



## *Red Knights Motorcycle Club* Massachusetts — Home of the Founders

Fall 2022

Mass-15 will be hosts of the Spring 2023 State Meeting. More info will be forthcoming.

V. 138

### *From the desk of the Massachusetts Red Knights State Representative*

Greetings all Massachusetts Red Knights!

I have had the first of two eye surgeries for lens replacement secondary to cataracts and am squinting to see, so if there are typos or miss-spellings within my report please forgive me.

This is the 22nd (I think) Edition of the Massachusetts State Red Knights news letter.

Without the production of this newsletter, there would not be the unprecedented sharing of information we have, and all the thanks for this goes to MA-2 Bob Laford.

Our 2022 fall state meeting was attended by our Region-1 Director Eric Jock. That was a first for me as your State Rep., but I have been informed that it did happen in years past. I was very pleased and thankful the he was more than willing to come. 250 Miles one way is a long way to travel in one day but that is what Eric does. He was given the floor and more than happy to receive and answer all questions.

The state SOG's were opened and there was only one addition.

Going forward, any changes to the MA state SOG's will require a 60 day notice before being brought forward to the membership. This change gives each chapter time to meet and discuss their vote on the proposed addition, deletion or change

The updated SOG's were sent to all chapter presidents for distribution to their chapter members.

I was re-elected for another two year term at the meeting. I don't know whether that was because you are satisfied with my job or no one else is willing to take it on.

All joking aside, I take this job very seriously and believe it or not I do enjoy it.

Working with Bob Binnall as my assistant has been an ongoing pleasure. Bob and I talk at all hours of the day and night and our over watch of the Mass State Red Knights will continue for as long as you will have us.

Thanks to our Region-1 Director Eric the region has a "May Day" fund. In a nutshell it is a fund that will be used to support our Region-1 Red Knights and their family in times of crisis.

If you or your chapter member or their family member could use a little financial support please have your chapter president contact me with the particulars. I will then forward that information and the "May Day" process will be initiated.

We are not talking big money people but rather a little something to help out.

The fall season is upon us and our riding season will soon be replaced with the doldrums of winter.

Get out and ride while you still can.

Regards and safe riding to you all,

George

### 2022 International Elections

- Region-1 chapters cast ballots for the International Secretary's position. Our new International Secretary is Michael Wood of Indiana
- Congratulations to MA-4 Spike Ostiguy, who running unopposed, retained his position of International Vice-president.



180 Bikes participated in the escorted ride into the Lake Placid area and a cookout at an area FD during the Yankee Rally.



# The Red Knights Massachusetts Chapter 1 Memorial Challenge



Since its inception in the early 2000's and its dedication in 2007, the Red Knights Memorial has been a work of love and dedication by and for Red Knights from all over the world.

From conceptual drawings, work parties, construction and continued care, the Red Knight property in Boylston is there for the members. Currently, there are over 640 names of our brother and sister Red Knights who have passed away engraved at our memorial.

In 2017 the Red Knights realized a dream in acquiring the adjacent property and home — to become the Red Knights Memorial Hall. This building is a place for visiting Red Knights to stay while visiting the area.

The Red Knights still hold a mortgage on this property, and the memorial property cannot be considered a non-profit entity until that mortgage is paid off in full.

**We as a unit of Red Knights can pay this mortgage off and be debt-free if we work together!**

Massachusetts Chapter 1 is issuing a challenge to every Red Knight and every Chapter to work to pay off the Red Knight memorial mortgage in 2023.

RK Mass-1 is **CHALLENGING EVERY RED KNIGHT** to donate \$20 USD to be placed against the principle of the mortgage of the Red Knight property in Boylston, Massachusetts.

*It is recommended that chapter treasurers collect the donations and send them to the International Treasurer, earmarked for "the principle of the mortgage" of the memorial hall. Members-at-Large will send their donations directly to the International Treasurer, again, earmarked for "the principle of the mortgage".*

*Please note in your donations that it is part of the Mass-1 Challenge!*

Donations from just over 8,000 members would pay off the balance of the mortgage of \$160,800. (After this balance is paid and the property becomes tax exempt, donations to the memorial would become tax deductible).

## 2022 YANKEE RALLY – PLATTSBURGH, NY

What a great time we had in northeast NY for the 2022 Yankee Rally! NY50 had been working on version “Take 2 in 22” because the pandemic had given them multiple restarts to their planning process. And their planning paid off!

Records were broken! 361 registered Red Knights were on hand. NY 43 had 32 registered members in attendance. There were several travelers from across the Canadian border, and there were Red Knights from Italy and Switzerland.

As you can expect, our friends from Switzerland-1 were the “furthest traveled.” Our own Norm Beausoleil was furthest via bike with over 1,700 miles from Florida and Mike Woods from Indiana pulled in second on his bike with just under 1,000 miles.

Both the candidates for International Secretary were on hand, Colin Nelson from NH-9 and Mike “Woody” Woods, from Indiana. And they were both very gracious and socialized with each other — as they should!

The weather cooperated and gave us all reason to go out and ride. To help us with the riding incentive, there was also an ice cream challenge. The escorted ride, on Saturday, had 180 bikes participate! With our police partners leading and blocking intersections, it was a great ride through the Olympic region of Lake Placid and a cookout at the Jay FD.

Not an area that many of us ride through frequently, northern NY and northern VT offered many great roads. Ausable Chasm, Whiteface Mountain, running along the Canadian Border, the Champlain Islands, opportunities for a couple of ferry rides... the list was endless on where to ride and what to see. And if you just chose to run those dotted “scenic” routes on your map (if you still look at paper maps), there were plenty of those to go around, too!

The Region 1 coins were on hand to be sold, raising funds for the new “Mayday Fund” to help Red Knights in need. Coin number 343 was auctioned off and brought in a \$1,010 telephone bid from NJ State Rep Ken May. The rally’s charity was the Tunnels to Towers Foundation. The hosts held a cash drawing for \$500 and Rolf Muehlemann (from Switzerland) won it — and donated his winnings to be placed against the principle of the memorial hall’s mortgage. There were also 50/50 drawings each day and a rally 50/50 drawing that had the winner receiving over \$700. Proceeds from the rally’s 50/50 drawings were presented to the state reps for support of the Mayday fund.

What do you have planned for the beginning of June next year? Come to the Yankee!



Changes are afoot for the 2023 Americade. Because of overlapping dates with Laconia, the 2023 Americade will open a week earlier on May 29 (Memorial Day).



Americade returned to its June roots, and Mother Nature was pleased with that, as our weather was EXCEPTIONAL! Beautiful late spring days with sunshine and wispy clouds gave us plenty of time to get out and ride and enjoy the Adirondack Park and the many miles of scenic roads.

We did have a little rain, overnight on Tuesday, and then lingering rain from Wednesday night into Thursday morning. Unfortunately, that did affect the turnout to the Open House sponsored by NY 12 at the Lake George FD and the Founding Fathers Ride.

There were a number of chapters that were on hand selling “wares,” and even though it was a light attendance for RK Members, the chapter did well in marketing their products.

The general turn out for Americade was stronger than the September version of the rally in 2021, but still noticeably smaller than what we have grown to expect of the many years coming to Lake George.

It was apparent that vendors were affected by the supply chain issues that we were all experiencing as some of the Tour Expo tents were sporting lesser product availability. The vendors present were definitely more than what made it to the 2021 show, so that was a good sign that there is some improvement! The Warrensburg Fairground again had another contingent of vendors, but they were a fraction of what was normally at that sight.

There was still a strong turnout of manufacturers offering demo rides. While the pandemic has hurt many industries, the motorcycle industry has actually grown stronger!

Hopefully, that trend will continue and we will all see things continue to improve!



**Yankee Rally — 2023  
June 8-11, 2023**

The Finger Lakes of NY await the arrival of the Red Knights for the 2023 Yankee Rally. Our hosts are RK NY chapter 30, and the host hotel is the Quality Inn in Seneca Falls. All 150 rooms at the host hotel are reserved as of September 17. NY30 is working to secure two additional nearby hotels. Watch the Facebook page or the RK International website events section to for updates.

(All the "big club rallies are posted on the RKMC webpage).

The rally registration and preliminary schedule is included at the end of this newsletter.

**Convention Story** from Rob Wrenn of NY26:

*A few years back at the Red Knights International Convention in Pittsburgh, I had the whole family with me and we had a great time. At the banquet there was a live auction where all proceeds went to a local charity. They were auctioning off a 9/11 commemorative coin produced by Red Knights Nova Scotia 1 and it was a numbered coin of a series numbered 343. So the auction began and the numbers were creeping up into the lower 300's when all of the sudden some drunken person, shouted out 343! To my surprise the auction was ended immediately and for some strange reason, my wife Diana was looking for the very next flight home. (For some strange reason she was rather PISSED). Of course she calmed down and thought about the fact that the money was going to a good cause. But now we have a coin that is to sit in a safe until who knows when.*

*Fast forward to shortly before this year's convention. I said to Diana that I'd never display this coin and it's a shame to leave it just sitting in a safe. I told her that I would donate the coin IF there was to be a live auction. In talking to the hosts of convention I discovered they were doing an auction and it was for a local burn center in honor of a member's child who in fact needed their service some years ago. I explained the story and they said absolutely but that I should really explain the story. At the convention I explained the story and had hopes to start the bidding at \$343. Well in the end that coin sold for \$643 for the burn center (and no it's not back in my safe). It really made me happy to see this coin once again put good money to a good cause.*

**Convention 2022  
Johnstown, PA—Hosted  
by PA22**

2019 was the last in-person convention, as our RKMC gatherings had been held hostage by the pandemic for the past several years! The Red Knights were ready to celebrate together, and our 40th anniversary convention was just the place!

310 members were on hand between the host hotel, and several nearby "overflow" hotels.

Johnstown, PA is full of history, including the Johnstown Flood(s), the 2002 Mine Disaster (and rescue), and the nearby location of the Flight 93 crash and memorial.

There were three separate rides to the 9-11 Flight 93 memorial, and associated sights, to ensure that each Red Knight that wished to, could make a visit to this site.

Rides were also in place to the Shanksville Memorial Chapel, the flood museum, and the site of the mining disaster and rescue.

Comradery, and visiting with old and new friends, alike, was also on the itinerary. From gathering outside the hotel, BBQs, the Picnic at the PNG park, the hospitality room to the Banquet and the Get-away breakfast, we were all able to catch up on old times and make new friends.

MA-2 member Maury Lizotte was on the winning Corn Hole Team (with partner Michael Woods), taking home this year's trophy!

2023 is in Fussach Austria. The registration for that convention is expected to be available November 1.

*Red Knights International Firefighter  
Motorcycle Club*

**40th  
Anniversary Convention**

August 18-21, 2022  
Johnstown, PA

**Schedule of Events**

**Wednesday, August 17<sup>th</sup>**  
Registration 9am to 8pm  
Early Bird Ride- KSU 0900

**Thursday, August 18<sup>th</sup>**  
Registration-9am to 8pm  
Flight 93 Ride # 1- KSU 0900  
Flight 93 Ride # 2- KSU 1200  
Hospitality Room  
Cigar Bar-Hotel Parking Lot

**Friday, August 19<sup>th</sup>**  
Registration 9am to 7pm  
Flight 93 Ride # 3- KSU 0900  
National Flood Memorial Ride, KSU 1200 (Ice Cream Stop!!)  
Picnic- PNG Park – 6pm-10pm  
Inaugural RKMC Convention Corn Hole Tournament  
Shuttle Service begins 5pm, return service begins at 9pm

**Saturday, August 20<sup>th</sup>**  
Registration 9am to 2pm  
Business Meeting, Grand Ballroom- 8am-4pm  
Banquet, 1<sup>st</sup> Summit Arena- 6pm-11pm  
Shuttle service begins at 4pm, return service begins at 10pm

**Sunday, August 21<sup>st</sup>**  
Getaway Breakfast, Grand Ballroom- 6am-10am

Congratulations to Michael "Woody" Woods, from Indiana on his election as International Secretary, and best wishes to Spike Ostiguy as he begins another term serving the membership as International Vice-president.

Chuck Marks, GA-4, ran for an uncontested seat as the Region-4 Director and also joins the board.

We were very fortunate to have two very qualified and high-caliber candidates running for Secretary, and knew that no matter who won the election, the position would be in good hands. We offer a tip-of-the-hat to our friend Colin Nelson of NH-9 for his dedication to the club, and his time as an International candidate.

Although the detailed election results are not shared with the membership, we can all assume it was a close race.

Out of 361 eligible chapters, 182 casted ballots (50%), and out of 251 eligible MALs, 52 cast ballots (20%).

Upcoming Conventions:

- 2023 Austria
- 2024 Germany
- 2025 Illinois
- 2026 Australia
- 2027 (No one has put in request)

## International Convention bylaw change proposals—disposition

- Proposal 1 — To allow members to have multiple rockers on back of vest. This proposal was not brought to the floor. After submission by the submitting chapter, there was a failure to follow proper protocol on the review of this proposal, and because of this failure to do this at the higher level, the proposal could not be brought to the membership.
- Proposal 2 — To clean up formatting of SECTION 1:05 INSIGNIA PLACEMENT. PASSED
- Proposal 3 — To allow Fire Alarm Operators and Dispatchers who are supervised by the Fire Chief to have the designation of “Active Membership.” FAILED.
- Proposal 4 — Change in wording in SECTION 2:01 ACTIVE MEMBER, to solidify that EMTs/Medics that are considered active members would be eligible to hold International Offices. FAILED
- Proposal 5 — Change in wording in SECTION 2:02 CHARTER MEMBERS, change in wording to only allow charter rockers displayed with member’s original chapter (on vest). PASSED
- Proposal 6 — Removal of the word master (of master roster) in SECTION 2:03 ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP, to clean up language. PASSED
- Proposal 7 — To add requirement in SECTION 2:03 ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP , that Associate Members possess a motorcycle endorsement on their license and have access to a motorcycle. WITHDRAWN
- Proposal 8 — To change dates related to dues structure in SECTION 2:10 INTERNATIONAL DUES, to coincide with the annual quarters on the calendar. PASSED
- Proposal 9 — Change in wording in SECTION 2:10 INTERNATIONAL DUES, to eliminate confusion with due date of dues between chapter members and MAL members. PASSED
- Proposal 10 — Change the requirement in SECTION 2:11 ANNUAL MEETING, from annual International Meetings to B-annual International Meetings. WITHDRAWN.
- Proposal 11 — Add wording in SECTION 3:02 QUALIFICATION AND ELECTION, to reinforce that only those who are or have served as Firefighters be eligible to serve as an International Officer. PASSED
- Proposal 12 — Add a reference to another section of the bylaws in SECTION 3:02 QUALIFICATION AND ELECTION. PASSED
- Proposal 13 — Alter bylaw SECTION 3:06 EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS, to state that all board members attend all board meetings. PASSED
- Proposal 14 — Adding “Road Captain” in SECTION 4:02 STATE/PROVINCE/REGION ASSOCIATION OFFICERS, so that State Road Captain be an elected position. WITHDRAWN
- Proposal 15 — Added MAL reference in SECTION 4:02 STATE/PROVINCE/REGION ASSOCIATION OFFICERS, to allow MALs to serve in State/Regional leadership roles. WITHDRAWN
- Proposal 16 — Add to SECTION 4:03 STATE/PROVINCE/REGION ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP, a sentence that allows members/chapters the right not to belong to the state/regional association. FAILED
- Proposal 17 — Wording changes in SECTION 4:04 ASSOCIATION OFFICERS DUTIES, to match the proposal language from Proposal 14. WITHDRAWN





### Red Knights - All Chapters & MAL

Norm Beausoleil · 58m · 📍

Good day all! After lots of discussions with folks at the Dixie this weekend, I am compelled to put this out here.

Many of the southern states (mostly Florida, I think) and the northern states - mostly Regions 1 and 2 - have members that are considered "snowbirds" meaning that they travel in the same direction as the migratory birds, south for winter, north for summer.

Others "migrate" to never return. That is great - I love it, but it also presents us with an interesting conundrum.

I'd like to ask all members that either go with the flow or have moved and chosen to keep their original chapter membership to notify the state rep of their new home state that they are there. We have many members looking for people to ride with but if we don't know someone else is around, and where they are, we can't help out.

For instance, I have several members that are from NY that retain only their NY memberships while here in Florida permanently. Those I know of are hundreds of miles apart (Florida is a BIG state - more coastline than either the East coast or West coast states. I also know of members that come from Ontario and Massachusetts during the winter so I am sure there are others I'm not aware of.

So I'm asking all of you that see this -

If you intend to travel to another state for any extended amount of time and don't plan to join an additional chapter or change chapters, regardless of what state you're going to or coming from, please notify the state rep of the place you're staying at so we can all help each other find our brothers and sisters.

It's easy - take the postal 2 letter code of the state you're visiting followed by "rep@redknightsmc.com" - for example mine is frep@redknightsmc.com, New York is nyrep@redknightsmc.com.

Thanks for listening and ride safe!

When I was working at UMass Amherst, my role would often cross paths with construction projects on campus. I understand how significant the "topping out" is on a project, and wanted to share this below story I saw on-line. (No, I do not know where this occurred).

*"Sometimes we all need a little hope in humanity. This was mine today.*

*As the job site next door celebrated the topping out of their build today they did something very remarkable.*

*During construction, a worker lost his life at this particular job site.*

*His coworkers recognized this man today as they flew his motorcycle to the top of the building. What a awesome display of love for this fallen worker.*

*I didn't know him but as a fellow Sheet Metal worker and fellow motorcyclists I salute you my brother....fly high and free."*



Thanks to all that came to the memorial hall in late August to welcome our brothers Michael Lorek and Peter Himstedt from Germany. They were in the states for a month, spending the first ten days in the Bay State, and then venturing to upstate NY, New York City and Long Island before heading back to Massachusetts for the last few days of their adventure, which included some Boston sightseeing with MA15 and MA13 members.



On top of Mt. Greylock in western Mass with members of MA2



### 2023 Red Knights International Election

International positions of President, Treasurer, and Region 1, 3, 5 and 7 are all up for election/ re-election in 2023. Similar to this year, chapter election ballots will only be cast if there are contested positions that need chapter participation.



The host of the 2023 convention is Austria 4 (more details on next page)

2024 is in Germany, 2025 Illinois, and 2026 Australia



2023 convention registration, hosted by Austria, will open on November 1 at <https://rkmaustria4.eu>

The below information was taken from the Powerpoint presentation given at the European Rally in September.

3 countries

1 lake



### SCHEDULE:

Tuesday, September 5th — Arrival of the International Board with Accommodations at the Holiday In Express Lustenau

Wednesday, September 6th — Breakfast at the hotel and Excursion to Dachau and Munich

Thursday, September 7th — Breakfast at the hotel and Excursion to the Bregenzerwald (Return at noon). Dinner at 7:30 pm at the convention site, shuttle bus service provided.

Friday, September 8th — Breakfast together at Fussach. Excursion in the area (Return at Noon). European Association meeting at 5 pm. Dinner at 8 pm, general hospitality with shuttle bus service provided.

Saturday, September 9th — Breakfast from 7 am -10 am in Fussach. International Business Meeting from 8 am to approx. 5.00 p.m. Optional ride-out at the area. Gala dinner at 7 pm with shuttle bus service and general hospitality.

Sunday, September 10th — Breakfast together in Fussach. Blessing with European Chaplain Brother Luis. Conclusion of the 2023 International convention.

### PRICING (options) — Excursion prices extra

September 5-11 — Hotel with breakfast (Wednesday/Thursday), Thursday dinner in Fussach, Friday breakfast and dinner in Fussach, Saturday breakfast, lunch and gala dinner in Fussach, Sunday breakfast in Fussach, and Monday breakfast at the hotel. Drinks not included. **780 EUR**

September 7-10 — Thursday evening dinner in Fussach, Friday breakfast and dinner at Fussach, Saturday breakfast, lunch and gala dinner and Sunday breakfast in Fussach. Drinks not included. **Hotel 390 EUR Camping ground: 250 EUR**

September 8-10 — Friday evening dinner in Fussach, Saturday breakfast, lunch and gala dinner in Fussach and Sunday breakfast in Fussach. Drinks not included. **Hotel: 260 EUR Camping: 175 EUR**

Saturday, September 9 — Breakfast, Lunch, Gala dinner in Fussach. Drinks not included. **75 EUR**

Red Knights MC Austria IV  
International Convention 2023  
September 7-10 2023  
in Fussach, Austria

- 6 Hotels
- 344 Rooms
- 688 Beds
- 2 Camping areas available

Two Excursions:

- The Memorial Concentration Camp at Dachau near Munich. Includes transportation and an English speaking guide. **130 EUR**



- Bregenzerwald for a Cheese and Liquor tasting event and steam locomotive ride. **95 EUR**



## Founding Fathers Ride and Dinner

On June 9, 2022 NY12 held its second annual "Founding Fathers Ride and Dinner @ Americade". The purpose of this event is to generate funds so that we can rent a limo to transport any Founding Father from Boylston, MA to the Lake George Fire House in NY so they can attend this event. The limo then waits for them and returns our Founding Fathers back to Boylston, MA on that same day. In 2021 we had 61 attendees and NY12 raised \$1345.00 from this event. ALL proceeds from last year's event were used this year to rent a limo to transport our Founding Fathers to the event this year.



Although the weather didn't cooperate with us, it was still a GREAT event with 8 of our 11 Founding Fathers represented at this event. All who attended were lucky enough to have Founding Fathers Ed Wright, Jon Tripp, Dave Hunt, Bob Bourassa, Norm Beausoleil, Roger Wentzell, Don & Dottie Parker and Jackie Hamilton, wife of Heaven One Founding Father David Hamilton in attendance. NY 12 also made sure that all Founding Fathers were represented at this event. A memorial table with place settings, flowers and Heaven One place cards were set up for our three Heaven One Founding Fathers, David Hamilton, Collin Mackey and Bob Goulet.



As stated above the weather didn't cooperate with us so we had to cancel the intended ride but an impromptu ride happened when the sun came out and Jackie Hamilton agreed to take a ride with George Colby. In a matter of minutes there were 11 bikes lined up with Jackie Hamilton in the front of the pack. We pulled out onto the main drag and continued down rte. 9 where Jackie than outstretched her arms and looked up to the sky. The following is a post that Jackie Hamilton posted on FaceBook, after the ride:



*I would like to thank everyone especially George for taking me out for a ride on his goldwing bike today, it brought back so many memories of the times David and I spent on ours. What no one knew was I had closed my eyes and drifted back in time and when George touched my knee it was as if David was there with me and we were together again for a few moments. I will always be grateful to you George for giving me that beautiful moment and everyone who participated in that ride, thank you, thank you, thank you*



After the ride we then had Founding Fathers cake, raffles and the winner of the 50/50, Founding Father Norm Beausoleil donating his winnings right back to the event so we can rent another limo for our Founding Fathers next year.

As the limo pulled out to return our Founding Fathers back to Boylston, MA they were met by a motorcycle escort that shut down the streets of Lake George and escorted them back to the highway and for a few exits.

This is a FaceBook post by Founding Father Norm after the event:

*Unfortunately, I only got pre-departure photos of Thursday's Founding Fathers' Dinner at Americade in the Lake George, NY, Fire Hall, but I'd like to give a HUGE shout out to those that made it happen. From arranging a ride for 7 Founders, 2 wives and the president of MA1 from and to Boylston, MA, to a warm reception at the FD and a great meal topped off with a delicious cake, we couldn't have asked for anything nicer. I hope I get everyone, and if not, please add them in a comment. It was truly humbling! From organizers to their assistants, thank you! Robert and Alex Binnall, Francis Corcoran and Theresa A Dewitt, Bob & Sue Hollner, Frank Nestro, NY 11 and NY 12, George and Sandi Colby, the Lake George Volunteer Fire Department and all the kitchen help - I didn't get their names - on behalf of Don, Dot, Jackie, Roger, Ed, Bob, Jon, Dave, myself and Pete - THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!!!! You guys rock!*

This year we had 65 attendees and raised money again that will be used to transport our Founding Fathers to next year's event. With that said some of you may have seen that they have moved the date of Americade to May 29 – June 3<sup>rd</sup> next year. Please be looking for an email that will be sent to your chapters email letting you know how we will be moving forward with this event next year, we hope to see you there.

If you are unable to attend this event but would like to donate to this GREAT event, please feel free to contact Bob Binnall at: [foundingfatherspatches@gmail.com](mailto:foundingfatherspatches@gmail.com)

“Loyal To Our Duty”

## Charity ride crashes show why vigilance is always needed

By Lance Oliver

August 3, 2022 edition of Revzilla's "Common Thread" column

One Saturday afternoon, two charity motorcycle rides two states apart, two multi-motorcycle crashes with serious injuries.

It's great to participate in these events and support a good cause, but it's also important not to be lulled into a false sense of security. If anything, riders need to be on a higher level of alert when riding in the middle of a hundred or more other motorcycles on public roads. Two recent incidents that happened on the same day show that.

One incident occurred during the Riding for the Cure fundraiser in western Pennsylvania. The annual ride raises money to help cancer survivors. Due to a detour, the ride was on a side road that was not part of the original route. One rider crashed and others had to take action to avoid the downed motorcycle. Several riders were injured, four of them seriously, according to local media reports.

The second incident occurred in Indianapolis during the Helping Heroes Freedom Ride 465, an event that raises money to support hospitalized military veterans and first responders and their families. The ride takes place on I-465, the beltway that circles the city, and the crash occurred on I-70, which connects with 465.

"The chain reaction crash began when a white passenger vehicle cut in between some of the riders, causing one motorcyclist to take evasive action, striking another motorcycle," according to a statement from the Indiana State Police. Two other riders then crashed trying to avoid the collision. The car left the scene and was not identified.

Police said six people were taken to the hospital. According to a post on the organization's Facebook page, a young couple were the most seriously injured. They have a two-year-old child and the woman is pregnant with their second child, according to the post.

### The lessons learned

My point in mentioning these two examples is certainly not to discourage you from participating in organized charity event rides. These events that motorcyclists do to raise money for good causes is one of the rare moments of positive public relations for motorcycling. Beyond that, they can also be fun.

But I also know from experience that it can be just as risky, if not even more so, to ride in a large, closely spaced group, even at a moderate speed, as it is to ride alone. As we see from these two incidents, when something does go wrong, riders often have few good options. One rider's mistake, or one unexpected threat, such as the car entering the group in Indianapolis, can cause a chain reaction. We've written before about the keys to staying safe on the street, which first and foremost focus on maintaining visual awareness, recognizing threats, and having an escape route. But in a group, it may be harder to do all those things.

I think it's easy to fall into a false sense of security on group rides and let down your guard. You don't have to think about where you're going, because someone is leading the group. The pace is not challenging. It may feel like there's "safety in numbers," but if a car plows into your group, having more motorcycles around you may mean you're at greater risk, not less.

Again, by no means am I trying to discourage you from participating in group charity rides. But when you do, keep the same awareness you would normally ride with — or better yet, dial it up to an even higher level of awareness.



## A letter from Region-1 Rep in regards to the 2024 Yankee Rally

Good morning Region One.

As many of you know, Yankee Rally take 2 in 22 has come and gone.

Everyone who attended seemed to have had a great time!

Congratulations New York 50 for a job well done.

Congratulations also to New York Chapter 30 as the host of the 2023 Yankee.

We all are looking forward to seeing what the Finger Lakes Region of central New York has to offer the Red Knights Motorcycle Club! I know that we are certainly looking forward to the amazing riding, and for many, grabbing that famous "X" firehouse! In 2018 during the Clifton Park New York Yankee, it was decided to collectively choose 2 years hosts for Yankee Rally. This year unfortunately, in person, there was only one chapter interested in hosting for next year. That brings us to 2024. What do we do?

I am asking that you bring this news back to your chapter.

If you have been to a rally you know what it takes; you know what it is about, ask your chapter; "Is this something we can do?"

If your chapter has even had the thought of hosting a Yankee I encourage you present a bid for the membership of Region 1 to review. Questions? Reach out to me, or any past hosting chapter, we will give you all the details you need!

Between now, and Monday October 24, 2022 I will accept bids to host 2024 Yankee Rally. All bids will be reviewed and presented via official Red Knights Motorcycle club email only.

On November 1, 2022 they will be presented to the membership of Region one.

A 30-day review period of the bids will then take place. A survey will be established and sent out along with the bids for chapters to vote on their selection. All bids should be sent in using Microsoft Word®.doc format. Bids should include general location of the rally, estimate on price per night for hotel accommodations, and some area highlights. Please do not stop there, really sell it to the membership!

Thank you and good luck to everyone!

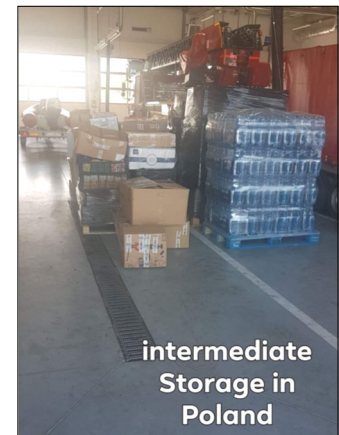
Respectfully,  
Eric Jock  
Region 1 Director  
Red Knights International Motorcycle club



With proceeds from the sale of the "Red Knights Worldwide United for Ukraine" patches, pallets of supplies were purchased and brought to the Ukraine and shared with firefighters there. (Over 2,000 RK Ukraine patches were purchased by Red Knights from all over the world to support the Ukrainian responders).



In Butscha the FF is happy



intermediate Storage in Poland

**A special request from your newsletter editor. If you have read this far — THANK YOU!**

**We are trying to evaluate if the number of people who actually read the state newsletter matches the hours of work needed to create the state newsletter twice a year.**

**Please take a moment to email me at [rflaford@tiac.net](mailto:rflaford@tiac.net) just to say you read the newsletter. It is a very unscientific method of looking at our readership. Thank you.**

*Bob*



# "Yankee Rally" 2023

HOSTED BY NY CHAPTER 30

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS (subject to change):

Wednesday, June 7	ALL DAY	Self-Guided Rides/Tours will be available
Thursday, June 8	11:00-5:00	Registration Open Regalia/Merchandise and Silent Auction Room Open
	ALL DAY	Self-Guided Rides/Tours will be available
	6:00 PM KSU	Evening Ride to end at Mac's Drive-In Restaurant in Waterloo <b>(cash required)</b>
Friday, June 9	8:00-5:00	Registration Open Regalia/Merchandise and Silent Auction Room Open
	1:00-5:00	Games/Activities
	6:00-?	Evening Social Event: The "Yankee Rally FLX-perience" <i>Finger Lakes Wineries, Breweries and Distilleries will be on hand to provide tastings and bottle sales of their products</i> <i>Variety of Food Trucks for the many tastes of the Finger Lakes</i> <i>Cash Bar will be available</i>
Saturday, June 10	8:00-2:00	Registration Open
	8:00-5:00	Regalia/Merchandise and Silent Auction Room Open
	9:00 AM	Delegate Meeting <i>Proposals for 8<sup>th</sup> "Yankee Rally"</i> <i>Region and International Reports</i>
	11:00 AM KSU	Feature Ride to Finger Lakes Waterfalls & Hammondsport (lunch provided) Tour of the Glenn Curtiss Aviation and Motorcycle Museum (extra charge)
	ALL DAY	Self-Guided Routes/Tours will be available
	6:00 PM	Evening BBQ Dinner Winners of Silent Auction Announced
	7:00-11:00	Live Music by "The Slow Riders" <i>Cash Bar will be available</i>
Sunday, June 11	8:00-11:00	Farewell Buffet Breakfast for all participants

Daily 50/50 drawings, one Rally-long 50/50 drawing and Chinese auction items  
Proceeds from this event will benefit the Finger Lakes Regional Burn Association's "Camp Courage"



# "Yankee Rally" 2023

HOSTED BY NY CHAPTER 30

**June 7-11, 2023 – Finger Lakes Region, NY**

## EVENT REGISTRATION FORM

\*\* Please submit one form per attendee. \*\*

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

FULL MAILING ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

Check all that apply:

QNTY		AMOUNT
	"Yankee Rally 2023" Registration Package (Adult) – <b>\$75.00</b> – Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 1 "Yankee Rally 2023" Drink Tumbler</li><li>• 1 Rocker Patch</li><li>• 1 Tote Bag</li><li>• Saturday Evening BBQ Dinner</li><li>• Sunday Morning Farewell Buffet Breakfast</li></ul>	
	"Yankee Rally 2023" Registration Package (Youth 12 and under) – <b>\$35.00</b> – Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 1 "Yankee Rally 2023" T-Shirt – <b>SIZE:</b></li><li>• 1 Rocker Patch</li><li>• 1 Tote Bag</li><li>• Saturday Evening BBQ Dinner</li><li>• Sunday Morning Farewell Buffet Breakfast</li></ul>	
	"Yankee Rally 2023" Commemorative Coin – <b>\$10.00</b>	
	"Yankee Rally 2023" T-Shirt – <b>\$15.00</b> – <b>SIZE:</b>	
	Pre-Sale Ticket to Glenn Curtiss Aviation & Motorcycle Museum in Hammondsport – <b>\$10.00</b>	
	Extra "Yankee Rally 2023" Rocker Patch – <b>\$5.00</b>	
	<b>TOTAL REGISTRATION AMOUNT:</b>	

**HOST HOTEL:** Quality Inn and Conference Center, 2468 State Route 414, Seneca Falls, NY – (315) 577-6068

**RATES:** \$139.00 (plus tax and fees) per night for all nights of the Rally

**ALL RESERVATIONS** are made online: <https://www.choicehotels.com/reservations/groups/IB37V5>

**EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION**

ATTENDEE NAME \_\_\_\_\_

In case of emergency, please contact:

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

**PAYMENT INFORMATION**

1. Completed registration forms, with payment, may be sent to: Deborah Speed  
5810 Moran Road  
Canandaigua, NY 14424

Please make check or money order payable to **“Red Knights Motorcycle Club NY 30”**.

2. Completed forms may also be e-mailed to [yankeerally2023@gmail.com](mailto:yankeerally2023@gmail.com) and payment may be sent via PayPal (either “Finger Lakes Red Knights” or [redknightsny30@yahoo.com](mailto:redknightsny30@yahoo.com)).

**Registrations MUST be received by Saturday, April 1, 2023 to guarantee all package items**  
(Any registrations received after April 1, 2023 will still be accepted,  
we just cannot guarantee all package items will be available.)

Any questions, please e-mail [yankeerally2023@gmail.com](mailto:yankeerally2023@gmail.com) or contact any of the following:

Chris Tiffany, President  
(585) 748-7688  
[redknightsny30@yahoo.com](mailto:redknightsny30@yahoo.com)

Mike McWilliams, Vice President  
(585) 203-4883  
[mikemcw08@gmail.com](mailto:mikemcw08@gmail.com)