

### MASS-2 CHRISTMAS PARTY

- Sunday, December 6, 2020
- 1:00 p.m.
- The Glen Caffe
   63 Glenallen Street, Winchendon

Come join us for a our catered dinner to celebrate the Christmas season together.

We **WILL NOT** be having a Yankee Gift Swap this year so that the restaurant can be arranged to best accommodate Social Distancing. We must also cap attendance to because of the Phase-3 re-opening restrictions for inside occupancy. (First paid/first reserved)

You get to choose ONE from three of the below options.

Prime Rib -- \$28.00

(Includes Garden Salad, Potato, Vegetable, Fresh Bread, and Dessert)

Baked Stuffed Chicken - \$24.50 per person

(Includes Garden Salad, Potato, Vegetable, Fresh Bread, and Dessert)

Tour of Italy – \$24.50 per person

(Includes Pasta, Chicken Parmesan, Meatball, and Sweet Sausage, Garden Salad, Fresh Bread, and Dessert)

The chapter is covering the costs of the appetizers prior to our meal. A special thank you goes out to Maury Lizotte for his leg work on this year's party planning.

...hope to see you all there!

We will again be accepting donations for *Sherry's House* at our Christmas party.

Please consider purchasing and donating gift cards for Wal-Mart, Target, K-Mart, Shaw's, Stop & Shop, CVS, etc. or Gas Cards, Phone Cards, VISA and American Express. Visit www.whyme.org for more information about Sherry's House. We will be bringing all of those collected to Sherry's House in Worcester to assist them in their mission for the kids this holiday season. Visit www.whyme.org for more info.

As always, thank you for your generosity — the children and families at the home thank you as well.

We <u>must</u> have a RSVPs and <u>pre-paid</u> dinners by Sunday, November 22 to give to the caterer.

Contact Bob Laford with your choice & meal payment as soon as you can. Checks made out to RK-Mass 2 can be sent to PO Box 221, Petersham, MA 01366



# Red Knights

Mass Chapter 2 — Fall 2020

www.rk-mass2.org

facebook facebook.com/RKMASS2

### Loyal to Our Duty

From the desk of the Chapter President

Well here we are almost at the end of another year — the strangest one ever and certainly not one we want to repeat! I hope you have all been able to get through without too much difficulty and have managed to make it through this far without any COVID issues. I know we've all lost time and miles this year as far as riding and socializing and with any



luck we can put this year behind us and look towards a much better year in 2021.

We will still meet after the holiday gathering as your executive team and put together a schedule for us to work with for the next riding season and hopefully be able to make many more events.

We held our annual fall chapter meeting and elections (holding to COVID social gathering rules of course) and we have a few changes. The position of Vice President was vacated by Maury Lizotte, after 25 years of serving at some capacity as an officer of the chapter. I'd like to offer my sincere Thank You for his service and wish him and Marcia much happiness in their future endeavors and hope to see them continuing to come out and ride with us when they aren't in Florida. The position was filled by Rick Oliver by membership vote. Welcome back to the Executive Board and good luck in your new position. The position of Treasurer remained in the trustful hands of Bob Laford – thank you for continuing to keep our chapter in the black.

The position of Road Captain was vacated by Bob Shakarian and filled by membership vote by Jeff Hamberg. I'd also like to give Bob a big Thank you for the 15 years of service for keeping us all safe and on the road. Jeff has accepted the position and has vacated the position of Secretary which is open for appointment effective until our next annual meeting. Thank You Jeff for your service over the past 3 years and good luck on your new position.

So looking forward to a new and better year and changes to keep the chapter running smoothly, thank you all for everything you do.

In closing please keep Brother Ed Brouillet in your thoughts and prayers as he is going through some difficult times with some health issues as well as our House Mother Peg, as she is trying very hard to keep it all together and care for Ed.

Reminder dues are and money and RSVPs for the holiday gathering is due. Please get them to Treasurer Laford as soon as possible.

Remain Strong and Stay Safe. **President Martin** 

### Mass-2 **Christmas Party**

- Sunday, December 6,
- 1:00 p.m.
- The Glen Caffe 63 Glenallen Street. Winchendon

Come join us for a catered dinner and "controlled" socializing.

We ARE NOT doing a Yankee Swap this year.

The chapter is covering the costs of the appetizers prior to our meal. A special thank you goes out to Maury Lizotte for his leg work on this year's party planning.

...hope to see you all there!

We must have RSVPs and pre-paid Christmas Party dinners by Sunday, November 22 to give to the caterer.

Contact Bob Laford with your meal choice and payment as soon as you can.

> We will again be accepting gift cards as donations for Sherry's House at our Christmas party.

> Visit www.whyme.org for more information about Sherry's House. We will be bringing all of those gift cards collected to Sherry's House in Worcester to assist them in their mission for the kids this holiday season. Visit www.whyme.org for more info.

> As always, thank you for your generosity — the children and families at the home thank you as well.

## Yankee Rally May 21-23, 2021

Hosted By Red Knights NY Chapter 43 at the Hyatt Regency, 1717 Motor Parkway, Hauppauge, NY — on Long Island.

Yankee Rally pricing: (3 nights) \$190.00 per night plus taxes - Single occupancy and \$201.00 per night plus taxes - Double occupancy (Both prices INCLUDE Breakfast).

Planning and events include:

Self-guided tours, Basket Auction at the host hotel, Food & Beer Trucks at the hotel parking areas, Winery Tour, via limousine Service (7 hour vineyard tour: 3 - 1 hour stop at 3 different vineyards and a Picnic lunch — requires preregistration)

NY 25 to host guided tour to Montauk Lighthouse (preregistration required), RK 43 to host ride to Greenport Brewery (pre-registration required) and NY 43 to host ride on the South Shore of Long Island (pre-registration required)

On Sunday there is a 9/11/01 Memorial ride to Ground Zero (pre-registration required)

For details and pricing of all events and more information about the 2021 Yankee Rally visit their webpage at <a href="https://">https://</a>

www.redknightsny43.org/yr2021info

### Winter Gathering

Sally at the Glen Caffe is willing to open up on a Sunday morning so that we can have breakfast together — and share our 2021 Ride Schedule — looking at a Sunday morning, late in February.

Keep an eye out for more info!

Not knowing what the future holds in regards to COVID, this planning is subject to change.

We appreciate Sally's willingness to welcome us in for our Winter Meeting.

The Hamberg's were one riding family that was featured in an article in the September issue of Backroads Magazine!

P.S. JUST A REMINDER THAT DUES ARE DUE TO THE TREASURER BY DECEMBER 1.

THANKS FOR YOUR COOPERATION.

# Our RK Monthly Breakfasts are on suspension!

With the pandemic still in full force, the decision has been made to suspend our monthly Breakfast Clubs for the health of our members and families. No worries — they will return!

## Our 2021 Chapter Officers are:

Kevin Martin, President 978-877-6179 rkma2prez@gmail.com

Rick Oliver, VP 978-413-5544 rickoliver3@yahoo.com

Secretary VACANT

Bob Laford, Treasurer 978-724-3270 rflaford@tiac.net

Jeff Hamberg, Road Captain 978-413-1636 jhamberg@rk-mass2.org

Larry Robinson, Assistant Road Captain 978-724-3321

With Jeff stepping down as Secretary to take on Road Captain, we are in need of a member to join the board as Chapter Secretary.

If you are interested in being appointed to the position until the next annual business meeting—contact President Martin by November 15. The board will act on the appointment in December.



**ANNUAL MEETING** — A brief annual business meeting was held on Saturday, October 17, at the Congo Church in Petersham. Fourteen members were in attendance.

Along with election of officers, other business included a donation to Vermont 2's Paul's Ride and a donation to the RKMC Memorial Foundation.

Discussions on 2021 hopeful expectations, events like Americade, the Yankee Rally and the 2021 Convention were

held.

It was in the 30's and raining first thing in the morning, but the sun was out at meeting time and the Oliver's arrived via two wheels! Annual Reports were distributed at the October meeting. If you were not able to attend our annual meeting but would like a copy of the reports, contact Treasurer Laford.

#### On the road with our friends...

It was 135 days between our bowling event in March and the evening we gathered in back of the Orange Fire Department to welcome new member Chris Rutola, in July. With such a hiatus from seeing each other it did not take too much convincing to get a group of Red Knights to venture out to Orange to cast their vote and have some ice cream.





And before all of us had left the station after our ice cream, Chris, Jeff, Ian and the rest of OFD were called to a house fire just a few blocks from the station. Kudos for the quick knock-down and hopefully others at OFD were able to enjoy some of the ice cream we left in the freezer!

 We had ten members meet up with temperatures in the upper 80's to celebrate National Ice Cream Sandwich Day! It was great to be riding together again!



 Perfect riding weather in late August in Vermont brought us to the Harpoon Brewery for lunch!





CONGRATULATIONS to our NJ/VY friends Julie Rogers and Matt Mattera on their recent engagement! Of course it happened during a motorcycle trip! WooHoo!!

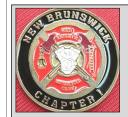
#### 2021 CHAPTER RIDE PLANNING

The 2021 Chapter Ride Schedule may have many of those events and destinations that we were not able to make it to in 2020.

But that does not mean we are not open to new ideas, destinations, events and routes!

One topic at the annual meeting was including more picnic rides so we could be "self-contained" and still get riding in, even amidst the pandemic.

Get your ride ideas into an officer for 2021!



2021 International Convention St. John, New Brunswick Canada

August 16th - 22nd, 2021

For details and registration info visit <a href="https://www.rkmci2021.com/">https://www.rkmci2021.com/</a>

I do not think it is any surprise that Jaffrey FD's annual Fire Prevention Breakfast was cancelled for this year. Chief Chamberlain said that they hope to do something after the New Year. We will keep you informed if we hear anything being planned.



The Laconia City Council agreed in July to allow Laconia Motorcycle Week to occur Aug. 22-30, but without

many of the activities attendees have enjoyed at past rallies. Vendor booths were banned, except for the Motorcycle Week Association and some local nonprofit organizations. Mayor Andrew Hosmer said before the vote that the council was trying to strike a balance between the economic concerns of local businesses which rely on the event for a large part of their income, and the need to safeguard public health during the coronavirus pandemic.

#### **2021 Dues**

We have sent out reminders about your 2021 dues (\$25). Please consider getting your dues to our Treasurer early.

As with any organization there are expenses that we incur and your dues help us cover those costs. A portion of your dues also goes to the International for our charter dues. (We must have all International dues paid by the new year or we incur a \$50 penalty).

Please have your dues in to Treasurer Bob Laford before **December 1, 2020**. Thanks.

Red Knights Mass-2 P.O. Box 221 Petersham, MA 01366

If you would like to pay electronically via PAYPAL, contact Bob



Glad he is in England and not New England!



An on-line article talked about different roads that should be on your list to ride. Those listed in our area included:

- The Cabot Trail in Nova Scotia (I know, that is a little out of our area!)
- U.S. Route 1/State Route 3 from Bath to Bar Harbor in Maine, with all the little roads in and out of the coastline.
- The Mohawk Trail (Route 2) in Massachusetts
- Mount Washington Auto Road in New Hampshire (I think they should have listed the Kangamangus!)
- Whiteface Mountain in New York
- Route 100 in Vermont

You can take a look at all the different roads they listed at <a href="https://ridermagazine.com/2015/09/03/35-bucket-list-motorcycle-rides/">https://ridermagazine.com/2015/09/03/35-bucket-list-motorcycle-rides/</a>

## *International Election Results - 2020*



- Vice President Spike Ostiguy MA 4
- Secretary Jack Jarvis NC 6
- Region 2 Director Leo Patry ONT 7
- Region 4 Director Steve Guillot LA 1
- Region 6 Director Allen Aurich TX 4
- · Region 8 Director Ken Mahon New Zealand 6

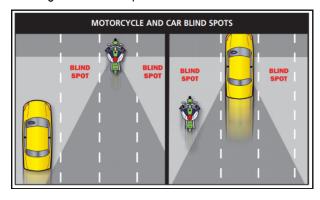
### Ways to Avoid Deadly Blind Spots

You and your spouse gather your things and pack your bike for a ride to visit family. As expected traffic is heavy, but people are calmly rolling along at about 25 mph. You position yourself in the left portion of your lane to see past a truck in front of you, leaving ample following distance in case the truck stopped guickly.

Suddenly, an SUV just ahead and to your left moves right, into your lane. You have little time to react, but it's too late. Your front tire makes contact with the right rear bumper and you are both thrown to the pavement.

As innocuous as the situation seemed, you still needed to be aware of the risks around you. The driver who crossed into your lane did so because they thought the lane was clear. They claimed to have looked in their side mirror and even glanced over their shoulder before turning, but saw nothing.

Yes, the driver is responsible for making sure the lane was clear, but you were riding in their blind spot. Not smart.



Here are some ways to help drivers see you easier:

Avoid lingering in blind spots. Drive through blind spots when possible (and safe) by traveling a bit faster than surrounding traffic. Filter or lane-split if you can (and if legal).

- •Ride within the driver's peripheral vision, slightly ahead of the passenger or driver side door.
- •If that's not possible, then drop back so the driver can see you in their mirrors and to place your bike out of harm's way if the driver changed lanes suddenly.
- •Never "hide" behind other vehicles where it is nearly impossible for drivers to see you.
- •Position yourself at least 2 seconds behind vehicles you are following. More when following large vehicles.
- •Develop a sixth sense about your environment so you can respond before things unfold. Ask "what's wrong with this picture"?
- Predict what actions drivers are likely to make. Look for arm and head movements that can indicate an imminent lane change or turn.

Pay close attention to unexplained slowing, drifting or erratic behavior. I call this "vehicle body language".

Takeaway: Environmental awareness and proper lane positioning are two of the most important strategies for being seen.

Taken from Ken Condon's "Riding in the Zone"



Yes, we know -- your mileage is a lot less than years past (for most of us). Even so — don't forget to get your year-end mileage into our VP Rick Oliver to be included in our 2020 totals! (rickoliver3@yahoo.com) And a big thanks to Maury Lizotte for all his years keeping track of our miles!

#### **OUR RIDING TIME IS GETTING SHORTER!**

What a strange riding year (and year in general it has been). We hope that you have gotten out on imprompturides on your own or with a few riding buddies as well as the few rides we were able to carve out as a chapter.

Our Polar Bear Ride was after the first snow of the season but we had a few members make it out for a ride and some lunch with temperatures in the 40's and some snow present on the sides of the road.

#### **RK Ideas for Christmas!**

Red Knights' apparel and stuff are always a great gift for the rider on your Christmas list!

For RKMC embroidered clothing (shirts, coats,

hats, etc.) contact Joe Guarnera at joegua@comcast.net or his home phone at 978-455-1022 . The vendor we were using in Orange fell victim to COVID restrictions, but they did return the digitized artwork we had prepared with them. Just before this newsletter went to print we learned that Lyman Signs in Phillipston purchased all of Orange Graphix equipment and has copies of our digitized files for embroidery!

Chapter Treasurer **Bob Laford (978) 724-3270** has a number of items too: Window & Helmet Decals, Thin Red Line Decals, Chapter Patches, Red Knights Shoulder Patches w/rockers, Thermal Applications for clothing, Chapter Challenge Coins and Red Knights Back Patches & Rockers (for vests).

Decals and patches are available in both traditional Red Knights logo and our new chapter design!

On the International Web Page you can buy merchandise from other chapters ranging from doo-rags to collar brass and license plate frames and everything in between!

How about a gift membership to the American Motorcycle Association (AMA) for that special rider on your list? The AMA and its Massachusetts counterpart MMA work tirelessly to support our rights and promoting motorcycling around Massachusetts and around the county. Our memberships help support their endeavors.

**Returning to the E-Board.** Fresh off "retirement" with the sale of the New Salem General store, this fall, Rick Oliver threw his hat back into the chapter leadership ring and was elected Vice-president to replace outgoing VP Maury Lizotte.

Re-elected to the board was Chapter Treasurer Bob Laford, and voted in as Road Captain for the next term was Jeff Hamberg, along with Assistant Road Captain Larry Robinson

<u>Sergeant At Arms</u> — The formal role of a sergeant-at-arms in modern legislative bodies is to keep order during meetings. In some clubs, the position also is responsible for ensuring that the Bylaws and standing rules of a club are not violated. Other RK Chapters have this position and the President is investigating this further for our chapter's use.

President Martin will be developing a "job description" for Sergeant At Arms position within the chapter. This will be an appointed position by the chapter executive. More information will be forthcoming.

Thank you to all those who serve our chapter! (And to your wives and better-halves, too!!)



Our Red Knight family are a class to themselves — whether they are here in Massachusetts or half-way around the world!

The International Motorcycle Show Heads

Outdoors For 2021. The outdoors opens up the opportunities for the previously indoor event. As the global pandemic and government regulations continue to call for restaurant owners, shop managers, and events teams to adapt on a seemingly weekly basis, one generally accepted solution has been to take things outside. Like many businesses, the International Motorcycle Show (IMS), an event that connects powersport brands with enthusiasts and buyers, is following that model by changing its normal convention-center setting to the outdoors.

IMS SVP Tracy Harris announced that this latest adaptation is the "biggest evolution" of the event and will open up opportunities for attendees to participate in more demo rides, both dirt and road.

In addition to showcasing the latest motorcycles, scooters, ATVs, gear, aftermarket accessories, and e-bikes, IMS will also feature overland and RV products to expand the "Adventure Out" segment and "thus welcoming potential and qualified riders into the industry."

Locations and dates have not been determined, but the team aims to hold the events between the months of May and September 2021 in a number of cities across the US.

I wonder if any of the New England shows will offer outside venues for shows in 2021 that were cancelled in 2020?



The first week in June was in the height of the COVID outbreak in NY and the Dutchers decided to re-schedule Americade 2020. But alas, with the outbreak flaring throughout the south and the west when the July reschedule date arrived, Americade 2020 had to be cancelled.

Red Knights in NY who normally plan for the Red Knight ride on Wednesday and the Lake George FD open house on Thursday decided that they would

continue to plan for those events, and the Non-Americade Lake George activities continued for the Red Knights.

A number of members of

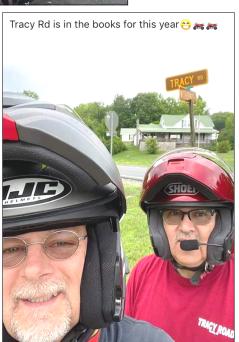
Mass-2 decided to continue up to Lake George for a few days that week — maintaining social distance and having face-coverings at hand.

Even though it was in the midst of summer tourist season, there were noticeably smaller crowds. Parking on Canada Street was not a problem, there were a few motorcycles to be seen, but not many.

Rick and Jim made sure that







Tracy Road was one of the routes they made while up north. Stoney Creek Inn remained closed for 2020, but most businesses along Canada Street were open.

#### Membership News Briefs...

Welcome aboard to our newest member, Chris Rutola of Orange FD.

Thank you to all who came out to Ed and Peg's to help with tropical storm clean up, back in August.

We had a great turnout and were done in no time!

Congratulations to Caitlin Barclay and her beau, Kevin Renzaglia on the purchase of their new home in Mesa, AZ!



We even discovered that the long-closed restaurant (at the re-named Clinton Inn) where we had many breakfasts over the years was re-opened and called "The Old Goat and the Grumpy Bear." It was a good breakfast on the deck. Hopefully they will survive the pandemic, as they just opened a few weeks prior.

About fifty Red Knights from around NY and New England were on hand for the RKMC/LGFD Open House. There were several chapters set up to sell wares, including MA-2 with our decals.





Normally the open house draws 250-400 Red Knights. We'll be back to that as everyone made note of how they missed Americade.

As we look ahead, talk to others in the chapter to see where they may be staying in 2021. Roaring Brook Ranch was recently renovated and some chapter members have already made reservations there.

Americade 2021 will be different, but it will still be fun and full of new memories. Mark your calendar for the week of June 7 — 2021.

#### **Mass Fall State Meeting**

Our Cape Cod weekend, where we planned to have our state meeting was cancelled, amidst the pandemic, but the state meeting went on in a controlled social-distancing nature in George and Sandy's back yard in Plympton.



There were 38 members in attendance from seven different chapters. The

business portion of the meeting saw the re-election of our state rep, and a donation from the State Rep's account to the "Give a Child a Christmas" ride in memory of Bob Hollner (President of NY12). Bob was a long-time supporter of the ride and died unexpectedly in September.

Discussions at the meeting were also on the 2021 Yankee Rally on Long Island and the International Convention scheduled for August in New Brunswick.



close to \$3,000.00 with chapters in Australia, Europe, and Canada buying patches, as well as chapters in the states.

Bob also reported that final expenses of the 2019 Yankee Rally showed a profit of \$4,800.00. When things become a little more stabilized there will be a ride to the "Shriners Burn for Children's in Boston" to give them a check for \$4,800.00.

Congratulations to George Colby on his re-election as State Rep.

Prior to the meeting, coffee and pastries were available, and afterwards the grill was hot for some hot dogs and hamburgers and desserts that had everyone heading home with a smile.



Thanks to Jeff and Faith Hamberg (and Matthew) for hosting our annual Labor Day weekend cookout. It was great to get together under blue skies and enjoy each others company and food to share, including from Jeff's smoker!



Technically it was still summer, but this mid-September ride was a cold morning and a cool day — all day.

The wheels were turning with roads visited in NH and VT and a stop at a favorite restaurant, the Whetstone on the Connecticut River in Brattleboro.

# Get Ready Americade 2021 is coming...

Psst... The Dutchers and their staff are starting the planning for Americade.

They have told the Americade volunteers that planning will include options for the rally like (1) What is normally thought of when we think of Americade, if our world appears "normal" again, (2) A toned down version of Americade with social distancing restrictions for an Americade in June if things have improved with the pandemic, but there are still elevated cases, and (3) A third plan that pushes the Americade rally further into 2021 with a "back up date" if the pandemic still looks to be continuing strong in the spring and into June.

#### Man Breaks Into Burning Building To Save... Motorcycles



Scott Flick lost everything to an Alemeda, Oregon wildfire. His home, as well as his neighbor's homes, burned to the ground. The fire left little for him to reclaim. But even with his tragic loss, Flick still felt the need to help others avoid a similar situation.

According to reports, at first, Flick didn't understand the magnitude of the wildfire. He said that he didn't expect anything to burn. But when he tried to return to his home, the road was closed. He left his car and got onto his bike to check his property. Unfortunately, there was nothing left.

As the winds increased, so did the magnitude and range of the fire. Soon, D & S Harley-Davidson was engulfed in flames. Fanned by the wind, the fire started moving towards Oregon Motorcycle Adventures (OMA) KTM.

It was then that Flick began to take action. He decided to break into the dealership and rescue some of the machines inside. He said he couldn't rip the inner door handle off. So he broke in and ripped it off from the inside. That did the job, and Flick was able to save nine different KTMs from the inferno.

OMA-KTM owner Jeff Moffett had an idea who rescued the bikes.

"When they told me that a guy broke into the store and saved the motorcycles I had a really good idea of who it was." – TV news KOBI5, reported

And he was right. It was Scott Flick. The man who had lost everything he owned only hours earlier.

Flick says he misses riding.



The remains of Scott's "best friend"

"I miss riding

motorcycles bad. I get choked up every time about my best friend burnt. You can almost see it from here."

We thank our friend and long-time chapter officer Maury Lizotte for more than 25 years serving in different officer positions on the executive board.



Maury first appeared on the board as a Charter Member when he was elected Secretary.

Maury had a hiatus from the chapter for a few years but when he returned in 2006 he was quick to step up and offer to serve again, first as Secretary and then as Vicepresident.

Thank you Maury — and enjoy those Florida roads while we are all surviving Parked Motorcycle Syndrome.

Thanks also go out to Bob Shakarian for 15 years of serving as our Chapter Road Captain. Shaky was always

keeping a watchful eye over the group, many times with his brightly colored gloves and vest so that other drivers would see him as they approached the group.

#### Five autumn hazards to watch for (From

Revzilla's Common Thread column)

Many of us in the northern half of the United States are putting bikes up for the winter. Some of us still ride in spite of the change in season. Some of us do both.

If you're in the "still riding" category, no doubt things are changing a bit for you. Fall riding can bring positively beautiful scenery that my less-adventurous brethren miss out on or it can make riding a drudgery to be avoided. Here are five particular fall hazards to remember.

- Darkness falls early
- Crazy temperature swings
- Sex-drunk deer
- Traction reduction
- · Happy humans, distracted humans

Now, don't take any of this to suggest that fall is a bad time of year. There's not much in life that's as satisfying as winding down a back road with colorful leaves blowing over the macadam. Fall is prime ridin' time.

Enjoy the fall. Do it on a motorcycle. Be safe and happy.