

## Mass – Chapter – 2 Officers for 2012

Robert Laford, President  
Petersham Fire Department, ret.

Kevin Martin, Vice-president  
Ashburnham Fire Department

Maurice Lizotte, Secretary  
Westminster Fire Department, ret.

Tim Kilhart, Treasurer  
Orange Fire Department, ret.

Bob Shakarian, Road Captain  
Shirley Fire Department

Larry Robinson, Asst. Road Captain  
Petersham Fire Department

### MSF Rider Education Scholarship Committee

Maury Lizotte, Westminster FD, ret.  
Marcia Marjomaa  
Bob Shakarian, Shirley Fire Department  
Don Hurme, Townsend Fire Department, ret.

Membership to the Red Knights is available to any firefighter who rides a motorcycle. This “Active member” category can be career, volunteer, call, military, or industrial firefighters.

The Red Knights also welcome the firefighters’ “better half” under the “Social Member” category. Each chapter is also allowed to bring non-firefighters into the organization under the “Associate Member” category.

**For more information on Red Knights Mass-2  
visit the web site at [www.rk-mass2.org](http://www.rk-mass2.org)**

The Red Knights Motorcycle Club brings together firefighters who ride motorcycles. Members of Mass Chapter 2 put on many thousands of miles each year traveling around the north east and around North America.

Some examples of motorcycle rides that have taken place include:

- Evening Ice Cream rides,
- Half-day trips to three-day weekend getaways
- Dinner rides
- Casino rides
- Picnic rides
- Weekends at Cape Cod, to the Maine Seashore, and the mountains of Vermont and New Hampshire
- Rides to the ocean
- Rides to the mountains
- Americade Rally in Lake George, NY
- Killington Classic Rally in Vermont
- Local Parades
- Charity rides to support local non-profit organizations and other motorcycle chapters and groups
- And the annual Red Knights International Convention held in such places as Boylston, Worcester, and Marlboro, MAs; Toronto & Leamington, Ontario; Mentor and Sandusky, OH; Waterville Valley, NH; New York City; Daytona & Miami, FL; Indianapolis, IN; Winnipeg, Manitoba; Warwick, RI; Montreal, Quebec; Edmonton, Alberta; Ocean City, MD, and Gettysburg, PA

It is not only the destination that make the rides and events fun, exciting, and successful. It is the life-long friendships that are developed through the Red Knights that make it truly a wonderful organization!



## Red Knights Motorcycle Club Massachusetts Chapter 2

P.O. Box 316  
Westminster, MA 01473

***[www.rk-mass2.org](http://www.rk-mass2.org)***

*RK Mass – Chapter – 2 serves the firefighter, their family, and the communities of the Montachusett and North Quabbin areas and beyond with membership throughout the Route 2 corridor.*

### **RKMC MISSION STATEMENT**

The Red Knights share the common interest of motorcycling, promoting motorcycle safety and the brotherhood of fire fighting.

The Red Knights provide support to various non-profit charities across the United States, Canada, New Zealand, Australia, Europe, Japan and beyond.

## Red Knights Motorcycle Club

by Charles Clarkson Sr. (revised)

During the summer of 1982 several firefighters were visiting "Randy's Cycle Shop" in Boylston, Massachusetts and the subject of motorcycle clubs came up. Soon they were grousing about the fact that law enforcement people had a motorcycle club known as "Blue Knights" but there was no club for firefighters. After this tire kicking session, shop owner Randy Wilson suggested to Ed Wright, a firefighter from Northboro, MA, that he stop talking about the lack of a club and form one instead.

Recognizing a good idea when he heard one, Ed Wright went home that afternoon and made up some hand printed posters inviting firefighters from the area to meet and determine if there was enough interest to form a motorcycle club. On August 17, 1982, Fire Chief Jack Pierce allowed a small group of motorcycle enthusiasts to meet at Northboro Fire Headquarters to lay the ground work for the formation of a motorcycle club.

On October 19, 1982, firefighters Norm Beausoleil, Bob Bourassa, Bob Goulet, David Hamilton, Dave Hunt, Colin Mackey, Don Parker, Jon Tripp, Roger Wentzell, Ed Wright, and Chief Pierce met again. There was interest in promoting the positive image of motorcycling while enjoying the camaraderie of other firefighters. It was decided then that this group would be known as the Red Knights Motorcycle Club.

News of this new club spread like a grass fire. In July of 1983 a chapter was formed in Connecticut. In October of that year a second Massachusetts chapter was formed. Soon applications came in from such distant places as Nevada and Louisiana. In August of 1983 the founding members realized that

the organization was rapidly growing beyond original expectations. To properly handle this growth they elected a committee to serve as a National Board of Directors. With applications from Ontario and Saskatchewan, Canada, the club became Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club.

In 1984 the first club convention was held in Boylston, MA. Each year since that time a convention has been held for all RED KNIGHTS. Convention sites are listed on the back.

The 10th and 25th Anniversaries of the RED KNIGHTS were celebrated at conventions held in Worcester, MA 1992 and 2007.

As a result of the seed that was planted at Randy's in Boylston in 1982, there are now over 350 Red Knights Chapters throughout the United States and Canada, and abroad with a membership of over 10,000.

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**Massachusetts Chapter 2 was that second Massachusetts Chapter, founded in October 1983. Approaching our 30th anniversary in 2013 it is the second oldest chartered chapter second only to the founding fathers of Massachusetts 1, with a current membership of over 60.**

More info on the Red Knights International can be found at [www.redknightsmc.com](http://www.redknightsmc.com)

Through our fund raising efforts the members of Massachusetts –2 support such endeavors as:

- American Motorcycle Assoc.
- American Cancer Society
- American Red Cross
- Ashby Ambulance Fund
- Beacon Hospice
- Boston Fallen Firefighters Relief Fund
- Brian's Ride
- Charleston (South Carolina) Firemen's Fund
- Child and Family Services of North Quabbin
- Dept. of Youth Services Children and Family Fund
- Dept. Of Youth Services Kids Christmas Party
- FDNY 911 Fund
- Fitzy Fundraiser for Alzheimer's
- Golden Living Center Activity Fund
- Hodgkin's Lymphoma Foundation (Lucky13 Foundation)
- Hurricane Relief Efforts
- I.S.S.
- Jaffrey Firefighter's Co. Inc.
- Landry family Scholarship Fund
- Larry Jupin Fund
- Leominster Canteen
- Loaves and Fishes
- Marty McNamara Fund
- Merrimac Hospice
- Motorcycle Memorial
- MSF Rider Scholarships
- Multiple Sclerosis Society
- NEADS (Service K-9's for Vets)
- On-Site Academy
- Orange Police K-9 Fund
- Paul's Ride for Cancer Patient Support
- Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation
- Red Knights Memorial Fund
- Ride for Kids
- Sherry's House
- Space Shuttle Family Fund
- St. Joseph's Hospital
- Station Nightclub Education Fund
- Worcester Firefighters' Memorial Fund
- Other area Firefighters' Association donations to assist local FF's going through personal crisis.
- The chapter has also made donations to a number of families needing help after fires and or other family tragedies.

The chapter has also undertaken a project to provide scholarships to riders for the Motorcycle Safety Foundation Rider Education Courses. With the help of the Central Mass Safety Council, Mass-2 has been able to award "scholarships" to these rider courses to riders who may not otherwise be able to take the training.