

Blue Knights

Chapter New York III

Newsletter

Volume 04 Series 2004

April 15, 2004

Attendees:

The following were present for the April 06, 2004 Membership meeting which was held at the Denny's Restaurant, Route 9, Poughkeepsie, N.Y. (*This includes family and friends of our membership*):

J.J. Lynch, David McDonald, Bill Pomeroy, Kim Pomeroy, David Howard, Carl Raymo, Al Kenwood, Ray Davis, Cindy Davis, Willie Hernandez, Sal Napolitano, Joe Doherty, Tim McGuire, Bob Ferrigan, Chuck Tuttle, Deb Prusack, Pat Mahan, Phil Cioffi, Earl Bowman, Fred Ross, Gerry Forino, Cindy Forino, Lene Forino and special guest speaker Lou Barbaria. (*If I missed you, you forgot to sign the sign-in sheet!*)

Meeting Called to Order:

President Lynch called the meeting to order at 1910 hours. All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance and remained standing for a moment of silence to honor the members of Heaven 1 and all of our Armed Forces.

Officer Reports:

Secretary's Report-

A motion was made by Sal Napolitano and seconded by Chuck Tuttle to accept the minutes as written in the March Newsletter. Passed unanimously.

Treasurer Report-

The treasurer, Bill Pomeroy, presented a report on the club's finances. Motion to accept the report was made by Sal Napolitano and seconded by Chuck Tuttle. Passed Unanimously. A copy of this report can be obtained from the treasurer.

Quartermasters Report-

The quartermaster Ray Davis presented his report. An inventory was performed on April 3rd of all the club's sale items. Ray performed this inventory with help from Chuck Tuttle. (*thanks guys!*) We have 3,629 flag pins of active Blue Knight countries. We have additionally 1,017 flag pins of inactive Blue Knight countries. We currently have only fourteen of the world pin. (*This is the main pin to which the flag pins are attached – Ed.*) We are down to eleven of the world patches. This has been a popular sale item in the past. Ray will be contacting the vendor for the replacement cost on all of these items. We have one complete set of rockers with the dark blue color. We have seven of the NY III rockers in the lighter blue color. J.J. instructed Ray to look into the replacement cost for the pins and also the cost of getting the patch and rockers to complete the sets of colors. Ray will report back to the club.

Carl Raymo inquired if we were missing any country's flags for our pin set. Ray send we had Croatia, but believes we are missing Wales.

Ray will check to make sure we are not missing any country and will report back on this in the near future. President Lynch wants to look into the cost of keeping the world pin set or discuss other possibilities. The cost of completing all the world pin sets may far exceed our current treasury. The world pin has just not sold as in recent years. The club must address this problem and decide in what direction our sale items will go. One suggestion was to offer the pins in a variety of sets, such as a starter set with just the world pin and a few of the nation flags. Bill Pomeroy suggested a greater effort in advertising with other chapters. We could create a flyer and send it out to other Blue Knight chapters for use in their newsletter or web site. It has been agreed that we also need to produce a picture of the completed pin set. This would help assist people putting the set together. We currently do **not** have a picture of this item in the current sales catalog. We believe this is having a negative affect on the sale of this item. President Lynch believes that the whole question of our sale items needs to be the subject of a meeting and that the membership must decide what we are going to do.

Board of Director's Report-

President Lynch spoke about the current ride schedule. The ride schedule is available on our web site. *(I will include two months of the schedule with each paper copy of the newsletter - Ed.)* The Ride schedule will now include two ride dates. Both Saturday and Sunday have been designated for rides. The **Sunday** ride will have a destination to go to and is the same as in past years. The **Saturday** ride will be designated as a **POTLUCK RIDE**. What this means is that we will meet at the Highland dinner on Saturdays at 1030 A.M. and be prepared to leave at 1100 A.M. Those who show up will determine what you will do and where you will go. There is no predetermined location or activity, hence the **POTLUCK** name. If no one shows up, well you got out on your bike and had a ride. If a bunch of people show up, you can all decide what to do. This allows a lot of flexibility in what we do this year. Hopefully, this will encourage more participation in our rides.

Treasurer and Web Master Bill Pomeroy wants the membership to know that the ride schedule and monthly newsletter is available on

our web site and are down load-able in PDF format. *(You'll need adobe acrobat – it's a free download and we have a link to it on our web site – Ed.)* Bill will no longer send the newsletter out as e-mail. If you can receive e-mail, you can access the web site and download the newsletter. This will also promote visits to our web site. E-mail will go out letting you know when the newsletter is available.

Bike Blessing Report:

A meeting to discuss the Bike Blessing was held on Monday April 12th at the Newburgh Denny's. Sal Napolitano is the Bike Blessing chairman. He needs our help. Please contact Sal **ASAP** and ask what you can do to help. We need **ALL** of our members to lend a hand and make this Bike Blessing a success. Sal mentions that we need door prizes to give away. We need each member to reach out to stores etc. and get some donations. Remember – call Sal soon. The blessing is coming up fast!

Uniform Committee:

Sal Napolitano brought samples of the proposed uniform for competitions. It's sharp looking! Sal has the complete prices for every thing. Contact him if you are interested. These uniforms will be used for the competitions at International and Tri-State meetings. He will hold onto the samples for one more meeting. So if you want to see it come to next month's meeting or call Sal and set up a meeting with him.

Armed Forces Appreciation Day Event

Tim McGuire, Ulster County Sheriff's Office, informed the membership that there would be an event to honor our military on May 15th, 2004. This is NOT a political event. The event is to show our appreciation for the troops. The event is being held at TR Gallo Memorial Park, The Strand, Kingston, New York from 1:00 to 4:00 P.M. There will be a motorcade of Hot rods, motorcycles and custom cars. They are also planning a mid morning ride. This event is on our ride schedule. The event planners ask for a donation of pre-paid call cards or personal care

items to send to our troops. So put a flag on your bike and come show your support for the troops.

Proposal to Board of Governors:

There is going to be a couple of new proposals going to the board of governors at the International Convention which will deal with Corrections Officers and Blue Knight membership classifications.

These proposals are to deal with Corrections Officers who have lost their power of arrest. One proposal is to make them Associate members. The associate member's section of the Constitution Articles of Incorporation would be changed to reflect their lack of arrest powers. Another proposal would grandfather in all the Correction Officers who are currently Blue Knights and have lost their arrest powers. No new members without arrest powers would be allowed. President Lynch explains this proposal came about due to Correction Officers in Virginia losing their arrest powers. The Virginia State government took away the arrest powers of their Corrections Officers and privatized a lot of their functions. We have whole chapters in Virginia made of Correction Officers and lost the chapters when they lost their power of arrest. President Lynch would like to hear how we feel about this from our members. He wants to get a consensus from the membership and will vote for the proposal that our club agrees with. If you have an opinion on this issue, come to the next meeting or contact J.J. and let him know how you feel.

Meet and Eat:

The next meet and eat will be on Tuesday, April 20th at 7 p.m. The location is the Barnstormer Barbecue, Ames Plaza, Route 17K in Newburgh, New York.

Meeting Adjourned:

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Sal Napolitano and seconded by David McDonald. Passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 1950 hours.

Guest Speaker:

Immediate following the general meeting, Bob Ferrigan introduced Capt. Lou Barbaria, New York State Police. Capt. Barbaria worked motorcycle gangs for a number of years in his career. He spoke on a number of topics as it relates to biker gangs, which were punctuated by fascinating personal experiences from his career. A huge thank you goes out to Capt. Barbaria for sharing his time and expertise with us. Thanks also go out to Bob Ferrigan for getting Capt. Barbaria to speak at our meeting.

50/50:

Lou Barbaria was the winner of this month's 50/50 held at the end of the meeting. He donated his share of the 50/50 back to the club for COPSRUN. Thank you!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES:

First I want to correct the mistake from last month. March 15th is the birthday of **JEAN LYNCH**, not J.J. ! Sorry Jean, my bifocals need adjusting. I hope your birthday turned out great!

Happy birthday wishes go out to the following members for April and May:

Deborah Prusack – April 5th
Arthur Mays – April 13th
George Lucente – April 15th
Fredric Ross – April 18th
Chuck Tuttle – April 25th
Keith Schmitt – May 6th
Earl Bowman – May 10th
Willy Hernandez – May 10th
Daniel Reinmuth – May 24th
Tom Mazzola – May 25th

Upcoming Event Reminder:

April 18th - Ride to Honesdale PA. – Baer's HD open house – meet 0930 Alexis Dinner - Newburgh, NY – Leave 1000 AM

April 20th – Dinner ride – Barnstormer Barbecue Route 17K, Newburgh, N.Y.

April 24th – Pot Luck Ride – Meet 1030 – Highland Diner – Leave 1100

April 25th – NYXI Bike Blessing – Woodbourne, N.Y. Pancake Breakfast and BBQ Lunch, registration at 9 A.M.

May 2nd – NY III Bike Blessing at Pleasant Valley Recreation Park

May 4th - Chapter meeting - NYIII – Directors at 6 P.M. – membership at 7 P.M. at Denny's in Poughkeepsie

MOTORCYCLE TIPS OF THE MONTH:

Tire Wear. These two words are often the most overlooked safety precaution to safe riding. An accepted estimate is that 90% of all tire failures occur during the last 10% of tread life (90% worn). So it is unsafe to use tires which are worn and balding. Proper tire inflation will extend the life of your tires and give you the greatest mileage out of them. So inspect your tires before every ride. Check for proper inflation and wear. If you have cracks, cuts or worn spots replace the tires. It's much easier replacing a set of tires than replacing damaged body parts from a fall. Ride safely and ride with pride.

From the Secretary:

I hope this newsletter reaches everyone in good health and looking forward to a great riding season. The ride schedule looks like fun and has a little bit of everything for everyone. The POTLUCK rides look to be a great way to get together and do whatever riding strikes our fancy that day. This also gives our members who couldn't make the Sunday rides a chance to ride with the club. Seems like a great idea to me.

I'm still looking for ideas for the newsletter. As of now, no one has contacted me with any articles or information to include in it. I'm open to helpful suggestions and want to make this newsletter a useful tool for our members. Let me know!

As Always,

Ride with Pride,

Dave McDonald, Secretary, NYIII