

# BLUE KNIGHTS MICHIGAN I

Greetings to all,

I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to everyone who participated in the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Michigan Fallen Heroes Memorial Ceremony on June 6, 2009. The ceremony will always be held on the first Saturday in June.

We had 65 motorcycles and one Military Police vehicle in a parade from Great Lakes Crossing to the Memorial site on North Telegraph Rd., escorted by Officer Chuck Becker of the Lathrup Village Police Department.

We began our ceremony with the Presentation of Colors by the Customs and Border Protection Honor Guard. Also presented were the flags of the Blue Knights, Axemen, National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial and the Fraternal Order of Police. The National Anthem was played, followed by a prayer given by Rev. Ron Leon. Sarah Samborski and family were introduced during the ceremony welcome.

Tributes were made to each of our fallen heroes - Oak Park Public Safety Officer Mason Samborski, Senior Detroit Firefighter Walter Harris, and FBI Special Agent Paul Sorce -with poems, music and readings of messages left for our heroes on several Internet sites.

The Detroit Police Honor Guard performed the flag folding ceremony in the inner circle of the Memorial, and presented the flag to the president of the Blue knights MI-1. The Detroit Honor Guard also carried out the gun salute.

After the ceremony was completed many remained to visit the names of their family, friends, partners, and co-workers.

I would like to thank the members of the Blue Knights who worked hard to get the flyers out, who participated in the ceremony and coordinated the sound system and set-up. – Thank You!

I would like to thank the Detroit Police Honor Guard and the Customs and Border Protection Honor Guard for their participation in the ceremony. You both were very striking additions to the ceremony and gave our program a formal presence. – Thank You!

I would also like to thank our bagpipers, Barb Gater, our Chapter Secretary, and Kelly Colby, a close friend to our Chapter. No police or fire tribute would be complete without the long tradition of the bagpipes. – Thank You!

I would like to thank Julie Nalazek for taking the time to learn Taps, and then playing in front of a large group. – Thank You!

And last but not least, I must take this opportunity to say thanks to all of you who attended the ceremony to Honor our Heroes. We look forward to seeing you again next year. – Thank You!

Sincerely,

Tim Sampey  
President  
Blue Knights – MI 1 Metro Detroit Area

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