



Red Knights

Mass Chapter 2 — March 2008

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

Loyal to Our Duty

From the
President's Desk

Motorcycles — Hobby or Passion? That is how an article began in the January issue of Roadrunner Magazine. As I read the article I laughed out loud because a number of the people I know, including myself, could have written the article. When asked about his proclivity towards riding the author began with the word obsession, then fine-tuned it to “obsessive passion.” Well, I bet some of our spouses are probably nodding their heads in agreement about the Red Knight obsession or obsessive-passion towards riding — but more importantly, it is our times together as close friends, that just happen to include our motorcycles, that is truly the passion that the Red Knights have bred into each of us through the past two-and-a-half decades together.

I am also glad for the passion that others have had and still have for our organization and friendships throughout the years. This includes all those who are charter members of our organization and founded our chapter twenty-five years ago, to those members that have stepped up and accepted leadership positions within the chapter and worked hard to make it a success over the past 25 years — and to each of you, the members, that have made and continue to make our chapter one of the shining stars within the RKMC world wide.

Earlier this year, the leadership of the chapter spent a day working up a chapter schedule for the year. All I have to say is WOW! Please post the schedule at home and mark up your calendar with the rides. There is something for everyone. And yes, it appears that every time we get together this year we will be breaking bread together. But that is OK. I once heard in a sermon that any time that Jesus did something with a group of his followers that was significant, food was involved. So that is a good example to follow!

This winter seems to be one that holds on and drags on month after month. Just ask our members whose responsibilities include snow removal and road maintenance and I bet you'll hear an earful of stories about this winter's woes! But even though it has been cold and snowy since way back in November, we know that the weather *WILL* change and we *WILL* be riding together soon!

How many miles do we actually ride together? Kevin Martin is collecting mileage readings off of people's bikes to find out. He is also going to (try) and keep track of how many miles we ride as a club. Actually we are looking at running some sort of pool to have fun with guessing how many total miles we ride for the year. The officers even joked about having a “weigh-in” at the first pot-luck of the year and then a “weigh-out” at the Polar Bear Ride to see the total pounds altered over the riding season.

Whether you come for the roads, the rides, the friends, or the ice cream, plan on meeting up with us this year at some Red Knights events. We do try to communicate about what is going on with rides and other happenings. If you have an e-mail address but have not been receiving our routine updates, please give me a call or drop me an e-mail to be put on the list. Plus if you know of another ride, or just want to get together for a spin around the countryside—drop an e-mail or a phone call to a chapter officer and we'll help get the word out.

As the previous mentioned author's article observed, *passion is defined as a powerfully intense, driving or overwhelming emotion. It is described with phrases such as ardent love, boundless enthusiasm, an irrational but irresistible attraction, characterized by feelings of fervor, excitement, craving, devotion, eagerness, ecstasy, joy, rapture and zest.* Yup. I'm hooked. I hope you are too. Take time to look over the events that are planned for the chapter and come with us. Jump in and become obsessively passionate about riding, about the Red Knights, and about the wonderful friendships that are here in this organization.

**Celebrating
25 Years as a
Chapter in
2008!**

Saturday, March 29.

**A Trip to Boston
for a visit to the
North End and
Mother Anna's
(and more).**

We'll pick up the train at 9:25 a.m. in Leominster and provide “on the rail” entertainment inbound to Boston.

Plans are to visit the recently dedicated Firefighters' Memorial at the State House and then off to enjoy the tastes of our favorite Italian restaurant... and dessert at *Mike's Pastries!*

Call Bob L. by Monday, March 24 if you plan to go so we can give John a heads-up at Mother Anna's and look for you at the train stops.

A special thank you goes out to State Rep Anne Gobi for her help in arranging permission for us to visit the Firefighters' Memorial at the State House during the weekend, when it is normally closed.

A truly happy person is one who can enjoy the scenery on a detour. ...come find your *roadside joy* with us this year when we make a few detours!

On the road with our friends...

Do you remember the snows of December? It was cold, it was snowy, we were at the beginning of what looked like a long winter. But here we are on the tail end looking forward to another great riding season. Back in all that cold and snow, we did have some “moderate” temperatures around Christmas and Ed B snuck out on his ride that day and SHARED that news and a picture with us to make the rest of us green with envy! I understand that Kevin Martin and Ed B have a challenge back and forth about riding each month of the year. And yes, they both got out in December and January! (I doubt February saw the bikes out). How many miles will we ride in 2008 as a chapter? Who knows, but we hope to see each of you on the road with us sometime during the riding season.

January’s breakfast club found us with ten people at the Cyprus Grove Restaurant in Rindge. It was blue sky and sunshine — but with temperatures around 15 there weren’t any bikes out! February’s was with eight people and we only ventured as far as Gardner... but as always it was still a good breakfast and we had a special guest—Peg’s mom—before she headed out to Alaska to ride in an Iditarod sled at the beginning of the race!

Emergency Contact Info

Have you changed your address, telephone, cell phone, or other important contact info since you last turned in a chapter “Emergency Contact Form?” Since it is early in the season it would be a good time to update any information on your personal contacts in case we would have to get a hold of someone when we were on the road.

Consider updating your form (if needed) and send it to Bob. (A form is enclosed)

A database of important member information is maintained and carried by the officers so in the event of an emergency on the road we have some info that may help you and your family.

Do you have ICE in your cell phone? ICE is an acronym for “*In Case of Emergency*” and programming your cell phone with ICE entries that include names and numbers of your primary contacts may help in an emergency.

Then, “*In Case of Emergency*” if you are unable to respond, your cell phone will be a tool for emergency personnel to contact those people whom you have identified in your “ICE” entries.

Membership news...

Congratulations to Phil Jordan on his retirement from the Fitchburg Fire Department on March 3! And best wishes to Walter Roche on the addition of the third wheel to his Yamaha over the winter.

Don’t forget that our **Breakfast Clubs** still have a few “gatherings”!

Every third Saturday from October through April we gather for breakfast and fellowship. Meet at the Westminster FD for 8:00 a.m. and we will discover a different breakfast haunt for the month.

Still to go are March 15, and April 19

In December our Breakfast meeting was timed well with the Phillipston Lion’s Club’s breakfast. These folks were comparable to any restaurant for a good hearty breakfast and it was not just a plain old pancake breakfast on paper plates. It was a made to order breakfast as you walked in! If your department or any organization you know has a breakfast or dinner as a fundraiser that you would like us to support, let us know! Whether it is on a scheduled “breakfast ride” or not we are always willing to support other organizations.

Breakfast and Ice Cream

Starting in May, join us for some Ice Cream

Each 3rd Friday of May through September meet up at the **Westminster FD ready to leave at 6:30 pm** and we’ll try a different ice cream place each month. (*NEW meeting day this year*) (July’s Ice Cream is the 2nd Friday)

Come join us at the *Annual Red Knights New England Regional Cape Cod Weekend* on May 9-11

We’re on the lower Cape, beyond the elbow again this year, with our host hotel in Eastham. That opens up some great roads and restaurants along the coastline for us and gives us some wonderful vistas to enjoy on our first big ride of the season. Plans are being made to attend the local Elk’s Club Fish Fry on Friday evening and spend our Saturday participating in a “Red Knights Grand Tour” while touring the Cape. (RK Mass-8 is planning to solicit some Red Knights donations to the Shriner’s Burn Fund). Saturday will also include a state meeting of the Red Knights present for the weekend.

Our host hotel will be the Town Crier and the cost is \$69 per night. Because we are a week later into the season this year the motel restaurant will be open for breakfasts while we are there.

Meet at **Westminster FD** at 9:00 am on Friday, **May 9** (we’ll pick up more at the 140/12 intersection at 9:30).

Anyone want to hold over to Monday too? The secret to the Cape traffic is that on Monday morning there is no traffic and it is a wonderful ride off the Cape and back home! (*The motel will honor the price on Sunday night too*).

Make your reservations soon! (508)255-4000

As the winter draws to a close not only have our physical riding skills been dormant, but our mental riding skills are a bit rusty too. Take some time to practice both your physical and mental preparation to ensure that you—and your ride is ready for the spring! Below are excerpts (bullets) from an article that appeared in Motorcycle Cruiser's magazine and republished on their web page for distribution.

Street Survival—50 Ways to
SAVE YOUR Life

- ASSUME YOU'RE INVISIBLE.
- BEWARE OF CARS RUNNING TRAFFIC LIGHTS.
- BE CONSIDERATE.
- CHECK YOUR MIRRORS.
- DRESS FOR THE CRASH.
- MIND THE GAP. (2 second following distance, scan 12 seconds ahead).
- HOPE FOR THE BEST, PREPARE FOR THE WORST
- BEWARE OF TUNER CARS (with their radios blasting and taking all their attention!)
- LEAVE YOUR EGO AT HOME
- EXCESSIVE ENTRANCE SPEED HURTS. It's the leading cause of single-bike accidents on twisty roads -- use it on the way out of a corner, not in.
- PAY ATTENTION
- DON'T TRUST THAT DEER WHISTLE
- MIRRORS ONLY SHOW YOU PART OF THE PICTURE
- LEARN TO USE BOTH BRAKES
- BE PATIENT. It's what you don't see that gets you. The extra look could save your butt.
- KEEP THE FRONT BRAKE COVERED--ALWAYS
- WATCH YOUR CLOSING SPEED
- LOOK WHERE YOU WANT TO GO
- BEWARE THE VERGE AND THE MERGE. A lot of nasty surprises end up on the sides of the road.
- KEEP YOUR EYES MOVING
- LEFT-TURNING CARS REMAIN THE LEADING KILLER OF MOTORCYCLISTS
- COME TO A FULL STOP AT THE NEXT STOP SIGN
- THINK BEFORE YOU ACT. Careful whipping around that Car going 7 MPH in a 25 MPH zone or you could end up with your head in the drivers side when he turns in front of you.

In order to promote safer riding, we are incorporating some "practice time" into one of our early chapter events as well.



Come join us on Saturday, April 26. We will meet at the Westminster Fire Station at 9:00 and head off to an area by ourselves that we can use as a "practice course" to review some basic low-speed skills in an attempt to brush off some of the tarnish that may have developed over the winter.

After some time in practice we head off for lunch and a spring business meeting.

**New England Fire
Chief's Show
June 20-22 — In
West Springfield**

The RKMC will have an information booth at the Fire Chief's Show.

Anyone interested in spending time in the booth contact State Rep Steve Mickle.

Are any of your travels this summer taking you into the northland of Canada? If so remember to get a passport to get back in to the U.S. and also get a Canadian insurance card from your Insurance Company for your vehicle.

**2008 RKMC Convention
Sandusky, Ohio - August 21-24, 2008**

Our Mass-2 entourage will be heading for Ohio on Saturday, August 16. The annual conventions are a great way to get to know other Red Knights from around the world and renew those friendships each and every year.

The journey to and from conventions have historically been an adventure and a fun trip as well - and this year's ride should be no different!

If you are interested in the convention but have not made up your mind yet, talk to a member who has been to the conventions, and talk to Ed B. about this year's plans for the ride out. It sounds like the Ohio Association has made plans for a great time!

Currently there are twenty people (14 bikes) who are planning the trip to Sandusky with us in August. (WOW!) That might put us close to the largest chapter in attendance. Originally the plans were to travel as a large contingent together. But the logistics of lodging/gas/breaks/food stops would be rather formidable with that number! Now the plans look like several smaller groups heading to Ohio for the convention from home.

If you are not going to Ohio, join us when the group heads out on August 16. Those staying home can wish the travelers well when they depart and then have breakfast together as the rest head to the mid-west.

Whether you are taking the trip to Ohio or not, consider supporting those who have been working hard to plan this year's convention with an ad in the Convention Program.

Ad costs are \$50 for 1/2 page, \$25 for a 1/4 page, and \$20 for a business card. The convention advertisement form is included with this mailing, deadline for advertisements is July 1.

**HELP FIGHT PEDIATRIC BRAIN TUMORS
AND YOU COULD WIN A VACATION IN
HYANNIS!**

Our friend, David Odess, one of the state coordinators for the Ride for Kids is raffling off his time share weeks on the Cape to raise money for the Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation.

Since 1984, motorcyclists have raised over 42 million dollars through Ride for Kids® events. And because of the fund raising efforts and participation of motorcyclists, the Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation has become the largest funding agency in the world for childhood brain tumor research.

When the first Ride for Kids® event was held in 1984, the diagnosis of a pediatric brain tumor was a death sentence. Today, a child under the age of two years who is diagnosed with a brain tumor now has a 90% chance of survival. In fact, the Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation has awarded 278 college scholarships to brain tumor survivors!

The following two weeks are being raffled:
JULY 25 – AUG. 1 and OCT. 10 – 17. One winner will be drawn for each of the weeks for the Cape Winds resort. Cape Winds is the ideal vacation resort for couples or families. For information about the resort, please visit their website at: www.vrivacations.com/resorts/cwr/index.html.

If you would like to support this fund raising efforts by participating in the raffle, please fill out the form below and mail it, along with your check, to David at this address:

David S. Odess • 5 Macauley Way • Randolph, MA • 02368

Tickets are \$10.00 each. Please make your check payable to "Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation" or "pbtf."

If you would prefer to participate in the raffle online, by using a credit card, you can visit www.firstgiving.com/david-odess. It's fast, easy and secure. Once you have made your donation online, e-mail David at "hblad1@comcast.net" to let him know how many raffle tickets you would like for each week. You will get one ticket for every \$10.00 that you donate.

One winning ticket for each of the weeks will be drawn on June 25, 2008 by Paul Mitchell, general manager of Weymouth Honda, and David will notify the winners by telephone. If you have any questions, please feel free to call him at (781) 961-4684, or e-mail him.

Americade...

"[We were] on our way to get our wristbands and we couldn't help but smile - It was Americade time and things are good." Backroads Magazine

Are you planning on going to Americade in June? Then JOIN US AT THE BROUILLET'S in Westminster for an **AMERICADE Planning Pot Luck**. Give Peg a call at 978-632-8230 to let her know if you are coming — or if you need directions. Sunday, March 16 – 4:00 p.m. on Minott Road in Westminster.

We heard the good news from Bev Roche in Lake George that all the cabin space we had in 2007 is available to us again! The bad news is that we still could fill more beds if we had them available!

Our chapter has been going to Americade each year for over 20 years and the Bay Front Cottages have been "home base" for many of those years. It is always a great week and a lot of fun. The roads are unmatched for views and curves, there is no other place that you can see the variety of bikes, and if you are looking for something special for you or your bike, you will find it at the vendors!

As our house mother said earlier this year, "we have a fantastic group and 99% of the time it is amazing how well everyone gets along. I feel so lucky to be part of such an awesome group."

Whether it is the ride up or around the Adirondacks, sitting by the fire or playing bocce at the cabins, bike and people watching on Canada Street, or an official Americade or Red Knights function, Americade and Lake George has turned into the one week of vacation that many of us would not miss for the world.

Yes, there is plenty to do - or nothing to do if you wish. You won't find better meals (and company) at any restaurant then you find at the cabins. There are great roads to ride with others or by yourself, and wonderful friends to meet and spend the week with at Lake George's motorcycle nation.

See you in Lake George!

Please think about door prizes to help the Red Knights International at the Wednesday evening dinner at Roaring Brook Ranch at Americade. We had over 140 door prizes to award dinner attendees last year... and that has been far more than ANY of the corporate sponsors involved with Americade!

Name _____ ADDRESS _____ PHONE _____ e-MAIL _____
____ TICKET(S) FOR JULY 25 – AUG 1, '08 @ \$10 EACH = \$ _____ TICKET(S) FOR OCT 10 – 17, '08 @ \$10 EACH = \$ _____
TOTAL ENCLOSED = \$ _____
____ I DO NOT WANT TO PURCHASE ANY TICKETS, BUT WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A DONATION. my check is enclosed.

To learn more about the Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation, please visit: www.pbtfus.org. To learn more about the Ride for Kids® program, please visit: www.ride4kids.org.

Come enjoy Route 100 and the Green Mountains
at the Swiss Farm Inn

We have booked a Vermont B&B for the weekend of July 17-19.
We will be the only guests and the roads around central Vermont
will be all ours for the weekend!

The catch is that there are only 15 rooms. So the first fifteen people
to make reservations get to enjoy the weekend in the Mountains
with us.

The cost is \$55 per night (Friday and Saturday) and that includes a
great breakfast. We will also be having dinner at the B&B on
Friday night and that is an extra \$15 per person. *(Same rates as 2007).*

***Then we will spend Saturday lost
in the Mountains of Vermont!***

Come join us. Please make your reservation (**NOW**) by contacting
the Swiss Farm Inn at 800-245-5126 and mention you are with the
Red Knights. Also let Bob Laford know so he can keep track of
who is going. If by chance there are still rooms open by May 1 we
will open those spaces to friends and members from other chapters.

We all know how important it is to develop the
habit of performing a systematic check of our
motorcycle. The T-Clock check or other approach to carefully
looking over our ride helps to improve our safety on the road
by identifying any problems that may be found with our bike.

Many of us tow trailers behind our bikes to assist us with
“alternative loading” as we travel about the countryside. How
much time do we spend surveying the condition of this piece
of equipment? It is as important to our ride safety to have a
properly maintained trailer as well as our motorcycle. Here are
a few points to review as you inspect your trailer before its
next use:

- Lights — Brake lights, turn signals, running lights
- Wiring — Cracks, pinches, breaks, chafing, clean connections
- Tires — Tread, cracks, correct pressure (don't forget the spare if you carry one)
- Wheels — Rust, lug nuts (on and tight), wheel bearings
- Hitch — Locking shoe adjustment, pin or ball clamp, bolts and frame connections, rust, loose connections
- Ball or Pin — Unusual wear, cleanliness, lubrication
- Safety Chains — Adequate length, strength, rust, attachment hooks
- Suspension — Correct pressure in air shocks, rust, loose mountings, spring tension
- Chassis & Frame — Rust, cracks, broken frame members, cracked welds
- Tongue — Rust, cracks, trailer frame bolts

Upcoming Rides & Events for '08

Check out your (enclosed) 2008 ride schedule
for the rides, events, and gatherings, that are
planned for the year... and come join us!

Sunday, March 16. **Americade Pot-
luck Planning Meeting.** Are you planning
on going to Americade in June? Come
to Ed and Peg's for 4:00 p.m. and bring
some food to share too.

Sunday, May 18. **A “Steaming Cold”
Ride.** Plans are to visit the Steaming
Tender in Palmer for lunch and then head
towards Storrs, CT for dessert at the
UCONN Dairy. Meet at WFD at 10:00
a.m.

Saturday, May 24. **Best of the Wurst
Ride.** Experience the Wurst... Bratwurst
that is...authentic German style with our
ride to the "Best of the Wurst Festival" at
the Inn at Danbury, Danbury NH. Meet at
WFD at 10:00 a.m.

Saturday, June 14. **Water and Fire Ride —**
An afternoon and evening ride with a stop
at **Wright's Chicken Farm** for dinner and
then continue to Providence for their
evening Water-Fire show along the river
front. Meet at WFD at 2:30 p.m. Visit
www.waterfire.org for more information.

Saturday, June 28. **RK Vermont-2's Paul's
Ride.** Let's support a nearby chapter's
efforts to help those with cancer. Meet at
WFD at 8:00 a.m.

**Four-Corners
Memorial Dedication**
in Madawaska, Maine 6/27/08

The host for the NE corner of the “4-corners tour” have
built a motorcyclists memorial. Members of Mass-
2 will be attending (Fri-Sun)

Contact Ed Brouillet if interested in going!

Bikers Understand Exactly Why
Dogs Stick Their Heads Out Of Car Windows



**Don't forget to change your clocks (one hour ahead) when you
go to bed on Saturday, March 8 as the time change begins at
2:00 a.m. on March 9th this year!**

Who knew that our parents were so smart about motorcycling?
...from your friends at the AMA office

The older we get, the smarter we realize our mom's were. That little bundle of wisdom taught us an awful lot about life – mostly against our own will. What we reluctantly come to know is that once we became adults (and parents), we realize not only how smart Mom was, but also that we probably sound an awful lot like her.

Admonitions like "don't point" and "look both ways" and "put that away when you're done with it" may be ignored by the next generation (as we ignored it originally), but these timeless pearls of wisdom actually make sense when applied as *Mom's lessons to motorcycling*.

Don't Point. Yes, it is impolite in society, but on the road it can be deadly. A careful rider always stops with the front wheel pointing slightly to one side of the car in front, lest he or she become the meat in a car sandwich if someone misses the light change and doesn't stop. Leaving enough distance between you and the rear of the vehicle ahead, with your tire aimed at an escape route, lets you get away as soon as you hear the squeal of tires or see a fast-approaching car in your mirrors.

Look Both Ways. Always good advice before crossing the street, but it's a good idea to take to the next level on your motorcycle. Look all ways: 360-degree awareness.

Sharing. Always encouraged, but never the rule. Mom was always OK with sharing my Evil Kneivel stunt set, but never my gum. The lesson learned is that sharing is not always a great idea. One example? How about sharing your lane with a riding buddy on the open road? You pay taxes, command your space! There are lots of good reasons you might want to have the whole lane to yourself.

Dress for the Accident. This is the "clean undies" rule. Mom was always concerned with the condition of underwear, "In case you have an accident." It turns out this rule applies to more than underwear.

Clean Up. These were never two words wanted to be heard as a kid, but they provided a valuable motorcycling lesson nonetheless. Put some soapy water to your ride every once in a while. Cleaning your ride will keep you on top of what is going on with your bike by doing a periodic hands-on, grunge-off inspection.

Put Away Your Toys. When you have something you value, don't you want to take good care of it? It only takes a second to put up your motorcycle and your gear properly, and it will make your Mom happy to see how much you've grown up.

Of course, dad wasn't a slouch when it came to advice, either. He was fond of saying, "Garbage in, garbage out" whenever a half-hearted stab at sports or a school effort was shown. That was training to be careful about choosing the kinds of parts and lubricants used on my bike. If you know you are using a substandard item, expect substandard performance.

It's a common-sense warning to take it easy for the first few miles of a ride, and for good reason. It takes a while for your mind, body, and tire temperatures to come up to speed.

But it's worth being mindful of the dangers of the final few miles, too. That's when you are tired, mentally dull, and the familiar surroundings close to home can lull you into a false sense of security.

Work to keep your mind in the game until after your kickstand is down in the garage.

American Motorcyclists... February 2008

*Have you hugged a
chapter officer (or their
significant other) today?*

Here is the contact information for the chapter officers.
An updated membership list for 2008 is also included.

Bob Laford
(President)
276 West Road
Petersham, MA 01366
978-724-3270
rflaford@tiac.net

Kevin Martin
(Vice-president)
67 Holt Road
Asburnham, MA 01430
(978) 827-4297
kmartin812@hotmail.com

Maury Lizotte
(Secretary)
66 Brook Lane
Gardner Mass 01440
(978) 410-5553
lizotteme@comcast.net

Tim Kilhart
(Treasurer)
56 Adams Drive
Athol, MA 01331
(978) 249-2983
tdkilkilhart@rcn.com

Bob Shakarian
(Road Captain)
326 North Street
Leominster, MA 01453
(978) 665-9805
Sharkey625@aol.com

Terry Atwood
(Assistant Road Captain)
2 Angard Lane
Ayer, MA 01432
(978) 772-7606
TATWOOD000@aol.com

Larry Robinson
(Assistant Road Captain)
355 No. Main Street
Petersham, MA 01366
978-724-3321

Monday, April 21.
**It's Patriot's Day —
Wanna Ride?** Contact
Bob L. if you want to go for
a holiday ride.

Mother's Day Ride for our Daughters

Not headed to Cape Cod with us? If you are looking for an alternative ride that weekend, consider the "**Mother's Day Ride for our Daughters**" based out of West Dover, Vermont. This ride (and weekend events) are to raise money and awareness for breast cancer and ovarian cancer research.

The events start on Friday, May 9, with welcome receptions at all locations and live music at some. On Saturday, following complementary breakfast, there will be an array of self-guided rides as well as a Poker-run and silent auction. On Sunday they are planning a full breakfast.

More information on the event is available at
[www.visitvermont.com/press/item/
mothersday-ride-for-our-daughters](http://www.visitvermont.com/press/item/mothersday-ride-for-our-daughters)



Twenty-three members met up in Ashby for our winter pot luck... with 16 of us braving Mother Nature's snowy afternoon for our wheeled excitement with horse power included! Thanks to our hosts Wayne and Linda Stacy, to Tom Mikes for his offer to use his beautiful farm house each year while he is away, and to Bill Duffy and his four-legged friends for carting us around Ashby on a great hay ride! Oh yea, we had lots of good food too.

Eight of us met up and took the train and the MBTA to the Bayside Expo Center for this year's **Boston Bike Show**. We dodged most of the day's snow squalls—as did a lot of people attending the show!

There was a big crowd in attendance and we had a fun time looking over the bikes and the vendors.

We could not have our annual lunch at Hooters this year as they are out of business... so we took the subway across the city to Haymarket and walked a few minutes through the Rose Kennedy Greenway to enjoy lunch at Mother Anna's.

Our waitress recognized us when we walked in (how could she not?) and asked where the rest of our gang was! We told her that we would be back in March with the rest of our entourage. As always, the food was great. We talked about getting some pastry for dessert, but we were pretty satisfied with the Italian faire we had just consumed, so we just headed back to North Station for our ride home.



Be Safe in '08

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If you are traveling this summer, don't forget to take along your copy of the "Help-a-Knight" program. The Help-A-Knight program maintains a database of Red Knights who are willing to accept telephone calls and help fellow Red Knights who are in their area. Some of the help may be for information, or other options you may help on is if a RK member can stay overnight, pitch a tent in your yard, or leave their bike at your house.

The Red Knights Help-a-Knight program is available on line. Visit www.redknightsmc.com and click on "Membership" or contact Bob Laford and he can get you a current copy.



Leominster HOG 3rd Annual Chili Challenge

- All proceeds go to Ginny's Helping Hands in Leominster.
- \$5 Donation gives you the opportunity to taste all the chili and vote on your favorite one.
- Prizes for top 3 choices, so your vote is needed.
- Vote for your favorite chili & contribute to a great cause.
- To enter your chili into the contest contact Mike Careau to sign up.
- Open House all day 9am—4pm. Discounts on all merchandise!!

Date: **Sat. March 22**

Time: **10 am**

Where: **American HD in
Leominster MA, Route 12**

JOIN US FROM 11AM 'TIL 2PM
OR UNTIL THE CHILI RUNS OUT!



Sign up / additional information contact:
Mike Careau jmcsuper@comcast.net or (978) 466-8741



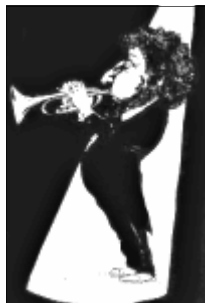


It doesn't matter if it is June with 60,000 motorcycles, or February with the frozen lake, Lake George and its community welcomes all of us who enjoy the Adirondack Region and "alternative transportation! February boasts the Lake George Winter Carnival and the lake, roads, trails, and sidewalks are full of snowmobiles and ATV's.

We watched as they had an "ice skating competition" where sleds zoomed across open water, and they even had a polar bear plunge. Knowing the temperature of the water in June, I can imagine it was a bit colder in February!

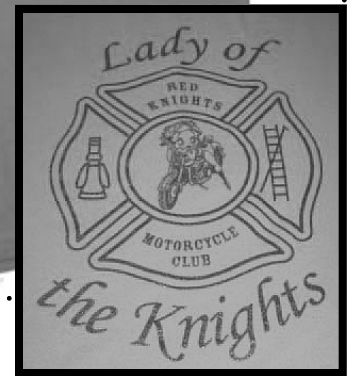
Who's going to Americade with us in June, and what is happening this year?

Find out the who what when and where of the 2008 Americade at this year's Americade Pot Luck Planning meeting on Sunday, March 16 at Ed and Peg's in Westminster. Plans are for 4:00 p.m. and bring some food to share too!



"Lady of the Knights" T-shirt

This year the chapter voted to market our "Lady of the Knights" T-shirts as well as our chapter decals to members outside of the chapter.



If you would like to get a t-shirt contact Tim Kilhart.

You can also get RK Window and Helmet Decals from Tim.

Thayer Symphony Orchestra

Invites you to join us in honoring Maestro Toshimasa Francis Wada at his

25th Anniversary Gala

Thursday Evening, March 27, 2008 7:00 p.m.

Four Points Sheraton, Leominster

"Wada Extravaganza" Cabaret

Heavy Hors d'oeuvres ~ Wide Array of Music and Performers

TSO Chamber Orchestra

*Merrycarol Yumi Bruso — Wil Darcangelo — Renese King
International Veterans' Chorus — TSO Jazz Quartet*

Tickets are \$75 per person or tables of 10 guests:

Platinum Tables \$2,500 - Gold Tables \$1,500 - Silver Tables \$1,000

Evening Attire

Proceeds will benefit the Thayer Symphony Orchestra
For tickets, call the TSO Office at 978-466-1800



It's almost time... our first pilgrimage is the Friday evening ice cream on May 16!