



Blue Knights Wisconsin VI

March 2011 Chapter Newsletter

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From *Your* Chapter Secretary

Before you start wondering who Erin is and why you're cheering her bra, let me clear up the mystery: another St. Patrick's Day is upon us. Ah, the one time of the year when we all get to be a wee bit Irish by consuming vast quantities of Guinness and Jameson. As you read this month's newsletter, we're also back on Daylight Savings Time, and the Vernal Equinox occurs March 20, heralding the official first day of spring! It also means that the 2011 Spring GLRC is just coming up faster than bad corned beef and cabbage. The event is being held March 25-27 in Cleveland Ohio. If you haven't been to a GLRC now's a great time to pop your conference cherry. Cleveland is famous for its hospitality to cops; just ask Jim Crouse. Let that faraway look in his eyes and evil grin as he recalls debaucheries past be your guide. Registration forms and hotel information can still be found on the GLRC web site: www.bkgllrc.com or the OH VIII web site (see the handy link in the upcoming events section for you e-readers). Next month I'll have a field report from the convention, and maybe (gasp) an article from our chapter president. Stranger things have been known to happen.

With the coming of spring it won't be long until we get the bikes out of storage. Now is the time to check them over before you start putting miles on the clock. Are the tires properly inflated? Is there any damage (like dry rot)? Maybe it's time to replace them before you hit the highway. When was the last time you changed or checked your fluids (and I'm not referring to your beer level)? Is the battery charged? What about YOU? Are you ready to get back in the saddle? Even the best riders get rusty over the long winter, so take the time to get yourself back in condition before you start doing Iron Butt worthy riding. As Sgt. Esterhaus used to say; "let's be careful out there." Come to think of it, isn't this safety bit Bob Barr's job?



Happy St. Patrick's Day, and Slainte!!!

Minutes of the Chapter Meeting

- 1) The meeting was called to order by President Kindt at 7:06 PM on Tuesday, March 15, 2011. Immediately after calling the meeting to order, President Kindt thanked Robert McDermott for the new gavel he had been given for chapter meetings.
- 2) President Kindt let the membership in a recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance, then called for a moment of silence for our Blue Knight brothers in need.
- 3) Steve Bzdusek introduced prospective member Willie Degelman from Mequon PD.
- 4) **Reading of the minutes from the last meeting:** At this time Secretary Hafeman stated there were two corrections to the minutes from last month. First, he stated he misspoke when giving International and GLRC updates. During his report he stated that there were two motions before the Board of Directors regarding the recount procedure. In fact, there were two proposals. Second, he stated that President Kindt had indicated that House of Harley was in Greendale when it is in fact in Greenfield. A motion was made by Kristi Bleickardt and seconded by Sandy Santoro to accept the minutes as published with these corrections. Motion carried.
- 5) **Treasurer's report.** Treasurer Bortmess was excused due to work, and the report was read by President Kindt. (Final numbers will not be published in this forum). A motion to accept the treasurer's report as published was made by Chuck Homa and seconded by Mike Stroessner. Motion carried.

6) Old business:

- A) **Sweethearts Dance.** President Kindt put forth the proposal that at the next meeting we begin soliciting volunteers to chair next year's Sweethearts Dance. He stated that this would enable the chairperson to get more tickets sold and better prepare the event. He stated that he had spoken to Sandy Santoro, Joe Kubicek and Kim Fisher and they expressed interest. Bob Barr talked about possibly moving the date of the dance; President Kindt stated that if the club can't come up with a date by the next meeting we leave that decision up to the dance chairperson. They would also nail down the location so they can get tickets printed sooner and sold. Joe Kubicek stated that he is not truly interested in running the event, and encouraged others to step up and run the event.

Consideration will be given to different locations. President Kindt stated that he wasn't sure if Milwaukee HD would be interested in having us back. He stated that we need to secure a date and location sooner so we can get tickets out to the members to sell sooner. He also suggested taking these tickets to Blue Knight events we attend for sale. Hearing no objections, President Kindt stated that next month we will begin looking for volunteers.

- B) **Chapter motions book.** Secretary Hafeman temporarily went off the agenda, and asked for volunteers to run the 50/50 drawing. Chuck Homa and Sandy Santoro stepped up to handle this.

Regarding the motions book, Secretary Hafeman explained that after two days of being snowbound, retired, and really bored the chapter now has a motions book. He further explained that the motions book starts on April of 1980, which was the first meeting

that Robert's Rules of Order were used. The motions book covers all key motions made, and does not list motions to approve minutes or treasurer's reports. The book and a copy in President Kindt's possession were passed around for the membership to examine. The book will be updated after each month, and will remain the chapter's property. President Kindt thanked him for his time.

- C) **Old business from the floor:** Paul Serdyski reminded the membership that Stocky's Go Carts is this Sunday at 11:00 AM. To date 13 have paid him and are ready to go. President Kindt thanked Paul for setting this event up.
- D) **Brunch/Dinner rides.** Bob Barr stated that brunch rides will still be the second Sunday of the month, and dinner rides will be the fourth Wednesday of the month. The last Sunday ride was cancelled due to a lack of suggestions. The next Wednesday dinner ride will be March 23 at Sobelman's Restaurant, 1900 W. St. Paul. The restaurant has been rated the best hamburger. He stated that the only problem may be if Marquette is still in the basketball tournament as this is a popular hangout for Marquette students. President Kindt stated that if this location has a problem he had another suggestion: the Coach House in Waukesha. Bob Barr stated that the members not interested in meeting at the park and ride or if weather is bad they just meet at the restaurant at 6:30 PM. Westbound traffic on I94 is now down to two lanes, and will be this way all summer. He stated he is still open for suggestions. There may be additional rides during the season.

There was no other old business discussed.

7) New business.

International and GLRC updates. Secretary Hafeman stated that the Spring GLRC is next weekend, and stated that the chapter board (unsure about Brian Bortmess) will be in attendance. He stated that if you have never attended a GLRC this would be a good event to attend. It's being held in Cleveland, which is very "cop friendly" and a close ride. He stated that after the event there will be a report and maybe an article from the chapter president. He stated that to his knowledge there are no issues on the agenda so the meeting should be short.

President Kindt stated that at the International level the ballot recount for the International elections had been completed and the election of the officers was upheld.

- B) Ron Bethia stated he was approached by the owner of Quaker Steak and Lube in New Berlin about doing a fund raiser for the Caring House in Waukesha; a facility for abused children. Dates would have to be worked around Blue Knights events. Ron will be getting more information on this, but it sounded to him that the owner just wanted the club to participate in the event and not set it up and run it.

There was no other new business discussed.

8) Announcement/Good of the order:

A) President Kindt stated that he is a firearms instructor, and has obtained information about obtaining certification for concealed carry for retirees. The course is offered by Northeast Wisconsin Technical College in Green Bay. There are initial certification courses in April, July and October. Students can use approved firearms in the following calibers: 9mm, .40, .45, .38 and .357. 100 rounds must be brought by the student or is available at a discount through the school, as well as eye and ear

protection. The cost of the course is \$100.00 for the full 8 hour class and \$30.00 for the recertification classes.

A flyer for the Blue Knights Illinois Chapter VII leg of the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics June 20 was read. Joe Kubicek stated that the Green Bay chapter does something similar, and any member interested in attending this event “in state” should contact WI X VP Dane Nelsen.

A flyer for the Blue Knights Illinois XXVI ride for the 3rd Annual Charity Ride for Rainbow Riders on Saturday, May 14 was read.

Secretary Hafeman stated that membership cards were in, and if you did not get yours to see him after the meeting. He also stated that a letter came with the cards saying that if you wanted to receive your International newsletter electronically instead of in the mail you can notify the International office.

Bob Barr stated that there is the annual retired MPD luncheon in Rhinelander, being held June 4 (Saturday). He and 7 others are riding up on Friday, and he has a block of rooms reserved. Anyone interested in attending should contact him or Chuck Homa; meeting location and times have not been established yet.

There were no other announcements made.

9) Next meeting date is Tuesday, April 19, 2011 at 7:00 PM (Alioto’s Restaurant)

- 10) The 50/50 drawing was done by prospect Willie Degelman, who pulled his own winning ticket. \$51 went to him and \$51 to the chapter. Willie took his winnings and joined the chapter.
- 11) A motion to close the meeting was made and seconded. The meeting closed at 7:38 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis H. Hafeman
WI VI Chapter Secretary



ROLL CALL

Dennis Hafeman, Joe Kubicek, Ron Bethia, Kenn Ziebell, Jim Bagurdes, Andre and Kristi Bleickardt, Eddie Kunicki, Julian Gonzalez Jr., Bob McDermott, Tom Listinsky, Sandy Santoro, Gary and Mary Davey, Michael Stroessner, Steve Schultz, Robert Barr, Charles Homa, Pete Simet, Paul Serdynski, Carl Karwacki, Jim Kindt, Steve Bzdusek, and guest Willie "Fran" Degelman



Happy Birthday

Kristi Bleickardt-March 3
Bob McDermott-March 23

UPCOMING EVENTS

2011 Spring GLRC
Cleveland OH

March 25-27
www.blueknightsohvii.com

2011 Spring MWRC
Olathe KS

June 10-12
www.bkks8.org/events.htm

2011 WI State Convention
Mishicot WI

June 24-26
www.bkwiix.org/state_conv.html

2011 International Convention
ChesapeakeVA

July 17-21
www.blueknights2011convention.org

2011 Summer GLRC
Canton OH

August 19-21
www.angelfire.com/oh5/blueknightsohxxv

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
at I45 and W. Watertown
Plank Road.

Locations TBD

Come join us June 10, 2011, as we escort the runners on the final leg to the Summer Games, for the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics. Blue Knights are given a special place of honor, leading the runners in the parade to the games.

For the last 20 years, Illinois Chapter VII has hosted the hospitality room at the host hotel for the games, including hot food and libations.

It is unique in that we don't just welcome Blue Knights, but other coppers and Special Olympics folks from around Illinois. We've even had a few professional athletes and celebrities stop by over the years.

**WE CHARGE NOTHING FOR THIS, BECAUSE WE'RE HAPPY TO SEE YOU GET INVOLVED AND WANT YOU TO BE ABLE TO AFFORD A ROOM IF YOU MAKE IT DOWN!
(Especially if you enjoy the hospitality room)**

People arrive all day on Friday, but we meet to lay out the parade about 4:30 PM. The parade runs at 6:30 to arrive at the reception at ISU at 7 (There is food there, too!) It's when we award the Torch Run check to SOI- \$2.9 M last year!) The Law Enforcement Torch Run is the biggest outside funding source for Special Olympics.

The host hotel is the Doubletree, Brickyard Rd @ Business I -55 in Bloomington. 309-664-6446. There is a Special Olympics rate of \$99 for rooms. Anybody still in town and with a uniform is welcome to help hand out medals on Saturday at the games.

**Blue Knights
Illinois Chapter VII**



**BLUE KNIGHTS ILLINOIS 26
IN CONJUNCTION WITH
TOOTIES OF MONMOUTH
PRESENT: THE 3RD ANNUAL
CHARITY RIDE OR DRIVE
FOR THE RAINBOW RIDERS.**

Rainbow Riders is a not-for-profit, therapeutic horseback riding program for children with special needs. We are located in a peaceful setting on Bowman Meadow Farm, just outside the city limits of Monmouth, Illinois. Founded in 2005 by Karen and Joseph Angotti, our mission is simple: To provide safe, professional and affordable therapeutic horseback riding opportunities, that contribute positively to the physical, cognitive, emotional and social well being of children with special needs.

**SATURDAY, MAY 14TH, @ TOOTIES IN
MONMOUTH, IL. 1ST BIKE/VEHICLE OUT (1:00
PM) LAST IN (5 PM). \$10 PER PERSON!
GRAND PRIZE, DOOR PRIZES, 50/50 DRAWING,
RAFFLES AND FOOD AVAILABLE!**



www.rainbowridershome.org

www.blueknightsil26.net