



Red Knights Motorcycle Club Massachusetts — Home of the Founders

Fall 2011
<http://massredknights.org/>

The Spring 2012 Massachusetts State Meeting will be hosted by
RK Mass-1 in Boylston on Saturday, March 24 — and the Fall 2012 meeting will be hosted by
RK Mass-13 in Ayer on Saturday, October 13.

From the desk of the State Rep

Greetings all Massachusetts Red Knights.

The idea of having a Massachusetts State Red Knights Newsletter is, as you know, something new. I don't believe any of you feel that I don't keep you informed of all Red Knight issues, be they at the state or international level — and I am sure some of you think I send out *too many* emails. But I promised to keep you all informed when you voted for me as your State Representative and I intend to maintain that promise.

This newsletter will contain other things of interest outside of the day-to-day business and changes within the Red Knights Motorcycle Club as a whole. Besides, it gives your Assistant State Representative something to do.

MA Chapter 2 President Bob Laford has created and published a newsletter such as this for his chapter for years and I asked him to do the same for us. Bob is a tireless worker and in his short tenure as your Assistant State Representative has already come forth, on many occasions, to provide considerable help to me.

Thank you Bob for all you do.

This newsletter is an experiment and I hope it is received well by all of you and your chapter members. Don't forget to forward it to them.

If you like it please let Bob and me know. If you don't, we welcome that input as well.

If you have something you would like to see added or included within this newsletter feel free to send it to us for publication.

It is our thought to have biannual newsletters and send them out after the Spring and Fall state meetings.

I hope you enjoy the newest offering from your state representatives.

Regards to all,
George Colby

Fall 2011 State Meeting

Eight Massachusetts chapters (out of 13) with 31 members were on hand for the Fall meeting hosted by Mass-4 at the Charlton FD on Saturday, October 22, 2011.

George reported that the Trademark License Agreement snafu has been resolved with the International Board. This allows the state representative to have a web page and related "business essentials" under a "TMLA." There had been disagreement as to whether an individual could have an agreement as opposed to an association. International VP Chris Gadway and Mass-4 President Tom Caisse fought on behalf of Massachusetts and the board finally authorized the TMLA for us during the 2011 convention meetings.

Other important business during the convention is the start of "electronic ballots" for the International Board. Starting in 2012 all board members will be elected by electronic ballots sent in by the chapters. There are specific dates and deadlines for candidates to follow to be on the ballot. Another change is that **ONLY** the chapters within a given

region will be voting for the Regional Rep for them. This is a change from allowing the greater membership at the convention the authority to vote the Regional Reps. For more details on these and other bylaw changes consult the International webpage.

MA-1 President David Hamilton reported that an architect is working with the Memorial Committee on how best to integrate the 9-11 steel to the Red Knights Memorial. It is stressed that it will remain the Red Knights Memorial and not a 9-11 memorial.

Steve Alvarez (Mass-3) visited NYC Twin Tower site this fall and spoke on its humbling and sobering emotional affect on visitors. He said he is looking at a 2012 visit that may include a larger group of Red Knights (possibly by bus).

Bob Felt (MA-8) was thanked for his years of service to the Red Knights as Assistant State Rep, and the membership voted in Bob Laford (MA-2) as the new Assistant State Rep for a two year term.

Chapter email address – The International Board has set up new RKMC email addresses for each chapter under "redknightsmc.com" If your chapter has not accessed this account and set up your individual password then this needs to be done.

The electronic voting will be ONE chapter ONE vote, and the information and ballot will be distributed via this email address. (There are some discussions that the host for these email accounts will be changing from Yahoo to the RKMC server). If you have any questions or problems contact your Region 1 Director Don Moore at Ironsguy@aol.com

Red Knights Memorial



Resting on a flatbed trailer at a Sturbridge truck stop, the twisted, charred hunk of steel drew a steady stream of observers.

Men and women wearing red vests, leather motorcycle breeches and patches from dozens of fire departments gazed at the object with reverence as their parked motorcycles waited quietly to be revved up.

The artifact was a remnant of the 9-11 attack on the World Trade Center in New York. Bearing the numbers C-149 and N-176 that signify its role in the federal investigation, the thick, 5-foot-long piece of steel was part of a floor joist and truss support in the impact area between floors 94 and 98 of Tower 1, where one of the two terrorist commandeered planes hit.

Now the steel belongs to the Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club.

More than 100 Red Knights members from half a dozen East Coast states and Quebec, and their friends and family, mustered to escort the 9-11 relic to what will be its permanent home in front of the Boylston fire station.

[After the escorted process to Boylston] a six-man color guard carried the flag-draped steel to the memorial.

Now that the steel is in Boylston, a lasting installation incorporating it will be designed and erected at the memorial.

"This is a great and memorable occasion," said Rich Powers, a local Red Knights leader. "We're paying honor and respect to those who paid the price."

Excerpt from the Worcester Telegram, 6/19/11



2012 marks the 30th anniversary of both the Red Knights and Americade! The two organizations have grown together and been supportive friends of each other for three decades.

Plan to come to Americade (June 4-9) to meet up with your RKMC friends... at the 3-course dinner, the LGFD open house, at the vendors, on Canada Street, in the parade, and while riding in the Adirondacks!

Americade is always a GREAT time whether you come for a day or come for the week. Make plans to join us in 2012.

2012 International Dues

Membership dues payable to the International run from January 1st till December 31st of each year. A grace period for payment is granted from January 1st till February 15th. After that date dues are subject to a \$50.00 late payment fee.

There are nine classifications of membership: Charter Member, Active Member, Associate Member, Social member, Honorary Member, Member-at-Large, Life membership, Compassionate Honorary Member, and Junior membership. Refer to the International By-laws and SOGs if you have any questions about the different classifications.

Dues for new members joining a chapter shall be \$16.00 per member in their first year of membership and will be pro-

- rated at the rate of 25% reduction in the third quarter and 50% reduction in the fourth quarter.
- Renewing member's dues shall be:
 - • Charter, Active or Associate Member \$13.00 each
 - • Social or Honorary Member \$7.00 each
 - • Compassionate Honorary Member no charge
 - • Junior Member no charge
- Dues for chapters are to be sent in U.S. funds to the International Treasurer. Please be sure to include a current membership roster which has the members Name, Address, Zip or postal code, phone number including area code, and Email address if they have one. And lastly their membership status/classification.
- Dues may also be paid on-line using a major credit card but can only be done after a current membership roster has been received by the Treasurer who will then send a link to the chapter President or Treasurer for payment of dues on-line.
- If you have any questions about what you owe please contact the International Treasurer Leo Patry by email or cell 613) 353-1790 - or email at treasurer@redknightsmc.com

A video of the Memorial/WTC escort is available on our state web site

The Boston Motorcycle Show

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

It is always a great time looking at all the bikes, vendors, and wares at this show.

Other 2012 Show dates and locations are:

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

Check out www.kevmarv.com for more information



Show your Red Knight pride—and support other chapters with Red Knights merchandise marketed by other chapters.

At events like Americade and the Annual Convention you can always find chapters setting up to sell their merchandise. What's for sale is also available through the International Webpage. Visit the website at www.redknightsmc.com and click on "Merchandise by Chapter."

From our home state the current listings are:

- Massachusetts-1: Guardian Bell
- Massachusetts-2: Chapter Specific decal and Red Line decal
- Massachusetts-3: Neck Warmer
- Massachusetts-4: Chapter Specific Antenna and Mast Mount Flag, Red Knights 25th Anniversary Flag, Red Knights Since 1982 Flag

Any chapter that wishes to produce RKMC items must obtain a Trademark License Agreement (TMLA) from the International prior to production of the item. If you have questions about the TMLA contact George.

2012 Convention in Gettysburg August 16-19, 2012

PA Chapter 12 is your proud host for the 2012 convention of the Red Knights International Firefighters motor cycle club. We are sure you will enjoy historic Gettysburg and the surrounding area.

They have arranged exclusive events with Harley Davidson's York Plant, the Harrisburg Fire Museum, the National Fire Academy and The National Fallen Fire Fighter Memorial.

They will also be offering national park service guided motorcycle tours of the battle fields and so much more. Click on the Schedule button on the left for a quick overview of the schedule. Each event has links to additional information.

A downloadable registration form that can be completed online and printed or printed and filled in by hand is available through their webpage at <http://www.redknightspa12.org/>.

Liability Insurance Coverage through International.

If your chapter is going to apply for International insurance don't forget this new requirement: The International's insurance company for all chapters and associations requesting coverage for their events is now requiring a submission of the route of the ride with the request for insurance coverage. Any rider involved in an accident while not on the listed route will not be covered.

RK Massachusetts T-Shirts

We have two chapters working up t-shirt designs for us. Design ideas and colors have been sent out and it is hoped that we will be set up and ready to send out ordering information soon.

The basic design ideas we currently are working on include a red t-shirt with the Red Knights logo on the left breast and the Massachusetts state outline on the back with "Massachusetts State Red Knights" within or over the state outline. There is also some talk about placing markers or chapter numbers at the chapter locations within the map.

If you have any design ideas feel free to forward them to George but don't delay.

Once the design is finalized and pricing established the chapter producing the shirts will be your contact for ordering.

Bob and I are in hopes of making up a web page to show the different design ideas and having the chapter presidents vote for the favorite much the same way as you voted for the brick wording.

This is a "not-for-profit" venture so the cost will not include profit for the chapter handling the sales.



2011 marked the tenth year that the Red Knights hosted one of the Americade Three-course dinners!

That first year we were able to garner 60 door prizes by asking for help from Red Knight members. We have historically given out more door prizes than any other "corporate" sponsor of a dinner at Americade.

In the ten years that we have hosted the dinner that first dinner was the smallest number of door prizes brought in...

2002- 60 | 2003- 70 | 2004- 100 | 2005- 96 |
2006- 90 | 2007- 140 | 2008- 120 | 2009- 100 |
2010- 180 | 2011- 70

That means that the Red Knights have given out 926 door prizes over ten years at the Americade dinner, all thanks to the generosity of it's members!

Can you help keep the tradition alive in 2012? Gather up all those gifts you have received and you have no need for — and get them off to Lake George for the Red Knights dinner!

National Fallen Firefighters Memorial
National Fire Academy,
Emmitsburg, MD



Pennsylvania-12, the hosts of the 2012 Red Knights Convention have made arrangements for a section of memorial bricks from Red Knights to be placed together at the National Firefighters Memorial. The walkways leading up to the memorial are lined with memorial bricks from all over the country and we as Red Knights have the opportunity to support this on going effort by purchasing bricks. You can purchase them as a chapter, or individually. We have also voted to buy one from the Red Knights of Massachusetts that will read: "HONORING THOSE — THAT GAVE ALL — MASS. RED KNIGHTS®.

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

Why join a motorcycle rights organization like the AMA or the MMA?

The noblest of reasons is that they fight for motorcyclists in the State House and in the Capitol. But beyond that, both the American Motorcycle Association and the Mass Motorcycle Association offer a number of benefits and business discounts to its members.

One benefit from the AMA is roadside assistance, another benefit I just found out about is that Eagle Rider Rentals (www.eaglerider.com) offers a 10% discount to AMA members — AND if you rent a bike on your birthday — IT'S FREE!

Give yourself and your fellow motorcyclists a gift this year with your membership to the AMA or the MMA and help protect all of our rights as riders.



State Rep Colby had made arrangements for a block of rooms and a hospitality area for Red Knights at the 2011 KC in Killington, VT. But Hurricane

Irene had other ideas as she tore through Vermont destroying many of the roads throughout central Vermont.

Similar to 2011, the Americade Staff are the planners for the 2012 Killington Classic. This event boasts rides, vendors, entertainment, and some of the best scenery in New England.

The date for the next KC is August 30—September 3. George's plans are similar to last year, so think about putting the Killington Classic on your calendar... it's a great time!

www.killingtonclassic.com



Medflight Insurance

The International Board has entered into an agreement with AirMed to offer RKMC members a special discount for air ambulance insurance for when you are on the road. If you are hospitalized while on the road, this insurance will get you home!

Visit their web site for more information about this member benefit. (Visit www.redknightsmc.com/vendor_page.py for more RKMC info).

AirMed International is the country's leading air ambulance company, offering unparalleled medical care and bedside-to-bedside transportation on a worldwide basis. Chosen as air medical transport for two of the top three hospitals in the U.S., as well as a preferred carrier for the U.S. Department of Defense, AirMed operates a fleet of fixed-wing aircraft from to provide service to more than 1 million members in the U.S. and Canada.

AirMed will provide the Red Knights with an association enrollment code that may be used for online enrollment through www.airmed.com. This associate code will provide enrollees with the appropriate annual rates. AirMed will provide membership cards and information to all new and renewing annual memberships. Short-term memberships will have the option to access their online account to obtain temporary membership cards.

AirMed Partner: Red Knights Motorcycle Club Partner ID: MFP8K9E

What's up in 2012?



What are you planning for 2012 for your chapter? Do you have some *great* ride ideas that you would like to share? Do you have a charity event that you would like other chapters to come out and support?

It's time to blow your own horn and tell us all about them. Post any events of interest on the RKMC Massachusetts Ride Page.

Visit the state web page at <http://massredknights.org/> and click on "MA Red Knights Ride Calendar" or send them to George for publishing on our state web site.