



BLUE KNIGHTS West Virginia II



May 2021 Newsletter

Volume 25 Issue 5

PRESIDENT'S NOTES:

The 2021 Spring Mason Dixon Conference Meeting will be, 10 AM, Sunday, May 30th, 2021 at the Village Square Conference Center in Clarksburg, WV. I am requesting that we have members assist on Saturday evening and Sunday morning with making this a successful event. We may need to have a few people to help transport members from the hotel to the conference center on Saturday night. We will be hosting a simple hospitality room for members traveling from other states and the hospitality room will be open from about 5 pm until about 11 pm. Also, we may need help at 9 am on Sunday morning to get members from the hotel to the meeting if they need a ride. Sunday morning will be a police escort from the hotel to the conference center departing hotel at 9 am.

Please read through your newsletter and check out the event calendar. We have several events that our members should try and attend. We are also having to rides in June that will take up the whole weekend. We have the Heaven I ride and then the Flight 93 Ride.

Our manager at the clubhouse was able to sell \$3,000.00 of raffle tickets for WVU Children's Hospital and at the meeting the chapter decided to match that fund. We will be donating \$6,000.00 to the WVU Children's Hospital. The next time you are at the clubhouse thank the Donna and the Staff.

Ride with Pride

Ed & Rexann Martin

304-622-0135 bkww2@aol.com

VICE PRESIDENTS' NOTES:

Our next meeting will be Thursday, June 10th, 2021 will be at the 19:00 Hours (7 PM) at Blue Knights West Virginia 2 Clubhouse, 245 Emily Drive, Clarksburg, WV 26301. We will have pizza before the meeting.

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. 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. Invite them to go for a ride or come to one of our meetings.

Remember this club belongs to the members. We need to get out members active and involved with the chapter. Let's all get out and ride. Call another member and get riding.

Catch the fever.

Ride with Pride

35oldsrodder@gmail.com

Jim Enoch

SECRETARY'S NOTES:

Respectfully,

George D. "Robby" Robinson

Blue Knights WVII Secretary

robinsonsmc77@gmail.com

Hone 304-527-0757 Cell 775-781-1993

TREASURER'S NOTES:

All information has been sent to our CPA for filing our taxes.

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

Ride with Pride,

Walter Knight

Road Captains

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

Chaplain's Corner

**Del Parris, Chaplain
Blue Knights WVII**

Quartermaster

**Rene Noe
Quartermaster**

MDC Safety Officer



5 Pieces of Gear You Need to Ride a Motorcycle

Riding a motorcycle is inherently dangerous. According to NHTSA data, motorcycling is 33 times more dangerous than driving a car. There is a saying in motorcycle culture that there are two types of riders: Those who have crashed, and those who haven't crashed yet. Don't let that scare you off, with the proper gear you can enjoy how amazing riding is while keeping your skin on your body.

In this guide we will be covering:

- [Motorcycle Helmet](#)
- [Leather Motorcycle Gloves](#)
- [Motorcycle Jacket](#)
- [Motorcycle Boots](#)
- [Motorcycle Pants](#)

Motorcycle Helmet

The very first thing you will need is a helmet. Some states (including the current state I live, Idaho) don't have any sort of helmet law. You can ride with the wind in your hair and the bugs in your face. However, there are a lot of advantages of choosing to ride with a helmet rather than without one.

- **Your face stays on your face.** I've been in a couple different motorcycle accidents, and thankfully I've always been wearing full gear when they happen. There was one crash where my face was being dragged on the pavement for 20 feet. I had a full-face helmet though, and it allowed me to keep my nose on my face. Trust me, that's not just hyperbole, people have literally ground off body parts when they are tumbling down a road after a crash. I like my face, and I want to keep it.
- **It protects you from bugs.** There are lots of different helmets out there, and I always ride with a full face helmet. The biggest reason is because I've had one too many bugs hit me in the mouth or the eye. These were times when I just had my visor open while riding! I can't even imagine what it would be like if I had no sort of face protection at all.
- **It looks mysterious.** Batman wears a mask. Zorro wears a mask. Catwoman wears a mask. What do they all have in common? They exude mystery! That's what a helmet does, it just gives other people a small taste of that beautiful face of yours. Girls like mystery. Guys like mystery. Everyone likes it! So add a bit of mystery to your life with a full face helmet.
- **Lets you easily use bluetooth.** Lots of helmets come with bluetooth capability and speakers already installed. You can also buy kits to install on a helmet without those. Bluetooth lets you answer phone calls, listen to music, and even get driving directions while you ride your motorcycle.

- **You're brain stays protected.** You are a human and a brain is really important for you to live. You don't want brain damage. You want to be just as witty 10 years from now as you are today, and keeping your noggin protected in a helmet is a great way to do that while you ride a motorcycle.
- **It's the law.** In a lot of states, you have to wear a helmet in order to ride a motorcycle. So if you have to wear one anyway, might as well make it something useful like a full face helmet that has so many benefits rather than just a half helmet.

Leather Gloves

The second most important piece of equipment for me is riding gloves. Some would assume that a jacket would be higher on this list, but to me the gloves are even more vital. That's because if you are in a motorcycle accident flying through the air, **you are most likely going to try and extend your hands in order to protect yourself.** If you don't have anything protecting your hands, then you can break bones, lose skin, and even lose fingers.

Motorcycle Jacket

A motorcycle jacket is one of the most popular pieces of safety gear, mainly because it keeps you warm in the cool weather, and it **keeps you cool looking all the time** ☐

There are a bunch of different materials your motorcycle jacket can be made of. I wouldn't get too caught up in picking the perfect first jacket, because chances are you will end up owning more than one. My first jacket that I still have is made of ballistic mesh that is great for the summer. I also have a perforated leather jacket for the spring and fall, and I have a full leather jacket for the winter riding months.

Most jackets protect you against the elements. If you ride a lot you will probably find yourself being more cold than too hot, so a jacket is a welcome piece of kit. There are times though that it will be extremely hot, but it's still important to wear a jacket.

Often in the peak of summer it will be 90-100 degrees Fahrenheit (32 degrees Celsius) where I live, much too hot to wear a jacket normally. But before I go out riding without a jacket, I always ask myself, **"Would I rather sweat a little, or bleed a lot?"**

Although wearing a jacket might increase your temperature and cause you to sweat a little, if you do end up in a crash you will be thanking yourself since your skin will stay your body. When you slide along the pavement in an accident, **it's just like taking your skin to a belt**

sander. It literally scrapes the skin off your body, exposing muscle, bone, and nerves. NOT FUN. A jacket protects you from that, and keeps your skin where it belongs.

So look cool, and wear a motorcycle jacket ☐

Over the Ankle Motorcycle Boots

Another part of motorcycle gear that has made it's way into mainstream culture is motorcycle boots.

Motorcycle boots look great, but they also provide you with traction and protect the small bones in your feet in the case of a crash.

I've heard horror stories of people wearing tennis shoes while riding a motorcycle and when they crash and their shoes literally fly off their feet. I don't know about you, but I don't want my little toes exposed to 60mph pavement!

The main rules when it comes to motorcycle footwear is to make sure they are **sturdy**, and they have **over the ankle protection**. That means things like work boots that you might already have are a great choice if you are on a budget. Those high top Reeboks you love so much? Yeah, those don't offer much protection.

If you want something more like a shoe, a lot of major manufactures like Icon and Alpinestars make motorcycle specific shoes like the ones you see at the right.

Of course the best protection is always something like a full motorcycle boot. Plus, they look great!

Motorcycle Pants

I hope you aren't the type of person that wants to ride around in shorts. I cringe whenever I see that, mainly because I've had motorcycle pants save my knees on more than one occasion.

Motorcycle pants are usually the piece of gear that the vast majority of riders choose not to wear. That's because for a long time you were forced to either choose leather pants (what a fashion statement!) or a ballistic nylon that would look a little odd. They just don't look like normal pants.

Most people think jeans are enough protection, but that simply is not true. **Jeans will get shredded in just a couple feet of sliding on the pavement** and offer no protection at all. Think about it, jeans are cotton, cotton is very weak. As a kid I would rip a hole in the knee of my jeans just by falling on the grass. Grass is so much softer than concrete!

Thankfully, many manufacturers are starting to design jeans with **Kevlar panels** added to key places. Some are even weaving the Kevlar directly into the cotton material, and adding armor to likely impact zones. The Kevlar jeans won't protect you as much as leather pants, but they are MUCH better than regular denim jeans. This means that you don't have to look like you are preparing for deep sea diving just to enjoy a motorcycle ride.

You can ride to your destination and walk around wearing your sweet motorcycle boots, cool jacket, and motorcycle jeans. You look like a badass, not some astronaut.

With all that being said, **there are some leather and textile motorcycle pants that look pretty awesome.** They definitely make you look like more of a professional, not just a weekend warrior. I have a couple pair of leather motorcycle pants, textile pants, and even a pair of motorcycle jeans. Here are a few pics to inspire you!

Joke for the Day

I applied for a job today and they ask for three references. I wrote, "a dictionary, a Thesaurus, and a map."

Committee Reports/From Membership

Heaven I Ride;

The committee has come up with the Heaven I Ride. The committee has decided to do it in two (2) different rides to cut down on the length of the ride over all. Saturday June 12th at 9:30 am is the first one. They have decided that Sunday, June 13 for the ride to Flight 93, they will stop by Brother Boreing's graveside, the cemetery is on the route to the Flight 93 memorial so this would not be out of the way. This will save about three (3) hours off the original run.

The ride on June 12th, 2021 will start at the Clubhouse in Clarksburg at 9:30 AM and go to the New Martinsville cemetery for Brother Smith, eat at Quinet's Restaurant in New Martinsville and then return to the Clarksburg cemeteries and then end at the Clubhouse where we started and maybe have dinner. This would be about 3 hours and 30 minutes of riding time, which you should not be in the saddle for more than a little over an hour at the most. When you add in the stops at the cemetery and lunch that would be about another 2 hours. So, we would be looking for the total time involved about 5 to 6 hours. We would not be riding more than about an hour at a time. The plan is to not use the 4 lanes more than necessary. If you want to know the routes please just ask.

UP COMING EVENTS

May

SUNDAY, MAY 2, 2021 AT 9 AM. Wishing Well Run 3. Event by [Annie's Smiles Philippi Covered Bridge](#). Our 3rd Annual Bike Poker Chip Run, starting from Philippi, Stopping at Cool Springs, Our Lady of The Pines, Seneca Rocks, and The American Legion in Elkins before returning to Philippi. First out at 10am....Last in by 5 pm. \$20 per bike, \$10 per rider, early registration receives a free special event T-Shirt. Door Prizes, 50/50, Auctions, Food. Proceeds to Benefit, Annie Smiles Foundation, in their mission for special needs Children! Ride thru some of West Virginia's most Scenic areas and enjoy a day of being," in the wind", and helping special needs children and their families.

May 23, 2021 Ride for Mavrick: Location is Luzaders 3 Girls Diner, 53 Mid Mountain Lanes, Sutton, WV 26601. Donation are \$10.00 per rider and \$10.00 per passenger. All proceeds to benefit Mavrick to help cover his medical expenses. Registration starts at 10 AM, Kickstands up at Noon.

****2021 Spring MDC Meeting Sunday May 30th, 2021,** Hosted by West Virginia II. The chapter will be hosting the Spring MDC Meeting at Village Square Conference Center. This is for the MDC Meeting only. This is not the weekend event.

June

Heaven I Ride: Saturday, June 12th, 2021. The ride will start at the Blue Knights West Virginia 2 Clubhouse, 245 Emily Drive, Clarksburg, WV 26301. We will ride to visit most of our members that have transferred to Heaven I. This will be a daylong event lasting for about 7 hours or more depending on the stops. Basically, it will start at the Blue Knights Clubhouse and travel to at least 3 cemeteries and then back to the Blue Knights Clubhouse. It looks like about 160 miles and about 5 hours driving time. With putting flags on the graves and gas stops plus food stops, it will be about 6 to 7 hours. With doing it in mid-June there should not be a problem with daylight.

Chapter Flight 93 Ride: Brother Jim Enoch has advised that the chapter ride to Flight 93 will be on Sunday, June 13th, 2021. We will gather at the Burger King, Cranberry Square, Cheat Lake Exit 10 off of Interstate 68. We will depart (KSU) at 10 am for the ride to Flight 93. We will be stopping by Brother Boreing's grave site and give him his Heaven I honor. We are planning on meeting up with chapters from PA on the way to the memorial, most likely Curt's Restaurant. After visiting Flight 93 we may travel over to Flight 93 Memorial Chapel before traveling home. If anyone would like to stop at Penn Alps Restaurant to eat on the way home, please let us know.

This ride will be the day after the Heaven I ride. Will might be stopping at Curt's Restaurant about 1 hour form Burger King to meet with other chapters. More information to come.

July

2ND Annual Promise Ride, July 11th 2021; to benefit the Mountaineer Military Museum in Weston West Virginia. Ride sponsored by the Bikers for Christ, the Chrome Dragons Riding Club and the Forged Alliance Riding Club.

July 13, 2021: Chapter Ride to Cass, WV.

2021 Summer Bash: (PENDING) July 28 – Aug 1, 2021, Chesapeake, VA, Hosted by VA V. Delta by Marriott, 725 Woodlake Dr, Chesapeake, VA 23320. Room are \$109.00 per night and registration for event is \$109.00 per person.

Blue Ride, Sunday, July 25, 2021; Hosted by PA XVI. Registration will be at North Strabane Twp. Volunteer Fire Department on Rt19 Canonsburg PA from 9am to 11 am, and we will depart promptly at 11:30.

August

August 14, 2021: Blue Knights West Virginia II chapter ride to Quinet's Restaurant, New Martinsville, WV.

September

2021 MDC Fall Conference, Culpeper, VA, Sept 3 - 6, 2021. Hosted by VA II, Best Western 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 44st Annual Blue Ridge Rally. Price is \$95.00 per person. Contact Keith Chase (Secretary) 703-893-1823 or VA2@blueknights.org.

SRC Fall 2021 Conference: September 30 - October 3, 2021, hosted by GA XI. Unicoi State Park & Lodge, 1788 Highway 356, Helen, GA 30545. Conference registrations made after **September 1st, 2020** will be \$80 per member/\$150 per couple. Group room rates start at **\$109** per night plus tax and fees. There are also special rates for Barrels and Cabins located nearby. The group rate is available two days before and after the event dates. To book by phone, call **800-573-9659**. You must mention the **Blue Knights** and use the new 2021 **Group Code 09594**.

October

November

Harrison County Toy Run: November 28, 2021 at South Harrison High School, Lost Creek, WV. Lineup before 12:30 pm. Kickstands up at 1 PM.

December

2021 West Virginia II, Friday, December 10th, 2021, West Virginia II - chapter Christmas meeting/party Village Square Conference Center, Clarksburg. Social Hour 6 pm and Dinner about 7 pm. Ballroom A.

Sick, Ill, or in Distress: Update on Gloria from Brother Mike Neely. Last Monday she was given a clean bill of health. Her doctor said she was in remission and would not need to come back for 3 months. I want to thank all my Blue Knight brothers and sisters for all the prayers. There is no doubt that prayer works. Brother Robinson call he and Kelli are having some health issues, both having sciatica, piriformis syndrome. They also had a close neighbor pass away yesterday.

Please say prayers for all of them.

Next Meeting: Our next meeting will be on Thursday evening, May 13th, 2021 at 19:00 hours.

Drawing: : May drawing is \$15.00. Brother Doug Baker's name was drawn and he advised to keep the money in the fund for the next month. Must be present at the clubhouse to be eligible for the drawing. June drawing with be worth \$20.00.

Members in Attendance: Fred LePera, Marty McNulty, Doug Baker, Randy Biggins, Don Wikert, Ron Watson, Lewis Stevens, Rexann Martin and Ed Martin.

On Zoom: Mike Neely.

Next Meeting Location

Our next meeting will be Thursday, June 10th, 2021 at 7 PM.

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**2021 Spring Mason Dixon Conference
Meeting**

Hosted by **WEST VIRGINIA II**

May 30th, 2021 at 10 AM

West Virginia II will be hosting the 2021 Spring Mason Dixon Conference. This is just the meeting only. It is not the weekend event.

MDC MEETING: SUNDAY 10:00 AM at the Village Square Conference Center, 1489 Milford Street, Clarksburg, WV 26301.

INFORMATION: West Virginia II has acquired a venue for the Spring Mason Dixon Conference May meeting. We have worked out a deal to have folks who are traveling stay at the Best Western-Bridgeport with a \$79 rate (*call direct and tell them you are Blue Knight Conference*). We are also planning a simple "hospitality" night (chips, pretzels, nuts, etc.) at Village Square Conference Center in Clarksburg with a shuttle being offered back/forth on Saturday night. We will have some of our members and/or a police escort from the hotel to the meeting location which will be about 6 miles away at the Village Square Conference Center, 1489 Milford Street, Clarksburg, WV. This will be a Saturday evening/Sunday morning only event with **NO registration and all meals will be "ON YOUR OWN"**. The MDC meeting will start at 10:00 am on Sunday, May 30th. Since there is no registration, Ed is asking for those who plan to attend to please send him a simple email, BKWV2@aol.com This will help with securing the proper number of rooms, and proper planning for Saturday evening.

Hotel: **(CALL DIRECT FOR RESERVATIONS)**

Best Western Bridgeport, 100 Lodgeville Road, Bridgeport, WV. 26330.

(304) 842-5411 (Call Direct) Tell them you are making reservation for Blue Knights Conference.

Please email Ed Martin to let him know you are attending the meeting.

Contact Info: ED MARTIN 304-622-0135 bkwv2@aol.com