

*Loyal to Our Duty*



rflaford@tiac.net

## Red Knights Mass Chapter 2 September 2000

### *Greetings from the President*

Ed asked me to fill in for him on this edition of the President's message. As I write this, Ed & Peg and Steve & Deb are somewhere between South Dakota and the Red Knights Convention in Indianapolis. I told Ed not to worry, all he had to think about were those immortal words of Al Haig sitting in the Whitehouse after President Reagan was shot...

**"I am in charge now."**

But seriously, a big congratulations and a pat on the back go out to Ed and Steve. In 18 days and a few hours they traveled over 7,500 miles and hit the four geographical corners of the continental United States — and they did it for the firefighters. Sometime in September our two members will present a check to the Worcester FD on behalf of the Red Knights to help them build a memorial to the firefighters lost last December. You guys make us very proud.

Not just us either. At the convention both of these gentlemen were given a number of presentations, citations, and honors. Two came from our Massachusetts Senate and House of Representatives, and one citation came from the U.S. Congress. They also received a bit more light hearted award, adorned with a tube of preparation-H and a suppository from their friends in Massachusetts. (Congratulations to Ed on his re-election as International Vice-president as well).

I was very proud to be a member of Mass Chapter 2 when we were at the Westminster Fire Station back on July 13 to wish Ed and Steve off on their journey. Many of our members, members from other chapters and other motorcycle organizations, and representatives from the Westminster and Worcester Fire Departments were all there with us. In every newspaper and media interview that has been done on the Four-corners Tour, each one had a quote from one of our firefighters saying, "we're all family." And that's true in the fire service, and it's very true in the Red Knights as well.

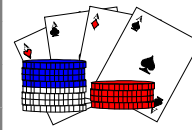
Our monthly ice cream rides have been very well attended. Of course, there's always room for ice cream! We've been to Maine again this summer at Cliff and Marty's, and Americade was a big success for the Red Knights in 2000. For year number three the RKMC was the largest group in the parade. Maybe someday they'll call it the Red Knights award!

Back to business in Mass-2. We have a Pot-luck BBQ for the club at Diona's and my house on September 9. We hope everyone can come out for that — and the big event quickly approaching is the club's annual **Poker Run**. We really need a lot of help with that. Please hunt around for door prizes and plan on showing up at the Westminster FD at 8:00 a.m. on Sunday, September 24, to help us run the event. It's our only fund raiser for the chapter — and we do give our support to a number of charities throughout the year with the funds we raise.

Please remember our annual meeting in October as well as the other rides and events that are still pending through the fall and into the winter. I don't want to wear out my welcome as the temporary commander and chief, so I'll sign and just say that you all make a great organization even better!

*Bob*

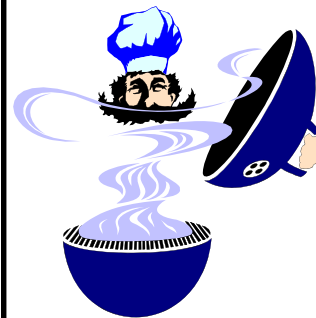
## Mass-2 Annual Poker Run



The date is Sunday, September 24 for the annual Poker Run for our Chapter. Reserve that date now so you can join us and help with the only fundraiser that Mass -2 has during the year.

We'll need workers for all sorts of activities and tasks, as well as door prizes from everyone. So start calling in your favors with the bike shops and businesses around you and we'll see you at the ride!

Please let Ed know if you are able to help the day of the Poker Run (*we hope everyone is*) and we'll see you at the Westminster F.D. at 8:00 a.m. on September 24 to get the show on the road!



## RKMC BBQ

Saturday,  
Sept. 9  
Starting at noon

At Bob and  
Diona's

276 West Road  
Petersham

Come wish the summer farewell  
with all our friends.

The grills will be hot for  
whatever you bring.  
So bring yourself, a dish to share and  
something to throw on the grill!

RSVP and directions: (978) 724-3270

August 20 was a great day for a ride, clear

blue skies, and a lot of bikes — and an even better reason to ride — the Ride for Kids. About 15 members of Mass 2, 4, and 8 were some of the 400 bikes and 600 people that raised over \$101,000 to combat Pediatric Brain Tumors. (The Mass Red Knights raised just shy of \$2,000). Dave Odessa, who spoke to us on the Cape about the RFK, was the top single fund raiser garnering over \$7,000.

It was an escorted ride from North Oxford up Route 56 and across Route 9 to the Amherst Common. We had a State Police Cruiser and three State Police Motorcycles leading us. Once we got to Amherst the four hundred bikes encircled the common. It was a wonderful site and a great feeling.

To ensure we remembered why we were there the organizers gave us the opportunity to meet some of the children that benefit from the research. One was a 16 year old young man who suffered from a brain tumor when he was six. And because of advances made over the past decade and a half, he is cancer free. Another (sadder) story was the young couple with a little fighter born in May with a brain tumor. He may not be as lucky as the older boy.

But great advances in research are happening everyday. And the Ride for Kids, supported by the Motorcycle community is the largest single supporter of the Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation of the U.S.

Mark your calendars for next year and join us on **Sunday, August**



Ed and Steve told me that they knew they were getting closer to home when they crossed into New York State from Pennsylvania and shortly there after got the finger from a passing driver!

It's good to have them back home some 12,000 miles and 40 days after they left!

**Fourth Annual RI-1 Poker Run Sunday, October 8, 2000**

Hosted by Red Knights Motorcycle Club Rhode Island Chapter #1

- Sign in at the Showcase Cinema, Rt. 2 in Warwick, RI
- From 9:30 am to 11:30 am
- Best & Worst Poker Hand
- Door Prize Raffle
- 50 / 50 Trophies
- Games Food

For more information contact  
 Joe Conroy (401) 783-3818 (cj@ids.net) or  
 Mike Leblanc (401) 823-0193 (rkri1cue@aol.com)

Proceeds from this event to benefit the Tomorrow Fund At Hasbro Children's Hospital

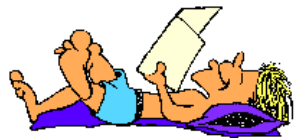
**BEWARE THE BLUE BULBS!**



Earlier this summer I had to buy a replacement bulb for my headlight. Shortly there after we went on an ice cream ride and I soon found out that I couldn't see. I had my riding partner take the lead as my seeing eye dog and he remarked that my head light was just a little blue glow.

When I got home I dug the box out of the trash and it said "diamond blue" halogen bulb. The next day I pulled the bulb out and it had a blue film on it. When I brought it back to the dealer he said, "oh, you want a white bulb?" Be careful if you replace your head lamp. This blue bulb decreased my visibility by at least 30-40% — I couldn't see and the cars couldn't see me very well, either!

**Wells Maine at Cliff and Marty's**



Friday and Saturday of our club's weekend away at Cliff and Marty's held great weather. (Sunday morning was a bit damp) We had a small crowd from Mass-2 this year, but we still had a good time. Enjoyed the friendship and food — as we always do — and also had a ride up around Sabego Lake and a stop at Reynolds Honda where some one was eyeing a new Honda on the show room floor!

Thanks again to Marty and Cliff for their hospitality and a nice weekend away.

**GWRRR Hobo Stew 2000**

To benefit FEED A FRIEND of Keene, NH

Sunday, September 10

- Registration 9-11:00 a.m.
- Costs: \$8 plus two (2) cans of food per person
- Games with prizes, Door Prizes, Raffles, 50/50
- Ride (Time Guess)
- Self Guided Ride
- Music and Trivia by GENE
- VENCO WINGS set up for accessories and other work

Location is American Legion Post 4, Keene, NH  
 Take Route 12 to Maple Ave Exit. At the end of the ramp turn left. Go through the flashing light to the next stop light.

## UP COMING RIDES/EVENTS:

- September 9: Pot-luck BBQ at Bob and Diona Laford's in Petersham... see you around noon. Call the Laford's for directions if you need them (724-3270) and bring your favorite dish to share and something to grill if you'd like.
- September 9: Westminster Firefighters' Ball. 7:00 p.m. at the Westminster Country Club. Contact any of the Westminster people for details and tickets. Firefighters & "guests" free admission. Music by Crossroads.
- September 10: There is a Seafood Festival at Hampton Beach.
- September 10: GWRRA New Hampshire Chapter E is hosting a "Hobo Stew" Ride. Details elsewhere in the newsletter.
- September 24: Mass-2's Poker Run!!!!
- October 8: Annual Apple Pie Festival in Dummerston, VT. Meet at Westminster F.D. at 9:00 a.m. We will have our annual meeting and election of officers prior to heading off to Vermont.
- November 10. Leominster Firefighters Ball
- November 12: Annual Polar Bear Ride. Meet at Westminster Fire for an 11:00 a.m. departure. Past history has shown that some years we have had to dress very warm and other years not!
- December 2: Our annual Christmas Pot-luck and Party. We will be at Ed and Peg's house in Westminster. 5:00 p.m.

**Bylaw Changes:** There are a few bylaw changes that we have to vote on to help clean up some of the language we have to bring our bylaws in line with those of the International. We will be voting on these changes at our annual meeting. (That is prior to our Apple Pie Ride on Sunday, October 8). (***Bolded highlights are changes.***)

Article 2, Section 5: **Associate membership shall not exceed ten (10) percent of Active membership.**

Article 2, Section 7: **Retired members shall have been Active members in good standing in the fire service for a period of five (5) years prior to retirement to retain all club privileges as a retired member.**

Article 2, **Section 15:** **Chapter dues shall be \$10 per member annually.**

### Welcome Everyone!

We have brought on a number of new members over the past few months. They are David Barbera and Matthew Boutin both from Hubbardston, Jeff Parker from Athol, Gary Matteson from Bernardston, Clay Swenor from Westminster, and Walter Roach from Worcester. Walter is a retired firefighter from Bermuda. He must have got sick of all that fun in the sun and boring weather and needed some occasional wind, cold, snow, and ice!

And welcome *back* to Athol Firefighter Everard Hayes. Ev was a member a while ago — and recently is back on two wheels when he bought another bike.

Welcome aboard everyone! We hope to see you on some of our rides and at club events. With these new members,

## Red Knights Convention 2000

Congratulations to Ed Brouillet on his re-election as International V-P, and to Mike LeBlanc of RI-1 on his election as Executive Secretary. It's good that members from New England are still a part of the Red Knights International Leadership. Perry Carter was re-elected as Chairman of the board and Jack Downs was re-elected as Secretary to the Board of Directors as well.

When our 4-corners travelers were approaching Indianapolis, they were met by nearly all the Red Knights that had already arrived in Indy — about 40 miles prior to the city. Must have been a great feeling to see all their friends coming out to greet them and escort them into the convention!

104 RK members rode the

track with their bikes at the Speedway in Indianapolis, all contributing to the Children's Hospital Burn Fund supported by the Indiana-1 chapter.

Indiana-1 and the city of Indianapolis welcomed the RKMC with a pig roast at one of the local Fire Stations. Mother Nature welcomed them too with tornado warnings and quite severe thunderstorms that day (that our crew watched from the bar at the hotel overlooking the race track).

It sounds like every one had a great time and that Indiana-1 were great hosts. Not a lot of details about the convention because our delegates from Massachusetts are just starting to filter back as I write this. Watch for your International Newsletter this fall for more details!

**See you in Winnipeg in '01!**

## Cycle World Motorcycle Show in New York

February 23-25, 2001 at the Jacob K. Javits Convention Center in New York City

See the accessories you need at the Factory. Popular aftermarket manufacturers spotlight everything you need to make your motorcycle especially yours. Attendees can enter to win a new Suzuki motorcycle.

In its sixth year of publication, Powersports Magazine offers in-depth information on racing, ATVs and custom bikes. It also includes the official show directory with floor plans and exhibitor listings. This publication is free, compliments of Dealernews magazine.

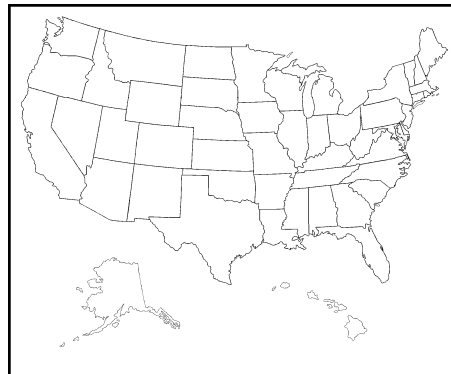
New Y2K season products · Hundreds of different types and styles including... Apparel · ATV Accessories · Fairings and Parts · Goggles/Eyewear · Helmets · Leather · Novelties · Off-Road Products · Oil and Lubes · Parts and Accessories · Performance Products · Products for Harley-Davidsons · Publications · Street Products · Snowmobile Products · Tires/Wheels · Watercraft Products and more. *Anyone interested in a road trip?*

## The Red Knights Fallen Firefighters Memorial Tour

Look for details on Ed and Steve's excursion in the Fall edition of the International newsletter.

We sent the guys off on their journey in style by making them a part of our Thursday Ice Cream Ride on July 13. Ed and Steve had a royal send off from two dozen bikes representing Red Knights chapters from throughout Massachusetts, the Blue Knights, the local Harley Owners Group, GWRRA Members, riders from the Worcester Fire Department, and a contingent of firefighters from the Westminster Fire Department all wishing them well as Ed and Steve headed off to Maine for the night with their first "corner" planned for Saturday morning. The entire group rode with the duo for the first few miles with a news crew from Boston's Channel 5 in tow.

We were part of the 11 o'clock news that night as well as the early morning news the next day. Mass-2 and all its members are very proud that we can call Steve and Ed our own. What they accomplished on behalf of all the Red Knights has very special meaning for those of us in Massachusetts.



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

June 17 some of our members took part in the 175th anniversary celebration of the Westminster Fire Department. The Red Knights contingent led the fire apparatus from the dozen or so visiting communities on the hot and humid Saturday morning.

At the June 25 meeting and ride we voted in several new members and took care of some other club business before we journeyed off to the Mohawk Trail with a dozen bikes and about 20 riders. Our entourage for the day included a couple of our new members and friends as well as some friends from Mass-4. We stopped in Shelburne Falls to walk the Bridge of Flowers and a scan of the glacial potholes in the hot and steamy weather before we twisted and turned south for some delicate cuisine at Bubb's BBQ in Sunderland.

July 30 eleven bikes and 13 riders showed up for what was originally billed as the third annual First Lady's Ride. But since the First Lady was working at Emerson Hospital E.R. and her normal pilot and his bike were in Oregon, we were without a first lady to guide the ride!

So we were off on the V.P.'s breakfast ride under cloudy and threatening skies. We had a great brunch buffet at the Monadnock View Restaurant in Troy, NH. I think most everyone got home before the rain started!

Thursday, August 10 was our scheduled monthly ice cream ride. The week had been hazy, hot and humid so the ride was well deserved. Earlier in the week WJDF of Orange had contacted the club asking if we would stop by their annual "Cruise Night" in Athol and Orange. Both towns closed off a section of their Main Streets. Orange had some bikes on display and Athol had some custom/antique cars for show.

We had eleven bikes and 14 riders when we left Westminster. Stopped for ice cream at the "202 Driving Range" in Orange. Drew quite a bit of attention from the golfers and others when we pulled in too! After ice cream we viewed the bikes in Orange and some of the group stopped to see the cars in Athol as well. Was a fun-filled night as we passed out a number of Chapter applications as well as information on the Fallen Firefighters Tour.#



### Marty got some new wheels!

Marty Eldridge took delivery of a pretty sharp looking 2001 Honda Shadow-Sabre — and she looks pretty sharp riding it

### Ride for the Bish Family

This was received from Paul Valley of the East Brookfield P.D.

The East Brookfield Police Association is holding a fund raising motorcycle ride to benefit the family of Molly Bish. Molly is the young lady who disappeared from a town beach in Warren this summer. Her dad is a probation officer at the East Brookfield District Court, and he is a true friend to law enforcement. We are asking for your help in participating in this event and for your help in advertising.

Here is the run-down of the event, called the "Ride for Molly":

It will be held on Sunday, September 10th, 2000, rain or shine. It will begin at the Warren Elementary school in West Warren. The escorted ride will travel non-stop for 60 miles, making a circle through Central Mass. It will last for approximately 1-1/2 hours. It will end back at the Warren Elementary School, where there will be a small presentation and where the funds raised will be presented to the Bish family. The cost is \$20 cash per bike. Registration is at 8am, and the ride will begin at 10 am. There will be catering trucks on site, and we will also have a booth set up to receive any donations from non-riding supporters.

We would appreciate any help you could give us. Thanks for your help & we hope to see you there!



## Annual Meeting of Mass Chapter 2:

Our annual meeting of the chapter's membership will be at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday, October 8 at the Westminster Fire Station. This will be prior to our ride to Dummerston, Vermont for the Apple Pie Festival.

Anyone who has an interest in running for office should contact Tim and Darlene Kilhart (978) 249-2983, who have agreed to be the nominating committee this year. This is an "even" year so the positions up for election/re-election are the President and the Secretary. All members are welcomed and encouraged to attend.

**A**mericade is always a great time for riding, friends, and finding great deals at the vendors, and this year was no exception. Mass-2 was represented by nearly 25 members and friends by the time the week drew to a close at Lake George, NY.

I think Red Knights arrived on just about every day of the week, but those that arrived on Tuesday (and a group from Mass-2 was among them) were treated (?) to a wet day of riding in pouring rains, heavy winds, and cold! The weather may not have been perfect, but Americade is still a big draw to 25,000 motorcycle enthusiasts — and this year the Red Knights open house at the Lake George Fire Station was attended by well over 300 members and friends. WOW!

Also a yearly tradition over the past few was a trip to Stony Creek for some great food with our friends. Twenty-three bikes and thirty one people representing RKMC Chapters from New England, several Canadian Provinces, and our Florida contingent journeyed out for the meal. No one went away disappointed nor hungry.

And our pride was showing as some 81 bikes and 100 riders representing the Red Knights participated in the Saturday parade, taking the largest group award for the third

Third, force you're your eyes to move frequently so that you receive a wide field of vision. Alcohol impaired operators fixate their eyes straight ahead. 50 % of motorcycle accidents are alcohol related. Fatigued operators tend to fixate lower and to the right. That's a sure way to meet the guard rail. So if you move those pretty eyes around you can gather more information. Practicing this will increase your judgement ability and reduce your risk. Recently I took a trip to Canada and was moving my eyes in all directions. Just out of my left corner I saw two deer making a beeline for the highway. Quick deceleration and maneuver away from them and I was able to miss what might have been some road kill. ME ! If we stay with the basics we can have a lot of fun. Safe Riding.

## Chicken BBQ and Poker Run to benefit the New Hope Battered Women's Center

Sponsored by:  
GWRRA Mass Chapter W



September 17, 2000

Registration at Chip's Motorcycle Clinic, 22 Beanes Lane,  
Northbridge

\$13 per person — Registration is from 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.

50/25/25 ~ door prizes ~ mileage pool ~ and a great BBQ Chicken Dinner

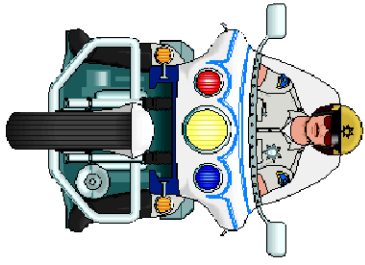
## Road Captain's Report

This month I'd like to take a look at our first line of defense that we have while motorcycle riding. Yes, in this business we do have to drive defensively. Our best tool for this is our eyes. Over 90 percent of our impressions of a driving scene are visual.

The following simple rules can keep us out of trouble and allow us to develop good eye habits. First, concentrate on your intended path of travel and move in traffic maintaining adequate margins in all directions. If you follow too closely you cannot see objects that may be in the road ahead of a motor vehicle until it is too late. Try jumping an 850 pound motorcycle at 50 mph over some type of object. Unless you're extremely lucky, chances are you're going down.

Second, aim your eyes well ahead by keeping your eyes up. If your line of sight drops to the pavement chances are you'll have an unwanted meeting with some rough asphalt.

**Keep your head up.** It's that simple. The bike will go where you're looking.



**RED KNIGHTS  
FIREFIGHTERS  
MOTORCYCLE CLUB  
MASSACHUSETTS  
CHAPTER 2**

Registration is  
from 9 to 11 a.m.

Is sponsoring a

**POKER RUN**

**Sunday, September 24, 2000**

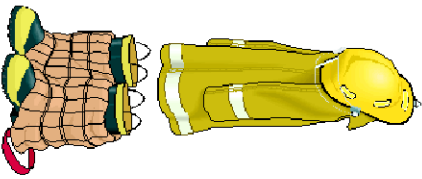
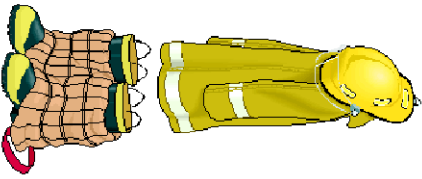
**\$10 donation covers ride and food  
following the ride**

**\*\*50/50 Raffle, Door Prizes,  
and Trophies\*\***

**Start and Finish will be from the  
Westminster (Mass.) Fire Station  
South Street — Westminster, MA**

**For more information contact Chapter President  
Ed Broutillet at 19783 632-8230 or e-mail at  
RNMMA2@netplus.com**

**Or visit our chapter web page  
at <http://www.tiac.net/users/rfialand/rkmc1.htm>**



Come on 2, 3, or 4  
wheels — Rain or shine

**Red Knights Motorcycle Club  
Mass Chapter-2  
P.O. Box 316  
Westminster, MA 01473**

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



Two roads diverged in a wood,  
And we took one, realized we made a mistake and did a U-turn.