



Red Knights

Mass Chapter 2 — Summer 2019

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Loyal to Our Duty

From the Desk of the President

Hello Red Knights,

Here we are in the prime riding season and still a lot of planned riding ahead of us. We had a great turnout this year at Americade. We've actually had pretty decent turnouts for some of the scheduled rides, like Paul's ride in Vermont. But not so much on the couple of ice cream rides we've had so far. We did end up gaining two more members from the Erving Fire Department on the last Ice Cream ride.

Which just prompts me to ask, are you all still interested in doing these ice cream rides? Are they too late after you get out of work (for those of us still working)? Are you getting bored with our schedule? Love to hear from you, as we are always looking to improve our ridership as well as our adventures.

Does riding with this group still interest you? Do you think we have too much on our plate to offer up. Any suggestions you have I'd love to hear from you. And I'll get together with the executive board and see what changes we can make.

I'd like to send out a thank you to Bob Laford our Treasurer / PIO for putting our newsletter together and keeping us all informed on various aspects of the Red Knights and local happenings. Bob has been keeping the newsletter going for years and his love of motorcycling and publishing shows his enthusiasm for the sport. So Thank you Mr. Laford for all you do.

I'd also like to make a second shout out to Jeff Hamburg, our Secretary. Jeff continues to show his pride in being a Red Knight / Secretary for our chapter by constantly trying to recruit new members, provide training for our chapter and over all there for anyone that needs help or advice with your ride. So Thank you Mr. Hamburg for all you do.

Just as a reminder we have our annual election of officers coming up in October and the office of President and Secretary are open for nomination. If anyone would like to entertain running for either of these positions please notify Bob Laford as your nominating chairman.

As your current President I intend to run for re-election with hopes of continuing to build the best chapter of Red Knights in the WORLD!!

Found an article on line in one of the rider magazines and thought I'd share it with you (next page). It gives each of us some thought and at the end it asks you a question. Let me know your thoughts. It'll be interesting to see the results.

Stay safe out there and ride often.
Thank you for all you do.
President Martin

**Sunday, September 1.
RK Labor Day Celebration.**

COOKOUT!



Enjoy the last official weekend of summer with a chapter Cookout to celebrate the Labor Day weekend.

Plan to head out to our Secretary's home in Orange (at the Hamberg's ~1:00 pm) and we will have the grills ready!

Bring some food to share and enjoy the afternoon with us.

France in 2020

Unlike past conventions, the webpage and registration for the 2020 International Convention is live NOW. This is because all special trips during the convention must be confirmed by August 20, 2019. Because of the special nature of the side trips — like D-Day's Normandy Beaches — all reservations must be made one year in advance.

Please send your Questions and Registrations to:
2020convention@redknightsmc.eu

Download Registration link:
<https://www.redknightsmc-2020.eu/2020-event-registration.pdf>

Both the Convention's Facebook page and Webpage is active.

<https://www.redknightsmc-2020.eu>



How Old Is “Too Old” To Ride A Motorcycle?



HE SAID HE WAS TOO OLD TO RIDE. So, now, he and his wife were traveling on a trike. We met at a gas station and talked for a while, before we each headed back out on the road in different directions as part of our separate multi-day rides and they sure looked like they were having just as much fun as I.

As a result of our conversation, that was the first time I considered the notion that there could be a day when I'm too old to ride. That moment was also the first time I entertained the possibility of a three-wheel vehicle. Personally, I found myself contemplating a motorcycle with a sidecar more than a trike. Of course, since I haven't ridden with a sidecar or on a trike, I have no basis to judge which I might prefer. Having said that, I have ridden a Can Am Spyder, with two wheels in the front and one wheel in the back. Although that machine didn't inspire me, I think it's good that there are options for three-wheeled vehicles.

So, how old is too old to ride?

Heck, for that matter, at what age does this concept of “old” begin?

For me, I know I ride smarter (and slower) than when I was a kid. But I can't say I have the same reflexes. Nor do I have the same endurance. I don't know how many thousand-plus miles per day I have ahead of me, but factually, there is very little reason I need to put on those miles in a day anymore, anyway.

So, at what point would I say that I'm too old?

I imagine if I start trying to figure out how to replace a motorcycle seat with a rocking chair, while allowing the handlebars to sway up and down at the same time as the rocker, then I may have passed the point of being sensible. (Actually, I might have passed that point a long time ago, if I was ever sensible at any time).

Back to the point of which I have no answer: How old is too old to ride a motorcycle?

If you have any guidance or thoughts, I'm interested....

Thank you to all who made our **Mass-2 Chapter Challenge Coin** venture a success.



Many of our members bought extras so that they may give away a coin or two to people who are special to them, the chapter and the Red Knights. Across the Red Knights chapters and associations have been producing unique challenge coins to show our pride and our participation in the Red Knights. Our chapter now has our own coin in circulation! Some of those special people that received coins from our chapter members include a number of RKMC founders, Bill Dutcher (founder of Americade), several International Board members, and a few business people and "friends of the Red Knights" that are special to our chapter.

HISTORY/LEGEND OF THE CHALLENGE COIN

Like many aspects of military tradition, the origins of the challenge coin are a matter of much debate. The most commonly held view is that the tradition began in the Army Air Corps (a precursor of the current United States Air Force) during World War I.

When the Army created flying squadrons they were manned with volunteer pilots from every walk of civilian life. While some of the early pilots came from working class or rural backgrounds, many were wealthy college students drawn by the adventure and romance of the new form of warfare.

As the legend goes, one such student, a wealthy lieutenant, ordered small, solid-bronze medallions (or coins) struck, which he then presented to the other pilots in his squadron as mementos of their service together. The coin was gold-plated, bore the squadron's insignia, and was quite valuable. One of the pilots in the squadron, who had never owned anything like the coin, placed it in a leather pouch he wore around his neck for safekeeping. A short while later, this pilot's aircraft was heavily damaged by ground fire, forcing him to land behind enemy lines, resulting in his capture by the Germans. The Germans confiscated the personal belongings from his pockets, but they didn't catch the leather pouch around his neck. On his way to a permanent prisoner of war facility, he was held overnight in a small German-held French village near the front. During the night, the town was bombarded by the British, creating enough confusion to allow the pilot to escape.

The pilot avoided German patrols by donning civilian attire, but all of his identification had been confiscated so he had no way to prove his identity. With great difficulty, he crept across no man's land and made contact with a French patrol. Unfortunately for him, the French had been on the lookout for German saboteurs dressed as civilians. The French mistook the American pilot for a German saboteur and immediately prepared to execute him.

Desperate to prove his allegiance and without any identification, the pilot pulled out the coin from his leather pouch and showed it to his French captors. One of the Frenchmen recognized the unit insignia on the coin and delayed the execution long enough to confirm the pilot's identity.

Once the pilot safely returned to his squadron, it became a tradition for all members to carry their coin at all times. To ensure compliance, the pilots would challenge each other to produce the coin. If the challenged couldn't produce the coin, he was required to buy a drink of choice for the challenger; if the challenged could produce the coin, the challenger would purchase the drink.

Mass-2 Cover Bike

This edition's contributor is Rick Oliver.

I got my first motorcycle in 1981 when I was 20 years old. It was a 1969 Honda CB350. I have had a few bikes over the next 20 years – 1982 Honda 450 (that I bought new in 1984), a Yamaha 650 Special, Honda V45 Magnum 750. (My first date with Lori was on the V45). None of them cost a lot or ever got a lot of miles put on them.

In 2005 I purchased a 1999 Honda Valkyrie 1500. We started to take longer rides and trips on this bike, and Lori and I even vacationed on it. A real comfortable and beautiful bike.

In 2007 we were offered membership in MA-2, after we participated in a weekend at the Swiss Farm Inn. As a couple, joining the Red Knights has been the best thing we have ever done.

Since joining the Red Knights I have learned so much more about riding. My skill and confidence levels have gone up tremendously. I have put on more than 100,000 miles on three different bikes since becoming a Red Knight. (Lori has been on the back for many of them).

From riding in all kinds of weather – rain, wind, temperatures from the 20's to above 100 degrees. Group rides with over 1,000 bikes, parades, to over 1,000 miles in one day. Each experience has taught me to be a better, safer rider.

Because of our Red Knight family being world-wide, we have had the opportunity to travel and meet Red Knights throughout Europe. We have stayed at the French Fire Brigade's headquarters in Paris as guest of France-1; ridden the Swiss Alps and Germany's Black Forest with Swiss-1, and attended European Red Knights conventions in Ireland and Switzerland.

Traveling here and abroad we have made many new friends who have opened their homes – and we have been privileged to do that for them here as well. Because they are family.

WOW! What a time we have had. We cannot imagine what the next ten years is going to bring. We just know that there are a lot of great times ahead. Red Knights Forever!



Even in Hawaii While the Feeley's were vacationing in Hawaii they watched a parade go by, complete with a local motorcycle club.



Many of us learned that those Candlepin balls and pins are so much smaller than the ten pins we have thrown down the alley in the past! We also learned, during our Bowling-Extravaganza in March, that we have a number of ringers, who routinely bowl in Candlepin leagues!

We had 25 people come out and enjoy time with us on a Sunday afternoon, and even those of us who are more dangerous than proficient with a bowling ball in our hands had a great time!

We took over 5 lanes at the Harvard Lanes and enjoyed our time before the next winter storm moved in that night.



At the annual business meeting for our chapter, scheduled for October, the officer positions of President and Secretary will be up for election/re-election.



If you are interested in running for office, please contact nominations chair, Treasurer Bob Laford at treasurer@rk-mass2.org (by September 15th).

**Sunday, October 13
— Annual Chapter meeting.**

Current plans are to reserve the RKMC Memorial House in Boylston for our annual meeting. 1:30 pm start time.



In 1984, President Ronald Reagan designated July as **National Ice Cream Month** and the third Sunday of the month as **National Ice Cream Day**.

Do your patriotic duty and toast the president that had this great insight!



Next generation of rider (Kadie Conrad)

Always be aware and ride like everyone is out to get you! I know of a past co-worker who was behind a vehicle when a kiddie pool came tumbling out of the back!

I bet you have veered away from drivers like this in the past too!



Motorcyclist Receives Serious Injuries After Striking Ladder Falling off Pickup in Haverhill

A 62-year-old Dracut man riding a motorcycle along I-495 in Haverhill was seriously injured Saturday when he struck a ladder that had come off a pickup truck.

Neither the Dracut man, riding a 1985 BMW motorcycle, nor the 38-year-old Haverhill man driving a 2009 GMC Sierra pickup truck, were immediately identified by Massachusetts State Police. The motorcyclist was first taken to Lawrence General Hospital before being flown by medical helicopter to a Boston area hospital for treatment of serious injuries.

Trooper Daniel Schumaker reports both were traveling on southbound on route 495, south of Exit 52, in Haverhill. The motorcyclist was struck by a ladder which had come out of the back of the pickup truck. He then crashed in the roadway.

The Haverhill man, remained on scene and was cited for driving with an unsecured load.

State Police were assisted on scene by Haverhill Fire and EMS and Haverhill Police.

Membership News Briefs...

Our condolences go out to Fred and Lisa Leblanc on the passing of Fred's mom earlier in the Spring.

Welcome to Chis Williams and Laurel Deering of Townsend (and MedStar). They were voted in as new members at our February Breakfast Club and to Scott Nelson (Princeton FD) who was voted in as a member when he and his wife Robin came to our Bowling-extravaganza! Also, two new members, Mickey and Jon LaClaire, from Eriving FD, were voted in at our summer cookout. Welcome to all!

Matthew has the right idea. Do you have gear that you have "outgrown" hanging in your closet. Don't let it go to waste, there is probably another rider that can put it to good use. Pass it on!



Congratulations to the Oliver's on the birth of their granddaughter Alondra back in February.

Congratulations to Chapter Secretary Jeff Hamburg on



completing his third stair climb for the American Lung Association (88 flights of stairs in full gear AND SCBA!) Jeff raised over \$1,200! Also a tip-of-the-hat to our secretary on receiving his Fire Instructor certification!

Congratulations to Diona Laford on her new CanAm Ryker and to Bob Shakarian and Bob Laford for adding a Heritage Softtail and Victory Kingpin to their respective fleets!



Congratulations to Marcia and Maury on their new home in the "western district" of Orange.

On the road with our friends...



- It was great that we had some Red Knights that were able to make it to Bill Bourque's retirement party in Waltham! 35 years at the WFD, congratulations Lt. Bill!

- We had a great turnout at Ed and Peg's for our February Breakfast Club. Was still too cold for riding, but with the old photo albums out for perusal, the conversation was definitely on riding!



- March's Breakfast Club was on St. Patrick's Day.

Great turn

riding

Jeff &

out, lot's of food, and conversation about the season and Americade. Thanks to our great hosts, Faith!



- April's breakfast was at Larry and Nancy's with a lot of rain happening outside! Another big turnout too. Would you like to host one of the fall breakfasts? Just let President Martin know.

- Have you dried out from April? 21 days had some rain and we saw over 6 inches total for the month. Our first JAR (in April) was not rained out, but the half dozen riders had to squeeze their ride in between the morning rain ending and the afternoon rain starting!



- Our May JAR was accompanied by exemplary weather! Warm, sunny, blue skies, and a route through some of the Connecticut River Valley in search of sustenance... including ice cream.

AMERICADE 2019



WOW! The weather was something! Both our arrival and departure days on either side of the week were dry and comfortable for the ride to Lake George. From mid-week on, we experienced perfect weather with sun, blue skies and warm temperatures. Even the first part of the week gave us riding time with showers usually holding off until after 3:00 in the afternoon. Of course there was that one memorable



sojourn that headed north on Monday with a good group of riders headed for the St. Lawrence Seaway. The further north they went the colder (and wetter) it got. Little by little, the group got smaller, but a determined nucleus of riders made it to the Canadian border with rain (hail) and 41-degree temperatures. A closed restaurant took pity on them at one point, offered them some rest inside, and even fired up their kitchen for our riders. That day's total was over 350 miles.

We had a great Red Knights crowd with 43 members and friends who called Bayfront home during the week. The only cabin not assigned to the RKMC was Hank's. But, after this many years, he's a friend of the Red Knights too! Along with the three Amigos, we also welcomed

back Matt & Julie and welcomed Tom O'Connor from Athol, and Armand and Michelle's friend Pat. One of the major sponsors for Americade this year was AARP. Thinking about how long our chapter has been going to LG – and staying at Bayfront, it is no doubt that is probably good marketing.

As is usually the case, there was no grass growing under Red Knight tires. There were rides to Ticonderoga, Vermont, the "Ap Gap," the Adirondack Store, Shroon River Road, Sacandaga Lake, Spider Falls Road (and nearby Glens Falls Mountain Road which was a hidden gem for mountain switchbacks), High Falls Gorge, Lake Placid, countless ice cream places, and Tracy Road, of course (complete with T-Shirts). Our chapter patches and challenge coins appeared in a number of places including the local distillery and brewery as well as a thank you for the proprietor who opened up for our cold and wet riders in the north country.

A number of rides and riders made the loop up 9N and across Rt 8 to stop at the Haigh Market. This has become a Red Knight tradition in support of Jim and his wife at the store. A new caveat to the week was when a small group rented a



pontoon boat and licensed pilot Mark Dunbar took the controls for a few hours on the lake. This may have to expand into a larger fleet of vessels!

There are always those staples to a great



week. Some of those include evening by the fire (we had several perfect nights for that), the RKMC open house at the Lake George FD (with 150 people) with a luncheon provided by NY-12, and vendors and manufacturers (both in Tent



City and in Warrensburg). Hmmm, who might end up with a new bike after ogling what is on the market?

And of course there was the food! Burgers and Dogs on the grill, an Italian dinner, BBQ Chicken, Breakfast sandwiches and omelets – and plenty of sandwich fixings so you could pack away your lunch and hit the Adirondacks for a day of exploring. There was even a new discovery for BBQ at the Streaking Moose restaurant.

Our 2019 Americade celebration ended with a great travel day with the sun over our shoulder as we headed back to Massachusetts. Of course, we're already looking forward to next year. Are you?



Americade Founder Bill Dutcher was given one of our chapter coins. In a thank you he said, "It reminds me of good times with the RKMC."

We will plan to have this year's **Year-end Picture Perfect Potluck** with one of our fall breakfast clubs on (depending on locations). If you have pictures you take during the year, get them to Bob Laford to be included on-line and in our year's memory review.

Giving Jack a Home —

Running parallel to Founder Norm Beausoleil's Single Barrel Jack Daniels fundraiser for the Memorial House in Boylston, our own Rick Oliver was doing some work on his own securing a Jack Daniels barrel with the RKMC Founders logo on its cover. *(Thank you Rick!)*

At the RK State Meeting in March, President Martin unveiled this barrel and presented it to the Memorial Committee (and all the Red Knights) to be placed in its new home in the Red Knights Memorial House.



Ice Cream! Spring started our monthly ice cream rides!

This year's meetings are again on the fourth Thursday of the month through September. June was a hot evening, but the ice cream at Rota Farms tasted good and we even had two new members come along with Jeff to meet the crowd.!

The next **Ice Cream Rides** are July 25, Aug. 22 (at 6:30 p.m.), and Saturday, Sept. 21 @ 2:00 pm

Another great meal hosted by Mass-1 with their annual Spaghetti Dinner in Boylston! And we all waddled away happy.



Spring RK Mass State Meeting

There were over 50 Red Knights in attendance at the Spring State meeting held in Boylston. Mass-2 had the largest contingent with 11 on hand!



Massachusetts Red Knights Fall State Meeting will be hosted by RK Mass-13 at the American Legion in Shirley on October 5.

2019 Yankee Rally

The 2019 Yankee Rally was held in Marlborough the end of May, with a focus on recognition of and honoring of the 11 Founding Fathers of the Red Knights.

There were 279 attendees from 10 states, 2 Canadian Provinces and Australia.

Guided rides to the RKMC memorial, the Worcester 6 Memorial, and to the New England Motorcycle Museum were all on the itinerary.

Mass-2 was involved with running a "Skills Day" for the attendees at the hotel as we do for our own members each spring. There were two lady riders who went through the course at least 10-12 times each. Every time improving their skills. Bob Binnal told us that one of those riders told him that she used something she learned [from the practice] when she was on a ride on Saturday and that she feels more comfortable on her bike now. That is a success!

A number of the rally attendees also showed up at Wagners for the Ducati demo days that Saturday, where our own Jeff Hamberg was leading the demo riders out on the road.

More details and photos of the Rally will be in the fall state newsletter. The 2020 Yankee Rally is in Plattsburgh, NY, May 28-31, at the Hampton Inn and Suites on Route 3 in Plattsburgh. Join the "Yankee Rally 2020" Facebook group to keep up on developing details.





Bob Shakarian and Bob Feeley were two of the Red Knights that took advantage of the motorcycle simulator that was on site after the Spring State Meeting.

The program is funded through a grant managed by the Mass DOT. A rep from the Mass Motorcycle Safety program was on hand with the simulator and offered coaching to the riders. At the end of each turn, the computer generated a report to help the participants evaluate their skills.



Mass-2 has always been supportive of rider education, and even though we no longer fund scholarships for the program, we encourage everyone to take formal rider education to improve your skills and your safety on the road.

Even the Rider Ed rep stressed that although he teaches the rider ed program he too learns something new every time he takes one of the programs.

Visit the Central Mass Safety program for more information on ride ed in Mass:
<https://centralmasafety.org/motorcycle-training/>

During their Spring Motorcycle Ride south of the Mason-Dixon Line, Bob Laford, Rick Oliver, Jeff Hamberg, and Jim Skeehan stopped at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, MD to visit the National Fallen Firefighters' Memorial.

There is a section of the memorial walkway that are all RKMC dedicated bricks — including from our chapter.



VT-II Paul's Ride was on a picture perfect summer's day. And it showed as we had 23 members and friends that turned out for the ride!

Money raised from this annual ride goes towards purchasing gas cards to be used by those undergoing cancer treatments. This is the 18th year of the ride, named after Dave Emery's brother Paul, and the chapter has given out tens of thousands of dollars in assistance. Truly a great cause.



As usual, MA-2 did well at the raffle table. Larry took home the 50/50 prize and a number of our members left with prizes and Tim hit the mark with more than a handful. He was scratching his head trying to engineer the loading onto his bike at the end of the day — but they all fit! He remarked that now all his Christmas shopping is done!

And just as many of us were pulling into our driveways the storm clouds and thunder were increasing, and the Brouillet's got into the garage just as it started to hail!



Saturday, November 16
Breakfast Clubs begin again this fall!

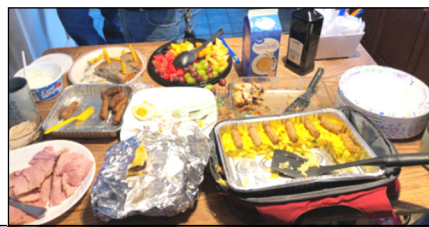
Third Saturdays of the month for our pot-luck breakfast starting at 9:00 am:

- November 16
- December 21

(January will be the Winter brunch at the Glen Caffe—date TBD)

- February 15
- March 21
- April 18

Would **YOU** like to host a month at your home? Let the president know which month is for you!



Massachusetts Cape Cod Weekend

Mass Chapter 8 is currently working up details to host the Red Knights for another weekend excursion to the Cape in September.

It will be the weekend of Sept 13-15 and will again be at the Town Crier in Eastham (508)255-4000. The room rate this year is \$99.00 + Tax. (There is NO breakfast voucher this year for the Fairfield). But the local Elks Club continues their Friday night fish fry.

This is always a great time, mark your calendar and come enjoy the weekend!



All four members who have served our chapter as President were at the Spring State Meeting in March. Phil Jordan (1983-1993), Kevin Martin (2013-Present), Ed Brouillet (1993-2003), and Bob Laford (2003-2013)

It's Just a Ride

One of our JARs was on Memorial Day weekend. We meandered along some routes near the Connecticut River and found hot dogs, and of course ice cream! And yes, weather has been a factor in not holding rides too, but there are other planned "JARs" on the calendar including:



Saturday, September 28. Red Knight JAR. Meet at the Westminster Dunkins for 10:00 a.m.

Sunday, October 27. Red Knight JAR. Meet at Westminster Dunkin Donuts for 1:00 p.m.

SUMMER COOKOUT RED KNIGHTS STYLE

Thank you to the Oliver's for hosting our summer BBQ in New Salem this year.

We were in at least our third day of hazy, hot and humid. But under the shade of the trees in the yard, we enjoyed a nice breeze on a beautiful summer's afternoon. And as the storm clouds started to grow, the rumbling thunder gave us ample warning

that we were able to get everything picked up and shifted under the Oliver's gazebo before the rain got too heavy.

With lots of food moved from the picnic tables to the kitchen, adjacent to the gazebo, our fun afternoon with Red Knight friends was able to continue on as we watched the light show and rain.



Larry was leading the antique fire engines in Petersham's 4th of July parade.



The 2019 fall MA State Red Knights meeting will be hosted by MA Chapter 13.

It is scheduled for Saturday, October 5, at the American Legion Hall, 8 Church Street in Shirley.

This is a change from what was originally posted in our 2019 Ride calendar.



Upcoming Chapter Rides and Events:

Saturday, July 27. Ladies Ride and Lunch. Our Ladies of the Knights who ride have a day of their own! Those interested, meet at the Westminster Dunkins at 11:00 am for a ride and some lunch.

Saturday, August 3. Motorcycles of History. A ride to the newly renovated New England Motorcycle Museum in Rockport (Vernon), CT and lunch at nearby Rein's Deli. Meet at 2/202 Shell station in Orange for 9:00 a.m.

Sunday, August 11. President's Ride. Meet at Westminster Dunkin Donuts at 11:00 a.m. The President will have some of his favorite roads ready to tour.

August 22 -25. Red Knights International's Annual Convention. Lincoln, NH (Loon Mountain)

Saturday, September 21. September Ice Cream. Our final scheduled, monthly ice cream ride of the season will be during daylight hours on a Saturday, to try and enjoy higher temperatures and light rather than the cold and dark on last Thursday evening! Meet at the Westminster Dunkins for 2:00 pm.

Sunday, October 6: Breakfast with Smokey Bear. Join us for Breakfast (to support our brethren at the Jaffrey FD) to kick off Fire Prevention Week and a post-breakfast ride is planned to go look at the foliage! Leave Westminster Dunkin Donuts at 8:00 a.m.

Sunday, November 3. Polar Bear Ride. What will the weather bring in '19? Meet at DD at 11:00 a.m.

If you have made reservations for our Vermont overnight (July 20-21), please let Kevin know!

WHY CHECK AIR PRESSURE?

CORRECT INFLATION	OVERINFLATION	UNDERINFLATION
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Optimal contact patch Optimal grip, comfortable ride and stable handling Promotes normal tire wear and optimal longevity Reduced risk of tire damage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undersized contact patch Reduced grip and harsh ride Compromised handling and excessive/irregular tire wear 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oversized contact patch Too much weight: same result Compromised handling and excessive/irregular tire wear

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SKILLS DAY - 2019

Our wet spring did not have many perfect weekend days, but the afternoon of our Skills Day in May had a bright blue sky and warm sunshine! That may have been why we had a smaller turnout this year, because others were mowing their lawn!

Those of us that hit the course had a lot of fun, which included trying to play catch with a whiffle ball and other tests while wearing "Drunk Goggles" after we were done on the course. These goggles were borrowed from a police department and are used to show how your dexterity and reflexes change when you drink. (No Red Knight were harmed in this exercise).



Thank you to the Orange Fire Department for letting us use their facility again this year, and thank you to the Hamberg's for their planning and work to prepare our drill yard.

And then we enjoyed lunch at the Boiler Room Grill!

