

## INTERNATIONAL TREASURER REPORT

This marks my first convention report as International Treasurer. For those who are not aware, following the business meeting at the Charlottetown Convention, Leo Patry opted to step aside after many years in the position and the Board appointed me. The Charlottetown Convention was hosted by my chapter so the Board knew I was not a stranger to working hard and allowed me to also continue covering the responsibilities of Region 2 Director while we looked for interest in taking over the that position.

Starting this position in the summer has its advantages; it isn't the busiest time of the year for our club. Many members stocked up on Regalia at the Convention to save on shipping costs so the sales in the month or so afterward were quite manageable. Sales did pick up through the fall and kept going at a steady and healthy pace throughout the rest of the year.

On the Red Knights International, the summer was not too busy either. In late summer I had the honour of attending the wake and funeral of a brother in the neighboring province. Nova Scotia 2 did a top notch job of showing respect to John Turnbull. The fall also saw me heading off to Syracuse for the Regalia and International Board meeting. On a local note, I also had the opportunity to once again host the PEI 9-11 Memorial ride, always a ride that Island clubs look forward to joining in on. This year, I also had the good fortune of being able to take part in the Nova Scotia 9-11 Memorial ride.

As the riding season was coming to an end, the busy season was starting to ramp up. For those who are interested in taking on the role of Treasurer, it is a very rewarding position; I got to reach out to every chapter and every MAL in our club. Sure, it was to collect dues, but it was still contact with each and every chapter. In leading up to this, I went through our bylaws and SOGs to see just how our members have directed that dues be collected, it's not a straight forward system but I did work out a chart showing what the dues are for the various categories and had it posted on my page on the International Webpage (along with a link to an on-line map of all our chapters, members, and MALs that I try to keep updated). As much as I enjoyed reaching out to all these members and hearing back from them, it is time consuming to update rosters – a process I am hoping to make a little easier each year by getting more regular updates as members join chapters.

As rewarding as the position it, it is also important for members who are interested in stepping up to the challenge that it does mean a significant time commitment. I would estimate on average this position requires 15 hours a week with some weeks quite a bit more than that. Additionally, and perhaps as important, is that this position, and any position on the board requires me to use no less than two weeks of vacation time in order to attend meetings, more depending on the time required to get to them. I don't bring this up to discourage members from using their talents towards making this club the best it can be, only to ensure people are full aware of what is required.

Scott Ryan  
International Treasurer

