



# BLUE KNIGHTS West Virginia II



## August 2024 Newsletter

Volume 28      Issue 7

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

Please keep sending in your articles or stories so other can read about them. Most of the members that I have talked to about this newsletter says they enjoy reading about other members travels.

The International Convention is over and it was a fairly good turnout. There were 11 countries represented and we had over 550 people attend the convention. The 2025 International Convention will be in Mol, Belgium June 29<sup>th</sup> to July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025. The 2026 International Convention will be in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. It will be July 19<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup>, 2026. It will be just after the Calgary Stampede.

Those in attendance from West Virginia II were: Tina Benda, Zadah Talkington, Carmen and Steve Hamling, Rexann and Ed Martin.

Carmen and Steve were presented with a 10,000-mile patch by North American Vice President Cal Ennals. The Hamling's have put over 10,000-miles on their bike this year. Congratulations to you both.

We need to get our members out riding again and with the chapter getting a few new members we need to get them out there with us and show them about the brotherhood. If you are going to go on a ride, please let me know and I will send out the information. There are a lot of benefit rides out there and it would be nice to see some of our members attending some of them.

The chapter is having a Cash Bash at the Shinnston American Legion, Shinnston, WV. Need workers to show up at 5 pm. Social starts at 6 pm and bash starts at 7 pm. This will be Saturday evening, November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024. I ask that each member please sell at least 4 tickets. That would be one for each member, one for his spouse or significant other and 2 for a couple of friends. With 47 members that would be 188 tickets right off the bat.

Ride with Pride

**Ed & Rexann Martin**

304-622-0135      bkvv2@aol.com

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

Jason Morgan would like to thank our organization for donation for his son and their family. His son had a house fire that burn up about everything and they have two small kids and one on the way. The thousand dollars we donated will go a long way to get the items they need. Acts of this nature makes me proud to be a member of the Blue Knights WV II.

**Catch the fever.**

Ride with Pride

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

***Jim Enoch***

***SECRETARY'S NOTES:***

Reminder, our next meeting will be on Thursday evening, September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 7 pm. It will be at the Blue Knights clubhouse, 245 Emily Dr, Clarksburg, WV. I would like to see more members attend. Some may be surprised at all the good works our club is doing. Please put this date in your phone for a reminder.

Respectfully,

Lewis "Lou" Stevens

Blue Knights WVII Secretary

[awsstevens@yahoo.com](mailto:awsstevens@yahoo.com)

Cell 304-203-3185

***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**

Brother Knight advised that we are still in the riding season and with the hot temperatures we have had it is best to keep yourself hydrated with water and sports drinks. Coffee and soda are not going to help you with the dehydration.

**Some of the early warning signs of dehydration include:**

- feeling thirsty, lightheaded or dizziness.
- affect your concentration, focus and decision-making abilities.
- a dry mouth.
- headaches.
- tiredness and/or fatigue.
- it can cause muscle cramps, such as hamstring pulls.
- having dark colored, strong-smelling urine.
- passing urine less often than usual.

What drinks are best to hydrate?

- water, No surprises here...
- milk & milk alternatives.
- fruit and herb-infused water
- sports drinks
- coconut water.
- tea.

It is best to stop every 90 minutes to 2 hours and get something to drink and stretch and relax your muscles.

It should be at least a 15-minute break.

Ride with Pride,  
**Walter Knight**

**Road Captains**  
**'2-Second Rule'**  
**Determined by road conditions**  
By: James R. Davis

A message was posted in a motorcycle conference recently which argued that we should abandon the '2-second' rule (distance between bikes in the same track - distance between each bike in the group being half that) and possibly double it to increase safety.

Yes, that will certainly increase safety, generally, but it results in a group that is spread so far out that it introduces new safety problems - like it encourages cagers to dart into the gaps between bikes.

But there are times where the '2-second' rule makes no sense whatever. To begin with, it must be realized that there is a set of implicit assumptions that goes along with adopting that rule. Most important of these is that the skills/experience level of the individual riders is about at par with each other. Additionally, but often overlooked, is the absolute assumption that you are riding on dry level pavement! (More importantly still, that you have UNOBSTRUCTED VISIBILITY.)

It has been well documented that it takes the average person almost 1 full second to recognize and then to react to an UNEXPECTED threat. (About 1/2 second if the threat is anticipated.) The '2-second Rule', in other words, provides 1 full second of distance between bikes in order to provide sufficient time for following bikers to recognize and react to unexpected threats.

If all bikers in the group have roughly equivalent skills, then no matter what the driver ahead of you does - so long as he REMAINS IN CONTROL OF HIS BIKE - you should be able to do the same without running into him. This is true whether you are on wet or dry pavement and regardless of any pavement slope you are on. (In fact, this is almost true about the bike that is only 1 second ahead of you - that is, if he, for example, begins a panic stop then in 1 second you will also be able to begin a panic stop and you will be exactly where he WAS when he did so. You will both end up in exactly the same spot - he will have stopped before you get to him but you will be traveling at about 1 MPH when you do.)

However, the bike ahead of you is not the only thing that you might have to avoid hitting. Going down hill or riding on wet surfaces dramatically increases your stopping distance and is important should you have to avoid an obstacle in the road (pothole or vehicle), or the bike ahead of you that is no longer in control (highsided, for example.)

Since your tire traction is cut by as much as TWO-THIRDS on wet roads, clearly you should increase following distances substantially over what is safe on dry level roads. Similarly, sand or gravel covered roadways should cause you to stretch out those following distances. However, that is NOT because you have less time to react - the 2-second rule is to provide REACT TIME, and is NOT a function of traction.

Since gravity either aids or detracts from the ability of your brakes to stop your bike based on whether you are on an incline or a decline, following distances must be significantly increased to maintain the safety margin if you are riding downhill - and the steeper the slope, the wider those distances should be.

When riding in a curve most motorcyclists choose their own line and certainly should not be 'required' to stay in their track (though they should stay in their lane, of course.) It follows, then, that distances between bikes should be nearly doubled when riding twisties.

If the bike ahead of you does not remain in control, then you need to be able to avoid hitting him without doing whatever got him into trouble (such as hitting something in the road.) In low traction environments (or going downhill) you need more time and distance.

The '2-second rule' means that in staggered formation there is a ONE second spacing between each bike, thus a TWO second spacing between bikes in the same track.

My intention in this discussion is to demonstrate that if you use this kind of spacing then:

- IF your reaction time to an unexpected threat is 1 second or less (studies have shown this to be a reasonable expectation), and
- IF your motorcycle skills are as good or better than those of the next driver ahead of you,

Then whatever the motorcyclist ahead of you does you should be able to do without running into him. (Including a panic stop, or a turn across your path, or both.)

All else being equal, the "2-second rule" should constitute your fundamental safety margin while riding in a group if you use it as a minimum spacing distance.

This does not mean it is impossible to hit the guy ahead of you if he loses control of his bike! If he T-bones a vehicle that enters an intersection, you will almost certainly run into them. If he locks his rear brake and then highsides, you might run into him.

But running into the bike ahead is not your only threat. If that bike successfully dodges an obstacle in the street, you could hit it rather than him. If a deer or another vehicle happens to run into the gap between you and the bike ahead, you need stopping/swerving ability.

Since wet surfaces or driving down a hill decreases stopping ability, it makes sense to widen the gaps between bikes when you have to deal with them. Not so that you can avoid hitting the bike ahead of you if he remains in control of his bike, but because he might not, or other panic stop conditions might arise.

Conditions which should cause you to increase following distance, then, are those that affect VISIBILITY and, as a result, reaction time.

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**Rene Noe, Terry Queen, Walter Knight, Andy Kolb, and John “Spot” McCloud**

**Chaplain’s Corner**

**Del Parris, Chaplain  
Blue Knights WWII**

**Quartermaster**

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.  
New shirts are in and new coins on the way.

**Rene Noe**

## **Committee Report**

### **2025 Wild Wonderful Knights Weekend**

Wild Wonderful Knights committee is working on finding location for 2025. As it appears that we suggest to go back to Pipestem Resort one more time. Blackwater Falls is not available in June or July 2025 and Holiday Inn Express in Elkins has never returned our calls as to room prices. Committee request that membership give us permission to make arraignment to sign a contract. Discuss the price for 2025 WWK.

The committee is requesting your feedback as to an idea that we have for the 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Wild Wonderful Knights Weekend. We were wanting to use the funds from one of the bingos and the Cash Bash to help offset the cost of the registration for the event. We were thinking about charging \$30.00 per person for the event. 30<sup>th</sup> annual event for \$30.00. We believe we can cover the cost with the funds from the bingo and cash bash. We need your feedback ASAP. So please send me your feedback at the Facebook group page or by email. Remember do it ASAP.

Registration will be about \$100.00 per person if we do not use the funds from the other events. This is not a conference weekend so all members will have to pay their way

We should have the contract in the mail by Monday the 19<sup>th</sup>.

### **2024 Christmas Party Committee**

Vice-President Enoch has secured Westover VFW for Friday evening, December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024 for the Blue Knights' Christmas Dinner & Party. The menu needs to be set up. Please send us any feedback ASAP. We will a few members to help set up the room the night before the event. Let us know if you can come out and help.

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

My ex-girlfriend just told me she wants us to get back together again.  
MAN, I sure am LUCKY!  
I mean, first I win the lottery and now THIS!!!

## **From Membership**

Dear fellow Blue Knights,

I'm happy to announce The Michael "Mike" Kesling and Nathan L. Kesling 1st Annual Memorial Ride 2024 and Blessing of Bikes will be Saturday, August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Each year with the partnership with The Blue Knights we will host this event and give to a different need in Harrison County. This year all donations will be given to Hillside Academy Christian School. After the ride we will have a meal and church service to follow. I'm looking forward to fellow Blue Knights joining us for this great event for a great day of riding and fellowship. At this time the destination is unknown where we are riding to but I am working with brother T R Queen on it as he will be leading the ride for all of us.

I am thankful to see the Blue Knights chapter sponsor the money for the food for the ride. I would like have as many Blue Knight members as possible to attend so we can get support for the event.

From Zack Kesling

## **UP COMING EVENTS**

### **2024 EVENTS**

August

**2024 MDC Fall Conference/48<sup>th</sup> Annual Blue Ridge Rally (Nighty Knights Theme);** Culpeper, VA, Aug 30 - Sept 2, 2024. Hosted by VA II, Baymont Hotel, 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 \$105.00 per person. Contact Dan Rivard 703-314-1012 or [VA2@blueknights.org](mailto:VA2@blueknights.org).

**Michael “Mike” Kesling / Nathan L. Kesling, 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Memorial Ride 2024 and Blessing of Bikes;** Co-hosted by West Virginia II. Location will be the Horizon Church in Lost Creek, WV. Address to church is 8302 Mount Clare Rd, Mt Clare, WV 26408. Saturday, August 24th, 2024. Registration is from 10 am to 11 am. \$10 per rider and \$5 per passenger. Contact person: Zach Kesling: 304-629-2716. Horizon Church is just off of the Lost Creek Exit off I-79, Rt 25 North.

**2024 Fall Tri-State Conference, October 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024;** Hosted by New York XXII. Fall TSC at The Georgian Lakeside Resort, 384 Canada St, Lake George, NY 12845. (Code BKOCT). Room Rate is \$149.00 plus taxes. Registration for the event is \$130.00 per person.

**2024 West Virginia II Bingo;** Chapter is hosting a Bingo on Saturday, November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Doors open at noon; Early birds start at 2 and main games start at 3 pm.

**2024 West Virginia II Cash Bash;** Shinnston American Legion, Saturday evening, November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 6 pm. Shinnston American Legion Post 31, 76 Bridge Street, Shinnston, WV. Workers, please arrive at 5 pm.

### **2025 EVENTS**

**2025 Winter Mason Dixon Conference, February 14<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025;** Hosted by Maryland I. Winter MDC at the Holiday Inn, 10000 Baltimore Ave, College Park, Maryland. Room Rate is \$124.00 plus taxes. Call hotel at 240-542-1226, ask for Mason Dixon Conference Block. Registration for the event is \$105.00 per person.

**2025 Spring Southern Regional Conference, April 10<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025;** Hosted by Louisiana XVI. Spring SRC at the Holiday Inn Baton Rouge, South 9990 Airline Hwy, Baton Rouge, LA 225-924-7021. Room Rate is \$119.00 plus taxes. Registration for the event is \$100.00 per person. Contact person: David Whittenberg 225-385-5313.

**2025 Spring Mason Dixon Conference, May 23<sup>rd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025;** Hosted by North Carolina chapter some place near Greensboro is hosting the Spring MDC at the

**2025 Wild & Wonderful Knights;** Hosted by West Virginia II. Host hotel is the Pipestem Resort State Park, 3405 Pipestem Dr, Pipestem, WV. June 13<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025. **FOR ROOM RESERVATIONS CALL: Pipestem Resort State Park, 304-466-1800; TELL THEM YOU ARE WITH THE BLUE KNIGHTS GROUP,** Rooms \$98.00 per night for standard room. Event registration is \$???per person, and \$??? after April 15th.

**Sick, Ill, or in Distress:** Bernetta Kolb, wife of Brother Andy Kolb, is recuperating from fractured disk/broken back from where she dropped her motorcycle. Please send her prayers.

**Drawing:** August drawing was \$10.00. Brother 's name was drawn and he was not present. Must be present at the clubhouse to be eligible for the drawing. The September drawing will be \$15.00.

**Members in Attendance:** Fred LePera, Don Wikert, Ron Watson, Jim Enoch, Robert Davis II, Chuck Luzader, Lou Stevens, Mike Neely, Ed Martin, Rexann Martin, Marshall Parker, Andy Kolb, Walter Knight,

Marty McNulty, and Justin Moore.

**Guest:** Becky Green, Bernetta Kolb and Brandi Knight.

**Facebook:** Pam Posson, Larry Bailey, Doug Baker, Russ Harper, Leslie Pruitt, Michael Scrivner, Ruth Stone, Kelli-Anne Robinson, and Bob Rhodes.

### Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be on Thursday evening, September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 7 PM.

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.

It would be great to get as many chapter members as possible to join up.

VISA® REWARDS CREDIT CARD

**GIVE BACK**

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.

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

**JUSTICE**  
Federal Credit Union  
Federally Insured by NCUA.

The advertisement features a central image of a VISA Rewards credit card with the text 'Blue Knights International Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club, Inc. with Rewards'. The card is set against a background of a red and white striped surface. The overall design uses a blue and white color scheme with a yellow accent line.