



BLUE KNIGHTS West Virginia II



June 2019 Newsletter

Volume 23 Issue 5

PRESIDENT'S NOTES:

Well 2019 Wild Wonderful Knights Weekend has come and gone. I want to thank everyone that helped make this weekend a great success. I AM PROUD THAT EVERYONE THAT ATTENDED HELPED OUT IN SOME OR NUMEROUS WAYS. Once again thank you.

I would like to see members come forth and be on some of the committees that we have in the chapter. We need your support to make things happen. We need some guys to step up and start helping getting rides formed.

I want to remind everyone that if you and another member go for a ride together just to go for lunch, sightseeing or to work and back please let me know so I can get you marked down as doing a chapter ride.

Ride With Pride

Ed & Rexann Martin

304-622-0135 bkww2@aol.com

VICE PRESIDENTS NOTES:

Our next meeting will be Thursday, July 11th, 2019 it 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.

Catch the fever.

Ride With Pride

35oldsrodder@gmail.com

Jim Enoch

SECRETARY'S NOTES:

Our next meeting will be Thursday, July 11th, 2019 it 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.

Respectfully,

George D. "Robby" Robinson

Blue Knights WVII Secretary

robinsonusmc77@gmail.com

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

TREASURER'S NOTES:

Our next meeting will be Thursday, July 11th, 2019 it 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.

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

ROLL CALL

May Roll Call: Ed Martin, Rexann Martin, Robby Robinson, Robert Davis, Don Wikert, Fred LePera, Mike Neely, Ron Watson, Del Parris, Jim Enoch, Charles Luzader, Rene Noe, Ethel Tyler, Walter Knight, William Longwell and Marty McNulty present at the meeting. Guest: Brandi Knight

Meeting was not online this month due to Wi-Fi problems.

Chapter Safety Officer

All Roads Are Not Alike

Tourers take note

By: James R. Davis

Those of us that tour with our motorcycles have learned something about the roads across the country that might not be obvious - they are all different.

I mean that they are made of different materials, the quality of their surfaces varies considerably, they might be pristine and immaculate in one place only to become pot-holed war zones a few miles farther along.

The curves in one section of a road can be well lighted, perfectly banked, and of consistent radius while only a mile away a similar curve can be dark, decreasing radius, covered with 'tar snakes', and have roadside weeds higher than your head.

Why?

It seems to me that what we are seeing is simply a manifestation of the very real differences in County and State wealth and quality of their various maintenance personnel.

The Interstates are consistent in quality and design. The various State and County roads are not.

So, the message here should be obvious: As you cross a County line be sure to be ready for changes in road surface and quality. Slow down and experience the workmanship and care of the roads in a new County for a few miles before believing that you can take that next blind curve as fast as you are used to driving.

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(James R. Davis is a recognized [expert witness](#) in the fields of Motorcycle Safety/Dynamics.)

Ride with Pride,
Walter Knight

Road Captains

Electrical Storms

Riding out from under them could be a big mistake

By: James R. Davis

You are out in the country and an electrical storm blows in. There is no civilization (read: shelter) for a hundred miles. Should you ride out the storm? If not, what should you do?

No doubt you have heard that because your tires are made of rubber, and because rubber is not a good electrical conductor, so long as you keep your feet on the pegs lightning will not hit you since it cannot find a path to ground through you and the bike. WRONG!!!

Though rubber is a pretty good insulator at the normal voltage levels we mere humans deal with, it is not very effective against the voltage in a lightning bolt.

On the other hand, you may also have heard that if a lightning bolt hits a car the occupants are safe because the car is riding on rubber tires, etc. Actually, this is almost true! So long as the occupants stay away from anything metal, they will more than likely survive a lightning hit without any injury whatever.

What protects occupants of a cage is not their rubber tires, but the fact that they are enclosed in a metal container. If a lightning bolt hits the surface of the car it spreads around the occupants, NOT THROUGH THEM, and goes to ground.

A lightning bolt that hits you or your motorcycle is a different matter entirely.

Let me give you an idea of magnitudes we are dealing with here. The master fuse on your bike handles about 30 amps before it blows. An average lightning bolt produces a current of about 20,000 amps. Even 30 amps can easily kill you because it disrupts your heart's electrical system and the heart then simply stops working. Your heart doesn't stand a chance against a lightning bolt.

Anyway, if you are out in the open on your bike when lightning flashes begin, and if you can hear the thunder caused by those flashes in less than three seconds from when you see the flash, it's time to stop your bike and get off it.

- Immediately find low ground, but NOT under a single or small group of trees.
- Squat on the ground with your legs together, head lower than back, but NOT touching the ground. Do NOT lay on the ground.
- LET YOUR CLOTHES GET WET!!! (In this way, if you are hit the majority of the electricity will follow the moisture of your wet clothes around your body.)
- Do not get up until thunder following a lightning flash is AT LEAST five seconds after the flash. (Which means the lightning struck more than 1 mile away.)

Incidentally, lightning can, and DOES, hit the same place twice - frequently.

If there are more than 5 seconds between the lightning flashes and your hearing that thunder, head for shelter. This is the only time trying to ride out from under an electrical storm makes any sense.

Best shelter, of course, is a hard covered surface connected to ground with metal. Get under it and wait out the storm.

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(James R. Davis is a recognized [expert witness](#) in the fields of Motorcycle Safety/Dynamics.)

If you going for a ride please call/contact other members and see if they would like to go with you.

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

Chaplain's Corner

In his “Book of the Hours” Rainer Maria Rilke includes these words in a poem about death, “But fearful, we wither before the harvest.” In other words, we die before our death. A cartoon I recently saw pictured a young lady standing before St. Peter who was looking at a book. St. Peter says, “It appears you had a very good life, but you missed it because you were on the phone.”

Both Rilke’s poem and the cartoon remind me that life can easily slip by while I am too busy to notice or too afraid to live it. To live our life fully does not translate into the “laugh, drink and be merry for tomorrow you may die” attitude, which is a fatalistic

philosophy. On the other hand, we should fully participate in and enjoy our lives. No need to let fear keep us from living. I am often surprised at how many people never leave their homes or home county because of some vague fear of what is out there.

When I decided to bike to Seattle to see my youngest son and his family, I was taunted by friends who thought it was too dangerous to bike across country alone. There are always dangers with biking, but there are more dangers sitting on the couch eating chips and drinking beer. I have always felt that when I die, I do not want to regret that I “withered before the harvest.”

Jesus said, “I have come that you might have life and have it more abundantly.” Often, we live in fear of God or fear of making a mistake or doing the wrong thing, so we do nothing. I doubt that is how God intended for us to live. I end my morning prayer with, “Lord, no matter what happens today help me to live it in joy and thanksgiving.” I pray you can do the same.

Del Parris, Chaplain
Blue Knights WVII

Committee Reports

From Membership

President Martin is thinking about setting up a fall ride on September 21, 2019 to Flight 93. Is anyone else interested? It will be a couple weeks after Patriot Day so it should not be as hot or crowded. If you are interested please send him an email. (bkwv2@aol.com)

Tsula Botting’s knee revision surgery went well, except for the massive amounts of antibiotics which killed good bacteria with the bad, causing a temporary collapse of her immune system. She spent 5 days in Stonewall Jackson Hospital battling a combination of pneumonia, pleurisy, colitis and gastritis. She is now home, and well on the way to a complete recovery.

Eugene Botting

UP COMING EVENTS

2019 Jane Lew Lions Club “Ride for Sight” Dice Run: Saturday, June 22, 2019. Watters Smith State Park, 831 RR 3, Duck Creek Rd, Lost Creek, WV 26385. Registration is at the Pioneer Shelter from 8 am to 11 am. Last Bike out 11 AM. Last bike in 4 PM. Registration is \$15.00 per rider and \$10.00 per person. Highest roller wins \$300.00, lowest roller wins \$50.00. Contact Tonya Price 304-672-9923.

2019 Annual Blue Ride: Sunday, July 28th, 2019, (Rain or Shine) hosted by Blue Knight PA XVI and Washington Lodge #164 F & AM. Registration is at the North Strabane TWP. Volunteer Fire Dept. from 9 am to 11 am. The cost is \$25.00 single, \$35.00 double. Contact Dave Richards at 724-263-6218 or dave.richards114@comcast.net

2019 West Virginia II Summer Picnic, will be Sunday, July 28, 2019 at the Shinnston Municipal Pool, 10 North Street, Shinnston, WV 26431. *Picnic starts at 6 PM until 9 PM.* Brother Ryan

2019 Summer Great Lakes Region Conference, August 2 –4, 2019 in Youngstown, Ohio. Host Hotel: Hampton Inn Youngstown-West I-80at State Route 46880 N. Canfield-Niles Road Youngstown, Ohio, 44515. 330-544-0660 Ask for the “Blue Knights Law Enforcement Rate” Room rates are \$95.00 per night. Standard 2 queen or a king. Rates start Thursday. Indoor pool, complimentary high-speed internet, 24-hour business center. Check in time is 2 PM. Hampton Inn has been remodeled this past year. Hotel serves a hot breakfast for its guests. Hotel is not pet friendly, sorry. Event registration to be \$60 per person.

2019 International Convention August 4 - 9, 2019; Hosted by Bronx NY II, The Hilton Westchester Hotel, 699 Westchester Ave, Rye Brook, New York, 10575. 914-939-6300 or 914-939-4760. **Convention Registration Information;** Full Week Registration Prior to 3/31/19 \$150/Person (\$75 child). Full Week Registration After 4/1/19 \$180/Person (\$90 child). Convention Website: <https://sites.google.com/view/bkny2convention/home>

2019 Warren T. Holmes Memorial Crab Feast & Family Weekend, August 2-4, 2019. Hosted by Maryland I, THE **CRAB FEAST** IS ON SATURDAY, August 3, 2019!! Knight of Columbus 6111 Columbian Way, Bowie, MD (**INDOORS**) Doors

open at 11:30 AM Crabs Served at Noon. Once again, the members of MARYLAND I invite you to the best event on the east coast. The food is good and the cost is reasonable. The HOSPITALITY is next to none! All proceeds go to charity. **ACTIVITIES** - Marine Corps Evening Parade (Friday), Washington MD Tour (Sat Evening), Skills Competition at Crab Feast and 50/50 (on going). **HOTEL** - Comfort Inn, Bowie, MD (301) 464-0089, rate is \$121.50 plus taxes, Incl. Sat & Sun hot breakfast. **REGISTRATION WEEKEND** - Registration fee of \$85 includes hospitality room Friday and Saturday, Marine Corps Parade, Tours, and Crab Feast, (Children under 12 yrs. \$55). **SATURDAY ONLY** - Pre-Registered Adults: \$60 (Children under 12 yrs. \$35). Tables at the Crab Feast may be reserved with pre-registration for groups of eight. NOTE: \$5.00 late fee applied to all registrations after July 1, 2018. Contact: 301-996-8288.

2019 MDC Fall Conference, Culpeper, VA, August 30 – Sept 2, 2019. 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 43st Annual Blue Ridge Rally, with a “Knights Under the Big Top Theme”. Price is \$95.00 per person. Contact Keith Chase (Secretary) 703-893-1823 or VA2@blueknights.org.

2019 Fall Tri-State Conference: October 11 – 14, 2019, Batavia, NY hosted by NY IV. Quality Inn & Suites, 8250 Park Road, Batavia, NY 14020 (585-344-2100) room rate is \$70.00 + tax per night. Event registration is \$130.00 per night.

2020 Winter MDC Conference, Danville, VA, February 14 – 16, 2020. Hosted by VA XIII, Comfort Inn & Suites, 100 Tower Drive, Danville, VA, 434-793-2000. \$85.00 plus tax per night. (Make sure you tell them you are with the Blue Knights LEMC group). Registration for event is \$85.00 per person. Contact Keith Johnson, va13@bluenights.org.

2020 Spring MDC & Wild & Wonderful Knights, Hosted by West Virginia II. Host hotel is the Holiday Inn Express & Suites. Elkins, WV. May 22 – 24, 2020. There a limit number of rooms, **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 and the Code is BLU**, Rooms \$125.00 per night plus tax. Event registration is \$85.00 per person before April 1st, 2020, and \$95.00 after April 1st, 2020.

Sick - Ill or in Distress: Brother Luzader had surgery on his left leg.

Drawing: The June drawing was \$15.00. Brother McNulty name was drawn and he passed on it and said let it ride, so July drawing will be worth \$20.00.

Next Meeting Location

Our next meeting will be Thursday, July 11th, 2019 it 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.

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