



BLUE KNIGHTS West Virginia II



April 2023 Newsletter

Volume 27 Issue 3

PRESIDENT'S NOTES:

The annual Board meeting has not been scheduled yet but hopefully we can have it before the Spring MDC.

Now our chapter has to get down to work for our hosting of the Spring MDC. Please send in your registration forms and get your hotel room reserved now. At the April meeting it was voted on that chapter members and their significant other does not have to pay for registration but will have to pay for their rooms. You still need to send in your registration form so we will have a count of everyone attending for the food and drinks.

Also please sign up for a work detail, we are only asking for a few hours of your time during the entire weekend. You will still have time to socialize.

This is also an election year for our chapter. If you would like to run for an office, please let me know. Our election will not be until November.

Ride with Pride

Ed & Rexann Martin

304-622-0135 bkww2@aol.com

VICE PRESIDENTS' NOTES:

Membership cards have been sent to all of our members and none of them have been returned so everyone should have their cards.

Heart Camp Car Show information should be out soon and will have flyers at the next meeting. Mr. England from the Westover VFW was going to try and attend tonight's meeting but he had to attend the VFW meeting. He wanted me to thank all the Blue Knights members for the donation to help restore the VFW building.

Catch the fever.

Ride with Pride

35oldsrodder@gmail.com

Jim Enoch

SECRETARY'S NOTES:

Hope this finds my Brothers, sisters and family members in good health and spirits?

Medically speaking I don't believe will be able to attend our Spring MDC in Elkins. We have not cancelled our room in hope the Lord willing we can attend. I will know more on my surgery at the VA hospital on 5-8-23.

Our grandson surgery is now scheduled for 4-28-23. Those driving or riding anywhere please pay attention to your surroundings. Kelli and I hope to see all of you as soon as we are able to. Love n miss you all

Respectfully,

George D. "Robby" Robinson
Blue Knights WVII Secretary
robinsonsmc77@gmail.com
Home 304-527-0757 Cell 775-781-1993

TREASURER'S NOTES:

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.e.mcnulty@gmail.com

Marty McNulty

Chapter Safety Officer

As I was looking over my First Aid Kit to get ready for this riding season, I starting looking what I needed to replace or renew. I then remembered an article that James Davis posted a few years ago and read over it again. Here is the article.

First Aid Kits

Does yours need a check-up?

By: Cash Anthony

Do you carry a First Aid kit on your bike? If so, when is the last time you took a look inside? Many riders probably carry kits which were purchased to meet a perceived safety requirement (or to qualify for a safe-riding badge), but if you don't know what your First Aid kit contains, you may be unpleasantly surprised if you ever need to use it.

What passes for a First Aid kit from sources such as discount stores and auto supply shops (and sometimes given away as Poker Run prizes) may be woefully short of what is needed for our sport. In case of a motorcycle accident, I dislike to say it, but band-aids ain't gonna help much, folks.

I was lucky enough to take a First Aid course a couple of years ago with some of the best EMS people I've ever met, at the home of our Assistant CDs for GWTA Chapter "I", Kathy and John Holly. The team who taught the course had handled serious accidents on a daily basis -- in fact, the woman in charge told me it was rare for them to be on the job for a shift without having to perform CPR at least once -- and they had come upon a number of accidents involving motorcyclists. They stressed several things that have really stuck in my mind.

- Your First Aid kit needs to have a really good pair of scissors in it, to cut away (thick) clothing. If you can't see the injured area, it's hard to figure out what is best to do. You may find it worthwhile to invest in a heavy-duty shears which can handle thick material.
- Every rider should carry a pair (several pairs is best) of latex gloves to be used in case of an accident where blood is spilled. Having them on your bike may allow persons who want to assist you to make that decision without fear of contamination, as well as being available to you to help someone else.
- A good First Aid kit should have a number of triangle bandages in it, which can be easily made from inexpensive muslin purchased at any fabric or discount department store -- I got mine for about .99 a yard. These pieces should be large enough that you can make a sling from them, or fold them to use as a pressure-point type bandage, or put them on a head injury to hold other bandages into place. Mine are

about 30" by 30" and are cut on the diagonal. These are just unbleached muslin, but they are clean and strong and BIG. I've NEVER seen a commercially purchased First Aid kit with these supplied. If you need more than one (for example, after making a sling for an arm, it's a good idea to immobilize that arm by binding it to the upper body), you can tie several of these together if the patient is a large individual. Carrying a minimum of three triangle bandages would be a good idea.

- I've also seen very few kits that have anything like enough sterile gauze pads. If you need to put pressure on a bleeding wound, you'll go through these items fast and will want enough to add another clean one often. NOTE: **Place a new gauze patch on top of an existing blood-soaked patch** in order to prevent tearing any existing clotting that has begun and reopening a wound.
- It is helpful to have a bottle of filtered or distilled water in your kit. This can be useful in case of broken bones, eye injuries, cleaning out other minor injuries, and for dehydration. If you've got a compound fracture, it may be helpful to put a muslin bandage over a damp gauze bandage on the end of the exposed bone, to keep it from drying out, though an experienced EMS person has advised to simply use a clean (sterile), dry, dressing as you would any other open wound. Many minor problems can be dealt with initially by washing them with clean water, and debris in the eye can often be relieved by this, with nothing else required. (Even if the water isn't distilled or filtered, it can still be used if it's of potable quality.)
- In the case of very bad head injuries, it's not unusual to have substantial eye injuries. Unfortunately, eyes can come out of place on impact. The recommended First Aid in this situation is to have a cup (like a clean Styrofoam cup) available to contain the damaged and displaced eye, and to strap that cup onto the face with a triangle bandage or use a roll of gauze. The medical folks today can do amazing things to put an eye back into place, but it's a good idea to bandage both eyes to keep the person from panicking (and to slow the 'eye-matching' reflexes, which try to make our eyes work together), while touching and reassuring the injured party. Having a clean cup in your kit may permit you to do someone an invaluable service by helping to save their sight.
- Those who haven't taken a CPR or First Aid class in a while might be interested to know that the American Heart Association guidelines on CPR have been changing gradually. The last time I took one (about 14 months ago), I found that the procedure was not exactly the same as what I'd been taught in my previous courses. But all these courses do strongly recommend that a person who is going to administer CPR have a barrier available to protect them from the bodily fluids of the injured party. This may be a plastic gadget that looks like a kitchen gripper, with a hole in it for a breathing tube, or a more sophisticated mask that can keep a rescuer's face and lips away from the injured party while he or she breathes for the person who's down. These items are inexpensive and are available at medical supply shops, but I've yet to see a commercial First Aid kit that comes with one.
- Most simple First Aid kits contain some kind of antiseptic ointment or cream. These can be useful for minor sunburns or insect bites, but they should usually NOT be used on a serious injury. When the medical folks start working on a wound, they don't want to wonder what has already been applied to it. When in doubt, throw it out.

In case of an accident, the first response these days is to call 911. In most regions of the country, even in rural areas, emergency assistance can be sent out right away. However, if you ever become a witness to a bad accident, you'll discover how important it is to have current information and adequate First Aid gear, even if you can't really do very much at the scene. It may save a life to know what NOT to do.

When you reach for that First Aid kit, you'll be better prepared if you know what's in it and how to use it. Take some time to look at what you're carrying on your bike, to see if it's what you really need.

Ride with Pride, Walter Knight

Road Captains

Prepare for Group Ride

1. Be prepared before going to the ride

Riders should fuel up their motorcycle with a full tank of gas and carry a cellphone in case of emergencies. There should also be at least one rider carrying a first-aid kit and toolkit, as well as any other necessities your group may need.

2. Know hand signals

Knowing hand signals is key for formation leaders, as these signals cue the rest of the group to things ahead. You may have group signals for a fuel stop or road hazard, and should know signals for slowing down, speeding up or passing other vehicles.

3. Hold a pre-ride meeting

International Safety Officer says it's a good idea to get together with all the riders beforehand to talk about things like your ride strategy, stops and ride length. You can also use this time to discuss the hand signals your group should know. The ISO also recommends that riders learn each other's skill sets, so those with less experience can be monitored during the ride.

4. Select a group lead and sweep

ISO recommends to consider having the most experienced riders be the lead and the sweep/tail gunner. The lead is positioned at the head of the group, and the sweep rides at the back of the group. ISO also recommends positioning the least experienced rider in the second position of the group.

5. Keep your group's size manageable

ISO recommends your group size should be no more than seven riders. If it exceeds that, consider creating subgroups. These groups should also have their own lead and sweep/tail gunner.

6. Stagger your riding formation

While you want to keep your motorcycle group relatively tight, you should also maintain some space to give riders time to swerve or brake, if needed.

Consider a staggered formation where the leader rides on the left side of the lane. Then, the second rider should position themselves on the right side of the lane at least a few motorcycle lengths behind the leader (ISO recommends riders stay at least one second apart in distance). Continue this pattern so riders are staggered appropriately. If your group is cruising on curvy roads, or conditions create poor visibility, ISO recommends using a single-file formation. You should also increase the following distance between riders to at least two seconds.

7. Stay aware of your group's riders while on the road

Each rider should periodically check their rearview mirrors to ensure no one is left behind. You should also make a point to watch the leader of your group so you don't miss hand signals.

8. Have a plan if a rider gets separated

Have a procedure in place ahead of time in case a rider in your group gets separated. That way, the rider won't feel pressured to speed and catch back up to the group. If someone does fall back, the formation should slow down to allow them to catch up.

9. Know What to Do If Someone Leaves the group

If someone plans to leave during the ride, be sure to have a plan in place to reassemble the staggered formation. While doing this, riders move up to the next available position and not pass each other. This can help minimize risks that riders may face when passing others within a single lane.

10. Take plenty of breaks

ISO says it's a good idea to take frequent breaks to rest and eat. This can help minimize the risk of riders feeling fatigue on the road.

Rene Noe, Walter Knight, Andy Kolb, and John "Spot" McCloud

Chaplain's Corner

**Del Parris, Chaplain
Blue Knights WVII**

Quartermaster

Brother Noe says chapter items are at the clubhouse. If you need something contact me or one of the staff at the clubhouse. We have sold \$360.00 of merchandise and going to turn that money over to Treasurer McNulty.

Rene Noe

Joke for the Day

A motorcycle patrolman was rushed to hospital with an inflamed appendix. The doctors operated on him and when he came round, he was relieved when they told him all had gone to plan and he was going to be fine.

But the patrolman kept feeling something pulling at the hairs on his chest. He was worried that something may be wrong but he was still too weak from the surgery to do anything. Eventually, he managed to pull his hospital gown down enough to check what was causing the discomfort. When he looked down at his chest, he saw three wide strips of ultra-adhesive tape stuck firmly to him. Written on it in large black letters was the message:

"Get well soon... from the nurse you gave the ticket to last week. I'll be round to remove the tape later."

INT'L/MDC Safety Officer

Robert (Bud) Overby

252-717-2857

Mason Dixon Safety Officer

BKNCVIII

Ride Safe, Ride Often & Ride with Pride!

From Membership

Nothing

UP COMING EVENTS

2023 Events
May

2023 Spring Mason Dixon Conference/Wild & Wonderful Knights, Hosted by West Virginia II. Host hotel is the Holiday Inn Express & Suites, Elkins, WV. May 26th – 28th, 2022. FOR ROOM RESERVATIONS CALL: Holiday Inn Express & Suites, 50 Martin St, Elkins, WV, **call 304-630-2266**; TELL THEM YOU ARE WITH THE **BLUE KNIGHTS GROUP**, Rooms \$125.00 per night plus tax. Event registration is \$75.00 per person before May 1st, 2023, and \$90.00 after May 1st.

July

2023 International Convention: Hosted by PA V, host hotel is the Penn Harris Hotel, 1150 Camp Hill Bypass, Camp Hill, PA 17011. July 16 – July 21, 2023. Room rates are \$134.00 plus tax per night and the registration for the event is \$150.00 per person. Convention Information: The web site for the 2023 event has been activated for Blue Knights around the world. You can visit the web site by clicking on/going to www.BKI2023International.com. See flyer below.

September

2023 MDC Fall Conference/47th Annual Blue Ridge Rally; Culpeper, VA, Sept 1 - 4, 2023. Hosted by VA II, Best Western Culpeper Inn, Event includes breakfast buffet, (540) 825-1253, room rate is \$90.00 per night; Blue Knights Virginia – II, P.O. Box 2264, Merrifield, VA 22116-2264. This will be the 46st Annual Blue Ridge Rally. Price is \$95.00 per person. Contact Dan Rivard 703-314-1012 or VA2@blueknights.org.

Sick, Ill, or in Distress: Brother Robinson and Kelli still having health issues. Brother Parris is home recovering from knee surgery. Brother Wikert is having hip issues and is having hip surgery on May 1st. Brother Watson still recovering from knee surgery.

Next Meeting: Our next meeting will be on Thursday evening, May 11th, 2023 at 19:00 hours.

Drawing: April drawing was \$10.00. Brother Del Parris was drawn and was present. Must be present at the clubhouse to be eligible for the drawing. May drawing \$5.00.

Members in Attendance: Fred LePera, Mike Neely, Don Wikert, Jim Enoch, Lewis Stevens, Bill Bradley, Doug Baker, Randy Biggins, Rene Noe, Marshall Parker, Del Parris, Rexann Martin and Ed Martin.

Guest: None

Facebook: Johnny John, Bud Overby, Terry Queen, Jim Trachta, Patrick Gibbons, and Tammy Riffle McNulty.

Next Meeting

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Receive a **\$50 VISA Statement Credit** when you open a new card.**

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The advertisement features a blue and white color scheme. On the right, there is an image of a silver VISA Rewards credit card with a blue star logo and the text 'Blue Knights International Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club, Inc. with Rewards'. The background of the ad is a blurred image of a red and white striped object, possibly a motorcycle seat or a flag.

2023 BLUE KNIGHT INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION
A "Family Oriented Event" Sunday, July 16 – Friday, July 21
Harrisburg, PA

Hosted by PA V – a prior host for 2013, 2018, 2022 Tristate Conferences and 2016 International Convention...You will not be disappointed!

PENN HARRIS HOTEL direct: (717)-763-7117
 1150 Camp Hill Bypass
 Camp Hill, PA 17011



Rooms \$134/night BK rate - single & double

- 200 Room BK block or more
- Rate good for 3 days before & 2 days after
- 3pm check-in / 11am check-out
- Newly refreshed rooms/New owner
- Pet Friendly, 1,000 capacity banquet room
- Gym and Outdoor pool



Registration \$150 (adults), \$85 (ages 12-17):

- Wednesday Dinner and Thursday Banquet,
- Hospitality daily w/extended hours
- Typical choices of 2 Guided Rides each day
- Youngster sitting during Banquet
- BK "car-pooling" excursions desk
- Special events for the ladies
- Vendors and Chapter Sales Room
- Door prizes & daily 50/50s
- Opt. Bus Tours (an extra charge)
- Opt. Daily Hotel Breakfasts (on your room charge)



Some area attractions of interest for "Guided" Rides, Tours and Visits:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| National Civil War Museum - Harrisburg | PA State Police Museum - Hershey |
| Harley Davidson Assembly Plant - York | Susquehanna River Tour |
| Bills Cycle Barn - Bloomsburg | Three Mile Island - Middletown |
| PA Military Museum - Boalsburg | Gettysburg Battlefield Tour |
| Hershey Amusement Park | National Cemetery - Ft Indiantown Gap |
| Chocolate World - Hershey | Hershey Rose Gardens |
| PA Sate Capitol Complex - Harrisburg | Centralia Mine Fire - A Near Ghost Town |
| Vineyard at Hershey | Lancaster County Amish & Mennonite Country |
| Lititz PA - "Coolest Small Town in America" | Army Heritage Center - Carlisle |