



BLUE KNIGHTS West Virginia II



December 2014 Newsletter

Volume 13

Issue 12

PRESIDENT'S NOTES:

We had 27 members, family and friends attend our annual Christmas Meeting/Party for a total of 96 people. Santa was there and all the children were given a gift. Everyone had a great time and the food was great. We also had the Mason Dixon Conference International Representative John Bull and his wife Darlene in attendance, and we also had 5 members from PA I join us.

Just to let everyone know that at the November meeting we voted on the New Chapter Bylaws and the membership voted 100% to accept and approve the Bylaws. They have been sent to International for their approval and we were notified on December 5th, 2014 that International has approved our chapter bylaws. They will have to be signed by the board. Players for our Bingo games are starting to drop off. So we need to get our members to pass the word to all their friends and relatives about our Bingo games and see if we can get enough information out to the public to get a turn in attendance. Our games are on Thursday Daytime and Sunday Evenings. Please go on Facebook and go to Blue Knights BKII Bingo and like the page. You will then be able to know when the games are being played and what the mystery and starburst games are paying out. Bingo is where we get our money to donate to all the other charities and help the people in our communities.

Also please don't forget our January Chapter Meeting on Thursday, January 8th, 2015 at Ryan's Restaurant, Clarksburg, WV.

We need the members to start looking at attending some of the other chapter events and also the Mason Dixon Conference Weekends.

The next one will be in February in Danville, VA, see info listed in the events section below. That would be a great Valentine's Day gift for your spouse, because it is over the Valentine Day Weekend.

Ride With Pride

Ed & Rexann Martin

304-622-0135 bkwv2@aol.com

VICE PRESIDENTS NOTES:

Our January 8th, 2015 chapter meeting will be at Ryan's Restaurant, 519 Emily Drive, Clarksburg, WV 26301. Meeting will be at 7 pm.

We began collecting for the 2015 annual dues as of October 1st, 2014, and I hope everyone continues their membership in the New Year. This time we are not going to pay your dues up front. **You must pay your 2015 dues before December 15, 2014.** If you do not pay your dues by December 15, 2014 you will have to pay a late fee. Also if you are not going to remain a member please send us an email or a letter to inform us of that decision. We must send in all of our information to International the first week of January 2015.

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.

If we do not receive your 2015 dues by December 15th, 2014 you will not be on our chapter members paid list. So please

get the money in to me.

If we lose regular members, we also will be losing honorary members. Also this year you can pay by credit or debit card. If you need to you can make payments. Dues are only \$25.00 per year and if you attend the picnic and/or Christmas party you know you get more than your monies worth.

Catch the fever.

Ride With Pride

Richard & Bridget Swisher

SECRETARY'S/TREASURER'S NOTES:

Our January 8th, 2015 chapter meeting will be at Ryan's Restaurant, 519 Emily Drive, Clarksburg, WV 26301. Meeting will be at 7 pm.

We need all of our members to let others know when you go for a ride. We should be riding as much as possible, weather permitting.

For those members who still have not paid this year's (2014) dues please send them in with your 2015 dues. Please SEND THEM ASAP. Just to let you know there are several members about 20 members that have not paid their 2014 dues. If they fail to renew for 2015 we will have to let two (2) of our honorary members go until we grow our membership again. Our honorary members work hard to help the chapter and it would be a shame to have to lose them.

Please let me or one of the officers know what you are doing or wanting to do. I will be sending out invoices by email to all members and you can pay your dues with credit or debit cards. Renewal for the 2015 year **will not** be paid for by the chapter and then letting the member reimburses the chapter. The member must pay his/her dues before December 15, 2014 or pay a late fee. If need be we will take payments. Please notify us if you are not going to remain a member.

All bills are paid and chapter doing well.

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

Marty McNulty, Secretary/Treasurer

ROLL CALL

Members at the December 12th, 2014, at 19:00 hours, IHOP, Morgantown, WV.

Marty McNulty, Jim Enoch, Lou Stevens, Randy Biggins, Ethel Tyler, Fred LePera, Rexann Martin, Ed Martin, Andy Kolb, Del Parris, Richard Swisher, John "Spot" McCloud, Rex Talkington, Robert Matheny, Owen Swisher, Rene Noe, Don Wikert,

Bill Bradley, Steve Richards, Greg Hoskins, Marshall Parker, Bobby Ryan, Danny Shaw, Gene Botting, Walter Knight, Mark Bennett, and Doug Baker

Chapter Safety Officer

TIPS FOR WINTERIZING YOUR BIKE

It's easy to prepare your motorcycle's physical body for storage during the winter months, but ensuring its fluids are ready, too, are often overlooked. Follow the quick guide below to help your motorcycle look and function as it should once it comes out of storage for the winter, so your first ride of the spring can be just as great as when you first purchased it.

Stabilize fuel and prep the battery. Unleaded fuel begins to deteriorate after about three to four weeks. To help keep fuel from becoming sludgy and oxidizing or turning into varnish, run the engine for at least 15 minutes after adding a quality fuel stabilizer. Keep the tank full, to prevent moisture from building up and rusting the gas tank. Hooking the battery up to a battery tender or trickle charger (for under a half hour each day), can save your battery throughout the winter to be used again in the spring.

Change oil and inspect tires. After stabilizing fuel, perform an oil change to prevent oxidization from prolonged lack of activity. Use the same quality of oil that you would typically use in your car. A synthetic oil will ensure a good ride and quality lubrication when you re-open your bike to ride again in the spring. Deflating tires and re-inflating them for storage during winter months will help eliminate any moisture build-up and ensure proper inflation. If you can, elevate your bike during storage to keep tires in good shape and uncracked as the air compresses in the cold. Using a good tire cleaner will keep tires looking fresh.

Clean and lubricate. Make sure your motorcycle is completely clean of dirt, bugs, salt and sand before storing. Traces of these items can cause corrosion and rust when sitting for long periods of time. Once you've cleaned it with a soft sponge or cloth, polish your bike with a quality polish. Include the bike body, any chrome parts and the saddlebag. Be sure to lubricate the chain, so that it is not rusted when you take your bike out in the springtime. If you think of it, lubrication again mid-winter will ensure rust stays away.

Keeping your motorcycle's fluids at their best during the cold months of winter will help it run best once it's out of storage. These can be quick and easy ways to keep your motorcycle looking and functioning great. Visit the link for more great ideas and tips for motorcycles or [Honda motorcycle parts](#).

Ride With Pride

Walter Knight

MDC Safety Officer

BLUE KNIGHTS WEST VIRGINIA II
MDC SAFETY ARTICLE DEC. 2014
RIDE to Blue Knights Intl. 2015

This article is like all others in the past. I'm only making suggestions that might keep you from getting hurt or worse. You must remember Murphy's Law, if it can go wrong it will. My favorite is when you least expect it watch out and expect it.

The following will be my agenda starting after Christmas and anybody that wants to join in is welcome at anytime. To make this trip in a timely matter I plan on doing between five and six hundred miles every day depending on the weather.

None of us are as young as we use to be so you must get your body ready long before you start the trip. My way is to lose a little weight, start exercising every other day from using weights to walking up and down the mountain if the snow isn't too deep. On any days that the roads are dry and we're not expecting wet weather that day, if possible I plan on being on my bike.

About two months before the trip I plan on taking some short rides [100 miles}. Later I will increase it to 175 miles round trip. Next will be 300 miles. About two/three weeks before International I will be doing some 500/600 mile round about trips in one day. As I said before anybody that wants to go on these rides with me please let me know. I'll contact you several days before to let you know where and when. You can come along even if you don't plan on going to International, you just want to ride. The more the merrier. These are my plans.

Now we get to the main items. The following you should have on your bike. All types of clothes/gear for all types of weather. Somebody if not everybody should have an up to date first aid kit. Have a small bag of water and munchies. I would suggest some of the munchies contain salt because you will be riding in very "HOT" weather and you can drink all the water you want but it takes salt to retain it in your body. The ones of us that were in service know about salt tablets. If you have medicine that you take don't forget it. Pack your motorcycle carefully. Take things that you need but not things you don't. Remember the more you put on your bike the less gas mileage you get and your bike will react differently when you have a large amount of items on it. If you have a lady like I do you can always UPS a package to the hotel just before you leave. That way she can style and profile for you once you're there. On your trip back you can do the same thing and lighten your bike on the way home.

The next thing is your motorcycle. I would suggest the following. Have the oil changed just before the trip. Check your tires and see if they need changing. Remember this trip will be several thousand miles out and back. It wouldn't be pretty sitting on the side of the road in 100 degree weather with a flat. The same goes for your brakes, if the pads are worn change them. Most of my trip will be on the interstate and I down plan on letting any dust settle on my bike. The last thing you want traveling at a high speed is not have good

brakes. If you have a mechanic you trust take your motorcycle to him/her a few weeks before the trip and have him/her check everything for you. Advise him/her of the trip you're getting ready to do and you want it right.

If you have a co-rider making the trip with you they should have the same clothes/gear you have for the trip. Remember the GOLDEN RULE, if the co-rider isn't happy the rider isn't going to be either. Make sure about other items for co-rider, medicine, munchies, etc. This is a suggestion that I truly believe in, especially with a co-rider. Every 100 miles give or take a few, stop and walk, stretch, and drink something. Most motorcycles will travel at least two hundred on a tank of gas. Every other stop fill your bike up. One more important thing is use high test gas, not regular. It burns better and gives you more power. Some riders don't believe this and some are too cheap to pay for it but there's an old saying concerning engines. Pay a little bit now or pay a whole lot later. As I said before, if you don't believe this and you have a good mechanic ask him. Question for you, why is it that a lot of Harleys use high test to make their bike run right.

Next, make sure you have your route planned, double check on your hotel reservations before you leave, check the extended weather so you might know what to expect, supply your next of kin with your route. The day before you leave on the trip I suggest you double check your bike. The night before you leave get a good night rest.

The last thing that I would suggest on a long trip like this I would suggest the following with everything that is going on, don't wear your colors, if you have the necessary paper work to carry then do so {don't have it in your trunk, it won't help you there}, on your trip stay alert of what's going on around you at all times {in front, behind you, and beside you}.

D.W. Conners
Blue Knights MDC Safety Officer
Blue Knights West Virginia II
Email- BKMDc@frontier.com
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Road Captains

THE THREE POINTS OF PROPER MOTORCYCLE BATTERY MAINTENANCE

I love riding motorcycles. I cannot say I "love" motorcycle maintenance. Although I have done quite a lot of bike maintenance in the past, including the basics, like changing tires, changing oil, replacing spark plugs, and air filters. I've also done electrical work and even replaced pistons and piston rings. But nowadays I let the shop do most of the work.

I very much respect the guys who do the majority of their own maintenance. It not only saves money, but it sure keeps you in better touch with your bike. (In fact there are some guys who seem to love taking care of their bikes more than riding them!) Regardless, no matter how little you enjoy doing your own motorcycle maintenance, there are a few items that are best handled by oneself.

Certainly checking your own tire pressure would be right at the top!

But taking care of our own battery is one of those simple things that even non-mechanics should take a greater interest in, since it's easy, will prolong battery life, and save money that would be spent on frequently replacing batteries.

You already know that your battery provides the juice that runs the starter motor, lights, and ignition system. And those are pretty critical to our motorcycle enjoyment. Dead batteries are problematic, especially if they pass on before their time.

Motorcycle batteries are supposed to last 3-5 years, IF we take **good** care of it. (I tend to get the full five years).

But there are riders who don't pay their battery the attention it needs. And they may need to replace their batteries every time spring rolls around. So, let's visit the three main points of good battery care.

BASIC BATTERY MAINTENANCE POINT #1

Point #1 about maintaining bike batteries is that they need to have their fluid level (electrolyte) periodically refilled. Since car batteries have been sealed and maintenance-free for so long, the idea of doing anything to a bike battery may not be on the radar screen of a rider who is a non-mechanic.

The good news is that it is a relatively easy task to check battery electrolyte levels in each of its cells. Most (but not all) bike manufacturers make their batteries simple to get at, to facilitate maintenance. Your battery may be under your seat, or easily accessed from the side of your bike, perhaps behind one of your side panels. (Your owner's manual will point this out, if you don't already know).

Proper battery maintenance means ensuring the electrical juice is at the right level, as indicated by the maximum and minimum “fill” lines for each cell. These levels are etched into the side of your battery. All that’s required is to top-off that electrolyte by adding distilled water.

It’s worth emphasizing that you won’t be adding battery acid to fill up your battery. You’ll be adding **distilled water**. (Not tap water).

Having said that, the electrolyte *inside* your battery isn’t friendly stuff. You don’t want to get the existing battery acid (electrolyte) on yourself. So, a true safety advocate would wear protective gloves and safety glasses.

How often should you check the battery electrolyte levels? Every month, or 3000 miles (whichever comes first), is a conservative battery maintenance routine.

MAIN REASON MOTORCYCLE BATTERIES FAIL

The main reason motorbike batteries will not last their expected lifetime is because they are left in a motorcycle that has not been used for a long time. Have YOU ever left your bike sitting, unused, for a long time, like, say an entire winter?

According to the mechanics at my local dealership, there’s plenty of riders who do. Every springtime bikes are brought in to the shop that won’t start because their batteries are dead. (This, by the way, is very good for new battery sales at the dealership.)

Batteries are automatically recharged when the motorcycle is in operation. So, not only do batteries lose their needed recharging when a bike is not being used, but when they are left unused in the *cold*, that just accelerates their demise.

So, the 2nd point of proper battery maintenance is removing it from your bike for the winter, or any multi-month period the engine will not be operated, and properly storing it.

2nd POINT OF MOTORCYCLE BATTERY MAINTENANCE – STORAGE

As part of battery maintenance point #2, not only should it be removed from your bike in the winter, it should be stored in a location that is warmer than 32 degrees. This keeps your battery from freezing and/or cracking. (In other words, storing a battery in a cold garage is not good maintenance).

But we’re not quite done with our battery storage maintenance yet!

Batteries can be finicky about where they rest. They’re sort of like that “Princess And The Pea” fairytale, whereby a “true” Princess was revealed because she could not sleep comfortably on a pile of mattresses as a result of a pea lodged somewhere amongst all that padding. Well, maybe a motorbike battery is not quite like that, but be kind to your battery and **do not** store it on a concrete or metal surface. This isn’t just a result of royal lineage, it’s because this will accelerate the discharging of the battery over time.

So, to repeat the obvious, your Princess battery should not be stored on concrete, and especially a cold, concrete floor, such as what might be typical for a garage.

Instead, place your battery to rest on a wooden, plastic, or thick cardboard surface. It doesn’t need a mattress; any non-conductive surface will do.

With point #2 of battery maintenance out of the way, let’s visit one more item....

POINT #3 AND BATTERY TRICKLE CHARGERS

Point #3 of proper motorcycle battery maintenance is charging the battery while it is in storage. That battery is somewhat of a restless Princess. It just doesn’t like things staying the same. It mainly spends its time either charging or discharging. Which means that when a battery is not in use on a running motorcycle – which is how it gets charged – it is discharging. That darn thing loses charge every day when it’s not used!

The good news is that the solution is simple: regular charging ensures a long life for your battery, even when it’s stored.

Which brings up the subject of [motorcycle battery chargers](#). The last point about taking care of your battery is connecting it up to a charger to maintain the battery in optimum condition and to help get the full life out of your battery.

Some rudimentary advice would be to never use a “car battery charger” to charge your motorcycle battery. On the other hand, there are some chargers that can handle both, and it’s just a matter of setting the charger switch correctly. Otherwise, if you use the wrong charger, you’ll supply more current than your motorcycle battery can handle, which makes for an unhappy battery.

Furthermore, a “smart” or “intelligent” motorcycle battery charger will continuously monitor your stored battery’s condition, and activate the charging mode when it is needed so that it doesn’t get overcharged, even if it’s supplying the correct current. Other motorbike battery chargers need to be connected and disconnected so as to not fry your battery.

BATTERY MAINTENANCE CONCLUSION

In review, the three parts of proper motorcycle battery maintenance are:

- 1) Keep the individual cells in your battery filled to the indicated electrolyte levels with distilled water. This kind of maintenance is done throughout the riding year. The more you ride, the more frequently it should be checked.
- 2) Remove your battery from the bike and store it on a wooden, plastic or other non-conductive surface, in a location that does not get below 32 degrees. This would be a long-term maintenance item, such as for winter storage. However, if for some reason you know you won't be riding the bike for quite a while (for example, if you're in the service and won't see your bike for some time), this would be for ANY long-term storage.
- 3) Finally, connect up your battery to a motorcycle battery charger, to keep it at an optimum level of charge. This would be part of winter maintenance, but, could be used during the riding months, even while the battery is installed on the motorcycle, when the bike is not used regularly.

The benefit of good battery maintenance is not only saving money by not replacing your battery before it's 3-5 year life expectancy, but it can keep your battery from failing you on when you are out on a ride....

Safe riding!

Rene Noe, Walter Knight, Rex Talkington, and John "Spot" McCloud

Chaplain's Corner

**Del Parris
Chaplain, Blue Knights WWII**

State Rep's Report

IT HAS BEEN A LONG YEAR FOR THIS KNIGHT, BETWEEN THE WIFES SURGERY AND GETTING HEALED, THE RAIN AND BREAK DOWNS I DIDN'T GET MUCH RIDING IN THIS SUMMER. HOPE THAT THE REST OF THE CLUB GOT OUT. HOWEVER I DIDN'T HEAR MUCH ON THE BLUE KNIGHTS WV II GETTING TOGETHER EITHER. THIS IS ONE OF THE CHIEF COMPLAINTS I HEARD FROM OTHER MEMBERS, WE DIDN'T RIDE THIS YEAR. HOPEFULLY NEXT YEAR WILL BE BETTER.

THE CANAAN GATHERING WAS HELD, HOWEVER IT SEEMS THE GOOD TIMES WERE STEPPED ON BY COMPLAINTS OF MISMANAGED EVENT. MORE TO POINT THE GATHERING ON FRIDAY OF THE EVENT AT THE PAVILION. DW AND CATHY, BOTH REGULAR BLUE KNIGHT MEMBERS, WENT OUT OF THERE WAY TO MAKE SURE ALL KNIGHTS COMING OFF THE ROAD AROUND 1PM. AND BEFORE HOSPITALITY ROOM OPENED HAD SOME PLACE OUTSIDE TO CALM DOWN GET SOMETHING TO EAT AND DRINK, AND JUST TALK WITH EACH OTHER OUTSIDE IN THE HILLS OF WEST VIRGINIA.

THE EVENT WENT OFF WITH ALL BLUE KNIGHTS I SPOKE WITH ENJOYING THE TIME TOGETHER. MANY BLUE KNIGHTS FROM OTHER CLUBS JOINING IN BRING FOOD AND BEER TO THE GATHERING OF KNIGHTS. SHARING WITH OTHER KNIGHTS. MYSELF AND LINDA ALONG WITH VICE PRES. RICHARD AND WIFE BRIDGET AND BILL BRADLEY ALL HELPED EACH OTHER GET THE EVENT OFF WITH A GOOD TIME. THIS HOWEVER WILL MOST LIKELY GO OUT THE DOOR IN THE FUTURE, BECAUSE OF NON MEMBER ADVISING THAT THE EVENT WAS SCREWED UP BY THE

GATHERING, AND WAS ADVISED THIS BY OFFICER IN WV II. THIS ALONG WITH ANOTHER MEMBER SHOOTING THERE MOUTH OFF AT SUNDAY MORNING BREAKFAST, PUT A DAMPER ON THE EVENT. THIS CAN NOT GO ON. IF A MEMBER HAS A PROBLEM LET US SET AT A MEETING AND GET IT OUT AND DONE WITH. NO. I MEAN NO, REGULAR MEMBER SHOULD RELY ON A NON MEMBER TO SPEAK FOR THE BULE KNIGHT. I WOULD LIKE THE PRESIDENT TO HOLD A REGULAR MEMBER, VOTING MEMBER MEETING OF MEMBERS ONLY SOME TIME IN THE VERY NEAR FUTURE. BRING OUT AND DISCUSS ANY MATTER PERTAINING TO THE BLUE KNIGHTS WVII. I ASK THIS AS A MEMBER OF WV II AND AS YOUR STATE REPRESENTATIVE. IF ASKED BY ANY MEMBER I WILL BRING ANY MATTER OF CONCERN UP WITH THE MASON DIXON CONFERENCE BOARD...

THIS CLUB HAS MORE TALK ON THE LAW SUITS AT THE BLUE KNIGHTS ROOM THAN RIDING AS A CHAPTER. MANY MEMBERS HAVE EXPRESSED CONCERN WHY POLICE ARE IN THE GAMBLING BUSINESS IN THE FIRST PLACE. AGAIN SOMETHING WE AS MEMBERS CAN TALK ABOUT. HOWEVER SOME MEMBERS HAVE ADVISED ME THEY ARE RIDING NEXT YEAR, AS REASON THEY JOINED BLUE KNIGHTS.

THESE ITEMS CAN BE RESOLVED AND SHOULD BE. WE ARE THE CLUB NO ONE PERSON SHOULD RUN IT. THIS IS BLUE KNIGHTS OF WV II.

I HAVE SAID ENOUGH ON THIS AND THIS IS MY LAST REPORT FOR 2014. THINGS CAN BE BETTER A LOT BETTER WE CAN FIX THIS. WE HAVE TO FIX IT.

LET US RIDE AND RIDE WITH PRIDE IN 2015

RIDE WITH PRIDE, RIDE SAFE,

MARSHALL PARKER

WEST VIRGINA STATE REP/ MEMBER WV II

From Membership

UP COMING EVENTS

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. Event is \$70.00 per person.

2015 Spring MDC Conference, Chesapeake, VA, May 22 – 24, 2015. Hosted by VA V, Chesapeake Marriott, 725 Woodlake Drive, Chesapeake, VA 23320. 757-523-1500. Rooms are \$94.00 per night. (Make sure you tell them you are with the Blue Knights LEMC group). Contact “Spike” Johnson 757-418-1935 or spike102@verizon.net. Event is \$79.00 per person or \$150.00 per couple.

2015 Wild & Wonderful Knights, Canaan Valley Resort, Davis, WV. Hosted by West Virginia II. June 12, 13 & 14, 2015. FOR ROOM RESERVATIONS CALL: CANAAN VALLEY RESORT, CALL 1-304-866-4121; TELL THEM YOU ARE WITH THE BLUE KNIGHTS, Online registration go to www.canaanresort.com Group ID #15363, Password 40. To be guaranteed a room at the discount rate you must contact Canaan Valley Resort before May 1, 2015. CABINS AND CAMPSITES ALSO AVAILABLE. Rooms \$85.00 per night for standard and \$95.00 for Junior Suites.

2015 International Convention, July 19-24, 2015. Reno, Nevada. Hosted by Nevada II. Host Hotel: El Dorado Resort Casino, 345 N. Virginia St, Reno, NV 89501. Telephone 1-775-786-5700. More Info to come.

Sick - Ill or in Distress:

Linda Parker, wife of State Rep Marshall Parker: knee surgery

Tsula Botting, wife of Brother Gene Botting: knee manipulation

Zadah Talkington, wife of Brother Rex Talkington: still doctoring & feeling really bad.

Drawing:

Drawing and winner for the 2014 Christmas Meeting for \$100.00, was Del Parris.
The drawing for the January 2015 meeting will be worth \$15.00.

Monthly Meeting Locations

Our January 8th, 2015 chapter meeting will be at Ryan's Restaurant, 519 Emily Drive, Clarksburg, WV 26301. Meeting will be at 7 pm.

MERRY CHRISTMAS
And
HAPPY NEW YEAR

[Blue Knights International Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club, Inc.](#)



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