



Red Knights Motorcycle Club Massachusetts — Home of the Founders

Spring 2017

From the desk of the State Rep

Greetings Massachusetts Red Knights.

This is the twelfth edition of the Massachusetts State Red Knights Newsletter. Thank you Bob LaFord for all you do for the MA Red Knights!!!

Your Assistant State Rep; MA-15 Bob Binnall and I, shall continue to strive to keep Massachusetts on top of all the Red Knight state organizations.

Relative to that, the position of Assistant MA State Rep. comes up for election at our 2017 fall meeting. If you are interested in running for the position you must have your letter of intent and biography in to me NO LATER than August 31 2017. The position demands strong secretarial ability, excellent communication skills, a working knowledge of Roberts Rules of Order and the ability to be ready to represent the MA State Red Knights with little notice.

NJ-31 Matt Mattera, our Region-1 Director, and I continue to maintain a very good working and personal relationship and we are both very proud of the Massachusetts Red Knights.

The MA State Red Knights continue to be the benchmark for state Red Knight organizations.

Last month I had the pleasure of attending the Maine State Red Knights Spring meeting. Our Region-1 Director, Matt Mattera was unable to make it and asked me to go as his assistant. Things are very different at the Maine meetings. They elected a new State Representative and he and I have already developed a good working relationship. It seems that the word is out about us and he wants to pick our brain.

At the 2016 fall state meeting I was reelected for a fourth term as YOUR Massachusetts State Representative. When I decided to run for this position Steve Mickle told me; "it could be for life so make sure you really want to do it".

From the beginning, I promised all of you that I would maintain a dedication to the position that you all can be proud of and to do all in my power to see to it that

every member of The Red Knights in Massachusetts is kept informed.

I continue to work in front of, as well as behind the scenes to keep our state on the forefront. We have been called "the ideal state organization within the Red Knights" by more than one International President and three Region-1 Directors — so we must be doing something right.

I love my job and thank you for your continued support.

You may have noticed the International Spring newsletter was entirely different from recent years past. It was necessary for me (as International Communications Committee Chairman) to find an interim editor as Stephanie, the international Newsletter Editor, was under the weather. I was asked to keep the "ghost writer's" name under my hat as he did not want a lot of attention. I suggest you take another look at the International Newsletter and compare its format to this one. They look remarkably alike. Amazing.....

Last fall I wrote; "We have a couple of irons in the fire for the future". I am happy to report that they are cooking very nicely.

A seven day cruise to Bermuda NEXT year and a MA State Picnic THIS year. How much fun are those going to be???

Lastly, on a personal note, I have decided to retire from The Plympton Fire Department this September. I joined the department in September of 1974 and feel that after 43 years of service it is time to step away.

I am going to miss many aspects of the fire service, but pledge my continued support to you people as YOUR Massachusetts State Representative for as long as you will have me or I am able to continue. Whichever comes first.

Be safe out there people.
Regards to all,
MA-3 George Colby

11/13/2016

Hello to all Red Knights,

In September, the board put out the call for anyone interested in helping out the membership by working on a committee to reach out to us, and reach out they did!

We saw something we have never seen before. Across all the committee positions, nearly forty members had expressed interest in being part of the team.

On behalf of the International Board, I would like to thank those who made themselves available to serve the membership on the International Committees.

Congratulations to your new Committee Chairs and Members.

By-Laws Committee:
Chuck Weikel NJ MAL (Chair)
Mark Green VT 2
Dennis Hewett NY 22
Donald Poirier NS 2
Norm Beausoleil MA 1

Communications Chair:
George Colby MA 3

Grand Tour: Perry Lewin AB 3
GT Assistant Europe:
Tom Hoedjes CH 1
GT Assistant South Pacific:
Roger van Kollenburg AUS 5

Chaplain: Dennis Hewett NY 22

Please join me in wishing them the best.

Thank You
Loyal to our duty
Chris Gadoway

Thank you to all those who stepped forward to offer their services in these positions — and especially to our Massachusetts members who will be representing us in these roles.

Chapter email address and 2017 Voting – The International Board has set up RKMC email addresses for each chapter under “redknightsmc.com” If you need assistance with your official chapter e-mail contact your state rep for guidance.

For 2017, the positions that we are voting for are International President, International Treasurer, and our Regional Rep for Region-1.

At the Spring State meeting it was announced that at that time Chris Gadway, International President, Scott Ryan, International Treasurer, and Matt Materra, Region-1 Director were all running unopposed. If there are no contests, Massachusetts chapters will not receive electronic ballots to cast.

State Rep George Colby read aloud letters that each of these candidates had written asking for the support of Massachusetts chapters during the election. George emailed those three letters to each MA chapter President for forwarding to their chapter members.

Nominations will close on May 21 and that is when we will know if any contests must be decided by electronic ballot. There is an online form that nominees must complete. The nomination requires two Chapters to make the nomination. The nomination must be in writing & emailed to the Nominations Committee prior to close of nominations.

The Nominee must complete the Nomination Profile prior to close of nominations and provide a photo.

We know that there were some Mass Chapters that did not cast ballots in the most recent election that was held. Voting is the only way we can voice our opinions on our representation. When was the last time that your chapter email account was checked for in-coming messages from the International or others?

The position of Assistant State Rep for Massachusetts will be up for election/re-election at our fall state meeting. Anyone interested in running must have their letter of intent and bio in to State Rep George Colby by August 31.

Supporting the 2017 RKMC
Convention

Whether you are planning to attend this year’s convention in Syracuse or not, consider being a part of it by supporting the planning committee by purchasing a chapter or personal sponsor ad in the Convention Program.

Having been involved in the planning and operation of several conventions in the past, Mass members know how much effort (and costs) go into a successful convention. All left over proceeds are donated on behalf of the Red Knights to a charity supported by the planning group.

Ad prices are: \$250 full page, \$125 half page and \$75 business card/quarter page size. Artwork should be forwarded to julesldy1@aol.com. Payment can be by check to RKMC NEW YORK STATE ASSOCIATION, c/o Julie Carlson, 7303 Chanick Drive, Adams, NY 13605. PayPal to rkmcnysa@gmail.com.

Other dates affiliated with the 2017 voting:

- Incumbents Intent 180 Days prior to convention by Feb. 20th
- Nominations Closed 90 Days prior to convention by May 21st
- Chapters Start Vote 60 Days prior to convention on June 2th
- Voting Closed 30 Days prior to convention on July 20th
- Vote Results Announced at Convention August 19th

Chapter preparation for voting:

- Chapters must be in Good Standing
 - * Dues current
 - * Roster up-to date
 - * Signed TMLA Agreement
- Members at Large must be in Good Standing
 - * Dues current
 - * Active email address provided prior to the closing of nominations
- Notification via Chapter RKMC Email Address
 - * One Chapter – One Vote!
(A simple majority of the individual MAL ballots cast will determine the candidate receiving the MAL vote to be cast with Chapter votes)
 - * Keep your password to RKMC email confidential – change it if necessary
 - * MAL’s will receive individual ballot via email
- Know the timeline
 - * Posted on International Webpage & above in this publication
- Review Nominee Profiles on line at International Webpage
- Ballot sent to Chapter email address and to individual MAL’s.
- Select Candidate
- Submit
- Print receipt confirming vote

Events to remember:

- 2017 Convention (Syracuse) August 16-20
- 2018 Convention (Pittsburg, PA)
- 2019 Convention (NH White Mountains)
- 2020 Convention (Paris, France)

STEVE MICKLE
“MR. RED KNIGHT” AWARD



Do you know of a member of the Red Knights in Massachusetts who has been a dedicated and hardworking member of the club? One that is always on the front lines promoting the Red Knights and willing to step up and help to make the Red Knights better with every thing that this person does?

That is the type of person that the Steve Mickle Mr. Red Knight Award was designed for in Steve's memory.

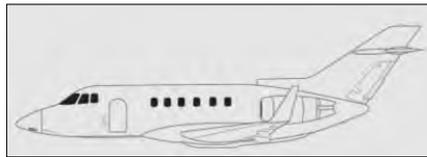
Consider sending in a nomination to Mass-2 President Kevin Martin if you feel someone you know is deserving of this special recognition.

rkma2prez@gmail.com



Do not forget to get your annual inspection completed before your 2016 *sticker* expires the end of May.

Are you planning some travel time on your bike, with the family, or for work this year?



Have you ever looked into Medivac insurance to get you home in case a medical emergency sidelines you while you are away?

The Red Knights partners with Airmed to offer Red Knight members a discount on their insurance package. If you are hospitalized more than 150 miles from home Airmed will fly you to a hospital near home. For a couple hundred dollars' policy with Airmed you could save tens of thousands of dollars if you had to make such arrangements on your own.

Visit www.airmed.com for more information and call their customer service and tell them you are a Red Knight to get the member pricing.

It's good peace-of-mind for a few dollars spent before traveling!

In need of a seamstress or leather stitcher? A good friend to riders is Zig-Zag Sewing at 168 Main Street (Route 63) in Northfield, MA. Terry will help with all your leather sewing needs — and riding out to Northfield is a *great* ride out into Franklin County.



Do you have a motorcycle event that you would like to have someone on hand to offer sewing to your riding participants? Contact Terry to see if she can help.

Biker Patches | Zippers and Snaps | Leather Repairs

www.zig-zagsewing.com

May 18-21 — Raleigh, North Carolina

Red Knights International Fire Fighters Motorcycle Club Region 4 stretches from Delaware south to Florida, and west to Louisiana. For the past nine years a chapter from one of these states has hosted the Dixie Rally. In 2004, some friends from several Region 4 chapters met in Alabama for a good time and came up with an idea to get all Red Knight Chapters throughout the Region to come together for fun and fellowship by hosting annual rallies.

This year's rally is May 18-21 in Raleigh, North Carolina.

One of the highlights of the meeting will be a dinner and auction on Saturday night. The event and the auction serve to raise money for charity. NC-12 has chosen the NC Burn Center and Shriner's Hospital as the two charities we will support.

Tentative plans include a ride to Mount Airy. Mayberry RFD icon Andy Griffith grew up in Mount Airy, North Carolina, and it's no coincidence that a stroll down Mount Airy's Main Street reminds people of the town of Mayberry from The Andy Griffith Show.

In addition to Mayberry RFD and Andy Griffith, visitors find that Mount Airy, North Carolina is a great jumping off point for exploring the Yadkin Valley wine region, the breathtaking Blue Ridge Parkway, the stunning pinnacle of Pilot Mountain, or the twangy sound of bluegrass and old-time music. Whatever your passion, all Red Knights are invited to step back to a simpler time when you visit Andy Griffith's hometown of Mount Airy, North Carolina—affectionately known as Mayberry RFD.

For more information or if you have questions please contact Phil Tant RKNC-12 Secretary by email (pltant425@gmail.com) or call 919-602-8078.

Host hotel is the Hilton Garden Inn, 3912 Arrow Drive, Raleigh, NC — Phone:(919) 703-2525

Visit the NC-12 webpage at <http://nc12redknights.com/> for more information.

From the Office of the International President
AN OPEN LETTER TO THE MEMBERSHIP

Subj: Membership wide survey, Our new Quartermaster,
International Nominations and Heaven 1 Pictures
Date: 02-15-2017

Hello to all Red Knights,

For the past few years the board has been exploring the viability of transitioning the majority of the daily tasks of the Secretary, Treasurer and Quartermaster to a hired administrative assistant to the board.

[By the time this newsletter is out, the survey will be complete and the board will be discussing the results at their spring meeting. We as chapter leadership should continue to have discussions with our members so we can be prepared for the issue at the convention this August.]

“Would you be in favor of the Red Knights International hiring an Administrative Assistant to take over the majority of administrative duties of the Secretary and Treasurer, as well as all of the duties of the Quartermaster? Note - The positions of the Secretary and Treasurer would maintain their responsibilities and remain part of the Executive Board. However, there would be no financial compensation for these elected positions.”

At the beginning of February, Kevin B Williams (NJ XI), your international Quartermaster for the past 3+ years transferred his office to Alan Billings (MD 4). A huge thanks goes out to Kevin for all his diligent work. Alan agreed to fulfill this position on an interim basis until Dec 31-2017, He has already started applying his organization and analytical skills to his work. As he comes up to speed, please understand with any transition like this, there might be a slight delay in processing your orders. Also, during the transition the Quartermaster email has been changed to qm@redknightsmc.com. Even though the old email address rkrquartermaster@redknightsregalia.com will auto-forward, please start using the new address.

As we are approaching the International Officers nominations season, please keep an eye on the website and your chapter email for information on who will be running for the following offices: President, Treasurer, Region 1, Region 3, Region 5 and Region 7. If you are interested in serving the membership of this great club on an international level, visit the website, download the nominations form, complete and submit to Tom Caisse at nominations@redknightsmc.com.

In closing, the most important item is that we need your help! At convention this Fall, for the first time we will be displaying the pictures of our fallen Brothers and Sisters during the memorial portion of the banquet. If you have a Picture of a member who joined our Heavens 1 chapter since August 2015, please save the picture with the members name as the file name and send to secretary@redknightsmc.com. As of today, we have lost nearly 70 members during this time frame and we only have pictures of about 20. Please help!

Thank You

Loyal to our duty
Chris Gadway

The light has been green the entire time this rider has seen it, making it a "stale" green about to turn yellow.

That car in the left turning lane and other vehicles at the light will trigger the light to change.



AS WE ALL KNOW (or should!), intersections are the leading spots for crashes involving motorcycles and other vehicles. Fortunately, traffic at busier intersections tends to be managed by automated traffic signals. The presence of those signals should be enough to eliminate incidents. In reality, they do not. Why? Because drivers (and some riders) tend to push limits at the critical transition time when lights change. Drivers anticipate green lights, anxiously jumping into the intersection prematurely. Simultaneously, impatient drivers accelerate through red lights to avoid sitting through another cycle. That makes the transitioning traffic light a truly dangerous proposition for any motorcyclist.

Riders commonly carry speed up to an intersection, especially if the traffic light ahead shines green. But if that light has been green the entire time it's been in view, one can't know how long it has been green. More important, we can't know if it is about to change. As riders, a good rule of thumb (or throttle hand) is to assume that if the light has been green the whole time it's been in view, we should consider it to be a "stale" green that is old enough to turn yellow by the time we arrive. On our approach we should then check the mirrors (looking for that driver behind who might be determined to make it through the intersection with or without us), and select a speed that would allow us to calmly, smoothly and safely stop before the light potentially turns to red. Look for vehicles waiting at the light to the right or left, as well as in an opposing left-turn lane; they will surely trigger a stale green to change to red even sooner. Anticipating the stale green gives us fresh options to stay in control at intersections.

2017 YANKEE RALLY

Are you going to the Yankee Rally?



NO! Not that kind of Yankee Rally!

Region-1 boast the most RK members — and that makes sense because we were the beginning. If you have not been to a Yankee Rally yet, come join us in Vermont where several hundred Red Knights will come together.

And Vermont is a perfect place for the gathering. You can get lost in the miles of mountain roads and countless small villages. You can explore around Rutland with all its great shops and dining and enjoy all it has to offer as a small Vermont city. Or you can use the days at the rally to meet up with old friends, make new ones, and participate in all that our Vermont family is planning for us.

Three neighboring hotels in Rutland, Vermont will be bursting at the seams as several hundred Red Knights converge on the Green Mountains for the third annual Yankee Rally. With this many Red Knights on the ground in Rutland it is sure to bring back memories of the great success and run times our Vermont brothers and sisters showed us when they hosted the convention a few years ago.

Last year we discovered that our state rep's head works well as a human bowling bowl. What secret skills do you think we will uncover this year?

Only a few short weeks and we will be kicked back, enjoying the hospitality of VT. See you there!

2018 Yankee Rally to be hosted by New York Red Knights in the Saratoga area.

*Who's headed to Americade?
www.americade.com*

Whether you head to Lake George for the rally, the roads, or the Red Knights — make plans to get to Americade in June. Those that make the pilgrimage each year will tell you that there is no other rally like it. Several hundred vendors, thousands of bikes, mile after mile of great riding... and Red Knight friends too!

- **Wednesday Red Knight ride** hosted by our New York hosts.
- **RKMC Open House and Meeting—Thursday, June 8.** Open House will be from 3pm-6pm on Americade Thursday. Come join several hundred of your Red Knights family courtesy of our NY hosts.
- **Saturday evening Red Knight Dinner Cruise.** (More info below).
- **Saturday's parade usually boasts nearly 100 Red Knights.** Join us as the Red Knights lead the roar of bikes that winds through Lake George Village.



Don't forget your Fire Helmet so you can be part of the RKMC team leading Saturday's parade!

The Dutcher's have extended an offer to the Red Knights for a club-specific boat cruise on Lake. We did not meet the minimum



members needed to have a RKMC "only" cruise, but the Saturday evening cruise will have a large contingent of Red Knights aboard. If you are interested in registering for the cruise, contact the Americade office for more information and registration assistance. 518-798-7888

Red Knights Connecticut State Picnic

Our RKMC family in Connecticut has again invited us to their State Picnic along the shores of the Connecticut River in Portland, CT.

Sunday, August 6 is the date. They will have a pre-cookout ride planned for 10:30 with lunch served at noon.

Always a great time, mark your calendars and join our CT friends for a great afternoon.



New Salem
—Est. 1988—
GENERAL STORE

Massachusetts Riding

Out for a cruise around the Quabbin Reservoir this year? Stop at the New Salem General Store on Route 202 to say hello to Rick.

If you are sporting Red Knights regalia (vest, shirt, patches, etc.) the coffee is on Rick.
410 Daniel Shays Highway—New Salem, MA 01355

National Ride to Work Day
Monday, June 19, 2017
www.ridetowork.org/

All politics aside, it is pretty cool that we have a motorcyclist at one of the highest positions in the United States government. Vice-president Mike Pence is an avid rider!

During his tenure in office as governor, Vice-President Pence has been a supporter of motorcycle rights, working directly with ABATE of Indiana (American Bikers Aimed Toward Education) and receiving a personalized basic rider training course arranged by the group's Executive Director, Jay Jackson. "I think Governor Pence saw the strong connection his predecessor, former Governor Mitch Daniels, had with the motorcycling community. He saw the value in engaging this group because they are politically active, passionate about their cause and most importantly, they show up to vote!" Jackson stated.



As governor, VP Pence rode on a bike several times a year participating in the Ride with the Governor event which brings awareness to motorcycle safety in the Hoosier State and raises funds for the Indiana National Guard Relief Fund. He also has participated in other charity rides as well as served as an escort to bikers passing through the state on their way to the nation's capital for the Rolling Thunder motorcycle rally in Washington, D.C. The Vice-president's wife, Karen Pence, also has an interest in riding, riding with her husband in some events.

Did'ja Know?

Ice Cream and Motorcycles have been together since the very beginning!

Ole Andreassen, a machinist from Wisconsin back in the late 1800's had a girlfriend, Bess, that liked to picnic on a small island that was about a mile off-shore at a local lake.

One day, while on a picnic, Bess wanted some ice cream, which meant that Ole had to row to shore and back. By the time he returned the ice cream had melted. Not wanting to disappoint Bess again, Ole began working on a small internal combustion engine to power his row boat.

He put his young apprentice to work on the task as well. The apprentice's name was Walter Davidson.

By the time the first prototype was ready to test, winter had set in, and the lakes were frozen. So to test the engine out they attached it to a bicycle. Legend has it that while Walter was riding the bicycle around he caught the attention of his brother, Arthur, and Arthur's friend, William Harley.

So, if Bess had craved chocolates instead of ice cream that day, the invention of the motorcycle may have been delayed!

Did Ole ever finish his boat motor? Yes, and he named it after his family farm — Evinrude.

Think about this the next time you pull off the road for an ice cream while you are riding. It is not just a stop for a refreshment. It is a memorial remembrance to those early inventors. And make a sure to toast Bess, because without her we may not be out for a ride!



After more than four years and over five million dollars in investments the owner of the New England Motorcycle Museum has announced that the old mill building in Rockville, Connecticut will open in July.

The Museum is one of the largest Brownfield projects in CT, known as the Restoration of the Hockanum Mill. Visitors will find a vintage motorcycle restaurant, micro brewery, outdoor mini-bike track, showroom, cycle shop, campground, and live music.

The New England Motorcycle Museum's goal is to preserve and present their passion, through a unique world class exhibit built from a fine collection of motorcycles and historical objects from around the world.



Greetings all:

As was discussed at the past two state meetings, plans have been arranged for a MA State Red Knights 2018 cruise from Boston to Bermuda on September 7-14, 2018.

Currently there are 8 Mass Red Knight couples with reservations made for the cruise. It was decided that the cruise will now be open to other Red Knights and friends and family.

The (fully-refundable) booking rate is \$250 per couple (but that is routinely dropped to \$50 per person at the end of each month. If you decide to cancel, you will receive your deposit back as long as you cancel no later than June 9, 2018.

For more information and if you have ANY questions about this your contact is our State Rep's first lady, Sandi. (She is spearheading this event).

Cell: 617-823-0062 (leave a message if no answer)

The flyer for this event is included in this newsletter.

Email: sjcolby@yahoo.com



WHAT VIRGINIA TECH LEARNED ABOUT HOW AND WHY WE CRASH OUR MOTORCYCLES

What do you learn if you pick 100 riders, put five video cameras and data-logging equipment on their motorcycles and record them for a total of 366,667 miles?

Several things, some of which we knew, some surprising. Intersections are dangerous. We either need to pay better attention or work on our braking techniques, because we crash into the back of other vehicles way too often. We're not good enough at cornering, especially right turns. And we drop our bikes a lot (probably more often than any of us imagined or were willing to admit).

The study was done for the Motorcycle Safety Foundation by the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute (VTTI). Of course there's a lot more to it than those findings above.

Virginia Tech studied motorcycle crashes by recruiting 100 riders from age 21 to 79 in California, Arizona, Florida and Virginia. They outfitted their motorcycles with video cameras showing the rider's face and forward, rear, left and right views. GPS and data loggers captured other information, such as brake pressure, acceleration, etc.

Where do we crash? Intersections. An uncontrolled intersection presents nearly 41 times the risk of no intersection. A parking lot or driveway intersection is more than eight times as risky and an intersection with a signal is almost three times as risky.

A downhill grade increased the risk by a factor of four while an uphill grade doubled it. Riders were nine times as likely to crash or have a near-crash incident on gravel or dirt roads than on paved roads. And riders were twice as likely to have an incident in a right-hand turn than on a straight section of road.

How do we crash? We complain all the time about other people on the road trying to kill us, especially cars pulling into our paths. The VTTI study partially backs that up. Of the 99 crashes and near-crashes involving another vehicle, the three categories of other vehicles crossing the rider's path add up to 19. Here's the surprise, however. What's the most common scenario? Riders hitting (or nearly hitting) another vehicle from behind. There were 35 of those incidents. We are almost twice as likely to plow into a stopped car in front of us as to have someone pull into our path.

Researchers tried to break down rider behavior in crashes and near-crash incidents into two categories: aggressive riding or rider inattention or lack of skills. The cameras and other data helped determine, for example, if the rider ran the red light because of inattention or aggressive riding. The study found that aggressive riding increased risk by a factor of 18 while inattention or lack of skill increased it by a factor of nine.

It also seems we drop our bikes a lot. More than half the crashes were incidents some riders wouldn't define as a crash. Rider inattention or poor execution are to blame. The study finds "These low-speed 'crashes' appear to be relatively typical among everyday riding." These are incidents that would never be included in a different kind of study of motorcycle crashes. The cameras, however, capture it all, even our mundane but embarrassing moments.

What we can learn? Here's one thing I know I personally need to work on constantly, we need to look further ahead. We're just not paying close enough attention. We're not keeping our eyes up and looking far down the road, to see the developing situation that is going to cause the driver in front of us to slam on his brakes, or to spot the hunk of exploded truck tire lying in our lane. Those things are taking us by surprise and we're not giving ourselves enough time to react.

If you're looking at what's right in front of you on the track (or street), you're looking at the past, not the future. It's already too late for you to do anything about what's 20 feet ahead of your front tire.

Spring 2017 State Meeting

Thank you to the members of RK Mass-12 for being our hosts at the West Springfield Station-4 for our spring meeting on April 22. We had eight chapters and 36 members in attendance.



Mass-1 reported that they are starting the second year with a local landscaper's care of the memorial in Boylston. They report that they are very pleased with the work that has been done by this company. Mass-1 still retains the responsibility of new plantings and are planning on a planting day this spring to replace some of the flowers and shrubs around the memorial site.

Our grateful appreciation goes out to all the members of our founding chapter for their continued dedication to our club and our memorial.

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It was reported that over 35 members of the Red Knights have passed and been reassigned to the Heaven One chapter since last summer's convention.

Both International VP Spike Ostiguy and State Rep Colby stressed the importance of notifying the International (through George) when a member passes. The Board tries to have a representative to all services for Red Knights so a presentation can be made to the family.

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The International will be holding a raffle at this year's convention to raise funds to support our memorial and help cover costs of International representation to Red Knight funeral services. There will only be 250 tickets sold at \$20 each. Grand prize is \$1,000 and other lesser cash prizes will also be awarded.

Mass-15 has taken on the challenge to be the lead point for planning a Massachusetts-based Yankee Rally in 2019. Help and ideas from all chapters will be welcomed and appreciated.

Their intentions will be made known at this year's Yankee Rally. Stay tuned for more details.

Afoot and light-hearted I take to the open road,
Healthy, free, the world before me,
The long brown path before me leading wherever I choose.

Walt Whitman

What's up in 2017?

What are you planning for 2017 with 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.

If you have rides and events that you want other chapters to know about get the information to State Rep Colby (who is also the International's Communications Chairman) so he can use his vast collection of email addresses to get the information out to other Red Knights or post information on the Region-1 Facebook Page, International pages, and beyond!

RK Vermont-2's Paul's Ride

Saturday, June 17.

Ride begins at the Vernon Community Center, 607 Pond Road, Vernon, VT— registration opens at 9 a.m. Proceeds buy gas cards to help those undergoing Cancer treatments. The ride is in memory of VT State Rep Dave Emery's brother Paul.

MASSACHUSETTS STATE PICNIC

Come join your Red Knights family for a summer picnic on Saturday, August 26, 2017 on the grounds of the Templeton Fish and Game Club



Preliminary plans include a Pre-cook-out ride around the northern Worcester County Area.

A family-friendly event, use of the club grounds, including the beach front on Partridgeville Pond will be available to Red Knights and guests.

A BBQ of summertime favorites will be on the grill courtesy of the kitchen staff at the TF&G. More info will be coming out.

Anticipated cost are \$10.00 per person and include the ride and the cook-out

The Fall 2017 State meeting is still in need of a host chapter. If your chapter has not been a host for a while (or ever), please consider lending a hand. You do not have to provide lunch for the visitors.

The Spring 2018 meeting is being hosted by Mass-2

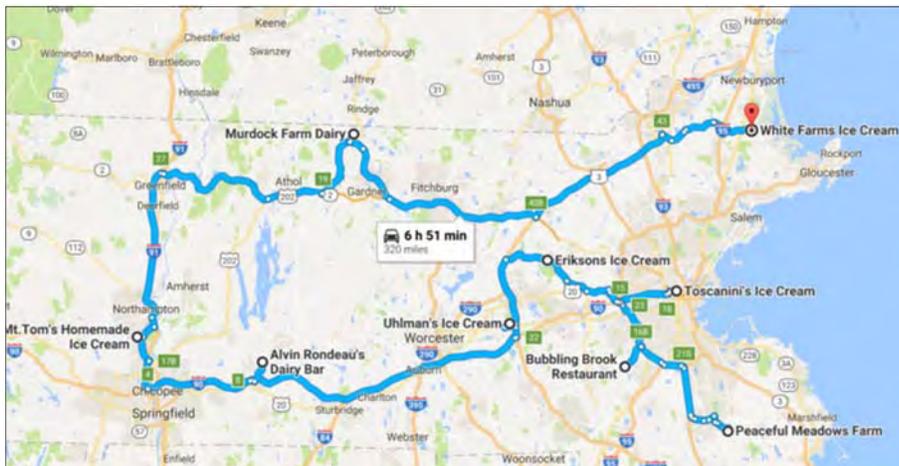
The webpage www.onlyinyourstate.com posted this information on-line about the **Massachusetts Ice Cream Trail**.

There's Nothing Better Than This Mouthwatering Ice Cream Trail In Massachusetts. Massachusetts is pretty much the ice cream mecca of the nation, or we like to believe so anyway. With a different delicious shop on almost every corner, it's hard to make sure you're sampling the best of the best every summer.

That's why we've put together this life-changing ice cream trail that is sure to satisfy your creamy, sugary cravings. We've kept the total drive time under seven hours, so you could conceivably tackle the whole trail at once. Stop by each one (highly recommended) or just hit the shops that appeal to you most.

1. Peaceful Meadows in Whitman, Plymouth and Middleboro
2. The Bubbling Brook Restaurant, Westwood
3. Toscanini's, Cambridge
4. Erikson's Ice Cream, Maynard
5. Uhlman's, Westborough
6. Alvin Rondeau's Dairy Bar, Palmer
7. Mt. Tom's Homemade Ice Cream, Easthampton
8. Murdock Farm Dairy, Winchendon
9. White Farms Ice Cream, Ipswich

I, personally, have been to a few of these, as I bet you have, too. And I would also guess we can also add even more favorite stops to this list!



Massachusetts Cape Cod Weekend

Mass Chapter 8 is currently working up details to host the Red Knights for a weekend excursion to the Cape for September 22-24.

It has been a number of years since we have ventured beyond the canal, but us "old timers" remember the annual weekends of comradery that were held in Hyannis, West Yarmouth, and Eastham over the years.

Preliminary plans include a ride to P-town, but you know that there are many roads and beaches to explore, and visiting the Cape after Labor Day means we will be there when the traffic has returned to "non-tourist" status.

Updates will be coming out when details are ready! Mark your calendars.

Wouldn't you like to own this authentic collector's-item Jack Daniels Tennessee Whiskey Barrel, emblazoned with the JD Fire Brigade Logo?

Rick and Lori Oliver of the New Salem General Store donated this barrel to Mass-2 to use to raise funds for a nearby charity.



Proceeds are going to **Sherry's House**, a residential facility in Worcester that provides love and support for families with childhood cancer. Visit <https://whyme.org/> for more info on **Sherry's House**.

Plans are to have chances \$5 each / 3 for \$10. The winner will be drawn at the Red Knights Massachusetts State Picnic in August! For more information on getting your change email support-sherryshouse@rk-mass2.org

For those of you that will be arriving at Yankee 2017 on Thursday, June 1, here's an opportunity to help the Vermont Association raise money for charity!

From 11 am - 8 pm the 99 Restaurant (next to the Holiday Inn) will donate 15% of your food bill to the cause. Simply show your server the voucher ... it's that simple. The Vermont Red Knights be handing out vouchers at registration! See you at The Yankee Rally!



DINING FOR A CAUSE
 The Ninety Nine Restaurants
 Invites You to a
 Fundraiser to Benefit:
Red Knights Motorcycle Club's Charity

Date:	Thursday, June 1st
Time:	11:00am - 8:00pm
Location:	Ninety Nine Restaurants Green Mountain Plaza 288 US Rte 7 South Rutland, Vt

Help raise funds to benefit cancer patients

Present the voucher below at this fundraiser and the Ninety Nine Restaurants will donate 15%* of your Guest check to the organization.
clip this voucher

DINING FOR A CAUSE

BENEFITING: Red Knights Motorcycle Club's Charity Cause

DATE: Thursday, June 1st **TIME:** 11:00am - 8:00pm

LOCATION: Ninety Nine Restaurants, Rutland
288 US Rte 7 South

Ninety Nine

 RESTAURANT & PUB



Were you one of the couple hundred people that were fed by Mass-1 during their annual Spaghetti feed in April? If you weren't there you missed out — and if you were there you waddled out after dinner!

As our International VP remarked, "Did you see those meatballs? They were the size of baseballs!" (And they were really, really good). Put their dinner on your 2018 calendar!

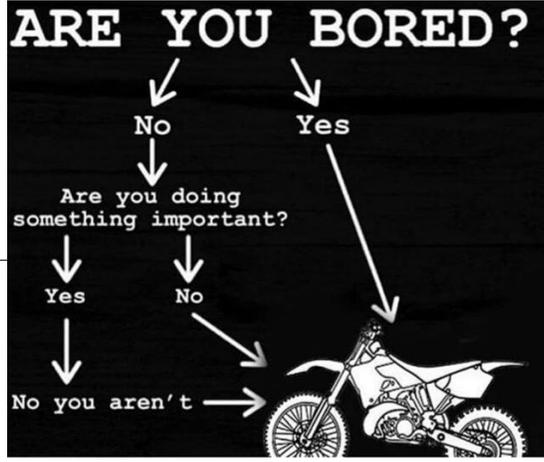
NO BAD DAYS

By Arden Kysely, Rider Magazine

IN MY WAY OF THINKING, touring should offer up three kinds of days: good, better and stellar. Outside of a serious injury, there are few things that will make a day of riding less than good for me. Even when hamstrung by an electrical failure miles from anywhere in foul weather, I've been able to find something redeeming about the day. Not every moment will be enjoyable, like finding that my stator was going south, but how you deal with a problem can make or break a day on the road. In the case of my stator, the support of my long-time touring buddies and my own perseverance (stupidity?) riding through a nasty hailstorm to a safe haven rescued the day for me. In spite of the inconvenience and weather, our mood remained upbeat that afternoon and we rallied to save the trip with some creative thinking. Everyone expects their touring days to be stellar, so having trouble on the road is always disappointing. I've found that making lemons into lemonade, even if it's a bit tart, can go a long way to saving a riding day from the ashes. I concentrate on getting back in the saddle—digging into the problem at hand is a productive distraction from wringing your hands. This could mean making phone calls, flagging down help or opening up the bike to investigate. The latter is what we did with mine, after a pie-and coffee consult in a warm café

Being prepared for interruptions helps me stay confident and

positive. A kit of tools and spares is the first line of defense against being stranded; I think of it as the sweetener for my lemonade. Don't worry if you're not mechanical, the Good Samaritan who stops to help might be. The jumper cables my buddy Jim had with him (and which I now carry) were critical to getting my bike running when the battery ran low from the stator failure. And his multi-meter helped diagnose the problem. Learn to fix a flat and carry the necessities to do so, and bring your owner's manual along. Before you leave, do some research on typical problems and write up a cheat sheet of solutions, including some helpful phone numbers. At a minimum, know where your fuse box is and carry spares. It's also important to know yourself and how you handle situations. For example, I become dumb and lazy when tired. Who else would ride 30 miles of dirt across a high, cold plateau in the dark because they couldn't bother to unload the bike and check a fuse? That was a sour experience, but it has helped me in the long run. Knowing that I get stupid and stubborn when I'm beat makes me concentrate more and put in the effort to find a fix. There's nothing sweeter than conquering a problem and moving on to make a good day better...or even stellar. I wait too long for a tour to let anything spoil it.





Red Knights on the High Seas!!

7-Day Bermuda Cruise from BOS

Onboard Norwegian Dawn

September 7th– September 14th, 2018



Escape to paradise on a cruise to Bermuda with Norwegian Cruise Line. Slip away for a week and explore the pink-sand beaches, turquoise-blue water, colorful underwater life, fantastic shopping, and Bermuda's world class golf courses. Plus, Norwegian Dawn has everything you're looking for in a vacation. And as you cruise, we'll keep you entertained day and night with exciting nightclubs, award-winning restaurants, a grand casino, swimming pools, a pampering spa and so much more. Whatever you choose, there's no wrong way to relax. Mingle with other Red Knights from all over Massachusetts in your exclusive Red Knights cocktail party!! To join George, Sandi and other chapter members and friends on this cruise, you must call their cruise specialist Kerstin (see contact info below). Mention the group's name "RED KNIGHTS" or group # **A570955**.



Things to Think About:

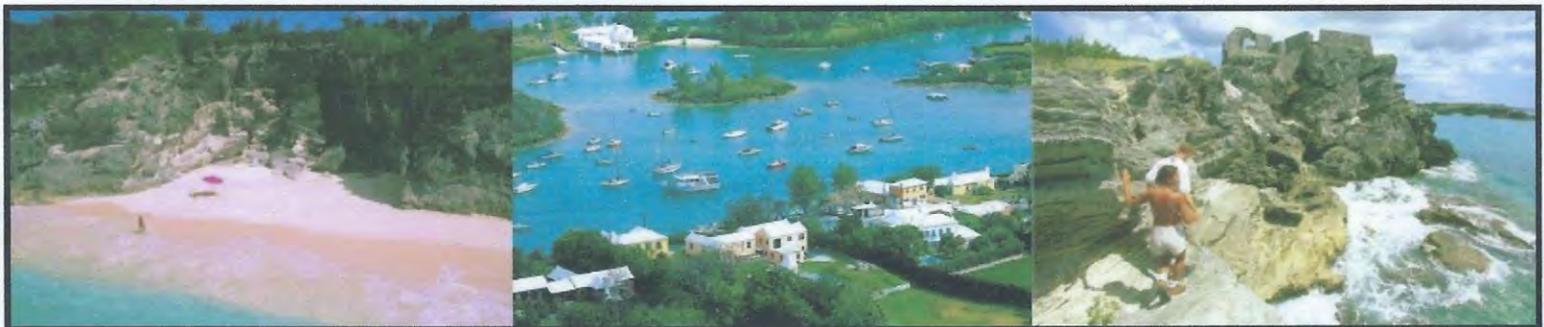
- A **\$250** deposit per person is needed to make your reservation
- **Reduced deposit of \$50 per person available until 12/30/2016!!!**
- The sooner you book the better cabin availability and location
- Deposits are risk-free until your final payment date, **06/09/2018**

Pricing: based on double occupancy

- Inside Cabins: \$839 per person*
- Ocean view Cabins: \$1009-1049 per person*
- Balcony Cabins: \$1439 per person*
- *Taxes are additional \$190.70 per person
- Optional trip insurance available upon request and additional charge

Each cabin gets to pick 1 additional add-on from the following items:

- ◆ Pre-Paid Service Charges (Tips)
- ◆ 250 minute Wi-Fi Package
- ◆ Shore Excursion Credit
- ◆ Ultimate Beverage Package (gratuities waived)
- ◆ Specialty Dining (gratuities waived)
- ◆ 20 Photos photo package
- ◆ \$75 On Board Credit



CALL TO BOOK YOUR CRUISE TODAY!

Kerstin Thompson

Group Specialist & Personal Cruise Consultant

Direct: 954-514-4152 Toll Free: 877-416-9722 ext. 44152

kethompson@ncl.com

