



BLUE KNIGHTS West Virginia II



December 2023 Newsletter

Volume 27 Issue 10

PRESIDENT'S NOTES:

If you can, you should try and schedule your calendar to go to the 2024 Winter MDC in Rehoboth Beach, DE. February 9-11, 2024. Maybe we could get enough members to attend and get the award for the largest chapter in attendance there. Remember members will get reimbursed for their event registration when you return.

I want to congratulate the following members that were elected for office for the chapter. Your 2024-2025 Officers are as follows:

President	Ed Martin
Vice President	Jim Enoch
Secretary	Lou Stevens
Treasurer	Marty McNulty
Directors	Andy Kolb
	Terry Queen
	Ethel Tyler

Our Christmas Party was Friday, December 8th, 2023. It appears that we had 98 adults, and 33 children at the Christmas Party attend this year. Blue Bird Restaurant in Clarksburg catered the event this year. Rexann and I want to talk the following for helping above and beyond for their work in getting the party done this year. We want to talk Brother Walter Knight for taking care of the catering, Jennifer Prince and Becca Martin for during shopping and helping set up. The staff from the clubhouse, Donna Belcastro, Anabel Myers, John David and Paula Maxwell for all their help in shopping, decorating and setting up of the room. Without these people this year's party would not have happened. So, the next time you are at the clubhouse please tell them thanks. Rexann and I want to wish everyone very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

I am going to try and find a restaurant so we can all meet for a January afternoon chapter lunch. If you have a restaurant that you think can handle us, please check with them and let me know. I am thinking maybe a day in the middle of the week. What do you think?

There will be no February meeting due to both the President and Vice-President attending the 2024 Winter Mason Dixon Conference.

Ride with Pride

Ed & Rexann Martin

304-622-0135 bkww2@aol.com

VICE PRESIDENTS' NOTES:

I am asking each member is that each one of you try and recruit another member for our chapter in the up coming year.

Susie and I would like to say Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Catch the fever.

Ride with Pride

35oldsrodder@gmail.com

Jim Enoch

SECRETARY'S NOTES:

Our next meeting will be on Thursday evening, January 11th, 2024.

Respectfully,

George D. "Robby" Robinson

Blue Knights WVII Secretary

robinsonusmc77@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

Chapter Safety Officer

Here are a few tips for the ones that put their bikes away for the winter.

Here are some tips to protect and preserve the bike so it is in the same shape you store it in come spring time. Some preparation now will ensure that you are out riding in the spring instead of waiting in line at the dealers or fixing it yourself in your garage.

1. Location:

If possible, choose a location away from windows. The ultraviolet light can fade paint and plastic parts.

Direct sunlight can raise the ambient temperature of the storage area which will promote condensation when the sun goes down, so cover plain glass with some sort of opaque material.

Cover your bike with a specially designed bike cover, not a sheet or a tarp. These materials will promote rust underneath them. A specially designed motorcycle cover is made of a mildew resistant, breathable material.

2. Change the Oil:

Even if the oil is not due for a change, byproducts of combustion produce acids in the oil which will harm the inner metal surfaces.

Warm the engine to its normal operating temperature, as warm [oil drains](#) much faster and more completely. Change the filter and add fresh oil.

3. Add Fuel Stabilizer and Drain Carbs:

Fill the tank with fresh fuel, but do not overfill. The correct level is when the fuel just touches the bottom of the filler neck. This gives enough room for the fuel to expand without overflowing the tank when temperature rises. Shut off the fuel petcock and drain the carburetors and the fuel lines. Add fuel stabilizer to prevent the fuel from going stale, and help prevent moisture accumulation. It also prevents the small ports in your carbs from gumming up.

4. Lube the [cylinders](#):

Note: You only need to do this if your motorcycle will be stored for 6 months or longer.

Remove the spark plugs and pour a tablespoon of clean engine oil or spray fogging oil into each cylinder. Be sure to switch off the fuel before you crank the engine or else you may refill the drained carbs!

Ground the ignition leads to prevent sparks igniting any fuel residue. Turn the engine over several revolutions to spread the oil around and then reinstall the plugs. Refitting the plugs before cranking the engine could result in a hydraulic lock if too much oil was used in the cylinder.

5. Battery Storage:

The battery must be removed from the motorcycle when it is in storage. Motorcycles often have a small current drain even when the ignition is switched off (dark current), and a discharged battery will sulfate and no longer be able to sustain a charge.

A conventional battery should be checked for electrolyte level. Add distilled water to any of the cells that are low and then charge the battery.

Battery charging should be performed at least every two weeks using a charger that has an output of 10% of the battery ampere hour rating.

Be sure to store in a warm area off of the cement floor, as the harsh winter temperatures are hard on batteries.

6. Surface Preparation:

Waxing and polishing the motorcycle might seem like a waste of time since you are putting it away and no one will see it. But applying wax is a very important part of storing your motorcycle. Wax will act as a barrier against rust and moisture.

Don't forget to spray any other metal surfaces (such as the frame or engine) with a very light spray of WD-40. This will keep these areas shiny and protect them from corrosion as well.

7. [Exhaust](#) and Mufflers:

Mufflers are known to rust fast when they are not used, so making sure they are properly stored for the winter on your bike will save them from any rust.

Spray light oil (such as WD40) into the muffler ends and drain holes.

Lightly stick a plastic bag (shopping bag is fine) into the end of each muffler hole (to keep moisture from getting inside the exhaust).

Cover each muffler with another plastic bag to keep outside moisture off.

8. Tires:

Check both front and rear tires with your air pressure gauge. Make sure each tire is properly inflated to the

maximum recommend pressure.

As it gets colder, air condenses in your tire so it is important to pump them up as to keep your tires healthy. Rubber is a flexible material and does not like to freeze (it cracks when it freezes). It is wise to keep the tires off of the freezing floor. JS Jacks Big Wheel Motorcycle Lift work great for winter storage. It keeps the weight of the bike off of the tires as it sits through the winter and prevents flat spots.

DO NOT use a tire dressing on tires (such as Armor-All or tire cleaning foam) as this will make the tires hard and slippery.

9. Service all fluids:

If the brake or clutch fluids haven't been changed in the last two years (or 11,000 miles), do it now. The fluids used in these systems absorb moisture. The contaminated fluid will cause corrosion inside the systems, which may cause problems when the motorcycle is used next spring.

If you don't have the experience to service these systems, contact your dealer for assistance.

If your motorcycle is liquid cooled, the coolant requires changing every two years or 24,000 or (15,000 miles). Make sure that the engine is cool enough to rest your hand on it before draining the system. Coolant/antifreeze is available from your dealer and has been developed to provide the correct protection for your [motorcycle engine](#). Mixed 50/50 with distilled water will ensure a clean system for the next two years (or 15,000 miles).

10. Cover it.:

Now you can cover the bike with the cycle cover and look forward to the first warm day of spring!

Ride with Pride,

Walter Knight

Road Captains

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.

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

Chaplain’s Corner

By the time you receive this article you may already be thinking about New Year’s resolutions. For many these resolutions have become more of a joke than a serious attempt to formulate some plans to better one’s life. Many never make them, and when they do, they are often trivial things like giving up chocolate.

To me, one value of resolutions is that they force me to evaluate my life. Am I being the best person I can be? If not, what needs changing and how can I change it. Another value is that resolutions cause us to take responsibility for our lives. We are all influence by genetics and by our early environment, but at some point, we are having to take responsibility for shaping our own lives. It doesn’t mean we have to do it all by ourselves; we can ask for help, but we have to ask.

Finally, even though Jesus helped people through his miracles, he also on most occasions gave them something to do. They were participants in their own healing process. We often wait for a miracle in our lives while sitting idly by.

Two thousand twenty-four is a good time to make changes for the good in your life. If you only make one resolution follow up on it and make it happen. I am sure my friends and neighbors hope I am a better person a year from now even if I don’t want to change.

**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.

If there is an item you think we should reorder or make a new item please contact me or Donna.

Rene Noe

Joke for the Day

What kind of music do elves listen to? Wrap music.

From Membership

None

UP COMING EVENTS

2024 EVENTS

2024 Winter Mason Dixon Conference, February 9th – 11th, 2024. Delaware I is hosting the Winter MDC at the Atlantic Sands Hotel & Conference Center, 1 Baltimore Ave, Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971. (On the Boardwalk) Room Rate is \$85.00 plus taxes. Call hotel at 800-422-0600, ask for Blue Knights Group #10. Registration for the event is \$105.00 per person.

2024 Spring Mason Dixon Conference/Wild & Wonderful Knights, Hosted by West Virginia II. Host hotel is the Pipestem Resort State Park, 3405 Pipestem Dr, Pipestem, WV. **May 24th - 26th, 2024.** 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 \$100.00 per person, and \$125.00 after April 15th.

2024 MDC Fall Conference/48th Annual Blue Ridge Rally; Culpeper, VA, **Aug 30 - Sept 2, 2024.** 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 \$105.00 per person. Contact Dan Rivard 703-314-1012 or VA2@blueknights.org.

Sick, Ill, or in Distress: Brother Ed Martin, he had to have open heart bypass surgery and is now home recovering. Seems everything went well. Brother Noe fell and messed up his right arm is going to have to have surgery soon. Brother MikeWilliams (MDC Chaplain) just had surgery. Brother Robinson still having health issues. Sister Rexann Martin had to have a pacemaker put in.
Please send your prayers.

Next Meeting: Our next meeting will be on Thursday evening, January 11th, 2024 at 7 PM.

Drawing: November drawing is \$5.00. Brother Bill Bradley's name was drawn but was not present. Must be present at the clubhouse to be eligible for the drawing. January meeting drawing will be \$10.00.

Members in Attendance: No Meeting because of Christmas Party.

Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be on Thursday evening, January 11th, 2024 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

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.