

From the  
President's Desk

# Red Knights

## Mass Chapter 2 — Summer '02

<http://www.redknightsmc.org/mass2/>

### Loyal to Our Duty

#### ...no truer words

I think it was Clement Salvadori in a recent issue of Rider magazine that said, "\$2 worth of gas can do more good than 20 hours in therapy!"

My first ride this season was on one of those early March days when the sun came out, the roads were dry and welcomed a number of bikes out of hibernation. After a few months without being on the bike, that first ride is WONDERFUL. I had a *Kevin Martin grin* from ear to ear when I pulled back in the driveway.

*Welcome back riding season.*

## Ladies' Choice

July 27th is a Ladies Choice Ride. It's up to the ladies to decide where we should venture to on that day. Please think about some destinations that you would like and contact Peg Brouillet... your wish is our command!

### Let's go camping!

If you have never been to our Wells, Maine weekend you are missing out on a great club gathering. Think about joining us the weekend of August 9-11 at Cliff and Marty's trailer in Maine.

For everyone who is planning on the weekend, give Marty a call so she can make sure we have enough room and accommodations for everyone!

Meet at Walmart at Routes 2A & 13 in Lunenburg at 9:00 am Fri day, August 9.

If during April, one of our members threw a \$100 bill on the table and said, "I'll bet you that two Goldwings will break down on the way to Americade." Would you have taken that bet?

Look inside to see if you would have won the bet!

### Fitchburg Civic Days Parade!

Come join the Red Knights when we lead the Fitchburg Civic Days Parade on July 4th! Meet at the Westminster FD at 8:30 am on the 4th... bring your bike all shined up and ready to show... white shirts and red vests and hopefully we will have a number of bikes from around other New England chapters as well.

After the parade we will have a BBQ at Ed and Peg's house to celebrate the 4th of July together!

Please let Bob know if you are going to go. 978-724-3270

Sincerely,  
Ed Brouillet, President Ma.-2

*Ed*

To all members of Mass. Chapter-2,

As I'm looking forward to continued growth of our chapter and to the future of the Red Knights, I can see some things that will be changing. Change is usually difficult and is not readily accepted by everyone; but it is important that we look to the future to keep up with our fast-paced world and quickly growing club. The International now has over 106 chapters, not too bad for only twenty years.

To my Officers of Mass-2, I thank you for all your help. This chapter would not be what it is today, (the most active group in Massachusetts) if it were not for each and every one of you. Our chapter has 74 members, and we have not even gone out looking for more members. I know that we still have three or four applications that are waiting to be processed. There are some of you, however, that we have not seen for a while. (WHY?) Your officers have put a good variety of rides together for this year, and we hope to see you on the road. Now all we have to do is get Mother Nature to help out!!

In April the weather was looking good. Our first ride was the Cape weekend in May. If you missed this, you missed a lot of fun. Then the weather went down hill. On May 18th we were looking forward to a nice ride to Vermont only to get up that morning to find SNOW! Well, this is New England. Next, it was a week at Americade. The trip didn't start out well for some of us. Two bikes broke down on the way out on Sunday, one of them being mine! Not a good way to start a vacation. But we got through it and all I can say about the rest of the week was WOW. Wait till you see the pictures and video.

We try to make club functions fun. Please come along and join our family. As is with our brotherhood of Firefighting, you do become close and make a lot of new friends in the Red Knights. Things work out well if we all work together and help each other out when it is needed.

As we look to this year, our International Convention is in Rhode Island in August. Since it is nearby this year, I hope to see a lot of Mass-2 members present. Come find out how much fun a Convention can be. If you need a Registration form, please let us know, as space will be limited. Join us even if you only want to come down for the Saturday night dinner-dance, but you must RSVP for this.

I am very proud to be the President of this chapter. We work and play together well, having great fun along the way. We often invite other members who may be alone at a function to join us. Tim worded it so appropriately when he said we are like foster parents to those members who are not part of a group. This unofficial program was named "Adopt a Knight" during our week stay at Americade. We took in MALs and members from other chapters and showed them what it is like to be a part of the Red Knights family. We have one member from Maine who wants to move so he can be a member of our chapter because he had so much fun! Keep up the good work as Red Knight ambassadors of friendship. Ride safe and look out for each other.

### A motorcyclist's prayer

May your tires tread always on pavement,  
May your fairing cut the breeze,  
May your headlight keep on shining, and  
May your bike avoid all trees.  
May you ride forever safely,  
both in sunshine and in showers,  
May you ride forever freely  
and enjoy this land of ours!



Congratulations go out to Darlene Kilhart.

Earlier in the Spring Darlene completed her doctorate in Physical Therapy and received her Ph.D.!

We are always proud of the accomplishments of our members — and this is a **big** accomplishment (especially when continuing to work full-time and still be a great mom and wife!).

### *Together with our Friends!*

- Our ice cream rides have started up again. Both our May and June rides were cloudy, cool evenings, & one or two bikes were the sole attendees so far! But do not fret, those rides will (hopefully) have some better weather soon.
- Mother Nature has been a bit schizophrenic this

The next **Ice Cream Ride** is Thursday, July 11. Our Road Captain is planning a ride to Kimball's Ice Cream in Jaffrey, NH — where we will be

Spring! In early April we had a couple days that broke the 90 degree mark; a few days before the Cape Cod weekend it snowed; and on May 18, the day of our first scheduled ride (into Vermont) it snowed again! Not just a little snow mixed with rain... it was snow that accumulated! Some of the chapter did manage to meet at Westminster FD (in four wheels) and went out for breakfast at the Westminster Country Club.

- Our Mohegan Sun trip was grounded as well due to the weather! Can't believe we were in draught conditions not too long ago.
- Just as this newsletter was headed to the mail, about a dozen members were headed for a weekend away at the Grunberg Haus Bed and Breakfast in Waterbury, Vermont. Tell you

A new edition of the RKMCI International Help-a-Knight program is available.

If you would like to have a copy, you can download it at [www.redknightsmc.org/HAK.pdf](http://www.redknightsmc.org/HAK.pdf), or contact Bob Laford and he will get you one!



A special thanks goes out to all those members who helped stuff, stamp, and label some 1600 (+) newsletters for the spring International mailing.

It was five hours start to finish so every hand that helped that Saturday afternoon was appreciated!

Our club grows every year. The newsletter went out to 2,002 U.S. members, 405 Canadian members, and about

We hope that you can join us for this

*Ride for Kids*

year's New England Ride for Kids on Sunday, August 18. We will meet on the Petersham Common at 7:30 a.m. and head off to Oxford for the start of the ride.

In the last newsletter, everyone got a copy of the brochure and sponsor form for the ride. Please gather up some sponsors to help out the *Pediatric brain Tumor Foundation*. Last year Massachusetts Red Knights contributed about \$5,000 of the \$94,000 collected at this ride!

If you have any questions, contact Bob Laford.



Some true friendships are always renewed with our sister chapter to the north, when we head to Ontario for the Annual Winter Frolic hosted by Ontario 7.

Eight people from Mass-2 journeyed to the north country in February to support Ontario 7 (who donated \$2,000 to their local burn treatment center thanks to the fundraising at the dance). Stan and Lise Rolsy hosted all the travelers from Massachusetts at their beautiful home. The weather was spring-like, in the 50's with no snow on the ground!

The guys ventured to the Trenton Air-base with Stan to see the progress on the WW-II Halifax restoration project. We have been watching this project advance since the plane was raised from the waters in Europe and brought to Canada to be restored. It is getting closer and closer to completion and is very exciting to see each year. Of course a visit to Carney's Pub across the street from the hanger is always in the cards!

We always have a great time, and visiting during the Olympics also brought with it some good natured ribbing as well — especially where both men and women U.S. hockey teams took the silver medals to Canada's gold. *Thanks go out to our gracious hosts!*

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EulhivIII#*

Our chapter continues to grow. We currently have 74 members! Welcome to new members in our chapter. They include:

- Mark Dembek (retired Captain from the Orange Fire Department) and his wife Leah.
- Scott MacArthur of the Fitchburg Fire Dept.
- Mike Hanson, Jeff Nickel, and Courtney Manning all of Lancaster FD, and
- Donna Moreau, from Fitchburg, better-half to member Bob Shakarian

*Congratulations* to Kevin Martin on his recent promotion to Battalion Chief on the Ashburnham Fire Department.

We will have a membership meeting on our Picnic Ride, scheduled for July 14. (We will discuss issues that will be voted on at the convention so every one can voice their opinion).

Election of chapter officers will be held at a membership meeting prior to the Apple Pie Ride scheduled for Sunday, October 13. Positions up for election are Vice-president, Treasurer, and Road Captain. Any Active member of the chapter wishing to run for office should contact

Have you bought or sold the 50/50 tickets you received with the International Newsletter?

Please support the RKMCI International. The 50/50 tickets help cover the costs of "doing business" as an organization and help keep the International dues down.

Rhode Island-1 is the host chapter for our next Annual **Red Knights Convention** for 2002 (August 22-25, 2002).

Rooms are blocked at the Sheraton Providence Airport Hotel in Warwick, Rhode Island (401- 738-4000) and more rooms at the Comfort Inn Hotel (401-732-0470), just a stone's throw away from the convention hotel if overflow space is needed. Ask for the "Red Knights Motorcycle Club" rate at both hotels.

The Red Knights have what they call the "Run of the House" from August 22 - 24, 2001 at the Sheraton. We have reserved 70 rooms for Thursday (8/22) and 130 rooms for Friday and Saturday (8/23-24). The price for the rooms will be \$119.00 a night. (Just a side note that this hotel's group rates for this time of year are usually \$125 to \$159 a night).

The registration fee for this year's convention is \$80.00 per-person. With your registration fee you get the following amenities;

- "Goodie Bag" and Program Journal,
- 2002 Convention Pin,
- Hospitality Room, (which will be open except during any scheduled meeting),

Saturday Night Functions include Dinner (with choices of Roasted Chicken, London Broil Steak, or Boston Baked Scrod) and the awards ceremony with dancing afterwards!

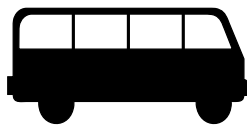
A Sunday morning farewell executive breakfast buffet rounds out the convention.

Rhode Island-1 is also going to have a "REAL" New England style clam bake on Thursday. Price for this is \$25.00 per-person. This includes your choice of Lobster, Steak or Chicken with Red Clam Chowder and Clam Cakes, Steamed Clams, Steamed Mussels, and more!

There will also be a bike show on Saturday.

All rides at the convention will be posted on the R.I. webpage and you will receive a copy of all rides and times upon check-in at the Hotel.

Just a reminder that Cliff has patches and rockers if anyone needs them. He recently ordered new large Rocker and Patch sets for the back of your red vests, and he also has the shoulder patches for your uniform shirts.



view of

*DON'T Follow that Bus!*

You're on a familiar route in urban traffic. One that you have frequently ridden. You eventually get behind a bus or other large vehicle. With this sized vehicle in front of you, your the road ahead is limited.

Approaching a major intersection, you decide to stay behind the larger vehicle rather than attempt a lane change. Before the larger vehicle clears the intersection, you are surprised by a car making a left-hand turn immediately behind the larger vehicle. You swerve towards the right and narrowly avoid getting hit by the left turner, and swerve back into the lane. But it was a close call that could have been deadly!

Never follow immediately behind busses, trucks, or other large vehicles where you are hidden from the view of oncoming drivers. Rather than follow immediately behind a large vehicle, you should change lanes or at least drop back to open up the view (for both the on-coming traffic and for you).



Another great meal at Mother Anna's was just one highlight on our adventure in Boston back in March.

What do the Big Dig, Old Ironsides, Bob's socks, and Linda's head all have in common? The answer is we got to spend time looking at each one when we were in the city! (Details to follow).

The Thursday before our train ride into Boston we only knew of six people who were planning on the trip. But by the time we rolled into North Station we had fourteen people in our entourage.

Our first stop was the bridge that headed over to Charlestown. Looking over the edge of the bridge to the water below, there is a building and new pier being constructed there; but on June 24, 1994 a warehouse stood on the sight, and Lieutenant Steve Minehan of Boston's Ladder 15 died while searching for other firefighters during a fire. We stopped at a small memorial that is on the bridge.

We stopped at the Charlestown Navy Yard and visited the U.S.S. Constitution and its museum. Being a national monument, you have to undergo a search and walk through a metal detector before you can board the ship. Everyone went through fine except for your vice-president. I emptied all my pockets, had to take off my coat, and even had to take off my boots before they would let me through! I was starting to wonder if I was going to be the next Hanes underwear commercial — Thank goodness that Steve's camera was being checked over at the time! (When I got dressed that morning, I noticed a hole in my sock and thought 'no one will see that,' guess I was wrong.)

The walk on the ship was well worth the hassle, though.

When we were leaving the grounds and headed for the North-end for Mother Anna's, Linda was being social and didn't see the light pole in her travel lane — BONK! So we had to take a few minutes as Cliff and Steve evaluated her mental condition. (Some ice and a cold drink at the restaurant helped alleviate any suffering once we got to Mother Anna's.)

The meal and the hospitality at Mother Anna's was as wonderful as always. What great food! After dinner, the Mickle's had to catch an early train for a prior commitment, so they headed home as the rest of us were off to Quincy Market for some pastries and ice cream.

We arrived back at North Station about 30 minutes early. The station was busy and all the seats were filled so Bob L. plopped down against the wall. He took off his knit cap and said to Linda, 'hey lady, you got any spare change?' Linda threw some change in his hat, and the woman behind her came up to offer Bob her hot chocolate (thinking he was a homeless person looking for some help). Everyone had a good laugh and we made a new friend out of the kind-hearted woman, Lisa. (I think it was Diona that said, 'does he look like he's malnourished???)

Lisa was riding on the same train as us, so we adopted her (Steve would have been so proud). She was up from North Carolina and is a veterinarian down there. We told her that we would send her a copy of this newsletter, since she would be mentioned in it!

As always, we had a great time. Hope you can join us next year.





## Do you ride with **S.I.P.D.E.** in mind?

S.I.P.D.E. is an acronym that the Motorcycle Safety Foundation (and drivers' ed classes around the country) teach to constantly remind us to look for and prepare for what is in our riding environment.

**S**— is for **Scan**. As we ride we should be constantly scanning; ahead of us, in our peripheral vision, and behind us in our mirrors.

**I**— is for **Identify**. As we scan we are looking for potential conflicts with our ride safety. We need to identify those potential problems.

**P**— is for **Predict**. Once we identify potential problems we should also be able to predict what those "obstacles for a safe ride" might do to us.

**D**— is for **Decide**. We have trained as motorcyclists through formal training and ride experience, and we should be able to decide what actions on our part can lower our risk in association with the problem we have identified.

**E**— is for **Execute**. We have made a decision on how best to deal with the hazard or problem we have recognized. Now it is time to put that plan into action.

Let's put SIPDE into action on our ride. We are cruising down a residential street and see several children playing ball in the front yard of a home. (**SCAN and IDENTIFY**).

We realize that they could pose a hazard to us as we ride (and to themselves) if their ball comes into the street. (**PREDICT**).

We want to remove ourselves from them as much as possible. We look at our lane position. Maybe in changing lane position we can distance ourselves from them. We can also cover the brake and reduce our speed. These actions help reduce our reaction time and our braking distance. (**DECIDE and EXECUTE**).

We have scanned and identified a potential problem. We made a conscious decision as what could happen and how best to handle that situation if it occurs. Now if the ball or the children come into the road we are prepared to make a safe reaction to answer that change in our environment.

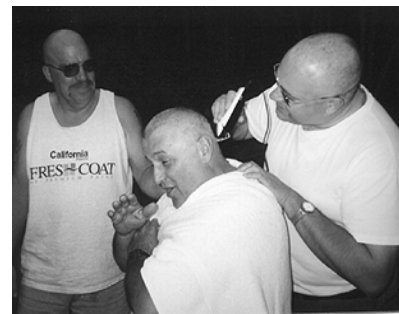
Think about **S.I.P.D.E.** whenever you are on the road — on two (or three) wheels or in your four-wheeler. It is a good mental habit to improve your skills as a rider and help keep your time on the road a safe one.

## Have you ever thought about... What if?

I just got through reading a very sad article in the July Issue of Wing-World called "A Death in the Family." It made me stop and think on just how ill prepared we are as bikers traveling together. As firefighters we know how things can happen without any notice and we train to handle these things on our job every day. It is time to stop and think — What would we do, how could we get the information we may need in an emergency while we were together on our bikes? When we are out on our bikes we tend to not think about those things, but what would happen if we had an accident and had to get in touch with one of our (or your) family members in a emergency. Would you have that information at your finger tips? I think not!! With that in mind there is a form included in this newsletter for all our members to fill out. The chapter will make up at least two emergency books available to carry on all our rides. That form should have all the info for any type of emergency; Who to call, Doctors numbers, Insurance numbers, Family or Friends telephone or pager numbers, and who to contact in the chapter if we needed to get a tow or just some help. LETS PROTECT AND HELP OUT OUR RKMC FAMILY WITH THIS, so we will be ready for any type of problem. Sincerely, Ed B

### A handsome crew...

We're not sure whose idea it was originally, but on Saturday, June 1, we had a "head-shaving BBQ" at Bob and Diona's. And before the evening was done Steve, Bob, Ed, Kevin, and Tim (partially anyway) had gone the route of the home made haircut!



Steve, Ed, and Bob (alias Larry, Moe and Curly)

It must be the Jack Downs fan club! They all sported their shaved heads for the Americade week, with the excuse that these haircuts were low maintenance, cooler when riding, AND would save money on shampoo!

Ed was asked during the shaving process... "If Steve jumped off the bridge, would you jump in after him?" "Of course," was the answer, "I would have to rescue him." Well, I guess we all needed rescuing because there wasn't a male Red Knight left that evening with the hair they had arrived with! (I hear there is a video of the escapades as well!)

## Looking for a Short Ride??

If you are going to be home on the July 4th weekend, we will be meeting at the Westminster Fire Station at 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, July 6.

We are going to take a ride to Worcester to view the new Massachusetts Vietnam Veterans' Memorial, and then probably stop for a bite to eat before heading home.

### April Pot-luck and Chapter Meeting

Our chapter pot-luck's are growing and growing. Following a week of temperatures in the 80's and 90's we had a sunny day in the 40's at the Kilhart's in Athol — but we still had 22 members and friends show up to share a great afternoon.

With enough food to feed a small army, our bellies were full for our Spring meeting. We voted in seven new members, and met a few of them who were in attendance!

The club voted to give donations to several charities including the 9-1-1 Firefighters Fund and the American Cancer Society.

The Chapter Officers also discussed that this year is the 20th anniversary of the RKMC and that the 25th is not too far off, and the members should start thinking if they would like to see Mass-2 host the 25th convention in 2007.

## Annual Red Knights New England Regional Cape Cod Weekend

It was just a few evenings before we left for the Cape, and it was 31 degrees and snowing in Petersham! But rain, shine, or white of snow will not keep the Red Knights from another **great** weekend on the Cape!

When we met in Fitchburg and headed off to the Cape it was sunny but **very** windy! Fourteen bikes and 27 members from Mass-2 made the weekend. Mass-2 had a good share of the 38 reserved rooms at the Heritage House in Hyannis.

At our State Meeting on Friday evening, Steve was re-elected state rep — and everyone thanked Chris Olsen and all the members of Mass-8 for their work on the weekend. Present were Mass Chapters 1, 2, 4, 5, 8, 11, and Connecticut-2.

Saturday morning, 32 bikes ventured off for a tour along the back roads of the Cape. Booked as a *lighthouse tour* we visited Chatham Light, Coast Guard Beach at the National Sea Shore, and drove by Nauset Lighthouse, and finally to the Marconi Station.

Once there the group divided up into smaller contingents. Some riders ventured into Provincetown, some headed back to Barnstable to begin working on the Firehouse BBQ, and others looked around for places to have lunch and meandered along Route 6A back to town. It was a beautiful day for a ride.

Saturday also had us at the Barnstable FD for a BBQ hosted by RK Mass-8, and then everyone was on their own for shopping, riding, a dip in the pool or hot tub, or refreshing beverages and conversation in the hotel hallway!

Sunday was another fantastic day for a ride home. I bet we saw 200 other motorcycles on the road! Cliff was our tour guide again, and we stopped for fresh Clam Cakes at Gene's Seafood in Fairhaven, and ice cream in Franklin before heading home.

A special thanks to Steve Mickle and the members of Mass-8 that help make this a fun weekend every year. For 2003 a planning committee is being formed to take some of the burden off the same few people. If you would like to serve on the Cape Weekend Planning Committee, or have some ideas on how to make next year's visit fun, give Steve a call and he would be glad to accept your help.

## Mass-2 Fundraiser

Thank you to everyone who bought and sold 120 Club Raffle Tickets this year. This raffle was a success for our Club again this year!

The drawing was held on June 15 just before we should have left for the Mohegan Sun Casino (surprise, surprise the ride was rained out!).

*Congratulations to all our winners:*

\$20: Michelle Studlien, Gerry Baldini, James Bellison, Bob Kendall, Angie Eldridge, Phil Jordan (Jr. & Sr.), Bob Hamm, Gail Beauregard, Brian Peters, Charles Lewis, Ron Landry, Brian Seller, Joe Conroy, Dawn Caouette, Helen Flagg, Joan-Marie Goodwin, Steve Brunell, and Howard Karras

\$50: Wayne Gadberry and Fred Leblanc

\$100: Gerry Baldini

\$200: Mary Gifford

\$500: Darlene Kilhart

## Road Gorp

A little rainwater on the road turns the surface into a slippery mess!

City Streets are extremely slippery during the first few minutes of a fresh rain, as the accumulated "road gorp" emulsifies with water. It takes about a half hour of steady downpour to completely wash the accumulated oil off the pavement.

When it begins to rain and we are on the bikes, we some times get the urge to drive a little faster to hurry out of the rain.

Increasing your spend also demands more traction at a time when traction is poor.

Rather than try to hurry to your destination, as it begins to rain, the safer tactic is to stop for a leisurely lunch or cup of coffee and allow time for the rain to wash the road surface.

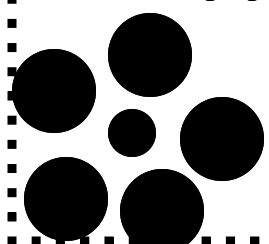
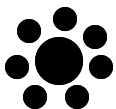
Take a look at these two groups of circles. Specifically, look at the center circle in each group.

*Which one is bigger?*

Actually, they are both the same size. Our visual perception is what is different. Because the bottom circle is surrounded by larger objects, it appears smaller to us when our brain interprets what we see.

What does this have to do with being on a bike? Think about that circle in the bottom group as you on your bike, surrounded by cars and trucks. As each of those other drivers look at you, their brain is interpreting what it sees.

What they see — or don't see — could be the wrong size, the wrong speed, or their visual interpretation may miss you completely. We must use our brain to protect ourselves. What we wear (for colors), the lighting on our bike, our lane position, and our defensive driving skills all contribute to making ourselves seen and protected.



## Have you ever considered joining the Massachusetts Motorcycle Association (MMA)?

The MMA are a politically active group of motorcyclists in the state and have recently worked on such issues as Nelly's Bill for better driver education, driver awareness campaigns, and veteran's and HP license plates for motorcyclists. They have also been strongly involved with some educational efforts in regards to specific communities that have police officers that target bikes for violations. I personally don't agree with their position on every issue; but I support their lobbying efforts as a united front of people who enjoy motorcycling.

One of their newest benefits for members is reduced rates for Motorcycle Roadside Assistance. For more information on the organization or the availability of the Roadside Assistance program, look for them on the web at <http://www.mma-of-ma.com> or write to the MMA at P.O. Box 378, Brimfield, MA

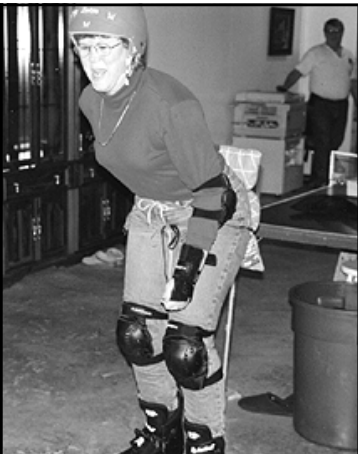
Our group of friends in the Red Knights is so very special to us that we cannot even begin to express it. But having broken down on the way to Americade we need to try to put our thanks into words.

Thank you to everyone we were traveling with when our Wing got sick. We urged you to go on to Lake George while we were scurrying to get the bike running again, but no one left. You all waited for us to rejoin the ride!

Thanks also to those of you who helped us with transportation during the week — the Kilhart's and your van (and the spare seat on the bike after Darlene and Bob headed back to Massachusetts), to Steve and Deb for letting us take the Wing for a ride, to Marty Eldridge who gave up her bike most of the week so we could continue to ride for the week. (And to Cliff who had to re-learn what to do with a passenger on-board!) To all those who offered rides on Thursday as Diona got to try out different bikes... and who won the raffle?!?

And a special thanks to Ed and Peg for use of their truck and trailer and all their help getting the bike to the bike doctors when we got home. You are all very special members of our family and we love you all.

*Diona and Bob*



The Red Knights work very hard to make all your dreams come true.

Now Peg B. will never again say, "I've always wanted to try roller blading." We're all glad that she took appropriate measures and wore all the protective equipment (notice the pillow tied in the proper place). She was really good at it too!

## New Hampshire weighs safety course for bikers

New Hampshire bikers may not be getting a free ride much longer (in the *Live Free or Die* State). The director of the state Department of Motor Vehicles, Virginia Beecher, said the agency is considering a requirement that motorcyclists take a safety course to receive or retain their licenses.

Bikers are required to take the classes in 38 other states.

Beecher said that before the state goes in that direction, it wants to make sure it can offer enough classes to accommodate its 65,000 licensed riders.

Rider education is an important aspect of everyone's skills. It is not a mandatory requirement in Massachusetts, but the Red Knights do support Rider Education efforts, and encourage everyone to take an experienced rider course.

# Ride for Molly

**Sunday, June 30, 2002**

Registration at 8:00 a.m.

Ride begins at 10:00 a.m.



Meet at the  
**North Brookfield Elementary School**  
**Route 148 North Brookfield**  
From Route 67 in North Brookfield Center, take  
Route 148 north where Route 67 splits  
north and take 1<sup>st</sup> right into school.

A 60 mile scenic trip through beautiful  
central Massachusetts.  
It will be non-stop and fully escorted.

**Donation: \$20 per bike**

(cash only, please)

All proceeds to benefit the  
**Molly Bish Foundation.**

Donations from non-riders welcome  
at registration booth

Catering and Specialty Vending  
trucks on site

Sponsored by the

East Brookfield Police Association

WAAF 107.3 FM radio station with Lyndon Byer.

Hayden Masonic Lodge A.F.&A.M. 

[www.mollybish.org](http://www.mollybish.org)



Age 16 (now 18)  
Blonde hair, Blue eyes  
125 pounds, 5 ft. 7 inches

Last seen: June 27, 2000  
near Comins Pond in Warren, Mass.  
where she was a lifeguard.

**Molly A. Bish**

**\$100,000**  
Reward  
for information  
leading to the  
arrest and  
conviction of the  
person who  
abducted  
Molly A. Bish

If you have any information, please call

**(800) 808-9677**

**508-832-9124**

Unfortunately the Molly Bish Ride is the same weekend as the Mass-2 Vermont get-away, so a number of us will be gone that weekend.



## *With our friends at Americade!*

It was another great week in Lake George for Americade earlier this month. Into every life a little rain must fall — and we took that in stride both figuratively and literally!

It was such a beautiful day to go for a ride when a dozen bikes (and a four-wheeler) headed out on Sunday, June 2, that we decided to take a meandering journey through the Vermont Mountains and head up Route 100 before crossing over to the Adirondacks and Lake George. A few miles out of Brattleboro it started to get darker as we headed up towards Hogback Mountain. Then the rains hit... hard. We ran into a very heavy weather front as we headed up Route 9. The temperature dropped and some of the rain actually felt like ice. Darlene Kilhart, driving the van, said that some of the rain drops on the windshield were not rain drops, they splattered instead of dropped!

But we drove out of that front and skirted some rain drops here and there as we went north. We stopped for lunch in Weston, Vermont along Route 100, then gas in Ludlow, where our first *figurative* rain drops started to fall. Unbeknown to the group, Bob's Wing had stopped charging. (Hmmm, 45,000 miles on a GL1200, must be a stator problem!) He was able to keep the bike running until we made the ferry at Larabee's Point. Once we crossed over to New York, we had to push the bike off the boat and head off to a nearby Wal-Mart (in four wheels) where they had one battery that would fit the bike. That battery got Bob and Diona through Ticonderoga and down Route 9N to Lake George (Phew).

The second figurative rain drop fell about ten miles out of Ticonderoga, when the alternator in Ed and Peg's 1500 went south. At first we thought he was joking, but his bike died just as we pulled into the parking lot at the Bay Front cottages. (Another Phew!) Having gone through this before, Steve Mickle had a spare alternator with him. He and Ed were able to change the one on the 1500 in short order.

Monday was opening registration, and after a brief ride the lines were shorter and moving along quickly at the Holiday Inn. King Bill (from Mass-8) was one of the Americade greeters and he was *impressed* (?) with our new haircuts when we checked in!

Monday we had a BBQ at the cabin with burgers and dogs before heading to Roaring Brook for the opening ceremonies. One of the events was a Drill Team demo by the Cajun Wings out of Louisiana. They were great! Their final display ride of the night was riding six members on a Wing. We figured we could give the shocks and tires more stress than they did. Let's see — Ed,

Steve, Bob, Tim, Jerry, and Kevin... that must be close to a ton!

After the show we headed for Canada Street and the Block Party. Diona even bought Bob a new bike there — a miniature 1500 — Ed wanted the stator out of it though.

Tuesday was a Tent-city Day. Spent the day looking at the vendors, trying out demo rides, and having a generally good people watching day. We had a spaghetti supper on the picnic tables back at the cabins, and when it started to rain a little, we just broke out the umbrella's! Had a fire down by the lake and we were pleasantly surprised when Gil from Manitoba-1 pulled in with his new Harley Firefighter's Special Ultra Classic.

Wednesday morning we were treated to French Toast and Sausage Bagels by chef Ed before heading out amid the rain drops of the day. Wednesday evening, the Red Knights hosted a Three-course Dinner to nearly 500 other Americaders. Thanks to our chapter and a handful of others we were able to raffle off almost 60 door prizes. Everyone seemed to have a good time! We had all shuttled over to Roaring Brook via the Kilhart's van because of the thunderstorms, and after the dinner we looked like a bus stop waiting for our shuttle to return. Then it was back to the Cabins to watch the lightning activity to the south.

Thursday had a few more showers but it still was not a wash-out. We had breakfast at Grandma's over at the Clinton Inn and with the other bikers in the restaurant we took turns pouring coffee and bussing the tables to give *Gram* a hand.

In and around the rain drops we were on the road for the Meet-the-Press Poker Run. This ride benefited the Ride for Kids. We were able to meet a number of "motorcycle celebrities" including Fred Rau of Motorcycle Consumer News. By the end of the week, they had raised about \$5,000 for the PBTFUS. One of the stops was at Stony Creek — so what a better place to stop for lunch!

Thursday was also our annual open house at the Lake George FD hosted by NY-12. Nearly 200 Red Knights were on hand to share stories, renew friendships and make new ones with a great luncheon put on by our friends.

Friday during the day a group of us headed to Plattsburg to visit the Ausable Chasm where we had a raft ride. There wasn't a dry boot in the house! Then back in Lake George we had dinner out with a number of other Red Knights at George's Restaurant.

Friday night was the awards night. This



year it was held at the *Great Escape* rather than on top of Prospect Mountain.

Bill Dutcher and Fred Rau had contacted the Red Knights through our International President (Ed) to ask for some help on Friday night.

During the evening show, Americade gave a tribute to those lost on September 11. For our part 40 to 50 Red Knights were on a side stage as a color guard with flags and axes during the show. In the center of our group were several of our members from FDNY who worked at the WTC site. It was a very moving tribute and the crowd was very forthcoming with their emotions, as were those of us participating. The Friday night fireworks were awesome as always, and thanks to Cliff's foresight we were able to sneak around the traffic jam after the show and get home without any trouble via an alternate route.

Saturday morning was the Americade parade. Over a hundred Red Knights were on hand, many adorned with their fire helmets near the front of the parade. We gave the first "Red Knight Award" for the largest group participating to the Lost Wheels Motorcycle Club.

After the parade we participated with the "Living Logo" and took over the letter "R" for Americade with all our Red, then broke up for the BMW BBQ on top of the mountain before heading back to the cabins for some relaxation before our second trip to Stony Creek for dinner where we celebrated John Downs' birthday with a bogus \$50,000 lottery ticket as well as some great food.

The week was just the best, and it was topped off with a beautiful day to ride Route 100 back to Massachusetts!

### Upcoming Chapter Rides:

- July 4. **Fitchburg Civic Day Parade.** Meet at WFD at 8:30 a.m., **BBQ** to follow at Ed and Peg's House.
  - July 14. **Picnic Ride** out the Mohawk Trail to North Adams, Mt. Greylock, and the Natural Bridge. Meet at Westminster Fire at 8:30 a.m.... and bring your picnic lunch!
  - July 27. **Ladies Choice Ride.** It's up to the ladies to decide where they would like to head for the day. Between now and then give Peg Brouillet a call ladies, and come 9:00 a.m. at WFD, your wish is our command!
  - August 9-11. **Annual Trip to Wells, Maine** — Hosted by the Eldridge's. Leave Walmart at Routes 2A & 13 in Lunenburg at 9:00 am Friday, August 9. Let Cliff know your plans so he can make housing (tent and sleeping bag) arrangements.
  - August 18. **Ride for Kids Charity Ride** (Oxford Mass (Route 12) to So. Hadley) Meet in Petersham at 7:30 a.m.
  - August 22-25. **RED KNIGHTS CONVENTION hosted by Rhode Island-1**
  - September 7. **Mountains of New Hampshire** courtesy of our Road Captain on this year's *Road Captain's Ride*. Meet in Westminster at 8:30 a.m.
  - September 22. **President's Ride.** Where will the wandering mind of our President take us (and how many U-turns?!) Come find out and meet us in Westminster at 9:00 a.m.
  - October 6. **Breakfast at the Jaffrey FD** — A great buffet to kick off Fire Prevention Week. Meet in Westminster at 8:00 a.m.
  - October 13. **Apple Pie Ride — Dummerston, VT** — Chapter Meeting (election of officers) at 9:00 a.m. and leave Westminster FD after meeting
  - Nov. 2. **Polar Bear Ride** — Leave Westminster FD at 11 am
  - Dec. 15. **Pot-luck Party and Yankee-gift Swap (1:00 p.m.)**  
Where shall we meet this year? Anyone who would like to host the Christmas Party let an officer know.
- ...and don't forget our monthly ice cream rides! Our next gathering is Thursday, July 11, 6:30 p.m. at the Westminster Fire Station.

**Red Knights Motorcycle Club  
Mass Chapter-2  
P.O. Box 316  
Westminster, MA 01473**



Warm weather is here — Ride Safe!