

Red Knights Motorcycle Club

Massachusetts — Home of the Founders

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

Greetings all Massachusetts Red Knights!

This is the 19th 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, as its editor.

The International Board met the third weekend of April and shortly thereafter I, as the communications and website guy, received a list of things they wanted changed on the International website. Bob Laford can tell you how time consuming and frustrating that can be because he was the International Newsletter Editor for ten years AND webmaster for eight.

Changes are being made to the dropdown menu on the website and updated SOG's have been posted. I expect that the spring BOD meeting minutes for posting will be arriving on my computer soon so keep an eye out for that notice.

Our 2020 spring state meeting was the shortest on record. That is because it didn't happen. [The 2020 Rule-of-Thumb was] COVID is to blame.

The 2020 fall meeting was fun as we had a cookout at my house in Plympton. I like that format so maybe we should do it again. A special "thank you" goes out to all of you who brought deserts as well as to the cooking and serving team.

Last fall the position of MA State Representative was up for election and even though I asked for nominees no one wanted the position so I am still here.

I love this job and promise to continue to do the best I can for you all.

I have said it before and continue to say that as long as you will have me I will continue to serve as your MA State Rep.

COVID has put the kybosh on every Red Knight and Chapter event so far this year including the Yankee Rally and now the International Convention, that was scheduled for Saint John New Brunswick Canada in August. Not being able to come together to ride and socialize is not the norm for us. Things are starting to quiet down (for the most part) but we all need to continue to be diligent and continue to maintain some degree of social distancing.

The Dixie is still happening so if any of you are planning on going please be careful.

Americade was moved (again) to September. Maybe we can see each other there. Bob Binnall and I are going.

The riding season is upon us people so be safe. Watch out for the other guy.

Regards,
George

2021 YANKEE RALLY

Due to the on-going governmental restrictions surrounding COVID-19 and the uncertainties surrounding our ability to safely and legally hold an event the size of the Yankee Rally in May, given the open-ended restrictions currently in place in both New York State and Suffolk County, the rally committee attempted to address these uncertainties with the host hotel in the hope of being able to find a solution they would allow us to hang on as long as possible. Unfortunately, this could not occur. Therefore, the committee was forced to make the very difficult decision to cancel the 2021 rally.

Everyone who has registered will be receiving a refund for your registration fees, as well as any rally swag you may have reserved. You will be contacted as soon as we set up our reimbursement process.

We are devastated to have to make this decision, but given the circumstances we were facing there really was no other option available to us. We hope all of you can understand the necessity for the decision and we apologize if you found out about it from the hotel before us as we had literally only made this decision this evening.

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to send an email to the 2021 Yankee rally email address and we will do our best to get back to you as soon as possible.

Again, thank you for your understanding. The 2021 Yankee Rally Committee really appreciates all of your support.

All the best,

David Fernandez, Chair
2021 Yankee Rally

Spring 2021 State Meeting

Eight chapters with 33 members (with 2 founding fathers) were on hand at the Huguenot Steamer Company museum in Oxford, hosted by Mass-4. All the members enjoyed the displays at the restored firehouse prior to and after the meeting. Thank you to Mass-4 for arranging this meeting place!

Minutes of the meeting will be distributed so that details of all discussion can be reviewed by members.

RK event planning continues to be a challenge amidst ongoing COVID-19 news. At this time there are NO plans for a RK Mass weekend at Cape Cod. Also, the prognosis for a convention in Canada is looking bleak, as the border remains closed.

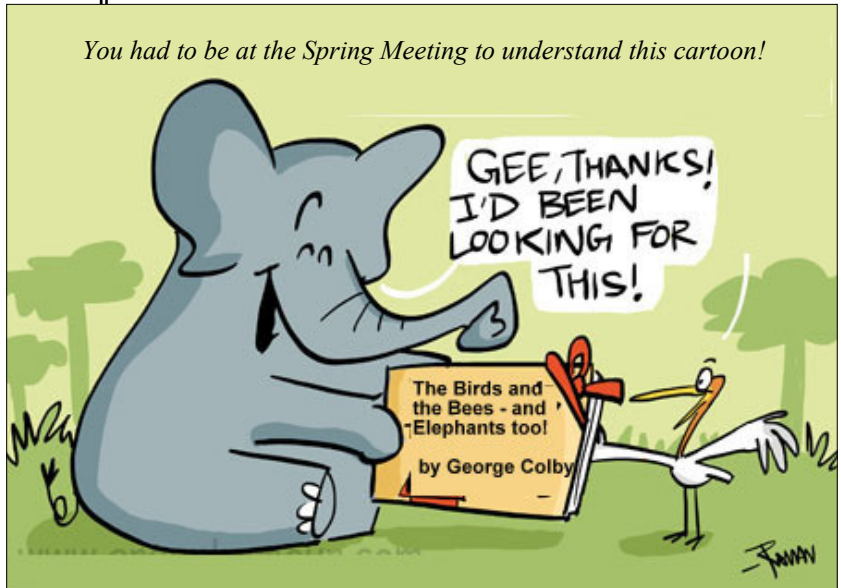
The International Board is also meeting at this time and there should be more info about the convention by early May. (Cancellation notice received on 4/21/2021).

Bob Binnell reported that he is most pleased about the Founding Father patch project in that people are learning about the eleven founding fathers. Since the inception of the project 1,259 patches have been distributed, meaning that over 10% of the RKMC membership has one — with our founding fathers' names inscribed. Even with 2020 travel restrictions, 235 patches were sold last year. Over \$10,000 has been raised through patch sales for the memorial fund.

Founding Father shirts will soon be available. Watch for more information to come via email and Facebook.

Bob and his team are also working on a Founding Fathers Ride challenge. This will be a "riding season" challenge that will earn a numbered patch. You will have to visit (and document) the four corner states (ME, FL, CA, WA), the four corners (CO, UT, AZ, NW), visit four chapters during your trips, visit Mt. Rushmore and visit the RKMC Memorial. All proceeds will benefit the memorial fund. Watch for more info in the near future!

The 2021 fall MA State Red Knights meeting will be hosted by Mass-2 (tentatively October 2)



Motorcycle Week to be more — but not exactly — like normal

LACONIA — Motorcycle Week will look more like normal this year, based on guidance the City Council has given the city manager. The council voted to support holding the annual event during the traditional mid-June dates, but to limit by as much as half the number of vendors due to ongoing concerns about COVID-19.

The beer tents and outside entertainment not associated with an existing establishment would not be allowed this year either, based on the current plan.

Charlie St. Clair, executive director of the Motorcycle Week Association expressed optimism that as the time draws closer to the event there would be fewer restrictions. Felch said, based on the rate that vaccinations are occurring, all adults who intend to be inoculated should have had their shots by the end of May, thereby removing the need for any restrictions when Motorcycle Week begins on June 12.

Councilor Bruce Cheney said that while some restrictions may be necessary, the city also needs to acknowledge that those people who come for Motorcycle Week bear responsibility for protecting their own health.

City Planning Director Dean Trefethen, whose office handles the Motorcycle Week vendor permits, said Tuesday his office would look at layouts of the vendor sites in 2019 and then figure how to space the vendor set-ups apart in keeping with the 50% restriction.

"That's the biggest thing we're going to have to figure out," he said.

In the past there have been "100 vendors or more" set up on about 15 different properties on Lakeside Avenue, around the intersection of Weirs Boulevard and Route 11B, and along Endicott Street North, Trefethen said.

Myers told the meeting that existing restaurants which offer food, beverage, and entertainment would be able to operate as usual, under the state's COVID guidelines. He encouraged those businesses who want to put up tents for outside dining to do so.

St. Clair noted that while the city is looking at restrictions, Meredith will be allowing vendors as usual in front of Laconia Harley-Davidson in that town, and that vendors will be allowed to set up as in the past at the New Hampshire Motor Speedway where where motorcycle races are scheduled to take place June 12 and 13, and June 18 through 20.

Dates to remember:

- 2021 New Brunswick, Canada
- 2022 Johnstown, PA
- 2023 Maryland

Locations for 2024, 2025 and 2026 will be brought up at the 2022 convention. Since the 2020 and 2021 Business Meetings could not be held, no vote was held on future location choices, as normally would have occurred.

Chapter email address and 2021 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 2021, the positions that we are voting for in Massachusetts are International President, International Treasurer, and Region 1 Director

Nominations will close on May 23 and that is when we will know if any contests must be decided by electronic ballot for our chapters in Region 1.

If you are an Active Members of the Red Knights International Motorcycle Club, who have previously served a Chapter or Association as President or Vice President or as a State or Provincial Representative for a minimum of one term, you may serve on the International Executive Board.

To be placed on the ballot a qualified member must be nominated by the President or Vice President of two Chapters. A Member-at-Large may be nominated for any position on the International Executive Board having received a majority vote of the International Executive Board.

If you, or the person whom you are nominating suit the requirements for nomination, you may fill out the nomination. The Nominee must complete the Nomination Profile prior to close of nominations and provide a photo. For more information, refer to the International webpage at <https://www.redknightsmc.com/election-information>

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 incoming messages from the International or others?

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

Region-7 Director Pierre Halleux is not running for re-election. Currently nominated and running for that position is Tom Van der Kley, current treasurer of the RKMC European Association.

Biographies on all these Red Knights running for positions on the International Board are available at the Red Knights webpage: www.redknightsmc.com.

Other dates affiliated with the 2021 voting:

- Incumbents Intent — 180 Days prior to convention by Feb. 22nd
- Nominations Closed — 90 Days prior to convention by May 23rd
- Chapters Start Vote — 60 Days prior to convention on June 22nd
- Voting Closed — 30 Days prior to convention on July 22nd
- Vote Results Announced at Convention — August 21st

International Board Incumbents intending to run for re-election:

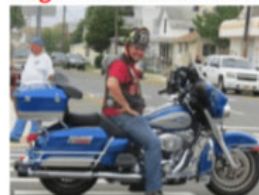
International President Joey Powell



International Treasurer Scott Ryan



Region-1 Director Matt Mattera



Region-3 Director Trey Anderson



Region-5 Director Lance Coit



August 16-22, 2021
Saint John, New Brunswick, Canada

www.rkmc2021.com/

Fingers Crossed that the border will be open and the pandemic will be relegated to history when it is time for our 2021 Red Knights Convention in New Brunswick!

Our brothers and sisters in the maritime province have a lot of riding and comraderie opportunities planned for us this August.

Delta Hotels by Marriott Saint John is the host hotel and details are available on rates and registration via the webpage.

- Twelve Station Ride with a complimentary BBQ lunch will be provided by the film team in the Department.
- Moosehead Breweries tour (with bus transportation)
- Five Fenny Ride with views of the scenic river system including the Kennebecasis River, St. John River and the Beauséjour Bay by crossing 5 cable ferries (with lunch).
- St. John River Cruise - a narrated scenic cruise on the St. John River aboard a Mississippi style river boat.
- Lobster Supper on "Steamer"
- Fundy Trail Ride with stunning views of the world-renowned Bay of Fundy, coastal cliffs and have the opportunity to explore some pristine beaches, river estuaries and waterfalls

First Responder's Memorial Service will commemorate our fallen heroes and recognize their many contributions. It will also celebrate all first responders who work & volunteer to protect us on a daily basis.

Other rides will be available as will be many of past convention staples like Meet-and-Greets, Vendors, Show-and-Shine, Ask the Board forum, annual banquet and farewell breakfast. (And of course the annual RKMC business meeting).

Visit the webpage for all pricing and registration information. Some of the listed events do require pre-registration and additional fees.



www.americade.com

Americade 2021 has been moved to September 21-25, 2021 so that the world (and NY State) have the opportunity for more vaccines and less COVID. The Dutchers and their team have all intentions to be back in Lake George the first week in June for 2022!

But think about what late September will be like in the Adirondacks — post Labor Day, so the summer crowds will have gone, similar daytime temperatures expected to those of early June, AND enjoying the early foliage in the Adirondack Park.

One bonus to the timing is that the annual Adirondack Balloon Festival is Thursday September 23rd to Sunday the 26th. This event has many dawn and dusk balloon launches in the area.

For 2021, Ft. William Henry and the adjacent grounds are headquarters for Americade, and the tent city will be in the park next door, as it has been in recent years. Registration is moving back to Holiday Inn, so there will be less congestion with that additional facility.

Motorcycle manufacturers and vendors have been calling the Americade team telling them that they are ready to arrive in Lake George for September.

Harley will not be doing demo's at LG, but they do plan on being at "Dirt Days" a month earlier with their new adventure bike.

KTM is sponsoring a dual sport ride for those that like some dirt under their tires, the silent auction will return again this year, as does the Ride for Kids parade on Saturday.

Many of the same staples remain in place including dinner cruises, guided and self-guided rides, tent city, demos, and a Beach Road block party with live bands.

Registration is expected to open in late April.

Even though it's "not like it used to be," it sounds like a good time is being planned. Make your plans and come join us in Lake George!

Things to do:



Discover Saint John, NB, Canada

Check out all of what the great city of Saint John has to offer by clicking on the telescope icon to the left!



Moosehead Breweries

"Located in Saint John, New Brunswick, Moosehead Breweries is the last major brewery in Canada owned by Canadians."



Fundy Trail

Click this text to edit. Use this space to describe your service for your visitor. Try to keep this description nice and short.



Where to eat

"Whatever you're craving, from the world-famous seafood to unique local dishes, there will be a dining spot that is sure to satisfy!"



What's up in 2021?

Who knows when and how our world will return to a semblance of normalcy? But do not let that stop your planning, as you look towards the future! We will be joining together again SOON as groups and celebrating our Red Knight times together.

What are you planning for during the latter half 2021 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 19.

Proceeds buy gas cards to help those undergoing Cancer treatments. The ride is in memory of VT-2 Dave Emery's brother Paul.

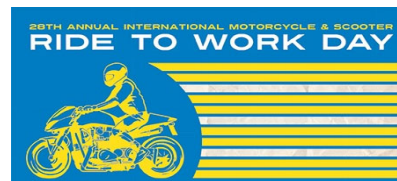
Many of us have the tradition of attending VT-2's Paul's Ride. The 2020 ride was cancelled, but Vermont -2 continued to support those needing assistance. Our neighbors to the north are planning to have their annual ride "in play" for 2021. Let's have a big Massachusetts turn out to support their efforts!

What will our world be like on June 21?

Only time will tell. If you are still commuting in to work at the Fire House or elsewhere — take your bike. If you have a job where you are working remotely from home, suit up and go for a ride before your "work time" begins, and then again at the end of the day.

Retired or not currently working? Get out and ride!

We know how beneficial some fresh air is while we have our knees-in-the-breeze. And that ride definitely helps our mental outlook! Ride safe and keep well! www.ridetowork.org



Fire Guts HQ Of Laconia Motorcycle Week

LACONIA, NH – An intense fire of as-yet-undetermined origin gutted the headquarters of Laconia Motorcycle Week, destroying decades-old memorabilia and archives detailing the colorful history of the nearly 100-year-old event.

"It's a nightmare," said a devastated Charlie St. Clair tonight. "We lost all of our equipment. We lost all of our memorabilia. Archives from more than 50 years."

The fire also consumed photos, paintings, "all Motorcycle Week-related stuff. It's pretty much all gone. This is a pretty big setback for us," said St. Clair, who is executive director of the event.

Firefighters were called to the 2½-story building at 1105 Union Ave. shortly before 10 a.m. Friday. St. Clair said two passersby called in the fire after spotting smoke.

"The fire department did a phenomenal job knocking the fire down. If this fire had another 15 minutes unattended, it would have been a total loss of the building and maybe a loss of life," said St. Clair, referring to an elderly man who lived in a rental apartment upstairs.

"The smoke alarms upstairs worked," he said. "That may not have been the case on the first floor."

The cause of the fire is still being investigated. "They may be able to pinpoint it. It may be undetermined," St. Clair said.

Also lost in the fire were just-arrived 100th anniversary sweatshirts as well as promotional apparel, including T-shirts, from past years. "We had stuff in there as far back as 1979. That's all gone," he said, estimating the total loss from the fire will be in the "hundreds of thousands" of dollars.

"Our insurance isn't going to come close to covering it," said St. Clair. "This is going to be calling all hands for help," he said, explaining that sponsorship money cannot be used in the recovery effort because it is earmarked for marketing elements that include the sponsors' names.

Among the motorcycle memorabilia destroyed were more than 200 vintage oil cans, many bearing motorcycle brand names such as Harley-Davidson and BSA, St. Clair said.

The Laconia Motorcycle Week Association is a non-profit organization. It has called the building at 1105 Union Ave. its home for about 20 years.

Laconia Motorcycle Week will mark 98 years in 2021. St. Clair called the fire "a blow to the city of Laconia and the surrounding area." As for the staging the upcoming event, he said, "It's not going to be easy."

I received word from Region 5 Director Lance Coit that the 2021 Western Rally has been cancelled by the host chapter in Alberta, Canada. This is due to the US/Canada Border currently being closed and restrictions in effect in Alberta. Let's hope all returns to normal soon!

Fraternally,
Matthew J. Mattera
Region 1 Director

Do you love your bike?

Ashford, Kent (England) — Court hears testimony about a man trying to have sex with a motorbike in a busy city center.

Kevin Chapman, 33 is accused of dropping his trousers and exposing himself. It is claimed he then pretended to have intercourse with a blue Suzuki.



'Victim' . . bike with identity obscured

Chapman claimed that he was pushed into the motorbike.



Here are some RKMC 2021 events:

- Dixie Rally 2021 - May 14-16, Culpeper, Va. Sponsor VA5. <https://redknightsva5.com/2021-dixie-rally>
- Lake George RK Ride — June 9 - Sponsored by NY 3.
- Americade 2021 - Sept 15 to 22 (DATE CHANGE), Lake George NY. <https://www.lakegeorge.com/americade/>
- Bootlegger Rally 2021 - Date Sept 2 to Sept 5, 2021. hosted by Indiana Ch. 3 and 2. held in Scottsburg, In. See attached flyer for all details.
- RKMC Mass Cape Cod weekend: Hosted by the Mass State Association. Currently, no plans — normally held end of Sept.

...and in2022:

- Yankee Rally - June 1st-5th 2022 in Plattsburgh NY by Chapter NY 50. This will be the first Yankee Rally in 3 years and will be "Take 2 in '22"!

IN A WORLD, WHERE MOTORCYCLE RALLIES ARE BEING CANCELLED OR POSTPONED, ONE RED KNIGHTS CHAPTER SEEKS TO SPREAD FRIVOLITY, BROTHERHOOD, AND JUST A HINT OF GOOD-NATURED SHENANIGANS IN A WEEK OF CAMPING AND RIDING AROUND LAKE GEORGE.

STARRING : **RED KNIGHTS NEW YORK CHAPTER III**

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GUIDED RIDE — WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9 — LAKE GEORGE FIREHOUSE

BBQ — JUNE 12 CONTACT LARRY G. BY MAY 1ST FOR RESERVATIONS 518-926-0451



RIDE YOUR SCOOT. RIDE IT WELL. JUNE 2021

2021 has not started well for those who do inspections. Malware has infected the computers that do inspections around the country — and the vendors, mechanics and dealers that do both car and motorcycle inspections are left holding the bag!

Hopefully this inspection company and the state will get their act together soon! (Opened again on 4/17/2021)

Currently, there has been no mention of extending the deadline to get your 2021 motorcycle inspection. Currently, your annual inspection is due by the end of May.





Heads up to EZ Pass users, effective April 11, New York MTA Bridges and Tunnels will implement their new "Mid-Tier" toll rates.

Basically, if you have an EZ Pass account, but your tag wasn't read at the crossing (because it wasn't mounted, or mounted correctly), you're charged a rate higher than the EZ Pass rate, but lower than the "Toll by Mail" rate, as a penalty for not having your tag mounted correctly.

Be sure to monitor your EZ Pass account occasionally to make sure you're not being charged the higher rate because their equipment is failing to read your properly mounted tag!

This is especially important for motorcycles, as we often have weird ways of having to mount our tags and can never really be sure if they're being read!

This pertains to NY only (at this time) the MA EZ Pass website and there is no mention of it effecting MA. (Yet).

Murphy's Motorcycle laws

1. A motorcycle cannot/will not fall over without an audience.
2. The fact your keys are still in your pants pocket will become apparent after you put gloves on.
3. Motorcycles are to yellow bugs what aircraft carriers once were to Kamikaze pilots.
4. Quick fixes are named for how long they stay fixed.
5. The only part you really need will also be the only part on permanent backorder.
6. Nothing is harder to start than a used motorcycle being shown to a prospective buyer.
7. You will never suffer a punctured tire on the road until you leave the repair kit at home.
8. "Universal" accessories are so named because that is where you must search to find the bike they fit.

Riding Essentials: Duct Tape and Zip Ties What are the "essentials" that you keep on your bike?



RED KNIGHTS MOTORCYCLE CLUB ®

MA Chapter 4

Tony St. Pierre - QUARTERMASTER

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Douglas, MA 01516

Tel. 857-600-8580

E-Mail: Tony@msic.org

TMLA File Number: [Massachusetts 04-09](#)

RED KNIGHTS® SPECIAL EDITION CLUB VEST



Available in Men's and Women's Styles

Please Complete the Attached Custom Fit Sizing Chart and include with this order form and payment as noted below.

(Note: Club Patches are not included and must be sewn on locally)

Item	Description	Mens/Womens	Color	Quantity	Cost ea.	Total
1	Club Vest		Red			
2	Club Vest		Black			
3	Club Vest		Red/Black			
4	Custom Vest		White			
Sub Total						
Shipping and handling fees (if any)						
Total						

Please make check/money order out to **Red Knights MA Chapter 4**

All Prices US currency / Prices subject to change without notice

All items MUST be prepaid



Red Knights Vest - Custom Measurement Form

Customer's Name _____
 Shipping Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Email _____ Customer Phone (____) _____
 Height Weight Age



Note: No Club Patches are Included.

1) Neck
 Around neck, just below Adam's apple.

2) Upper Chest
 Across front **only**, from arm/chest crease to arm/chest crease (or where arm contacts chest), about 3" below base of neck.

3) Chest
 Around fullest part with the tape high up under arms with arms at sides (for women, around fullest part of bust).

X 4) Waist
 At navel, where you have the elastic belt of the Vanson Measuring Device, make sure your tape is parallel to the floor.

5) Beltline
 Around body at top of pants waistband, but not over the belt.

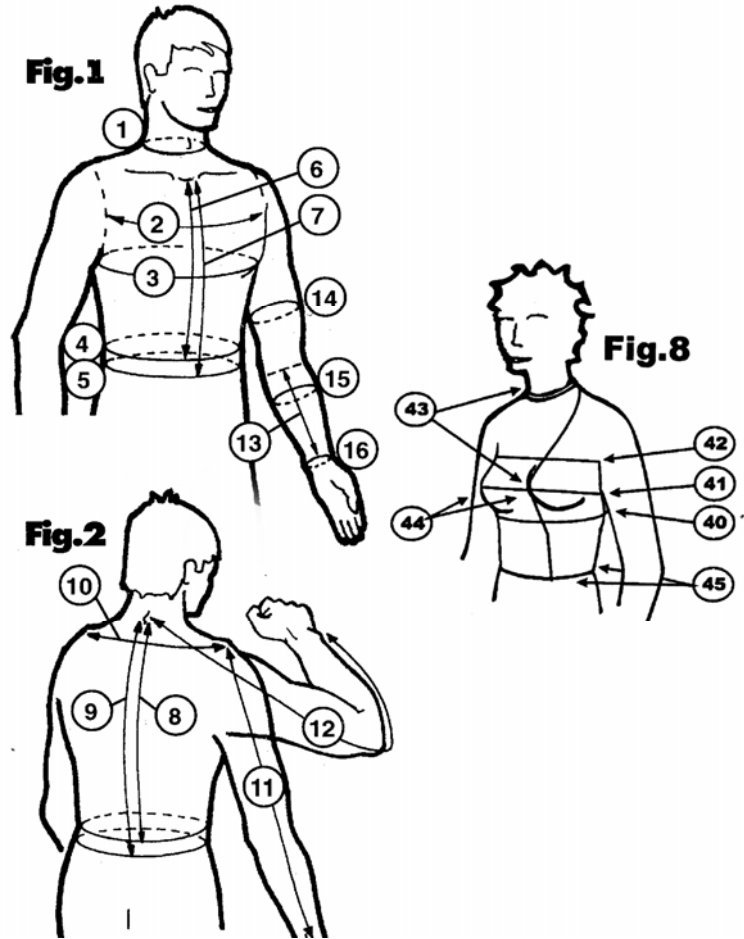
X 6) Waist to Neck, Front
 From the waist at navel (move **tape slide buckle** along elastic belt to point shown in fig. 1) to the top of the rib cage.

7) Neck to Beltline, Front
 From top of the rib cage to top of pants (waistband).

X 8) Waist to Neck Back
 From the waist (move **tape slide buckle** along elastic belt to point shown in fig. 2) to base of neck (where the vertebrae protrudes from the spine).

9) Neck to Beltline Back
 From the base of neck (where the vertebrae protrudes from the spine) to the top of pants (waistband).

10) Across Shoulders
 Straight across from shoulder bone to shoulder bone.



See next page for additional required measurements for Women's vest

Women only - See Fig. 8

40) Circumference
Measure just Underneath bust.....

41) Circumference
Measure around widest portion of the bust

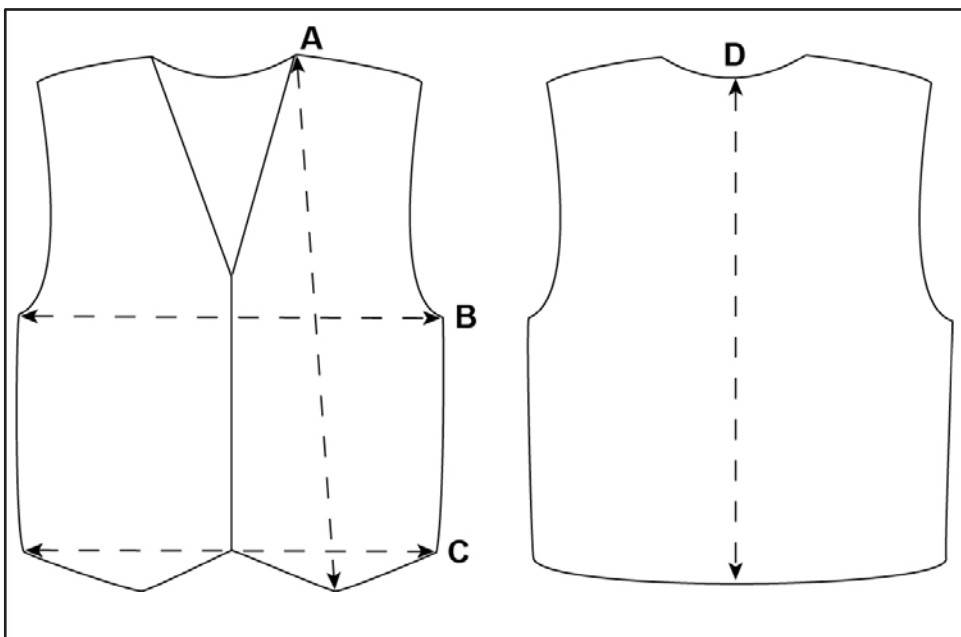
42) Circumference
Measure just above bust

43) Back of neck to widest part of bust
Bone at base of back of neck around to apex of bust

44) Apex to Apex
Measure across the bust from apex to apex.....

45) Waist Front to Waist Back
Measure from front waist (the elastic belt) directly over the apex to the shoulder point and back down to the elastic belt in back.....

Red Knights - Existing Vest Measurements
If you have an existing vest that fits please take the measurements as shown in the illustrations below.



A Measurement

B Measurement

C Measurement

D Measurement

Sizing and Pricing Chart		
Chest Size (B, Above in inches)	Vest Sizes	Pricing
40-48	Small/Med/Large	\$240.00
50-54	X-Large / XX-Large	\$265.00
56-62	XXX-Large / XXXX-Large	\$365.00
Over 62	5X-Large	\$495.00

Please include check or money order per pricing chart noted above plus \$15.00 shipping per vest. All checks made to: RKMC MA IV, PO Box 235, Charlton City, MA. 01508

Credit/Debit Cards can be used for Payment by Contacting: RKMC MA IV Quartermaster @ tony@msic.org