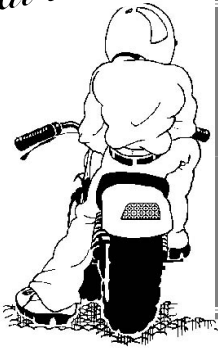


Loyal to Our Duty



Red Knights Mass Chapter 2 November 2000

Greetings from the President

Hi to All,

We are again coming to the end of another riding season. If you gave me your starting mileage, let me know the ending or the approximate number of miles you have ridden this year. We are trying to track just how many miles we have done as a club. Jot it down on the post card. Thank you to all the members that have supported the chapter in the past year by coming to rides and other functions. As we get ready for another long New England Winter (Yak), remember to take good care of your riding buddy. It will be a while before you can climb back on it again. It has given you a lot of pleasure this past year, so make sure you lube it and give it a good cleaning and see that it is put to bed in a nice way. (In case you don't know, I'm talking about your bike!)

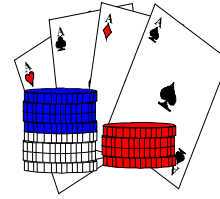
It was 1983-1984 in Fitchburg, Massachusetts when MA-Chapter-2 was founded. Now 18 years later, we still have 11 of the original charter members. **Thank You** to each of them for they were our founding fathers. We have them to thank today for all their years of support. They are Joe Bergeron, Ed Brouillet, Tom Chaplin, Charle Clarkson, John Collins, Cliff Eldridge, Bob Feeley, Phil Jordan, Jim Skehan, and Wayne Stacy. In October we had election of officers. You, the membership, gave me the pleasure to be your president for another two years and Cliff Eldridge as your Treasurer. Cliff has done an excellent job on keeping our books straight. A special Thank You to Fred LeBlanc for his excellent leadership as our Road Captain during the past year. Fred decided that he has too many things going on in the coming year and would not be able to provide the time needed to be Road Captain. It was time for someone else to jump in and help out. With great pleasure I can introduce that person to you, Tim Kilhart of Athol. Thanks Tim for helping out. We look forward to your leadership as our new Road Captain in the next year. (Please, no walking trips of Boston with out prior notice.)

It has been a great year for Mass 2. We have seen a lot of new faces. Our membership is growing and we hope to provide something for everyone throughout the winter and into the next riding season. We need your help in doing this. Please make sure you fill out and return the post card, ASAP, with things or rides you would like to do next year. Your officers will be getting together in January to set up next year's ride schedule. We will try to do something for everyone, but, as in the past majority rules! On February 3 there will be a Mass. State Rep. Meeting of all the officers of the Massachusetts Chapters. We will exchange ride schedules at this meeting. That is the only way we can make possible changes avoiding conflicting dates of rides. This allows us to ride with other chapters. Shortly after that meeting the officers of Mass-2 will get together to make up the final ride scheduled for the 2001-riding season for Mass-2.

As I close, I would like to give a big Thank You to Peg, and all the Officers and Members for your support this past year. To you and your family, have a safe and happy holiday season.

Ed

Mass-2 Annual Poker Run



Thanks to all those who collected Door Prizes and who worked to make our Poker Run a success again this year.

Even though Mother Nature didn't cooperate fully this year, (rain, clouds, drizzle, etc.), we still had about thirty riders from around the area (and out of staters as well) that rode our Poker Run. After paying bills we expect to see a profit of about \$240.

That's not as much as some years, but it is a good take considering the weather that day.

Think about other ways that the chapter can raise funds to support our favorite charities. If you have ideas on how to raise money for the club, let one of the officers hear your ideas.

Again, thank you for everyone's help! ...and the Frederick's of Hollywood door prizes were a hit again this year!

RKMC Christmas Party and Yankee Gift-Swap

#

Join us for our annual Holiday Party and Pot-Luck. Bring your favorite dish to share and a small wrapped gift (up to \$10) and we will share stories of past rides and friendships and have a great time!

When: Saturday, December 2

Time: 5:00 pm to ???

Where: Ed & Peg Brouillet's
326 Minot Road
Westminster

For directions and to RSVP call Peg at (978) 632-8230.

Welcome Aboard!

Mass Chapter 2 has gone from 40 to 65 members in 2 years. That's an increase of more than 60% in members in that time!

New members are one way we continue to have our chapter stay vital and alive with fresh ideas and new faces. The officers are thinking about the best way to bring the information about the Red Knights to Firefighters and Fire Departments around our area. If you have any ideas on how to "market" the club to potential club members, let us know!

Enclosed is an up-to-date roster of the members of Mass-2, addresses, phone numbers, and e-mails. If you find mistakes in this information, please let Bob Laford know.

Ev Hayes (Athol Fire) said he was pretty sure that his having to be push started at the polar bear ride (because he left the key on) would be mentioned in the newsletter. Well, I certainly don't want to disappoint him!

Rides for '01

In this mailing is a pre-addressed and stamped post card. Please write down three ride ideas (and specific dates if necessary) and drop it back in the mail.

The Chapter Officers will sort through the suggestions and put together a proposed itinerary for the 2001 ride schedule. That will be presented at the February State Rep's meeting and our Winter Pot-Luck gathering.

Please let us know your ideas so we can plan a fun season, (as well as pre-season and post-season), of events that everyone will enjoy. Postcard Deadline is December 31.

Election Results:

At our October meeting, elections were held for Vice-president, Treasurer, and Road Captain. Bob Laford and Cliff Eldridge stayed on in their respective positions. Tim Kilhart was elected Road Captain. (The Nominating Committee wasn't quite prepared because our vice-president initiated an administrative faux pas when he told Tim and Darlene the two positions up for re-election were the President and Secretary. But the Nominating Committee came through with a save when they presented the slate to be voted on under new business! Must be everyone's elections are a little bit screwy this year.) Congratulations gentlemen.

Special thanks go out to Fred Leblanc for his work as Road Captain

On the road with our friends

- Saturday, September 9 was our **Pot-Luck BBQ** in Petersham. Clouds were the order of the day but we still had 14 people show up throughout the afternoon and had a great time visiting, telling stories, and eating! Plan on the Saturday after Labor Day next year too — the Kilharts have already suggested having the get-together at their lakeside cottage.
- Sunday, September 10, was the **Ride for Molly**. Of the 1,003 motorcycles that converged on Warren, Mass, Red Knights from Mass, Rhode Island, and Connecticut were among the group. It was a beautiful day for a ride, we just wish that Molly Bish were not missing and could have been home with her family to enjoy it. The ride raised over \$20,000 to help the search for Molly continue and to help fund programs to protect children from this fate.
- Sunday, October 8, was 33 degrees at 7:00 am in Petersham. When the group left WFD for the **Apple Pie Run** the thermometer was barely above forty. It felt like it got colder before the six bikes and eight riders made it to Vermont for some baked beans, corn chowder, and Apple Pie in Dummerston. We had a couple of four-wheelers with us as well. Some guests with a van full of "Al's Pals" were traveling along with us. When we headed home, the sun broke through the clouds making the ride home more comfortable.
- Sunday, October 22 & 29, were memorial rides. The 22nd was the **Tim Jackson Veterans' Memorial Ride** and the 29th was the second annual **Ride for Heroes** in honor of the Worcester 6. On the 29th, the temperature in Worcester County hovered around 28 degrees, with snow showers (and some accumulation). But that didn't stop the Red Knights and many other bikers who participated in the Ride for Heroes.
- Sunday, November 12, our annual **Polar Bear Ride** was a beautiful sunny day, with blue skies and 50 degree weather. Seven bikes and a four-wheeler showed up for a central Mass ride and lunch at the Cozy Cabin in Barre. (We had a late start as Ed headed off to a "smoke in the house" call just as we were going to leave!)



New England Motorcycle Exposition

At the Connecticut Expo Center
in Hartford, CT

~ Mark Your Calendar ~
For the
2001 Show Dates
January 6-7, 2001

The show is billed as the BIGGEST All-Model
Motorcycle Show in New England!

If anyone is interested in riding down to
Hartford for a day-trip, (and of course we'll
have to stop for a nice lunch somewhere),
contact Bob Laford.

(It looks like about 80 miles and 2 hours travel time from

Safety in the Saddle — Clothes Make the Rider
by Robert Vaughan

When Harry Hurt at the University of Southern California (USC) did his famous study of motorcycle accidents, he found that though clothes may not make the man they certainly help protect him. Covering yourself with leather or another thick material such as Kevlar or Cordura can offer a very high level of protection.

Cycle magazine tested materials for their abrasion resistance. The two types of tests Cycle did gave similar results. If you weigh 75 pounds and have a body like a milk crate then your wardrobe would fall into three classes: Denim and lightweight leather for minimum protection, Cordura Nylon and Kevlar for five times the protection, and competition weight leather for twenty times the protection.

If, on the other hand, you have a tendency to sit on grinding wheels, you can stay seated twice as long wearing Cordura Nylon or Kevlar as you can wearing Denim or thirteen times as long wearing competition weight leather.

Road rash isn't the most serious injury motorcyclists face, but it's certainly one of the most painful. While you may not look like a milk crate or sit on grinding wheels, you should know that the better materials do give you something for your money besides a flatter billfold.

As a rule, riders buy non-specialized clothing such as denim and then wear it for a very specialized purpose. The best material for abrasion-resistance should combine a smooth texture in a thick layer to promote sliding, some rigidity to discourage adhesion, a flexible internal structure to stretch under abrasion, and enough thickness to withstand sustained abrasion. A deficiency in even one element can spell injury.

However, even the best materials won't prevent injury if the garment is not well made and properly fitted. And, even if those criteria are met, if the garment isn't fastened, it can't do its job of keeping the rider unharmed.

It's worthwhile to put as much money into the clothes we wear as we do into the accessories we put on our bikes. Copyright © 1993 by Robert Vaughan.

Cycle World Motorcycle Show

February 23-25, 2001 at the Javitts Convention Center in
NEW YORK CITY!

See the accessories you need to make your bike especially yours! Attendees have the chance to win a new Suzuki motorcycle.

Red Knights Connecticut Chapter 2 has chartered a bus and is selling tickets for the ride down and entry into the show. They are selling a limited number of seats, 49 total, for \$30. This covers the bus ride and the show. First come first serve on the remaining seats.

On February 25 the bus will leave Enfield, CT at 7:00 am, East Hartford, CT at 7:30, and Cromwell, CT at 7:50. Arrival time at the Javitts Center in New York is 10:00 am. Other plans on the itinerary is the Harley Café at 2:30. The bus will depart for Connecticut at 5:00 pm.

John O'Hagen says that last year some of the crew toured the Twin-Towers and the Empire State Building instead of having lunch at the Harley Café. A great time!

Tickets are on a first come, first serve basis. Last year they sold out AND they had a standby list.

If you have an interest, check with John O'Hagen, for more info and seat availability. 860-749-0222

Red Knights Dues are "due" at this time. Enclosed is an invoice. Please forward your dues by the end of December to our club treasurer Cliff Eldridge.

Cliff Eldridge
856 Main Street
Leominster, MA 01453

(disregard the invoice if you have already paid your 2001 dues.)

Come join us for a Winter Pot-Luck Supper and a chance to look at the proposed **Ride Schedule** for 2001.

- When: **Sunday, February 11**
- Where: Marty & Cliff's house in Leominster
- Time: 2:00 pm

RSVP and Directions to Marty Eldridge at (978)534-6252

Bring your favorite dish and stories to tell and we'll see you there!

Gifts from Two Wheels

The motorcycling community, in general, is a very compassionate, giving group of people, and this includes the Red Knights.

Just look at the schedule of events over the past year. Our chapter has been involved with many different events & causes, leaving no question that people care. We have been involved with the Ride for Kids, the Hobo Stew Ride, the Ride for Molly Bish and her family, the Ride for Heroes, and support for the Firefighters' Memorial in Worcester.

The list could go on and on, and that is not even including the funds and charities that are supported by our chapter, and chapters around the country. In this season of giving, I just wanted to say I'm proud to be a member of the Red Knights, and proud to call you my friends.



WE NEED HELP!

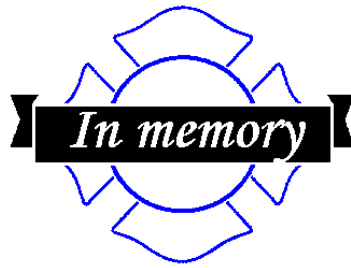
It's time to get the international newsletter out to the 1500 members of the Red Knights. Come enjoy pizza and other refreshments as we fold, label, stamp, and stuff the newsletters for all our friends throughout the Red Knights organization.

Red Knights organization.

As an extra bonus, if you give us a hand you get the opportunity to hear our Four-Corners riders spin their yarns about their adventure, watch the videos & look at the pictures. It will be a great time!

The assembly line will be at Ed and Peg's in Westminster on Saturday, December 16, beginning at 1:30 p.m.

The more help we can get, the less time it takes!



As firefighters, Fire Prevention Month is a special time of year, and this year that time was also an appropriate opportunity for the Red Knights to recognize the efforts of the Worcester Fire Department's fund drive for a permanent memorial to the brothers lost last December.

On Monday, October 16, a reception was held at the Crown Plaza in Worcester in honor of Steve Mickle and Ed Brouillet for their efforts through the Four-Corners Tour for Firefighters.

Present were members of the Worcester Fire Department, Red Knights from around Massachusetts, and others. During the evening Ed and Steve presented the Worcester Fire Department with a donation totaling \$8800. The donation was made on behalf of all the Red Knights to help the Worcester firefighters towards their goal for the memorial.



This was taken at the Poker Run as one of our Chefs was burnin' the dogs... do you see anything peculiar about this picture?

RKMC Cape Cod Weekend

Think SPRING! The Cape Weekend isn't too far off (May 2001). The Mass-State Rep, Steve Mickle, is looking for any ideas to make this year's visit to Cape Cod a great time for everyone.

If you have any ideas, please give Steve a call.

Autumn's Moon

Summer's moon has fallen down
Behind the Summer hills;
In its place here rises now
A moon all Autumn-filled.

Its rays touch down upon God's earth...
On ripened fields of grain,
On hillsides and on villages,
On quiet country lanes

It is a panoramic view,
When Summer's moon takes flight,
To see Autumnal moonbeams fall
O'er all the countryside.

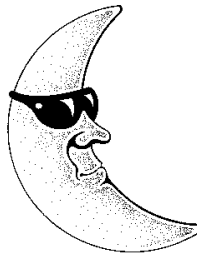
It's part of Autumn's Midas Touch
Upon this golden time,
When Summer's moon has gone to rest
And Autumn's gold moon shines.

Loise Pinkerton Fritz

To Do List:

- Monday: Work
- Tuesday: Work
- Wednesday: Work
- Thursday: Work
- Friday: Work
- Saturday: Ride
- Sunday: Ride
- Monday: Work
- Tuesday: Quit Job
- Wednesday: Ride

I hear that Gerry Baldini's trike is currently a "work in progress!" Rumors are that Gerry's Wing will be his new trike by Thanksgiving. It will be great to have you and Rosie back on the rides with us in 2001.



The officers of Mass Chapter-2 and their spouses wish each of you a very joyous holiday season. We all look forward to another great New Year to



Just because there are fewer riding days during the months quickly approaching doesn't mean we still don't get together and have fun!

Look inside for info on upcoming events for the Mass-2 version of the Red Knights during our cold-weather months!

- December 2: Annual Christmas Pot-luck Party and Yankee Gift Swap
- December 16: Help Prep the International Newsletter for mailing and look at videos & pictures of the 4-corners trip.
- January 6: New England Motorcycle Expo in Hartford, Connecticut
- February 11: Chapter Pot-luck at Cliff and Marty's to look over the ride schedule for 2001
- February 26: Connecticut-IT's bus trip to New York City

...and then it's March and our annual train ride and walking tour of Boston. So the Winter really isn't *that* long and we'll be out on the bikes in regular fashion again!

PLEASE!
Mail back the enclosed post card
with your ride ideas for 2001.

**Red Knights Motorcycle Club
Mass Chapter-2
P.O. Box 316
Westminster, MA 01473**

www.redknightsmc.org



Make sure there is something special under the tree for your favorite two-wheeled family member!