



- Sunday, December 3, 2023
- 1:00 p.m.
- Slattery's
106 Lunenburg St, Fitchburg, MA 01420

Come join us for a our catered dinner and our annual Yankee Gift Swap.

Bring a wrapped gift with a value of no more than \$15-20 for the gift swap, if you would like to participate.

You get to choose ONE from the three options below.
All three meal choices are \$35 per person.

- **Baked Haddock**
- **Chicken Parmesan**
- **Pot Roast**

Each meal includes salad and dessert.

(Appetizers will be on hand prior to the meal)

Soft drinks and adult beverages will be available at the bar, at the member's own cost.

We will again be accepting donations for *Sherry's House* at our Christmas party.

Please consider purchasing and donating gift cards for **Wal-Mart, Target, Shaw's, Stop & Shop, CVS, etc. or Gas Cards, Phone Cards, VISA and American Express.** Visit www.whyme.org for more information about Sherry's House. We will be bringing all of those collected to Sherry's House in Worcester to assist them in their mission for the kids this holiday season. Visit www.whyme.org for more info.

As always, thank you for your generosity — the children and families at the home thank you as well.

**We must have a RSVPs and
pre-paid dinners by Sunday, November 19 to give to the caterer.**

Contact Bob Laford with your choice & meal payment as soon as you can.
Checks made out to RK-Mass 2 can be sent to PO Box 221, Petersham, MA 01366



Red Knights

Mass Chapter 2 — Fall 2023

www.rk-mass2.org

facebook

facebook.com/RKMASS2

Loyal to Our Duty

From the desk of the Chapter President

First and foremost, I want to thank everyone for the continued support and confidence they have entrusted in me. Joining the Red Knights has undoubtedly been one of the best decisions I have made in my life. The opportunities I have been granted, the experiences I have enjoyed and the people I have met have all been such a blessing.

Our chapter of this amazing club has been the gold standard and example for other chapters to model after, thanks to our amazing members and officers who pour their heart and soul in to this organization year after year. I enter this endeavor as the 5th president of Ma-2 with giant shoes to fill from the prior presidents and give my word to continue to lead this chapter with the same compassion and dedication as my predecessors.

A goal that I am very passionate about moving forward is to help modernize the way we operate as a chapter while still honoring and paying tribute to our past. I don't think we can ever successfully move forward if we don't know and understand how we got to where we are today. Recruitment is another top priority on my list. I would like to use modern platforms like social media and attending motorcycling events to actively be in the public eye and try to bring in new membership. Our active membership continues to do a great job, but they deserve a break from doing all the work all the time. I ask that as we recruit new/younger members that our senior members help mold and mentor these folks so someday they can carry on the torch that has burned so brightly for the last 40 years.

I want to emphasize that my phone is ALWAYS on and I will do my very best to be accessible to all our members as much as I possibly can. Clear and direct communication is the key to success in any organization, and I hope to continue to improve our communication practices and keep everyone as up to date as I can with current events both within our chapter and across the entire club. I am also always open to feedback and constructive criticism from anyone who cares to share it with me.

I am humbled and honored to be able to lead the membership in this new capacity and look forward to what adventures will come with it. Please be patient with me as I learn the ropes of this new role and please feel free to reach out with any comments, concerns or suggestions at any time. Together with teamwork, patience and understanding I am confident that we will continue to be the great group that we all love so much.

Red Knights Forever, Forever Red Knights

Fraternally,
Jeffrey Hamberg
President RKMC MA-2

Mass-2 Christmas Party

- Sunday, December 3,
- 1:00 p.m.
- Slattery's
Lunenburg St., Fitchburg

Come join us for a catered dinner.

We are again doing a Yankee Swap this year and will be collecting gift cards for Sherry's House. Please see the attached flyer for details and RSVP information.

A special thank you goes out to VP Rick Oliver and Secretary Jim Skehan for their help in the planning.

We must have RSVPs and pre-paid Christmas Party dinners by Sunday, November 19 to give to the caterer.

Contact Bob Laford
with your meal
choice and payment as
soon as you can.

We will again be accepting gift cards as donations for *Sherry's House* at our Christmas party.

Visit www.whyme.org for more information about Sherry's House. We will be bringing all of those gift cards collected to Sherry's House in Worcester to assist them in their mission for the kids this holiday season.

As always, thank you for your generosity — the children and families at the home thank you as well.

Thanks to your generosity we donated \$400 to the Cancer Support Fund of Central Massachusetts from the 50/50 proceeds we collected throughout the year.

IT'S AMAZING THE NUMBER OF GREAT PEOPLE IN MY LIFE, THAT I WOULD NEVER HAVE MET, IF IT WAS NOT FOR THE RED KNIGHTS MOTORCYCLE CLUB!



It was great to see Charter and Life Member Rich Wheeler while he was back up north to Massachusetts visiting in September. Pictured here is Vice-president Oliver presenting Rich with his 40th year pin (after having breakfast together, of course).



Another transplanted member made it to the east coast, this time from Arizona, and invited Red Knights family to her get together. Thank you Caitlin (Barclay) Renzaglia, it was great to see you and meet your husband, Kevin!

Thank you Past-President Martin for ten years serving as our chapter president, and twenty years on the Executive Board. We appreciate all your time and your friendship.



Here Kevin receives his Past-president pin and decal from President-elect Jeff Hamberg at the annual meeting.

Hello Red Knights Brothers and Sisters,

With the end of the riding season coming to a close it's also my time to step down as your President. It certainly has been a wonderful ten years serving you as your President and sailing through a lot of changes. We've gone through the creation of a chapter-specific logo, patch, pins, challenge coins and poker chips. We have witnessed changes in the executive board, loss of members, medical issues, accepted new members, countless meetings, and contributions to various charities. As a chapter we've managed to surpass over a million and half miles of adventures, smiles and sore butts. But that's ok, that's what we do. We ride, we go for ice cream, we share potluck meals, we meet new acquaintances, make new friends, hold on to old friends and look after each other.

It has been an interesting and satisfying position for me to hold and I have enjoyed every minute of it with all of you.

I'm not going away just stepping down and letting new younger blood take the reins and hopefully keep building this chapter as the best chapter that we can be.

I give credit and say thank you to the Executive Board who has been our guiding light through rides, events, schedules, and interaction with many other chapters and the international board, and to all of you for being there with us through all we've been through. I hope the next decade of events and changes in the chapter are for the better and you will all continue to be a part of and continue to look after your Red Knights family.

As we move into another year keep in mind that there are several rallies held throughout the country and it makes for a good vacation time to visit with other chapters, and make new acquaintances, since many of us in the chapter are retired or near retirement, seriously get out there and meet new people. Watch out for your chapter members, because there will be a time in the not-so-distant future that you may not be able to ride anymore or life catches up with you and family comes first and you can't or won't be able to attend these rallies, conventions or events. Time really does go by quickly and doesn't wait for anyone.

Take care my family and friends and let's keep the Red Knights alive forever.

Respectfully,
Kevin Martin Past President, MA-2

Winter Gathering

Break up your winter doldrums with a Red Knights' get-together!

- Sunday, January 28
- Millers Woods Rec Center
Daniel Shays Highway — Athol
- Noon to 4:00 pm

Bring some food to share, and something to wet your whistle. We will have the 2024 Ride Schedule ready for your review and look ahead to what memories will be made in the new year!

Mass-2 Celebrates 40 years!

Nearly 90 people gathered at the Templeton Fish and Game Club to celebrate Mass-2's 40th Anniversary celebration. We had Red Knights and family and friends from 5 Mass Chapters (including two Founding Fathers), and members from Maine, CT, NY, NH, NJ (including our Region-1 Director Ken May), Virginia (International Communications chair Sara-Lynn Prefontaine and her husband Wink), and Florida!

We even had a Facetime call from a chapter in Germany congratulating us on our anniversary — while they were at their summer party.

Friends from the Fish and Game Club took care of kitchen duties for us and provided us with enough hot dogs and hamburgers to feed an army of firefighters.

We took time to reflect on our past with thoughts about those who have joined the Heaven-1 chapter and for those who could not be with us because of health and/or distance. Our first president, Phil Jordan graciously took the floor to speak about the founding of the club and the early years.

There were tables of Red Knights memorabilia set up, as well as a couple of dozen T-shirts, jackets and vests hanging around the pavilion, to help stir up some memories. Our 40-year members (Phil and Bea Jordan, Ed Brouillet, Charlie Clarkson, Wayne Stacy and Bob Feeley) all received 40-year pins, and our newest members Amanda Scott and Paul Woodcomb and Olivia Roberts were also introduced.

Our 50/50 winner, Dana Robertson, from CT-2 donated his large pot back to us to include with our donation towards the Memorial's mortgage. Many of our members present sported our anniversary logo T-shirts that were unveiled for the celebration. It was a great day and everyone had a wonderful time.



Congratulations to Tim Kilhart and Kevin Martin on being presented with Life Member recognition at the Anniversary celebration. Both men have served the chapter and the E-board for many years.

**P.S. JUST A REMINDER
THAT DUES ARE DUE TO
THE TREASURER BY
DECEMBER 1.**

**THANKS FOR YOUR
COOPERATION.**

Our 2024 Chapter Officers are:

Jeff Hamberg, President
978-413-1636
capthambergofd@outlook.com

Rick Oliver, VP
978-413-5544
rickoliver3@yahoo.com

Jim Skehan, Secretary
978-660-0763
jskehan@comcast.net

Bob Laford, Treasurer
978-724-3270
rflaford@tiac.net

Tim Kilhart, Road Captain
508-868-2030
tkilhart@gmail.com

Ian Hurley, Sergeant at
Arms
978-877-9937
hurley.ian89@yahoo.com

Mark your calendars for
Saturday, May 4, for the
2024 MA-2 Blessing of the
Bikes (and ice cream).



40 Years (+) of Chapter Presidents



One of our 40-Year members,
Charlie Clarkson



RKMC Founding Fathers Bob
Bourassa and Norm
Beausoleil



Swording In our newest RK member



On the road with our friends...

Our wet weekends continued right from June through September, and the day of our July 4th weekend cookout felt like we were living in the rain forest! There were torrential downpours all morning, and showers throughout the afternoon. Instead of slogging through the grass at Rick and Lori's house they had the shelter set up on the deck. With the sliders open everyone had room to roam in and out and stay dry!

And the rain (1-1/2 inches of rain) did not hinder our attendance — or the amount of food on hand — we had 19 members in attendance! And thanks to our friends at the Maple Valley Creamery we had tubs of asparagus-pistachio ice cream. (It was a lot better than it sounds!)

A couple of us were able to head into Connecticut (along with other out-of-staters from MA-12 and NY-29) to help RK CT-2 celebrate their 40th anniversary. And keeping with MA-2 tradition, we came home with the 50/50 pot!

Our targets looked good on dry pavement for a bug ride on a Sunday afternoon, but about two miles after we started, the sky opened up and rained so hard we could hardly see the road! After about 10 miles we stopped to re-evaluate and all the targets had basically disappeared! We will have to put that ride back on the calendar to try again in 2024. As we all headed home (in the rain) Jeff and Ian told us that a few miles further south, from where we broke up, the rains stopped and the roads were dry!



October greeted us with fantastic weather and our Road Captain led a great route through western Mass (with the autumn colors starting) for the Krusin for Kane charity ride. What a great day!



It was a cool morning but at least dry for this year's Fire Prevention Week breakfast at the Jaffrey FD.

Our October foliage ride into western Mass brought out a half-dozen bikes and nine riders, but unfortunately, this year's fall colors were less than spectacular, and many of the trees had already gone passed their color and even lost their leaves. But it was still a great (and dry!) Saturday for a ride.

2024 CHAPTER RIDE PLANNING

With 2023 on record as a hot and wet summer, what will the winter and next year bring us?



Get your ride ideas in to an officer for 2024! The officers will be meeting as cold weather sets in to plan for our next riding season!

Our ride schedule had a number of "Co-Rides" with other chapters to help celebrate our 40th anniversary. But alas, the first three of them (With NH4, NH9 and MA1) were rained out! It has been a tough riding season with the tropical weather!

Our ride with MA-4 turned into a great multi-chapter event. Seventeen members of MA-2 met up with 11 members of MA-4, and we motored our way to the RKMC Memorial, where we met up with over 20



members and friends from MA-1. We had a flower-laying ceremony at the memorial and then enjoyed a wonderful cookout!

September 2 had a small crew from both MA2 and VT2 meet up for a ride into New Hampshire.

Our final co-ride was planned with MA-12 for a ride to Granville, but again, it was weekend 13 of 16 this summer with "less than favorable weather." A few of us did sneak in a quick late-morning ride before the weather deteriorated too much, grabbing a bite to eat at Mimi's Coffeeshop in Hardwick!



2024 Dues

We have sent out reminders about your 2024 dues (\$25). Please consider getting your dues to our Treasurer early.

As with any organization there are expenses that we incur and your dues help us cover those costs. A portion of your dues also goes to the International for our charter dues. (We must have all International dues paid by the new year or we incur a \$50 penalty).

Please have your dues in to Treasurer Bob Laford before **December 1, 2023**. Thanks.

Red Knights Mass-2
P.O. Box 221
Petersham, MA 01366

2023 Ride to Work Day in June. Did you get on your bike that day? Here is Diona leaving for work at 4:00 am!



How are your map-reading skills? Do you still use paper maps, or are you a "I do not need maps any longer, I have a GPS" type of person?

The AMA American Motorcyclist magazine has been doing a series of articles out of Malcom Smith's autobiography.

In the August edition Malcom was discussing his time in 1967, racing at the "Six Day Adventure," in communist-controlled Poland.

He was unable to ride on the bus with his team mates and ended up in the backseat of a small 1-liter Saab with a 2-stroke engine — with a Swedish couple in the front seat. Their trip began in Sweden, taking a ferry across the Baltic Sea into Germany, and then crossing borders into communist territories.

He said that (1) traveling from non-communist Europe through the checkpoints with all the barbed wire and machine guns was interesting, but (2) the maps maintained by the communists had roads on them that the governments "planned" to build!

Thankfully his racing bikes were shipped from the factory to the host city in Poland and those arrived without a hitch!

"Let's Play Hooky" mid-week rides

Our weekday impromptu rides continue to be popular with 6 to 10 members (and sometimes Red Knights from other chapters, as well!)

It seemed that June weekends were rainy, but we had one perfect day for a week-day Hooky ride and a few of us headed east and stopped at Alpha Cars in Boxborough to look at their Urals & Royal Enfields (and some cool-looking eastern European cars).

On a hot July day we found a number of twisty back roads with a good amount of tree cover to enjoy our ride. We stopped at "The Cross" in Barre and then the MSP Community Day at the

Police Academy in New Braintree where they had displays on K-9, the Fire Marshal, Bomb Squad, Marine Unit and Equestrian Unit, to name a few. Did you know that the MSP has two licensed ambulances? They are housed at the academy and are staffed by Troopers who are Massachusetts EMTs. We spoke with many cadets who will have graduated by the time you read this and we told them that if they stop an "RK Plate" it's a firefighter!

In early August everyone was itching for a ride and eleven people came out to join us for a ride into NH, with a lunch stop

in Greenfield, NH and ice cream at "Station 16" ice cream in Jaffrey. Even MA-4 and VT-2 members were along for the ride.



On a crisp September Friday we were riding around with a half-dozen riders through the Brookfields and a stop for lunch at Farmer Matt's in New Braintree. Best burger ever!



Tim Kilhart took lead for an all-day 200 (+) mile October ride into Vermont and New Hampshire on Columbus Day (I know, not technically playing hooky). It was a cool start but was a beautiful day with lunch at Long Trail Brewery aside the Ottawaqueneechee River. It may be the last Hooky Ride of the season, but who knows!?

International Special Election

As mentioned in the state newsletter, because of Spike Ostiguy's election as Int. President, a vacancy for VP on the International Board has opened.

Both Matt Mattera of NJ and Norm Beausoleil of MA1 are candidates.

The election was one of the agenda items at our annual business meeting, and the chapter will be casting a ballot. No matter who wins, our chapter looks forward to working with the new VP!



Don't forget to get your year-end mileage into our VP Rick Oliver to be included in our 2023 totals! (rickoliver3@yahoo.com)

RK Ideas for Christmas!

Red Knights' apparel and *stuff* are always a great gift for the rider on your Christmas list!

For RKMC embroidered clothing (shirts, coats, hats, etc.) Lyman Signs in Phillipston has copies of our digitized files of the Red Knight logo and our Minuteman Logo for embroidery and vinyl heat applications (Screens). <https://lymansigns.com/>

Chapter Treasurer **Bob Laford (978) 724-3270** has a number of items too: Window & Helmet Decals, Thin Red Line Decals, Chapter Patches, Red Knights Shoulder Patches w/rockers, Thermal Applications for clothing, Chapter Poker Chips and Red Knights Back Patches & Rockers (for vests). Decals and patches are available in both traditional Red Knights logo and our Minuteman chapter design.

On the International Web Page you can buy merchandise from other chapters ranging from doo-rags to collar brass and license plate frames and everything in between!

How about a gift membership to the American Motorcycle Association (AMA) for that special rider on your list? The AMA and its Massachusetts counterpart MMA work tirelessly to support our rights and promoting motorcycling around Massachusetts and around the county. Our memberships help support their endeavors.



Membership News Briefs...

Welcome to new members Olivia and Paul Woodcome from West Boylston. Paul served on the Ashby FD for many years. They were "Sworded-in" to the chapter by VP Rick Oliver at our July 4 cookout. Welcome to Amanda Scott of the Petersham FD as another new Active member, and her mom Lynn Scott as a new social member!



Condolences to Lynn, Amanda and Jason Scott on the passing of Lynn's mom and Jason and Amanda's grandmother.

Congratulations to Ian and Ellie on their engagement (while touring Europe with Red Knight friends after the convention!)



Congratulations to Jeff Hamberg on the addition of a BMW GS to his stable and to Joe and June Cardone on their new Slingshot.

Congratulations to Corey and Molly Feeley (and Gram and Gramp Bob and Pat Feeley) on the birth of Corey and Molly's daughter, Cora.

Congratulations to Charlie Hamberg on his election as VP to the HOA at the Millers Woods, where we often meet!

Mass Fall State Meeting

Mass-4 was host for the fall 2023 RK State meeting, held at the Huguenot Steamer Museum in Oxford. It was a dank morning but we still had a number of people come on bikes, and it was a good (and dry) ride home after the meeting.

29 Red Knights representing MA-1, 2, 3, 4, 9, 13 and 15 were on hand (10 from MA-2).

Minutes from the meeting were distributed via email several days later. Discussions included the 2024 Yankee Rally and the convention business meeting that had taken place that day in Austria.



Mass-2 will be host for the 2024 Spring State Meeting, Saturday, May 4.

POLAR BEAR RIDE!

Our Polar Bear Ride is scheduled for Sunday, November 5, 11:00 am at the Westminster Dunkins. (This is also the morning after you set your clocks back an hour).



Join us for the last scheduled ride of the season!

Breakfast Clubs are starting up again. Come join your Red Knights family for a pot-luck brunch and help pass the cold-weather months with us! Bring your smile, some stories to tell, and of course some food to share!

All but one at 9:00 am (No Breakfast Club in December)

- November 18 at Tim and Darlene Kilhart's in Athol.

- January 20 — Chris and Ellen Conrad in Ashburnham
- February 17— Rick and Lori Oliver's in New Salem
- March 16 — Bob and Diona Laford's in Petersham
- April 20 at Jeff and Faith Hamberg's in Southwick (Starting at 10:00 after ride down from Orange)

International Convention — Fussach, Austria

2023, our first truly international convention! Tim and Darlene, Ian and Ellie, and Rick all started their adventure “across the pond” in early September, heading first to Switzerland to meet up with our Swiss family and then to Austria for the convention. (There were post-convention plans too, while touring in Germany and attending an Oktoberfest celebration before heading home).

Prior to the convention members had the opportunity to enjoy stunning views of the Alps on a steam train ride, and also a very solemn tour at the Dachau Concentration Camp, in Germany.

Fifty-seven voting members were on hand, representing their chapters, at the annual business meeting on Saturday morning. Approximately 580 Red Knights attended the convention. The meeting was a long one, lasting five hours, and covering a lot of business, and 27 different bylaw change proposals.

The proposal to allow multiple upper and lower rockers on the back of vests did not pass. But as VP Rick Oliver said, at least the decision was brought to the floor so members could vote on it.

Needing 2/3 majority vote to change bylaws, it is not a surprise that a limited number of the proposals were passed. One change that passed is future votes for bylaw changes will be simple majority. Details about the meeting were shared in an



Red Knight family at Oktoberfest!



email shortly after the meeting in Austria. If you did not receive this info and are interested in reviewing it, contact Treasurer Laford.

Our own Rick Oliver was drafted by his *other* chapter and put to work helping Swiss-1 serve the Saturday evening banquet. Everyone knows Rick’s talents in food service!

Our friend Peter Stone of MA-1 was this year’s Perry Carter Award recipient — very well deserved! Rick was also called up on stage during the awards ceremony and recognized for



his Perry Carter award that happened during the Covid non-convention year. We all know he was also a worthy recipient.

Our friend, Leo Patry, from Ontario-7 and current Region-2 Rep has decided to step down from the board after serving for 32 years. Many of those years were as International Treasurer, but Leo also served as International President, Chairman of the Board and Secretary to the BOD.

Congratulations to Spike Ostiguy, Scott Ryan, and Ken May on their election/re-election as International President, Treasurer, and Region-1 Director, respectively. They each ran unopposed so there were no ballots to be cast for chapters in Region-1.

As voted on earlier in the summer, the chapter re-stocked our chapter “Minuteman” Patches and purchased chapter Poker Chips.



The poker chips are much more cost-friendly to give away to other Red Knights that you meet, compared to our coins (\$2/each).

Please see Bob Lafor





ANNUAL CHAPTER MEETING

As we begin a new decade as a chapter, we thank our most recent Past-president Kevin Martin for his service, and welcome our President-elect Jeff Hamberg! Entering our 41st year and we have only had five presidents lead this great group!

We had 28 members join us at the Millers Woods in Athol for our annual business meeting and election of officers. Along with electing our new president, Jeff Hamberg, Jim Skehan was re-elected as Secretary and Tim Kilhart was appointed Road Captain.



Along with our breakfasts, Christmas party and Polar Bear Ride, we will also be manning the Marine Corps League Toys for Tots in Orange on November 26 and participating with Wreaths Across America on December 16. Watch your emails for more details.

The Region is still maintaining a "Mayday Fund." If you know of a member who could use a hand, let an officer know.

Plans are to have a spring clean-up at the memorial. Watch for communication when the warm weather reappears.

The International has posted updated Bylaws and SOGs online. Please let an officer know if you have any questions about these documents.

With Tim Kilhart's appointment as Road Captain, there is a vacancy for Assistant Road Captain. If you would like to serve the chapter and join the E-board, please contact Jeff or Tim. If you think there is someone in the chapter that would be a good fit for this position, please pass on that name to Tim or Jeff, as well.

It took a couple of years and several rain delays, but Road Captain Jeff Hamberg was able to get a group out and hit nine fire stations for this year's **GRAND TOUR** ride!

They covered 160.3 miles in 5.5 hours including a lunch stop at McCarthy's Pub in Belchertown. Special thanks to the Uxbridge FD for pulling out their brand new engine for us and another special thanks to Matthew Hamberg for being our stand in photographer.

Jeff and Matthew put on 297 miles if you add their to and from ride out of Southwick!



Annual Reports were distributed at the October meeting. If you were not able to attend our annual meeting but would like a copy of the reports, contact Treasurer Laford.



Thanks to Mary Barclay's handiwork and generosity, we were able to bring in an additional \$600 to be donated against the memorial's mortgage by raffling off this beautiful Afghan.

Rick Oliver took on the mission to be the primary salesperson throughout our riding season, and the winner (drawn at our annual meeting) was Ed Corcoran of RK NJ-33. With the raffle, our donation to the Mass-1 Challenge is \$2,250! Thank you everyone.

2024 International Convention —

August 12-18, 2024 in Leipzig, Germany.

Dear brothers and sisters,

Please visit our site from time to time. (For info about the convention) <https://www.red-knights-mc-germany18.de/>
It's exciting, stay curious.

We look forward to seeing you at the international convention in Leipzig. Leave everyday life outside and have fun with old and new friends and spend unforgettable hours.

For this reason, we have created the opportunity for you to arrive on Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday. Of course you can also arrive as usual on Thursday or Friday or only on Saturday.

We would be happy to put together an individual program for anyone who arrives Monday to Wednesday, if you wish.

Leipzig is really very beautiful and offers something for everyone. There are many churches, museums and monuments worth seeing. A beautiful, cozy city center with short distances, with nice cafes and pubs that invite you to linger.

We have a really nice four star hotel where we can end the day at the bar in the evening. The hotel is so big that we can all accommodate.

Since we believe that a good day begins with a good breakfast, you always get a good breakfast when you book.

We are currently planning excursions on Thursday by bus to Berlin and Dresden.

There are still many activities being planned. We will continue to report here on the progress of the planning and organization.

If you have any questions, requests or comments, please write to us at: qa@rkmc-leipzig.de

We already said: We look forward to seeing you.

Notes from the Treasurer...

I have been in the post as your Chapter Treasurer for ten years. More details appear in the annual reports that were distributed at our annual meeting, but I wanted to share with you some bullets about our chapter's financial health, and generosity.

- Over the past ten years, we have made donations in excess of \$13,000.
- Our chapter, and individual members of our chapter have donated over \$10,000 to the Red Knights memorial, since its inception as a concept in 2004.
- Our Red Knight decal program has consistently offered us funding of \$500-\$1200 a year that help fund our chapter's efforts. We routinely have 12-15 chapters a year that purchase decals from us, as well as selling decals at Americade, Rallies, the convention and other Red Knight events.

40th Anniversary party facts and figures

Facility Rental - \$100
Chapter 40th Anniversary Pins – \$260 (FY2022)
RKMC 40th Year member pins -- \$65
Luncheon - \$817.50
Cake - \$45
Incidentals - \$16

Meal ticket sales - \$850
Raffle Sales - \$200
T-shirt profit - \$125 (67 shirts sold)

RKMC® YANKEE RALLY 2024

JUNE 5TH - JUNE 9TH, 2024

EVENT CONTACT:

EMAIL: yankeerally2024@gmail.com



HOST HOTEL:

Best Western Plus in Keene, NH

The link below will work for dates during the Rally and checking out on June 9th. If you are coming before June 5th or staying after the Rally you will need to make an additional booking with the hotel.

Booking link:

https://www.bestwestern.com/en_US/book/hotel-rooms.30017.html?groupid=2A3KU113

CAMPING GROUND; PLEASE CALL TO BOOK:

Located about 25 min away.

<https://shir-roy.com/>

REGISTRATION FORM:

*** Will be created soon ***

HOSTED BY NEW HAMPSHIRE CHAPTER 9 W/ ASSISTANCE FROM OTHER NH CHAPTERS

Help Me Help You — How to talk to your mechanic about what's wrong with your motorcycle.

By ARI HENNING—Taken from the Common Thread Journal

When you bring your motorcycle to a mechanic, you're after help. Help getting your bike working properly so you can get to the office, hustle to class or better yet enjoy a Sunday-morning ride with friends. And as your mechanic, I might need a little help from you if your motorcycle's issue isn't as obvious as a flat tire or toothless sprockets. That help comes in the form of information that will steer me toward a diagnosis, so I can fix your bike and get you back on the road.

If a rider's complaint is that their bike idles poorly and doesn't want to rev up, I would likely respond with a barrage of questions: What do you mean by running poorly? Does it have a low idle, a high idle or is it misfiring? Does it stumble when you open the throttle? Is your bike carbureted or fuel-injected? Have you changed anything on the bike? When was it last serviced or worked on? How long has this problem been going on?

VERBAL PROBES IN SEARCH OF CLUES

These questions and others like them are verbal probes, methods of building a mental framework of information where I'll look for correlations. It's what all mechanics do. Maybe the owner has just installed a high-flow air filter and exhaust, revealing an obvious cause-and-effect relationship to be explored. Or perhaps it will be divulged that it's been raining for weeks and the bike is parked outside, in which case water in the fuel system or soggy electrical connections are likely culprits.

It's all just detective work and you, as the key witness to the problem—even if you absolutely don't understand what it could behold the most clues.

So, the best way to help your mechanic help you is to give the issue some thought, identify as many symptoms as possible and offer as much background information as you can. To that end, there are three categories I recommend considering while gathering evidence: sensation, noise and scenario.

IMITATE SOUNDS

Is the bike making any unusual noises? If so, where from? If you've ever listened to NPR's legendary "Car Talk" pro-gram, brothers Tom and Ray Magliozzi were famous for soliciting sounds from their callers. They didn't just do it because it made for humorous radio, they did it because a sound, like a picture, is often worth a thousand words and can quickly steer an experienced mechanic toward the source of the problem.

So don't be afraid to imitate the noise your bike makes when it's struggling, even if it's the owl-like screech of a slipping alternator belt on your BMW R 1150 R. Odds are your rendition will make both of you chuckle, and maybe even provide a valuable clue.

TUNE IN TO SENSATIONS

When it comes to sensations, you've got a lot of options for feeling out your motorcycle. Your hands are on the grips, your butt is in the seat and your feet rest on the pegs. That's tens of thousands of nerve endings to detect rattles, shudders, knocking, shaking or other sensations that could be useful to your mechanic. Bad bearings, a loose cam chain, worn head bearings, warped clutch plates, glazed brake discs, out-of-balance wheels and myriad other maladies all telegraph telltale sensations to the attentive rider.

Along with tuning into any unusual sensations, you'll want to take note where they appear to be coming from. The same goes for sounds.

DESCRIBE THE SCENARIO

Finally, the scenario surrounding the problem can be revealing, so mine your memory for the situation in which the problem occurs. What happens just before the issue, or after? Is it associated with any specific control inputs or actions, like taking a turn or hitting a bump? What was the weather like, and is the engine cold or hot? Had you just spent an extended period of time on the highway? Does it happen while accelerating or slowing down? At a certain engine or road speed? Things that may seem entirely insignificant or irrelevant to you might illuminate a lightbulb in the head of your mechanic, so don't hold back.

Motorcycles aren't mystery machines, and mechanics aren't magicians. We're simple folk who have a knack for logical, if-A-then-B thinking, and we need information for our mental flow charts. Providing clues will help get your bike fixed faster, save you money, and it gets you thinking like a mechanic, which might just empower you to solve the next problem yourself.

Yankee Rally 2024
180 Maple Ave.
Claremont, NH 03743
phone: (802)779-7675
email: yankeerally2024@gmail.com
fb: Yankee Rally 2024



RKMC® YANKEE RALLY

JUNE 5TH-9TH, 2024

KEENE, NH

Attendee = \$80.00 ea. / Youth (12 and under) = \$55 ea.

Cost:

Guest Name: Last: First: =
Email: Circle one: *driver* *passenger*
Phone Number: Chapter:

Each registration submitted before April 10th, 2024 will include the following:

1: Yankee Rally 2024 rocker, 1: Yankee Rally 2024 Coin, 1: Yankee Rally 2024 tumbler, Saturday Dinner, & Sunday Farewell Breakfast. (Youth Bags may include other items)

Early Bird Ride:

Will be held on Thursday June 6th; depart at 10 am. The ride will go to the New Hampshire Telephone & Warner Firefighter's Museum. The Telephone Museum entry cost is \$7 per attendee, Fire Museum is by donation.

Qty: =

Yankee Rally 2024 T-Shirt:

(Enter Qty. in box and calculate amount)

	\$20 ea:			Plus \$5 ea:					
	Small	Medium	Large	X Large	XX Large	3X Large	4X Large	5X Large	
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Additional Yankee Rally 2024 Patches:

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2024 YR Rocker \$5 ea:

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Additional Yankee Rally 2024 tumbler:

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2024 YR Tumbler \$12 ea:

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**Make check payable to:
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Grand Total:

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Yankee Rally 2024
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fb: Yankee Rally 2024



RKMC® YANKEE RALLY
JUNE 5TH-9TH, 2024
KEENE, NH

HOST HOTEL:



Best Western Plus
401 Winchester St
Keene, NH 03431

Phone: (603)357-3038

Group Name:

Red Knight International Motorcycle Club® New Hampshire Chapter-9

Call to make your reservations at this location.

HOTEL #2:



Hampton Inn & Suites
226 Key Road
Keene, NH 03431

Phone: (603)417-4290

Group Name:

Red Knight International Motorcycle Club® New Hampshire Chapter-9

Call to make your reservations at this location.

HOTEL #3:



Holiday Inn Express
175 Key Road
Keene, NH 03431

Phone: (603)352-7616

Group name: Red Knight Yankee 2024

Group code: RKY

Booking Link:

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HOTEL #4:



Days Inn By Wyndham
3 Ash Brook Rd
Keene, NH 03431

Phone: (603)727-4785

Group name: Red Knights Yankee Rally 2024

Call to make your reservations at this location.

Note:

Please join us on our fb page to follow updates, notifications, event details, and general event information.

The primary information for the event can also be found on <https://www.redknightsmc.com/yankee-rally>

We are excited to host you all in NH next June, and look forward to continuing this great tradition.

Fraternally,
Sam Sherrill
YR 2024 Chairman