

As this is my ninth and final end of year report to you. The long string of year after year being better than the last continues. 2018 brought the Red Knights yet another amazing year. This was shown with continued growth in membership, rallies and events and even more importantly in camaraderie.

On the weekend of May 5th, we dedicated the property in Boylston. We met with the town council leader and town manager and formalized the transfer agreement with the town and had a great ceremony. More than 300 were in attendance and got to see your Red Knight Memorial Hall on its opening day. For the ribbon cutting we even used a 50-foot piece of 1 ¾ line and cut it with O cutters. Thanks to Bob Laford, a really great video was made that is on you tube, a link can be found on our website. <https://youtu.be/KcXaUFWITyw> . A special thank you goes out to Peter Stone, Don Parker and the rest of the Memorial Committee for all of their efforts on prepping and maintaining the entire property. Many members have already come and have stayed (sleeps 8) at the Hall; please consider reserving a weekend and taking a trip to your International Memorial and Memorial Hall sometime soon.

Julie and I attended all the regional rallies in 2018, The Dixie; the oldest, now coming into its 15th year, in Guntersville AL. The return to the lake proved to be a great time had by all. The Yankee rally in Clifton Park, NY continued to prove they can bring in a large number of attendees. The trip to the race track was a blast. The Western in Minnesota was an amazing 1,800+ mile roundtrip ride for us. (Once you get west of Chicago, drivers don't ride in the left lane, WOW!) Minnesota got over 25% of the region 5 members to come in and enjoy the festivities, there was even a wedding on Saturday we all got to attend. Going to the range on bikes was a sight to be seen. The European rally in Cork Ireland was a great finish to the season. Julie and I were able to tour the entire country as well as Northern Ireland and Scotland. The representation of over half of European chapters was very impressive. The hosts put together some great rides and evening entertainment that was enjoyed by all. These events are not easy to host and cannot be done by just one or two people. Each and every host deserves a huge thank you for all their efforts. I have heard rumor of a fifth Regional Rally starting up in 2019, coming to a city near you in Region 3. Good Luck and safe riding to all the 2019 Hosts and Attendees.

In the fall, the Red Knights had a special treat by hosting the 10th Annual Gathering of the Knights rally. Also known as KORT (Knights of the Round Table). This event is the annual gathering of the Blue, Green and Red Knights. The Green Knights MMC has dominated the event for over five years. Seeing police and Military trying to climb a ladder and breach a door without explosive was quite entertaining. This year the Red Knights triumphed. With help from Bo Peep and Maddog, the Best Knight and Grand Champion was our own Woody, hailing from IN2. Congrats to all the participants. A special Thanks goes out to Justin Hendrix as well as all the Officers and Members of TN7 for all their help in hosting this great event.

In 2017, nearly 1 out of 5 of the Chapter members who passed away were not on the International Roster when they passed away. All though were honored. In early 2018 we started requiring roster updates to be submitted on a quarterly basis. This has led to an improvement on

accuracy, however; we are not yet where we need to be. PLEASE send in any changes to your roster as soon as possible. This is a quick and simple process. If you have any questions, please contact your Regional Director or the Treasurer for clarification. Updates can be sent to treasurer@redknightsmc.com .

IT IS CRUCIAL THAT THE INTERNATIONAL KNOWS WHO ARE RED KNIGHTS.

After years of valiant efforts, a full cleanup and consolidation of our bylaws was presented and approved at the Annual Business Meeting in Pittsburgh. After a bit of discussion, the new draft was approved. No intent was changed, they just made it a bit easier to read and removed redundant information and reformatted the document. This is the first step in a series to provide you a better, easier to understand in multiple languages document. Thank you to those serving on the committee for all your efforts.

The 2018 International Convention and Annual Business Meeting in Pittsburg was another huge success. Trudy and the rest of PA 8 did an amazing job! The hosts brought new ideas to light and everyone there seemed to be engaged throughout the event. The seamless transitions from one thing to the next were a great relief to the board. We thank all those who helped show 400+ attendees a great time.

Your International Committees continued to do an amazing amount of work for you. The entire Communications Committee has proven to work harder each and every year for you. A special thanks to George for his continued chairing of this important group. His pit bull demeanor keeps me and the rest of the group focused and on task. After the first in many years mail out “special edition” newsletter we all owe Stephanie Fowle NJ 31 an appreciation for all her many hours of work as Editor. Thank you to Steve Williamson England 2 for taking over the important job as International Newsletter Editor. Please continue to send in local articles to your regional directors of the editor directly at editor@redknightsmc.com

Your International Board of Directors met 3 times in 2018, a 3-day meeting Baltimore in both April and October, as well as a day plus long meeting in Pittsburgh prior to our Annual Business meeting. As each of the previous years, I would like to thank each and every of your International Officers for their time, dedication, and knowledge that they spend working on your behalf throughout the entire year. Each of them has, and continues, to do an amazing job to make this a better club for you to enjoy.

On Behalf of the entire Board of Directors, Thanks go to each of you for making one of the world’s five largest Motorcycle Clubs and the world’s largest Firefighter based Motorcycle club as great as it is.

Loyal to Our Duty

Chris Gadway