



Red Knights Motorcycle Club International News Letter

Fall 2014 Edition

<http://www.redknightsmc.org>



The Red Knights® names and logos are Registered Trademarks

Communications Committee Chairman George Colby gcolby@comcast.net, News Editor: David Michaud editor@redknightsmc.com New Zealand Reporter: Adam Knezovic adam.knezovic@yahoo.co.nz, Australia Reporter: J Steve 'Bull' Payne jaypay3@bigpond.com, England / Europe reporter; Steve Williamson england2@redknightsmc.com

Publisher/Editor
David Michaud
editor@redknightsmc.com

**Communications Committee
Chairman**
George Colby
gcolby@comcast.net 1

Region 1 Director:
Norm Beausoleil
region1@redknightsmc.com

Region 2 Director: Scott Ryan
region2@redknightsmc.com

Region 3 Director: Tim Reinard
region3@redknightsmc.com

Region 4 Director: Joey Powell
region4@redknightsmc.com

Region 5 Director: Gil Rekken
region5@redknightsmc.com











Region 6 Director: Joe Connors
region6@redknightsmc.com

Region 7 Switzerland
Thomas "TomTom" Delboi
European Chapters
region7@redknightsmc.com

England / Europe Reporter
Steve Williamson
england2@redknightsmc.com

New Zealand Reporter:
Adam Knezovic
adam.knezovic@yahoo.co.nz

Australia Reporter
J Steve 'Bull' Payne
jaypay3@bigpond.com

	Letter From the Editor	Page 3
	Presidents Report	Page 4 - 5
	Officers Corner	
	The Chaplain's Corner	Page 6
	International Secretary	Page 6
	Members that past away	Page 7
	New Chapters	Page 7
	International Quartermaster	Page 8
	2014 Convention Report	Page 9
	2015 Convention Report	Page 10
	Grand Tour	Page 11
	International Fall Meeting Minutes	Page 12 - 23
	Bylaw Change Proposals	Page 23
	Region 1:	
	Directors Report	Page 24 - 26
	Tour of Honor	Page 26
	Waksh & Kennedy Run	Page 27
	The Other Conuntry	Page 28 - 29
	Comedy Night & Tricky Tray Extravaganza	Page 29
	RKMC NJ 31	Page 30 - 31
	Yankee Rally	Page 31
	Region 2:	
	2014 Year End Report	Page 32 -33
	Scott's Ride for Bucko	Page 34
	Charity Motorcycle Poker Challenge Ride	Page 35
	Region 3:	
	Directors Report	Page 36 -37
	Region 4:	
	343 Memorial Ride	Page 37
	Region 5:	
	Fire Fighters Fighting Cancer	Page 38
	Region 6:	
	Directors Report	Page 38 - 39
	Region 7:	
	European Meeting	Page 40 - 41
	BELGIUM 2	Page 41 - 42
	Belgium 4	Page 42 - 44
	SUPPORT CHILDRENS' BURNS UNIT	Page 44
	Continue Page 3	

Continued from Page 2:

Switzerland 2

FRANCE III

UK & Ireland

Ireland 1's 24 Hour callange

Page 44

Page 46- 47

Page 48 - 49

Page 49 - 50

Editor's Report



Hello to all my Brothers and Sisters

It has been a very long time that we have been able to have an International Newsletter and it is a great privilege for me to be part of the International team.

For those of you that does not know me, I am the Quartermaster/Treasurer of Maine Chapter 7. I am a disabled firefighter. I worked for the Department of Defense at the Loring Air Force Base in Northern Maine. It was (now closed) one of the larges Air Force bases in the US housing B-52's and KC-135's. It was a dream job that I miss everyday of my life.

This is my first newsletter and it is my hope to help bring us all together. We are world wide and it is very difficult, at best, for us to be closer to each other and like you, I would like to know what all my brothers and sister around the world is doing. What a great opportunity!

Even though I have spent countless hours setting up this first newsletter, I had a great team helping me every step of the way! I have been able to talk and coordinate with some great men and women from around the world. The European reporters are some of the finest ones out there. They have been so helpful and beneficial to this newsletter.

I can tell you with out a shadow of dough, that this newsletter would not be up and running without our Communication Director George Colby. He guided me in the right direction every time I needed it. Whenever I had a question, he had the answer. I am proud to be part of his team. I have the support of the entire international officers and hope to keep thinks going with an even better newsletter this spring. If your region does not have a reporter then the Regional Director is the reporter so please send your photo's and stories to them or directly to me.

Please remember all chapter Presidents that some of your members may not get emails so when you distribute these, please print out copies and pass them out so that all members can have some quality reading.

Oh and by the way, I am always open to suggestions so please feel free to contact me anytime.

Thank you to all that made this possible and enjoy!

David Michaud
International Newsletter Editor
Quartermaster/Treasurer ME 7
<mailto:editor@redknightsmc.com>

Presidents Report



It's been a few years since we had a newsletter to send out to the Red Knights members and I can tell you this, I am excited to announce the rebirth of this great program. On behalf of the entire International Board, I want to thank George Colby (MA1), the Communications Committee Chair for heading up the process of getting a new Editor and bring him up to speed, but even a bigger thanks out to our new International Newsletter Editor David Michaud (ME7) for taking on his important new role of helping Red Knights around the world stay informed. Helping David are his "reporters", Steve Payne (AUS1), Adam Knezovic (NZ2) and Steve Williams (ENG2).

My big kickoff of the season was the DIXIE Rally, as each of the nine rallies before, it also proved to be a great time. Virginia Beach, VA was a great location despite the days of rain and the garage flooding. I can tell you from experience, trying to move 20 plus locked motorcycles out of water that was 4 inches deep and rising is an exciting experience. The Yankees came to the rally and enjoyed their time so much, rumor has it, they are going to have a Yankee Rally in 2015. I hope that it is as much a success as the DIXIE has been for the South.

The 2014 International Convention was a long trip for many out to Prince Edward Island, Canada. The Island and its hosts were absolutely incredible to say the least. The riding and scenery was amazing. A trip to PEI cannot be complete without a lobster and a visit to the Great Canadian Soap Company. Who would have thought you can make soap from goat's milk? The Red Knights of PEI did an outstanding job in the planning and execution of one of the best conventions I have been to. My hat is off to them! On the way to the convention, Alan (Pres MD4) and I had the chance to see Hopewell Rocks, NS in the Bay of Fundy. Well actually they were just out of the bay, as the tide was 40 feet down when we were there. Check off one more thing on the ole bucket list! I can't wait for the 2015 Convention in the great state of Texas. Make your reservations now, the places are booking fast! The Riverwalk won't be the same.

The fall board meeting in Syracuse was, in my opinion, the best board meeting I have yet to attend. The amount of business we accomplished was incredible. I want to thank each of my fellow Board members for their thoughts, comments, and willingness to hear each other's opinions and viewpoints in such a matter that we were able to work through not only the more common items on the agenda, but also tackle a very large project. We reworked the International SOG's into a draft document that we are currently doing a final review on. When we started the editing the SOG's were 63 pages long. By eliminating redundant, conflicting, and archaic information while keeping the historic and core values of each item in place, the draft currently stands at a mere 24 pages.

The By-Laws Committee is currently chaired by Rick Waterman (RI1) Rick is working with Dave Emery (VT2) and Tom Caisse (MA4) on a rework of the By-Laws to present to the membership at a future convention. They are also keeping the same values in mind as we did when we drafted the SOG's. A huge benefit to these rewrites will be documents that not only easier to read but also can be easier translatable into the five plus other languages our members speak.

We are also proud to announce that the Help-A-Knight program has a new administrator. Amanda Roun (NJ33) is currently working on updating the HAK roles to ensure the accuracy of the document. Once that has been accomplished new names will begin to be added.



The Knights of the Round Table (KORT) is an annual event hosted by the Green Knights, Blue Knights, or Red Knights. We will be hosting this multi-club event in 2015. The International will be helping out the New Jersey Trifecta (NJ16, NJ23 and NJ31) as they are the local hosts. The exact location is yet to be announced, but it will be near Atlantic City, New Jersey. Please remember to check the website soon for more information for the October 2015 event. Come one, come all, we really need lots of Red Knights to bring the scepter back to our realm.

To the Chapter Presidents; if you are not receiving information and emails from your regional director, please reach out to him to ensure he has the correct contact information for you. If you do not have access to your redknights.com email account, please contact him as well. We are working hard on our end to get information to the members, but we need your help.

As I know realize that this year (and letter) are quickly coming to a close, I would like to wish each and every Red Knight around the world a wonderful Christmas and Holiday season for you and your family. Please enjoy the time with those closest to you and remember the best presents anyone can get are lifelong memories with their loved ones.

Chris Gadway
International President

Attention Chapter President

Communication is the key. There are some that have full Red Knight email boxes. This means that you may not be receiving emails any longer. Please take the time to clean out your inbox. Also it is very important to pass along the emails that your Region Directors ask you to forward to your members. By keeping members in the loop, you will make them much more active. Please go to: <http://www.redknightsmc.com/webmail.py> and if you are having trouble with retrieving your email, please contact your regional director.

Trademarks: Names and Patches

- Please take the time to know about our Trademarks ® and when the trademark logo has to be used. The TMLA info is here: <http://www.redknightsmc.com/useofnamesandlogo.py>
- The following names must have a license for anyone to use:
- Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club®
 - Red Knights Motorcycle Club®
 - Red Knights ®
 - RKMC ®
 - **Our logo ®**



International Secretary

As we are now in the third quarter of 2014, I find the time is flying by.

As I look back over this year so far, I find that I have not attend (visited) as many chapters and members as I had planned. I have attended the Dixie Rally (Region 4 in Virginia, the International Convention (in Prince Edward Island, Canada), the 343 Memorial Ride in North Carolina, the National Motorcycle Museum in Iowa, the 2014 Fire Riders Iron and Steel ride (NY to VA) and the Knights of the Round Table tournament in Texas.

Along the way I have met many old and new members of our club. It is always a benefit of my position to meet new members and we have added thirteen new chapters this year and had 46 requests for information on starting new chapters. I am looking forward to adding a few more chapters before the end of the year.

We held the fall International Board meeting on November 12-16, 2014 in Syracuse New York. I want to thank the Board for working hard to finish the 58 items on the agenda including the review and approval of the SOG manual. We also had a presentation on a new computer RKMC Management tool that will be a benefit to the Board in our record keeping.

We have added a Communication Committee, a Newsletter Committee and a new Chairperson for the help the Knight program this year. We are always looking at ways to make this program better for our members.

Loyal to Our Duty

Bill Snodgrass
Int. Secretary
Int. Chaplain

The Chaplain's Corner

Bill Snodgrass, International Chaplain

John 15:9-13

New International Version (NIV)

⁹“As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commands and remain in his love. ¹¹I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. ¹²My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you.

¹³Greater no one to lay one’s life friends.



love has than this: down for one’s

We are to love each other as Jesus loved us, and he loved us enough to give his life for us. We any not have to die for someone, but there are other ways to practice sacrificial love by listening, help those in need, encouraging others, and giving. Think of someone in particular who needs this kind of love today. Give all the love you can, and then try to give a little more.

I would like to invite all Chaplains to submit your favor verse for the newsletter to me at chaplain@redknightsmc.com.

We hope that these words are an encouragement to our members.



Members that past away

It is an unfortunate part of life but we must never forget our fallen brothers and sisters. Below is a list of the more recent member that has past away.

Daniel Merlin Ont 13	Frank Hitchcock NY 2	Dr. Jack Beach Ont 7
Richard Moore OH 4	Robert Johnson NC 4	James Leagan OH 1
Charles E. Carneal VA 1	Scott Bettisch ILL 5	Pat Dilorenzo NY 26
Art Springer OH 16	Michele Burcham VA 8	Lynn Barstead Ont 15
Greg Brundage VA 2	Michael Johnson MA 4	Tom Middleton SD 1
Donna Stevens NY 14	Joel Roussele LA 1	Thomas Everett PA 23
Joan Gill PA 8	Michele Sarkissian Australia 5	John Turnbull NS 2
Bruce Hale CT 2	Pascale Fadier Belgium 4	Steve Mickle MA 13
Bobby Joe Qualls MO MAL	William McKee Ont 7	Mark Buhl MD 4
Vernona Thibodaux LA 1	Richard "Red" Girard NH 7	Borden Brooks CT 7

New Chapters:

New York 52	Birdsall	25-Jan-14	Illinois 22	Morton	4-Feb-14
Italy 1	Firenze	14-Feb-14	Kentucky 7	Pine Knot	14-Feb-14
Illinois 22	Morton	17-Feb-14	New Zealand 3	Tokoroa	26-Feb-14
North Carolina 21	Sherrills Ford	3-Apr-14	Tennessee 7	Lenoir City	29-Apr-14
Germany 10	Buchhain	30-Apr-14	Wisconsin 6	Eau Claire	1-May-14
New York 53	Hoosick Falls	28-May-14	Nova Scotia 5	Bear River	19-Jun-14
Alberta 14	Morinville	4-Jul-14	Germany 9	Jurergen Galuba	21-Jul-14
Maine 8	Millinocket	23-Jul-14	Maine 9	Knox	23-Aug-14
Switzerland 4	Mollis	23-Aug-14	Virginia 19	Bedford	12-Oct-14
South Carolina 7	Sumter	15-Oct-14	New Jersey 33	Palmyra	9-Nov-14
Ohio 17	Gallipolis	13-Nov-14			



International Quartermaster's Corner

I'm Kevin B Williams, your Red Knights International Quartermaster.

You can find me on the international website or e-mail me here...

rkrquartermaster@redknightsregalia.com

If you prefer to phone me direct, I can be reached by cell phone @ 732.692.3707, or text me & be sure to include your name and chapter.

If you have facebook I'm @ **Kevin B Williams**.

Please "Friend" me on Facebook & send me some pics of you & your chapter wearing some of what you purchased through the online catalog.

I'd like to tell you about the merchandise we carry in the Regalia catalog, get your input on products that you may want to see, and find out where you would like the product line to be in the next year or two.

I have been soliciting ideas for increasing the line of "Ladies Jewelry", and I need more ideas.

If you have a vendor that I can contact, if you know someone that makes custom jewelry, or if you can offer me a style & pricing that will help me to prepare a proposal for the board to review I will forever be in your debt.

For those of you that order using the printed order form & snail-mail, please be sure that you check the "Shipping cost" section of the order form to ensure that you have included the correct amount when mailing me your check.

As of June 2013 the shipping rates were increased to meet the increases passed onto us from the US Postal Service.

Payment can be made using the online ordering, personal or chapter check, or an international money order.

If you choose to pay using an international money order from the US Post office, please be sure that it is an "International Money Order", they are pink on the top border of the check.

For those of you ordering chapter bottom rockers or Heaven 1 bottom rockers, please allow 3-4 weeks for delivery as they are NOT in stock patches & must be custom ordered.

The 3-4 weeks is usually delivered to me & I can usually ship them to your chapter within 2 days of my receiving the patches.

I encourage you to contact me with any questions or suggestions, as I am available 7 days a week.

I look forward to serving you and your chapter in the future.

Proud to be a Red Knight,

Kevin B Williams
RKMC Intl QM

Charlottetown, PEI, 2014



Thank you. Thank you for taking the time to come play on my Island this summer. Thank you for allowing the Red Knights here on PEI to show you a little bit of the good old fashioned Island hospitality. Thank you for making this more than a convention, but making it a vacation. Thank you for making the 2014 convention a success beyond our expectations.

Getting here was a little wetter than I had hoped, but riding to the convention in the rain is certainly not something new for a Red Knight. Still, I was worried it may dampen spirits as well as bikes. I was very pleased to see that it didn't. Thursday morning, even as it was still drizzling, we were having to use both driveways to get the bikes lined up for the rides. Then when people started getting back from the rides and were telling me what a great ride it was, I knew things were only going to get better as the forecast improved. For some, the first day was a full day of riding, just as we were parading to the Brewery for our BBQ, riders from the Tignish Tour were just getting back to town and met us at the lights by Sears.

BBQ, what can I say? Yes, I was hoping we were going to be able to use the picnic tables outside as well as the tables inside, but the weather wasn't cooperating. Still, there was enough room for everyone inside and I found it helped keep us all closer together. Of course the food was great, the guy who runs Sizzler Bar-B-Que is a firefighter at my station – he knows how to feed firefighters. And that wasn't the end of the day either. A trip back to The Rodd saw more than just Louie getting a little Loopey.

I find our conventions are getting longer and longer each year. Thursday was the official start of the convention but it wasn't our first night in the hospitality suite, we had it opened up on Wednesday too. In fact, I am not sure if anyone noticed but we had to make a late night run for a couple of extra kegs as we had enough interest in getting together Wednesday evening that we underestimated our draught need. It wasn't a problem, we're Islanders and many of us have a bit of Irish in us so finding a keg late at night isn't an unfamiliar problem.

Friday was another full day with riders lining up before 8 am and still rolling out hours later. A warmer, sunnier day made for some great rides in all directions. The rides were capped off with a parade out for a lobster supper. I was at the back of the line and there was only one place that I could see all the bikes in the line as I was at the top of one hill and the front of the line was just cresting the next one ahead. Not only did we look good but we sounded good too, well to some at least, maybe not the lady along the route who is afraid of thunder and rushed out of her house to seek shelter in her car when she heard us coming (true story, she is a friend of one of our members and told him the story a week later).

Even the sunset ride through the park after dinner wasn't the end of the day. Breaking a little with tradition we had our entertainment in Friday night instead of Saturday. I would post the video of some of our members doing a little bit of step dancing but what happens at convention stays at convention – and the fact that it wasn't necessarily a pretty sight. The change in nights worked quite well for us, even as they were packing up at the end of the night, the room was full. As an added bonus, it didn't seem to take away from the good time people were having at the Banquet or throughout the property afterwards.

All in all, it was a great pleasure to play host to 500 of our brothers and sisters. If you have never made it to a convention, you don't know what you are missing. The time and trouble getting there, even in the rain, is well worth the memories and friends that are made at these events.

See you in San Antonio!

Scott Ryan, President PEI Chapter 1 & International Treasurer



2015 Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club Convention Report

Welcome to the 2015 RKIFMC Convention Report, the State Association of Texas is proud to host the 2015 Convention. If you are looking for some good riding, downhome action then this Convention is for you. The Convention is being held in the heart of Texas with its rich history and the place of its beginning San Antonio. As most of you may know the Alamo is located in here. The great standoff between folks from several states like Kentucky, Tennessee, New York, Virginia, Georgia, North Carolina, Vermont and many more, too many to shout out to here. We even had defenders from England, Ireland, Scotland, France, Spain and Germany. This area is rich in Texas history and as you will see is a great place to visit.

This is just the tip of the iceberg for riding enjoyment, the down home environment will entice you to maybe stay a little longer to visit the places you may not know about, such as the museums, mission trails, the twisted sisters ride, Fredericksburg, and a short distance the very center of Texas, Luckenbach.

The 2015 Committee has been working hard for the last 4 years to put on an event that will last in your memory for many years to come. It is done "Bigger In Texas". There are a couple of events that are firmed up at this time, first, the Night at the Alamo, this tour is just designed for Red Knights only, it is a very special time that you have a great advantage to wander through the Alamo, in small groups, with a tour guide to explain the last days of the great Alamo battle. This will be not just educational but a walk through the history of the beginnings of Texas and the 115 defenders that were so passionate to help Texians begin their freedom from Mexico. Second, for a lighter event a cruse down the San Antonio River on a Cocktail Cruse. You will pass by some of the more memorable places on the River, and have a leisure tour of the river. There is so much to do in San Antonio it is difficult to provide all that information here but be assured when you get to the Convention Registration table all that information will be provided. I think you will be in information overload, so come and plan to have fun There are several self-guided rides available to you and the big guided ride the will end at the Cowboy Harley Davidson, San Antonio, where they are putting on their lot party and all the proceeds will go to LODD.

Now down to some business. The host hotel is the Drury Plaza Riverwalk, just a couple of steps out of the hotel and you are on the Riverwalk. The hotel is filling up, quickly, so if you have not made your reservations yet I highly recommend you do it now. August will be the busy season and the hotel has given us 175 rooms at the \$124 per night price. There is secured parking in the parking garage as there is no parking on the street. The Committee has a great Texas Barbeque planned for the Banquet dinner. If you have never had Texas style barbeque you are in for a treat.

These are only the highlights of the 2015 RKIFMC Convention San Antonio, so **Y'll Come On Down** and have a Big Texas Welcome from the State of Texas Association.

For more information or registration go to www.redknightsmc.com link Annual Convention or www.rkmctx2015convention.com

Dickie Cutbirth

Committee Chair, Red Knights of Texas

Joe Connors

Director, Region 6



Grand Tour

2014 is another great year for Grand Tour. To date, almost 500 members from 77 chapters in 10 counties have ridden 816 tours. Grand Tour currently offers the membership five different tours. Members will earn a certificate, patch and rocker for the first ride they complete and a certificate and rocker for the subsequent tours they complete. On completion of all five tours a member will also receive a 'Grand Tour Master' certificate and rocker as well as a beautifully

stuck challenge coin. Guests (non-members) who ride with you can earn a certificate and a lapel pin.

We have 8 members who have completed all 5 tours twice and in September of 2013, Alan Grayson and Ann Wright of England Chapter 2 completed all 5 tours in a 14 day period while on vacation.

If you are not familiar with Grand Tour, please check us out at <http://www.redknightsmc.com/grandtour.py> and if you have any questions please contact me at grandtour@redknightsmc.com

Over the course of the last couple of years some members have had problems sending in their pictures. This is probably due to the fact that our sever (grandtour@redknightsmc.com) does not allow for a lot of data transfer so if you are having problems sending in your pictures, try sending to hheideman@cogeco.ca If this still doesn't work, you may have to send them in 2 or 3 emails.



14 members of Belgium Chapter 1 on a 12 Stations Tour in August 2014

Z is a hard letter to find but Tim and Kim McDonald of Texas Chapter 1 found this one.

Henry Heideman
RKMC Grand Tour Committee
grandtour@redknightsmc.com
hheideman@cogeco.ca

RKIFMC BOARD MEETING
Thursday, November 13, 2014
0811-1630

Meeting called to order: 0811 by VP Jack Jarvis
Opening greeting from Vice President
Rules of the meeting
Roll Call of Officers:

Chris Gadway, President (excused)
Jack Jarvis, VP
Bill Snodgrass, Secretary
Scott Ryan, Treasurer
Gil Rekken, Region 5
Tom Delboi Region 7

Norm Beausoleil, Region 1
Leo Patry, Region 2
Tim Reinard, (Excused)
Joey Powell, Region 4
Joe Connors, Region 6

• **REPORTS:**

MALs:

521 paid and in good standing for 2014, 100 still on book but have not paid. Using Directors to check on why chapter members want to become MALs.

REGION 1:

Have 3-4 new chapters in region, working with committee for the Yankee Rally to be held on May 29-31, 2015 in New York. Attended the European meeting and the funeral for Steve Mickle. Will be seeking re-election as Regional Director.

REGION 2:

Making contact with all chapters, working to set up a meeting with Chapter Presidents in Region.

REGION 3:

Working with WI 5 on hosting convention, working on holding Regional meeting in 2015. New chapter in Ohio (OH 17).

REGION 4:

Working with new chapter in Virginia, Dixie Rally will be held in New Orleans on May18-19, 2015. Wanting to start a Big Brother program for new members. Working to set a meeting of all Chapter Presidents in region.

REGION 5: *Working with committee for the Western Rally, to be held June 19-20, 2015 in Alberta, Canada. Hosted by Alberta 4.*

REGION 6:

Learning duties of Regional Director Send out information letters to fire departments in region has a meeting set up with Hell Angels in Arizona.

REGION 7:

Gave highlights of European Meeting, approximately 300 in attendance. Took part in escort of motorcycles for people who died in plane crash. Send letter to all government officials introducing the Red Knights. Still have some problems over chapters building club houses and wanting members to pay for them. Still some problems between MALs and Association. 2015 European Meeting will be held in Switzerland September 11-13, 2015. Attended funeral in Region.

- **CONVENTION REPORTS:**

2015: *Hotel is set; rate is \$124.00 for 130 rooms. After that is goes to \$170.00. Parking for motorcycle is \$10.00 per day and cars is \$21.00 per day. Off sight parking for trucks with trailers is \$25.00 for week upon request (30 minutes from hotel on private gated property). Alamo tour, boat cruise and more.*

2016: *Will be held at the Kalahari Resort in Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin. Room Rate is \$149.00. Contact is ready to be signed. They are expecting 350 to attend.*

2017: *Hotel has been selected, plans on ride to, Vine County, casino.*

2018: *Hotel has been selected, plans on ride to Memorial of 911 plane crash,*

2019: *NH chapters working together to host in the White Mountain region.*

THE FOLLOWING WERE CARRIED OVER FROM THE 2014 SPRING AND SUMMER MEETINGS

- MAL application in both Germany and French, Jack and Tom are working on this

The MAL in German is finished and has been submitted to web master for posting on web site. Still working on application in French.

- Application for Hosting Convention, Scott is to re-write By-Law section 2:02 on Annual Meeting/Convention.

Will bring report to spring meeting. A CD will be send to all hosting chapters and the by-law change to the by-law committee.

- Region 3 Director arrived at 1530 hours

- *SOG Updates:* Each Board member is to take the following sections and submit their changes/updates or deletions to the International Secretary, all deletions are to be shown in **YELLOW** with a ~~line through them~~ and all updates/changes are to be shown in **GREEN**.

Secretary- Table of contents and formatting

Chris- sections 1 & 2

Norm- Section 7 & 8

Joey- Section 13 & 14

Jack – Section 3 & 4

Scott- Section 9 & 10

Gil- Section 15 & 16

Leo- Section 5 & 6

Tim- Section 11 & 12

Flint- Section 17&19

Reviewed and approved each section of the SOGs as assigned. Secretary is to finish the formatting and submit the draft to Board for final approval before submitting to the Web Master for posting on the web site.

- Ability for International officer to enact a suspension pending board approval:

*This was **tabled** to the Spring Board 2015 meeting.*

- A discussion on having a First and Second Vice President and term limits

Suggestion was made that if this was to happen, the First Vice President would be in charge of Region 1, 2, 3 and 4. the Second Vice President would be in charge of Regions 5, 6, 7, MALs and Oversea chapters. It was decided that more information and study was needed on this. The Secretary asked all Board members to submit their ideas on term limits to him. He is looking to submit a by-law proposal in 2015.

- Back patch (new one with Harley)

After reading the comments on Face Book when this question was asked it was overwhelming that the membership was not in favor of changing our patch design. All chapters can apply for a TMLA for a 4" front chapter patch.

- Different design on challenge coin, Norm is having photos taken of Memorial, Jack is working on design and will forward to Board members for review

*This was **tabled** to the spring 2015 meeting.*

- Jackets for International Board members, Tom to show the International Board possible Jackets for board members

Tom showed sample of jacket with our three piece patch on back. It was suggested that he have sample made with the International Seal on back instead and have what I on the front of the golf shirts on the front of the jacket. He will have this for the 2015 spring meeting.

PRESIDENT:

- Board Reports to web master (Chris)

Chris reminded all Board members of the need to submit their reports quarterly to the web master for their page. He asked that all Board members submit an article to the newsletter editor for the December issue.

- GEO Mapping to Regional Directors (Chris)

The International Treasurer assumed the duties of maintaining and updating the GEO mapping section on our web site. For 2015, Region 3 has the Perry Carter award and Region 7 is in charge of the Red Knight Face Book site. The International Treasurer will assume the duties of maintaining and updating the GEO mapping section on our website once provided access and instructions on how to make changes.

- Clarification of system for posting information on web site (Chris)

Chris clarified the system for posting on the web site. All official items from the Red Knight Board go to the Secretary who will work with the web master to have them posted. Each board member may submit items for their web page themselves. The Communication Chair may have items posted on the web page.

VICE PRESIDENT

- Ordering of Heaven One name rockers – allowing chapters to order name rockers of people that are not RKIFMC members. (Jack)

After discussion on this subject, Motion 2014-038 was approved that only bottom rockers for the name of our members would be ordered and sold by the RKR Quartermaster.

- Three inch rockers with awards

Motion 2014-039 was made to amend SOG 13:04 so that a 4 inch upper arch would be given with the awards for Life Saving, Life Member and Grand Tour.

- The wearing of "ROCKERS" in Australia and/or New Zealand is not permitted, therefore cannot be purchased by a chapter or individual from these countries.

Australia Rockers will not be manufactured at any time by the International.

The color of your chapters back patch will be decided on at your raising meeting. Please keep in mind that the Red and White back patch is the only one approved by the 1% community here in Australia.

The use of the "M.C" initials in Australia on merchandise is not permitted as this is highly regarded within the 1% community.

The ONLY piece of merchandise with the "M.C" initials permitted is the International Flag. (Jack/Ross)

Discussion was held on this issue resulting in Motion 2014-040 being approved for a new SOC Section (3:07) being written, which reads: The wearing of "rockers" in Australia is not permitted, therefore cannot be purchased by an Australian chapter or individual. The color of the back patch will be decided at the initial meeting for the chapter. The Red & White patch is the one suggested in Australia. The use of the "MC" initials in Australia on merchandise is not permitted. The only piece of merchandise with the "MC" initials permitted is the International Flag.

- European MAL's - How do we fix the separation of MAL and Chapter Member? (Jack)

The problem is that the MALs in Europe and the European Association are not working together and the MALs want to be their own chapter and be treated as a chapter, allowing them to apply for TMLAs be approved to have their own clothing line. Jack is working with the European MAL Representative on the issues and will report to the Board.

- By-Laws not updated on web site

Since the by-law committee has not updated the by-laws on the web site since the convention, The President ask the Secretary to take this duty back and see that the by-laws were updated ASAP.

SECRETARY

- Need to display all flags at convention (Bill)

Discussed that the flags of all countries are to be displayed at the Convention. Joe stated that this would be done in Texas for the 2015 convention.

- Budget and Attendance at the KORT (Bill)

A line item budget of \$500.00 as startup funds for the 2015 KORT, hosted by the Red Knights would be set. It was suggested that the President or Vice President should attend every year as this is an event of the International Blue Knights, International Green Knights and the Red Knights.

- Corrections to Minutes (Bill)

The Secretary thanked the Board members for reviewing the minutes and submitting corrections. He advise that when the same corrections where made on the same article, he would only the only difference was the wording.

- Status and plan for Business Plan (Bill)

It was agreed that the Business plan would be discussed on Saturday morning from 8am to noon at the spring meeting. All Board members are encouraged to review and be ready to discuss changes at that time.

- Maine 8 Charter to Millinocket instead of Lincoln

The Board approved the moving of the charter location of Maine 8. The Secretary is to issue a new charter certificate.

- Read motion 2014-036E and 2014-037E

The Secretary read Motions 2014-026E and 2014-037E into the record.

TREASURER

- According to the bylaws & SOGs, the dues are:

New Chapter \$35 + \$16/member (\$12 after Aug 1, \$8 after Oct 1) BL 2:01 V SOG 12:08=\$25

New Member \$16 SOG 12:08

Renewal Active/Associate \$13 SOG 12:08

Renewal Social/Honorary \$7 SOG 12:08

Junior \$0

Late Chapter renewal (after Feb 15) \$50 fee SOG 12:08

New MAL \$10 + dues SOG 12:08

Renewal Active MAL \$15 (\$11.25 after Jul 1, \$7.50 after Oct 1 BL 2:01 IV) SOG 12:08

Renewal Social MAL \$10 SOG 12:08

Late MAL \$10 plus dues after March 31 BL 2:01 IV

MAL to Chapter credit Chapter \$13 Active, \$7 social (\$9.75/\$5.25 Jul 1, \$6.50/\$3.5 Oct 1) SOG 12:04

At the very least, either Bylaw 2:01 V or SOG 12:08 need to change so the new chapter application is the same (I suggest changing the SOG).

Under the current scheme, there is a late year reduction in dues for members joining a new chapter and new MALs but not for new members in an existing chapter. There is a penalty and a dues reduction for late renewing MALs but only a penalty for late renewing chapters.

I believe the practice may have been to extend the reduction to new chapter members joining an existing chapter late in the year but this is not how the bylaws and SOGs are written. I would lean toward extending them the break.

With the MAL renewal dues being reduced as the year goes on (even with the \$10 late fee), there is a disincentive for them to pay dues before October 1 if they miss the March 31 deadline. I would lean toward treating MAL renewals the same as chapter renewals and charge a late fee only with no proration of dues. (Scott)

New SOG 12:05 was done to show the correct rates

- What about having a Chapter Member classification – they would NOT be members on the International Roster, not pay International dues, not be included in the numbers for convention grants, not be considered “in good standing” from an International point of view, but would be able to wear the bottom rocker of the second chapter. I’m not sure what sort of top rocker would apply, are we stepping into the 1% world if they have no top rocker. (Scott)

After discussion it was agreed not to take any action on this item. If you belong to more than one chapter, you pay the dues required by the International and Chapter.

- Bylaw 2:01 V. states that New Chapters dues shall pay a \$35 application fee. SOG 12:08 states New Chapter applications will be \$25. I propose we change the SOG to reflect a \$35 application fee. New chapters require seven active members, this works out to \$5 per member which should not prevent chapters from forming. (Scott)

New SOG 12:05 was done to show the correct rates

- SOG 9:01 B encourages Regional Directors to hold a Regional meeting – and encourages them to combine it with other multi-chapter events. This SOG states expenses will be covered for the Regional Director for one of these meetings per director per year.

There are more than one multi-chapter event in most regions each year, it has been suggested that past practice has been to assist directors with costs to attend these, beyond the one meeting.

In a review of the SOGs and Bylaws, it appears the only travel that is covered is that mentioned above, three board meetings (including the convention), European convention, convention liaison, and funerals. If it is the board’s wish that other travel be covered (either for more than one

regional meeting or for President/Vice President/Secretary/Treasurer) the SOGs or bylaws will need to be changed accordingly. (Scott)

SOG Section 9:01 B deals with the Regional Director attending either a Regional Rally or a meeting of State/ Province Representatives each year. Scott is to work on a SOG and by-law change for more than one regional meeting or for President/Vice President/Secretary/Treasurer travel.

- Roster information. What information in the rosters should be shared and with whom? Now that we are pushing chapters to use the Red Knights e-mail addresses, should we be sharing any other addresses? Should we be providing phone numbers and home addresses to people beyond the board? (Scott)

The Master Roster is submitted to the Regional Directors by the Secretary. If is up to the Regional Directors to use the rosters as they see fit.

MEETING ADJOUNED AT 1700

RKIFMC BOARD MEETING FRIDAY, November 14, 2014 0757-1700

- Line item budget for 2015 (Scott)

The line item budget was submitted by the International Treasurer and reviewed by the Executive Board. A copy is on file with the Secretary and Treasurer. Motion 2014-044 was made on Saturday, November 15, 2015 to approve the 2015 budget as amended.

REGION 1

- 2019 Annual Convention to be hosted by NH 3 (Norm)

NH chapters working together to host in the White Mountain region, more information when it comes available. This will have to be approved at the 2015 ABM.

- 2 agenda items, details to follow. I received word that there are 2 by-law change proposals (that will be coming from the Massachusetts Red Knights (Norm)

The two by-law proposals were read and discussion was led by Norm on the reasons for the proposals. No endorsement was given by the Board on either proposal.

REGION 2

REGION 3

- Grandchildren becoming Social Members (Tim)

Tim is to work on by-law proposals for Sections 5:06 and 5:09 of the by-laws and submit to the by-law committee.

- Future Guidelines when a Board members steps down during their term (Tim) (there is a by-law proposal from MA on this)

This is covered in the by-law proposals submitted the Massachusetts chapters.

REGION 4

- Red Knights chapter pages for social media. How do we control what it posted? There have been recently items posted about different situations about other chapters, members and the International board. Maybe look at the By-laws and SOG's to add what we can do about it in more detail. (Joey)

The TMLA for chapter business states that the web site must be controlled entirely by a Chapter, not an individual. The Chapter is responsible for all content on the Web site. Therefore it up to the chapter to police the social media sites.

- Region Director meeting with State Rep. See if we can bring in all of State Reps in for a Region meeting at a central location in the Region and the international maybe somehow pay for the hotel room. (Joey)

Scott is to work on a SOG and by-law change for more than one regional meeting or for President/Vice President/Secretary/Treasurer travel.

REGION 5

REGION 6

- Custom Red Knights back patches for Texas 1 vs. grandfather rights (Joe)

This was moved to Executive Session

REGION 7

- Need for Country Representatives in Europe only, like State/Province Representatives in North America. (Tom)

The Board agreed to this and the Secretary was advised to make the wording change to the by-laws in Section 3:22 and to forward to the Board and the by-law committee.

- European QM, this will help the chapters with the cost of shipping and customs fees. Lots of problems with the international merchandise for the European chapters/MALs. Think about better solutions. (Tom)

Tom Delboi is to assume the duties of the quartermaster for Europe. The RKR Quartermasters and Treasurer us to work with him by sending him samples so that he can get samples and prices from vendors and check quality. All monies are to be submitted to the International Treasurer. Cost of shipping is to be added to his expense report monthly.

- Trademark for Europe is approved. What will be our next steps to handle those who use our name? I will bring you some examples. (Tom)

The Red Knights have been approved by the WIPO for the trademark to our name in Europe. As for the HA support club in Portugal whose name is Red Knight's, Tom was advise to contact his contact person in Switzerland and explain the TMLA problem with him. As for vendors, that can submit a TMLA application from Tom, however the final approval will still come from the International Secretary. All chapter TMLA requests are still to be send to the International Secretary.

- Think about a bylaws change. My idea: Social member can stay as social member after 5 years membership for example in case of divorce. (Tom)

This would take a by-law change and after discussion, the Board was not in favor of this proposal.

- In Europe we have 2 very big local firefighter MCs. Any special offers for membership (Like New York Fire Riders...)? (Tom)

After discussion, it was agreed that the Red Knights do not have program that would allow this and the Board cannot grant this. However, if members of another club want to join the Red Knights and wear a front patch of another club they could and should be encouraged to join the Red Knights.

- MAL application approval process. To assist the int. VP, I offer to send the welcome packages from my house. After MAL membership and payment is approved the int. VP will send me an email with this information's. I will send them their welcome package from my house, within Europe. As you know I have a Switzerland and a German post office within 2 miles by my house. I think that is faster (and cheaper for the international) too. (Tom)

The Board agreed to this and Jack has given Tom 20 new MAL packages to get started with.

- European member for the Nominations Committee and the Grand Tour Program (Tom Tom)

Motion 2014-041 was approved to appoint Manfred Kother (GR 6) to the Nominations Committee and Stefan Thalhammer (GR MAL) to the Grand Tour Committee.

DINNER BREAK 1700 -1830

**RKIFMC BOARD MEETING
FRIDAY, November 14, 2014
6:30 pm to 10:05 pm**

DAVE EMERY

- I would strongly suggest that the international look into purchasing a clear plastic zippered pouch. I found one at Wal-Mart. I then purchased a red knight decal with Steve's name on it for \$10.00 (that the chapter was selling) and adhered it to the front of the pouch. Another option would be a cloth pouch with the Heavens One patch adhered to it... this would protect the flag during inclement weather and become a way for the flag to be displayed at the family's future desires. (Dave Emery)

The Board agreed that his was a good idea and encouraged each Board member to do as needed.

DENNIS HEWETT

- 911 Dispatchers joining the RKMC

Discussion was held on this proposals and the outcome was that they need to be employed and under the control of a Fire Chief to become Red Knights. Dennis was advised that he could still submit this

request to the by-law committee to have it voted on at the 2015 ABM. He was advised that the Board did not endorse it.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION
8:34 PM TO 10:02 PM**

MEETING ADJOUNED AT 10:05 PM

**RKIFMC BOARD MEETING
SATURDAY, November 15, 2014
8:00 am to 4:30 pm**

- Motion 2014-042

Motion was made to re-affirm the decision to Grandfather Texas 1 for the back patches they have always worn. This was initially approved in a previous motion and will remain in effect as long as the chapter remains in good standing.

- Motion 2014-043

To allow Board members to wear their approved chapter colors on a red vest while performing all International duties.

TOM CASSIE

- Two By-Law sections update approvals (attached). These do not require a vote of the membership (not amending just updating) but the Board should make sure they approve the wording. (Tom C)
By-law section was reviewed and Secretary was advised to make the changes in the by-laws and to have them posted on our web site.
- Intent to seek reelection deadlines / process. (Tom C)
Board members were advised that if you are seeking re-election, to get your information to the committee before the deal line.
- Appointments of additional Nominating Committee Member(s) - TomTom's previous email on topic. (Tom C)
This was done with Motion 2014-041
- Guidance regarding assignment of responsibilities to Nominating Committee Members. (Tom C)
The Board decided that the Chairperson of the committee sets the responsibilities of the members. He is to select two members to serve on the committee and advise the Board who the members are.
- Execution and discharge of the contract with Vote Net Solutions for 2015. Leo and I worked through this in 2013. I will need to start dialogue with vendor around the holidays. (Tom C)
By a vote of hands, the Secretary was to advise Tom to executed and discharge the contact with Vote Net Solution for 2015 as needed.
- Formatting and validating rosters to align with voting requirements both Chapters and MAL's. Leo and I worked through this in 2013. We have some time with this but we don't want to be dealing this validation and formatting with the election clock ticking. (Tom C)

Scott will work with Tom on this program.

- Timely posting on Election Information and Nominee Profiles on the International Website. (Tom C)
The Secretary will follow up with the Web Master to see that this is done when he receives the Nominee Profiles

1:00 to 3:00

- KNIGHTS AND WAY presentation by Ramon

After the presentation of the Red Knights Management Tool, motion 2014- was approved to implement the program as a pilot program to be revisited at eh 2015 spring meeting.

- Discussion on if we can get health (travel) insurance to cover us while we are on Red Knight business.

The Secretary is to research this and advise the Board.

- Line Item Budget

Motion 2014-044 was approved to accept the 2015 Line Item Budget as amended.

- 2015 European Public Safety, Fire and EMS EXPO

Tom Delboi gave a report regarding a request for funding for the 2015 European Public Safety, Fire and EMS EXPO. They are expecting 125,000 visitors with 1300 vendors from over 100 countries. The cost for the vendor space for the event is \$6000.00 US. They are giving the space to the Red Knights for \$200.00 US. It will take five members each day to man the space. He members will pay their own way into the event. Tom asked to help with the hotel, one meal a day and handout material. After discussion, the RKR will give \$1500.00; the RKIFMC will give \$1500.00 and an Association grant of \$500.00 for a total of \$3500.00. He expect that total cost for the event to be \$5000.00

- Overseas Travel Line Item

Discussion was held on overseas travel for 2015. As the RKIFMC continues to grow in Australia, Europe and New Zealand and we are an International Club, discussion was held on where we would be best served by sending a Board member in 2015. As we have had Board members attend the European meeting for two years, it was decide to help send a Board member to Australia/New Zealand in 2015.

- Help a Knight Program

The Board appointed Amanda Roun as the Help A Knight Chairperson.

- Allowance for Board Travel

Scott went over the new travel allowances for Board travel. After review, the Board approved the new allowances for Board travel. This is in Section 9:01 of the SOG manual.

- Equipment License Agreement

The Secretary was advised to add the following section to the Equipment License Agreement:

CONFIDENTIALLY

USER agrees that no information, software, or hardware will be removed from any laptops, computers, or external hard drives owned by the RKIFMC. This is to include RKIFMC e-mail records.

Meeting adjourned at 1630 hours

Submitted by:

Bill Snodgrass
International Secretary

By-Law Change Proposal submitted by George Colby, Massachusetts State Representative,

on behalf of the Chapters present (MA Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 9, 11, 13, and 15) and voting unanimously in favor of the Proposal, at the Massachusetts RKIFMC State Fall Meeting.

SECTION 3:04 RESIGNATION

Any International Executive Board member may resign at any time by giving written notice of such resignation to the Board. Any International Executive Board Member who resigns from the International Executive Board shall not be eligible for nomination for, or appointment to, any position on the International Executive Board for a period of two years from the date of resignation.

By-Law Change Proposal submitted by George Colby, Massachusetts State Representative, on behalf of the Chapters present (MA Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 9, 11, 13, and 15) and voting unanimously in favor of the Proposal, at the Massachusetts RKIFMC State Fall Meeting.

SECTION 3:05 VACANCY

Any vacancy in the International Executive Board occurring during the year will be filled within 90 days of the vacancy occurring via electronic voting process as outlined in other sections of these By-Laws with the exception of vacancies occurring within 180 days of normal completion of the term.

The process shall be as follows:

- The Presidents of all Chapters impacted by the vacancy shall be notified within 15 days of any vacancy occurring within the International Board of Directors impacting their Chapter, i.e., President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer or Regional Director representing said Chapter.
- The election of the new Board Member shall be completed within 90 days of the occurrence of the vacancy inclusive of the 15 days to notify Chapter Presidents plus 30 days for open nominations, 30 days to establish voting lists and 15 days of open voting.
- If the vacancy occurs within 180 days of the Annual Business Meeting for which the vacant position would normally be elected and there are no candidates nominated as a result of the normal election process, the 90 day election process indicated above shall be initiated at the closing of the Annual Business Meeting.

Region 1



Hi everyone! Greetings from Region 1! It's been a long time since I've written a story or article, so believe me, I find myself hoping that I do alright. President Chris Gadway is doing what he can to get a communication flow going again within the entire organization and he asked each of us to help by writing a little something about us, our job as Director, our travels, our adventures, etc. So here goes, like it or leave it, you're stuck with me for a few minutes of reading and at least a few more months as Director.

For those of you that don't know me, I got involved in the Red Knights in 1982 - August of '82, or actually maybe even earlier, as a matter of fact. The club was pretty small back then, only 11 members or so. About 7 years later I foolishly left the club – that's a whole other story – and then I got drawn back in, slowly, in 2007. By 2011 I was once again a full blooded, convention going Knight, eager to see what I've missed. Boy, did I miss a lot, about 9,000 new members and 360 new chapters. Wow, what growth!

In 2013, with the support of my chapter, MA 1, I ran for and won this position and it's been non-stop ever since! It has been fun, and here are some of the highlights of my return.

April, 2013 – I attended the first annual England/Ireland meeting in Birmingham, England, where I met members from all over Europe and visited the Motorcycle Museum. I had never felt as welcomed as I was then.

June, 2013 – I attended my first Americade!

August, 2013 – I was elected Region 1 Director in Burlington, VT. Thank you Region 1!!

September, 2013 – I was confronted with a dilemma – go to Paris for the European Association meeting or attend my daughter's wedding. Any guesses on my choice?

November, 2013 & 2014, and April 2014 – I attended the Fall and Spring Board meetings in Syracuse. Now there's an adventure!!

This year's convention was held in Prince Edward Island, Canada. Although there was a fair amount of rain, the event was a smashing success! I look forward to San Antonio, TX, next August!

September, 2014 – I was greeted in Bruges, Belgium, for the European Association meeting. I rode with members of several chapters to Brussels for the Manikin Piss September 11 ceremonies.



The a ride to the "3 Frontiers", the border point shared by Germany, Belgium and the Netherlands,



then a visit to the Henri-Chapelle American Cemetery (<http://www.abmc.gov/cemeteries-memorials/europe/henri-chapelle-american-cemetery>)



The trip ended with one heck of a wild (in a good way) party in Bruges. Let me tell you, the Europeans really know how to throw a “convention”!

In the spring of 2014 (maybe April?) I was blessed with the prospect of a third generation Red Knight, when my daughter Stephanie, a Social Member, accepted a proposal of marriage from John Stone, Active member and son



of Mass 1 President Pete Stone. This preceded the birth of my first grandchild, Annabelle Soleil, born to my oldest daughter, Charlene.

My life has been full the last 2 years or so, and I look forward to the Red Knights keeping my life exciting for many years to come. It is with great pleasure I share this with you!

As always, I remain,

Loyal to Our Duty

Norm Beausoleil
 Region 1 Director,
 Life Member, Charter Member and Founder, MA 1 – “Where it All Began”

TOUR OF HONOR

Robert Laford

The Tour of Honor is a great reason to hit the open road, honor our nation's heroes, and contribute to a few good charities. The Tour of Honor is an AMA-sanctioned event. The event is a season-long, self-directed ride to memorials and monuments around the continental U.S., Alaska and Hawaii. Beginning April 1, visit as many sites as you want, with any route you choose.

A portion of the riders’ registration fee go to a variety of military and first responder charities. For 2014, for example, the rider can choose where his or her portion of the registration can go towards; Fisher House Foundation, Operation Comfort Warriors, The Fallen Heroes. The basic goal of the ride is to visit a minimum of seven of the memorials featured for the riding year. Riders completing the seven stops and getting a picture of their ride flag at the memorials will receive a certificate and a Tour of Honor pin. There are well over 200 memorials listed for 2014, and what makes this year even more special is that the Tour of Honor lists the Red Knights memorial in Boylston as one of those listed in the program. Each year there are all different memorials listed for riders to visit.



Trophies are awarded to the first three riders to visit all of the destinations in a state (or region). The "Jack Shoalmire Achievement Award" will be awarded to the person visiting the most memorial sites during the riding year.

For more information on the Tour of Honor visit <http://www.tourof Honor.com/> . Put this year-long journey on your “to do” list for 2015. On April 1, 2015 the listing of next year’s memorial will be made available. Sign up, solo – or sign up with other Red Knights and other riders, and participate in honoring our veterans and other emergency responders by visiting the memorials around the United States that are in place to honor all their sacrifices.

MA15's ALPHABET GRAND TOUR/WALSH & KENNEDY MEMORIAL RUN



Robert Laford

Last fall, some members of MA15 decided to tackle the Alphabet portion of the Grand Tour. After trying to figure out the route we'd take, we chose to complete the entire tour completely outside of Massachusetts. After weeks of planning routes, stops and accommodations, we were prepared for the ride. On Wednesday March 26, 2014, Boston Fire and the entire fire service suffered a great loss. Fire Lieutenant Walsh and Firefighter Kennedy lost their lives while battling a 9 alarm blaze in Boston's Back Bay. MA15 took a vote and agreed to make the alphabet tour a fund raiser for the families of our two fallen brothers. Each firehouse that we included in our route was contacted and given information regarding our plan to visit and the purpose, lot's of them donated to the Walsh and Kennedy Memorial Fund.

On Monday June 2, 2014 at 0600hrs, MA15 met at the Dunkin' Donuts on Rt.138 in Canton, MA and headed toward Scranton, PA to start our tour. Dunmore Fire Department was our first stop, upon arrival we learned that the firefighters on duty were at a working fire. No sooner than the covering companies arrived, they were immediately put to work when a gas tanker dumped over 25 gallons of fuel across the street at a gas station. During our stops we encountered a full length basketball court on the third floor of Pittston's firehouse and Kingston Fire provided a fire and police escort to the interstate. The hospitality was overwhelming and that didn't change at all during the entire tour. That day we rode over 440 miles and visited 6 firehouses, finally stopping in Mill Hall, PA for the night.

Day two started with the rain and a slow pace, we were expected to be in Pittsburgh at the Quail Volunteer Fire District by 0930hrs. We arrived at 1030hrs to a billboard display welcoming Red Knights MA15 along with coffee and donuts.



We also witnessed a "Cold Water Challenge" that a Quail firefighter completed and donated the funds to the Walsh and Kennedy Memorial Fund. After the slow start we got a boost of energy from the support and kindness. We visited 6 firehouses on Tuesday, and finished our 500 mile day in Niagara Falls.

Wednesday was to be the busiest day yet, we had 14 firehouses to visit and still make it to Lake George before we could rest. We were invited to eat breakfast at the Eggertsville Hose Co. in Buffalo, NY. They fed us well and Blake Strom of NY 21 escorted us for 4 more stops. After leaving the Buffalo area we were off to the Rochester area. Brighton Fire was the first stop, a great bunch of guys over there greeted us with patches and challenge coins. Ridge-Culver was next, at that station we met Chief Craig Akins who is the chief of West Webster. West Webster was the home of firefighters Mike Chiapperini and Tomasz Kaczowka, brothers that were gunned down while performing their duties on Christmas Eve 2012.

Chief Akins asked if we would like an escort to the next stop. He made a 2 minute phone call and asked if we were ready. Chief Akins' pick up truck had strobe lights so it seemed that he was our escort. As we merged onto the interstate I saw emergency vehicles pulled over to the right and I thought that it may have been an accident scene. We moved closer to the emergency vehicles and they started to pull in front of the bikes and take up the rear also. The rest of the escort had arrived. It was an awesome sight to see, especially without prior notice but what else should you expect from firefighters? At our final stop of the tour we visited Victor Fire Department. The station was not manned but the great guys at Fishers Fire Department had phoned Steve Lamarco, a Victor firefighter, to meet us there. Steve was also the department Chaplain, he asked could he pray for our safety before we hit the road to Lake George. So thanks to Jordan Kesel and Richard Loce of Fishers for making that call. Throughout that entire day we met some awesome brothers and sisters in the fire service. We finally arrived at Lake George on Wednesday night @ 2100hrs. After over 1400 miles in just 3 days we completed the Alphabet.



The Other Country
New Jersey State Association of Red Knights
From the desk of NJ State Association President/Rep
Matthew Mattera

Well, I thought I would share a few things that have occurred throughout the Other Country during 2014. We started the year off with our 1st Annual “After Christmas” Party. This was held at the Independence Fire Company in Palmyra, NJ on January 11, 2014. We had over 70 Red Knights from Maryland to Massachusetts in attendance. There was good food, great conversations, dancing and plenty of fun! We were honored to have in attendance our International President, Chris Gadway and Region 1 Director Norm Beausoleil. During the party, President Gadway presented the NJ State Association with the International President’s Award for our tireless work in making the State Association successful and for “Getting it!”. If you don’t know what “Getting it” means, well, then you don’t. But I would be glad to help you understand, so ask me the next time you see me or shoot me an email. Anyway, it was a great evening and thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended.

The day after the “After Christmas” Party was our NJ State Association Annual Business Meeting at the same location. This was possibly the best attended meeting in the NJ State Association history. This is surprising, considering the level of “Festivities” the night before. During this meeting we decided to create the NJ State Association Red Knight of the year award, to be known as the Barry Stires Award. Barry was a Red Knight to be all Red Knights. He lived and breathed Red Knights and was respected and loved by all who knew him. We will be presenting our first Barry Stires Award on January 10, 2015. The selection process is underway.

Many NJ Red Knights attended the Dixie Rally in Virginia Beach, as did many others from Region 1. We all had a blast! The riding was awesome, and the brotherhood was even better! I thoroughly enjoy visiting with my brothers and sisters. Many amazing memories were made that will last a lifetime. Unlike the seagull who committed suicide on my helmet on the ride home.



In June we held our annual NJ State “Pignic” in Yardville, NJ. This event was hosted by NJ 14 who did an outstanding job! This was very well attended and we all had a blast. Great food, fun games and of course, brotherhood! We even allowed a few non-residents of the Other Country to attend. Next time, please remember your passports.

As you all know, in July we attended the International Convention in Prince Edward Island. Although the trip there was quite wet, it was well worth it! The scenery was incredible. When I’m asked what Prince Edward Island is like, I say it looks like a mini Ireland. Rolling green hills filled with pastures, potato fields as far as the eye can see and stunning beauty where the sea and land meet. It truly was an amazing trip. Scott and Tanya, along with all of the PEI Red Knights, out did themselves with their hospitality. I don’t think they ever said no to anything. It was always, “Let me see what we can do.” We all enjoyed ourselves thoroughly!



At the banquet, I was completely humbled when informed I was being presented the Outstanding Contribution Award. I have all of the Red Knights of New Jersey to thank for that award. Without your help, we would not all be where we are now. I again thank you all!

In September, the New Jersey State Firemen's Convention was held in Wildwood, NJ. For the second year, NJ Red Knights rode in the NJ State Firemen's Parade. With over 60 Red Knights in attendance, we awed the crowd. They loved us! The only thing louder than their cheers was our pipes. Due to that, for the second year in a row, we were awarded First Place Special Judges Award. It was a proud moment for all who attended, especially for me. Wildwood is my hometown.

As this year comes to a close, I would like to thank all NJ Red Knights for all your hard work in making the Other Country a shining star within the Red Knights organization. I look forward to working with you all to continue make the Other Country the best it can be! Ride safe and as always, RED KNIGHTS FOREVER!!

Matthew Mattera
 NJ State Association of Red Knights President
 Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club, NJ Chapter 31 President
 South Jersey Trifecta

Loyal to our Duty

5th annual "Comedy Night & Tricky Tray Extravaganza



Saturday Oct 4, 2014 our chapter hosted our 5th annual "Comedy Night & Tricky Tray Extravaganza" at the Colonia Fire Dept. in the Colonia section of Woodbridge Twp, NJ.

We hosted 125 people to a night of food, drinks, 3 comedians and 80 tricky tray baskets.

The event was held to benefit Megan Knight.

Megan is a 7 year old girl & the youngest of three girls in her family.

She has been fighting a brain tumor since she was 4 years old.

With the generous help from our neighbors & the business community, like NAPA Auto Parts of Colonia, Knock On Wood LLC in Iselin, Schmalz's European Provisions in Springfield, Edison PBA Local #75, and many others, NJ Chapter XI was able to donate a check for \$4,000.00 to Megan's mother Toni.

Most of the food was donated from local restaurants & pizzerias, and some was cooked by our members.

It is with great pride that I am reporting the success of our chapter to the family of Red Knights everywhere.

We are proud to be Red knights.

Red Knights For Ever !

Loyal to our Duty,

Ed Sena
 President
 RK NJ Chapter XI



From the desk of the RKM NJ 31 Public Relations Representative
Stephanie Fowle

New Jersey 31 has had a busy and wonderfully fun year. In January it was proposed that we change our official chapter location to Middle Township. This encompasses a larger area and seemed more inclusive; part of our vision that we want to show through in our actions. Also at the start of the year, a chapter mileage challenge was started. We also want our club to reflect our purpose; to be a riding club. (I look forward to finding out who wins. I know it won't be me.) January 11, 2014, fourteen members attended the First NJ State After Christmas Party and had a wonderful time with members throughout the state and others who bravely ventured into the "Other Country".

An official chapter patch was created and approved. We love it and look forward to our banner that should be in soon that will include the patch picture.

The Safety Course available on the International website was presented at the February meeting for the second year. What a great way to start thinking about the riding season and prepare to ride as a group.

On May 10th members enjoyed NJ 16-NJ 23's Poker Run. For those who don't know, NJ 31, NJ 16 and NJ 23 have formed the South Jersey Trifecta; covering the southernmost three counties in the state (Cape May, Cumberland and Atlantic). May also found a few members in Virginia Beach, attending the Dixie Rally for a fun time.

In June, eight of us attended the state Pignic hosted by NJ 14. Great job NJ 14! July 8th we met for a dinner ride to Red Sky Café'. Also in July, nine members ventured to Prince Edward Island for the International Convention. While there we completed the 12 Station Tour with 19 bikes and 23 participants. We were excited when Chapter President Matt Mattera received the Outstanding Contributions Award.

At the July meeting we created an official chapter position of Hospitality Director, with Smooches Roun being voted into this position unanimously.

Summer meetings became potluck lunches as well as business. What a yummy and productive season. I think all that food fueled our brains to create great ideas! Our RED KNIGHTS patch run was cancelled due to weather, but we'll do it next year. Crabby's Restaurant Run was held August 11th and August 23rd was the 3rd Annual Wing Run. Congratulations Allan Cropper, the 2014 Wing King with 80 wings! (Do you see a food theme happening?)

Fall was particularly busy. On September 6th, members attended the ride for Barry Stires in Phillipsburg, NJ. I found that I really CAN ride in the rain. We hosted an escorted ride on 9/11 to the Sunset Beach Flag Ceremony followed by vitals at a firehouse. I love rides where they stop all the traffic. It was so nice to have such a large number of members from throughout the state join us; a great time of fellowship. September 13th we coordinated participation in the NJ State Firemen's Parade. Over 50 Red Knights participated. Thank you everyone from everywhere who rode in the parade. What a way to make the Red Knights look good! We won first place Special Judges Award for the second year (this was our second time in the parade).

October found us representing at the Gold Star Parents weekend by escorting them to events on both Thursday and Saturday. On October 5th we held a very successful Poker run. I think we tripled our goal and made a \$2500 donation to the Forgotten Warriors Vietnam Museum in Lower Township.

November 25th we joined NJ 16 and NJ 23 for the first 2015 KORT Planning meeting. Yes, you read that right: The South Jersey Trifecta will be hosting the 2015 KORT in Vineland NJ! Stay tuned, as you won't want to miss this event right here in our home state.

Members also represented at at-least six other Poker and Welcome Home runs over the year.



All our teamwork paid off. We have had membership applications to consider at almost every meeting this year, with 10 new members. Join NJ 31: Everyone's doing it!
 But the best part is we treat our chapter like family. Yes, family doesn't always agree, but we move on and work together no matter what. We enjoy each other's company. That is what it's all about. The simple things; family, friendship, and love. And I feel doubly blessed to know that wherever I go, I also have the extended family of Red Knights.

1st Annual Yankee Rally

Registration forms and fee should be mailed via USPS to:

RKMC NY 12
 c/o Bob Hollner
 10C Smith Road
 Mechanicville NY 12118

Make checks/money order payable to: RED KNIGHTS CHAPTER 12 YANKEE RALLY

Registration will start on November 10, 2014 and will be closed on March 1, 2015.

ALL REGISTRATIONS MUST BE PAID BY CHECK/MONEY ORDER. NO CASH, CREDIT OR PAYPAL & ARE NON-REFUNDABLE
 THIS IS A PACKAGE DEAL ONLY
 THIS IS A FAMILY ORIENTED EVENT! BRING THE KIDS!

Dates:	Friday	May 29, 2015
	Saturday	May 30, 2015
	Sunday	May 31, 2015

Host Hotel:

Clifton Park Comfort Suites
 7 Northside Drive
 Clifton Park, NY 12065
 Phone: (518) 373-2255

Secondary Hotels

Best Western Clifton Park
 Phone: 518-371-1181
 Holiday Inn Express Clifton Park
 Phone: 518-579-3003

* When reserving your room you must tell them you are with the Red Knights Motorcycle Club Yankee Rally to get our group rate*
 The HOST hotel is pet friendly!

There are camp sites available at:

Deer Run Campground
 200 Deer Run Dr, Schaghticoke, NY 12154
 Phone: (518) 664-2804

The campground is approximately 9.3 miles from the host hotel

Lunch will be available on site for a minimal cost:

Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Chips and Soft Beverages will be served(NOT included in registration fee)

Friday night is a BYOB in the hospitality room
 Saturday will be a Pig Roast (included in registration fee)
 Sunday will be a Farewell Breakfast (included in registration fee)

This event is FAMILY FRIENDLY!
 There is a separate registration form for children age 12 and under.



Red Knights MC, Ontario 1

2014 Year End Report



Randy Smith
President

As the 2014 riding season winds down, we'd like to update the RKMC family as to the activities of Ontario 1. We are the Toronto and GTA chapter, currently based in the east end of the city of Toronto.

This season was definitely not the warmest, but that didn't slow us down. Rides took place at a steady pace, and covered distances from Bobcaygeon to Charlottetown. Here are a few highlights from 2014. Not all events/rides/meetings are listed.

June - "Americade" (the largest touring rally in the world) in Lake George NY is a favorite destination of Red Knights. This year was no exception, and on June 6 the Lake George firehall was turned into a banquet hall for Red Knights from all over North America. This is one of those rallies that is a "must" for Knights. Next year Ontario 1 will be changing our "base of operations" to Diamond Point, just outside of Lake George. We'll be at a beautiful property, right on the lake with its own beach. Bookings will be done the first week of January. Other chapters are welcome to call us for details.

June also saw Bobcaygeon Bikefest combined with a chapter meeting. Great day, great fun! Thanks to Ron and Doreen Roberge for hosting.

July - Several Ontario 1 members attended the international Red Knights convention, held in Charlottetown PEI. A beautiful location, and a well run event brought together 520 Red Knights from around the world. Also, a great get-together at V-P Abe Beebeejaun's cottage. Q. How many boats do we need at a bike club meeting?

August - The Ontario RKMC convention was held at the Waterloo Inn and was another opportunity to enjoy a weekend of good fun and great riding. A Saturday banquet led to a fantastic performance



by one of the top Elvis performers anywhere! The after-parties went late into the night, but we all kept our rooms (I think).

Also in August, Ontario 1 hosted a 30th anniversary ride and party at Sandbanks Provincial Park. Many thanks to Adrian Biafore and Trish Purkiss for doing the lion's share of the organization. We were joined by Red Knights from 5 other Ontario chapters for this one! We unveiled our 30th anniversary t-shirt, designed by Toronto FF Chris Godin. It was a hit, and most popular sizes are sold out. If there is sufficient interest, we will consider a second run.



Ontario 1 30th anniversary ride at Sandbanks

September –Thanks to Leigh and Harold Prentice for hosting, feeding and taking everyone on a scenic ride of the Millbrook area.

Our final event for the year will be our Christmas Party/AGM on November 23, where elections will be held for the Executive. It promises to be a lot of fun, and a great way to end the season.

Changes this year included the frequency and timing of meetings, as well as an updating of the Constitution and Bylaws to reflect the realities of 2014. Our meetings are now bi-monthly, held on weekend mornings, with a brunch and often a ride afterwards. We went without an official Road Captain for the first time in anyone's memory, but still made it everywhere safely and on time (usually). We will be looking to fill several positions on the Executive for 2015, and are welcoming new members from the TFS as well as other area Fire Departments.

Ontario 1 was chartered in 1984. With a proud history, and some bold ideas, we are really looking forward to 2015. You are invited to contact us for information about becoming a member of Ontario 1. We can be reached at 416-727-7135, 416-618-4346, www.redknightsontario1.com, adrianredknightson1@gmail.com or our Facebook page Red Knights Ontario I. Our Twitter feed is @RKMC_ON1.

Have a great off-season. We hope to see you at the bike shows over the winter.



Ontario Chapter 13

ON 13 has had another very successful riding season thanks to our Road Captain Doug Tinney. From the first weekend of January when we helped to man the Ontario Association's booth at the Toronto Motorcycle Super Show till our Colour Ride in mid-October we had something to do almost every weekend. Our ride schedule was packed with interesting rides like the Dexter (NY) chicken BBQ in May, the Firefighter's memorial service at the Ontario Fire College in June and the Wine and Cheese run in September.

Eleven members had a great time at the International Convention in Charlottetown in July and in August a number of us attend the Association 6 (Ontario) Rally in Waterloo. Kudos to the organizers of both these events as a great time was had by all. We are looking forward to the 2015 Ontario Rally as we will be hosting it.

Scott's Ride for Bucko is held in September of each year in honour and memory of former Bewdley Fire Chief Scott Robinson who died on April 1, 2004. All proceeds from the annual ride are donated to Camp Bucko, a **Burn Camp for Kids in Ontario**. In 2008 ON13 formally took over running the ride as it had become more than the small original group of firefighters and friends could handle. ON 13 member Ken Stewart currently chairs the event and each year takes the ride to an all new level of success! To date more than \$25,000 from the ride have been donated to this very worthy cause.



Participants in the 2014 Scott's Ride for Bucko.



Ontario Chapter 13



Red Knights Ontario 19 hosted the third annual Charity Motorcycle Poker Challenge Ride on Saturday August 23, 2014. This year we had 26 registered, the ride took them on a scenic tour of the area. On return participants were entertained by local musician, Bruce McElroy and enjoyed a delicious barbecue.

On October 1st, members of the Red Knights Ont 19 presented Donna Robinson, coordinator of the R.O.L.L. Center Foodbank, with a cheque for \$720.00 which gives us a total of \$2860.92 over the past three years.

The Red Knights, On19 are already working on plans for next year's Charity Ride and look forward to doubling the number of participants and money raised.

Dale Findlay
Secretary ON19

Region 3



Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club ® Inc.

Office of the Region 3 Director

**256 Bell Boulevard
Weirton, West Virginia, 26062
1-304-797-9641
region3@redknightsmc.com**

This has been a pretty good year for Region 3.

Startups of New Chapters:

Kentucky 7 – Pine Knot, KY

Ohio 4 – Xenia, OH

Wisconsin 6 – Eau Claire, WI

Ohio 17 – Gallipolis, OH

Illinois 22 – Morton, IL

Region 3 will have their 2014 Regional Meeting in the Columbus area the beginning of June. We are planning a ride to the Central Ohio Fire Museum. In addition, all members needing “X” for their World tour can pick it up on the way in to the meeting or on their way out of town. Xenia is about 15 or 20 miles from the Hotels we are looking at. When all prices and availability are firmed up all Chapter Presidents will be contacted so we can get a better idea of how many rooms to block out.

PA33 did or was at the following during this year so far:

Attended riding/planning/informational meeting for PA chapters in January along with many other PA and NJ chapters. Attended the 10th annual Bunny Run hosted by PA15 Easter Saturday. Expanded our Wednesday night dinner runs to 1st and 3rd Wed May-September. Attended NY42's Bucket Brigade Ride to benefit the Wounded Warriors Project along with several other PA chapters. Attended NJ State Association picnic along with several PA chapters. Attended the Barry L Stires plaque dedication and memorial ride in NJ with several hundred other Red Knights Chapter took in 6 new members

PA-37 is doing it second annual Toys for Tots toy drive this year, in conjunction with Dollar General of California, PA, Roscoe, PA and Normalville, PA.

Donations can be made at any of these three locations and in December, we will deliver them to the distribution location at Donora Fire Department, Donora PA. Last year we presented 8 boxes full of toys for the needy children of the Mon Valley, this year we are hoping to triple that donation

IL5 once again participated in their Dave E. Sessions Memorial ride in June with the proceeds going to the Dave. E. Sessions Scholarship fund and St. Judes Hospital

IL 9 in August hosted their Ride to Fight Hunger benefiting Alicia's House with all monies going to Alicia's to help buy food for local families.

WV6 held their fifth annual Poker Run to benefit the local Coats for Kids program and their own Victims of Fire fund. VOF is to immediately give a \$50 gift card per person living in a house in the area tha WV6 covers

that have experienced a fire. This is done so that the family members can go out and get essentials to put some normalcy back into their life immediately after the fire.



PA8 hosted a run to benefit PAAR (Pittsburgh Action Against Rape), a cigar run to benefit Wounded Warriors Project, and just completed their Chapter Run to the Flight 93 memorial. PA8 is also just starting the planning for the 2018 RKIFMC convention in Pittsburgh.

WI chapters are working with Monty Timm, State Association Representative, in putting the final touches on the 2016 RKIFMC convention to be held in the Wisconsin Dells.

Region 4



Event: 343 Memorial Ride

Event Sponsor: Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club: North Carolina Chapter 6. The Red Knights are a non-profit social motorcycle club consisting entirely of firefighters and their families. The RKMC has been around since 1983 and currently has almost 10,000 members worldwide with over 380 individual chapters.

Date/Time of Event: September 14, 2014 with all bikes out at 1:00 pm. sharp.

Location of Event: Carolina Coast Harley Davidson

Purpose of Event: To bring attention to the anniversary of the 9/11/2001 attack on the World Trade Center, during which 343 of our fellow firefighters lost their lives in service of humanity. The purpose of this ride is primarily to honor the memory of all those who died on that date in general and the lives of our 343 brothers from the Fire Service in particular.

Event Details: The 343 Memorial Ride will leave under police and fire escort, at 1:00 pm from CCHD and proceed through Wilmington, out Market St. to Gordon Rd. to Military Cutoff Dr. to Oleander Drive to 3rd St. to MLK Parkway and returning down Market St. to Britt Motorsports. Each of the first 343 motorcycles registered will receive a “dog tag” upon which will be engraved the name of one firefighter who lost his life in the attack on the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001, and that motorcycle will ride, representing the memory of that firefighter. Every motorcycle participating in the Ride will receive a special 2014 343 Memorial Ride vest pin. Post ride activities for 343 Memorial Ride participants will include a food, beverages, live music, special presentations, fun and fellowship. Proceeds from this event will be used to benefit the **North Carolina Jaycee Burn Center**. Riders may register at Britt Motorsports during their regular business hours anytime from Aug 1st until 12:30 pm, Sunday, September 14, 2014. The cost of registration is \$20.00 per motorcycle and an additional \$10.00 per passenger.

Event Spokespersons: Jack Jarvis, Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club/North Carolina Chapter 6, RKIFMC International Vice President.
Email: Parrothead288@yahoo.com Phone: (910) 297-7932

Region 5



RKMC MN4

“Fire Fighters Fighting Cancer” This has become an annual benefit ride and dinner we have been hosting for 4 years now. The ride has continued to grow and become a way for us to give to our brothers in need. The unfortunate part of the Benefit is that we have always had an individual with relations to the club battling some form of cancer. We have been able to raise approximately \$25,000 over those 4 years. It has been given to our members sons, wives and sisters.

We have continued to grow this past year in membership adding 12 new members. Besides the benefit Ride, we have Dinner Rides at least 2 times a month and often put together Grand Tour Rides. The past 2 winters we have also incorporated “Cage” rides so we can stay in touch.

The past few months we have spent much time on planning our 10 year anniversary ride for 2015.

MN4 extends our prayers and thoughts to all our active and retired brothers and their families. May you all be healthy and happy and especially able to continue rolling on 2 wheels.

Region 6



Region 6 Newsletter Report

I am Joe “ChickenJoe” Connors the new Director for Region 6. Just a little about me before I get started. I am a founder and life member of the North Star Volunteer Fire Department. There were 12 of us that were concerned about the loss of lives and property to fire in the area between North Pole Alaska and Fairbanks Alaska. We started in 1974 by passing a hat, collected \$17 and started the fire department. From then on NSVFD has grown into a well-oiled rural fire department. With strong ties to the community and the fire services, in general. Interestingly enough many of the members/firefighters of NSVFD have gone on to become Chief Officers of paid departments.

There is much more I can say about myself but I will leave it up to you to check out my bio on the International Officers link on the RKIFMC webpage.



I am very excited and humbled to serve as the Region 6 Director. I have some big shoes to follow our previous Director Flint Breeding, who is a good friend and mentor. I have already started working for the Region and within the 10 states I have in Region 6. Since July I have mailed out 200 informational packets to fire departments in each state in Region 6. It is important that we get our brand out in these states since we do not have much of a presents there. Many hours of work have gone into finding mailing addresses for those fire departments. We have now identified most of the larger fire departments and have made contact with them. The next project will come after the first of the year when we will send out another 200 informational packets.

I recently had the privilege to attend KORT, Knights Of The Round Table with the Green Knights and Blue Knights. I have to admit the Green Knights took all the awards except one which the Red Knights won. Next year KORT will be hosted by the Red Knights in Southern New Jersey. I expect we will fare better then.

I was able to make the RKIMC BOD meeting in Syracuse, NY, I have always wondered what those guys had to talk about for almost 4 days, well I found out. When you have an International Board and the MC is worldwide then there is a lot of business to do.

Lastly, the 2015 Convention in San Antonio, Texas is on track, if you can possibly make it then do you will not be disappointed. So much is happening in San Antonio that you will not find enough time to access every event venue.

So as we say down here, " Ya'll Come On Down For Some Of That Texas Hospitality" for we will have a great time.

Joe Connors

Director, Region 6

RedKnights OK 7 is inviting everyone to
"Burning up Rt 66" bike rally @ Rt 66 Biker camp grounds in Depew Ok.
April 24,25 & 26, 2015 ! OK 7 will be hosting the state meeting of the
RedKnight & our benefit for the Oklahoma FF Burn Camp.

We hope to see ya then!
Thanks, "Wally" Pres OK 7



European Meeting September 2014 Brugge, Belgium

(Article written by Steve Williamson, President, England 2 & Regional Reporter, Europe)

The 2014 European Meeting was hosted by Belgium 2 in Brugge, it was the culmination of two years hard work by them and as always their members should be congratulated on their hospitality and the great success of the weekend's event which was attended by over 200 Red Knights from Belgium, France, Germany, Netherlands, Ireland, Wales, Switzerland, Austria and England.

The Guest of Honor was one of our Founding Fathers, Region 1 Director Norm Beausoleil. Norm first visited the Red Knights in Europe in 2013 when he attended the first UK/Ireland meeting but this was his first visit to main land Europe and he was warmly welcomed by all those present.

Friday night saw the registration of attendees followed by an evening of music and meeting old and new friends and of course a few beers.



On Saturday riders set off in groups on a planned route which took them through the Belgium countryside to a local fire station for lunch, the town square was soon full of Red Knights and their motorcycles providing a real spectacle for the locals. Following lunch it was back on the motorcycles, again in small groups for a rendezvous at Brugge's main fire station from where the 190 motorcycles had a Police escort into the Town Hall Square in Brugge for a welcome and speech by one of the City's Dignitaries.

On Saturday evening a cheque for 1500 euros raised by Belgium 2 at their charity weekend in June was presented to the parents of Alexine Clarysse. Alexine died of leukaemia at 7 years of age and her parents formed the Alexine Clarysse Foundation charity to help fund continuing research into this horrible disease.





Following the cheque presentation and on behalf of Chris Gadway our International President, Norm Beausoleil presented two President's Awards for Dedicated Service to the Red Knights to Harris Puisais (right), President of France 1 and Steve Williamson, President of England 2 (left). Tom Tom Delboi, Steve W, Harris P, Norm B Both Harris and Steve were very surprised to receive such an award but were truly honored to do so.

The meeting came to a close on Sunday morning with members either returning home or extending their holiday and traveling further afield, but one thing is for sure, all had a great time with new friendships being formed and old ones

strengthened.

Next years European meeting will be hosted by Switzerland 2 and will be held 11th to 13th September 2015 in Sumiswald, Switzerland.

WELL DONE BELGIUM 2 for a great weekend!

A BUSY 2014 FOR BELGIUM 2

(Information provided by Belgium 2, Article written by Steve Williamson, President, England 2 & Regional Reporter, Europe)

Belgium 2 have had a busy 2014 starting off with their annual charity Gathering of the Knights BBQ and Charity Ride in June and finishing by hosting the RKMC European Meeting where members from across Europe gathered for Europe's main event of the year.

14th June was the date for the BBQ for Red Knights that was hosted at Oostkamp Fire Station near Brugge where 60 guests from Belgium, Netherlands, Germany, Switzerland and England were in attendance. As usual the hospitality of Buba, Belgium 2's President and his members was excellent, great food, plenty to drink and fantastic company was the order of the night.

Belgium 2's Gathering of the Knights BBQ





A ceremony for the enrolment of Belgium 2's newest member, Christof Vandenberghe also took place at the BBQ on the Saturday night and was performed by their President, Koen `Buba` Vanthyne and the President of England 2, Steve Williamson.



The annual charity ride took place on Sunday 15th June, the event gets bigger every year with 330 motorcycles taking part this year, some of them also had pillions on board swelling the numbers. Two scenic routes were planned and sign posted, one for the morning and one for the afternoon this meant riders returned to the fire station for lunch and to socialize, again the Belgium 2 crew worked hard to keep everyone fed and watered ready for the afternoon ride. The final amount raised for the local Children's' Cancer Charity, the Alexine Clarysse Foundation was 1500 euros and a cheque for

that amount was presented to the parents of Alexine, who sadly died of Leukaemia at the age of 7, at the European meeting on the 13th of September.

Belgium 4

(Information provided by Belgium 4, Article written by Steve Williamson, President, England 2 & Regional Reporter, Europe)



Belgium 4 were formed in November 2012 and have celebrated their 1st Anniversary in the past year, members from France 1 and Belgium 1 & 2. joined them in their celebrations.



Members from Belgium 1, 2 & 4 and France 1 at the 1st Anniversary party

Among the activities the Chapter has taken part in were:

- Traffic in collaboration with the Blue Knights Belgium Day. (learning mastery of the bike, and emergency lifesaving, first aid etc. ... braking)
- Annual Dinner Club



- Participation at the European Meeting in Paris (France) in 2013 and again in Brugge in 2014
- Organisation of a ride reserved for firefighter bikers.
- Securing the motorcade Televie (association for the fight against children's cancer)

The Chapter was also one of those honored with a visit by our International President and Secretary during their visit to the European Meeting in 2013.



Belgium 4 is holding a Christmas Market so that people can get to know their chapter and to raise funds for the Association Pinocchio, Sporting Society which cares for children with severe burns. You can visit their website for more information.

<http://www.vzw-Pinocchio-asbl.be/index.php/fr/>

RED KNIGHTS® BELGIUM 4

VOUS INVITE A SON MARCHÉ DE NOËL

DU 19 AU 22 DÉCEMBRE 2014

PLACE VERTE 7060 SOIGNIES

Dégustation de Bière Ferrée
T'chaud Café
Toasts aux Champignons

Partageons un moment de fraternité autour d'un bon feu de bois

www.belgium4.be
www.facebook.com/RedKnightsBelgium4



Pascale Fadier

2014 was a sad year for Belgium 4 and all European Red Knights due to the sad loss of one of their members, Pascale Fadier, an active member was killed on 31/05/2014 during a motorcycle accident. Many Red Knights from all over Europe attended the funeral to take part in the Guard of Honour and the motorcycle escort.

More information and pictures of Belgium 4's activities, can be seen by visiting their website: www.belgium4.be

SWITZERLAND 1 SUPPORT CHILDRENS' BURNS UNIT

Since founding in 2009 the Chapter Switzerland 1 has his charity committed to the Childrens' Hospital in Zürich, especially to those children with severe burn wounds.

This hospital is one of a few in Switzerland who is specialized in care after severe burns.

We collect money at meetings, national as international and a part from our chapter sales goes into the charity project

On August 24, 2014 we could donate 2000 Swiss Francs for the second time since founding.



The money will be spent for items for which the hospital has normally no budget. It supports parents who cannot afford travelling expenses or have to spend a hotel night to be near their children who are often in the hospital for months and months.

Our project became a face after we met Guus, a 7 year old Dutch boy with second and third degree burns. He is a very brave little man looking forward to go back to school and home which will be possible after a stay from about 4-5 months.

We visited him a second time, made some pictures and promised him a BBQ at our Clubhouse when he gets well. His parents are OK with publishing his picture on our Webpage and in this article



SWITZERLAND 2 HAVE A BIG YEAR AHEAD IN 2015

The RKMC Chapter Switzerland 2 was founded on 08/11/2012 in Bern, the capital of Switzerland. Among the 14 charter members, 4 came from Chapter Switzerland 1 and though we are a small chapter, we have lots of fun together and do lots of things together riding and socialising.

As charity project for which we raise money, we have chosen the Theodora Foundation, established in 1993. They fund Giggle Doctors who bring magic moments to children in hospitals.

Most of the dates for 2015 are not fixed yet, but we will start the New Year as usual on the first Sunday in January with our Reception on 4th January 2015.

The most important occasion in 2015 will be the European Convention, taking place in Sumiswald from 11 to 13 September 2015. Each Red Knight is cordially welcome.

For further information, visit us on www.rkmc.ch.

SWITZERLAND 1'S ANNUAL EVENT

Switzerland 1 will be holding their annual event on the first weekend in May 2015 and would like to invite all Red Knights along to their party. Not only will you have a great time but you will also be helping Switzerland 1 in their charity work with the Childrens' Burns Hospital. Invitations will be sent out to in due course so put that weekend in your diary.

Red Knights forever

Tom "Sparks" Hoedjes
President Switzerland 1

Are you READY?

Excerpts from the Riding Well column in the May edition of Rider Magazine by Eric Trow [For all of us] the term "T-CLOCKS" should ring a bell. Even if you do not remember the exact terms for the acronym, chances are you remember that you should give your bike the once-over before you throttle out of the driveway. Why not ask ourselves if we are R.E.A.D.Y. for the ride by performing our own mental checklist?

"R" is for RELAXED — Before starting and ride, let's make sure that we are relaxed as possible. That means our stress level is low, our temper is even, our mind and heart are not racing and we are focused on riding.

"E" is for EQUIPPED — Whether we are riding across the country or across town or just across the street, let's think twice about the gear we are wearing. It's easy to hop on the bike and pull away for a short ride. But trouble can —and does— happen close to home.

"A" means ANTICIPATE — Before any ride, take the time to think about what you may encounter while you are on your ride and identify factors that could affect your safety. What might be waiting for you just up the road this particular day and time?

"D" is for DRUG and ALCOHOL FREE.

"Y" Stands for YIELD — We should be ready to yield to other drivers. By deciding before you ride how you will respond to others will help you keep a cooler head should a situation [with another vehicle operator] arise. By taking a couple minutes before hitting the start button, we can complete our personal pre-ride check. Then we can be READY for a fun and safer day of riding.



A GOOD YEAR FOR FRANCE III

(Information provided by France 3,

Article written by Steve Williamson, President, England 2 & Regional Reporter, Europe)



RKMC France Chapter 3

France Chapter 3 have had a good 12 months celebrating their first anniversary and the visit of our International Secretary, Bill 'Popeye' Snodgrass and President, Chris 'Zippy' Gadway.

Bill & Chris visited several chapters during their visit to the European Meeting in 2013, they were shown around fire stations and had the opportunity to look at some of the fire fighting equipment.



Bill and Chris with members of France 3



The Chapter continues to grow as you can see from the photograph of the new members' enrolment ceremony opposite, and it was pleasing to have members from other Chapters attended this ceremony along with the European President, Pierre Halleux. (far right)

New Members at their Enrolment Ceremony

One of the highlights of the year was the 90km charity ride for Jeremy, a young boy with cerebral palsy where 130 motorcycles took part plus members from RKMC France 3, Belgium 1 and 5. 700 euros was raised for him.



Some of the motorcycles attending the Charity Ride



Jeremy going for a ride

As you can see here Jeremy had a great day.

To see more pictures of these events go to France 3's webpage at : www.redknights-france3.fr



UK & IRELAND SCENE

(Written by Steve Williamson, President, England 2 & Regional Reporter, Europe)

With the number of Red Knights steadily growing in the UK / Ireland, we now have members in England, Scotland, Wales and Southern Ireland, it was felt in 2013 that we should have a get together, following on from that first successful meeting organized by England 2 in 2013, where we were honored to have a Founder Member of the Red Knights, Norm Beausoleil in attendance, Ireland 1 were the hosts for 2014.

Some of the Knights who took part in the ride out



The meeting took place in Cork, Southern Ireland and was attended by members of the Red Knights, Blue Knights, White Knights and Green Knights. Anthony O'Donoghue, Ireland 1's President, and his team did a fantastic job in the organizing of the event which included an enjoyable scenic ride around the Eire country side on the Saturday including a visit to the 9/11 Memorial Garden in Kinsale.

The Ride Out was well led by Ger Barriscale (Barney), Ireland 1's Road Captain but unfortunately he could do nothing about the Irish weather which lived up to its reputation and we all got a good soaking during the ride.

The Kinsale Garden of Remembrance was established by a Kinsale lady, Kathleen Cait Murphy who worked as a nurse for over 30 years in New York City. During that time she came to admire the work of the fireman and was shocked at the deaths of 343 of their number who died in 9/11.

As a result she decided to provide a memorial in Ireland, on her land at Ringfinnan, Kinsale, with a tree for each of the firemen who died as well as one for their chaplain Father Michael Judge who was a personal friend of hers.

A name plaque for each of the 343 Fireman and Father Michael is at the foot of the trees. Since the garden was planted many relatives and friends of the dead have come to visit and leave prayers, photographs and flowers there.



The 343 Sculpture at the 9/11 Gardens

Since the first chapter was formed in England in 2011 there has been an increase of members on this side of the pond to a point where we now have three chapters and several more MALs, recently we had our first member in Scotland join our numbers as a MAL and our numbers in Wales are on the increase too.



Get Bizzy for Izzy

Ireland 1's 1000 miles in 24 hour challenge

An account of the challenge written by Ger Barriscale, Ireland 1's Road Captain

Izzy O Connell is the six year old daughter of Stephen O Connell a firefighter with Cork City Fire Brigade. Last February Izzy was diagnosed with a cancerous brain tumour and following a twelve hour operation has bravely been undergoing Radiotherapy and Chemotherapy treatments. A lot of Izzy's treatment took place in Dublin which was difficult for Stephen and his wife Emma and Izzy's two brothers.

Fellow Red Knight Barry O Mahony and Ger Barriscale had been discussing doing an Iron Butt



Ger Barriscale and Izzy

Association ride around Ireland. We had decided on the Saddle Sore 1000 Ride, a 1000 mile(1610km) ride in under 24 hours. Five members of Ireland 1 decided that we would do the Saddle Sore 1000 and get sponsorship for the Get Bizzy for Izzy fund.

On Saturday the 14th of June 2014, JJ Meacle, Alan Roberts, Declan O Dwyer, Barry O Mahony and Ger Barriscale gathered at a petrol station on the northside of Cork City at 4am. We filled our tanks and were on the road as dawn began to break.

Kieran Minihan an EMS White Knight, Ireland 1 Chapter member, arrived to take a photograph and give us support.

Leaving Cork we set off through the north of the county to Limerick and onto Galway. The weather was dry and the roads at that hour were very quiet so we made good time. After a fuel stop in Galway we continued on north of Sligo and arrived in

Letterkenny around 9 am. After breakfast we headed back the road to Cork. Traffic on the return leg was busier and we made the most of our rest stops to ease the saddle soreness. It got easier as we got back to Cork where we had arranged to meet our families at Ballyvolane Fire Station for a late lunch around 3pm with over 500 miles(800km) on the clock. Fed and rested it was soon time to get back on the road for the second half of our journey. We were back on the road again before 4.30pm heading north east this time towards Dublin and onto Belfast. It was all motorway driving to Belfast and difficult as it is to go the length of Ireland without getting rained on we somehow managed just that. Alan, Barry and Ger were on BMW's Declan was on a Triumph Tiger XC and JJ was on a Harley.

We all had our own strategy for dealing with the pain. Some listened to music, JJ listened to his Harley and all learned how to stretch every which way on a motorcycle.



We arrived into Belfast around 9pm.



After a half hour break we were all ready to start the final leg and head for home. As we rode out of Belfast dusk was setting in and before long we were riding in the dark. Conscious of the extra dangers of night riding and fatigue we availed of the motorway services for rest breaks whether we thought we needed them or not. That being said we were all tired as we arrived back into Cork at 2.30am, 22.5hrs after starting our journey. Many thanks to Kieran Minihan who was there to welcome us back and have a photographic record of the finish. If you were to do the ride solo I think you could make better time but it was worth the extra few hours to do the ride as a group to share the laughs and the pain together. Our total mileage was 1100 miles(1770km).

We raised €1350 for the Get Bizzy for Izzy fund and would like to thank all those who sponsored us and supported such a worthy cause. We had the pleasure of presenting Izzy with the cheque and she was excited to ride on the bikes. She especially loved revving JJ's Harley and her strength of character and courage inspired us all.

If you would like to donate to the Get Bizzy for Izzy fund you can do so at

Allied Irish Bank,

Name: Izzys Fundraise A/C

BIC: AIBKIE2D

NSC: 93-43-05

A/C: 09004096

And you can also follow Izzy on facebook at

<https://www.facebook.com/GetBizzyforIzzy>



Donation of the cheque to Izzy



Red Knights®
International Firefighters Motorcycle Club

OFFICAL MERCHANDISE

Available through Red Knights Regalia LTD.