



BLUE KNIGHTS West Virginia II



November 2016 Newsletter

Volume 20

Issue 9

PRESIDENT'S NOTES:

It is with deep sorrow that I must advise you that one of our members, Brother John "Spot" McCloud's mother, Terry McCloud, passed away on Wednesday, November 23, 2016. There will be a memorial service for her at Davis Funeral Home, 124 Olen Thomas Drive, Clarksburg, WV, on Wednesday evening, November 30, 2016 from 6pm to 8pm. Memorial Service will begin at 7 PM.

It is requested that Blue Knight members wear their vest.

If you are going to attend the Toy Run, Sunday November 27th at South Harrison High School, here is so information for you that I received today.

The South Harrison Band will be ready at 11 am and will be offering coffee, hot cocoa, water and homemade baked goods in the high school cafeteria. We chose the cafeteria so that people have a place to stay warm and/or dry in case of poor weather.

Ride With Pride

Ed & Rexann Martin

304-622-0135 bkwv2@aol.com

VICE PRESIDENTS NOTES:

Our next meeting will be Thursday, December 8, 2016 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.

Membership dues are being collected through December. Dues are still \$25.00.

We need to receive your dues no later than December 31, 2016. If you are not renewing your dues please let us know.

Blue Knights West Virginia II, P.O. Box 174, Anmoore, WV 26323-0174

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. 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

SECRETARY'S/TREASURER'S NOTES:

Our next meeting will be Thursday, December 8, 2016 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.

We are now collecting the membership dues for 2017. I ask all of you to please send in your now. They are still only \$25.00 per year. 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

November Meeting: Doug Baker, Randy Biggins, Fred LePera, Don Wikert, Gene Botting, Del Parris, Robby Robinson, Ron Watson, Lou Stevens, Rene Noe, Walter Knight, Rexann Martin and Ed Martin.

Guest: Becca Green, and Jane Watson

Chapter Safety Officer Animal Hazards Swerve or Panic Stop?

By: James R. Davis

It doesn't happen very often but even while traveling on a freeway you can suddenly be confronted with an animal in your path. Certainly it happens with some frequency in the country, and on city streets you must be ever concerned about usually domesticated types.

Those of us who ride in the country tend to confront five types of animals with some regularity: deer, dogs, cattle, birds and horses in roughly that order of frequency. On surface streets there are usually just two varieties: dogs and children (both an animal and wildlife in my book.) Dogs on a freeway are usually road kill before you get to them.

If you see an animal in your path, given plenty of warning, the obvious best move is to slow down and give it as wide a clearance as possible. However, in the case of an animal that 'was in front of me out of nowhere' situations, you have an immediate decision to make ... to swerve and try to avoid it, or to panic stop.

That is a false choice to make! If you think that you can figure out where a deer is going to be in the next 5 seconds, you are dead wrong! But more than that, if you think that you can, in a panic, swerve your motorcycle and retain control of it - not run into oncoming traffic, or the side of the mountain, or off the road, or oversteer it into a crash after avoiding the animal, or swerve right into the animal which has jumped into your new path, then you are probably also of the opinion that it can't happen to you in any event.

If you hit a cement truck at 5 mph you will probably walk away from it. If you hit ANYTHING while traveling at 50 mph or faster, you probably will not. The difference is your speed. Swerving does not reduce your speed. What it will do is give away some control.

Your best move is almost always to try a CONTROLLED panic stop. Do not lose control of your bike. Minimize the speed of impact. If you are good, and practiced, you might not hit anything at all. Even if luck is against you you will probably still walk away from it.

I can hear it now: "Even if it's a child?" Absolutely! If that child decides to make a dash for his/her life and chooses (like you) the wrong direction to run in, then you will hit that child with a greater (faster) impact swerving to avoid him/her than if you try to stop the bike.

Of course you aren't doing 50 mph or greater on city streets, right? You are covering your front brake while riding on city streets, right?

Play the odds in your head before you get into the situation. Condition yourself - bias yourself - panic stops are not a bad thing.

Ride With Pride

Walter Knight

Road Captains

How to: Winterize your bike

by Michael Ross

Winter is fast approaching and if you live in a frigid climate it's time to store your bike for the season. In storing your bike for a few months over the winter, your main concern is to avoid corrosion while in storage and the goal is to have a bike that is ready to go when you are.

The most crucial areas in need of protection are the piston rings, cylinder walls, and valve seats. The enemy here is moisture, which can enter the engine from any of a number of places and cause serious damage. Since its not really practical to try and close up all of the possible areas of entry, we will concentrate on moisture proofing instead.

The first step is to warm-up the engine. This drives off any moisture that may have accumulated already and it makes it easier to get a good coating of oil in each cylinder. Turn the bike off and remove the spark plugs. Then, using a turkey baster, suck up 25cc's of engine oil and squirt the oil into each plug hole. Turn the engine over by hand (put it in top gear and turn the rear wheel) with the plugs still out to coat the cylinder walls, piston rings and valve seats. Then replace the plugs and drain the existing crankcase oil.

Next, fill the crankcase with fresh oil. I suggest you retain the old filter and plan on dropping this oil come Spring, but if you decide to use this oil after the thaw, you will want to change the filter now. The hard part of prepping your bike is now done and you can breathe a little easier knowing that moisture will not rust the piston rings to the cylinder wall. I just over hauled an engine that had been left unattended for a year and the cylinder wall was so badly pitted with rust that it had to be bored out 1 mm before I got down to good metal. Likewise the valve seats were a mess and I had to replace the head.

But we aren't out of the woods yet.

The next step is to protect the inside of the fuel tank from rusting. Fill the tank to the top with fuel that has been treated with a fuel stabilizer. I have had good luck with a product called Sta-Bil, which you can get at any marine supply store, but any type will do. You also want to drain the float bowls by unscrewing the small screw on the carb float bowl. Any fuel left in the bowls for more than two months will turn into a jet-clogging sludge that will cost you a carb overhaul to remove. If you have a fuel injected bike then you can skip this step and move on to the next.

Because batteries self-discharge, it is necessary to keep it charged up when the bike is stored. The best way to care for your stored battery is to hook a Super Smart Battery Tender to it. The Battery Tender is one of the latest generation of "smart chargers." It will maintain the charge in your battery without any other attention from you for years. The battery can also be left in the bike. If the posts on your battery are corroded, now would be a good time to remove the battery bolts and clean them up. A little grease on the threads of the bolts will keep them corrosion free all season. Make sure you top off the electrolyte with water if your bike does not a maintenance free battery.

Get the bike, the rear of the bike anyway, off the ground. If you're lucky and your bike has a center stand, use it. Wipe all the bird doo-doo off and give the chrome the once over with a coat of polish to keep it from pitting. Wax the tank and squirt some rubber protector on the rubber parts to keep them from drying out. Make sure you wipe any smashed bugs off your fork tubes before you throw a tarp over the whole thing.

If you live where it gets really cold then you should make sure your coolant has enough anti-freeze in it to keep the system from freezing. It's easy to check the coolant with a hydrometer that is made specifically for this purpose. Bikes don't have freeze plugs like cars, and a cracked cylinder head is a very ugly sight indeed.

That's about it. If you live in an area where rodents will crawl up the tailpipe looking for a place to nest, there are rubber plugs available that you can by to keep them out. The are made for dirt bikes, but will fit any street bike. Also, when you're ready to bring your bike out storage, you might consider changing the brake fluid. It can pick up water from the atmosphere and it's a good idea to change it annually any way.

If you have performed all of the above steps you can be sure that the bike you store for the winter will start and run perfectly come spring.

Mike Ross is a roadracer, writer and instructor at the Motorcycle Mechanics Institute. His columns will be appearing in the Superbike garage each month.

Rene Noe, Walter Knight, Rex Talkington, and John "Spot" McCloud

Chaplain's Corner

**Del Parris
Chaplain, Blue Knights WWII**

Committee Reports

Ed Martin, 2017 WWK Committee Chairman: Walter and I talking with all parties in Elkins involved with our event and everything is looking good for another event next year. We have heard that the rooms are starting to be booked, so please make your reservations soon. They only have 69 rooms.

From Membership

To all members - This past Summer, I have put on almost 11,000 miles traveling the roads of West Virginia, all of them local except for one trip to visit a brother in Virginia. I must tell you, that this state is absolutely awesome with some great roads! For one of the poorer states in the union, the roads are maintained to a superior degree. Now, I understand, that as a retired individual, I do have the freedom to go where I wish when I wish. Don't think I am holding a superior attitude - I am going to die LONG before a lot of you....I have just earned my retirement and am by Gawd going to enjoy it! However, I would encourage all of you who wish for the enlightenment that is derived from biking hither and yon, to try to accompany Don and Fred and I, or anyone else that bikes frequently. We have discovered some serious rides this past Summer. It has been without equal! We will of course repeat them next year, as well as add to them. Being that we're retired, we sort of just get together and go. I example our last ride, which took less than 12 hours to put together, when I had planned to sit in my quonset hut and carve rakes....AND...it was awesome! I am quite willing to start some sort of notification process whereby as soon as I know that we're going somewhere I can post it. And I do NOT mean BLK members only. ANYONE of your Mates who wishes to cruise this beautiful state with us is quite welcome! If your hours as a currently employed Law Enforcement Officer impede you, think again! I LOVE riding at night - and so does Chester. It's all about biking my brothers and sisters - period. Invite your friends! Let's go explore West by Gawd West Virginia!

Eugene D Botting

UP COMING EVENTS

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.

2017 Winter MDC Conference, Atlantic Beach, NC, February 10 - 12, 2017. Hosted by NC XVIII, Double Tree by Hilton, 2717 West Fort Macon Road, Atlantic Beach, NC 28512, rooms \$69.00 per night, phone # 252-240-1155; Blue Knights North Carolina XVIII, 206 Ridge Crest Dr, Peletier, NC 28584. Price is \$75.00 per person. Contact John Elder 252-342-1807.

2017 Spring MDC Conference, Memphis, TN, May 26 - 29, 2017. Hosted by TN I. More information to come.

2017 MDC Fall Conference, Culpeper, VA, September 1 - 4, 2017. 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 41st Annual Blue Ridge Rally. Price is \$95.00 per person. Contact Keith Chase (Secretary) 703-893-1823.

Sick - Ill or in Distress: Jim Boreing and his wife.

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It is requested that Blue Knight members wear their vest.

Drawing

Drawing at November 10, 2016 meeting was for \$15.00. Brother Bobby Ryan was not present so at the January 12, 2017 meeting the prize will be \$20.00. No December drawing at meeting because there is a drawing at the Christmas Party for \$100.00.

October Meeting Locations

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