



Blue Knights WI VI

July 2014 Chapter Newsletter

PLEDGE: 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 work at all times to improve the relationship between the motorcycling law enforcement community and the general public. The fraternal spirit will always guide me in relating to other Blue Knights.

CHAPTER WEBSITE: www.bkwivi.com

Riding weather has finally shown up.....well sort of.
Be sure to keep me posted on your rides and send pictures....I will share them in the newsletter.

HERE IS WHAT HAS BEEN REPORTED:

June 25th dinner ride:

The dinner ride on June 25th took members to the, North Lake Inn. The following pictures were sent to me by the Ortiz's. Not pictured are Mark Zaremba and his wife, as they came late. Looks like a good time!



State Convention:

The state convention took place June 20-22, at the Waupun Community Center. Wisconsin XII put on a great convention! WI VI was represented by the following

18 Knights; Mark and Chris Koch, Al Schoessow, Chuck and Kathy Homa, Mark Meyer, Sandy Santoro, Bob Barr, Steve Bzdusek, Jim Bagurdes, Mike Stroessner, Mike Zivicki, Tom Listinsky and Paula, Mike and Colette Powell, Brian Bortmess and Joanne. There would have been many more if the International didn't get in the way!

Friday night's pizza was delicious, Saturday's BBQ was awesome, and the hospitality and entertainment were great, not to mention the donuts were the bomb!!! And let us not forget the new members into the SNORT club. A good time was had by all.



International Convention:

The International Conference through the eyes of our very own Vice President:

Wrongway's European Vacation

Guten Tag fellow chapter members! How do you describe a 17 day trip abroad without making it into a boring verbal slide show? You sum it all up in a word, and that word would be **AWESOME!** Now that that's out of the way let the slide show commence!

Laura and I began our trip to Germany and Austria for the 40th Anniversary of

the Blue Knights (AKA: 2014 International Convention) with a fun filled Autobahn primer, also known as driving to O'Hare Airport. Nine hours and a bit jet lagged later we were standing in the airport in Frankfurt, eager to get our rental car and begin the adventure. We picked up our Skoda (the "Scourge of the Autobahn") and hit the road. If you've driven in Illinois driving on the Autobahn is a piece of German chocolate cake. Speeding and tailgating are the national pastime here; the experience reminded me of pursuit driving without the lights and sirens! Not for the faint of heart, but not intimidating by any means. Apparently my German blood (my dad's parents emigrated from Germany) kicked in, and believe it or not over this entire trip I didn't get lost once! Hey, nobody was more shocked than me!

We spent the next week touring the Romantic Road, which is punctuated with fantastic medieval towns and breathtaking sites. We explored the fortress and imperial residence in the town of Wurzburg; spent a day wandering the city of Rothenberg ob der Tauber, highlighted by listening to German WW II vets recount their experiences in a quiet little restaurant and strolling the streets with the night watchman; we slept two nights in an actual castle in Colmberg (great venue/uncomfortable bed) and marveled at Neuschwanstein, King Ludwig II's "Cinderella Castle", which was Walt Disney's inspiration just outside of Fussen. Did I mention drinking liters of dunkel beer, and eating enough schnitzel

and sausage to develop a permanent squeal to my voice? The schwein was fine and the bier wunderbar!

For any of you who experienced a border crossing before, you'd be amazed at how efficient the crossing from Germany into Austria is. Unlike a time consuming crossing into Canada, the only border post between these two countries is a sign! I blinked and missed the crossing. We were now well into the Alps, and the scenery became even more magnificent. We took the Zugspitzbahn (a huge cable car) to the highest point in Germany (and a border shared with Austria), a mountain peak just under 3000 meters tall. Unfortunately we were above the clouds and our view, while literally breathtaking, was somewhat obscured. We finally arrived Saturday evening in Waidring, and met up with Joe and Doni Kubicek, who together with Tiny and Patti Kindt, would be sharing our rented house. June 21 was the Summer Solstice, and the mountain tops were alive with bonfires set by the mountain rescue personnel in celebration. The convention location was beautiful, nestled in the mountains, but was somewhat inconvenient for sight-seeing as everything was at minimum an hour's drive away. During the upcoming days we strolled around the cities of Salzburg and Innsbruck, touring sites like Hitler's Eagles Nest and the Salzburg salt mines, and partied all evening with our many brother and sister Blue Knights, many of whom Laura and I haven't seen in three years. Tiny and Patti arrived Sunday after an exasperating day of travel

delays. Ted and Pat Engelbart, and Wacko and Janice rounded out the WI VI members in attendance, finally getting to the convention after getting the run around from their GPS. Attendance numbers fluctuated throughout the week depending on who you asked; I heard anywhere from 150-200 U.S. members in attendance, and anywhere from 1200 to 1500 total members. The convention began with an ominous tone. EC Chairman Wulf Bruelheide suffered a heart attack on the opening day and passed away. At the opening dinner that night, International President DJ Alvarez read the names of the members who transferred to Heaven I. It was sad to see chapter member Mark Newell and former chapter and founding member Jerry Pieper's names on this roster, as well as other names familiar to me.

Monday was the usual day of meetings. Here's my quick bit of BK business. As you all know I was running for chairman of the Board of Governors this year. Well, I came in second place in a field of four. The new chairman is Harry Shaw from England V, vice chairman is Bob Seelye, secretary is Jim Borza, and treasurer is Mike Rickard. The 2015 International Convention will be in Reno Nevada July 19-24. The only bid for the 2016 International Convention was made by PA V, and the convention will be in Harrisburg Pennsylvania June 19-24, 2016. More info will be coming out as I receive it, but I did snag a registration form for the 2015 Convention which I'll

get to Sandy for inclusion in an upcoming newsletter.

The remainder of week two was spent enjoying the Pillerseetal region of Austria and indulging in the usual jackassery that makes being a member fun. Joe and I inducted many of our European brothers and sisters into SNORT, and I enjoyed watching our chapter members join EU SNORT (and as a sign of solidarity I rejoined). Laura was inducted into the Royal Order of the Beast (don't ask her about it; if she told you she'd have to kill you!). Saturday's final gathering ended on a touching note. The mountain rescue personnel once again ascended into the mountains; this time lighting bonfires in the shape of a heart with a cross above it in memory of Wulf and all the members who passed. It was an absolutely incredible sight to behold.

Sunday morning arrived, and it was time for more touring before the long flight home. Tiny and Patti departed for Italy and another week of sight-seeing. Joe and Doni accompanied Laura and me to Munich, where we would spend the next three days exploring. Our apartments were located on the edge of the English Garden, a sprawling park larger than Central Park and the largest park in Europe. On Monday the four of us went to the concentration camp memorial at Dachau. This powerful experience reminded me that Germany isn't all beer gardens and castles. Fittingly the day was overcast and rainy. However, Tuesday dawned clear and sunny, so we all rented

bicycles from the hotel and set off to explore the Marienplatz in Munich (we are *bikers* after all). We saw the historic glockenspiel "spiel its glocken", enjoyed a liter of beer at the Hoffbrau House, and followed that up with another 2 liters at the Chinese Pagoda beer garden in the English Garden. Now you Facebookers may have seen Joe's posting about being abandoned here by us and left to wander the park starving and freezing to death. Truth be told he just got lost (3 liters of beer a contributing factor).

Overall it was an amazing trip with a lifetime of memories and experiences, and a country I'd come back to in a heartbeat.

Lost in America (but not in Europe!),

"Wrongway" Dennis



Chapter Fundraiser/Brewer Game:

The Fundraiser/Brewer game was July 13th. From the pictures I saw on Facebook looks like it was a success. I think the Brewers even won!



Just a friendly reminder to keep your fellow Brother and Sister Knights in your bed time prayers.....I know there are several members who have recently been ill or are recuperating from a surgery.

****Keep me posted on your rides and I will share them!!**

NEWS AND WHATS GOING ON:

Kevin Porter gets a group of Knights (and friends) together on Sundays, they meet at the Hardee's on 94 & 83 at approximately 10:30 to ride, and they ride until about 3:00pm. Anyone interested please contact him.

Sunday the 27th he works days but does mention that Lannon is having their annual car show on Main Street. Last year over 600 cars were there. Monies raised support local charities. Sounds like a road trip!!

Fraternally,
Sandy (LTS) 12

**NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY
SEPTEMBER 16TH 2014, 7:00PM
ALIOTO'S. SOCIAL HOUR STARTS
AT 6:00PM**

**Check the International and
conference web sites for further
information and registration forms.**



**HOPE EVERYONE HAD A
WONDERFUL JULY 4TH!!**

DATE**EVENT**

August 15 th -17 th 2014	SUMMER GLRC, Galesburg IL XXXVI - see attached flyer
August 23 rd 2014	RIDE C.A.R.E. escorted ride leaving Hal's 11am (see flyer)
August 24 th 2014	7 DAY ANNIVERSARY CRUISE, FL XVIII www.blueknightsflxviii.com
September 15 th -17 th	Fall Conference (NEC) Ottawa, Ontario - see attached flyer
September 16 th	MONTHLY MEETINGS RESUME: ALIOTOS
September 27 th 2014	BREWER/CUBS GAME, an invite from IL VI, contact Rich Martinez blueknightsillinoisix@gmail.com
September 28 th 2014	PACKER/BEAR GAME Waukegan, IL (details to come)
October 10 th -13 th 2014	TRI STATE CONVENTION, NY IV www.blueknightsny4.org See attached flyer
November 9 th 2014	PACKER/BEAR GAME WI VI HOSTS (details to come)
March 20 th -22 nd 2015	SPRING GLRC, OHIO XXV Canton, OH – see attached flyer
June 26 th -28 th 2015	WI State Convention, BK WI XIII, Minocqua Sports Complex butlersupnorth@gmail.com (John Butler) (flyer to come)
July 12 th -17 th 2015	2015 INTERNATIONAL RENO, NV (info @ reno2015@bkvn2.org or www.bkvn2.org) registration \$150/per person; \$175 after feb 1
June 19 th -24 th 2016	2016 INTERNATINAL destination: Harrisburg PA. info to come

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO

Herman Kremkau	July 3 rd
Sandy Santoro	July 5 th
Wendy Schoessow	July 9 th
Gary Davey	July 12 th
Brian Bortmess	July 16 th
Jared Listinsky	July 30 th
Raymond Teriaca	July 31 st