

BLUE KNIGHTS

INTERNATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT MOTORCYCLE CLUB

Wisconsin Chapter VI Metro-Milwaukee



June / July 2009

Wrongway's Road Tales

Dennis Hafeman

Just when you thought it was safe to go back in the newsletter (cue theme from Jaws). I'm baaack! I've been putting most of my writing efforts into the GLRC newsletter, but it's time to get back to one of my favorite pastimes; spinning road tales true and gently embellished in the chapter newsletter. Besides, it doesn't look like Tiny's Tidbits will be developing anytime soon (multiple entendre)!

So let's hop in the Wrongway Time Machine for a little trip back to a recent event. Year: 2525. Damn, wrong way again! Ah, here we go, the 2009 Spring GLRC, hosted by WI II in Johnson Creek, WI, May 1-3. Due to Laura's work schedule we got a late start, and when we arrived we found that many of our friends apparently got a very early start, if you know what I mean. It was an evening of drunk flunkies and trunk monkeys, which is to say the renewal of old friendships and serious partying ala Blue Knights. International President Dave Mulford, BOG Chairman Bob Seelye, and BOG Treasurer Mike Rickard made guest appearances, and were treated to that famous Wisconsin hospitality. Present from WI VI were Joe and Doni Kubicek, Tiny and Patti Kindt, Brian Bortmess and Joanne, Carl "Wacko" and Janis, Julian Gonzales, Gary and Mary Davey, Laura and me, which was a pretty disappointing turnout considering the convention was less than one hour from Milwaukee.

Saturday was the usual business meeting, and here's a quick synopsis. The 2009 Summer GLRC is being held

in Xenia Ohio August 28-30, hosted by OH III. The 2010 Spring GLRC is being held April 30-May 2, 2010, and is being held in Green Bay WI, hosted by The Wrecking Crew of WI X. Nobody bid for the 2010 Summer or 2011 Spring GLRCs, so those were tabled until the August 29th business meeting. There are proposals to move the dates of future spring GLRCs to late February/early March, and to develop an electronic GLRC newsletter and move away from paper copies. Tiny will be voting on these issues in Xenia. WI XVIII (WI Dells) was presented with an Outstanding Achievement Award from the GLRC for their development of the "5=0 Impaired Riding Campaign." Post meeting Laura and I led

(yep, you read right) a lunch ride to Captain's Corner, a hole in the wall bar with one of the best burgers I've ever had. A trip to the local winery and a little pre banquet nap capped off a good afternoon.

Now as many of you know, WI VI is no stranger to awards. We've brought home quite a few over the years, from Largest Chapter in Attendance to various recruiting

awards. In the GLRC there's an infamous award called the "Thank You Bob Award," given to the most chauvinistic male Blue Knight of the year. I'm proud to say that WI VI's own Joe Kubicek was the 2009 recipient! To save Joe's honor, I'll not divulge the award winning story here, but subsequent comments by our award winner may ensure him as the Lifetime Recipient. Afterwards, the band fired up the music, which pretty much pushed everyone outside. The tunes were good but just too loud for the size of the room. WI II did

It was an evening of drunk flunkies and trunk monkeys, which is to say the renewal of old friendships and serious partying ala Blue Knights.

Wisconsin proud, and continued the fine tradition of Wisconsin chapters hosting great events.

Our next story kicks off on June 11, with the 2009 Spring Midwest Regional Conference in Des Moines Iowa as the locale. I've attended several MWRC's over the years, and have never had a bad time. The folks in our neighboring conference always put on a great event. Now the actual convention was June 12-14, but Joe & Doni and Laura & I decided to get a jump on the trip and rode out a day early.

And it's a good thing we did, as a little thing like missing the correct exit outside of Dubuque added about 50 miles and an hour to our trip (and yes, I was leading,

WITH my GPS). But by missing our exit we gained a great road tale; the Tale of Dick the Ripper...

We'd just stopped for gas in Newton Iowa, when this dude approaches Joe and the girls and struck up a conversation. It just so happened that we were in search of a nearby Pizza Ranch (only the best pizza for road trips), and this old duffer tells us there is a Pizza Ranch at the next exit. He went on to say, "I don't know if it'll get you a discount, but tell 'em Richard Martin sent you". He then walked to his car, returning with a pair of boots that he tried to sell us. By now our freak meter was pinned, and we were anxious to get moving, so we quickly, but politely, declined the offer.

But by missing our exit we gained a great road tale; the Tale of Dick the Ripper...

After the sale fell through, Richard went back to his car, 86ing the boots but returning to serenade us with a song about Jesus. We couldn't fire up the bikes fast enough and, quick as a shot, we put our troubadour in our rear view mirrors. At the Pizza Ranch we told the manager about Richard, and he said, "If that's the Richard Martin I know, mentioning his name won't get you a thing," and he explained that Martin had recently gotten out of jail. The story goes like this: Richard was outside a local business ringing a bell and collecting for a well known charity, with which he had no legitimate ties. When confronted by an actual employee of the organization with demands that he cease his actions, Martin went on the offensive, attempting to slash her throat with a key!!! Thus, the legend of *Dick the Ripper* was born. So after that, what better way is there to relax then to fire up Hostel II on the DVD player and toss back a couple of beers at the local hotel, which is exactly what we did. Folks, I can't make this stuff up.

Friday had Tiny & Patti Kindt, Brian Bortmess & Joanne and Tina Chappell & Dave joining us for the convention. The event was hosted by IA III, home chapter of our International President Dave Mulford. Bill and Cindy Drees (WI XVIII) came down for the weekend, arriving on their bike in the pouring rain. It was Cindy's birthday, so Joe tracked down a brownie and candle for a rousing and embarrassing rendition of Happy Birthday for her in the hospitality suite.

The best line of the night came from Laura. Dave Mulford had a margarita, and Laura asked, "Can I lick the rim?" proving that raspberry vodka can make you say the right thing at the wrong time.

The good times continued well into the wee hours over a game of Three Toed Pete (an addictive and potentially wallet draining poker game very popular in the

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During summer riding months:

Dinner rides leave at 6:00PM

Alternating days, 1st full week of each month

Brunch rides leave at 10:00AM

3rd Sunday of each month

Meet at the Park & Ride lot

Hwy 45 & Watertown Plank Road

Monthly meetings

September - May

Third Tuesday each month, 7:00PM Alioto's

3041 N. Mayfair Road

MWRC). The night ended with Tiny, Joe and me in the hospitality room (with two members of IA III who were eager to go to bed). I cut out a few minutes before the hotel staff threw Joe and Tiny out, sparking the Great Closing Debate between Joe and me. To keep peace, Tiny decreed the suite closed by WI VI, period.

Sunday found Joe, Tiny, Brian and me (along with our lovely passengers) riding back to Milwaukee, hitting the highway around 11:00 AM. We weren't 50 yards out of the hotel parking lot when Joe signaled something to me and disappeared from the pack. After 30 minutes of waiting and looking for them, they finally pulled up to where we were waiting on the expressway and explained that they had lost one of the cords for their helmet headsets. This should have been a premonition for the rest of the ride home. Just outside of Janesville Tiny's bike lights began to dim, and shortly thereafter his bike died.

Brian and Patti headed to the local Wal-Mart to get a battery, while Tiny got into an argument with Roadside Assistance. At one point the operator said, in a heavy south-of-the-border accent, "Meester Keent, if there ease a problem I can call the po-lease for you", to which Tiny hollered, "I AM THE POLICE!"

We started to wonder where the hell Brian & Patti were and, after about 30 minutes, they finally pulled up. Brian said that he'd left his keys in the Wal-Mart bathroom and it took a while to find them. Unfortunately, Wal-Mart didn't stock charged batteries so (cue William Tell Overture) it was Wacko to the rescue! Carl answered the bat (or should that be monkey?) signal, and within the hour arrived with his trailer, getting Tiny and Patti and their ailing watermelon back to the Kindt hacienda. It turned out that the voltage regulator had taken a dump. Anyway, Laura and I made it home at 10:30 PM that night. So, the weekend ended with a total of 877 miles ridden, 21 hours doing it, and one hell of a good time had by all.

The weekend of June 19-21 was the Wisconsin State Convention, hosted by first timers WI VII (Berlin) at Riverside Park alongside the beautiful Fox River. Folks, if you weren't there you missed a great time. The weather was pretty ominous when Joe, Doni, Tiny, Patti and I left Friday morning, and for as dark as the sky was we only hit a few rain drops, keeping alive my streak of not riding my 2007 scooter in the rain.

We found the campground deserted when we arrived and decided to grab lunch, meeting up with Wacko and Janis and his toy hauler/mobile mansion along the way. Before the weekend was over WI VI would be represented by Brian Bortmess and Joanne, Mike Zivicki, Al Miller, and Randy and Peggy Winkler. Every chapter in the state was represented with the exception of WI III (Menomonie) and WI XVII (Winnebago).

Did I mention that Friday night it was beastly humid? Well, it was, prompting me to take off my colors and lay them on the table in front of me (and on top of Joe's). After hitting the pissoir, I came back to find my colors gone, a notorious BK shenanigan I finally fell victim to. Well, I knew they'd turn up sooner or later, so I wasn't too worried about them (besides, they've been around long enough to know how to behave around their captors). Sure enough, they were found by WI VII President Jeff Keiner in the beer cooler, proof that the colors imitate the owner.

Unbeknownst to me, Jeff was kind enough to put them on my bike, where they promptly disappeared again, resurfacing later, all tucked in safe and sound in my tent.

Dane Nelsen (WI State Rep) was victimized by the color napper on Saturday night, but given Dane's track record with State Convention tomfoolery it was no surprise. And yes, Joe and I did close the hospitality pavilion Friday night, only to be awakened at 5:00 AM by two extremely loud assed fishermen who were gently urged NOT to return so early on Sunday.

After a scrumptious breakfast (with build your own bloody marys and screwdrivers) the majority of the attendees went on a 50 mile ride around Green Lake, ending with lunch at a local bar/restaurant. Shortly after the group left, Mike Zivicki and Al Miller pulled into camp where a few of us had opted to stay, playing more Three Toed Pete and nursing hangovers, with the intent of meeting the ride for lunch around 1:00 PM.

Al and Mike joined us, or so we thought, as we lined up and pulled out of the campgrounds around 12:45, arriving a short time later at the restaurant. It was then that we noticed that Mike Zivicki was nowhere to be found. Of course you start thinking the worst, so Joe rode back to locate him. Well, about 20 minutes later they both pulled into the parking lot. Being nosy I asked Joe what had happened but he told me that I'd have to get the story from Mike.

I asked Mike and he proceeded to weave a tale about being jumped by ninja gypsy terrorists. I knew that there was a story to be had, so I persisted, telling Mike that his failure to come clean would result in my version of the truth being printed. Well, he did come clean, and here's what happened. Keep in mind during this story that Mike is a retired MPD motorcycle officer ...

Joe backtracked to the campgrounds and found a very pissed off Mike sitting by his brand new Harley. In a lot of very small but very potent words Mike said, "The bike just won't start and those %#\$&'s at Suburban are going to hear about this!" Mike turned on the ignition and, although the bike had a strong headlamp, the engine didn't turn over when he hit the start button. Joe (another retired motor officer) pulled in the clutch and hit "start" and, lo and behold, the bike sprang to life!

It seems that Mike had parked it in first gear which is something he doesn't normally do. Damn safety features always seem to get in your way.

On Saturday afternoon, Wisconsin State Rep Dane Nelsen (WI X) hosted his first state business meeting. Currently there are 14 active chapters in Wisconsin, with starter kits sent out to the Hayward and Madison areas. GLRC Chairman Bill Drees (WI XVIII) and GLRC Secretary/Treasurer (yours truly) updated the members on International and GLRC issues to be voted on at upcoming conventions, and International and State Safety Officer Clint Cagle (WI XI) updated everyone on various safety programs being implemented.

The 2010 Wisconsin State Convention will be hosted by WI VIII (La Crosse) and will be held on June 11-13 at the Veterans Memorial Park in West Salem, WI. With business concluded it was dinner time, and WI VII did themselves proud. They'd fired up a huge grill for cook your own steaks and chicken.

Being a carnivore I'd opted for both steak and chicken, and found my eyes bigger than my stomach (well, almost). The steaks were huge, and the boneless chicken breasts easily went $\frac{3}{4}$ of a pound! With Texas toast, beans, and coleslaw it was truly a feast. Then the drinking lamp was lit (does it ever really go out?) and the party continued into the night, with various fireworks related offenses being committed. Good times!

Folks, I've said it many times: if these stories intrigue you about what goes on at various Blue Knights conventions perhaps it's time to stop wondering and start participating! Our State Convention is a great, low key and affordable way to get your feet wet and regional and International conventions are always a great time and a great way to meet your brother and sister Blue Knights from around the club. So what are you waiting for?

Next time I'll share more road stories from Paul Serdynski's chapter trip to Dubuque and the 2009 International Convention in Louisville KY.

Lost in America,
"Wrongway" Dennis Hafeman
Past President WI VI

2009 Summer GLRC

The 2009 Summer GLRC is being hosted by OH IIII at the Greene County Fairgrounds in Xenia, Ohio, August 28th - 30th. On-site camping is \$10 per night but your hosts have also arranged for very reasonable hotel accommodations with prices of \$45 - \$50 per night. In addition, there will be shuttle service to and from the hotels.

For more information you can visit their website at www.blueknightsohioiii.org.

And while you're in Xenia, why not visit the Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, located just eight miles northeast of the central business district of Dayton, Ohio? The base is named after the Wright brothers, who used the Huffman Prairie portion of what would become Wright-Patterson as their testing ground, and Frank Stuart Patterson, son and nephew of the co-founders of National Cash Register.

Lt. Patterson was killed at Wilbur Wright field on June 19, 1918, in the crash of his Airco DH.4 during a flight test of a new mechanism for synchronizing machine gun and propeller.

Wright-Patterson AFB is the headquarters of the Air Force Materiel Command, one of the major commands of the Air Force. "Wright-Patt", as the base is colloquially called, is also the location of a major USAF Medical Center, the Air Force Institute of Technology, and the National Museum of the United States Air Force, formerly known as the U.S. Air Force Museum.

It is also the home base of the 445th Airlift Wing of the Air Force Reserve Command, an Air Mobility Command-gained unit which flies the C-5 Galaxy heavy airlifter. Wright-Patterson is also the headquarters of the Aeronautical Systems Center and the Air Force Research Laboratory.

As of the 2000 census, the base had a resident population of 6,656. The permanent party work force at WPAFB as of September 30, 2005, numbered 5,517 military and 8,102 civilian.

Today, as in the early 1900s, Wright-Patterson is where weapons systems are tested and modified. Missions range from logistics management, research and development, education, flight operations, and many other defense related activities. Wright-Patterson AFB is the home to the Air Force Institute of Technology, an educational institution that supports the Air Force and the Department of Defense.

It also contains the USAF's high-security National Air & Space Intelligence Center, where in the cold-war era captured Soviet MIGs were brought to what was then known as the Foreign Technology Division for disassembly and testing. Wright Field is also home to a zero-time nuclear reactor, built during the Cold War, but never taken critical.

Wright-Patterson AFB is known among UFO conspiracy theorists as the home of Project Blue Book because of its connection with the Roswell UFO incident of July 1947. Some believe that Hangar 18, assigned to the Air Force's Foreign Technology Division at Wright-Patterson, along with the Area 51 installation in Nevada, contains, or once contained, wreckage of a crashed UFO.

The National Museum of the United States Air Force is the world's largest and oldest military museum with

more than 400 aircraft and missiles on display, most of them indoors.

The museum's collection contains many rare aircraft of historical or technological importance as well as memorabilia and artifacts relating to the history and development of aviation. Included are one of four surviving Convair B-36s, the only surviving XB-70 Valkyrie, and Bockscar—the B-29 Superfortress that dropped an atomic bomb on Nagasaki during WW-II.

In addition, there are several Presidential aircraft, including those used by Franklin D. Roosevelt, Harry Truman, and Dwight D. Eisenhower. The centerpiece of the Presidential aircraft collection is SAM 26000, the first aircraft to be called Air Force One, a modified Boeing 707 used regularly by Presidents John F. Kennedy through Richard Nixon during his first term; after which it served as the backup Presidential aircraft. This was the aircraft that took President and Mrs. Kennedy to Dallas on November 22, 1963—the day of the President's assassination. Vice President Lyndon B. Johnson was sworn in as president aboard it shortly after the assassination; this aircraft then carried the slain President's body back to Washington.

There is a large section of the museum dedicated to pioneers of flight, especially the Wright Brothers, who conducted some of their experiments at nearby Huffman Prairie. A replica of the Wrights' 1909 Military Flyer is on display, as well as other Wright brothers' artifacts. The building also hosts the National Aviation Hall of Fame, which includes several educational exhibits.

The museum has a large inventory of USAAF and Air Force clothing and uniforms in its collection. At any time over fifty WWII vintage A-2 leather flying jackets are on display, many of which belonged to famous figures in Air Force history. Included in the museum's displays are the jacket worn by Gen. James Stewart, P-38 ace Maj. Richard I. Bong's sheepskin B-3 jacket and boots, an A-2 jacket worn by one of the few USAAF pilots to leave the ground during the attack on Pearl Harbor, and President Ronald Reagan's pea coat.

The museum draws over 1.3 million visitors per year and is one of the single most visited tourist attractions in Ohio. With so much to see, you might want to consider tacking on an extra day to allow for ample time to experience the museum. Admission is free.

(Note: Information contained herein was obtained from Wikipedia.)

URTAPP
Doni Kubicek

We have all gone on vacation to get away from our busy city life, but how often have you taken a ride though the back roads of Milwaukee? Bob Barr set up a

pizza ride that he called "URTAPP" (I'll explain what that means later). On a drippy Tuesday, June 16th, we met at the Park and Ride on Watertown Plank Rd. and Bob refused to say where we were going, other than "east".

Okay then, this is the approximate route we took: Menomonee River Parkway through Wauwatosa, then through the VA Center grounds and over to Miller Park. The rain came a little harder here but by the time we made it over to the Harley-Davidson Museum it stopped.

When we arrived there Chuck said, "I didn't know they had pizza here". We actually stopped there to find our rivet. I went to the left and the guys went to the right. Guess what? I found it and stood there while the guys continued to the right. It took a few minutes for them to ask, "Has anyone found it yet"? I spoke up and said, "I did"! It was really neat to see and it made me proud to see our chapter represented this way. If you haven't seen it yet, I'll tell you, it's worth the trip.

From there we headed toward the Summerfest grounds and arrived at the Riverfront Pizzeria Bar and Grill on E. Erie St. Two large and one extra large pizza for six of the guys. Wow, these guys can eat! So you ask, "Who was there"? Scott, Pete, Chuck, Diane & Herman, Bob, Big Steve (guest of Bob), Steve, Joe & me.

Now, back to URTAPP: Urban Ride To A Pizza Place. How many of you guessed that? Nice job, Mr. Barr!

I hope to see you at the next ride, Wednesday August 5th. Destination; The Rustic Inn, Mapleton.



Happy Birthday To You

July 3rd - Herman Kremkau
July 5th - Sandy Santoro
July 9th - Wendy Schoessow
July 12th - Gary Davey
July 16th - Brian Bortmess
July 21st - Jessica Stanmeyer
July 29th - Mark Stanmeyer
July 31st - Ray Teriaca

August 2nd - Kim Fisher
August 4th - Peter Simet
August 11th - Andre Bleickardt
August 15th - Jim Bagurdes
August 15th - Jesse Benitez
August 17th - Lynn Karlovich
August 28th - Dennis Hafeman
August 30th - George Markopolos

August 13th - Gary & Mary Davey - Wedding Anniversary!

Brunch/Dinner Ride Schedule

Peter Simet

- Wednesday, August 5th, Dinner ride -
Rustic Inn, Mapleton, WI
- Sunday, August 16th, Brunch ride -
Millhome Supper Club, Kiel, WI
(www.millhomesupperclub.com)
- Wednesday, September 2nd, Dinner ride -
Popeye's, Lake Geneva, WI
(www.popeyesonlakegeneva.com)
- Sunday, September 20th, - Brunch ride
Wilson House, Port Washington, WI
- Tuesday, October 6th, Dinner ride -
Open

Blast From The Past

Will return next month

June Dinner Ride

Doni Kubicek

Friday June 5th promised to be a great day. A warm breeze and sunshine makes for a nice dinner ride, so at 5:45PM when we arrived at the Park and Ride we were greeted by quite a few of our brother and sister Blue Knights. Destination: The Mineshaft in Hartford.

Chuck phoned Ted and Pat Engelbart, as they were going to meet us there, to let them know that we were on our way and would arrive at 7PM. Our president ("Mr. X" according to the sign in sheet) led us on a mostly scenic ride, although we had to take some busy roads due to time constraints. All in all, it was a great ride.

We arrived right on time despite Joe, doing his best "Wrongway" impersonation, having taken a wrong turn trying to get into the rear lot. The restaurant was very busy and the parking lots were jammed, but our group of 17 paraded past the long line of people waiting to be seated and, thanks to Ted & Pat and Ray & Leane, we were seated immediately and had cold beverages in our hands within minutes!

They have an ALL YOU CAN EAT FISH FRY for (are you ready for this?) a mere \$4.99 and I have to say they didn't make out on our group. And the wait staff was great as they kept the food coming, fresh, tasty and hot.

In attendance were: President "X" & Patti, Chuck, Scott, Carl & Janice, Ray & Leane, Ted & Pat, Al, Paul, Mike, Dennis & Laura and Joe & Doni.

July Dinner Ride

Doni Kubicek

How about that, there actually is a direction called "SOUTH", and that is the way we headed for our monthly

dinner ride on Tuesday, July 7th. Once again, Pete took us on a nice scenic ride as we made our way out to "The Fork in the Road" restaurant in Mukwonago.

In attendance were Pete, of course, as well as Bob Barr, Mike Z., Al Miller, Kevin & Kris, Chuck, Al Schoessow, Herman, Joe & myself. Gary & Mary were also with us but when we arrived at the restaurant we told them that they had no headlight. They had an electrical problem that was supposedly fixed earlier in the day (obviously not!) so they decided to play it safe and head right home.

Meeting us at the restaurant were Mary Ellen Simet and Judy (Al Miller), as well as Tiny & Patti who took care of arranging for a (large) table for us.

The food was great and the company was, too. The waitress treated Patti (Trunk Monkey) to a fresh banana and when we began to head for the door, Joe found that his vest pockets had been (anonymously) stuffed with salt & pepper shakers, a drink menu, flatware and, pretty much everything else that hadn't been nailed to the table. Ah, shenanigans!

Joe & I were not able to make the July brunch ride but we hope to see everyone at the next ride.

July Brunch Ride

Chuck Homa

Sunday, July 26th, we were blessed with another beautiful day for a brunch ride to M.J. Stevens. Once again, Pete led us thru a picturesque countryside and an abundance of what I like to call "tree tunnels". This 'brunch' was not only a great meal at a great price but also included prime rib for a few bucks more. Yummie!

Roll call: Tina & Dave, Al & Wendy, Ted & Pat, Pete, Chuck, Paul, Jimmie and Mike. Also, a cameo appearance by Bob Barr.

"Proud to be a Knight"

Upcoming Events

AUGUST

22nd A Ride to Remember Wauwatosa, WI
mstieber@wi.rr.com MCSO

28th-30th Summer GLRC Xenia, OH
www.blueknightsohioiii.org OH III

SEPTEMBER

11th-13th Fall MWRC Omaha, NE
www.blueknightsne2.net NE II

April, 2010

30th-May 2nd Spring GLRC Green Bay, WI
www.blueknightsne2.net NE II