

The Guardian

International Newsletter for the
Green Knights
Military Motorcycle Club

Fall 2011 Edition

Editor: Carl Sisco

From The Editor: Please send your articles as WORD documents and the pictures as attachments. I have received so many great articles that I can't open or copy the pictures from when I can't open them; I can only post what I can open.

Green Knights Radio, voice of the Green Knights MMC is going strong! Lot's of interesting topics and guests to boot!

Listen in at: <http://www.talkshoe.com/tc/94580>

to Green Knights Radio. Next two hour show is on 4 January 2012 at 8PM, past shows are available in podcast Please, let us know and we'll try to get them on!



A Word From Green Knight One:

TM
Adam Buehler, President/Founder GKMMC

UPCOMING EVENTS

No upcoming events to announce for this edition.

Winter Storage / Deployment Tips from "The Wrench" Dover AFB Delaware

Some of you have asked about what one might do if they put their bike away for the winter (or a long deployment). For the winter, the best thing you can do is ride the bike once a month. I don't mean start the bike and let it idle.

That does more harm than good. Ride the thing, 10 to 15 miles should do it. If you're being deployed and can't ride your bike for 3 months or so. Then it is fairly simple.

- 1) Put the correct amount of fuel stabilizer in the fuel tank.
- 2) Ride the bike 10-15 miles to warm it up thoroughly.
- 3) Top off the fuel tank at the last fuel station before your home or place of storage.
- 4) Drain/change the engine oil and filter.
- 5) If you have a separate transmission/primary fluid, change it also (most Harleys, BMW's).
- 6) Tire pressure to max side wall pressure.
- 7) If its liquid cooled, change the antifreeze if it's over 24 months old.
- 8) Replace the brake fluid if it's over 24 months old.
- 9) Wash and wax it.
- 10) Hook up a battery tender (or other name brand charger) and plug it in.
- 11) Cover it with a breathable fabric cover.
- 12) Then leave it alone.
- 13)

Ride Hard, Ride Often.
TheWrench

Victory Motorcycles Support the Wounded Warriors Project

From now until June 2012 Victory motorcycles will donate \$1 to the Wounded Warriors Project until reaching a goal of \$100,000, for EVERY TEST RIDE! So whether you're in the market or not, go test ride a new Victory motorcycle today!

For more information visit www.polarisindustries.com

Green Knights Chapter 86 USAF Lakenheath visit Ireland

By E. Toner Sgt at Arms Chapter 59 Ireland



Green Knights Chapter 86 reciprocated the recent visit of Green Knights Ireland to their UK base. Bill Rathbun and Dustin Campbell made advance contact to advise of the arrival of themselves and two fellow Knights.



On the morning of Friday 3rd June Dustin Campbell, Dave Lawrence, Glen Boland and Bill arrived at Dublin Port for a three day whirlwind tour of Ireland, the focal point of which was going to be the 5th Ireland Bike Fest in Killarney Co. Kerry. I traveled from Galway to meet our fellow Knights and to welcome them on behalf of Green Knights Ireland.

Over a cup of coffee and after consulting maps and cross referencing with our GPS we headed along the coast road from the port, taking in the marvelous vista of Dublin bay before joining the motorway network. The weather was incredibly hot for Ireland, touching 26°C for most of the journey. The expedition provided our visitors with a great view of the countryside and the quiet motorways were a pleasure

to ride on. The roads were dotted with numerous other bikers heading south towards Killarney for the 5th Annual Bike Fest Festival.

¹*The 5th Ireland Bike Fest Killarney 2011 promised to be bigger and better than ever as it was anticipated that in excess of 7000 bikers from around the world would converge on Killarney for this must-attend event. Ireland Bike Fest is an international gathering for motorcycle owners, enthusiasts and anyone, young or old, with an interest in bikes.*

Bask in the glory of some slick, well-built machines while soaking up the atmosphere in the bustling Bike Village. Special activities, entertainment, fun and games - this event is guaranteed to cater for every member of the family

The Green Knights stopped in the town of Kildare to refuel and get some refreshments. Kildare is²*Rich in heritage and history, and dates from the 5th Century, when it was the site of the original 'Church of the Oak' and monastery founded by St. Brigid and became one of the three most important Christian foundations in Celtic Ireland.*

We dined at Harte's Bar and Grill where we enjoyed very good food and welcome shelter from the unremitting sun – imagine saying that about weather conditions in Ireland! Our American cousins claimed the credit for bringing the good weather to our shores and as I was being hospitable I didn't dispute their claim (we all know that when Green Knights Ireland host an event the sun has been 'detailed' to shine). Whilst in Kildare, Glen noticed a Public House bearing his family name 'Boland' and took some photographs for posterity. Hopefully with some genealogical research Glen can 'come home' to claim his inheritance. After a fuel-stop we hit the road again bearing south-west for Limerick. As the journey progressed we passed the village on Moneygall where US President Barack Obama visited recently, it is reputed that his ancestors once resided there. Once we arrived at Limerick we took time-out to stretch our legs and reset our GPS as we were about to part company. I was heading north to

Donegal and the intrepid USAFL Knights were taking the N21 to Killarney where Paddy Daly of the Irish Green Knights was destined to continue our theme of 'meet and greet'.



Bill reported back that they had a great time in Killarney and that the Bike Fest was indeed a great success. The weather had held up and there was an abundance of Irish hospitality, good food and 'one or two' pints of beer and he declared the experience 'awesome'.

³*The bike village was the hub of activity and where it was all happening. If bikes are your passion then the Bike Village is where it's at! Located on the grounds between the Gleneagle Hotel, The Brehon Hotel and the River Apartments, the village was the perfect centre of attention. It is located 1.5 km's from Killarney Town centre. As well as being the hotspot for motorcycle fans, ride outs and test rides there was also plenty of places to eat, shop, grab a drink or just sit and listen to the music.*

Dustin remarked that their campsite was top class and very convenient to all the amenities, only a short distance from the Bike Fest village. After one night on the site the visitors navigated a different route back to Dublin where they had booked a hotel within 8 km's of Dublin Port. With a ferry sailing returning to the UK at 0800hrs, the hotel proved extremely well located.

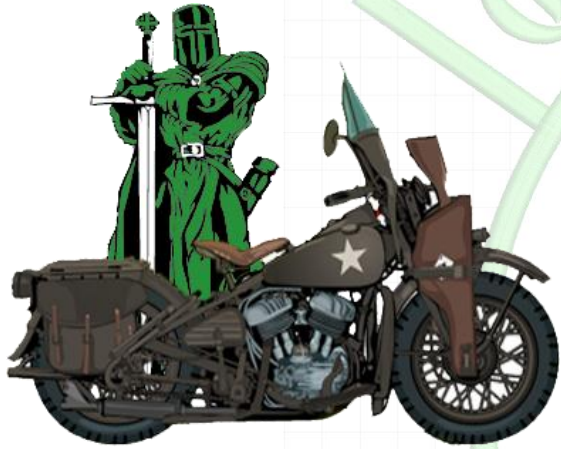
Although their visit was very short; Bill, Dustin, Glen and Dave had a great three days in Ireland. They enjoyed the Bike Fest, the scenery and the friendship that Ireland is well-renowned. Green Knights Ireland were both proud and privileged to repay some of the hospitality that Chapter 86 extended to us on our visit to their base at Lakenheath earlier this year.

¹ Source: <http://www.irelandbikefest.com/>

² <http://www.kildare.ie/tourism/towns/kildare-town.asp>

³ http://www.irelandbikefest.com/festival_activities.html

This event was preceded by a visit of Chapter 27 from Spangdahlem a week earlier, led by Adam Gerhart. This party had travelled from Germany through England, then touring Scotland including the Isle of Skye. They arrived in Ireland at Larne Port outside Belfast travelling south to Dublin. During this visit they were hosted and entertained by Irish Green Knight Thomas O'Connell (TOC) who has penned an article recalling the visit.



2011 KNIGHTS OF THE ROUND TABLE FINAL REPORT

David J. Emery, President, Red Knights MC

Did you go to the Knights of the Round Table tournament? Have you seen anyone that did? You will recognize them, because they still have a smile on their face and clutching their stomach due the laughter and fun that we all had!

Gettysburg, PA was the place, Red, Blue and Green Knights were the people, and a weekend of challenges were the orders. The tables were set as we bantered back and forth. The Red Knights stood proudly to defend their honor as champions of the 3rd tournament.

The weekend started with a tribute from each of the three groups honoring those that have paid the ultimate sacrifice. A memorial table was set and remained through the weekend as a reminder of how fortunate we are to live in this great country.

Rules, what rules? Oh these, ANY DISAGREEMENTS MUST BE FRIENDLY. ANY ARGUMENTS MUST BE FRIENDLIER THAN THE DISAGREEMENT.

If a knight disagrees with the Judges, the knight may request an appeal to the audience, by loudly singing “I’M A LITTLE TEA POT SHORT AND STOUT” while using the correct arm and hand gestures. I am embarrassed to report that no one was able to get thorough the song and win the challenge, but you should know it was tried many times. So picture this, a 6’4” Man standing in a chair singing his lungs out only to be greeted with boo’s and full belly laughter. The tone was set!

Outside we went to show off our mighty strengths and pull a fire truck 50 feet. The Green Knights and the Blue Knights had a hard time trying to figure out how to tie a knot, while the Red Knights, slid to win the event with ease. After giving the two a second chance to redeem themselves, they found it necessary to revert to trying to add extra weight by holding onto the back of the truck as the red pulled. RED 18.45sec, GREEN 26.30sec, and BLUE 27.45sec.

The next event was the “Blacksmith Challenge” to drive a spike into ye ol’timber. Be accurate and swing with zeal, to demonstrate how you would conquer the battlefield. The mighty hammer fell onto the head of the spikes only to shower us with sparks, bend the steel shanks to the moans and groans coming from the Green and Blue along with words that would make your mother cry. And once again the RED KNIGHTS do the victory dance. They did take pity and offered the two a class in “eye hand coordination”.

Then came the Toga Party, OMG, Some were so confused they thought it was a “Luau” others came with a “see though” toga (aka-a clear plastic bag). They paraded through the evening showing off their creations. The sites were to behold, it will take years of counseling to

get us back to normal. The judges were not able to make a decision without a second bout of parading. Then they couldn't take it anymore and made a wonderful decision bestowing the Honors to the RED KNIGHTS, Jordon Purdy and Roxanne Kissel.

On Saturday, after taking on breakfast and a shot of oats for their mighty steeds the challenges were laid out. The Dungeon was prepared to receive the weak and useless.

The Weather conditions had improved and we were left with a strong northerly wind and gust that would remove the very best of all toupees. But the "beatings" must go on. In no particular order the winner of each event is,

Jousting—Tom Dean--Blue Knight

Horse Shoes—Stem—Red Knight

Motorcycle Ball pick—John Daily—Red Knight

Riding Skills—Kenny Craig—Blue Knight

Longest Distance—Jared Baker—Green Knight
(Rode from Converse TX. 1,641miles)

The final scores were compiled using the top 5 placements of each event.

The welcome letter says that; *The end shall have a victor, known as the "BEST KNIGHT" and we SHALL listen to his Beckon and Call and Travel yonder to his choice of the next tournament.*

The **WINNER** and **HOST** of the **2012**
Knights Of The Round Table Tournament is
Kenny Craig---Blue Knight

The Red Knights wish to congratulate the Blue Knights and Thank the Green Knights for a wonderful and eventful weekend. We are looking forward to attending the next event (winning) and getting the Scepter back.

Special Thank you to International, Vice President Chris Gadway, Secretary Bill (Popeye) Snodgrass, Treasurer Leo Patry, Quarter Master and Defending Champion, Kent Armstrong. Along with all of the judges and hard work of everyone who helped make this a MEMORABLE weekend.

Editor's note: suggest all GK chapters schedule a visit with their local Loadmaster, Rigger, Boy or Girl Scout or anyone well versed in "Knot Tying" before the NEXT KORT! We obviously don't get much practice with a sledge hammer as Green Knights are taught to work SMARTER not harder! Many Thanks to the Red Knights for hosting a GREAT event including its RIGGED events and contests!

Interested in a WINTER MOTORCYCLE VACATION!

Chapter 36 Patrick AFB Invitation



From a motorcycling perspective we have it pretty good thing here in the Sunshine State. We enjoy year round riding and we are lucky to be the home of the most famous motorcycle event in the country. The event is of course Daytona Bike Week, which for the

year 2012 Bike Week runs from 9-18 March. Fortunately for the members of Chapter 36 Daytona is only 80 miles from Patrick AFB.

We would love to share our good fortune by inviting you down to enjoy a week with us. You are probably wondering how you can put together such a vacation. You might not have a motorcycle trailer

therefore you don't know how to get your motorcycle to Florida. Perhaps you are short on money. Perhaps you are short on time. We have answers for all of these concerns.

If you live in the Northeast part of the country the easiest way to get your motorcycle to Florida might be to use the Amtrak Car Train. For less money than you would spend on gas and hotels two people plus your motorcycle can be loaded onto a train. You can socialize, have dinner, and get some sleep all while simultaneously traveling from Lorton Virginia (a Washington D.C. suburb) to Sanford Florida (about an hour and a half scenic ride from both Patrick AFB and Daytona). If you decide to take the car train please make your reservations early since many motorcyclist do the same thing. Please consider typing in "Amtrak Car Train" into your favorite search engine.



Members of Chapter 36 can come to Sanford and escort you back to Patrick AFB where we might be able to get you into Base Lodging. Patrick AFB is the home of the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute

so the possibility of getting a room is usually dependent upon how many classes are in session. Please call Patrick AFB Lodging at (321) 494-6590 to see about reservations.

Our chapter will assist in every way to make your Florida motorcycle vacation a memorable one. Patrick AFB is close to everything that Florida is famous for. It is only about an hour and a half from the base to all the Orlando attractions (Disney, Universal Studios, Sea World,

etc.) and if you are reading this it is likely you qualify for the theme park military discounts. We have an award winning Tickets and Tours office on the base that will make certain you get the most out of your dollar. Please look at the web page by typing "gopatrickfl" into your favorite search engine.

Members of Chapter 36 know of all kinds of roads between Patrick AFB and Daytona. You can take the freeway at pretty much whatever speed you can handle (there is always someone willing to try and ride even faster during Bike Week) however if you have the time and appreciation for a scenic ride we will take you on some roads where you will see more motorcycles in one day than you may have ever seen in your life.

Daytona Bike Week hosts several venues around Volusia County, however some of the most popular include hanging out at the Daytona Motor Speedway where all the major motorcycle manufacturers have exhibits and you might be lucky enough to get a ride on a demo bike. Another popular hangout is Destination Daytona; if Disney had a theme park for motorcycles it would probably be similar to Destination Daytona. Please consider typing in "Destination Daytona" into your favorite search engine. Lots of people like to go over the causeways and into the Daytona Beach main street areas. There is always a lot to see downtown but to get there you must sit and idle in heavy traffic so if your motorcycle is likely to overheat this might not be recommended. The final event we would like to discuss is possibly taking "the loop" which is a series of back roads that are north of Daytona and go through some old growth forests where you can actually ride through some nice curves.

Another thing we would like to offer for your Florida Motorcycle vacation is a ride to Key West Florida. We know a way to get from Patrick AFB all the way to Key West on scenic highways without all the bother of the freeways and toll roads that go through the Miami-

Fort Lauderdale area. We will take you around the east shore of Lake Okeechobee and then out on the famous Overseas Highway...how famous you ask? There is a History Channel, Modern Marvels show completely dedicated to the Overseas Highway.

Of course Key West Naval Air Station is very popular in March (have you ever heard the term Snow Bird?). Finding lodging is difficult however NAS Key West has several annexes that all have lodging available. The most popular military lodging facility is Trumbo Point since it is in walking distance of all the Key West attractions. There are many ways to stay at Trumbo Point; one way is to stay in the MWR townhomes or MWR trailers. Please call (305) 293-5000 to check for availability.



If the MWR facilities on Trumbo Point are full there is always a chance you can get into the Navy Lodge at Trumbo Point (which is also the tallest building on Key West). To get into Lodging you can call 1-877-NAVYBED (628-9233).

If you can't arrange to stay on Trumbo Point than there are other options such as lodging at Sigsbee Annex or at the main base for NAS Key West (which ironically is on the adjacent Boca Chica Key and therefore a rather expensive taxi ride to Key West). The final option, but very desirable is to go motorcycle camping on Sigsbee Annex. My wife and I have taken advantage of motorcycle camping on Sigsbee Annex and we really enjoyed it.

I must provide you a word or warning concerning motorcycling on NAS Key West and associated annexes. The Navy enforces every last aspect of Department of Defense Instruction 6055.4 and adds on the requirement of a reflective vest 24/7 plus your motorcycle must have a DOD sticker. If your motorcycle is not registered

with the DOD you must stop at the NAS Key West visitor's center and present your military ID, vehicle registration, proof of insurance and MSF card to obtain a temporary pass. If this is a little too autocratic there are many civilian hotels on the island from famous name brands to a wide variety of little Bed and Breakfast hotels; however most civilian hotels cost \$200-300 (or more) a night!

We would like to offer your Florida motorcycle vacation as an "A la Carte" event. Choose to do any combination of Daytona Bike Week events, Orlando attractions, ride to Key West, take a cruise out of Port Canaveral or enjoy any other Florida venue and our chapter will help make your Florida dream adventure a reality. As you tell us what days you will be here and what you would like to do we will in turn attempt to get others interested in the same events. Someone from Chapter 36 will show up to escort you to your favorite Florida destination every day. Give Mike Biggerstaff a call at (321) 494-4661. See you in the Sunshine State next March!



Presentation to Midlands United on behalf of The Green Knights Military Motorcycle Association.

The Green Knights Ireland Military Motorcycle Association have raised funds for Midlands United PowerChair Soccer Club and Lt. Col. Pat Ryan the Officer Commanding of Custume Barracks Athlone, handed over a cheque of €2,700 to team member Emmett Daly in the Army Barracks on Emmett's birthday Sunday October 16th. Emmett is pictured surrounded by Green Knight members, Midland United Soccer Club Members John McGovern, Aoife McNichols, Aisling McElligott, Dani McGovern, Mary Duignan from Westmeath Sports Partnership and James Flanagan Midlands United Assistant Coach.



Editor's Note: The Green Knights of Chapter 59, Ireland are one of the newest GKMMC Chapters and they are already doing great work!

