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Dave Emery  
Vice President

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Bill Collins  
Quartermaster

John Rucinski  
Eastern Director

Henry Heideman  
Eastern Canadian  
Director

Bo Toepfer  
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Jeff Peters  
Central Director

Graham Clark  
Western Director

Steve Chappell  
Bylaws Chairman

Bob Laford  
Newsletter Editor



[www.redknightsmc.com](http://www.redknightsmc.com)

### *From the desk of the International President...*

As your new President I have been very busy since the convention in August. I thought I was working hard as Vice-president but I didn't know how hard Eddie was working serving as President until I stepped into his shoes. Now I know the commitment that it takes and I realize that it is just the beginning of my term (Oh boy, what have I gotten myself into)! I followed Ed as Vice-president and now am continuing on as President after him to continue the tradition of service to you my brother and sister Red Knights. Fortunately for me I still have Eddie tucked away resting in Massachusetts to use as my lifeline — and the Executive Board also promised they would not only be there to help me but they would be gentle and understanding during my “learning curve” as the Chief Executive.

What a great convention we had. I was overjoyed with the Red Knights Memorial in Boylston. It was also a special honor to meet some of our founding members at the celebration. They all looked very proud of what they started 25 years ago, and they should be. We have come far as an organization and the future still has more to look forward to. Words can not explain my feelings for this club and you the members. I will do my best in representing you.

Besides outgoing President Brouillet, I also must thank the other officers who have stepped aside from their International posts; Southern Director Gene Downs, and Central Director Steve Chappell. They both did a fine job. I also want to thank Uncle Dick Morse for helping as Chairman of the By-Laws committee for many years. It takes a lot of time and effort to sort through every paragraph and make corrections and we certainly appreciated his help. Our new By-Laws Chairman is now Steve Chappell. Steve has a strong understanding in this area and we thank him for volunteering.

We lost contact with our Quartermaster Lynn Komandt and Red Knight Bill Collins from Myrtle Beach has stepped up to be our new Quartermaster. Bill has been a good find for us and has caught on to his job quickly. We apologize for the inconvenience in not filling those orders timely during this transition time.

Executive Board members Secretary Bill (Popeye) Snodgrass and Treasurer Leo (US or Canadian) Patry are now teamed up with our new E-Board members and we are ready to work for you. The new members include Vice President Dave (I don't care if I have long hair or not) Emery, Quartermaster Bill (Crazy Man) Collins, Central Director (smiling) Jeff Peters, Canadian

*Have you started to make your plans for the 2008 Convention to be held in Sandusky, Ohio?*

*Our members in Ohio have been busy planning a great time for next August. Look for more details in this newsletter and we'll see you on the road to Ohio!*

Director Henry (I can catch a deer if I want to) Heideman, and Southern Director (Did you miss me) Bo Toepfer. Welcome aboard fellows. I look forward to working with all of you. Again I feel we have a great bunch of people who have pledged to give their time to help run our International.

As I said earlier we had a difficult situation with the Quartermaster position. We were able to get through it without a total loss. It took many phone calls and a lot of work (most of it done by “Popeye” and Leo) tracking and piecing activity together and then extra effort from our new QM to get our inventory system running again. Unfortunately we had to hire an attorney to recover our inventory. It was just all so uncalled for. I am sorry our President (at that time Ed Brouillet) had to go through what he endured. It wasn't fair to him, or the other Executive Board members or you the members. As much as I would like to say this is now behind us, I don't think that would be a completely true statement. This was a malicious act by an officer of the board that blind-sided all of us. I hope it never happens again. But we must move on and work towards improvement.

Everyone needs to get familiar with the dues structure changes. If you need help please contact your State Representative. If you don't have one, contact your Regional Director.

Reach out to your neighbor chapter and support them if they are doing a fund raiser. If you have an event you want us to know about give us an e mail or a phone call.

Congratulations to all of you on your 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. I'm sorry if you missed the party (Convention) we had a great time. Many thanks to Don, Pete, Roger and all of the rest of the gang who took part in the memorial and the convention. You did an excellent job.

Thank you all for allowing me to be the President of the International.

From my house to yours Happy Holidays and Happy New Year! LOL

*Jack*

**RED KNIGHTS INTERNATIONAL  
EXECUTIVE BOARD, 2007-2008**

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An impressive parade of Red Knights were escorted from downtown Worcester to Boylston for the dedication of the Red Knights Memorial on the grounds of the Boylston Fire Department —

### **From the Red Knights Memorial Committee**

The memorial was finished in time for the convention and everyone was pleased with the outcome. The Memorial Committee would like to thank everyone who worked on the site as well as those who donated money to construct an outstanding memorial that pays tribute to our fallen sisters and brothers. We would also like to thank the local companies and individuals that donated material, money and labor. Finally, thank you to the Town of Boylston for allowing the memorial to be built on town property. If we failed to acknowledge your donation, it was unintentional and we apologize.

Don Parker, Chairman

### **International Grants for Chapters and State/Provincial Associations**

Each year the International Treasurer shall set aside \$1600.00 to be made available to the chapters and or State/Provincial Associations to help them in the promotion of the Organization.

The funds will be allotted on first come application basis, on a matching dollar amount up to \$200.00 per application, until the yearly allowance is depleted.

All applications would be reviewed by the executive board and the best eight (8) would be selected for the grants this year.

The money is to be used for registration fees, equipment or printed material that will help promote our organization with the aim of attracting new members or chapters.

### **Voting rights at the Conventions**

During the convention, each Chapter's voting delegate shall sign with the Nominations/Voting committee before the beginning of the Annual Business Meeting (ABM). The delegate will receive a wrist band showing him/her as the voting delegate.

If the Chapter delegate at the Annual Business Meeting is a member other than the Chapter President, then that representative shall have a letter from the Chapter President designating him or her as the Chapter Delegate for voting purposes.

**W**elcome to all our new MALs and new chapters. The Red Knights now have over 8,000 members, with nearly 330 members-at-large, and 280 chapters.

Welcome to Georgia 17, Nevada 1, Pennsylvania 24, New York 35, Arkansas 1, Newfoundland 1, Illinois 15, Ontario 16, Pennsylvania 31 & 32, Massachusetts 13, Florida 8, Connecticut 10, Louisiana 7, North Carolina 11, Maine 7, Wisconsin 5, New York 36, North Carolina 1, Virginia 14, Ontario 17, New Mexico 3, New York 37, Michigan 6, North Carolina 12 & 13, Florida 14, Delaware 1, and New Jersey 21

### ***Welcome everyone!***

*There have been a number of chapters who have been around for a while. Congratulations to those who have celebrated or are nearing the silver anniversary of their charter: 1982 Mass 1 and 1983 Mass 2.*

## the Chapters



### What is your chapter up to?

Let us know what your chapter does throughout the year that may be of interest to your brother and sister Red Knights. Brag a little. Send our newsletter editor info and pictures on your chapter events!

Congratulations to Dave Emery on his retirement from the Brattleboro Fire Department. Dave spent 37 years on the job, the last 18 as Chief. He is also a charter member of VT-2, served as its founding president, and as Eastern Regional Director for the International and is now serving as the newly elected Vice-president to the International Executive Board.

Now you can spend more time on two wheels Dave!

**The Ninth Annual Red Helmet Ride** had a turn out that rolled up Route 15 in a procession that stretched for 2 miles along the highway to the National Fire Academy and the Fallen Firefighters' Memorial.

The riders passed under two aerials (that were raised holding a huge American Flag) to ride under to the applause from the families and friends of our fallen heroes.

After the welcoming speeches from the Chairman Hal Bruno and Chief Sarnicki, a wreath of carnations was placed at the base of the Fallen Firefighters' Memorial. What a great day to honor our fallen brothers and sisters and to reflect on the lives they lived.

A final count of over 500 bikers participated in this years ride. All who participate in the Red Helmet Ride each year know how important it is to NEVER FORGET.



On June 30, 2007 the Red Knights Motorcycle Club, Virginia Chapter IV sponsored a ceremonial ride to the Virginia Beach Fire Training Center which will serve as the location for the Virginia Beach Fire and Emergency Medical Services Memorial. The purpose of the ride was to present the Memorial Foundation with a \$2500 check to support construction of the memorial and \$1700 worth of engraved brick requests to be laid at the memorial.

RKVA4 is proud to support the Virginia Beach Fire and Emergency Medical Services Memorial Fund. This memorial is dedicated to the memory of those Virginia Beach Firefighters and EMS personnel who gave the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty. The memorial will consist of engraved brick pavers supporting a granite foundation which will display a set of bronzed turnout gear and the names of the Virginia Beach Firefighters and EMS personnel who lost their lives in service to our community.

This memorial provides a place where the families of these heroes can gather and be reminded that we, the community, are aware of and appreciate the suffering and sacrifice that they and their loved ones have endured for our safety. The memorial will serve as a reminder that our community continues to have citizens among us who have devoted their careers and sometimes given their lives to support and protect us. RKVA4 has chosen to honor these men and women who "Answered the Bell" through the Virginia Beach Fire and EMS Memorial Fund.



Mass Chapter 2 held one of their pot luck dinners at a nearby Curling Club... complete with lessons on how to curl and a couple of matches on the ice between members.



Members of RKMC VA-4

**Correct (and legible) mailing addresses** are very important when you submit chapter rosters to the International Treasurer each year. Some rosters are hand written and difficult to read. Others have missing information. Each addition of the newsletter has dozens of undeliverable addresses.

To ensure that all our members receive their newsletter, please make sure that your mailing information is correct with your chapter — and chapter officers, please double check the addresses with your members before submitting the rosters to the International. Thanks.

## Americade 2007 – ...and a great time was had by all!



Americade week in Lake George can be summed up by quoting Americade Founder Bill Dutcher when he stopped by the Wednesday evening dinner sponsored by the Red Knights at Roaring Brook Ranch and saw the 320 people packed in the hall and the 140 door prizes being given away – WOW! Bill has always said that the Red Knights are a class act and I agree.

Whether you were strolling Canada Street (looking for ice cream), walking through the vendors at “Tent City” or the Lake George Forum, checking out the judging at Roaring Brook, or riding some of the Adirondack’s “motorcycle friendly” roads — you were in good company with other Red Knights. Everywhere you turned you found friendly smiles from fellow members. It was a great week!

At the 3-Course Dinner sponsored by the RKMC on Wednesday evening there

was a full house of 320 people enjoying our hospitality and 140 door prizes. There is no other commercial vendor that can say they give away that many door prizes to their guests.

Thanks too goes to our host chapter, NY 12, at the Lake George FD for another great spread on Thursday evening where we fed over 270 people at the Red Knights open house. It will be the last time we are in that building as it is being razed to make way for a new station.

Saturday’s parade saw rows of Red Knights as well. We were in the lead of the parade with bikes adorned with flags, and a sea of HD Firefighter-specials followed by a parade of bikes that took over 30 minutes to pass by. We counted 105 RKMC member bikes in the parade.

### **Have you ever considered being an Americade Volunteer?**

Americade is the fun and the success it is because motorcycle enthusiasts like yourselves are willing to volunteer time to make it a great week. However, the Americade Staff is always looking for “new blood” to help keep the Americade machine a vibrant functioning group of people.

Some volunteers are busy all week long, while others have specific events and times that they are willing to lend a hand. Any contribution of time is appreciated. Duties can be tailored to fit in with other activities. From check-in to the traffic guides, to ride escorts, and a gazillion other tasks, the Americade volunteers are everywhere.

Let’s show them that the Red Knights appreciate the Americade Spirit, and lend a hand. If you have an interest in helping out as a volunteer at Americade, send an email to [volunteers@tourexpo.com](mailto:volunteers@tourexpo.com) or drop a note to **Margie Connelly** at Americade, P.O. Box 2205, Glens Falls, NY 12801.

### ***The RKMC does it again!***

A tip of the hat to out-going International President Ed Brouillet. Ed worked to galvanize the Red Knight presence at Americade each year during his time with the International Board. He was the “M.C.” for each of the RKMC 3-Course Dinners and organized his home chapter, Mass-2, with the help of others to be the runners to give out the more than 100 door prizes that you the members donate each year. Thanks for the leadership Ed.

And thank you too, to the **RKMC New York State Association** for stepping up to fill that role of hosts of next year’s 3-Course Dinner at Roaring Brook. In 2008 Ed gets to sit down and enjoy his Wednesday evening meal!

Start collecting all those door prizes for next year. Can we beat 140 in 2008? Each chapter is asked to submit one door prize for the Red Knight Dinner to Eastern Regional Director John Rucinski before the Wednesday evening event.

[easternusa@redknightsmc.com](mailto:easternusa@redknightsmc.com)

## *From the Secretary—Bill Snodgrass*

### **INSURANCE UPDATE:**

I would like to remind all chapters that when requesting insurance for your events that I need the complete address of all stops/additional insurers (number, street, city, state/province and zip code). By submitting this information the first time it will save time in processing your request. Please submit your request for information and/or price quote three (3) weeks before your event.

If the checks for the insurance are not received at least ten (10) business days before the date of the event, they will be returned to you and you will not be able to obtain the insurance. This is due to chapters sending in checks on Monday for insurance on the following Saturday or Sunday.

The process is that the certificate of insurance is not ordered until the checks arrive, the request for insurance is submitted to the insurance company, they process the request; send the certificate of insurance to the Secretary who then mails it and the waivers to the chapter/association requesting the insurance. As you can see this takes more than 3 or 4 days.

We had to change the process on the waiver deposit because many chapters are having problems with their banks cashing checks from outside the U.S. Some banks are charging \$40.00 to cash or deposit a \$50.00 check.

Because of that, we are now asking that chapters/associations submit two checks, one in the amount of the insurance and the other in the amount of \$50.00 for the waiver deposit. The Secretary will hold the waiver deposit check for a period of thirty days after the date of the event. If the waivers are returned in that thirty day period the check will be returned to the chapter/association. If the waivers are not returned within the thirty day period, the chapter/association will forfeit the deposit (it will be sent to the International Treasurer) and they will also have to deposit \$100.00 the next time they apply for insurance and failing to return the waiver forms within the allotted 30 days a second time will disqualify them from insurance coverage for two years.

### **TRADEMARK LICENSED:** A

Trademark License (TML) is required for use by all chapters/association on every item that has our name or logo. The chapter/association can request one TML for the chapter's web site,

newsletter, letterheads, business cards, flyers (to promote the chapter), checks, chapter applications and address labels. If your chapter does have a Trademark License Agreement for these items, please submit one ASAP. For all other items the chapter/association must request a TML for each item (tee shirt, flag, banner, hat, chapter patch, ride pin, etc) from the International Secretary (secretary@redknightsmc.com) before placing an order. For these items a photo or drawing of the design must be submitted with the application.

The Trademark license application can be downloaded from the International web page. Just follow the directions on it and submit it by e-mail to the International Secretary. The time frame for approval is 5-7 business days, depending on the postal system. There is not a charge or cost for the Trademark License Application or the Trademark License Agreement.

### **NOTICE OF DEATH OF MEMBER:**

Please submit any notice of the death of a Red Knight member to the International Secretary. The Secretary will add those name(s) to the Heaven One chapter data base to be read at the annual convention and will submit the name(s) to add to the Red Knight Memorial in Boylston, Mass.

In the case of a LODD, a Red Knight flag maybe requested from the International Secretary at no cost for the member. For an accidental or natural cause death a flag maybe requested from the Secretary by the chapter at the normal cost.

### **VOTING AT THE ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING:**

This is a reminder to all chapters of Section 2-6 of the generic chapter by-laws and Section 17 of the International Rules and Regulations which reads: Section 2-6: (President) will be the Chapter Representative at International Meetings and State / Province Association Meetings. If He/she cannot attend, He/she will appoint another members in his/her place.

Section 17: If the Chapter delegate at the Annual Business Meeting is a member other than the Chapter President, they shall have a letter from the Chapter President designating them as the Chapter Delegate for voting purposes.

As this will be enforced at the Annual Business meetings, Chapter Presidents

need to follow these guide lines.

### **CHARITY FUND RAISERS:**

As most of our chapters are involved in fund raising for different charities and raise a large amount of money for different charities each year. We would like to have a running total at the end of each year so that we may share the total amount with all of our membership and the public. After the chapter event is over please submit the total amount that is given to charity to the International Secretary.

### **Red Knights Open House Americade @ Lake George**

The 2008 Americade Red Knights Thursday get-together will not be at the LG Fire House as in years past because the station is being razed and replaced. The RKMC will be one block south at the Caldwell Presbyterian Church at 71 Montcalm Street from 4pm-7pm on Americade Thursday. The church also has a breakfast each morning during Americade — so consider patronizing their breakfasts and thank them for welcoming the Red Knights.

Any questions call Eastern Regional  
Director John Rucinski

### Chapter Business Trademark License

Any chapter who has a web page must now obtain a Chapter Business Trademark License.

The Chapter Business Trademark License is for use of our name/logo and will include use on a Chapter web site, business cards, letterhead, checks, address labels, newsletters, flyers (to promote your chapter only), and chapter application. Every Chapter who uses any of the listed items must apply for this license.

Use the Trademark License Application and under question 3 (What are you planning to produce) write "Chapter Business Trademark License."

 **Red Knights of New Mexico**  
*Motorcycle Club*  
**Invites you to the 2008**

## Red Knights Western Conference & Rally

Date: June 19-21, 2008

Where: Marriott Courtyards  
 Rooms for \$90, call 1-877-905-4496  
 ask for "The Red Knights" conference  
 5151 Journal Center Blvd  
 Easy access to I-25

City: Albuquerque, NM

POC: Lee Shaffer  
 505.710.2737 or lshaffer@msn.com

For more information, go to website  
<http://home.comcast.net/~capnfire/rknm2index.html>

Down load registration forms, rally and  
 conference information

**Itinerary**

Thurs: Conference and Rally

Registration

Thurs night: Meet and Greet  
 Relax and get acquainted with  
 your fellow RKMC members

Friday: Short and long rides

Friday night: New Mexican dinner

Saturday morning: Conference

Saturday: Several tours planned  
 or on your own

Saturday night: Banquet

Sunday morning: Farewell breakfast

**Rally and Banquet open to all RKMC Members, their spouses and guest**  
**June 19 - 21, 2008 - Albuquerque, NM - Marriott Courtyards**

**Harley Davidson Drawing to benefit Children's Burn Camp**

Rides – Raffles – Wine Tour – Food – Fun

Check out the website, to much to list

Make your plans now, don't you dare miss this Rally



Recipients of the Perry Carter Award: Tom Cooke, 2007;  
 John Rucinski, 2005, and Mark Kerr, 2006

### RED KNIGHTS AT GETTYSBURG 2008

PA Chapter 12 is once again hosting the **RED KNIGHTS AT GETTYSBURG** in 2008. The dates are July 10-13. Rooms are now available with a block of rooms reserved at the Eisenhower. To reserve a room call 1-800-776-8349 (Mon-Fri. 8-4) and ask for Marylou or Tina. You must tell them you want a room out of the RED KNIGHTS PA. 12 block for the best price.

There will be a motorcycle guided battlefield tour with a licensed tour guide, a dinner, and the ride to the fallen firefighter memorial in Emmitsburg, as well as self-guided tours. 2007 had over 200 sign up for the ride to the memorial!

### **Red Knight of the Year Award**

Congratulations to Tom Cooke, President of Indiana 1, on his recognition as the 2007 Red Knight of the Year!

It is the goal of the Red Knights International Motorcycle Club to identify and honor a member each year as the Red Knight of the Year. This award will be known as the "**Perry Carter Award**", in remembrance of Perry for his endless work and dedication to the Red Knights Motorcycle Club.

Only an active member in good standing with the International and their Chapter may be eligible for this award. This includes Members at Large.

Each Chapter may nominate a member from its Chapter for the Red Knight of the Year. The nomination should be sent to the State/Province Representative and then to the Regional Director. Each Regional Director would then forward their nominee to the Eastern Regional Director who will serve as the Chairperson for this award. A Member at Large, Chapter President, or an Executive Board member of the Red Knights International Motorcycle Club may nominate any Member at Large for the award. This nomination would follow the same path as listed above.

The committee will consist of the Eastern Regional Director, as Chairperson, the past two recipients and the four Regional Directors.

Members who are nominated should have been present at 50% of the Red Knights Motorcycle Club chapter events during the year. The member nominated should have visited at least one other Chapter during the year. The member nominated should have attended the International Convention in the past. The Member nominated should represent and signify the Red Knight's standard in their dealings with the public and the International's members.

The Regional Director shall forward a letter with their nomination outlining the member's qualities shown for this award to the International President. The deadline for receiving the nomination shall be prior to March 1st of each year. The final decision will be made at the Spring Board meeting each year.

All members of this committee will be notified of the names and information that have been submitted to receive this award. They are to review those names and information on why they were nominated and submit their choice in order of first, second and third to the Committee Chairperson, no later that 14 days before the spring International Board Meeting.

The winner of this award shall receive recognition and their fee for the Annual Conference of the year they are receiving the award. The Red Knights International Motorcycle Club should pay for the registration to the annual Convention.

This event coincides with Gettysburg bike week, where there is a lot offered (visit [www.gettysburgbikeweek.com](http://www.gettysburgbikeweek.com)). There is plenty to do and a nice area for riding. Watch the International web site for details about registering for this event and the costs. Hope to see you in July.

For further information contact Brian at  
[president@redknightspa12.org](mailto:president@redknightspa12.org).

## Information on Chapter Bylaws

The By-Laws committee is in the process of updating all Chapter By-Laws. We are starting over. With only thirty Chapter By-Laws on file, we have stopped using the old hard copy format and are now using the digital storage on our computer. Do not send hard copies of your proposed By-Laws. They will not be processed.

All chapters who have not submitted or have not updated their By-Laws since August 18<sup>th</sup> 2007 are asked to download the Generic Chapter By-Laws Word document file from the International web site. <http://www.redknightsmc.org/membership/samplebylaws.htm> Do not submit your proposed by-laws in a PDF format, they must be submitted to the By-Laws Committee in a Word document format.

You may make the changes you think necessary to the file and then submit it to the By-Laws Committee at this address. [bylaws@redknightsmc.com](mailto:bylaws@redknightsmc.com)

Your file will then be examined to make sure that any changes made are within the scope of the International By-Laws. Once the Committee and the Chapter have reached agreement on the By-Laws, a digitally signed and locked copy will be sent back to the Chapter and it will be stored on the By-Laws computer.

If your Chapter chooses to run solely under the International By-Laws, please send an email to [bylaws@redknightsmc.com](mailto:bylaws@redknightsmc.com) stating your Chapter number and that you do not have an individual Chapter By-Law set and you will conduct business under International By-Laws.

We have almost three hundred Chapters and International and the By-Laws Committee would like to hear from all of you.

Steve Chappell  
By-Laws Chair—RKMC

## Rules for Chapter Web Page Link Inclusion on the Red Knights International Web Pages

- Web site must be controlled entirely by a Chapter, not an individual. The Chapter is responsible for all content on the Web site.
- The local Chapter must control all links that are placed on the web pages. Links must reflect the standards of the Red Knights.
- If the Chapter has a bulletin board, it must be maintained so that nothing is kept that does not reflect the standards of The Red Knights.
- The Chapter must obtain a Trademark License Agreement from International before posting a Web site on the Internet. A "blanket agreement" is available that will cover the Chapter Web site, Chapter stationery, Chapter business cards, etc.. Any Chapter who does not obtain a TMA will be told to remove all trademarked material from their Chapter Web Site.
- Free web page providers that are "social networking sites", i.e. Facebook and Yahoo, are not acceptable for Chapter web pages.

## A tool box talk on Staying Safe...

(Portions of this are from the "Education Vacation" column by Adam Zuckerman in the November 2007 edition of Roadbike Magazine).

No matter how long you have been a rider or how old you are in years, motorcycle safety training will always give you new views and new skills to take to the streets. One such program available that gives you advanced motorcycle training on real world roads is Lawrence Grodsky's Stayin' Safe Motorcycle Training.

Larry Grodsky was widely recognized as the leading motorcycle safety expert in the country. And much of his work was devoted to creating the Stayin' Safe Motorcycle Training program that has set the standard for on-street, real-world training. Even since Larry's passing, the Staying safe program has remained active and is a unique opportunity for riders to improve their street skills.

The class sizes are very small with one instructor to three riders that are all inter-connected via two-way radios. The instructor then can constantly give feedback to the riders about road hazards, conditions, and the riders' interactions with each other and the world around them.

Three fundamentals of the training program that each of us can use in our daily lives on our bikes are (1) 360 degree awareness, (2) Put the bike where they cannot touch you, and (3) No surprises.

**360 degree awareness** means seeing the activity and landscape in all directions, including far off the road. Fences, trees, and telephone poles hint at where and how sharply the road might curve. Mail boxes suggest loose gravel and turning cars. Cow pastures imply slow-moving farm equipment and the mud they can leave behind.

**Put the bike where they can't touch you** means choosing a lane position that addresses the situation. In real traffic, hazards come along in twos, threes, and dozens at a time. So a rider needs to decide which are the biggest threats and choose their lane position and speed accordingly. You must maximize your following distance and visibility to other motorists.

**No surprises** means putting it all together to see everything and be ready for anything.

Another Stayin' Safe technique is "clearing the view." This is a term for looking further ahead than most riders would: trying to see through the trees or across valleys so that a rider can see what is coming long before it arrives.

Not only should each of us take formal rider training that is available through MSF courses and other training opportunities like the Staying Safe program—but each ride we go on should be used to hone our skills and become better, safer riders.

For more information on the Staying Safe Program, visit [www.stayinsafe.com](http://www.stayinsafe.com).

### RED KNIGHTS MEMORIAL DONATIONS

The Red Knights Convention has come and gone and the 2007 anniversary year was a very special one for the club with the dedication of our memorial site. A special thanks go out to the members of the memorial committee spear-headed by the Massachusetts chapter 1.

Now comes the hard job of completing the fund raising to pay for the Memorial.

The total cost of this huge undertaking was \$128,152.94— of this amount, donated goods and services were \$87,894.50, leaving us with \$40,258.44 to raise in donations

The International advanced funds in the amount of \$35,184.68 to ensure the completion of the project for the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary convention in August. Of this amount 22,108.88 was in the form of interest free loans to be paid back to the International General account through future donations, the balance of 13,075.80 were outright donations.

To date we still need to raise \$19,258.88

Listed below are the Individuals and chapters that have made donations for this purpose.

With 93 members names on the memorial list that have passed on and whose names will be engraved at the

Donations made directly to  
Massachusetts 1 Memorial  
committee

August & Barbara Jones  
Boylston Garden Club  
Clayton Thomas Four corners  
ride  
Ed and Peg Brouillet  
Florida Chapters  
James Cody  
Lynn Komandt  
Martha Sooly  
Mark Gehri  
Massachusetts 1  
Massachusetts 2  
Massachusetts 4  
Memory of Kenneth Roberts  
NASA Car Coat Draw  
New Jersey 5  
New York 12  
Ohio 11  
Ontario 1  
Ontario 15  
Ontario Chapters  
Paul Jeffers

(Total donated directly  
through Massachusetts 1 =  
\$8,831.85)

Donations made directly  
through the RKIFMC  
International Treasurer

Bill & Diane Snodgrass  
Leo & Ann Patry  
Massachusetts 2  
Massachusetts 5  
NASA Car Coat Draw  
New Hampshire 4  
North Carolina 7  
NYC Fire/Riders  
Ohio 1  
Ohio 5  
Ontario 1  
Ontario 12  
Ontario 7  
Ontario 9  
Raymond & Patricia Guard  
RKIFMC International  
Steven Bermuper NYC  
Vermont 2

(Total donations directly  
through the International  
treasurer = \$6,050.00)

memorial site, we ask each chapter that has a members name that will be listed to donate \$100.00 per name; and that other chapters that have been fortunate in not having lost any members make a donation of at least \$100.00 or more if they can afford it.

If your chapter sees fit to donate to this worthy project please make out cheque or money orders in US funds to the RKIFMC Memorial fund and send them to the International Treasurer:

Leo Patry, International Treasurer

Have you ever been traveling and thought, "Gee I don't know anyone around here. Where is the best place to eat, stay, or get my bike worked on?" That's what the Help-A-Knight program is for – to maintain a database of Red Knights who are willing to accept telephone calls and help fellow Red Knights. Some of the help may be for information, or other options you may help on is if a RK member can stay overnight, pitch a tent in your yard, or leave their bike at your house.

The **Red Knights Help-a-Knight** program available on line at  
**[www.redknightsmc.org/HAK.pdf](http://www.redknightsmc.org/HAK.pdf)**  
(You need Adobe Acrobat to read the file).

We will continually update the version that is available on our web page. Below is the registration form to add or update your information in the H-A-K program.

Please look over your state listing and let our editor know if there are people listed who are no longer members of your chapters. Thank you.

### **RKMC Help-A-Knight Registration Form** *Please Print Information and Check All Statements That Apply*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter \_\_\_\_\_  
Street \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ St./Prov. \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Fall 2007

*This is a **New** registration*       *This is a **Change** to my information*

**MAIL TO:**  
Bob LaFord  
276 West Road  
Petersham, MA 01366  
CALL: 978-724-3270  
E-MAIL:  
rflaford@tiac.net

*To Help-A-Knight I will:*  
(circle appropriate numbers)

1. *Take calls for information about my area. No Collect Calls.*
2. *Allow a Red Knight to stay overnight in my home*
3. *Allow a Red Knight to put up a tent on my property*
4. *Allow a Red Knight to leave a bike on my property*
5. *Bring my SAE tools to a Help-A-Knight who has broken down*
6. *Pick up a Red Knight's bike with my pick-up truck or trailer*
7. *Bring my Metric tools to Help-A-Knight who has broken down*
8. *Someone in my home speaks French*

This is to advise you that there has been a change in the upcoming convention locations. The changes are that the 2012 convention will be held in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, hosted by PA 12 and that the 2013 convention will be held in Vermont, hosted by the Vermont Association.

Other convention locations include: 2009 - Miami Beach, FL;  
2010 - Stillwater, NJ; and 2011 - Ocean City, Maryland



# Red Knights 25th Anniversary Convention – August 16-19, 2007

## Worcester, Massachusetts

“The Red Knights is a brotherhood and sisterhood — we’re never alone anywhere.”  
*Lorne Cornell, Ontario-7*

The New England weather was as welcoming as the Massachusetts Red Knights were to the 52 chapters and 295 members from around the world that attended the 25th anniversary convention of the Red Knights International. Members came via planes, four-wheels, two-wheels, and three-wheels—and all had a great time!

Worcester is billed as the “Heart of New England” and was the perfect spot for our anniversary convention. Not only is Worcester next door to Boylston — where the Red Knights were founded — but the city was very accommodating to all our Red Knights and offered many forms of fun, shopping, and dining all within walking distance from our host hotel. On the bikes, it was just a few short miles beyond the city limits where riders quickly found themselves along rural country roads with many places to explore.

The highlights of the convention included visiting with old friends and making many new ones, tours of the Boston and Salem areas, the welcome BBQ held in Boylston, and the Saturday evening dinner and entertainment. There were also a number of self-guided and guided tours set up by members of the Mass Chapters so all those visiting had the opportunity to enjoy some of New England's great riding roads and beautiful views.

Friday's big tour had two coach buses filled with over 110 Red Knights as they visited historic Boston. The day's outing included a stop at the U.S.S. Constitution, berthed in the Charlestown Navy Yard, and a walking tour that included Faneuil Hall and Quincy Market.

On Saturday, after the conclusion of the annual meeting, more than 300 members of the Red Knights moved from the Crowne Plaza complex to nearby Franklin Street to the site of the Worcester Cold Storage Building. This is the site of the fire where Red Knight Tim Jackson and five other brave brothers lost their lives on December 3, 1999. Meeting with representatives of the Worcester Fire Department the Red Knights were able to pay their respects with a brief ceremony.

After that stop, the contingent of motorcycles were escorted through the city to the grounds of the Boylston Fire Department to dedicate the Red Knights' Memorial. This beautiful memorial is in remembrance to fallen firefighters and to our Red Knights members. A very special guest with us at the dedication was Mary Jackson, Tim Jackson's widow.

Dave Hamilton, one of the Red Knight founders and a

Do you travel with a “Help-a-Knight” document with you on your bike?

Your newsletter editor received a telephone call at work on the Wednesday of the convention week. One of our members traveling from Ontario had broken down a few towns from where I live.

I was at work and could not leave, but I was able to make a few telephone calls and get some help rolling to the rescue to help our member in distress.

Before he was repaired and on his way another member—from Quebec who was also on his way to Worcester—had also stopped to help out. In about an hour some temporary repairs were made and our entourage from the great white north were running and on their way on the final leg of their journey to Worcester.

Do you have a Help-a-Knight program on your bike? Our HAK program lists members that have agreed to take telephone calls to help other members who are in need of some assistance during their travels. Visit our web site to download a current copy of the HAK program and carry it on your bike.

Also consider being one of the members listed, so you too can help a member traveling through your area if they need your help!

member of the Memorial Committee stated that this memorial will be enjoyed by Red Knights members and Boylston residents alike. “It is a beautiful serene area where everyone can come to honor fallen firefighters.”

Outgoing International President Ed Brouillet said that it is fitting that the memorial is located at the Boylston Fire Department because that is where the club's first two conventions were held. “It is nice to know we always have a home here,” Ed added.

At the Saturday evening banquet the new contingent of International Officers were sworn in and thanks were given to outgoing president Brouillet for his years of service. A comedy team was on the docket for our entertainment after the great meal and everyone had a wonderful time.

Sunday morning was the farewell breakfast. Our time together always seems far too brief. All the work on behalf of the planning team of Massachusetts chapters paid off with a fun and memory-filled convention. As we all left Worcester to head home, our thoughts are filled with our friends and look forward to our next time together.

Congratulations and best wishes to Jack Downs of Florida-1 on his election as International President, to Dave Emery of Vermont-2 on his election as International Vice-president, to Bo Toepfer of Maryland-4 on his election as Southern Regional Director and to Jeff Peters of Ohio-5 on his election as Central Regional Director.

Also congratulations to Treasurer Leo Patry and Eastern Regional Director John Rucinski on their re-election at the convention business meeting.

Welcome also goes out to our new Quartermaster Bill Collins of South Carolina-1 and to Steve Chappell, past Central Regional Director who has agreed to take on the Chairmanship of the bylaws committee.

### *A Message from the 2007 Convention Committee*

Now that the convention is over and we all can relax a little, the Convention Committee would like to thank everyone that attended. As chairman, I also want to thank all the Mass Chapters for their hard work, without it MA-1 could not have put on such a successful convention.

Don Parker, Chairman

**Protection from SMIDSY  
(Sorry Mate, I didn't see you)**

Just over one third of all motorcycle crashes are single vehicle crashes where you can only blame yourself or road conditions. But if you are in a crash with another vehicle, the chances are high that it will be the fault of the other driver. Research into motorcycle crashes shows that the other driver is at fault in about 70% of motorcycle crashes with other vehicles.

In many of these crashes the driver will say they simply didn't see the motorcycle until it was too late. (Sorry Mate I Didn't See You - SMIDSY).

The situation may be getting worse. In the past, the driving landscape was made up of 95% cars and station wagons. The increasing proportion of taller vehicles has changed the landscape so it is harder to see and be seen across traffic. This is particularly a problem for vulnerable road users such as pedestrians, cyclists and motorcyclists.

What can you do to protect yourself?

In a recent survey of drivers, 55% reported having at least one experience of having seen a motorcyclist only at the last minute when they were changing lanes.

Other research has found that drivers who are unfamiliar with motorcycles are significantly more likely to have a crash with a motorcycle. This means that people who do not ride, or know someone else who rides, are more likely to crash into a motorcycle.

Motorcycle awareness programs for drivers are essential, but it is also up to you to "stack the deck" in your favor. Do what ever you can to draw their attention.

What you wear can make a difference some of the time. You need to be within the other driver's line of vision and your clothing must stand out against the background.

In one recent study, riders wearing any reflective or fluorescent clothing had a 37% lower risk than other riders. Riders wearing white helmets had a 24% lower risk than those wearing black helmets. The study was conducted in mainly urban areas. Day time headlights may also help but again, only if they make you stand out against the rest of the traffic.

Size does appear to make a difference. Small motorcycles have a smaller profile and are even less visible from the front or rear. You need all the help you can get to stand out.

- Do not ever assume they have seen you.
- Do not weave between lanes in moving heavy traffic.
- Learn to recognize each vehicle's blind spot and stay out of them.
- Try to stay long enough in each driver's rear vision mirror to make sure they have seen you before you move on.
- Use your horn or rev your engine to draw attention if you think you haven't been seen.
- Move within your lane to improve your chance of being seen.
- When riding in traffic and your lane is moving freely but the lane beside you has slowed or stopped, watch out for impatient drivers suddenly moving into your lane.

Reprinted from the Motorcycle Council of NSW Webpage



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Uhvuydwlrq#ru#Jhg#NqJj kw#Dqqxd#  
Frqihqf#  
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Wkh#Ndolkdu#Z hfrp hv#Arx#

All (hotel) reservations must be received by July 21, 2008. Please specify your group code "**RED KNIGHTS**" or Booking ID #2019 when making your reservation to receive your special Red Knights room rate. Any reservation request received after this date will be subject to hotel availability. If the rate you requested is no longer available, the next available rate category will be confirmed.

To make reservations, please fill out the form below and mail to the address listed or fax back to the Kalahari Resort at 608-254-6116. To make reservations by phone, call 877-525-2427, dial "2" for Sandusky, and specify group "**RED KNIGHTS**" or Booking ID #2019

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Names of extra guests in room: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Arrival Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Departure date: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of room:  Hut  Lodge \_\_\_\_\_ # of People in Room

2 RM family suite

Accessible Room for Disabilities

**Please see "Listing of Room Types for Group" for Room Descriptions**

To guarantee your reservation, please enclose a cashier's check or money order for the first night's room and tax or credit card number in the space provided. All credit cards used will be charged immediately for the first night's room and tax. A \$25 fee applies to all cancellations. Cancellations made 72 hours or less before the day of arrival will forfeit the entire first night's room and tax deposit.

Credit Card:  MasterCard  VISA  American Express  Discover

Credit Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Card Holder: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Reservations Must Be Made By July 21, 2008**

<p align="center"><b>MAIL FORM TO:</b> Reservations Department Kalahari Resorts—Sandusky c/o 1305 Kalahari Drive Wisconsin Dells, WI 53965</p> <p align="center"><b>Reservations: 877-525-2427</b></p> <p align="center">You may also fax your reservation to 608-254-6116</p> <p align="center">Kalahari Website: www.kalahariresorts.com</p>	<p align="center"><b>Guest Room Rates:</b></p> <table> <tr><td>Hut Room:</td><td>\$124</td></tr> <tr><td>Lodge Suite:</td><td>\$144</td></tr> <tr><td>2 RM Family Suite:</td><td>\$154</td></tr> </table> <p align="center"><b>Listings of Room Types for Group</b></p> <p><b>Hut Room:</b> 2 Queen Beds <b>Lodge Suite:</b> 1 Room Suite *King Bedded Room &amp; Queen Sofa Sleeper *Full Size Kitchen—Fully Equipped *Living Room with Fireplace &amp; Dining Area <b>2 RM Family Suite:</b> 2 Connected Rooms *King Bedded Room *2nd Room with 2 Queen Beds *2nd Room has Sofa Sleeper &amp; Fireplace</p> <p align="center">Check-in Time: 4:00 p.m. Check-out: 11:00 a.m.</p>	Hut Room:	\$124	Lodge Suite:	\$144	2 RM Family Suite:	\$154
Hut Room:	\$124						
Lodge Suite:	\$144						
2 RM Family Suite:	\$154						



UHG #NQ LJKWV #QW HUQDWIR QDO #IWH IJL KWHUV #P R WR UF \FOH #FOXE #  
 533 ; #R QYHQWIR Q #JHJ IVWUDWIR Q #  
 ŠNDODKDUI #JHVR UWV #WDQGXVN \ #KIR # #XJXVW #3057 #533 ; #



Rider \_\_\_\_\_ Passenger \_\_\_\_\_ Children \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ State/Prov \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
 Chapter/MAL \_\_\_\_\_ Arrival Date \_\_\_\_\_ Departure Date \_\_\_\_\_

Discounted Registration of **\$65.00** (U.S. Funds) per person includes; Registration, Convention Program, Convention Pins, Goody Bag, Discount Coupons, Hospitality Room, Thursday Evening Free BBQ, Friday's Street Fair in downtown Sandusky, Bike Show, Saturday Evening Banquet Dinner with Entertainment, Sunday Morning Sendoff Buffet Breakfast—PLUS!

Join us for a fantastic *Motorcycle Guided Side Trip* to the **Rock and Roll Hall of Fame** and Boat Trip in Cleveland on Lake Erie with lunch included. Choose to take the ride on either Thursday or Friday for only \$57 per person!

Registration; U.S. Funds \$65.00 per Adult	x ( ) people	\$ _____
Registration; U.S. Funds \$35.00 per Child (12 years old and younger)	x ( ) children	\$ _____
Rock and Roll Hall of Fame & Boat Trip Thursday [ ] or Friday [ ] \$57.00 per person	x ( ) people	\$ _____
T-Shirts \$14.00 each (circle) S M L XL XXL XXXL	x ( ) shirts	\$ _____
Polo/Golf Shirts \$25.00 each (circle) S M L XL XXL XXXL	x ( ) shirts	\$ _____
Ladies Sleeveless Vest with zipper \$25.00 Color Choices (circle) RED NAVY GREEN (circle) S M L XL XXL XXXL	x ( ) shirts	\$ _____
Extra Convention Pins \$3.00 each	x ( ) pins	\$ _____

Mode of Transportation \_\_\_\_\_ **TOTAL (U.S. Funds) \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

.....  
 ■ **EARLY BIRD SPECIAL.** All registrations received and postmarked on or before March 15, 2008,  
 ■ with full registration fees, are eligible for the drawing for three free room nights during the convention.  
 ■ Mail completed registrations to: R/K Convention, 653 Madison Avenue  
 ■ Painesville, Ohio 44077-5410  
 ■ Make Checks payable to: RKMC Ohio Association — Deadline for Convention Registration is August 1, 2008  
 ■ .....

**T**his year's convention offers several activities during your stay at Kalahari. A guided motorcycle trip to the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame followed by a lunch cruise on Lake Erie is one option you may chose to help make your visit one full of special memories. Other potential stops during your stay include discounted tickets to the world-famous Cedar Point\*, a guided trip to the Islands of Lake Erie\*, and a Friday evening Street Fair in downtown Sandusky hosted by the Red Knights. Convention highpoints also include a free BBQ, with Brats and Chicken on Thursday evening, the Saturday evening awards banquet dinner in the main ball room with presentations and awards to follow — plus other surprises!

You may also choose to relax and enjoy the many activities that the Kalahari Resort offers its guests such as visiting the indoor water park for coasting, surfing, and splashing. There are many other amenities and incentives that are offered by the Kalahari — spas, Pottery Pazzaz, Arcades, indoor Miniature Golf, outdoor pool, Candy Shops, and several restaurants (from pizza shops to cuisine dining).

The Red Knight Hospitality Room will be open to all in the Nia Center to serve your refreshments and fellowship. Chapters will be able to set up their merchandise For Sale on Friday and Saturday afternoons in the Hospitality Room. There will also be a vendor area in the Nia parking lot. PLUS and out-of sight Bike Show!

Send in this registration form soon! We are looking for another great RKMC Convention and the FRIENDSHIPS and FELLOWSHIP that exists in the RED KNIGHTS. *Don't forget to take advantage of the early-bird special!* See you in August.  
 \*Denotes *pay as you go*, on your own scheduling.

# Red Knights Motorcycle Club

276 West Road  
Petersham, MA 01366  
USA

www.redknightsmc.com

Look inside for information on the Anniversary Convention in Worcester and next year's in Ohio, Americade, International Business, Chapter happenings, and much, much more!

## From the RKMC Executive Treasurer

### Reminder to all Chapter Presidents International Membership Dues

Membership dues payable to the International run from January 1st till December 31<sup>st</sup> of each year. A grace period for payment is granted from January 1<sup>st</sup> till February 15th. After that date dues are subject to a \$50.00 late payment fee.

#### 2008 Dues Rates:

There are eight classifications of membership:

- Charter Member – An active member that has joined a chapter within one year of the chapter being chartered. See Section 4:08
- Active Member – Is available to anyone who has been a member of the fire service, See Section 4:04
- Associate Member – A person who has never been in the fire service. See section 4:05
- Social member – The spouse, boyfriend (1) Girlfriend (1) offspring's of an Active or Associate member or member-at-Large. See Section 4:06
- Special Honorary Member – Granted to a person of a recognized religion for the position of chapter chaplain. See Section 4:07
- Member-at-Large – Person's who qualify for Active membership but are too far removed from any established chapter to join. See Sections 2:01 & 2:01A
- Life membership – See Section 2:01
- Compassionate Honorary Member – See Section 2:01 (8)

Dues for new members joining a chapter shall be \$16.00 per member in their first year of membership and will be pro-rated at the rate of 25% reduction in the third quarter and 50% reduction in the fourth quarter.

Active or Associate Member \$13.00 each — Social or Honorary Member \$7.00 each  
Compassionate Honorary Member no charge — New member any classification \$16.00

Dues for chapters are to be sent in U.S. funds to the International treasurer: Please be sure to include a current membership roster which has the members Name, Address, Zip or postal code, Phone number including area code, and Email address if they have one. And lastly their membership status Charter, Active, Associate, Social, Honorary, Life, or Compassionate Honorary.

F r p h # w r # k h # N d o l k d u # i r u #  
w k h # 5 3 3 ; # J h g # N q l j k w #  
F r q y h q w i r q #

The Ohio Association of the Red Knights is host of the 2008 Convention, and we are all welcoming you to meet us at one of the most exciting locations in Ohio. As a member of the Red Knight family, we invite you to attend this very special convention site located in Northwest Ohio on Lake Erie in the City of Sandusky. You will enter the world of "Kalahari," an African-themed resort and home to Ohio's largest indoor water park. As a Red Knight guest, you will be welcomed to the Nia Center, the Kalahari's convention-oriented attraction, and guided to the registration desk and be made to feel at home in one of the many spacious rooms of your choice.

Look inside for more details about the upcoming convention and take advantage of the **"Early Bird Special!"**