



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

Office of the Region 1 Director
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To My Red Knights Family,

Region 1 Consists of the following:

- 8 States
- 98 Chapters
- 2678 Chapter Members
- 27 Members at Large
- 2705 Total Members

It has been 12 months since my last Convention Report, and I am sad to say that Region 1 has transferred 16 members to the Heaven One Roster. All I ask is that we keep their memories alive as they now ride in the sky.

Last August we held our International Convention for the 2nd time outside of North America, in Leipzig, Germany. Even though the Board was in meetings for most of the time, we were able to take a day and visit such sites as The Berlin Wall, Check Point Charlie, the famous Brandenburg Gate and of course the Fire Station, where we enjoyed lunch. Thank you, Germany, for a wonderful and unforgettable time.

As Regional Director I hold two In-Person meetings each year with my State Representatives (March - October) in Boylston, Massachusetts. This Year we said farewell to two State Reps, long-time Massachusetts Rep George Colby and Vermont State Rep George Roy. Both men were exceptional at what they did for their states and completed every task they were asked to do. We also welcomed their replacements, Ryan Peebles of VT and Kevin Martin of MA. Our meetings may be long and tiresome, but we get a lot more accomplished as a Region when we work as a team.

The May Day Fund, which has been mentioned several times over the past years, has continued to help Region 1 members in time of need with a small monetary gift. I am proud to say that with the Red Knight Family's help this program is still moving forward, and the committee has just ordered more coins (which are available for purchase.) I would also be amiss if I didn't mention Maine Chapter 10, who has created a Region 1 Road Runner Challenge Ride to help in funding the May Day account.

As Regional Director it is my duty to attend not only the International Board meetings but also State and Chapter meetings when possible. Over this past year, I have attended meetings in New Jersey, New York, Connecticut, New Hampshire and Maine. I can also add the following events. New Jersey Fireman's Parade in Wildwood, Scooter Stampede in Oklahoma, Founding Fathers / International Board Coin Holder Dedication in Boylston, New Jersey's After Christmas Party, New York Chapter 6 Bowling fund raiser in Binghamton NY, Red Knights Steak Night, New Jersey Chapter 13 Barbeque, New York Chapter 25's 20th Anniversary Fundraiser which has raised over \$200,000 over the years. I also plan on attending the New York State Picnic at the Volunteer Fireman's Home (June), New York Chapter 28 Christmas in July Ride (July), just to name a few.

The 2025 Yankee Rally hosted by several Maine Chapters was an absolute success. The event hosted 285 Red Knights that signed in at the event, representing 2 countries (3 because a member who's only chapter is Switzerland 6, even though she is a resident of the USA was present), 12 States, 3 Canadian Provinces, 4 Regions,

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61 individual chapters, 2 Founding Fathers (Bob Bourassa & Norm Beausoleil) and Jackie Hamilton (widow of Founding Father Dave Hamilton). The Rally consisted of 4 escorted rides, an Ice Cream Night, Food Truck and games at the local Harley Dealer and several Auction items. But who could forget the Saturday Night Dinner when the choices were 2 whole Lobsters served with Steamers, Mussels and corn on the cob and for those Landlubbers, a New York Strip Steak, cooked to perfection, served with Baked Potato and String Beans.

For those that do not know, the Yankee Rally was not without some heroics.

On Saturday evening, the Red Knights were enjoying the beautiful dinner offsite at a local Elks lodge. Buses were supplied to transport Red Knight members to and from the host and secondary hotels. The return buses started at about 9:30 PM, heading back.

Though the first bus was full, 2 members from New Jersey were on that bus. As they arrived back at the hotel the New Jersey members enjoyed some friendly conversation in the hotel lobby before heading to bed at around 10:00 PM. Both members, already being packed for their trip home on Sunday, laid down to watch a little TV and fell asleep. One member was woken by a loud snort sound, thinking the other snored, got up and went into the bathroom and upon his return, heard a gasp of a last breath.

He immediately checked on his roommate, realizing there was no Pulse or Breathing, pulled him to the floor, called 9-1-1 (10:33 PM) and started CPR.

Within 10 minutes, Bangor Fire, Paramedics and Police arrived on scene, hooking up the AED and shocking him 3 times. They then placed a Lucas Compression machine to his chest and began starting IV solutions.

I was in my room when I received a call that the Police, Fire and Paramedics are at the hotel. Quickly getting dressed and entering the lobby where no one knew who the ambulance was for. Then a New Jersey member exited the elevator and told me it was his roommate.

The Paramedics exited the next elevator; the patient on a stretcher with the Lucas machine attached, Bag Valve Mask to assist in breathing and IV bags hanging. He was transported to Northern Light Eastern Maine Medical Center.

Crissy White, the lead coordinator for the Rally, drove the New Jersey member and me to the hospital where we waited for words on his condition.

The doctor came out to speak with us and to get all the details leading to the incident. Once information was passed on, the doctor left, and we again waited.

The doctor returned several hours later and indicated that he had suffered a major heart attack and Stents were placed in his heart arteries to help with the blood flow. He was also placed on a respirator to help him breathe and it would be about 48 to 72 hours before they would know if he suffered any major damage.

The doctor stated that if he survives, it was because of the quick actions taken at the hotel.

We returned to the hotel at 1:57 AM.

Even though I checked on his condition every day, three days later, I received a message that he (even though still in the hospital) was sitting up in a chair eating a meal.

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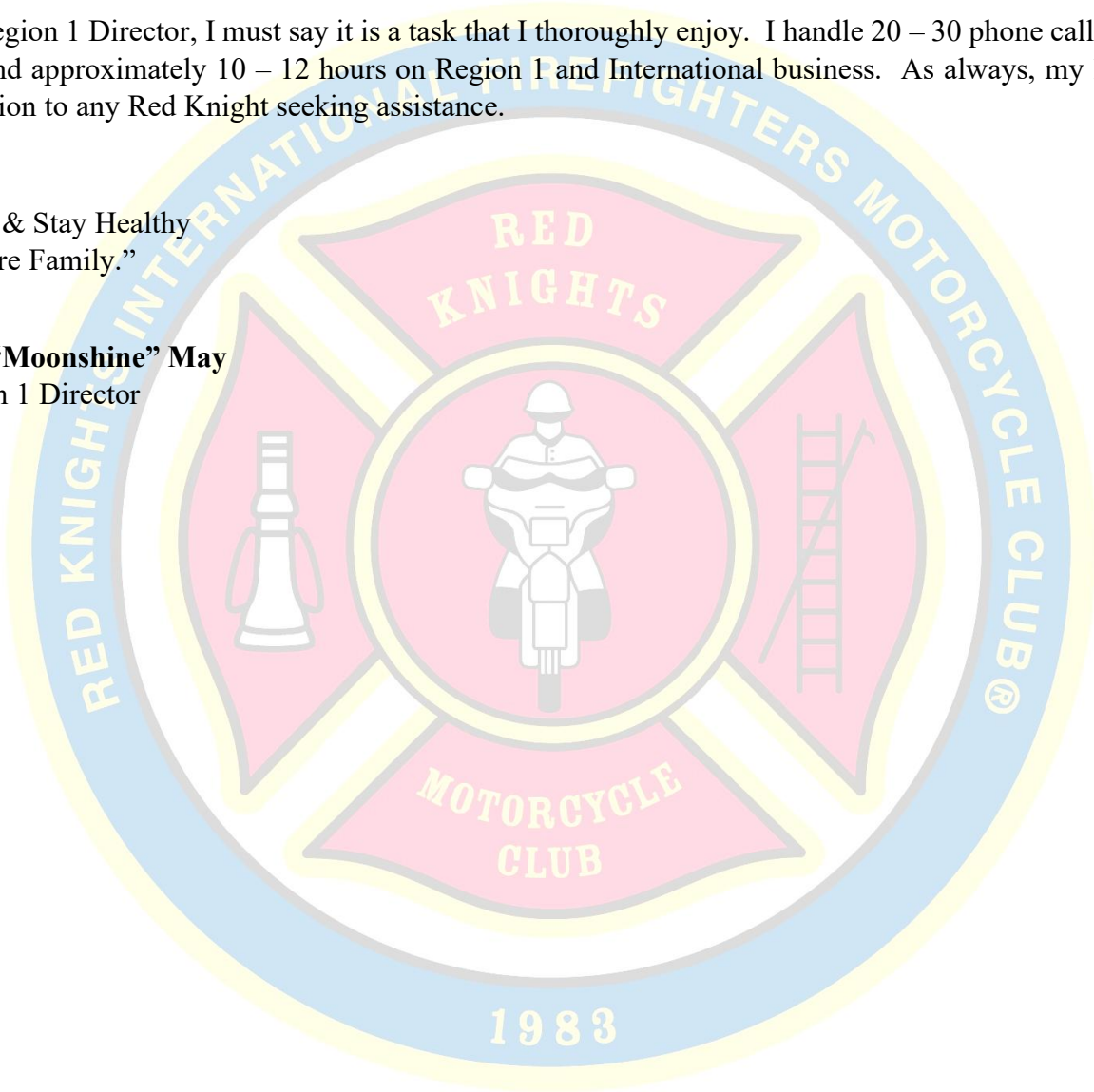
More good news came on Saturday, June 14th, because of the quick and heroic actions of one Red Knight member, another Red Knight is home in New Jersey with his family.

I am also happy to report that our next several Yankee Rallies have been confirmed as well and we will be heading to the Finger Lakes of New York in 2026, Mystic Connecticut in 2027, Vermont in 2028 and tentatively back to Maine in 2029.

As your Region 1 Director, I must say it is a task that I thoroughly enjoy. I handle 20 – 30 phone calls a week on average, and approximately 10 – 12 hours on Region 1 and International business. As always, my line is open for discussion to any Red Knight seeking assistance.

Ride Safe & Stay Healthy
“We are Family.”

Kenneth “Moonshine” May
Region 1 Director



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