



# NEWSLETTER

JULY 2025



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## Letter from the Editor

**Delainey Thorud (MN 4)**

Welcome back, Red Knights!

As always, I want to start off by thanking the Regional Reporters for all of their hard work wrangling updates from chapters in their region! I would also like to welcome Kim Reed as the new Region 6 Reporter, we are so happy to have her representing Region 6!

We are in the middle of rally season and this newsletter is being published on the heels of the 2025 Western Rally, which I just got back from this week. Up next we have the Atlantic Rally from July 10-12 and then the International Convention from August 21-25. Not to mention the Bootlegger Rally, Scooter Stampede, EuCon, and Knights of the Roundtable later in the year!

I hope that you enjoy reading through this newsletter and learning about all of the cool things that our chapters are doing throughout the world. Use the information and ideas you see here to expand your chapter, increase engagement, and connect with other chapters in your area and beyond!

Remember, this newsletter is what YOU make it, so please make sure to send your events, stories, and photos to either your Regional Reporter or me throughout the year. **Updates for the next newsletter will need to be sent to your Regional Reporter or me no later than January 14, 2026, or they may not be included.**

Ride safe and see you in August at the International Convention!

Delainey Thorud

International Newsletter Editor, RKIFMC

[Editor@redknightsmc.com](mailto:Editor@redknightsmc.com)



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## Newsletter Tips:

If you are viewing the newsletter as a PDF, you should be able to click on the content items to the left and be taken directly to that page.

There are games throughout the newsletter and the answers can be found on the answer key on the very last page of the newsletter.

If you would like to have a birth, marriage, or Heaven One member included in the newsletter, please make sure to either submit it in the [Notices section](#) of the RKMC website, or send the information to your regional reporter or me.

If you have any questions, concerns, ideas, or would like to learn more about the process for these newsletters, please contact the International Newsletter Editor, Delaine Thorud, at [Editor@redknightsmc.com](mailto:Editor@redknightsmc.com).

**Happy reading!**

*Please note, some reports and updates included in this newsletter are presented as submitted and have not been altered or edited in any way.*

# IN THIS EDITION

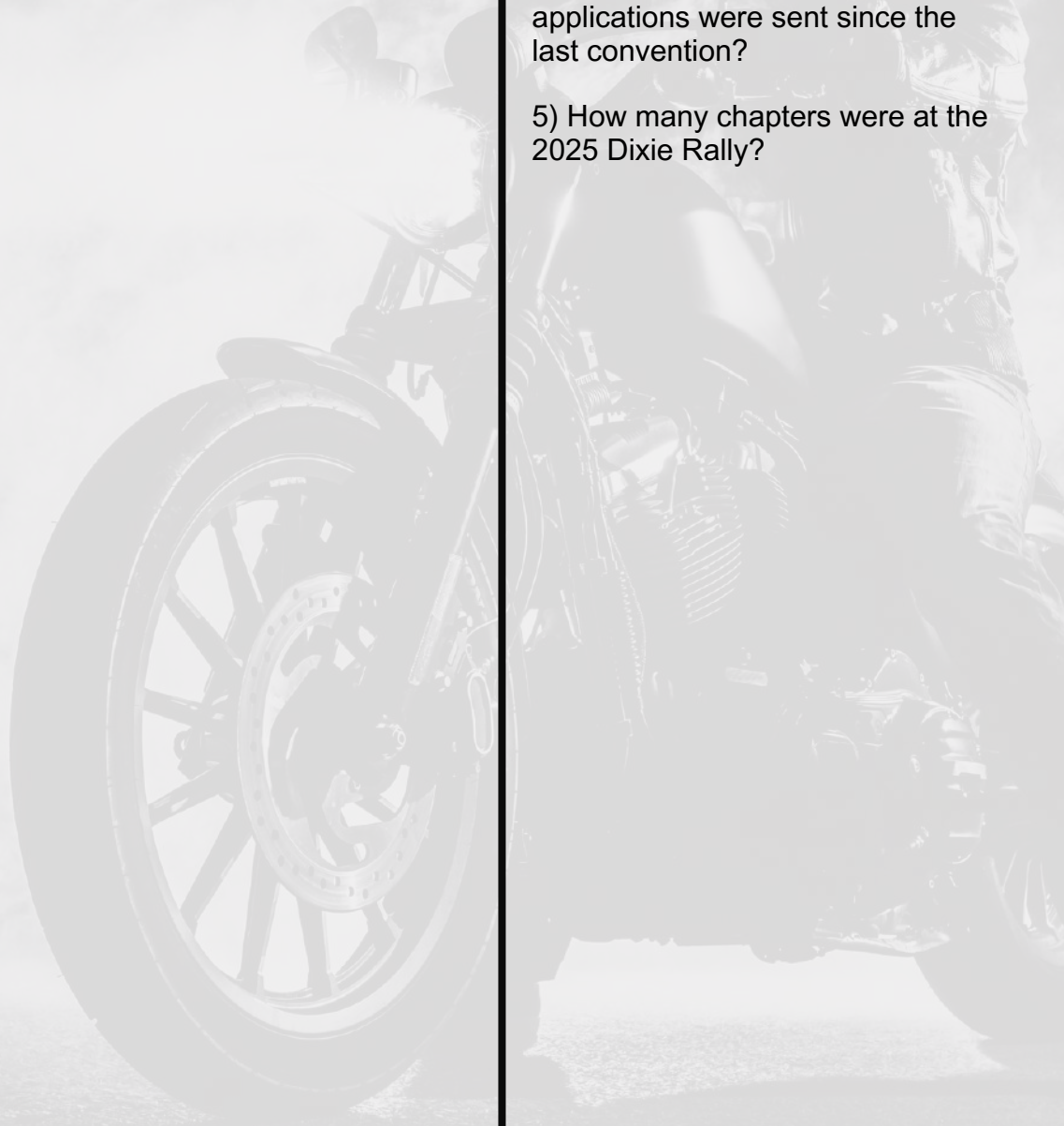
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## Newsletter Quiz

### Quiz Questions:

- 1) When are updates for the next newsletter due?
- 2) What country is EuCon 2025 being held in?
- 3) How many people attended the 2025 Yankee Rally?
- 4) How many new chapter applications were sent since the last convention?
- 5) How many chapters were at the 2025 Dixie Rally?





# 2025 BOARD CONVENTION REPORTS

## PRESIDENT – SPIKE OSTIGUY

Fraternal Greetings To All

Welcome to Peoria, Illinois for the Annual Convention and Business Meeting (ABM) of the Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club. On behalf of the International Board, an enormous thank you goes out to our convention's host and volunteer organizers. We certainly look forward to seeing all of our extended family, old and new.



Your International Board met April 23-27 for our Spring Board Meeting (SBM) in Baltimore, Maryland, with 100% attendance. To date, we've also held a number of virtual (Zoom) meetings. I was able to attend all but one. Two significant family celebrations prevented Karen and me from attending this year's Dixie and Yankee Rallies. Karen's eldest daughter Rachel graduated from Saint Joseph's College of Maine. And on June 7<sup>th</sup> my son Garrett (formerly a Junior Member) and daughter-in-law Allyson celebrated their nuptials. I was there with you at the rallies in spirit, and tried to follow many a social media pics and posts.

The biggest bit of Red Knights news I can report is that we now have a new name plate on the back of the original kiosk in RK Memorial Park. This plate was manufactured and installed by Tim Hamilton and his son Marcus. Tim is a Massachusetts 1 Social Member and son Founding Father Dave Hamilton. This plate will blessedly hold 128 Heaven One Members' names. The company that manufactured the first two kiosks at the memorial has significantly increased their prices while also decreasing the sizes of their stock and plating. In the meantime, we have asked Tim to work up quotes for 1 & 2 more kiosks. We are happy to not only keep our business local, but proud to keep it in the RK family.

Before every in-person Board Meeting we pay honor and respect to those Red Knight Members who have passed on and into the Heaven One Chapter. This past February, I had the honor to represent the Board and our worldwide membership with Heaven One Protocol for R.K. Louisiana Chapter 1 Member, Stephen F. Hux. Hux, my friend and brother, championed many efforts both in and outside the Red Knights. Rest In Peace, Brother. We'll take it from here. I would like to thank Louisiana 1 for their graciousness. A special and heartfelt thank you is extended past Region 4 Director Steve Guillot and his wife Heidie for opening up their home to me.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "SPIKE" followed by a stylized flourish.

R. Spike Ostiguy  
International President



# 2025 BOARD CONVENTION REPORTS

## VICE PRESIDENT – NORM BEAUSOLEIL

Well, welcome to Springfield, no, Decatur, awe, heck, no, Peoria, and congratulations to the Illinois State Association for hosting the main event of the year, the RKIFMC® Annual Convention and Business Meeting.



Another year, another moment in history! I want to thank every single one of you. Not only those of you here in East Peoria, but every single one of you. Really, I mean it. I've finished my first complete year as your International Vice President and you haven't made me want to quit, yet, lol. And, like I said last year (and I'll say it every year), without you the Red Knights wouldn't be who we are, where we are, or what we are today. You have helped make my life full and I can only hope the Club has done the same for each of you. You represent the Club the Founders could only dream about!

Last year in Leipzig, Germany, the membership experienced their second International Convention outside of North America, and if you were there, you'd have to agree that, like Füssach, Austria, the year before, it did not disappoint! Beautiful scenery, fabulous motorcycling, delicious food, picture perfect weather, (well, it didn't rain, much) and European hospitality all made the experience another for the record books. Danke Schön!

The convention welcomed 2 new members to the International Board - Brian Singleton, Region 6 Director, and Andy Young, Region 8 Director. I'd like to express my thanks to Allen Aurich (R6) and Ken Mahon (R8) for all they did over the years. They served this Club and the board with honor, pride, and dignity, and so far, their replacements have stepped into their shoes running.

Since the ABM in Leipzig I've continued to be kept busy with the Member-at-Large (MAL) Program and a few other duties, both required and voluntary, for the Board and the membership.

Briefly (y'all don't want (or need) the sordid details, do you?) I have attended:

The 2024 Fall Board Meetings and the 2025 Spring Board Meetings in Baltimore, Maryland;  
All full board Zoom meetings except one.

All conference calls of the RKI and RKR as requested

2025 Yankee Rally in Bangor, Maine,

As well as several local & regionally sponsored R.K. rides/events in Florida and beyond.

I hosted several overseas (Switzerland, Germany and Ireland) Red Knights families at my home in Florida – you're all welcome anytime, just check with my wife, first!

Following convention here in Illinois I have my sights set on the EuCon Rally in Florence, Italy, in September and the UK/Irish Meet next May in Essex, England.

Although I have not had the honor of representing the Board at any Heaven One Ceremonies, I bow my head for all those that have passed in the past year and before. Godspeed and Rest Easy.

# 2025 BOARD CONVENTION REPORTS

## VICE PRESIDENT – NORM BEAUSOLEIL

### State of the Member-At-Large (M.A.L.) Program

At the time of this report... we have 296 M.A.L.'s

Region 1 = 27

Region 2 = 20

Region 3 = 20

Region 4 = 33

Region 5 = 37

Region 6 = 39

Region 7 = 104

Region 8 = 15

Overseas (Mexico) = 1

Through the hard work and perseverance of many Chapter Presidents and their Officers, we have or will be able to plug twenty-three (23) M.A.L. applicants into chapters for chapter member status. Seven (7) MAL applicants were approved and in April/May they recruited one more member and formed a new chapter in Iowa. Finland has grown from 3 MALs to 24 and we are all hoping a Finland chapter will soon be welcomed. And we have 2 pending MALs in Mexico.

### **And now, I'm going to repeat myself, as this is my core belief as your VP**

As the MAL Program Manager, I want to reiterate what the MAL Program was originally designed for and what I believe it is supposed to do. The program was designed to give a fledgling Club (1980's) exposure in areas that we hadn't reached "en mass". Many states, provinces and even countries started out with a single MAL here and/or there. Their presence gave the new Club exposure, and soon more firefighters joined those MALs and formed chapters. The Program is a steppingstone TO chapter membership and formation, NOT FROM chapter membership to independent riding.

Today, we are so well represented around the world that I am doing my best to place every MAL applicant in a chapter. A vast majority of those applicants are fully in favor of chapter membership. Now, I need ALL chapter officers to open the door to remote members. Take them under your chapter's watchful eye, expose them to life as chapter members, then let them spread their wings and start a chapter of their own out yonder. A chapter member 100 miles from his chapter should be doing the same thing an MAL is expected to do.

There are many chapters (and their officers) that are unhappy with some (maybe a lot) of their member's attendance records, so they shy away from bringing in new members that will clearly not be attending everything due to the travel time and distance. My position, and that of most officers I speak with, is this: **If they weren't in your chapter yesterday, attending meetings, helping at events and joining you for rides, whose loss is it if they aren't there tomorrow? Certainly not the chapter's – you can't lose what you don't have.** And, they may be in an area your chapter wouldn't necessarily ride to so, new adventures for you!



# 2025 BOARD CONVENTION REPORTS

## VICE PRESIDENT – NORM BEAUSOLEIL

My vision and plan with the MAL Program is to urge **current MALs that move** to an area that has a chapter to join that chapter. The benefits for both are overwhelmingly good. If a chapter forms near an MAL, I will urge that MAL to become part of that chapter for the same reasons. Any MAL applicant that is within a reasonable distance of an existing chapter will be referred to that chapter, and I will expect that chapter to welcome the member with an open-door policy.

Finally, for those chapter members that move away from their home chapter area and ask for MAL status, I will urge them to remain with their chapter. They are already members. I ask, honestly, as a member of the Red Knights, what benefit is it for YOU to change the bottom rocker?

Lastly, for those chapter members that look to leave a chapter because you (or someone is making you) feel that you are letting them down, falling behind or not carrying your fair share of the load, remember this. In the Red Knights, it should be understood by the members AND chapter and Club leadership **that family, religion, and the ability to provide come before the Club**. Without happy and healthy members, chapters **and** this Club can't survive. This Club was not formed with a "*Club first*" mentality, so, if you EVER experience that within your chapter, I want you to call me right away. We didn't design this Club to require attendance of any kind, and, as a Founder, I pray it never does.

When Dave Hamilton (RIP), Jack Pierce, Ed Wright, Dave Hunt, Colin Mackey (RIP), Roger Wentzell, Jon Tripp, Bob Bourassa, Don Parker, Bob Goulet (RIP) and I closed our meeting in August (and October) of 1982 there were 11 members in 1 chapter, representing 3 towns in 1 state. Today, thanks to all of you believing in our dream, we stand nearly 10,000 strong, representing 27 countries around the world, with more on the horizon.

In closing, I recognize that we all can't, and won't, agree on everything. Each of us see problems, issues and solutions differently. If we all agreed, if we all saw it the same way, life would be boring, wouldn't it! Change can be good, and honestly, I believe very often it is good, but it can't and won't happen if you sit back, complaining loudly to a few but silently to the many. I truly enjoy my role as your vice president, and I look forward to another 2 or more years representing all of you. But I would urge anyone that feels they have something to offer, sees something they believe is being missed or feels there is a need for change to step up and throw your name in the hat. No challenge, no change. Give the membership a voice. Give them a choice!

Remember, **we came to ride!**

As always, I remain,

Loyal to Our Duty

Norm Beausoleil

RKIFMC International Vice President

Life Member & Founder of Massachusetts Chapter 1, and,

Proud to be a member of Ireland 1, Switzerland 4, and any other chapter that calls me brother!

# 2025 BOARD CONVENTION REPORTS

## SECRETARY – MICHAEL WOODS

Hello to all my fellow Red Knights Brothers and Sisters

I would again like to thank everyone for giving me their support in serving you on this Board. It truly is an honor and privilege to be a small part of our Club's future! The last couple of years have seen highs and lows, chock-full of learning experiences and harsh realities. I continue to learn and grow, seeking better ways to serve you all to a standard I believe you all deserve.



In this last year as International Secretary, I have had the privilege to attend and co-host the 2024 Bootleggers Rally, attend the 2024 International Fall Board Meeting, the 2025 International Spring Board Meeting, and the 2025 Dixie Rally. I cherish those events and the memories made at every one of them. I look forward to many more years of building bonds, friendships, and memories!

I developed a passion for education as a Training Captain with my F.D., and I'm always searching for better ways to drive that here with the RKMCC. The development of the Quick Reference Guides (QRGs) is one of those ways. These QRGs are designed to give you further guidance on different aspects of the By-law and SOGs. If your chapter has not received these from your Regional Directors, you can find them on our website.

If you have any ideas for better educational items, please feel free to let me know. I'm here to help and move to a better tomorrow!

Below are the stats since the last Convention: 8/17/2024 to 6/21/2024

### **Heaven One Chapter:**

New Members: 46

### **TMLA Report:**

Approved: 304

Denied: 2

Pending: 14

Total requested: 330

### **New Chapter Applications Sent Out:**

Interest letters sent: 17

Applications sent: 11

### **Insurance Events:**

Insurance issued: 29

Pending: 9

Insurance requested: 37

### **Insurance AD&D:**

Claims filed: 5

Total payout: \$20,000

### **Rental Agreements Issued**

Total issued: 32

Pending: 0

Total requested: 32



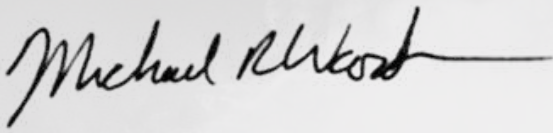
# 2025 BOARD CONVENTION REPORTS

## SECRETARY – MICHAEL WOODS

One last thing: get out there and meet new RKMCM members, rekindle old contacts, and turn them into friendships! Go to rallies and have a great time with like-minded brothers and sisters. There is more to this club than just chapter life; there is a whole world full of our brothers and sisters that you can create new bonds with! And please don't forget what Brotherhood and Sisterhood mean!

Again, thank you! I'm very appreciative to be able to serve you and help be a small part of making this beloved organization grow for our future!

**“Loyal to Our Duty”**



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*Photo Credits: Chris Whiting - NC State Annual Meeting*



# 2025 BOARD CONVENTION REPORTS

## TREASURER – SCOTT RYAN

### Treasurer's Report – Convention 2025

Please accept this, my 2025 convention report for activities in 2024 as International Treasurer.

Since my last convention report, I have attended the fall and spring in-person meetings in Baltimore along with numerous Board Meetings by way of Zoom and the second International Convention outside of North America. This time I went early to experience more of the beauty in Europe making the loop around the Baltic Sea and Gulf of Bothnia and experiencing what Google said was the traditional food of all 13 countries I went through, well worth the time!



We have added 15 chapter in 2024 and did have to officially close 9 at Convention in 2024.

As far as members go there were over 1,125 new members who joined our club in 2024! In my report last year I asked Chapter Presidents to be familiar with the By-Laws as they relate to Social Members, those By-Laws changed at the convention in 2024 and just as importantly there was a change not accepted by the membership. This points to the importance to reading not just what the By-Laws say, but what they also do not say. That is, the By-Laws now say that step- and half- relationships are eligible for Social Membership. Not list in the relationships is in-law relationships, because they are not listed, they are not eligible. This was affirmed at the 2024 convention when a By-Law proposal to explicitly include in-laws was presented to the membership and was voted down. Again, it's important to be familiar with what the By-Laws say and what they do not say, but you aren't in this alone. If you are unsure, check with your Country/Province/State Representative, if they are unsure, they can reach out to their Regional Director.

A quick refresher on Quarterly Roster updates. A big part of this process is to ensure someone in your chapter is checking the official email account. Rosters themselves should be updated with me as soon after they change as possible – changes through the quarter can be sent from personal email accounts if that is easier. The quarterly update should be a simple "no roster update" since I should already have all updates. Heaven 1 protocol will only apply to people on the International Roster.

It has been my pleasure to serve you and I look forward to continuing as your Treasurer.

Sincerely  
Scott Ryan  
Loyal to our Duty  
(902) 330-3431



# 2025 BOARD CONVENTION REPORTS

## REGION 1 DIRECTOR – KEN MAY

To My Red Knights Family,

Region 1 consists of the following:

- 8 States
- 98 Chapters
- 2,678 Chapter Members
- 27 Members at Large
- 2,705 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.



# 2025 BOARD CONVENTION REPORTS

## REGION 1 DIRECTOR – KEN MAY

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, 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.



# 2025 BOARD CONVENTION REPORTS

## REGION 1 DIRECTOR – KEN MAY

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.

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





# 2025 BOARD CONVENTION REPORTS

## REGION 2 DIRECTOR – RANDY SMITH

Greetings Brothers and Sisters

The past year has been one of the most fulfilling periods that I have had in my 4 decades with the Club. The International Board is a group of 12 very committed individuals, each with our own viewpoints and regional insights, but with one goal above all others – making this Club better. We may have spirited discussions over issues, but we never lose sight of the fact that we work for you, the almost 10,000 worldwide members that drive this organization.



Region 2 encompasses eastern Canada, from Ontario to Newfoundland. There are 40 chapters, with 850 chapter members and 19 MALs. Our two most distant chapters are over 3200 km apart. Without events such as the Atlantic Rally, it would be impossible to meet many members of the Region.

Since the 2024 Convention in Leipzig, Germany, I have attended all meetings of the Board either in person or remotely. We continue to deal with issues on an ongoing basis, and also to try to pre-empt issues before they occur.

This year, I am responsible for the Memorial House reservations. Did you know that the Red Knights have a house in Boylston, MA? You can stay there for a minimal fee, see some Red Knights history, have a BBQ on the deck and hang out. The House is available year-round to visiting Red Knights from around the world.

I have attended several Heaven One presentations, in Ontario, Quebec, as well as two in New York State (International Board members will cover each other's services in certain circumstances). Each of these presentations was well received, and until you have felt the appreciation of the fallen Knight's family and chapter members it's hard to understand. It's also a reminder to always submit your quarterly roster updates, to ensure that your members are entitled to not only this honour, but also the free \$4000 Accidental Death benefit offered to North American Knights.

Ontario and Quebec Red Knights participated for the first time ever in the Canadian Fallen Firefighters Memorial weekend last September 6-8. We will be returning this year (Sept. 5-7) to once again provide a Guard of Honour at a special ceremony for the families of fallen Canadian firefighters. We are looking to grow our contingent for 2025, as we now march in the official parade as well.

Communications is the linchpin to growing and enjoying the Club. There have been numerous occasions where chapter members are not receiving timely info from their Executives. It is incumbent upon the folks running your chapter to check the official RKMC inbox on a regular basis. As well, Ontario will be running a pilot project to help promote events. More below.



# 2025 BOARD CONVENTION REPORTS

## REGION 2 DIRECTOR – RANDY SMITH

The Ontario Association 6 Annual General Meeting was held June 14, and the Association now has two new leaders. This means new ideas! They will be leveraging technology to communicate across various platforms. Whatsapp is easy to use, and flexible. Perhaps you're a Facebook person. Maybe you do it all on Instagram. Their goal will be to inform all chapters about upcoming RKMC events. This is critical if we want to grow the Club. Look for more in the coming months.

Upcoming events - I'm looking forward to the 2025 Atlantic Rally in New Brunswick, the International Convention in Illinois, the CFFF Memorial in Ottawa, and next year's Convention in Melbourne Australia. In 2027, my home chapter (Ontario 1) is hosting the first ever International Convention at sea! Planning is well underway for this event as well. These and many other Red Knight events bring us together, to share our experiences, and deepen our bonds.

Whatever you ride, get out and ride. Wear your colours proudly. If you need a red or black RKMC vest, the Canadian supplier is in Toronto. These are made to order, not cheap, but very high quality. Our colours are our identity in the motorcycle world. We are blessed to have a respected calling. Honour your colours, and remember you are representing firefighters whenever you have them on.

Please know that I am always available by email at [region2@redknightsmc.com](mailto:region2@redknightsmc.com), or by phone at 1-647-470-7562. If you're coming through Toronto, be sure to give me a call. I'd be happy to show you my fire station, grab a coffee or have a bite to eat. I'm always ready to talk Red Knights.

Stay safe, enjoy each day, and get out there on that bike!

I remain,

**Loyal To Our Duty**

Randy Smith  
Red Knights International  
Firefighters Motorcycle Club  
Region 2 Director  
Eastern Canada

# 2025 BOARD CONVENTION REPORTS

## REGION 3 DIRECTOR – MARK MULLEN

Region 3 currently has 65 chapters, 1299 members, 20 MAL's.

Illinois has 9 chapters, Indiana has 8 chapters, Michigan has 1 chapter, Missouri has 2 chapters, Ohio has 10 chapters, Pennsylvania has 25 chapters, West Virginia has 5 chapters, and Wisconsin has 5 chapters.

Since my last report we have lost 2 brothers in Pennsylvania, Keith Eshelman from Pennsylvania 10 and Richard Foley from Pennsylvania 17, please keep their families in your thoughts and prayers.



The Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club International Convention for 2025 Will be hosted by the Illinois State association of the Red Knights and will be held in Peoria IL, August 21 through August 25, 2025 registration is currently open. Registration information can be found on the international website under events. A second hotel has been added Because we used up all the blocked rooms at the host hotel. The registration with merchandise pre-order deadline is June 15th, 2025.

They have several events planned for your stay, from thrilling rides, kayaking trips, a visit to the Illinois firefighter memorial, and the camaraderie of your fellow brothers and sisters.

5 Pennsylvania members and three Illinois members worked the races at the Talladega Speedway, they were from Pennsylvania 11, Pennsylvania 37 and Pennsylvania 38. And the Illinois members we're all from Illinois chapter 14.

4 Pennsylvania members attended Dixie rally all from Pennsylvania 11, the state association meeting was held April 19th in State College Pennsylvania. 6 Pennsylvania members will be attending the western rally (PA11, PA34).

PA31 held their annual saFR ride on May 18th, this ride donates money raised to riders who have been in accidents. During the first two years of this ride, a member from PA 8 and PA 11 were the recipients of the donation.

Bootlegger rally 2025 will be in Waukesha WI August 28<sup>th</sup> - 31st 2025. Registration ends July 1st, 2025. I'm looking forward to attending this rally after the convention. I know a lot of people are looking forward to attending the convention and then going up through Chicago and heading to Wisconsin, an awesome trip if you have not been through Chicago.

Bootlegger 2026 will be hosted by Pennsylvania 37. When I get more information, I will pass it on.

Riding season has begun here in the Midwest and towards the east, please remember to have your bikes checked and as always ride safe.

Moon  
Region 3 Director  
708-516-6352



# 2025 BOARD CONVENTION REPORTS

## REGION 4 DIRECTOR – CHUCK MARKS

Dear Red Knights Brothers and Sisters,

As I wrap up my third year in office, I can genuinely say that the experience has still been a mix of rewarding, fun, and occasionally frustrating, but well worth it.. It never ceases to amaze me how much dedication it takes to improve our club year after year. I'm truly grateful for the support from all my fellow board members. This past year, we've welcomed several new chapters in Region 4, including two in Tennessee. Sadly, we've also mourned the loss of several members who have received Heaven One honors. Our thoughts and prayers remain with their families.



In August, I had the privilege of attending the 2024 International Convention and ABM in Leipzig, Germany, where I was honored with knighthood. I might have been in a t-shirt and shorts at the time, but I was able to sport my red uniform vest(thanks Brand Lea), IYKYK.... Brandi and I also enjoyed an extra week in Germany to celebrate our anniversary, joined by our fellow Red Knights, Don Brandt (remember, "If you ain't first, you're last") and Heather Drew.

Throughout the year, I've had the pleasure of participating in numerous local and Regional Red Knights events, including:

- Bootlegger in Columbus, Indiana
- The inaugural Scooter Stampede in Oklahoma City, which was an awesome success
- Fall ABM in Baltimore, Maryland
- The New Jersey After Christmas Party
- Spring ABM in Baltimore, Maryland
- Dixie Rally in New Orleans, where LA1 and LA5 truly outdid themselves, as always

As members of the Red Knights MC, Brandi and I are proud to be part of this club and are grateful to spend our vacations alongside thousands of our brothers and sisters, building lasting bonds and creating unforgettable memories. It's an honor to connect with friends from around the globe and welcome new members into our family.

Thank you to all the Region 4 members for allowing me the privilege of representing you on the International Board. Remember, I'm just a phone call or email away.

Warm regards,  
Chuck "Sugar Daddy" Marks

# 2025 BOARD CONVENTION REPORTS

## REGION 6 DIRECTOR – BRIAN SINGLETON

I have spent at least 15 hours each week working on Red Knights' business.

I have been working with each chapter to ensure that they are checking their emails regularly and that each chapter is utilizing them. Furthermore, I have been working with each state representative to ensure that all MALs receive updates and international information appropriately. I have been working with the support of the Texas State Representative to assist with getting chapters current with RK International dues and rosters. I have spoken with three individuals about the requirements for forming chapters within Texas and one individual in California.



This year, our Texas chapters are hosting the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Region 6 “Scooter Stampede Rally.”

Region 6 members and I attended the Region 4 Dixie Rally in Kenner, LA put on by LA1.

We were able to replace our regional reporter, allowing us to receive and include regional information in the newsletter.

Respectfully submitted:  
Brian Singleton  
Region 6 Director





# 2025 BOARD CONVENTION REPORTS

## REGION 7 DIRECTOR – TOM VAN DER KLEY

Over the past year, I have actively participated in all in-person meetings as well as online meetings. I have also been involved in countless messages, emails, and phone calls to stay connected and engaged.

One of the absolute highlights was attending the Dixie Rally in New Orleans. It was an incredible experience—not only because of the beautiful surroundings (despite the extreme heat!), but also because it was a chance to reconnect with old friends and make new ones.

As we look to the future, I would like to remind all members that this is a social motorcycle club for firefighters. Some of the issues we have faced in the past would never arise in a fire station, and I believe we should hold ourselves to the same standard of camaraderie and respect.

It is my sincere hope that moving forward, there will be no more hostility, bullying, hearsay, or gossip. Instead, let us refocus on what truly matters in our club: riding motorcycles, enjoying camaraderie, and building lasting friendships.

In the future, I will no longer accept any issues that arise from nonsense or drama. If something does come up, I will address it firmly and decisively.

I wish all members a wonderful International Convention. Please accept my apologies for not being able to attend this time.



*Photo Credits: Michael Pförtner - Annual Meeting of the Presidents and Vice Presidents of the German Chapters*



# 2025 BOARD CONVENTION REPORTS

## REGION 8 DIRECTOR – ANDREW YOUNG

G'day from Region 8!!

Unhappily 2025 started with the passing of 2 members (Ian Wells from Australia 19 and Joseph Giarusso from Australia 1)

Please spare a thought for their families, all Region 8 mourns their passing.

The 2025 NZ Gathering took place in Cromwell, New Zealand, located in the southern South Island. The event also marked the 150th Anniversary of the Cromwell Fire Brigade. I was honoured to give away a bride at a wedding during the ride on Saturday, making it the first marriage ceremony at a Region 8 Gathering event. New Zealand 10 President Charles Le Couteur officiated, and New Zealand 5 members Roy Snelgar and Julie Watson were married in front of Red Knights from across New Zealand. Best wishes to the couple from Region 8.

The Australian chapters elected a new country rep in March / April, welcome to Mick James from Aus 18 into the Australian Rep role. I look forward to working with you and Zane Eyre (NZ Rep) to improve communication and engagement across Region 8.

While I was in the USA for the Spring Board meeting I had the opportunity to visit the Memorial House and Park in Boylston (Thanks to Region 1 Director Ken May for picking me up from the airport and driving me up there). It was my first time visiting the house and hopefully won't be the last. We were welcomed and fed by the members of Mass 1 who were having a breakfast and clean up day at the house. I also was privileged to meet a couple more of the Founding Fathers, got a tour of the Boylston Fire House and managed to get a picture of 4 of the last 5 Perry Carter Award winners all in the same place. This was one of my most memorable days since joining the Red Knights.

Region 8 has 31 Chapters – 11 in New Zealand and 20 In Australia. Currently our members total 559 in Chapters and 14 MAL's. Since my last report I have attended the Spring Board meeting in Baltimore and been present at all Zoom meetings involving the International Board. I currently undertake approximately 3-4 hours per week on Red Knight business.

This convention marks the end of my first year as Region 8 Director, and I'd like to thank my fellow board members for their support and advice. They are a very dedicated group of people that are determined to make the club better for everyone, at every opportunity.

Region 8 is looking forward to hosting the Red Knights membership from across the world to the 2026 Convention to be held in Melbourne Australia. The Host Chapter – Australia 5 – has many events planned to make your stay memorable and we invite all Red Knights to come down to the Australia's best city for the event of a lifetime. We may even be able to manage to throw a couple of shrimp on the barbie for our international guests, and you can be sure we will have an adequate supply of Vegemite for everyone to try.





# 2025 BOARD CONVENTION REPORTS

## REGION 8 DIRECTOR – ANDREW YOUNG

Finally, I would encourage all members, no matter where you're from to go to a Convention, Regional Rally, Gathering or just a neighbouring chapters event. Meet some new people, make new connections and most of all ride your bike and have some fun.

Thanks, and Regards  
Andy Young  
Region 8 Director

## SPOT THE DIFFERENCES

There are 10 differences. Answers can be found on [page 64 \(linked here\)](#).

Spot the differences courtesy of Steve Williamson, Region 7 Reporter!



# UPCOMING EVENTS



**Atlantic Rally**  
Bouctouche, NB,  
Canada



**International  
Convention**  
Peoria, IL, USA



**Bootlegger  
Rally**  
Waukesha, WI,  
USA



**EuCon**  
Florence, Italy



**Scooter  
Stampede**  
Kerrville, TX,  
USA



**Knights of the  
Roundtable**  
Washington, DC,  
USA

## GENERAL RED KNIGHTS NEWS

### We Need Your Photos!

We need your photos for the website and Facebook pages! Please send your photos to:  
[Communications@RedKnightsMC.com](mailto:Communications@RedKnightsMC.com)

### We Need Your Photos

#### For The Website & Facebook Pages

Do you have photos that haven't been posted recently on Social Media?

Please share them so we can use them on Facebook and the International website.

Send your photos to

[Communications@RedKnightsMC.com](mailto:Communications@RedKnightsMC.com)





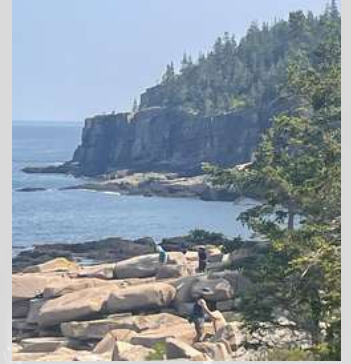
# REGIONAL NEWS

REGION 1 – REPORTER: JAMES VOSS

## Yankee Rally 2025

The Yankee Rally was held in Bangor, Maine, hosted by the Maine Red Knights from June 5-8, 2025. There were 285 participants at this rally. The accommodations were great; the guided rides well planned and intersections secured.

The Friday ride brought us to the beautiful Moose Head Lake. Some of us were lucky to find a great restaurant on the edge of the lake.



Saturday, we were guided to the Sea Wall, where unfortunately the foggy day didn't allow for much viewing of the beautiful coast of Maine. However, we were all invited to enjoy lunch at the amazing clubhouse of Maine Chapter III. We were offered lobster rolls, and treated to hamburgers, hotdogs, and side dishes. The ride back to the hotels was a wet one.

The banquet on Saturday night was a feast! Some of our members enjoyed a second helping of lobster in one day provided by the Anah Shrine Mini Cars Unit. This time it was 2 good sized lobsters served with mussels, clams and corn on the cob. Others were treated to a steak dinner provided by the Widows Sons. Our thanks to the local Masons who cooked and served this delicious meal.



The Red Knights have always prided themselves on their commitment to helping each other in addition to aiding many charities, from helping members needing assistance with medical bills, Make A Wish Foundations for critically ill children, or making a joyful Christmas for needy families, to name a few.



My wife and I were assisted by many of the members attending this year's rally. On Thursday we were driving a Kawasaki Vulcan with Trike kit and experienced a flat tire just 12 miles from our hotel in Bangor. While waiting for a flatbed truck to come take our trike to Bangor Powersports, Ben Jankowski of MD-6 stopped to ask how he could help. We assured him that AAA was en route. He had ridden for 11 hours in extreme heat. He stayed quite a while, until we assured him we were fine, and he should get out of the heat. He checked with us later that day to make sure we were okay.



# REGIONAL NEWS

REGION 1 – REPORTER: JAMES VOSS

## Yankee Rally 2025

Just as the flatbed was arriving, Norm Beausoleil MA I (coming from Florida) and Victor Hartley NJ XXXI stopped and offered assistance. Norm was driving a jeep and took my wife to the host hotel. When she arrived, Sonny Sylvester, ME VIII and Crissy White, ME V were well aware of our predicament. Sonny drove my wife to our hotel, while Crissy was in communication with our friends Joe and Nancy Goldstein, also from NH V. When Bangor Powersports had trouble finding a tire for us, Sonny made a call to a friend who he thought may have one. He did, and Friday morning Sonny's daughter Chrstine Sylvester, ME VIII and her boyfriend picked it up and drove it to Bangor Powersports, who had it installed by Friday afternoon!

We would not have had such a quick fix if it had not been for the assistance of all these amazing people. Their knowledge and willingness to research businesses to help, rides and general information is greatly appreciated. Crissy had an enormous job to fill, and she stopped to help us several times.

The Maine Red Knights hosted a fun, very well organized and memorable rally. While enjoying the rally, Red Knights from all over still offered assistance to us and others who had various incidents. As said, "the Red Knights is a Brotherhood".

## Upcoming Yankee Rallies

- **2026 Yankee Rally** will be hosted by NH-30 In the Finger Lakes, Geneva, NY
- **2027 Yankee Rally** will be hosted by CT-2 Mystic Seaport, CT

## New Hampshire 1

### NH-1 celebrates 40 years

NH-1 celebrates their 40th anniversary as Red Knights this year. Congratulations and thank you keeping the legacy of Red Knights in NH alive.

## New Hampshire 5

### NH Chapter V Celebrates 20 Years

Twenty years ago, a group of firefighters of the Fire and Rescue Department in Epping, NH who also rode motorcycles together, decided to start a chapter of the NH Red Knights. NH V was officially chartered in May of 2005 and included members from surrounding departments, as well as welcoming Associate and Social members. Chapter V membership fluctuated over the years reaching an all-time high of 52 members in 2019. Eight members are celebrating this 20 year benchmark. NH Chapter V is very proud of their lineage, their commitment to charities, and promotion of safe riding.



# REGIONAL NEWS

## REGION 3 – REPORTER: JIM GARNER

### Ohio 6

#### Update from President Richard Merkosky

We had a late start to our riding season due to the poor weather conditions for most of the month of May. Members attended the 21st Annual Firefighters Memorial Ride held in Cleveland.



Ohio 6 was honored to be involved in the escort of "The Wall That Heals". This is a traveling replica of the Vietnam Wall. There was an estimated 500 motorcycles that attended.

Every year or so just before riding season begins, we try to contact someone who is involved with instructing motorcycle safety to attend our monthly meeting just as a refresher or continuing education. We had asked our local State Highway Patrol last year and the officer presented a powerpoint presentation and spoke for nearly an hour.



This year our chapter was asked to participate in a new pilot program hosted at a local Community College. The program was an Advanced Riders Skill Course and it was being offered by the State of Ohio under the supervision of Motorcycle Ohio. I took an advanced course years ago so I kind of had an idea of what to expect. We were told it was a new program and they were looking for "Test Subjects" for this pilot program. I figured what the heck, we are all Firefighters, what better "Test Subjects" can they get.



We had 2 hours of classroom training and 5 hours of "Hands On" training on the bikes. This course is a must, even if you have been riding for 20 to 30 years or more like most of us. We learned a lot. I have ABS on my bike and never new what my bike would do under emergency braking. It was a very good course.

Stay safe out there. Enjoy the summer.





# REGIONAL NEWS

REGION 4 – REPORTERS: ALAN AND DIANE BILLINGS

The 2025 Dixie Rally was a Great Success!



Thank you to LA 1 and LA 5

265 registered – 23 states – 58 chapters – 6 regions – 3 countries

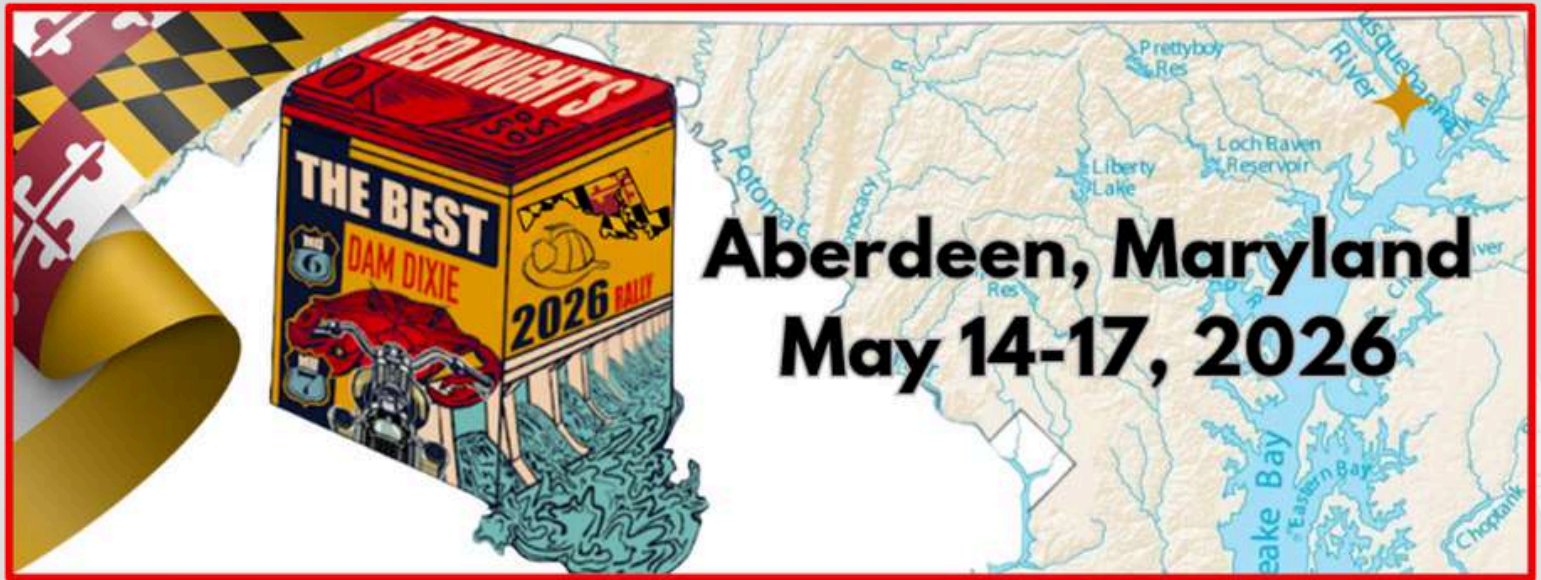




# REGIONAL NEWS

REGION 4 – REPORTERS: ALAN AND DIANE BILLINGS

## Get Ready for the Dixie Rally 2026!



Mark your calendar for the Dixie Rally 2026 - The Best Dam Dixie will be held in Aberdeen, Maryland. Meet MD 6 & 7 at the Apex of the Bay - May 14- May 17, 2026. Planning has already begun, and we're excited to share the beauty of the region with you.

There's something magnetic about the Chesapeake--a place where winding backroads meet wide-open water, and every mile invites you deeper into its quiet, salty air magic. For motorcycle riders, it's not just a destination; it's a journey made for throttle and thought.

Each ride offers a new rhythm. One moment you're rolling past historic colonial towns with brick-lined streets and seafood shacks that smell like heaven. The next, you're flying through quiet pine forests where the only sound is your engine and the occasional rustle of deer in the brush.

The Chesapeake is a place of contrast--tidal flats and forested ridges, lighthouse-dotted coastlines and open farmland. And the roads? They're less traveled, often forgotten, but unforgettable. Two-lane ribbons of asphalt stretch between sleepy villages and sun-warmed docks, offering solitude and stories in equal measure.

For the rider who seeks more than pavement--who craves connection to landscape, legacy, and a touch of mystery--the Chesapeake doesn't just welcome you. It rides with you. Come ride with it.

Check out our Facebook page (search for Red Knights Dixie Rally 2026- The Best Dam Dixie) for registration and hotel information.



# REGIONAL NEWS

## REGION 4 – REPORTERS: ALAN AND DIANE BILLINGS

### Region 4 Highlight a Knight

**Each newsletter we highlight a member from Region 4**

if you would like to highlight a Region 4 member in the next newsletter send an email to [region4reporter@redknightsmc.com](mailto:region4reporter@redknightsmc.com) for information.

### Steve “Biz” Bisbee - Maryland 7



Biz started his Red Knights time in 2008 when he joined New Jersey 5. Prior to his joining he was a long time member of the Hampton Rescue Squad from early in the 90s. For those of you that know him, yes he did patient care, and loved it. Once he relocated to Lebanon Township in 2004 he joined and became an Engineer of the Lebanon Township Fire Company, where he found driving was his happy place. Makes sense due to his growing up around and driving tractor trailers, and continuing into his early career life.

In 2010 Biz and his family took the long trip out of New Jersey and relocated to Maryland and Biz joined Maryland 7. He quickly became the quartermaster, and continues to do so. When he relocated he joined the Galena Vol Fire Company. In his time in the department he has held positions as Lieutenant, Engineer, Chief Engineer, Director and in 2020 he took his current and most favorite role as Department President. Biz is currently the county liaison for life insurance and LOASP, and loves being able to help the ones that need it.

Biz Became the President of the Red Knights Maryland State Association in 2022 and quickly found his passion within this organization. In his 17 years in the Red Knights he has attended many Dixies, Yankees, Bootleggers, Conventions, state picnics and events. Attending the different events and rallies his family has grown with many members from around the world.

Biz has many passions in life, with riding when the weather is above freezing, or hunting when the weather is below freezing, but his biggest passion is family. One of his most joyest moments was holding his grandson Leader for the first time. As Biz is gearing up for retirement, his passion with the GVFC and Red Knights will continue to grow.





# REGIONAL NEWS

## REGION 4 – REPORTERS: ALAN AND DIANE BILLINGS

### Georgia 26

#### Proud Moment!

GA 26 Associate Member, Aaron Lewis, was awarded Officer of the Year with the Milledgeville, Georgia police department.

Congratulations, Aaron on a well-deserved recognition.



### South Carolina 1

#### Red Knights South Carolina Chapter 1 - 1st Annual All American Ride - "People Feeding People"



Join us for a day of community spirit and support for "The Shepherd's Table Community Kitchen and Pantry" – a local charity dedicated to providing meals to veterans and the underprivileged.

**Saturday October 4, 2025 (Rain or Shine)**

**The Rock Church  
1408 Mill Pond Rd, Conway, SC 29526**

**Welcome at 9:00 AM  
Kick Stands Up at 12:15 PM**

Come ride with us, enjoy the car show, and support a fantastic cause! All proceeds from this event will directly benefit "The Shepherd's Table," helping to feed those in need in our community.

Registration will be \$20 per person. First 200 pre-registrants get a T-shirt. Pre-registration ends September 13, 2025.

Register at website: [rksc1.org](http://rksc1.org) or Facebook: RedKnightsSC1 or scan QR code below.





# REGIONAL NEWS

**REGION 5 – REPORTERS: ASHLEY MARTIN AND JEN ZENKER**

## **Hello from your Region 5 Reporters!**

WHAT a season it's already been for our chapters. We are getting out early in the year and taking every opportunity to hit the road! It was so great to see everyone's trips, new members, and supporting causes.

Friendly reminder that going forward, if you do not send anything to Jen or Myself for the International Newsletter, your chapter will not be included. In the past 2 issues, Jen and I have gone through social media pages and "stolen" content to fill our reports for the newsletter and while that is so awesome to look through and see what everyone else is doing, it's far too much time for the two of us to put in for every chapter. We will send out a reminder email about 2 months before the next issue's deadline and again about 2-3 weeks for last call.

Reminder that it does NOT have to be big events! If 2 of you go on a cool ride, tell us about it! Tell us about your pancake breakfasts and supporting local FDs! Marriages, babies, etc- we want to see it all! You also do not need to wait until the reminder to send things to us- if you want to email us after each event, that's great!

We want to continue to have SO much to share with the world about our wonderful Region, so please help us do that!

Keep the shiny side up!

Ashley (Smashley) Martin, MN4  
Jen Zenker, MN4

Email content to: [region5reporter@redknightsmc.com](mailto:region5reporter@redknightsmc.com)

## **2025 Western Rally**

South Dakota 1 put on a great 2025 Western Rally in Deadwood, South Dakota! The event ran from Friday, June 27 to Sunday, June 29 and included beautiful self-led rides through Iron Mountain, Needles Highway, & Custer State Park, dinner at the Deadwood Fire Hall, a group ride to Crazy Horse, a delicious banquet dinner, and lots of fun and camaraderie!



At the end of the rally, Alberta 11 announced that they will be hosting the 2026 Western Rally in High River, Alberta, Canada and will be hosting pre- and post-rally events! Stay tuned for more information from AB 11!



# REGIONAL NEWS

## REGION 5 – REPORTERS: ASHLEY MARTIN AND JEN ZENKER

### Alberta 1

Alberta 1 has been busy getting out on the road to enjoy their riding season. They had several members attend the 2025 Western Rally!



### Alberta 2

Alberta 2 is hard at work on their upcoming 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Hollywood Memorial Country Cruise and BBQ on July 26, 2025 (right).

### Alberta 4

Alberta 4 is busy! They are constantly riding together. Several Alberta 4 members attended the 2025 Western Rally and took a leisurely ride to deadwood down through Billings, MT.

### Alberta 11

Three Alberta 11 members attended the 2025 Western Rally, but all three came in separate directions! At least one Alberta 11 member is planning to attend the International Convention in August. Alberta 11 has spent most of their time together planning the Western 2026 in High River, Alberta, Canada. They unveiled their plans at the Western Rally in Deadwood, SD and presented a PowerPoint showcasing the location, Rally events, and pre- and post-rally events, including a trip to Banff and an awesome motorcycle camping trip!



### Alberta 12

Alberta 12 had their spring meeting in April and has several members attend the 2025 Western Rally.

### Alberta 14

Alberta 14 is always getting together to ride and had several members attend the 2025 Western Rally.



# REGIONAL NEWS

**REGION 5 – REPORTERS: ASHLEY MARTIN AND JEN ZENKER**

## British Columbia 2

### Supporting Each Other

Ride By and visit, to a fellow Brother recovering from a major motorcycle accident. Thanks to Quartermaster, Steven Tyler, for organizing the ride. You look terrific, Sami. It's great to see you up and about in recovery.



### Welcome New Members!

Doug Brown, Russell Tripp, Jamie and Shanda Hortobagyi



## British Columbia 3

### New Members!

New Members: Dwayne Joseph and Thomas Surette (pictures to the right)



### 10 Year Pins

10 year pins: Jim Tweedhope, Doug Brown, Gordon Kouwenberg, Kerry Zado, Kelly Zado, Gil Hodges (pictures below)





# REGIONAL NEWS

**REGION 5 – REPORTERS: ASHLEY MARTIN AND JEN ZENKER**

## British Columbia 3



### 15 Year Pin

15 year pin: Saul Brudy

### MD Ride for Doug

Thank you to the members of BC3 that joined us for the MD Ride for Doug ride to Nanaimo on June 1st. Beautiful day, great company and a good cause, what could make for a better day.



### Sooke Biker Blessing and Thunder Run

On Saturday May 10th, Members of BC3 participated in the Sooke Biker Blessing and Thunder Run, a handful of us braved the rain to take in the event. Although the weather wasn't ideal, the turn out was decent. Thank you to the Knox Presbyterian Church for hosting the event for the 17th year.

## Iowa 2

### Iowa Firefighters Memorial

On June 8th, We attended the Iowa Firefighters Memorial and presented them with a check for \$500 for the expansion of the wall.



## Minnesota 4

### Introduction

With only 6 months of decent riding weather, it's no surprise that MN 4 has been busy since the snow melted!! Members have been hosting weekly dinner rides, multiple trips and gatherings were had, and many miles have been ridden already! We have a busy 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the summer including our 20 Year Anniversary Celebration in July and our Firefighters Fighting Cancer Benefit in August (see flyers below).



# REGIONAL NEWS

**REGION 5 – REPORTERS: ASHLEY MARTIN AND JEN ZENKER**

## Minnesota 4

### Newest Junior Member

We started the year with welcoming MN4s newest member! Orville Eric Swedberg was born to members Elmo and Wynonna on January 26<sup>th</sup>! He has already stolen all our hearts!



### Donnie Smith Bike Show



We had a booth at the Donnie Smith Show this year! Members volunteered their time to man the booth and sell raffle tickets to support our cause!

### Weekly Dinner Rides

Weekly dinner rides are organized by MN4 Members. A great excuse to get out every week with the family and support area restaurants!



### Dixie Rally

MN4 Members enjoying Dixie Rally in New Orleans!



### Blessing of the Bikes

Members of MN Chapters 1, 4, 7, 8, and 10 got together for Blessing of the Bikes, hosted at Maranatha Church. Over 1000 bikes rode through the church and were blessed for the riding season!





# REGIONAL NEWS

**REGION 5 – REPORTERS: ASHLEY MARTIN AND JEN ZENKER**

## Minnesota 4

### 2nd Annual Family Picnic

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Family picnic took place early June with members of the chapter getting together with their children, parents, siblings, and neighbors to build relationships and have some great food!



### MN4 Women's Ride

Also taking place in early June was the MN4 Women's Ride! Members of MN4, MN7, and friends alike rode up to Ottertail, Minnesota for a weekend of great friends and hitting the road! Between battling cold rain the entire ride up and dodging severe weather on the way back, the weather was beautiful as we explored the North West region of our state. Assistant Road Captain 'Delish took us on a "Largest Bird Tour" where we saw the world's largest Loon, Pelican, and Turkey! Over 600 miles were ridden-(or driven- A Vanderhall and a Mustang joined in on the fun!)



### MN4 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary/MN All Chapter Get Together



**MN4 20th Anniversary  
MN All Chapter Get Together  
July 18-20, 2025**

MN4 will be hosting our 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party/MN All Chapter Get Together from July 18-20, 2025. See more information below:

- Jack McGowens Farm (20001 Hawkeye Ln, Mankato, MN 56001)
- Room for campers and tents
  - Shuttles provided to nearby hotels
- \$30 online (register by July 14) or \$45 day-of



(Click button or [here](#))



# REGIONAL NEWS

**REGION 5 – REPORTERS: ASHLEY MARTIN AND JEN ZENKER**

## Minnesota 4

### Firefighters Fighting Cancer Benefit



<b>HAMEL VFW</b> 19020 Hamel Road Plymouth, MN 55446 <b>SATURDAY, AUGUST 16TH, 2025</b>	
<b>10AM:</b> Registration Opens <b>10AM-12PM:</b> Music From Terry DuBios <b>12PM:</b> KSU For a Scenic Ride With One Stop	<b>3:30PM:</b> Return to Hamel VFW (Food, Drinks, Silent Auction, Axe Throwing) <b>3:30PM-7PM:</b> Music From Glen Everhart
<b>ALL ARE WELCOME - RIDERS AND NON-RIDERS ALIKE!!!</b>	
<b>Contacts:</b> Shawn Thorud – President.RKMN4@Gmail.com Nate Zenker – VP.RKMN4@Gmail.com Adam Gordon – RoadCapt.RKMN4@Gmail.com	  

### 2025 MN4 Planned Events

MN4 is looking forward to another busy year filled with rallies, rides, get togethers, and all kinds of different events. See below for the current 2025 list of events that is sure to be expanded as the year goes on!

- RK Atlantic Rally: 7/10-7/12
- IGYSIX Ride: 7/12
- MN4 20th Anniversary/MN All Chapter Get Together: 7/18-7/20
- Sturgis Rally: 8/1-8/10
- **MN4 15th Annual Firefighters Fighting Cancer Benefit Ride: 8/16**
- Red Knights International Motorcycle Convention 2025 – Illinois: 8/21-8/25
- Bootlegger Rally: 9/5-9/7
- Tomahawk Fall Ride: 9/11-9/13
- Scooter Stampede: 9/17-9/20
- Fall Flood Run: 9/20

## Minnesota 7

### Supporting Gibbon Fire & Rescue Department

Minnesota 7 had some beautiful weather for some chicken in Gibbon supporting Gibbon Fire & Rescue Department.





# REGIONAL NEWS

## REGION 5 – REPORTERS: ASHLEY MARTIN AND JEN ZENKER

### Minnesota 7

#### Spring Flood Run

MN 7 joined with a couple members of MN 4 and MN 8 for the Spring Flood Run!



#### Spotlight on MN7 Associate Member, Amanda



Some Riders show up. Others earn their place. Amanda did both.

After spending time as a dedicated “hang around” with MN 7, Amanda was recently voted in as an Associate Member- a rare honor, especially for a woman in this space. Her loyalty, presence, and passion for the ride didn’t just speak for themselves- they were seen, respected, and recognized by the brotherhood.

In a group where associate membership isn’t given lightly, Amanda stands as a reminder that respect on the road knows no gender. We are proud to shine a spotlight on Amanda- a woman who rides her own, represents MN7 with heart, and proves that the patch is earned.

**Q:** What first drew you to riding motorcycles?

**A:** *I’ve wanted to ride motorcycles since I can remember. My dad was a motorcycle police officer for Richfield PD in the late 60s. My brother was a motorcycle police officer in Bremerton WA his entire career. There is something about it that makes me feel alive when I ride. It’s an extension of me.*

**Q:** What does being an Associate Member mean to you, personally and as a woman rider?

**A:** *Being voted into a club demonstrates that I have integrity and that I represent what the club represents, which is safety and public service. As a woman rider, being voted into a male dominated club only goes to show I can demonstrate skill and that gender doesn’t matter. Skills are skills and character is of utmost importance.*

**Q:** Were there any challenges you faced being a woman in this space- and how did you deal with them?

**A:** *Being a woman rider, I haven’t had to face many challenges. I know what I am capable of and what I’m willing to learn, which is that we never stop learning. I am always observing and developing as a rider. One this I really enjoy is the amount of riders and how everyone rides- there is always something to learn.*

**Q:** What advice would you give to other women looking to ride or find their crew?

**A:** *My advice: keep riding and seeking the adventure you are after. The right people will come into your life and it will be memorable.*



# REGIONAL NEWS

REGION 5 – REPORTERS: ASHLEY MARTIN AND JEN ZENKER

## Minnesota 10

### Minnesota's Newest Chapter!

Minnesota 10 announces the launch of the newest chapter in MN! They currently have 15 members and are located on the eastern border in Lindstrom, MN. Current Officers include:

- **President:** Jesse Bullis
- **Vice President:** TJ Winczewski
- **Secretary:** Tom Gottschald
- **Treasurer:** John Daher
- **Road Captain:** Dylan Annis
- **Sergeant at Arms:** Nick Vogel



### Blessing of the Bikes

Minnesota 10, along with Minnesota 1, 4, 7, and 8, attended the Blessing of the Bikes at Maranatha Church.





# REGIONAL NEWS

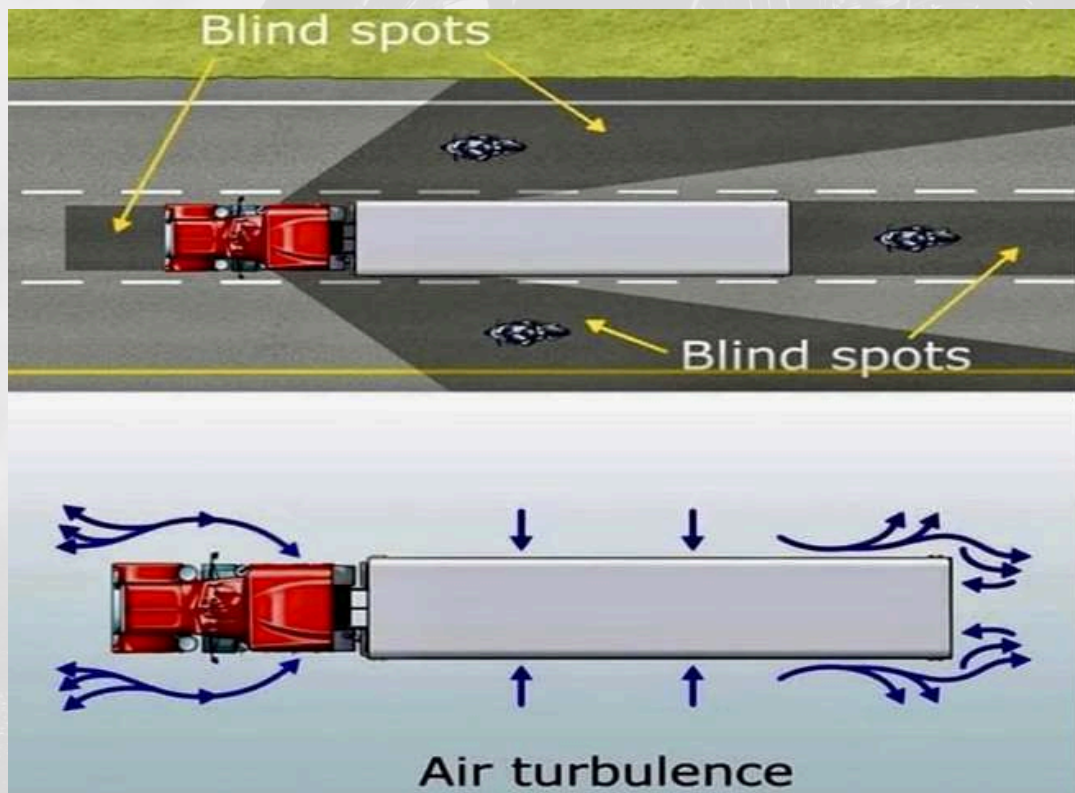
## REGION 6 – REPORTER: KIM REED

### Oklahoma Red Knights State Meeting and State Ride

On March 28-29, The Oklahoma Red Knights Association had their state meeting and state ride at Robbers Cave State Park in Wilburton, OK. They held their election and determined the new Oklahoma Red Knight State Officers.

- State President - Dale Saul
- Eastern VP - Daniel McClain
- Central VP - Brian Thompson
- Western VP - Robert High
- State Secretary - Margaret Saul
- State Treasurer - John McMahon
- State Sgt at Arms - JD McCullah
- State Road Captain - Eric Day
- State Chaplin - David Hurlocker

They also raised \$3,333.00 for their charity, Hydrants of Hope. Oklahoma State Secretary/Committee Chair, Margaret Saul, presented the check to Hydrants of Hope President Selena Meyers, along with committee members Daniel McClain, JD McCullah, Eric Day, and Marie McCullah.





# REGIONAL NEWS

**REGION 7 – REPORTER: STEVE WILLIAMSON**

## Letter from the Region 7 Reporter

Hello Red Knights Brothers & Sisters,

As I prepare my European articles for the Newsletter I am reminded by the deaths of four firefighters whilst firefighting in Europe, two in Oxfordshire, England and two in Liege, Belgium, just how dangerous our chosen profession is. Not only that, our chosen mode of transport, the motorcycle also presents its dangers. Hopefully by the time you all read this your riding season will be in full swing and you will all be fit and well, and enjoying some fantastic, safe riding.

Steve Williamson, Region 7 (Europe) Reporter

## Letter from the European Quartermaster

Hello Red Knights.

Here is a summary of the orders fulfilled in 2024:

- I shipped a total of 118 orders
- 11 x European patches and pins
- 8 x deliveries for orders in the USA
- 99 x RKMC Regalia for Europe



Many thanks to all of you and also to Don (Int.QM) and Scott (Int.Treasurer) for the great cooperation.

The European Association has created a collector coin for this year's European Meeting in Florence.

### New Collector Coin (see photo above)

The European Association has created a collector coin for this year's European Meeting in Florence.

The coin can be pre-ordered and paid for at the EU.QM and will be delivered at the European Meeting. The surplus will be used to produce further European Association merchandise, e.g: T-shirts or similar and new coins for European Meetings in the following years.

**Cost per Coin : 10€**

As we have an EU-Con I will not offer RKMC Regalia, but I could bring ordered Regalia to save shipping costs.

With best regards,  
Henning Thies ( EU-QM and int. QM assistant)



# REGIONAL NEWS

## REGION 7 – REPORTER: STEVE WILLIAMSON

### Letter from the Grand Tour Assistant - Europe

As a Red Knight, we can complete five tours and receive a certificate and a rocker for your vest as a reward. Once you have completed all tours, you will receive the Grand Tour Master award and a coin.

GRAND TOUR, FIRE STATION, RED KNIGHT. The 12 stations and the Alphabet Tour.



Since last year, you can qualify for the “Loyal to our Duty” tour after receiving the Grand Tour Master. Participation is free and only members in good standing can take part in the Grand Tour program.

However, there are a few important rules that must be followed or your application will be rejected. The Grand Tour Committee monitors the rules very closely, so we will show you what is important below.

- For a tour, you have 365 days from the start date of the first picture to collect the corresponding letters. (Exception: the alphabet tour possible for several years).
- Only active fire stations that are in operation may be used (IE Xerox, for example, is no longer an active fire station).
- A picture may only be used once, if necessary, go there again on a different date/day.
- At each fire station, you must take a picture of yourself with your vest and your own motorcycle. (The complete motorcycle, not just parts of it).

### Grand Tour Registration / Application

- The Grand Tour online form on the International Homepage must be completed.
- If you are doing a tour as a group, you only need to fill in 1 registration form with all the names of the participating members (separate names with a comma).
- After completing the form, press the “Send” button
- A return address is required to which the certificates and patches can be sent. The photos must then be sent separately to the Grand Tour Chairman [grandtour@redknightsmc.com](mailto:grandtour@redknightsmc.com) (Total Max 25MB data size).

For all further questions, please send an email to our Grand Tour Chairman Emmett Duprey, [grandtour@redknightsmc.com](mailto:grandtour@redknightsmc.com).

Best regards,  
Rolf “Imperial” Muehlemann  
Grand Tour Assistant Europe





# REGIONAL NEWS

REGION 7 – REPORTER: STEVE WILLIAMSON

## England 2

### England 2 Organize a Joint Red & Blue Knights Safety Event

Due to the number of motorcycle accidents amongst both the Red and Blue Knights over the past twelve months, where serious injury was the result, and where these injuries might have been prevented had the rider been wearing an Airbag Vest, England 2's President organised a demonstration night at a Sheffield fire station.

Blue Knights Chapters England 6 & 9 from Nottinghamshire and Yorkshire were invited to attend as both chapters have had riders suffer serious injury in accidents last year.

Peter Riley, the Managing Director of Helite Airbag Vests UK gave an interesting presentation and demonstrated the actuation of an airbag vest to those present.

Such was the impact of the demonstration, many of the attendees ordered airbag vests on the night. And to further cement their relationship with the Blue Knights, England 2's President and Vice-President helped South Yorkshire Police and Blue Knights England 9 marshal 1000 motorcycles in the Sheffield Children's Hospital annual Egg Run on Easter Sunday.

### England 2 Member has a Letter published in a National Motorcycle Magazine

After seeing a letter in the Back Street Heroes Motorcycle Magazine, where the Red Knights were branded as Racists and God-Fearing Christians who want to destroy Islam, England 2-member, Bob Verrinder felt that it was necessary to write a reply. In his letter Bob informed the magazine's readers that is not the case and highlighted the good work done by our members. Opposite is his letter that was published in the Back Street Heroes magazine.





# REGIONAL NEWS

REGION 7 – REPORTER: STEVE WILLIAMSON

## England 4

### Standing Together: 1st Anniversary of the National Red Plaque Fire Service Memorial

On 4 May 2025, members of the Red Knights, together with others, gathered once again at the Living Memorial in Rettendon, Essex, England to mark the first anniversary of the inauguration of the National Red Plaque Fire Service Memorial. The date — Firefighters' Memorial Day and the Feast of St Florian, patron saint of firefighters — provided a fitting backdrop for this solemn occasion.

This year's event brought together Red Knights from across the UK and beyond. England 4 were proud to welcome visiting brothers and sisters from England 2, Belgium 2 and elsewhere. The international presence embodied the strength of the Red Knights community, and the shared commitment to remembrance that binds our fraternity together.



The morning ceremony began with a welcome from England 4 President Ronnie Patterson, followed by a moving solo performance by piper Tom Randall. Reverend Jackie Turner led the assembled guests in prayers and reflection, reminding all

in attendance of the continuing cost of service and the importance of honouring every sacrifice—whether made on the front line or after a firefighter's service has ended.

The focal point of the ceremony was the placing a new plaque on the memorial wall, to commemorate HM King Edward VII, a keen amateur firefighter. The ceremonial ringing of the bell followed, echoing across the quiet garden. Wreaths were then laid by guests and dignitaries, including High Sheriff of Essex Julie Fosh and Area Manager Craig McLellan of Essex County Fire and Rescue Service





# REGIONAL NEWS

REGION 7 – REPORTER: STEVE WILLIAMSON

## England 4

### Standing Together: 1st Anniversary of the National Red Plaque Fire Service Memorial

Ronnie Patterson reflected on the anniversary: “One year ago, we promised that this memorial would stand not only as a place of honour, but as a living, growing tribute to those who gave everything. With each new name added, we renew that promise. It means a great deal to us that Red Knights from Belgium, and from other parts of England, have joined us today. Loyal to our Duty – together we remember.”



The National Red Plaque Fire Service Memorial is a unique and evolving site, created by Red Knights England 4 with the support of the Fire Brigades Union, Essex County Fire and Rescue Service, and many others. It remains the only memorial in the UK to commemorate both those who died in the line of duty and those who died after their period of service. In the past year, over 100 new names have been added.

England 4 would like to extend heartfelt thanks to all RK members who travelled to support the event, and who continue to stand in solidarity with this work of remembrance. Your presence made the day what it was. The Memorial is always open, please come and visit at any time.





# REGIONAL NEWS

**REGION 7 – REPORTER: STEVE WILLIAMSON**

## France 1

### France 1 Celebrate the Marriage of Two of Their Members



On the 19 APRIL 2025 Cathy and Laurent of the France 1 chapter decided to unite by surrounding themselves with some members of France 1 and Belgium 1. For France 1 it is the first wedding celebrating two members of the chapter.

We wish them a long and happy life.

### France 1 Donated Blood for the Benefit of the Armed Forces

On 15 March 2025

Chapter France 1 has renewed the operation «blood donation for the benefit of the armed forces» at the military hospital in Percy.

This operation, which the chapter renews every year, has made it possible to carry out an essential collection for the hospitalized soldiers.



The Blue Knights joined the Red Knights this year to ensure the success of the' operation.

## France 6

### France 6 Members Add Their Chapter Patch to the Collection



During a trip to New York with two of our chapter members, we had the opportunity to track our motorcycle club at this bar: O'Hara's Restaurant and Pub.

It's a bar in the heart of New York City near the 9/11, 2001 memorial.

In this floor-to-ceiling bar we find patches of firefighters, military, policemen from all over the world so we stapled on one of the doors our patch next to our friends Red Knights France 7.



# REGIONAL NEWS

**REGION 7 – REPORTER: STEVE WILLIAMSON**

## France 9

### The FRANCE IX Chapter at the Vannes Two-Wheeler Show: A Solidarity and Educational Presence for the Benefit of France Multiple Sclerosis



On 22 and 23 March 2025, Chapter FRANCE IX had the honour of being hosted at the prestigious Vannes Two-Wheeler Show, a must-attend event for motorcycle enthusiasts and professionals in the sector. But this edition was not only a moment of sharing around mechanics and driving. The 2025 edition was part of a special setting: raising awareness and support for the cause of "France Sclérosis en Multiples", an association dedicated to research and support for people with this neurological disease.



### Innovative Security Awareness

One of the main activities offered by the FRANCE IX Chapter was an awareness raising on the use of fire extinguishers, carried out using F.I.R.E. augmented reality technology. This immersive experience allowed participants to become familiar with the use of fire extinguishers in a simulated environment, offering a fun and interactive approach to this essential tool in the event of a fire. Augmented reality brought an innovative aspect to this training, by simulating emergency situations where every gesture counts.



### Learning to Pick Up a Motorcycle After a Fall

Also, with safety in mind, the Chapter also offered a workshop to learn how to lift a motorcycle after a fall. A situation that, although inevitable for some motorcyclists, can sometimes be difficult to manage alone.

Thanks to the support of the Chapter's experts, the participants were able to learn the right techniques to raise their motorcycle safely, thus limiting the risk of injury and improving their responsiveness in the event of a fall.





# REGIONAL NEWS

## REGION 7 – REPORTER: STEVE WILLIAMSON

### France 9

#### First Steps in the Event of an Accident: Crucial Training

In an even more awareness-raising context, the FRANCE IX Chapter organised a training session on the **first gestures and behaviours to adopt in the event of an accident**. This activity allowed motorcyclists and visitors to the show to understand the importance of reactivity in the face of an accident. Knowing how to react to a fall, whether it's protecting the victim or securing the area, is key to minimizing the risk of complications before help arrives.



#### LifeStick: Technology at the Service of Security



Finally, the Chapter presented LifeStick, an innovative passive safety device. This system allows emergency services to instantly access vital information about an accident victim, as well as their emergency contacts. When needed, LifeStick allows for faster and more efficient care, improving the responsiveness of medical teams and

providing greater safety for motorcyclists. The scheme generated great interest among participants, who welcomed the importance of immediate access to this crucial information.

#### A Solidarity and Responsible Initiative

The FRANCE IX Chapter's commitment to the show was widely praised, not only for its expertise in road safety, but also for its involvement in a just and essential cause. By combining a passion for motorcycling, safety training and support for research against multiple sclerosis, the Chapter has been able to transform a moment of conviviality into a real learning and solidarity experience.

Thus, this two-wheeler show in Vannes was not only a showcase for the novelties of the motorcycle world, but a strong moment of exchange, learning and support for those who need it most. The FRANCE IX Chapter, through its involvement, has proven that beyond the passion for engines, it is solidarity that moves the world forward.

#### Partners

These events were made possible thanks to the support of our invaluable partners:

- [BALDR](#) for the fire
- [THE DEPARTMENTAL UNION of FIREFIGHTERS of MORBIHAN](#) for first aid
- MOTO ECOLE CAP de CONDUITE for motorcycle lifting
- [LIFE STICK](#) for the passive safety system



# REGIONAL NEWS

REGION 7 – REPORTER: STEVE WILLIAMSON

## France 9

### Closing

I'll leave you to appreciate the benefits of this system on the company's website, using the link above. It can be used in several languages. If you would like LifeStick to support you at an event, please contact Sébastien MACHADO, Managing Partner, on +33 6 50 14 26 40. Should you require any further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Loyal to our duty Eric HANNIER FRANCE IX

## Germany 1 and 17

### 2025 Motorradwelt - Bodensee

31 January to 2 February 2025 – An unforgettable weekend for RKMC Germany 1 and 17!

This year's Motorradwelt Bodensee was a complete success, and we, the **Red Knights MC**, were able to be part of this impressive trade fair together with our brothers and sisters of the **Yellow Knights MC** and **Green Knights MMC**.

With a total of **66 Knights** on site over the three days, we offered visitors a unique insight into our community. Knights from **Germany, Austria, Switzerland and Italy** came together to share our passion for motorcycles and volunteering.



Our booth was a real crowd puller: In addition to an impressive variety of motorcycles, we also presented **various operational clothing of the fire brigades** from the represented countries. A special highlight was the exhibited **emergency motorcycle of the Johanniter-Unfall-Hilfe**, which fascinated and aroused the curiosity of many visitors.

he Red Knights, Yellow Knights and Green Knights came together to form a strong community that stands for values such as help, respect and camaraderie. Our clubs are represented in many countries around the world and help to build bridges between emergency services from different disciplines.





# REGIONAL NEWS

REGION 7 – REPORTER: STEVE WILLIAMSON

## Germany 1 and 17

### 2025 Motorradwelt - Bodensee

We all know who, we, the Red Knights are, but who are the Yellow and Green Knights?

- **Yellow Knights MC** are a motorcycle club that, similar to the Red Knights, is made up of members of motorcycling rescue workers, as well as medical and social fields. They also attach great importance to community and social responsibility. The Yellow Knights MC in Germany is known for its charitable activities and its efforts to strengthen the close connection between Knights and the wider community.
- **Green Knights MMC:** The Green Knights Motorcycle Club is a military motorcycle club founded in late 1999 and officially recognized in early 2000 at McGuire AirForce Base, New Jersey. They are committed to respect, community and motorcycling as a connecting element.

A weekend full of highlights:

We look back on **many great conversations**, inspiring encounters and a weekend that we will remember for a long time. The fair was not only an opportunity to share our values and enthusiasm, but also to make new friends and meet old acquaintances again.

A big **thank you to all visitors** who visited us at our booth and made these days so special.

We would also like to thank **Messe Friedrichshafen** for the opportunity to carry out this as well as for the **good care and support**.

We wish all motorcycle enthusiasts a **safe and accident-free 2025 season**. See you soon – maybe at the next trade fair or on the road!





# REGIONAL NEWS

**REGION 7 – REPORTER: STEVE WILLIAMSON**

## Germany 4

### Putting driving skills and ability to the test was on the agenda for Germany 4

The importance of keeping your riding skills at the highest standard can't be stressed enough and Germany 4 always meets in one place at the beginning of the riding season for their annual driver safety training in preparation for the season together.

Their brother Uwe (Road Captain) led this rider safety training, thank you Uwe for that, he gave the chapter tips and tricks on how they can master all situations better and consolidate their vehicle control.



After the successful rider safety training, their brother Latschen (Roy) invited everybody to enjoy a fresh grilled sausage in a roll. Their day was rounded off together with a nice chat about gasoline.

## Germany 5

### Germany V's President and First Lady Say Yes!!

On a beautiful Saturday in May, Germany V's President and his First Lady, Sascha and Jeanine, said yes for the second time.

Their wedding took place in perfect weather in the presence of their chapter, who were honoured to be allowed to witness this special moment.

Chapter members, family and friends also attended the wedding, and the happy couple celebrated afterwards together with family, friends and companions.





# REGIONAL NEWS

## REGION 7 – REPORTER: STEVE WILLIAMSON

### Germany 7

#### Germany 7 Honour Fallen Soldiers

On a Saturday in April, 2 members of Germany Chapter 7 participated in the #15K3 memorial march. This was organized by the reservist comrades Riesa and the @green\_devils\_brotherhood.

This march takes place every year in memory of the 3 dead soldiers HF Nils Bruns, SG Robert Hartt & HG Martin Augustyniak, who fell on 02.04.2010 in the so-called Good Friday battle in Isar Kehl (Afghanistan).

**They are not forgotten!**



### Germany 9

#### Germany IX are Always Busy



**On Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> March**, a delegation from Germany IX (President & Vice-President) was at the founding event of the youth fire brigade Unna-Nord. Our member Kathi is the founder of JF.

The sponsor association Firefighters Motorcycle Club Red Knights Germany IX Chapter Castrop supports the youth fire brigade in the area of youth sports. The fire brigade youth will be equipped with a football jersey by the support club.



On 30<sup>th</sup> March they accompanied their brother and companion Budde from Germany 19 on his last trip of duty into a well-deserved retirement.

They wished him all the best and good health for the future.

Also at the event was their guest of honour, a Red Knight - George - Dwight Foreman from Australia. He visited Germany 9 during his visit to Europe.

Thank you for letting us get to know you. It has been an honour for us.





# REGIONAL NEWS

**REGION 7 – REPORTER: STEVE WILLIAMSON**

## Germany 11

### Red Knights provide vital first aid at the South Chapter Opening

Freiburg im Breisgau - On Sunday, 30.03.2025, the season opening of the South Chapter Opening D-A-CH took place in Freiburg im Breisgau. This was carried out by Germany XI in the equipment shed of the volunteer fire brigade Oberstadt-Wiehre.

When, in the best weather and convivial camaraderie, a member's mobile phone suddenly raised an alarm, the situation changed abruptly. The emergency rescue app "Region der Lebensretter 3.0" alerted the members to a person in the next street with cardiac arrest in parallel with the local EMS.

The purpose of this emergency rescue app is to alert registered emergency responders working in a Rescue or Fire Emergency organization near the occurring cardiac arrest/medical emergency to keep the therapy-free time until the arrival of the emergency services as small as possible.

We did not hesitate for long and went to the location displayed in the app as quickly as possible. When we arrived on site, passers-by had already begun resuscitation. We then took over the revival and initial care with a total of 5 comrades and thus ensured a permanent and smooth preservation of the cardiovascular system.

After a few minutes, the parallel alarmed EMS arrived. We also supported the rescue service until the patient was transported to the nearest hospital and then took care of the people involved.

### Season Opener at Germany 11 - A Successful Meeting of the Southern Chapters

Germany V met for the official start of the season at Germany 11. The day began with a small breakfast at the clubhouse before moving on to meet other members of the chapter. However, there were considerable delays in the schedule. Which in this case had nothing to do with the time change. We gladly accepted this delay and it was a MUST for us! Shortly after the start of the trip to Germany 11, an elderly person fell in front of the members of Germany V. The person suffered such physical damage that the group immediately administered first aid. After handing the person over to the responsible ambulance crew, the members resumed their journey to meet the other members on the route.





# REGIONAL NEWS

**REGION 7 – REPORTER: STEVE WILLIAMSON**

## Germany 11

### Season Opener at Germany 11 - A Successful Meeting of the Southern Chapters

In perfect weather, participants from Germany, Austria and representatives from Switzerland came together to kick off the new season. The focus was on socializing with like-minded people and seeing old acquaintances again.

The warm hospitality of Germany 11 and the perfect organization made for an all-round successful event. A big thank you goes to everyone involved who made this day possible. With this successful kick-off, we are looking forward to an exciting and eventful season!



## Germany 24

### Erik Ties the Knot!

On Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May Germany XXIV had another wedding in their chapter:

Their member Erik married his Christin at the Machine Hall Fürst Leopold. Together with the fire brigade of Wulfen, we welcomed the happy couple with heartfelt congratulations. We wish Erik and Christin all the best for their future together - may their path always be safe and full of joy.



## Italy 1

### Scarpa is Remembered by Italy 1

This year Italy 1 wanted to continue to remember the memory of LEONARDO SCARPELLINI together with his family through a charity and sporting event. His colleagues, the Firefighters and the National Firefighters Association entertained the children at the fire station that he was very attached to.





# REGIONAL NEWS

REGION 7 – REPORTER: STEVE WILLIAMSON

## Italy 1

### Scarpa is Remembered by Italy 1

The volunteers of the Misericordia di Florence were there to provide their great work of healthcare in the sporting event and the Old Glories of the Historic Fiorentino Football and the Court of the Fiorentina Repubblica gave colour to the beautiful parade. Red Knights MC Italy 1 were on hand to carry the oval ball from the cemetery where Scarpa rests to the playground.



Thanks to Lorenzo Scarpellini and Florence 1931 for the organization.

The “SQUADRA 17” of the Tuscany firefighters wins the 3rd Shoe Tournament, a team set up in a few days to remember a firefighter and Rugby player.

An extraordinary day where the charity WON with the collection of €3500 that is intended for the research of rare diseases and the Association Un Petalo per Margherita were present at the event.

Thank you all, great  
LEONARDO SCARPELLINI



### Congratulations - Italy 1's Nastro Gets Married

On the 8<sup>th</sup> May, Nastro married his darling Elizabeth and every Red Knight wishes them a happy life together.





# REGIONAL NEWS

REGION 7 – REPORTER: STEVE WILLIAMSON

## Netherlands 3

### The Netherlands Celebrate 80 Years of Liberation

Dear brothers and sisters, today I will write you something about the activities of the RKNL-3 Chapter. The Dutch Chapter exist now for 2 years and is located in the Netherlands in the province Zeeland.



It's beautiful here with much of water around us, so great to ride.

On the 4<sup>th</sup> of May we remember all the people that have given their lives for our freedom, on that date at 20:00 everyone in the Netherlands respects a two minutes silence to remember those who fell in the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War.

Even the cars on the highway are parking in a safe place to be 2 minutes quiet.

On the 5<sup>th</sup> of May we celebrated the liberation of the Netherlands, which was 80 years ago, we celebrate this with free music festivals for everybody in cities spread across the Netherlands.

The Red Knights Netherlands 3 went for a liberation ride-out in Zeeland on the 5<sup>th</sup> of May and after the ride-out we went with the members to a liberation museum nearby.



First coffee with a Bolus this is a special "Zeeuwse" cake and then we visited the museum and looked at all of the material and stories about the 2nd World War.

It's very interesting to read and see all the things that remind us of the 2nd World war.

Hopefully every visitor has some respect for the people from many countries who fought for our freedom and ask themselves the question, "why we haven't learned from the past?"

After a great lunch we went outside to see more of the museum. It was a great day and an experience we will never forget.

After a great lunch we went outside to see more of the museum. It was a great day and an experience we will never forget.

Marcel Voerman  
Red Knights Netherlands 3





# REGIONAL NEWS

## REGION 7 – REPORTER: STEVE WILLIAMSON

### Norway 1

#### News from Norway 1

In April the Chapter had a meeting in Voss with all members of the board. Voss is 100 Norwegian km from Bergen, where the board is located so some members had a long journey to attend.



On 29.04.25 some members were also taking the trip to Voss in rainy weather and they met many bikers and also other members from Red Knights Norway 1.

This meeting was Arranged by Voss Mc club.

The 04.04.25 the biggest spring meeting was held in Bergen, arranged by the Rolling Thunder Mc club in Bergen. Bikers from our chapter were also there in the sunshine and warm weather.

This year we have had more members wanting to join the Red Knights MC in Norway.

In April, Norway President Jarle Taule met a member from Wisconsin Red Knights who was visiting Bergen on the cruise ship Viking, and Jarle guided him and his wife around the historical ground in Bergen. During the visit patches were exchanged.

Members of Norway 1 are spread all over the country, and it's not easy to meet because the country is long and members live long distances from each other, but on the 6<sup>th</sup> of June 8 bikers, including 3 from the board will be going to Denmark 2 for their Founding Party.

In September, Norway 1 will also be going to the EuCon meeting in Italy.





# REGIONAL NEWS

**REGION 7 – REPORTER: STEVE WILLIAMSON**

## Switzerland 1

### Switzerland 1 Continue to Support the Zurich Children's Hospital

Back in October 2024 saw the opening of the Children's Hospital in Zurich.

Since its founding 15 years ago, Chapter Switzerland 1 has been collecting and donating for the department for children with burn injuries.

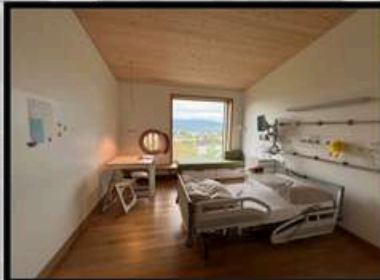
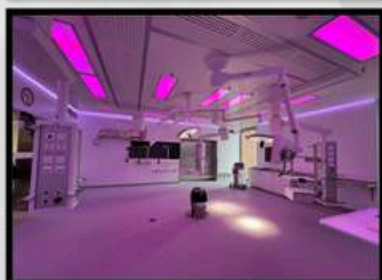
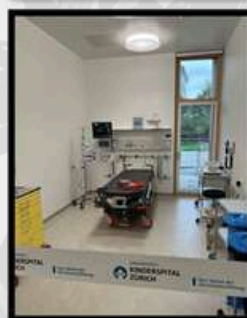
They are delighted that they now have the most modern children's hospital in Switzerland that also has a research and training centre in the building next door

On opening day Switzerland 1 was able to look at the rooms and medical facilities.

They will continue to support this ward as their charity project.



### Red Knights Forever - Forever Red Knights





# REGIONAL NEWS

REGION 8 NZ – REPORTER: ZANE EYRE

## Russell and Dianne Rawiri awarded International Life Membership

It started back in 2001 when I was in Hikurangi Fire Brigade. At that time, I was a member of the Blue Knights International Motorcycle Club, of which I was the only member in the Northland Region and had no other members to enjoy riding with.

One of our local firefighters Keith Doel, who is also now a Charter Member, was looking at the Blue Knights website and stumbled across a link to the Red Knights. I took a look and spoke to a friend of mine, Ben Trail, who was a firefighter in Ruakaka. We gathered some info about setting up a chapter, then set up a meeting at the Hikurangi Fire Station where we invited firefighters we knew already had motorcycles. We agreed we would start a chapter up here in Hikurangi. Through emails to international we received our charter for NZ 1, the first in New Zealand.



There were several members at that time, and we also advertised through Fire Magazine to get other members from around the country.

Then the September 11 attacks hit the United States where 343 firefighters who gave their all, lost their lives. This made our membership to the Red Knights even more poignant. Soon after Chapter 2 and 4 was set up.

The Ride for Cancer was set up with Andy Lockyear and Rob Appleton, then other chapters were formed. Now we have 11 Chapters in New Zealand.

A personal highlight was the celebration for 20 years of Red Knights in New Zealand, held at our Annual Gathering in Paihia, Northland. This made me feel overwhelmed looking at the growth our membership. Attending NZ Gatherings, meeting new and old members, the laughs, and the comradery that we share, is outstanding. We look forward to every Gathering.

The 2024 Annual Gathering held in Cromwell was a great moment for Dianne and I, as we were awarded our International Life Membership. This was totally unexpected, and we both wish to thank everyone involved for this award. Thanks also to Andy Young Region 8 Director for being able to attend to present this to us.

Loyal to our duty.  
Russell Rawiri,  
New Zealand 1



# REGIONAL NEWS

REGION 8 NZ – REPORTER: ZANE EYRE

## New Zealand Gathering Cromwell 2025

What a way to start 2025! Red Knights members from all Chapters of New Zealand arrived in Cromwell in late January for the New Zealand Annual Gathering. Hosted by NZ10 and the Cromwell Fire Brigade, this was always going to be an event to remember.

Bikes rolled in to town in the later hours of Friday afternoon and were greeted by NZ10 members from around the Otago Region. Meets and greets, dinner and drinks. It was a great start to the gathering weekend.



Saturday morning started nice and early with a ride briefing shortly after breakfast. The parade of bikes made its way from Cromwell to Lake Hawea where we had an unexpected first to a NZ Gathering, the surprise wedding of Roy and Julie Snelgar. The Wedding Tree next to the lake made a fitting location to host a ceremony full of Red Knight attendees. To add to the special occasion, the wedding celebrant just happened to be our very own, NZ10 President, Charles Le Couteur. Congratulations Roy and Julie for your special day.

Rings exchanged, and following a restful lunch stop, we headed back for Cromwell via the Crown Range. Some members ventured towards Arrowtown and Queenstown, while others stopped in at Cardrona or Luggate for refreshments. Whatever the direction, the afternoon was well spent checking out the Otago scenery.



Saturday evening proved to be another momentous occasion. Fantastic meal put on by the Cromwell Fire Brigade, followed by cake to celebrate their 150<sup>th</sup> year of service to the community. A hearty fine session to highlight any laughs or silly mistakes members may have accrued during their travels to the event, with all donations in the jar going to the family of Aus19 member, Ian Wells, who lost his life in a motorcycle accident a week prior.



# REGIONAL NEWS

REGION 8 NZ – REPORTER: ZANE EYRE

## New Zealand Gathering Cromwell 2025

Celebrations were then once again in order, with the presentation of International Life Membership to Russell and Dianne Rawiri, awarded by Region 8 Director Andy Young. I couldn't think of a better place to have celebrated such a milestone than with over 100 of your Red Knights Family in attendance. Congratulations to Russell and Dianne for your achievement and thank you to your contribution to the Red Knights here in New Zealand.



Sunday morning, time to hit the road for home, but not without taking the opportunity to do a couple of laps around world class racetrack. Highlands Motorsport Park opened their doors to whoever felt like following the Pace Car round the 2.5mile loop, and a walk round their motorsport collection in their museum. What a way to finish a weekend full of memories.

A massive thank you to NZ10 and Cromwell Fire Brigade for being such amazing hosts. You really put on an eventful weekend showing us all what the Central Otago region has to offer. Also, a thank you must also go to the sponsors and supporters of the event.

See you all in Taranaki 2026





# WORD SEARCH

Can you find the names of the Founding Fathers and where it all began, and some of the Countries where the Red Knights MC has members?

The words can run across, backwards, up or down.

Answers can be found on [page 64 \(linked here\)](#).

Word Search courtesy of Steve Williamson, Region 7 Reporter!

## Words:

United States  
Canada  
Wales  
England  
Slovenia  
New Zealand  
Belgium  
France  
Ireland  
Netherlands  
Switzerland  
Denmark  
Spain  
Germany  
Croatia  
Australia  
Austria  
Italy  
Norway  
Brazil  
Northern Ireland  
Luxembourg  
Mexico  
Finland  
Boylston  
Randys Cycle Shop  
Massachusetts  
Goulet  
Hamilton  
Tripp  
Mackey  
Wentzell  
Parker  
Pierce  
Bourassa  
Beausoleil  
Wright  
Hunt

A	U	S	T	R	I	A	U	B	E	L	G	I	U	M	H	N
D	E	N	F	X	R	E	N	G	L	A	N	D	B	A	A	E
A	M	A	C	K	E	Y	I	V	D	N	I	A	P	S	M	C
N	A	B	O	Y	L	S	T	O	N	A	D	G	U	S	I	R
A	N	O	S	H	A	R	E	F	R	A	N	C	E	A	L	E
C	D	U	Z	U	N	W	D	L	I	Z	A	R	B	C	T	I
R	N	R	A	N	D	Y	S	C	Y	C	L	E	S	H	O	P
B	A	A	M	T	E	S	T	I	M	E	R	T	D	U	N	A
E	L	S	U	A	I	T	A	O	R	C	E	X	N	S	O	R
A	A	S	X	U	L	J	T	Z	S	P	Z	F	A	E	R	K
B	E	A	U	S	O	L	E	I	L	I	T	I	L	T	W	E
W	Z	E	L	T	P	F	S	T	O	E	I	N	R	T	A	R
E	W	P	W	R	I	G	H	T	V	O	W	L	E	S	Y	A
G	E	R	M	A	N	Y	N	R	E	C	S	A	H	E	A	T
U	N	I	Y	L	A	T	I	O	N	E	W	N	T	L	T	E
O	M	E	X	I	C	O	P	P	I	R	T	D	E	A	E	L
F	R	K	R	A	M	N	E	D	A	N	C	S	N	W	D	U
D	N	A	L	E	R	I	N	R	E	H	T	R	O	N	A	O
W	E	N	T	Z	E	L	L	U	X	E	M	B	O	U	R	G



# HEAVEN ONE

## IN LOVING MEMORY



**Denny Avery**  
NY35



**Joe Bilodeau Sr.**  
ON12



**Richard Crespo**  
VT12



**Stephen Hux**  
LA1



**Terry Inglis**  
BC2



**Willard Johnson**  
NB4



**Kevin Kennelly**  
IL8



**James Noble**  
DE4



**Darrel Palmer**  
NH9



**James Walker**  
NY35



**James Young**  
ON7

### Not Pictured:

- **Thomas Benjamin** (NY12)
- **Timothy Colliflower** (MD8)
- **Gerald Delorey** (NS6)
- **Christopher Drugonis** (CT7)
- **Keith Eschleman** (PA10)
- **Joseph Giarrusso** (AUS1)
- **Ronald Haggerty** (WV6)
- **Joe Kelley** (SD1)
- **William Lambert** (NY36)
- **Nathalie Lavergne** (LA5)
- **Lisa Anne Miller** (IL16)
- **Richard Tyrrell** (NY12 & NY28)



# MARRIAGES

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEWLYWEDS!



**Laurent and Cathy**  
France 1



**Sascha and Jeanine**  
Germany 5



**Erik and Christin**  
Germany 24



**Nastro and Elizabeth**  
Italy 1



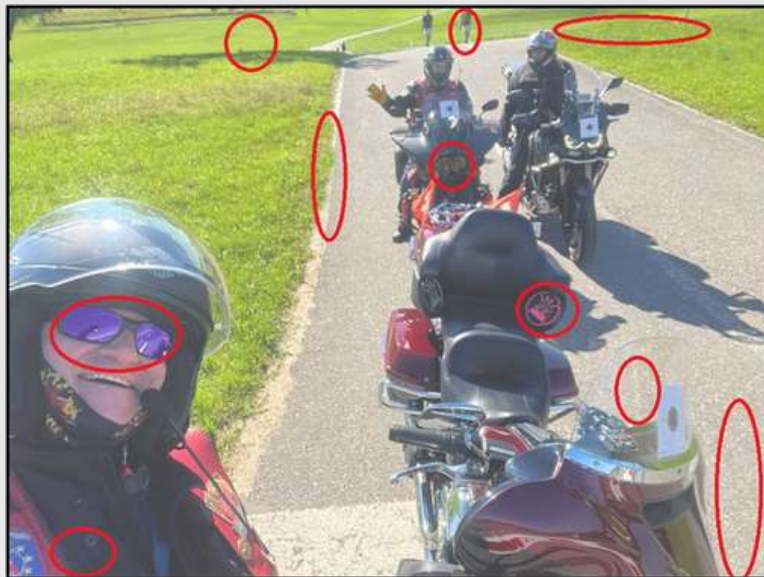
**Roy and Julie**  
New Zealand



**Michael and Lori**  
Pennsylvania 33



# ANSWER KEYS



## Newsletter Quiz Answers:

# Thanks for playing!

1) When are updates for the next newsletter due?

**January 14, 2026**

2) What country is EuCon 2025 being held in? **Italy**

3) How many people attended the 2025 Yankee

Rally? **285 people**

4) How many new chapter applications were sent since the last convention? **11**

5) How many chapters were represented at the 2025 Dixie Rally? **58 Chapters**

