



- Sunday, December 4, 2022
- 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, K-Mart, 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 20 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 2022

www.rk-mass2.org

facebook

facebook.com/RKMASS2

Loyal to Our Duty

From the desk of the Chapter President

Hello Red Knights,

Welcome to your Fall Edition of our newsletter. It's getting closer to the end of another riding season. Our annual Polar Bear Ride and lunch just happened (with temps in the 70's). I'm sure there are a few impromptu rides that we'll be having but this was the last scheduled one of the season. Watch your emails for any rides in more "seasonable" temperatures.

I'd like to acknowledge VT-2 and MA-4 for joining us on rides this year. Although I've personally missed this riding season, again, I do hear about other chapters joining us. In 2023 we will be working with MA-4 President, Mike Mahan in planning a MA2/MA4 ride. We will also share their riding calendar when it is available. The ridership and camaraderie goes a long way when getting other chapters to come out and get together.

With the riding season drawing to a close, we also thank Larry Robinson for his 15 years of service as Assistant Road Captain. Larry has chosen to step down from the position and give Tim Kilhart the reins as the Assistant Road Captain for the 2023 season. Thank you both for all you do and have done.

Reminder, that the convention for next year is going to be in Austria. Several of our chapter members are already booked for the convention. If you're interested in going, reach out to your executive board and we'll help you the best we can with the plans. (Some information is included with this newsletter). We will send out a detailed email about the convention after the first of the year, hopefully including potential flight information along with other necessary information to help make your planning of this trip as easy as possible.

Who's going away over the winter months? If you're traveling or going to be away for more than a weekend let us know, just in the event we may need to contact you or maybe would like for you to pick up something for the chapter. (A little more info on this below).

In 2023 we will be celebrating our 40th anniversary of MA-2 and your executive board is planning a nice celebration (Date and details to be determined). One of the events we'd like to have is a silent auction or prize drawing of sorts at our celebration, and we'd like to get as many donations as possible for this event. If you can help us acquire some door prizes or auction items that would be awesome. We'll be taking donations after the first of the year. See any of your executive board members to pass on any donations you may have. This can be anything you think would make a decent give away.

In closing, watch your emails for additional items and events that will be happening throughout the next year.

Keep VP Rick Oliver in your thoughts as he has had to cut his riding season short after suffering a broken foot on his trail rider. The boot he's now wearing is keeping him off his bikes (for now)! Heal up brother, and here's to a speedy recovery!

Stay Safe and keep watching out for each other.

Respectfully

President Martin

Mass-2 Christmas Party

- Sunday, December 4,
- 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 Sgt-at-Arms Ian Hurley for their help in the planning.

**We must have RSVPs
and pre-paid Christmas
Party dinners by
Sunday, November 20
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.

The next two years' international conventions are in Europe. 2023 is in Fussach Austria. The registration for that convention is expected to be available November 1.

Yankee Rally — June 8-11 in the Finger Lakes Region of New York is the 2023 date and location for our regional rally.

The host hotel is the Quality Inn and Conference Center, 2468 State Rt 414, in Seneca Falls, NY.

Events include, the “**Yankee Rally FLX-perience**,” with Finger Lakes Wineries, Breweries and Distilleries on hand to provide tastings and bottle sales of their products, along with a Variety of Food Trucks for the many tastes of the Finger Lakes!

The Feature Ride is to Finger Lakes Waterfalls & Hammondsport (lunch provided) and Tour of the Glenn Curtiss Aviation and Motorcycle Museum.

There will be a Saturday evening BBQ, live music, and the Sunday farewell breakfast.



I'd like to order a room for two knights, please.

The host hotel was 100% booked by mid September. The secondary hotel has begun accepting reservations. This hotel is 1/4 mile from the host hotel, and rooms are \$139 per night.

Micotel in Seneca Falls

(315) 539-8438

You must CALL the hotel directly to get the Red Knight rate.



One of the group rides will be to the Glenn Curtis Aviation museum on Saturday.

Winter Gathering

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

- Sunday, February 19
- Templeton Fish and Game Club Club Road (Off Patriots Rd)
- 1:00-4:00 pm

Bring some food to share, and something to wet your whistle. We will have the 2022 Ride Schedule ready for your review and look ahead to what memories will be made in the new year!

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

THANKS FOR YOUR COOPERATION.

Our 2023 Chapter Officers are:

Kevin Martin, President
978-751-5314

rkma2prez@gmail.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

Jeff Hamberg, Road Captain
978-413-1636

jhamberg@rk-mass2.org

Tim Kilhart, Assistant Road Captain
978-249-2983

tkilhart@gmail.com

Ian Hurley, Sergeant at Arms

978-877-9937

hurley.ian89@yahoo.com



Thanks to Rick and Lori Oliver for hosting our 4th of July weekend cookout. We had over twenty Red Knights on hand and it was a PERFECT summer's day! The temps were in the 70's with low humidity and a nice breeze, and we just enjoyed the afternoon with each other... and plenty of food, too! I think Peg's whoopie pies were at the top of the list.

Thank you to Anna and Jim Skehan, as well for the patriotic cake.

On the road with our friends...

90 (+) degrees for the first official summer's ride. But we ended at Ed and Peg's for ice cream with nearly 30 members and friends!

It was a beautiful day when we rode into Vermont to visit the Bellows Falls Firefighters Memorial. We talked about the fire that occurred on December 29, 1981 That fire took the lives of Firefighters Terry Brown and Dana Fuller. The Star Hotel sat on the piece of land where BFFD dedicated this memorial last October.

We also enjoyed the green space between the memorial and the canal for our picnic lunch.

Even though July gave us some high heat and humidity, the couple of July rides we did have were under perfect skies and low humidity. Our lunch ride at the end of July brought out seven bikes (8 riders) for a meandering route through southern NH and lunch at the Tavern at Central in Ashburnham (where Don Hurme was served FIRST!). We actually had more faces to see than just the riders. Two members who could not go on the ride met up with us to say hello at the beginning and five extra met us for lunch. We had members from MA-4 and VT-2 that were part of the day's company, as well!

Another great breakfast to kick off Fire Prevention

Week at the Jaffrey FD!

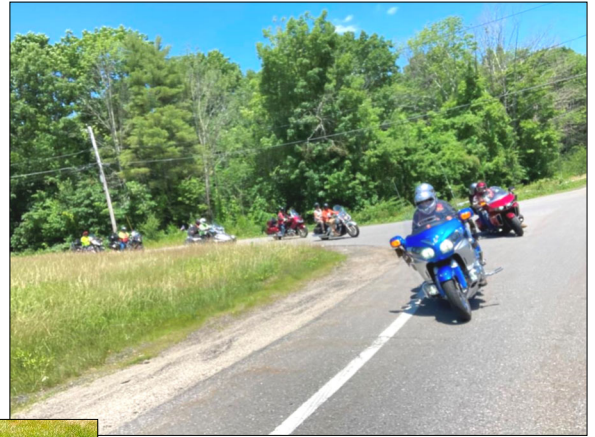
2023 CHAPTER RIDE PLANNING

Get your ride ideas in to an officer for 2022! The officers will be meeting as cold weather sets in to plan for our next riding season!

We found another great lunch stop when off on another Hooky Ride in late

October with a meal at the West Boylston Sea Food Company. That ride had some excitement as we came across a car crash that happened very shortly before our arrival! We all took the initiative to make the scene safe, stop traffic, begin some basic patient evaluation and made sure the local FD and PD were on their way.

That ride into West Boylston also proved nostalgic for Joy Ellis of VT-2 who was riding with us. She moved into that town when she was six. At lunch she told us that we drove by her elementary school and the apartment they first lived in. After our ride, Joy told us that one of the backroads we took home passed by the farmhouse where they moved after a few years in the apartment. Memories from over 60 years ago! Glad we were able to (unknowingly) help with those memories!



2023 Dues

We have sent out reminders about your 2023 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, 2022**. Thanks.

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

CELEBRATING 40 YEARS!

2023 marks the 40th anniversary for Mass-2. One of the mementos for this milestone is our chapter's 40th anniversary pins. Beginning with the Christmas party this December, these pins will be given to members who attend a chapter gathering over the next year. Make sure you come join us so you can receive your pin!



Mark was the winner of the 2022 Bug Ride.



Thank you to Jeff and Faith (and Matthew) for welcoming us to their new home in Southwick and hosting our annual Labor Day weekend cookout.

We took a group ride down Route 202 to find their new place and had a great day!

"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!)

Our June ride had just-about perfect weather. Blue skies, low humidity and temperatures in the middle 70's. Just a small turnout, but we enjoyed about 100 miles through the backroads of the hill towns in Franklin County, and lunch at Wildwood BBQ in Hadley.



In September, it was a crisp and cool fall morning when a group of us took advantage of the bright sunshine for a ride to Windsor Locks, CT and a visit to the New England Air Museum.

Here we are in front of one of the Flying Fortresses (B-29) that helped liberate western Europe during World War II.

We found a great deli, too. It was called "The Deli!"

The AMA's monthly magazine "American Motorcyclist" has a section on what we used to ride.

A sixteen-year-old version of our own Charlie Hamberg appeared in a recent edition!



My 1971 Kawasaki F6 125cc rotary valve trail bike, complete with Preston Petty replacement front fender. In 1974 this was my everyday source of recreation and exploration. A huge improvement in the woods over the modified Honda Cub 50 I had previously.

—Charlie Hamberg



Don't forget to get your year-end mileage into our VP Rick Oliver to be included in our 2022 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 RKMCM embroidered clothing (shirts, coats, hats, etc.) Lyman Signs in Phillipston has copies of our digitized files of the Minuteman Logo for embroidery.

Contact Joe Guarnera at joegua@comcast.net or his home phone at 978-455-1022 for the standard RKMCM logo embroidery. 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 Challenge Coins 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...

Congratulations to Jeff and Faith (and Matthew) Hamberg on their new home in Southwick. Actually it is a homecoming as it is the house that Jeff's grandfather built after WWII and where he raised his family!

Congratulations to Jason Scott on the new-to-him 1996 Harley Electric Glide. Congratulations to Do Hurme on the purchase of a great looking Ford Mustang Convertible!

Congratulations to Kevin Kaczmarczyk on his promotion to Captain with the Athol Fire Department. Congratulations to Ian Hurley on his new position, joining Jeff at the Southwick FD! Best wishes to Chris Rutola on his new EMS position.

When you see another Kawasaki Concourse riding with us, say hello to Sean Inniss. Sean has applied to be an Associate member and is joining us on rides and events for his six-month requirement.



Jeff and Faith Hamberg were presented with #5 & #6 Founding Fathers Ride coins and patches for their successful jaunt around the country in 2021.

A lot of miles went into that journey and the completion of all the stops necessary to earn the distinction of the first riders, outside of the original

four that initiated and tested out the ride, to complete all components of the ride and receive the recognition. **Great Job!**

Mass Fall State Meeting



Mass-2 was the best in attendance at the fall state meeting held in Shirley. *Thanks to MA-13 for hosting!*

Representatives from MA-1, 2, 3, 4 13 and 15 were in attendance, as were 3 Founding Fathers and our Region-1 Rep Eric Jock.

George Colby was re-elected as State Rep for another two-year term.

With the sales of the Region-1 Commemorative Coin, the Region-1 Mayday fund has brought in over \$9,000. After paying expenses, the balance of the account is close to \$5,000 and six grants have been given to Region-1 members who were in need of assistance.

Mass-15 will be host for the 2023 Spring State Meeting.

POLAR BEAR RIDE! It was a **Polar Bear Ride** in name only, as it was the warmest ever Polar Bear ride for us (73 degrees)! The region broke high temp records all weekend.

We had a great day with summer temperatures, and 11 members that came out to join us for our ride and lunch at Barbers Crossing Road House in Leicester.



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 at 9:00 am (No Breakfast Club in December, and February Breakfast Club replaced

by Winter Pot Luck on February 19)

- November 19 at Tim and Darlene Kilhart's in Athol.
- January 14 at Ed & Peg's in Westminster
- March 18 at Bob and Diona's in Petersham
- April 15 at Jeff and Faith's in Southwick

Red Knights Atlantic Rally



We know that the Yankee Rally is Region-1's annual regional rally, but right next door is Region-2 and their Atlantic Rally.

Region-2 is Ontario, Quebec and the Atlantic Provinces. This year about 75 members met in New Brunswick, about 300 feet from the Atlantic Ocean on the Bay of Fundy for the rally in July.

Bob and Rick had been planning a trip to Madawaska, ME to visit the Four-Corners Memorial Park, and while looking at the map, a two-day trip to that location was easily changed into a four-day weekend to travel from Maine into New Brunswick.

One of the NB-1 members' home sits on the shore of the Bay of Fundy and their yard was turned into Rally-central with a big party tent, some members tent camping, and plenty of parking for the RKMC members. The "host hotel" was the Hilton in nearby St. John — sitting right on the bay in town! What a view! And just by chance, the city's Canada Day fire works were postponed until the weekend of the rally and we had front row seats from our hotel room one night!

The highlight of the rally was a ride into the Fundy Trail Parkway, a provincial park touting the beauty of the Bay of Fundy. The parkway curves and climbs and dives down into almost every nook and cranny of the bay, with many scenic stops and opportunities to walk out onto the ocean floor at low tide. The area has the largest tides in the world. Every route we took while in New Brunswick gave us some wonderful views and wonderful memories.

Another evening ride was to a local sea-food stop that closed their business for the night to serve all the visiting Red Knights with fresh seafood.

It was great to see some Canadian friends we had not seen for a while, and made some new friends along the way!

The weekend was capped off with a BBQ and a lot of socializing!



While transitioning from Maine to New Brunswick, plans were made to stop for lunch with long-time MA-2 member Hal Billiard.

In the club's early years, Hal decided that MA-2 at 400 miles away was a closer ride than Ontario-1 in Toronto. So when his 4 days of duty were over at the FD, he would jump on his bike and head to Massachusetts to ride with his new chapter! Still a faithful member of our chapter, Hal even attended the Convention in PEI several years ago.

Bikes begin to line up for one of the Rally's rides from the rally's home just outside of St. John, NB. The bay is just on the other side of the stop sign you can see in the photo.



Don't limit your thinking to just the Yankee Rally, if you are looking to expand your Red Knights vision. There are a lot of events beyond just our chapter and state and each one of them is welcoming to every Red Knight that shows up! (Next year's Atlantic Rally is in Newfoundland!)

Oops, a little bit of traffic on the Interstate on the way to PA for the convention! Let's just squeeze between all these Tractor Trailers!



International Convention

Ten members of our chapter traveled to Johnstown, PA for the 40th anniversary International Convention in August. Having been a lapse of conventions since 2019, looking forward to seeing friends topped the list of "things to do," but RK PA22, our hosts for the convention in Johnstown had plenty for us to partake in during our visit.

Johnstown has plenty of history, and visits to the Johnstown Flood museum and site, the Johnstown mine disaster, and the memorial sites for the 9-11 Flight 93 crash were all somber reminders of past events.

There were three separate rides scheduled to the Flight 93 memorial, to ensure that all Red Knights would be given the opportunity to visit. Those who have visited the crash site and the memorial will agree it is a very moving experience. Stops were also made at the Shanksville FD, the first responding department, and the memorial in place in memory of the flight crew.

There was plenty of fun too. As always, the hospitality room was hopping, and if you visit the convention Facebook Page you will see the dancing and festivities in some posted video from the host hotel. Because several hotels in Johnstown were hosting Red Knight guests, PA22 had a shuttle service available between the host hotels and the secondary lodging.

The Conemaug VFD hosted a social ice breaker for our members to socialize. Also, the St. Michaels Adams Station 84 was the location of the luncheon during the Flood Memorial Ride, and Friday evening was "a picnic in the park."

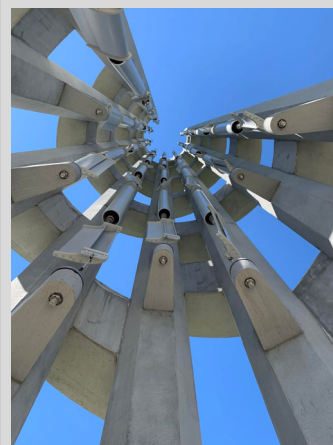
Our own Maury Lizotte (and his partner Woody) won the Convention's Corn Hole tournament, complete with trophy! And some of our crew made a pilgrimage to meet Punxsutawney Phil. Hopefully they had a discussion about the upcoming winter with the prognosticator— rodent!

All were shuttled to the nearby 1st Summit Arena for the closing banquet and festivities on Saturday evening.

Sunday was the traditional farewell breakfast, where hugs were given to friends and wishes for safe journeys home.

Congratulations to Michael "Woody" Woods on his election as International Secretary, and to Spike Ostiguy on his continued service to the RKMC as International VP.

Unfortunately, the bylaw proposal we submitted to allow multiple rockers was not allowed to go to a vote because of "procedural issues."



Tower of Voices
at the Flight 93 Memorial





The Red Knights Mass Chapter 1 Memorial Challenge



Since its inception in the early 2000's and its dedication in 2007, the Red Knights Memorial has been a work of love and dedication by and for Red Knights from all over the world.

From conceptual drawings, work parties, construction and continued care, the Red Knight property in Boylston is there for the members. Currently, there are over 640 names of our brother and sister Red Knights who have passed away and listed in the Heaven-1 chapter.

In 2017 the Red Knights realized a dream in acquiring the adjacent property and home — to become the Red Knights Memorial Hall. This building is a place for visiting Red Knights to stay while visiting the area.

The Red Knights still hold a mortgage on this property, and the memorial property cannot be considered a non-profit entity until that mortgage is paid off in full.

We as a unit of Red Knights can pay this mortgage off and be debt-free if we work together!

Massachusetts Chapter 1 is issuing a challenge to every Red Knight and every Chapter to work to pay off the Red Knight memorial mortgage in 2023.

RK Mass-1 is **CHALLENGING EVERY RED KNIGHT** to donate \$20 USD to be placed against the principle of the mortgage of the Red Knight property in Boylston, Massachusetts.

Mass-2 has accepted this challenge and are asking each member to consider donating \$20 to help pay off our mortgage! Please send your donation to our treasurer, checks made out to RK Mass-2, PO Box 221, Petersham, MA 01366

We will be contacting each member of MA-2 with a goal of having 100% participation, and sending in our donation to the challenge by April 1

Donations from just over 8,000 members would pay off the balance of the mortgage of \$160,800.

(After this balance is paid and the property becomes tax exempt, donations to the memorial would then become tax deductible).

ANNUAL MEETING

Congratulation to Rick Oliver, Bob Laford, and Jeff Hamberg on their re-elections as VP, Treasurer and Road Captain, respectively.

We had fourteen members at our annual meeting held in October at the Millers Woods Rec Center. Because the room was not available in the morning, it was an afternoon meeting. One of our discussion topics was if a morning meeting would draw more members, as we usually have 20 or more members. Please let the president know your thoughts.

It was decided that we would temporarily hold onto the 50/50 funds gathered in 2022. These will be put with the individual donations that will be made for the RKMC Memorial Challenge.

2023 is the 40th anniversary of Mass-2. We received our charter in October 1983. The officers are planning to have a celebration later in the year. If you would like to participate in this planning, or if you have ideas about a celebration that you would like to share, please contact President Martin.

A BIG Thank You goes out to Larry Robinson.

Larry decided to step down from the Assistant Road Captain position after 15 years of serving the chapter. Thank you also to Tim Kilhart for accepting the appointment as our new ARC.

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.



It was great celebrating #65 with our President, Kevin Martin! We started the riding day out on some country roads, and a stop for ice cream. Then we were off to Athol at Kevin and Val's new place for Kevin's surprise 65th party... and of course, more ice cream.

Thank you to our world travelers for sharing their photos and stories with us during their trip to Switzerland!

Mass-2 had seven members who made arrangements and planned on attending the 2020 convention in France. Unfortunately, COVID killed those plans! Fast-forward two years and our friends in Switzerland-1 were chomping at the bit to welcome our members to Europe, and before the airline credits were to expire, Jeff & Faith, Rick & Lori, Tim & Darlene, and Ian had itineraries in hand to head across the pond for an unforgettable vacation.

This short column can only whet your appetite for the details of this trip. Reach out to them to hear the stories first hand!

The first half of their sojourn involved a rented van as they toured around Switzerland with their RK guides. This part of the trip even included crossing borders and meeting with RK Germany-2 for a cookout, and rides in the local FD's tower!

Just a few highlights included:

- Home base in Mellingen, meeting with Swiss-1 members and their hospitality at the Red Knights' Clubhouse.
- Time on the water (and in the water) at Lakes Luzerne and Zurich. And tours of those cities.
- Tour of the Zurich FD and fire museum
- A trip to the summit of Mt. Jungfrau—the top of Europe (12,000 feet) with time inside a glacial cave, and then swimming in the a glacier river. (Brrr)
- Visits also to Zermatt and the Matterhorn were enjoyed.
- There was great food and culture all along the way. (Including a sample of good beer too).

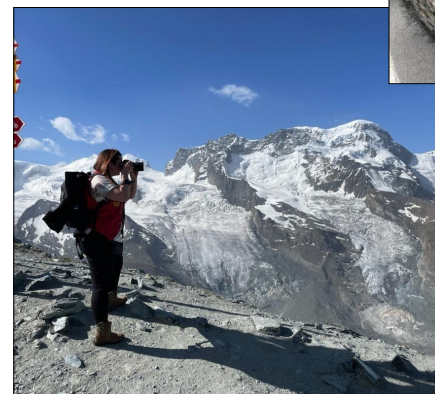
Week two of their trip began at a BMW dealership when rented bikes were gathered together for unforgettable miles. No maps were needed, just follow that Swiss-1 red vest in the lead of the pack. Every turn revealed a new beautiful vista. The scenery was gorgeous.

Some of the most beautiful scenery (and most technically challenging roads they have ever experienced) and routes met them as they chased the switchbacks in the Alps — crossing between Switzerland and Italy.

Stelvio Pass, leading into Italy, has 48 switchbacks to navigate! Once over the border, had to sample the cuisine on that side, too, with some time in Ascona, Italy.

Fifteen days was gone in a flash, but the memories will be forever!

And all these memories were made available because of the friendships we have made with members of Swiss-1! Thanks to Trix, Dutchy, Rolf, Monika, Mauro and all the other fellow Red Knights family! These friendships have deepened and will be long lasting. The time we spent together with everyone there whether sharing a meal or just having a pleasant conversation will remain in our hearts and help reinforce how special the Red Knight family is to all of us.



Wir sind alle Red Knights!

YES! We are all Red Knights! We were very fortunate this summer that we were involved with the visit of Michale Lorek and Peter Himstedt from RK Germany-28 during their month-long adventure touring the northeast United States and visiting as many Red Knights as they could while they were here.

It all started with an online inquiry about bikes for their visit and turned into making new friends and having a great time.

Their time on the ground in New England began when Jeff Hamberg met them at Logan Airport, and they were transported to Southwick to catch their breath for a couple of days with Jeff, Faith and Matthew.

Up and on their acquired steeds they were led around some western county roads and met up with members of Mass-2 and Mass-4 at the New Salem General Store. With the full entourage in tow, we escorted them to the memorial in Boylston, where they had

reservations at the Red Knights Memorial House for the next three days. Meeting us at the memorial were members of MA-1, MA15, VT-2 and NJ-33, totaling 30 people to make their welcome a grand success! (We had a Founding Father and a member of the International Board in our crowd of welcomers, too). Of course food was planned, as every good Red Knight get-together involves sharing a meal! They were also guests to the Mass-1 picnic, and showed themselves around the Worcester area during their stay in Boylston.

Michael and Peter's English was a lot better than they gave themselves credit for! But, did you know that your smart phone is ideal for communicating across languages? Whenever there was a question you could type in what you wanted to say and share it to make sure you got everything right!

Later in their first week, when their 3-day stay in Boylston had come to an end, they were led to Petersham and New Salem where they spent the next three days with Rick & Lori and Bob & Diona.



As we know from stories of our members who have visited other countries, there is no need for maps because the host Red Knights will take on the lead role in sharing our countryside with our visiting friends. And that is just what we did. While Michael and Peter were with us, we made sure they got a good sample of Massachusetts' rural roads and sites.

Their itinerary included...the Quabbin Reservoir, Wachusett Mountain, the Worcester 6 Memorial, the Mohawk Trail, and Mount Greylock. We also had a social/relaxing afternoon and evening at Ernie and Linda Lee's camp on Partridgeville Pond. Our guests

even got a tour of the lake on Doug Dupell's pontoon boat. We were glad that those who could make it enjoyed the comradery together.

When their week in Massachusetts was at an end, it was a Mass-2 contingent that took them on a scenic ride through New Hampshire and Vermont to meet up with RK NY50 members at the Champlain Bridge at Chimney Point,

where they took over hosting duties.

During their stay in up-state New York, the host chapter had an already planned charity ride scheduled in the Saranac Lake area—now complete as an international event with our German brothers in the mix!

Rob Wrenn and his chapter (NY26) were next on deck. They made arrangements to have the German contingent lodging at a hotel on the NYC end of Long Island. They also arranged for train tickets into the city and became the tour

guides for some of New York City's sites, including Ground Zero. One of our guests' wives flew into NYC to join them for their time in the city.

RK NY26 has an annual pilgrimage and ride to Ground Zero at midnight of 9/11. Michael and Peter were able to participate with that solemn occasion.

Then it was back into New England, with some seacoast views along the way. The final afternoon was spent touring Boston with MA13 & 15 members before it was time to fly back to Frankfurt from Boston.



2023 convention registration, hosted by Austria, became live on November 1 at
<https://ihfs.at/rkmc.at/>

The below information was taken from the Powerpoint presentation given at the European Rally in September.

3 countries
1 lake



Red Knights MC Austria IV
International Convention 2023
September 7-10 2023
in Fussach, Austria

- 6 Hotels
- 344 Rooms
- 688 Beds
- 2 Camping areas available

Two Excursions:

- The Memorial Concentration Camp at Dachau near Munich. Includes transportation and an English speaking guide. **130 EUR**



- Bregenzerwald for a Cheese and Liquor tasting event and steam locomotive ride. **95 EUR**



SCHEDULE:

Tuesday, September 5th — Arrival of the International Board with Accommodations at the Holiday In Express Lustenau

Wednesday, September 6th — Breakfast at the hotel and Excursion to Dachau and Munich

Thursday, September 7th — Breakfast at the hotel and Excursion to the Bregenzerwald (Return at noon). Dinner at 7:30 pm at the convention site, shuttle bus service provided.

Friday, September 8th — Breakfast together at Fussach. Excursion in the area (Return at Noon). European Association meeting at 5 pm. Dinner at 8 pm, general hospitality with shuttle bus service provided.

Saturday, September 9th — Breakfast from 7 am -10 am in Fussach. International Business Meeting from 8 am to approx. 5.00 p.m. Optional ride-out at the area. Gala dinner at 7 pm with shuttle bus service and general hospitality.

Sunday, September 10th — Breakfast together in Fussach. Blessing with European Chaplain Brother Luis. Conclusion of the 2023 International convention.

PRICING (options) — Excursion prices extra

September 5-11 — Hotel with breakfast (Wednesday/Thursday), Thursday dinner in Fussach, Friday breakfast and dinner in Fussach, Saturday breakfast, lunch and gala dinner in Fussach, Sunday breakfast in Fussach, and Monday breakfast at the hotel. Drinks not included. **780 EUR**

September 7-10 — Thursday evening dinner in Fussach, Friday breakfast and dinner at Fussach, Saturday breakfast, lunch and gala dinner and Sunday breakfast in Fussach. Drinks not included.

Hotel 390 EUR Camping ground: 250 EUR

September 8-10 — Friday evening dinner in Fussach, Saturday breakfast, lunch and gala dinner in Fussach and Sunday breakfast in Fussach. Drinks not included. **Hotel: 260 EUR Camping: 175 EUR**

Saturday, September 9 — Breakfast, Lunch, Gala dinner in Fussach. Drinks not included. **75 EUR**



A few members have voiced their opinion to our board that they feel we are meeting “in the west” in Orange too often. It is true, that when the club began in 1983 the membership was focused in Fitchburg and Leominster and the neighboring communities around those two cities.

Our chapter membership now expands much further than it did 40 years ago and the chapter officers have to take that all into consideration, while providing a balanced approach of when and where we gather.

The location of our members is now split between those that live in “the east” towards Fitchburg and Leominster and to “the west” towards Athol and Orange. Also, fifteen percent of our membership no longer reside in Massachusetts.

It is estimated that 60% of our members still have a registered motorcycle in their possession. Although there are a few of these bikes that do not get ridden, most do, and 23% of these with registered bikes are in the east and 32% are in the west.

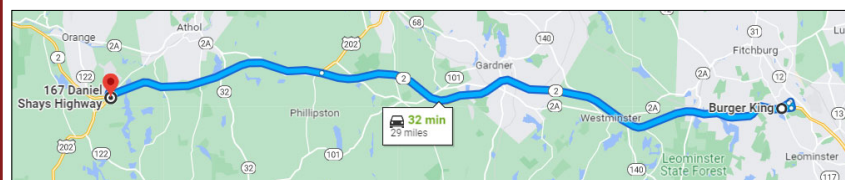
No matter if we meet in Orange or Westminster/Fitchburg, half of our membership has to travel 25-30 miles for a meeting point. Most times, the decision on where we meet is dependent on where we are headed. Are we heading west, or into Vermont or are we headed east or into NH?

The board feels that we have given the membership a fair listing of rides, and meeting places, and looking at the ride schedule over the past two years, east and west meeting points have been nearly split 50/50. In 2021 50% of the meeting places were in each, and in 2022 46% were in the east and 54% were in the west.

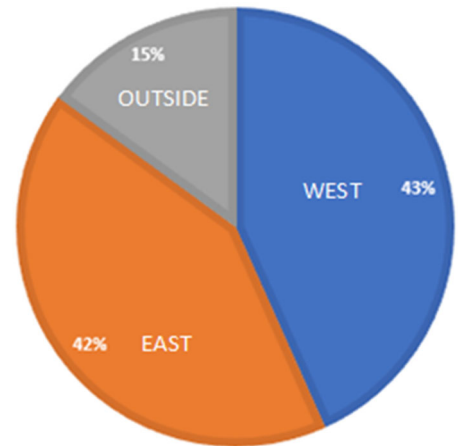
In diving deeper into our chapter statistics, it appears to the board that having split meeting places as we have has not impinged on the participation of our members. Looking back at anecdotal evidence it appears that both pre and post pandemic we have seen 42% of our eastern members and 43% of our western members come out for rides. Even 15% of those who live out of state continue to join us at some point during the year.

Over the past 3-4 years we estimate that we have seen about 75% of our membership at least once, at an event — and about 55% have actually come on a chapter ride. Of course there are members we do not see, and some we have not seen in many years.

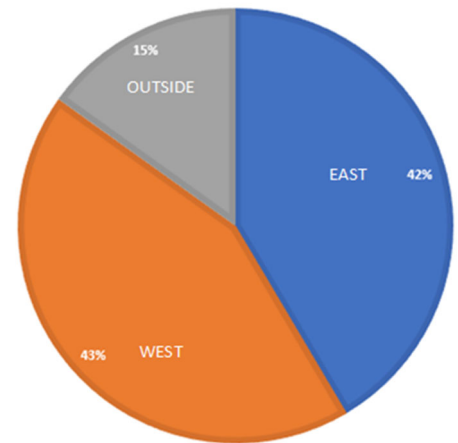
We have experimented with a different meeting place somewhere in the middle, between Orange and Westminster, and this seems to work OK, especially when the ride is “central” - straight north or south. But we will continue to offer rides and meeting places that span our membership region — because of course, we are a riding club.



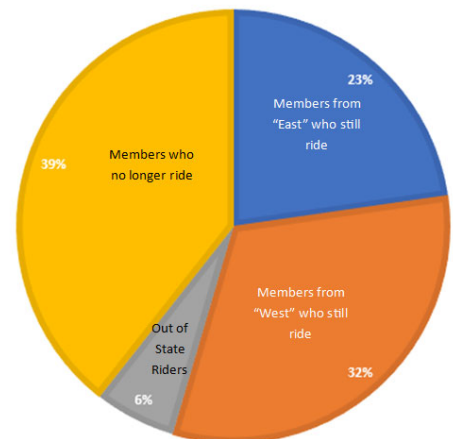
MEMBER LOCATION



EAST/WEST PARTICIPATION - 3 YEARS (PRE-COVID)



MEMBERS WHO STILL RIDE





"Yankee Rally" 2023

HOSTED BY NY CHAPTER 30

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS (subject to change):

Wednesday, June 7	ALL DAY	Self-Guided Rides/Tours will be available
Thursday, June 8	11:00-5:00	Registration Open Regalia/Merchandise and Silent Auction Room Open
	ALL DAY	Self-Guided Rides/Tours will be available
	6:00 PM KSU	Evening Ride to end at Mac's Drive-In Restaurant in Waterloo (cash required)
Friday, June 9	8:00-5:00	Registration Open Regalia/Merchandise and Silent Auction Room Open
	1:00-5:00	Games/Activities
	6:00-?	Evening Social Event: The "Yankee Rally FLX-perience" <i>Finger Lakes Wineries, Breweries and Distilleries will be on hand to provide tastings and bottle sales of their products</i> <i>Variety of Food Trucks for the many tastes of the Finger Lakes</i> <i>Cash Bar will be available</i>
Saturday, June 10	8:00-2:00	Registration Open
	8:00-5:00	Regalia/Merchandise and Silent Auction Room Open
	9:00 AM	Delegate Meeting <i>Proposals for 8th "Yankee Rally"</i> <i>Region and International Reports</i>
	11:00 AM KSU	Feature Ride to Finger Lakes Waterfalls & Hammondsport (lunch provided) Tour of the Glenn Curtiss Aviation and Motorcycle Museum (extra charge)
	ALL DAY	Self-Guided Routes/Tours will be available
	6:00 PM	Evening BBQ Dinner Winners of Silent Auction Announced
	7:00-11:00	Live Music by "The Slow Riders" <i>Cash Bar will be available</i>
Sunday, June 11	8:00-11:00	Farewell Buffet Breakfast for all participants

Daily 50/50 drawings, one Rally-long 50/50 drawing and Chinese auction items
Proceeds from this event will benefit the Finger Lakes Regional Burn Association's "Camp Courage"



"Yankee Rally" 2023

HOSTED BY NY CHAPTER 30

June 7-11, 2023 – Finger Lakes Region, NY

EVENT REGISTRATION FORM

**** Please submit one form per attendee. ****

NAME _____ **CHAPTER** _____

FULL MAILING ADDRESS _____

PHONE NUMBER _____ **E-MAIL** _____

Check all that apply:

QNTY		AMOUNT
	"Yankee Rally 2023" Registration Package (Adult) – \$75.00 – Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 "Yankee Rally 2023" Drink Tumbler• 1 Rocker Patch• 1 Tote Bag• Saturday Evening BBQ Dinner• Sunday Morning Farewell Buffet Breakfast	
	"Yankee Rally 2023" Registration Package (Youth 12 and under) – \$35.00 – Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 "Yankee Rally 2023" T-Shirt – SIZE:• 1 Rocker Patch• 1 Tote Bag• Saturday Evening BBQ Dinner• Sunday Morning Farewell Buffet Breakfast	
	"Yankee Rally 2023" Commemorative Coin – \$10.00	
	"Yankee Rally 2023" T-Shirt – \$15.00 – SIZE:	
	Pre-Sale Ticket to Glenn Curtiss Aviation & Motorcycle Museum in Hammondsport – \$10.00	
	Extra "Yankee Rally 2023" Rocker Patch – \$5.00	
TOTAL REGISTRATION AMOUNT:		

HOST HOTEL: Quality Inn and Conference Center, 2468 State Route 414, Seneca Falls, NY – (315) 577-6068

RATES: **\$139.00** (plus tax and fees) per night for all nights of the Rally

ALL RESERVATIONS are made online: <https://www.choicehotels.com/reservations/groups/IB37V5>

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

ATTENDEE NAME _____

In case of emergency, please contact:

NAME _____ PHONE _____

NAME _____ PHONE _____

PAYMENT INFORMATION

1. Completed registration forms, with payment, may be sent to: Deborah Speed
5810 Moran Road
Canandaigua, NY 14424

Please make check or money order payable to **“Red Knights Motorcycle Club NY 30”**.

2. Completed forms may also be e-mailed to yankeerally2023@gmail.com and payment may be sent via PayPal (either “Finger Lakes Red Knights” or redknightsny30@yahoo.com).

Registrations MUST be received by Saturday, April 1, 2023 to guarantee all package items

(Any registrations received after April 1, 2023 will still be accepted,
we just cannot guarantee all package items will be available.)

Any questions, please e-mail yankeerally2023@gmail.com or contact any of the following:

Chris Tiffany, President
(585) 748-7688
redknightsny30@yahoo.com

Mike McWilliams, Vice President
(585) 203-4883
mikemcw08@gmail.com