



# Blue Knights Wisconsin VI

## June 2012 Chapter Newsletter

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### From Your Chapter Secretary

(Enter Rod Serling) “Submitted for your approval; meet Dennis, a Blue Knight in a world of his own, riding a motorcycle to Somewhere, USA. He’s a man of contrasts; directionally challenged yet born with a traveling bone. His journey will be filled with experiences both plausible and preposterous. His ultimate destination: fun and camaraderie. And yes, alcohol will be involved. There’s a sign post up ahead, and you’ve just shifted gears for a ride into The Wrongway Zone.” Okay, so it’s a bit 60’s sci-fi, but you’ve got to admit it got your attention! So if you have time enough at last, put on your black leather jackets, come wander with me, and see if you can find all 49 classic Twilight Zone episode titles I’ve woven into this road story.

Our first stop: the Spring Midwest Regional Convention in Winona, MN (June 7-10). Joe and Doni Kubicek, “Tiny” and Patti Kindt and I began this trip a day early. Our hosts (MN I) had advertised several pre convention activities that seemed tantalizing. On the spur of the moment we decided to take back roads, a world of difference from riding the super slab you drive most trips. We were five characters in search of an exit, on the hunt for the perfect route. Joe, the prime mover in our party, led us to the historic Merrimac ferry, the last free ferry in Wisconsin (on Hwy 113). His goal was to take us to Winona via Hwy 33. We decided to make a stopover in a quiet town for lunch, and picked the lonely burg of Wonewoc, WI for our burger and beer break. The ½ pound burgers at Degner’s Bar are just what you need after a long ride in the heat and dust. After our tasty repast it was a leisurely ride into Winona, with the arrival of our group occurring just before two. Our chapter’s representation increased with the arrival of Randy and Peggy Winkler later that evening. The host hotel was packed, and after dinner at the Monarch Public House, a great Irish pub in Fountain City, WI, we returned to a crowded hospitality suite to indulge in a short drink from a certain fountain (well, maybe several drinks), disregarding the lateness of the hour. In the morning the howling man in my head made me feel like I’d gone ninety years without slumbering. Gatorade and a handful of Advil bestowed a quality of mercy, and I recovered just in time for lunch.

The local Ford dealership (surprise, not a Harley dealer) featured a free all you can eat sandwich bar, complete with an ice sculpture of the club’s International emblem. They even offered massages while you waited!

By now our chapter's numbers rose with the addition of Carl Karwacki, Bob McDermott and Peggy Paddock. Besides WI VI there was so much GLRC representation that our conference seemed like the invaders of the MWRC. International President Bob Flanagan, GLRC International Rep John Gordon and GLRC Reverend Rich Bartley came from Ohio, Indiana State Rep Glen Wheat was present, and members from WI V, WI VIII, IL XIV and the "boys from Illinois" IL X made the ride. Hell, there were even members from Tennessee and Florida there! Past International President Dave Mulford made the trip, well on his way to recovery after suffering a recent stroke which had temporarily rendered him mute.

Joe and I (AKA: the Milwaukee Twins) attended the business meeting Saturday morning. Here are the highlights: the Fall MWRC is in Omaha, NE, from 9/7 to 9/9/12. I'll be sending out registration forms for this, but you can access them and all the pertinent info on the MWRC and NE II web sites. The 2013 Spring MWRC is a joint conference with the RGC. This is taking place in Eureka Springs, AK from 6/13 to 6/16/13. There were no bids for the fall 2013 and spring 2014 conferences. It was suggested that the GLRC and the MWRC host a joint convention; more on this at a later date. The entire MWRC executive board was up for election, but the changing of the guard would not occur this year, and the current board was reelected unanimously.

Then it was off to lunch at Slippery's in Wabasha, MN. This bar was featured in the Grumpy Old Men movies. We were served pulled pork with sides and lemonade; all paid for by the host chapter! The ride was marred by an accident en route; a pickup truck cut into the line of riders and hit the brakes. The bike immediately to the rear of this jackass stopped in the nick of time, but the rider behind them didn't and she rear ended them and went down, breaking her ankle and wrist, getting felony road rash, and totaling her bike. She ended up spending the night in the hospital. After lunch it was a short ride to the National Eagle Center, where you had the opportunity to ogle and eagle up close and personal. Admission was also part of your registration for the convention.

Later that night the banquet took place, which saw the celebration of MWRC Safety Officer Paul and his wife Cathy French's 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary. GLRC Chaplain Bartley performed a renewal of vows as an added touch to the event. The main festivities concluded around ten, but the after hours party ran until about 3:00 AM. Joe was celebrating his 49<sup>th</sup> birthday Sunday the 10<sup>th</sup>, so he decided to stay out well into the long morrow. He did get static for causing a late start home, but at least he's alive, even though he looked like he had just crawled out of the grave!

If MN I ever hosts another MWRC I'll go back there in a heartbeat. This was their first time hosting this event, and their execution was flawless. The best MWRC I've ever attended; one for the angels!

Last stop: the Wisconsin State Convention (June 15-17). Joe/Doni, "Tiny"/Patti, Laura and I began this sojourn mid Friday morning, this time joined by several members of IL X. After a brief gas stop (where our party picked up Danny O'Toole) it was off to The Tilted Kilt in Oshkosh for lunch. Our waitress, a scantily clad living doll, was on hand to serve man and woman alike, and the food wasn't too bad either! At this point Danny headed for home; he'd just come along for a quick afternoon ride (must have gotten wind of our lunch stop). Our entourage finally arrived at The Brown County Fairgrounds, and it was once again time for the man in the bottle to appear (are you detecting the parallel yet?). The 10 members of the SNORT "scary cherry" team received their commemorative buttons; sort of a fruit/death's head revisited hybrid design (you got to see it to believe it). Throughout the evening Mike Zivicki, Carl "Wacko" and Janis, and Jim and Deb Bagurdes arrived. Al Miller arrived on Saturday in time for dinner, and I'm told that there was a rare sighting of our chapter's little girl lost Tina Chappell Saturday morning. Of course this was made by person or persons unknown. True to

fashion, Joe, “Tiny” and I thumbed our noses at the midnight sun and closed up the hospitality room.

Saturday it was group ride time to Doc’s HD of Shawano County, located on State Hwy 29. This place is amazing! Besides being a dealership, the grounds feature a pirate ship, zoo, saloon, and even an antique shop attached to a 1926 replica motorcycle shop. We arrived just in time to watch the owner feed the four alligators. You can tell that “Doc” is a man with a thing about machines. It would take you several hours to really view and appreciate everything he has in his antique car/cycle museum, and you got to see the famous seven engine (every air cooled big twin engine from 1909 to present) 10 person Timeline Motorcycle in the saloon (and it really runs). It was a nice place to visit while waiting out the rain that hit mid-afternoon. At four o’clock Wisconsin State Rep Dane Nelsen held the annual state meeting. Present were: WI I, II, V, VI, VIII, IX, X, XI, XII, and XIII, along with IL X and IA III. Dane reported that the state fund was solvent, even if it hadn’t made a lot in interest this year. The 2013 Wisconsin State Convention will be hosted by WI XI (Racine/Kenosha) from June 21-23 at the Racine County Fairgrounds in Union Grove (tentative registration cost of \$55 which includes a t-shirt). Early registration (cut off 5-1-13) gets you a chance to win a \$100 gas card. WI XI hopes to have all the pertinent info on their web site by August. In a true show of class, WI XI raffled off a double barrel “shot” gun (full of tequila) and donated the \$202 they raised to WI X’s charity (Special Olympics). Every chapter president present gave a quick update on their chapter’s goings on. “Tiny” filled in the membership on the upcoming 2013 Spring GLRC. Mark your calendars for WI II’s 10<sup>th</sup> annual fall ride/chili feed/Packer game on Sunday, October 28. And of course there’s the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Crying Towel Classic, with game one on Thursday, September 13 at 7:30 PM, hosted by IL X. After this quick meeting it was time to grill your own steak for dinner, and load up your plate with plenty of delicious sides (and liquid refreshment of course). At 8:00 PM Chris Carey fired up the group with his excellent music, this time joined by his equally talented girlfriend. Laura and I called it an early night, knowing that after two weeks of partying I wouldn’t be able to look in the mirror without reliving some nightmare as a child. Besides, my liver was ready to kick the can!

Two excellent events; both reminded me that it’s a good life in the Blue Knights. No matter where I travel, I find that people are alike all over and every event is truly something special to experience. Now would someone *please* tell me how to get home!!!

(Rod Serling re-enters) “Dennis is on an endless journey. He’s convinced home is just around the next bend, but he never seems to find the right road. So next time you hear the plaintive sound of his engine and his cry of “where the hell am I?!” offer him a kind word, and give him directions and a road map out of The Wrongway Zone.”

*“Wrongway” Dennis*





### Happy Birthday

Mark Newell-June 7<sup>th</sup>  
Bob Barr-June 8<sup>th</sup>  
Joe Kubicek-June 10<sup>th</sup>  
Ted Engelbart-June 14<sup>th</sup>  
Monica Schultz-June 15<sup>th</sup>  
Chuck Homa-June 21<sup>st</sup>  
Jim Ortiz-June 25<sup>th</sup>  
Christine Koch-June 30<sup>th</sup>

### 2012 UPCOMING EVENTS

2012 International Convention      July 22-27  
Tyler, TX (TX XXXIV)  
[www.blueknightstx34.org/convention2012.html](http://www.blueknightstx34.org/convention2012.html)

2012 Summer GLRC      August 17-19  
Collingwood, Ontario, Canada (ON VIII)  
[www.bkgllrc.com/bkevents](http://www.bkgllrc.com/bkevents)

2012 Fall MWRC      September 7-9  
Omaha, NE (NE II)      [www.blueknightsne2.net](http://www.blueknightsne2.net)

2012 Fall Tri-State      October 5-8  
Gettysburg, PA (PA XXIV)  
[http://www.blueknightsny4.org/files/PA\\_24\\_31st\\_Fall\\_TSC\\_Convention\\_1.pd](http://www.blueknightsny4.org/files/PA_24_31st_Fall_TSC_Convention_1.pd)

### 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

Destinations TBD



Conrad Zvara sustained several  
fractures to his leg from a  
motorcycle accident. Best wishes  
for a full and speedy recovery!

## LEGAL UPDATES

These particular updates come to us courtesy of Paul French, the safety officer for the MWRC. They are specific to our conference.

**Springfield, Ill.: House Bill 930, sponsored by Rep. [Dan Beiser](#)** (D-Alton), prohibits any law enforcement agency of the state or a political subdivision of the state from accepting federal funding for the establishment of motorcycle-only roadside checkpoints. The bill passed the House and Senate by unanimous votes. If approved by Governor [Pat Quinn](#), the ban on accepting federal funding for motorcycle-only checkpoints would take effect immediately.

**Also Senate Bill 2528, sponsored by Sen. [Gary Forby](#)** (D-Benton), would require motorcyclists and bicyclists to wait at least 120 seconds before proceeding with caution into or through an intersection controlled by a traffic-actuated signal that fails to recognize their vehicles. Previously, motorcycle and bicycle operators were required to wait “a reasonable period of time”. Passed by a nearly unanimous vote in both the House and Senate, the bill was sent to Governor [Pat Quinn](#) on May 24 for his consideration.



### **Ride with the Flame - Saturday, July 28, 2012**

Join us for a Motorcycle Ride benefitting Special Olympics Wisconsin's Southeastern Region. The event is open to all makes of motorcycles (no mopeds or scooters).

Ride with the Flame consists of an 85\* mile ride through scenic Southeastern WI, beginning and ending at the Route 20 Outhouse (formerly known as Spokes), 14001 – Washington Avenue, Sturtevant, WI 53177.

**[Click here to register and find more information](#)**

**For any questions about the event, please contact:**

Raechel Tudjan

Regional Director of Development

[rtudjan@specialolympicswisconsin.org](mailto:rtudjan@specialolympicswisconsin.org)

262-598-9507 Ext. 2



# ***Escape to Blue “Knights” Mountain***

Blue Knights G.L.R.C Summer Conference 2012

Blue Mountain Resort, Collingwood, Ontario August 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup>, 2012

***Hosted by Blue Knights Ontario VIII***

**Blue Mountain Inn**, 108 Jozo Weider Blvd, Blue Mountains, Ontario L9Y 3Z2

For reservations call: 705-445-0231 or 1-877-445-0231

Hotel Room Rate is \$94.00 (plus taxes). For Blue Knights rate use GRP101160

Limited 3 bedroom chalets available for a group, call the hotel for details

**REGISTRATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED PRIOR TO AUGUST 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012 TO AVOID LATE FEES**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Chapter:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Spouse/Guest:** \_\_\_\_\_ **# of Children:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mailing Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**State/Province:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip/Postal Code:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Number of Adults:** \_\_\_\_\_ **X \$80.00 (\$85.00 if received after August 1<sup>st</sup>) =**  
**\$** \_\_\_\_\_

**Number of Children (Ages 6-12):** \_\_\_\_\_ **X \$40.00 (\$45.00 if after August 1<sup>st</sup>) =**  
**\$** \_\_\_\_\_

**Number of Children under 5:** \_\_\_\_\_ **X \$0.00**

**Conference T-Shirts (pre-order only):** \_\_\_\_\_ **X \$20.00 = \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**Size/Quantity:** S \_\_\_\_\_ M \_\_\_\_\_ L \_\_\_\_\_ X L \_\_\_\_\_ 1XL \_\_\_\_\_ 2XL \_\_\_\_\_ 3XL \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL AMOUNT SUBMITTED IN CANADIAN FUNDS ONLY = \$** \_\_\_\_\_

*Registration includes an event pin, welcome BBQ Friday night, hospitality rooms Friday and*

*Saturday, breakfast buffet Saturday morning, banquet dinner Saturday night, guided and*

*self-guided rides, free shuttle to other areas of the resort, a performance by the OPP Golden*

*Helmets Precision Motorcycle team, socializing and Canadian hospitality, eh!*

Please mail your registration form and cheque or money order in CDN funds to:

**Blue Knights Ontario VIII**

**575 West Street South, Unit #1 P.O. Box 21027**

**Orillia, Ontario CANADA L3V 7N6**

For further information contact us at GLRCSummerConf2012@gmail.com

or check out our website at [www.bkglrc.com/bkontviii.html](http://www.bkglrc.com/bkontviii.html)