

# Mason-Dixon Conference - Fall 2018

## Meeting Minutes

*September 2, 2018 09:32 am – 11:15 am*

The meeting was called to order by Ronnie Young (MDC Chairman). The meeting was taped and for brevity purposes, these minutes represent the highlights of the meeting<sup>1</sup>.

<b>Executive Board Roll-Call</b>		
<b><i>Title</i></b>	<b><i>Name</i></b>	<b><i>Present at Meeting</i></b>
Chairman	Ronnie Young (VA-V)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Vice Chairman	J.J. Lightner (NC-XVII)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Secretary	Keith Chase (VA-II)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Treasurer	Keith Johnson (VA-XIII)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
International Rep	Mike Pollinger (DE-I)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

<b>State Representatives and Other Appointed Positions Roll-Call</b>		
<b><i>Title</i></b>	<b><i>Name</i></b>	<b><i>Present at Meeting</i></b>
Delaware State Rep	Bert Littleton (DE-I)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kentucky State Rep	Ruben Gardner (KY-II)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Maryland State Rep	Steve Smith (MD-I)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
North Carolina State Rep	Bruce Smith (NC-IV)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tennessee State Rep	James Malone (TN-I) <sup>1</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Virginia State Rep	John Weinstein (VA-II)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
West Virginia State Rep	Marshal Parker (WV-II)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Chaplin	Mike Williams (MD-I)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Safety Officer	Robert (Bud) Overby (NC-VIII)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sergeant-at-Arms	Tom Hayden (VA-V)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Webmaster	Bob Rhodes (NC-XVI)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

<b>Agenda Items</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <u>Call to Order</u>: (9:32 am)               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Moment of Silence.</li> <li>b. Opening Prayer – Mike Williams (MDC Chaplin).</li> <li>c. Pledge of Allegiance – Recited by all in attendance.</li> <li>d. Reading of Blue Knights Pledge – Chairman Young.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. <u>Chapter Roll-Call and Report</u>: Keith Chase (MDC Secretary). Roll-Call was conducted and the below listed Chapters were represented at the meeting:</li> </ol>

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<sup>1</sup> Appointed during the meeting

Delaware-I	Kentucky-II	Maryland-I	Maryland-II
Maryland-III <sup>2</sup>	North Carolina-II <sup>3</sup>	North Carolina-IV	North Carolina-VIII
North Carolina-XIII <sup>4</sup>	North Carolina-XVI	North Carolina-XVII <sup>5</sup>	Virginia-I
Virginia-II	Virginia-III	Virginia-V	Virginia-IX
Virginia-XIII	West Virginia-I	West Virginia-II	West Virginia-III

- There are 71 Chapters in the conference and 20 Chapters were represented at the meeting (28% attendance). There were 72 members, spouses and guests in attendance at the meeting.

3. Recognized VIPs:

<p><b><u>INTERNATIONAL OFFICERS</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DJ Alvarez (President)</li> <li>• Jim Borza (Secretary)</li> <li>• John Bull (Treasurer)</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>OTHER CONFERENCE EXECUTIVES</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None Noted</li> </ul>
<p><b><u>PAST INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENTS</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ronnie Young</li> <li>• Frank Gennari</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>OTHER CONFERENCE REPRESENTATIVES</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None Noted</li> </ul>
<p><b><u>BOG OFFICERS</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jim Trachta – Vice Chairman</li> <li>• Mike Rickard – Treasurer</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>OTHER STATE REPRESENTATIVES</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None Noted</li> </ul>

4. Host Chapter Remarks: President John Weinstein (VA-II), noted it was the chapter’s pleasure to host the Conference at the chapter’s 42<sup>nd</sup> annual Blue Ridge Rally.
5. Chairman’s Remarks: The Chairman recognized new MDC appointees: Webmaster (Bob Rhodes) and Safety Officer (Bud Overby). He yielded the floor to Bud to introduce himself and say a few words... Bud asked chapters to identify their respective Safety Officers to him so he can initiate conversations about safety and best practices.
6. Vice Chairman’s Report (J.J. Lightner) Absent: *Electronic report by International Rep:*  
Membership – MDC has **71** Chapters with **2241** Members. No starter kits are out. JJ’s note thanked the MDC for allowing him to serve the MDC for 11 years between his time as the Vice Chairman and NC State Rep.
7. Secretary’s Report (Keith Chase): The meeting minutes from the Spring Conference were completed and sent out to the State Reps, to be forwarded on to the Chapter Presidents and were posted on the website. Motion to accept the minutes was made from the floor, seconded and voted unanimously to approve. The Secretary made a motion to purchase an iPad and accessories (up to \$1200) for the incoming Secretary to use for MDC business and facilitate cloud storage and sharing for the Conference Board members to be able to collaborate with more ease. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously from the floor.
8. Treasurer’s Report (Keith Johnson): Financial Report – As of 09/02/2018 – Checking Account Balance = \$10,481.55.

<sup>2</sup> Robert Carr, President submitted a letter for John Bull to vote for MD-III

<sup>3</sup> Doug Green, President submitted a letter for Jacob Sanok to vote for NC-III

<sup>4</sup> Michael Brown, President submitted a letter for Chuck Bertog to vote for NC-XIII

<sup>5</sup> Jeff Tripp, President submitted a letter for Alfred Delciampo to vote for NC-XVII

Deposits

- Dues – \$75.00
- Interest – \$.16
- Quartermaster Sales – \$1675.60

Debits

- MDC Scholarship – (\$500.00)
- MDC Coin Order – (\$1044.00)
- Conference supplies – (\$87.68)

A motion to accept the financial report, as provided, was made from the floor, seconded and voted unanimously to accept the report.

9. International Representative’s Report (Mike Pollinger):

- a. International is going paperless and matters pertaining to dues and rosters will be conducted via this medium. He reminded all chapters to conduct business on-line and to keep their mailboxes purged so as not to overflow. He invited any chapters having problems with their email accounts to call a member of the MDC Board. Webmaster Bob Rhodes provided his number: 704-534-3642 and said members could call him for help.
- b. The 2019 and 2020 International Conferences will be held in Rye, NY and Ireland respectively.
- c. Bessie Smith, former International office manager dismissed for embezzlement and other financial improprieties, was granted a 9th continuance. The next hearing is scheduled for October 2. International is pushing hard to move this case along.
- d. Mike Pollinger: [mdc.rep@blueknights.org](mailto:mdc.rep@blueknights.org) or 302-545-5301

NOTE FROM REP: *Please remember this report is a synopsis of board activity. Read the full minutes which are currently on the International website and currently emailed to each Chapter President.*

**Representatives Reports**

(Send Event Flyers to [MDC.Webmaster@BKMDc.org](mailto:MDC.Webmaster@BKMDc.org) for posting on the website)

*This will be a summary of topics presented by each reporting member... Check the MDC website for events*

1. Delaware State Representative – Albert Littleton (DE-I) Absent: *Reported by Mike Pollinger:*
  - a. Delaware has 1 Chapter with 82 members.
  - b. Over 1000 motorcycles raised more than \$65,000 in April for the Special Olympics.
  - c. On November 11, it will host its 35<sup>th</sup> Toy Run...registration will last until 1200 hours.
2. Kentucky State Representative – Ruben Gardner (KY-II):
  - a. Kentucky has 13 Chapters.
  - b. Ruben Gardner reported KY-3’s Fall Foliage Run will be held the weekend of September 28
3. Maryland State Representative – Steve Smith (MD-I):
  - a. Maryland has 7 Chapters. We lost MD-II as it folded early in the year.
4. North Carolina State Representative – Bruce Smith (NC-IV):
  - a. North Carolina has 19 Chapters.
5. Tennessee State Representative – *Jim Malone (TN-I) Newly appointed – Not Present:*
  - a. Tennessee has 10 Chapters.
  - b. Jim “Cat Daddy” Malone from TN-I has been appointed at the new Tennessee State Rep.
6. Virginia State Representative – John Weinstein (VA-II):
  - a. Virginia has 17 Chapters.
  - b. Mike Hart will be succeeding John Weinstein as VA State Rep. John has been elected to the MDC Executive Board as the Conference Secretary.
  - c. VA-III’s 37<sup>th</sup> Teddy Rear Run- first Saturday in November.
  - d. VA-XIII’s 2018 DARE Ride on September 15 (starts and ends at Yancyville, NC firehouse) and its 19<sup>th</sup> annual Toy Ride on October 20 (departs 1100 from Thunder Road Harley Davidson).

- e. VA-XX charity run on September 29 in Charlottesville.
- 7. West Virginia State Representative – Marshal Parker (WV-II):
  - a. West Virginia has 4 Chapters.

**Website**

- 1. Bob Rhodes – Webmaster:
  - a. On the Chapter contacts page we are now using the official email address for each Chapter.
  - b. Send flyers [webmaster@bkmdc.org](mailto:webmaster@bkmdc.org)
  - c. There is a MDC Facebook page that is up and running.
  - d. New webpage should be completed soon.
  - e. President’s page has the contact listing. Chapter Presidents have a password. Contact Bob for issues.
  - f. Corporate Email System: As everyone should be aware by now, the International is switching to an in-house email system. If your chapter has not switched or set-up your account; now is the time. You need to occasionally purge the files, as there is a limited amount of space.

**Quartermaster**

- 1. MDC Sales Items: MDC Conference coins, pins and patches are up on the Virginia-II website or can be ordered directly through the Conference Quartermaster (Keith Chase). We take cash, checks or credit cards or we can invoice directly, using square payment.
- 2. Coin Order: We received the coin order over the summer...this coin is an exact replica of the ones we already have...just from a different company so the font is a little different.
- 3. Patch Order: A motion was made to expend up to \$450 for a reorder of patches. QM will order them.
- 4. Window Decals: A request was made for the QM to look at potential cost of having a MDC Logo window decal made. *Status Pending*

**Safety**

- 1. Robert “Bud” Overby – Safety Officer:
  - a. Email Address: [Robert.Overby@yahoo.com](mailto:Robert.Overby@yahoo.com)
  - b. Requested Chapters send him ride announcements and he wants to solicit safety ideas from Chapter Safety Officers.
  - c. Requested Chapters to ascertain if there is a desire to setup safety training at future meetings.

**Chaplin**

- 2. Mike Williams – Chaplin:
  - a. Email Address: [mikewmd1@gmail.com](mailto:mikewmd1@gmail.com)
  - b. Mike asked members to reach out and communicate to other members as many are in need of help and support.
  - c. Mike also asked for members to let him know of any individuals who might need his services and assured all the information would be held in strict confidence.

**Old Business**

- 1. Chapter Changes: Please ensure you email the MDC Secretary, Chairman and Vice Chairman along with the International of any Chapter changes (E-Board officers, website, and contact info).
- 2. Winter 2019 Conference Update: Ronnie Young provided an update on VA-V’s hosting of the Winter Conference in Virginia Beach, VA over President’s Day Weekend (15-17 February 2019). The flyer info will be posted on the MDC website.
- 3. Spring 2019 Conference Update: Fred Allen provided an update on MD-I’s hosting of the Spring Conference in College Park, MD over Memorial Day Weekend (24-26 May 2019). The flyer info will be

posted on the MDC website.

### New Business

1. Bids for 2019 MDC Fall Conference Meeting: As there were no competing bids to host the 2019 MDC Fall Conference, VA-II will host the meeting along with it's Blue Ridge Rally in Culpeper, VA over Labor Day Weekend 2019. **SPECIAL NOTE**: *ALL hotel rooms will be handled by the hotel directly, the Chapter will no longer play any part in securing or cancelling hotel rooms. For anyone that held a room prior to 2018 and was not at the 2018 rally...you need to call the hotel to rebook your rooms. Attendees need to make their reservations early, verify rooms and notify the hotel in the event they become unable to attend...failure to cancel rooms will result in a cancellation charge from the hotel.*
2. MDC Conference Elections:
  - a. In accordance with the MDC By-Laws, the following members submitted Letters of Intent to run for MDC Board positions in the 2018 elections. Because there was at least one contested position a ballot was prepared.
    - MDC Chairman: Ronnie Young (VA-V) (*uncontested*)
    - MDC Vice Chairman:
      1. Keith Chase (VA-II)
      2. Richard Smith (MD-II)
    - MDC Secretary: John Weinstein (VA-II) (*uncontested*)
    - MDC Treasurer: Keith Johnson (VA-XIII) (*uncontested*)
    - MDC International Rep: Mike Pollinger (DE-I) (*Uncontested*)
  - b. A ballot was provided to all eligible Chapter Presidents present at the meeting and a ballot committee was selected by the Chairman. The MDC By-Laws were used for the flow of the election process.
  - c. After the ballots were collected and counted, Keith Chase was declared the new MDC Vice Chairman.
  - d. A motion was made, seconded from the floor and voted on unanimously to destroy the ballots.

### Good of the Order

1. MDC Scholarship: The 2019 MDC Scholarship application will be available at the 2019 Winter Conference Meeting.
2. NC-XVI inquired about the possibility of honorary members retaining membership in the event the passing of a regular member drops the chapter below the necessary number of members to sustain their membership. It was noted this is an international issue and would have to be decided at that level. John Bull recommended the proposal include a time limit and be treated as a request for a waiver to make it more reasonable.
3. Cal Ennals thanked Steve Smith and Eric Mines (MD-I) with a plaque for rendering assistance when he broke down returning from the International Conference in Georgia.
4. Chairman Young asked if the Blue Book, where BKs who could render assistance in various parts of the country, could be reissued. President Alvarez noted it already exists on-line.
5. Chairman noted VA-V is celebrating its 35th birthday.
6. There was discussion about whether it was decided at International that corrections officers without arrest powers could be included as members in the BK LEMC. President Alvarez noted only membership was offered to private police officers with powers of arrest, such as railroad police and corrections officers were not included on that list.
7. International President Alvarez:
  - a. Thanked VA-2 for a great event and appreciated its family-friendly nature.
  - b. He noted renewals will be done via Excel in the future to reduce errors in our records and save the Club \$10-15k/year.

- c. He eulogized Jerry Bryant’s passing.
  - d. He provided an update on the status of Bessie Smith’s trial. She is facing 4 years in jail, full restitution and alcohol counseling, although these penalties are subject to negotiation. She is also facing two civil suits. Members of the International Board will try to attend the hearing to put a face to the victims of her crimes. International Rep Mike Pollinger will support this motion at the next meeting of international officers.
8. Chairman Young discussed the status of Slingshot vehicles, and that their status is determined by state law. DJ Alvarez said he would look into adding “Autocycles” to BK bylaws.
  9. International Secretary Jim Borza asked members to read the minutes of past meetings and the agenda, currently on the website. If any member wants minutes sent directly, notify him.
  10. BOG Vice Chairman Jim Tractha:
    - a. Advised the BOG has a Facebook page and 1 member per chapter (normally the President) can join.
    - b. The BOG is looking into a Carnival Cruise in September and another for those who cannot attend the 2020 International in Ireland. Info will be forthcoming.
    - c. Jim can be contacted via the BOG or the SRC.
  11. BOG Treasurer Mike Rickard stated the Special Fund has @ \$225k with 4 payouts being made this year for a total of \$4,500 (5th pending).
  12. International Treasurer John Bull stated the financial information is on the website and he will send postings directly to members who request them.

**Announcement of Mason-Dixon Conference Meetings**

1. Winter Conference Meeting - 2019:
  - Hosted By: Virginia-V
  - Location: Virginia Beach, VA
  - Dates: 15-17 February 2019
  - Information: See the MDC website for the Flyer
2. Spring Conference Meeting - 2019:
  - Hosted By: Maryland -I
  - Location: College Park, MD
  - Dates: 24-26 May 2019
  - Information: See the MDC website for the Flyer
3. Fall Conference Meeting - 2019:
  - Hosted By: Virginia-II
  - Location: Culpeper, VA
  - Dates: 30 August - 2 September 2019
  - Information: [www.bkva-ii.org](http://www.bkva-ii.org)

**Announcement of International Conventions**

1. 2019 Convention:
  - Hosted By: New York-II
  - Location: Rye, NY
  - Dates: 4-9 August 2019
  - Info: <https://sites.google.com/view/bkny2convention/home>

Adjournment – 11:12 am. Next meeting 09:30 am / 17 February 2019 at the 2019 Winter Conference

<b>Contact Information</b>	Website: <a href="http://www.bkmdc.org">www.bkmdc.org</a>	<i>Secretary’s Contact</i> Email: <a href="mailto:secretary@bkmdc.org">secretary@bkmdc.org</a> Phone: 703-893-1823 Fax: 571-748-4240
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<sup>i</sup> File size is 161KB in MP3 format.