



# Red Knights

## Mass Chapter 2 — Summer 2017

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### Loyal to Our Duty

#### From the Desk of the President

Hi Everyone,

Well here we are in the middle of riding season and we've got quite a few miles on our rides for most of us. Yankee rally has come and gone, Americade has come and gone, Paul's Ride has come and gone and we've made it through a good portion of our schedule — but there is still a lot of riding opportunities left to enjoy some roads and nice curves! This includes the upcoming convention in August, to be held in Syracuse NY. If you haven't registered yet you only have a few days left.

This year we started a new thing to try called J.A.R., which stands for Just A Ride. It is meant to be just that, Just A Ride, little planning, no real destination, no set time frame. They have seemed to work out ok, but it was also designed with you the chapter members in mind that some of you would help pick up one or two of the JAR's and surprise us with your knowledge of the roads in the area. We still have a few left and if someone else would like to take point on one let me know so I can help you. The Dunbar's have asked to take the September one and I believe it will be a breakfast ride. Watch your emails for more details.

Congratulations to House Mother Peg Brouillet on obtaining her motorcycle license. Peg took the test on their CAN-AM and passed, now she'll be able to drive ED around once in a while and he can watch the scenery. :-) Diona also has received her license and has been taking their Spyder for a few road trips when Bob has been working or has taken his other ride. Congratulations to both of you on your accomplishments and supporting your husbands.

Welcome to our newest member Sandra Hurtibese. Sandra is the daughter of Joe & June Cardone. She has come out and ridden with us on several rides and is doing a good job keeping up with us, in spite of the fact she handles a rebel 250 like a pro :-).

A little maintenance reminder don't forget to check your oil and tire wear and tare often. With the wonderful road conditions we have around here your tires are taking a real beating, and the bikes run a lot hotter when the temps get up there. Remember Hamborg's Motorcycle Service in Orange is there to help you with these things and as you approach the 3-5k mark start thinking about getting your oil changed too.

Other items of interest is the raffle for the Jack Daniels Barrel. Rick Oliver has acquired a beautifully refinished oak barrel with the old No 7 fire brigade engraved on the side and we are selling tickets for \$5 a chance with proceeds to benefit Sherry's House for the WhyMe organization. See any of the officers or other chapter members for tickets. If you can help sell a few that would be greatly appreciated.

We have a first Mass 2 state picnic coming up on August 26. As a chapter this will be an *all hands needed* to help event. Please contact me or one of the officers to let us know if you will be able to lend a hand and help pull this off.

Lastly watch your email for the upcoming Cape Cod weekend, scheduled to be held September 14-16, I've sent out a notice with the motel information and some preliminary details, if you are planning on going please let me know so we can plan a meeting place and ride together.

Stay Safe - Ride often  
President Martin

### 4th of July Summer Celebration Pot-luck Sunday, July 2

Come enjoy some time with friends at a holiday pot-luck. We'll be guests of Tim and Darlene Kilhart at their camp on Long Pond in Royalston.

Please let Darlene know you are coming. Bring some food to share — there is no grill available. But there is water, so feel free to bring your swim suit and any water sport paraphernalia (Kayaks, floatie-tubes, etc.)



Since we have to pass through a Army Corps of Engineers gate, we'll meet at the Athol Market Basket for 12:30 and travel to the camp together. Then Tim only needs to open the gate once!

At our annual business meeting for our chapter, scheduled for October, the officer positions of President, and Secretary will be up for election/re-election.

If you are interested in running for office, please contact nominations chair, Treasurer Bob Laford at [rflaford@tiac.net](mailto:rflaford@tiac.net) (by September 20th).

### Saturday, October 21 — Annual Chapter meeting.

Ed and Peg will be hosts for the first fall Breakfast Club at their home in Westminster. But it is much more than a Red Knight family breakfast and brunch — it's also our Picture-perfect Pot Luck and Annual Meeting. We are combining our annual meeting with our review of the year's pictures and our October breakfast. Join us for the breakfast (9:00) followed by our annual meeting and election of officers and then we will review the collection of the year's photographs!

## **Membership News Briefs...**

Our condolences to Bob and Pat Feeley and Corey on the passing of Bob's dad.

Welcome to new social member Sandrah Hurtubise, daughter to Joe and June Cardone. Congratulations to Faith Hamberg on her new position with Tractor Supply. Congratulations to Peg B on receiving her motorcycle endorsement on her license!

We had several members who were on grandchild-waiting patrol earlier this spring waiting for their new family arrivals. Best wishes to Marcia (and Maury) on their new granddaughter and to Pat and Bob Feeley on their new grandson (and Congratulations to member Corey Feeley and Molly).

Nancy Robinson is in rehab at the Quabbin Healthcare Center in Athol, recovering from her fall in Vermont. Nothing is keeping her down and she is already up and moving around!

Best wishes to Don Hurme on his up-coming knee replacement surgeries... you'll be doing Riverdance by the Christmas party Don!



Cyn had a road trip with our "house mechanic" to State 8 Motorcycles in Peninsula, Ohio to retrieve your new ride... Sweet!



As a member of RK Swiss-1 Rick was eligible to participate in their season mileage challenge in 2016 and received their 10,000 km patch and certificate!



One of the many episodes of entertainment while at Lake George. This particular one was playing "Cards Against Humanity" on the porch of one of the Bay Front Cottages.

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

- If you were not with us at the Mass-1 Pasta Dinner, then you missed out on a GREAT meal! They fed over 200 people, and there is no way anyone went home hungry.



- What a great turn out for our first JAR (Just Ride). 24 members and friends (16

bikes) and we put on a little more than 100 miles on some great roads with a stop for lunch and ice cream. Thanks for leading Mr. President. Do you have a favorite route that would fit the bill as one of our JARs this year? Let Kevin know — it is always good to have different members take the lead on rides.

- Memorial Day weekend was another JAR, and the destination was appropriately our Red Knight memorial in Boylston to think about our past members and friends. Nine bikes were along for the ride and a stop at Rota Farms for some ice cream was also part of the route.



- Our June JAR was scheduled for 1:00 pm and that was good because until 11:00 that day it was raining cats and dogs! But then Mother Nature turned off the spigot and let the sun come out for the afternoon.



- June's ice cream was ice cream and hot dogs (if you wished) as we checked out the new ownership of Lee's Hot Dog Stand in Baldwinsville. A thumbs up all around!

The same weekend as the Yankee Rally was the Spyder Homecoming, celebrating the 10th anniversary of the CanAm Spyder at the factory in Valcourt, Quebec. Bob and Diana were there along with 3,000 Spyders.



# *Riding is not to escape from life but to ensure life does not escape you!*

There is no doubt that our time in the Adirondacks at **AMERICADE** helps us make sure that life is not escaping us! With all the friends, fun, miles and smiles, that first week in June has grown to be a very special time for us. And as in years past, we also extended that Mass-2 hospitality to include lodging space for Region-1 rep Matt Mattera and Vermont-1 president Julie Rogers. (It looked like they both had a good time with us!)

Returning as adoptive Mass-2 members were the “Three Amigos” from Western Mass — plus two. Lou’s son Brian joined us as did Steve’s wife Ava. (I think with all our guests we had 37 in residence!)

We started arriving at the cabins on Sunday afternoon — from all directions. The largest group traveled from the Yankee Rally in Vermont. Two smaller groups headed from home and Bob and Diona traveled south from the Spyder Celebration at the Can Am factory in Quebec.

Enroute from the Yankee Rally, that group stopped at the Hague Market on Route 8, just off 9N. We had just learned that the proprietor had been held up and shot in the robbery in April. We wanted to show our support, and the store’s owner was pleased that we stopped. On the Wednesday RKMC ride one of the stops was at his store and he was overwhelmed with emotion when the 90 bikes full of Red Knights stopped.

Since we were all road weary by evening and grocery shopping was on the Monday itinerary, frozen Walmart pizzas were the meal for the evening. And they were surprisingly good!

Other big meals together were a baked ham dinner with scalloped potatoes, BBQ chicken, and of course Marty’s meatballs and sausage with pasta one night. A turkey also was put on the grill and then broken up to be made available for sandwiches to take along on day time rides. The baked ham made great sandwiches as well.

Breakfasts were a variety, whether you wanted to fix your own or waited to see what came out of the oven or the grill. It could have been blueberry pancakes or “Egg McMuffins” but it was all good to get you day started on the right foot.

Prior to our first dinner we cracked a bottle of Glenfiddich scotch that John Loiselle brought. He found the bottle (and others) when cleaning out his dad’s house. His dad passed away recently. So we listened to some stories of his dad and toasted him. We also used the scotch to toast our friend Steve Mickle and Matt Mattera’s brother, who had also passed recently. A good bottle of scotch to salute good people.

On Monday night Yamaha unveiled their new touring motorcycle at the opening ceremonies and Tim and Darlene went down to look at the bike. Tim calls it “his next purchase” and already has his color picked out.

We had seven cabins. This year the card games and adult beverage sampling, and general comradery was spread around the compound with card games and laughter at all the stops, not just at the “big house.” The shenanigans seemed to be at one cabin more than any other, but we won’t mention which one!

Along with the card games (Pitch, Cribbage, and Cards Against Humanity) we also had a new Corn Hole game that got opened and initiated on the cabin lawn during the week.

It has been a wet and cool spring and that has kept the water temperatures chilly, but at least one person tested the water, and the Oliver’s and Hamberg’s brought their Kayaks and spent some time on the water. Diona even ventured out on her own and went parasailing!

In the past we have joked about bringing our own EMTs, Medics, Physical Therapist, and Nurses (and a RKMC defibrillator). This year we had an in-house mechanic outfitted with a traveling workshop complete with tools. Although no one needed any major repairs, Jeff’s skills and tools were put to use with the projects at hand, installing newly acquired riding additions.

Americade and the Adirondacks mean rain and cold at some point and 2017 was no different. Our riders found the rain in Vermont and Quebec and that rain stayed with us through Tuesday. But that does not mean no riding. Monday (and Tuesday) rain gear on and out the door. Some to register, some for riding, some to

Warrensburg or the Tour Expo for early specials, and a trio in Deb’s truck to go grocery shopping for the group — and of course some for lounging at the cabins.

Tuesday’s rain did not let up, so when we had enough of the wet, we all met at the Lake George Bowling Alley and took over four lanes. There are definitely several different levels of skilled players in our ranks! But we all had a good time.

Wednesday and Thursday mornings both broke with perfect weather. Clear, cool, no clouds and no chance of rain. Lake George was getting busier as the good weather was drawing more Americaders to the region.

Most of the cabin’s occupants took off for miles to explore. On Wednesday some of our group went with 90 other Red Knights for the NY RKMC hosted poker run while a second group of Mass-2 folks headed north to run the Champlain Islands and put on over 300 miles. The vendors were getting busier too — both at Tour Expo and in Warrensburg.

After the Meatball dinner on Wednesday it was time for a fire by the lake. Some entertainment came along in the form of “Beer Pong.” Solo-cup rookie Peg B, our house mother, was a natural and won three games!

Thursday afternoon was Open House at the fire station with our JD Barrel on display and chapters selling wares. Then it was time on the Red Knights corner on Canada Street to people and bike watch.

Friday was another mixed weather day but we still got some miles out including some stopping at Ausable Chasm. Friday was also dinner out at Stoney Creek.

Saturday was a sunny day for the parade, and to have a day for another spin around the Adirondacks, or enjoy the atmosphere at the cabins. In the evening a number of Red Knights were onboard the Mohican for one of the Lake George dinner cruises... a fun time with friends!

Sunday was the introduction of summer again as the temperatures started to climb and were near 90 degrees by the time the remainder of our troupe had returned home. Another great week, full of fun and new memories. Thanks to all, especially house mom Peg, and cooks Marty and Deb.

This year’s Year-end Picture Perfect Potluck is being planned to coincide with our annual business meeting and our first fall breakfast club on October 21. Come be part of the governing and planning for your chapter plus enjoy the morning together looking over our memories and sharing some food!

## Upcoming Chapter Rides and Events:

Saturday, July 8. **Grand Tour Ride.** We'll have a day ride to find fire stations for a sanctioned **Red Knight Grand Tour** ride. Meet at the Rt. 2/202 Shell Station in Orange at 9:00 a.m.

Sunday, July 23. **Red Knight JAR.** Meet at Westminster Dunkin Donuts for 1:00 p.m.

Saturday, August 12. **Red Knight JAR.** Meet at Route 2/202 Shell Station in Orange at 9:00 a.m. Planned route into western Mass and southern Vermont over Hogback Mountain.

### **SATURDAY, AUGUST 26**

#### **FIRST ANNUAL RKMC MASSACHUSETTS STATE PICNIC**

Hosted by our Chapter, Mass-2. The first ever Mass-State Red Knights' picnic is Saturday, August 26, at the Templeton Fish and Game Club. (200 Club Road)

Registration/arrival by 11:00. Group ride (KSU) 11:30, BBQ prepared by our friends at the TF&G at 1:00. We will need some help on the day... but the most important part of the day is to come out and join us for a day of fun with Red Knights from around the state!

WE NEED EVERONE'S HELP AND PARTICIPATION to make this a success!

Sunday, September 24. **Red Knight JAR.** Meet at Westminster Dunkin Donuts for 1:00 p.m.

Sunday, October 8: **Breakfast with Smokey Bear....** Join us for Breakfast (to support our brethren at the Jaffrey FD) to kick off Fire Prevention Week and a post-breakfast ride is planned to go look at the foliage! Leave Westminster Dunkin Donuts at 8:00 a.m.

Saturday, July 15-16. **White Mountain Overnight.** We're are looking into a weekend overnight to enjoy some White and Green Mountain riding. Look for more information via email—for either a day-ride, overnight, or both.

**Ice Cream!** Spring started our monthly ice cream rides!

This year's meetings will be on the fourth Thursday of the month through September. Our May ice cream was rained out, but June was a great summer's evening! There are plenty more planned. Come join us!

The next **Ice Cream Rides** are July 27, Aug. 24, and Sept. 28 (6:30 p.m.)

Mass-2 was on hand as participants in Vermont-2's annual Paul's Ride in June. The damp and murky weather kept the numbers of riders down but VT-2 still did a great job and offered us a fun route for the scavenger hunt.

Our Vermont family provides between \$5,000 and \$8,000 in gas cards to families undergoing cancer treatments in honor of Dave Emery's passed brother Paul. Quite an undertaking!

Lori was our only pillion for the day so she kept tabs of the route and all the questions as we yelled out answers to the clues along the way.

Of course we all let her know our opinions for the route as well!



Members of Mass-2 stop to wish Hague Market (in Hague NY) owner Jim Rypkema well on our way to Lake George. Jim was robbed and shot in a hold up at the end of April.

Massachusetts Red Knights Fall State Meeting will be hosted by RK Mass-4 Location, date and time to be determined.



We had 21 members and friends at Faith and Jeff's in March, and 19 at Rick and Lori's in April for our Breakfast Clubs. Thanks to all our hosts! If you would like to be a host when they start back up again in the fall, let President Martin know. Our two "spring" breakfasts came with GREAT weather too! (Jeff did want to note that he and Faith were the only ones to show at the April breakfast on two wheels!)



A "tip-of-the-hat" goes out to the U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson for riding his motorcycle in the Rolling Thunder Memorial Day tribute. Internet reports were that he was very "low key" as he did not want his presence to over shadow the event and the Veteran's ride was honoring.



## Annual RKMC International Convention

There will be a huge contingent of Massachusetts Red Knights at this year's convention in Syracuse, NY. Are you one of them?

There will be Mass-2 members headed out Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. Not worrying about making it through many states to the convention, it will be a good ride.

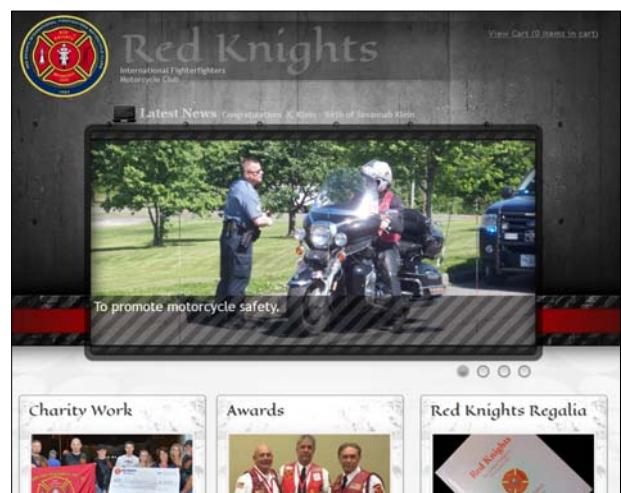
There will be lot's of old friends to meet and many new ones to be made. The host hotel and its neighbor will be over flowing with Red Knights.

## Sunday, August 6. A Connecticut-2's Annual

**Picnic.** CT-2's summer BBQ at the Fireman's picnic grounds in Portland, CT. More details will be available in the President's emails. There may be a chance for an overnight with other visiting Red Knights Saturday into Sunday.

## Saturday, August 19. Shirley FD Charity Ride.

Annual ride to support the Shirley FD Hose Co. #1.



The Red Knights International used one of our photos from a prior year's Skills Day for a lead picture on the main webpage for the topic "safety." Of course it is a "staged" traffic stop because none of us would ever be in the situation to be in front of someone with their "blues" on!

RK Mass-8 on Cape Cod has plans for a RK weekend for September 15-17 (3rd Weekend in September).

Check-in Friday, September 15th at the Town Crier Motel. Room rate is \$89 plus tax per night with a \$7 breakfast voucher for a restaurant down the street. (508)255-4000 Tell them you are with the Red Knights.

Saturday back road group ride to P-town.

Watch your email for more details.



## 2017 Yankee Rally—Rutland, VT

Over 350 members converged on Rutland, Vermont for the third annual Yankee Rally. Red Knights from throughout Region-1 (and beyond) joined in the fun and hospitality that we know the Green Mountain State and our friends just to the north of us offer.

There were several contingents of Mass-2 members that headed up into the mountains on Thursday. Most were staying at the Holiday Inn which served as the host hotel. There were overflow Knights in the hotel next door and we had some Mass-2 members staying at our favorite Vermont B&B, the Swiss Farm Inn on Route 100 in Pittsfield.

Thursday was a good day for travel with pleasant weather to work our way north whether on Routes 100, 4, 7 or a variation of all of them! How many mountain passes did you run?

There was plenty of hospitality and it was great to see our old friends from around the region and make some new ones too! Our Jack Daniels barrel was on hand, thanks to Larry Robinson bringing it up, and it was on prominent display. Maury did the lion's share of barrel tickets along with Jim S. and Rick, and it showed with over \$700 brought in over the weekend for Sherry's House. Our friends Joyce and Roger at the Swiss Farm donated \$150 towards the cause!

There was a group ride on Friday up to the Rock of Ages Quarry in Barre. Unfortunately the rains moved in and most of the riders headed back for the cover of the hotel. Some of Mass-2 also ventured out for a ride before the rain got too bad on Friday and discovered the Foley Brothers Brewery in Brandon, VT. (*Rick called back to Lake George after he was home and asked that Jeff rescue two bottles from the fridge he forgot that were purchased at the brewery. I wonder if they made it back to New Salem?!*)

Saturday included a Region meeting and also a BBQ. Everyone is talking about the *monster* plates that were used at the BBQ, there was no doubt that you could get your fill! The cookout included corn on the cob, baked beans, coleslaw with horseradish, BBQ Chicken and Sausage.

Saturday's celebration included guest speaker Ken Squier, a member of the NASCAR hall of fame and retired announcer for the NASCAR series.

Evening entertainment also included Karaoke. And there was at least one Mass-2 Red Knight that became a star, singing with Smooches from New Jersey! Outside entertainment was the showing of Wild Hogs, projected on Bob Binnall's camper.

Sunday morning offered a brief reprieve of wet weather. There was a going away breakfast, and the Mass-2 contingent left together headed for Lake George. AS noted before, on the way to NY a stop was made at the Hague Market to offer support and well wishes to the proprietor.

What will 2018 bring for the Yankee Rally? You'll have to come along to find out!



## THIS JACK DANIELS FIRE BRIGADE BARREL COULD BE YOURS!

(The two guys are optional!)



Rick and Lori at the New Salem General Store have donated this authentic collector's Jack Daniels Tennessee Whiskey Barrel to be raffled off for the benefit of the Sherry's House. The drawing will be at the RK Mass State picnic at the end of August.

To make this a success and to have a large donation for Sherry's House and the families of ill kids that they serve, we need everyone's help in buying and selling tickets. Be a part of this project and lend a hand. Those dollars that you help bring in will mean a lot for a struggling family.



Fred and Lisa are adjusting to life in the sunny south. At a Myrtle Beach Pelicans game this spring (the Class A affiliate to the Chicago Cubs), the team received their World Series rings and Fred was able to try one on.

The 2018 Yankee Rally will be in the Saratoga area of New York and the 2019 Rally is being spearheaded by Mass-15 and will be in eastern Mass, on May 30—June 2, 2019. All Mass chapters have offered their support to Mass-15.



*OK everyone, listen up. I'm your drill-master for the 2017 Skills Day, so just follow me!*



Thanks to the hospitality of the Orange Fire Department and the elbow grease provided by the Hamberg's we had a freshly swept parking lot ready for our Spring Skills Day at Orange Station 2 in Tully.

We had fourteen bikes of ALL sizes join us to work together and dust off some of the cob webs that have formed over the winter.

After we had our fill of serpentines, swerves, and figure eights we adjourned to the training room to watch a video presentation from a trauma doctor who rides a fast response bike at some of the European road races like the Isle of Mann. It was an interesting talk.

Afterward, of course, we were back on the road and headed for ice cream.



Everyone received a RK "Loyal to Our Duty" Safe Riding pin for participating in the Skills Day. Matt Hamberg was the first to receive a pin. He did a great job on the course!

If you want a pin, come out to next year's Skills Day!

