



BLUE KNIGHTS West Virginia II



August 2025 Newsletter

Volume 29 Issue 6

PRESIDENT'S NOTES:

I would like to inform everyone that we have made a few changes to our chapter bylaws. The Bylaws committee is working and reviewing a couple more sections that may have to be updated. We should have that information at the September meeting. Nothing really major. If you want to know what they were please contact me so I can explain. I could not do it in this small newsletter.

I have noticed that our month attendance has dropped down a little the last couple of months. Hoping it is due to the heat.

Do we have very many members out riding in this hot weather? I hope so.

We have had several members ending up in the hospital recently. Some from vehicle accident, to home injuries, general illness to more serious health issues. If you know a member that has issues please let me know so I can make contact with them. Please try and contact your brothers and sisters and let them know you are here for them. Keep them in your prayers.

We are thinking about ordering new merchandize but not sure what the members want us to have on sell. So now is the time to let us know what you think we should order. I had a couple of members asking about jacket for the winter. I looked into good jackets but after you embroider the back and front the price is a couple hundred dollars. I have no problem with getting one but we need to get a dozen to get a good price. The setup fee is a big cost. So, what do you think? We might do chapter shirts in both blue and black. What do you think of that?

Ride with Pride

Ed & Rexann Martin

304-622-0135 bkww2@aol.com

VICE PRESIDENTS' NOTES:

Picnic went well. Had about 12 members from Maryland I attend, it was a big success.

Car Show had a good turnout and I promoted the Blue Knights. Donation was \$2,000.00.

Catch the fever.

Ride with Pride

35oldsrodde@gmail.com

Jim Enoch

SECRETARY'S NOTES:

Hi brothers. We went for a drive today. Bikes were everywhere. Way too hot for me. Culpeper is coming up in a couple weeks. We would really like to see you there. It's always a good time. Be safe out there. Lot of crazy drivers.

Our next meeting will be September 11th, 2025 at 7 PM at the Blue Knights West Virginia 2 Clubhouse, 245 Emily Drive, Clarksburg, WV.

Be safe out there.

Respectfully,

Lewis "Lou" Stevens

Blue Knights WVII Secretary

awsstevens@yahoo.com

Cell 304-203-3185

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

Tire Pressure

More temperature sensitive than you might think

By: James R. Davis

As we are now into the colder months of the year, I thought it appropriate to post a reminder about tire pressures and the effect of temperature on same.

Stamped on the outside of many of your tires is a recommended tire pressure range. (At least an upper limit.) For longest tire life it is my recommendation that you strive to keep them at the higher limit of those recommendations (regardless of what your motorcycle owner's manual might say to the contrary.) Further, this pressure should be determined while the tires are cold - meaning, have not been used for a couple of hours.

Time and outside temperature effect the pressure within your tires. It is NORMAL for a tire to lose about 1 pound per square inch (psi) per month. Outside temperatures affect your tire pressure far more profoundly, however. A tire's pressure can change by 1 psi for every 10 degrees Fahrenheit of temperature change. As temperature goes, so goes pressure.

For example, if a tire is found to have 38 psi on an 80-degree mid-summer day, it could lose enough air to have an inflation pressure of 26 psi on a 20-degree day six months later. This represents a loss of 6 psi over six months and an additional loss of 6 psi due to the 60 degree temperature reduction.

At 26 psi, your tire is severely under inflated and dangerous!

There is nothing wrong with your tire if it behaves like this, of course. What is being illustrated here is that you **MUST** check your tire pressure on a regular basis (about once a week is reasonable) and to be particularly aware of it on cold days.

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**Ride with Pride,
Walter Knight
Chapter Safety Officer**

Road Captains

Paying Attention is NOT the Same as Being Alert/Aware It is deadly, at the wrong time

By: James R. Davis

Yesterday I saw two motorcycle incidents that, thankfully, involved no accidents - but could have. One was funny, the other was an invitation to a disaster.

In the first instance I saw a motorcycle pull up to a red light and stop. There was a police car immediately behind him. The motorcyclist decided after about ten seconds that the light was stuck (I guess) and casually took off and crossed the street. I was right next to the police car and both occupants looked at each other and shook their heads. They took off after the motorcycle, lights flashing. The rider was not trying to get away - he saw the flashing lights and pulled over to get his ticket. He obviously had not noticed the police car behind him. I suspect most people would argue that he was not paying attention.

In the second instance I was walking my dog and as we got near the end of the block there is a stop sign because there is a busy side-street crossing there. A motorcycle rode up to the stop sign and stopped. He apparently looked both ways and saw that the only traffic was a city bus approaching from the left. But that bus had its blinkers on and was slowing to a stop at the bus stop on my left. Seeing that the bus was actually stopping the motorcyclist decided it was clear to enter the intersection and took off. ONE HALF SECOND later he grabbed a handful of brake and panic stopped as the car that had been to the left of the bus (and had, thus, been invisible to him) screeched its tires and did a panic stop trying to avoid hitting the motorcycle. They were both successful in stopping in time but the motorcyclist could reach out with his left hand and touch the car's hood at that time. Close! Some would argue that the motorcyclist was not paying attention.

In both cases I would argue that the motorcyclist **WAS** paying attention - too much of it - and was not alert or aware of his surroundings. It is simply not true that paying attention means alert or aware. It means, because we have a limited amount of attention to 'spend', that you are focused on something, not scanning and not particularly sensitive to other potential problems.

The first rider paid attention to the red light. He completely missed the fact that a police car was behind him. He also failed the patience test as ten seconds seemed like a long time to him, again I'm guessing. That lapse of awareness cost him a ticket but it could just as easily have cost him his life. Entering an intersection on a red light is a bet your life decision.

The second rider was paying attention - to the bus. He obviously failed to do anything like a 'What if there's a car hidden by that bus?' kind of self-preservation inner dialog. Instead, with all his attention on the bus, and

seeing that it was not a threat to him, he concluded that there were no other vehicles and took off from the stop sign - right into the path of that hidden car.

Paying attention is usually the wrong thing to do when you are riding. Being alert and aware of your surroundings ('situational awareness' is what pilots call it) is life saving accident avoidance mental activity.

You pay attention AFTER you recognize a threat in order to assess what you should do about it. You do NOT pay attention before that so that you can detect threats.

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

Chaplain’s Corner

**Del Parris, Chaplain
Blue Knights WVII**

Quartermaster

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. Remember if there is an item that you think the chapter should purchase and have on sale, please bring it up at a meeting so we can vote on it.

**Rene Noe
Quartermaster**

Committee Report

At the July meeting the membership voted to continue with the 31st Annual Wild Wonderful Knights Rally. We are trying to get hotel for June 12th, 13th, and 14th, 2026. Registration will be \$100.00. Rooms will be \$135.00 plus taxes. You can make room reservations at any time.

Joke for the Day

A mechanic was removing a cylinder head from the motor of a motorcycle when he spotted a well-known heart surgeon in his shop. The surgeon was there waiting for the service manager to come take a look at his bike. The mechanic shouted across the garage, "Hey Doc can I ask you a question?"

The surgeon, a bit surprised, walked over to the mechanic working on the motorcycle. The mechanic straightened up, wiped his hands on a rag and asked, "So Doc, look at this engine. I open its heart, take valves out, fix'em, put 'em back in, and when I finish, it works just like new. So how come I get such a small salary and you get the really big bucks, when you and I are doing basically the same work?"

The surgeon paused, smiled and leaned over, whispering to the mechanic....."Try doing it with the engine running!"

From Membership

On Wednesday, July 2, T.R. Queen and David Brewer, a retired Deputy Sheriff from Carbon County, Utah, now residing in Fairmont, WV took their iron ponies out for a short run. Traveling down Rt. 20 to Rock Cave and then over to Weston for some lunch by way of Stonewall Jackson Resort. (No road-trip is worth a dime unless you stop along the way for some good grub). I only put 100 miles on mine while Dave put on a little more since he came in from Fairmont. Working 2 part-time jobs can sure put a damper on one's riding, then when you factor in all the rain, we've been having.....

From Brother T.R. Queen

Rides have been great, have put 4000 miles on the Bike in WV, MD, Va.

From Brother Bill Bradley.

UP COMING EVENTS

2025 EVENTS

August

2025 MDC Fall Conference/49th Annual Blue Ridge Rally; Culpeper, VA, Aug 29 - Sept 1, 2025. Hosted by VA II, Baymont Hotel, Culpeper Inn, Event includes breakfast buffet, (540) 825-1253, Blue Knights Virginia – II, P.O. Box 2264, Merrifield, VA 22116-2264. Contact Dan Rivard 703-314-1012 or VA2@blueknights.org.

2025 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 Tuesday, November 11, 2025.

2025 Harrison County Area Annual Toy Run; Sunday, November 30, 2025, bikers will meet at South Harrison High School parking lot at **noon** and kickstands up at 1:00 pm.

Sick, Ill, or in Distress: Brother Kolb and his father were involved in a car crash last week. Andy has been released from the hospital but his father Charlie is still in the hospital. Brother Luzader is home sick. Brother Wikert stated his wife has had 4 chemo treatments, she is weak but still doing treatments. Brother Wikert advised he has MDS cancer. Found it in his bone marrow. Will know more about treatments later. Brother McNulty's wife Tammy still seeing doctors. Brother Noe also having medical problems and seeing several different doctors.

Next Meeting: Our next meeting will be September 11th, 2025 at 7 PM at the Blue Knights West Virginia 2 Clubhouse, 245 Emily Drive, Clarksburg, WV.

Drawing: August drawing is \$25.00. Brother Fred LePera's name was drawn. He was present and won the \$25.00. Member must be present at the clubhouse to be eligible for the drawing. September drawing will be \$5.00.

Members in Attendance: Don Wikert, Fred LePera, Mike Neely, Ron Watson, Lewis Stevens, Ed Martin, Rexann Martin, Jim Enoch, Robert Davis II, Marty McNulty and Zach Kesling

Guest: None

Facebook: Andy Kolb, Becky Green, Walter Knight, Bob Rhodes, Chuckie Diaz, Barbara Hartley, Doug Baker, Doug Casteel, Pam Poisson, Russ Harper, Tammy McNulty, and Johnny John.

Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be September 11th, 2025 at 7 PM at the Blue Knights West Virginia 2 Clubhouse, 245 Emily Drive, Clarksburg, WV.

ARE YOU A MEMBER YET?

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.

It would be great to get as many chapter members as possible to join up.

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