



**RED KNIGHTS
INTERNATIONAL FIREFIGHTERS
MOTORCYCLE CLUB®
Boylston, Massachusetts Est. 1982**

Office of the Region 1 Director
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It's hard to believe that 11 months ago I was elected to represent Region 1 as your Director. I have learned so much about this organization that I would never believe existed. How 12 individuals from different parts of the world, with different opinions, different ideas, and of course different cultures, sit around a table, arguing, discussing, and somehow coming to an agreement on most issues. Where at the end of the day we knew that it was all for the good of this great club.

2023 has been a tough year for Region 1, as far as Heaven 1 Chapter is concerned. We have 16 new members whose names have been added to the roster and the Memorial in Boylston, plus another 3 from prior years, whose names slipped by unnoticed. These members may be gone, but I ask that you keep their names in your thoughts and prayers as we all move forward.

At present, Region 1 consists of :

- 8 States
- 98 Chapters
- 2,738 Chapter Members
- 43 MAL's.
- 2,781 total members

As Region 1 Director, I attended the Dixie Rally in Pell City, Alabama during which time the International held their Spring Business meeting (my first). The Yankee Rally in Seneca Falls, New York, where the attendance record for a rally was shattered (409). The 1st Annual Convention held outside of North America in Fussach, Austria and the Fall Business meeting in Baltimore, MD. I have attended every In-Person or Zoom meeting held by the International. It's been a busy year, not only learning the workings of the organization, but spending approximately 15 – 20 hours a week on issues within Region 1. I have traveled many miles on Red Knights business, events, and funerals, totaling 10,565, since becoming Region 1 Director, and I sure wish it was all on my bike, but sadly we must cage it once in a while.

I also attended Region 1 State Meetings in MA, NH, NJ, and NY along with several chapter meetings in CT, MA, NJ & NY and a 2024 Yankee Rally Committee meeting in Newbury, NH.

As Regional Director I was able to meet with the Regions State Representatives at two scheduled meetings we had in Boylston, MA. There we were able to find out what is happening within their own respective states as to rides and events. We also discussed certain By-Laws and SOG's for possible edits to bring to the membership and International.

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I met and rode with other Red Knights to the Maryland State Picnic in Galena, MD, the New York State Picnic in Plattsburgh, NY, the New Jersey State Picnic in Yardville, NJ and the New Jersey Fireman's Convention Parade in Wildwood, NJ. Not to mention NY 25's Bike Blessing in West Hampton, NY, NJ 31's 2nd Annual Poker Run, and NY 12's Annual Give-a-Child Christmas ride. I am also happy to say that I was able to enjoy some time with MA 2 and CT 2 as their chapters celebrated 40 years as members of this organization. Also, NY 25's Holiday celebration in West Hampton, NY, where I was asked to swear in their 2024 Officers.

Since August, I have taken over the bookings for Memorial Hall in Boylston, and I'm happy to say that all is moving along smoothly. We've had 34 reservations for the house so far this year. As a chapter or member, if you have not visited the Red Knights Memorial or Memorial Hall in Boylston, MA, I highly recommend you do so. You can visit for the day or even spend a couple nights in the house. It's simple to book it on the Red Knights website.

Region 1's May Day Fund has been a great success since its inception in 2021 and has helped many Region 1 members in need, with a monetary amount of \$100.00. This is handled by the State Reps of Region 1 as they are the ones that receive the applications from chapter presidents. In 2023 the fund has help 10 members from 5 different states. The fund still carries a balance of over \$4,000.00 as we try to come up with other ideas to raise funds.

A great success this year was an idea from a chapter within Region 1, who came up with what is now known as the RK Steak Night. Members from different chapters pick a weekend in May and go to dinner together (that's it). This past year members from NJ, NY, PA, MD, and VA all participated and posted their pictures.

I would be amiss if I didn't congratulate Peter Stone, President of MA 1, and keeper of the Memorial House in Boylston on is winning the Perry Carter Award for 2023.

As I close this report, I want to thank all the members of Region 1 for their support over the last 11 months. Especially my state representatives for helping assist me in getting the word out when needed to all their state chapters. To all the support committees that work behind the scenes to keep us moving forward. And to our International Secretary Michael Woods, who has taken my many calls, emails, and text messages at all hours of the day in helping guide me to a better understanding.

My wife Laura and I would like to wish everyone a Blessed Holiday Season and a Happy, Healthy and Safe New Year.

“Loyal to Our Duty”