



- Sunday, December 8, 2024
- 1:00 p.m.
- Slattery's
106 Lunenburg St, Fitchburg, MA 01420

Come join us for a our catered buffet dinner and our annual Yankee Gift Swap.

Bring a wrapped gift with a value of no more than \$15-20 for the gift swap, if you would like to participate.

Unless you will be choosing the Gluten Free option, this year's Christmas Dinner is a buffet — as requested by our members through the survey earlier this year.

The buffet and the Gluten Free option are both \$35 per person.

Prior to the meal, as in year's past, we will have a cheese and cracker plate available as members arrive and begin socializing.

Buffet includes: Tossed Crisp Greens, accompanied by seasonal fresh vegetables, Penne Marinara, Italian Meatballs, Baked Atlantic Haddock, Roasted on the bone Turkey Breast, sage stuffing and homemade gravy, Whipped Red Bliss Potato, Fresh Vegetable, Crusty Rolls & butter and Dessert Cake

Coffee and Soft Drinks will also be part of the buffet.

Contact Bob for information on the Gluten-free option(s)

Adult beverages will be available at the bar, at the member's own cost.

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, 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.

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

We must have a RSVPs and pre-paid dinners by Sunday, November 24 to give to the caterer.

Contact Bob Laford with 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 2024

www.rk-mass2.org

facebook

facebook.com/RKMASS2

Loyal to Our Duty

From the desk of the Chapter President

Fraternal Greetings to all the members of MA-2,

I am proud to say that as I find myself at the end of my first year in this role as the President of this amazing chapter, I am overwhelmed by the support and positive feedback I have received from the majority of the membership. Many of the members who have reached out to me with words of support and encouragement are the same members who year after year hold this chapter together and keep it such an amazing organization. The membership of MA-2 regularly displays selfless acts of kindness and a caring compassion towards others that is second to none. I could not be prouder to be a part of this amazing chapter.

I continue to applaud and recognize our members who are actively participating and suggesting ideas for rides, fundraisers and other functions. It doesn't matter if we are getting together for a ride, having a tasty meal or even just enjoying some great fellowship with one another. Believe me when I say I understand the time commitment it can take to be active in this chapter, but I wouldn't trade it for anything else. The feeling I get when I'm riding my motorcycle or even just spending time with my RK family never fails to put a smile on my face.

We suffered a few speed bumps this year including some members with injuries, health problems, and personnel conflicts but through it all we continued to get together and strived for what we all joined this club for, and that is to ride our motorcycles and enjoy the fellowship of our friends while also raising money for many great causes and supporting our brothers and sisters in the fire service. I pray that each and every one of us never forget why we joined this organization and that we continue to humble ourselves to help others and try to make this international organization better every chance we can for others to enjoy for years to come.

As we continue to move towards electronic communications, Zoom options for meetings, text message of chapter emails and other technological advances, I want to thank everyone for their willingness to adapt and accept these new ideas and concepts. I'm also proud that we have new ways to show the world who we are including multiple social media platforms, new banners and even yard signs to display when we are gathering. When we wear our vests or display our chapter logo, we are a billboard for the world to see. Wear these colors proudly and show the world the good we can do.

Here's to another great year and many more adventures with all of you.

Fraternally,
President Jeff Hamberg
RKMC MA-2

Mass-2 Christmas Party

- Sunday, December 8,
- 1:00 p.m.
- Slattery's
Lunenburg St., Fitchburg

Come join us for a catered buffet dinner.

Buffet includes: Tossed Crisp Greens, accompanied by seasonal fresh vegetables, Penne Marinara, Italian Meatballs, Baked Atlantic Haddock, Roasted on the bone Turkey Breast, sage stuffing and homemade gravy, Whipped Red Bliss Potato, Fresh Vegetable, Crusty Rolls & butter and Dessert Cake

We are again doing a Yankee Swap this year and will be collecting gift cards for Sherry's House. Please see the attached flyer for details and RSVP information.

We must have RSVPs and pre-paid Christmas Party dinners by Sunday, November 24 to give to the caterer.

Contact Treasurer
Bob Laford with your
RSVP 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.

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

Thanks to your generosity we donated \$200 to the On-site Academy and will purchase \$200 in toys for the Marine Corps League's Toys for Kids in December, from the 50/50 proceeds we collected throughout the year.

Mass-4 Celebrates 40 years!



What a great afternoon we had helping RK MA-IV to celebrate their 40th anniversary back in August. Complete with a chicken BBQ, a bit of Red Knight and MA-IV history, lots of stories, and some cake, as well!

Congratulations and thank you for inviting us along!

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

**THANKS FOR YOUR
COOPERATION.**

Our 2025 Chapter Officers are:

Jeff Hamberg, President
978-413-1636
capthambergofd@outlook.com

John Loiselle, VP
978-660-1608
jmlouiselle32c@gmail.com

Jim Skehan, Secretary
978-660-0763
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Bob Laford, Treasurer
978-724-3270
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Tim Kilhart, Road Captain
978-894-4936
tkilhart@gmail.com

Charlie Hamberg,
Assistant Road Captain
978-727-9616
yamahax2@yahoo.com

Ian Hurley, Sgt. at Arms
978-877-9937
hurley.ian89@yahoo.com

Winter Gathering

Break up your winter doldrums with a Red Knights' get-together!

- Saturday, February 15, 2025
- Millers Woods Rec Center
Daniel Shays Highway — Athol
- 9:00 am to Noon
THIS IS A BREAKFAST POT LUCK THIS YEAR—NOT A LUNCH TIME GATHERING!

Bring some food to share, and something to wet your whistle. We will have the 2025 Ride Schedule ready for your review and look ahead to what memories will be made in the new year!

It will also be our **Second annual GEAR SWAP**. Time to purge your closet and let the gear you no longer wear find a new home!

We will also be holding our **Winter business meeting** during our time together.



It took three tries to actually get out on a successful mid-week ice cream ride!

June and July were rained out, but we had a perfect August evening where the Road Captain led us to Northfield for our treat!

On the road with our friends...

We had a great day for a ride for lunch at Wright's Chicken Farm in Rhode Island. And of course, a stop for ice cream at Dresser Hill in Charlton on the way home.



In 2023, one of the Co-rides we planned was with MA-4 to celebrate our 40th anniversary — and it was rained out! So we put it back on the schedule to celebrate their 40th anniversary with lunch at the Raceway Restaurant at the Thompson Speedway and ice cream on the way home. It was a great summer's day!



In an interview with his friend Allie Ferris for Collier Magazine in the early 1900's, columnist George Fitch asked his friend if he really enjoyed his motorcycle.

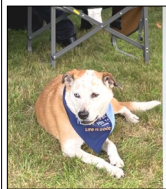
"Why man. You don't realize how much fun it is to take a map out and browse over it with a motorcycle. You can take a gallon of gas and make a regular Columbus out of yourself!"

Over a century later, I still have to agree with Allie. Where did your gallon of gas take you this riding season, Columbus?

There were over 20 MA-2 members that came out for our summer cookout at the Oliver's in New Salem back on the July 4th long weekend.



As always, there was plenty of food and a lot of friendly conversation!



Thank you to Neva and her humans, Rick and Lori, for having us over to their home!



We had a great day at the Hamberg's for our end-of-summer cookout with nearly two dozen people! Of course lots of food and a great afternoon with friends—and the weather cooperated with our ride to and from Southwick, as well.

The bugs seemed to be hiding from us during the 100 mile loop our Road Captain took us on in September, but Bob did come up with a bug that was closest to the bullseye this year!



Our President's Ride was on a beautiful fall day with twisties in western MA and southern VT. The Hamberg's friend, Bill, from Florida was along with us. And when having lunch at the Old Creamery in Cummington we asked a fellow rider (who also stopped for lunch) if he would like to buy a 50/50 ticket — and he won (and also was presented a MA2 poker chip!)



We had bright sunshine and a blue sky greet us for the Jaffrey FD Fire Prevention Breakfast (With 6 bikes, 4



cars and a dozen people total). Of course that meant that we had temperatures in the mid-thirties, too! But that is OK, because the breakfast was worth it! Some times that staple on our calendar is colder than our Polar Bear Ride!

Our October weather continued to cooperate as we snuck in another foliage ride into southern New Hampshire and a stop for some BBQ in Rindge.



2025 Dues

We have sent out reminders about your 2025 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, 2024**. Thanks.

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



During the summer, Jeff Morgan from Australia toured the U.S. to complete both the RKMC Founding Fathers' Challenge Ride and a Grand Tour Master. He was hosted by many Red Knights around the country, including members of MA-2.

At the tail end of his time in the U.S. members from MA-2 and MA-4 escorted him to Maine for his last point needed to complete his Challenge Ride, experience some Maine "lobstah" (and to get a few more stations for his GT).

It was great participating in "The Cranky Aussie's" tour of our country, and thank you to those MA-2 members who helped coordinate his stays and his time in New England.

"Let's Play Hooky" mid-week rides

Our weekday impromptu rides continue to be popular with 6 to 10 members (and sometimes Red Knights from other chapters, as well!)



Early in July we finally got out for our season's first Hooky Ride with six bikes and nine people along for the day. We stopped at the Midfield Café at the Nashua Airport for lunch. *Great place to eat!*

July continued with some good riding weather so we were out again, first for a brunch stop at the Spotted Cow Café in Barre.



At the end of the month we enjoyed another lunch ride with a stop at the Clambox in Brookfield.



On a September Friday we headed into Rhode Island with a small crew for lunch at the Beef Barn and then ice cream (before the shops start to close) at the Still Four Corners in Rutland.



To kick off the Columbus Day weekend we had a Friday ride into Vermont to enjoy a great fall day, the foliage and the hospitality of our Vermont-2 friends at their annual "Coffee Break" at the Vermont Visitors' Center on Route 91.



Don't forget to get your year-end mileage into our VP **John Loiselle** to be included in our 2024 totals! (jmloiselle32c@gmail.com)

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.) Lyman Signs in Phillipston have copies of our digitized files of the Red Knight logo and our Minuteman Logo for embroidery and vinyl heat applications (Screens). <https://lymansigns.com/>



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 Poker Chips and Red Knights Back Patches & Rockers (for vests). Decals and patches are available in both traditional Red Knights logo and our Minuteman 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.

Membership News Briefs...

Condolences to the Hamberg's on the passing of Pam's mom (Charlie's mother-in-law, Jeff's grandmother and Matthew's Great-grandmother).

Congratulations to Kevin Martin on acquiring a BMW trike. It is good that he and Val have been able to get back on the road!

Congratulations to Ernie and Linda Lee on the birth of grandchild #3 — AND their first granddaughter! (And congratulations to West Hartford FF Joe Lee and his wife Lexi). And also Congratulations to Jim and Anna Skehan on the birth of their granddaughter Zoe!



Congratulations to Paul Woodcome on his election as Post Commander for the American Legion Post in West Boylston. And thank you to Paul and Olivia for extending an invitation to their Red Knights family to attend Paul's installation.

Congratulations to Michelle Shepard and Tim Kilhart on their retirements! That adds more members' availability to our weekday Hooky Rides!

Peg B has a great idea for the Breakfast Club at her house in November. She is making a memory board of baby and kid pictures of US! Get her (or bring with you to the breakfast) a photo of your younger self to be posted. We will have some fun trying to guess who is who!

Mass Fall State Meeting

Thirty Red Knights from 8 of the 9 Massachusetts chapters were on hand in Norton as MA-3 hosted the Fall State Meeting. Eight members from MA-2 were in attendance.

Congratulations to Kevin Martin and Joe Hopkins on their elections as Mass. State Rep and Assistant State Rep, respectively. MA2 will be very well represented at the state level by our two brothers!



Chapter presidents presented outgoing State Rep George Colby and Assistant State Rep Bob Binnall thank you plaques in recognition for their years of service to the Red Knights.

POLAR BEAR RIDE!

Our Polar Bear Ride is scheduled for Sunday, November 3, 11:00 am at the Westminster Dunkins. (This is also the morning after you set your clocks back an hour).



Join us for the last scheduled ride of the season!

Breakfast Clubs are starting up again. Come join your Red Knights family for a pot-luck brunch and help pass the cold-weather months with us! Bring your smile, some stories to tell, and of course some food to share!

- January at Lynn and Amanda Scott's in Petersham
- February is at the Millers Woods Rec Center with our winter meeting and gear swap
- March
- April

(No Breakfast Club in December)

- November 16 at Peg Brouillet's in Westminster.

Let us know if you would like to host a breakfast!

International Convention — The 2024 convention was held in Leipzig, Germany — and YES, MA-2 was again represented at the convention.

Ian Hurley, our chapter Sergeant-at-Arms left the U.S. on Sunday, August 12, to head to Europe to attend the convention.

Along with other Red Knights, Ian extended his time beyond the convention itself to enjoy being a tourist in Germany.

Fifty-two delegates signed in to participate in the annual business meeting. About 330 Red Knights (58 chapters) from around the world were registered at the convention (about 10% of those from US and Canada). Look for bylaws that were voted to be changed on the next page.

Congratulations to Norm Beausoleil and Mike Woods on their reelection as International Vice President and Secretary, respectively. All positions up for election on the Board this year were uncontested.

Alan Aurich, from Texas 4 and Ken Mahon, from New Zealand were recognized for their service as the outgoing regional directors.

The Treasurer noted that \$14,371 in donations were made to RKMC memorial in the past year.

The convention dinner began with a bagpipe and drum corps escorting the International Officers into the ballroom.

Emmett Duprey, of Pennsylvania and longtime Grand Tour Chairman was awarded the Perry Carter Award. And the European Red Knight of the year Award 2024 goes to Daniel Waldspurger. Congratulations to both hard working brothers!

12.08 - 18.08.
2024



Ian, at Check Point Charlie in Berlin, during his tour prior to the start of the convention (with Dutchy).



RK Convention BBQ



One of the guided rides around the region of the convention.

RKMC Statistics

- 457 chapters
- MALs have decreased by 50 to 232, but most of those changes are because more MALs have joined chapters
- Currently at 9,991 members at end of 2023

As with every year's report, several chapters' charters were recalled. (AR 3, GA 24, Germany 20, IN 3, ON 18, SC 5, TN 7, TX 6, and WV 10). The Treasurer and Secretary make many attempts to keep them active, before the decision to revoke a charter is brought to a vote.

Future Conventions: Presentations were given on the 2025 convention in Peoria, IL and the 2026 convention in Australia.

Ontario-1 presented a proposal and was accepted to host in 2027, which will be earlier in August than normal **AND be a cruise out of Florida!**

Bylaw proposal votes from the International Convention

PROPOSAL #1: BY-LAW SECTION 1:05 CLUB BACK PATCH

Submitted by: EU MAL

PASSED - This change allows the member at large the ability to wear a lower rocker that states their country, instead of just "MAL."

PROPOSAL #2: BY-LAW SECTION 2:01 ACTIVE MEMBER

Submitted by: International Board

PASSED - Cleaned up multiple chapter membership language.

PROPOSAL #3: BY-LAW SECTION 2:01 ACTIVE MEMBER

Submitted by: South Carolina Chapter 2

FAILED - Proposal was to change language about motorcycle endorsement as a component of an "Active" member.

PROPOSAL #4: BY-LAW SECTION 2:03 ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

Submitted by: England Chapter 4

FAILED - Proposal was to allow 20% of Active membership in Associate members (instead of current 10%).

PROPOSAL #5: BY-LAW SECTION 2:03 ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

Submitted by: International Board

PASSED - Proposal allows the International Board to waive 10% Associate member restriction if the declining membership in a chapter would force current Associate members out of the club.

PROPOSAL #6: BY-LAW SECTION 2:04 SOCIAL MEMBERSHIP

Submitted by: International Board

PASSED - Added additional allowances for social member relations in a member's family.

PROPOSAL #7: BY-LAW SECTION 2:06 MEMBERSHIP-AT-LARGE

Submitted by: International Board

PASSED - Cleaned up dues language for MALs.

PROPOSAL #8: BY-LAW SECTION 2:07 LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Submitted by: New Jersey Chapter 23 and Switzerland Chapter 6

FAILED - Proposal was to reduce to 20 years, the ability to grant Life Memberships (it is currently 25 years).

PROPOSAL #9: BY-LAW SECTION 2:07 LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Submitted by: International Board

PASSED - This change allows a Chapter's Life Member to wear the Life Member rocker on the back of their vest. Previously, the bylaws only allowed the International Life Members to wear the rocker.

PROPOSAL #10: BY-LAW SECTION 2:08 JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP

Submitted by: International Board

PASSED - Change cleaned up language about Junior membership voting status (they are not permitted to vote in club business).

PROPOSAL #11: BY-LAW SECTION 2:09 SPECIAL COMPASSIONATE HONORARY MEMBER

Submitted by: International Board

PASSED - Change clarified the criteria for obtaining SCHM status, and to allow for the transfer of Compassionate Honorary Status to another chapter without penalty in the event of a chapter dissolution.

PROPOSAL #12: BY-LAW SECTION 2:11 ANNUAL MEETING

Submitted by: International Board

PASSED - Change allows chapters hosting the convention to charge up to \$100.00 for convention registrations (Previously restricted to \$75).

PROPOSAL #13: BY-LAW SECTION 3:05 VACANCY

Submitted by: International Board

PASSED - Changes in this section were needed to better meet the intent of the need to fill vacancies on the board, and how and when to do that.

PROPOSAL #14: BY-LAW SECTION 3:24 BY-LAWS COMMITTEE

Submitted by: International Board

PASSED - This change dealt with the fine-tuning and timing of the responsibilities of the bylaw committee.

PROPOSAL #15: BY-LAW SECTION 3:25 SUSPENSION OR REMOVAL OF MEMBERS BY THE INTERNATIONAL BOARD

Submitted by: Germany Chapter 31

FAILED - In discussions at the convention, the wording of the proposal could have unintended consequences, one board member could suspend all other board members leaving only themselves to vote on the proceedings.

PROPOSAL #16: SECTION 4:01 STATE / PROVINCE/REGION ASSOCIATIONS

Submitted by: Australia Chapter 5 and Chapter 6

PASSED - References to an Australian Law banning certain motorcycle clubs' rockers was stricken from the bylaws, as this is no longer an issue.

PROPOSAL #17: BY-LAW SECTION 4:02 STATE/PROVINCE/ REGION ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

Submitted by: International Board

FAILED - Language was proposed to mimic chapter requirements for officer membership in regards to Associate and Social members holding offices in State and Regional Associations, but proposal failed.

PROPOSAL #18: BY-LAW SECTION 4:04 ASSOCIATION OFFICERS DUTIES

Submitted by: International Board with Motion 2024-013

PASSED - Clarified responsibilities surrounding Road Captain position.

PROPOSAL #19: BY-LAW SECTION 5:01 CHAPTER GOVERNMENT

Submitted by: International Board

PASSED - Change clarifies that Chapters may create their own Standard Operating Guidelines but must be in line with International By-laws and SOGs, and also indicates that members are not required to have mandatory attendance to be in good standing with the Chapter.

PROPOSAL #20: BY-LAW SECTION 6:01 GENERAL

Submitted by: International Board

PASSED - Added the statement "Within these By-Laws the word "shall" is used as an imperative command, indicating that certain actions are mandatory, and not permissive."

ANNUAL CHAPTER MEETING

Thank you to all that came out to Athol on a beautiful autumn day for our annual meeting in October. We had 16 members in attendance. Minutes were shared, after the meeting, and if you did not receive them, please contact President Hamberg.

Ian Hurley spoke of his time at the International Convention in Germany, this past August. He recommended that members join him at the 2025 convention in Illinois, as it is a fun time.

Kevin Martin and Joe Hopkins were on hand and spoke to the members as the new State Rep and Assistant State Rep. They are meeting with each chapter and hope to get good feedback from the chapter executives on the health of the RKMC, and how we all can better work together in Massachusetts.

The meeting was the first gathering we had since receiving our "Yard Signs" that were authorized at our summer meeting. Member remarked about how good they looked! The signs will be shared with the officers so they are available to be placed at events.



Welcome to new members Matthew Regnier of Wendell, and returning member Richard Cormier from Leominster. We hope to see you both out with us at chapter rides and events, soon!



Congratulations to John Loiselle on his election as Vice-President and to Tim Kilhart, Charlie Hamberg and Bob Laford on their returning to the E-Board as Road Captain, Assistant Road Captain and Treasurer, respectively.



A record 180,000 motorcyclists had their helmets blessed at Fátima shrine in Portugal in September.

The ninth such pilgrimage, Bishop Rui Manuel Sousa Valério challenged the record number of participants to be "walkers who go to meet the Lord, radiating, along the paths, the luminous light of hope."

The pilgrimage started with the parade of a group of motorcyclists carrying a statue of Our Lady of Fátima next to the Basilica of the Holy Trinity, followed by a Mass during which the bikers' helmets were blessed.

Recognizing that "this is a great day in Fátima," Father Carlos Cabecinhas noted the festive atmosphere of the pilgrimage. "It is also a time for socializing and this is an aspect that is not secondary," he said.

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.

"**Station 16**" is an ice cream place in Jaffrey, located just north of the center of town. It is run by a Jaffrey Firefighter's family. On their first stand, they had a bunch of FD decals, including an RKMC decal.



This summer Station 16 had a new trailer delivered, and once again the Red Knights are represented with a fresh decal! When it is ice cream season again, make it a point to stop in and enjoy their ice cream!

At our summer cookout in July we held our Summer Business meeting.

The majority of the meeting was spent on the review and voting on the proposed chapter SOG changes that were proposed by the Executive Board.

President Hamberg emailed members the updated version (5.0) of our chapter document after the meeting. If you have not received your copy, please reach out to Jeff.

Along with our chapter changes, we also spent some time discussing the proposed bylaw changes that were to be brought up at the International convention in Germany. Fortunately, MA-2 was represented at the convention by Sergeant-at-Arms Ian Hurley, and Ian took with him the information on our discussions.

Rick Oliver began his quest to complete the Founding Father's Challenge Ride back in the spring with stops with RK VA-8 members and a stop in Florida while headed to the Dixie Rally.



On September 4, he headed west to the Bootlegger Rally to meet up with Boyd Garrison from New Jersey and for the two of them to head to the west coast to continue and complete the points needed to complete the challenge ride.

Along the way Rick also stopped at many different fire stations to complete another Grand Tour Master Challenge!

Rick is the fourth member of the chapter to finish the Founding Father's Challenge Ride, and only the 16th person throughout all the RKMC to have completed this challenge.

2025 International Convention — Peoria, ILL August 21-24, 2025

<https://www.redknightsmcil.com/convention>

The host hotel is the Embassy Suites by Hilton, East Peoria Riverside Hotel and Conference Center. (309-694-0200).

From thrilling rides, kayaking trips, a visit to the Illinois Firefighter Memorial, and the comradery of your fellow members, the Red Knights from Illinois are promising a convention to remember!

Peoria is just about 1,100 miles from us. I imagine those beginning to plan for our chapter's participation in the event are looking at two days of road time. Look at a map. There may be a number of states you can "touch" while on the road for the convention, including Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin, Iowa. They are all enroute or just a ride from the host city. What states do you need?



2024 Red Knight "Post-Ride gear and rider dryer."

The first half of our riding season was WET!

But, most of August, September and into October was ideal and we even saw some records on how many days we went without rain.

Rick Oliver decided not to run for re-election as Chapter Vice-president this year. We wish to thank Rick for his years of support to the Executive Board, and members of our chapter, as VP and as Chapter Secretary.

We also wish Rick and Lori the best as they travel this winter and scope out some snow bird locations, as they begin to enjoy Lori's retirement.

2025 CHAPTER RIDE PLANNING

The officers will be meeting before too long to plan the 2025 ride and event calendar. Please share any ideas you have for a spot on the calendar!

A recent on-line survey of riders showed that 49% of riders put on less than 1,000 miles a year. 35% own more than one motorcycle. 27% of riders ride a few times a week. 17% of riders ride less than once a month, and 6% ride on daily basis.

We can help you get your "stats" up, come out and ride with us!



Congratulations to Matthew Hamberg on his first street bike — a Suzuki V-Strom. Only a couple more years Matthew and you'll have that license!

On our 2024 calendar we had placed a "Weekend in the White Mountains." Unfortunately, that did not happen. As you are all aware, prices have been up since the pandemic, and weekend prices for hotels and motels in the White and Green Mountains were over \$200 a night!

The week-day prices are usually quite a bit lower, so we are thinking of scheduling a mid-week get-away for 2025. We know that not everyone would be able to get away for a multi-day package during the week, but it is an option we are looking at for next year.

Let us know your thoughts!

Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club®



2025 CONVENTION

Hosted by the Illinois State Association



DATES

Executive Board: Tuesday, August 19, 2025 to Sunday, August 24, 2025

All Members: Thursday, August 21, 2025 to Sunday, August 24, 2025

SCHEDULE

Tuesday, August 19, 2025	♦ Red Knights Regalia Board Meeting	
Wednesday, August 20, 2025	♦ Red Knights Executive Board Meeting ♦ Registration Opens @ 3 pm	
Thursday August 21, 2025	♦ Breakfast (included w/each registered hotel guest) ♦ Registration Opens @ 7 am ♦ Starved Rock Kayak Tour @ 8:30 am (\$70 - transportation & lunch included) ♦ Group Ride (not escorted) - KSU @ 10 am	♦ On-Site Games / Self-Guided Rides ♦ Breakout Sessions (afternoon) ♦ Evening Reception @ 5 pm (2 free drinks & snacks for each registered hotel guest) ♦ Chapter Merchandise Sales ♦ Hospitality Room
Friday August 22, 2025	♦ Breakfast (included w/each registered hotel guest) ♦ Registration Opens @ 7 am ♦ Starved Rock Kayak Tour @ 8:30 am (\$70 - transportation & picnic lunch included) ♦ Firefighter Memorial Ride @ 10 am (\$10 - lunch included) ♦ On-Site Games / Self-Guided Rides	♦ Breakout Sessions (afternoon) ♦ Evening Reception @ 5 pm (2 free drinks & snacks for each registered hotel guest) ♦ Social Gathering @ 6 pm ♦ Chapter Merchandise Sales ♦ Hospitality room
Saturday August 23, 2025	♦ Breakfast (included w/each registered hotel guest) ♦ Registration Opens @ 7 am ♦ Annual Business Meeting @ 8 am to 12 pm ♦ Breakout Sessions (afternoon)	♦ Evening Reception @ 5 pm (2 free drinks & snacks for each registered hotel guest) ♦ Banquet Dinner @ 6 pm ♦ Chapter Merchandise Sales
Sunday August 24, 2025	♦ Farewell Breakfast - 6 am to 10 am	

Registration with Merchandise Pre-Orders Deadline: June 15, 2025

Mail or Email Registration Form To:

RKMC IL State Association

11023 West 72nd Street, Indian Head Park, IL 60525

rkmc2025convention@gmail.com

Make Checks Payable To:

RKMC Illinois State Association

Mail Checks to Address Provided Above.

All registrations must be paid by check/money order or
by PayPal to rkmc2025convention@gmail.com.

No Cash or Credit / Non-Refundable

Your registration will be confirmed by email upon receipt of payment.



Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club®

2025 CONVENTION

Hosted by the Illinois State Association



REGISTRATION FORM

Mail or Email to: RKMC Illinois State Association, 11023 West 72nd Street, Indian Head Park, IL 60525
rkmc2025convention@gmail.com

Registration with Merchandise Pre-Orders Deadline: June 15, 2025

MAKE CHECK / MONEY ORDER PAYABLE TO:

RKMC IL State Association or submit payment through PayPal to rkmc2025convention@gmail.com

No Cash or Credit / Non-Refundable

ATTENDEE(S) INFORMATION

Arrival Date:	Aug. 19, 2025	Aug. 20, 2025	Aug. 21, 2025	Aug. 22, 2025	Aug. 23, 2025
Attendee 1 Name:				Country - State - Chapter:	
Attendee 2 Name:				Country - State - Chapter:	
Street Address:					
City, State, Zip:					
Primary Phone:				Secondary Phone:	
Email (needed for registration confirmation):					
Emergency Contact Name & Phone Number:					

REGISTRATION FEES

Registration Fee per Adult = \$100.00	Number of Adults Attending =		X		
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PRE-ORDER MERCHANDISE

CONVENTION T-SHIRT (\$15 each) (only limited quantities will be available at Convention for purchase):

Small	Medium	Large	X-Large	2-XL	3-XL	4-XL	5-XL
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TOTAL Convention T-Shirt(s) (of t-shirts X):

OTHER PRE-ORDER MERCHANDISE (only limited quantities will be available at Convention for purchase):

Challenge Coin (\$20 each)	Quantity:		X		
Engraved Yeti Rambler 18 oz. w/Straw Cap (\$40 each)	Quantity:		X		

TOTAL Other Pre-Order Merchandise:

ADVENTURES

<u>Thursday</u> Starved Rock Kayak Tour @ 8:30 am (transportation & lunch included):	Number of Adults Attending =		X		
<u>Friday</u> Group Ride (with lunch) @ 10 am Illinois Fallen Firefighter Memorial	Number of Adults Attending =		X		
<u>Friday</u> Starved Rock Kayak Tour @ 8:30 am (transportation & lunch included):	Number of Adults Attending =		X		

TOTAL REGISTRATION FEE + T-SHIRT(S) + PRE-ORDERS + ADVENTURES =

PARTICIPATION IN SOCIAL GATHERING & BANQUET

Attendee	Friday Social Event		Saturday Banquet	
Attendee 1	YES	NO	YES	NO
Attendee 2	YES	NO	YES	NO

RKMC®
Yankee Rally 2025

JUNE 4TH – JUNE 9TH, 2025
BANGOR , MAINE



EVENT CONTACT:
EMAIL: YANKEERALLY2025@GMAIL.COM

HOST HOTEL:

Hilton Garden Inn Bangor, Maine
95 rooms available
\$215 per night plus tax

Booking link:

<https://www.guestreservations.com/hilton-garden-inn-bangor/booking>

SECONDARY HOTEL:

Hampton Inn Bangor, Maine
75 rooms available
\$189 per night plus tax

Booking Link:

<https://www.guestreservations.com/hampton-inn-bangor/booking>

3RD HOTEL

Comfort Inn Bangor, Maine
10 rooms available
June 4th and 5th - \$147 per night plus tax
June 6th and 7th - \$189 per night plus tax

Booking link:

<https://www.guestreservations.com/comfort-inn-bangor/booking>

Booking code for all hotels: RDK

The above links will work for dates during the Yankee Rally (June 4th to 8th) and checking out on June 8th. If you are coming before June 4th or staying after the Rally you will need to make an additional booking with the hotel.

Room rates included in the RDK booking code reflect the rates that will be discounted at the time of stay. Please note that rates for June 2025 are anticipated to be significantly higher than normal rates as of today.



Yankee Rally 2025
 P.O. Box 35
 Topsfield, Maine 04490
 Email: yankeerally2025@gmail.com
 Facebook: Yankee Rally 2025



RKMC® Yankee Rally 2025
 June 4th - 8th, 2025
 Bangor, Maine

Attendee = \$80 each / Youth (12 and under) \$55 each

Cost

Guest Name

Last: _____ First: _____ = _____

Email: _____ Circle one: Driver Passanger

Phone Number: _____ State and Chapter: _____

**Each registration submitted before April 9, 2025 will include the following:
 1 Yankee Rally 2025 rocker, 1 Yankee Rally 2025 coin, 1 Yankee Rally 2025
 tumbler, as well as Saturday Dinner (Youth bags may contain other items)**

Saturday Dinner (circle one)

Lobster dinner

Pork Dinner

Yankee Rally 2025 T-shirt:

Enter quantity in box and calculate amount (\$25 each)

Small	Medium	Large	X Large	2X Large	3X Large	4X Large

Additional Yankee Rally 2025 Tumbler (\$10 each)

Enter desired quantity and calculate amount _____ = _____

Additional Yankee Rally 2025 Coin (\$15 each)

Enter desired quantity and calculate amount _____ = _____

Additional Yankee Rally 2025 Rocker (\$5 each)

Enter desired quantity and calculate amount _____ = _____

Yankee Rally 2025 Beer Stein (\$20 each)

Enter desired quantity and calculate amount _____ = _____

Yankee Rally 2025 Coffee Mug (\$10 each)

Enter desired quantity and calculate amount _____ = _____

Payment Options:

Make Check Payable to:

RKMC ME5 Yankee Rally 2025

Grand Total:

Paypal:

yankeerally2025@gmail.com

Please include \$3 processing fee for all PayPal payments

Schedule of Events (Subject to Change)

Wednesday, June 4th

All day self guided rides, exploring and fun

3:00 pm – 7:00 pm Registration and raffle room open

Daily 50/50 tickets as well as Saturday evening super 50/50 tickets available in registration and raffle room

Thursday, June 5th

All day self guided rides, exploring and fun

7:00 am – 5:00 pm Registration and raffle room open

Daily 50/50 tickets as well as Saturday evening super 50/50 tickets available in registration and raffle room

“Early Bird Ride to Fort Knox and Penobscot Narrows Observatory”

8:30 am – Pre-ride briefing at Hilton Garden In

9:00 am - KSU at Hilton Garden Inn

Prices as follows:

Fort and Park Only Entry

Veterans: Free

Maine Resident Adults (12-65): \$4.50

Maine Resident Seniors (65+): Free

Children (5-11): \$2.50

Non-Resident Adults (12-65): \$6.50

Non- Resident Seniors (65+): \$3.00

Fort and Park plus Observatory:

Veterans: Free

Maine Resident Adults (12-65): \$7.00

Maine Resident Seniors (65+): \$2.50

Children (5-11): \$5.00

Non-Resident Adults (12-65): \$9.00

Non-Resident Seniors (65+): \$5.50

Friday, June 6th

All day self guided rides, exploring and fun

7:00 am – 5:00 pm Registration and raffle room open

Daily 50/50 tickets as well as Saturday evening super 50/50 tickets available in registration and raffle room

“Moosehead Lake Ride”

9:30 am - Pre-ride briefing at Hilton Garden Inn

10:00 am - KSU

Saturday, June 7th

All day self guided rides, exploring and fun

7:00 am – 12:00 pm Registration and raffle room open

Daily 50/50 tickets as well as Saturday evening super 50/50 tickets available in registration and raffle room

6:00 pm – Yankee Rally Banquet at the Anah Shrine Hall

Super 50/50 draw and auction drawings will be held at this time

“Sea wall Ride”

9:30 am - Pre-ride briefing at Hilton Garden Inn

10:00 am – KSU

Lobster roll lunch will be available at Chapter 3 club house following the ride

\$25 for 2 lobster rolls

\$15 for 1 lobster roll

Payment to be made at the club house

Please note that Sunday breakfast is not available.

Continental breakfast is NOT available at The Hilton Garden Inn. Breakfast is available at the on-site pub and restaurant from 6:30 am – 10:00 am as well as dinner from 5:00 pm – 8:30 pm.

Complimentary breakfast IS available at The Hampton Inn from 6:00 am – 10:00 am.