



Red Knights

Mass Chapter 2 — Winter-Spring 2018

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Loyal to Our Duty

2018 - 35th Anniversary for Mass-2!

From the President's Desk

Hello Red Knights,

Well, we've almost made it to March, which means we're closer to all of the events that we have scheduled for 2018. It's an exciting thought that we may actually be able to get the bikes out real soon! Time to go and peak under the cover of your rides and take a look if anything stands out from the winter months and needs some extra care. Any surface rust that can be cleaned, check the air in your tires, test your battery or attempt to start the bike. Little things that may need attention before riding season actually begins are better discovered now.

We've had some very well attended breakfast club gatherings and there are a couple more before we move into our riding season with lunches and ice cream. I want to thank all those that have offered their homes to us for hosting breakfasts (and other events) for this season. I think this is a great opportunity for us to get together and share stories and plan for the upcoming season's events. If you have not hosted our tribe, or are thinking about doing it for next fall / winter please let us know and we'll put you on the list.

We have a new member that many of you have already met at the January meeting. Ian Hurley from Orange FD will be riding with us this year. Welcome aboard Ian, we can't wait to have you join us. We may also see 3 or 4 more new members this year as I'm working with a few of my friends from the fire department that have taken up riding and are looking to ride with others. I've invited them to come and join us for a few rides to see if they want to become regular riders with us. I'll get you more information as we move forward.

Mark your calendars for April 28th for the annual spring state meeting to be held in Boylston. We are hosting the meeting (providing coffee and donuts). If you plan to attend and have any thoughts / ideas about the Red Knights that you'd like to share, please write them down now while I'm reminding you and bring them with you or let one of your officers know so we can bring them to the state rep's attention.

We were originally going to tour the memorial hall that day as well, but the hall committee has asked to make the inside of the house restricted until the following week for the actual dedication. That is because there are some special unveilings that they would like everyone to see together at the May 5th ceremony. We hope that many of you will participate with us at the dedication, please plan to wear your uniforms that day (for a group picture as well).

Thank you for your time and stay safe out there.

Kevin Martin
Red Knights
President MA-2

We want spontaneity. We need spontaneity. And our daily lives tend to be just the opposite, well programmed, inert. But all it takes to change that is to put the key in the ignition, push the button, and go for a ride.

*Clement Salvadori
Rider Magazine*

Take Clem's advice. Push the button and come for a ride with us this year!

2018

Ride Schedule is posted!

There is a lot of variety in the 2018 Ride Schedule. Something for everyone! Short rides, day rides, a couple of overnights—breakfasts, lunch rides, and of course ice cream too! There are cookouts, a spaghetti supper and even a pig roast this year.

Make sure you look the schedule over, mark up your calendar at home, and put the schedule where you can see it every day!

Then plan to come out and join us for some good times.

For the 2018 International Board elections we will be voting for Vice-President and Secretary.

Later in the spring we will get together to discuss candidates and issues so all members will have a chance to voice their opinions before the chapter casts a ballot.

Below was taken from the Fall International Newsletter. Where do you fall in this discussion as a member? As the writer says, discover the family that the Red Knights is!

I was recently caught off guard by a question, "what does the organization do for me?" I was caught off guard by this because I don't think that way. I had heard the question posed to another member once before and was just as surprised. I prefer "what can I do to improve the organization?"

We as a Red Knight family were brought together, or rather found each other, because of the obvious, our passion for the fire service and motorcycle riding. I would never have walked into my first volunteer fire station and asked "what's in it for me if I join?" although through the years some people evolve into that, it's not who I am.

This question has been stuck in my head and thought about often. Everyone has their reasons for becoming a Red Knight, some simply want a patch on a vest and are only seen once a year to pay their dues, or via mail and not seen at all. The majority at least have involvement at the chapter level, attend meetings, rides, picnics, parties or whatever social gatherings the chapter is involved with. Others have discovered the brotherhood beyond just the chapter, neighboring chapters, state associations, regions, and international events. It makes me wonder if those who have not discovered anything outside of the chapter choose not to or are not aware of the brotherhood and camaraderie that exists in this great organization. Are those who have not experienced the brotherhood outside their chapter the majority thinking "what's in it for me?"

What can I do? I can get involved at many different levels from simply being an active member by attending events like rides, meetings, and picnics. I can get more involved and suggest events, ride destinations, or fund raisers. I can lead rides, host events like rides or parties. I can hold an officer position. The point being I can do whatever I like and am only limited by myself and how involved I choose to be.

Are members with this thought active? Have they experienced life beyond the chapter? There is nothing wrong with not reaching out beyond the chapter if you choose, but the answer to "what does the organization do for me?" becomes a worldwide organization or family that you can ride with, attend meetings, rallies or conventions with, only based on your limitations, not the organizations.

Thoughts to ponder. Discover the brotherhood.



With calendars in hand we worked to schedule another fun year's worth of Red Knight events. There are RKMC events for everyone to enjoy! Thank you to our planners.



This winter I read the book titled **"My Father's War."** It is a close-to-home book with a

collection of interviews with men and women from the greatest generation about their experiences in WWII.

I say that it is "close-to-home" because the service men and women interviewed are from around our area. One of those whose story is told in the book is Fern Frechette of Leominster, dad to past Red Knight Gary Frechette. Another home town hero in the book is Vince Purple from Athol/Petersham who was a pilot of one of the flying fortress bombers in Europe.

This is a great read, memorializing the sacrifices these people made for us when they were younger.

RK Mass-1's Spaghetti Supper — Saturday, April 14.

Meet at Westminster Dunkin Donuts for 5:00 p.m. to head to Boylston for a *Superb* Spaghetti Supper!



2018 Chapter 50/50

You too can be a winner!



We will continue the tradition of holding 50/50 drawings when we get together during the riding season. Our Treasurer will keep track of the funds brought in, and at our annual business meeting we will decide what worthy local charity will receive the donation.

For 2017 we were able to send a donation of \$250 to the Paul's Ride Fund of RK Vermont 2. VT-2 raises funds to buy gas cards to help people that are going through cancer treatments.

Do you have a favorite local charity you would like to have considered next fall? Get the information to President Martin.

Americade is thrilled to partner with the Ride for Kids as the Americade Parade morphs into a large-scale fundraiser for children with pediatric brain tumors.

We know that many Red Knights annually participate in leading the Americade Parade (they retired the "largest contingent" award because we won it so many times), and there are Red Knights around the country that participate in Ride for Kids events each year as well. Now you can do both at the same time! The Saturday parade is now a Ride for Kids event!

Enjoy a light breakfast at the Queensbury Hotel in Glens Falls followed by a scenic, hour-long, police-escorted ride through Glens Falls to beautiful Lake George. The ride ends at the "Party on the Pier," where you'll be treated to a delicious lunch and entertainment as well as VIP Parking in Lake George.

AND the Red Knights have been asked to lead this very special inaugural ride! When? Saturday, June 9, 2018 with registration between 8-9:30 a.m. (I imagine the RK will come in together as we have done for the parade). Pre-registration preferred, but walk-ups welcome. Pre-registration guarantees lunch at the pier.

For those of you who normally pre-register for all the Americade festivities, Bob Hollner, the RK Americade Liaison, says "when registering, go to the RedKnights group and under code put "VIP." There is no charge for Red Knights who preregister this way.

During the open house at the Lake George FD on Thursday, there will be further information and also a chance for any and all to make a donation towards the Ride for Kids and the Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation (whether you can make the ride or not). All those funds collected at the LGFD will be donated on behalf of the Red Knights at Saturday's ride!

Americade Founders, the Dutchers, are also making a pledge to donate \$5 to the PBTFUS for each bike that participates in the Americade Ride For Kids!

If you have any questions, reach out to Bob Hollner of RK NY-12 at americade@redknightsmc.com

Yes, the rumors are true about a newly designed Honda Goldwing for 2018 and the Dutchers announced that the first location to offer test rides by Honda will be Americade!



(You have to be a registered attendee to sign up for test rides of the motorcycles).



"If we are not at Americade, we are counting down to the next one!"

The above is an attendee quote that was published in the Americade Times that showed up in our mailboxes before New Year. For those of us who plan for Americade each year, we know exactly what that rider meant when he was speaking to the Dutchers!

2017 was the 35th Americade and 2018 is our 35th year as a chapter — and there have been some of our members headed to Lake George for all those years!

There are some that head to Americade and Lake George to immerse themselves in the rally, the vendors, all the activities that the Americade folks plan. There are others that use the first week in June to see how many Adirondack miles they can put on during their LG time. Others look forward to all the Red Knight friends they are going to see, or use the time away from home to kick back, relax, and recharge. Come to think of it, most of us do all those things!

Did you know that over the 35 Americades,

- Nearly \$1,000,000 in prizes have been given away at the week-end celebrations!
- Americade guides have led over 60,000 people on beautiful NY and VT tours, and approximately 35,000 people have gone on Americade's exclusive boat cruises.
- Over \$500,000 for charities has been raised. (Including donations to favorites like the Ride for Kids and the Lake George Fire Department).
- After 35 years, Americade is closing in on hosting its 2 millionth motorcyclist! The Red Knights have been part of that (2) million minion march!

Thinking about going to Lake George this year? Come to the March Breakfast Club to talk about it and let the House Mother (Peg) know that you would like to be put on the list for available rooms at our cottages. Then you will understand how we feel when Tom Roach says, "Welcome Home" when we pull into the yard.



Our NY Red Knight hosts in Lake George are planning another group ride for us. It is again planned for Wednesday of Americade week.

Americade Planning Meeting. Come to Jeff and Faith Hamberg's (in Orange) for our monthly **Breakfast Club** in March and we'll look at this year's details about our annual trek to Lake George.

Don't forget that our
Breakfast Clubs have another two months to go!

Every third Saturday from November through April we gather for breakfast and fellowship. Pot-Luck Breakfasts begin at 9:00 a.m. March 18 is being hosted by Jeff and Faith (and Matthew) Hamberg, and April 21 by Nancy and Larry Robinson.

Would you like to be a Breakfast Club host for the next round beginning in the fall? Contact President Martin to be put on the schedule.

Thank you to Bob & Diona, Kevin & Laura, Ed & Peg and Chris & Ellen for being hosts so far this season! Come join us for a fun morning (and food) with a big turnout of RK friends.

November brought out a houseful of Red Knights to Petersham for breakfast just before Thanksgiving and we had a great turnout at the December breakfast club (25) at Kevin and Laura's. With the sun shining on the melting snow and temperatures breaking 40 degrees, the topic at our January Breakfast Club was RIDING! And February's breakfast club had 23 people - snow was on its way within 12 hours but the following week the temps were heading near 70! There will be bikes on the road soon!



On the road with our friends...

- Sometimes when we head off for breakfast with Smokey Bear in Jaffrey it is cold... very cold. This year it was in the 70's but very "damp" with tropical downpours ahead of Hurricane Nate's arrival. We had over 20 people come out to enjoy breakfast with our friends at JFD. No foliage ride this year that morning, though.



- October temperatures were like late summer. It was great! But Mother Nature knew when the calendar flipped to November and the temperatures were



more "seasonable." Our Polar Bear ride was grey and cool topping out just under 50 degrees during the ride — but we still found ice cream before we were done!

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And it will not be long before we will be gathering for our **Monthly Ice Cream Rides!** Those are planned for May 24 — June 28 — July 26 — August 23 — and September 27.

Meet at the Westminster Dunkin Donuts for 6:30 p.m. on the **fourth Thursday** and we'll be all smiles when they hand us our first ice cream cone!



Sampling at the December Breakfast Club!

### Mass-2 2018 SKILLS Day

Put me on an Interstate during a dark, rainy rush-hour evening, and I understand the true meaning of fear. A motorcyclist is like some fragile gazelle caught up in a herd of elephants thundering off to some pachydermal destination, oblivious to this small creature trapped in their midst. (Clement Salvadori, Rider Magazine)

We may not be able to change how the herd of 4-wheeled-cages acts around us as riders, but we can be prepared to act and react around them to protect ourselves by working on our basic skills like swerving, stopping, lane position and observation skills.

That is what our annual skills day is all about. Getting together to talk about basic safety, shake off some cobwebs in our brain and on our skill set and have some fun at the same time.

Come join us on **Sunday, May 6**, at 1:00 pm. We are back at Orange Station 2 in Tully to warm up the tires, dust off some dormant skills, and have fun together.





## WHAT IS A JAR?

It's simple... it means **"Just a Ride."**

Again for the 2018 Ride Schedule you will see "RK JAR." JARs have been put throughout the riding calendar. Some on Saturdays and some on Sundays. The ride may be just that, a time to spin some wheels, with no particular destination in mind — or there may be a specific mission for the JAR.

In the schedule most do not have detail. It will be up to the ride's leader to decide. If the ride is going to be longer than a 2-3 hour, ~100 mile ride, we will share that information as the date approaches. But we had feedback from members — let's just get out and ride!

**Come join us... for a Red Knights JAR all through the 2018 season.**

Saturday, May 26. Red Knight JAR. Meet at Westminster Dunkin Donuts for 11:00 pm

Sunday, June 24. Red Knight JAR. Meet at 2/202 Shell Station in Orange for 10:00 a.m. Plan is to have a covered bridge route!

Saturday, August 4. Red Knight JAR. Meet at Westminster Dunkin Donuts for 1:00 p.m.

Sunday, September 30. Red Knight JAR. Meet at the 2/202 Shell Station in Orange for 1:00 p.m.

Saturday, October 27. Red Knight JAR. Meet at Westminster Dunkin Donuts for 1:00 p.m.

## Spring State Meeting.

We (Mass-2) are (kind of) the hosts for the spring State Meeting on Saturday, April 28. Originally it was scheduled at the Petersham Town Hall, but because the following Saturday is the dedication of the RKMC Memorial Hall adjacent to our memorial, the State Meeting will be in Boylston in case there is any last minute details needing attention from the knights in attendance.

We hope that you all can join us as stand-in hosts at Mass-1's home turf. We will be making plans and we are reaching out to ask that everyone give us a hand to welcome the others to Boylston for this special occasion.

## RK Memorial Hall

**Dedication.** Saturday, May 5th is the big day when the International will be dedicating the RK Memorial Property and re-dedicating the RKMC Memorial Park to the membership. From that day forward, the house will be known as Red Knight Memorial Hall.

It is because of the dedication and generosity of the RKMC members that we were able to purchase this property and in kind, become owners of our memorial park.

Please plan on joining what is expected to be a large turnout of Red Knights from all over the world for this special occasion on May 5.

## MA-2 Annual Meeting

Our 2017 Annual meeting was held at the Brouillet's In Westminster on October 29, 2017. There were 16 members in attendance including 6 officers. Officer reports for 2017 were distributed at the meeting. *(If you would like to receive a copy of the reports, please contact Treasurer Laford).*

Congratulations to President Kevin Martin and Secretary Rick Oliver on their re-elections. Thank you to those who came out for our October meeting and election of officers.

Thank you as well, to each of our officers for the time and effort that they all put into making our chapter successful.

### Officers for 2018 are:

Kevin Martin, President  
978-877-6179

rkma2prez@gmail.com

Maury Lizotte, Vice-president  
(978) 410-5553  
lizotteme@gmail.com

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

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

Bob Shakarian, Road Captain  
978-807-0817  
Sharkey625@aol.com

Larry Robinson, Assistant Road Captain  
978-724-3321

Here's a T-CLOCK pre-ride check list that you can print out and keep handy.

| Bike                                 |                          |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Front tire condition                 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Air pressure (PSI)                   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Rear tire condition                  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Air pressure (PSI)                   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Front rim                            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (Check spokes, dents, etc.)          | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Rear rim                             | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (Check spokes, dents, etc.)          | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Throttle operation                   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Clutch operation                     | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Front brake                          | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Rear brake                           | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| High beam                            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Low beam                             | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Taillight                            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Brake light                          | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Left and right turn signal           | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Horn                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Fuel                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Oil                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Suspension condition                 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Suspension-Solo setting              | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Suspension-Passenger/Luggage setting | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Kickstand                            | <input type="checkbox"/> |

## 2018 YANKEE RALLY

The Yankee Rallies have quickly become one of the largest attended regional rallies within the RKMC with attendance 300 and more during its first few years.

Our Region-1 family will be gathering again on June 1-3. The host hotel is Best Western in Clifton Park, NY.

Always a family event, this year's Yankee Rally includes Friday night "gathering under the tent," Saturday group ride and a Pig Roast and Sunday's Farewell Breakfast.

There are other nearby hotels as the host hotel is expected to be at overflow. There is also camping options in the area as well.

Any questions, please contact:  
rkmcyankee2018@gmail.com

There are many chances to join your RK Mass-2 family in 2018. Come out and have some fun!

**Sunday, March 11. Red Knight Bowling.** Meet at the Gardner Ten Pins on West Broadway at 2:00 and we'll see how straight we can shoot down the alleys!

**Saturday, July 14. Oxford Fire Museum.** OFD has their own fire museum (in an old station) complete with all the "stuff" we'd like to look at! Meet at the Westminster Dunkins at 9:00 a.m.

**Friday, July 27. Ladies Ride and Lunch.** Our Ladies of the Knights who ride have a day of their own! Those interested, meet at the Westminster Dunkins at 11:00 am for a ride and some lunch.

**Sunday, August 12. President's Ride.** Meet at Westminster Dunkin Donuts at 10:00 a.m. The President will have some of his favorite roads ready to tour.



**RK VT-2's Paul's Ride**  
Saturday, June 16.

We'll be supporting a nearby chapter's efforts to help those with cancer. Meet at the 2/202 Shell in Orange at 8:00 a.m. and we will head to southern Vermont.

**Shirley FD Charity Ride**  
Saturday, August 18

Annual ride to support the Shirley FD Hose Co. #1.

**Ride of Your Life (For suicide prevention)**  
Sunday, August 19.

[Tentative Date]. Registration begins at 8 am at Monty Tech.

## Membership news...

If you have not received your 2018 membership card or a copy of our chapter 2018 Ride Schedule, please contact Treasurer Laford. If you would like an updated copy of our roster/member contact info and you have not yet received one, also contact Bob.

Our condolences to Judy Perla and her family on the passing of Judy's mom.

Welcome to Ian Hurley, of the Orange FD, our newest member voted in at our Winter Brunch!

Congratulations to Jeff Hamberg on his promotion (last fall) to *Officer in Charge* of Group 2 at Orange FD, and to Darlene Kilhart for her new PT position in Greenfield.

Congratulations to the Dunbars on the birth of their grand daughter Ginny Lauralye Mulley and to Mark on his retirement! Congratulations to our friend Joyce Stevens at the Swiss Farm Inn on completing her EMT training and becoming a local responder!

Thank you to Faith and Charlie Hamberg for taking one of their cold-weather Sunday afternoons to audit our Chapter Treasurer's books. They have informed President Martin that everything is in order.

## Vermont Overnight at the Gray Ghost Inn Saturday, July 28-29.

We're off for a weekend overnight to enjoy some Green Mountain riding. (Even if you do not plan to stay overnight at the B&B you are welcome to join us for the day ride. (Guessing about 225 miles or so to Dover — the long way).

We'll meet up at the Westminster Dunkins at 9:00 am (7/28) and we will spend our day in the twisties of Vermont.

As the day wanes, we'll check in at the Gray Ghost Inn in West Dover, VT where they will have a cookout waiting for us. [www.grayghostinn.com](http://www.grayghostinn.com)

On Sunday we will zoom around some western Mass roads before heading home. (Another 125-150 miles).

Contact the Gray Ghost at 800-745-3615 to make your reservation. We have some rooms blocked but you need to make your reservation by June 23. Double occupancy is \$99, Single is \$75 (includes breakfast). The Cookout is an additional \$13 per person.



## 4th of July Celebration with BBQ and Bocce Sunday, July 1

Come enjoy some time with friends at a holiday pot-luck. We'll be guests of Nancy and Larry Robinson in Petersham (1:00 p.m.) [355 North Main Street—Route 32]. Bring some food to share and enjoy the day.



Let's get together for something different and kick up our heels for an afternoon!

The Templeton Fish and Game Club is hosting a Country Fest with live bands on Saturday, June 23. The Houston Bernard band is the headliner along with Rattlesnake Alley and Max Recoil. (Even if you do not know the bands, it sounds like fun!)

Big T's Jerky House And BBQ is providing food at the festival.

Gates open at noon.

This article appeared in the July edition of RoadRunner magazine and it is a great reminder that there is much to do in the Lake George and Lake Champlain Region. Aside from the largest touring rally in the country there is always great riding, plenty of history, and miles of territory to get lost in on your bike!

## Lake to Locks

The Lakes to Locks Passage is a byway in upstate New York that follows an interconnected waterway of canals and lakes extending from near Albany, NY, to the border with Quebec, Canada. This linked series of state and federal roads runs through Adirondack hamlets, charming small cities, bucolic rural landscapes, cultural and recreational sites, and historic locations dating back to the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812. Along the way, it crosses a stunning sandstone gorge carved by the raging torrents of the Ausable River.

There are a total of 16 "Waypoint Communities" on the route. While on U.S. 4, you will often be just a stone's throw from the Champlain Canal. Many of the locks have parks with interpretive signs about the canal. Riders will pleasure boats docked at many of the villages. The route is approximately 190 miles long and appropriate for most experienced street rider. A moderate cruising speed is recommend, especially through the villages and near scenic points of interest.

1. Waterford Harbor Visitor Center. Before heading north on Route 4, take time to peruse the visitor center and learn about the Erie Canal, which intersects with the Hudson River near this location.

2. Saratoga National Historical Park. British forces, invading south into New York from Canada during the American Revolutionary War, suffered a stunning defeat on this battlefield in 1777. [www.nps.gov/sara](http://www.nps.gov/sara)

3. Fort Edward, NY. This former 18th-century military post on the Hudson River has fine examples of classic Victorian style architecture, many of which are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

4. Fort Ann, NY. This is another colonial-era village, which owes its birthright to several nearby 18th-century forts.

5. Whitehall, NY. Located in a valley at the southern end of Lake Champlain, Whitehall is recognized as the birthplace of the U.S. Navy. Revolutionary warships were built here by none other than Benedict Arnold, who became much more famous for another act he committed before the war's end.

6. Fort Ticonderoga. The reconstructed fort, with its numerous demonstrations, guided tours, daily soldiers' life programs, horticultural exhibits, and its prominent place in history, is a major destination for history buffs of all ages.

7. Crown Point State Historic Site. Years before the American Revolutionary War, both Britain and France laid claim to the Champlain Valley. The park contains remains of two forts that occupied this strategic location: one built by the French and the other built by the British.

8. Ausable Chasm. Also known as the Grand Canyon of the Adirondacks, this breathtaking sandstone gorge, carved by the Ausable River, is a must-see.

9. Point Au Roche State Park. Nearing the tour's end, take a break at this state park on the northwestern shore of Lake Champlain. The sandy beach invites a boots-off, toe-dipping stroll.



## 2018 RKMC International Convention — Pittsburg, PA

The RK PA Association is inviting everyone to the DoubleTree by Hilton, in Pittsburg, August 16-18, for this year's International Convention!

Some of the planned itinerary includes:

- Self-Guided Sight Seeing with Suggestions
- Scavenger Hunt – Winner receives a Free Night at the Host Hotel
- Gateway Clipper Dinner Cruise
- Pool Party with Entertainment at the Hotel
- Flight 93 Memorial Ride
- Convention Barbeque Dinner
- Convention Banquet
- Farewell Breakfast

The Green Tree area is just minutes from downtown — and exploring beyond the RKMC itinerary offers much to the visitor as well! And that does not even begin to cover the fun that Red Knights make for themselves with all of us together!

The convention registration is included with this newsletter.

Consider purchasing an ad in the Convention Booklet to help support the host chapters' efforts. Support from around the club helps the hosts in presenting the best event they can for all the Red Knights.

The form is available on the Conv's Facebook Page or by contacting [Mail@Redknights.org](mailto:Mail@Redknights.org)

Ad prices are:

Full Page — \$100  
Half Page — \$75  
Quarter Page — \$50  
Business Card — \$25

Massachusetts  
**18**

Our Motorcycle Registrations Expired on Dec. 31.

Don't wait until that first unexpected warm day with clear roads to realize that you have not renewed your registration! (Inspections are due by the end of May).



# RK Christmas

We had another great year that came to a close with a fun crowd at the Glen Caffé in Winchendon for our Christmas party. I do not know what topped the day; all the laughter and friends, or the amazing food that Sally and her crew put together for us! I think some of the Red Knights were eyeing the Lego set that Cameron received from the gift pile, but he watched over it with vigilance!



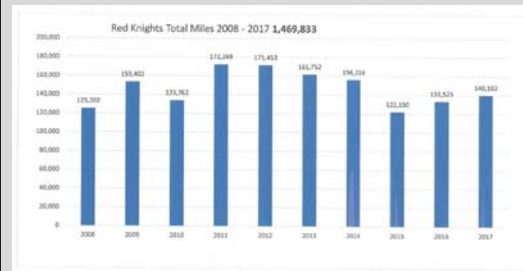
Thank you to all who brought gas cards and gift cards to our Christmas party in December.

We collected over \$500 in cards to share! What a wonderful testament of the generosity of our members.



Santa unveiled a little piece of Massachusetts at the RK Swiss-1 Club House during that chapter's Christmas party!

**MILEAGE.** Our high mileage riders for 2017 were Tim Kilhart (15,421), Jay Veasie (12,917), and Armand Guilmette (12,475) for overall first, second, and third, and to Michelle Shepard (3,908) for top lady rider! Time to start thinking about your ride time for 2018 to see if you make the top three for this coming riding season!



All of us together covered just over 140,000 miles in 2017. Over the past ten years our collective mileage is nearing 1.5 million miles. That's a lot of *rubber on the road!*

*Please continue to send your mileages to the VP so we can keep track of the total mileage and who is on top for the year. For 2018 we have decided that top winners must ride with the chapter at least twice to win a prize.*

Our 2017 season had 38 different chapter events, rides, and gatherings with an average of 15.84 people that attended each event. Americade and our Christmas party shared top billing for attendance with 39 members and friends. The State Picnic was also near the top of the list with 36! Our breakfast gatherings and our "JARs" also had good turnouts; averages of 19 and 17 respectively.

Even with averages between 15 and 20 joining us at our events, and peak numbers at 39, that means there are still 30 people that we do not see. Even long-time members that have been active for more than 20 years tell us there are people on the roster that they have never met!

Are you one of those members that we never see at events? It does not matter if you still have a bike or not — come join us for a breakfast or a cookout, or join us on a ride on four wheels. And after reading this you think, "no, that's not for me." Then the question is:

***Why are you still a Red Knight if you do not want to participate?***

We hope that at the end of 2018 we can say all our members came out to have fun with us during the year.



Walter Roach and his wife Lorrie are on a multi-month world cruise. They left around Christmas time (before our cold and snow arrived) and as he has Wi-Fi when in port he has been sharing a few pictures and letting me know where he is. Their plans are to be back home in early May.



From a beachfront in Cuba...

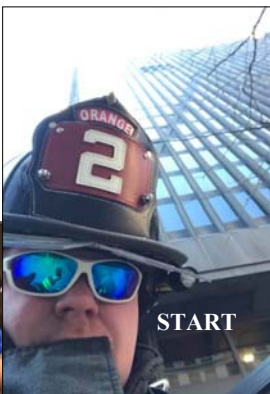
To a church in Panama...

Then he sailed across the Atlantic and across the Mediterranean and through the Suez Canal into the Red Sea and the Indian Ocean.

While we were digging out from a slushy wet snow in early February he said that he was in Australia experiencing their summer months!



And a tip-of-the-hat to Jeff Hamberg for his successful "Fight for Air" climb recent up the 41 floors(789 steps) up and 41 floors back down - in the One Boston Place Tower in Boston to



raise money for the American Lung Association.



The Springfield Bike Show (at the Big-E) was hosted by Indian Motorcycle in January. A group of us headed west for the winter's bike show rather than east this year.

There was a display of old and new Indians as well as custom bikes competing for the day's trophies and even some museum pieces of other old motorcycles on display along with the different vendors.

Then, of course, there was a lunch stop on the way home that we enjoyed just as much as the bike show. Good friends — all the year through!

We had a great turnout (31) for our winter brunch at the Glen Caffe. Instead of holding a Pot Luck in mid-winter as we have done in the past, Sally at the Glen offered to keep her Sunday brunch running past it's normal 11:30 closing time. At 11:30 we *invaded* the restaurant and enjoyed a couple hours of social time and great food!

Our 2018 ride schedules were printed and waiting for us as well. Now we just wait for spring to arrive!

Even the state rep, his assistant and their wives joined us to see what we were up to for adventures!





### **Vermont Overnight at the Gray Ghost Inn Saturday, July 28-29.**

We're off for a weekend overnight to enjoy some Green Mountain riding. (Even if you do not plan to stay overnight at the B&B you are welcome to join us for the day ride). (Guessing about 225 miles or so to Dover — the long way).

We'll meet up at the Westminster Dunkins at 9:00 am (7/28) and we will spend our day in the twisties of Vermont.

As the day wanes, we'll check in at the Gray Ghost Inn in West Dover, VT where they will have a cookout waiting for us. [www.grayghostinn.com](http://www.grayghostinn.com)

On Sunday we will zoom around some western Mass roads before heading home. (Another 125-150 miles).

Contact the Gray Ghost at 800-745-3615 to make your reservation. We have some rooms blocked but you need to make your reservation by June 23. Double occupancy is \$99, Single is \$75 (includes breakfast). The Cookout is an additional \$13 per person.

Most hotels and motels barely tolerate motorcyclists, let alone invite them. The Gray Ghost Inn is a delightful gem in the Green Mountains of Vermont. The Gray Ghost's host thoroughly enjoys the company of motorcyclists and it shows with the extras she provides. An old world charm is present in this homey and comfortable 26-room lodge, with all the modern conveniences such as WiFi and large screen TV in the common room. To add to the creature comforts you'll find an outdoor pool, outdoor fire pit and downstairs game room separated from the guest rooms.

The Gray Ghost makes a great base camp to explore the Green Mountains of Vermont or the White Mountains of New Hampshire. Enjoy a full day's ride, with stops and attractions to appeal to all. Return to a cup of coffee or adult beverage enjoyed while sitting on the front porch watching the world pass or around the large pool out back. Come evening, gather around the communal fire pit in the backyard while kicking tires with friends old and new.

Whether traveling with a group or as a lone rider, you'll become part of the family when staying at the Gray Ghost Inn. Starting your day with a belly-filling breakfast cooked to order, you'll have the finest roads to explore before returning to another home-cooked dinner good company and a comfortable bed.





## 2018 Red Knights Convention Registration

### Pittsburgh, PA

*(Green Tree Area – Just minutes from Downtown Pittsburgh)*

Pennsylvania Chapter 8 and surrounding Chapters, along with Region 3 Director Tim Reinard wish to welcome you to join us in the Pittsburgh Area during the 2018 Convention, August 16<sup>th</sup> thru 19<sup>th</sup>.

We do have additional activities available in and around town for the complete week, if you come in before the “Official Registration” on Thursday, so come and relax a few extra days with us...(Rooms available also for August 13, 14, 15)

#### Schedule of Events

- 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19<sup>th</sup>
  - Self Guided Sight Seeing with Suggestions & Addresses
  - Rocker Rides you may do while you are here (we have over 200 stations in our County alone)
    - Red Knight, Fire House, Grand Tour and Twelve Station – Self Guided with Addresses
  - Scavenger Hunt – Winner receives a Free Night at the Host Hotel *(only for guests booked at Host Hotel)*
- 15<sup>th</sup> Wednesday Evening– Meet the International Board & Region Directors on the Gateway Clipper Dinner Cruise – and meet more Red Knight Members!
  - (\$35 Cruise & Food – beverages not included)
- 16<sup>th</sup> Thursday
  - Official Registration & Meet & Greet
  - Chapter Vendors
  - Pool Party with Entertainment at the Hotel
- 17<sup>th</sup> Friday
  - Registration Continued
  - Flight 93 Memorial Ride to Shanksville with Wreath Laying by PA Chapter 13 Honor Guard
    - *(Limited to 1<sup>st</sup> 300 Registered Bikes - ONLY)*
  - Chapter Vendors
  - Outside Vendors from 3 to 7 In Parking Area towards the rear of the Hotel
  - Barbeque Dinner
- 18<sup>th</sup> Saturday
  - Registration Continued
  - RKIFMC Annual Business Meeting
  - Chapter Vendors
  - Banquet at the DoubleTree Hotel with Cocktail Hour
- 19<sup>th</sup> Sunday – Farewell Breakfast



## 2018 Red Knights Convention Registration Pittsburgh, PA

*(Green Tree Area – Just minutes from Downtown Pittsburgh)*

### Registration Deadline July 1st

(One Registration Form per Guest please)

Guest Name  Chapter  Country

Address

City  State  Zip/Postal Code

Telephone  Email

Registration – Includes Welcome Bag, Friday BBQ, Saturday Dinner & Sunday Farewell Breakfast \$65

Would you like to register for the Gateway Clipper Dinner Cruise - Wednesday August 15<sup>th</sup>? Yes \$35

Would you like to purchase a Convention Shirt? (All Sizes) Size  QTY  Yes \$10

Would you like to purchase a Convention Challenge Coin? Yes \$10

(You may combine totals on one check or PayPal) Total \$

Would you like to Register at no additional charge for: (300 Bike Limit)

- ☐ Are you the **OPERATOR of a BIKE (not Passenger)** that will ride to Flight 93 Memorial?

*Driver only needs to circle this* Yes / No

*(200 Miles Round Trip – Limited Mileage Bikes may stop and rejoin at the Memorial Site we will not stop for fuel)*

Please Contact the Host Hotel – DoubleTree in Pittsburgh (Green Tree location) for your Room Reservation,  
Secured for just \$125/per night

DoubleTree by Hilton, 500 Mansfield Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15205 (412) 922-8400 (FAX 412-922-7854)

**(Use Red Knight Convention Code XXXX for the Room Rate)**

*Make Checks payable to - Red Knights Motorcycle Club PA Chapter 8– Memo "Convention"*

*Send Payment & Registration Form to:*

*Red Knights PA Chapter 8*

*2305 Lutz Avenue*

*Pittsburgh, PA 15210*

*Or*

*Send Registration and use PayPal for the full amount to: [Convention@RedKnights.org](mailto:Convention@RedKnights.org)*

*Website [www.redknights.org](http://www.redknights.org) (PA Chapter 8 Website – navigate to 2018 Convention Tab)*

*And See All Information as it happens at our FaceBook Group Page -**2018 Red Knights MC Convention – Pittsburgh***

## See "Yinz" in Pittsburgh!!!