Hope to see you there!!

<u>Big Buck Raffle</u> -Tickets are still available - only 700 are being sold for \$10 each with the prizes being \$1,500, \$1,000 and \$500. See me or Bud or a TSC Board member to purchase yours... The drawings are Sat, May 2nd at the TSC Spring Meeting in NJ and you need not be present to win! Thank you!!

Pennsylvania State Rep: Rick Vobis, PA XXVI



Hello Brothers and Sisters of the Blue Knights Tri State Conference.

Well September has been a fantastic month to ride for me so far. I decided to try to enjoy more of what our Club has to offer by attending the Blue Knights South Regional Conference's Fall Conference which was held in Hiawassee, GA from September 14-17, 2025. That ride was in excess of

800 miles each way and took me 2 days riding to get there and 2 days riding to get back home. I am glad to report that the ride was without any adverse events and the weather Gods felt kindly towards me by assuring that there was no rain on the trip although there was plenty of fog and mist to drive through. Having attended many Conference events in my time as a Blue Knight I must say that the host Chapter, Blue Knights Georgia XXII, really showed that they knew what they were doing! The Hospitality room was very well stocked with free top shelf booze for the pleasure of those who attended. There were plenty of beers and soda to choose from as well as a great selection of chips and trail mixes. The view of the Smokey Mountains from the balcony of the Hospitality room was spectacular! They had a crazy amount of door prizes (I won 2 of them) and the silent auction had more items available than I have ever seen at any event. The Brotherhood abounded and there was plenty of the renowned "Southern Hospitality" shown. I had the opportunity to sit and eat with the Executive Board of Blue Knights North Carolina VIII

at the banquet and they raved about the Blue Knights Mason Dixon Conference's fall conference held in Culpeper VA that they had recently attended so I told them I would see them there next year which will be the 50th year that this event is being held. My hotel reservation is already made. I would love to see you all there also. One of the "guided" not "escorted" rides that was offered was a ride to the "Tail of the Dragon" located in Deals Gap, NC so I decided to go with the group of about 35 bikes to enjoy the 100 mile each way ride. All in all this was an over 2,000 mile event for me. I can certainly tell you that my Harley Davidson Dyna Super Glide Custom is most definitely NOT a touring bike but it can do the job in a pinch!

Just a quick reminder: The Tri State Conference's Big Buck Raffle tickets are now available. This year's raffle will have cash prizes awarded to the winners. If you or your Chapter are interested in acquiring some please feel free to give me a call or send me an E mail with your request and I will make sure that you get as many as you wish.

Until I see you all (at the TSC Fall Conference next month I hope) stay safe andRWP











Pennsylvania State Rep: Mike Hoover, PA XXI



Greeting from Western Pennsylvania

We have had great riding weather and just in time for the fall leaves and cooler riding weather. In the back of the head we think of winterizing our machines, BUT not so fast. ENJOY the moment!!

I would like to have this article focus on PAXIV (Washington) Blue Knights for their dedication to their organization and to the community it serves. I would also like to highlight the president, Dave Richards. I think

that Dave Richards should be nominated Blue Knight of the Year. Dave, to many who know him, is the spear- head of giving back. His enthusiastic efforts his gives is contagious who work with him. The Blue Ride is so successful that many look forward to every year. The 2025 money to donate to local charities s and lodges amounted to \$50,500. Some of those include Make a Wish, Camp Cadet, Wounded Warrior and many many more. The Blue Ride is just not a one month deal, but continues year round. When the ride is finished at the end of July, the group starts planning for next year.

When the ride is finished at the end of July, the group starts planning for next year. KUDOS to PA XIV

PA 21 (Wexford) is planning their Christmas Party and election of officers. We have scheduled and family picnic for 2026.

In closing, I would like to continue to honor our past Chaplin, Odie. I had some serious discussions with him and Odie was a true Blue Knight.

TSC Chaplain: Nelson Alarcon NY VI



Called to Blessing

"Finally, all of you be of one mind, having compassion for one another; love as brothers, be tenderhearted, be courteous; not returning evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary blessing, knowing that you were called to this, that you may inherit a blessing. For "He who would love life And see good days, Let him refrain his tongue from evil, And his lips from speaking deceit. Let him turn away from evil and do good; Let

him seek peace and pursue it. For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, And His ears are open to their prayers; But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.""

I Peter 3:8-12 NK.IV

With all that is going on in the world today; senseless violence, distortion of the truth, ruthless attacks and a lack of empathy displayed in social media, please do not be misled and swayed towards evil which leads to destruction. Instead, choose love, kindness, long suffering, the whole of the fruit of the Spirit.

Safety Officer: Sal Salamone, NY XVI



Using Your Brakes Efficiently

Braking is a very basic, straightforward function of riding a motorcycle that many riders, especially new riders, don't always execute properly. Whether you're a twenty-year riding veteran or brand-spanking new rider, proper and efficient braking technique could someday mean the difference between

having an accident and avoiding one. Here are a few helpful reminders to some and new information to others that will insure you use your bike's brakes as expertly as possible. Knowing that there are two separate brakes on a bike, one for the front tire and one for the rear tire, it's also important to realize the best possible way to use these to your advantage. As with cars, the front brakes do most of the braking for the motorcycle as well, probably around 70% of the braking force. Part of the reason many new riders might feel apprehensive at first about using the front brake is the myth or notion that if you slam on the front brake, you'll fly over the handlebars, as you would on a bicycle. The real truth about using your front handle brake on your bike is that if used with the proper technique, it will stop you quickly and smoothly. Brakes used improperly result in a skidding front tire and loss of control, but the bike would not act like a bicycle. Another aspect to know and remember when using your motorcycle's brakes is that they react much like brakes in a car. When you forcefully step on the brake of a car, your body weight (and the weight of the car) tends to be thrown forward due to inertia. This is one of the reasons why the front brakes are so important to stopping. The same will happen on a motorcycle and with the proper technique, your stopping "power" can be used to your advantage. The proper application of the front brake is accomplished with a firm, progressive squeeze-do not grab the front brake. As you squeeze the brake, your weight transfer will move forward towards the front wheel. This will allow you to squeeze harder on the front brake, but also allow you to take advantage of this forward momentum to step on the foot (or rear) brake. Once the squeeze on the brake lever is started, don't stop -- keep squeezing and the bike will stop more quickly. Lastly, remember that braking on a motorcycle is more a matter of progressive squeezing and forward weight transferring than a grabbing impulse... Proper technique is to apply both brakes (handle and pedal) at the same time. Squeeze firmly and progressively with the front brake and lightly too temperately on the rear brake. If properly practiced and executed, it will make your stopping distances shorter and much safer

2025 TRI-STATE CONFERENCE FALL WEEKEND

OCTOBER 10-13, 2025

LOCATION: HOLIDAY INN LANSDALE-HATFIELD 1750 SUMNEYTOWN PIKE KULPSVILLE, PA 19443

FRI & SAT NIGHTS - \$144/NT + TAX SUN NIGHT - \$124/NT + TAX
ROOM RESERVATIONS CALL 215-368-3800 ROOM CODE: BKT
(Room must be booked by 9/10/25 to get these rates)

If you want to book the room online, please send Pam McClaren an email at Pamelaabk@aol.com and she will send you the direct link.

WEEKEND REGISTRATION: \$130/PERSON

INCLUDES: DINNER SATURDAY & SUNDAY NIGHTS
HOSPITALITY FRI NIGHT, SAT NIGHT & SUN NIGHT
GOODY BAG, SNACKS & DRINKS AND DOOR PRIZES

PLEASE COMPLETE SEPARATE REGISTRATION FORM AND MAIL CHECK AND FORM TO VINNY CALDERON, 8733 21ST AVENUE, BROOKLYN, NY 11214

CONFERENCE SHIRTS - CAN ONLY BE PURCHASED ONLINE PLEASE CONTACT BKNY9.com (Short sleeve \$15 / Long sleeve \$20)

FOR ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT: BUD DINNELL – 484-213-0699 PAM MCCLAREN 610-637-5881

No need to register if only coming in Saturday for the 1 pm meeting.

2025 TRI-STATE CONFERENCE FALL WEEKEND

OCTOBER 10-13, 2025 REGISTRATION FORM

LOCATION: HOLIDAY INN LANSDALE-HATFIELD 1750 SUMNEYTOWN PIKE KULPSVILLE, PA 19443

WEEKEND REGISTRATION: \$130/PERSON

PRE-REGISTER BY: <u>SEPT 20, 2025</u> – MAIL THIS FORM AND CHECK (MADE OUT TO TSC) TO VINNY CALDERON, 8733 21ST AVENUE, BROOKLYN, NY 11214 (NO WALK-INS PLEASE)

I the undersigned do hereby acknowledge that my participation in this event is voluntary. I do hereby release the following entities from any and all claims of liability, for any injuries sustained to my person, OR my motorcycle OR vehicle, by my participation in this event: Blue Knights PA Chapters XXII AND XIII, TSC and The Holiday Inn, and all employees, sponsors, and or members thereof, or assistants and or affiliates thereto, including their professional, personal, and/or corporate holdings

Phone:
Age:
Chapter:
Date:
Phone:
Age:
Chapter:
Date:

FOR ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT:

BUD DINNELL - 484-213-0699 PAM MCCLAREN - 610-637-5881

CONFERENCE SHIRTS - CAN ONLY BE PURCHASED ONLINE - PLEASE CONTACT BKNY9.COM (SHORT SLEEVED \$15 / LONG SLEEVED \$20)

No need to register if only coming in for Saturday for the 1 pm meeting.

INTERNATIONAL OFFICERS

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BLUE KNIGHTS INTERNATIONAL OFFICE

JANA CLARK (Office Manager) 38 ALDEN STREET hq@blueknights.org 207-947-4600

BANGOR, ME 04401

** 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

Terry Castris, Tri-State Conference Secretary

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



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



(As Of 08/01/2025)

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	JANUARY	Contact or Website	Flyer
Date	Chapter	Event	FEBRUARY	Contact or Website	Flyer
Date	Chapter	Event	MARCH	Contact or Website	Flyer
Date	Chapter	Event	<u>APRIL</u>	Contact or Website	Flyer
Date	Chapter	Event	MAY	Contact or Website	Flyer
Date	Chapter	Event	JUNE	Contact or Website	Flyer
Date	Chapter	Event	<u>JULY</u>	Contact or Website	Flyer
Date	Chapter	Event	<u>AUGUST</u>	Contact or Website	Flyer
Date	Chapter	Event	SEPTEMBER	Contact or Website	Flyer
Date	Chapter	Event	<u>OCTOBER</u>	Contact or Website	Flyer
10/10-13 PA XIII & XXII TSC Fall Weekend bktsc.org					Y
Date	Chapter	Event	NOVEMBER	Contact or Website	Flyer
Date	Chapter	Event	DECEMBER	Contact or Website	Flyer
12/7	NJ XV	Toy Run		917-731-7849/steve1120@aol.com	Y

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

