

The

Mid-Knight News

A quarterly publication of the Mid-West Regional Conference of the Blue Knights® International

Winter 2024 issue



CONFERENCE OFFICERS

CHAIRMAN

Tom Luellen

spd846ret@hotmail.com

VICE-CHAIRMAN

Bobby Clark

bobbyc1563@gmail.com

SECRETARY

TREASURER

Duane Potter

duanepotter0936@gmail.com

INTERNATIONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Doug Casteel

Dougbkmo3@charter.net

WEB-MASTER

Wayne Schwartz

wayneschwartz@comcast.net

SAFETY OFFICER

Scott Grabowski

mwrc.safety@gmail.com

EDITOR

Rick McCrea

rickandtic@icloud.com

Editor:

It's the middle of winter, not much riding is going on in our northern chapters, I will venture to say no motorcycle riding is going on, some may be getting out on their snowmobiles. In the south, a few may venture out for a short ride on some of the nicer days. But we can all look forward to the coming warm weather, where we can get the bikes out and start riding

Most of the photos in this edition are of past Blue Knight events, some of long ago. I am always looking for old photos of Conferences, Internationals or just Blue Knight get-togethers from the past. If you have any you want to share, please send them to me at rickandtic@icloud.com.

Rick



**From the M.W.R.C.
Chairman
Tom Luellen**

Greetings sisters and brothers of the MWRC, and welcome to 2024.

I hope your

holidays were all you hoped they would be, and that the coming year brings you all you wish for. Just this morning (January 3rdish) I heard a news story about how Minnesota is experiencing an unusually warm winter with almost no snowfall. I hope the folks in the northern reaches of the MWRC are taking advantage and getting some riding in during a part of the year where normally their bikes are hibernating in the garage. I also hope that I didn't jinx you all by mentioning it here and causing the skies to open and unload on you. LOL!! (Update. The day after I wrote that, and went back to work on this article, the weather turned here in southwest Missouri. It's cold and rainy, turning to snowy. I guess I jinxed myself.)

On a somber note, in case you had not heard, former Vice President for North America, Rory MacConnell, succumbed to cancer at the beginning of December and transferred to Heaven I. It looked like he had successfully fought it off beginning in the summer of 2022 but it came back in early in 2023 and this time it won. I made a real quick



trip to see him at the end of October when it was starting to look grim, and I'm glad I got to say goodbye. RIP, brother. We've lost a few other familiar Knights recently, some from our MWRC and some from other conferences. There are also Knights facing on-going health battles. They and their families could use all your positive thoughts, good vibes, and happy mojo.



I wanted to take a minute to reiterate an idea that sometimes gets lost. This club is what you make it, and the chapter level is where it all starts. Chapter events are the backbone of the club. Just this week I got an invite to ride along with a chapter on an event they're planning in May. This is where we live.



Getting out as a group; being visible in the community; having fun (while being responsible, of course). That's the best kind of advertising we have. In the ever-constant chorus of "we need to focus on recruiting" this is a huge part of that equation. And, don't forget to have materials with you while you're advertising. Keep a few flyers, applications, and business cards with you. If you haven't seen them, there are several options for flyers out there. The International website has some. The various Facebook pages are full of examples other Knights have made. All of which you can download, print, and carry with you.

Lastly, remember that 2024 is an election year for all four MWRC Executive Board positions: Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary / Treasurer, and International Representative. This



will happen at our Fall meeting in Spearfish, SD. If you are interested in any of the four positions, you will need to declare your intent in writing by the end of the Spring business meeting in Lawrence, KS. If you have any inclination at all, I encourage you to run. Competition is a healthy thing.



My virtual door is always open, so please don't hesitate to reach out with

any questions, comments, or concerns. Until June, RWP!!

Tom Luellen
MWRC Chairman
Spd846ret@hotmail.com
417-860-2633





**From the M.W.R.C.
Vice-Chairman
Bobby Clark**

Hello and greetings to all my brothers and sisters in the MWRC. Besides it being winter here in the midwest, there has not been much going on the last few months.

Hard to believe but here we are in 2024! So far, winter has been on the mild side here in Nebraska until now. At the time of writing this article, I am sitting at my desk looking out the window at about 2 to 3 ft of drifted snow and -35 degree temps. Spring cannot come soon enough...



By the time this goes to print, you should have your Chapter renewals completed. If you have any issues completing the online renewal, please contact one of us. Chapter Officers, please ensure that every member has a personal e-mail address. Members, you can easily update your contact information on the international website. Simple login, top right



corner, click on member login top right of the page. Once you are logged in, go to the menu on the right. Hold your mouse on members. Slide down to the new menu to member contact info. Click on that and you will see your information. Make the changes as needed. Chapter officers, please ensure that everyone in your chapter still qualifies to be a regular or associate member even if they once did. If someone's status changes, you must let International know. You can always change their status to honorary (provided you have a slot).

This year is also an election year for the Mid-West Conference Board.



MWRC officers shall consist of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary / Treasurer, and International Representative. The officers shall serve two (2) year terms and shall be elected at the Fall Conference meeting during even numbered years. Candidates must declare (in writing) the office they seek to the MWRC Secretary / Treasurer prior to the adjournment of the Spring Conference meeting of the election year. No later than August 1st of the election year, the MWRC Secretary / Treasurer will provide the President of each MWRC Chapter with a list of the candidates for each office. This is meant to allow the Chapter President time to confer with his membership prior to the voting.

If you have not registered for the Spring Conference in Lawrence, KS on June 20th - 23rd, please go to the Midwest Conference web page <http://www.blueknightsmwrc.com/events.html> to get registered. Hope to see you all there. Also check out the Conference page for information on all upcoming events.

As always, please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns on my cell phone (402) 306-1652.

RIDE WITH PRIDE!!
Bobby Clark
MWRC Vice Chairman
Bobbyc1563@gmail.com
(402) 306-1652



**From the M.W.R.C.
Secretary / Treasurer
Duane Potter**

Greetings from the frozen tundra, formally known as south-central Kansas. If some of you northerners traveled south over the holidays you left your weather behind. Could you please come back and get it.

Welcome to the year 2024! You know what that means for us in the MWRC, don't you? It is an election year for our Conference Officers. If you would like to be a candidate for one of the four officer positions, you must notify, in writing, the Secretary / Treasurer prior to the adjournment of the Spring business meeting. The election will be held at the business meeting at the Fall Conference. You can express your interest in running by sending me a note via email, snail mail, or in person at the spring meeting. Both email and mailing addresses are below.

Since we are talking about the Spring and Fall Conferences, now would be a good time to get your registrations sent in and hotel reservations made. The Spring Conference is being hosted by Kansas III, on June 20th – 23rd, 2024, and will be at the DoubleTree in Lawrence, KS. The Fall Conference will be in Spearfish, SD on September 5th – 8th, 2024. SD I will be hosting us at the Holiday Inn. More details on both Conferences can be found later in this newsletter.

The first of the year also brings us to submitting our Chapter dues to the MWRC and the International. You have until the end of January to submit your international dues to avoid any penalties. The Conference dues haven't changed since last year. They are still \$1.00 per member up to a max of \$25.00. So, if you have 25 or less members your dues would equal the number of members on your roster. If you have 26 or more members your dues would be capped at \$25.00. Your chapter dues must be paid prior to the Presidents meeting at the Spring Conference, or your chapter will not be allowed to vote on items presented at the meeting.

In looking ahead to 2025, both the Spring and Fall Conferences still need a host chapter. If you're thinking you might want to attend the International Convention in 2025, you better make sure your passport will be valid, as it will be in Belgium.



Please forward your chapter's dues as soon as possible. The MWRC mailing address is:
MWRC
P.O. Box 73
Goddard, KS 67052

You can also reach me by email at: duanepotter0936@gmail.com

The MWRC transferred a total of 9 members to Heaven I during 2023. If your Chapter transferred a member, please honor them by inviting their spouse to attend the banquet so they can be recognized. Well, it's time for me to go sit by the fire and warm up my toes. See you in Lawrence in June, if not before.

Duane Potter
MWRC Secretary/Treasurer



From the M.W.R.C. International Representative Doug Casteel

Since the last newsletter, I represented you at the International Board of Directors (BOD) held a meeting via Zoom on December 2nd.

CHAPTER RENEWALS ARE ON THE INTERNATIONAL WEBSITE/ PROGRAMS/ RENEWAL PAGE.

We currently have 15,091 members with 555 of those being life or silver life members.



We approved the 2024 budget with an expected excess of about \$5000. However, we approved \$30,000 from savings that is earmarked for attorney fees and travel regarding the lawsuit out of Florida. It is currently in the deposition phase. The approval was unanimous.

Speaking of money, the 2023 year-end financial report is out, and we went over budget by \$28,889.22, which was mostly due to some unforeseen circumstances, such as attorney fees for a lawsuit against the international, and trademark fees for adding Columbia.



Blue Knights® 50th Anniversary Committee reported that there are currently 189 people registered, 110 hotel rooms booked, 46 condos reserved, and about 28 currently available. There are 24 people on the waiting list for condos, basically because they want condos with air conditioning. Most of them don't have AC because the average high temperature in July is around 75°F. There are some people on the waiting list for the hotel that probably won't be able to be fulfilled because they don't believe that many people will cancel out of the hotel. If you are one of those, I would consider a condo.

The Webmaster advised there are approximately 80 chapters over quota in their corporate email boxes. Please visit and clear out your boxes.

Proposal 2023-0008 to accept the updated bylaws and have the webmaster post after the Annual Meeting. Passed unanimously.

Proposal 2023-0009 to move \$30,000 from savings to cover legal fees for the lawsuit in FL. Passed with 16 yeas, 1 nay, 0 abstentions, with me voting in favor.

Proposal 2023-0010 to combine the Summer and Fall 2024 issues of the Sword and Shield to create a 50th Anniversary Collector's Edition, that will be articles on the history of the club and coverage of the 50th Anniversary Convention. If you have any events that you want advertised for 2024 you will need to run those in the Spring issue, because there will be very limited advertising in the Collector's Edition. Passed unanimously.

The next meeting will be February 3rd, 2024, at 1100 ET.

As always, if you have any questions, don't hesitate to reach out to me.

Ride with Pride,

Doug Casteel, International Representative
Mid-West Regional Conference
Mwrc.rep@blueknights.org
+1 (314) 412-4449



From the M.W.R.C. Web-Master Wayne Schwartz



Welcome to 2024! I hope everyone had a great Christmas and holiday season. Here in Minnesota, we had a brown Christmas. We had one of the warmest Christmas's on record – I believe the temperature was around 55 degrees (and that was ABOVE zero!). Well, we have now

gotten some snow and more is scheduled in the coming days and the temps are expected to drop BELOW zero this weekend (Jan 13th – 15th) so I guess winter has arrived! Anyways, this is a motorcycle group and this is supposed to be about our website so I guess I better get to the topic at hand. With the new year I'm sure there are a few chapters that had chapter elections and that might mean some new officers which usually means changes to mailing addresses and the like. So if your chapter has changed officers and/or mailing address please let me know of the changes so I can update your chapter

information on our website so people looking to get in touch with you will have the correct information. As always, if you have had any member transfer on to Heaven One, please let me know so I can add them to our Conference Heaven One list. Remember that we have the information and forms for the upcoming Spring and Fall Conferences listed on our Events page so do look them up and be sure to sign up and register to attend both as they will definitely provide a lot of fun and excitement for all that attend. Use this "down" time to plan and schedule rides for the upcoming season and I look forward to seeing everyone in June at our Spring Conference in Lawrence, KS hosted by KS III. Until next time, stay safe, be kind to each other, and as always,

Ride with Pride!

Wayne Schwartz
MWRC Webmaster
wayneschwartz@comcast.net





**From the M.W.R.C.
Safety Officer
Scott Grabowski**

Hello Blue Knights Brothers and Sisters. Winter is here and for a majority of us, our MC's are hibernating for the winter. Now what do we do? For myself I start looking

into the next riding season.

Trips, riding classes, regional conferences and I watch some YouTube videos.

In one of the videos I watched, by Motojitsu, he asked a question, which I want to ask you.

“What are 3 things you can do to make yourself a better rider next season?”

THOUGHTS:

Take a riding class: This can be taken individually, with your club or other friends. Usually 4-5 hours long. Refreshes skills, even for seasoned riders. Most insurance companies give a discount after so it pays for itself.

Being more disciplined with T-CLOCS: When was the last time you checked your own tire pressure? Oil? Lights?

Practice more often: You don't need cones or a big parking lot, although those are nice. I live on a short private cul-de-sac road. Every ride, before I get to the main road, I practice quick braking a couple times and a few swerves. Same with returning home, a couple quick brakes, swerves and then circles or u turns in the cul-de-sac. 2 minutes every ride is all it takes. I do go to a parking lot from time to time but that is maybe a half hour or so of practice. As Robert Simmons of “Be the Boss of Your Motorcycle” says, if you got time to ride you got time to practice!

Blue Knights Pledge: Try to be a better example for other riders out and about.

Skills: What skills can I improve on?

General Riding: Do you ride at your own skill level or get influenced by others? Is your riding style influencing others (good or bad)?

Those are just a few ideas, whatever the 3 questions are that you ask yourself, think about answering them, through actions, next riding season.



Till next time, take it easy. To you lucky ones riding year long. RWP Ride Safe and Practice Often.

Scott Grabowski
MWRC Safety Officer
mwrc.safety@gmail.com
612-814-1960

Update on the Spring 2024 Conference

Kansas III will be hosting the Spring 2024 Midwest Regional Conference Thursday, June 20th – Sunday, June 23rd, 2024. It will be held at the DoubleTree by Hilton Lawrence, 200 McDonald Drive, Lawrence, KS 66044 (785-841-7077). The

rooms are \$149.00 (King or 2 Queens, 1 to 4 people) per night plus tax. Hot Breakfast Buffet for up to 4 people per room is included. Rate is good for reservations made through May 19th, 2024. \$249.00 (regular rate) for reservations made after May 19th, 2024. Mention Blue Knights to get the discounted rate. The Conference costs \$95.00 per person through May 1st, 2024. \$110.00 after May 1st. The conference information and registration form is on the MWRC webpage.

PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT CONCERNS OF POLICE SURVIVORS.

With your paid registration you will get:

24-Hour Hospitality Room Thursday, Friday, and Saturday.

Hot Breakfast Buffet Friday, Saturday, and Sunday mornings.

Lunch Friday Afternoon at the Kansas III Clubhouse Complex.

Banquet Dinner Saturday Night.

Country Fried Steak topped with country-style gravy, or
Breaded Chicken Parmesan topped with parmesan cheese and tomato fennel sauce, or
Alfredo Cheese Tortellini topped with shaved parmesan, plus
Caesar Salad, Garlic Mashed Potatoes,
Home-Style Green Beans,
Warm Rolls,
Red Velvet Cake

DJ Thursday Night.

Live Music Friday Night.

Bikini Bike Wash Friday & Saturday.

Lots of raffle items, including an AR-15, .223 / 5.56.

And more FUN than you'll know what to do with!

COME JOIN US!

Jim Miller
Kansas State Rep
Kansas III President

Update on the Fall 2024 Conference

BLUE KNIGHTS IN THE BLACK HILLS

Join us for the Fall 2024 MWRC Conference!
September 5th – 8th, 2024. It will be a grand time in the

Black Hills of South Dakota.
The host hotel is the Holiday Inn and Suites.
305 N. 27th St
Spearfish, South Dakota 57783
Phone number: (605) 642-4683

MWRC Fall Convention update: things are progressing slowly as we had expected. The hotel is currently one third reserved by the Blue Knights. Registration is also very slow but we are sure they will pick up now that the holidays are over. We are working with Chris's Campground for a rate for our guests that want to use their RV while here. Also wanted to remind our guests that the room rates are good 2 days before and 2 days after our gathering. This is our 40th anniversary so we really want to make it something to remember for all. Until next time Ride with Pride!

Dave Thorsgaard
MWRC State Representative
BK SD I

Mid-Knight News Requirements

The Mid-Knight News is published quarterly. The deadlines are January 15th, April 15th, July 15th, October 15th, with the projected publication being February 1st, May 1st, August 1st, and November 1st.

Any member of the Blue Knights MWRC can submit an article for publication. However, the article must be sent from the Chapter Corporate e-mail. This ensures chapter approval of the article and its contents.

Articles should be submitted in MS "WORD" in Arial 12 - point with justified left and right margins. Please try to limit your article to one page. Photos may also be submitted, but please send them in a "jpeg" format.

CHAPTER DUES ARE DUE

In order for a chapter to remain in good standing with the Conference, each chapter must pay dues of one dollar per member with a maximum of twenty-five to the Conference on an annual basis.

The dues must be paid before the chapter will be allowed to vote at the MWRC business meeting.

You can mail your dues to:

Mid-West Regional Conference
P.O. Box 73,
Goddard, KS 6705

MWRC State Representatives Contact Information

Iowa:	Dave Eyman	BKIARep@gmail.com
Kansas:	Jim Miller	jimmiller@jim-san.com
Manitoba:	Peter Savinkoff	tundrapjs@shaw.ca
Minnesota:	Chris Boerner	cboerner9@aol.com
Missouri:	Don Tyes	bigdude@stjoelive.com
Nebraska:	Frank Bergmark	bikerbergs@charter.net
North Dakota:	VACANT	
Oklahoma:	Tom Ashing	tomashing@cox.net
South Dakota:	Dave Thorsgaard	dg17thor@midco.net

STATE REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Before each newsletter, I send out a request to each of the State Representatives asking them to send me an article for the Mid-Knight News.

Iowa Representative Dave Eyman

No response

Kansas Representative Jim Miller

Kansas III was honored to lead the Lawrence, KS Veterans Day Parade on November 4th, 2023. We had a good turnout, with 17 of us riding in the parade. The response from the crowd throughout the parade route was extremely positive and very moving. It was a great day to “Ride With Pride”!

I look forward to seeing everyone at all of the upcoming Blue Knights events in 2024.

“Ride With Pride”

Jim Miller
Kansas State Rep
Kansas III President



Manitoba Representative Peter Savinkoff

No report

Minnesota Representative Chris Boerner

No response

Missouri Representative Don Tyes

I hope all of you had a festive holiday season. Most of the Missouri chapters celebrated the season with Christmas parties or dinners. The weather was fair during the holidays in Missouri but has taken a turn for the worst recently. Frigid temperatures and snow - covered roads are prevalent throughout the state. Spring can't come too soon for us.

Ok Missouri chapters, it's renewal time again. Make sure you get your new membership rosters submitted to International by the end of January. Also mail your Midwest Regional Conference dues in to Secretary Duane Potter.

Next up Kansas III will host the 2024 Spring Conference. The Conference will be held June 20th – 23rd, at the DoubleTree Hotel, 200 McDonald Drive, Lawrence, Kansas.

“Ride with Pride”
Donald R. Tyes, President, MO X
Missouri State Representative, RWP



Nebraska Representative Frank Bergmark

NE I had its annual Suicide Chili Feed on January 5th and is looking forward to better weather and the future conferences.

Hope all is well with you.
Thanks. Frank

The NE II chapter would like to take a moment to honor the fellow Blue Knights that have transferred to Heaven One in 2023, as well as the fallen Law Enforcement brothers and sister that have passed on in 2023.

2023 has been another banner year for NE II, starting with the return of former member OPD Officer Corey Clements / Motor Officer and the addition of Honorary Member Civ Greg Jones of the Kirkland Communications Group. We look forward to their contributions in the coming years. Also, Ret OPD Officer / James Stokes has moved into the Des Moines area and has transferred to IA I. We wish him the best in his new ventures and look forward to seeing him at future MWRC events. We also wish a speedy recovery back into the saddle to our own Bobby Clark / NE II Past President and MWRC Vice Chairman after his unfortunate training accident in July.

NE II rode in support of many events in 2023, beginning with the 15th Annual NE Law Ride, kicking off Law Week, and pretty much the riding season; as well their annual wreath presentation during the NE Law Week Memorial Service, held in Grand Island, NE; also, the home of the NE Law Enforcement Memorial Park. NE II also ventured up to Des Moines, IA and supported Iowa's Law Enforcement Memorial ceremonies supporting IA I and IA III on the State Capital grounds. Throughout the summer NE II supported many veteran groups in charity events as well as the Annual Nebraska Official Veterans Day Parade held in Bellevue, NE. In July, NE II sponsored a NE Safety Rodeo at Frontier HD, Lincoln, NE promoting motorcycle safety and awareness and allowing local riders to challenge their riding skills on the "cone course". Cones supplied, set up and judged by NE II. In early October, NE II rode down to St. Joseph, MO supporting MO III with their annual Law Enforcement Officer's Memorial Ride.

On August 26th, 2023, NE II held the 9th annual Mark Burbridge Memorial Ride, raising over \$5,000.00 to assist in Pottawattomie County Sheriff Office's "Shop with A Cop" holiday program, benefiting countless area families in need of assistance over the holiday season.

On December 13th, 2023, NE II held their own 9th annual "Shop with a Knight" program, benefiting 3 veteran families in need of assistance over the holiday season. During the event, we took the families children shopping for a gift, followed by a pizza party complete with Santa (AKA Jim Westcott), afterwards presenting each family with a \$500.00 Walmart gift card to assist them in groceries or gifts.

During the Fall MWRC Conference in St. Louis, NE II conferred with MN I and received their blessing to hold an MWRC Winter Party, which we are hard at work completing the details and will be shared soon; ALL ARE INVITED, and we hope to see you there.

Ride with Pride!

Corey "Z-Hog" Zimmer
Secretary, NE II
Blue Knights Law Enforcement MC

North Dakota Representative VACANT

Representative wanted
If interested, contact
MWRC Chairman Tom Luellen

Oklahoma Representative Tom Ashing

Greetings from OK II and 'Kudos' to the Mid-West Conference for another great year. It is always a pleasure to gather with my fellow Knights. It is great to see our 'old' friends, not necessarily in age, but in tenure.



The big '4 - 0'. Yes, OK II is back, and turning 40, and sadly I alone exist as a charter member. We have had some low points along with some high points during our 40 years. A lot of good men and women have worn our colors during this time, sadly many have transferred to Heaven I. At the creation of the Mid-West Conference, our chapter was transferred from the Southwest Conference to the Midwest. Being a 'young chapter', it took a couple of years for our members to really get into the swing of things and start making the Conferences. Thousands of miles later, it is wonderful to sit back and recall all the good times we have enjoyed, memories that will still exist long after our riding ability expires. Looking forward to many more Conferences and many more years to visit with great friends.

We have seen the overall number of chapters in our state fall from 9 to 4. In talking with other chapters, it seems we are not alone in our efforts to recruit new members. It is discouraging and without new blood, I am not sure how much longer our chapter can hold on. Seems the younger officers don't have the time or desire but it is encouraging to see such members as Harold, our resident oldest rider, continue to attend our Conferences on his bike.



What is it that Mr. Spock said, 'live long and prosper' I will say "Ride safe, ride long, my fellow Knights and most of all Ride with Pride,".

Tom Ashing,
Oklahoma State Representative

South Dakota Representative Dave Thorsgaard



Greetings from the Black Hills of South Dakota! Hoping everyone had a very Merry Christmas and will have a Happy New Year.

What a fall we have had this year, unseasonably warm temperatures in the 50's and 60's with no measurable snow or rain. It is extremely dry this year but in some way's it has been good to be able to have the bike out for a few short rides, some in the hills but mostly on the prairie.

Fall is our chapter's time to shine as we begin to do our charitable donations for our community. We start each year with the Blizzard bag

deliveries in mid - October for Meals on Wheels. Each orange bag contains 2 bottles of water, fruit cups, instant soup or Raman noodles, fruit bars and other food items that can be prepared without electricity during a blizzard or when it is too hazardous for the volunteer drivers to be out making deliveries. This year, the process spanned 3 days and over 1800 bags were delivered. Some households received more than one bag depending on the number of people in each home.

Each year, we get a list of items for the kids in the West Unit of Monument Health. This unit is for patients with mental health problems and drug and alcohol addictions. Their requests are usually basic items like socks, shoes, basket and soccer balls and different



types of activity items to help pass

the time when not in classes. This year, we were actually able to take a tour of the facility as there was a break in the admissions. It was very impressive to see what they have to help the kids and the different rooms for each class. This year we were told there would only be 7 kids in the unit over Christmas, so we made some additional purchases for each of those kids. Each was given a \$15.00 gift card to McDonalds, a warm fuzzy blanket, a bookmark, a Christmas card and a gift bag. We have been told it really meant a lot to those kids.



Our next project was the delivery of Christmas food baskets to 3500 different residents in the city and local area. Each basket contained a ham, bread, butter, canned goods like cranberries, green beans or corn and

several boxes of dehydrated items like potatoes or noodles. Our chapter delivered only a small part of the 3500 baskets to 2 apartment buildings in the area of the Meals on Wheels kitchen. Each basket was greatly appreciated by the senior citizens in these two buildings.



Our last donation event was for the Back Pack program for the local area schools. This program furnishes food for the kids during the week ends or holiday school breaks. These back packs, as they are called, have nutritional food items. When we started donating to this program, there was a waiting list that has now been eliminated. Our \$1,000.00 donation will feed 10 kids for a year.

STANDING RULES FOR THE MWRC



1. Carrying firearms at MWRC events after consuming alcoholic beverages is prohibited. Event hosts are required to provide secure storage for firearms if requested by any attendee.

2. All members are entitled to make motions and participate in discussions during Conference meetings. However, only the President (or Regular Member appointed by the President) of each MWRC Chapter in good standing will be allowed to vote on items of business and candidates for office at Conference meetings. Any Chapter which has not paid its annual dues shall not be considered in good standing.



3. MWRC officers shall consist of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary/Treasurer, and International Representative. The officers shall serve two (2) year terms and shall be elected at the Fall Conference meeting during even numbered years. Candidates must declare (in writing) the office they seek to the MWRC Secretary / Treasurer prior to the adjournment of the Spring Conference meeting of the election year. No later than August 1st of the election year the MWRC Secretary / Treasurer will provide the President of each MWRC Chapter with a list of the candidates for each office. This is meant to allow the Chapter President to confer with his membership prior to the voting.



4. Each Chapter in the MWRC shall pay annual dues to the Conference in the amount of \$1.00 (US) per chapter member, up to a maximum of \$25.00 (US) per year.



5. Bids to host MWRC conferences may be accepted up to two (2) years in advance.

6. All participants in parades or group rides, at any Blue Knights® Midwest Regional Conference event, must wear an approved motorcycle helmet.



7. The MWRC board will notify any active chapter within 50 miles prior to authorizing a charter to any new chapter, however final determination and approval will reside with the board