



# BLUE KNIGHTS West Virginia II



## August 2023 Newsletter

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### ***PRESIDENT'S NOTES:***

I would like to take this time to say I am sorry I did not get a July Newsletter out.

The chapter sent flowers to the funeral for Brother Robert "Bud" Overby.

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

We will be hosting a Cash Bash on Saturday, September 30, 2023. We need each member to sell at least 4 tickets to make it a success. We have 49 members in our chapter now. If each member would purchase 2 tickets and sell 2 tickets to his best friend, we would have 196 tickets sold without any problem. I know each member has a friend they ride with so ask them to purchase a ticket and come enjoy the fun.

At the meeting I asked the membership what they would think of our chapter sponsoring one night of entertainment at the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary International Convention. I have made contact with the group Rick K and he is open for that time but he will cost about \$6,000.00. Suggestion to check on Davisson Brothers. Brother Watson checked with the Davisson Brothers and the reply was from Chris Davisson was they could confirm now for next year at \$20,000.00 and if they provided the sound and lights, it would be \$22,500.00 for the one night. Maybe we could just donate money like \$2,000.00 to provide drinks and snacks for one night hospitality room.

We could hold another cash bash or elimination drawing before that time and raise the funds. Other chapters and conferences are sponsoring other things for the event.

I am hoping that we have a good turn out for the Fall Mason Dixon Conference at Culpeper. It would be great to have the most members there in order to win the plaque again this year for largest chapter.

Please let us know if you are going to take a ride so we can maybe get a few members to ride along. Call one of the new younger members and let them know you are riding; they might want to go. Remember it is not what you ride, it is that you ride.

Ride with Pride

**Ed & Rexann Martin**

304-622-0135    bkww2@aol.com

## ***VICE PRESIDENTS' NOTES:***

**Catch the fever.**

Ride with Pride

[35oldsrodder@gmail.com](mailto:35oldsrodder@gmail.com)

***Jim Enoch***

## ***SECRETARY'S NOTES:***

Hope this finds my Brothers, Sisters and family members of our Blue Knights WVII in good health in spirits? My sincere apologies to all for not being on Facebook meetings, my medical, surgery, and medication have been an absolute pain.

Medically I have improved a bit from surgery, will know more on my left eye and spine as I have 4 appointments during meeting week. I won't be in meeting as pain meds have me in and out.

We have registered for Culpeper. Kelli and I invited a guest to assist us. Hopefully more therapy will help me in and out of her vehicle.

We are hoping to see y'all in Culpeper to bring home another plaque for BKWVII. I sent a coin check for \$30.00. Thank you all for your thoughts and prayers.

Take care, pay attention to your surroundings. Please make it to Culpeper looking forward to seeing y'all.  
Respectfully,

George D. "Robby" Robinson

Blue Knights WVII Secretary

[robinsonsmc77@gmail.com](mailto:robinsonsmc77@gmail.com)

Hone 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](mailto:marty.e.mcNulty@gmail.com)

***Marty McNulty***

## **Chapter Safety Officer**

**'Caution-Warning-Danger' Signal**

**Lead bike Alert - Follower Reaction**

**By: James R. Davis**

Among the many responsibilities of the lead bike is communications. Whether the lead bike has (or uses) a CB or not, it is essential for the safety of the group that signals be used to convey much needed information.

An obstruction in the road, for example, must be pointed out - literally by pointing at it.

An expected lane change needs to be announced using turn signal lights. (Note that many groups tend to also use left arm signals announcing left or right turns but I am completely against that particular practice as having two hands on the grips is far too important, particularly if speed adjustments are being made in anticipation of the turn.)

There are lots of group specific hand signals that have come about over time. For example, patting the top of the head, in some groups, means 'smoky' (a policeman) ahead. Hand on top of the helmet forming a knife edge vertically means, to some groups, 'ride in single file' while in others the left arm pointing up at a ninety degree angle with a single finger pointed to the sky means the same thing.

Whatever the group practices are they should be announced at a pre-ride briefing so that all will understand them.

But one signal does not seem to get mentioned very often yet it turns out to be the most important one of all - the 'general warning' or 'Caution-Warning-Danger' signal.

Whenever the lead bike sees something, anything, that might become a threat to the group or that may require the group to slow down or stop quickly then the lead bike must double tap his/her front brake to advise the rest of the group. This double tap of the front brake causes a double flash of the brake lights. Whenever you see a double flash of brake lights ahead of you your reasonable and automatic response MUST BE to duplicate the signal (with a double tap of your own) and then to SLOW DOWN.

This accomplishes three things at once: it passes along the warning, it insures that your brakes are 'covered', and it adds space between you and the bike ahead just in case you will need it.

If it turns out that the threat is not real, nothing has been lost.

If, after 10 seconds or so nothing has happened, you can resume normal spacing and speed.

This is such a fundamentally important and useful signal it should become an international standard, in my opinion.

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**Ride with Pride,  
Walter Knight**

## **Road Captains Autumn Riding Tips**

Some bikers put their motorcycles away after Labor Day weekend, but many look forward to what can be some of the best riding weather. If you're planning on riding during autumn, make sure your bike is safe and ready to handle the change of the season.

Here are a few safety reminders to help you stay safe and avoid a [motorcycle accident](#), even as the leaves begin to change:

### **Check the Mechanics**

After the summer riding season, your bike may need a tune-up. Check that all parts are functioning correctly and that you have good tread and air pressure in your tires. Make sure your fluid levels are good and that all controls are working properly.

### **Wear Proper Clothing**

Autumn has many temperature changes. It can be quite chilly in the morning and still reach the mid-70s or 80s in the afternoon, depending on where you are. The best thing you can do to adjust to the changes is to dress in layers. You should never wear cotton as a base layer. Use thermal underwear or something with a synthetic blend as your base layer. On top of the base layer, wear comfortable riding attire. Don't wear a hoodie, but rather a zip-up sweatshirt or shirt.

### **Beat the Wind with Leather**

It might be too hot to wear leather during the summer, but it's perfect for fall. Leather motorcycle jackets or chaps can protect you from the wind and keep you more comfortable while riding. They usually also have removable liners.

You can wear riding boots with synthetic liners and wool socks. This combination will let your feet breathe in case they get warm.

Finally, it's a good idea to wear a pair of synthetic glove liners underneath your leather biker gloves and pack fingerless leather gloves in a storage compartment. You'll be able to switch in the afternoon when you get too warm.

### **Switch to a Half- or Full-Visor Helmet**

Cold air can be harsh on your eyes, so switch to a Department of Transportation-approved helmet.

### **Bring Your Rain Gear**

A raw, chilling rain can cause hypothermia quickly, especially if you're not wearing the best riding attire. Always pack your rain gear, just in case.

### **Watch for Riding Hazards**

Fallen leaves can be very slippery and cause accidents, and many deer are more active during autumn – especially during dawn and dusk. Keep your eyes out for any riding hazard so you have time to react.

**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 a lot of items on sale, please purchase something today.

**Rene Noe**

## **\*Joke for the Day\***

A teenage girl had just been given family-car privileges, when she returned home very late from a party.

Everyone was asleep, so she quietly went to her room and went to sleep as well.

The next morning her father went out to the driveway to get the newspaper and came back into the house frowning.

At 11:30 am the girl sleepily walked into the kitchen, and her father asked her, “What time did you get in last night?”

“Not too late, Dad,” she replied nervously.

Dead-pan, her father said, “Then I'll have to talk with the paperboy about putting my paper under the front wheel of the car.”

## From Membership

On Friday, August 4th, Curt Diaz, Bob Partain, Ronnie Watson, Chuck Martin, Dawn Martin, Ron Watson, and Don Wikert set out to visit the National Air Force Museum in Dayton and ride the Athens Windy 9 (windy9.com)

On the way to Dayton, we rode the "triple nickel", Route 555 from route 50 to Zanesville. A fantastic ride. Met Ron's aunt for lunch in Zanesville and then route 70 to Dayton. After checking in to motel we had an excellent meal for supper. Saturday morning, we went to the museum. WOW! WOW! Don's highlight was to see a F16 fighter and get into a cockpit simulator. Don's grandson is a crew chief on F16s. From there we headed to Athens, stopping in Columbus for an excellent lunch.

Sunday morning, we rode part of Windy 9, at supper Ron got a call about an emergency at home and he and his family went home. The rest of group left for home on Monday morning, and beat the severe storm which dumped 2 1/2 inches of rain shortly after arriving home.



## UP COMING EVENTS

### 2023 Events September

**2023 MDC Fall Conference/47<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:VA2@blueknights.org).

### November

**2023 Veterans Day Parade** hosted by Clarksburg VFW Post 573. We need to be in place at 10:15 AM at the corner of West Main Street and 6th Street, Clarksburg (next to the Clarksburg Senior Center). Parade starts at **noon** on Saturday, November 11, 2023.

**2023 Harrison County Area Annual Toy Run;** Sunday, November 26, 2023, bikers will meet at South Harrison High School parking

lot at noon and kickstands up at 1:00 pm.

## December

**2023 West Virginia II, Friday, December 8th, 2023.** West Virginia II - chapter Christmas meeting/party Village Square Conference Center, Clarksburg. Social Hour 6 pm and Dinner about 7 pm.

**Sick, Ill, or in Distress:** Please keep Brother Robert Bud Overby's family in your prayers. Bud Overby passed away on Tuesday, August 1, 2023. Brother Enoch and his wife Susie are sick with Covid. Brother Robinson and wife Kelli still battling their health issues.

**Next Meeting:** Our next meeting will be on Thursday evening, September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 7 PM.

**Drawing:** August drawing was \$10.00. Brother Dixon Pruitt's name was drawn tonight. He was not present at the meeting. September drawing will be \$15.00. Must be present at the clubhouse to be eligible for the drawing.

**Members At Meeting:** Don Wikert, Mike Neely, Lou Stevens, Fred LePera, Walter Knight, Ron Watson, Ronnie Watson Jr, Bill Bradley, Rexann Martin, and Ed Martin.

**Guest:** Brandi Knight and Rebecca Green.

**Facebook:** Tammy McNulty, Kelli Robinson, Zach Kesling, Cal Ennals, Susie Enoch, Chuckie Diaz, Leslie Pruitt, T.R. Queen, Pam Poisson, Marty McNulty, Larry Bailey, Doug Baker, Steve Hamling, Carmen Hamling, and Marshall Parker.

## Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be on Thursday evening, September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 19:00 hours.

Hey, just to let you know that if you are a Blue Knight member you can join the Justice Federal Credit Union for just \$5.00 and also get one of their credit cards.

VISA® REWARDS CREDIT CARD

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Each time you use your Blue Knights® VISA Rewards Credit Card, we'll **GIVE BACK** to the Blue Knights International Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club, Inc.

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