

# RED KNIGHTS INTERNATIONAL FIREFIGHTERS MOTORCYCLE CLUB® Boylston, Massachusetts Est. 1982

Office of the International Treasurer
Scott Ryan
<u>treasurer@redknightsmc.com</u>
(902) 330-3431

Treasurer's End of Year Report

This past year was one for the record books. The first International Convention outside of North America. And it was a huge success. As well, I attended the first Spring Board meeting to be held in conjunction with a Regional Rally. Due to the Convention being in September instead of August, the Spring Board meeting was deferred to May instead of April which allowed us to meet the week before the Dixie Rally. The timing for this opportunity does not happen very often so we took advantage of it while we could. Of course we also have the Fall Board meeting making up the three face-to-face meetings for the year. Honestly, I lost track of how many virtual meetings we had in 2023. In addition to the meetings and the Dixie Rally, I was also able to make it to the Atlantic Association Rally in Newfoundland which was also a great success. But the year wasn't all spent in meetings, I managed to ride my own bike or a rental in 24 countries with other Red Knights, including a trip through Ukraine. Bike issues aside, the run through the Balkans was epic.

As I always do, I like to use this opportunity to talk about the struggles Chapters have through the year and how they can be resolved. One that I get a lot is understanding how to pay dues. The link on our website is not broken, it is designed to be set at \$1, all you need to do is change the quantity to match what is being paid. This way there is only ONE button and that alone allows the MAL to pay their \$14 and the same button allows me to pay my Chapter's \$514 dues. We have over 400 Chapters and at least that many different amounts that need to be paid, the one button works for them all.

Another common source of grief for Chapters and Members is ordering Regalia. As the website states, orders must be from the Chapter Quartermaster or approved by a Chapter Officer, and quarterly roster updates have to be current in order to orders to be processed. If you do not meet those criteria, please be patient. If you do meet those criteria, the speed with which Don Moore gets orders out the door is amazing! I don't know how many times a Chapter has written the day after an order to let me know they ordered the wrong size or something like that and wanted to change the order. Nope, too late, Don already shipped it, BUT, he is also exceptional at handling these changes and getting people what they really want.

There continues to be misunderstandings on Membership Classifications. I think most people understand Junior Members, but all the rest seem to cause confusion. I encourage all Chapter Officers to review the By-Laws and make sure our membership stays as accurate as possible.

My final reminder is on dues amounts, this is all included in the annual roster I send to each Chapter on the second page of the spreadsheet but here it is again for easy reference:

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### Chapter Member Dues:

Renewal by January 1 = \$17 Active/Associate, \$11 Social/Honorary (\$50 late fee after January 1st)

NEW member = \$20 all members; \$15 for those joining in July-September; back to \$20 for those joining after October 1 and it covers to the end of the following year

Joining a second chapter or more = \$17 Active & Associate, \$11 Social & Honorary (25% off July-September)

NEW Chapter application fee = \$35

MAL Dues:

Renewal = \$19 Active, \$14 Social (\$10 late fee after January 1st)

NEW MAL = \$10 application fee + \$19 Active, \$14 Social (25% off July-September).

All dues are US Dollars and due January 1. Options are to mail a cheque, pay from your paypal account directly to treasurer@redknightsmc.com or through one of the paypal links on our website at http://www.redknightsmc.com/membership.htm with the "Chapter or MAL Name" button being perhaps the easiest (all you have to do is change the quantity to the total amount of dues being paid). Checks can be mailed to me at PO Box 343, Charlottetown, PE, C1A7K7.

Ride safe, I hope to see you soon.

Scott



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