



## *Blue Knights® International*

*Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club, Inc.*



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

## **NOVEMBER 2019**

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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.



**The Chairman’s Chair: Keith Bowers, PA XIV**

November is a great time to look back on the year and take note of all that I have to be thankful for. In the Blue Knights, I must say that I am thankful first for my wife Andrea, who supports my participation and enjoys participating with me. I am thankful for the members of my chapter, PA XIV, especially those who have served as chapter officers over the years. Their willingness to work throughout the year to keep the chapter organized and the membership informed is worthy of gratitude.

At the Conference level, I am thankful for the chapter presidents and members who take interest and attend the spring meetings and conferences. Your input is invaluable, and your participation provides direction for your conference officers.

I am thankful to work with our state reps, Frank, Keith and Bud. They are always available to serve as the first line of contact for chapters with questions or concerns. Our state reps and executive officers set aside egos and work together in the best interest of the conference and the organization. This has been my experience since I first began serving at the conference level and has continued even as new officers have joined the board. Our International rep, Russ Harper, has faithfully served according to the direction of the conference membership, even though he has frequently been a voice speaking alone or in the minority. The TSC is also blessed with a webmaster, Don Parker, who was worked diligently over the years to keep our website up to date. His willingness to serve, rewarded only by our infrequent words of appreciation, is noteworthy.

At the International level, I am thankful for men and women who commit the time required to stay informed of the interests of the membership. Time spent in meetings, although sometimes considerable, is but a small portion of the time needed to properly represent the membership. When all flows well, we don’t have much to say about their work, but whenever something goes amiss, we are quick to complain and point fingers. Knowing this, some are still willing to undertake this responsibility, for which I say, “Thank you!”

I also would like to extend a special “Thank you!” to Frank Fallaw for his years of service to the conference as NJ State Representative and his wife Lorraine for actively supporting him. It has been my pleasure to work with and learn from Frank. The TSC Board will be soliciting applications for this position in the immediate future.

Ride with Pride  
Keith Bowers



**The Vice Chairman’s Chair: Dominic Squillace, PA X**

I hope everyone had a Happy and Safe Thanksgiving being ever thankful for their families, their health and the food that they were able to eat. There were a lot of people less fortunate. Now it’s on to the hustle and bustle of the Christmas shopping. Remember to have patience and take your time while driving so as not to have an accident.

Our Spring President’s Meeting will be held on Saturday, May 2nd, 2020 hosted by New York-XX, Mark your calendars. More to follow as we get more information.

Our Fall Conference will be hosted by New York-XX with the help of a couple other New York Chapters. It will be from October 9th-12th, 2020. More to follow as we get more information. Thank you to New York-XX and the supporting Chapters for offering to host the Fall Conference.

The membership renewals have been out, Chapters should have checked their Corporate E-Mails by now and should have started collecting dues from your members. Remember they need to be in by the end of January.

Well, that's about it for now so on behalf of myself and Ruthann we want to wish everyone a Very Merry Christmas, a Happy Hanukkah and a Happy and Healthy New Year. Enjoy your Families, Friends and Loved Ones and keep in your prayers those in Law Enforcement, Medical Service, Fire Service and all our Military Men and Women out there trying to keep us Safe and Free.

As always "RIDE WITH PRIDE"!!

DOMINIC SQUILLACE, VICE-CHAIRMAN  
TRI-STATE CONFERENCE  
610-888-7877



**Tri-State Secretary: Myron Joseph, NY IX**

At the October Presidents meeting, Irv Halpern's NJ VIII was recognized with a 40 year plaque by the Tri-State board. At their meeting in November, NY State Rep Frank Fallaw presented Irv and his chapter with the plaque.

November started with the NYC Veterans Day parade where several Bk's members from different chapters from NY, NJ and CT met to ride in the parade to honor those that gave the supreme sacrifice, those that have served and those that are serving, so we all can continue the freedoms we have today.

My daughters HS Volleyball team had only lost two games during their regular season and won the Division. They then played at Pace University to compete in the Section 1, Championship game. After a best out of five set, they won becoming the Class C Section 1 Champs.

Next they travelled to Kingston, NY to play in the Regional Semi-Finals game, they were successful there. Next we travelled to Corning, NY to play in the Regional Finals. After another best out of five set, they became the 2019 Class C Regional Champions. (First time in school history.) Oh, they were not finished with this win.

We next travelled to Glens Falls, NY to play in the States two day championships. The first day of play, they finished with a 3 – 0 record. They had to play three different teams that day. The second day, they faced off against the reigning State Champs in a best of five set. They lost the first game, had some of us in the bleachers, very nervous. Well, I think they just wanted to play with us. They went to win the next three games in a row, becoming the New New York State Public High School Athletic Association State Champions. (Another first in school history.)

Upon their return home after their win, they were met along the way by the local Police and Fire Departments and received an escort to the school. The community welcomed the State Champions with open arms and cheers.

Between the School and Community, the champions were honored at several celebrations and events. At the annual village Tree lighting ceremony they were honored and the County of Westchester honored them by putting the school Volleyball team on the jumbo-monitor in front of the County Center for all to see, that drove by.

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**Tri-State Conference News:**

Presidents please, you must properly vet all new incoming members, to make sure they qualify for membership under the current international by-laws for membership.

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**International News:**

**2019 – 2021 International Board.**

**Int’l President:** Guy O’Connor AZ VI

**Int’l Vice President:** Andreas Hohendorf Ger V

**Int’l Secretary:** Jim Borza TX XXXI

**Int’l Treasurer:** John Bull MD I

GOD SPEED AND GOOD LUCK TO THEM ALL.

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The BOG created a BOG President’s Face Book site for communication between the BOG and all BLUE KNIGHTS chapters. In order for a TSC chapter to be represented on the BOG Facebook page, the Chapter President must contact me TSC (Moderator) Secretary Myron Joseph, via email ([mjtristatesec.aol.com](mailto:mjtristatesec.aol.com)) so that I can acknowledge your request for participation on this Facebook page. The person who is designated to act on behalf of the chapter on this Facebook page must be either the Chapter President or Vice President or past President. Only one of these persons will be allowed access.

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2020 Int’l Convention (June 21 - 26, 2020) in Killarney, CO. Kerry, Ireland hosted by IE I.

The host chapter (IE I) kindly requests that you both make reservations and register through Celtic Horizon Tours, [www.celtichorizontours.com](http://www.celtichorizontours.com). Telephone +353-1-6292000.



**Tri-State Treasurer: Liz Cook, NY XVIII**

Wishing you all a very Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy New Year.

You can mail in your chapters Tristate dues of \$45.00 for 2020 to me at: 33 Guymard Tpke. Middletown, NY 10940. Make check to Blue Knights Tri-State

Thank you. Also, if you need help with the 990 form for the IRS, give me a call.

RWP  
Liz



**Tri-State New York State Rep: Keith Lipsey, NY XVIII**

Today is Thanksgiving and Fran & I pray you are all having a great day with family. I am sure some of your chapter members are working and we pray for their safety!

This morning, Fran & I participated in our chapters' traffic assistance for the Rockland County '5 Mile Turkey Trot for the Marisa Fund'.

November 3rd, Fran & I were at the Massachusetts 1 annual 'Toy Run'. The weather was favorable and fun was had by all. We brought home a few raffle winnings. Our favorite is the Homemade Quilt from Ireland!

November 11th 'Veteran's Day' we went down to participate in the NYC Parade as we often do. But this year there was much more traffic and parade like driving which burnt my clutch fluid and the bike over heated. So we pulled over and let it cool down for a bit. We then proceeded home and missed this year's parade, now have another story for the books.

November 20th I received my HOG Issue 51 of 2019 and on page 46, the 'Enthusiast' section, I noticed a Blue Knights back patch. I checked FB for a Jerry Solomon and found him as a BK member of BK LA VIII. We are now friends on FB. Very cool 🤝

November 23rd my chapter had its Christmas Party and the way some members dressed was hysterical! Looking forward to next years with anticipation of creative fashion.

November 24th I saw an announcement that Blue Knight just established its first chapter in the UA Ukraine. Congratulations Jürgen Pohl and thank you for all your hard work.

November 28th NY 18 assisted doing traffic for a Turkey Trot as mentioned earlier!

Some of us are still riding here in NY eg: Santa Rides, Toy Rides etc. please be careful and remember the road may be clear with the temps sub-freezing. That being said, check your wind chill factor chart and be careful of patches of ice as well as snow blown on the roadway.

Time for me to get back to the gym after this Thanksgiving meal. I promised Fran I would join one tomorrow! I'll keep you all posted.

Happy Holidays to all with much health and safety this jolly season.

Hope to see some of you real soon.

Riding with Pride,  
Keith Lipsey  
BK TSC NY Rep.

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'In God We Trust' Our national motto adopted by congress July 30, 1956. Let's protect it.

Blue Knights NY XVIII 'Roulez avec Fierite'



### Tri-State New Jersey State Rep: Frank Fallaw, NJ XI

To all my Brother and Sister Blue Knights, hoping this article finds all of you and your families in great health.

On the 20th of November, 2019 I attended Blue Knights New Jersey Chapter 8 meeting in Chester New Jersey, our past tri state chairman Gus Faella kept me company. At this meeting I presented their President Irv Halpern with their chapters 40 year plaque, on be haft of the Tri State Board, and Chairman Keith Bowers. I also explained that at the Tri State weekend it was voted by the chapter presidents that tri state chapters will be given this award for 40 years, and every 10 years after. A great meeting was ran, and a great meal after words, true Brother and Sister Hood. Thank You NJ 8 for the warm welcome.

Reminder, Tri State Due of \$45.00 are due, please send to LIZ COOK 33 Guymard Tpke Middletown, NY 10940

Also NJ Chapters please send myself, and Myron Joseph your Chapters updated List of officers for 2020:

Myron Joseph 720 Pelham RD Apt 5-J New Rochelle, NY 10805.

Hoping all Blue Knights and their families have a Great and Healthy Thanks Giving.

Frank Fallaw  
Blue Knights Chapter XI  
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Cell: 732-814-9488



## Tri-State Chaplain Jim "Odie" Odenheimer

Greetings and Salutations Tri-State Blue Knights,

Thanksgiving has come and gone, but the calories and pounds are a gift that keeps on giving. I pray your celebration of all God's blessings was festive yet meaningful to you and your family. In addition to giving thanks for all we have and enjoy in this land of plenty, Thanksgiving serves another important function, it is the official kick off for the Christmas season. Christmas is truly the most wonderful time of the year. Just what makes Christmas so special? Is it the festive decorations, the traditional carols or the lively secular music we have come to love, the cookies and other holiday delicacies we enjoy only at this time of the year, the smell of a fresh cut pine tree in our home, the exchange of just the perfect gift to friends and family, the look of pure joy and excitement on our children's faces as they rush downstairs to see what Santa left them under the tree, or is it the promise that comes with Christmas from the Angels of "Peace on earth, good will towards men"? Truth be told, it is probably a little of each of these.

Christmas is different for each of us. As we have matured, many of us see Christmas in a very different light than when we were children. The celebration of the holiday we now know as Christmas was never mentioned in the Bible. That is something that mankind has developed over the years starting in the middle ages, and then refined it into a almost unrecognizable period of excess in the name of Jesus. What the Bible does say is that the birth of Christ was foretold by the prophet Isaiah in Isaiah 7:14- "Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel" The Gospels all give detailed versions of the birth of Jesus in a manger in Bethlehem, and of the three wise men who traveled to worship him and offer him gifts. There is no lack of Bible verses that predict the birth of Jesus or Gospel verses that recount the miracle of the son of God becoming flesh incarnate. What have we done to the idea of God's redemptive love? Christmas is the celebration of the birth of our savior, Jesus Christ. Nothing more, nothing less. In understanding the magic of this miracle, we can fully understand just how much God loves us. It is not the Holidays, it is not sparkle season, it is not Dazzle days, and it is not Tinsel time (a new one I just heard the other day). It always has been, and always will be Christmas. I'm old school when it comes to Christmas, if Merry Christmas is now offensive to some folks, get over it! Christmas didn't change, you did.

As I was growing up, the Christmas season started the day after Thanksgiving. It couldn't start any earlier because Santa always arrived during Macy's Thanksgiving Day parade. Now, many stores have their Christmas decorations and merchandise on display as early as mid-July in some regions, and no later than Labor Day. The Hallmark channel has a two week period in July called "Christmas in July, (thank you captain obvious), where they show Christmas movies 24 hours/day in order to spark your interest in Christmas, and on November first, they shift their schedule to Christmas movies 24/7 until New Year's day. Are there really that many Christmas movies out there? Sirius radio started playing Christmas Music 24 hours/day on November first,(channel 73 for those of you who subscribe), and now have added 15 additional 24/7 Christmas channels to satisfy everyone's taste in Christmas music. They even have a 24/7 Hanukah channel to cover all their bases. (My head is going to explode!) For those of you who are truly adventurous, you can take your life in your hands on Black Friday by simply going to the mall (stores open at 5:00am). Other countries call this "the running of the bulls". Many retailers advertise X-mas sales. There is NO X in Christmas. I don't want to get overly corny by saying Jesus is the reason for the season, but He really is. Too many of us just get steam rolled by the endless Christmas season. There are never enough hours in a day to get it all done, and our sanity, (or what's left of it) takes a real beating. We have to get all the shopping done, get the presents wrapped (plastic bags are not allowed), and in some cases mailed (lest we have to send them priority mail, \$78.00 for two packages, I know this), Get the decorations up (clear lights can stay up all year long with no one really noticing, I know this too), find a perfect Christmas tree (mine is in the basement. I know exactly where it is every year), get the strings of lights untangled and working (one goes out, the rest stay lit,

HOGWASH), get the baking done (not my department thank goodness), write the Christmas brag letter and address all the cards (don't forget anyone) and mail by New Year's day, and don't forget to get to church, at least for Christmas eve. For too many of us, that's 50% of our yearly attendance. Normally Jeanne and I fail at at least one task. Usually it's is getting the tree up in a timely fashion. Last year we did get the tree up the week before Christmas, but due to some interior construction, we didn't decorate it for fear of having drywall dust on everything. It looked kind of stupid, but the thought was well intended. I'm sure many of you can add your own version of family specific Christmas debacles, but you get the point. Instead of enjoying the true meaning of Christmas, we just get swallowed up by the retail driven devil we have allowed to hijack one of the Holiest times of the year. The funny thing is this happens to most of us every year. They didn't move Christmas up. It's the same time EVERY YEAR! December 25th, we are simply creatures of habit (bad habits). Remember when you were growing up and asked your father what he wanted for Christmas and he would reply "peace and quiet"? You thought he was just trying to tell you not to buy him something you couldn't afford, but he really meant it.

As active or retired law enforcement officers, you can attest to the statement that "Christmas brings out the best in some people, and the worst in others". For many of us who are still on the job, this is often the final nail in our Christmas coffin. Working over the Christmas holiday can be viewed as a hardship for officers who have small children or large families. Often you are left out of Christmas celebrations and family gatherings due to the demands of your schedule. With a little foresight and creative planning a Christmas shift can be the most rewarding shift you will ever experience. I used to work the shifts of officers of different faiths who had important religious holidays they wished to observe, but that the government didn't recognize as special to them. They in turn would work my Christmas shift. As I got older, I would volunteer to work Christmas morning for officers who had small children if they would work my second shift where my family had their big Christmas dinner. It worked out well for all of us. Working a Christmas shift or detail often provided me some special encounters with people who were experiencing a Holiday crisis that for some reason, only I could fix. Some dispatches were funny, (you wouldn't believe the cooking emergencies that happen on Christmas), some touching, and sadly some were tragic, but each one allowed me to see the magic of Christmas in its proper perspective. When I was at a loss for words (who me?), the Holy Spirit would step in and bail me out. While it's not exclusive to the Christmas season, it is this time of the year that we seem a little more willing to see the good in people, no matter what the situation is, give them the benefit of the doubt (even when there is no doubt), and treat everyone a little bit nicer, with a higher degree of understanding. There are numerous stories that during the two world wars of both allied soldiers and German soldiers putting down their weapons, singing Christmas carols together, sharing rations, and even exchanging small gifts on Christmas day. The Christmas spirit even stopped a world war! No question about it, there is magic that happens only at Christmas time. During this Christmas season, slow down. Take the time to enjoy the gift of Christmas that God has given you. Marvel in the absolute wonder of Christmas. It is indeed the most wonderful time of the year!

Santa isn't always dressed in a red suit. Sometimes he/she is dressed in blue and wears a badge. Go out there and make someone's day! Or as my old shift commander would say "Bless the hell out of them!"

I wish each of you and yours the merriest of Christmases, and the most prosperous of New Years.

Faithfully you're in Christ  
Chaplain Odie



## Tips for Riding Your Motorcycle Safely During Winter Season

Even the most fervent motorcycle riders may consider putting their bike away during the coldest months. Wind, snow, ice and frigid temperatures generally don't make for great motorcycle riding conditions.

Before you hit the road in winter, check your tires. Your owner's manual should provide the required amount of tread for safe driving. But, you can do a quick check of the tread on your tires by doing the "penny test." Take a penny, hold it between your thumb and forefinger so that Abraham Lincoln's head is showing. Place the top of Lincoln's head into one of the grooves of the tire's tread. If any part of Lincoln's head is obscured by the tread, you probably have a safe amount of tread, according to the MSF. If you can see above Lincoln's head, then you likely need a new tire. The MSF also recommends looking over the tires for uneven wear, bulges, cracks or anything embedded in the tire.

You'll also want to make sure your tires are inflated properly according to owner's manual says the MSF, as the cold weather can cause the pressure to drop. Since the rubber on your tires is harder when it is cold, the MSF also recommends easing into your ride to allow the tires to warm up enough to provide better traction.

Hypothermia due to severe wind chill can be a concern, especially riding a motorcycle. The speed at which you are traveling can increase your body's loss of warmth. Keeping your body warm and protected can require some serious gear, so plan ahead. Depending on the temperature, consider thermal underwear and socks, glove liners, balaclavas and other base layers to help warm your extremities, which are generally most susceptible to cold temperatures, consider using chemical heat packs in gloves and boots, or even outfit your bike with grip, seat and foot warmers. Also wearing a well-insulated helmet with a Full face mask. Regardless of the season, proper preparation and using the appropriate equipment and gear can help you safely enjoy your motorcycle year-round.

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**\*\* 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)

Myron Joseph, Tri-State Conference Secretary

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



Frank presenting Irv with 40 year plaque



40 Year Plaque



NYC Veteran Day Parade



Corning NY – Regional Game Trophy and game score.



Kingston NY game scores





**STATES Champion**



**ME leading our Thanksgiving Parade**