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Bob Laford
Newsletter Editor



Spring

Walk softly, look closely, listen carefully, and speak nothing, for I am here among you. I stand beside you. You may not be able to see me but you can feel me. For when you close your eyes and see my face or hear my voice and a happiness fills your soul because you are remembering me, that is me standing beside you.

About the time the last newsletter was mailed a fire took the lives of six brother firefighters in the City of Worcester, Massachusetts.

One of those firefighters was Timothy Jackson, a member of the Red Knights – Mass Chapter 4. May he and his comrades and all those who answer

The 2000 RKMC Convention — Indianapolis – Aug. 17-20, 2000

Members from Indiana have been working very hard in preparing an event that will be memorable to all that attend. Enclosed are flyers on the convention containing information on Convention Registration, lodging, and planned events.

YES! Indiana-1 has made arrangements that Red Knights will be able to ride a lap at the Speedway on their Bikes... Indiana-1 has also made arrangements for the golfers among us to be able to play a round at the home of the Brickyard Classic.

Our hats are off to the members of Indiana-1 for their hard work, and we look forward to seeing you in Indianapolis. Look for more details inside. (Registration deadline is July 15)

***Do it again in the Millennium
Proud to be in Indiana-1***

Also included in this mailing are proposed bylaw changes that will be voted on at the International Convention in Indianapolis in August.



**Red Knights
International Firefighters
Motorcycle Club, Inc.**

From Boylston, MA., to the Future...

Dear Fellow Knights:

The Executive Board met in Belleville this past February 25, 2000. We spent approx. 6 hours going through an agenda that was both informative and exciting as far as what is in store for the Red Knights this coming summer. We have a lot of work to do as far as getting each Chapter more involved with other Chapters. If you have your ride schedule made up, either mail or e-mail it to me. The Executives may also have special activities or rides available and all these things can be mentioned in the newsletter or possibly on the web site.

It seems as *Americade* is just around the corner. The Red Knights are having an Open House again this year at the Lake George Fire Station on Thursday, June 8. I wish to thank RKMC-N.Y. 12 for taking care of the Open House. Since they are in the Lake George area, it will be much easier for them to arrange the buffet. The parade will be on the list of things for the Red Knights to get involved with during the week, so bring your uniform, flags, and better-halves. Let's show them we can win the awards again — for year number three!

If you have any members who have passed away this year please let us know so we can respond in a proper manner, and add their names to the cenotaph (we need the name, Chapter, and date of death.)

So far this year with new Chapters signing up the number of Chapters in the Red Knights is well over the 60 mark. Many inquiries have come to the Board. Some of the inquiries are from Norway, New Zealand, England and Germany. It would be great to have these countries join us.

If I don't see you at Americade, hopefully I will see you at the Convention.

Safe Riding, and be safe and injury free at the work place.

Respectfully Yours:

Gary Nelson, International President

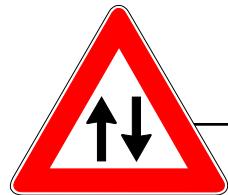
Here's a Safety tip!

Since many of us are just starting to get back on the road after the Winter months...

You are approaching a car signaling a turn across your lane. How much stopping distance do you save by reducing your speed by 10 miles per hour?

Believe it or not, you will reduce your stopping distance almost by half! And covering your brake lever and pedal reduces your reaction time. Is it worth it to anticipate the worst possible scenario? You bet!

—Ride Safe



Reminder...

Anyone who intends to run for International Office at the convention in August should announce their intentions at the Red Knights meeting held at Americade in Lake George.

Anyone planning to run for office that will not be at Americade should forward relevant information to a member of the International Executive Board or the Board of Directors prior to Americade.



50/50 Raffle

The 50/50 Raffle needs your support! Each year the Red Knights run a 50/50 raffle with a drawing at the convention. The raffle supports publicity of the Red Knights, including newsletter publishing and mailing costs. Fifty percent of the proceeds go to the club and fifty percent to the winner!

In the past the tickets were mailed to the chapter presidents. Each member has two books of tickets to sell and each chapter is asked to buy five books. This year we are trying something new. Tickets will be to each member through this mailing. With over 1300 members and 65 chapters the potential to help the Red Knights through this drawing is BIG! Think of the 50/50 prize that will be drawn at the convention if everyone sells two books (10 tickets).

Actually, each book contains 6 tickets. As a thank you for selling tickets, for every five tickets you sell, one is a freebie for the seller! That's a chance to win some big money on a free ticket!

The 50-50 raffle is a fund raising event which subsidizes postage for the newsletter, ads in magazines and bike related news papers, and the International's web page. Without a successful 50-50 raffle the per capita dues would increase to pay for these things.

Please help keep your dues down in price, and buy and sell the 50-50 tickets enclosed, two books per member plus five books per chapter. If you have any questions, or would like more tickets, contact Peg Brouillet of Mass-2. Sold tickets and money (checks only to RKMC-International, please don't mail cash) should also be sent to Peg by August 5 (or brought to the convention)

**Peg Brouillet
326 Minot Road
Westminster, MA 01473 (USA)
(978) 632-8230
RKMA2@net1plus.com**

Thanks to your support, last year's raffle was a huge success with over \$3,000 raised. Keep up the good work. Forward ticket sales and stubs to Peg prior to August 5 so the Club can track Chapter activity in this effort. ...Thanks for your help and see you in Indiana!

(P.S. You don't have to be present in Indiana to win)

A special **thank you** goes out to Member-at-Large Michael Dickinson. Mike works with a company that produces the Fire Service Internet Site www.10-75.com. Mike and this organization has offered the Red Knights free space on their server for our web page.

You can now visit the Red Knights at our own "URL" on-line at www.redknightsmc.org

If your chapter has a web page that isn't listed on the International Site, let Bob Laford (Mass-2) know and he will take care of that for you.

Saint Florian is known as the Patron Saint of Firefighters. Did you know why?

Florian was born in Austria in the 4th century about 250 A.D. in Cetium (now in Austria). The St. Florian commemorated in the Roman Martyrology on May 4th, was an officer of the Roman army. He advanced in the ranks and occupied a high administrative post in Noricum, now part of Austria. The saint suffered "death for the Faith" in the days of Diocletian. Although he became an officer of the Roman army, he didn't observe a "don't ask, don't tell" policy and confessed to his Christianity in anti-Christian times.

His legendary "Acts" state that he gave himself up at Lorch to the soldiers of Aquilinus, the governor of Lorch, when they were rounding up the Christians. The Emperor Diocletian was shocked to learn that Florian did not carry out his orders to persecute all Christians in the area, and, thus, was sentenced to death by fire. Standing on the funeral pyre, Florian is reputed to have challenged the Roman soldiers to light the fire, saying "If you do, I will climb to heaven on the flames." Apprehensive to his words, instead of burning Florian, he was flogged and flayed after making the bold confession. He

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North-east Cape Cod Dutch Treat Weekend

Chapter Officers from around Massachusetts gathered in Westminster, Mass during February for a meeting with State Rep Charlie Clarkson and Assistant State Rep Steve Mickle. This is an annual meeting to promote communication between the chapters and to also share ride schedules for the up and coming riding seasons.

One point of business was the Annual Cape Cod Dutch Treat Weekend scheduled for May 5, 6, & 7 on Cape Cod. The group decided to change the name of the event from the Massachusetts Dutch Treat Weekend to the North-east Regional Dutch Treat Weekend to welcome in any and all members from the six New England States (and beyond!).

This year's plans include ferrying across to Martha's Vineyard for a day of riding on one of Massachusetts scenic islands.

Anyone interested in participating in the weekend gathering should contact Charlie or Steve for more information.

Ride for Kids

The **Ride for Kids** set an all-time record in 1999 with over \$2 million raised in the effort to find a cure for childhood brain tumors. More than 10,000 motorcyclists participated in 17 events across the United States in 1999. The motorcycling community has provided a wonderful outpouring of love, goodwill and camaraderie in support of this cause, and more than \$8.9 million has been raised since the start of **Ride for Kids** in 1984. For more information about the Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation and its National Ride for Kids program call (800) 253-6530 or visit the web site at www.ride4kids.org.

Many of our members participate in the **Ride for Kids** in their home areas around the continent. Two M.A.L.s from Hudson, Ohio, Jim Jorgenson and John Duber were recognized by the Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation for having raised over \$12,000 for the kids over the last several years.

Congratulations guys, you make us proud.

Check in to see where the rides

The Red Knights maintains a **Memorial Plaque** with the names of any of our members who have passed away. Please help keep the plaque up-to-date. If your chapter has any members who have passed away, forward that information onto one of the International Officers so all our deceased members may be listed.

Support Indiana 1!

Ride for Heroes Bikers' Firefighter fundraiser

Sunday, December 19, 1999
Worcester, Massachusetts

Motorcycle clubs and riders from around New England conducted a fund-raiser for the families of the six firefighters who died in the Worcester Cold Storage blaze.

Braving the sunny but cold weather (It was 11 degrees Fahrenheit in northern Worcester County at 9 a.m.) the bikers gathered at the WFD Central Street Fire Station for the start of their run. After making a couple of stops around Worcester County the riders meandered through Worcester, to East Brookfield and Oxford, Mass.

Representatives from the Red Knights were part of the group that boasted some 800 bikes and riders that raised over \$10,000 for the firefighters' families.

Three of the brothers that were lost in the Worcester fire enjoyed motorcycles, one, Tim Jackson, was a member of Red Knights – Mass Chapter 4. One of those riding on December 19th noted on a local TV news station that he and Tim traveled to the Vietnam Memorial every year for *Rolling Thunder*, and that Tim always said to him that as a Vietnam Veteran that "the parade was for him." His friend said that now there is another ride for Tim and all those firefighters who have given the supreme sacrifice.

Organizers of the ride hope to make **Ride for Heroes** an annual Fall event in New England in memory of those firefighters who were lost in the warehouse fire.

For any Chapter that has hosted one of the annual conventions you know that Indiana-1 has been working hard. This work began shortly after last year's convention ended in preparation for the arrival of the Red Knights in Indianapolis this August.

Along with the work are some costs to the club. The primary way for Indiana to raise funds to pay for the club's convention expenses is through their convention program and ad book.

If you run a business or know of a business that would like to advertise in their booklet OR if your chapter would like to take out an ad to support Indiana-1 OR for those of us who cannot make the convention and would like to support Indiana-1 with an ad in their books... \$25 buys a 1/4 page, \$50 a 1/2 page, and \$90 a full page. Checks (made out to Red Knights Indiana-1) can be sent to:

Mrs. Rachel Savage
108 South Plum Street
Farmland, Indiana 47340

Indiana-1 thanks any and all supporters (businesses, chapters, and individuals) for help promoting the Red Knights and the 2000 Convention. All ads must be received by June 30, 2000.

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The Post Office just makes me crazy! From the last newsletter we mailed to our 1300 or so members we got a handful back for incorrect or insufficient addresses. But the ones we got back didn't were confusing!

Some were wrong spellings of names or streets, and I can understand that. But the ones that got me were the ones that the RKM had a street name but the person had a P.O. Box. Now... the house is still there and Mr. Mailman walks or drives past that house every day. Don't you think he knows that, "oh yea, Mr. Smith has a P.O. Box... I'll bring it back to the post office" ...instead of sending it back 3,000 miles to be re-addressed, re-stamped, and re-mailed???

I probably wouldn't complain so much if there was some consistency, but there was one instance where the name was spelled wrong, we had the wrong house number, and we had **THE WRONG STATE**, but it was delivered to the right person, at the right house, in the right state!

A firefighter was waiting at the doors of his station for his relief one morning, when his buddy rides up on a shiny new GoldWing.

"Where did you get such a rockin' bike?" asked the first.

The second firefighter replied "Well, I was walking along yesterday minding my own business when a beautiful woman rode up on this bike. She threw the bike to the ground, took off all her clothes and said 'Take what you want.'"

The first firefighter nodded approvingly "Good choice, the clothes probably wouldn't have fit.

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From the Book "Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance" by Robert M. Pirsig

Lie back, close your eyes and think of one of your favorite motorcycle rides. I bet you can smell the smells, feel the wind, taste the clean air, and tell me what you thought of and who was with you on that ride. That's the kind of memory that makes riding so special to each of us.

Now I can appreciate a nice leisurely day of fishing, and I can definitely appreciate a ride on the bike through a back road on a nice Fall day — BUT here is President Gary Nelson's bike as he was getting ready to go fishing with some other members of Ontario-7... I've seen many bikes pulling trailers but this is the first time I've seen a boat being towed!

A story was told to me about this fishing trip as well. It seems the guys had pulled off at a little convenience store to get some supplies and maybe a coffee. A local habitual-patron of the nearby bar room stumbled out of the bar into the parking lot and just stood there staring at the bike and boat. Finally he turned to one of the other people standing there and asked "Is that a motorcycle?" The other person said "yes." Then he asked "Is that a boat on the motorcycle?" The other person said "Yes." And the local said, "boy I'm glad, I thought I was going to have to give up drinking when I saw that parked there."

SECOND ANNUAL RED HELMETS RIDE

The Second Annual Red Helmets Ride will leave from the Francis Scott Key Mall (Rt. 270 and Market St., Frederick MD) on October 8 at 9:00 AM with a police escort to the Fallen Firefighters Memorial site in Emmitsburg at the National Fire Academy. Last year over 125 bikes rolled into the parking lot. If you would like to show your support and participate contact Tom Baker at 301-262-9060 (home), Conyank@ix.netcom.net or Terry Lewis at 301-416-7551 (home) windfire31@msn.com

The Ceremonies at the Memorial service will begin at 10:30 AM

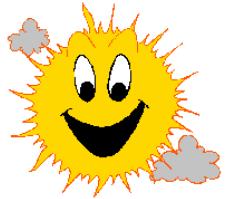
the Chapters

NEWS FROM AROUND



sets the temperature was below zero (Fahrenheit) — but on New Year's weekend the temperature in New England was in the 40's and 50's and there were a few northern souls that ventured on the roadways to say they rode on the first day of the new millennium. Further north, I understand, there was a little more snow cover and cold that just had us looking at our two wheeled friends with longing. The first significant snow fall in central New England wasn't until January 13th so records were broken and bikes were on the road longer than normal for some.

But further down the eastern seaboard I was told that January 1, 2000 was a beautiful 70 degrees and 23 bikes showed up to ride 160 or so miles with members of Virginia Chapter 1... so I guess when it gets cold and stormy up in the northland there'll always be a nice place to head for and ride with our friends — or so we thought! January brought North Carolina a blizzard that we would expect to see up in the north (18-24" of snow) and the Superbowl Weekend saw ice and snow in Atlanta.



But soon we'll all be dug out, melted, riding on two wheels and talking about the Winter that was.

Ohio 4 (along with GWTA Chapters M & X and the KofF) is sponsoring a bike show on May 13 with an observation ride for the Special Olympics in Ohio.



The show is being held at Computation Accessories on West Luffell Lane in Springfield, Ohio. It is open to all makes of motorcycles.

For more information contact Jim Langan , President of Ohio 4 Red Knights. Jim's e-mail is JEL1967@aol.com

RED KNIGHTS STUFF FORE SALE!

Many of our Chapters and members sell RKMC paraphernalia (anything from mouse pads to shirts, mugs, etc.). To help support the chapters' efforts and to help support the newsletter, the International officers have decided to offer advertising space in the newsletter to our chapters.

If your chapter has any Red Knights items they would like to advertise in the newsletter, contact Newsletter Editor Bob Laford of Mass-2.

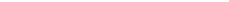
The newsletter reaches over 1300 Red Knights members — all of whom would probably be interested in all that good stuff you have to sell... but they don't know you have it unless you advertise! Prices are very reasonable.



Mother Nature has been playing tricks throughout the winter months — giving us a winter to remember! Christmas morning in central Massachusetts

was the temperature was below zero (Fahrenheit) — but on New Year's weekend the temperature in New England was in the 40's and 50's and there were a few northern souls that ventured on the roadways to say they rode on the first day of the new millennium. Further north, I understand, there was a little more snow cover and cold that just had us looking at our two wheeled friends with longing. The first significant snow fall in central New England wasn't until January 13th so records were broken and bikes were on the road longer than normal for some.

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The Red Knights did it again at Americade! On the cover of the 1999 Americade magazine was a picture of RKMC President Gary Nelson leading the Red Knights in the '98 parade. On the cover of the *2000 magazine* is a picture of the 1999 Americade King and his court riding their bikes... the '99 Americade King was Red Knights member Bill Smith from the island of Martha's Vineyard off the coast of Massachusetts. Bill started off as a M.A.L. and is now a member of Mass-8 on Cape Cod.

...what do you suppose the Red Knights will do at this year's Americade? Join us in Lake George, NY and find out!



At the Toronto International Motorcycle Supershow back in January three Red Knight bikes from Ontario Chapter 1 won awards. The club went 1 for 2 in the Asian Touring class with Bruce Peacock's Gold Wing GL1100 winning Best in Class and Dennis Craig's 1994 Kawasaki Voyager XII taking Runner-up. Club Member Frank D'Angelo took his Harley Davidson FXR show bike (called Big Red) into the extremely tough Harley custom class, and came away with Class Runner-up.

What do you do to keep interest, excitement, and participation going strong in your chapter?

Some of our chapters have better luck (through all their work and effort) in keeping interest and participation alive. If you have found special events or "tricks of the trade" to help keep the members excited about the Red Knights please share them with us so we can share them with everyone! **So what are your ideas?**

The Pre-Trip Checklist

You love your motorcycle, so why not show it! Before you go out on a date with someone you love you always spend time getting ready. Pick out your clothes, shave (ladies legs, men faces), splash on some smelly stuff, brush your teeth, comb your hair, etc, etc. You spend time planning where you are going and what you will need before the date is over.

A ride on your bike should use the same thought planning process. Anytime you ride in a private plane you should see the pilot do a walk-around to check everything out. He doesn't want any surprises at 10,000 feet. On your next 2-wheeled ride to the corner 7-11 you will probably face more hazards and you are in far greater danger than that pilot will ever be. So let's do a pre-trip check.

[] Tires and Wheels. Check tread depth, condition, foreign material, wear, cracking, etc. Check tire inflation level before you ride to be sure it's within manufacturer's recommendations.

[] Lubrication. With the bike on its center stand check the oil. The level, it's condition, what does it look like? Check color, particles, and the date of the last oil and filter change.

[] Fuel. Do you have enough to get you where you're going? Any signs of a fuel leak, puddles of gas, or an odor? Has it been a long time with the same gas? —like over the Winter?

[] Engine. Take a look at your engine (sometimes easier said than done). Is there anything loose or are there any fluid leaks? Anything jammed into the radiator? Are the highway boards and other accessories secured properly?

[] Cables and Hoses. Are cables clean? Dirt makes them stick. Is there any wear? Do they need to be lubricated? Do any of the cables need adjustment? Check the hoses for leaks or any signs of weeping.

[] Lights. Check your headlight — high and low beam. Does it point where it should, even when you're carrying a passenger? Tail light, license plate and brake light, directional lights, hazard lights, and marker lights should all be working.

[] Brakes. Is the reservoir filled to between the O.K. lines for both the front and rear brakes? How about the clutch fluid? Is it really dark? When was the last time it was changed? Do the rotors show signs of excessive wear? Roll the bike off the stand and apply the brakes one at a time. How do they feel? —spongy, too hard, feel normal??? Any squeals from the brakes?

[] Electrical System. When was the last time you checked the water level in the battery? Do you have any spare fuses with you? Does the horn work? How about all those switches — turning things on and off like the design engineers designed them to operate?

[] Paperwork and Stuff. Have you got your license, registration, and insurance information? Not that you'll need them for a speeding ticket but you might need a picture I.D. to write that check for the ice cream sundae supreme later in the trip. First aid kit? Sun Block? Spare set of Sunglasses? Spare key? Cell phone?

Take time to think before the ride. The few moments you take now could save a lifetime later.

An excerpt from "Wing-Tips — Street Survival for Goldwing Riders" by Dave Hay. Dave is a member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and the Assistant National Director of Rider Education in Canada.
Hay@connected.bc.ca www.webspawner.com/users/ERCINFO/

A special **thank you** is due all those people who helped put this newsletter together. Especially all those that helped collate, staple, stuff, seal, label, and stamp some 1300 newsletters!



...the moisture on your tongues will come back eventually!

It is expensive to send newsletters to all our members. For that reason, the International officers have opted to open our newsletters to advertisers to help subsidize costs.

If you know of any businesses (motorcycle related, restaurants, hotels, etc.) that would like to reach the 1300 (plus) members through the newsletter have them contact Clayton Thomas of Indiana-1 for more information.

Clayton can be reached at 317-894-3096 or by email at cfr6@Juno.com

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Members-at-Large (MALs) for their active participation during the last year. There are nearly 100 MALs from coast to coast and throughout Canada. Renewal notices for the MALs were sent out in November, January, and February and at this point there are only 10 members who are not paid up on their dues. The V.P.'s secretary, who is also in charge of the yearly International Raffle, would like to thank the MALs (who had approximately 80% returns on the tickets issued to them to sell last year) and the many chapters and individual members who made the raffle such a great success. The prize gets bigger each year which means the club is growing.

The 1999 Convention in Florida was a huge success! I was able to talk with all the MALs in attendance as well as many other members who were there. I enjoy being able to put a face with the names whom I mail to all the time. I'm looking forward to meeting more MALs and new members at the 2000 Convention. Regarding the 2000 Convention, Steve Mickle, a member of Mass-2 and I plan to do the Four Corners Tour, mentioned elsewhere in this newsletter. Our co-pilots will be flying to Washington state to join us for the last leg of our incredible journey — on to Indiana — and home to New England.

As your MAL Representative and the International Vice-president, I attended the annual international meeting in Ontario. It was a productive meeting. We also had a great time at the Winter Frolic on the Saturday night of our long weekend "up north." As usual, the Canadian hospitality was great.

I hope all of you have a chance to view at our new Web Page at www.redknightsmc.org. A special thanks goes out to one of our MALs in California, Michael Dickinson, who helped develop it and get it on our own "URL," (Thanks Mike).

The office of V.P. comes up for election this year. I would like to continue in this position and would appreciate your support and the support of all the chapters at the election in August. See you in Indianapolis. Until then, Ride Safe.

Ed Brouillet,
International Vice-president

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lq j#iruz dug#r#j hwjlq j#p | #lnh#q #k h#urdg#z lk lq #k h#q{ w#frx s dh#i#g d| v#k h#
z hdw k huf#v#z dup lq j#k s#q lfho| #dq g#l#Edq #k dugo| z dlw, 1##

Wk lv#q rwh#lv#r#uhp lq g#hyhu| rq h#k dw#J udq g#Wrx u# lqv#duh##v#l#d#dyd l#adeh#k lv#
| hdu#Frq wdfw#p h#iru#ds soifdwlrq #irup v#dq g2ru#lq irup dwlrq 1#D #uhp lq ghu#dovr/#
derxw#dfflgq w#hs ruw#1#U hs ruw#irup v#duh#dyd l#adeh#irup # rxu#Fk ds whu#Suhv10
ghq w#r#t# | #Frq wdfw#lq j#p h#r#k rsh#r#h#d#orw#r#i# rx#dw#D p hulfdg#h#ru#k h#Frq yh#q 0
wlrq 1#Lq #k h#p hdq#l#p h#hqr# | #k h#ulg lq j#vhdrvq #dq g#11#

11U LG H #VD I H #
K hqu| #K hlg hp dq#
Vdihw| #R iifhu#dq g#J udq g#Wrx u#Fk dlup dq

Each year Ontario 7 hosts their Winter Frolic Dance the last weekend of February. This is also the weekend that the International Board holds their winter meeting. The two events attract members from all around.

One of the traditions that has started with some of the visiting Red Knights is a visit to the RCAF Museum at the Trenton Air Base just a stone's throw from Bellville. The **Halifax Restoration Project**, at the museum, is one exhibit that attracts repeat visitors every year from the Red Knights.

In 1995 a Halifax Aircraft was raised out of a lake where it had crashed after being hit by Nazi fire during WW2. Starting in 1997 a group of people, many whom had worked on such aircraft, began the process of restoring this aircraft to its original state.

Each year when the members of the Red Knights have visited they have been able to monitor the progress of the project. If ever passing through the area take a moment to visit the RCAF Museum in Trenton and see the work of love being performed on this aircraft. The mechanics, machinist, and all those working on the project are willing to stop their work and share some of the history of that particular aircraft, the Halifax in general, and their mission to restore her for the museum.

How to contact the International Officers:

- President:
Gary Nelson
658 Blessington Rd.
R.R. 1 Corbyville Ontario,
Canada, K0K 1V0
613-969-1471
gnelson@intranet.ca
- Vice President:
Edward Brouillet
326 Minott Road Westminster, MA,
USA, 01473
978-632-8230
RKMA2@net1plus.com
- Executive Secretary:
John Gulotta
541 N. 1st Street, New Hyde Park, N.Y.,
USA, 11040-2819
516-352-7906
NYFirerydr@aol.com
- Treasurer:
Leo Patry
R.R. 2 Battersea, Ontario,
Canada, K0H 1H0
613-353-1790
leo.patry@sympatico.ca
- Chairman, Board of Directors:
Perry Carter
8902 Beechwood Ave. Indianapolis, IN.,
USA, 46219
317-898-1265
Perry24@juno.com
- Vice Chairman, Board of Directors:
Henry Heideman
P.O. Box 83, Hwy 45 Baltimore, Ontario
Canada, K0K 1C0
905-372-6073
hmheideman@sympatico.ca
- Sec. Of the Board Of Directors:
Jack Downs
12040 S.W. 26 Court, Davie, Florida
USA, 33330
954-474-1644
rkmcc1@mindspring.com
- Newsletter Editor and Webmaster
Bob Laford
276 West Road, Petersham, MA
USA, 01366
978-724-3270
rlaford@tiac.net

Americade – 2000

Carrying Things

There are six areas into which you can pack gear onto you and your bike. Here's some guidance on what to pack where:

- **Jacket Pockets:** For small items frequently needed such as keys, ear plugs, moisture lotion, pocket camera.
- **Tank Bag:** For items frequently used such as extra gloves, shield cleaner and rag, notebook, tire gauge, spare sweater.
- **Fairing Pockets:** If your dresser has them, they are for any of the items listed in either of the above two spaces — as long as they are not adversely effected by vibration.
- **Passenger Seat:** When traveling alone, the rear portion of the seat can be used to haul a seat bag, duffel bag, tent, or sleeping bag.
- **Saddlebags:** For heavy basic items such as clothing, shoes, extra tools, cooking gear.
- **Trunk:** Located high and behind the rear axle, the trunk should be used only for lighter, less bulky items such as rain suits, tent, and sleeping bag.

Americade in Lake George, NY is always a great time. It is one of the largest motorcycle touring expo's around and offers a place for us to meet as friends and motorcycle enthusiasts.

Held the first full week of June (June 5-10) Americade has also become an annual event for the Red Knights. On Thursday, June 8, the Red Knights will hold an open house at the Lake George Fire Station (5 pm) to gather as members and friends — and also for those people who are interested in finding out what the Red Knights are about.

The Red Knights also ride in Saturday's parade. Currently the club has held the largest uniformed contingent in the parade for 1998 and 1999 and the best dressed club for 1999. *Let's Do it again in the Millennium* as Indiana tells us!

Hope to see you in Lake George!

Whose running for office? This year the constitutional positions up for re-election or election are the Vice-president and the Secretary of the Executive Board.

Current Vice-president Ed Brouillet has said he plans on running for re-election. If anyone has an interest in running for office you should make your intentions known either in person or through an International officer at the Red Knights Meeting at Americade. This will allow the membership time to get to know the candidates and the issues before the election at

the convention in Indianapolis.

Many, if not all the Red Knights chapters, combine food along with their regular rides, events, and friendships. One idea that came up is to offer a space in the newsletter for those dishes that have become favorite staples to our gatherings. If you would like to share any recipes with the rest of the club send them into the newsletter editor for placement in the bi-annual mailing.

Our first entry is **Taco Dip** (from one of our Ontario Chapters)

1 PKG Cream Cheese (softened)	1 Cup Mayonnaise	
Salsa Sauce	Green Onions	Green Peppers
Diced Tomato	Grated Cheddar Cheese	Tortilla Chips

Mix cream cheese and mayonnaise until smooth. Spread into flat dish or large pie plate. Spread your favorite salsa sauce over the top. Cover with chopped green onions, chopped green peppers, diced tomato. Sprinkle with grated cheese.

Thanks Norma!

Kudo's to Conn.-II for receiving special recognition from the Shriners Burn Hospitals. Shriners has entered the name of the Red Knights – Connecticut Chapter 2 into their *Book of Gold* for their continued support of the Shriners Hospital's efforts.

Red Knights Int. Firefighters Motorcycle Club Inc.

Leo J. Patry
International Treasurer

January 5, 2000

This report is the fourth of four quarterly reports that I will be presenting to the board this year. The final figure that will be used as the General account opening balance for January 1, 2000 has been adjusted to \$4,905.98. This was done to clear the books of \$179.14 which I have been unable to locate since taking over the Treasurers position in July of 1998. I believe that the shortage is the result of poor book keeping and inaccurate balances being carried from year to year. The new simplified book keeping system that we are now using should eliminate this problem in the future.

GENERAL ACCOUNT

1 st Quarter	2 nd Quarter	3 rd Quarter	4 th Quarter
Jan 1,1999-Mar 31	Apr 1, 1999-June 30	July 1, 1999-Sept 30	Oct 1, 1999-Dec 31
Opening Balance	Opening Balance	Opening Balance	Opening Balance
\$ 1,470.50	\$ 3,405.18	\$ 4,956.28	\$ 5,245.59
Deposits	Deposits	Deposits	Deposits
\$ 2,585.58	\$ 1,733.61	\$ 602.00	\$ 1,834.50
Expenditures	Expenditures	Expenditures	Expenditures
\$ 650.90	\$ 182.51	\$ 320.05	\$ 1,999.97
Closing Balance	Closing Balance	Closing Balance	Closing Balance
\$ 3,405.18	\$ 4,956.28	\$ 5,245.59	\$ 5,080.12 (True Balance 4905.98)

PUBLICITY ACCOUNT

1 st Quarter	2 nd Quarter	3 rd Quarter	4 th Quarter
Jan 1, 1999-Mar 31	Apr 1, 1999-June 30	July 1, 1999-Sept 30	Oct 1, 1999-Dec 31
Opening Balance	Opening Balance	Opening Balance	Opening Balance
\$ 4,225.72	\$ 3,973.72	\$ 2,017.91	\$ 1,841.73
Deposits	Deposits	Deposits	Deposits
\$ 0.00	\$ 366.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 5,081.67
Expenditures	Expenditures	Expenditures	Expenditures
\$ 252.00	\$ 2,321.81	\$ 176.18	\$ 4,950.96
Closing Balance	Closing Balance	Closing Balance	Closing Balance
\$ 3,973.72	\$ 2,017.91	\$ 1,841.73	\$ 1,972.44

**BREAKDOWN OF EXPENDATURES
FOR 1999**

	1 st Quarter	2 nd Quarter	3 rd Quarter	4 th Quarter
Telephone	\$ 60.19	\$ 130.31	\$ 66.71	\$ 126.66
Postage	\$ 203.87	\$ 937.36	\$ 69.53	\$ 710.95
Photo-copies	\$ 8.37	\$ 611.36	\$ 50.58	\$ 563.18
Office Supplies	\$ 76.39	\$ 37.23	\$ 5.05	\$ 159.44
Insurance	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 350.00
Fee's	\$ 90.50	\$ 9.88	\$ 2.42	\$ 121.28
Regalia	\$ 18.72	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 26.05
Donations	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 106.18	\$ 1124.00
Publicity	\$ 192.00	\$ 595.18	\$ 173.76	\$ 175.75
50-50 Draw	\$ 0.00	\$ 183.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 2125.21
Rebates	\$ 55.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 22.00	\$ 0.00
Allowances	\$ 197.86	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Total	\$ 902.90	\$ 2504.32	\$ 496.23	\$ 6,950.93

Year to date Expenditures \$10,854.38

SUMMARY OF TOTAL WORTH

General Account	\$5,080.12 (True Balance \$4,905.98)
Publicity Account	\$1,972.44
Quartermaster (cash)	\$1,288.68
Quartermaster (stock)	\$ 919.00

TOTAL WORTH \$9,086.10 December 31, 1999

**MEMBERSHIP
CHAPTERS IN GOOD STANDING**

55 paid up Chapters as of December 31, 1999 giving a total of 1288 members in good standing

**M.A.L.'s
IN GOOD STANDING**

87 paid up M.A.L.'s as of December 31, 1999 giving us a total of 1375 members in good standing.

CHAPTERS IN ARREARS

6 Chapters in arrears for the year 1999 and one of the seven is also in arrears for 1998

LIST OF CHAPTERS IN ARREARS FOR 1999

# 1.	Colorado 1 (25 Members)
# 2	Massachusetts 9 (16 Members)
# 3	Missouri 1 (22 Members)
# 4	New York 9 (21 Members)
# 5	Ohio 1 (19 Members)
# 6	Pennsylvania 5 (16 Members)

Total number of members not considered in good standing 119

**SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR
INTERNATIONAL QUARTERMASTER**

Quartermasters bank balance as of December 31, 1999

**STOCK ON HAND
ITEM**

Shoulder Patches	10
M.A.L. Rockers	100
Active Member Rockers	80
Charter Member Rockers	81
Social Member Rockers	51
Quebec Rockers	24
Michigan Rockers	15
Penn Rockers	4
Conn. Rockers	6
Chapter 5 Rockers	15
Chapter 111 Rockers	25
Inventory Value	\$919.00

Total Summary of Quartermaster accounts at December 31, 1999 \$ 2,207.68

1999 and into 2000 we have seen our club grow quite a bit with the addition of 20 new Chapters and just as many new M.A.L.'s Welcome!

Alabama 1	Michigan 3
Alberta 1	New Jersey 8
Arkansas 1	New York 4
Florida 5	North Carolina 1
Florida 7	Ontario 8
Illinois 1	Ontario 9
Illinois 2	Vermont 1
Illinois 3	Virginia 1
Illinois 4	
Indiana 3	
Maine 3	
Maryland 2	

Ed and Steve's excellent adventure

Two of our club members, Ed Brouillet (International Vice-president and President of Mass-2) and Steve Mickle (Assistant State Rep for Massachusetts and Secretary for Mass-2) are leaving Wells, Maine on July 16 on their twin Goldwings to begin the Four-Corners Tour.

For those of you who don't know what the Four-Corners Tour is, it is an event that requires a motorcyclist to ride to each corner of the country within 21 days. This includes Madawaska, Maine, Key West, Florida, San Ysidro, California, and Blaine, Washington. From Washington State they will be concluding the trip by attending the International Convention of the Red Knights Motorcycle Club to be held at Indianapolis, Indiana some 9,000 miles later.

What makes this trek different from others who have completed the Four Corners Tour is that Ed and Steve are doing it for firefighters. As you know on December 3, 1999 the Worcester, Massachusetts Fire Department and the world lost six brave firefighters in a horrific fire as they searched a building for occupants. These were ordinary men, with families, and ordinary lives just like you and me – except circumstances and history thrust them into an extraordinary situation and outcome.

As Ed and Steve marched with some 26,000 other firefighters later in December at the Memorial Service they knew that we could never forget these six men and the other men and women who give the supreme sacrifice when serving their communities. Worcester is currently raising funds to construct a permanent memorial in the memory of the six fallen firefighters.

Ed and Steve are running the corners to raise money to donate on behalf of the Red Knights to the fund for the permanent memorial. Once they have returned to Massachusetts from the convention, the money raised will be donated to the Worcester Memorial Fund Drive.

What Ed and Steve need from each of us is our support. Below is a pledge card. If you would like to make a donation — a pledge for them on their journey, please fill out the card below and send it back to Red Knights Mass-2. Although we each can't ride the 9,000 miles with them we can all support them and the efforts to remember all those who have given the supreme sacrifice.



YES,

I want to support the efforts of Ed and Steve
on behalf of the Red Knights, on their Four-
Corner's Tour to raise money for the Fallen
Firefighters Memorial in Worcester,
Massachusetts !



Name: _____ Chapter: _____

Address: _____

Pledge/Donation: _____

Make checks payable to: RKMC-Mass-2
(Note "Memorial Donation" on memo line
of check)

Forward to: RKMC Mass-2
P.O. Box 316

