

Blue Knights®

Great Lakes Regional Conference

**Chairman**

Bill Drees
WI XVIII

BillDrees@BlueKnights.org

Vice Chairman

Bill Haylett
NY V

Bill6111@roadrunner.com

Secretary/Treasurer

Dennis Hafeman
WI VI

bkwrongway1@aol.com

GLRC Intl. Representative

John Gordon
OH XVIII

BKOH18JPTG24@aol.com

**Illinois State Rep**

Gayle Murnane-IL XIX
bkbsil9@comcast.net

Indiana State Rep

Glen Wheat-IN XIII
Indiana.blue.knight@gmail.com

Michigan State Rep

Mike Scarborough-MI II
bones1@tds.net

Ohio State Rep

Rich Labis-OH II
drumincop@centurytel.net

Ontario/NY V Rep

GLRC Web Master
Paul Croteau-ON VI
pcroteau@rogers.com

Wisconsin State Rep

Dane Nelsen-WI X
danenelsen@msn.com

Conference Reporter

Nancy Erickson-OH XII
mrsomeric@bigfoot.com

GLRC Safety Officer

Thurlow Tee Haskell-IL IX
glrcsafety@comcast.net

GLRC Chaplain

Rev Richard Bartley-OH XII
richbartley@roadrunner.com

From Your Secretary/Treasurer
October 2009

Greetings my Brother and Sister Blue Knights! Last month the GLRC newsletter went to a completely electronic format, and so far the change has been very well received. Besides the tremendous cost savings to the conference, the newsletter is now available to *every* member of the GLRC. Together with the GLRC web site and the Yahoo group, information will be more accessible and communication within the conference will greatly improve.

And as long as I'm on the subject of the newsletter, I want to remind all members of the GLRC that this newsletter is *yours!* As your humble editor, I'm always looking for information pertinent to law enforcement, motorcycling, and articles about your chapter's activities and travels. I encourage your submissions; just remember that the GLRC newsletter will be posted by the 10th of each month, so don't wait until the last minute to share your articles. This month's issue features an article about one of our brothers in Afghanistan, submitted by Indiana State Rep Glen Wheat. If your chapter has a flyer for an upcoming event get it to me well in advance if you want it included in the newsletter. If I get it past the deadline I'll still forward it to Paul Croteau for posting on our web site.

Fall is officially upon us. But don't despair; there's still plenty of good riding to be had before the snow flies. Fall colors are coming in, so take the opportunity to enjoy them while they're still on the trees and not on your lawns. Toss that rake in the shed and fire up the bike. Please remember that wet leaves are just as treacherous as ice, so take it easy while you're out enjoying Nature's Technicolor display. And it doesn't hurt to pack your digital camera in the saddlebag; a fall color's ride is a great opportunity to work on earning your Traveller's Pin. You can download the form from the GLRC web site. Its fun, easy to do, and earns a pin you can wear with pride.

Congratulations to Bill Murphy of WI II on his appointment as the Wisconsin State Safety Officer. Bill hales from the Madison Wisconsin PD, where he serves as a motor officer. Bill is also a MSF and Rider's Edge instructor. He'll be replacing Clint Cagle, who stepped down to take the position of International Safety Officer.

Ride with Pride,

"Wrongway" Dennis Hafeman
GLRC Secretary/Treasurer



Blue Knights Great Lakes Regional Conference
International Representative Report
September 2009

Dear Friends;

The Blue Knights International Board conducted its meeting on September 1, 2009. As I previously reported, there were several proposals on this meeting agenda, and that made it a long meeting which lasted almost 2½ hours.

International Secretary Peter Domiziano reported that as of August 2009 the charity statistics (which includes goods, services and cash) totaled \$12,320,677.92. Peter D. requested that if you have contributed anything to a charity and if it has not been reported, to please do so by notifying him. There is also a new charity reporting system in place on the International web-site in the members-only section.

All of the agenda items in their original form are posted on the GLRC web-site under the tab of the International Rep. A summary of those items that we discussed, along with the outcome, is listed below:

Agenda Item 2009-008 was suggested by Clint Cagle. He suggested that we pay an annual \$1,000 fee to the National Association of State Motorcycle Safety Administrators. The intent was to place the Blue Knights at the forefront of developing motorcycle safety and give us a voice and credibility at the State, National, and International level. Safety Chairman Cagle spoke to the board with his reasons why we should join the organization. After much discussion, this item failed by a 13-2 margin.

Agenda Item 2009-009 was suggested by Vice-President Pat Fox. It dealt with designing and issuing an identification card for the surviving spouse of any member who has transferred to Heaven I. Prior to the meeting Vice-President Fox learned from International Office Manager Bessie Small that this practice is already in existence, so this item was withdrawn.

Agenda Item 2009-10 was suggested by the presidents of the European Conference. They want to have a by-law change to Article VII – Section 7.03 “Chapter Dues”. Their opinion is that the \$20.00 maximum that a chapter can charge a member for chapter dues does not cover all the costs anymore. This item was tabled until the next meeting.

Agenda Item 2009-011 was suggested by European Conference Rep. Koen Hutse. He suggested that the expenses be paid for the International Executive Officers and the Chairman of the Board of Governors to attend the European Convention in Belgium. The discussion covered that most Blue Knights members in Europe have never met with the board, and it is too expensive for most of their membership to come to the convention in the states. After much discussion this item was withdrawn.

Agenda Item 2009-012 was suggested by European Conference Rep. Keon Hutse. It dealt with paying the expenses for the founding fathers and European Liaison Officer Frank Gennari to attend the European Convention in Belgium. After much discussion this item was tabled.

Agenda Item 2009-013 was suggested by European Conference Rep. Keon Hutse. It dealt with two spouses of Belgium VI are making a DVD with movie clips and pictures to promote the Blue Knights. The old DVD is dated and can't be used in Europe. They want to present the new DVD at next year's International Convention in Billings, Montana. This proposal, if approved, would have the International pay for their registration and hotel expenses. This item was withdrawn after discussion. Our next meeting will be on October 31, 2009, at 9:00 AM (EDT). I will post the agenda and any proposals at the GLRC web-site in my section. Agenda Items 2009-010 and 2009-012 will be discussed again at this meeting. If you have any comments on these two items, please forward them onto me.

Riding With Pride,

John P. T. Gordon
International Representative
Great Lakes Regional Conference

Every Mile I Ride Is For My Son
Don't Text and Drive

A graphic with the words "GET WELL!" in a bold, stylized font. The letters are yellow with a red outline and a black drop shadow, giving it a 3D effect.

Ron Patla-WI XI
Gary Davey-WI VI

In Memoriam

Harry Hill – IL II



IMPORTANT REMINDER

While Chairman Bill Drees is recovering from his medical misadventures, Vice Chairman Bill Haylett is the Acting GLRC Chairman. Please refer all conference inquires and issues to Bill Haylett until further notice.

Great Lakes Internet Web Site – Supports RSS News



Our web site has something NEW – it's called an RSS Feed. Do you like to read news from selected web sites each morning? Do you flip through a dozen or so different web sites to read this news? Do you wish our GLRC newsletter was delivered to your doorstep? We can now do this for you!

Definition:

RSS (Rich Site Summary) is **a format for delivering regularly changing web content**. Many news-related sites, weblogs and other online publishers syndicate their content as an **RSS Feed** to whoever wants it.

RSS solves a problem for people who regularly use the web. It allows you to **easily stay informed** by retrieving the latest content from the sites you are interested in. You **save time** by not needing to visit each site individually. You **ensure your privacy**, by not needing to join each site's email newsletter.

Since our newsletter has gone totally electronic, I would suspect that each of you is wondering why and how do I read the RSS Feeds? In each MS Internet Web Browser, on the top left corner, under your menu's you will see a FAVORITES button. Beside that favorites button is another one called FEEDS and HISTORY.

Please visit our Newsletter web page and you will see icons near the top of the page. When you click on the icons  this script will add our **GLRC newsletters** to your **FEED** list. We have also included  a method of including our news to your **Yahoo** home page. In each instance, when our newsletters are updated, you will immediately see this information on your web browser.

Our newsletter consists of contributions from various members within our conference. Each contribution is broken down into its own FEED page and you can read each segment with your news reader software. Anyone can read and subscribe to our news letters – you do not have to be in the email group or part of the GLRC email distribution system.

<http://www.bkglrc.com>

As times change, we change with it...

Ride with Pride,

Paul Croteau, your webmaster.
President ON VI Chapter

2009 GLRC DUES (Chapters currently paid)

Illinois	Indiana	Michigan	New York	Ohio	Ontario	Wisconsin
I -pd	I - pd	I - pd	V - pd	II - pd	I - pd	II - pd
II - pd	II - pd	II - pd		III - pd	IV - pd	III - pd
IV - pd	III - pd	III - pd		V - pd	V - pd	IV - pd
V - pd	IV - pd	V		VI - pd	VI - pd	V - pd
VI - pd	V	VI - pd		VIII - pd	VIII - pd	VI - pd
VII - pd	VI - pd	VII		IX	IX	VII - pd
IX - pd	VII - pd	X - pd		X - pd	X - pd	VIII - pd
X - pd	X	XI - pd		XI - pd	XI - pd	IX - pd
XI - pd	XI - pd			XII - pd	XIII - pd	X - pd
XII - pd	XII - pd			XIII - pd	XIV - pd	XI - pd
XIII - pd	XIII - pd			XIV	XV - pd	XIII - pd
XIV - pd				XV - pd	XVI - pd	XV - pd
XV - pd				XVI - pd		XVII - pd
XIX - pd				XVII - pd		XVIII - pd
XX - pd				XVIII - pd		
XXI - pd				XIX - pd		
XXII - pd				XX		
XXIII - pd				XXI - pd		
XXV - pd				XXII - pd		
XXVI - pd				XXV - pd		
				XXVI		
				XXVII		
				XXVIII - pd		

As of October , 2009 the above listed chapters have paid their 2009 GLRC dues. Your GLRC dues keep this conference running, so PLEASE get them paid before the end of the year. Send your chapter's dues to:

Dennis Hafeman
4713 W. Wilbur Av.
Milwaukee, WI 53220

Remember, GLRC dues are a mere **\$20.00**. Make your check payable to the GLRC, and make sure that your chapter name and number are clearly noted on the check so your chapter gets properly credited.

Hi everyone,

I received an email from Rick Kirk, BK IN XIII, who is currently in Afghanistan.

Attached is a photo of Rick and his really cool Chinese Semorgh Bike taken today at the Kandahar Airport. Rick says to say Semorgh really fast three times.....

The bikes don't come with a name on them. You are supplied with several names that you can stick on the bike. They generally last three to five month before something breaks.

I have never heard of Kandahar Airport, so here is a little info on it:

Kandahar International Airport (more commonly known as Kandahar Airport) (IATA: KDH, ICAO: OAKN) is located 10 miles (16 kilometers) south-east of Kandahar City in Afghanistan. The airport was built by the United States in the 1960s, under the United States Agency for International Development program. It may have been intended to be used as a possible U.S. military base in case the United States and former USSR went to war. It was occupied by the Soviets in 1979, and was severely damaged during the Soviet war in Afghanistan in the 1980s. It received further damage again during the US raids in October 2001, when the Taliban government was being removed. As of 2007, Kandahar Airport has been rebuilt and is used for both military and civilian flights. Since 2006 the airfield has been maintained by the Canadian Forces, but there are also other NATO forces present. It is sometimes difficult to locate the airport from the sky during daytime because of lack of contrast with the ground and the usual dust or haze in the area. But during night time the runway is well lit up and can easily be spotted.

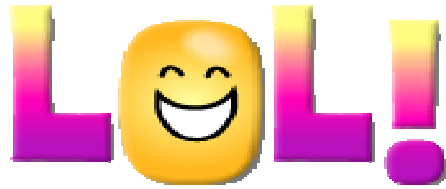
Please keep our Brother BK Rick in our thoughts and prayers.....

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Regards;
Glen Wheat
BK GLRC Indiana State Rep.
BK IN XIII
FOP IN 87

RWP and Ride Safe.....





An old country preacher had a teenage son, and it was getting time the boy should give some thought to choosing a profession. Like many young men his age, the boy didn't really know what he wanted to do, and he didn't seem too concerned about it.

One day, while the boy was away at school, his father decided to try an experiment. He went into the boy's room and placed on his study table four objects.

1 A bible.

2. A silver dollar.

3. A bottle of whiskey.

4. A Playboy magazine.

'I'll just hide behind the door,' the old preacher said to himself. 'When he comes home from school today, I'll see which object he picks up.

If it's the bible, he's going to be a preacher like me, and what a blessing that would be!

If he picks up the silver dollar, he's going to be a business man, and that would be okay, too.

But if he picks up the bottle, he's going to be a no-good drunken bum, and Lord, what a shame that would be.

And worst of all if he picks up that magazine he's going to be a skirt-chasing womanizer.'

The old man waited anxiously, and soon heard his son's foot-steps as he entered the house whistling and headed for his room.

The boy tossed his books on the bed, and as he turned to leave the room he spotted the objects on the table. With curiosity in his eye, he walked over to inspect them.

Finally, he picked up the Bible and placed it under his arm.

He picked up the silver dollar and dropped into his pocket.

He uncorked the bottle and took a big drink, while he admired this month's centerfold.

'Lord have mercy,' the old preacher disgustedly whispered.

'He's gonna be a Policeman!!!'



Blue Knights Ontario VI Chapter Christmas Dinner Celebration

Who: All Blue Knight members and their guests.

Where: Best Western Brant Park INN
19 Holiday Day Drive
Brantford, ON
Toll Free Reservations: 877-341-1234
Phone: (519) 753-8651

(This hotel no longer has any available rooms left open. You may call to see if someone has cancelled though. Apparently this weekend is the International Swim Meet at the Wayne Gretsky Complex)

When: Saturday 14 November 2009

Time: Cocktails @ 6:00 PM – Christmas Dinner Buffet @ 7:00 PM, includes dinner, desert and coffee / tea... no alcohol.

Tickets: Cost \$25.00 / person – must be purchased prior to 07 Nov 2009.
We need to call ahead so the cook knows how much to put in the oven. No new ticket sales at the door please. If we can't get the tickets to you before hand, that is not a problem, although you will be held responsible to pay for them if you don't attend.

Contact: Paul Croteau
50 Olivetree Rd. Brantford, ON.
Phone: (519) 758-0574
Email: pdcroteau@rogers.com or bkont6@rogers.com

Event: Buffet dinner and awards night. There is no dance. Traditionally we don't wear jeans.

Fine Print: The hotel wants us to use Kirby's bar for our drinks... if you were to bring a small flask with you, we don't want the hotel staff to see it as it would be in contravention of the archaic LLA and the hotel license. Please use your discretion and demonstrate professionalism.