



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

Fall 2023#

Mass-2 will be hosts of the Spring 2024 State Meeting on Saturday, May 4.
More info will be forthcoming.

V. 142

From the desk of the Massachusetts Red Knights State Representative

Greetings all Massachusetts Red Knights!

First, Congratulations to MA-IV member, Spike Ostiguy on his election to the post of International President! And best wishes to our long-time friend, Leo Patry, who has stepped down as Region-2 Director after 32 years serving on the board (many years as International Treasurer, but also as International President for a time).

2023 has been a tough year medically for Massachusetts Red Knights.

We lost a MA-13 member and another underwent open heart surgery. A MA-15 member escaped with his life after being hit by a van while riding and your Assistant State Rep. Bob Binnall underwent knee surgery and is still in recovery mode. Past International President Ed Brouillet and Founders Ed Wright and Roger Wentzell all continue to fight the good fight, and it was good to see past State Rep Charlie Clarkson at the state meeting, after his surgery.

I have sent out many requests for get well cards to flood our members, and I know the reception of your cards is very much appreciated by those who receive them. Let us all wish each other a safe and healthy fall and winter going forward!

The fall state meeting held September 9th, was another one of the shortest in my tenure and your Assistant State Rep. Bob Binnall and I are going to work to maintain the "short" format going forward. Thank you to MA-IV for being our hosts at the museum in Oxford.

Working with Bob Binnall, your assistant state representative continues to be a great pleasure for me. Bob is a dedicated man, a great sounding board, and I appreciate him very much. He was elected for another two year term at the fall meeting.

Our Region-1 Director, Ken May, attended the 2023 convention in Austria and is bringing home official news regarding how the voting went on the many articles. I will disseminate the information when I receive it. We appreciate Ken's presence in Massachusetts for events, like our Spring State Meeting and his attending the MA-2 40th anniversary celebration.

The riding season is starting to wane. Please continue to stay alert as you squeeze in as much riding as you can before the PMS season bears down on us.

Lastly people — straight from the horses mouth so to speak. Removing all doubt or guessing and rumors, I have word and permission to spread it from the man himself, that Norm Beausoleil is throwing his hat in the ring for International Vice President.

With Matt Mattera, from New Jersey, having already announced that he is running, we know there will be a contest to fill the International VP post that was made vacant with Spike's election as International President. Keep tuned for the timing of when we, as chapters, will have ballots to cast this fall.

Regards and safe riding to you all,

George

2023 International Elections

- Region-1 chapters had no contests in the 2023 election, and no ballots to cast for International positions.
- Congratulations to MA-4 Spike Ostiguy, who running unopposed, has taken on the post of International President, and to Scott Ryan and Ken May on retaining their positions as International Treasurer and Region-1 Director, respectively.
- With the election of Spike Ostiguy as president at the 2023 International Convention, a vacancy for Vice President on the board now exists.

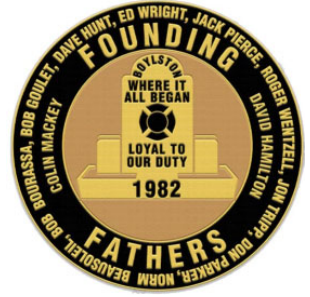
A letter from the International President was shared about the nomination process for the position and the pending special election. According to the By-Laws Section 3:05, we will hold an election to fill the remaining term for VP. Please follow the guidelines if you would like to nominate anyone for this position.



Massachusetts Red Knights representing MA-1, MA-2 and MA-4 at the International convention in Austria.



The Red Knights Massachusetts Chapter 1 Memorial Challenge



Since it's inception in the early 2000's and it's 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 RKMC still hold a mortgage on this property, once this mortgage is paid, we can transfer the property to our Memorial Foundation, which is a charity, and apply for a waiver of property taxes.

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.

(Challenge is not intended to include Junior Members of the Red Knights)

2023 YANKEE RALLY – FINGER LAKES OF NY

With the changes we saw at Americade this year, more Red Knights chose to plan their riding vacation around Yankee Rally and the Finger Lakes, rather than Lake George. There were 409 registered Red Knights at the event — to the point that the Saturday banquet used two separate banquet rooms!

There were 18 states, two Canadian Provinces, and four members from Germany that made up the sea of Red in Seneca Falls.

There were four separate hotels to house all the Red Knights. Two were close to the host hotel, and one was a ten minute ride. That balanced out for those who were at the further hotel, because that facility was right on the lake! It was a beautiful location and our members that were there will tell you that it more than made up for the commute!

As always, there was a lot of socializing with friends and the making of new friends. The Finger Lakes region was also great riding and many people took advantage of those miles of secondary roads and vistas. A number of Red Knights even made it up to Niagara Falls during the week!

The hosts had two group rides, one on Thursday that brought the entourage to a local dairy bar for dinner, and the Saturday ride was to the Glenn Curtiss museum <https://glennhcurtissmuseum.org/> and included a cookout at the adjacent American Legion. The museum was full of bikes, motorcycles, cars, boats and airplanes — WOW!

The Region-1 meeting was brief, and all thanked NY30 for all their work done in providing the successful rally.

Saturday evening included a great BBQ and drawings for the raffles. It was a lot of fun!

Come join us in 2024.



RKMC® YANKEE RALLY 2024

JUNE 5TH - JUNE 9TH, 2024

EVENT CONTACT:

EMAIL: yankeerally2024@gmail.com

HOST HOTEL:

Best Western Plus in Keene, NH

The link below will work for dates during the Rally and checking out on June 9th. If you are coming before June 5th or staying after the Rally you will need to make an additional booking with the hotel.

Booking link:

https://www.bestwestern.com/en_US/book/hotel-rooms.30017.html?groupid=2A3KU113

CAMPING GROUND; PLEASE CALL TO BOOK:

Located about 25 min away.

<https://shir-roy.com/>

REGISTRATION FORM:

*** Will be created soon ***



HOSTED BY NEW HAMPSHIRE CHAPTER 9 W/ASSISTANCE FROM OTHER NH CHAPTERS





Thank you to everyone who came to the Blessing of the Bikes hosted by MA-2 back in May.

There were Red Knights from MA1, MA2,

MA4, MA12, CT2 and CT11 that were in attendance with over forty bikes and sixty people!

(And the ice cream was good too!)



We know that like the rest of the world, Americade has changed since COVID reared its ugly head in 2020.

For 2023 the biggest change is that Americade moved to a earlier date, starting Tuesday of Memorial Day week. That change will remain going forward for 2024. In 2024, the rally will run from Wednesday, May 29 to Saturday, June 1.

Although the Saturday crowds with day-trippers saw more bikes and visitors, the weekday attendance for the Lake George event were reduced. This reduced attendance was prevalent at the Open House and Founding Father's Ride sponsored by NY-12 on Thursday. There were only about 40 people at the LGFD, and only 23 bikes on the ride.

NY-3 again hosted a Red Knights ride out of a local campground, with about 50 bikes taking part in that event.

If you were a weekday visitor to the vendor tents you had plenty of elbow room. Unfortunately the number and variety of vendors at the expo continues to be limited. The footprint of the tent city was smaller and had moved to Beach Road with traffic shut off to that area. I personally thought this was a good location on the tarmac as opposed to the grass and gravel track of the park where vendors had been in recent years. The vendors at the Warrensburg Fairgrounds were almost non-existent, with only about six tents set up.

Even with the smaller crowds, it was good to see Red Knight friends at the fire station and to see several of our Founding Fathers enjoying social time with other Red Knights.

One positive note about smaller crowds is that the beautiful roads we all enjoy while visiting the Adirondacks were all ours, with very little traffic.

During the Founding Father's Ride www.roadpics.com was set up on Route 9N and got photos of all the bikes participating as we went by. If you were on the ride, you can download a professional photo of you and your bike on their webpage.

It will be interesting to see if the change of dates and the reduced number of days will help the event bounce back post-pandemic, but it is safe to say that the days of tens of thousands of riders and being elbow to elbow in the vendor tents and 300+ Red Knights at our sponsored dinner and open house at the fire station are just great memories of the past.

But there is always time for new memories to build.

2024 Red Knights International Election

International positions of Vice-President, Secretary and Regions 2, 4, 6 and 8 are all up for election/ re-election in 2024. Similar to this year, chapter election ballots will only be cast if there are contested positions that need chapter participation.

International Board calls for interested members to serve on Committees

The board is looking to the appointment of Committee Chairs. This year's appointments are Chaplain, Help-A-Knight Chair, By-Laws Chair, and Nominating Committee. The board hereby starts this process as defined in SOG 1:05 and ask that anyone interested in a position send in their Letters of intent/resumes to the International Secretary no later than October 25th.

MARK YOUR 2024 CALENDARS!

Spring 2024 State Meeting and the MA-2 Blessing of the Bikes (and Ice Cream Social) are being planned on the same day!

Saturday, May 4, 2024

Coffee and Chapter Wares at 9:00 am

State Meeting at 10:00 am

Blessing of the Bikes and Ice Cream Social at noon

Meeting will be at the Petersham Congregational Church Hall, 21 North Main Street (Route 32) in Petersham (Just north of the common)

Blessing of the Bikes will be on the town common (as it was in 2023).

Two wheels, three wheels or four wheels, come enjoy some ice cream on the common and start your riding season off with a blessing with our greater motorcycle family, (after the meeting).

Statistics from the convention:

- 580 Red Knights in attendance
- 57 voting delegates at annual meeting
- 442 Chapters in the RKMC
- Over 10,000 members
- 48 members were added to the Heaven-1 chapter roll since the last convention

Convention 2023 - Fussach Austria

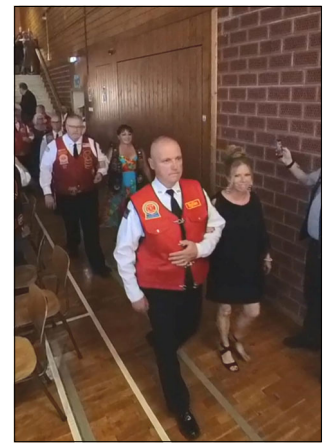
Members from Mass-1, Mass-2 and Mass-4 were across the pond, participating in the 2023 convention. They were some of the 580 Red Knights at the convention, and fifty-seven chapters on hand at the annual board meeting in September. Members from around the world came together for a great time at the foot of the Alps, celebrating new and old Red Knight friendships.

Prior to the convention, members had the opportunity to enjoy stunning views of the Alps on a steam train ride, and also a very solemn tour at the Dachau Concentration Camp, in Germany.

The annual business meeting was close to five hours in length, covering a plethora of business including 27 bylaw revision proposals. (Disposition of proposal votes on next page).

Congratulations to Mass-1 President Peter Stone on his receiving the 2023 Perry Carter Red Knight of the Year award!

Reports included that, during the previous fiscal year, members have donated \$9,317 to the Memorial Fund. To date, \$8,435 has been donated in the name of the "Mass-1 Challenge" to be applied directly to the principle on the Memorial's mortgage.



Our newly elected International President, Spike Ostiguy with his wife, Karen, and his board enter the banquet hall.



Members at the Annual Business Meeting

Upcoming Conventions:

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

International Convention bylaw change proposals — disposition
State Rep Colby had shared the 54 page document with all the bylaw change proposals. Below is a synopsis of the voting outcome of those proposals.

A number of proposals were passed over, withdrawn, or not brought to the floor for other reasons. These included Proposal 4 (§ 7:01), Proposal 7 (§ 4:04 (6)), Proposal 17, Proposal 25 (§ 1:05).

Failed	Proposal #1 Proposal for changes to 3:24 BY-LAWS COMMITTEE
Failed	Proposal #2 Proposal for changes to Article 2 Membership
Passed	Proposal #3 Proposal for changes to Section 2:15 Majority Vote
Passed	Proposal #6 Proposal for changes to 3:11 COMPENSATION TO EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS
Failed	Proposal #8 Proposal for changes to Section 2 “Social Membership”
Failed	Proposal #9 Proposal for changes to Section 2:16 Procedure
Failed	Proposal #10 Proposal for changes to Section 2:01 Active Member
Passed	Proposal #11 Proposal for changes to Section 2:02 Charter Members
Failed	Proposal #12 Proposal for changes to Section 2:03 Associate Member
Failed	Proposal #13 Proposal for changes to Section 2:07 Life Member
Passed	Proposal #14 Proposal for changes to Section 3:17 Secretary, International Executive Board
Passed	Proposal #15 Proposal for changes to Section 3:25 SUSPENSION OR REMOVAL OF MEMBERS BY THE INTERNATIONAL BOARD
Passed	Proposal #16 Proposal for changes to Section 3:05 “VACANCY”
Failed	Proposal #18 Proposal for changes to Section 4:01 STATE / PROVIDENCE/ REGION ASSOCIATIONS
Failed	Proposal #19 Proposal for changes to Section 3:24 BY-LAWS COMMITTEE
Failed	Proposal #19 Alternate Proposal for changes to Section 3:24 BY-LAWS COMMITTEE
Failed	Proposal #20 Proposal for changes to Section 2:01” ACTIVE MEMBER”
Failed	Proposal #21 Proposal for changes to Section 2:11” ANNUAL MEETING”
Passed	Proposal #22 Proposal for changes to Section 2:10 “INTERNATIONAL DUES”
Passed	Proposal #23 Proposal for changes to Section 1:05 “INSIGNIA PLACEMENT”
Failed	Proposal #24 Proposal for changes to Section 1:05 “INSIGNIA PLACEMENT”
Failed	Proposal #26 Proposal for changes to Section 1:05 “INSIGNIA PLACEMENT”
Passed	Proposal #27 Proposal for additions to Section 1:05 “INSIGNIA PLACEMENT”

Red Knights were represented at the Tri-state Firefighters' Meet in May—held on the shores of Webster Lake.

The lake's actual name is

Lake Chargoggagoggmanchauggagoggagoggchaubunagungamaugg

RK Mass-4 secured a booth at the show, and with support from members of Mass 1, 2, 4, 12 and 15 and CT-11 were all on hand over the course of the day. The hosts welcomed firefighters attending the show to learn more about the Red Knights. They gave out 11 flyers to interested firefighters and provided contact information, for those interested to CT 10 Plantsville, three for RI 1 Coventry, one for MA 2, one for MA 1.



Nearly 90 Red Knights were on hand to celebrate Mass-2's 40th Anniversary Celebration in August. Red Knights from MA1, MA2, MA4, MA15 as well as others from Maine, NH, CT, NY, NJ, Virginia and Florida joined in the afternoon's festivities.

Regional Director Ken May was on hand, as were two Founding Fathers, Communications Chair Sara-Lynn Prefontaine, and past International VP Paul Zimmerman.

MA-2 recognized their 40-year members with RKMC 40-year pins. Also recognized during the program were MA2 members Tim Kilhart and Kevin Martin with the honor of Life Membership for their long-time service to the club and the E-board.

All four chapter presidents, who have served the chapter through the forty years were also on hand; Phil Jordan, Ed Brouillet, Bob Laford, and Kevin Martin.

Fall State Meeting

Detailed minutes of the fall state meeting were distributed via chapter executives. Below are just a few information points from the meeting. Thank you to Mass-4 for being our hosts at the Huguenot Steamer Museum in Oxford and holding a post-meeting ice cream ride.

The museum was open for the visiting Red Knights with museum staff on hand to answer questions.

Twenty-nine members representing Mass chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 9, 13 and 15 were on hand.

It was announced that two of the chapters whose charters were rescinded during International business at the convention were Mass-5 (Pittsfield) and Mass-7 (Martha's Vineyard).



Congratulations to Bob Binnall on his re-election as our Assistant State Rep. at the Fall State Meeting



Speaking the language of motorcycle ads. Looking for a used bike on Craigslist? Here is some assistance as you translate your average Craigslist "motorcycle for sale" ad into the truth.
(Taken from Revzilla.com)

Asking \$16,000, make offer	Someone please give me \$10,000
\$11,500 firm	Someone please give me \$10,000
\$8,000 firm, no low-ball offers	Short of selling a kidney, I have no means of paying off the \$7,500 balance on the loan on this \$5,000 bike
OBO	Just give me two thirds of what I'm asking, please God
Ran when I parked it, needs carb work	The 10-year-old gasoline in there has turned to mica
Needs battery	I don't have \$100 for a new battery, and even if I did, putting in a new battery would only reveal that it won't start
Turns over, good compression	At least the damn thing hasn't seized and I'm gambling you won't show up with a compression gauge
Must go this weekend	I'm six months late on the rent and the eviction proceedings are starting to get serious
No low ballers	The payoff on the loan is way more than it's worth so I have to get an inflated price
Wife says it has to go	I haven't ridden it in five years, but I'm the kind of person who feels better blaming someone else
No time to ride	I drive my car every day because it has air conditioning and I'm lazy
Over \$5,000 in extras	I wasted a lot of money on farkles nobody wants
Extended swingarm, lowered	Clutch is fried from playing Rickey Dragracer at every light and the bike now handles like a garbage truck
Aftermarket exhaust, sounds great	Obnoxiously loud, guaranteed to tick off your neighbors
Stock exhaust but I removed the baffles, sounds great	Obnoxiously loud would be an improvement; also, runs poorly
Custom paint	Been crashed
Fresh paint	Been crashed
New plastics	Been crashed
Lots of new parts	Been crashed
Cosmetic flaws typical for its age	Been crashed
Converted to a streetfighter	Been crashed
Salvage title	Been crashed really bad
Barn fresh	Mice ate holes in the air filter
Barn find	Damn, I forgot this junk was still out here
Classic style	Looks dated
Instant classic	It's old
Collectible	I know, because it's been collecting dust in my garage for 15 years while I've been hoping it would go up in value
Good beginner bike	Underpowered
Good first bike	My only hope of unloading this junk is finding an uninformed and gullible buyer
Mechanic's special	Too many problems to list
Needs a little TLC	You probably won't make it home from the sale without breaking down
Sold "as is"	If you make it out of my driveway on this thing, I don't ever want to see you or hear from you again for any reason
Basket case, everything is there	Not even God knows what's in that pile of parts
Tires still good for another season	The cords aren't showing through the tread yet
Good winter project	I just realized I'm trying to sell a motorcycle at the worst time of the year
Text only, I don't check e-mail	Internet service was cut off to my house months ago for non-payment
bike 4 sale call 4 info	I am too stoned and lazy to take a photo, use capital letters or punctuation, or type more than six words, so just imagine how well I've cared for this motorcycle
Thinning the herd	It finally dawned on me that having six motorcycles, five of which do not run, is stupid
99 Katana for sale: rare bike, collectible	Wanted: one clueless buyer with cash
I will send you a cashier's check and you can wire me the balance	Please be the one in a thousand who is foolish enough to fall for this

Here is the "Google Translation" of the welcome letter posted by Germany 18 about the 2024 convention

Dear brothers and sisters,

We look forward to seeing you from 12.08. – 18.08.2024 (August 12-18, 2024) to the international convention in Leipzig. We are full of anticipation and very proud of this international to host the convention.

We live in a really stressful time. Each of us has worries big or small. Barely Time. The togetherness is more and more neglected. We want to counteract that a little. We would like to offer you the opportunity to that we can spend a little more time together. Everyday life outside let and have fun together with old and new friends and unforgettable spend hours.

For this reason, we have created the opportunity for you, already on Monday or arrive on Tuesday or Wednesday. Of course you can also as usual on Arrive on Thursday or Friday or only on Saturday.

For everyone who arrives Monday to Wednesday, we are happy to provide an individual one program together if you wish.

Leipzig is really very beautiful and offers something for everyone.

We have so many sights and opportunities that it is impossible for us to list them all here to enumerate everything. That is why we have selected just a few examples for you. So there are many worth seeing churches, museums and monuments. A nice cozy City center with short distances, with nice cafes and pubs that invite you to linger.

Bathing lakes, a large adventure pool not far from our hotel, but also swimming pools there are some. City tours with different vehicles can be organized become. It is also possible to take a raft trip in Leipzig.

A canoe park as a water sports facility for rafting or surfing is nearby. it exists the possibility of renting motorbikes or taking your own machine with us through Leipzig and in the area around Leipzig, e.g. Neuseenland.

In the evening we can arrange a barbecue for you at a fire station with a tour of this organize and/or we enjoy Leipzig's nightlife.

We have a really nice four star hotel in which we also have evenings at the bar, to end the day. The hotel is so big that we can all stay there.

Since we are of the opinion that a good day begins with a good breakfast, you will get the message. Always a good breakfast when booking.

We are planning excursions on Thursday by bus to Berlin and to Dresden.

There are still many activities in the planning stage. We will come back here at this point again and again report on the progress of planning and organization. But of course we won't do everything reveal.

We want to give you a taste for Leipzig bit by bit. You can really excited be.

We want you to feel comfortable with us. If your questions, requests or hints please write to us at: qa@rkmc-leipzig.de

Did we already say: We look forward to seeing you.

I realize that the heat of the riding season is past us (hopefully), as we enter fall and cooler riding days, but this article appeared in the August issue of Road Runner magazine, and hot riding days will return next season!

How to Keep Your Cool

(Excerpts from the August 2024 edition of RR)

It's a gorgeous summer's day. The sun shines, not a single care could break the vast blue dome above you, and the temperature is perfect — at least for a day at the beach.

Some riders might be tempted to shed clothes, but that's not the right approach. You shouldn't start taking off your gear in high heat. In addition to the obvious safety risks, you will expose yourself to hot air and increased body temperature, and you can easily suffer sun or windburn by exposing your skin while riding.

When you are out on the road in a hot climate, remember to exercise basic heat management tactics. Here are a few things to always keep in mind:

- **Stay Hydrated.** Drink at least a pint of electrolyte-enhanced water per hour.
- **Avoid the hottest hours of the day.** These will vary depending on the location, but noon to 3 pm is generally the worst.
- **Take breaks at least once an hour.** Try to plan your route so that you can make regular stops to get into air-conditioned space for a while.
- **Shorten your daily routes.** Long stretches in extreme heat are just not feasible.
- **Keep your bike cool.** Keep an eye on your engine (and coolant) so it doesn't overheat.
- **Protect your skin and eyes.** Wear a good pair of polarized sunglasses or goggles and apply and reapply sunscreen.

The right gear choices can make the riding experience much safer and more tolerable.

Just like with riding in cold temperatures, riding in hot temperatures follow the same adage; There is no poor weather, only the poor choice of clothes (gear).

MA-2 at 40 years! As part of their ride schedule, to make special note of their 40th anniversary as a chapter, MA-2 had several “Co-Rides” with other neighboring chapters to help celebrate the milestone and Red Knight friendships.



One such ride was with MA-4 on a beautiful summer's day in July. A combined collection of 29 Red Knights were along for the ride. For this June/July, sun and warm without rain and high humidity was a novelty.



Just the weekend before, the ride scheduled between MA1 and MA2 was canceled because of weather. MA-1 opened their hospitality and reached out to MA-2 and MA-4 offering to turn their lunch ride into a multi-chapter cookout. MA-1 had been planning a chapter cookout and turned it into a grand event with over 50 Red Knights, friends and family at the Boylston Memorial.



What a great time it was!



Planning to travel to the west coast? Watch your speed!

Bay Area drivers may soon get automatic tickets for going 11 mph over speed limit

Drivers may soon get speeding tickets without ever talking to an officer, if a bill gets approved authorizing speed limit cameras (in California).

The program would give speeding drivers a ticket by using speed cameras and an automatic billing system, according to Assembly Bill 645. "The speed safety system shall capture images of the rear license plate of vehicles that are traveling 11 miles per hour or more over the posted speed limit and notices of violation shall only be issued to vehicles based on that evidence," the bill states. Fines would start at \$50 for going 11 mph over the posted speed limit and increase from there.

The new pilot speed camera program would be implemented as soon as January 2024 in several major cities, including San Jose, Oakland, Glendale, Los Angeles, Long Beach and the city and county of San Francisco.

The bill would require cities and counties participating in the program to send drivers warnings, rather than tickets, for the first 60 days of the program. It would also require these cities to make records confidential, and specify that the speeding violation is subject to civil penalties, among other requirements.

The bill was passed by the Senate Judiciary Committee on July 11, in a 10-1 vote. Next, the bill will move along within the legislature after the California senate returns from summer recess.

Founding Fathers Ride and Dinner

The Founding Fathers' Ride and Dinner at Americade was held on June 1, 2023, with 4 of our Founding Fathers in attendance; Ed Wright, Don Parker, Bob Bourassa and Dave Hunt. Jackie Hamilton, F.F. Dave Hamilton's widow was also in attendance as was Dottie Parker, F.F. Don Parker's wife. Also making the trip to NY from Boylston was MA1 President Peter Stone. All were transported to the event in a sleek black limo that was paid for from the funds generated at last year's Founding Fathers Ride and Dinner @ Americade.

It was a HOT and sunny day with a high of 91 but that didn't stop 60 Red Knights from paying their respect to the Founding Fathers and their admission fee for the event. There were some last-minute curve balls thrown at NY 12, who once again hosted the event as they have done for so many years, even before it was known as the Founding Fathers Ride — BUT in true Red Knights fashion, the event went off without a hitch.

We had about 30 Red Knights on their motorcycles in the sweltering heat for the hour and 15 minute ride to honor our Founding Fathers. As the NY State Troopers shut down Main Street for us, we turned left onto Canada Street and enjoyed the scenery and each other's company during the ride.

After the ride we had a spaghetti dinner put on by NY12 and as was done last year, there was a table with full place settings for our Heaven One Founding Fathers, David Hamilton, Colin Mackey and Bob Goulet. We then enjoyed some cake. Then it was time for our Founding Fathers to get back into the limo and return back to Boylston, "Where It All Began", that day and in 1982.

As our Founding Fathers started to pull out of the Lake George Fire Station, they were met by many Red Knights on motorcycles that were ready to escort them out of town and down the highway for a few exits. As the NY State Troopers had done for us earlier in the day, we, the Red Knight's shut down the light on Canada Street with our red lights flashing and took a left onto the main drag. As we were coming up to the on ramp for the highway, in our rearview mirrors there where red lights flashing from the NY State Troopers. "UH-OH"!! As they pulled up to Colin Nelson from NH9 who was at the back of the pack and running his red lights, the State Troopers says, in a VERY authoritative voice "WHAT'S GOING ON HERE"? Colin in his very Colin voice just says, "We're escorting the Founding Fathers out of town" and then just rides off from the State Trooper, who then just sat there for a few seconds, shut off his red lights, turned around and drove the other way. We escorted our Founding Fathers for about 20 minutes down the highway until we broke off from them and waved, as they passed by in the limo.

I would be remiss if I didn't mention that, as they did last year, RK NY12 took a chapter vote to pay for all the food, drinks, cake, and everything else that was needed to make this event a success, out of their chapter's kitty. This allowed the entire \$1200.00 that was raised during this year's event to go directly towards helping to pay for next year's transportation for our Founding Fathers to attend this event, in comfort and class, as they should. "Thank You NY12". As Jackie Hamilton put it, "Next year we want a party bus with stripper poles."

As I said above, "It was a HOT day" but our Founding Fathers built this club/FAMILY on comradery and riding motorcycles and that's what we did that day, it was a GREAT day.

Stay Safe everyone.

Founding Fathers Ride and Dinner @ Americade

Liaison: Robert J. Binnall MA15

