



BLUE KNIGHTS West Virginia II



July 2024 Newsletter

Volume 28 Issue 6

PRESIDENT'S NOTES:

I would like for some members to contact our Road Captains and get a few rides set up. Also, road captains you should be setting up a few chapters rides soon. We need to get our members out riding again and with the chapter getting a few new members we need to get them out there with us and show them about the brotherhood. If you are going to go on a ride, please let me know and I will send out the information. We discussed at the July meeting about the chapter purchasing a robocall system that we can send out information to everyone by telephone or text. Hopefully will have that information by the August meeting.

Please keep sending in your articles or stories so other can read about them. Most of the members that I have talked to about this newsletter says they enjoy reading about other members travels.

Ride with Pride

Ed & Rexann Martin

304-622-0135 bkvv2@aol.com

VICE PRESIDENTS' NOTES:

Catch the fever.

Ride with Pride

35oldsrodder@gmail.com

Jim Enoch

SECRETARY'S NOTES:

Our next meeting will be on Thursday evening, August 8th, 2024.

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.

Still going through the 2024 Spring MDC invoices and receipts to get everything corrected.

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

Just want to touch base and let everyone know that with the heat we need to drink plenty of water while out riding. Take a few extra stops to help get out of the sun and heat.

Here are a few notes:

Heat Exhaustion Possible Symptoms

(May develop suddenly or over time)

Goose Bumps when in the heat

Heavy sweating

Faintness

Dizziness

Fatigue

Weak, rapid pulse

Low Blood pressure upon standing

Muscle cramps

Nausea

Headache

What to do:

- Stop all activity and rest
- Move to a cooler place
- Drink cool water or sports drinks
- Loosen clothing
- Contact doctor if symptoms worsen or don't improve with one hour

Heat Stroke Symptoms

(brought on by heat)

Skin feels hot, dry to touch

High body temperature

Confusion, agitation, slurred speech

Nausea and vomiting

Flushed skin

Rapid breathing

Racing heart rate

Headache, throbbing head

What to do:

- First call 911
- Get into shade or indoors

- Remove excess clothing
- Cool person with any means available

Ride with Pride,
Walter Knight

Road Captains

Rules for Your Motorcycle Group Rides

1. Hold a meeting before you ride

It is best to get together with all your riders beforehand to talk strategy (where you'll stop, how long you'll ride, where to go if you get lost, etc.) and ask questions. It is best if the lead rider and the tail gunner/sweep rider have radio communications. It is important that once the leader gives any kind of sign to the group that every rider in the group passes it along to the rider behind him.

2. Decide a riding order

First choose a lead rider (the one in front) and a tail gunner/sweep rider (the one in back). The lead rider is in charge of telling the group what's coming, be it a traffic jam, rainstorm, or stampeding horse. And the sweep rider sets the pace for the group. Everyone else should have a place in the formation, too. The least experienced of your bunch should be behind the leader, letting the pros line up behind them and lend a watchful eye.

You might be wondering, "How many riders should be in my group?" It depends on the situation. In the NHTSA study, though, several riders said they felt best in groups of 10 or fewer.

3. Come prepared

This includes simple things that everyone should do, like arriving with a full tank of gas and bringing a cell phone. It also means deciding who will bring a first-aid kit, bike tools, and other necessities. If possible, exchange telephone contacts with one another for emergency contacts.

4. Don't go rogue

In group motorcycling, there's no room for showboats or renegades. Avoid competitions with your group mates, tailgating, or passing other riders.

5. Stagger your riding formation

Perhaps the trickiest part of group riding is perfecting the formation. That's because while you want to keep your group relatively tight (so you're easy to spot), you also want to maintain a space cushion within the ranks. How on earth do you do that? The best way is to stagger: the leader rides on the left side of the lane, the second rider stays one second back and on the right side. The third rider stays one second behind the second rider and on the left side, and so on. You don't want to ride side-by-side since this will limit your maneuvering space if you need to swerve quickly.

Keep in mind that you may want to go single-file on very curvy or deteriorated roads, when entering the highway, when turning at intersections, or in bad weather.

6. Pass in formation

When it comes to passing other vehicles on the highway, group members should do so one at a time and then return to their spot in formation. So, the leader would pass and return to the left side of the lane, then the next rider would pass and return to the right side, and so on.

7. Take plenty of breaks

If all these group riding rules seem a bit exhausting, that's because they are. In order to keep your concentration and energy (and avoid sucking the fun out of the experience), take frequent rests and just savor the moment.

8. Keep your least experienced rider in mind

Not sure how far to ride? How fast? How often to take a break? The answer is always to figure out what your least-experienced rider is capable of and comfortable with and use that as your benchmark.

If you go for a ride please call/contact other members and see if they would like to go with you.

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

Chaplain's Corner

**Del Parris, Chaplain
Blue Knights WWII**

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.

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 man was riding his Harley along a California beach when suddenly the sky clouded above his head. In a booming voice, the Lord said, "Because you have tried to be faithful to me in all ways, I will grant you one wish."

The biker pulled over and said, "Build a bridge to Hawaii so I can ride over anytime I want."

The Lord said, "Your request is materialistic. Think of the enormous challenges for that kind of undertaking; the supports required to reach the bottom of the Pacific and the concrete and steel it would take! I can do it, but it is hard for me to justify your desire for worldly things. Take a little more time and think of something that could possibly help mankind."

The biker thought about it for a long time. Finally, he said, "Lord, I wish that I, and all men, could understand our wives. I want to know how she feels inside, what she's thinking, why she cries, what she means when she says nothing's wrong, and how I can make a woman truly happy."

The Lord replied, "You want 2 lanes or 4 on that bridge? "

From Membership

Submitted by Don Wikert

Left house at 7:15 AM, 58 degrees. Met Ron Watson in Lost Creek at 8 AM. No one else showed up for the ride. Down Rt. 79 to Flatwoods for breakfast. Temp. now 72 degrees. Down Rt. 19 to Rt. 39 to Gauley Bridge, visited Kanawha Falls where the Gauley River and the New River join to form the Kanawha River. The rode up Rt. 16 to Rt 19 and then east on Rt. 39 to Richwood. Rode Rt 150 over Cranberry Mtn. to North on 219 to Elkins and then home. Arrived home at 5:15PM, having rode 375 miles.

The temperature all day remained between 72 and 78 degrees until we got back to Elkins area in the 90s. A very enjoyable and scenic ride.

Dear fellow Blue Knights,

I'm happy to announce The Michael "Mike" Kesling and Nathan L. Kesling 1st Annual Memorial Ride 2024 and Blessing of Bikes. Each year with the partnership with The Blue Knights we will host this event and give to a different need in Harrison County. This year all donations will be given to Hillside Academy Christian School. After the ride we will have a meal and church service to follow. I'm looking forward to fellow Blue Knights joining us for this great event for a great day of riding and fellowship. At this time the destination is unknown where we are riding to but I am working with brother T R Queen on it as he will be leading the ride for all of us.

I am requesting to see if the Blue Knights chapter would sponsor the money for the food for the ride. I would like an answer as soon as possible so we can get support for the event.

From Zack Kesling

UP COMING EVENTS

2024 EVENTS

July

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 (Nighty Knights Theme); Culpeper, VA, Aug 30 - Sept 2, 2024. Hosted by VA II, Baymont Hotel, 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: No members notified me of anything for here.

Drawing: July drawing was \$5.00. Brother Justice Carver's name was drawn and he was not present. Must be present at the clubhouse to be eligible for the drawing. The August drawing will be \$10.00.

Members Present: Lewis Stevens, Fred LePera, Don Wikert, Ed Martin, Rexann Martin, Mike Neely, Jim Enoch, Chuck Luzader, Ron Watson, Bill Bradley, Dan Loughrie, Del Parris, Mary McNulty and Bryon Hope (MD I).

Guest: Becky Green, Donna Loughrie, Seneca and Harry Hope.

Online: Doug Baker, Michael Scrivner, Kelli-anne Robinson, Pamela Poisson, Tammy McNulty, Randy Gracy, Lantz Elbon, Brenda Wamsley, Dixon Pruitt, Gunars Berzins, Deb Gennari, Zack Kesling, Brandi Knight, and Larry Bailey.

Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be on Thursday evening, August 8th, 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.

It would be great to get as many chapter members as possible to join up.

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.**



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