Buffalo Soldiers give back to the community during national convention in Hampton, VA

Hampton, VA - The National Association of Buffalo Soldiers & Troopers Motorcycle Club (NABSTMC) gave back to the community during the national convention held July 11-18 in Hampton, Virginia.

Several community-focused events took place during the convention. In partnership with the Virginia Peninsula Food Bank, the club distributed $10,000 worth of food to local residents at Hampton’s Bay Creek Apartments and presented a $10,000 check to the Food Bank. NABSTMC also donated 552 book bags filled with school supplies to children at the complex as well as various community centers in the city of Hampton. Additionally, Hampton Mayor Donnie Tuck presented a proclamation honoring NABSTMC for its charitable work.

“We’re always looking to make a difference in the community. When we saw a need in Hampton, we wanted to do something with it,” said Nathan “Motown” Mack, National President, NABSTMC.

The club also hosted a block party at the Hampton Roads Convention Center, a meet and greet in partnership with Oozlefinch Beers & Blending, a dinner/dance event, a motorcycle sound competition and a unity ride to Hampton Roads Harley Davidson. Additionally, the club shared Buffalo Soldier history during the ice cream social in partnership with Hampton Parks, Recreation & Leisure Services at local community centers.

“We were honored to host the Buffalo Soldiers for their 2022 national convention in Hampton,” said Mary Fugere, Director of the Hampton Convention & Visitor Bureau. “The Buffalo Soldiers truly impacted families in our city with the community-based charitable events that were held.”

NABSTMC is one of the world’s largest African American motorcycle clubs. Founded in 1996 by retired Chicago police officer Ken “DreamMaker” Thomas, the organization was created with a focus on promoting a positive image of African Americans. With 120 chapters of the club throughout the U.S. including Hawaii as well as South Korea, members help to feed the homeless, build homes for families in need, mentor the youth and provide scholarships to graduating seniors.
Through community initiatives, NABSTMC honors the history of the original Buffalo Soldiers who were African American servicemen enlisted in the 9th and 10th Horse Cavalry Regiment of the United States Army. These men served in various world events including the Mexican Expedition, the Indian Wars, the Spanish-American War, World War I, and more from 1866-1944. Additionally, members of the 9th Cavalry became some of the nation’s first National Park Service rangers.

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Image Assets

Image descriptions:

Buffalo Soldiers 1: Buffalo Soldiers distributing fresh produce and other foods to residents at Hampton’s Bay Creek Apartments.

Buffalo Soldiers 2: Hampton Mayor Donnie Tuck poses with NABSTMC National President, Nathan "Motown" Mack after reading a proclamation which honored NABSTMC's convention.

Buffalo Soldiers 3 Members of the Buffalo Soldiers present a check for $10,000 to Karen Joyner, CEO of the Virginia Peninsula Food Bank.

 Partially bordered by the Hampton Roads harbor and Chesapeake Bay, Hampton, with the 344,000 sq. ft. Hampton Roads Convention Center and the award-winning Hampton Coliseum, is located in the center of Coastal Virginia and the Hampton Roads metropolitan area. Hampton is the site of America's first continuous English-speaking settlement, the site of the first arrival of Africans in English North America, and is home to such visitor attractions as the Virginia Air & Space Science Center, Fort Monroe National Monument, Hampton History Museum, Hampton University Museum, The American Theatre, among others.