

# MASON DIXON DISPATCH

THE OFFICIAL MDC NEWSLETTER

## Special points of interest:

- Winter Conference-2011 will be hosted by NC-XVII in Wilmington, NC 18-20 February 2011
- Spring Conference-2011 will be hosted by NC-XXI in Rocky Mount, NC 27-29 May 2011
- Fall Conference-2011 will be in Hosted by VA-II in Culpeper, VA 2-5 September 2011

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## New Mason Dixon Board Installed

The Fall Conference Meeting brought changes to the Mason Dixon Conference Executive Board. John Bull (MD-III) was installed as the new Chairman, moving up from the Vice Chair position; Mike Pollinger (DE-I) moved from the Treasurer's position to take the Vice Chairmanship; Keith Chase (VA-II) assumed the role of Secretary, making the move from the Virginia State Representative position; Rick Clark (NC-XVI) climbed on the Executive Board, moving in to replace Mike Pollinger as the new Treasurer and after serving six years in the Chairman position, Dan Moeser (TN-VI) was looking for some different scenery and now rounds out the Board, serving as the MDC International Representative. With the new Board came changes in appointments as well. Mike Hart (VA-III) was tapped to be the new Virginia State Representative



and Carl Pace (WV-II) was appointed to replace Bobby Ryan (WV-II) for the West Virginia State Representative position. Paul Domingoes (VA-II) was selected as the Sergeant-at-Arms, a newly created position. The State Reps from Delaware, Albert Littleton, (DE-I); Kentucky, Ruben Gardner (KY-II); Maryland, Steven Smith (MD-I); North Carolina, JJ Lightner (NC-XVII); and Tennessee, TC Hicks (TN-III) all remain the same.

Chaplin, Mike Williams (MD-I); Quartermaster, Pat Moeser (TN-VI) and Safety Officer, D.W. Conners (VA-V) will continue to hold their appointed positions with the board, as well. Chairman Bull expressed his gratitude to the outgoing Board members and welcomed the new Board stating "I want to continue operating the Conference in a smooth fashion and remain the largest Conference in the Blue Knights".

## Virginia-II hosts "Toga Party" in Culpeper

Virginia-II was again the host of the Fall Conference Meeting in conjunction with their 34th Annual Blue Ridge Rally. The Chapter came up with the "Animal House" theme based off the movie with the same title. The Saturday night

banquet was colorful with attendees arriving for dinner in various togas and regalia from the movie. The weather was perfect to take advantage of the riding and events in the area. DE-I was the best MDC represented Chapter.

There were plenty of our brothers and sisters from Tri-State Conference as well. The hospitality and setup is very conducive to enjoy the weekend that marks the end of summer and VA-II knows how to make you feel welcome.

## Chairman's Message

First, I would like to say "thank you" to Virginia-II. As always, Darlene and I had a fantastic time over the weekend. VA-II always knows how to put on a conference. There were definitely plenty of friends, fun and food. Each time we go to Culpeper we always find someplace different to visit. This time was no different and Monticello was well worth the trip.

The new Board was installed over the Labor Day weekend and I would like to congratulate the new Board members and thank the outgoing Board members. Over the past 6 years the Board has functioned very smooth with little changes in operation...I plan to continue in this fashion. I am confident the new Board will proved to be a Board that will continue to represent your needs. It's hard to believe but I have been on the Board for eight years now. The first six years as your Treasurer, and the past two as the Vice-Chairman. I look forward to the serving as your chairman.

Please keep Past International President, Mike Ripsch, in your thoughts and prayers. Mike has had some serious health issues and has been unable to work. The Conference voted to send Mike a check for \$500 to help him through these tough times. Please take the time to send Mike an email or give him a call.

Please remember, this is election time for our International Board. At the Conference meeting, I read the letters sent in from the candidates. We also heard from others who were present at the meeting. Complete Bio's for all candidates can be found on the International website. Take the time to read them and please vote. During the last election, the overall percentage for the number of members of the MDC who voted slipped dramatically as compared to the prior election. Since we are now the largest Conference we now have the opportunity to make our voice heard. Voting is one of the biggest ways to be heard. Take the

time to send your ballot back and encourage your fellow members to do the same.

RIDE WITH PRIDE!

John Bull, Chairman



## MDC Meeting Procedural Changes

Starting with the Winter 2011 MDC meeting, the new Board will institute two new procedures. Both are meant to improve the conference.

Part one of the first new procedure will require members to show their International Membership Card at the door and signing in.

Part two of the first new procedure will require meeting attendees to sign-in so that a record can be kept. The sign-in process will involve two sheets:

- One of for the voting members (Presidents or their proxy).
- The second sheet will be a general sign-in sheet for all others attending, but not voting.

The Sergeant-at-Arms will facilitate the procedure.

These procedures will help the Board know who is at the meeting and how many voting members are present at each meeting.

In the past we have held voice votes on issues that have come before the board. In order to better track voting, we will begin using hand counts. Just because a chapter is present at the meeting doesn't always mean they have a voting member present. This is meant to prevent issues in the future. Remember, in order to vote in place of a Chapter President, a letter must be provided to the Sergeant-at-Arms for the Secretary at the beginning of a meeting

The second procedural change is to solidify who may attend MDC meetings. The board has agreed to continue to allow those spouses and significant others to

attend the meetings. They can simply come in with their respective members. The reason for this is twofold: (1) As with most chapters, spouses and significant others are allowed in their meetings. (2) Our meetings tend to go beyond the normal checkout times. This will provide another option to sitting around the lobby waiting or trying to find something to do.

In the future, the Mason Dixon Newsletter and the meeting minutes will be two separate items. If you have a story or ride you would like to publish you can send the information/details to the Secretary and have it included in the next issue. The minutes will be sent to each chapter, while the newsletter can be sent electronically to anyone who wants it. Both items will also be available on the MDC website.

**"Membership cards must be presented to gain entry in the Conference meetings".**

**"Send articles for inclusion in the Newsletter"**

## MDC Conference Officers

### Executive Board

#### Chairman

John Bull (MD-III)

[jbullbkmd3@verizon.net](mailto:jbullbkmd3@verizon.net)

410-804-2192

#### Vice Chairman

Mike Pollinger (DE-I)

[mpbkde1@comcast.net](mailto:mpbkde1@comcast.net)

302-838-7278

#### Secretary

Keith Chase (VA-II)

[Keith.a.chase@comcast.net](mailto:Keith.a.chase@comcast.net)

703-893-1823

#### Treasurer

Rick Clark (NC-XVI)

[rclark@bknc16.org](mailto:rclark@bknc16.org)

704-473-3579

### International Representative

Dan Moeser (TN-VI)

[bikerman@chartertn.net](mailto:bikerman@chartertn.net)

423-232-8825

***“Among the Blue Knights members, “There are no  
strangers, only friends you haven’t met”***

## MDC Appointments

**Delaware State Representative:** Bert Littleton (DE-I)

[awl2029@verizon.net](mailto:awl2029@verizon.net) - 302-378-1587

**Kentucky State Representative:** Ruben Gardner (KY-II)

[rubenbk2@comcast.net](mailto:rubenbk2@comcast.net) - 270-769-2806

**Maryland State Representative:** Steve Smith (MD-I)

[smitty440@aol.com](mailto:smitty440@aol.com) - 202-262-7468

**North Carolina State Representative:** JJ Lightner (NC-XVII)

[jjl500@bellsouth.net](mailto:jjl500@bellsouth.net) - 910-371-1164

**Tennessee State Representative:** T.C. Hicks (TN-III)

[TCZones@aol.com](mailto:TCZones@aol.com) - 865-661-2811

**Virginia State Representative:** Mike Hart (VA-III)

[retiredrg@yahoo.com](mailto:retiredrg@yahoo.com) - 804-350-1071

**West Virginia State Representative:** Carl Pace (WV-II)

[Carl.pace@yahoo.com](mailto:Carl.pace@yahoo.com) - 304-983-2737

**Chaplin:** Mike Williams (MD-I)

[mikemamie@verizon.net](mailto:mikemamie@verizon.net) - 301-627-6731

**Quartermaster:** Pat Moeser (TN-VI)

[bikerman@chartertn.net](mailto:bikerman@chartertn.net) - 423-232-8825

**Safety Officer:** D.W. Conners (VA-V)

[blueknightsva5@msn.com](mailto:blueknightsva5@msn.com) - 304-227-3669

**Sergeant-at-Arms:** Paul Domingoes (VA-II)

[homwiz@verizon.net](mailto:homwiz@verizon.net) - 571-237-1203

**Webmaster:** Stefan Hellersperk (NC-XVIII)

[Stefan@acsit.biz](mailto:Stefan@acsit.biz) - 252-240-3399



## Delaware State Report



### “Celebrating 27 years”

There are presently 72 members in our Chapter (we have added 10 new members since the spring conference)

Delaware-1 celebrated our 27th anniversary on August 22nd, 2010.

The Chapter rotates the monthly meetings between the three counties of Delaware, in order to facilitate

attendance of the members living throughout the state

Sunday, November 14th, will be our 27th. Annual “Toy Run”, to benefit the Salvation Army. The location will again be the Mill Creek Fire Hall, located at 3900 Kirkwood Highway, Marshalton, DE. Registration will be between 0900 – 1100 hrs. Entry donations is a new “unwrapped” toy and \$10 per person.

The Chapter is currently planning their 5th Annual “Ride to the Tide” to support the Delaware Special Olympics. The ride is police escorted, and runs from New-

ark, DE to Lewes, DE and is planned for April 17th, 2011. Further information will be forwarded as soon as all details have been addressed and they come available.

Congratulations to Mike Pollinger for his “PROMOTION” to Vice Chairman of Mason Dixon Conference.

## Kentucky State Report

Kentucky currently has 15 Chapters.

At the meeting I reported on the remaining two major events for the year.

The first was KY-XI's "Ride to Remember" fundraiser for the Kentucky Law Enforcement Memorial Foundation. With the printing of the newsletter after the event I can tell the outcome. It went off the 11th of September, in spite of rain forecast all across the area. It did hurt attendance but was still a successful tribute to Kentucky's fallen officers and soldiers being lost to the war on terror.

The second event is KY-III's fall foliage run at the Kentucky Horse Park near Lexington, Ky. In the past, this event has been held the third weekend in September but had to be postponed to the weekend of October 15th through the 17th, due to the International Equestrian Games. The multimillion's of dollar improvements made to the park for the games is an added attraction to the "Fall Foliage Run" partici-

pants. For more information about the weekend contact President Bobby Crawford at [bobbycrawford@insightbb.com](mailto:bobbycrawford@insightbb.com).



Congratulations go to Christopher Goshorn (KY-XII President). He received the Blue Knights International Meritorious Service Life Saving Award at this years International Convention in Billings. President Goshorn was instrumental in preventing a suicide attempt by a person intent on jumping into the Ohio River from a very high bridge. Goshorn gained the person confidence and led him to safety.

The Kentucky Chapters are beginning to accept that the close of another riding season is near, but are looking forward to the Marine Corps Toy Runs (three in the area) in November.

### Make plans to attend a Conference Meeting

Winter Conference 2011: Hosted by NC-XVII. More info at [www.blueknightsnc17.org](http://www.blueknightsnc17.org)

Spring Conference 2011: Hosted by NC-XXI. More info at [www.bkncxxi.org](http://www.bkncxxi.org)

Fall Conference 2011: Hosted by VA-II. More info [www.bkva-ii.org](http://www.bkva-ii.org)

# Maryland State Report

Maryland currently has eight Chapters:

- MD-I (Bladensburg)
- MD-II (Smithsburg)
- MD-III (Glen Burnie)
- MD-IV (LaPlata)
- MD-V (Berlin)
- MD-VI (Rising Sun)
- MD-VIII (Rockville)
- MD-IX (Sykesville)



# North Carolina State Report



NC-1 will hold its 2nd Avon Breast Cancer Benefit Ride on October 16th and will start and end at New Bern HD. It is the weekend after New Bern's Mum Fest (Oct 8, 9, 10). NC-1's President (Ken Hunter) and his wife Carol were involved in an accident on August 14th. A sudden storm caused their vehicle to hydroplane. Ken suffered some broken bones and had to have surgery and Carol didn't get injured. Ken is recovering fine now.

NC-II's Chapter president (Mike Aponte) had surgery on his neck and is now at home resting but is chomping at the bit to get back to work.

NC-III is busy attempting to recruit new members in the Charlotte area.

NC-IV has start up a facebook page.

NC-V is scouring Brunswick County for new members.

NC-VII participated in a Miracle Network Run in April, a memorial Ride in June, and a Juvenile Diabetes

Research Foundation Run in July.

NC-VIII Will host The Eastern Blue Knights Regional Meeting in Winterville on September 11th.

NC-XI recently picked up five new members.

NC-XII's Chapter President (Joey Cuddington), who has more fun riding a motorcycle than ten people, took three other Blue Knights with him to Sturgis. According to Joey, they "had us a big time". They rode 5600 miles in 15 days.

NC-XV recently had a fundraiser in Elizabeth City.

NC-XVII is getting ready to host the confer-

ence in Wilmington on February 18th -20th. The former president of Chapter XVII, Jeff Tripp, was involved in a serious motorcycle accident in eastern Ohio in June. He spent five weeks in a hospital in Pittsburgh and required several surgeries to take care of his numerous injuries. Jeff is back in Wilmington and still seeing doctors several times a week. In August, James Maroldt and his wife were riding when a drunk driver crashed into them. James needed 18 stitches to his face. His wife was thrown over the drunk driver's car and suffered a broken collar bone, a broken leg, and two crushed fingers. Both are now home.

NC-XXI is preparing to host the conference in Rocky Mount in May, 2011.

NC-XXIII has taken South Mountain's Children Home under their wings and will have a charity ride on October 23rd.

NC-XXIV wanted everybody to know that their Chapter is 15 miles from Blowing Rock, N.C., and they are working on getting a Western Regional Blue Knights Meeting up and going. Additionally, they will be hosting a blood drive on Friday, September 17th in memory of Deputy Adam Klutz (EOW was on September 19, 2008).

# Tennessee State Report

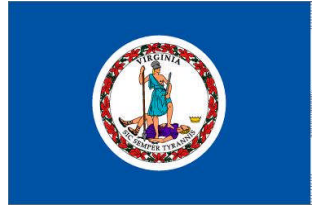


Tennessee has nine Chapters.

- TN-I (Memphis)
- TN-III (Knoxville)
- TN-IV (Columbia)
- TN-V (Nashville)
- TN-VI (Johnson City)
- TN-VII (Cleveland)
- TN-VIII (Clarksville)
- TN-IX (Monterey)
- TN-XI (Madisonville)

# Virginia State Report

**“Mike Hart was appointed as the New Virginia State Representative”**



Virginia has 16 Chapters.

With the new Mason Dixon Board and Keith Chase (VA-II) moving into the MDC Secretary Position, Mike Hart (VA-III) was appointed as the new Virginia State Representative. Mike is a past MDC International Representative so we know that he will do a great job representing Virginia with the MDC.

At the Fall Conference meeting, Paul Domingoes (VA-II) was appointed by the Board to serve the MDC as the Sergeant-at-Arms, a newly created position on the Board.

The Virginia Chapters have been busy in their areas supporting individual law enforcement officers programs and causes, along with some national and local charities and funds.

As a reminder, VA-V will be the host for the 2011 Blue Knights International Convention in Chesapeake, VA from 17-22 July 2011. It is not very often that a Conven-

tion is held in Virginia’s front yard or the Conference’s playground...VA-V is excited about hosting the Convention and looks forward to showing the Virginia and MDC hospitality to the Convention attendees.

2011 Convention Website: [www.blueknights2011.convention.org](http://www.blueknights2011.convention.org)

Email: [blueknights2011.convention@hotmail.com](mailto:blueknights2011.convention@hotmail.com)

**Preregistration deadline**  
**1 July 2010**

# West Virginia State Report



West Virginia currently has four Chapters:

- WV-I (South Charleston)
- WV-II (Anmoore)
- WV-IV (Wellsburg)
- WV-V (Martinsburg)



“No, no, lets steal this one. It has a lifetime warranty.”

## MDC Safety Officer Speaks Blocking Exits & Stopping Traffic on Rides

This article is sure to open discussions among members within many chapters across the Blue Knights.

This subject, like all articles I've written, is only suggestions to follow. I don't have the power (or authority) to make any member do anything. I just want to advise you of the outcome if you do/don't do certain things.

I've become aware of policies that are in place for several BK Chapters in several states within the MDC. I've also discussed this with the officers of our conference and the International Safety Officer. The subject is "Blocking Exits & Stopping Traffic on Rides".

If you, as a citizen/BK Member, are on a ride and you stop traffic during a ride...**no**

**insurance** will cover you for illegal passing a traffic control device. This includes blocking intersections, even after a legal officer in uniform has stopped the traffic for you to take over while he/she goes to the next intersection. This also includes going around curves with yellow lines/crossing yellow lines to get back up to the front of the ride to help block traffic.

If your Chapter has this policy in place you are opening yourselves, your Chapter and International up for liability issues and lawsuits. There is no insurance available to protect any of us, if a member acts outside the law and this is condoned by the officers of the Chapter. You are being advised that the MDC Officers, I, and the International Safety Officer disagree with any policy that man-

dates or encourages members to "block traffic".

No officer in the U.S. has the authority to operate under the "color of the law" unless their authority is readily ascertainable (i.e. wearing a uniform, badge or other authorized display) that informs the public of their authority. The Blue Knights is a club of law enforcement active or retired members in general. All of you know what happens if you're working the street and you break the law while on duty...any of the following can happen, get suspended, fired, go to jail/prison, lose your home/savings in a law suit. Why would anybody put themselves in the same situation off duty? Is it really worth it? You have to make that decision!

As I have written in earlier

publications...my suggestion is to break a ride up into 10 to 15 riders per group, with about five minutes between each grouping. Each group should have a leader and a tail-gunner (both with reflective vests on). If part of the group gets caught at a traffic control device, the leader slows down for the rest to catch up and the tail-gunner moves up to the front of the group to lead the riders to catch up with the rest of that group. Both the leader and tail-gunner should know the route and should not break any laws in order to get the group back together.

It works...I've been involved in doing this on many rides.

*D.W. Conners*  
MDC Safety Officer

### Note from the Quartermaster

#### LIKE FREE? MUST READ!

By now I'm sure ya'll know who I am - that quiet and shy one that goes to all the Conferences!!! And you know how I love to sell Mason Dixon pins and patches.

The Mason Dixon Conference has pins and patches available for \$5.00 each. And if you order 20 or more (pins, patches, or combina-

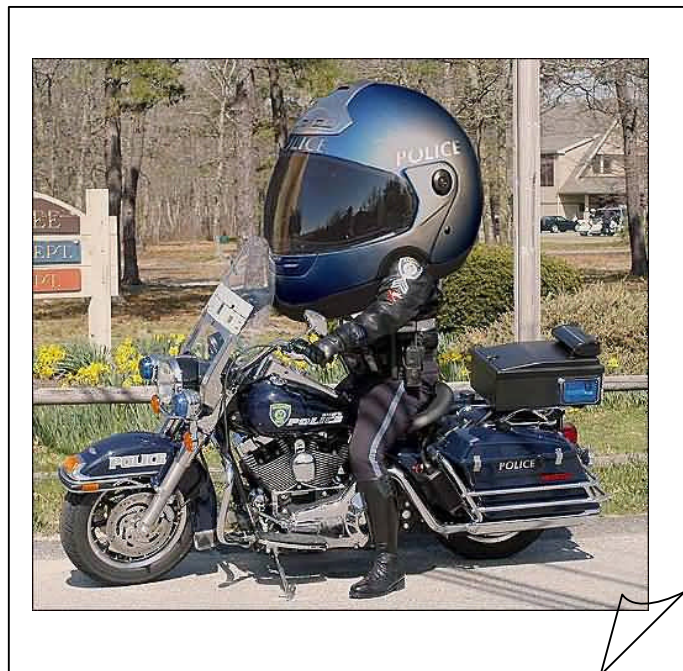
tion of both) - I'll **ship** them to you for **free**. Your items will be shipped as soon as payment is received.

You can either contact me by email:

[bikerman@charternet.net](mailto:bikerman@charternet.net)

- or give me a call at 423-232-8825.

*Pat Moeser*  
MDC Quartermaster



#### REMINDER

**Ballots will be mailed from International soon...Please take the time to mark it and then ensure it gets returned back to International...the MDC would like to see an increase in returned ballots this year!**

## Blue Knights Mason Dixon Conference

Send Flyers and Stories to the Secretary  
Keith Chase  
8654 Huddersfield Way  
Bristow, VA 20136

Phone: 703-893-1823  
Fax: 571-748-4240  
E-mail: keith.a.chase@comcast.net

We're on the Web!  
[www.bkmdc.org](http://www.bkmdc.org)

The Mason Dixon Conference is comprised of the states of Delaware, Kentucky, Maryland, North Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia. As of August 2010, our conference is home to 76 chapters and 2964 members, making us the largest conference within the Blue Knights organization.

## *“Ride With Pride”*

### Virginia-V to Host the 2011 International Convention

Virginia-V extends a warm southern welcome, for all Blue Knights to join them in celebrating the 37th International Convention in the Greater Hampton Roads area. The immediate area offers fun for the whole family, (i.e. miles of beaches, water parks, tours of military installations and children's museums). Just a short ride away are the historical areas, such as the battlefields of Yorktown, Colonial Williamsburg and Jamestown. As proud hosts of one of the largest conventions to date, VA-V will do their best to uphold the VA-V reputation, of knowing how to have fun and put on a PARTY!

While the host hotel will be the brand new Marriott located in the Greenbrier area, there are more than a dozen other properties offering an additional 700 rooms that are either adjacent to or within minutes of the host hotel.

Rates will range from \$79.99 to \$129.00 a night, for up to 4 people, with the host hotel offering a Blue Knight rate of \$99.00. There are also several Extended Stay and Suites properties that offer complete kitchens, appliances, cooking utensils and a free internet workplace that are within a short 3 minute ride.

The Chesapeake Conference Center has over 20,000 square feet of meeting space, with more than one acre of parking and plenty of room for vendors!

See the flyer attached.

VA-V looks forward to seeing you in Hampton Roads in 2011!

