



Upcoming SRC Conferences

**BLUE KNIGHTS SRC
2026 SPRING CONFERENCE
OCALA, FL**

April 12-15, 2026
Hosted by: Florida III
www.srcknights.org

**BLUE KNIGHTS SRC
2026 FALL CONFERENCE
MYRTLE BEACH, SC**

October 6, 7, 8, 2026
Hosted by: SC V
www.bkscv.com/2026-src

Bids for 2027 Needed!

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The SRC Herald is the quarterly newsletter of the Blue Knights Southern Regional Conference. The SRC Herald is published in January, April, July, and October.

Editor / Publisher:

Mike Shockley



SRC Executive Board:

Randy Hoagland
Chairman

Eddie Henderson
Vice-Chairman

Mike Shockley
International Rep

Sal Anicito
Secretary

Al Fryer
Treasurer



Message from the Chairman

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

We are looking forward to a super good year for 2026. I hope everyone is doing good and had a great Christmas and New Year. It seems like 2025 just started and now it's over with and we are already into 2026.

I would like to thank Eddie Henderson and his crew from GA XXII for the great job they did for our fall conference in Hiawassee Ga in September of 2025. They did a great job hosting the conference and taking care of the members that came.

We are looking forward to the upcoming conference being hosted by Fla III down in Ocala Fla. Talking to everyone, they have some good activities, good food, and good rides planned for us. If you haven't registered, then you need to send your registration in and come out to support Fla III with their event.

I would like to say thank you to Bobby Barnes ALA State Rep and Jerry Hunt FLA State Rep, and Harold Piet Conference Chaplain for the great work and dedication taking on the rolls of State Reps and Chaplain for our conference over the past years. The board truly appreciates everything they have done. When you get a chance, please let them know how appreciated they are and have been.

I want to welcome the new State Reps that have stepped up and taken their place. We also have two chaplains now for the conference and we know they will all do a great job representing you as members of this great organization and conference.

The SRC Board would like to express our appreciation and gratitude to the founding father of Puerto Rico I, Alajandro Duperon. He founded Puerto Rico I back in 2003. He is being honored by the Puerto Rico chapters for his service and dedication to Blue Knights on the island of Puerto Rico.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone in Ocala Fla in April for the Spring SRC. Also, if you are interested in hosting an SRC, get with your chapter, discuss it and put in a bid. We need conferences for Spring and Fall for 2027

Thank you,
Randy "PAPA SMURF" Hoagland
SRC Chairman



SRC Vice-Chairman - Eddie Henderson

Happy New Year and Greetings to all. It is hard to believe 2026 is here. The SRC Board has been busy the past several months appointing support positions for the SRC. The additional State Reps, SRC Safety Officer and SRC Chaplains have been appointed to garner more depth and support for the membership. We have had well qualified members to step up to assume these roles. Thank you all.

January is the month to get your chapter renewals completed. Presidents, please ensure this is handled prior to the end of the month. Our goal should be to have 100 percent renewals. State Reps will be touching base with you on renewals.

I am working on compiling the Best Practices document for recruitment and retention. I have some Presidents who have indicated they are sending me information to contribute to this project. It will be disseminated to the membership and posted on the SRC website when completed. We have a lot of chapters putting in the work and effort required to keep a chapter relevant and viable.

The SRC Board has ordered recruitment poker chips that will be disseminated to the State Reps for recruitment events in their respective area. Due to our budget limitations, this will be a meager start but it is a start to have an item to place in a potential new member's hand. The poker chip will have a QR code that goes to the Blue Knights International website, membership link.

It is a good time for chapters to check your nonprofit status to ensure you are still covered as a nonprofit. You can check your chapter's nonprofit status on the IRS website at <https://apps.irs.gov/app/eos/> More information on IRS required reporting is available on the Blue Knights International website.

<https://www.blueknights.org/mo/financials.html> Most chapters can complete this annual IRS requirement on the 990-epostcard.

The Blue Knights International Recruitment and Retention Award program submissions are due to International by May 1st each year. Submission forms are under the Recruitment Awards tab of the Site Content on the Blue Knights International website.

Recruiter Award - Awarded to a member who has recruited **5 or more** new members within a year.

Super Recruiter (1) - Awarded to a member recruiting **10 or more** new members within a year.

Super Recruiter (2) - Awarded to a member recruiting **15 or more** new members within a year. This award receives one year FREE dues.

Super Recruiter (3) - Awarded to a member recruiting at least **15 or more** new members and recruits the most new members in the year. This award receives \$250.00 from International.

I am looking forward to seeing you all at the 2026 SRC Spring Conference in Ocala Florida. Thank you for all you do keeping your chapters relevant and marketing them in your local communities.

Ride With Pride!!!

Eddie Henderson – SRC Vice Chairman



SRC International Representative – Mike Shockley

Greetings:

I wish to thank you again for allowing me to be your International Representative. I am proud to be part of the International Board of Directors. The International Board has 18 members that includes, the International Officers, Past President, BOG Chairman, and 11 Conference Reps. My first few months in the position have been interesting to say the least. So far, I have voted on approving a patch design for a Conference, a new Chapter in Kansas, a New Chapter in Italy (San Marino), a by-laws change proposal and the 2026 budget. Additionally, I have heard and voted on two Article X appeals. So far meetings have been by video conference (Zoom), with some lasting over four hours.

As a member of the SRC Executive Board, we have been busy transitioning to the new leadership team. We have added some State Reps, a Chaplain and Safety Officer. A huge challenge is getting bids for upcoming SRC Conferences. While 2026 is covered for spring and fall, we need bids for 2027. If your chapter is interested in hosting an SRC Conference or wants more information, please contact me or any SRC Board member. As well, currently the International Board of Governors is seeking bids for International Conferences.

Another duty I have is that of Webmaster. Building and managing websites is hobby for me, so thus far I am able to provide this service to the SRC at no cost. My background in website design comes from many years of experience in Law Enforcement Information Management technology. This knowledge also contributes to me compiling and publishing this newsletter, the SRC Herald. I wish to thank everyone that submitted articles and items to the Herald. I am always open to suggestions as to how I can improve the website, newsletter or anything else.

I am looking forward to riding more in 2026. I want to help ensure that we remain a “motorcycle club that rides”. Traditionally, I start the riding season by going to Daytona Bikeweek or riding the Tail of the Dragon on its opening week, which is around March 1st. I am fortunate that my Chapter is within a three-hour ride to the Dragon. I encourage everyone to get out and ride, show our colors and give our support to build and retain our membership.

Let’s embrace a theme this year of Riding and Brotherhood!

If I can be of assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Mike Shockley
SRC International Rep
msshockley@gmail.com



SRC Secretary – Sal Anicito

Hello my fellow Blue Knight Brothers and Sisters.

First and foremost I hope all of you had a very Merry Christmas and I wish you all a Happy, Healthy and Safe 2026. As time goes on and we all get a little older, we realize how quickly time goes by and how we must make the most of every minute we live. I feel exceptionally grateful for all the Blessings in my life and I Thank the good Lord each and every day for those Blessings.

One Blessing I'm thankful for is the opportunity to be a member of the Blue Knights Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club. During my tenure in the club I've made so many friends and I have enjoyed every minute of spending time with my fellow Law Enforcement Officers. We are a unique club and we all should be very proud and thankful for our camaraderie and friendships.

We all know the importance of making a club or organization successful is good stable leadership and the ability to all come together and work as a team. As a new member of the SRC Board, I stress the importance of our leadership teams and our members to work together to ensure the future success of this club. We have to have each other's six!

We are working very hard on our membership campaign. Please help us in this endeavor by talking to your fellow Officers in your communities and promoting the Blue Knights. Once again, if we all work together we will be successful.

You are all the Best of the Best and I am proud to be in this Club, proud to be your SRC Secretary and proud to call you all my friends. Stay Safe and God Bless you all

RIDE WITH PRIDE

SAL

Sal Anicito, SRC Secretary



SRC International Honorary - Terry Pendleton

The SRC is proud to continue to sponsor Terry Pendleton as an International Honorary. Terry Pendleton is a former member of the Atlanta Braves Baseball Team, and an inductee into the Braves Hall of Fame. He is also an avid motorcycle enthusiast. He has not only helped sponsor the annual Ride of Heros, and other rides in Georgia, Terry continues to support the families of Police & Firefighters injured or killed in the line of duty. Recently, Terry supported and attended the Georgia Sheriff's Youth Home Toys for Boys and Girls ride. He continues to be a light for young people to look up to. Terry serves our Conference and Club well. By virtue of his image and position in the community, and motorcycle community, he certainly draws favorable attention to the Blue Knights and our objectives.



SRC State Representatives

The SRC Board is happy to announce State Reps appointments for the current term.
State Reps are appointed/re-appointed approximately every two years.



Alabama (North)

Ernie Morgan
Alabama VII
erniemorgan5@gmail.com



Alabama (South)

Richard "Bubba" Ballard
Alabama XV
bubba35405@gmail.com



Florida (North)

Al Riccio
Florida III
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Florida (South)

Juan "Del" Castillo
Florida IV
Juan.delcastillo@yahoo.com



Florida (West)

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Mississippi

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Mississippi IX
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Georgia (North)

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Georgia XI
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Georgia (South)

Bobby Durden
Georgia VIII
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Louisiana

Duane Farquhar
Louisiana XV
dfarq366@yahoo.com



Louisiana

Gerald Cormier
Louisiana XII
gcormier@ppso.net



South Carolina (East)

Rob Lampitelli
South Carolina XIV
R19017L@gmail.com



South Carolina (West)

Chuck Runion
South Carolina VIII
fuzz_biker@yahoo.com



Puerto Rico

Jose "Chirilo" Martinez
Puerto Rico II
chi-ri-lo@hotmail.com

SRC State Rep information can be found on the SRC Website - www.srcknights.org

The Importance of Communication

By: Del Castillo

Florida State Representative / President FLIV

Effective communication is essential to the strength and success of the Blue Knights Motorcycle Club, especially with 22 chapters spread throughout the state of Florida. Each chapter is actively involved in rides, community events, charity work, and fellowship, yet too often these efforts go unseen by fellow chapters simply due to a lack of shared information.

When chapters communicate openly, it builds unity, increases participation, and strengthens the bonds that define our organization. Knowing what other chapters are doing creates opportunities to support one another, attend joint events, and present a stronger presence across the state.

As the South Florida State Representative, my goal is to improve communication between chapters and encourage greater involvement throughout the region. Recently, along with members of the FLIV board, I had the opportunity to visit Chapters FL XVI and FL XXXV. These visits were an important first step in strengthening relationships, sharing ideas, and setting the foundation for improved communication and collaboration across chapters.

By working together and keeping the lines of communication open, we can ensure that no chapter stands alone and that the Blue Knights continue to grow stronger through unity, cooperation, and shared purpose.



Alabama VII

On 25 October 2025 Alabama VII had the distinct honor of escorting approximately 35 motorcyclists on a ride from Guntersville State Park in Alabama to the Lincoln County, TN Fairgrounds. The ride was to honor several Wounded Warriors who were guests of the Road Warriors Foundation. Specially equipped Can Am Spyders were provided for the Wounded Warriors to ride. The Road Warriors Foundation hosted the Wounded Warriors at Guntersville State Park for a week long series of events including horseback riding, golfing, shooting range and a trip to the Alabama Space and Rocket Center in Huntsville. Alabama VII sponsored the trip to the Space and Rocket Center which included a catered lunch for these Veterans. The final event of the week was a back country ride through Alabama and Tennessee which culminated with a free cookout sponsored by the Lincoln County (TN) Sheriff's Department.

On 6 December 2025 Alabama VII participated in the annual Eldridge Free Will Baptist Children's Home Toy Run. This is an event that Alabama is proud to support each year. Chapter member Ron Merkh and his wife Barbara have sponsored a young lady for several years and chapter members always show our support by bringing her Christmas gifts and making generous donations to the Children's Home each year. As of 20 December 2025 over \$157,820.00 has been raised by many motorcycle riders such as Alabama VII.

Alabama VII will hold our annual After The Holidays dinner on 16 January 2026. Taco Mama, a local restaurant chain in North Alabama has generously offered to provide the meal for Alabama VII as a show of gratitude to law enforcement. Many thanks to the owners of Taco Mama.

Ernie Morgan
President, Alabama VII
Alabama State Rep



Florida I

Hello and Happy New Year from sunny Florida.

In October, Florida I members Bob D., Don D. and Sean were joined by Paul from NY I and Tony from FL XVIII for a ride and multi-chapter get together at Mr Chubby's Wings in Fleming Island. More than 30 other Blue Knights including International President Russ Harper were in attendance to enjoy the day. After lunch, we rode to the Old Clay County Jail for a very interesting history lesson about the jail and courthouse. Built in 1894 and decommissioned in 1972, it is the second oldest jail in all of Florida that is still standing. Only the jail in St Augustine is older. More than 200 miles for the day made for a great time. Shout out to Dave Hinshaw and Florida IX for making the arrangements.

Also in October, Florida I gained a new honorary member. Nominated by VP Dennis, Christine has been attending and helping out at meetings, rides and get togethers for a couple of years now and attended her first SRC in Hiwassee this past September. She rode her Spyder there and back logging nearly 1,500 miles in the 6 days we were gone.

On 11/08, 10 members responded to Evergreen Cemetery in Gainesville to assist dozens of other volunteers with the Flagging of the Graves ceremony for Veterans Day. We located and flagged the final resting place of 42 of America's Heroes.

28 members and guests of Florida I enjoyed a great night with a lot of laughs at our annual Christmas party. Held at the FOP Gator Lodge in Gainesville, there was fantastic food, amazing desserts and thoughtful gifts along with the Brother and Sisterhood of the Blue Knights. It made for an evening that will not soon be forgotten. A big thank you to Donna for securing the venue. Also held that night were our chapter elections. Dennis chose to step down from the VP position to attend to family obligations but will remain our Quartermaster. Congratulations to Ron for being elected our new VP and to Ernie for being reelected as a Director of our chapter.

On New Year's Day, Don D., Ron., Don B., Bill, Christine, Sean and Tony from Florida XVIII started the year off right with a trip to Gorky Bell's in East Palatka for lunch. Although the morning required heated gear to be comfortable, the ride home saw temps on the dash of 70*. Four members rode in excess of 160 miles to attend and now have a nice start towards achieving our International VP's 10,000 mile Straddle the Saddle challenge. Thank you Cal!

Ride With Pride

Sean Balsamello

FL I Continued – Pictures Next 2 Pages





Florida IV

FLIV Christmas Party

Florida IV held it's Christmas party with plenty of great food and live Mariachi entertainment. The Traveling Knight was present to oversee the festivities.



FL IV Continued Next Page

Florida IV

The Traveling Knight

Hear ye, hear ye!

Let it be known throughout the realm that the Traveling Knight Trophy now abides in the keeping of the Blue Knights Florida IV Chapter. Whosoever would lay claim to this noble prize must present themselves at our next gathering and seize the moment with honor and valor.

The places of our chapter meetings are duly proclaimed upon the Facebook SRC Friends group page. Come forth, brave Knights, and contend for his capture!



FL IV Continued Next Page

Florida IV

Police Officer Assistance Trust

Florida IV participated in the Police Officer Assistance Trust Cops Ride for Kids. Hundreds of bikers rode in this police escorted ride down to Gilbert's Resort in Key Largo, Florida. The POAT provides assistance to law enforcement officers in Miami-Dade County.



FL IV Continued Next Page

Florida IV

Miami Springs Bike Show

The 2nd Annual Glenn Curtiss Vintage Motorcycle & Car Show, named in honor of legendary motorcycle builder Glenn H. Curtiss, was held in Miami Springs, Florida. Curtiss famously mounted a V8 engine onto a modified motorcycle frame and brought it to the Speed Trials at Ormond Beach, Florida, in January 1907. On January 24, he set an unofficial world land speed record of 136.4 miles per hour. The feat earned his machine the nickname “the monster cycle” and Curtiss the title of “Fastest Man on Earth.” FLIV attended the event, networking with fellow clubs and engaging with members of the local community.



FL IV Continued Next Page

Florida IV

South Florida Law Enforcement Deaths

South Florida suffered three tragic line-of-duty deaths within just thirty days. Motor Sergeant David Cajuso of the Miami Beach Police Department, Deputy Devin Jaramillo of the Miami-Dade Sheriff's Office, and Sergeant Terri Sweeting-Maskow of the Indian River County Sheriff's Office, each made the ultimate sacrifice in the service of their communities.

October 28, Sgt. Cajuso was riding his police motorcycle when he traveled off the roadway and sustained fatal injuries. The cause of the crash has not yet been determined.

November 7, Deputy Jaramillo was investigating a traffic crash when he became involved in a physical altercation with one of the passengers. During the struggle, the suspect gained access to Deputy Jaramillo's service weapon, resulting in his death. The suspect later took his own life.

November 21, Sgt. Sweeting-Maskow was shot and killed while serving an eviction notice at a residence in Vero Beach. The suspect was subsequently shot and killed by responding officers.

Several Florida Blue Knights chapters attended services and events to honor the fallen and show their unwavering support for the families and agencies affected.



Florida XVI

Members and guests of Florida Chapter XVI (Lee and Charlotte Co.) made the traditional New Year's Day ride down the edge of the everglades to the Snook Inn in Marco Island, Florida. This marked the 30th year members dined together overlooking the pristine waters of Marco Bay. Chapter President Tom McGraw extended his best wishes for a New Year full of happiness, good health, and prosperity.

All Blue Knight Brothers and Sisters are encouraged to make plans to join us next year for this annual event.



Georgia XXII

Hello my Fellow Blue Knights Brothers and Sisters!

Hope this finds everyone well and I hope you all had a very Merry Christmas. All of us from GA XXII wish you a Happy, Healthy and Safe New Year.

Well, the winter months are upon us but that certainly hasn't slowed us down. In addition to our monthly meetings, which have been very well attended by members of GA XXII, we've kept pretty busy. In October two of our members Keith Moniz and Terry Hunnicutt rode to Statesboro Ga. to join up with GA II for their annual Wilbur Berry Memorial ride. They had a great time of fellowship with the awesome members of GA II.

On Oct. 4th GA XXII held our Chapter Social at the Henderson Pavilion at the home of our Chapter President Eddie and Candy Henderson. Everyone had a great time and the food was plentiful and very good!

Also in October we had a great lunch ride to Bryson City N.C. The fall colors were absolutely beautiful riding through the North Georgia Mountains. On Oct. 18th we participated in a meet and greet ride at Camp 64 in Hayesville N.C. Other motorcycle clubs were in attendance and it was a good time meeting other bikers. On Oct. 22 some of our members rode to Mountain Creek Harley Davidson in Dalton Ga.

For those who attended our Fall Conference, you'll remember that we auctioned off a quilt that was made by the mother of a lady named Tyra who works at Mountain Creek Harley Davidson. The quilt was made from a variety of Harley Davidson shirts. Tyra's mother passed away and Tyra generously donated the quilt to our Chapter to be auctioned at our Conference. Our Union County Sheriff (and GA XXII member) Shawn Dyer, won the bid for the quilt. The Sheriff decided that since the quilt was made by Tyra's mother, who is now deceased, the quilt should be returned to her in memory of her mom. Kudos to Sheriff Dyer, for his compassion and generosity.

In November our Chapter rode to Ellijay Ga. for lunch at Bigun's Barbeque and then another beautiful ride through the colorful mountains of North Georgia. Also in November some of our members attended the Celebration of Life in Madisonville Tn. for our fellow Blue Knight Randy Gracy. Randy was the publisher of the Sword and Shield Magazine. He will be sorely missed.

Dec. 13th our members participated in the annual Shop with a Cop event sponsored by the Blairsville Police Dept. The program ensures that kids who are in need and less fortunate than others, have a great Christmas. We also held our GA XXII Christmas Party on Dec. 13th at Vincent's Coppertop Restaurant in Blairsville. What a great time we all had. Union County Sheriff Shawn Dyer swore in our new Chapter Officers.

So you can see that GA XXII has been busy busy. Well, that's about it for now. Stay well, Stay Safe God Bless and always "RIDE WITH PRIDE"

Sal Anicito
GA XXII



Louisiana VIII

October 26-28, 2025 the BKLA VIII went to Texas Hill Country for a second year in a row. We renamed the event The Jeff Pitre Memorial Ride in honor of our Vice President who passed away in June of 2025. We had 16 riders and 6 passengers participated in the ride.



On November 2, 2025 the Blue Knights LA VIII was honored to be part of escorting the Vietnam War Memorial Wall from Iowa, LA to Coushatta Casino in Kinder, LA along with area first responders, motorcycle, and car club groups.



Louisiana VIII Continued on Next Page

Louisiana VIII

On December 21, 2025 the Blue Knights LA VIII participated in their Second Annual Blue Santa Event benefitting 144 Veterans at the SWLA Veterans' Home in Jennings, LA. Members donated much needed items for the Veterans. We enjoyed visiting with the Veterans.



Michael Reed
President, LA VIII
Lake Charles, LA

Puerto Rico III

Pictures from Puerto Rico III.



South Carolina V

Pictures from SCV:

*Host of the Fall 2026 SRC Conference





**BLUE KNIGHTS
SOUTHERN REGIONAL
CONFERENCE**

**BLUE KNIGHTS
SOUTH CAROLINA V**

RIDE WITH PRIDE

**2026 FALL CONFERENCE
MYRTLE BEACH SOUTH CAROLINA
October 6, 7, 8, 2026
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday**

RIDE WITH PRIDE ON THE GRAND STRAND

The Grand Strand is a 60-mile stretch of beautiful sandy beaches located along the Atlantic Ocean in South Carolina, primarily in Horry and Georgetown Counties. It is a popular tourist destination known for its attractions, golf resorts, and family-friendly activities, with Myrtle Beach being the main city in the area.

HOST HOTEL: The Ellie Beach Resort Myrtle Beach, Tapestry by Hilton

Address: 3200 South Ocean Boulevard Myrtle Beach, South Carolina 29577

Group Room Rate: \$199 per night plus tax

Parking: Reserved and secure parking for motorcycle, trailer and vehicles.

Hotel Rate Cutoff: September 7, 2026

Link To Book Hotel: <https://www.hilton.com/en/attend-my-event/blue-knights-motorcycle-2026/>

Call to Book Hotel: 1-800-774-1500 (Group Code 91N)

Check In/Registration: Tuesday 3:00pm to 7:00pm

Guided Rides: Wednesday & Thursday with self guided options

President's Meeting: Thursday 8:00am to 9:00am

Banquet: Thursday 7:00pm at DoubleTree Resort Carolina Ballroom

Hospitality Room: Every Night- (Attending Presidents asked to bring a minimum of one (1) bottle of liquor of choice to help stock the bar.)

Raffle: 50/50 Raffle Every Night

Sales: Vendor and Chapter Sale Space Available. \$25 a table.

Contact: SC V President John Flynn 910-367-6500 or fuzzyoflynn1@gmail.com.
Any difficulties registering online, contact John.



REGISTRATION: \$140 per person. Includes daily breakfast, banquet, hospitality beverages with a bag, patch and pin with 2026 Fall SRC logo. Pre-registration cutoff July 15, 2026 to guarantee banquet attendance.

LATE REGISTRATION July 16, 2026 to September 29, 2026 is \$160 per person. No refunds after September 21, 2026.

INFO: 2026 Myrtle Beach Fall Bike Week will be September 27, 2026 to October 4, 2026.

Register Online at: <https://bkscv.com/2026-src>

SRC Safety Officer – Norm Miller

We all carry a lot of stuff when we ride. Some of it's for convenience, like ear buds to listen to music, or a GPS to direct us to the next stop. But how many of us carry a first aid kit?

Motorcycles suffer a higher percentage of reported collisions (there are no such things as accidents!) than any other type of motor vehicle. And by their design, motorcycles provide very little protection to the rider and/or passenger in the event of a collision. So, what kind of first aid kit should you carry?

If you have taken a basic first aid course within the last few years, you should have been told that the #1 cause of preventable deaths is external bleeding, so the first item in your first aid kit should be a tourniquet. Admittedly I'm biased in the type of tourniquet that I recommend as I've been a Bleeding Control/Stop-the-Bleed instructor since the inception of the program; you should get a North American Rescue® Combat Application Tourniquet® (C-A-T). Don't accept the cheap knock-offs available online, they may look the same, but the windlass (stick) is made of cheap plastic and will break under pressure. Spend a little bit more money to get the real thing (it will have a NSN printed on the strap).

If you haven't been to a first aid class since graduating from the academy, sign up for one NOW! (Note: I have given Stop-the-Bleed classes at SRCs, I'll be glad to do so again if there is enough interest.)

In addition to a C-A-T, you should carry some 4x4 gauze pads and some type of bandaging material. I recommend a 4-inch-wide roll of "vet wrap," it's the same material as Coban™ (cohesive bandage) but far less expensive (I buy mine at Tractor Supply).

The last two items in what I consider to be a minimum first aid kit are a couple of pairs of nitrile gloves and a CPR pocket mask. These are to protect you from exposure to a victim's blood or breath if you are giving aid.

Place all of these items in a small, zippered bag and carry it with you always. If you routinely carry a passenger, carry two kits. The life you save may be your own.

Ride Safe!

Norm Miller
SRC Safety Officer
President, MS XII



SRC Safety Officer – Ken Serpan

Happy New Year members of the SRC.

My name is Ken Serpan, and I have been appointed as the SRC Safety Officer. I have been riding motorcycles for 57 Years. My wife and I have lived in South Carolina for 4 years and I am a member of SC VIII. Prior to our relocation, we lived in Southern California and we both are retired Law Enforcement. I was a Motor Officer for 10 of my 32-year career. I have been a member of BKLEMC for 14 years having been a member of CA XIII, CA IV and now SC VIII. I have served as Past President and Safety Officer in the two California Chapters I belonged to and I am currently the Safety Officer for SC VIII as well as the SRC Safety Officer. I look forward to meeting and working with the Safety Officers of the SRC Chapters as well as those from other Conferences and our International Safety Officer.

I recently came across a motorcycle safety article by Payton West entitled “**10 THINGS EVERY MOTORCYCLE OWNER SHOULD KNOW BY YEAR TWO**”. Now I realize that many, if not most of our members have probably owned/ridden motorcycles for more than 2 years, but some are new and for the rest of us, it never hurts to review some of the basics. Here is a reprint of this article with some added insight from my personal experience:

Year Two: When Riding becomes a Lifestyle

Your first year as a motorcycle owner is all about adrenaline. That freedom, that roar, that first long ride that reminds you why you bought the bike. But by **year two**, something changes. You start noticing the details; how the chain feels, how the tires wear, how good it feels when your garage is clean and organized. You realize that owning a motorcycle isn't just about the open road, it's about *how you care for the machine that gets you there*.

Here are 10 things every motorcycle owner should know by year two, plus a few pro-level tools and habits that make your riding life smoother, safer, and a lot more enjoyable.

1. Your Tires Talk – Learn to Listen

Tires are your connection to the road. You'll learn to spot signs like uneven wear, cupping, or soft spots long before they become problems.

Check air pressure every week, especially with temperature swings. Proper pressure equals control, and control equals safety.

Pro Tip: Keep a small tire gauge on your bike and inspect before long rides. Your bike will tell you how it's feeling. You just have to listen.

2. Maintenance Days Become Therapy

You'll stop seeing maintenance as a chore and start seeing it as time well spent. The peace and focus that comes from changing oil, tightening bolts, and adjusting cables become a ritual.

Here is where I insert a shameless but sincere plug for a product that I own and trust. The “**Let's Roll**” lift raises your bike without straps or hydraulics, giving you access to everything without worrying about balance and the “**Let's Roll**” stand allows you to move your bike around easily and smoothly in your garage. Once you use a lift/stand that moves smoothly and safely, you'll never go back.

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SRC Safety Officer – Ken Serpan

- continued from previous page.

3. A Clean Bike is a Happy Bike

By now, you know that cleaning isn't just about vanity, it's about vigilance. Dust and grime hide wear.

A quick wipe-down after each ride helps you spot leaks, rust, or loose parts early.

Use microfiber towels and gentle cleaners designed for bikes. Make cleaning part of your wind-down ritual after rides.

Bonus: The cleaner your bike, the easier it is to spot problems before they become expensive.

4. The Garage Is Part of the Ride

Your garage becomes more than a parking spot, it's your workshop, your showroom, your sanctuary.

5. Gear Quality Matters More Than Style

At first, we all buy with our eyes. But experience teaches you that quality outlasts looks every time.

A comfortable helmet, well fitted gloves, waterproof boots, and protective layers make all the difference on long rides or sudden weather changes. Good gear doesn't just look right, it feels right. Treat it like your bike. Maintain it, clean it, store it well.

6. You'll never Regret Good Tools

By your second year, your tool collection starts to grow, and it should. Torque wrenches, Allen wrenches, & magnetic trays aren't "extras", they're essentials. Having your bike elevated and movable makes a huge difference when wrenching or just cleaning. When your tools, and your setup, are dialed in, garage time becomes your favorite time (other than riding).

7. Parking Becomes an Art Form

You'll learn that where you park can make or break your day. Avoid loose gravel, slopes, and soft asphalt. Carry a small kickstand puck for on-the-go stability, and at home, park with purpose.

8. You'll Ride Better When You Rest Better

Riding tired is dangerous. By year two, you'll notice that hydration, food, and sleep all affect your focus and reaction time. Break up long rides with rest stops. Stretch, hydrate, and reset your head. The best riders know that you ride with your body and your mind, take care of both.

9. Respect The Rituals

Checking tire pressure, lubing your chain, tightening bolts, inspecting brakes, these habits define responsible riders. They're not chores, they're commitments to your bike and to your own safety. Each small act of maintenance builds trust between you and the machine you ride.

10. You'll Start Upgrading Your Setup, Not Just Your Bike

You'll realize that the biggest improvements aren't always bolt-ons or engine mods. Sometimes the best upgrade is your environment. Keep up to date with new technologies in gear and safety equipment. Also avail yourself to continuing training and education. I highly recommend the book **Total Control** by **Lee Parks**. It explains training exercises and teaches techniques for improving skills on any type of bike from racers to touring bikes.

Get out and practice! Try to obtain some cone patterns that are used to train Police Motor Officers, then go out, set them up and practice them. The patterns don't have to be the complex ones that actual Motor Officers must master in motor school. Many patterns can be replicated with minimal equipment. Just find a large area like a parking lot and use the existing parking space striping to set up a course. If any of our Chapter Safety Officers would be interested in conducting a training day for your members, please contact me.

- **Year Two Is When You Become A Rider**

Ken Serpan
SRC Safety Officer



SRC Chaplain – Marty Duncan

Are you ready? It's another new year. Everything in 2025 is now in the pages of history. If you're like me, you took a look in the rear-view mirror of last year to reflect and to reevaluate your life. Maybe that look gave insight as to the need to make some necessary life changes or to set personal goals for the new year.

We all have the best intentions, we make our plans, we set our goals, and we lock-in our personal GPS for life's journey, but it doesn't always go as planned. By now, we have figured out life is unpredictable. It's like taking that leisurely ride through the mountains on a road you've never travelled. As much as you want to enjoy the scenery, you know it's not safe to take your eyes off the road. You stay focused and ready for the curves and those unknown hazards of that unfamiliar road.

It's okay to take a glance in that rear-view mirror to reflect, to see where you came from, but it's not safe to keep your focus in that mirror. It's important to get your eyes back on the road ahead, to be prepared and to enjoy the adventure of the journey. That's life. Let's not forget, it's the adventure on that new road that makes the ride exciting and enjoyable.

I remember my years as a State Trooper working the Florida Turnpike. Those days on patrol could get boring; every day the same straight road making the same left turns across the median. When I left the Turnpike to work in the county, wow, did those patrol days become more interesting. It was a new roadway with new scenery every day. Life isn't a straight road; it's filled with adventure. Life was never intended to be boring. In fact, Jesus said *"I come to give you life and life abundantly."*

This New Year will be filled with new roads to travel. The journey ahead will have some curves and maybe even a few obstacles or hazards along the way that need your attention. It's important to stay focused, but let's not miss out on all the excitement, the blessings and the joy in the journey.

I'm reminded of this passage of scripture found in Jerimiah 29:11 *"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."*

God has a plan for each of us. It's His special roadmap specifically designed for your life. As you embark on this new year, this new journey, let me encourage you to take time daily to open your Bible and to ask God to guide you daily. Here is my go-to scripture that has become the key to me in seeking God's daily plan for me; it's found in Proverbs 3:5-6 *"Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and He will make your paths straight."*

That's it; it's trusting God daily even when it goes against our finite thinking and understanding. It's saying "God, guide me with Your plan, take me to places, to experiences, and to a life journey that is far greater than I could have ever imagined." That's my prayer for 2026...How about you?

As your new SRC Chaplain representing Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, and Puerto Rico, please know that I am available to pray with you or a family member, to encourage you, and to offer words of wisdom and truth from the *"Blueprint for Life"*, the Bible. You can contact me via email at martyvd@msn.com or text at 850.445.5487. If interested, you can tune in to my daily radio ministry, the *"Blueprint for Life"* which airs at 5:05pm (est) on www.faithradio.us.

Ride hard, ride safe, and may the wind always be at your back, Marty.

Marty Duncan
SRC Chaplain
(FL, GA, SC, PR)



SRC Chaplain – Mike Vosbrink

I am honored and excited to share the news of my appointment as the SRC Chaplain serving Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama. I receive this opportunity with deep gratitude and a genuine sense of calling. This appointment is not only a personal milestone, but a celebration of the work God continues to do through chaplaincy across our region.

My journey to this role has been shaped over decades of pastoral service, walking with individuals and families through seasons of joy, loss, restoration, and growth. Much of that journey has unfolded in correctional chaplaincy, where sacred conversations and quiet prayers in difficult places have taught me that ministry is often less about answers and more about presence—being a steady reminder of hope in moments when it’s needed most.

Alongside my chaplaincy work, I have also served in law enforcement with several agencies, including the Florida Highway Patrol. Wearing the badge gave me firsthand insight into the challenges faced daily by first responders—the stress, the sacrifice, and the unseen emotional toll of service. That background allows me to relate deeply to those we serve and to the chaplains who walk beside them, offering support, encouragement, and spiritual care.

I have also been blessed to serve in leadership roles within the conference, including my time as Chaplain of Panama City XXIV and my current service as Chaplain of Mississippi XI. Those roles have strengthened my commitment to supporting chaplains, building relationships, and fostering unity and growth within the conference. They have prepared me well for the broader responsibility of serving across Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama.

As SRC Chaplain, my vision is to serve the conference with enthusiasm, humility, and purpose. I am committed to encouraging and enhancing chaplaincy efforts by supporting current chaplains, helping develop future chaplains, and promoting strong training, communication, and fellowship. I want to be a resource, an advocate, and a partner who listens, supports, and helps equip chaplains to serve effectively and faithfully.

This is truly a season of celebration, and I am thankful for the trust placed in me. I look forward to working alongside the leadership and chaplains of the SRC as we continue to strengthen this vital ministry. Together, I believe we can encourage one another, expand our reach, and make a lasting impact in the lives of those we are called to serve.

“Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and He will establish your plans.” — Proverbs 16:3

Grateful,

Chaplain Michael Vosbrink

MS XI Chaplain

SRC Chaplain

(LA, MS, AL)

(chaplainvosbrink@gmail.com)



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