

**Mason-Dixon Conference
2022 Spring Conference Meeting
May 29, 2022
Elkins, WV (hosted by WV-II)**

Call to Order: 0930 hours by Chairman Ronnie Young

Moment of Silence - Prayer by Chaplain Mike Williams

Pledge of Allegiance – Led by Chairman Ronnie Young.

Blue Knights Pledge – Read by Chairman Ronnie Young

As a Blue Knight, I pledge to act with honor and pride, to promote motorcycling and motorcycle safety by being an example of the safe use, operation, and enjoyment of motorcycles. I will always work to improve the relationship between the motorcycling law enforcement community and the public, and the fraternal spirit will always guide me in relating to other Blue Knights.

Roll Call – Officers, Representatives, Appointed and Chapters present (*Secretary Weinstein*)

- Conference Officers

Chairman, Ronnie Young	Yes		Treasurer, Keith Johnson	Yes
Vice Chairman, Keith Chase	Yes		International Rep, Mike Pollinger	Yes
Secretary, John Weinstein	Yes			

- Appointed State Rep's

Delaware, Eric Wagner	No		Tennessee, Brian Gregg	No
Kentucky, Ruben Gardner	Yes		Virginia, Ralph Bartley	Yes
Maryland, Steve Smith	No		West Virginia, Marshall Parker	Yes
North Carolina, Bud Overby	Yes			

- Appointed Positions

Chaplain, Mike Williams	Yes		Webmaster, Bob Rhodes	Yes
Sgt. @ Arms, Bruce Smith	No		Safety Officer, Bud Overby	Yes
Quartermaster, Keith Chase	Yes			

Recognition of Guest(s)

Current International Officers: John Bull, Treasurer; Bud Overby, International Safety Officer.

Past International Presidents: Ronnie Young

BOG: None

Other Conference and Chapter Officers: None.

Chapters Present: 14 chapters were present (* denotes President/authorized rep): DE-1, KY-2, KY-3*, MD-1, NC-8, NC-16, TN-1, VA-2, VA-3*, VA-5, VA-13, VA-17, WV-1, WV-2.

Non-MDC Chapters Present: NJ-5.

Chairman (Ronnie Young)

- Ronnie reminded members to be careful when giving interviews to the media and on social media. All should review the organization's social media guidance.
- Ronnie cautioned the attendees to silence their cell phones lest they pay a \$5 "donation." One generous member (Marty McNulty, WV-2) paid a donation, rendering unto Caesar that which is Caesar's.

Vice Chairman (Keith Chase)

- Currently, there are 59 chapters with 1730 members in the MDC. This constitutes a significant decline.
- There are no new chapters or starter kits outstanding.

Secretary (John Weinstein)

- Minutes from the Winter 2022 meeting were distributed to all chapter Presidents and posted on the MDC website. There was no discussion or changes proposed.
Motion to accept: Ed Martin, WV-2
Second motion: Tim Stott, VA-5
- The minutes were accepted unanimously.

Treasurer (Keith Johnson) [Quarterly report is attached]:

- IRS form 990 has been filed for the MDC.
- The sales permit has been renewed.
- Account Balance Total Funds: \$14,301.64 (includes \$1830 for Hurricane Relief Fund)
- Motion to accept report: Bob Robertson, VA-2
Second motion: Mike Butler, VA-3
- Motion to accept was approved unanimously.

International Rep (Mike Pollinger)

- The June 2022 BOG and Members meetings in Killarney will not be broadcast due to the excessive cost (~\$5900) for a zoom link. (also reported by Treasurer John Bull).
- The 2023 International Conference will be held in Harrisburg, PA. Info forthcoming.
- This is a BOG election year. The voting will be done electronically. Balloting closes June 25 at 0800 PST. Only Presidents will receive a ballot in their personal email account. If you have not received a ballot, contact Robert.Seelye@gmail.com.
 - Candidates:
 - Chair: Dominic Squillace PA-10(unopposed)
 - Vice Chair:
 - - Andreas Hohendorf – Germany-5
 - - John O'Donnell – RI-1
 - - Wayne Schulz – WI-15
 - Secretary: Glen Wheat – IN-16
 - Treasurer: Mike Rickard – NY-5
- As a result of collections at the Winter conference and an additional DE-1 donation, two checks for \$3500 each were sent to the families of the two NY fallen offers.
- Mike recounted some issues in Florida, with chapters not getting along and located within 50 miles of each other.

- *Not discussed but important information from last meeting:*
 - *The 2024 International Conference will be held in Bangor, ME to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Blue Knights. Additional info will be forthcoming.*
 - *Reminder: to log in, your user name is your membership number and your password is your last name (ALL IN CAPS).*

Web Site (Bob Rhodes)

- Website and Facebook usage are down.
- A new website will be unveiled in June. It will be fresher and more functional. It will require no changes at the user end. The MDC website is www.BKMDC.org.
 - Please send ride and event flyers to Bob for posting on the MDC web site.
- The MDC storefront is on the MDC web site. Presidents can pay chapter dues there.
- Bob’s number is 704-534-3642; call if you need assistance.

Safety Officer (Bud Overby)

- Bud thanked Ed Martin for including safety in the weekend’s activities and asked chapters to include safety topics in their meetings and/or on their rides..

Quartermaster (Keith C.)

- Sales can be made via the new MDC Storefront at: <https://bkmdc.square.site/> and the link is posted on the web site. Chapters may also pay their MDC dues at this storefront. Keith will accept cash, check or credit in person.
- Inventory

Item	Stock Level	Price
MDC Logo Cutout Stickers	91	\$2.00
MDC Logo Circle Stickers	65	\$2.00
MDC Coins	255	\$10.00
MDC Logo Patches	135	\$5.00
MDC Logo Pins (no plan to reorder)	36	\$5.00

Chaplain (Mike Williams)

- Mike invites all to send him the names of BKs, friends and relatives who may need an encouraging word. He will reach out discreetly. People need not be affiliated with the MDC or BK International or even law enforcement.
- Mike asked for members to remember the following:
 - Transfers to Heaven 1: Jerry Edwards (VA-2), Charles Young (VA-2), Terry Hawkins (VA-20)
 - Other deceased: Shirley “Mother” Jones (MD-1), Denise Brass (wife of Wayne Brass, NJ-11), Colbert Beverghem (uncle of past MD-1 President Byron Hope), father-in-law of NC-2 VP Mike Lewis, Marilyn Davis (mother of MD-1 member Tim Silver), mother of VA-13 member Sam Hamlett, Don Noah (close friend of Tom Hayden, VA-5)

- Other medical problems: Parri Sidel (wife of Tom Sidel, VA-13), Keith Johnson (VA-13 and doing well!), Dan Dorance (MD-1, improving), Rene NOE (WV-2, recovering), Bobby Ryan (WV-2, forced to retire), Alphonso Moore.
- Mike also distributed a copy of a Sword and Shield article recounting the BK Distinguished Service Award presented to Raymond Petersen, VA-17. He asked Ray to stand and receive the applause of attendees.
- Mike recounted the tremendous support received from KY-3 when he and Mamie experienced a mishap on the road. He offered his sincere gratitude
- As always, contact Mike for names/addresses of those in need if you want to send a card.

Scholarship: (John Weinstein)

- No applications were made for the 2022 MDC scholarship.

Old Business:

- The Winter MDC meeting will be hosted by DE-1 at the Atlantic Sands in Rehoboth Beach on Valentine's Day weekend, February 10-12. The room rate is \$79. This rate is guaranteed until January 10. The registration rate is \$95 (\$110 after January 10).

New Business:

- NO chapter has submitted a bid for the Spring 2023 MDC meeting. Chapters were given until June 30 to submit a bid.
- The following slate of unopposed MDC candidates (each of whom indicated his desire to run to the secretary as required by April 15) will be installed at the Fall meeting:
 - Chairman: Keith Chase, VA-2
 - Vice Chairman: Fred Allen, MD-1
 - Secretary: John Weinstein, VA-2
 - Treasurer: Keith Johnson, VA-13
 - International Rep: Mike Pollinger, DE-1

State Rep Reports:

- Delaware (submitted by Mike Pollinger):
 - The annual Toy Run will be held November 13. *Last year, 255 participants raised more than \$6200 in cash plus toys for the Salvation Army.*
 - The 2022 Ride to the Tide was held April 10. 827 bikes with 1276 people participated in the 80-mile ride. Over \$44,000 was raised.
- Kentucky (Ruben Gardner)
 - All KY chapters have renewed.
 - KY-11 and KY-7 have Cops Run events on June 11 and July 9 respectively at local HD dealers.
- Maryland: no report.

- North Carolina (Bud Overby):
 - All NC chapters renewed but 2-3 are in trouble due to declining membership numbers. Some smaller chapters may experience trouble due to membership pressures.
 - Meetings for eastern and western NC state presidents are being conducted and there are plans for a possible state-wide meeting.
 - The NC Facebook page (NC Blue Knights) has meeting and ride information.
- Tennessee: No report.
- Virginia (Ralph Bartley): no report.
- West Virginia (Marshall Parker)
 - WV-4 and -5 failed to renew. Currently, WV has 3 chapters and 128 members.
 - *Marshall's email address: mparkerjr1949@outlook.com*

Good of the Order

- VA-5's Summer Bash has been postponed until August 9-13, 2023. It will not be held next week.
- Secretary Weinstein thanked WV-2 for an excellent weekend.
- WV-2 President Ed Martin thanked John Weinstein for conducting the Stop the Bleed training.
- Fred Allen (MD-1) related his chapter's website had been hijacked and advised members to exercise caution. The new site is BKMD1.org. The MDC and International have the correct links. If anyone needs assistance in responding to a hacked website, contact Fred at Sundrake@verizon.net.
- Webmaster Bob Rhodes reminded attendees that HD tires do indeed fit BMWs.

Closing Prayer (Mike Williams)

Adjournment: 1020 (50 minutes, a personal best for Ronnie Young and a worthy goal for incoming Chairman Keith Chase!)

- Ronnie Young moved to adjourn; Motions by Bob Roberson and Tim Stott were accepted by acclamation.

Respectfully submitted,

John M. Weinstein
MDC Secretary Extraordinaire