



BLUE KNIGHTS West Virginia II



May 2014 Newsletter

Volume 18

Issue 5

PRESIDENT'S NOTES:

Our event is only a couple weeks away. Please make sure you have picked up your door prizes. We will be putting the pre-registration bags together on Thursday afternoon at about 14:00 hours (2 PM). So please do your best to get up to Canaan early and give us a helping hand.

Please make your contacts to pick up door prizes for the 2014 Wild Wonderful Knights Weekend. I have put in a request for all sunny days. If we get rain again this year we might want to think about changing the name to Wet & Wild Wonderful Knights Weekend.

Ride With Pride

Ed & Rexann Martin

304-622-0135

VICE PRESIDENTS NOTES:

Our next meeting will be Thursday evening, June 12, 2014, at 19:00 hours, Blackwater Brewing Company , 912 Williams Ave, Davis, WV. If you have not got your dues in for 2014 please get them in ASAP. Dues are \$25.00. I hope everyone continues their membership and is getting excited now that spring weather is here again so that we can get on the bikes again. If you know anyone that meets the membership requirement please talk to them and see if they are interested. Let's work together and keep our membership up. Thanks for your help.

Please ask another officer to come to a meeting or go for a ride with you and tell them about the Blue Knights. We have recruitment posters for you to put up at police departments so just ask for some.

I know some of you have already paid in advance so if you have that is great or if you are not sure contact Ed he will have that listed in the membership list. We have received dues from 38 of our 66 members. So if you have not sent yours in yet please do so soon.

Catch the fever.

Ride With Pride

Richard & Bridget Swisher

SECRETARY'S/TREASURER'S NOTES:

Our next meeting will be Thursday evening, June 12, 2014, at 19:00 hours, Blackwater Brewing Company, 912 Williams Ave, Davis, WV.

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

Marty McNulty, Secretary

You are the face of our Chapter, Be Safe and Ride with Pride

Marty McNulty, Treasurer

ROLL CALL

Members at May 8th, 2014, at 19:00 hours, at C.J. Maggies, Elkins, WV.

Marty McNulty, Randy Biggins, Bill Bradley, Cathy Conners, DW Conners, Richard & Morgan Swisher, Marshall & Linda Parker, John McCloud, Fred LePera, Eugene & Tsula Botting, Steven Richards, Rexann Martin, and Ed Martin.

Chapter Safety Officer

Ride With Pride

Walter Knight

MDC Safety Officer

Group Riding

Like all previous articles what you about to read are only suggestions. Before going on any kind of group ride you should do the following. Each rider should have checked his/her bike for any needed repairs, adjustments, or fluids that need to be added. If the ride is all day the rider should pack their bike for adverse weather (rain, cold, hot, etc.). If the rider has a cell phone it be fully charge before leaving home. Also, that rider should top off the tank with fuel before arriving at start location.

Before leaving as a group from start location the Road Captain or Safety Officer should have a short meeting to go over everything with all riders. The following should be discussed, hand signals, who will be leading, who will be Tail-Gunner, and if going thru parts of the country where you don't have cell phone service who is going to be the Road-Runner. The route should also be discussed, condition of road, fuel stops, if a long trip food/rest locations.

Some riders don't like to ride in the outside or inside track. When leaving that rider should position himself/herself so they'll be in the track lane that they are comfortable with. For riders that aren't familiar with the tracks of the lane you have three tracks in a signal lane. The inside track is close to the center of the road, the middle track is in the middle of the lane. Also, be aware this is the track where most of the trash and oil will be. The outside track is near the shoulder of the road.

The Tail-gunner should have a first-aid kit in the trunk of the bike. If possible the Leader, Tail-Gunner, and Road-Runner should have CB radios. The Road-Runner should be one of your fastest/best rider in your group. His/her job will be to get help when in parts of the country that you can't use your cell phone and there aren't any homes nearby to call for help if needed to your location.

During rides, all riders should stay in correct track of the lane they're riding in unless something in the roadway. On roads with sharp curves riders should increase their distance between the motorcycles in front of them. By doing this, the riders can do the outside-inside-outside riding around curves. If the road has pot holes, rough surface, or is narrow, the Road Captain should give a signal for everybody to ride single file.

If a rider is going to leave the group during the ride they should let everybody know before the ride starts. That way the group will be aware of that rider leaving and know nothing is wrong. When that rider pulls off all the riders in that track should move straight up one space when it is safe to do so. By doing it this way you don't have everybody zig-zagging back and forth to get back in the correct track to remain in a staggered riding position.

D.W. Conners

Blue Knights WV 2

MDC Safety Officer

BKMDC @frontier.com

Road Captains

'2-Second Rule'
Determined by road conditions

By: James R. Davis

A message was posted in a motorcycle conference recently which argued that we should abandon the '2-second' rule (distance between bikes in the same track - distance between each bike in the group being half that) and possibly double it to increase safety.

Yes, that will certainly increase safety, generally, but it results in a group that is spread so far out that it introduces new safety problems - like it encourages cagers to dart into the gaps between bikes.

But there are times where the '2-second' rule makes no sense whatever. To begin with, it must be realized that there is a set of implicit assumptions that goes along with adopting that rule. Most important of these is that the skills/experience level of the individual riders is about at par with each other. Additionally, but often overlooked, is the absolute assumption that you are riding on dry level pavement! (More importantly still, that you have UNOBSTRUCTED VISIBILITY.)

It has been well documented that it takes the average person almost 1 full second to recognize and then to react to an UNEXPECTED threat. (About 1/2 second if the threat is anticipated.) The '2-second Rule', in other words, provides 1 full second of distance between bikes in order to provide sufficient time for following bikers to recognize and react to unexpected threats.

If all bikers in the group have roughly equivalent skills, then no matter what the driver ahead of you does - so long as he REMAINS IN CONTROL OF HIS BIKE - you should be able to do the same without running into him. This is true whether you are on wet or dry pavement and regardless of any pavement slope you are on. (In fact, this is almost true about the bike that is only 1 second ahead of you - that is, if he, for example, begins a panic stop then in 1 second you will also be able to begin a panic stop and you will be exactly where he WAS when he did so. You will both end up in exactly the same spot - he will have stopped before you get to him but you will be traveling at about 1 MPH when you do.)

However, the bike ahead of you is not the only thing that you might have to avoid hitting. Going down hill or riding on wet surfaces dramatically increases your stopping distance and is important should you have to avoid an obstacle in the road (pothole or vehicle), or the bike ahead of you that is no longer in control (high-sided, for example.)

Since your tire traction is cut by as much as TWO-THIRDS on wet roads, clearly you should increase following distances substantially over what is safe on dry level roads. Similarly, sand or gravel covered roadways should cause you to stretch out those following distances. However, that is NOT because you have less time to react - the 2-second rule is to provide REACT TIME, and is NOT a function of traction.

Since gravity either aids or detracts from the ability of your brakes to stop your bike based on whether you are on an incline or a decline, following distances must be significantly increased to maintain the safety margin if you are riding downhill - and the steeper the slope, the wider those distances should be.

When riding in a curve most motorcyclists choose their own line and certainly should not be 'required' to stay in their track (though they should stay in their lane, of course.) It follows, then, that distances between bikes should be nearly doubled when riding twisties.

If the bike ahead of you does not remain in control, then you need to be able to avoid hitting him without doing whatever got him into trouble (such as hitting something in the road.) In low traction environments (or going downhill) you need more time and distance.

The '2-second rule' means that in staggered formation there is a ONE second spacing between each bike, thus a TWO second spacing between bikes in the same track.

My intention in this discussion is to demonstrate that if you use this kind of spacing then:

- IF your reaction time to an unexpected threat is 1 second or less (studies have shown this to be a reasonable expectation), and
- IF your motorcycle skills are as good or better than those of the next driver ahead of you,

Then whatever the motorcyclist ahead of you does you should be able to do without running into him. (Including a panic stop, or a turn across your path, or both.)

All else being equal, the "2-second rule" should constitute your fundamental safety margin while riding in a group if you use it as a minimum spacing distance.

This does not mean it is impossible to hit the guy ahead of you if he loses control of his bike! If he T-bones a vehicle that enters an

intersection, you will almost certainly run into them. If he locks his rear brake and then highsides, you might run into him.

But running into the bike ahead is not your only threat. If that bike successfully dodges an obstacle in the street, you could hit it rather than him. If a deer or another vehicle happens to run into the gap between you and the bike ahead, you need stopping/swerving ability.

Since wet surfaces or driving down a hill decreases stopping ability, it makes sense to widen the gaps between bikes when you have to deal with them. Not so that you can avoid hitting the bike ahead of you if he remains in control of his bike, but because he might not, or other panic stop conditions might arise.

Conditions which should cause you to increase following distance, then, are those that affect VISIBILITY and, as a result, reaction time.

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<http://www.msgroup.org>

(James R. Davis is a recognized [expert witness](#) in the fields of Motorcycle Safety/Dynamics.)

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

Chaplain's Corner

Del Parris
Chaplain, Blue Knights WVII

State Rep's Report

MEMBERS ARE JUST BACK FROM SPRING MDC MEETING AT HAGERSTOWN MARYLAND. ALL AND ALL WAS A GOOD MEETING. SEVEN (7) MEMBERS OF THE HOST CHAPTER PUT ON THE MEETING FROM HOTEL TO HOSPIITALITY ROOM, DINNERS AND DID A GOOD JOB. SOME OF US WERE DISAPOINTEED IN THE WAY THE HOTEL CLARION TOOK CARE OF OUR MEMBERS,CHARGES WERE ADDED TO ROOM NOT KNOWN ABOUT, ONE OF OUR WV BK II MEMBERS PAID CASH AND THEN WAS CHARGED FOR ROOM WITH NO REAL HELP FROM THE HOTEL STAFF. THE HOTEL ITSELF ROOMS WERE NICE.

WEST VIRGINA BLUE KNIGHTS TOTAL IS 175 MEMBERS. MASON DIXON CONFERENCE MEMBERS TOTAL 2367 BLUE KNIGHTS. ADVISED CAN CHECK OUT NEW BLUE KNIGHTS POSTER ON OUR WEB SITE.

THERE IS STILL TALK ABOUT OUR BLUE KNIGHT COLORS AND PROBLEMS THAT HAVE RISEN MOSTLY WITH OUR OVER SEAS BROTHER AND SISTER BLUE KNIGHTS. THE THREE PIECE PATCH IS THE BIG PROBLEM WITH EVEN SOME POLICE DEPARTMENTS MAKING THERE MEMBERS UNLAWFUL TO WEAR. IT APPEARS THEY ARE COMMING UP WITH A FULL PATCH OR LEAVING OFF BOTTOM ROCKER OR ADDING OTHER ITEMS ON COLORS TO MAKE IT MORE THAN A THREE PIECE PATCH. SO THE TALK GOES ON.FROM WHAT I UNDERSTAND,OTHER TYPE OF COLORS MAY BE USED IF APPROVED BY INTERNATIONAL FOR THAT CHAPTER, AND ORIGINAL BLUE KNIGHT COLORS COULD STILL BE GRANDFATHERED IN PRIOR TO JULY 15, 2003. HAS TO BE A CHANGE TO SHOW IN THE BEST ITEREST OF BLUE KNIGHT MEMBERS SAFTY OR BECOME NOT PERMITTED BY LAW AGENCY RULES OR POLICY.

ALL ATTENDING MADE AWARE OF OUR WILD AND WONDERFUL AT CANAAN. THE FALL MEETING AT CULPEPER WILL BE 29 AUGUST TO 1 SEPT.WITH THE ELECTION OF MDC OFFICERS. THE NEXT YEAR SPRING CONFERENCE WILL BE AT CHEASAPEAK VIRGINA. MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND.

HAVE RECIEVED LETTER FROM BLUE KNIGHTS PA CHAPTER XVI OF THERE ANNUAL BLUE RIDE ON SUNDAY JULY 27, 2014. INVITING OUR MEMBERS. FOR THOSE WHO HAVENT ROAD

ON THIS YOU MISSED A GOOD RIDE AND DINNER,ALONG WITH THE FELLOWSHIP WITH OTHER BLUE KNIGHTS. THIS RIDE FROM HERE IS HEADED UP BY BOBBY RYAN, WHO I BELIEVE HAS MADE THEM ALL. HOPE TO SEE THE MEMBERSHIP COME OUT FOR THIS ONE DAY RIDE OF BLUE KNIGHTS FROM OUR CHAPTER.REGISTRATION FORM ON LINE OR I HAVE COPIES.

IF YOU HAVENT GOT YOUR BLUE KNIGHT WVII BADGES SEE PRES.ED THEY ARE GREAT LOOKING,BROTHER ED DID A OUTSTANDING JOB ON THIS, THANKS ED.

I AM DOING THIS REPORT JUST BEFORE MEMORAL DAY AND REMINDED OF JUST WHAT WE OWE THE MEN AND WOMEN IN SERVICE OF OUR COUNTRY. PLEASE TAKE TIME TO THANK THEM IN YOUR PRAYERS AND IF YOU HAVE A CHANCE THANK THEM IN PERSON.TO YOU WHO I RIDE WITH WHO HAVE WORN THE UNIFORM OF MY COUNTRY I THANK YOU.

RIDE WITH PRIDE,RIDE SAFE,

MARSHALL PARKER

WEST VIRGINIA STATE REP/ MEMBER WVII

From Membership

Have a new business in Fairmont, WV that will give 10% off to Blue Knights members with their membership card.

M & J CYCLE WORKS (Michella & James Nuce, Owners)

1620 Locust Ave, Suite 100, Fairmont, WV 26554 681-404-6057 MJCYCLEWORKS@outlook.com

Hours: Mon-Fri 9 AM to 6 PM Saturday 9 AM to 5 PM

Parts, racing, and accessories for motorcycles, ATV and UTV.

UP COMING EVENTS

2014 Warren T. Holmes Crab Feast & Family Weekend, Hosted by MD I, Crab Feast is Saturday, August 2, 2014. SPX Building Corp, (formerly Knights of Columbus) 3611 Steward Rd, Forestville, MD 20747. More info later. www.md1blueknights.org.

2014 West Virginia II Summer Picnic, Ferguson Memorial Park, 10 North Street, Shinnston, WV, Saturday, August 9th, 2014. Starts at 6 PM until 9 PM. Covered dish.

2014 MDC Fall Conference, Culpeper, VA, August 29 - Sept 1, 2014. 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. 38th Annual Blue Ridge Rally, theme is “Medieval Knights”. Price is \$95.00 per person. Contact Keith Chase (Secretary) 703-893-1823.

2014 West Virginia Chapter of the FBI National Academy Associates: “Motorcycle Ride and Feed”

West Virginia Chapter of the FBI National Academy Associates, Date: Sunday, 14 September 2014 (rain or shine), Location: Camp Dawson Kingwood WV. Registration: 1200 to 1300 - Kicks Stands up at 1315 Hrs. Costs: Ride, Steak Feed, drawings and t-shirt: \$ 25.00 LEOs and retired LEOS (per bike), \$ 10.00 per passenger for steak dinner, \$ 30.00 all others (per bike) Ride, drawings and t-shirt: \$ 15.00 per passenger for steak dinner. This year the West Virginia Chapter of the FBI National Academy Associates will host its 2nd annual “Motorcycle Ride and Feed”.

- Riders will take an escorted ride through scenic West Virginia departing at 1315 and returning at approximately 1700.
- There will be a steak feed with all the fixings immediately after the ride for those who pay (must pre-register for steak feed by email to K.C. Bohrer or Ron See so we can get a count for steaks)
- Riders will be given a drawing, ticket, t-shirt and a gift bag of other items.
- 50/50 tickets will be sold
- Proceeds will go to the WV Chapter of the National Academy.

Ride is open to all LEO's (active and retired), Blue Knights members and friends of Leo's. This is a military reservation and

proper ID will be required.

- Lodging is available the night of the event or previous night on a first come first served basis for LEOs (active and retired) only because of this being a military reservation at a cost of \$54.00 per night (approximate).
- Contact Camp Dawson Billeting at 304-791-7001 or billeting@cdmwr.com
- Riders will be required to register and sign a liability release waiver at registration

For advance registration and further information, contact either K.C. Bohrer at wv5pres@gmail.com or Ron See at ronsee@hardynet.com.

2014 West Virginia II, Saturday, October 24th, 2014, West Virginia II chapter Halloween Party (COSTUMES preferred) at Village Square Conference Center, Clarksburg, at 7 PM. Please call and let us know if you will be attending.

2014 West Virginia II, Friday, December 12th, 2014, West Virginia II chapter Christmas meeting/party Village Square Conference Center, Clarksburg. Meeting at 6 PM and Party right after the meeting.

2015 Winter MDC Conference, Danville, VA, February 13 - 15, 2015. Hosted by VA XIII, Comfort Inn & Suites, 100 Tower Drive, Danville, VA, 434-793-2000. \$75.00 per night. (Make sure you tell them you are with the Blue Knights LEMC group). Contact Keith Johnson 434-429-2531, bkshriner@verizon.net

Sick - Ill or in Distress:

Month Meeting Locations

Our next meeting will be Thursday evening, June 12, 2014, at 19:00 hours, at Blackwater Brewing Co., 912 Williams Ave, Davis, WV.

Blue Knights® International
Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club, Inc.
West Virginia II
P.O. Box 174
Anmoore, WV 26323-0174





Drive responsibly and always wear an approved helmet.
No matter what you ride.