



Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club ® Inc.
Office of the Region 1 Director
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Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

Can you believe it, 2017 has come and gone! Like they say, time flies when you are having fun, and 2017 was certainly a great year. I hope you had a chance to enjoy the many events that were held from chapter to state to regional events. From all accounts, 2018 won't be disappointing us either!

We had our fair share of loss in 2017. Sadly, we lost fifteen Red Knights from Region 1. May we not forget those who have gone before us and now ride with Heaven 1. I send my continued prayers to all of you who may have lost someone.

As for fun, there was no shortage. From Americade to the Yankee Rally to Convention and more, there was plenty for all to enjoy. The 2017 Yankee Rally was held in Rutland, VT and hosted by the Vermont State Association. They did an outstanding job and broke the record for attendance with 354 members from Region 1 and beyond! The 2018 Yankee Rally will be held in Clifton Park, NY on June 1st to 3rd, 2018 and hosted by NY 29 and NY 12. More info may be found at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/735734643295716/>. Make sure you get your registrations in soon, as the deadline is March 1, 2018.

The 2017 International Convention was held in Syracuse, NY and was enjoyed by all. The 2018 International Convention will be held in Pittsburgh, PA and hosted by PA 8. More information may be found at <http://www.redknightsmc.com/Site/downloads/2018%20Registration%20-Revised.pdf>.

The last, and most exciting thing, that happened in 2017 is the Red Knights purchased the house and property located directly next to our Red Knights Memorial. As a result of this, and at the request of the mortgage company, the membership at the Annual Business Meeting voted to raise all membership dues by \$4. President Gadway also asked all members to make a \$20 voluntary donation to the Red Knights Memorial Foundation. I'm happy to say that those donations are pouring in and we were well above where we hoped to be at the end of 2017. But don't let that stop you, we still need all of you to help. Our goal is to have the mortgage on the property paid off within five years. This is totally achievable with all of your help. You may make a donation to the Red Knights Memorial Foundation by clicking the "Donate" located on the home page of our website, www.redknightsmc.com.

As for what's coming up, some seriously exciting stuff! On May 5, 2018, we will be holding the dedication to the Red Knights Hall (house) and the rededication of the Red Knights Memorial. By that time, the land swap between the Red Knights and the town of Boylston will have been completed and for the first time ever, our Red Knights Memorial will be on our property. All Red Knights are welcome to attend on May 5th. We are currently attempting to work out a room discount with a local hotel and details will follow. I look forward to seeing many of you there! Please ride safe, support each other and above all, be Loyal to our Duty. Until we meet again, Red Knights Forever!

Matt Mattera
Region 1 Director