



BLUE KNIGHTS West Virginia II



October 2023 Newsletter

Volume 27 Issue 8

PRESIDENT'S NOTES:

Our chapter Cash Bash on Saturday, September 30, 2023 was a huge success. I want to thank the members that sold tickets and also came out and help with the event.

If you can, you should try and schedule your calendar to go to the 2024 Winter MDC in Rehoboth Beach, DE. February 9-11, 2024. Maybe we could get enough members to attend and get the award for the largest chapter in attendance there. Remember members will get reimbursed for their event registration when you return.

Please let us know if you are going to take a ride so we can maybe get a few members to ride along. Call one of the new younger members and let them know you are riding; they might want to go. Remember it is not what you ride, it is that you ride.

MDC Chairman Keith Chase noted that the members should have received provides \$4,000 free Accidental Death and Dismemberment insurance. There is no need to respond if you do not want to designate a specific beneficiary or review current personal insurance. If you do not respond to the card, the payment will still be made to your estate, not a single person. Specific requirements govern AD&D insurance distribution.

I am sorry I had to cancel the October meeting but our Vice President was out of state and I ended up in the hospital due to a medical issue. I had to have open heart bypass surgery. Went in to hospital on Oct 1st and got home around 1 pm, October 16th. I want to thank everyone that sent prayers, text, direct messages, emails, phone calls and visited me. It really helps with the support. Employees at hospital could not believe the support I was getting. You are welcome to visit by the house any time (97 Clinton St, Anmoore, WV). Thank each one of you.

I am home getting better and hopefully will be at our November meeting. At the November meeting we will have the nomination of officers and do the election following the nominations. I am hoping to have it up on zoom.

I am going to try and get a newsletter sent out soon for October.

If anyone has any questions about the November meeting, please let me know.

If you have something for the newsletter also, please send it to me.

I am here for you.

I will be asking the Christmas committee and the WWK committee to step up and help me with these events. Maybe I can have you stop by the house or an hour so we can stay connected.

Rexann and I wish you all a Happy Halloween.

Ride with Pride

Ed & Rexann Martin

304-622-0135 bkww2@aol.com

VICE PRESIDENTS' NOTES:

I have been out of state for a few weeks. I have been keeping in touch with our President and making sure he is doing better each time. I am here for anyone that may need me. Feel free to contact me any time.

Catch the fever.

Ride with Pride

35oldsrodder@gmail.com

Jim Enoch

SECRETARY'S NOTES:

Our next meeting will be on Thursday evening, November 9th, 2023 at 7 PM.

Respectfully,

George D. "Robby" Robinson

Blue Knights WVII Secretary

robinsonusmc77@gmail.com

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

TREASURER'S NOTES:

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

Motorcycle Safety Tips for Autumn

Just because summer is over doesn't mean you have to stop riding your motorcycle. But if you're going to ride in autumn, make sure you're doing so safely.

Here are tips to prepare for riding your motorcycle in autumn:

Dress appropriately

In many U.S. regions, autumn temperatures can fluctuate greatly over the course of a single day. Morning might start out in the 30s but by mid-afternoon, it could be over 70. Counter these weather changes by dressing in layers.

Leather jackets are perfect for autumn bike riding. In summer, it's often too hot, but in the fall, a leather jacket is a great piece of protection from the wind and dropping temperature. If you buy one that has a removable lining, then you can even wear it if the weather gets warm again.

Also bring multiple pairs of gloves with you if you use your bike to commute. A thick pair could be ideal on a cold morning, but on your ride home, if the temperature has picked up, you might want something lighter or fingerless.

Look out for riding hazards

Leaves, twigs and other debris from trees often fall into streets during this time of year. While your bike can withstand running over a single leaf, road debris should generally be avoided. Hidden under some leaves could be something sharp that could give your bike a flat tire or potentially cause a road accident.

Have rain gear

Keep rain gear stashed on your bike if possible. The rain paired with chilly weather could cause hypothermia, or at the very least impair your riding ability. According to a 10-year study by the U.S. Federal Highway Administration, [11 percent of all vehicle accidents](#) are caused by rain. Make sure you're prepared in every way you can be for it.

Ride with Pride,

Walter Knight

Road Captains

As we are merging into the Fall season, we would like to remind the public of the dangers of slick roads due to leaves from the trees. When the leaves get wet, it produces the equal of “**black ice**” and creates hazardous road conditions. Please be mindful of changing road conditions, and also look out for other drivers.

“ROAD CAPTAIN”

Road captain is the name for the rider who coordinates a multiple-bike ride. Road captain can refer to both the leader and the sweepers who, among their other duties, check that other riders are safe. Working as part of a team, the road captain is responsible for the safety of the riders and the smooth running of the ride itself. Duties include planning, thinking ahead, communication and rider education. The road captain may even act as a tour guide.

Planning the Ride

A road captain is a fundamental part of any ride planning. Especially where riders may number in the dozens or even hundreds, A road captain has to be well versed in the route. A road captain must know about potential hazards, road conditions and any special events that are happening at the time of the ride. A road captain will ride the route a few days in advance to make sure that nothing has changed, will keep an eye on the weather, and will also be present at ride planning meetings.

Educating and Informing Riders

The road captain is expected to brief the group before the ride. A road captain will inform riders about the pace of the ride, tell them about staggered formation, and will explain what the rules are. Some rides require the participants to ride together in tight formation, while others have a more loose, "at your own pace" style. The road captain will also answer questions and educate new riders in hand signals and other riding etiquette. Finally, the road captain will let riders know what to do should they break down or have a mishap, and might have a tactful word in the ear of a rider whose behavior is causing problems.

Leading the Ride

The road captain leads the ride. Riders are expected to keep an eye on her for cues as to where to go next. Working in conjunction with blockers or sweepers, the captain will also help to block off intersections to allow riders to pass without worrying about traffic. A road captain will then pass back to the front. Sometimes the road captain stays in front and only the blockers do the intersection work, and sometimes a road captain works with the blockers. When a lane change is performed, the leader signals the change and the rear guard initiates it. This prevents lane-changing bikes from crashing into one another and also provides a safer block to traffic. Indicators are seen from the rear and a large column of bikes changing is less likely to be cut off.

Stop Coordination

At gas and fuel stops, the road captain will set up in a staging area he has previously chosen so that the line of bikes can assemble. After leaving, the road captain will wait until the rear guard signals that everyone is ready to go before accelerating to highway speed.

Other Duties of the Road Captain

Other duties of the road captain including dealing with the police and other unexpected surprises, and making sure everybody has a fun, safe ride. The road captain is part of a team that includes the sweepers and rear guard, and is, by definition, an experienced rider.

Rene Noe, Walter Knight, Andy Kolb, and John “Spot” McCloud

Chaplain’s Corner

**Del Parris, Chaplain
Blue Knights WVII**

Quartermaster

Brother Noe says 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. It’s that time of year that maybe a hoodie would be nice to keep you warm.

What would you think of the chapter having a chapter jacket? We all know that something like that could be expensive but make look great. Let us know what you think.

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

What’s the most dangerous part of a motorcycle?

The nut that connects the seat to the handlebar.

From Membership

UP COMING EVENTS

2023 Events

November

2023 Veterans Day Parade hosted by Clarksburg VFW Post 573. We need to be in place at 10:15 AM at the corner of West Main Street and 6th Street, Clarksburg (next to the Clarksburg Senior Center). **Parade starts at noon on Friday, November 10, 2023.**

2023 Harrison County Area Annual Toy Run; Sunday, November 26, 2023, bikers will meet at South Harrison High School parking lot at noon and kickstands up at 1:00 pm.

December

2023 West Virginia II, Friday, December 8th, 2023, West Virginia II - chapter Christmas meeting/party Village Square Conference Center, Clarksburg. Social Hour 6 pm and Dinner about 7 pm.

2024 EVENTS

2024 Winter Mason Dixon Conference, February 9th – 11th, 2024. Delaware I is hosting the Winter MDC at the Atlantic Sands Hotel & Conference Center, 1 Baltimore Ave, Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971. (On the Boardwalk) Room Rate is \$85.00 plus taxes. Call hotel at 800-422-0600, ask for Blue Knights Group #10. Registration for the event is \$105.00 per person.

2024 Spring Mason Dixon Conference/Wild & Wonderful Knights, Hosted by West Virginia II. Host hotel is the Pipestem Resort State Park, 3405 Pipestem Dr, Pipestem, WV. May 24th – 26th, 2024. **FOR ROOM RESERVATIONS CALL:** Pipestem Resort State Park, 304-466-1800; **TELL THEM YOU ARE WITH THE BLUE KNIGHTS GROUP**, Rooms \$98.00 per night for standard room. Event registration is \$100.00 per person, and \$125.00 after April 15th.

2024 MDC Fall Conference/48th Annual Blue Ridge Rally; Culpeper, VA, Aug 30 - Sept 2, 2024. 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 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: Brother Ed Martin, he had to have open heart bypass surgery and is now home recovering. Seems everything went well. Brother Noe fell and messed up his right arm is going to have to have surgery soon. Brother MikeWilliams (MDC Chaplain) just had surgery. Please send your prayers.

Next Meeting: Our next meeting will be on Thursday evening, November 9th, 2023 at 7 PM. Aat this meeting we will having nominations for officers for the 2024 & 2025 years. Following the nominations, we will have the election of officers.

Drawing: September drawing was \$15.00. Brother name was drawn tonight. He was not present at the meeting. October drawing will be \$20.00. Must be present at the clubhouse to be eligible for the drawing.

Members At Meeting: There was no meeting in October.

Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be on Thursday evening, November 9th, 2023 at 19:00 hours.

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.

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.**

 **JUSTICE**
Federal Credit Union
Federally Insured by NCUA.