

BLUE KNIGHTS

INTERNATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT MOTORCYCLE CLUB



Wisconsin Chapter VI Metro-Milwaukee

March 2010



Fellow Knights,

I am writing this to urge you to attend the meeting on April 20th where we will discuss, and possibly decide, our charitable donation policy.

For those of you who were not at the March monthly meeting, we formed a secondary charity fund, in addition to our "Assist an Officer Fund", which would remain our primary charity. There are many things to consider.

First, I think we all can agree that one of the main functions of our chapter is to support charity. That said we also have to consider the long term financial well being of our chapter. Even though our last fund raiser, the Sweetheart's Dance, was a success, we need to remember that this is the first fund raiser we have done in quite a while. We have been living on proceeds from our International Convention for some time now. Any decision we make must be conservative enough to ensure that we are able to do the other things that we have enjoyed in the past, such as Packer/Bear games and our Christmas party, as well as things that we might want to do in the future such as the Chicago Bike Show. In addition there are the usual operating expenses (office supplies and postage), as well as purchasing colors and other bills.

Keeping this in mind I think it makes sense to put a hard cap on any other donations we make each year. Since the "Sweetheart Dance" money **MUST** go for donations, it would make sense to take the money we get from this fund raiser to be the cap for our charitable donations for the year. We still have money in our "Assist an Officer Fund". If it does not work out we can always revise it at a later date.

The timing of these charitable donations, and to whom they should be made, still needs to be decided. My suggestion would be to make these donations from the previous year's "Sweetheart Dance" funds, for example February 2010's dance funds would be donated in December of 2010. That way we would have made most of our donations to the "Assist an Officer Fund" for the year and the remainder would be available for other charities and to replenish the "Assist an Officer Fund".

The other question is, to whom should we make donations? The answer is one of personal preference but we need to keep a few things in mind. We should continue our practice of only making donations to recognized charities such as Special Olympics and COPS. Historically, we have not made donations to events like sponsoring someone in a "cancer walk" or other "fund raising" events. Donations of this type have come from "passing the hat" at our meetings.

A suggestion would be that members must make requests for donations at the November or December meeting and have the Officers or Board of Directors, or possibly a separate committee, make the decisions on which charities to donate to. This could eliminate possibly lengthy, emotional discussions. The people making those decisions should probably be prohibited from making any charity recommendations, however, in order to remain unbiased.

Please remember that we, together, make the final decisions. These are only suggestions.

Ride With Pride,
Jim "Tiny" Kindt

The March meeting was held Tuesday, the 16th at Alioto's. President Jim "Tiny" Kindt called the meeting to order at 7:10PM and the group observed a moment of silence to honor the members of Heaven-I, followed by a group recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Introductions

Ted introduced prospective new member Mike Stroessner, retired from Milwaukee P.D. "Welcome, Mike!"

Minutes

A motion to waive the reading of the minutes from the February meeting was made by Dennis and seconded by Bob McDermott. All in favor.

Treasurers Report

Brian reported on our current financial status (final numbers are not published in this forum). Motion to accept; Bob McDermott. Second; Dennis. All in favor.

Old Business

- Tiny reminded the members that the International has a "Years of Service" program to honor those members with 20, 25, 30 & 35 years of continuous membership in the Blue Knights. Additionally, they proposed that the current "Silver Dues Tier" for *20 consecutive year members* be amended to include those with 25 non-consecutive years of membership (those with a break in their membership years).

Tiny reminds everyone that has reached any of these milestones to please contact him so that he may forward that information to the International Vice President. The member will receive a certificate and pin honoring their years of service.

- Note: If you think that you may qualify but are unsure of your start date with the Blue Knights, contact your chapter secretary.

- Tiny also reminded everyone about the Blue Knights Scholarship program. This year, five (5) immediate family members (son/step-son, daughter/step-daughter or grandchild) of Blue Knight members will be able to apply for a \$1,000 scholarship. Applications will be available from any International board member and will be available on the web-site in the "members only" section.

Applications must be postmarked no later than June 1st, 2010.

- Kim reported that the total income from the 17th Annual Sweetheart Dance, after her expenses and the cost of beer, was \$2,479.49. Joe said that the booze raffle brought in \$860 (852 tickets sold in advance and 180 tickets sold at the dance).

The hall (Tanner-Paull) had charged us \$600 for the three $\frac{1}{2}$ barrels of beer and there were no other charges associated with the hall.

Snacks and decorations, including helium and tank rental, cost \$178.10 and card stock for extra raffle tickets was \$2.85.

In addition, The Loyal Few M/C sent Dennis a note of apology for having not attended our event, along with a donation of \$100, giving us a total income from the dance and raffle of \$3,258.54.

- Ted said that we are getting low on our supply of colors and he contacted our supplier (formerly "Cory Graphics") and found that they have new ownership. It took quite a while for Ted to obtain a quote but was finally given the following information:

Top rocker: \$ 9.43

Center patch: \$ 9.00

Bottom rocker: \$10.00

If we choose to purchase from them, the total for a set of our colors would rise to \$28.43. In the past it was \$21.00. Ted will explore other options and Steve Schultz said that he has a contact that he will check with as well.

New Business

- Tiny stated that he has been approached by some members regarding starting a secondary chapter charity. This proved to be a very lively topic and several ideas were proposed.

After much discussion, Pete made the following motion:

We will cap our 'Assist an Officer Fund' at \$4,000, notwithstanding any donation(s) made specifically to that fund which may bring it over that amount. In addition, the Board is instructed to keep that account funded up to that level when possible.

The motion was seconded by Ted and passed on a voice vote.

Ted then made the following motion:

We will establish a secondary fund for 'Blue Knights Charities'.

That was seconded by George and passed on a voice vote.

Dennis made a motion that we table further 'Blue Knights Charities' discussion until the next meeting. That was seconded by Bob McDermott and passed on a voice vote.

Tiny read an email that he received from WI II President Bruce Gondert, challenging other WI Chapters to donate to, what Bruce called, "Stars & Stripes Freedom Flight". While most everyone saw this as a worthwhile cause, no one could have predicted the lengthy discussion that followed.

Motions were made, amended and withdrawn at a pace that kept your secretary near his wits end. Ultimately, it was decided that we first had to return to our "Blue Knights Charities" and "Assist an Officer" funds discussion for a few moments, during which Dennis made a motion that we:

Take the money raised from the Sweetheart Dance (\$3,258.54) and put that into our "Assist an Officer Fund", bringing our total in that fund to \$5,659.04.

Next, we take that amount which exceeds the previously agreed upon \$4,000 cap (\$1,659.04) and put that into the newly created "Blue Knights Charities" fund.

Seconded by Mike Z. and passed on a voice vote.

Steve Bzdusek made a motion that we now make a donation of \$150 to the Stars and Stripes Honor Flight (www.starsandstripeshonorflight.org) from our newly created "Blue Knights Charities" fund. That motion was seconded by several people at once, with Ted being the one that was officially recognized. During the discussion that followed, Sandy said that \$150 was a bit weak and suggested that we might consider increasing that. More discussion followed and Steve amended his motion to \$250. That was again seconded by Ted and passed on a voice vote.

Bob Barr stepped up and personally donated \$50 to the Stars and Stripes Honor Flight and Joe Kubicek donated another \$50. (Dennis pointed out that \$50 from Joe was an equivalent to \$1,000 from anyone else!)

Donations from Carl, Brian and a member who requested anonymity made our total donation \$450.

- Pete reported that he received several replies from the membership regarding on which day of the week we should schedule our monthly dinner rides. Based on those replies our monthly dinner rides will now be on the 4th Wednesday of each month and the monthly brunch rides will be on the 2nd Sunday. Pete stated that these dates do not conflict with any holidays in 2010. Further, Pete tells us that he has

received many ideas for locations but is still accepting other suggestions. Kim suggested that we schedule a fish fry at Tanner-Paull hall when possible since they were so good to us in hosting our dance.

There are two additional rides planned, as well. Friday, May 14th will be a fish fry ride, led by Chuck Homa. Strong suspicion is that the destination will be the Mine Shaft in Hartford as they are still featuring their AYCE fish fry for \$4.95 and it is, after all, "Save-a-buck-Chuck" leading the way!

Pete also said that there are tentative plans for

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Ted Engelbart

Chuck Homa

Sandy Santoro

Past President

Dennis Hafeman

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Visit your web site at: www.bkwivi.com

During summer riding months:

Dinner rides leave at 6:00PM

4th Wednesday each month

Brunch rides leave at 10:00AM

2nd 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

two Fall Color rides in October. One of these will be Kevin Porter's, 1st weekend (exact day unknown), and the other will be Pete's annual sojourn into the deep woods on the following weekend, Sunday, Oct. 10th.

Tiny thanked Pete for taking the time to survey the membership and plan, and that was followed by a well deserved round of applause. "Thanks, Pete"!

Roll Call

Scott Wysocki, Robert E. Barr, Steve Schultz, Chuck Homa, Jim & Patti Kindt, Steve Bzdusek, Carl Karwacki & Janis Smolinski, Gary & Mary Davey, Kim Fisher-Waliszewski, Julian Gonzalez, Jr., Sandy Santoro, Jim Crouse, Bob McDermott, Pete Simet, Brian Bortmess, Dennis Hafeman, Andre & Kristi Bleickardt, Scott Miller, Jim Backes, Paul Serdynski, Ted & Pat Engelbart, Ray & Leanne Teriaca, George Markopoulos, Mike Zivicki, Al Miller, Mike Stroessner and Joe Kubicek

Announcements

- Tiny said that the host hotel in Billings, MT has made available an additional 200 rooms for the 2010 International and they are "going fast".

- Note: As of this writing, word is that they may already be gone.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:35PM

On a motion by Bob McDermott and a second by Dennis Hafeman.



Happy Birthday To You

April 3 rd	Peggy Paddock
April 7 th	Carl Karwacki
April 27 th	Mike Zivicki

Upcoming Events

April 30-May 2: Spring GLRC, Green Bay WI
(host WI X) <http://www.bkglrc.com/2010SpringFlyer.pdf>

May 20-22: RGC, Hot Springs AK
(host All AK) <http://www.bkrgc.org/images/RGC2010RegForm.doc>

June 4-7: European Conv., Oostduinkerke Belgium
(host Belgium VI)

June 11-13: MWRC, St. Joseph MO
(host KC Metro) <http://home.comcast.net/~wayneschwartz/MWRC/images/PDFs/SpringRegistration2010.pdf>

June 11-13: WI State Convention, Lacrosse WI
(host WI VIII) www.wiblueknightsviii.org

July 17-22: International Convention, Billings MT
(host MT I) http://bkwcc.org/site_files/2010_reg_form.pdf

July 24-28: WCC/SWC, Grand Junction CO
http://bkwcc.org/site_files/WCCSWC_conference_pdf.pdf

August 27-29: Summer GLRC, Perrysburg OH
(host OH II) <http://www.ohio2blueknights.com/GLRC.html>

September 10-12: Fall MWRC, Grand Forks ND
(host ND I) www.rrv.net/bknd1

You Add the Caption

The "You Add the Caption" feature has met an untimely demise due to gross indifference on the part of the membership.

Who am I?

The "Who am I" from February was well known American movie director, Quentin Tarantino.



\$127.00/\$63.50

WINNER - Carl Karwacki
Rivet balance = \$202.00