

MASON DIXON DISPATCH

THE OFFICIAL MDC NEWSLETTER

Upcoming Conference Meetings

- Fall Conference-2011 will be in Hosted by VA-II in Culpeper, VA 2-5 September 2011
- Winter Conference-2012 will be hosted by VA-III in Richmond, VA 18-20 February 2012
- Spring Conference-2012 will be hosted by NC-XXI in Rocky Mount, NC 25-27 May 2012

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Auction of Custom Bicycle nets over \$2300, for Charity

A junk bike, restored with a custom Blue Knights look, netted over \$2300 in a charity auction, at the MDC Spring Conference in Rocky Mount, over Memorial Day Weekend.

The money raised from the auction was to help support the medical needs of a local Middle School student that was injured in a sporting accident.

The bidding started at \$50 and became very intense...pitting friends against friends for the one-of-a-kind bicycle, restored by a fellow Knight.

...Once the final bid was made, the participants of the Conference could not keep their money in their pockets as they reached down deep to fill the bucket being passed around, to help the student and reach

the final tally.

Hannah Stallings (associated with NC-II) donated the bike back to the Chapter to use for future charity events. Thanks Hannah and congratulations on your engagement.

North Carolina-XXI hosts "COPHOP"

North Carolina-XXI hosted the MDC Spring Conference and Meeting in Rocky Mount, over Memorial Day Weekend. The Chapter hosted the event at the Country Inn and Suites—Rocky Mount which was located centrally to the

Interstate and great riding. Between the Karaoke, DJ, scavenger hunt and plenty of food...a truly good time was had by all. Saturday's dinner was a "North Carolina style Pig-Pickin" and not a BBQ, as referred to by some non-Carolinians. The

Chapter did a superb job in hosting their first Conference event...as evident to them winning the bid for the 2012 MDC Spring Conference.

Thanks to NC-XXI...GREAT JOB, by the whole Chapter.



Chairman's Message

I would like to thank NC XXI for an excellent time. The Pig Pickin was one of the best I have ever been to. Only got caught in the rain for a short period of time on Saturday, but other than that, it was a great weekend. I can't wait for next year to see how they top it.

Yes, as some are aware, I did have a little excitement on the ride home. After leaving Monday morning, Darlene and I were traveling north on I-95 near Roanoke Rapids when we ran into 20 plus Pagans...just as we hit stopped traffic for an accident. It was a little warm when we left so we had our vest in the trailer, but we did have very distinctive Blue Knight t-shirts on...needless to say, as soon as the opportunity presented I hit an opening and didn't look back until I had a lot of distance between us. Lesson learned—watch what Blue Knight clothing you wear when you are by yourself and always be prepared.

Now for the meeting—by now I am sure everyone has heard about the meeting or some variation of it. Two issues were brought up that caused an issue...for the record, yes the Executive Board was asked to explain a motion and vote at a recent international meeting. A few members were wondering why we made the decisions we did. As your Chairman, I explained why we made the decision we did and there was some discussion about it. I let the banter between the members and the Board go on because, at the time everything was respectful. I, for one, did not take any offense to being questioned. Neither did most of the Executive Board. I believe then, as I believe now that it is the duty and right of any member to question their elected Board. When this questioning was occurring I felt that it was aimed at the position and not at the individual.

The second issue that came up regarded the International elections process. A motion was made and seconded for the MDC Int'l Rep to make a motion at the International Board meeting that the elections be handled by an outside source and that this be in place for the next election. Dan Moeser our Int'l Rep was not happy about this motion and made his displeasure known.

At the end of the meeting, a majority of the Executive Board met with several members in reference to the vote and the motion.

When all was said and done everyone was friendly, shaking hands telling each other that we would see each other in Chesapeake. Several hours later, Dan Moeser tendered his immediate resignation, via an email, to the International Board, Board of Governors and the MDC Board. Let's be clear, no one asked for his resignation nor expected it to happen. Several members of the MDC Board and International Board tried multiple times to reach Dan, over the next several days, to find out why he resigned. Dan did not answer anyone's emails or phone calls. Left with no alternative, the MDC Executive Board met in Executive Session for the purpose of filling the vacant position. After discussion we all agreed that the best person to fill the position was Eric Mines. Eric was our immediate past International Rep and knew the International Board better than anyone. We felt this gave the MDC Board the smoothest transition. Several days later, Pat Moeser notified the MDC Board she was stepping down as our Quartermaster. The Board wishes both Dan and Pat all the best and hopes and extends the open



invitation they will return to the MDC events in the future.

Also, at the meeting the members voted to place a second order for Challenge Coins. The order has been sent and the coins are available for sale.

Until we get a new Quartermaster, please send all coin orders to Keith Chase, our Secretary. Additionally, VA-II has placed the coins on their website and you can pay for them with paypal or your credit card.

I look forward to seeing everyone soon at one of the MDC Conference meetings.

RIDE WITH PRIDE!
John Bull, Chairman

Congratulations **MDC Scholarship 2011 Winners**

- **Richard J. Clark, Jr**
- Son of Richard Clark, Sr (NC-XVI)
- **Kendall Donahue**
- Daughter of Kenneth Donahue (VA-V)
- **Karalyn Kirkpatrick**
- Grand-daughter of Thomas Kirkpatrick (VA-V)
- **Christopher K. Swisher**
- Son of Richard Swisher (WV-II)

Mason Dixon Hosted an Open-House at the International Convention

Chairman Bull and his wife, Darlene, hosted the first Mason Dixon Conference open-house at the International Convention in Chesapeake, VA in mid-July. The open-house took place the Tuesday afternoon of the Convention and was a welcome break from the heat.

The idea behind the open-house was to give the conference members a chance to meet and chat with the conference officers, of which most were on hand.

Not only did members of the Conference stop by, but all Knights were welcome and many stopped by to enjoy some finger-foods and sweets that Darlene had made...oops, I almost forgot the homemade jerky.

The Bull's hotel room looked like a restaurant with all of the food that took two carts to move down stairs.

Thanks to Virginia-V for locating a room to host the open-

house. Chairman Bull is hopeful that everyone enjoyed the open-house and hopes the trend continues for other Conferences to host an open-house at future conventions.



MDC Conference Officers

Executive Board

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John Bull (MD-III)

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Vice Chairman

Mike Pollinger (DE-I)

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Treasurer

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International Representative

Eric Mines (MD-I)

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301-809-4380

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

MDC Appointments

Delaware State Representative: Bert Littleton (DE-I)

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Kentucky State Representative: Ruben Gardner (KY-II)

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Maryland State Representative: Steve Smith (MD-I)

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

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

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

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Chaplin: Mike Williams (MD-I)

mikemamie@verizon.net - 301-627-6731

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

blueknightsva5@msn.com - 304-227-3669

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

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Webmaster: Stefan Hellersperk (NC-XVIII)

Stefan@acsit.biz - 252-240-3399

Blue Knights
Mason Dixon Conference



State Reports

The Mason Dixon Foot Print



Delaware	- 1 Chapter -	• DE I - Bear		
Kentucky -15 Chapters-	• KY I - Owensboro	• KY V - Paducah	• KY IX - Henderson	• KY XVI - Bowling Green
	• KY II - Elizabethtown	• KY VI - Columbia	• KY XI - Stanford	• KY XVII - Mt. Sterling
	• KY III - Lexington	• KY VII - Louisville	• KY XII - Villa Hills	• KY XVIII - London
	• KY IV - Lagrange	• KY VIII - Ashland	• KY XV - W. Liberty	
Maryland -8 Chapters-	• MD-I - Bladensburg	• MD-III - Glen Burnie	• MD-V - Berlin	• MD-VIII - Rockville
	• MD-II - Smithsburg	• MD-IV - LaPlata	• MD-VI - Rising Sun	• MD-IX - Sykesville
North Carolina -23 Chapters-	• NC I - New Bern	• NC VII - Jacksonville	• NC XIV - Gastonia	• NC XX - Hamlet
	• NC II - Raleigh	• NC VIII - Greenville	• NC XV - Elizabeth City	• NC XXI - Rocky Mount
	• NC III - Charlotte	• NC IX - Goldsboro	• NC XVI - Monroe	• NC XXII - Windsor
	• NC IV - Brown Summit	• NC XI - Claremont	• NC XVII - Wilmington	• NC XXIII - Morganton
	• NC V - Southport	• NC XII - Clayton	• NC XVIII - Morehead	• NC XXIV - Lenoir
	• NC VI - Butner	• NC XIII - Fayetteville	• NC XIX - Winston-Salem	
Tennessee -9 Chapters-	• TN-I - Memphis	• TN-V - Nashville	• TN-VII - Cleveland	• TN-IX - Monterey
	• TN-III - Knoxville	• TN-VI - Johnson City	• TN-VIII - Clarksville	• TN-XI - Madisonville
	• TN-IV - Columbia			
Virginia -16 Chapters-	• VA I - Woodbridge	• VA V - Chesapeake	• VA X - Yorktown	• VA XVI - Woodstock
	• VA II - Merrifield	• VA VI - Roanoke	• VA XI - Lynchburg	• VA XVII - Colonial Heights
	• VA III - Richmond	• VA VII - Suffolk	• VA XIII - Danville	• VA XVIII - Rocky Mount
	• VA IV - South Hill	• VA VIII - New Kent	• VA XIV - Wise	• VA XIX - Lancaster
West Virginia -5 Chapters-	• WV-I - S. Charleston	• WV-IV - Wellsburg	• WV-III - Huntington	• WV-V - Martinsburg
	• WV-II - Anmoore			

**Make plans to attend a
Conference Meeting**

Fall Conference 2011: Hosted by VA-II. More info www.bkva-ii.org

Winter Conference 2012: Hosted by VA-III. More info at www.blueknightsviii.org

Spring Conference 2011: Hosted by NC-XXI. More info at www.bkncxxi.org

Information from International BOG and General Membership Meetings—Info Around the Organization

The **Board of Governors (BOG) annual meeting** took place at 9:00 am on Monday, 18 July 2011, at the International Convention in Chesapeake, VA. There were 140 Chapter Presidents or Representatives in attendance. After the reports were given, it was down to business.

Texas-XXXIV presented a presentation update for the 2012 International Convention which will be held in Tyler, Texas 22-27 July, 2012.

Arkansas-IV (Hot Springs, AR) and Tennessee-I (Memphis, TN) put in bids for the 2013 International Convention. While the vote count was close, Arkansas-IV won with 15 votes ahead of Tennessee-I.

SPECIAL FUND: in 2010, 132 Chapters donated to the fund, while in 2011, the number is down to 104. If your Chapter has not donated to the fund, and wishes to; contact the BOG Treasurer.

VA-V Extended the Southern Hospitality

2011 Convention

The VA-V Chapter did a great job in hosting the 37th International Convention, in Chesapeake, VA from 17-21 July.

While the days were grueling hot, the Chapter managed to show the "good ole Southern Hospitality". Dubbed "Best of 37 in Twenty-Eleven" it was evident of all of the hard work the Chapter accom-

er. Remember, the Special Fund is there to assist our members if they are involved in a crash on their way to/ from a Blue Knights function and need assistance.

The **General membership annual meeting** also took place on Monday, 18 July 2011, at the International Convention. There were 239 members present.

The organization currently has 629 Chapters and 19,420 members, with the MDC being the largest conference.

One of the big topics was the ratification of Resolution of the Board of Directors (BOD) on a by-law change to section 3.16, moving the International inaugural date and venue from Bangor, ME in January of the election year, to the venue of the International Annual Meeting. In order to overturn the by-law change, 75% of the members present would have had to vote against the

change...that did not happen.

Along with the aforementioned by-law change, the ratification of Resolution of the BOD on a by-law change to section 3.24, concerning the verification committee, dates and venue also failed to be overturned.

BOD, BOG and General Membership meeting minutes are available on the International website...in the members section. What?? Forgot your login and password...the login is your membership number and password is your last name (ALL CAPS).

Looking around at the Convention, it was evident that the new *Dark Blue* vest is becoming a hit around the organization...however, the original *Light Blue* vest is still the predominate vest being

worn by the majority of the members that were at the convention. Looking for a vest? Order them through the International website.

It was also evident in the sales room, at the convention, that there is a plethora of Blue Knights sales items amongst the various Chapters. I don't think there is anything that has not been thought of to show how they "*Ride with Pride*"...just remember to keep your permits up to date!

Have you completed your Chapter taxes??? Ensure your Chapter has sent the required info to Uncle Sam (THE IRS). Failure to file the appropriate paperwork for three years could cause you to lose your status with the IRS...and that could be ugly for your members.



Is that the Blue Knights Mason Dixon Conference Board of Directors—At work? HIGH SPEED!!

plished in order to make the Convention a success.

Not sure how, if you have ever heard Ronnie Young sing, but he was the big winner at the Tuesday night karaoke contest.

Thanks to all of the members of VA-V for showing what the largest Conference can do.

JOB WELL DONE

REMINDER

Check the International website for participating business that provide discounts to the Blue Knights. While you are there, report your charitable contributions with the on-line reporting form. Don't remember your login?? It is your membership number and then your last name in all CAPS.

Blue Knights Mason Dixon Conference

Send Flyers and Stories to the Secretary
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We're on the Web!
www.bkmdc.org

The Mason Dixon Conference is comprised of the states of Delaware, Kentucky, Maryland, North Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia. Our conference is home to 76 chapters and 2763 members and is the largest Conference.

“Ride With Pride”

Texas-XXXIV to Host the 2012 International Convention Tyler, Texas ——— 23-27 July 2012

Texas-XXXIV offers their typical “Howdy” from the Chapter members and city of Tyler, Texas. The Chapter and city are excited to be hosting the 2012 International Convention. According to the information packet “Tyler is a vibrant city located in the heart of Texas, known as America’s Rose Capital.” Tyler offers a unique experience...from the tall pines that surround the country side to the sparkling lakes and cool breezes, you will feel right at home. Tyler is located 90 miles from Dallas or Shreveport.

The full week’s registration includes a true Texas BBQ; Lakeside Fish Fry; Banquet Dinner, Hospitality Room; Live Entertainment; Conference T-Shirt and Pin; Souvenirs, Awards and Door Prizes for \$105 (pre-registration by 1 Jul 2012). On-site registration will be \$135. Day and children’s rates are

available. The host hotel is Holiday Inn S. Broadway for \$94 per night.

The chapter has compiled a litany of information on its website www.blueknightstx34.org/convention2012.html and the registration form can be found there, as well.

The city’s Convention and Visitors Bureau is fully engaged, with the Chapter, in planning the Convention.

***Make your plans now
to be in Tyler, Texas***

