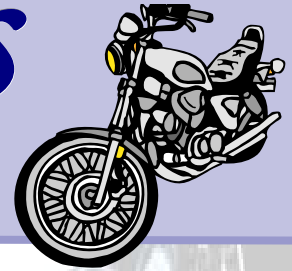




# Blues News

Volume 1, Issue 2

Blue Knights ®Texas XXXI Newsletter  
Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club



## Special Message from the President



D.J. Alvarez

Greetings Texas 31 Members: The Kimber pistol project is on schedule, and doing quite

well. We have about 65% of the limited edition pistols reserved. The information and order forms are on the website.

Countdown to Leakey! We're down to less than 2 months till we head to the Texas Hill Country. A reminder that all of the rooms at D'Rose Inn are booked, but fear not. Our helpful hostess, Deb at the D'Rose Inn will help

you find a room, and will provide ground transportation on Saturday night to anyone who is not staying there. Call Deb if you want to go and need a room (830-232-5246). Right now, there are 33 people going on the trip.

Thanks to our Road

Captain, there are a couple of rides scheduled over the next 6 weeks (Prison ride to Huntsville, and the Dogwood Festival ride). Check out the event calendar for more information, and any updates. Remember, anyone can call to set up a ride so if you have an idea for one, contact Roger Byars.



San Jacinto Monument ride Oct. '05

## March & April 2006

Bi-Monthly Newsletter

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### March Chapter Meeting:

**DATE:**

**Thursday, March 16**

**LOCATION:**

**Bravos Mexican Restaurant, Texas City  
2525 Palmer Hwy.**

**TIME:**

**7:30 p.m.**

## BK Brotherhood Ride to Woodville, TX



**Saturday**

**April 1**

Our Chapter is hosting a ride to the Woodville, Texas "Dogwood Festival" on Saturday, April 1. The Chapter will meet up with Blue Knights TX 7 & 19 along the route. The

festival includes food and arts & crafts vendors, a classic car display, motorcycle show and a parade. Participating riders will gather at the intersection of Hwy. 146 & FM 517 with kickstands up at 8:30 a.m. That will allow for plenty of time for "meeting & greeting" when the Chapter connects with Houston and Beaumont along the route. Special arrangements are being made with the Woodville

Chief of Police for reserved parking in front of the police station, which is only a block from the center of town and the main portion of the festival. For more information about the ride, contact Roger "Crash" Byars at (281) 309-0453.

**Estimated time:**

Dickinson to Woodville  
134.9 miles • 3 hrs.



## BK member Bill Taber to show bike across state

Texas 31 member Bill Taber from Texas City has customized his new motorcycle to show at various venues across the state.

The 2005 Harley Davidson Heritage Classic Softtail was completely stripped down and rebuilt from the ground up as a pro-street custom.

Complete with lots of chrome and a custom paint set including fenders and a tank from Sinister Custom Paint Works of Phoenix, Arizona, the finished design should sell for as much as \$32,000. The bike's theme is

skulls, or as Taber calls it "Skully." No cheap or after market parts were used on this show bike. Taber hopes to collect a few trophies before selling the customized Harley.

Taber's first bike he built was a 1963 Harley Davidson FLH Duo Glide. The bike was restored to its original condition and has taken 12 trophies in 2005, including 1st place at the Hawgs of Texas Rally in Lake Summer-ville, 1st place Harley Owners Group Rally in Corpus Christi and 2nd place at the Republic of Texas (ROT) Rally in Austin.



*Pictured above is Bill Taber with his new custom bike he built with the help of BK member Ken Jones.*



### Prison Museum Ride Huntsville, Texas Saturday, March 18

Riders will leave Dixie Diner in Dickinson at 9 a.m. and arrive in Huntsville around noon. The museum fee is \$4 for adults. Bring extra cash if you'd like to buy from their gift shop! The museum has an array of artifacts that depict the history of the Texas Prison System.

*For more information about the museum, visit their Website at [www.txprisonmuseum.org](http://www.txprisonmuseum.org)*

## Officer recovering after off duty auto accident

Jody Dowlearn, a member of the Chapter, is recovering following a motor vehicle accident in his off-duty vehicle on the morning of Jan. 11. He was northbound on the I-45 feeder road at 1764 when his vehicle hit the concrete barricade. He suffered a broken right femur, four broken ribs, lacerated liver and spleen and was in the hospital for two weeks (one week was ICU). When he was released from the hospital, he went to the home of Cheryl Roy for recovery. Cheryl is the mother of Michel Roy, also a Chapter member who was seriously injured last year in

an on duty accident. Jody stayed at the Roy's house after Michel's accident and took care of Michel. Jody was in good hands with the Roy family assisting him in his road to recovery. Jody's injuries were similar to Michel's, so similar in fact that the same doctors worked on both and they were both in the same rooms at UTMB! Jody is making a great recovery. He returned to light duty at the Galveston County Sheriff's Office on February 15.



*Jody Dowlearn*

## Biker Insider news briefs

**Happy Anniversary:** We would like to wish Roger & Rose Byars of Dickinson a happy 13th anniversary on April 10. Congrats also to Rick and Debbie Kershaw, who celebrated their 15th wedding anniversary on Feb. 14.

**Upcoming Wedding:** Michel Roy and Tina Jones are getting married on July 1. Congratulations!

**FBI Academy:** Texas 31 Member and Galveston Police Lieutenant Walter Braun recently graduated from the 223rd Session of the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Virginia.

**Casino Ride:** The Chapter is arranging an overnight casino ride to Grand Casino Coushatta in Louisiana this summer. Coushatta offers discounts on group stays. Check with Roger Byars for updates and information on this ride.



*Laura Sims enjoying the scenery at Don Lounds' retirement party in Jamaica Beach in February*

## 'Crash' Course on Safety Column By Roger "Crash" Byars (Road Captain)



Preparation is the key to responsible, safe and pleasurable riding. Your "four preps" should include: your motorcycle, its size & fit, protective gear and mental attitude.

**Your Motorcycle:** Mechanical failure during two-wheeled travel can create extreme hazards. You should properly maintain your motorcycle to *reduce* this risk. Refer to your owner's manual and conduct maintenance as scheduled. Don't forget that carrying a passenger may require adjustments to the suspension and tires.

**Size and Fit:** How you "fit" your motorcycle can affect the handling. Aftermarket items, such as handlebars, lowering the bike, changing the footboards (no matter how "cool" they look) can create undesirable handling of the motorcycle if they do not "fit" your riding style and position.

**Protective Gear:** Wearing well-designed, properly fitting motorcycle gear keeps a rider comfortable and better protected in the event of a fall. Such things as wearing a helmet is a personal choice, but a little common sense can go a long way. Truth is, you're probably more likely to sustain a severe eye injury from sand, rocks or BUGS at 70 mph if

you don't wear protective glasses. And how many of us would really choose to ride barefooted? I've seen it...don't want to do it!

**Mental Attitude:** Riding a motorcycle takes skills. Riding requires a rider's mind to be distraction-free and focused on safety. Inattention is a major factor in many motorcycle crashes. That inattention can be brought on by several things in a rider's personal life. Maybe it's not a good time to take a ride when you are not in a good emotional state of mind. Taking those issues on a motorcycle ride probably isn't the right thing to do. You need to be alert and watch for hazards all around you at all times.

## Group treasurer needs donations for patch collection



Laura Sims, "Mama Bear," is looking for patches to add to her collection to be displayed in the Galveston County Sheriff's Office Warrant Division, where she works.

The department is moving to the new Criminal Justice Center tentatively the first week in April. The display will be featured at the new location.

Sims is trying to collect patches from ALL agencies within the county, and hopes to have all the patches from each agency framed and displayed in the lobby.

**To Donate:**  
**Contact Laura Sims at (409) 939-6808 or by email at [lsims59@houston.rr.com](mailto:lsims59@houston.rr.com)**

## NEW SHIRTS!



Gray shirts are now available in sizes small to X-large



**To order:**  
**Contact Quartermaster Robert Elliott at [regoodtimes@aol.com](mailto:regoodtimes@aol.com)**

*See the website under 'Chapter Sales' for pricing & other items*

## Members take Stubbs' motorcycle safety course challenge



Five TX31ers successfully completed the "Riders Edge" Experienced Riders Course challenge on Feb. 5 at Stubbs Cycles in Houston (Laura Sims, Ken Sims, Ed Lucas, Ed Gardenshire and Roger Byars). The day

was spent riding on the parking lot through various challenging courses dotted with orange and green cones. The instructors were knowledgeable and sincere to the group's needs. The courses challenged the group with tight turns, sweeps, swerves, debris hazards, short distance stops, evasive moves and much more. As challenging as it was, all reported having a good time, learned more about their motorcycle and their own skills, and highly recommends this course to others. Stubbs



representatives were thrilled that TX31 chose their facility for this course and have invited the Chapter back.

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**Submit to the  
Blues News newsletter**

Article submissions should be about three paragraphs in length (limited space) in a Word document or rich text format. Photographs should be sent in a JPEG, TIFF, GIFF or BMP format with a resolution of at least 150.

**Submission suggestions:**

Awards you've won, special events or rides you've experienced, Blue Knights events coming up, showcase on your bike, unique or funny stories involving motorcycles, personal news (i.e. promotions, retirement, etc.) Please submit birthdays & anniversaries as well. Ideas are welcome.

Submit articles and photos to Molly Lynch via email (listed at right). You may also provide a printed Word file in person. Submissions are subject to editing and will be used based on space availability.

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# Blue Knights® Texas XXXI

Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club

Presents: **Kimber**

**Limited Edition**

**Blue Knights Custom**

**Stainless II Pistol**

**.45 ACP**



\* For Sale to  
Blue Knights  
Members Only

There will only be 250 produced. The pistol will have the following features added to the limited edition pistol:

"Ride with Pride" etched on the right side of the slide under the ejection port, and a winged wheel will be etched just forward of the ejection port

Blue Knights will be etched on the left side of the slide

Checked wood grips with the Blue Knights shield carved in the grips

Special serial number beginning with KBK001 through KBK250



**Yours for only  
\$800 + s&h**

For ordering information, visit the Blue Knights TX 31 Website at [www.blueknightstx31.org](http://www.blueknightstx31.org) or contact us via email at [blueknightstx31@aol.com](mailto:blueknightstx31@aol.com) or call 281-642-8716.

## Great gift or collector's item!

\* Delivery is scheduled for late June 2006, and the pistols can only be shipped to an FFL dealer in your area