



September 2022 Newsletter

Volume 26 Issue 9

PRESIDENT'S NOTES:

We had to cancel the September 8, 2022 chapter meeting due to clubhouse staff shortage.

At the Fall MDC conference meeting we have a new board. Chairman is Keith Chase, Vice Chairman is Fred Allen, Secretary is John Weinstein, Treasurer is Keith Johnson and International Rep is Mike Pollinger.

The main issue discussed was about the Vice-Chairman and Vice-Presidents working on recruitment and retention. Brother Chase advised that it is their responsibility to handle these issues but it is also up to every member to work on these things as well. Keeping in contact with members that may not ride as much due to work or family. Sometimes just talking to or stopping by and checking makes a difference. Still making contact with co-workers and spreading the word about the Blue Knights. So please let us all set that example of checking on each other and for us retired guys and gals lets stop by our old departments and talk with the new guys. I know that a lot of officers in our area have not heard about the Blue Knights and what we do. Let's try and get our there and let them know.

At the Fall MDC event West Virginia II received the plaque for the largest MDC chapter represented. We were present with 13 people from our chapter. I would like to thank the following for attending 2022 Fall MDC, Blue Ridge Rally. Thanks to Steve and Carmen Hamling, Robby and Kelli Robinson, Marshall and Linda Parker, Lou Stevens and Becky Green, Rene Noe, Tina Benda, Zadah Talkington, Rexann Martin and myself. This is the first time our chapter has received this award at this event. We have always been one or two people short. Hopefully next year we will have more members and guest attending it and bring home the plaque once again. The plaque will be on display at the clubhouse.



The MDC number of members of the Blue Knights are dropping and so the chapters. As of today, there are only 600 chapters with 15,369 members. This is a big drop from just a few years ago when we were over 20,000 members. The MDC is also not doing very well. We have gone from 73 chapters down to 60 chapters and only 1,779 members. We did have over 2,400 members just a few years ago. One of the things is that our club is getting older and so are the members. We are also losing members to other clubs because they have first responders in the club. The Blue Knights is a club that allows you to ride any type motorcycle but you must have or had arrest powers. Then there are a few clubs that you have to be LEO but ride a specific type motorcycle. So please take the time to try and talk with some of the officers at your department and see what we can do to get some young blood back into this club.

If you, can you should try and schedule your calendar to go to the 2023 Winter MDC in Rehoboth Beach, DE. February 10-12, 2023. Maybe we could get enough members to attend and get the award for the most chapter in attendance there also. Remember members will get reimbursed for there event registration when you return. The 2023 Spring MDC conference will be Memorial Day weekend, May 26, 27, & 28, 2023. It will be at the Holiday Inn Express, 50 Martin Street, Elkins, WV. You can make your room reservations now. We need to find some good door prizes and someone that can pinstripe and airbrush for the Spring MDC. We have a committee researching information on the chapter purchasing a trailer. Looking for most likely a 7 by 14 or 7 by 16. Hopefully they will have some information at the next meeting.

Ride with Pride

Ed & Rexann Martin

304-622-0135 bkww2@aol.com

VICE PRESIDENTS' NOTES:

As our president stated above it is the Vice Presidents job to lead in recruitment and retention. The main issue discussed at the Fall MDC conference meeting was about the Vice-Chairman and Vice-Presidents working on recruitment and retention. It may be our responsibility to handle these issues but it is also up to every member to work on these things as well. As mentioned above please keep in contact with members that may not ride as much due to work or family. Some times it is just good to hear from another member and see what is going on with them and if there is anything we can do to help them if they are having issues. That one phone call or stopping by the house might make the difference of them staying a member and maybe becoming more active in our chapter. Remember that members make up the chapter. We need everyone's effort and help to keep the chapter active and moving forward. So, I am asking each member to help me make this a great chapter.

Catch the fever.

Ride with Pride

35oldsrodder@gmail.com

Jim Enoch

SECRETARY'S NOTES:

Our next meeting will be Thursday, October 13th, 2022 at 7 PM.

Hope this finds my Brothers, Sisters, and Family members in good health and spirits? Travel to Culpeper was scenic, travel from Culpeper was very rainy. The Mason Dixon Fall Conference was a great time. A chance to see our fellow Brothers, Sisters and family members.

Was great to hear the memories, and was sad that some members and family members have passed. Lord willing, we hope to be there next year. Reservations made this far for Culpeper and Elkins. Hopefully our health will improve so we can do a few more things.

Would like to see a vote on a flag as I indicated last month and a banner to display at conferences representing Blue Knights WV II.

Was great to see our membership win a plaque. Take care, pay attention to your surroundings. Safe travels n safe riding. Warmest regards Kelli n Robby

Respectfully,

George D. "Robby" Robinson

Blue Knights WVII Secretary

robinsonsmc77@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

Bounding Bambis

“In Deer Country, a Smart Rider Is Prepared for a Quick Stop”

You're out for an early ride in the country, away from the hassles of traffic. The narrow backroad on which you travel passes farms and curves through a shady forest. You're aware of the hazards of backroads, such as loose gravel and wet leaves, so for this ride you're wearing your most protective riding gear: leathers, gloves and full-coverage helmet. And you plan to keep the gear on even when the sun begins to warm the air.

You settle into a comfortably aggressive ride, slowing only for locations where there are narrow bridges and many hidden driveways. When you enter a deer migration area, you maintain speed, but watch carefully for wild deer alongside the road.

Suddenly, as you round a tight turn, you see a brown shape in the left ditch—perhaps a log or a soggy cardboard box. But a second later, the brown shape raises its head, and you instantly recognize the tall ears of a deer. But the deer just continues to stand there munching, so you assume you can cruise by without any evasive action.

But a second or two before you pass, the deer springs into action, scrambling onto the pavement directly in front of you. You attempt to brake and swerve, but the deer darts one way and then the other, and you can't avoid a collision that knocks both you and the deer to the pavement. Fortunately, neither of you is seriously hurt. The deer clatters away, leaving you to survey the damage to your bike. You silently congratulate yourself for wearing your leathers today.

** The reason for deer signs is that there is a history of numerous deer strikes in that area. So, when you enter a deer zone, you should expect to encounter wild deer grazing alongside or leaping across the road. Deer typically spring into action as a vehicle gets close. The best tactic for avoiding a deer strike is to be prepared for a quick stop. If you see a deer next to the road you should immediately brake, especially if the deer is facing the road and, therefore, most likely to leap in your direction.

//From Motorcycle Consumer News "Street Strategies" by David L. Hough

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

Chaplain's Corner

**Del Parris, Chaplain
Blue Knights WWII**

Quartermaster

Brother Noe with riding season coming to an end now is the time to get some new shirts, hats etc. Items are at the clubhouse. If you need something contact me or one of the staff at the clubhouse. We still have hoodies in stock. Got some new upper, lower rockers and center logo patches.

Rene Noe

Joke for the Day

Sarcastic Al Says: I couldn't handle my wife, even if she came with instructions.

INT'L/MDC Safety Officer

**Robert (Bud) Overby
252-717-2857
Mason Dixon Safety Officer**

BKNCVIII

Ride Safe, Ride Often & Ride with Pride!

From Membership

From Sister Martin: We had a wonderful trip to Culpeper VA. Weather was fantastic & the scenery was gorgeous!! Enjoyed our time with old & new friends. Thanks to the WV2 folks that showed up & let us WIN the plaque for most attendees!! Can't wait to repeat next year!!



From Brother Enoch:



“Larry is the tall guy in the picture of the three of us.” While recently on vacation in El Paso, Texas, I had lunch with Larry Kunard and his army friend. Larry is the President of Texas III and SWC Vice Chairman-East of the Blue Knights. Larry retired after 23 years of service with the El Paso P.D. We had an enjoyable time at lunch exchanging war stories and telling my jokes. This was the second time I had the pleasure of dining with Larry, the first time was two years ago when he invited me to breakfast with him and several other Blue Knights. We agreed that when I visit El Paso again, we will get together.

UP COMING EVENTS

2022
December

2022 West Virginia II, Friday, December 9th, 2022, West Virginia II - chapter Christmas meeting/party Village Square Conference Center, Clarksburg. Social Hour 6 pm and Dinner about 7 pm.

2023 Events

February

2023 Winter Mason Dixon Conference, February 10th – 12th, 2023. 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 \$79.00 plus taxes. Call hotel at 800-422-0600, ask for Blue Knights Group #10. Registration for the event is \$95.00 per person.

May

2023 Spring Mason Dixon Conference/Wild & Wonderful Knights, Hosted by West Virginia II. Host hotel is the Holiday Inn Express & Suites. Elkins, WV. May 26th – 28th, 2022. 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 GROUP, Rooms \$125.00 per night plus tax. Event registration is \$75.00 per person before May 1st, 2023, and \$90.00 after May 1st.

July

2023 International Convention: Hosted by PA V, host hotel is the Penn Harris Hotel, 1150 Camp Hill Bypass, Camp Hill, PA 17011. July 16 – July 21, 2023. Room rates are \$134.00 plus tax per night and the registration for the event is \$150.00 per person. Convention Information: The web site for the 2023 event has been activated for Blue Knights around the world. You can visit the web site by clicking on/going to www.BKI2023International.com. See flyer below.

Sick, Ill, or in Distress:

Zadah Talkington still recovering from her fall, Brother Stevens girlfriend Becky had surgery and is recovering. Brother Hunt and his wife Sherry are recovering from Covid 19. Brother Robinson and his wife Kelli are both still having health issues. If there are members that I have missed please forgive me, I have not heard from anyone else.

Next Meeting: Our next meeting will be on Thursday evening, October 13th, 2022 at 19:00 hours.

Drawing: September drawing was \$85.00. Since there was not meeting in September the October drawing will be \$85.00. *Must be present at the clubhouse to be eligible for the drawing.*

SEPTEMBER'S MEETING WAS CANCELED

Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be Thursday, October 13th, 2022 at 7 PM.

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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.**



Federally Insured by NCUA.

2023 BLUE KNIGHT INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION
A "Family Oriented Event" Sunday, July 16 – Friday, July 21
Harrisburg, PA

Hosted by PA V – a prior host for 2013, 2018, 2022 Tristate Conferences and 2016 International Convention...You will not be disappointed!

PENN HARRIS HOTEL direct: (717)-763-7117
 1150 Camp Hill Bypass
 Camp Hill, PA 17011



Rooms \$134/night BK rate - single & double

- 200 Room BK block or more
- Rate good for 3 days before & 2 days after
- 3pm check-in / 11am check-out
- Newly refreshed rooms/New owner
- Pet Friendly, 1,000 capacity banquet room
- Gym and Outdoor pool



Registration \$150 (adults), \$85 (ages 12-17):

- Wednesday Dinner and Thursday Banquet,
- Hospitality daily w/extended hours
- Typical choices of 2 Guided Rides each day
- Youngster sitting during Banquet
- BK "car-pooling" excursions desk
- Special events for the ladies
- Vendors and Chapter Sales Room
- Door prizes & daily 50/50s
- Opt. Bus Tours (an extra charge)
- Opt. Daily Hotel Breakfasts (on your room charge)



Some area attractions of interest for "Guided" Rides, Tours and Visits:

- | | |
|---|--|
| National Civil War Museum - Harrisburg | PA State Police Museum - Hershey |
| Harley Davidson Assembly Plant - York | Susquehanna River Tour |
| Bills Cycle Barn - Bloomsburg | Three Mile Island - Middletown |
| PA Military Museum - Boalsburg | Gettysburg Battlefield Tour |
| Hershey Amusement Park | National Cemetery - Ft Indiantown Gap |
| Chocolate World - Hershey | Hershey Rose Gardens |
| PA Sate Capitol Complex - Harrisburg | Centralia Mine Fire - A Near Ghost Town |
| Vineyard at Hershey | Lancaster County Amish & Mennonite Country |
| Lititz PA - "Coolest Small Town in America" | Army Heritage Center - Carlisle |