



**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  
Marie Edelmann - Sunshine

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

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# **Knightly News**

Greetings Florida XVII members,

**It's hard to believe that it is already June; this year is just flying by. The hot & muggy days are beginning and this is a sure sign that the summer is here. Please remember to drink plenty of water and use some type of sunscreen to avoid a heat related sickness and enjoy the summer riding season.**

**As I'm sure everyone has heard by now, member Steve McDermott's motorcycle left the roadway during a Sunday Chapter ride, May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Steve was flown from the crash scene in Pasco County to Saint Joseph's Hospital in Tampa due to his injuries. Steve suffered many broken bones and has had to have several surgeries thus far and appears to be recovering nicely. Please keep Steve and his family in your prayers.**

**We had 30 Florida XVII members show up at the Spring SRC in Mobile, AL to take part and enjoy the activities. We again took the award for the "BEST REPRESENTED" Chapter at the Conference. Everyone in attendance had a great time. If you have not been to one of the conference you should try to make the next one in the Fall which will be in Greenville, SC.**

**As I told you last month, following the Spring SRC, I had the honor to attend and National Law Enforcement Memorial Service in Washington DC with 7 other members of the Clearwater Police Department. The trip was in part sponsored by my local F.O.P. Lodge #10. We again this year were given the high honors of lining the Red Carpet for our Nations Leaders as they entered and exited the stage for the Memorial Service. I hope to have some pictures to share at the June meeting.**



**From what I was told the May meeting went very well with out me. I would like to thank Vice-President JoeE for standing in for me.**

**I would like to congratulate member Andy Caamano and his wife, Lisa, on the birth of their daughter, Kiersten, on May 18<sup>th</sup>.**

**Ride with Pride**

**Gary Johnson  
President, Florida XVII**



**BLUE KNIGHTS CHAPTER XVII MEETING MINUTES**

**May 14, 2009**

*IHOP*

*4910 W. Spruce St.*

*Tampa, FL*

**Call to Order:** Vice President, Joe Edelman at 1920 hours.

**Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence**

**Introduction of Executive Officers:**

Present:

Joe Edelman: Vice President  
Don McLaughlin: Secretary  
Al Arntzen: Treasurer

Absent:

Gary Johnson: President

**Introduction of Board of Directors:**

Present:

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



**Meeting Minutes - continued**

**Absent:**

Dominick DeSiato (Board Member)  
Steve McDermott (Board Member/Membership Committee)

**Introduction of Staff:**

**Present:**

Ron & Rosalie DiMento (Quartermasters)  
Peter Domiziano (SRC and International Secretary)  
Marie Edelmann, (Sunshine)  
Karen Lumpkin (Ride Reporter)  
Bruce Schmitt (Ride Captain)

**Absent:**

Steve Emory (Webmaster)  
Howard Johnson (Chaplain)  
Kevin Walker (Membership Committee)

**Guests:**

None

Uncle Al's Birthday today – we all sang to him.

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

*Motion to accept minutes: 1st: Cory R, 2nd: Jim M.*  
Membership cards handed out tonight

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

*Motion to accept report: 1st: Peter D, 2nd: Bruce*

**Correspondence from International (Peter Domiziano)**

- a). Board meeting this coming week in reference to rockers on BK vests. They are looking for solutions because Australia has new bills in their legislature which ban them from wearing 3 pc patches. (3 piece patches signifies the Outlaw motorcycle gang). Top/Bottom rockers have been removed from their vests and they only have the BK patch in the center. They have asked for an alternative idea.
- b). Notice from Italy and 1 other country in Europe, as well as, California, Arizona – all have encountered the same problem being put in line with Outlaw Motorcycle Club.
- c). Blue vests might be a good idea, but at \$135/ vest, most do not want to pay that money. They opt for a simple black one at approximately \$30. Also, the blue vests are scarce and hard to find.
- d). Final update per last meeting, reference Governor of Florida and recognizing motorcycle endorsements from out of the country. Peter had 3 letters/emails to share. His friend was given a \$140 ticket saying motorcycle endorsement not valid in this country. Now, the final answer is that they do recognize the out of country endorsements.
- e). SRC Board nominations:  
Chairman: Alex Ramierez (unopposed)  
Vice Chairman: Lewis Kelly & Wayne Woolery  
Secretary: Dennis Deppert (unopposed)  
Treasurer: Larry Meyer (unopposed)  
International Rep: Jay Miranda & James "Pinky" Pinkerton
- f). Talk of changing from four (4) SRC board meetings every 2 years to three (3) SRC board meetings every 2 years.

**Safety Presentation:**

None.



**Meeting Minutes - continued**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- a). BK XVII most represented chapter @ SRC, with 30 plus BK XVII in attendance. We had a great time, seafood, lots of beer, meet new friends and see old ones.
- b). Upcoming SRC Fall Conference in Greenville, SC (9-17 thru 9-20)
- c). Membership cards present tonight. Please see Don to pick up your card, if you haven't done so yet.
- d). Don mentioned Steve McDermott -He experienced horrific accident on his motorcycle. Everyone did exactly what they were trained to do, and got him breathing again. All acted professionally, stabilized him and got him on the helicopter. Truck stopped, Polk County locals, man stopping traffic, female (Stacy) trained medical assistant who stayed with Steve until the ambulance arrived. Stacey has called to check on Steve and would like to know when he is okay. Don thanked everyone for helping.
- e). Armed Forces patches from Ron Dimento, order if you are interested.
- f). Claude Cyr called, is home in Canada, didn't get to say goodbye to people.
- g). Blue Knights largest LEO fraternal club in the world, September, we'll get accurate numbers, probably @ 21,000 members. Outlaws are an international club, so are Hells Angels.

**BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:**

- a). Dave Bryant commented that retirees who need to be certified under HB218, day after Memorial Day will be coordinating.
- b). Jackie Robbins thanked everyone for the birthday cake at the SRC, which made her feel really special.

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

May	14	Dinner Ride
	17	Chapter Sunday Ride
	23	Thunder Ride, VFW Post, Walsingham Rd in Largo \$10, Proceeds for postage and comfort items for men/women
	28	Dinner Ride, Colonnade, 7:30-7:45 @ Restaurant.
	31	Memorial Ride, 8 AM, I-75 (rest area is meeting point),
June	14	Sunday Chapter Ride
	25	BJ's
	28	Sunday Chapter Ride
July	4	Participate in parade in Safety Harbor – presented by Ruthie (Jim Burgess's wife), American Legion

**50/50 Ticket Sales:**

Winner of 50/50: \$ 63, Bob Shrader

**Next Meeting:**

**June 11, 2009, 7:30 PM, IHOP**

**MOTION TO ADJOURN:**

1st: Peter D

2nd: Tony S.

Respectfully submitted, Karen Lumpkin, for Don McLaughlin, Secretary



# Your Safety Comes First

by  
Dominick DeSiato



## Addressing Obstacles

Some drivers aren't terribly concerned, or aren't aware of the consequences of not properly securing loads and they don't seem to consider how seemingly benign objects in the road can cause serious problems and injury to a motorcyclist. Fragmented semi-truck tires and pot holes can also be a problem for a rider.

Scan ahead 12 seconds if you can which will give you plenty of time to adjust your course if you see something lying in the roadway. Your minimum following distance should be two seconds will barely give you enough time to abruptly swerve to avoid something in your path. More following distance is obviously better and offers you a more relaxed and safe ride. If you find yourself caught up in heavy closely spaced traffic, ride in a wheel track of the of the four wheel vehicle in front of you. Most people in cars and small trucks will also try to avoid something in their path so you will see their evasive movement and have a better chance of not being surprised by something they have straddled coming right at you.

As a last resort if you have to go over something remember the proper procedure for surmounting an obstacle. Take a good hold on the hand grips. Stand up the best you can and lean back. Gun the throttle just before the front wheel makes contact with the object to lighten the impact and as soon as the front wheel hits immediately release the throttle to lighten the impact of the back wheel. This method should help you maintain control of your bike. You should then pull over and check for any damage to your tires, wheels, etc.

Ride safe,

Dominick





# Bruce's Place

Monthly Ride Schedule brought to you by

**Bruce Schmitt**

## June

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

06-14-09 Chapter ride, 10am, BK

06-25-09 Diner ride to BJ's Restaurant and Brewery, 3850 Park Blvd (Park Place), Pinellas Park. Meet at restaurant between 7:45 and 8pm.

06-27-09 through 06-28-09, BK FL IV, Titusville Overnighter

06-28-09 Chapter ride, 10am, BK

## July

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

**SUNDAY CHAPTER RIDES WILL START AT 9AM DURING JULY AND AUGUST.**

07-04-09 American Legion Post 238 - Safety Harbor Fourth of July parade, line up on 2nd St. at 9am.

07-05-09 Chapter ride, 9am, BK.

07-19-09 through 07-24-09 International Convention, Louisville Ky.

07-19-09 Chapter ride, 9am, BK.

07-23-09 Dinner ride, RESCHEDULED to 07-30-09.

07-30-09 Dinner ride to Inn on the Gulf, 6330 Clark St. Hudson Beach, Hudson. Meet at the restaurant between 7:30 and 7:45pm.





# *Happy Birthday*



Ronald DiMento	-	6/01
Randy Miller	-	6/09
Ken Steinberg	-	6/14
Peter Domiziano	-	6/18
Mary Frances Caceres	-	6/18
Joe Edelmann	-	6/26
Georgine Gumiela	-	6/27
Gigi Arntzen	-	6/28
Charlotte Hughes	-	6/28
Kevin Walker	-	6/29



Chapter President



Chapter Vice President  
And Chief Photographer



Safety  
Educator



Ride  
Coordinator



Ride  
Reporter