

The

Mid - Knight News

A quarterly publication of the Mid-West Regional Conference of the Blue Knights® International
Fall 2025 issue



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Editor:

I want to thank Minnesota Chapters I, IV, and IX for hosting the Fall 2025 MWRC. It was one of the larger conferences in recent memory. While the weather was a little on the cool side for those of us from the south, there was plenty to do, including a visit to the SPAM Museum, as well as a ride to the National Eagle Center. They had lots of raffle items as well as free nightly rooms, and some very large 50 / 50 pots. See the article later in the Mid – Knight News from Larry Klink.



The Fall MWRC, is the first time I can remember, that we had both the International President and the International Vice-President (NA) attend. Nice hotel and lots of meeting space.

The Spring 2026 Business Meeting will be held in Oskaloosa, IA at the Fairfield Inn from June 12th – 14th, see article later in this

newsletter for the very reasonable pricing of the rooms as well as the registration. The information is posted on the MWRC web page, as well as a fillable registration form.

The Fall 2026 will be hosted by NE-II in Bellevue, NE. from September 10th - 13th. The hotel is the Courtyard by Marriott Omaha Bellevue at Beardmore Event Center. More information later in this newsletter.

The Spring 2027 Business Meeting will be hosted by SD-I in Rapid City, SD, no details can be posted until after the Spring 2026 Business meeting.

Also Chairman Luellen has a big announcement, look for it in second paragraph of his article.

The riding season is coming to a close for some if you don't ride year around, make sure to get your motorcycle ready for its winter storage.

Rick



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

First order of business, I must give a shoutout to all the Minnesota chapters involved in hosting our most recent MWRC Fall Conference. Although the weather might have seemed chilly to some, this ole' Nebraska boy was loving the temperatures and riding conditions. The hosts gave us a nice weekend with lots of options to fill our days and, as usual, the nights were filled with the same shenanigans we have become accustomed to. It was great to see our International President, Russ Harper. It had been a few years since we had a sitting President in attendance and it was good to catch up with my old friend. Also in attendance was Cal Ennals, our North American Vice President who is close to becoming a regular at the MWRC. One highlight for me personally was after going to the National Eagle Center in Wabasha and learning a great deal more than I knew about eagles, we managed to see a couple in the wild. While on a ride Saturday after the meeting, one flew up from the tall roadside grass not 15 feet from me. Then on the way back, one soared just over our heads and seemed to pace us for a moment as we neared Rochester. Both were pretty spectacular.

It gives me great pleasure to announce the launch of a new chapter to the MWRC, Kansas IX. Chartered in Hiawatha, KS, they are a touch over 40 miles west of St. Joseph, MO. Pursuant to MWRC Standing Rule #7, as this new proposed chapter was within 50 miles of MO X, KS State Rep. Jim Miller contacted MO X to ask if they had any opposition to this new chapter. Graciously, they had none and the MWRC Board approved them to move forward with the application to become a chapter. Nathan Gray has been working to get this chapter off the ground for a couple years now and I'm glad he was able to get it done. Congrats to him and all his boys!

Three weeks after the Fall MWRC, I attended the 13th annual Fallen Officers memorial ride in St. Joseph, hosted by MO X. Let me say that again. Thirteen times now Don Tyes and his crew have taken the time to honor those officers, deputies, troopers, etc. who have given the ultimate sacrifice, their last full measure of devotion, for the citizens they swore to protect. It was a beautiful fall day with a great route through some northern Missouri countryside. Well done all.

As we descend into winter, I'll be looking forward to visiting southeast Iowa in June and Bellevue, NE in September. In between, a few brothers and I are planning to ride to Alaska before coming back to Calgary, AB for the 2026 International Convention. I cannot wait for this epic, once in a lifetime, adventure.

On a somber note, I was recently made aware that the MWRC lost a member to suicide. This is all too common a problem in our profession. I urge you to watch over your sisters and brothers, both those still on the job and those who have served their time. Pay attention, look for signs of trouble, and talk. Sometimes just talking to someone is all they need to feel heard. If we don't help each other, who will?



My virtual door is always open so please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions, comments, or concerns. Until we meet again,

RWP!



**From the M.W.R.C.
Vice-Chairman
Mark Smoot**

What a long straight trip it's been." Oh, wait! No, it hasn't. It has been a long trip (I've logged over 16,000 miles this season); but it hasn't been that straight. After attending a chilly MWRC in Rochester, we went down south and rode several parts on and around "The Dragon", when we attended the SRC. Those roads ain't so straight.

Kristie and I did win the award for the furthest ridden, two-up. We rode 729 miles to attend the SRC in Hiawasse, GA. We beat out the Zollo's by 19 miles.

So how did the recruiting go this summer? I know not every chapter added a new member, like I challenged, but we did manage to add a new chapter, KS-IX just chartered. We are also only one member away from a new chapter in Manitoba. Keep up the good work!

Just remember, EVERY outing is an opportunity to meet a potential new member. Be ready to talk-



up our great organization and invite them to join the fun. Carry an application in your bike, give out the International web address, invite them to attend a meeting and/or ride. Every cop is a potential new member. If you ride like Jim Miller, consider the officer who stops you a potential member 😊

Keep ridin', Keep reppin'. Have fun doing what you love. Others who love the same things will take notice and join you.

Ride With Pride and I'll look forward to seeing you in June!





**From the M.W.R.C.
Interim
Secretary / Treasurer
Lloyd Youel**

Lloyd Youel, your Interim Secretary Treasurer here. I hope everyone enjoyed the Fall Conference put on by the Minnesota chapters as they did a great job! 2025 is quickly coming to an end and the next business meeting hosted by the

Iowa chapters will be here before we know it. To save the MWRC money, I did not renew the PO Box in Goddard. Dues and other items for the MWRC can be sent to my home address, 9623 S Broadway St, Peck, KS, 67120. This has also been changed on the MWRC website as well. There are still a few chapters that have not paid their dues for this year. If you have questions about your dues, my cell phone number is 316-737-4942 and my email address is lloyd.youel@gmail.com.

Ride with Pride,
Lloyd Youel
Interim Secretary



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

Since our last newsletter, I represented you at the GLRC in Peoria, MWRC Conference in Rochester, MN, the SRC in Hiawassee, Ga and the

International Board of Directors (BOD) meeting via Zoom. Here are the highlights of the BOD Meeting.

Sword and Shield: Randy Gracy advised that his cancer has returned and causing quite a bit of pain, and he is requesting your prayers. He recommends that you advertise your conference events with a full-page ad. He will design the flyer as part of the ad price of \$195.00. The deadline for the next issue is October 5th.

International Webmaster: Please clean out your chapter mailboxes.

Headquarters Committee: Has been done by the Past President historically, but this time DJ wants to have an entire committee with Past President DJ Alvarez as the Chairman, Vice Chair Jay Duroust, Treasurer John Bull, Secretary Jerry Zollo, members Mike Gratis and President Russ Harper. The committee was unanimously approved. The Brick initiative is still going as a fundraiser, along with new Challenge Coins for sale at \$10.00. Checking account \$84,927.78 and the CD \$92,897.31.

Treasurer: Brian Arnold contacted 6 companies for bids to complete the audit and only 1 company responded with a bid of \$5,000.00 or less. The bid was approved with me voting in favor. Calgary V requested a \$5,000.00 seed money loan for the 2025 International Convention. Despite it being past the timeline for the loan, per the convention guidelines, the request was unanimously approved.

North American Vice President: Cal Ennals advised that he is working on a recruitment video featuring younger and female members. He also looked into the complaints about the 2025 Convention Host Hotel cancelling reservations and moving people to the overflow hotel, The Blackfoot. This was completely on the hotel and not the chapter. Apparently, there is a Pow-Wow that overlaps with our convention dates, and the hotel is owned by the Tribe. As of a few days ago there were still 60 rooms

available at the overflow hotel and there will be a shuttle running between the two hotels. You have to call the hotel to book a room. Phone number +1 (403) 252-2253.

President: Russ Harper advised that as soon as he took office, he had to find a new attorney because our previous law firm closed without informing us. He and Cal met with a prospective replacement, Paul Brown, of Redman and Winchell, who needed to handle a matter right away. He tentatively hired the attorney pending approval of the Board of Directors. The proposal passed with 11 yeas, 6 nays and no abstentions with me voting in favor. The Headquarters Committee opposes using the firm and will submit their choice at the next meeting.

Russ made changes to the following committees: Budget- Brian Arnold, Leonie Tromans, John Bull, Jana Clark, and Russ Harper; Election- Bob Seeley; By-law- Ellen Schmit. They were all passed unanimously.

He proposed a Magazine Committee of Chairman Mike Fletcher, Niel Hallam and changing the North American Editor to Glenn Wheat and the European Editor to John Ratcliff. There was some discussion that it may violate our contract with Randy Gracy and a vote was called with the measure failing with 8 yeas, 9 nays, and no abstentions, with me voting against.

Board of Governors: Mark Howard requested that chapters consider bidding to host an International Convention. He also requested that Presidents (all of which make up the BOG) make sure their emails, addresses and phone numbers are correct. He would like the Chapter President to join the BOG Facebook page to provide him input.

Office Manager: Jana Clark advised that to renew your chapter, you must go to the International Website, as there are no forms sent to the chapters anymore. When you are doing your renewals make sure that everyone's contact information is correct.

New Business: Tennessee III's appeal of the Mason Dixon Conference's decision on an Article X appeal was heard and BOD unanimously voted to uphold the Conference's decision. Virginia III requested to put a past member on the Persona Non-Grata list and the BOD unanimously approved the request.

There will be a Special Budget Meeting on November 19th, 2025, at 1100 hours ET. The next meeting will be on December 3rd, 2025, at 1100 hours ET and agenda items will be due no later than November 2nd, 2025, at 1600 hours ET.

If you have questions or need help on something don't hesitate to reach out to me. Ride with Pride,

Doug Casteel, MWRC Int'l Rep
mwrc.rep@blueknights.org
(314) 412-4449





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

Here we are in the middle of October already. Leaves are changing colors and starting to fall here in Minnesota so that only means one thing – the end of riding season will soon be upon us. Enjoy this time of the year and get in one last ride before you have to put your rides to bed for the winter season. The website is doing well and getting lots of looks. The information is posted for the 2026 Spring Business Meeting in June in Oskaloosa, IA. Be sure and make your hotel reservations and get your registrations in as soon as possible to help out the host chapters. I will be posting the information for the 2026 Fall Conference in September as soon as I get it from the NE II. With the end of year coming some chapters may have chapter elections and elect new officers which may change your mailing address. If that is the case with your chapter, be sure and let me know of any changes so I can keep your mailing address current so folks can get ahold of you. If any chapter has an event coming up and would like to advertise it on the Conference website please contact me and I will work with you to get the word out. As always, if you have a member transfer on to Heaven I, PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE let me know so I can add them to our Heaven I page. Until next time, stay safe, enjoy whatever riding time you have left this year and remember to

Ride with Pride,

Wayne Schwartz
MWRC Webmaster
wayneschwartz@comcast.net



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

Riding with Passengers

First, I want to thank everyone who attended the 2025 conference in Rochester — the turnout was fantastic! A special thank you

goes to the MN chapter members who helped make this event a success for everyone.

Many members rode their motorcycles to the conference, and I saw quite a few passengers (riding two-up) along for the journey. That got me thinking...

How many of us — both riders and passengers — truly know how to prepare for a ride? A passenger plays an important role in making any ride safe and enjoyable.

For Riders:

Before any ride, perform a **pre-check** of your motorcycle:

- Check **tire pressure**
- Adjust **suspension**
- Inspect **brake pads**
- Know the **weight limits** of your bike

Remember, you're responsible for someone else's safety when riding two-up. Make sure your passenger is wearing proper gear — **a helmet at minimum**. Talk to them before the ride:

- How should they **mount and dismount**?
- Where should they **hold on** — handrails or your waist?
- How do you want them to **sit**?
- How will you **communicate** during the ride — hand signals, verbal cues, Bluetooth?

Adjust your riding style. A passenger affects your bike's balance, handling, and braking distance. On longer rides, **check in** with your passenger, watch for signs of fatigue, and take breaks as needed.

For Passengers:

You also need to do your part:

- Always wear gear — at the **very least, a helmet**
- **Don't mount or dismount** until the rider says it's safe
- **Stay still** while riding; if you need to adjust, **communicate first**
- In turns or curves, **lean with the rider**
- Keep your **feet on the pegs** at all times, even when stopped
- Let the rider know if you're tired or uncomfortable — don't wait until it's unbearable

If you don't know the rider well, take a moment to **look over their motorcycle**. Does it seem well-maintained? Trust your instincts. It's okay to ask questions:

- When was the last time they checked **tire pressure or brake pads**?
- What's their **skill level**?

If the only answer you get is, *"I've been riding for years,"* consider that a red flag. Experience matters, but so does attentiveness to safety and maintenance.

RWP, Ride Safe and Practice Often

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

Recap of the 2025 MWRC Fall Conference

The 2025 MWRC Fall Conference is in the books. It was hosted by Minnesota chapters I, IV, and IX. We are sorry if you couldn't attend. We missed you and you missed a great conference. The members that attended stretched from west to east from Arizona to Australia including the International President, Russ Harper and our International Vice-President (NA) Cal Ennals. We thank them for their support and encouragement. 178 registrants, after 9 cancellations and 12 walk-ins attended. Some accidents and illnesses occurred for some of those people that had to cancel, and we pray for their quick recovery. The conference was held at the Best Western Rochester, Mayo Clinic Area / St Mary's and the attached Empire Event Center in Rochester, Minnesota and they welcomed us with open arms.

Some members took advantage of the hot tub and pool while others frequented the attached Wildwood Sports Bar and Grill. If you're ever in the area, I think that all attendees would recommend this hotel and restaurant for an overnight stay or conference in the future.

MN-IV member Don Marose and MN-I member Ken Delano set up three self-guided rides and three guided rides. After all, that's partially why we came to the conference. Ken threw in an extra ride on Thursday for early arrivals to the National Eagle Center.

On Friday, the rides started out with a round-about way to get to Back Home Harley-Davidson for a lunch planned and served by the previous owner Judy and grilled by the General Manager James Taylor. Hamburgers and quarter pound hot dogs with all the fixings and sodas (or as they say in the

north country, pop) were served up. Of course, everyone had to take a look around the shop as Harley's gleamed in the showroom. The ride continued after lunch to the Spam Museum, in Austin, MN, where they learned about the history of Spam made by Hormel Foods. Hormel donated tons of Spam to the World War II efforts to keep our troops nourished. Did you know that Spam stands for Spiced Ham? No mishaps occurred and all arrived back safely for the pulled pork dinner served up by MN-IV President and his lovely bride Scott and Lori Grabowski.

The Saturday ride took members through the beautiful Amish Countryside of Lanesboro and Preston, MN with lots of rolling hills and curves.

The raffle room was filled to the brim with prizes and offered much more. Of course, the 50 / 50 was a hit all three nights of the conference with winners getting \$337, \$500, and \$582. There was also a room raffle and over the three nights eleven room nights were given away to lucky winners. There were also several items up for the silent auction. Jackets, a heated jacket, Booker Whiskey Blue Knights Edition, a Remington 870 12 ga. Wingmaster shotgun and a Heritage Rough Rider revolver rifle.

Laura Delano brought her sewing machine and was a busy seamstress sewing on patches as Delilah Carlson set up a moto-boutique of lightly used men's and women's accessories.

There was no shortage of cigar smokers that enjoyed the cool outdoor temps to enjoy laughter and frivolity and possibly some drink to share stories and lies, so tell.

The staff, comprised of the General Manager Richard Bernik, Banquet Coordinator Mary Hill and Front Office Manager Davis Land fulfilled all of our requests and needs. The main chef Seth prepared the most elegant banquet meal on Saturday evening with Walleye, Pork or Chicken. He also allowed us to use his kitchen to prepare the Friday evening pulled pork meal held in the hospitality room that was totally donated for all to enjoy. The banquet hall was decorated by Lisa Zmeskal and Kathy Johnson, and the sound was handled by Gary Johnson. Kathy and Gary's son did the 3D printed center pieces. A big thank you goes out to John Shelton (OK-II) and Dave Smith (MN-IV) for doing the Heaven – I Tribute for our fallen comrades. As always, it was a moving event and a great honor to those who have gone before us and for their families.

We have to also thank all the attendees for making this a successful conference. Without you we wouldn't have a conference. A conference like this is not possible without the volunteers and donors who go out and solicit donations from the community as well as donating food, drink, prizes, as well as their time to make YOUR event a memorable one. I believe that Minnesota outperformed in their efforts to do just that.

We thank the MWRC board, especially Tom Luellen, for his arm twisting and suggestion of several chapters working together. I thank MN-I and MN-IX for stepping up to assist us with this endeavor. MN-IV did not want to do another conference but when we did take up the challenge the members stepped up in full stride. I'm so proud to be a part of MN-IV and the Blue Knights as well as the working relationship we have with our other chapters here in Minnesota.

I have to admit, I really look forward to attending the Spring meeting in Oskaloosa, Iowa and the Fall Conference in Omaha, NE in 2026.

Larry Klink
2025 Fall Conference Chairman
Ride with Pride

SPRING 2026 BUSINESS MEETING



It was once said, “If you build it, they will come.” So, in case you haven’t heard, We’ve built it, so y’all come to the 2026 Business Meeting.

Remember Riverside from the Spring 2023 Conference? The Sixers are teaming up with IA I, III, and IV to host the Spring 2026 Business Meeting June 12th and 13th, 2026 at the Fairfield Inn in Oskaloosa, IA.

We have a room block at the Fairfield Inn, 641-676-7600. If that fills up, there is an overflow hotel (Everspring Inn & Suites 641-676-6000) across the main drag (about two blocks riding) that will match the host hotel’s price. Both hotels offer free breakfast.

Of course, there will be a hospitality room with free beer and pop (soda, for those further south). We do request each Chapter represented, provide a bottle of your favorite local blend to stock the harder stuff in the hospitality room.

Across the parking lot, is a new venue called Trio. Trio is a multipurpose venue. They have a restaurant and have promised a few specials for us. They also have a bar and will donate a keg for consumption within their facility. As if that’s not enough, they also have two golf simulators, two tennis courts, and four pickle ball courts. Oh yeah, they also have three movie theaters. They have an outdoor seating area which is normally non-smoking, but they have said we will be allowed to smoke cigars. If you forget your sticks, there’s a Smokin’ Hot cigar shop about half-mile away.



If you don’t want to eat at Trio, there are several other restaurants in town. We are working on getting special offers from them.

Finally, we are planning a nice ride to show off southeast Iowa’s scenic byways. Okay, we’re not the Ozarks, or the Dragon, but we’ll try really hard.

Are you ready for the price? We put all this together for the whopping registration fee of \$30.00 per person! See the registration form on the MWRC webpage.

Come on over and visit the Iowa crew again.

Ride With Pride in IOWA
Mark Smoot
641-226-0749
msmoot3@gmail.com

FALL 2026 MWRC CONFERENCE

Nebraska II will be hosting the Fall 2026 Conference in Omaha September 10th, 11th and 12th, in conjunction with a celebration of our chapters 30th anniversary.

Omaha offers a variety of attractions, including the renowned Henry Doorly Zoo and Aquarium, the historic Old Market district, Omaha Children's Museum, numerous craft brewery's, Lauritzen Gardens. Another popular attraction is the Strategic Air Command & Aerospace Museum built as a state-of-the-art center for housing the aircraft and artifacts used by the Strategic Air Command during the Cold War. With careful restoration efforts and impressive displays.

The event will be held at Courtyard Marriott Bellevue at Beardmore Event Center, the site offers many amenities including a pool, whirlpool, fitness center as well as a restaurant on site. You can either call the front desk at 402-408-5300 and ask to book under the Blue Knights Mid-West Regional Conference Block or you can send them this link. <https://bit.ly/BlueKnightsMid-WestRegionalConference>. Room Rates are \$110.00 plus tax for a King, and \$120.00 plus tax for double queen.

Registration for this fun filled weekend will be \$160.00. Before you stop reading, let me give you a run-down of what that registration will give you. First you will have two buffet breakfasts Friday and Saturday morning, this is not a typical lobby breakfast. This will be a buffet set up for only for the Blue Knights. Second, you will have a Friday night dinner of smoked brisket, ribs and sides, as well as the banquet meal on Saturday night. We are working with one of the local Harley dealerships for a lunch as well on Friday or Saturday. That's four, possibly five, meals.

We will have a full hospitality room with many choices for beverages (hint, hint) all three days free to the attendees. You will also receive an insulated 22-ounce tumbler, challenge chip, and anniversary cup.

Nebraska II is working hard to put tother a fun weekend for you. We will plan to take you on some of the best rides the area has to offer, as well as self-guided ride suggestions. We plan on making sure you don't go hungry or thirsty and have some great outdoors space at the hotel for kicking back relaxing reconnecting or meeting new Blue Knights.

Nebraska II looks forward to hosting you and having you celebrate our 30th Anniversary as a chapter.

Any questions, contact Scott Altic by email at president@blueknightslemc.com

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.

CHAPTER DUES ARE DUE

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.

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.

Chapters that have not paid dues as of October 14th 2025;

Minnesota II,
Minnesota III,
Minnesota V,
Minnesota VI,
Minnesota VIII,
Missouri II,
Missouri IV,

North Dakota II,
North Dakota III,
Oklahoma I
Oklahoma IV.

You can mail your dues to:

Mid-West Regional Conference
9623 S. Broadway Street
Peck, KS 67120

Ride with Pride,
Lloyd Youel
Interim Secretary

MWRC State Representatives Contact Information

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Minnesota:	Chris Boerner	cboerner9@aol.com
Missouri:	Don Tyes	bigdude@stjoelive.com
Nebraska:	Frank Bergmark	bikerbergs@charter.net
North Dakota:	Mark Ellingson	mellingson26@hotmail.com
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 will be hosting their Spring Fling in Lawrence, Kansas, from Friday afternoon, April 24th through Sunday morning, April 26th, 2026. We are still working on the details, and more information will be released when finalized. Record the date on your calendar! This is always a great time!

Kansas IX is now the Blue Knights' newest chapter! They will be having a patch party at 6:00 pm on Saturday November 15th, 2025 at 2180 Lake Drive Road, Hiawatha, KS 66434. Everyone is invited to come join the celebration with Kansas IX. They request you bring your own favorite beverages. They will have a food truck on site with street tacos, quesadillas, and roasted corn on the cob available for purchase.

"Ride With Pride"

Jim Miller
Kansas State Rep



Minnesota Representative Chris Boerner

No response

Missouri Representative Don Tyes

Members met together in Rochester, MN in September for the Fall Conference. The temperatures were nice and cool which made for a very enjoyable gathering. The conference was very well organized and attendance was excellent. Thank you to the Minnesota chapters for a great time.

On September 27th, 2025, Missouri X hosted the 13th Annual Fallen Officers Memorial Ride in St. Joseph, Missouri. Blue Knights from MO I, MN IV, MN IX, KS I (KC Metro), KS III, NE II, IA III and IA VI, participated and supported the ride along with several other motorcycle clubs and civilians. 58 bikes and approximately 90 people attended the event. Thank you from all of us and from the families of these Fallen Heroes.

Up next is the Spring Midwest Business Meeting June 12th – 14th, 2026, at the Fairfield Inn, in Oskaloosa, Iowa.

Ride with Pride,
Donald Tyes, President MO X

Nebraska Representative Frank Bergmark

Nothing Blue Knights related is happening in Nebraska. The riding season is getting pretty sporadic. Looking forward to Winter Blahs, the Too Early Ride the first weekend in May, the Spring Business Meeting, possibly International in Calgary and the Fall Conference in Omaha. Everyone have a safe and happy fall and winter.

Frank Bergmark
Nebraska State Representative

North Dakota Representative

No response

Oklahoma Representative Tom Ashing

No response

South Dakota Representative Dave Thorsgaard

SD-I has been active with a few things since our last visit. Black Hills Area Bikers, a motorcycle organization made up of various MC clubs in the Black Hills area, held their annual Ultimate Canyon Fall Colors poker run September 20th. Blue Knights SD-I worked the start and stop of this event. It was a huge success in the amount of money they raised this year with over \$1,400.00 raised without any prize money returned to the club. This is the most money they have made in quite a while. They had over 64 riders, perfect weather and some awesome colors in Spearfish Canyon, Vanocker Canyon and the Nemo area. We were honored to be part of their success.

On October 11th, we had our own Fall Colors ride up to Devils Tower, Sundance, Spearfish Canyon, and Vanocker Canyon. Again, the sights were great, brotherhood and conversations were well worth the ride. November and December will be the start of our donations to Meals on Wheels, The Salvation Army and our personal donations to the kids in the West Hospital unit and Feeding South Dakota's Back Pack program.

The bikes haven't been put into storage just yet but is definitely getting cooler and dark sooner so not as many long rides are being made. That is one of the great things about living in western South Dakota, when the snow does finally hit and makes it a lot less desirable to ride the hill's, we have the prairie.

I would like to thank all of Minnesota chapters for the effort they put into the Fall Conference, those of us from BK SD I, truly enjoyed your event. Looking forward to the Spring business meeting. Maybe we can make some plans to meet in the middle somewhere before then.



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 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