

Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club®Inc. Office of the International Vice President Spike Ostiguy



413.896.5908 vicepresident@redknightsmc.com

December, 2017 Submitted, January, 2018

End of the Year Report

Hello to all Red Knights brothers and sisters,

Happy, Healthy and Safe 2018 to you and your families.

What a year (2017) it has been... Monumental happenings and news just since June. More info. below. But first let me start by thanking each and every one of you for entrusting me as your International Vice President. It truly is, and has been an honor.

With that being said, I wish to continue this service and announce, that it is my intention to run again this year for re-election for this great Office of International Vice President.

As International Vice President, I oversee the Member-At -Large program.

M.A.L.'s are now represented in 20 countries, with a roster of over 480 members.

The total Red Knights membership has now eclipsed the 10,000 member mark.

2017 meetings, rallies and rides that I attended...

- 1.) Spring (April) RKIFMC E-Board Meeting, Baltimore, MD
- 2.) RKIFMC Massachusetts Spring State Meeting *April*.
- 3.) Americade Rally, Lake George, New York June.
- 4.) Monthly meeting of RKMC, New York City/New York City Fire Riders (Ronkonkoma, NY) June
- 5.) Red Knights Memorial, meet & greet with RKMC New Hampshire Chapter 9 July.
- 6.) RKIFMC Annual International Convention, Syracuse, New York August.
- 7.) Red Knights Memorial, meet & greet with RKMC Minnesota Chapter 4 August.
- 8.) RKIFMC EuCon 2017, Oberlausitz, Germany September.
- 9.) RKIFMC Massachusetts Fall State Meeting October.
- 10.) Fall (October) RKIFMC E-Board Meeting, Baltimore, MD
- 11.) Attended two (2) RKIFMC, Heaven One services in 2017.

If you frequent the Red Knights web page http://www.redknightsmc.com/, you all know now that International, in step and alongside our Founding Father's & Massachusetts Chapter 1 has had an exceptionally busy year, in that we've been able to **secure** your most, our most precious possession; "Red Knights Memorial Park," with the purchase of 595 Main St. in Boylston Massachusetts.

Please understand over a decade ago the town of Boyslton, MA granted the Red Knights <u>permission</u> to build our memorial on the parcel of land (owned by the town) known as 599 Main Street. With that in mind, we could be asked at any given time to vacate what has become sacred grounds to all Red Knights from around the world.

In July, the Board authorized the formation of a new organization. The Red Knights Memorial Foundation. The Red Knights Memorial Foundation (RKMF) came into existence on July 18th when the Attorney General and the Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts granted the business license for the RKMF. In record time, on August 10th we were happy to open a letter from the IRS. The letter granted the RKMF the recognition of a 501(c) 3 status, as a Non-Profit entity.

A new web page has also been developed for members, chapters, businesses, and organizations to make tax deductible donations to RKMF. http://rkimf.org/wp/ Please peruse.

Also, http://rkimf.org/wp/letter-from-president/new-location/ to get the rest of the story. Please pay particular attention to paragraphs 12, 13 and 14, as they pertain to donations.

RKMF is asking each and every member for a \$20.00 voluntary donation.

I am also happy to announce that on November 6th, your President Chris Gadway, myself, MA 1 President Peter Stone, Founding Members and Members of MA 1 attended (along with over 200 town residents) a special town meeting of Boylston, MA. All three (3) Town Selectmen drafted a town warrant for this meeting. First on the agenda; The Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club. PASSED, was the agreement for the land swap mentioned and shown (map) in the link above. Now, this article has been sent off to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Legislature for final approval.

Now for the best part... The icing on the cake...!

***** ATTENTION ALL RED KNIGHTS ******

Please mark your calendars for May 5th, 2018 for a trip to Boylston. On that Saturday, International will be dedicating the Property of 595 Main St, Boylston, Mass to you, the membership. From that day forward, the house will be known as *Red Knights Memorial Hall*. We will also be rededicating the Red Knights Memorial Park to the membership as we will then have ownership of the park.

Stay tuned for more information. http://www.redknightsmc.com/

I/we hope to see record breaking membership participation at this dedication.

Again, as I indicated earlier as overseeing the Member-At-Large membership,

I hope to see and meet the largest Member-At-Large contingent ever together at one time, on May the 5th.

MEMBER-AT-LARGE MEMBERS:

Just a friendly reminder... and to avoid 2018 renewal late fees;

If you have not done so already, please take a few moments to renew your 2018 M.A.L. membership (and beyond if you wish). Visit redknightsmc.com http://www.redknightsmc.com/membership.htm Payments can be made in **U.S. Dollars**, via "*PayPal*" or credit card (MC, Visa, Discover, AE). Please remember that Active Membership dues are \$19.00 and Social Membership dues are \$14.00 annually.

Per R.K.I.F.M.C. International Constitution and By-Laws, SECTION 2:01 III. & IV.

Renewal Dues are due on or before January 1st, 2018.

After February 15th, 2018 = \$10.00 Late Fee assessed upon renewal.

We are looking forward to an eventful and great 2018.

As always, we continue to work on ways to improve your *Red Knight's* experience. Your input is always welcomed and appreciated, so please do not hesitate to contact me.

Red Knights Forever

Loyal to Our Duty

