



**Chapter Officers**

President: Gary Johnson  
Vice President: Joe Edelmann  
Secretary: Don McLaughlin  
Treasurer: Allen Arntzen

**Board of Directors**

Dennis Deppert - Past President  
Cory Runnels  
Dominick DeSiato  
Steve Kane  
Steve McDermott

**Chapter Staff**

Dominick DeSiato - Safety Educator  
Howard Johnson - Chaplain  
Dennis Deppert - Newsletter Editor  
Karen Lumpkin - Ride Reporter  
Stephen Emery - Web Master  
Ron DiMento - Quartermaster  
Kevin Walker - Membership  
Steve McDermott - Membership  
Tim Hill - Sunshine

*The Knightly News is a publication of Blue Knights® International Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club, Inc. Florida Chapter XVII, PO Box 5022, Tampa, Florida 33675*

**Editorial contributions are welcome. Contributions are subject to editing for content and grammar by the editor.**

Florida XVII is a chartered chapter of the Blue Knights® International Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club, Inc. 38 Alden Street, Bangor, ME 04401

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# Knightly News

Greetings Florida XVII members,

It's 2009. I hope everyone had a Great Christmas and a Happy New Year.

I would like to take this time to thank our Vice President, Joe Edelmann for working hard and obtaining the Mainland's Clubhouse for our Chapter Christmas party. I would also like to thank Eric Myers for preparing and donating the deep fried turkey. We had approximately 55 people in attendance and the party was a success. There was plenty of food, drink and good times had by all.

Almost everyone has renewed their membership this year but we have a few members that have not. It's only thirty dollars a year for the opportunity to be part of the greatest Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club in the world. If you have not renewed your membership after the January 8<sup>th</sup> meeting you will be access a \$10 late fee. Please get your checks into Don.

The Chapter's Board held a Board meeting on December 13<sup>th</sup>, after the General membership meeting and voted on the Chapter's honorary members. Howard Johnson our Chapter Chaplain and Mike Branam were renewed. Tim Hill was not renewed due to lack of participation at chapter events.

Ride with Pride

**Gary Johnson  
President, Florida XVII**





**BLUE KNIGHTS CHAPTER XVII MEETING MINUTES**

**December 11, 2008**

***J. Christopher's Restaurant  
14366 N. Dale Mabry Highway  
Tampa, FL 33603***

**Call to Order:** President, Gary Johnson at 1930 hours.

**Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence**

**Introduction of Executive Officers:**

Present:

Gary Johnson: President  
Joe Edelmann: Vice President  
Don McLaughlin Secretary

Absent:

Al Arntzen: Treasurer

**Introduction of Board of Directors:**

Present:

Dennis Deppert, (Past President)  
Steve Kane (Board Member)  
Steve McDermott, (Membership)  
Cory Runnels (Board Member)

Absent:

Dominick DeSiato, (Board Member)

**Introduction of Staff:**

Present:

Ron DiMento (Quartermaster)  
Steve Emory (Webmaster)  
Karen Lumpkin, (Ride Reporter)  
Bruce Schmitt (Ride Captain)

Absent:

Peter Domiziano, (SRC Secretary)  
Tim Hill (Sunshine)  
Howard Johnson (Chaplain)  
Kevin Walker (Membership)

**Secretary's Report (Don McLaughlin):**

- a). Renewals are taking place, \$30, January 8, 2008 deadline – after that, price increases.
- b). Minutes approved: 1<sup>st</sup>: Rick R, 2<sup>nd</sup>: Bruce

**Treasurer's Report (Al Arntzen):**

***Al absent - no report given***

**Correspondence from National:**

- a). Ballots were mailed out to our home address.



- b) Running: Peter D – International Secretary, Bob Flannigan - Treasurer
- c). BK International Inauguration Jan 9-11, 2009, Bangor Maine.

**Safety Presentation:**  
None

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- a). Christmas party – Saturday, December 13 – 2-6 PM, Mainland’s Clubhouse, #5. Joe Edelmann will provide map and it will be on the website, ham and turkey will be provided by Chapter. \$15 gift marked male or female for Dirty Santa gift exchange if you want to play. Bring a covered dish and let Marie Edelmann know what you are bringing.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- a). Chapter XV – Pasco Chapter – Gary Luker (Retired FBI) – Passed away (100 motorcycles present). 4 BK chapters represented.
- b). Nick Longo present– feeling better.
- c). Eric Myers present– feeling better.
- d). Peter Begerow present – feeling better.
- e). Members information on the members only section of our website was removed because of security concerns.

**BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:**

- a) Elias & Margie Santos – Paws for Patriots: Raised \$17,000 (HOG Chapter, Brandon) last month, wounded vets companion dogs, \$40K-\$60K to train and board the dog/soldier together for lifetime. Had a poker run last month to raise money and BK XVII had the most members represented.

**RIDE CALENDAR** (Bruce). Every Saturday Breakfast Ride, meet at 9 AM, Sears Countryside Mall  
**10 AM START TIME!**

December	13	Christmas Party, \$15 gift exchange, covered dish,(2 PM)
	14	Chapter Ride, 10 AM, Winter Gardens
	18	Chapter Christmas Dinner Ride, 7:45 PM, meet @ Pub
	25	Merry Christmas – Dinner Ride cancelled
	28	Chapter Ride 10 AM, BK
January	1	Happy New Year Ride, if there is any interest.
	4	Chapter Ride 10 AM, BK
	18	Destination Lakeland – (similar to Destination Daytona)
	22	Dinner Ride, Rapscallions, 7:45 PM

**50/50 Ticket Sales:**

Winner of 50/50: \$ 63, Tom McIntyre (2nd month in a row).

**Next Meeting: January 8, 2009 American Cuisine**

**MOTION TO ADJOURN:**

- 1st: Ron
- 2nd: Tony

Respectfully submitted,  
Karen Lumpkin, for Don McLaughlin, Secretary





# Your Safety Comes First

by  
*Dominick DeSiato*



## Motorcycle Myths Volume 7

### Steve McQueen jumped a BMW in "The Great Escape"

One of my favorite movies that was recently on TV brought this Myth to mind. As much as I like to believe it was Steve McQueen on a WWII BMW jumping that barbed wire fence along the German border, it was actually stuntman Bud Ekins on a Triumph painted to look like the other German BMW's used in the movie. Steve McQueen was an avid motorcyclist and did do most of the other riding in that part of the movie.

So how is this a safety article? Simple, don't try to jump barbed wire fences no matter what kind of motorcycle you are riding.

Ride safe, Dominick





# Bruce's Place

Monthly Ride Schedule brought to you by

**Bruce Schmitt**

## January

Breakfast ride every Saturday, 9am, Countryside Mall Sears Auto.

01-01-09 Special New Years Day "High Noon" Ride. Registration 10am - noon, at Lowry Park, shelter #120. North Blvd. (1 block north of Sligh Ave.) ksu at noon. Cost \$10 pp, includes coffee, donuts, and lunch. Trophy for 1st and 2nd largest group returning, 10am, BK.

01-04-09 Chapter ride, 10am, BK.

01-09-09 through 01-11-09 Thunder by the Bay, Sarasota.

01-10-09 3rd annual Jim's HD Chili Cook-off, 11am - 4pm. Jim's HD, St. Pete.

01-18-09 Chapter ride, going to the Fun Bike Center, 1845 E. Memorial Blvd. Lakeland, 10am, BK.

01-22-09 Dinner ride to Rapsallions, 4422 Land O' Lakes Blvd. (US41) Land O' Lakes, meet at the restaurant between 7:45 and 8pm.

01-24-09 Swamp Cabbage Jam, Linger Lodge, Bradenton.

## February

Breakfast ride every Saturday, 9am, Countryside Mall Sears Auto.

02-08-09 Chapter ride, going to BK-FLXVIII's Annual Bike Blessing, Sarasota. Cost \$15 rider \$10 passenger includes lunch, 8:30am, BK. REPEAT 8:30am, BK.

02-22-09 Chapter ride, 10am, BK.

02-26-09 Dinner ride to Uncle Burly's Backyard Grill, 17667 N. Dale Mabry Hwy. Lutz, meet at the restaurant between 7:45 and 8pm.





# Happy Birthday



- Loring Burrell - Jan 2
- Richard Horn - Jan 4
- Dennis Oliveira - Jan 6
- Julio Caceres - Jan 11
- Juan Santos - Jan 15
- Rick Rutel - Jan 17
- Tom McIntyre - Jan 23
- Josie Santos - Jan 23
- Stephen Emery - Jan 25
- David Keefe - Jan 25
- Joe Strammiello - Jan 27

## Contributors to this Newsletter



Chapter President  
and Web Master



Chapter Vice President  
And Chief Photographer



Safety  
Educator



Ride  
Coordinator



Ride  
Reporter