



Red Knights

Mass Chapter 2 — January 2012

<http://www.rk-mass2.org>

Loyal to Our Duty

From the
President's Desk

Happy New Year everyone!

Did you notice that the weather in 2011 was rather — odd?

In Massachusetts we had earthquakes, hurricanes, tornados, flooding, periods of no rain, and last winter there was a lot of snow, all packed into the beginning of 2011. Our last snow fall in the Spring was April 25, and our first snow of the Fall was on October 27. That meant there were only 185 non-snow days in our riding season. What will 2012 bring for us?

Our 2012 ride calendar is under production thanks to the help of our officers and from your suggestions. I think that the words that Rodney Akins sings are about us when he says, "It makes me wanna take a back road, makes me wanna take the long way home. Put a little gravel in my travel—Unwind, unravel all night long." It is a good time to start daydreaming about where to ride and what to see with your Red Knight friends in 2012.

During these weeks of motionless motorcycles, it is a good time to think about those things we can do to maintain and improve ourselves and our bikes without actually being out on them. For us, it is time to exercise our minds by reading about how to be better riders. There are many good books and magazines that will keep us thinking about future rides and giving us some information on improving our skills and our safety when we are on the road. Also, the time we are able to spend doing exercise in maintaining our bodies will help when it is time to roll the bike out too.

If your bike is accessible, this is a good time to spend some close-up-and-personal time with it. Do some detail work with your steed so you can look over some of those pieces and places that you do not look at routinely during the year. It is time to plan for spring maintenance too. How are your tires, brakes, fluids (not just oil), belts, chains, and other items that may need a mechanic's attention at the beginning of riding season?

I know that I am anxiously looking forward to 2012 and being on the road with friends again. Each spring that first warm day's ride always brings a HUGE smile and all sorts of serotonin chemicals into my bloodstream giving me that great to be alive motorcycle feeling! How about you?

As I stressed at our Christmas party, we have a great group of people and I hope that you all come out and enjoy some time with the club this year. And as we begin a new year, our thoughts for all of you line up with those of Saint Patrick:

*May the road rise to meet you,
May the wind be always at your back,
May the sun shine warm upon your face,
May the rains fall soft upon your fields,
And, until we meet again,
May God hold you in the hollow of His hand.*

Mass Chapter 2 Motorcycle Safety Foundation Rider Education Scholarship

The chapter is again providing MSF Rider Scholarships for 2012. We will be giving out two basic rider course scholarships that are available to anyone and two experienced rider course scholarships that are available to our members.

Deadline for submission is **February 1, 2012** and the scholarships will be awarded in March. An application for the scholarship is enclosed and they are also available on the webpage.

Please share the scholarship info with someone who would benefit from the training program.

Please help us get the word out about the Red Knights and our scholarship program by posting the scholarship flyer at your local fire department and your favorite local bike shop!

The Motorcycle Safety Foundation recently graduated its six millionth Rider Course student, a milestone reached through the ongoing efforts of nearly 10,000 Rider Coaches at more than 2,000 training sites worldwide. Our chapter has been involved with the MSF courses since 2004, proudly assisting 38 riders improve their skills through the MSF Scholarships that we have awarded over the last nine years!

And the wheels keep turning!

Love to see the world come at me through the bugs on a windshield
Love to feel the wheels turning - Always have and always will
Somewhere inside me there's a new direction
Somewhere before me there's an open road
Can't go to sleep without that engine singing
And somebody telling me it's time to go — Let's ride
Come on boys, let's ride — Yeah let's ride

Trace Adkins

2011 did not "officially" break the 2010 total miles for the chapter. When the VP had announced all his figures we were a bit short with 168,267 but that is still quite the number, and also without a few of the *high rollers* not sharing their mileage with us in time!

If you have not gotten your end '11/ beginning '12 mileage in, drop Kevin Martin an email or call so he can log you in to this year's "race for the mileage." For 2011 our top three mileage getters were Bob Laford, Maury Lizotte, and Ed Brouillet with 19,081, 17,005, and 13,469 miles respectively. And Phil Jordan's GL1200 passed the 100,000 mark!

In 2011 we had over 40 chapter events on our calendar, but the weather for the year was unpredictable and we did have some "rain outs" and ended up with 38 held events/rides/gatherings. Over the course of the year we had an average attendance of 15.73 per ride. The Christmas party and Americade tied for our most attended events with 30 members each. Our "lightest" attendance was seven for a ride in July.

*On the road
with our
friends...*

- We were pleased to hear from our Texas connection that she would be home for a few days in October and *may* be interested in a ride. Actually we received specific orders to put together an impromptu ride while she was here.

- Just a few short days after the October snow storm (and a few

short hours of having restored electricity for some of us), we had our Polar Bear Ride.

Unfortunately, the condition of some of the roads (with salt and black ice) left over from the storm brought most of us out on four wheels. There were a couple of brave riders among us as we went a few short miles west and enjoyed the Sunday brunch at the King Phillip Restaurant.

- It was 33 degrees when I left the garage for our November breakfast club meeting. We had three bikes and three cars arrive (10 people total). We went to The Crossroads Café (formerly Olsen's) in East Templeton.

- We had 15 people come out for the December Breakfast... and with Marcia's daughter Katie visiting from school in Las Vegas we figured the snow shower we experienced on the way to the Glen Café in Winchendon was an answer to her wish for snow for Christmas! We also received secret gift cards that we have to redeem in January back at the café. Come join us!



Texas had a season full of HOT and DRY weather. So when we awoke to 33 degrees on the Sunday of our Caitlin ride we knew she may be a bit un-acclimated to the temperatures! It was about 40 degrees when we met up and she was very unsympathetic to one of her Texas friends that called to say that it got "way down to 55" overnight. She proceeded to tell the caller it was 40 degrees in Massachusetts AND she was on a motorcycle ride! But she was smiling from ear to ear as she road her dad's bike with us.

Through the generosity of our members we were able to make a number of donations to causes and individuals who were in need of our support in the last year. Included in these were:

- American Cancer Society
- Athol Congregational Church
- Crohn's and Colitis Walk
- Dept. of Children and Families
- Greg Butler and Ashley Jackson Fund
- Mia's Miles
- National Fallen Firefighters Memorial
- Paul's Ride
- PBTFS/Ride for Kids
- Sherry's House

Last year the International Board asked the chapters to let them know about their local fundraising and charitable contributions. Since making that request, Red Knight Chapters have told the board of over \$193,000 in charitable donations.

That's impressive!

Winter Potluck

- Sunday, February 5
- Westminster American Legion
- 1:00 p.m.

Plan to bring some food to share and stories to tell, and we will have a grand time as always!

We will have the **ride schedule for 2012** printed and ready for distribution – so don't miss it!

The Legion is at
127 Main Street
(Route 2A)
Westminster

Membership news...

Congratulations to Bob Laford on his election as Assistant State Rep in Massachusetts for the Red Knights and to Don Hurme on his new place. Congratulations to Bob Sharkarian on ordering his new Harley-Davidson trike!

Congratulations to Rick Oliver and the New Salem General Store for being named the top distributor of Jack Daniels Single Barrel in Massachusetts for 2011! I think the Red Knights had something to do with that!



The chapter keeps a database of rider emergency information (contacts, insurance company, etc.) for the officers to have on hand during the riding season. If any of your information has changed, please use the form included with this newsletter to update the information for 2012. Thanks.

We were all very proud to step in on behalf of the Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation and help them recognize Rick and Lori Oliver and all the patrons of the New Salem General Store for their efforts in helping raise over \$5,600 during the 2011 New England Ride for Kids!



We had a great time at our Christmas party last month with 30 members enjoying a sunny December afternoon at the Colonial Hotel in Gardner.

We had a wonderful meal with roast beef, baked haddock, roasted potato wedges, vegetables, and apple crisp for dessert. I don't think anyone went away hungry.

There was a picture display from throughout the year that had everyone reminiscing and looking for their mug shot on the board. The pictures and the stories told brought out a lot of laughter.

Through the generosity of our members we collected a number of gifts and \$225 in gift cards for Sherry's House in Worcester.

When the Yankee Swap started they seemed to be a couple of gifts that made it to several hands before the afternoon was over. The spaghetti fixings complete with spaghetti pot and the Batman Motorsports socks were passed around, but the snowman light went through the most hands before it made it out the door.

Mark your calendar for next year's Christmas gathering because it is always a fun time!



RK Christmas

Ride for Kids... Red Knight friends, you make me proud!

We received this letter and plaque recently in recognition of our chapter's work in raising money for the Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation through the 2011 Ride for Kids. I cannot express to you how proud I am to represent our chapter!



Dear friends of the Kids,

Thank you for your fundraising efforts for the August 21, 2011, New England Ride for Kids. Thanks to your critical help, and the help of other caring motorcyclists, more than \$40,027 was raised to support the programs of the Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation. The Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation is committed to finding the cause of and cure for childhood brain tumors, and providing a network of support to assist the families of children affected by this dreadful disease.

In 2011 the Ride for Kids program continues to celebrate the fact that children with this disease have an increasingly better chance to live a longer more meaningful life. Your efforts are a huge part of the reason for this improvement. With your continued support we will find a way to end this disease.

We look forward to seeing you again next year.

Sincerely,
Terry Geitner,
National Ride for Kids Manager

Today was good
Today was fun
Tomorrow is
another one!
Dr. Seuss



Our **Breakfast Clubs** are up and running each month! **Every third Saturday** from October through April we will gather for breakfast and fellowship. Meet at the Westminster FD for 9:00 a.m. and we will discover a different breakfast haunt for each month.

January 21, February 18, March 17, and April 21

Guy's Day out in Boston 2012

The Boston Motorcycle Show is the weekend of January 28 & 29 at the World Trade Center in Boston.

It is always a great time looking at all the bikes, vendors, and wares at this show. Come join us on **Saturday, January 28**. We will meet at the Leominster train station for 9:00 a.m. for the ride into Boston and see if we can find our way — and always with a smile and a laugh!

*****NOTE*** Our travel plans may vary with a car pool to Alewife Station because of the Porter Square detour. Watch your email for details!**

HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT THE 2012 CONVENTION YET!!

RK PA-12 would like to invite all of you to come visit them at the RKMC International Convention August 16-19 2012 in Historic Gettysburg, Pa.

The area is loaded with so many things to do, with history from the civil war era, museums and a brand new visitor center with a new cyclorama, which is a must see. There will be motorcycle guided tours of the battlefield with a licensed battlefield guide, who himself has family ties to the battlefield. The town of Gettysburg is loaded with shops, museums and historic buildings for you to visit. Located just to the north is Harrisburg, PA, home to the National civil war museum, and the PA National Fire museum.

The area surrounding Gettysburg is full of nice roads to ride where you are in apple country and can ride up thru the orchards and a national forest. There will be self-guided tours set up to help you find some of the nicest roads around. There will also be a Red Knight exclusive tour of the Harley-Davidson plant in York, PA available to the first 144 people who sign up.

A highlight of the week will be a trip to the National Fallen Firefighter memorial in Emmitsburg, MD where there will be a ceremony and a dinner at the academy to follow. (Cost of dinner will be \$10 per person).

So make plans now to come to Gettysburg and the International convention in 2012.

If you have any questions feel free to contact Brian Sames President Pa.12 @ bdsames@comcast.net or 267-718-6830. The PA-12 website will also have details on it and a short video is up now at www.redknightspa12.org

A copy of the Convention Registration Form is included with this newsletter. Visit the PA-12 web page for updated details about the convention.



Other 2012 Show dates and locations are:

*Providence, RI on January 7-8
Hartford, CT on January 14-15
Salem, NH on February 25-26
Wilmington, MA on March 10-11*

Check out www.kevmarv.com for more information

The Springfield Motorcycle Show at the Eastern States Expo is scheduled for January 20-22

<http://www.osegmotorcycle.com/>

The International Motorcycle Show at the Javits Convention Center is scheduled for January 20-22

<http://www.motorcycleshows.com/NewYork>

Pennsylvania-12, the hosts of the 2012 Red Knights Convention, have made arrangements for a section of memorial bricks from Red Knights to be placed together at the National Firefighters Memorial. The walkways leading up to the memorial are lined with memorial bricks from all over the country and we as Red Knights have the opportunity to support this on going effort by purchasing bricks. We have voted to purchase a brick as a chapter and the Massachusetts Red Knights voted to buy a "State" brick, but you can also purchase a brick as an individual.

For the bricks to be in place for the convention you must purchase your brick by February. If you have any questions, or if you would like to purchase a brick, visit the PA-12 web page at <http://www.redknightspa12.org/>



Red Knights Motorcycle Club – Massachusetts Chapter 2
Motorcycle Safety Foundation – Rider Education Scholarship
www.rk-mass2.org

GUIDELINES AND APPLICATION FOR
2012 RKMA2/MOTORCYCLE SAFETY COURSE SCHOLARSHIP

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ **EMAIL:** _____

HOW (WHO) DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE RED KNIGHTS SCHOLARSHIP?

ARE YOU A MEMBER OF A MOTORCYCLE CLUB (Name)? _____

ARE YOU OR A FAMILY MEMBER A FIREFIGHTER? _____

(DEPT?) _____

WHY DO YOU WANT TO TAKE THIS COURSE?

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS FOR EXPERIENCED RIDER

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN RIDING A MOTORCYCLE? _____

WHEN DID YOU JOIN THE RED KNIGHTS? _____

If you have any questions call or email any one of the committee members:

Bob Shakarian, chairman sharkey625@aol.com or (978) 807-0817

Don Hurme dsh98@hotmail.com or (978) 597-0701

Maury Lizotte lizotteme@comcast.net (978) 609-0267

Marcia Marjoma marjomaame@comcast.net or (978) 302-8052

Please send your application to:

Red Knights Motorcycle Club – Mass-2

P.O. Box 316

Westminster, MA 01473

Attn: MSF Scholarship

If you are under 18 include a parental consent letter with your application.

The scholarship recipient must make arrangements with the Central Mass Safety Council by June 1, 2012 to take the course during the 2012 riding season.

Failure to schedule a training date will forfeit the scholarship award.

If you do not show for your scheduled training date you forfeit the scholarship and must reimburse the Red Knights Mass Chapter 2 for the cost of the program.

By applying for the scholarship you agree to the terms and the conditions listed here.

This award will be granted based on the applicant's willingness and desire to take the course to better their riding skills and is on a voluntary basis. This award is not designed to be an indictment of a rider's skills or as a prerequisite to riding with the group.

Have you always wanted to learn how to ride a motorcycle or learn how to ride your motorcycle better?

The RKMC-MA2 will award
TWO (2) BEGINNER COURSE SCHOLARSHIPS AND TWO (2) EXPERIENCED COURSE SCHOLARSHIPS FOR 2012*

- COURSES TO BE TAKEN AT THE CENTRAL MASS SAFETY COUNCIL (186 West Boylston St., West Boylston, Ma.) Information on class schedules and directions will be provided to the awardees
- THE SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS WILL BE AWARDED ON MARCH 1, 2012

BEGINNER COURSE ELIGIBILITY

- 1) Submit application before due date of February 1, 2012.
- 2) Members of the RK Chapter and their family members will be given first priority for the scholarship.
- 3) Members of the fire service, their families, and applicants recommended by a Red Knights member will be second priority.
- 4) Applicant shall hold a valid Mass. Motorcycle License OR Learner's Permit
- 5) Applicant shall fill out a parental consent form if under the age of 18.
- 6) Awardees shall write a brief post course evaluation and send it to the RKMA2/ MSC committee within two-weeks of completing the rider education course.

EXPERIENCED COURSE ELIGIBILITY

- 1) Be a member of RK MASS-2
- 2) Fill out application form and send it to a member of the RKMA2/MSC Scholarship committee before February 1, 2012.
- 3) Awardees shall write a brief post course evaluation and send it to the RKMA2/ MSC committee within two-weeks of completing the rider education course.

Experienced Rider Course is awarded based on

- 1) How long the applicant has been a member of RKMA2
- 2) How long the applicant has been riding a motorcycle

*The beginner course scholarships are available to anyone. The Experienced Rider scholarships are available to members of the Chapter only.

Red Knights Mass-2 Emergency Assistance Information

Rider: Home Address:

Co-Rider: Town:

Telephone: Cell # Pager #

Road-side Service for Bike: #s

Bike Insurance Company: #s

Health Insurance Company: Doctor
Dr's #

Emergency Contacts:

1 #s

2 #s

3 #s

4 #s

Do you have transportation for a sick bike available to others? **Y or N**

Are there any pertinent medical conditions that you would like us to know in case there is a problem? (cardiac, diabetes, etc.)

Return this form to: Bob Laford
276 West Road
Petersham, MA 01366



Red Knight's International Motorcycle Club 30th Anniversary Convention

Gettysburg, Pa August 16th - 19th 2012

Rider: Last Name _____ First Name: _____ DOB: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip _____

Country: _____ Chapter: _____

Passenger: Last Name _____ First Name: _____ DOB: _____

Primary Phone: _____ Cell for onsite contact _____

If you are the voting member for your chapter please place your name here _____

For detailed information on events below please see website www.redknightspa12.org

Event	# Attending	Cost
Business meeting only		
2012 Convention 65.00 per person		
Welcome BBQ *		
Ride, Memorial Service & Dinner at the National Fallen Fire Fighter Memorial \$10.00**		
Annual Banquet*		
Farewell Breakfast*		
Harley Davidson Plant Tour Free Select 1st & 2nd choice 830am 1030am noon Thursday ***		
3 Hr. Guided Tours of the Battle Fields on M.C. \$8.00 per person Select 1st & 2nd choice Thursday 8:30am 9 1230 1pm Friday 8:30am 9am***		
Extra Pins \$5.00 (1 per registration fee already included)	Qty:	
Total from Page 1		
Total from Page 2		
Total Due with Registration		
Make Check Payable to Red Knights PA 12 Mail to Red Knights 710 Church Road Quakertown, Pa 18951		
*-Event is included with Convention registration pre registration for event is required **-Pre-Registration is required see website for deadlines and international member security form *** Space is limited early Registration is suggested Note : Registrations received after August 6th including onsite registration do not include meals International Members Please see website for special instructions		

Name _____ Chapter _____

See website for Shirt Design

	Size	Cost	Quantity	Total
T-Shirt (S-4XL)				
Pocket T-shirt (S-4XL)				
Long Sleeve T-Shirt (S-4XL)				
Sweat Shirt (S-4XL)				
Zippered Sweat jacket (S-4XL)				
Women's V-neck T (S-3XL)				
	Shirt prices change with size		Shirt Total	

Please note shirts are pre-order only and will not be available for sale on site. Shirts are special order and no refunds or exchanges can be accommodated.

Don't forget to Order your National Fire Fighter Memorial Bricks! !