

BLUE KNIGHTS West Virginia II



December 2024 Newsletter

Volume 28

PRESIDENT'S NOTES:

Our Christmas Party was Friday, December 13th, 2024. It appears that we had 75 adults, and 23 children at the Christmas Party attend this year. The Mason Jar in Morgantown catered the event this year. Rexann and I want to thank the following for helping above and beyond for their work in getting the party done this year. We want to thank Brother Jim Enoch and Susie and Brother Chuck Luzader and Ruth, for taking care of getting the building and the catering. Brother Stevens and Becky, Becca and Sara Martin for helping with the shopping. Also, Brother Jim Enoch and Susie and Brother Chuck Luzader and Ruth, Brother Stevens and Becky, Zadah Talkington and Jennifer Prince for helping with the helping set up.

Our next meeting will be January 9, 2025 at 7 PM at the clubhouse.

There will be a chapter luncheon at 1 pm, January 18th, 2025 at the FOP Restaurant, in Nutter Fort, WV. At this luncheon we will be doing a chapter picture. We need to do an updated and current photograph of the membership. Please let me know if you are attending so I can give them the information. Also, we would like to do a group chapter photo with the motorcycles when the weather gets better. Maybe at the covered bridge in Bridgeport.

If you can, you should try and schedule your calendar to go to the 2025 Winter MDC in College Park, MD which is being hosted by Maryland I. February 14-16, 2025. This is fairly close; it is in the Washington DC area which is about 4 hours away. If you have not been to a conference event this would be a good one to attend.

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

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. Information is in events section below. I also have registration Forms if you need one.

Merry Christmas to all and a Happy New Year.

Ride with Pride

Ed & Rexann Martin

304-622-0135 bkwv2@aol.com

VICE PRESIDENTS' NOTES:

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Catch the fever.

Ride with Pride 35oldsrodder@gmail.com

Jim Enoch

SECRETARY'S NOTES:

Greetings Brother Knights. I hope everyone is doing well and ready for Christmas. For everyone that missed the annual Christmas party you missed a wonderful time.

The dinner was excellent and it is always a pleasure to see the children getting their presents and seeing Santa Claus. I want to extend a big thank you to everyone who made it a success. It takes a lot of planning, shopping and wrapping presents, contacts with the catering, renting and decorating the VFW hall to put this on. I sincerely hope you will make a special effort to attend next year.

Our next meeting will be January 9, 2025 at 7 PM at the clubhouse. I hope as we begin a new year, we can strengthen our brotherhood by bringing more members into the club and scheduling rides we can all make I understand there are difficulties getting everyone together at the same time and some of us cannot ride long distances for health reasons. However, I hope we can all make the luncheon at the FOP Restaurant on January 18, 2025 at 1 PM. We will be taking a group picture for the Sword and Shield magazine. Don't forget to wear your vest. See you there.

We wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Respectfully, Lewis "Lou" Stevens Blue Knights WVII Secretary awsstevens@yahoo.com Cell 304-203-3185

TREASURER'S NOTES:

All bills are paid and chapter doing well.
Brother Ed Martin won the Christmas drawing this year.

Ride Safe, Ride Smart and Ride with Pride. You are the faces of West Virginia II.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. marty.e.mcnulty@gmail.com Marty McNulty

Chapter Safety Officer

Wear the Proper Protection

If you're ever in a serious motorcycle crash, the best hope you have for protecting your brain is a motorcycle helmet. Always wear a helmet meeting the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) 218. Look for the DOT symbol on the outside back of the helmet. That is the manufacturer's way of certifying the helmet meets the DOT standard. A certified helmet also will have a permanent inside label identifying the manufacturer and providing information about the care and use of the helmet. Helmets meeting FMVSS 218 weighs around three pounds; have a thick polystyrene-foam lining; and sturdy chinstraps. ANSI or Snell labels are voluntary indicators of helmet quality. Don't leave your helmet behind on short trips because it could be a deadly mistake. Some motorcycle helmets, in addition to offering protection to your head in a crash, include plastic face shields that offer protection from wind, rain, insects, dust, and stones thrown up from cars. If your helmet doesn't have a face shield, be sure you wear goggles because eyeglasses won't keep your eyes from watering and can easily fall off.

Arms and legs should be completely covered when riding a motorcycle, ideally by wearing leather or heavy denim. In addition to providing protection in a crash, protective gear also helps prevent dehydration. Boots or shoes should be high enough to cover your ankles, while gloves allow for a better grip and help protect your hands in the event of a crash. Wearing brightly colored clothing with reflective material will make you more visible to other vehicle drivers.

Ride with Pride,
Walter Knight

Road Captains

Unseasonal Weather

For all of you that are out riding in this unseasonal weather have fun and be careful with debris on the road way. Remember that we have had some snow and that the Department of Highways had to treat the highway with gravel or cinders and they can still be on the roadway or along the edges of the travel lanes. Also, the people in the vehicles will not be looking for motorcycles out driving around this time of the year so please keep your head moving and giving them room. Have fun and ride with pride.

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

Chaplain's Corner

Del Parris, Chaplain Blue Knights WVII

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, hats, and new coins are in. Remember if there is an item that you think the chapter should purchase and have on sale, please bring it up at a meeting so we can vote on it.

Rene Noe Quartermaster

Committee Report

None

Joke for the Day

Q: Can a kangaroo jump higher than the Empire State Building?

A: Of course. The Empire State Building can't jump.

From Membership

Dear Whomever.

If you are the person that removed, pilfered, misappropriated, snatched, or made away with the Poinsettia from the registration table, on your way out of our Christmas party, I hope you enjoy it. As that was mine, bought & paid for by me, not the organization. BTW.... That is not a good look for a Law Enforcement event! Merry Christmas.

Rexann

Sorry I'm a few months late but I wanted to send out this thank you for the support from my fellow brother and sister Blue Knights. On Aug 24 2024 was a memorial ride and blessing of bikes for my dad Mike Kesling and brother Nathan Kesling. I want to thank brother T R Queen and Brother Walter Knight for helping with the ride and making sure everyone rode safe. With the Blue Knights support we were able to raise money for the Hillside Christian Academy and have a meal and fellowship at Horizons Church. I hope to have this yearly and raise money for something in need in our community.

Merry Christmas and Happy New year Zach Kesling



UP COMING EVENTS

2025 EVENTS February

<u>2025 Winter Mason Dixon Conference, February 14th – 16th, 2025:</u> 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.

April

2025 Spring Southern Regional Conference, April 10th to 13th, 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.

May

2025 Spring Mason Dixon Conference, May 23rd to 25th, 2025: Hosted by North Carolina VIII, Greenville, NC. Winter MDC at the Holiday Inn Greenville, 203 SW Greenville Blvd, Greenville, NC 27834. Room rate is \$129.00 per night plus taxes and includes breakfast. Call hotel at 252-355-8300, ask for Mason Dixon Conference Block. Registration for the event is \$110.00 per person. Contact person is David Newton at David.newton53@ yahoo.com

June

2025 Wild & Wonderful Knights Weekend Rally: Hosted by West Virginia II. Host hotel is the Holiday Inn Express & Suites. Elkins, WV. June 13th – 15th, 2025. 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 \$30.00 per person before May 15th, 2025, and \$60.00 after May 15th.

August

2025 MDC Fall Conference/49th Annual Blue Ridge Rally; Culpeper, VA, Aug 29 - Sept 1, 2025. Hosted by VA II, Baymont Hotel, Culpeper Inn, Event includes breakfast buffet, (540) 825-1253, Blue Knights Virginia – II, P.O. Box 2264, Merrifield, VA 22116-2264. Contact Dan Rivard 703-314-1012 or VA2@blueknights.org.

Sick, Ill, or in Distress: Brother Bradley had surgery in September and things are not going well. Please say an extra prayer for him. Please say a prayer for Brother Randy Biggins for a speedy recovery. Brother Wikert advised that he has been having shoulder problems for a while and may need surgery. He got shots in the shoulder and right now he is without pain. Becky Green still has a cast on her wrist.

Next Meeting: Our next meeting will be January 9, 2025 at 7 PM at the clubhouse Location will be the Blue Knights West Virginia 2 Clubhouse, 245 Emily Drive, Clarksburg, WV 26301.

Drawing: November drawing was \$25.00. Sister Martin's name was drawn and she was present. Must be present at the clubhouse to be eligible for the drawing. The January drawing will be worth \$5.00.

Members in Attendance: Fred LePera, Ron Watson Jr, Don Wikert, Jim Enoch, Chuck Luzader, Mike Neely, Ed Martin, Rexann Martin, Andy Kolb, Lewis Stevens, Marty McNulty, Ethel Tyler, Zach Kesling, and Etan Kesling.

Guest: Becky Green.

Facebook: Bill Bradley, Ruth Medwith Stone, Susie Enoch, Pam Poisson, Byron Hope, Chuckie Diaz, Walter Knight, and Johnny John.

Next Meeting
Our next meeting will be January 9, 2025 at 7 PM at the clubhouse.

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.

