



BLUE KNIGHTS West Virginia II



February 2014 Newsletter

Volume 18

Issue 2

PRESIDENT'S NOTES:

Also make sure you read the other articles so you will know about the change for the March meeting.

We had a good turnout for our February Meeting. Brother Richard Swisher advised everyone about our event at Canaan Valley in June. Please start making your contacts and picking up your door prizes.

Ride With Pride

Ed & Rexann Martin

304-622-0135

VICE PRESIDENTS NOTES:

Our next meeting will be Thursday evening, March 13th, 2014, at 19:00 hours, at Ryan's Restaurant, 519 Emily Drive, Clarksburg, WV. If you have not got your dues in for 2014 please get them in ASAP. Dues are \$25.00. I hope everyone continues their membership and is getting excited for good weather so that we can get on the bikes again. If you know anyone that meets the membership requirement please talk to them and see if they are interested. We have some new recruitment posters that I will try and have at the next meeting so please get a couple and them post at your work or at other departments. Let's work together and keep our membership up. Thanks for your help.

Please ask another officer to come to a meeting or go for a ride with you and tell them about the Blue Knights. Do you have recruitment posters to put up at police departments? If not just ask for some.

I know some of you have already paid in advance so if you have that is great or if you are not sure contact Ed he will have that listed in the membership list. We have received dues from 31 of our 66 members. So if you have not sent yours in yet please do so soon.

Catch the fever.

Ride With Pride

Richard & Bridget Swisher

SECRETARY'S/TREASURER'S NOTES:

Our next meeting will be Thursday evening, March 13th, 2014, at 19:00 hours, at Ryan's Restaurant, 519 Emily Drive, Clarksburg, WV.

As I am writing this, the sun is shining, it is still below freezing but there is sunshine. My thought are to getting the bike ready for riding again, going thru the Road Captains checklist, getting the trickle charger out.

I am getting a better handle on the Secretary and Treasurers' business.

Be Safe and remember you are the face of West Virginia II Blue Knight's, Ride with Pride.

Marty McNulty

ROLL CALL

Members at February 22nd, 2014, at 14:00 hours, at C.J. Maggie's, 309 Davis Ave, Elkins, WV.

DW & Cathy Conners, Marshall & Linda Parker, Fred LePera, Ethel Tyler, Marty McNulty, Bill Bradley, Walter & Brandi Knight, Steve Richards, Rexann Martin, Richard & Bridget Swisher, and Ed Martin.

Chapter Safety Officer

Ride With Pride

Walter Knight

MDC Safety Article Feb. 2014

Question? "IS YOUR TIME UP"

As always the suggestions that I write about are only suggestions. Here is something that I've been questioning myself for years and please let me know what you think about it. A few years ago Ziggy, one of my Little Adopted Brothers that I was staying with made a statement to me. You know our number is coming up. I asked him what he meant. He stated with all the riding we do it is only a matter of time until we get into a bad wreck. I told him he rides a lot more than I do almost every day. He said that's true, but you ride a lot of long distance trips.

My question to everybody is this. If you ride a lot every year (several miles), or if you only ride two or three rides a year, which person is more likely to have a wreck? The person riding all the time is use to dealing with traffic on the bike, that person is also subject to the hazards of being on two or three wheels more often. On the other hand the rider that only gets on his bike two or three times a year may have forgotten how to deal with hazards or has become rusty with his controls. I know that once you ride a bicycle you don't forget how to ride a bike but you can still forget certain things. I believe in the Man above all of us and when it's your time it will happen. The QUESTION is again which rider has more of a chance of getting hurt or killed.

Here are some statistics from a mid-west state.

1. Motorcyclists are 6 times more likely to be injured than other motorists involved in crashes – based on miles driven.
2. An average of more than 50 motorcyclists die from motorcycle crashes in this state each year.
3. Nine of the 10 motorcycle fatality victims were not wearing a safety helmet.
4. Motorcyclist crash involvement is highest in riders age 45 and older.
5. 60 percent of riders killed were age 45 and older.
6. Only one of two fatal motorcycle crashes involves another vehicle.....the motorcyclist usually fails to control the motorcycle.
7. More than 50 percent of motorcycle-vehicle crashes occurred because a driver did not see the motorcycle.

Here are some simple Motorcyclist tips.

Make yourself visible – Be seen.

Use a modulating headlamp. Choose riding gear that increases your visibility in traffic and provides protection in a crash. Use bright colors and retro-reflective strips or decals, especially at night.

Ride so you are seen.

You and your motorcycle are easily hidden in traffic, in motorists' blind spots or against bright sky. Use lane positioning to be seen.

Sharpen your riding skills – Be smart.

Know your abilities and ride within your limits. Earn and maintain your motorcycle license. A rider refresher course can upgrade your skills and increase your riding enjoyment.

Allow plenty of space.

Allow space for motorist to see and react to you. Scan for changing traffic and roadway conditions. Allow space for emergency braking or crash avoidance.

Signal your intentions.

Signal before changing lanes. Avoid weaving between lanes. Flash your brake light when you are slowing down or before stopping.

Be courteous and respectful.

Being courteous, non-aggressive and cooperative can go a long way in reducing crashes.

D.W. Conners

Blue Knights WV 2

MDC Safety Officer

Blueknightsva5@msn.com

Road Captains

Group Riding: 17 Tips To Ensure Everybody Has A Great Day



The engine purrs beneath you as a string of motorcycles snakes through the hills in front of you. With a quick look in the mirror, you see your buddy following close behind with a smile on his face that matches yours. The camaraderie forms because, at just this moment, you're all on the same page.

That's what a group ride is all about. It's an opportunity to share the open road and wonderful scenery with other like-minded people.

But like most motorcycle experiences, this one is best enjoyed by following a few simple guidelines that keep everyone safe. And that's the idea behind a new videotape put out by the Motorcycle Safety Foundation that focuses on group riding. You can get your own copy by visiting the MSF website at: www.msf-usa.org, but here are a few tips from the country's foremost motorcycle safety experts.

1. The first thing you want to do is organize the ride. This can be as informal as standing around in a parking lot, or as formal as a special meeting to hand out maps and cellphone numbers.



2. Remember that riding in a group does not mean you surrender any decision-making when it comes to your safety. Ride your own ride, and don't go any faster than you feel comfortable going.

3. When picking your route and the stops you'll make along it, consider the stamina of the group, the experience of all the riders, and the limits of the motorcycles in the group. Remember, these are your friends. If it's going to be a long ride, be sure to take a few breaks along the way.

4. You'll need to communicate while on the ride, so make sure everyone knows the signals you'll use.



5. When creating your formation, it's wise to have your experienced riders at the lead and running sweep. Consider positioning the less-experienced riders immediately behind the leader. This allows the front rider to adjust the pace if necessary.

6. Ideally, the sweep rider will have a cellphone to call for help if a motorcycle is disabled, or if there has been an accident.

7. If the goal of the ride is to keep the group together, the leader should only go at the pace of the least-experienced rider.

8. While riding, don't fixate on the motorcycle in front of you. Instead, remember your basic training. Look well through the turn to where you want to go.

9. If the group is riding faster than you are comfortable with, let the sweep rider know you're dropping out and ride at your own pace. So you may reach your destination a few seconds behind the others, but you will get there, and that's what's important. Keep in mind, it's all about fun.

10. All riders are also responsible for making sure their motorcycles are mechanically up to the task. Before you even meet up with the group, make sure you've got plenty of fuel in the tank, and that you've taken care of all those maintenance issues. Not sure what to check? Use [T-CLOCS](#). You really don't want to be the reason for stopping the group for something mechanical you could have prevented.

11. If it's going to be a large group, consider establishing a buddy system among the riders, or divide the group into smaller five- or seven-rider packs. That way, if something goes wrong, you don't have 25 motorcycles sitting on the side of a busy highway. Also, smaller groups can more easily navigate through city streets.



12. On the road, motorcyclists should have at least a 2-second cushion in front and behind them. If you want to keep the group tight, consider a staggered formation. Leave enough room per lane so each rider can maneuver side-to-side if need be. Avoid side-by-side formations as they shrink your space cushion.

13. Trikes and sidecars should stay in the center of the lane, and should be given the same amount of cushion as if they were a car.
14. As turns get sharper, or as visibility decreases, move back to a single file formation. You'll also want to use single file when entering or exiting a highway, at toll booths, or when roads have a rough or questionable surface.
15. At intersections where you've come to a stop, tighten the formation to side-by-side to take up less space. As the light turns green, or when traffic opens up, the bike on the left proceeds through the intersection first.
16. Remember we share the road with many other vehicles, and it's against the law to block an intersection.



17. When parking, try to get the group off the roadway as quickly as possible. If you can, arrange in advance to have pull-through parking at your destination, or at the very least, make sure there is ample parking for your size group.

Want more group-riding tips for your club or group? Order the MSF Guide to Group Riding video at www.msf-usa.org. The cost is \$15.00 for a video and a handbook.

Rene Noe, Walter Knight, Rex Talkington, and John “Spot” McCloud

Chaplain’s Corner

February, 2014

“What are you giving up for Lent?” is a common question that you will be hearing over the next several weeks. From my experience most people who give up something give up something related to their health, their weight, or their financial situation. Chocolate is a popular victim of Lent as is smoking, desserts, and other special treats. Then, there are those who “give up” things they don’t have access to or don’t like such as caviar or spinach. That is pretty lame, however.

Perhaps instead of giving up something we would serve the spiritual nature of Lent more by giving or doing something for someone else. Give up lunch every Friday and give the \$5 you might have spent to the mission or some other program that will help others. Take some of those extra coats to the Salvation Army. Fix and take a meal to your elderly neighbor once a week.

God would probably be pleased if we gave up some of our business and running around like crazy people to sit quietly and pray or just listen to the birds, or as the Psalmist says, “Be still and know that I am God.” While polls show that an overwhelming percentage of American believe in God, I imagine only a minority are quiet long enough to pay Him any attention. It is like claiming someone is a friend, but never sitting down to visit with him or her.

Basically, the time of Lent is one of reflecting on our lives and how well we are aligned with the program that our Creator had in mind for us. It is a time to raise questions about how we can become better people and about how we can incorporate our relationship to God into our daily lives. Good luck!

Del Parris
Chaplain, Blue Knights WWII

State Rep's Report

Marshall & Linda Parker
West Virginia State Rep.

From Membership

Have a new business in Fairmont, WV that will give 10% off to Blue Knights members with their membership card.

M & J CYCLE WORKS (Michella & James Nuce, Owners)
1620 Locust Ave, Suite 100, Fairmont, WV 26554 681-404-6057 MJCYCLEWORKS@outlook.com
Hours: Mon-Fri 9 AM to 6 PM Saturday 9 AM to 5 PM
Parts, racing, and accessories for motorcycles, ATV and UTV.

UP COMING EVENTS

2014 Ride to the Tide, Hosted by Delaware I, Sunday, April 27, 2014. Two Starting points – 1. Newark to Rehoboth, 2. Dover to Rehoboth. Register online at www.sode.org.

2014 Dare Ride, Hosted by VA XIII, Saturday, May 10th, 2014. Starting and ending at Bartlett Yancey High School Parking Lot, 536 East Main Street, Yanceyville, NC. Registration 9-11 AM, Kickstands up at 11:30 am. Donations are \$20 per bike, car, or truck and \$10 per passenger. Lunch provided for registered participants. 50/50 Raffle.

2014 19th Annual Law Ride – Sunday, May 11th, 2014. Blue Knights VA II, will meet at the Fairfax County Public Safety Building, 1400 Chain Bridge Rd, Fairfax, VA at 08:00 hours and assemble in the parking lot at the corner of West St and Page Ave. Motorcycles will leave at 09:00 hours and will be escorted to RFK Stadium by the Fairfax County Police Motor Squad. Upon arrival at RFK Stadium we will assemble with our fellow riders from across America, some 1500 motorcycles and ride to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial at 11:00 hours via escort, a noon ceremony and wreath laying will take place at the memorial. For Information contact Chuck Stewart (FXPD-Retired) 703-350-5143

2014 Spring Mason Dixon Conference Weekend, May 16-18, 2014, Hosted by MD II. At The Clarion Hotel & Conference Center, 901 Dual Highway, Hagerstown, MD 21740 . (301) 733-5100 or 1-888-528-6738. Room rate is \$79.95 plus tax. Ask for Blue Knights 30th Anniversary Group rate. <http://www.clarionhagerstown.com/>. Blue Knights Maryland II, 20725 Oriole Court, Hagerstown, MD 21740. Registration is \$85.00 per person or \$160 per couple. More info to come.

2014 Warren T. Holmes Crab Feast & Family Weekend, Hosted by MD I, Crab Feast is Saturday, August 2, 2014. SPX Building Corp, (formerly Knights of Columbus) 3611 Steward Rd, Forestville, MD 20747. More info later. www.md1blueknights.org.

2014 West Virginia II Summer Picnic, Ferguson Memorial Park, 10 North Street, Shinnston, WV, Saturday, August 9th, 2014. Starts at 6 PM until 9 PM. Covered dish.

2014 MDC Fall Conference, Culpeper, VA, August 29 - Sept 1, 2014. Hosted by VA II, Best Western Culpeper Inn, Event includes breakfast buffet, (540) 825-1253; Blue Knights Virginia – II; P.O. Box 2264, Merrifield, VA 22116-2264. 38th Annual Blue Ridge Rally, theme is “Medieval Knights”. Price is \$95.00 per person. Contact Keith Chase (Secretary) 703-893-1823.

2014 West Virginia Chapter of the FBI National Academy Associates: “Motorcycle Ride and Feed”

West Virginia Chapter of the FBI National Academy Associates, Date: Sunday, 14 September 2014 (rain or shine), Location: Camp Dawson Kingwood WV. Registration: 1200 to 1300 - Kicks Stands up at 1315 Hrs. Costs: Ride, Steak Feed, drawings and t-shirt: \$ 25.00 LEOs and retired LEOS (per bike), \$ 10.00 per passenger for steak dinner, \$ 30.00 all others (per bike) Ride, drawings and t-shirt: \$ 15.00 per passenger for steak dinner. This year the West Virginia Chapter of the FBI National Academy Associates will host its 2nd annual “Motorcycle Ride and Feed”.

- Riders will take an escorted ride through scenic West Virginia departing at 1315 and returning at approximately 1700.
- There will be a steak feed with all the fixings immediately after the ride for those who pay (must pre-register for steak feed by

email to K.C. Bohrer or Ron See so we can get a count for steaks)

- Riders will be given a drawing, ticket, t-shirt and a gift bag of other items.
- 50/50 tickets will be sold
- Proceeds will go to the WV Chapter of the National Academy.

Ride is open to all LEO's (active and retired), Blue Knights members and friends of Leo's. This is a military reservation and proper ID will be required.

- Lodging is available the night of the event or previous night on a first come first served basis for LEOs (active and retired) only because of this being a military reservation at a cost of \$54.00 per night (approximate).
- Contact Camp Dawson Billeting at 304-791-7001 or billeting@cdmwr.com
- Riders will be required to register and sign a liability release waiver at registration

For advance registration and further information, contact either K.C. Bohrer at wv5pres@gmail.com or Ron See at ronsee@hardynet.com.

2014 West Virginia II, Friday, December 12th, 2014, West Virginia II chapter Christmas meeting/party Village Square Conference Center, Clarksburg. Meeting at 6 PM and Party right after the meeting.

2015 Winter MDC Conference, Danville, VA, February 13 - 15, 2015. Hosted by VA XIII, Comfort Inn & Suites, 100 Tower Drive, Danville, VA, 434-793-2000. \$75.00 per night. (Make sure you tell them you are with the Blue Knights LEMC group). Contact Keith Johnson 434-429-2531, bkshriner@verizon.net

Sick - Ill or in Distress:

Month Meeting Locations

Our next meeting will be Thursday evening, March 13th, 2014, at 19:00 hours, at Ryan's Restaurant, 519 Emily Drive, Clarksburg, WV.

2014

WILD AND WONDERFUL KNIGHTS Blue Knights West Virginia II

PLEASE COPY

\$60.00 PER PERSON PRE-REGISTRATION

After May 1st, 2014 Registration is \$75.00 Per Person

June 13th, 14th and 15th, 2014

CANAAN VALLEY RESORT, DAVIS, WV

NAME: _____ AGE: _____
 CO-RIDER: _____ AGE: _____
 ADDRESS: _____
 CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____
 PHONE: _____
 CHAPTER: _____ MILES TO EVENT ON MOTORCYCLE: _____
 PRE ORDER T-SHIRTS \$15.00 EACH # _____ SIZE _____

Please mail this form to:
BLUE KNIGHTS WV II
P.O. BOX 174
ANMOORE, WV 26323-0174

CONTACT:
Ed Martin **304-622-0135**

PLEASE READ AND SIGN:

PARTICIPANT'S AGREEMENT TO INDEMNIFY AND HOLD HARMLESS THE BLUE KNIGHTS INTERNATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT MOTORCYCLE CLUB, INC., WEST VIRGINIA CHAPTER II, AND CANAAN VALLEY RESORT, AND TO RELEASE THE BLUE KNIGHTS INTERNATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT MOTORCYCLE CLUB, INC., WEST VIRGINIA CHAPTER II, AND CANAAN VALLEY RESORT, FROM LIABILITY. The participant, shall indemnify, hold harmless, and release from any and all liability, the Canaan Valley Resort, its Agents, Officers, Directors, and Employees, and/or the Blue Knights International Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club, Inc., its Conferences, Chapters, Officers, Directors, Members, Agents and Employees from and against all claims, damages, losses, and expenses, including attorney's fees arising out of or resulting from the participation in, **BLUE KNIGHTS WEST VIRGINIA II, EVENT ON JUNE 13th, 14th & 15th, 2014**, provided that any such claim, damage, loss or expense (a) is attributable to bodily injury, sickness, disease or death, or to injury to or destruction of tangible property, including the loss of use resulting therefrom, and (b) is caused in whole or part by any negligent act or omission of the Canaan Valley Resort, its Agents, Officers, Directors, or Employees and/or the Blue Knights International Motorcycle Club, Inc., its Conferences, Chapters, Officers, Directors, Members, Agents or anyone directly or indirectly employed by any of them, or anyone whose acts any of them may be liable, regardless of whether or not it is caused in part by party indemnified and/or released from liability.

SIGNATURES: _____ **DATE:** _____
 Co-Rider: _____

Enclosed is \$ _____ for _____ participants.

Refunds returned by written request only. No cancellations or refunds after May 1st, 2014.

To be guaranteed a room at the discount rate you must contact **Canaan Valley Resort** directly at **(1-304-866-4121)** **before May 1, 2014**. They have blocked off rooms, when you call mention Blue Knights Group ID: 14353, Password: 40. All new rooms and the price are \$80.00 plus taxes & fees for standard room and \$90.00 plus taxes & fees for junior suites. Cabins and Campsites also available.

Confirmation on registration will be sent if requested.

All awards will be based upon information placed on the registration card given at time of registration. Presentations of awards will about 10 PM, Saturday night, June 14th, 2014.

Blue Knights® International
Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club, Inc.
West Virginia II
P.O. Box 174
Anmoore, WV 26323-0174



Blue Knights International Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club, Inc.



Drive responsible and always wear an approved helmet.
No matter what you ride.