



**Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club® Inc.**  
**Office of the Region 7 Director**  
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Dear Brothers and Sisters,

This year will be special for Region 7. With the first International convention in Europe (after the planned one in France unfortunately could not take place because of Covid) we have a new milestone for Europe. Now we have the opportunity to show the whole world how we live, work, party and tick here in Europe. I am sure that this will be one of the best international conventions that has ever taken place. The numbers speak for themselves: over 550 registrations from all possible nations and continents. The entire International board (except for Region 3 and Region 2) will be present, and many will have the opportunity to see them for the first time. However, we must not forget that it is also our convention and we have the fun at the forefront. I'm really looking forward to the convention, seeing old friends, meeting new people and making new friends.

In May we had our Spring Meeting for the first time at a Red Knights event (Dixie Rally in Alabama). At first we were not sure if this would be a good idea, but it turned out that it makes sense to have the meetings at a RKMC event. This gives members who do not have or have not had the opportunity to attend a convention the opportunity to get to know the international board and address any issues directly. This has opened up the possibility of addressing issues or topics more quickly that we can work on.

With great confidence I also look to the future, with the establishment of an IT committee alone, new opportunities are opening up that will give us several possibilities to modernize and simplify communication in the future. As a small teaser e.g: Fixing email problems, an RKMC app as well as broadcasting of larger meetings or the like.

I would also like to remind you of a few things:

- Please remember to send in your rosters in time and put the Regional Director in CC.
- Please read your mails regularly, as this is the only official way to keep you informed about everything.
- Stay collegial. Think outside the comfort zone. We are a worldwide acting MC. It is very difficult to find a general and for everyone suitable consensus. We are constantly working to make it possible for everyone and to meet their needs. With over 10,000 members you can imagine that this is not so easy and we cannot always fulfill every wish.
- Just drive and have fun that is the most important thing!

We would also like to point out that this year for the first time we have a Committee Chair in our ranks! I wish Rolf "Imperial" Mühlemann all the best for his new position as Grand Tour Chair. He will lead the Grand Tour Committee in the future, and I am sure that there will be some changes in the future.

Some people always write how many hours they have worked per week for our MC, how many e-mails they have answered etc.. To be honest I have never paid attention to it. I can only think of the saying: If you love your work, you will never work another day in your life.

Finally, it only remains for me to say that I wish you all an accident-free season, much joy and especially health, as well as many Miles on the motorcycle, many unforgettable moments with the red Family, many parties and trips and a beautiful international convention.

Fraternally

Tom van der Kley

Regional Director Region 7

Red Knights International Motorcycle Club®

**Loyal To Our Duty**