



# BLUE KNIGHTS West Virginia II



## May 2016 Newsletter

Volume 20

Issue 4

### ***PRESIDENT'S NOTES:***

Our Wild Wonderful Knights Weekend is only a couple weeks away. I hope you have made your plans to attend. Please make sure you contact your vendors and others in order to get some door prizes. Rexann and I will be going up to Elkins on Thursday, June 9<sup>th</sup>.

Ride With Pride

**Ed & Rexann Martin**

304-622-0135 [bkww2@aol.com](mailto:bkww2@aol.com)

### ***VICE PRESIDENTS NOTES:***

**Our next meeting will be Monday, July 11, 2016** will be at the Lewis County Park, 257 Smith Run Rd, Weston, WV 26452. Starts at 6 PM until 9 PM.

The picnic is July 11th 6p-9p and I would like to start having people let me know what they are planning on bringing. I want to be ahead of the game so we are not rushed at the last minute. We are looking forward to a good time. Thanks. Also I would encourage you to talk to someone that would be a great addition to our BK WV II membership that meet the requirements and plant a seed with them about becoming a BLUE KNIGHT.

#### THERE WILL NOT BE A MEETING IN JUNE

We still have about 7 members that have not sent in their dues. Please get them into the chapter ASAP.

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**

[huntdeer79@aol.com](mailto:huntdeer79@aol.com)

### ***SECRETARY'S/TREASURER'S NOTES:***

**Our next meeting will be Monday, July 11, 2016** will be at the Lewis County Park, 257 Smith Run Rd, Weston, WV 26452. Starts at 6 PM until 9 PM.

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

May Meeting; Marty McNulty, Fred LePera, Lewis Stevens, DW Conners, Marshall Parker, Don Wikert, Russ Swiger, Walter Knight, Bobby Ryan, John "Spot" McCloud, Randy Biggins, Doug Baker, Rexann Martin and Ed Martin.

Guests: Linda Parker, Rebecca Green, Brandi Knight, Michele McCracken

## Chapter Safety Officer

Ride With Pride

**Walter Knight**

## MDC Safety Officer

**D.W. Conners**

**Blue Knights, West Virginia II**

**Mason Dixon Safety Officer**

Email [bkmdc@frontier.com](mailto:bkmdc@frontier.com)

## Road Captains

### Collaborative Group Riding

### Ride Your Own Ride AND Respect the Others

**By: James R. Davis**

When you ride in a group it is unquestionably your first priority to take care of yourself - to ride within your limits and the limits of your bike, regardless of what the rest of the group does. That's often been described as 'Riding your own ride'.

But you ARE in a group and that means some new responsibilities and behaviors apply. You ride at the speed the group rides, you stay in the lanes chosen by the lead bike, You stop when and where the group stops. Sounds a lot like you are riding THEIR ride as much as your own, doesn't it?

In business, management has recently come to realize that 'team work' is not always the best way to get things done. Sometimes it is better to work as a group of collaborators than as a team. A motorcycle drill team is a clear example of team work - everybody is expected to do no more nor less than what is required by the boss to get the job done. Independent thought is valued, but only to the extent that it contributes to the team doing its job.

When riding in a group there is certainly some team work going on, but each and every person in that group is expected to 'ride their own ride'. Doesn't that sound just a little bit different to you than each person being expected to do whatever it takes to make the team effort successful?

In collaborative efforts the assumption is that each individual is expert/proficient in some specialty while generally being able to function in team efforts. That is a very subtle difference in attitude. For example, in a collaborative effort, it is not unusual to find debate about what should be done next as each individual contributes based on their expertise. What IS unusual in a collaborative effort is that there is any rancor in these debates [well, there are sometimes rather harsh arguments, but the point is that each member is heard and contributes based on their specialty.] Each member RESPECTS the expertise of the other members and will generally defer gracefully to that expertise. Further, in a collaborative effort the group will do what the boss (lead bike) tells them to do unless there is a good reason not to.

The result is that almost invariably you have the best of the best from the best, though it looks like team work.

Back to motorcycling in a group ... some in the group have more stamina, some have better night vision, some have better navigation

skills, some have better familiarity with the surroundings, some have better emergency preparedness or EMS training, some are better diplomats. You get the picture.

Respecting the skills and uniquenesses of each of the rest of the team results in getting the best of the best from the best. Respecting yourself is riding your own ride. Respecting the others is collaborative group riding. The group leader/road Captain in a well functioning collaborative effort has certain responsibilities, each of the rest have theirs, and with respect, together they all decide on the best way to do things for the group.

Rather than the lead bike making all the decisions for the group, in a collaborative effort, he/she will consult with the others and give serious consideration to the expertise therein. Strategic decisions (destination) remain the leader's responsibility while tactical decisions (how) might well come from the members. Dictatorship it's not. Nor is it a drill team. Rather, it is a group of 'professionals' engaged in a cooperative effort designed for the benefit of all. Safe arrival and a good time with maximum contribution and participation by each may look like team work, but is more.

This is merely a proposed way to organize and function in a group. I posted it to invite you to think about it and, possibly, to create a new dynamic in how we all function when riding as a group.  
Ride smart.

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(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

May, 2016

Someone once raised the hypothetical question, “If you were arrested for being a Christian would there be enough evidence to convict you?” As I continue to move into the final years of my life this question has challenged me to do some serious reflection: other than my title and the fact I call myself a Christian, would people be able to recognize me as one? By my behavior? By my attitude? When I reflect in this way it becomes obvious that I do not always reflect the nature of the One whose name I bear.

In his book, *Mere Christianity*, C. S. Lewis suggested that a majority of “Christians” today want to bear the name and be seen as good, religious people, but do not want to do the work of being Christ-like. Many who attend church regularly are not changed by the experience; they fall into the same patterns of being judgmental of others, being unkind and unforgiving, all characteristics that Jesus openly condemned. The Apostle Paul gave us a list of the “fruits of the spirit” which include love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.” To provide this kind of evidence in order to prove that we might be a Christian requires prayer, intention, and work.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, a German Lutheran minister who spent his last years in a consecration camp, wrote a book called *The Cost of Discipleship*. In his book he challenges Christians to be serious about being disciples. He did and even gave his life for it. Today the church often takes in members without orienting them to the true nature of discipleship, without challenging them to actually reflect the changes which Christ demands. It is not easy. “Take up your cross and follow me,” Jesus said. “Be you perfect, even as your heavenly Father is perfect,” he challenges.

I write this because I feel strongly that Christians cannot stand solely on prayer in the schools and the Ten Commandments on the court house, and “In God We Trust” on our coins. We cannot be a “Christian Nation” by simply shouting that we are – we have to live like Christians if people are going to believe us. Law enforcement frequently arrest people, but the officer and prosecutor have to produce evidence that the person is guilty of the crime. Is there evidence to convict you of being a Christian?

**Del Parris**  
**Chaplain, Blue Knights WVII**

## State Rep's Report

RIDE WITH PRIDE, RIDE SAFE,  
**MARSHALL PARKER**  
WEST VIRGINIA STATE REP/ MEMBER WV II

# Committee Reports

Ed Martin, 2016 WVK Committee Chairman: Walter and I went back to Elkins to talk with all parties involved with our event and everything is looking good at this time. Since this is the first year working with all these people we are keeping our fingers crossed that all goes well. We understand we may have a few incidents happen but we are sure it will nothing that we can't work through.

## From Membership

NONE

## UP COMING EVENTS

**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 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016, and \$75.00 after April 1<sup>st</sup>.

**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](mailto:Dhooper@excellenceinc.com)

**2016 West Virginia II Summer Picnic**, Monday, July 11, 2016 will be at the Lewis County Park, 257 Smith Run Rd, Weston, WV 26452. Starts at 6 PM until 9 PM. Covered dish. The Lewis County Park offers a full sized swimming pool with two large water slides, a kiddie pool, two diving boards, three water features, two smaller slides, and plenty of sun. Lewis County Park is located off of Route 33 East of Weston. Turn by the Weston Wendy's and proceed .3 miles to our entrance on the left side of the road. We offer the 3 P's, Pool, Playground, and Putt-Putt. Please contact Brother Greg Hoskins at [huntdeer79@aol.com](mailto:huntdeer79@aol.com)

**2016 Harrison County Child Advocacy Center**, August 27<sup>th</sup>, 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 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Blue Ridge Rally, theme is "New Orleans". Price is \$95.00 per person. Contact Keith Chase (Secretary) 703-893-1823.

**2016 West Virginia II Halloween Party**, Days Inn & Suites, , 112 Tolley Drive, Bridgeport, West Virginia, Saturday, October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Contact person is Brother Gene Botting. 304-873-1014 or [eugenebotting@gmail.com](mailto:eugenebotting@gmail.com)

**2016 West Virginia II, Friday, December 16th, 2016**, West Virginia II chapter Christmas meeting/party Village Square Conference Center, Clarksburg. Meeting at 5:30 PM and Party right after the meeting. Ballroom A.

**Sick - Ill or in Distress:** Brother Ron Fetsco

### **Drawing**

Drawing at May 12, 2016 meeting was for \$45.00. Brother Bobby Ryan was present and won the \$45.00. The next meeting will be in July and the prize will be \$5.00.

### **July Meeting Locations**

**Our next meeting will be Monday, July 11, 2016** will be at the Lewis County Park, 257 Smith Run Rd, Weston, WV 26452. Starts at 6 PM until 9 PM. **THERE WILL NOT BE A MEETING IN JUNE**