**BLUE KNIGHTS MARYLAND I CHAPTER**

**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING ON**

**OCTOBER 9, 2018**

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:45 p.m. by **Chapter President Fred Allen**, with the opening prayer led by **Reverend Dr. Paula Miller-Lester,** in the Meeting Room of F.O.P., Lodge 89, located in Upper Marlboro, Maryland. A moment of silence was held for fallen officers, after which **President Allen** recited the Blue Knight’s Pledge.

1. New membership cards, certificates and booklets were issued by **Chapter President Fred Allen** to **Harry Clark**, and **Larry Murchison.** In addition, a change of address card was issued to **John Bull**.
2. No secretary’s report was provided for the last meeting. To be read during the November General Membership meeting.
3. Nothing to submit for the Vice President’s report, as provided by Byron “BB” Hope.
4. The Treasurer’s Report was read by **Orlando Barnes**: **Esquire** advised that there is $17,822.77 in Industrial Bank checking account. There is $1,153.36 in the Industrial Bank savings account; and $10,359.63 in the Capital One Bank account. This was read and approved. *Detailed report was provided*.
5. The meeting was then turned over to Eric Mines who covered the following:
   1. A motion was made to accept the unopposed nominations for the unopposed positions of President, Vice President and Secretary. Motion was accepted by the body with no objections.
   2. An inquiry was made for nominations for the position of treasurer. Several nominations were made, none were accepted and there were no volunteers.
   3. Votes were cast for the position of **DIRECTORS**. Nominees were **Cheryl Crawley, Greg David, Earl Gatewood III**, and **Ronald Powell.** Votes were cast with E.J. Mines and Henri Seppi.
6. President’s Report was presented by **Fred Allen. President Allen** advised that now that Maldonado Night would be held on Saturday, January 26, 2019, at the Holiday Inn, College Park. The event time will be from 6:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. Earl Gatewood would be serving at the Chairman for the event, and the ticket prices would be $25.00 per person, which is the same price as last year. Dress for Maldonado night would be formal attire. The meal selected is the “Cowboy Buffet” SEE ATTACHED.

**President Allen** then shared that a full page add would be taken out for the Spring Mason Dixon Conference, which will be hosted by Maryland I. Several positions for the conference need to be filled.

Upcoming rides include:

Ride to Gray’s Mountain, October 14, 2018 (Meeting place TBD)

Toy Run hosted by VA XIII, October 20, 2018 (Meeting place TBD)

1. For the betterment of the order:
   1. **Past President Grady Covington** reminded members that the new storage unit was only to be used by members, for **MEMBERSHIP** property. Nothing personal should be kept in the unit.
2. **Quartermaster Kennie Boone** stated he is currently working on belt buckle and chapter patch.
3. **RESULTS FROM THE VOTE** for the new directors is as follows**:**
   1. **Cheryl Crawley**
   2. **Greg Davis**
   3. **Earl Gatewood III**
4. **Communications Officer Robert Freeman** reports that the following rides are coming up, and posted on the Chapter website:
   1. Virginia Teddy Bear Run
   2. Delaware Toy Run
   3. Winter Conference, February 2019

**GOOD OF THE CHAPTER**

1. **E.J. Mines** share his thoughts on the over usage of modern technology and how it is hindering the “personal” line of communication, which deters member’s abilities to get to know one another.

1. **J.T. Nelson** requested assistance from Allen Lester in pulling the 50/50 number. $26.00 was won by “**John John**”.
2. **John Bull** advised the membership that as renewals are under way, it is important that email contact information be updated and/or corrected. Especially since the organization is moving to submitting ballots electronically. The company that will be handling is based within New Jersey, thereby making International totally hands off. Paper ballots will still be an option for those who do not want to do electronic submissions. Ballots should be sent out in May.

**Brother Bull** further shared that Bessie Small’s scheduled court appearance was postponed due to her attorney’s illness.

1. Closing prayer was led by **Reverend Dr. Miller-Lester**.

15. Meeting ADJOURNED at 8:59 p.m.

Recorded attendance 28 members.

Respectfully submitted,

Byron B. Hope

Vice President

of behalf of Hassan A. El-Amin