



BLUE KNIGHTS West Virginia II



January 2016 Newsletter

Volume 20

Issue 1

PRESIDENT'S NOTES:

The officers nominated for our chapter for the next two years (2016-2017) are President – Ed Martin, Vice President – Greg Hoskins, Secretary/Treasurer – Marty McNulty, Directors – Rex Talkington, Bobby Ryan and Lou Stevens.

We are looking for some sponsors to help out with our 2016 Wild Wonderful Knights Weekend. If you know of a business that will help please let me know. It doesn't matter if its \$100 or \$1,000 it all helps. I have a letter if you need one. Need all you members to help out here. I'm doing my best.

The Winter Mason Dixon Conference Meeting is just a few weeks away so I am hoping to get some new information about what is going on in 2016. If there is anything you need me to check on at the conference weekend please contact me and let me know what I can do for you.

I am asking all members that send me information to any rides they think we should be having members attend. Need dates, location, time and what it is for. I am going to attempt to make a ride/event list so everyone can check with. I will try and get it on the website also. If you are just planning on taking a ride and want some members join you send me the info.

I also need to know when two (2) or more members go on a ride or event so I can get you put down as being on it. I am attempted to keep track of that until I can get someone to do that for the chapter. Brother Eve has some good ideas for highest mileage and a few other things. We are going to get a committee to work on that too.

We are having another Cornhole Tournament to raise funds for the South Harrison High School Band. The event will be on Saturday, February 27th, 2016. We will be needing some members to help with the event as well as a couple of teams to participate in the event. Please let me know what you can do to help. The event will be held at Village Square Conference Center, in Clarksburg, WV. Doors open at 9 am.

We hope everyone has made it through the Storm Jonas and that most of you have been able to dig out this deep snow. Praying for everyone to be safe and well doing this time of deep heavy snow.

Ride With Pride

Ed & Rexann Martin

304-622-0135 bkww2@aol.com

VICE PRESIDENTS NOTES:

Our next meeting will be March 10th, 2016 at, Meagher's Irish Pub, 26 Betten Court #101, Bridgeport, WV.

The meeting will begin about 7 pm. Room will be open at 5 pm to eat.

I am trying to get a 100% renewal from everyone for 2016, so please help me out.

If you need a poster or other information about the Blue Knights let us know and we will get it to you. You can put it up at work or another agency.

Catch the fever.

Ride With Pride

Greg & Tiffany Hoskins

SECRETARY'S/TREASURER'S NOTES:

We need all of our members to let others know when you go for a ride. We should be riding as much as possible. 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 McNulty, Secretary/Treasurer

ROLL CALL

Members at January meeting: Marty McNulty, Fred LePera, Randy Biggins, Eugene Botting, Robby Robinson, Ed Martin, Rexann Martin, Russ Swiger, Del Parris, Walter Knight, Greg Hoskins, Robert Matheny, Lou Stevens, Rene Noe, John McCloud, Don Wikert, Marshall Parker, Doug Baker, Ethel Tyler and Rex Talkington.

Chapter Safety Officer

Well since most of you have put the scooter up for the WINTER; I guess it is too late to tell you about winterizing the thing so I figure now would be the time to start getting you prepare for the new riding season. Here is some information to read and study for the warm days ahead.

Group Riding: 17 Tips To Ensure Everybody Has A Great Day



The engine purrs beneath you as a string of motorcycles snakes through the hills in front of you. With a quick look in the mirror, you see your buddy following close behind with a smile on his face that matches yours. The camaraderie forms because, at just this moment, you're all on the same page.

That's what a group ride is all about. It's an opportunity to share the open road and wonderful scenery with other like-minded people.

But like most motorcycle experiences, this one is best enjoyed by following a few simple guidelines that keep everyone safe. And that's the idea behind a new videotape put out by the Motorcycle Safety Foundation that focuses on group riding. You can get your own copy by visiting the MSF website at: www.msf-usa.org, but here are a few tips from the country's foremost motorcycle safety experts.

1. The first thing you want to do is organize the ride. This can be as informal as standing around in a parking lot, or as formal as a special meeting to hand out maps and cellphone numbers.



2. Remember that riding in a group does not mean you surrender any decision-making when it comes to your safety. Ride your own ride, and don't go any faster than you feel comfortable going.

3. When picking your route and the stops you'll make along it, consider the stamina of the group, the experience of all the riders, and the limits of the motorcycles in the group. Remember, these are your friends. If it's going to be a long ride, be sure to take a few breaks along the way.

4. You'll need to communicate while on the ride, so make sure everyone knows the signals you'll use.



5. When creating your formation, it's wise to have your experienced riders at the lead and running sweep. Consider positioning the less-experienced riders immediately behind the leader. This allows the front rider to adjust the pace if necessary.

6. Ideally, the sweep rider will have a cellphone to call for help if a motorcycle is disabled, or if there has been an accident.

7. If the goal of the ride is to keep the group together, the leader should only go at the pace of the least-experienced rider.

8. While riding, don't fixate on the motorcycle in front of you. Instead, remember your basic training. Look well through the turn to where you want to go.

9. If the group is riding faster than you are comfortable with, let the sweep rider know you're dropping out and ride at your own pace. So you may reach your destination a few seconds behind the others, but you will get there, and that's what's important. Keep in mind, it's all about fun.

10. All riders are also responsible for making sure their motorcycles are mechanically up to the task. Before you even meet up with the group, make sure you've got plenty of fuel in the tank, and that you've taken care of all those maintenance issues. Not sure what to check? Use [T-CLOCS](#). You really don't want to be the reason for stopping the group for something mechanical you could have prevented.

11. If it's going to be a large group, consider establishing a buddy system among the riders, or divide the group into smaller five- or seven-rider packs. That way, if something goes wrong, you don't have 25 motorcycles sitting on the side of a busy highway. Also, smaller groups can more easily navigate through city streets.



12. On the road, motorcyclists should have at least a 2-second cushion in front and behind them. If you want to keep the group tight, consider a staggered formation. Leave enough room per lane so each rider can maneuver side-to-side if need be. Avoid side-by-side formations as they shrink your space cushion.

13. Trikes and sidecars should stay in the center of the lane, and should be given the same amount of cushion as if they were a car.

14. As turns get sharper, or as visibility decreases, move back to a single file formation. You'll also want to use single file when entering or exiting a highway, at toll booths, or when roads have a rough or questionable surface.

15. At intersections where you've come to a stop, tighten the formation to side-by-side to take up less space. As the light turns green, or when traffic opens up, the bike on the left proceeds through the intersection first.

16. Remember we share the road with many other vehicles, and it's against the law to block an intersection.



17. When parking, try to get the group off the roadway as quickly as possible. If you can, arrange in advance to have pull-through parking at your destination, or at the very least, make sure there is ample parking for your size group.

Want more group-riding tips for your club or group? Order the MSF Guide to Group Riding video at www.msfsa.org. The cost is \$15.00 for a video and a handbook.

Ride With Pride

Walter Knight

MDC Safety Officer

D.W. Conners

Blue Knights, West Virginia II

Mason Dixon Safety Officer

Email bkmdc@frontier.com

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. Visit the link for more great ideas and tips for motorcycles or [Honda motorcycle parts](#).

Rene Noe, Walter Knight, Rex Talkington, and John “Spot” McCloud

Chaplain's Corner

Last February I mentioned the importance of prayer as a way to explore the meaning of Lent in our lives. While Lent used to be observed primarily in the Catholic and Episcopal churches, over the last several years most major denominations have included it as part of their preparation for Easter. It is intended as a time to reflect on and evaluate our hearts and lives as we look toward Easter. No matter what your faith (or even if you have no particular religious belief) it is a good idea.

Last year I shared my morning prayer as a kind of model for prayer. In this article I will include my evening prayer. Again, it is a guide, and I often elaborate on its various sections.

Dear Lord, This day is ending, and I give thanks for the ways that you were with me today and for the ways I experienced the beauty of the earth, the graciousness of others, and the goodness of life.

As I come to the end of the day I realize that I have not been completely faithful to your design for my life. I pray that the ways in which I failed to reflect your love and grace in my activities, in my relationship to others, and in my thoughts will be reminders of how much I need your mercy and grace.. Forgive me, I pray, and strengthen my resolve to be more Christ-like.

As I lie down to rest give me peace of mind and heart. Calm my anxieties, heal my brokenness, and make me glad to be at rest in You.

Amen

Del Parris

Chaplain, Blue Knights WWII

State Rep's Report

RIDE WITH PRIDE, RIDE SAFE,

MARSHALL PARKER

WEST VIRGINIA STATE REP/ MEMBER WV II

Committee Reports

Brother Knight and I went to Elkins on Thursday, December 17, 2015 and got most of the things finalized for the 2016 WWK with Holiday Inn Express & Suites, American Legion and other vendors in Elkins. Things are looking good. The Gandy Dancers is going to move their evening show on Saturday to a noon show and we are working on getting our own train car for the 4 hour train ride if we have 25 people going. There are a very limited number of rooms at the hotel so please reserve yours soon. As of December 17th, 2015 we only have 20 rooms left on our block. So please call and make your reservation before all the rooms are full. Will be having another meeting January 28, 2016. (MEETING HAS TO BE RESCHEDULED)

Ed Martin, 2016 WWK Committee Chairman

From Membership

UP COMING EVENTS

2016 Spring MDC Conference, Lexington, KY, hosted by Kentucky II. May 27 - 30, 2016. Clarion Hotel, 5532 Athens Boonesboro Road, Lexington, KY. (rooms \$99.00 per night plus tax) 859-263-5241. (Make sure you tell them you are with the Blue Knights LEMC group). Contact Jeanette Gardner @ Jeanette.gardner@comcast.net Event is \$85.00 per person.

2016 Wild & Wonderful Knights, Hosted by West Virginia II. Holiday Inn Express & Suites. Elkins, WV. June 10, 11 & 12, 2016. 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**, Rooms \$99.00 per night plus tax. Event registration is \$50.00 per person before April 1st, 2016, and \$75.00 after April 1st.

2016 International Convention, June 17-24, 2016. Hosted by PA V, Harrisburg, PA. Host Hotel: Sheraton Hotel & Resort, Harrisburg, PA, 4650 Lindle Rd, Harrisburg, PA. Telephone 717-564-5511. For more information: <http://www.2016bkiconvention.com/index.html> or Dhooper@excellenceinc.com

2016 Harrison County Child Advocacy Center, August 27th, 2016. Starts at Triple S Harley Davidson in Morgantown and ends at Lambert's Vintage Winery, Weston, WV. More info to come.

2016 MDC Fall Conference, Culpeper, VA, September 2 - 5, 2016. Hosted by VA II, Best Western Culpeper Inn, Event includes breakfast buffet, (540) 825-1253; Blue Knights Virginia – II, P.O. Box 2264, Merrifield, VA 22116-2264. The 40th Annual Blue Ridge Rally, theme is "New Orleans". Price is \$95.00 per person. Contact Keith Chase (Secretary) 703-893-1823.

Sick - Ill or in Distress:

Drawing

Drawing at January 14, 2016 meeting was for \$30.00. Brother Andy Kolb name was drawn and he was not present so the March meeting drawing will worth \$35.00.

March Meeting Locations

Our next meeting will be March 10th, 2016 at, Meagher's Irish Pub, 26 Betten Court #101, Bridgeport, WV. The meeting will begin about 7 pm. Room open at 5 pm.