

Ed Brouillet
President



www.redknightsmc.com

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Downs
Vice President

Bill Snodgrass
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Leo Patry
Treasurer

Joe Conroy
Quartermaster

Dave Emery
NE Director

Gene Downs
SE Director

Carl Meyers
Central Director

Graham Clark
Western Director

Bob Laford
Newsletter Editor

Dear Brothers & Sisters,

Spring is finally here (Thank God!) It has been a long winter for a lot of us here in the north. Peg and I were tired of the winter so we headed for a week in the sun. It was a cruise out of Ft. Lauderdale. We left a few days early and stopped in to visit with Jack & Judy Downs. It was a great surprise to me when Jack suggested that we take a bike ride. He made arrangements for me to have use of a ride for the afternoon – thanks to some very special friends, Gene & Linda of FLA-1. It was fun and a lot better than sitting up here in the cold waiting for the snow to go away. We even have pictures to prove I was riding her purple Harley! Nothing like a bike ride to clear your head of those mid-winter blues.

At last year's convention we were just shy of 200 chapters. We are now well over that number and growing each day. Each year we have members and friends that come into the Red Knights and others that must leave us. Last year we were sad to lose Mike Leblanc when he stepped down from his position as International Secretary. The club has been very lucky in finding Bill Snodgrass to step into the position — and he has been doing a very good job. All the members of the board work extremely hard to make this a top-notch club.

*I would like to say **Thank You** to each and every one of them for the service and the efforts that they put forth for you the members.*

I feel that in the years to come the four most important positions to keep our club moving forward are the Treasurer, Secretary, Quartermaster, and the President. Why did I put my position last? I have the responsibility to oversee everything that the board members do. BUT the three others listed here, in my eyes, are the backbone for the successful operations of our organization.

At each convention, when elections occur, you must look at the candidates with the realization of the dedication, time and commitment that is needed to accomplish their required tasks. It takes very special people to fill these rolls.

There are still a few chapters that are in arrears with their dues. This means that they are on the verge of being voted out at the next convention. If your chapter falls into that category please contact us. The Executive Board will do what we can to help you get back on track.

It always saddens us when we see chapters dissolve. Was it just a loss of interest or was it due to internal problems. As Chapter officers your role is to lead your piece of the organization while remembering that this is a social club. It's all about having fun, working together for the betterment of your chapter, and helping others in the communities where you live and work.

Last year there was a big change in the Red Knights Board with the addition of the new Regional Directors. These positions were put in as a way to help open the line of communication between the International and the Chapters. These positions are there to help the chapters. Chapter Presidents and State Reps should utilize the assistance offered by the Regional Reps — give them a call! Beyond the Regional Reps, if there are any questions or problems you are having with any issue before the International Board please feel free to contact me, as I too am here to help the club.

In closing I want to thank the members who voted for me as your International President. I hope that you feel that I have been doing the job you expect me to do. I am seeking re-election at this year's convention. I would very much like to stay on for another two years to see our 25th anniversary as your International President. I feel very strongly that we are now on the right road and we now are getting the recognition that the Red Knights deserve. Thank You for your years of support.

Sincerely, Ed Brouillet, International President

Make your plans
today and join us
in **TORONTO**
...for another great
Red Knights
Convention!
August 11– 14,
2005

Visit the Red Knights
Message Board online
at
www.redknightsmc.com/forum and discuss
issues and events with
other Red Knights!

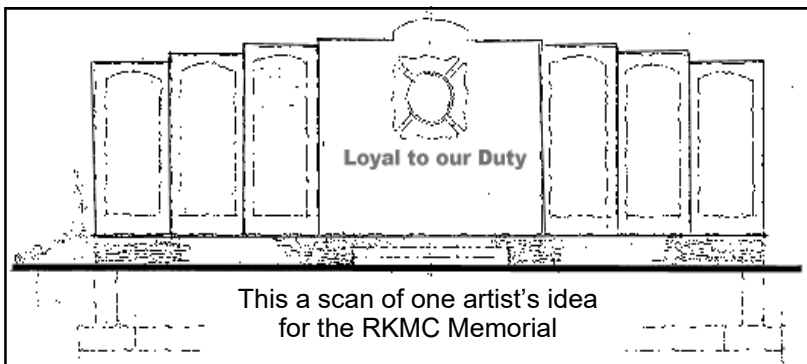
Would you like an
original "GUNZ" print like
that presented to the
Red Knights at the
Killington Classic?

This tribute to the Red
Knights and all
firefighters is available
on a limited basis directly
from the artist.

For more information
visit our web page at
www.redknightsmc.com/GUNZ.HTM

The Memorial - A Call for Design Ideas
By Jonathan Montague for the
Memorial Committee

Background: During the 2002 Rhode Island Red Knights convention Don Parker of Massachusetts Chapter 1 presented President Brouillet with a letter from the town of Boylston board of selectmen granting the Red Knights MC permission to build a monument on town property.



Since then MA1 has secured an approximately 1.4 acre parcel in front of the Boylston Town House and adjacent to the Boylston Fire Station. The goal is to have the monument ready by the 25th Anniversary Convention to be held in Massachusetts in 2007.

A preliminary plan on how the site might be laid out was submitted to us by Stewart Thurston. We hope this is the first of many for us to consider. This first plan was 18 feet deep and 34 feet wide, and had the classic look seen in many of the WWII monuments across the North American continent.

As it now stands we have several local firms that have offered to donate professional services and materials. Pine Ridge Design has offered to design a landscape plan around the final design and assist us in the plantings. Bigelow Nurseries has indicated they will donate some shrubs and plants.

Call for Design Ideas: The Monument Committee is requesting more input and design ideas from all chapters for the project. Please send, via postal mail or e-mail, your thoughts, comments, sketches, or layouts by October of 2005. The only firm design element is that you would need to have engraved bricks in the design. All designers need to be considerate of costs. The granite alone for that first preliminary plan priced out to \$50,000. The monument fund has just over \$7,000 in it today. So we need a modest design, or we need very aggressive fund raising by all the chapters over the next year.

Make Plans for the Killington Classic!

The weekend after Labor Day will never be the same! Just ask anyone who went to last year's Killington Classic in Vermont. It was a great time and the Red Knights were right in the front row.

Join us in 2005 for another great time. September 8-11 is this year's *Classic* in Killington, VT.

www.killingtonclassic.com

Send the designs to: Red Knights Motorcycle Club – Massachusetts Chapter 1, P.O. Box 720, Boylston, MA 01505, or rk-mass-one@lycos.com

Donations and contributions to to the Red Knights Memorial can be made to:

Red Knights International Memorial Fund

Shrewsbury Municipal Employees Federal Credit Union
PO Box 227, Shrewsbury, MA 01545 — (508)845-6755

Please help make the memorial a success with your donation!

Welcome to all our new MAL.'s and new chapters. The Red Knights now have over 150 members-at-large (including members in Europe) and 209 chapters. Our new chapters since the last newsletter are:

Pennsylvania-17, 18, 19& 20, Alberta-6,
Virginia-10 & 11, Washington, DC,
Mississippi-3, Ontario-13, Illinois-10,
Wisconsin-3, New York-24, and Texas-7

Welcome everyone!

Vote

Reminder...

At this year's convention, the positions of International President, Treasurer, Eastern Regional Director, and the Central Regional Director are up for election/reelection. Anyone who intends to run for International Office at the convention in August should announce his or her intentions at the Red Knights meeting held at Americade in Lake George. (Any bylaw change submissions must be also into the board within the designated time frame as stipulated in the bylaws).

Anyone planning to run for office that will not be at Americade should forward relevant information to a member of the International Executive Board before Americade.

the Chapters



What is your chapter up to?

Let us know what your chapter does throughout the year that may be of interest to your brother and sister Red Knights. Brag a little (in the newsletter and on the web page). Send our newsletter editor info and pictures on your chapter

RKMC NY-19 Dubs the RIDE FOR THE ARC a success!

"It was an amazing event" said Christine Sears, director of development & public relations for Madison Cortland ARC, "I never saw so many motorcycles at one time!"

The 2004 Ride for the ARC sponsored by the Red Knights Chapter XIX was a huge success. Over one hundred riders participated in the motorcycle ride that benefited both the Building Futures Foundation for Madison Cortland ARC and the Friends of the Arc for the Arc Oneida Lewis Chapter.

"We are very happy we could support this worthy cause." Said Frank LaDue, president of the Red Knights Chapter XIX, "This was the first year for Ride for the ARC and we expect that next year will be even bigger."

"All monies raised stay here in our community" said Sears, "the Building Futures Foundation for Madison Cortland ARC and the Friends of the Arc for the Arc Oneida Lewis Chapter help support programs and services for people with developmental disabilities."

The seventy-mile run took riders through Oneida and Madison Counties ending at Lewis Point on Oneida Lake where riders enjoyed a chicken barbeque and live music from Seven Bridges.

Raymond Lewandowski, executive director for Madison Cortland ARC stated, "I was impressed by the level of support and caring the Red Knights have for people with disabilities. We look forward to working with them next year for the second annual Ride for the ARC. All I can really say is thank you!"

The 2005 Ride for the ARC will be held on August 20, 2005. The 2005 Ride For the ARC will begin at the Stanwix Volunteer Fire Department and will continue through Madison and Oneida counties ending at Deerfield Volunteer Fire Department on Trenton Road with a buffet and the live music of Blue Streak.

Please don't send the editor emails larger than 1MB... I'm still on dial-up service!

Members from NJ-13 took home this great looking trophy for bringing the most riders to the cancer ride.



The cancer run was on Sunday, August 8, 2004. It was sponsored by and started at Baer Sport Center in Honesdale PA. The money raised went to the American Cancer Society. Everyone received shirts emblazoned with the slogan was "WE FIGHT CANCER WITH MOTORCYCLES."

Tsunami Relief Collection

Following the devastating tsunami in the Asian countries of the Indian Ocean, Newport News Chaplain Marie Boyd wanted to raise money for the American Red Cross Tsunami Disaster Fund. Her idea was to live like a refugee in a parking lot for one week and to collect as many donations as possible. She contacted the local IAFF Newport News Chapter 794 and then the local Red Knights Virginia Chapter 6 for assistance with the set-up and maintaining a shelter for the week.

Starting on January 9 Red Knights Virginia 6 members set up a carport tent and provided tables, chairs, cots and a heating unit for the chaplain.

Temperatures throughout the week ranged between 25 -60 degrees and there was even a rain storm with high winds that went through the area during her "stay."

Chapter 6 members spent many hours keeping the chaplain company around the clock and assisting with the collection of over \$21,000 in donations. All donations were slipped through a hole in the top of an over-pack drum provided by the Newport News Fire Department Regional Response Haz -Mat Team.

Florida-1 supports the fund drive for the RKMC Memorial

Florida Chapter 1 is selling RKMC ball hats to raise money for the Red Knights International Memorial. The price of the hat is \$15.00. All of the profit goes to the Memorial Fund. Shipping is free.

Anyone interested in making a purchase please contact Jack Downs at 12040 S.W. 26 Court. Davie, Florida 33330, telephone (954) 474-1644 or E-Mail Jack at rkmch1@bellsouth.net

The Red Knights are a presence at Americade!

The Americade Times magazine was published just before the holidays in December and as you opened the cover the first picture you see is Bill Dutcher, Americade's founder and director with his arm around "Sparky the Fire Dog." The caption below reads **a familiar old friend**.

That's what Bill is to the Red Knights and vice-versa. That is also what we all become with the other 60,000 motorcyclists once you show up at Lake George... familiar old friends!

Looking through the "Americade Times" it is proof that the Red Knights are in force having a great time in Lake George year after year. Throughout the magazine there were pictures of Red Knights having a great time and participating in all the great things planned during the first week in June.

What is on your calendar for that time? If you have ever been to Americade you know that it beckons you back from the time you leave until the next time you return. If you have never been to Americade — come once. Once is all you need to be taken over by

Join your Red Knight brothers and sisters for some special events at Americade:

- **Three-course Dinner** hosted by the Red Knights on Wednesday evening. This is one of the events you can choose to attend on your registration form. Last year we hosted nearly 500 people for the dinner. PLEASE help us with door prizes. **Each chapter is asked to donate a door prize** (and get it to the President before June).
- **Wednesday afternoon seminar on "Planning for a long distance trip"** presented by International President Ed Brouillet and Editor Bob Laford, at Roaring Brook Ranch.
- **RKMC Open House and Meeting** at the Lake George FD Thursday evening, June 9. Come break bread with several hundred other Red Knights with Thursday's hosts, NY-12. (4:00 p.m.)
- **Saturday's parade usually boasts nearly 100 Red Knights.** Join us this year in a fun motorcycle-only parade that winds through Lake George Village to the top of Prospect Mountain.



Don't forget to show your Fire Service Pride and bring your

One of the "quotes" Bill Dutcher used in this year's Americade Times was **"Excellent Job! One Hundred prizes given away at the 3-course dinner!!"**

Guess who that was? That's right, it was the Red Knights at the Wednesday evening dinner at Roaring Brook Ranch! We were able to give away 100 door prizes (more than any other commercial vendor) **because of you our members and you our chapters.**

Help us again this year make the Red Knights hosted dinner one of the most popular venues of the week. When you sign up with your registration put a check box next to the Wednesday evening three-course dinner so you can join us for a fun event.

We are also asking that each chapter donate one door prize to the cause. That is over 200 potential prizes! Anyone — chapters — MAL's — or individual members — are encouraged to donate door prizes to make this another special event. If you are not coming to Americade, please send your door prize to International President Ed Brouillet in time that he can take it with him to New York at the beginning of June.

Thank you all for making our Americade participation an overwhelming success!

International Grant Fund: The 2005 RKMC promotional grant program for the Chapters.

The International Board is again offering grants to assist chapters in promoting the Red Knights in their area. The grants being offered are on a dollar-for-dollar matching bases up to \$200.00 maximum per chapter. All applications will be reviewed by the executive board and the best eight (8) proposals will be selected for the grants this year.

The applications for the grants will be accepted for thirty (30) days after the date of the publication of the spring newsletter. All International Grant requests are to be submitted to the International Treasurer, Leo Patry, 6000 Battersea Road, RR # 2, Battersea, Ontario, Canada, KOH 1H0

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Vest Patch & Rocker Issues for the Safety of all our Members.

Dear Members,

Changing the requirements for the bottom rockers of the vest patches has been done for only one reason, and that is for the safety of all our members.

We are no longer a small club with membership just in the northeast U.S. As we have grown into different areas other problems have arisen. Earlier in the club's history we had an issue with a 1% club. They had issues with us using Red & White as our colors. So the Red Knights added Red & Gold. **This change was voted and passed by the board for the safety of all our members.** It was also voted at that time to allow chapters the choice of using either color. By doing this we were able to work out the problem so that the other organization and we could comfortably coexist.

Over the years we have been very lucky to have Red Knight members who have developed relationships with members of the 1% clubs. By working through them we have been able to avert any problems before they got out of hand.

Last fall we got word from another 1% club that there was going to be a problem in several areas down south. The problem they stated was that we were using the state full name on the bottom rocker. After working through our contacts we were able to come to an agreement that the Red Knights would start using the state abbreviation on the vest rockers (Mass - Chapter 100). Once again the change was voted on by the whole board and passed. **This has been done for the safety of all our members.**

People ask why we should give in to them? Think about this. You are out on a nice ride with your wife and friends and someone gets hurt over what it says on your vest because the RKMC Leadership did not make the effort to fix a problem like this. Would you want that on your head?

As trained professionals we all should think about one thing - **The safety of all.** And that is why the Executive Board has made the decision to alter the design of the lower vest rockers.

Ed Brouillet, International President

5th Annual Ride to Remember

Picton Fair Grounds on June 4 and 5 — Picton, Ontario

Hosted by RK Ontario-7 the festivities include: 5 National Motorcycle demo ride trucks; the Coors Light Racing extreme free-style show; Solar System Custom Car show on Saturday; CVMG vintage bike show on Saturday; April Wine concert on Saturday night; and Mustang automobile celebration on Sunday.

All proceeds to Camp Trillium — visit www.ridetoremember.ca for more info

Chapter Blanket Insurance Policy: The International has again purchased a blanket insurance policy to help chapters in defraying insurance expenses for their individual chapter sponsored events.

The International Executive board strongly suggests that any time your chapter sponsors or co-sponsors an event, that you purchase Liability Insurance to cover not only your chapter and its members but the facility where you are hosting your event.

To insure every participant coming to your ride, dance or fundraiser for up to \$1,000,000 of personal liability it will cost:

- 1-250 participants it costs the chapter \$130.00,
- 251-500 participants it cost the chapter \$160.00
- 501-1500 it costs the Chapter \$272.00
- 1501-3000 participants it costs the chapter \$338.00
- anything over 3000 will cost the chapter \$426.00.

The International Secretary needs at least three weeks notice to get the policy. Please try to work within those restraints. For more information contact Bill "Popeye" Snodgrass, secretary@redknightsmc.com or 614-271-8577.

Be a part of the *Red Knights Anniversary Yearbook*

The Red Knights Motorcycle Club and Turner Publishing Company, one of the nation's leading publishers of commemorative history books are working together to publish a full color book to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Red Knights Motorcycle Club. This first of its kind hardbound 9 x 12 inch volume will feature memorabilia including *a large collection of photographs and materials from us the members*. The book will feature *full color photos* of members and their bikes and each chapter will be asked to submit a short history about themselves, along with a group photograph, a list of chapter events, chapter logo, and also include any ride stories from their chapter (what is the best ride in your area?) The book will also include a special section dedicated to members that have passed on. This will be an opportunity for us to submit our personal experience stories, new photographs, funny incidents, and our "Do You Remember" stories for inclusion in the book.

In the near future, members will be able to visit the Red Knights website to obtain information regarding how to reserve a book and submit materials. Also, you will be able to reserve the book by calling toll-free (800) 788-3350 or order online at www.turnerpublishing.com. The book will be a limited edition and should be ordered in advance to be assured of receiving a copy (priced at \$57.95, plus \$6.95 shipping and handling, in full color, hardbound) There will also be a special leather-bound collectors edition priced at \$84.95. You do not have to purchase a book to be included in this once-in-a-lifetime publication, but the more historical information you submit and orders that come in, the better the book will be. Our story needs to be preserved in permanent book form and we have a chance now to produce a quality book that will be cherished for many years to come.

All of Turner's publications are custom

Have you ever been traveling and thought, "Gee I don't know anyone around here. Where is the best place to eat, stay, or get my bike worked on?" That's what the Help-A-Knight program is for – to maintain a database of Red Knights who are willing to accept telephone calls and help fellow Red Knights. Some of the help may be for information, or other options you may help on is if a RK member can stay overnight, pitch a tent in your yard, or leave their bike at your house.

The **Red Knights Help-a-Knight** program
available on line at
www.redknightsmc.org/HAK.pdf
(You need Adobe Acrobat to read the file).

designed, using only the finest materials available. Extra time and care is given to produce the keepsake volumes, ensuring that they may be passed down to future generations. The books are printed on number one grade, acid-free glossy paper, assuring us of the highest caliber photo reproduction. Turner books are Smyth-sewn in America; the pages are stitched together and bound to last. The hardbound covers are embellished with striking gold, silver or four-colored treatment. As examples of the level of quality, more than 1,000 titles can be viewed on the Turner Publishing website (www.turnerpublishing.com)

Everyone is invited to submit additional ideas on what could be included to make this once-in-a-lifetime publication the best it can be by contacting Clayton Thomas, (317) 894-3096 or Cthomas297@aol.com. Actual entries will be submitted directly to the publisher at an address that will be announced later. We would like to have 100% participation to make this a book of which we can all be proud.

RKMC Help-A-Knight Registration Form *Please Print Information and Check All Statements That Apply*

Name _____ Chapter _____
Street _____
City _____ St./Prov. _____ Zip _____
Phone _____ - _____ - _____

To Help-A-Knight I will: (circle appropriate numbers)

1. Take calls for information about my area. No Collect Calls.
2. Allow a Red Knight to stay overnight in my home
3. Allow a Red Knight to put up a tent on my property
4. Allow a Red Knight to leave a bike on my property
5. Bring my SAE tools to a Help-A-Knight who has broken down
6. Pick up a Red Knight's bike with my pick-up truck or trailer
7. Bring my Metric tools to Help-A-Knight who has broken down
8. Someone in my home speaks French

*X This is a
New
registration
X This is a
Change to
my info*

MAIL TO:
Bob LaFord
276 West Road
Petersham, MA
01366
CALL: 978-724-3270
E-MAIL:
rflaford@tiac.net

Spring 2005

RED KNIGHTS' 50/50 Raffle
The 50/50 Raffle needs your support!

Each year the Red Knights run a 50/50 raffle with a drawing at the convention. The raffle supports publicity of the Red Knights, including newsletter publishing and mailing costs. Fifty percent of the proceeds go to the club and fifty percent to the winner!

This newsletter (and every newsletter) has two \$5 tickets attached to the center of the newsletter. Every member is being asked to buy or sell these two tickets (Chapters are being asked to buy six tickets each and those will be in a separate mailing). With over 5,000 members the potential to help the Red Knights through this drawing is BIG! Think of the 50/50 prize that will be drawn at the convention if everyone sells two tickets. *You do not have to be present to win at the convention.*

If you want to sell more tickets (to your friends, family, and co-workers) so they can have a chance to win cash too, just photo copy the tickets and **SELL! SELL! SELL!**

Without a successful 50/50 raffle the International would have to look to the members for additional financial support.

Please help by buying and selling the 50/50 tickets with this newsletter, that's just two tickets per member plus six tickets per chapter. If you have any questions contact Peg Brouillet of Mass-2. Sold ticket stubs and money (checks only to RKMC-International, please don't mail cash) should be sent to Peg by **July 15** (or brought to the convention)

**Peg Brouillet, 326 Minot Road
Westminster, MA 01473 (USA)
(978) 632-8230 — RKMA2@net1plus.com**

Thanks to your support, last year's raffle split \$2,677 between the Red Knights and the winner. Please support this fund drive by purchasing the two tickets included in this mailing. **Forward ticket sales and stubs to Peg by July 15** so the Club can track Chapter activity in this effort. Thanks for your help and see you in Toronto!

(You don't have to be present in Ontario to win)

Chapter Tickets have been sent
in the President's mailing

**RED KNIGHTS INTERNATIONAL
MOTORCYCLE CLUB**
2005 CONVENTION – Toronto, Ontario

**Support our brothers and sisters in Ontario-1 and
purchase ad space in the convention booklet!**

For any Chapter that has hosted one of the annual conventions you know that Ontario-1 has been working hard. This work began long before last year's convention even began in preparation for the arrival of the Red Knights in Toronto this August.

Along with the work there are some costs to the club. The primary way for them to raise funds to pay for the club's convention expenses is through their convention program and ad book.

If you run a business or know of a business that would like to advertise in the booklet OR if your chapter would like to take out an ad to support ONT-1 OR for those of you who cannot make the convention and would like to support our hosts with an ad in their books, here is the information

Full page	\$100.00
Half page	\$ 50.00
Quarter page	\$ 25.00
Business Card Size	\$ 15.00

Ontario-1 supports the Salvation Army Children's Christmas Fund and the TOMA Foundation For Burned Children. All surplus moneys from the convention will go to these worthy causes.

For printing purposes we will require your advertisement, copy/art work, prior to May 30, 2005. Please make all checks payable to Red Knights Ontario 1 – 2 St. Johns Court, Uxbridge Ontario, Canada, L9P 1M3.

For further information, please contact either Chapter President Norm Clapham at 416-621-9628 or at email address nclapham@rogers.com or contact Program Coordinator Sharon Munro at 416-699-7836 or email address ssnipp55@yahoo.com.

Ontario-1 thanks any and all supporters (businesses, chapters, and individuals) for help promoting the Red Knights and the 2005 Convention.

Quartermaster Records: As of 3-4-05 the following chapters still have credits with the International Quartermaster. Please make note of these credits when you place your next order.

ALB 1 \$15.00, CT 7 \$15.00, FL 1 \$15.00, MA 11 \$15.00, MA 8 \$15.00, ME 4 \$15.00, NH 1 \$15.00, NJ 10 \$15.00, NJ 3 \$15.00, NY 5 \$15.00, OH 3 \$15.00, OH 5 \$15.00, ONT 5 \$15.00, TX 2 \$15.00, VA 3 \$30.00, VA 4 \$15.00, VT 2 \$15.00, and WI 1 \$15.00.

From the Office of the Executive Secretary

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

The Red Knights Motorcycle Club is growing in membership and chapters. Since the last convention we have had 56 requests for new chapter applications and have 23 new chapters to date. We now have 209 active chapters and have added one new State Association. The Regional Directors are working with the State/Province Representatives to set up these Associations. If your state or province needs more information on the formation of an Association, please contact your Regional Director.

The International Board is proud to announce a new program for the membership. At this year's convention we will award our first *International Red Knight of the Year*. This award will be known as the "**Perry Carter Award**," recognizing the late Perry Carter for his endless work and dedication to our club.

To be eligible for this award the recipient must be an active member in good standing with the International and their Chapter. This program includes Members at Large.

Each Chapter may nominate a member from its Chapter for the Perry Carter Award. The nomination would be sent to the State/Province Representative and then to the Regional Director. Each Regional Director will forward their nominees to the Eastern Regional Director who will serve as the Chairperson.

A Member at Large, a Chapter President, or an Executive Board member of the Red Knights International may nominate a Member at Large. This nomination would follow the same path as listed above.

Members who are nominated should have been present at 50% of their chapter events during the year. The member nominated should have visited at least one other Chapter during the year. The member nominated should have attended the International Convention in the past. The Member nominated should represent and signify the Red Knight's standard in their dealings with the public and the International's members.

The Regional Director shall forward a letter with their nomination outlining the member's qualities shown for this award to the Eastern Regional Director. The deadline for receiving the nomination shall be prior to June 1st of each year. The final decision will be made at Americade of each year. The winner of this award shall receive recognition at the convention and their attendance fee will be waived.

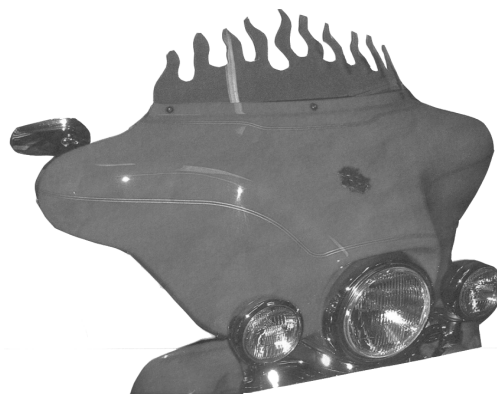
I want to thank the Bylaw committee for the hard work that has been accomplished in updating the Bylaws to reflect the changes approved at last year's convention. I also want to thank the Executive Board for their support and work in establishing the S.O.G. manual for use by the International.

It is important that all Chapter Presidents maintain a current e-mail address with the International. This in order that information can be sent to you during the year. Send your e-mail address to your State/Province Representative so that he can forward it to the Regional Directors.

As always, I am here to serve you, the membership. Please feel free to contact me with your comments and suggestions.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bill "Popeye" Snodgrass
Executive Secretary

SET THE ROAD ON FIRE !
This **WINDSHIELD** is a **MUST-HAVE**
for anyone who
IS THE CENTER-OF-ATTENTION!
It's **NOT** for the **MEEK** or **SHY!**
HEADS WILL TURN and
CROWDS WILL GATHER
ENVY IS . . . 'A GIVEN'



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custom windshield on your ride!

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Sale of Red Knight's Patches: It has come to the attention of the International Board that there are individuals selling Red Knights patches on e-bay. All use of the Red Knights name and Logo is Trademarked and any user (chapter or individual) must have written permission to produce and sell items with the logo and name.

Permission for Trademark use can be received through the International Quartermaster. A Trademark Use request form can also be downloaded from the Catalog Page of our website.

The Board also requests, that when ever possible that all Red Knights insignias be removed from any motorcycle, automobile, helmet, clothing, etc., prior to the sale of the items to a non-member.

The Red Knights Executive Board it trying to protect the name of the Red Knights. Thank you for your help in this matter.

RED KNIGHTS Grand Tour

What is the Grand Tour?

When the club was young, the easiest way to tell others about it was by word of mouth. This meant that the members had to get out to visit other firefighters in their areas, and one of the best ways to do that was to visit Fire Stations. Someone came up with the idea of rewarding members who made a certain number of visits with a certificate and a pin. Proof of these visits was needed and so the idea of Grand Tour was born.

How do I earn a Grand Tour Pin

In order to earn a Grand Tour Pin you must first get an application form from the G.T. chairperson, then during the course of one (1) riding season you must visit nine (9) fire Stations whose names begin with the letters G R A N D T O U R, or twelve Fire Stations beginning with any letter of the alphabet (this is for members who live in some of the more remote areas and may not be able to come up with Stations beginning with the letters g r a n d t o u r). You must have a picture of you and your motorcycle taken at each Station, with the name sign visible. Co-riders may also earn a pin and a rider and co-

Join the RKMC Grand Tour! Participate by yourself, with a few friends, or with your chapter and help spread the word about the Red Knights to fire departments around your area

If you have pictures from your **GRAND TOUR** that you would like posted on the web page, get them to our editor and they will be posted at www.redknightsmc.org/GT.HTM

rider may have their picture taken together.

When you have completed your visits simply fill out the application form and return it with your pictures to the GT chairperson and he/she will send you your certificate and pin.

Photo albums will be kept displaying pictures of everyone who has completed the Grand Tour and will be available at all future conventions. So if you would like to see this program continue please get out there and support it.

Henry Heideman
hmheideman@cogeco.ca – 905-372-6073
Grand Tour Chairman

This appeared in a Rhode Island Newspaper in January

January 12 NARRAGANSETT, RHODE ISLAND - With temperatures dropping into the teens and a subzero wind chill, firefighters headed to a call at 73 Central St. at about 8:45 p.m. Monday. What they found was a Victorian house fully engulfed in flames and the possibility of someone inside. They quickly called for backup, including additional engines and off-duty firefighters.

A group of firefighters that included Lt. Joseph Conroy and firefighter Joel Hurst went to a front corner of the house. There, in a second-floor bathroom, they found a woman unconscious and severely burned. Less than a half hour after receiving the initial call, firefighters brought out the woman, believed to be 74-year-old Jeanne White. Fire Chief James Cotter confirmed White was taken to South County Hospital in Wakefield, then by medical helicopter to a Boston hospital.

"The rescue was the most important thing, we concentrated on getting that life out," said Cotter, who was in command of the fire.



Kudos to International Quartermaster Joe Conroy for a job well done.

New York Riders worked hard to protect the rights of all riders!

New York motorcyclists have a victory on tolls for motorcycles on the New York State Thruway. Beginning May 1, 2005 motorcycles will pay about half of what cars pay as long as the motorcyclist has an E-Z pass.

Right now, a car driver with or without an E-Z pass pays almost four cents a mile. Motorcyclists have been paying that same amount. Beginning in May motorcyclists with an E-Z pass will pay 1.9 cents per mile. To get an E-Z pass, motorcyclists can go to <http://capwiz.com/amacycle/utr/1/MJAXEGRFBX/LOAWEGRFHR/> for the application.

The efforts of AMA Community Council – Capitol Area and AMA District 3, President Lawrence Schwartz assisted in making this reduction possible

Other states who have the EZ Pass also have reciprocal agreements. For example, your Massachusetts EZ Pass will also work in New York.

Red Knights Motorcycle Club Maryland Chapter 4

Honors a young firefighter

The Red Knights Fire Fighters Motorcycle Club, Maryland 4 presented Justin K. Lucas with a check to further his education. Justin Lucas is also the 2004 recipient of other fire fighters scholarship named to honor a fallen young firefighter, Justin Hutchinson. This scholarship is presented to the student in Charles County Maryland with the highest academic score in the fire science program.

The Red Knights scholarship fund now piggy backs the Justin Hutchinson scholarship to increase the amount of money for the winner. Justin Hutchinson was killed by a drunk driver in 2001 at the age of 19. He was a Lieutenant with the Benedict Volunteer Fire Dept.

STURGIS 2005

THIS IS THE YEAR TO GO! CAMP BY THE RIVER

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New wash house with 16 hot showers.
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Texas 3 to host "Flashover 2005"

In 2004, the Red Knights Motorcycle Club hosted the first Flashover 2004 Benefit and Rally. This rally included a bike raffle and a bike ride that ended with live music, a free barbeque, and a bike and fire apparatus show brought in over 1,000 people! The event raised \$7,000.00 to the Houston Fire Department Honor Guard Pipes and Drums!

This year the Red Knights and Wind & Fire Motorcycle Clubs have joined forces to present Flashover 2005. This year's benefit will go towards the relocation of the Houston Fire Museum. The Houston Fire Museum displays Fire History from all of Harris County, Texas.

The benefit will be held on the 25th of June with a ride that begins at Mancuso Harley Davidson in Houston. The day will include a ride, two bike raffles, live music, free food, and an apparatus show.

This year there will also be the "Flashover 2005 Firefighters Team Challenge."

Red Knights Texas 3 and the Wind & Fire would like to invite all Red Knights members to attend this event. For more information contact TX-3 president Donnie McComb at djmccomb@yahoo.com

The 2005 Red Knights International Convention — Toronto, Ontario, Canada August 11 – 14, 2005

Fellow Red Knights,

Ontario 1 would like to extend an invitation to all chapters to join us in Toronto for the Red Knights International Convention this August

For additional information or updates visit our web site at,
<http://ca.geocities.com/rkmcon1@rogers.com>

Some of the events that you can expect to enjoy are:

- **A pre convention trip** to one of the seven natural wonders of the world, Niagara Falls. Including a stop at a vineyard, with samples, time in Niagara Falls, an activity, ie. Maid of the Mist, and a visit to Niagara on the Lake. This will be limited according to the numbers that are interested. We are also looking at entertainment packages, which include a one night stay in a downtown hotel, dinner meal at one of a number of restaurants and a choice of entertainment, theater, or sports.

- **Thursday** is a ride to Elgin Park in Uxbridge with a BBQ Hog Town style.

- **Friday** will have a tour by bus of Toronto and a harbor tour of the waterfront and a tour of the CN Tower, the tallest free standing structure in the world, and a box lunch.
- **Friday** a ride to Mackie's Harley who will host a BBQ at \$5.00 per person with all proceeds going to the Ontario-1 charities. Each person there will get a Scratch & Win worth 15% - 25% off merchandise at the shop. There will also be a ride available to the Woodbine race track for a night with the horses and/or slot machines.
- **Saturday** will have the Show and Shine, the banquet and entertainment and of course the dinner along with dancing into the weeee hours.
- **Sunday** is the hit the road breakfast and more food to get you on your way.

Included in this newsletter is your registration form. Come join us for a great time in TORONTO!

Important Insurance Information

For those of you (U.S. Members) who are planning to travel to Canada for the convention (or anytime), just a reminder that Insurance Regulations in Canada require that you have a **Canadian Insurance Card** from your U.S. insurance carrier.

You do not need to get additional insurance, but whether you are traveling on two wheels or by four, you need to visit your insurance agent and get a Canadian Insurance Card.

Red Knights Motorcycle Club

c/o 276 West Road
Petersham, MA 01366
USA

www.redknightsmc.com

Look inside for information on the Convention in Toronto, Americade in Lake George, happenings around the chapters, and much, much more!

Have you visited the **Red Knights Message Board** on line? It is a great place to visit with others that are members and friends of the Red Knights. There is a forum for general discussion, one to list things for sale, one for Rides and Events, one for "Good and Welfare" to keep us informed of ill or injured members, and another specifically for Red Knights Officers to share ideas back and fourth. Visit the site online at www.redknightsmc.com/forum.



250 Bikes Turned out for the Sixth Annual Red Helmets Ride to Honor Fallen Firefighters

All five Maryland Red Knights Chapters as well Chapters from PA, VA, OH, DE, and KY were represented in this years ride to escort the families of fallen firefighters to the ceremonies at the National Firefighters' Memorial in Emmitsburg.

Led by apparatus from Emmitsburg and Thurmont VFDs the main street was lined with the local residents as the line made its way to the NFA campus.

Upon entering the Fire College campus under a large American flag strung between two raised ladder trucks the riders were greeted by the survivors all standing along the main road. This was extremely emotional since the reason for

this ride was not only to honor brother and sister firefighters, but was to show the families that we (bikers) really care and that we will never forget the sacrifices that both they and the firefighters have made.

At the end of the ceremony, the Red Helmet Ride wreath and Mattie's wreath (shaped in a red heart) were placed at the base of the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial by several Honor Guard units.

The Red Helmets Ride always coincides with the National Fallen Firefighters' ceremonies held the first weekend in October (October 7-9, 2005) More information is available on-line at www.redhelmetride.org or www.firehero.org/

The Red Knights need your support!

Please find the two 50/50 tickets (\$5 each) in this mailing and buy or sell them. 50% of the proceeds from our 5,000 (+) members will go to the winner to be drawn at our August convention.

Massachusetts 1 is extending an invitation to all Mass chapters to join with us in the planning and presentation of the **25th Anniversary convention** in 2007. We would like to make the convention one to remember. The date for the first planning meeting is 10 am, May 14th at the Boylston Fire Station. Watch the message board for further updates.



RED KNIGHTS INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION 2005
Toronto, Ontario, Canada

REGISTRATION DEADLINE FOR ORDERING PURPOSES: June 6, 2005

Funds are in Canadian currency. Make cheques payable to: Red Knights Ontario 1

Send registrations and cheques to: Red Knights Ontario 1
C/O: Eddie Fisher
2 St. Johns Ct.
Uxbridge, Ontario
Canada L9P1M3

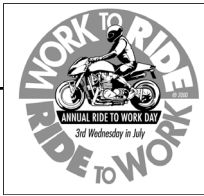
Name & Chapter								
Address								
City/State/Province								
Country								
Telephone	Area Code		Phone Number					
Convention Registration Fee								
Banquet Entrée, Please circle one:		Prime Rib		Chicken Marsala		\$130.00		
Pre-trip to Niagara Falls								
August 10 \$140.00 per person		Deposit		\$75.00	per person	\$		
Thursday Night BBQ				\$15.00	per person	\$		
Friday Tour of the City, Harbour and CN Tower								
With a Box Lunch				\$80.00	per person	\$		
Convention Polo Shirt	\$35.00	S	M	L	XL	XXL	XXXL	\$
Convention Sleeveless Shirt – Ladies	\$35.00	S	M	L	XL	XXL	XXXL	\$
TOTAL							\$	

E-mail address to confirm receipt of registration: _____

Hotel registration: www.sheratonparkway.com or
www.bestwesternparkway.com

Indicate that this is for the Red Knights Convention

From AMA's "American Motorcyclist – Crash Course" February 2005



is

Ride to

Work Day reveals that motorcyclists come from all walks of life, work in all occupations, and range in age from teenagers to grandparents. The American Motorcyclist Association and many other worldwide rider organizations actively encourage all motorcyclists to ride their cycles to work as a grassroots demonstration on the third Wednesday in July each year.

Each work day more than eighty million cars and light trucks commute on American roads, but only about 200,000 individuals regularly ride their cycles to work.

More information about Ride to Work Day is at <http://www.ridetowork.org>.

...and remember, The day after RTW Day is
'the heck with work, I'm going riding day'...

Motorcyclist's 14th annual Ride to Work Day
Wednesday, July 20.

Returning to Virginia from Bike Week about a dozen years ago, I got into the Carolinas and noticed the temperature

dropping. Outside of Fayetteville, North Carolina, I stopped for gas.

Signing the gas receipt, my scribble was even more illegible than normal. When I tried to explain this aberration to the attendant, I could hardly think what to say, and my words were barely understandable.

Way back in the recesses of my brain, one not-yet-numb cell yelled out,
"HYPOTHERMIA!"

After a bowl of chili and many cups of hot chocolate, I stuffed the Fayetteville Gazette between my jacket and chest and rode to the first available motel.

Three tubs of hot water later, life returned to normal, and I remained in the gene pool.

The lesson is simple: When the warning signs show up, heed them.

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The temperatures do not have to be excessively cold to cause hypothermia. Wind helps reduce the body temperature more quickly as does moisture — two conditions that we see while riding. Some of the warning signs of hypothermia include:

**Correct (and legible) mailing addresses** are very important when you submit chapter rosters to the International Treasurer each year. Some rosters are hand written and difficult to read. Others have missing information. The Fall 2004 newsletter that went out last December had over 300 addresses that were "undeliverable" because of misinformation or illegible information.

To ensure that all our members receive their newsletter, please make sure that your mailing information is correct with your chapter — and chapter officers, please double check the addresses with your members before submitting the rosters to the International. Thanks.