

# Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club

Summer 2010



*Who would ever have thought that we would grow to this extent!*

*Leo Patry*

(See pages 6-10 to see why Leo would make such a statement)



## Notice to all Red Knights

[treasurer@redknightsmc.com](mailto:treasurer@redknightsmc.com)

I am pleased to announce to all the members of the Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club that we have now established for the payment of dues for M.A.L's as well as the payment for orders placed with the International Quartermaster with Pay Pal. These payments can now be made using a member or chapters Pay pal account or with a Visa, MasterCard or American Express credit card. We hope to have this also available for payment of chapter's dues in the near future.

The way the system is currently set up for purchase of items from the International Quartermaster is the chapter Quartermaster or President goes on line to our Web site at [www.redknightsmc.com](http://www.redknightsmc.com) clicks on Merchandise which brings you to a second page, click on the ORDER ON LINE button and go shopping, once your cart is full click on proceed to check out and follow the instructions for payment. Once payment is made the order and confirmation of payment is sent to me by Pay Pal, I in turn forward it to the Quartermaster for shipping.

[www.redknightsmc.com](http://www.redknightsmc.com)

Bill Snodgrass  
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PT Reynolds  
Newsletter Editor



**Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club® Inc.**  
**Office of the Executive Treasurer**



**Leo J. Patry**

**6000 Battersea Road, RR # 2**  
**Battersea, Ontario, Canada, KOH 1H0**  
**1-613-353-1790**

The process for the payment of M.A.L dues or an application for membership is, Go to the Web site [www.redknightsmc.com](http://www.redknightsmc.com) click on membership, this will take you to a second page click on Members at Large, there you will have an option of getting information on becoming an M.A.L by mail or applying on Line by clicking on the apply on line link. Once the information has been filled in and sent to the Vice President for confirmation of eligibility for membership. Then once eligibility has been confirmed you will get back an Email from the Vice President telling you that you have been accepted and that a membership package will be sent out as soon as payment has been made for dues.

On this email will be a live link that will take you to the payment page where you just follow the instructions for payment either thorough your Pay pal account or by credit card. Once payment has been submitted it will be sent by Pay Pal to the international treasurer who will notify the Vice president that payment has been made and he will in turn send out the new or renewing membership confirmation.

This process will be evaluated at the end of this year to confirm if it's a cost effective method of doing business for our Organization. If it does prove to be effective then we will look at continuation further expansion of this type of electronic shopping and dues payment.

**Your Executive Board Member**  
**Jack Jarvis : Southern Director**



**My Past**

Founded NC 6 in 2003.

Founded NC State Association in 2006.

Served as State Rep. and State President for 2 years.

Appointed as Assistant Southern Director in 2007.

Elected as Southern Director in 2008.

Founded the NC 3-3-5 Guard. RKMC Motorcycle escort for funerals or events.

Attended all Southern Region Dixie Rallies since 2007 (MD, SC, NC, LA).

Attended the past two World's Largest Poker Runs for the FFSF.

Attended all meetings required by my position except one (Mother passed away).

Assisted with the creation of two State Associations outside NC.

Defined and created an actual job description for State Reps. in Southern Region.

**My Goals for the Future**

Assist with electronic voting to include all chapters when electing board members.

Planning for future growth with the organization (creating and expanding regions).

Continue to improve the flow of information throughout the organization from top to bottom and back.

Keeping the Southern Region as the fastest growing in the organization.

Present the Southern Region as a model for all other regions to emulate.

Continue to be a sounding board to help chapters govern themselves and keep the International Board invisible in chapter operations.

Continue to be a good steward with the organization's values.

Promote the social aspect of the organization.

Visit as many chapters and members as possible.

## *Red Knight Skills Day*

Back at the beginning of the 2010 riding season, Red Knights—Massachusetts Chapter 2 held a “Skills Day” to afford the members an opportunity in an off-street location to practice skills together and to discuss several important safety topics.

Courtesy of Phoenix Park in Shirley, Mass. a classroom and one of their corporate parking lots were made available to the club for their use on a Saturday in May.

Members met first in the meeting room and discussed basic topics of riding safety and viewed several videos. Topics included basic riding skills, co-rider skills, and safe group riding.

Upon adjournment to the “drill yard” the first order of business were “T-Clock” inspections. Information was available on the details to be looked at during a pre-ride inspection and the importance of routine inspection of our motorcycles. The drill yard inspections also included use of a sound meter to see if each bike was in compliance with Massachusetts noise emission standards.

The drill yard was divided into several stations so that all members could be participating in various tasks throughout the day.

Co-riders, as well as the operating partners were part of the day’s planning and exercises. A station was set for the co-riders to practice the emergency procedures recommended in the event that the motorcycle’s operator becomes incapacitated. This is not something we wish to think of, but we have all heard of instances where a rider can no longer control the motorcycle — whether from suffering a medical emergency or some other action, like being struck by a passing deer or falling tree.

Another related station was for the rider to become the passenger. When was the last time you as a rider were on the back of a motorcycle? Being the co-rider requires skill and a lot of TRUST in your rider. Each member was afforded the opportunity to ride on the back of another rider’s bike as the passenger. It’s a big change!

The remainder of the stations were for practical skills maneuvering. Figure-eights, off-set cone weaves, and emergency stopping practice are all skills that we need to become and remain competent in as safe riders. We know from our firefighter skills that “perfect practice makes perfect,” so periodic practice helps hone those skills on the bike.

Setting up a course is easily done with “halved” tennis balls. You can purchase small traffic cones, but the tennis balls can easily be obtained from local tennis clubs and then cut in half. They are visible and pliable, and will give under the tire of the bike and not cause the rider any distress.

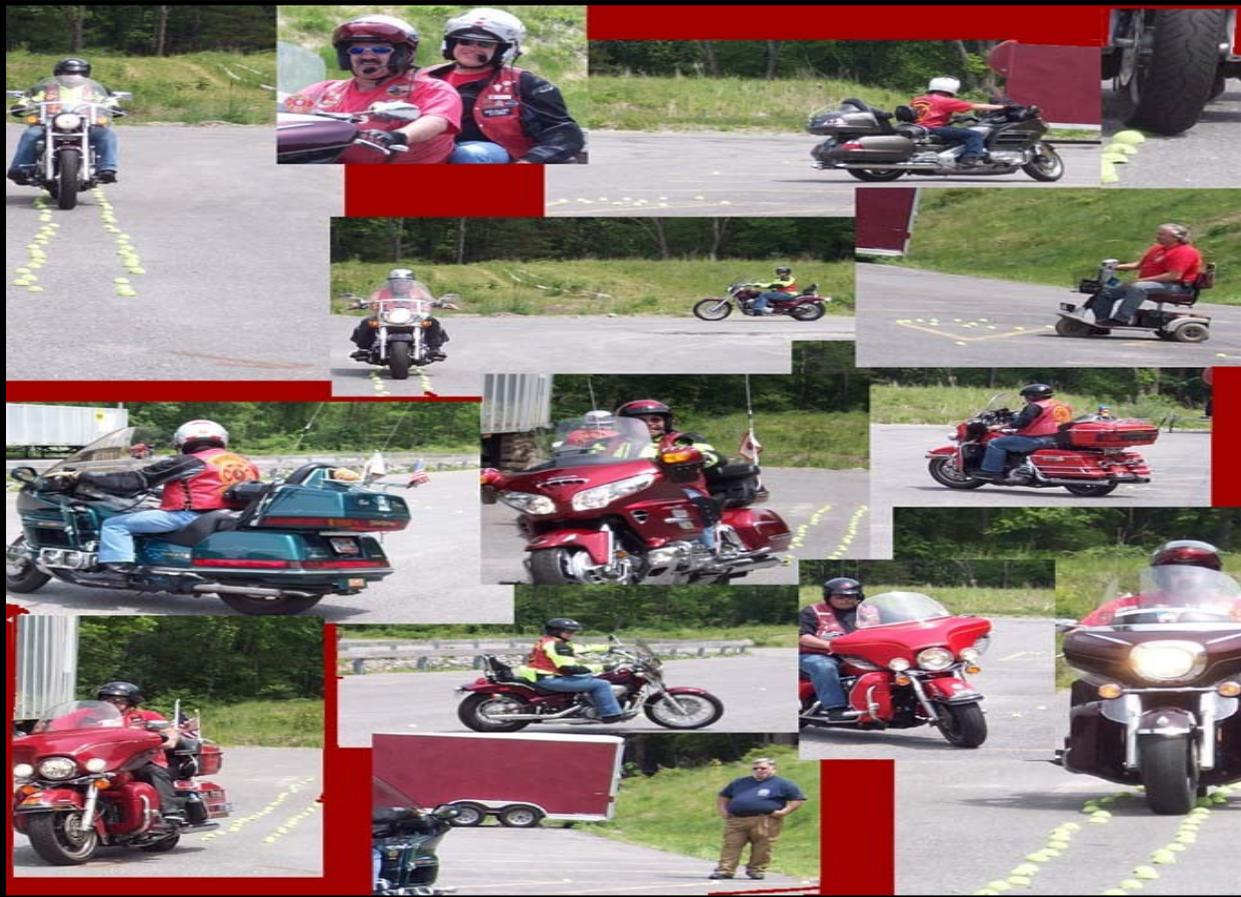
Another station during the maneuvering course was the “board” test. A recent article about motorcycle licensing in Japan, that appeared in Motorcycle Consumer News, told that one of the drills that must be accomplished to obtain a motorcycle license in Japan is to ride along an eight inch wide board for fifty feet.

Instead of a board, the dimensions were set up using the standard “halved tennis balls.” You may think that driving a straight line is an easy task — but it is more difficult to control than you think!

Being an industrial complex there were tractor trailer boxes in the area. Another station was set up to allow the rider to approach the TT units from the rear. More tennis balls were used by the cab of the units and if you got close enough to the rear of the unit that you could not see the tennis balls, it meant you were too close for the driver to see you.

By positioning yourself differently you learned how to adjust your approach to the unit so as to stay out of the driver's blind spots.

Of course food (pizza and ice cream) was involved in the day's activities. What was said by all those involved is that it was well worth the time spent to hone up on the skills needed to keep us safer on the road.



## Red Knights Memorial

Boylston, Massachusetts

*...where it all began!*

[http://www.rk-mass2.org/RK\\_video.htm](http://www.rk-mass2.org/RK_video.htm)

## AUSTRALIA 1

We had our 1st AGM last Sunday I just want to let you know how much we appreciate your support and encouragement over the past 12 months. The Chapter has grown considerably since our first meeting with 15 members and now we have 49. What a great effort from our members. It goes to show we Aussies have the same passion as you guys in the US. I will be sending off our 'Grand Tour' form shortly so 18 of our members can receive their patch and arch. We intended to do the 'Fire House' tour early next year. I have attached some photos from the AGM including a panorama of 60% of our members that were there for the meeting.

Ride Safe and  
Stay Safe on the Fire Ground  
John (Steve) Payne  
President Red Knights Australia 1



[www.redknights.org.au](http://www.redknights.org.au)

## Greetings from Switzerland

Last weekend was the first time that most of European RKMC chapters came together to meet each other. Chapter Germany 1 (President Claus Feederle) was invited to a "Fire Ride", because their Fire Department celebrate his 150th anniversary during that weekend.

The Fire Ride was visited by chapters Belgium 1, Germany 1, Germany 2, Switzerland 1 and the MAL from Giessen (Germany 4, founding next time) and some Blue Knights. During this Ride, I honored Claus with the President Merit Award.

After the Ride all Red Knights visited the Anniversary Party It was nice to enjoy the fraternity of Red Knights. All Red Knights I have talked with are happy, they want to enjoy more. And want to visit the international convention in 2011. I think Europe is on the way.

**Thomas "Tom" Delboi**  
**Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club**  
**European Ambassador, Switzerland**  
[europeanambassador@redknightsmc.com](mailto:europeanambassador@redknightsmc.com)



# Germany 3



# CANADA



Leo Patry, Road Captain for the Ontario 7 chapters presenting a cheque to Doug Locke the treasurer of the Canadian Fallen Firefighters Foundation from a poker ride that was held by members from Ontario 7, 9, and 13.

Below that is a picture of some of those chapters members that road up to Ottawa Ontario to make the presentation



When Americade Founder Bill Dutcher (front row center) arrived amidst the pouring rain at the beginning of the Americade parade he had a big smile and said, "I knew that if anyone was going to show up in the rain for the parade it would be the Red Knights to lead us up Canada Street!"

And he was right! For many years the RKMC has been in the lead of the parade with our red crests displayed proudly along with our flags, fire helmets, and smiles. And 2010 was no different. We had about 35 bikes en-mass



(somewhat smaller than the drier past-years) but the crowd that came out for the parade was very appreciative of our presence to help celebrate the week and draw Americade 2010 to a close.

Even with a "smaller" parade because of the rain, by the time the lead bikes had made a U-Turn and worked their way back down Canada Street, there were still bikes exiting Beach Road to head up Canada Street. Then as usual, the parade continued up Prospect Mountain for the week's finale.

But it was not just the closing ceremonies where Red Knight members were prominent. Throughout the week you did not have to look far to find "Red" in the crowd. Walking up and down Canada Street, in the lines of bikes cruising through town or enjoying the many great Adirondack Park roadways, walking through the vendor tents or in the Lake George Forum, or at Roaring Brook Ranch. Red Knights were everywhere — all week long.

And one good thing about the occasional passing shower during the week—it kept the pollen count down!

And if you took some time to read the crests on the vest that you caught sight of, or the passing RK bikes, they were not just from New York state. There were Red Knights from many states and provinces.

Many are returning "Americaders" that would not miss this week or seeing old friends, and others were new comers sure to go home with some great memories as they begin planning for next year's visit to Lake George.

**Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation**

www.IndianaRideforKids.org  
make an on line donation to the

<http://www.firstgiving.com/georgiaejford>

**FFSF 2010 Worlds Largest Poker Run held in Winter Haven, Florida.**

The Poker Run Bikers, The Fire Fighters of Tampa Bay Pipes and Drums, Dennis Coyle and John Wandrum with the Lil John Fire Rescue 343 Wheelie Magic Truck and much more....

<http://www.BlingMastertv.com/ffsf2010worldslargestpokerrun>

**2010 Leesburg Bike Fest held in Leesburg, Florida.**

<http://www.BlingMasterTV.com/2010leesburgbikefest>

**RED KNIGHTS INTERNATIONAL  
FIREFIGHTERS MOTORCYCLE CLUB  
OHIO ASSOCIATION RAFFLE**



**2010, 6' X 12' Vee Nose Enclosed Motorcycle Trailer by  
Carry-On Trailers with the following options:**

2990 GVWR	Dome Lights	Multileaf Suspension	Ramp Door
Stabilizer Jacks	Stone guard	Vee Nose	2" Ball Receiver

**300 tickets to be sold @ 10.00 per ticket  
Drawing September 19, 2010 At the Ohio  
Association meeting in Geneva-On-The Lake**

(Winner need not be presented to win. Winner responsible for taxes and pick up in Columbus, Ohio)

Contact Diane Snodgrass at [d\\_garnes@hotmail.com](mailto:d_garnes@hotmail.com) or 614-266-1720 for ticket information, see your local Red Knight Chapter or go to [www.rkmcohioassociation.com](http://www.rkmcohioassociation.com).

# Candidates for National Office

## Chris Gadway Red Knights VP Candidate

I hereby announce my candidacy for the office of RKMC International Vice President.

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## Red Knight Help-A-Knight Program

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.com](http://www.redknightsmc.com)  
(Click on Membership and then Help A Knight)  
(You need Adobe Acrobat to read the file).

We continually update the version that is available on the web page. Below is the registration form to add or update your information in the H-A-K program. Please look over your state listing and let our editor know if there are people listed who are no longer members of your chapters.

**Let us know if you use the H-A-K program on the road**, and what stories you have about meeting up with your Red Knight brothers and sisters while on the road. Thank you.

### RKMC Help-A-Knight Registration Form

*Please Print Information and Check All Statements That Apply*

This is a New  
registration

This is a  
Change to my  
information

Summer/Fall  
2010

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

#### MAIL TO:

Bob LaFord  
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E-MAIL:  
[rflaford@tiac.net](mailto:rflaford@tiac.net)

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**AirMed will provide the Red Knights Club with an association enrollment code that may be used for online enrollment through [www.airmed.com](http://www.airmed.com). This associate code will provide enrollees with the appropriate annual rates . AirMed will provide membership cards and information to all new and renewing annual memberships. Short-term memberships will have the option to access their online account to obtain temporary membership cards.**

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