



BLUE KNIGHTS West Virginia II



December 2019 Newsletter

Volume 23 Issue 11

PRESIDENT'S NOTES:

Rexann and I want to wish each and every one of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We believe our 2019 Chapter Christmas Party was a success. We had about 105 people at the event and all the children looked as if they enjoyed their gifts. By the way Brother Doug Baker won the Christmas drawing this year. We had 79 adults and 26 children under 18. We had some members that did not contact me and let me know that they were not attending. Next year please let me know.

Remember we need your 2020 dues in as soon as possible.

Our last Cash Bash was very successful. We raised enough money to send \$1,500.00 to the Blue Knights Cops Run. So, we are going to have another Cash Bash drawing that will be held on Saturday night, April 18th, 2020. We have tickets at the clubhouse so please stop by and pick up a few tickets and let's get them sold as early as possible so we do not have to wait until the last week to get the last few sold. The tickets are only \$20.00 each. Rexann and I sold nearly 30 of the last one for the Cash Bash. Have people buy one to give as a Christmas gift. We had a Road Captains meeting on Wednesday, November 20th, 2019 at the clubhouse. We are working at putting a calendar together for a 2020 Ride Schedule that we can print and pass out to all members. If you have an idea for a ride, want to lead a ride, or have some place you would like to ride to now is the time to email me the information. This meeting will not have the final schedule but just a start to one and hopefully we will have it finalized by February. These might just be a ride to lunch on one day and maybe a all day ride another day. Please send me your ideas. Does not matter what day of the week it is.

I am still working on trying to get our meetings to live stream on Facebook better for each meeting. We did it for several meetings in 2019 and it went OK, but not the best that it could be. Also, I will need to either have someone move the iPad around to see who is talking. Also, there is a long delay in transmission of about 17 seconds which I have no control over. Good news is we have about 8-chapter members attend the meeting this way each month and several other Blue Knights of other chapters also watched the meeting. I am working on this project to help our members to be informed about our business. So please have patience with me and help me if you have knowledge about how to do this better.

Our next meeting will be Thursday, January 9th, 2020 it will be at the 19:00 Hours (7 PM) at Blue Knights West Virginia 2 Clubhouse, 245 Emily Drive, Clarksburg, WV 26301.

Ride with Pride

Ed & Rexann Martin

304-622-0135 bkww2@aol.com

VICE PRESIDENTS NOTES:

Have you sent in your 2020 membership dues? If not, we will give you until December 28th, 2019 and remember that international has increased the membership dues to \$30.00 a year now. If we don't have them before the New Year you will be responsible for a \$5.00 late fee that International charges. Send them to Blue Knights West Virginia II, P.O. Box 174, Anmoore, WV 26323-0174 or you can pay them by credit card. We have only about half the members paid so far.

Please talk to other officers that you work with or train with and tell them about the Blue Knights. I am sure there are many officers here in North Central West Virginia that still have not heard about our chapter. Lets all work to try and recruit at least one member in the New Year of 2020. Let us start this new decade with a good membership drive. It appears that we have four (4) members that have decided to not renew for 2020. We can make the chapter grow with your support. We are working on a chapter ride list and hope to have it to the membership in January of 2020.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to each and everyone of you and your family.

Our next meeting will be Thursday, January 9th, 2020 it will be at the 19:00 Hours (7 PM) at Blue Knights West Virginia 2 Clubhouse, 245 Emily Drive, Clarksburg, WV 26301. We will have pizza before the meeting.

Catch the fever.

Ride with Pride

35oldsrodder@gmail.com

Jim Enoch

SECRETARY'S NOTES:

Good afternoon membership of Blue Knights WV II. 2020 is closing in on us, and Elkins will be here in 15 minutes. Hopefully we will have more attendance, participation getting Elkins a spectacular and successful conference. I would also like prayers for our brothers and sisters sick, I'll, or in distress, and those involved in accidents a speedy recovery. Prayers for a better 2020 then we have had in 2019. Miss my brother's n sisters of Blue Knights WV II. Have a blessed Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Please pay attention to your surroundings.

Our next meeting will be Thursday, January 9th, 2020 it will be at the 19:00 Hours (7 PM) at Blue Knights West Virginia 2 Clubhouse, 245 Emily Drive, Clarksburg, WV 26301. We will have pizza before the meeting.

Respectfully,

George D. "Robby" Robinson

Blue Knights WVII Secretary

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

Marty McNulty

ROLL CALL

December Members at Christmas Party: Don Wikert, Fred LePera, Mike Neely, Ron Watson, Ed Martin, Rexann Martin, Robert Davis III, Randy Biggins, Doug Baker, Rene Noe, Charles Luzader, Jim Enoch, and Steve Hamling.

Not listing all the guest and family to this newsletter.

Chapter Safety Officer

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 an 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.

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(James R. Davis is a recognized [expert witness](#) in the fields of Motorcycle Safety/Dynamics.)

**Ride with Pride,
Walter Knight**

Road Captains

Leadership

A function of Behavior

By: James R. Davis

For those of you that have done any group riding there is no doubt in your mind about whether the group leader was the first bike in line or somebody else. For those that have not done so, I'd like to explain some realities.

While it is normal that the 'Road Captain' or 'Group Leader' rides in the first position of the group - they, after all, are responsible for establishing route and stops, etc. - just because the first bike is thought of as the 'leader', it ain't necessarily so. And THAT could be dangerous!

An example might show you what I mean. A few years ago a group of bikes was on a ride and along the way the lead bike missed an expected left turn. Instead of using his CB to 'explain' (change of plan or a problem with the road they were going to turn on, etc.), his assumption was that as he was the lead bike all other bikes would simply follow him. They didn't. The second bike in line recognized the missed turn and decided to turn left and 'save the group from having to make a U-turn.' THAT'S MUTINY! And if you doubt it's dangerous, consider that the third bike, not knowing who the real leader of the group was, became so confused that she ran straight into the side of the second bike and the bike behind her very nearly ran into her.

(The lady was confused because the leader failed to identify himself - she had an accident because she was traveling too close to the bike ahead of her.)

So, who IS the actual leader? Why should there be any question about it? A leader evidences leadership! Before the ride begins the 'leader' hosts a pre-ride briefing and explains the 'rules' - what signals they will use, what route they expect to take, who the drag bike will be for their group, how the group makes lane changes, how any member of the group can cause the group to make a stop, etc. Then, the leader tells the group where they are to line up in preparation for their departure.

By virtue of the members of the group lining up as instructed THEY HAVE ACKNOWLEDGED both the leadership of the person who hosted the meeting and that they intend to follow the rules.

In the example I gave above the lady was the cause of the accident - the 'Prime Directive' in any group ride is "DO NOT HIT THE BIKE AHEAD OF YOU." The proper thing for all riders in the group to have done was to follow the lead bike - unless it was into danger. At a later time when everybody is off their bikes there would no doubt be some good natured ribbing going on about unannounced change of plans. And, had the number 2 bike done as he did - decide to make a turn on his own - then all bikes that were behind him should have let him go and continued following the LEADER.

'Power' is derived from position. 'Authority' is derived from title. 'Leadership' is derived from behavior.

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

Chaplain's Corner

**Del Parris, Chaplain
Blue Knights WVII**

Quartermaster

Just a reminder that we now have a few Blue Knights WVII Polo's (\$30) and T-shirts (\$20) in stock in various sizes. We now have Blue Knights WVII solid back and mesh back hats (\$15). It's also handy to have a few Challenge Coins on hand also. The Blue Knights WVII Challenge Coins are (\$10).

History of the challenge coin:

What started as a memento of serving together in a WWII Army flying squadron the "Challenge Coin" quickly became mandatory after it was used to prove a pilot's identity after being shot down behind enemy lines. The coin he carried with him saved him from incarceration or worse, certain death. After recognizing the insignia, his captors were able to verify his identity. Once he was safely back at his squadron, it became a tradition to always carry your coin. The pilots often "challenged" each other to produce their coin. If they couldn't, they had to buy a drink for the challenger. If they could, the challenger bought the round. Over 100 years later, Challenge Coins are used by all branches of the Federal Government, Military, Police, Fire, Fraternal Organizations and Corporations worldwide. They are used as rewards, awards, corporate identifiers and as morale building tools for those heroes who risk their lives protecting others.

Robert L Davis II

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MDC Safety Officer

Committee Reports

Brother Wikert and the committee are working on an amendment to or bylaws in reference to voting on candidates for office. The Bylaw committee is in agreement with his idea and he will have the proposal at the January meeting for a vote if the Board approves the proposal

From Membership

None

UP COMING EVENTS

2020 Winter MDC Conference: Danville, VA, February 14 – 16, 2020. Hosted by VA XIII, Comfort Inn & Suites, 100 Tower Drive, Danville, VA, 434-793-2000. \$85.00 plus tax per night. (Make sure you tell them you are with the Blue Knights LEMC group). Registration for event is \$85.00 per person. Contact Keith Johnson, va13@bluenights.org.

2020 Spring Conference: Canton, OH hosted by OH XVII & XXV. Registration: \$65.00 before March 1, 2020 \$70.00 USD after March 1, 2020. Kids under 12 free unless attending banquet at \$14.00. Holiday Inn, 4520 Everhard Road NW, Canton, OH 44718. 330-494-2770.
Rooms: Start at \$109.00 USD (includes breakfast for 2).

2020 SRC: Kenner, LA, Hosted by LA II, March 12 – 15, 2020. Host hotel is the [Crowne Plaza New Orleans-Airport](#), 2829 Williams Blvd, Kenner, LA 70062, USA. More Information coming.

2020 Chapter Cash Bash Drawing: The chapter will hold their Cash Bash drawing at the Blue Knights West Virginia 2 Clubhouse, 245 Emily Drive, Clarksburg, WV on Saturday, April 18th, 2020. Drawings begin at 6 PM.

2020 Spring MDC & Wild & Wonderful Knights, Hosted by West Virginia II. Host hotel is the Holiday Inn Express & Suites. Elkins, WV. May 22 – 24, 2020. There is a limit number of rooms, 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 and the Code is BLU, Rooms \$125.00 per night plus tax. Event registration is \$85.00 per person before April 1st, 2020, and \$95.00 after April 1st, 2020.

2020 Summer Conference: Erie, PA, August 21 – 22, 2020. Hosted by PA XVIII. [The Bel-Aire - Clarion Hotel and Conference](#), 2800 W. 8th St., Erie, PA 16506. 814-833-1116. Overflow Hotel: Comfort Inn, Presque Isle, 3041 W. 12th St. Erie, PA 16505. 814-498-5848. Registration: \$70.00 before December 31, 2019. Early registrations placed in Friday night drawing. Rooms: Start at \$109.00 booked prior to July 31, 2020. Rooms booked after July 31, 2020 at regular rate \$189.00.

2020 MDC Fall Conference, Culpeper, VA, Sept 4 - 7, 2020. 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 44th Annual Blue Ridge Rally. Price is \$95.00 per person. Contact Keith Chase (Secretary) 703-893-1823 or VA2@blueknights.org.

2020 West Virginia II, Friday, December 11th, 2020, West Virginia II - chapter Christmas meeting/party Village Square Conference Center, Clarksburg. Social Hour 6 pm and Dinner about 7 pm. Ballroom A. (Tentatively)

Sick - Ill or in Distress: Lou Stevens, Rebecca Green, Kelli-Anne Rauch, and Zadah Talkington.

Drawing: The Christmas drawing of \$100.00 was won by Brother Doug Baker. Remember for every meeting you attend your name is put into the hat for the Christmas Drawing. You attend all 11 meetings in the year you will have 11 chances to win. The January monthly meeting drawing will be worth \$10.00.

Fun Joke

A woman was sipping on a glass of wine while sitting on the patio with her husband. She says, "I love you so much. I don't know how I could live without you." Her husband asks, "Is that you or the wine talking?" She replies, "It's me... talking to the wine."

Next Meeting Location

Our next meeting will be Thursday, January 9th, 2020 it will be at the 19:00 Hours (7 PM) at Blue Knights West Virginia 2 Clubhouse, 245 Emily Drive, Clarksburg, WV 26301. We will have pizza before the meeting.

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