

Blue Knights Texas Chapter XXXV

I was asked by our President to address a particular issue that was brought forth to him by some members of other riding groups on a recent ride. It was more grumbling, but it needs to be addressed for several reasons. One of those reasons is obviously safety, but the other is how others view our organization as a whole.

If you have on a ride with us in the last few months, you will have noticed that we have been riding with several other groups in several rides. On one of those occasions Brian was spoken to about some of our riders. Apparently some of our members rode in a manner that some other riders thought was reckless and dangerous.

Although no particular member was named, it was definitely some of our members. What was being looked at, and frowned upon, was the manner in which some of the members passed other riders, and then riding faster than the posted speed limit over a long period of time.

While none of us can regulate each member's riding habits, we do need to regulate what each of us does while wearing the colors of our club. You see, when we each wear the colors, we represent the entire club, the entire organization from International on down. Whatever each of us does, good or bad, reflects directly on the club, the entire group. What people see you doing is what they think all members do, all the time.

When I was a supervisor, I would occasionally remind my troops that whatever they do in uniform, reflects on the entire department and maybe even the entire country. When the Rodney King incident happened in California, it didn't take long for some people locally to make comments to some of our officers about that incident. We, locally, had nothing to do with Rodney King, but we were taunted by some of the people that we came into contact with.

The same premise holds true for our Blue Knight members while wearing the colors. You are the organization to whoever you come into contact with. Good or bad, that is what the public sees whenever we are on that motorcycle, wearing those colors.

From a safety point of view, recklessness on a motorcycle is absolutely insane. We all know the dangers of riding on two wheels, not to mention all those drivers in four wheels or more all around us. For the sake of our own safety, mine and yours, we all need to rethink our own riding habits and make sure that everything we do is exactly what we want the public to see us doing, all the time.

The Blue Knights pride themselves on representing law enforcement in a good light. We stand for safety in riding, and for riding the way everyone should. Time for all of us to re-think of our riding habits, all of us to re-access how we want the public to view not only our local club, but the entire organization as a whole. Time for ALL of us to do some soul searching.... please.

Johnny Rod

Blue Knights Tx. 35

Safety Officer