



# Blue Knights Wisconsin VI

## June 2011 Chapter Newsletter

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### From Your Chapter Secretary

Ah summer! It's a time to ride the tires off our bikes, and a welcome break for your chapter executive board from monthly meetings (and for yours truly for not having to transcribe minutes). But that doesn't extend to the chapter newsletter, so you'll be receiving issues all summer long reporting on various BK functions WI VI members have been attending.

I'll start off with a (hopefully) not too long tale entitled *A Knight Errant* (with multiple Webster's definitions). This tale begins May 23, with Laura and I flying to Brussels Belgium to begin two weeks abroad, including attending the 2011 European Convention in Mandelieu France. After a long red eye flight we met up with our host Peter "Madnick" of Belgium VI for a quick lunch visit to the US embassy and some site seeing (read: pub crawl) of central Brussels. We were traveling from Brussels to Mandelieu with "Madnick", his girlfriend Inge (and their infant son Neils) and members of Belgium II, VI, and XI. The ride to the French Riviera took two days, with an overnight stay in a French farmhouse that had been converted to a bed and breakfast. When we finally arrived in Mandelieu we found we were far from the only Americans at the convention. International President Bob Flanagan and his wife (and Past International President) Connie were there, as well as International VP DJ Alvarez (and his daughter), European Liaison Chris Dobek and his wife Raque, and members from IL XI and OK I. It seems the idea of going across the pond may be catching on! The convention was a blast, but far more subdued than the EC we attended last year in Belgium. I was told 375 Knights attended and everyone seemed to be having fun, with three course sit down gourmet dinners each night and inexpensive adult beverages. Our hotel (more of an apartment) was a five minute walk from the Mediterranean Sea, where Laura and I spent a few hours basking in the sun. Laura joined the European SNORT Team, and I didn't set myself on fire this year (always a plus). Of course, there was a business meeting which I was invited to attend as Chairman of the International Convention Committee. Here's the quick skinny on the meeting: the 2012 EC will be in Uma, Croatia from May 31-June 3 2012. I'm told by several that *this* will be an EC you don't want to miss! Registration and info on the convention should be available on the EC web site in October or November of this year.

The 2013 EC will be in Spa, Belgium from May 9-11 of 2013. And lastly the 2014 EC will be in Waidring, Austria from June 23-29 of 2014. At this time it looks like the 2014 EC will be combining with the UK and Ireland Conference to have a double convention. There is also a great deal of talk in Europe about presenting a bid to host the 2014 International Convention at Waidring as well, making it a triple convention (and the first International in Europe). Stay tuned for more info on that.

After a great four days at the EC, it was time for Laura and me to head west. Not home, mind you, but to Marseilles France for part two of our European vacation. Here, we boarded the MSC Fantasia and spent another week cruising The Med, taking in the ports of Barcelona (Spain), Malta, Messina (Sicily), and Rome and Genoa (Italy) before heading home. Not errant enough for you? Well, I was home for about a day before packing up the bike for the next journey: the 2011 Spring MWRC in Olathe Kansas.

Joe and Doni Kubicek, "Tiny" and Patti Kindt and me headed to Kansas on June 8, experiencing flash floods and severe weather all the way to Dorothy's home state. The weekend's weather left me with a volcano, tsunami, and earthquake as the only things left on my "been there, rode through that" list that I haven't experienced. Close to 150 Knights (even one from California) were in attendance and ready to party hard. It was a weekend of new inductees to the SNORT Team, as well as the beginning of the SLOP Team (stands for Salt, Lime, Open and Pour; you get the picture). There was a business meeting as well Saturday evening. Highlights: the 2012 Spring MWRC will be in Winona Minnesota from June 8-12, 2012. The 2013 Spring MWRC will be held in conjunction with the Spring RGC in Eureka Springs Arkansas from June 13-16 of 2013. There were no bids for the 2012 Fall MWRC. At this meeting there was discussion about discontinuing the Guy Clow Award due to lack of submissions; this is the award given to the author of the best chapter newsletter of the year by the MWRC (Joe Kubicek was the recipient in 2010) and is presented at the International banquet. Fortunately the MWRC is going to continue presenting this award.

That night at the banquet I had the privilege of presenting Davor's Ring to Immediate Past International President Dave Mulford and MWRC International Rep Brian Gadd on behalf of the Blue Knights of the European Conference. Davor's Ring is awarded to any Blue Knight for completing 1200 kilometers (that's 745 miles) in 24 hours, meeting two other Blue Knights chapters (in addition to your own) and verifying all this (and paying the required fees). This Blue Knights Iron Butt was created to honor the memory of Davor Javorski of Croatia I, an avid long distance rider who was killed in a motorcycle accident in 2008. His death left behind a wife and two small children, and proceeds from Davor's Ring go to help the surviving family. While the Ring has been attained by several Europeans, only three Americans have done so, so I was deeply honored to be able to present the Ring to two of those recipients. Afterwards, it was time for a couple of quick drinks and several goodbyes, as we were heading home Sunday morning and had a 600+ mile ride ahead of us.

Webster's Dictionary defines "errant" as: 1) traveling or given to travel, 2) straying outside the proper path or boundaries, 3) moving about aimlessly or irregularly, and 4) behaving wrongly. Every definition of this word aptly described my three week sojourn at some point. And the journey continues, with the 2011 Wisconsin State Convention June 24-26, and of course the 2011 International Convention in Chesapeake Virginia July 17-22 next on my list. Next month I'll regale you with tales from these two great Blue Knights events.

"Lost in America,"

"Wrongway" Dennis

## Brunch Ride Report from 6-12-11

I have been volunteered to write the report on the brunch ride so here it is.

It was a sunny Sunday with temperatures in the low 60's; a great day for riding. A decent showing of members included Bob Barr, Mike Zivicki, Big Steve, Director Ted and Pat Englebart, Dan Schmerse, Al and Wendy Schoessow, Kenn Ziebell, Kevin Porter and Kris Hennen, Paul Serdynski, Jim and Debbie Bagurdes and me, Director Chuck Homa.

Again, Bob did not disappoint, leading us on a circuitous (in case you didn't hear, I like that word) route to Racine where we went to the Summit House Restaurant. Upon arrival, Ted hot footed it to the restaurant and I guessed correctly where he was headed. En route to the restaurant we went through a city called Carrollville which I never heard of. I still would not have known that it existed if Al did not have his CB on. Al said he grew up in Carrollville and also said that Gary Wetzel, Medal of Honor recipient, got in many fights with the police in this city. We then had a little discussion about Gary Wetzel which I won't discuss here.

Upon entering the restaurant, it appeared that a bunch of old bikers did not belong. And did I mention it looked expensive. They let us in and we dined. I think I can speak for all that the food was exceptional (except the fish) and plentiful; on my part too plentiful. Buffets are my calorie counting downfall. A pleasant surprise was the cost of the buffet. I believe it was \$13.99 and all you could eat, which I did and a senior citizen discount which we told the waiter to make it easy just make the entire group seniors. Plentiful coffee and different flavors of coffee, another downfall for me because of the same reason Ted went to the restaurant so fast. Sharing a good ride, camaraderie (I checked the spelling) and good food-that's what I'm talking about.

Bob; again a good job on the circuitous (see above) route and for picking a nice restaurant (a bit more than the Mineshaft) which was well worth it.

Hope to see all y'all (plural for y'all) at the BK Wisconsin State Convention. I'm trying to convince Ted and Pat to share a room with Mike Z., Scott and myself so we can split the bill 5 ways instead of 3.

Chuck Homa,  
Director, Blue Knights WI VI





Happy Birthday

Mark Newell-June 7<sup>th</sup>

Bob Barr-June 8<sup>th</sup>

Joe Kubicek-June 10<sup>th</sup>

Fernando Rojas-June 13<sup>th</sup>

Ted Englebart-June 14<sup>th</sup>

Chuck Homa-June 21<sup>st</sup>

Chad Stiles-June 22<sup>nd</sup>

## UPCOMING EVENTS

2011 WI State Convention **June 24-26**  
Mishicot WI [www.bkwiix.org/state\\_conv.html](http://www.bkwiix.org/state_conv.html)

2011 International Convention **July 17-21**  
ChesapeakeVA [www.blueknights2011convention.org](http://www.blueknights2011convention.org)

2011 Summer GLRC **August 19-21**  
Canton OH [www.angelfire.com/oh5/blueknightsohxxv](http://www.angelfire.com/oh5/blueknightsohxxv)

2011 Fall MWRC **September 16-18**  
Okoboji IA [www.blueknightsmwrc.com](http://www.blueknightsmwrc.com)

## Chapter Rides

Brunch rides are held the  
**Second Sunday (10:00 AM)**

AND

Dinner rides are held the  
**Fourth Wednesday (6:00 PM)**

Rides begin in March and run  
through November

Meeting location is the park and  
ride lot adjacent to the Milwaukee  
Children's Center  
HWY 45 and W. Watertown  
Plank Road

Locations TBD