



BLUE KNIGHTS West Virginia II



January 2024 Newsletter

Volume 28 Issue 1

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.

Here are your 2024-2025 Officers:

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

Ride with Pride

Ed & Rexann Martin

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VICE PRESIDENTS' NOTES:

I am going to ask each one of you to try and recruit another member for our chapter in the upcoming year. The chapter paid for the members renewal dues so let's show our pride and start getting some rides planned for the new riding season.

Catch the fever.

Ride with Pride

35oldsrodder@gmail.com

Jim Enoch

SECRETARY'S NOTES:

Our next meeting will be on Thursday evening, March 14th, 2024.

Due to the President and Vice-President not being in town for the February meeting, it is canceled.

Sorry I did not make it to the January meeting.

Just to let everyone know that this is a new position for me. I have never held the position of secretary before but I will do my best to live up to what our previous secretaries have done before me. I just ask everyone to be patient with me while I adjust into this new position. Thank you all for having faith in me to carry out this job.

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.

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

Jump Starting Your Motorcycle

You can't kill a dead battery

By: James R. Davis

Assuming that you have, or can get, a set of jumper cables when you find that your motorcycle battery is dead, getting the bike started is no big deal. But you can cause harm if you do it wrong.

Connecting batteries in series is what you do when you pop a couple of cells into your flashlight. That is, you put the positive terminal of one battery into contact with the negative terminal of another. The result is that the voltage provided is the sum of the voltages of both batteries. This is NOT THE WAY to connect motorcycle batteries!!!

When you connect batteries in parallel, by placing the positive terminal of one into contact with the positive terminal of the other and the same with the negative terminals, then the voltage that results remains the same, but the amount of current that can be produced is raised. You need current to power your starter.

- Always be sure that the batteries you will be connecting together are of the **same voltage**.
- Always connect the same polarity terminals together when jumping a battery.

If you connect the opposite polarity terminals together your battery can EXPLODE!

- Always wear eye protection when jumping a battery!

Batteries can explode from another cause as well: a charging battery creates hydrogen gas.

- Make sure the vent tube on your battery is connected properly.
- Make sure you are in a well ventilated environment - preferably outside.
- Do NOT SMOKE while charging or jumping a battery.

Lay out your jumper cable so that the connectors are not touching each other. Then, connect the positive (red)

lead of the cable closest to your dead battery to the positive terminal on that battery followed by connecting the negative lead (black) to your negative battery terminal. Be sure that these connections are firm - wiggle them a little in order to let the teeth (if any) on the jumper leads cut into the terminal metal posts.

- Always start by making the connections on your dead battery.

Why? Because you cannot kill a dead battery! (If the loose ends of the jumper cable were to touch each other.)

(It might be better if you connected the negative lead to some part of your bike frame rather than to the negative battery terminal in order to keep any potential sparks away from generated hydrogen gas. However, there cannot be a spark from a dead battery, connecting the leads to the dead battery does not yet create a circuit, and in the next step you will take pains to avoid a spark with the live battery.)

Next, connect the positive (red) lead of the other end of the jumper cable to the functional battery's positive terminal. Again, wiggle the connection to encourage a good 'bite' of metal to metal. [If you are unable to gain access to the battery terminals on the donor vehicle, (many are very inconveniently located), you can connect the positive jumper lead to the starter solenoid lead closest to the battery.]

Finally, connect the remaining (black) lead to some part of the frame of the donor vehicle. Since the negative terminal of all modern vehicles have their negative battery terminal connected to the frame of the vehicle (called a 'ground'), this is the same as connecting to the negative terminal of the battery. However, since this last connection establishes a live circuit, it is possible for there to be a spark when the connection is made. You want any spark that might occur to be as far away from the battery as is reasonably possible.

- Though MOST vehicles today use a negative ground, you must check to be sure that is the case before you connect the jumper cables to the donor battery. You can still use it even if that vehicle uses a positive ground, but you must remember to connect positive to positive and negative to negative.

Generally speaking, it does not matter if the vehicle engine is running or not when you do this, but you should avoid doing so as cooked motorcycle stators are expensive repair jobs. The battery will be producing the proper voltage and current to do the job, and usually, but not always, not so much that you might do harm. However,

- If your battery is dead because it has developed an internal short, you can easily kill the donor battery when connecting it if the donor vehicle is not running at the time, but
- If it is running and your battery is shorted you can damage the donor vehicle's voltage regulator system when you connect the jumper cables.

If the donor vehicle is not running when you connect the jumper cables,

- **DO NOT START THE DONOR VEHICLE** while it is connected to your motorcycle battery.

While the starting current drain is not going to be a problem, the subsequent charging current to replenish the battery could be more than your motorcycle battery can handle.

You do not have to be in a hurry while the jumper cables are connected. Indeed, so long as those cables are connected the donor battery is charging your motorcycle battery. After a couple of minutes the charge might be sufficient for you to be able to start your bike using just your own battery. In any event, it is now time to start your motorcycle. It is usually best to simply leave the jumper cable in place when you start the motorcycle.

Let your motorcycle run about 15 seconds while the jumper cable remains in place. Then, remove the negative (black) lead from the donor vehicle's frame (assuming it was a normal negative-ground system). Again, this step could cause a spark, but because the connection is away from the battery, it poses no danger.

Now disconnect the positive (red) lead from the donor battery terminal. **You must be very careful not to let the jumper cable leads touch each other at this time.** To do so WILL KILL YOUR MOTORCYCLE BATTERY, possibly permanently!

Disconnect the jumper leads from your motorcycle battery (in any order - there cannot be a spark from doing so.)

Let the motorcycle idle (high - over 1,000 RPM) for a few minutes before you attempt to ride off into the sunset to give its charging system a chance to restore your battery.

Thank the person who donated the use of their battery to get you going again. (You could have killed *HIS* battery if you had done it wrong, so he took some risk for you as well as provided his courtesy.)

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**Ride with Pride,
Walter Knight**

Road Captains

You don't have to be the Road Captain to Plan a Ride.

Here are a few tips.

Planning the Ride

A road captain is a fundamental part of any ride planning. Especially where riders may number in the dozens or even hundreds, he/she has to be well versed in the route. He/she must know about potential hazards, road conditions and any special events that are happening at the time of the ride. A road captain will ride the route a few days in advance to make sure that nothing has changed, will keep an eye on the weather, and will also be present at ride planning meetings.

Educating and Informing Riders

The road captain is expected to brief the group before the ride. He/she will inform riders about the pace of the ride, tell them about staggered formation, and will explain what the rules are. Some rides require the participants to ride together in tight formation, while others have a more loose, "at your own pace" style. The road captain will also answer questions and educate new riders in hand signals and other riding etiquette. Finally, the road captain will let riders know what to do should they break down or have a mishap, and might have a tactful word in the ear of a rider whose behavior is causing problems.

Leading the Ride

The road captain leads the ride. Riders are expected to keep an eye on him/her for cues as to where to go next. Working in conjunction with blockers or sweepers, the captain will also help to block off intersections to allow riders to pass without worrying about traffic. He/she will then pass back to the front. Sometimes the road captain stays in front and only the blockers do the intersection work, and sometimes he/she works with the blockers. When a lane change is performed, the leader signals the change and the rear guard initiates it. This prevents lane-changing bikes from crashing into one another and also provides a safer block to traffic. Indicators are seen from the rear and a large column of bikes changing is less likely to be cut off.

Stop Coordination

At gas and fuel stops, the road captain will set up in a staging area he has previously chosen so that the line of bikes can assemble. After leaving, the road captain will wait until the rear-guard signals that everyone is ready to go before accelerating to highway speed.

Other Duties of the Road Captain

Other duties of the road captain including dealing with the police and other unexpected surprises, and making sure everybody has a fun, safe ride. The road captain is part of a team that includes the sweepers and rear guard, and is, by definition, an experienced rider.

**Now is the time to do some research about being a road captain and start the new riding season as a road captain.

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

Chaplain’s Corner

**Del Parris, Chaplain
Blue Knights WVII**

Quartermaster

Are you wearing your Blue Knights shirts or hoodies? If not why not? 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

A retired man who volunteers to entertain patients in nursing homes and hospitals went to one local hospital in Morgantown and took his portable keyboard along. He told some jokes and sang some funny songs at patients' bedsides.

When he finished, he said, in farewell, "I hope you get better."

One elderly gentleman replied, "I hope you get better, too."

From Membership

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 50th International Convention: Hosted by Hosted by a committee for the Blue Knights International, host hotel is Sugarloaf Mountain in Carrabassett Valley, Maine. July 21-July 26, 2024. All rooms at resort are booked but there are many condos still available. The registration for the event is \$225.00 per person. Convention Information: The web site for the 2023 event has been activated for Blue Knights around the world. You can visit the web site by clicking on/going to www.bki2024international.com or check it out of the Blue Knights International website, www.blueknights.org. Host hotel is fully booked. Call Sugarloaf Resort Hotel at 1-800-843-5623, Mon-Fri 8am-4pm to reserve your condo.

2024 MDC Fall Conference/48th Annual Blue Ridge Rally; Culpeper, VA, Aug 30 - Sept 2, 2024. Hosted by VA II, Baymont by Wyndham, 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: Sister Martin still recovering from Pacemaker surgery. Brother Martin is improving every day and is going to cardiac rehab three days a week. Brother Swiger is recovering from knee surgery. Brother Watson has the flu.
Non-member but supporter of the chapter and LE Brother...Update on Rick Barnhart, he is doing better and out of hospital. He is presently at River Oaks Nursing Home, Room 208, in Clarksburg and he is up walking a little each day.

Drawing: January drawing is \$10.00. Brother Randy Biggins name was drawn for the monthly drawing and he was not present. March meeting drawing will be \$15.00. Must be present at the clubhouse to be eligible for the drawing.

Members in Attendance: Jim Enoch, Chuck Luzader, Ronnie Watson Jr, Don Wikert, Mike Neely, Dixon Pruitt, Fred LePera, Del Parris, Ethan Kesling, Zach Kesling, Rexann Martin and Ed Martin.

Guest: None

Facebook: Bob Rhodes, Ethel Tyler, Leslie Pruitt, Jean Paul Renaud, and Susie Enoch.
Our turnout for the meeting was 26% of the membership.

Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be on Thursday evening, March 14th, 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.

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