



BLUE KNIGHTS West Virginia II



April 2014 Newsletter

Volume 18

Issue 4

PRESIDENT'S NOTES:

Please make your contacts to pick up door prizes for the 2014 Wild Wonderful Knights Weekend. I have put in a request for all sunny days. If we get rain again this year we might want to think about changing the name to Wet & Wild Wonderful Knights Weekend.

By-Laws Committee meeting Sunday, April 27, 2014 at 14:00 hours at C.J. Maggie's, 309 Davis Ave, Elkins, WV.

Ride With Pride

Ed & Rexann Martin

304-622-0135

VICE PRESIDENTS NOTES:

Our next meeting will be Thursday evening, May 8th, 2014, at 19:00 hours, C.J. Maggie's, 309 Davis Ave, Elkins, WV. If you have not got your dues in for 2014 please get them in ASAP. Dues are \$25.00. I hope everyone continues their membership and is getting excited now that spring weather is here again so that we can get on the bikes again. If you know anyone that meets the membership requirement please talk to them and see if they are interested. Let's work together and keep our membership up. Thanks for your help.

Please ask another officer to come to a meeting or go for a ride with you and tell them about the Blue Knights. We have recruitment posters for you to put up at police departments so just ask for some.

I know some of you have already paid in advance so if you have that is great or if you are not sure contact Ed he will have that listed in the membership list. We have received dues from 38 of our 66 members. So if you have not sent yours in yet please do so soon.

Catch the fever.

Ride With Pride

Richard & Bridget Swisher

SECRETARY'S/TREASURER'S NOTES:

Our next meeting will be Thursday evening, May 8th, 2014, at 19:00 hours at C.J. Maggie's, 309 Davis Ave, Elkins, WV.

Ride Safe, Ride Smart and Ride with Pride. You are the faces of West Virginia II.

Marty McNulty, Secretary

You are the face of our Chapter, Be Safe and Ride with Pride

Marty McNulty, Treasurer

ROLL CALL

Members at April 10th, 2014, at 19:00 hours, at Hickory House, Jane Lew, WV.

Bobby Ryan, Rick Eve, Marty McNulty, Rex Talkington, Cathy Conners, DW Conners, Richard & Morgan Swisher, Marshall & Linda Parker, Rexann Martin, and Ed Martin.

Chapter Safety Officer

Ride With Pride

Walter Knight

MDC Safety Officer

Group Riding

Like all previous articles what you about to read are only suggestions. Before going on any kind of group ride you should do the following. Each rider should have checked his/her bike for any needed repairs, adjustments, or fluids that need to be added. If the ride is all day the rider should pack their bike for adverse weather (rain, cold, hot, etc.). If the rider has a cell phone it be fully charge before leaving home. Also, that rider should top off the tank with fuel before arriving at start location.

Before leaving as a group from start location the Road Captain or Safety Officer should have a short meeting to go over everything with all riders. The following should be discussed, hand signals, who will be leading, who will be Tail-Gunner, and if going thru parts of the country where you don't have cell phone service who is going to be the Road-Runner. The route should also be discussed, condition of road, fuel stops, if a long trip food/rest locations.

Some riders don't like to ride in the outside or inside track. When leaving that rider should position himself/herself so they'll be in the track lane that they are comfortable with. For riders that aren't familiar with the tracks of the lane you have three tracks in a signal lane. The inside track is close to the center of the road, the middle track is in the middle of the lane. Also, be aware this is the track where most of the trash and oil will be. The outside track is near the shoulder of the road.

The Tail-gunner should have a first-aid kit in the trunk of the bike. If possible the Leader, Tail-Gunner, and Road-Runner should have CB radios. The Road-Runner should be one of your fastest/best rider in your group. His/her job will be to get help when in parts of the country that you can't use your cell phone and there aren't any homes nearby to call for help if needed to your location.

During rides, all riders should stay in correct track of the lane they're riding in unless something in the roadway. On roads with sharp curves riders should increase their distance between the motorcycles in front of them. By doing this, the riders can do the outside-inside-outside riding around curves. If the road has pot holes, rough surface, or is narrow, the Road Captain should give a signal for everybody to ride single file.

If a rider is going to leave the group during the ride they should let everybody know before the ride starts. That way the group will be aware of that rider leaving and know nothing is wrong. When that rider pulls off all the riders in that track should move straight up one space when it is safe to do so. By doing it this way you don't have everybody zig-zagging back and forth to get back in the correct track to remain in a staggered riding position.

D.W. Conners

Blue Knights WV 2

MDC Safety Officer

BKMDC @frontier.com

Road Captains

Riding in the Wet

Caution is the Hallmark of Rainy Days

By Jerry Smith

If you're the kind of rider who isn't going to let a little rain stop you from enjoying your sport, good for you. But if you're also the kind of rider who thinks you can ride the same way in the wet as you do in the dry, all we ask is that you remember us in your will. Riding in the rain requires a change in technique—and more important, in attitude—to keep you from becoming just another of the many greasy smears on the road this winter.

It's well known that the first rain of the season lifts up the oil and diesel deposited on the asphalt by car and truck traffic, leaving the pavement slick. But even after the slippery stuff washes away, paint stripes, tar snakes, and manhole covers remain, all with the traction equivalent of a silent-movie banana peel. Urban streets especially turn into low-grip minefields, so slow down in town, use your brakes gently, and don't stop with your rear tire on a surface that could cause wheelspin when you take off. Get on and off the gas and brakes smoothly if you enjoy riding with both your wheels in line.

As parts of the U.S. highway system slouch toward parity with the Dakar Rally route, more and more road hazards go unrepaired, some of which are tricky to spot in winter. That seemingly broad, shallow puddle up ahead might really be a 6-inch-deep pothole filled to the brim with muddy water, just waiting to swallow up an unwary motorcyclist's front wheel. Watch the cars up ahead to see what happens when they hit it. A big splash and bouncing taillights probably mean you'll want to take the long way around.

Camouflaged sinkholes are just one of the reasons to slow down and increase your following distance to the car ahead. Cars might suck as transportation, but even in the rain they can outbrake you right out of your boots, and with modern soundproofing the driver might not even hear the thud of your bike hitting the trunk. Give the car ahead of you even more room than usual, and if you're the one being tailgated, don't get territorial and defend your piece of the road. Pull over and wave the space invader by, because the paramedics won't have time to hear about how you stood your ground while they're prying you and your bike out of the grille of a pick-up truck.

After you adjust your riding style for slick conditions, next comes the attitude check, and sometimes that's the hardest part. For some riders who aren't used to riding in bad weather, or aren't ready for it when it happens, the harder the rain falls the higher their stress level rises. This stress manifests itself as a death grip on the bars, knees clamped tightly on the gas tank, and abrupt control inputs better suited to a round of Whack-A-Mole. Their lines through corners become choppy, and they wear themselves out trying to hold the bike upright against the awful crash they're convinced is right around the next bend. Not only do all these reactions make that dreaded crash more likely, the fatigue they generate makes it harder to concentrate on the real dangers they need to watch out for in addition to the imaginary ones.

The cure is simple, but it takes practice and a willingness to explore the outer limits of your comfort zone. Next time it rains, suit up and go for a short ride, focusing your awareness on the road surface, the cars around you, and your own reactions. Do everything—accelerating, braking, cornering, changing lanes—smoothly and gently until it becomes instinctive. Ride as if all car drivers are blind, and you're invisible, and react accordingly. Give the right of way freely, and don't force the issue with drivers whose minds are obviously on something other than the road.

Increase the length of your rides as you get more comfortable, and one day you'll find yourself sloshing down the road with the same confidence you have in the dry, along with a better outlook toward riding in bad weather.

Chaplain’s Corner

Often people think of the spiritual life as something for preachers, priests and nuns. If I don’t attend church or read my Bible on a daily basis or set aside time for prayer then I can’t be a “spiritual” person. Nothing is further from the truth. While all of these practices are important elements of the spiritual life, in my mind it is more important to live each day with an awareness of God’s presence and with an attentiveness to how God speaks to me in my daily activities.

In his book, *A Jesuit Guide to (Almost) Everything*, James Martin describes how Ignatius Loyola, the founder of the Jesuits, determined that we often search too hard and look too high to find God when in fact He is present in everything we do. He is present in the encounter with the cashier at the grocery store, in the time we spend with our spouse and kids, in our bike rides through the hills of West Virginia, and even when we are mowing grass, planting the garden or dealing with some really difficult people in our job. Members of the Jesuits are encouraged to find ministry in many secular vocations because they believe God is in the world and in people’s daily lives.

A good way to develop this awareness is at the end of the day spend a few moments reflecting on the day and its activities. Ask, “How was God present in what happened in my life today?” “Did other people see the spirit of Christ in my attitudes and behavior?” “What can I do differently that will make God’s presence in my life more apparent to me and to others?” Finally, “What can I thank God for in the events of the day?”

If you attend church, read the Bible and pray it sure won’t hurt you, but as you develop an awareness of God in the activities of your day you will be as much of a saint as any other living person.

Del Parris

Chaplain, Blue Knights WVII

State Rep’s Report

From Membership

Have a new business in Fairmont, WV that will give 10% off to Blue Knights members with their membership card.

M & J CYCLE WORKS (Michella & James Nuce, Owners)

1620 Locust Ave, Suite 100, Fairmont, WV 26554 681-404-6057 MJCYCLEWORKS@outlook.com

Hours: Mon-Fri 9 AM to 6 PM Saturday 9 AM to 5 PM

Parts, racing, and accessories for motorcycles, ATV and UTV.

UP COMING EVENTS

2014 Dare Ride, Hosted by VA XIII, Saturday, May 10th, 2014. Starting and ending at Bartlett Yancey High School Parking Lot, 536 East Main Street, Yanceyville, NC. Registration 9-11 AM, Kickstands up at 11:30 am. Donations are \$20 per bike, car, or truck and \$10 per passenger. Lunch provided for registered participants. 50/50 Raffle.

2014 19th Annual Law Ride – Sunday, May 11th, 2014. Blue Knights VA II, will meet at the Fairfax County Public Safety Building, 1400 Chain Bridge Rd, Fairfax, VA at 08:00 hours and assemble in the parking lot at the corner of West St and Page Ave. Motorcycles will leave at 09:00 hours and will be escorted to RFK Stadium by the Fairfax County Police Motor Squad.

Upon arrival at RFK Stadium we will assemble with our fellow riders from across America, some 1500 motorcycles and ride to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial at 11:00 hours via escort, a noon ceremony and wreath laying will take place at the memorial. For information contact Chuck Stewart (FXPD-Retired) 703-350-5143

2014 Spring Mason Dixon Conference Weekend, May 16-18, 2014. Hosted by MD II. At The Clarion Hotel & Conference Center, 901 Dual Highway, Hagerstown, MD 21740 . (301) 733-5100 or 1-888-528-6738. Room rate is \$79.95 plus tax. Ask for Blue Knights 30th Anniversary Group rate. <http://www.clarionhagerstown.com/>. Blue Knights Maryland II, 20725 Oriole Court, Hagerstown, MD 21740. Registration is \$85.00 per person or \$160 per couple. More info to come.

2014 Warren T. Holmes Crab Feast & Family Weekend, Hosted by MD I, Crab Feast is Saturday, August 2, 2014. SPX Building Corp, (formerly Knights of Columbus) 3611 Steward Rd, Forestville, MD 20747. More info later. www.md1blueknights.org.

2014 West Virginia II Summer Picnic, Ferguson Memorial Park, 10 North Street, Shinnston, WV, Saturday, August 9th, 2014. Starts at 6 PM until 9 PM. Covered dish.

2014 MDC Fall Conference, Culpeper, VA, August 29 - Sept 1, 2014. Hosted by VA II, Best Western Culpeper Inn, Event includes breakfast buffet, (540) 825-1253; Blue Knights Virginia – II; P.O. Box 2264, Merrifield, VA 22116-2264. 38th Annual Blue Ridge Rally, theme is “Medieval Knights”. Price is \$95.00 per person. Contact Keith Chase (Secretary) 703-893-1823.

2014 West Virginia Chapter of the FBI National Academy Associates: “Motorcycle Ride and Feed”

West Virginia Chapter of the FBI National Academy Associates, Date: Sunday, 14 September 2014 (rain or shine), Location: Camp Dawson Kingwood WV. Registration: 1200 to 1300 - Kicks Starts up at 1315 Hrs. Costs: Ride, Steak Feed, drawings and t-shirt: \$ 25.00 LEOs and retired LEOS (per bike), \$ 10.00 per passenger for steak dinner, \$ 30.00 all others (per bike) Ride, drawings and t-shirt: \$ 15.00 per passenger for steak dinner. This year the West Virginia Chapter of the FBI National Academy Associates will host its 2nd annual “Motorcycle Ride and Feed”.

- Riders will take an escorted ride through scenic West Virginia departing at 1315 and returning at approximately 1700.
 - There will be a steak feed with all the fixings immediately after the ride for those who pay (must pre-register for steak feed by email to K.C. Bohrer or Ron See so we can get a count for steaks)
 - Riders will be given a drawing, ticket, t-shirt and a gift bag of other items.
 - 50/50 tickets will be sold
 - Proceeds will go to the WV Chapter of the National Academy.
- Ride is open to all LEO's (active and retired), Blue Knights members and friends of Leo's. This is a military reservation and proper ID will be required.
- Lodging is available the night of the event or previous night on a first come first served basis for LEOs (active and retired) only because of this being a military reservation at a cost of \$54.00 per night (approximate).
 - Contact Camp Dawson Billeting at 304-791-7001 or billeting@cdmwr.com
 - Riders will be required to register and sign a liability release waiver at registration

For advance registration and further information, contact either K.C. Bohrer at wv5pres@gmail.com or Ron See at ronsee@hardynet.com.

2014 West Virginia II, Friday, December 12th, 2014, West Virginia II chapter Christmas meeting/party Village Square Conference Center, Clarksburg. Meeting at 6 PM and Party right after the meeting.

2015 Winter MDC Conference, Danville, VA, February 13 - 15, 2015. Hosted by VA XIII, Comfort Inn & Suites, 100 Tower Drive, Danville, VA, 434-793-2000. \$75.00 per night. (Make sure you tell them you are with the Blue Knights LEMC group). Contact Keith Johnson 434-429-2531, bkshriner@verizon.net

Sick - Ill or in Distress:

Month Meeting Locations

Our next meeting will be Thursday evening, May 8th, 2014, at 19:00 hours, at C.J. Maggie's, 309 Davis Ave, Elkins, WV.

2014

WILD AND WONDERFUL KNIGHTS

Blue Knights West Virginia II

PLEASE COPY

\$60.00 PER PERSON PRE-REGISTRATION

After May 1st, 2014 Registration is \$75.00 Per Person

June 13th, 14th and 15th, 2014

CANAAN VALLEY RESORT, DAVIS, WV

NAME: _____ AGE: _____
 CO-RIDER: _____ AGE: _____
 ADDRESS: _____
 CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____
 PHONE: _____
 CHAPTER: _____ MILES TO EVENT ON MOTORCYCLE: _____
 PRE ORDER T-SHIRTS \$15.00 EACH # _____ SIZE _____

Please mail this form to:
BLUE KNIGHTS WV II
P.O. BOX 174
ANMOORE, WV 26323-0174

CONTACT:
Ed Martin **304-622-0135**

PLEASE READ AND SIGN:

PARTICIPANT'S AGREEMENT TO INDEMNIFY AND HOLD HARMLESS THE BLUE KNIGHTS INTERNATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT MOTORCYCLE CLUB, INC., WEST VIRGINIA CHAPTER II, AND CANAAN VALLEY RESORT, AND TO RELEASE THE BLUE KNIGHTS INTERNATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT MOTORCYCLE CLUB, INC., WEST VIRGINIA CHAPTER II, AND CANAAN VALLEY RESORT, FROM LIABILITY. The participant, shall indemnify, hold harmless, and release from any and all liability, the Canaan Valley Resort, its Agents, Officers, Directors, and Employees, and/or the Blue Knights International Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club, Inc., its Conferences, Chapters, Officers, Directors, Members, Agents and Employees from and against all claims, damages, losses, and expenses, including attorney's fees arising out of or resulting from the participation in, **BLUE KNIGHTS WEST VIRGINIA II, EVENT ON JUNE 13th, 14th & 15th, 2014**, provided that any such claim, damage, loss or expense (a) is attributable to bodily injury, sickness, disease or death, or to injury to or destruction of tangible property, including the loss of use resulting therefrom, and (b) is caused in whole or part by any negligent act or omission of the Canaan Valley Resort, its Agents, Officers, Directors, or Employees and/or the Blue Knights International Motorcycle Club, Inc., its Conferences, Chapters, Officers, Directors, Members, Agents or anyone directly or indirectly employed by any of them, or anyone whose acts any of them may be liable, regardless of whether or not it is caused in part by party indemnified and/or released from liability.

SIGNATURES: _____ **DATE:** _____

Co-Rider: _____

Enclosed is \$ _____ for _____ participants.

Refunds returned by written request only. No cancellations or refunds after May 1st, 2014.

To be guaranteed a room at the discount rate you must contact **Canaan Valley Resort** directly at **(1-304-866-4121)** **before May 1, 2014**. They have blocked off rooms, when you call mention Blue Knights Group ID: 14353, Password: 40. All new rooms and the price are \$80.00 plus taxes & fees for standard room and \$90.00 plus taxes & fees for junior suites. Cabins and Campsites also available.

Confirmation on registration will be sent if requested.

All awards will be based upon information placed on the registration card given at time of registration.

Presentations of awards will about 10 PM, Saturday night, June 14th, 2014.

Blue Knights® International
Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club, Inc.
West Virginia II
P.O. Box 174
Anmoore, WV 26323-0174



Blue Knights International Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club, Inc.



Drive responsible and always wear an approved helmet.
No matter what you ride.