



# Red Knights®

## Mass Chapter 2 — Winter 2025

www.rk-mass2.org [facebook facebook.com/RKMASS2](https://www.facebook.com/RKMASS2)

*Loyal to Our Duty*

*From the President's Desk*

Fraternal Greetings MA2,

Most of us are suffering through the coldest snowiest part of winter right now and I can't help but count down the days till spring and the upcoming riding season. I sit at my desk and reflect on how very proud I am of the progress we have made this past year on an operational level including expanding our zoom capabilities to include business meetings, on top of winter pot lucks, upgrading our record keeping by acquiring and backing up our info to external hard drives, and digitalizing our older documents to preserve them for years to come. I know these items are not things that are visible to the masses, however these are items that support our members' needs behind the scenes and are important for the longevity of our chapter.



I am particularly proud of the diligent work that our members have put into the creation of our new Honor Guard protocol and the associated family assistance form. These efforts will provide comfort and consistency to our families, as well as clarity to the members providing the services after the passing of a member.

As we move forward this year, I'd like to remind every member that "you" the membership drive and decide how this chapter evolves and grows. Please try to attend business meetings, even if it's through our zoom link, so you can weigh in on the important topics and your voice can be heard.

There are many great events on the calendar this riding season and we even have the international convention in the states this year, making it more feasible to attend than the last few years. I am very proud of the participation we display as a chapter at events all around the world and thank all of you for your continued participation in these events.

I am looking forward to lots of miles and smiles with all of you this year. Stay safe and warm as we wait for the warmer days and clear roads to ride again.

Fraternally,  
President Jeff Hamberg

## 2025 Ride Schedule is posted!

Our 2025 Ride Schedule is ready — and being distributed.

Get your copy (or download it from our webpage), grab your red marker and start writing the dates on your calendar!

Put a copy on your refrigerator right by your finger paintings and come join us for a fun season with friends!

## MA-2 Chapter statistics for 2025

- 69 Total Members
- Active (Firefighter) - 40,
- Social — 22,
- Associate — 3,
- Junior — 2,
- Compassionate Honorary—2

Of the above, 19 are Life Members, and 8 of those are "International" Life Members, recognized by the International Board for past service to the International.

There are 13 Charter members who have been with the club since its Charter year in 1983. We appreciate their forethought and leadership to start this great club as we continue to grow in our future as a club and as friends!

Our chapter has had a webpage for many years ([www.rk-mass2.org](http://www.rk-mass2.org)) and has also had a presence on Facebook at [facebook.com/RKMASS2](https://www.facebook.com/RKMASS2) — and now we have an Instagram account to share information with those that follow that branch of Social Media. Do you follow us?

## Membership news...

Congratulations to Lonny Ricketts on his promotion to Lieutenant with the Wendell FD and to our President, Jeff Hamberg on his promotion to Lieutenant at the Hatfield FD



It sounds like our VP, John Loiselle, will be back on two wheels with a Yamaha V-star this riding season and our Treasurer, Bob Laford, has added a Kawasaki Concours to his stable. Now we just need Mother Nature to cooperate!

Congratulations to Darlene Kilhart on her new position as Manager at the MVPT Physical Therapy facility in Athol, we wish you the best!

## 2025 Chapter 50/50

You too can be a winner!

We will continue the tradition of holding 50/50 drawings when we get together during the riding season. Our Treasurer will keep track of the funds brought in, and at our annual business meeting we will decide what worthy local charity will receive the donation.



At our annual meeting we decided to split the donation to a \$200 donation to the On-Site Academy and \$200 for the Toys for Kids drive.

If you have a local charity that we should consider for our year-end donation at our annual meeting in the fall, please let an officer know.

## Bullets from our schedule:

Sunday, February 23. Red Knights Go Bowling. We'll be meeting at the Gardner Ten Pins at 1:00 pm to see who can keep their balls in the alley!

Saturday, March 29. American Heritage WW-2 Museum. We will be headed to Hudson to visit the military museum (Cost is \$23-\$20 for Vets and Seniors, and \$2 cheaper if you buy them online). Meet at Westminster Dunkins for 9:00 am. [www.americanheritagemuseum.org](http://www.americanheritagemuseum.org)

Tuesday, April 1. APRIL FOOLS! Let's visit King Bill. Who is interested in a mid-week day trip to Martha's Vineyard to visit our friend Bill Smith, past Americade King and founder of RK MA-7?

Sunday, April 27. Spring Dust-Off Ride. Shake off the winter dust with our first official ride of the year. Meet at the Westminster Dunkin's for 1:00 pm.

Sunday, May 18. Ride to Review our Road Skills and Safety (and Ice Cream). We will come together to think about how to improve our riding and our safety together. It's a ride, it's a few minutes in a parking lot, and then it's some ice cream! Meet at the 2/202 Shell Station in Orange for noon and with a parking lot stop in Southwick around 1:30.

Saturday, June 28: Vermont Connecticut River Ride. Plans are for a ride north into Vermont along the Connecticut River with stops at the Vermont Country Store and the Bellows Falls Firefighter Memorial. (We'll grab some lunch along the way). Meet at the 2/202 Shell Station for 10:00 am.

**Ice cream Rides this summer!** We're moving them around both for meeting places and evenings to fit a variety of schedules. **Meeting time is 6:00 pm.**

Tuesday, June 17, It's also our BUG RIDE! Buggiest target gets a free ice cream. Meet Westminster Dunkins. Thursday, July 17, at the 2/202 Shell Station in Orange.

Wednesday, August 27 at the Dunkins in East Templeton on Route 2A. Thursday, September 11 at the Dunkins in East Templeton on Route 2A.

## 2024 Ride Statistics

Elsewhere in this newsletter you will be able to review the miles that our members put on their bikes... and in 2025 we continue to chart more miles and memories together!

Overall last year we averaged 16.57 people per event for our 31 official events (an increase over 2023). Some events with larger attendance included our Blessing of the Bikes with 29 members on hand, the Spring State Meeting, our Winter Potluck and Gear Swap and our annual cookouts (all over 20 people), the Toys for Kids tent with 22 and our Christmas party with 34 members. Our Hooky rides (there were 8 of them), are not included in the above numbers, had between 6 and 14 riders!

For **2025 statistics** our calendar has 34 chapter rides and events with 13 meeting in the east, 15 meeting in the west, two meeting in the middle and the remainder elsewhere or undetermined as of yet!

## Sunday, July 6. 4th of July Celebration and Cookout.



Come enjoy some time with friends at a holiday pot-luck. We will be at the On-Site Academy in Westminster.

*(It will also be a summer business meeting for the chapter).*

## **Vermont-2's Memory Ride. Saturday, June 14.**

Our friends in Vermont are once again holding their remembrance charity ride, to remember all our friends and family past. We will be heading into Windham County, Vermont to have a fun day and support our sister chapter. Meet at the 2/202 Shell Station in Orange for 8:00 am.

## Don't forget our Breakfast Clubs!

**Every third Saturday** from November through April we gather for breakfast and fellowship. Thank you to Peg Brouillet for being our November hostess, to kick off the cold-weather season!

The morning was complete with a memory board of photos that Peg made up and we all enjoyed! And we all had a good laugh trying to guess who was who with the baby and childhood photos that Peg had collected from us!



Thank you to Lynn and Amanda Scott for hosting in January. We had in-person and virtual MA2 family in attendance before the snows came in later in the weekend. For our informational component of our gathering, Treasurer Laford facilitated a discussion on maps, GPS and route planning.

### Upcoming Breakfast Clubs:

- Saturday, March 15, hosted by the Kilhart's in Athol.
- Saturday, April 19, Will be held at the Red Knight's Memorial House in Boylston with RKMC family from MA-1 joining us!

From our new member Matt Regnier on his MSF course that MA2 helped sponsor...

The MSF riders course is a great program. I would recommend it for any rider at any skill level. The book work and instructional video's are very informative. Even if you are a seasoned rider there is lots of reminders that most of us have forgotten. If you're a new rider there is a bunch of information that will make you ride more confidently and safely.



The MSF road course is a great beginning for a new rider or a great way for seasoned riders to test their skills. The instructor is very patient with new riders and has much information.

The road course persist of a variety of different skills. One of the biggest skills they enforce is clutch control, stopping and accelerating. When you get farther along in the day they start incorporating counter leaning. Then they get farther into left hand and right hand turns. One of the most difficult drills in my opinion was the box drill. The box drill consist of making a tight left hand and right hand turn. It makes you better understand slow speed maneuvers.

The final day incorporates all of the online classes and what you learned during the road course. You are practicing to take the road test in small chunks. Then in the final part of the day you start the road test. The road test becomes less intimidating because all of the things you have ben practicing is the road test.

I would personally recommend all new riders should take this class. It makes you slow down and learn the essentials in riding a motorcycle. If you know how to use a clutch and have a basic understanding of motorcycles this course is for you.

## Where might our Hooky Rides lead in 2025

Have an idea for a ride, or would you like to lead a ride along a favorite route? Don't be shy, others would like the ride too!



We even got out in November when it was sunny, dry and warm for another "Let's Play Hooky" ride (with nine of us along for the ride). No ice cream stands left open but we found some handmade chocolates at Richardson's in Deerfield!



It was on four wheels, but we did get out for a mid winter "Hooky Lunch" at the Baldwinville Station in February!



## 2024 Chapter Mileage

2024 started out as a wet season for riding and when we hit August the drought set in with little rain, right through November! Even if you did not get a lot of miles in the first months of the riding season, the opportunity to ride (and keep dry) definitely kicked up your odds for the second half of 2024's season!

And as we always say, every mile ridden is a bonus for our peace of mind!

On our original 2024 schedule there were 39 events, and at the end of the year we had 31 official rides and events that took place, plus and additional 8 "Hooky" rides.

We had members at a number of regional rallies and at the International convention in Germany! Our picture board showed a lot of smiles in the 90 pictures that greeted us at the Christmas party.

We have been keeping track of Chapter Member mileage for 17 years now, and our total of documented miles for those years is 2,346,860 with the addition of this year's 100,969 miles.

With over 2.3 million miles (collectively) in those years, our yearly average is over 138,000 miles. A bit less than average this year, but still a lot of miles our tires have rolled!

Thank you to our VP, John Loiselle, for tracking the mileage this year.

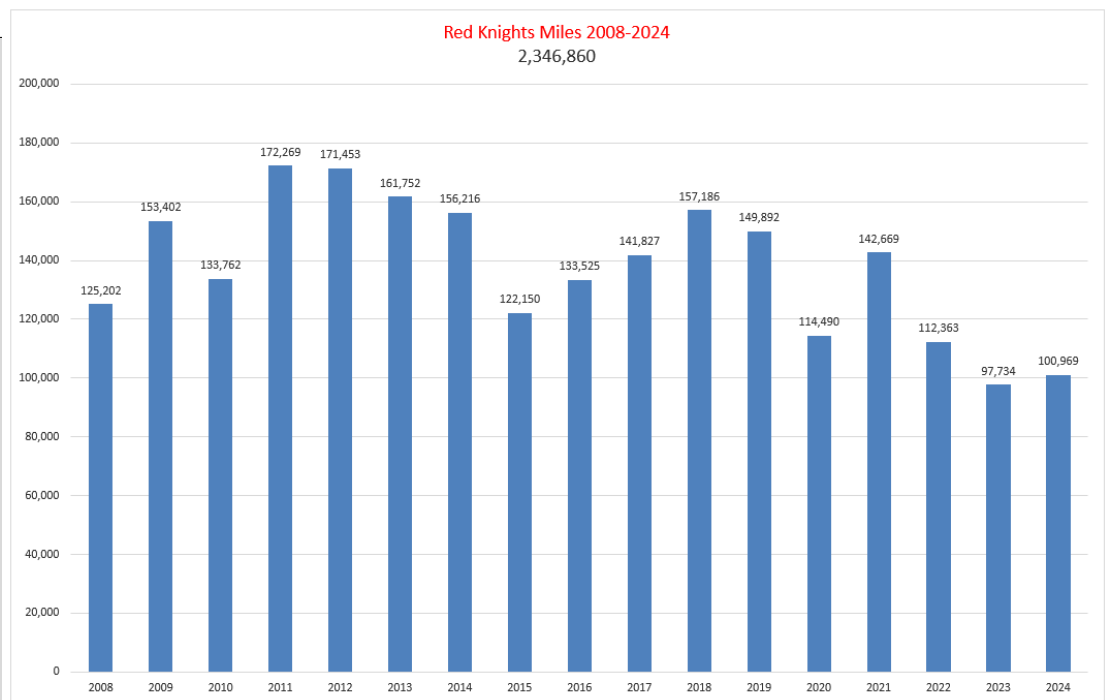
Congratulations to Tim Kilhart as our top mileage rider in 2024, with **17,568** and our top female rider, Diona Laford with **3,471** miles.

Here are our top ten mileage-getters for the chapter in 2024 were:

Tim Kilhart — 17,568  
Armand Guilmette — 13,215  
Robert Laford — 12,438  
Jeff Hamberg — 12,260  
Charles Hamberg — 8,145  
Joe Hopkins — 7,598  
Robert Shakarian — 6,537  
Maurice Lizotte — 5,768  
Diona Laford — 3,471  
Fred Leblanc — 2,454

Please get John your 2025 start mileage if you did not give him your end mileage in 2024. Let's see who makes the list in 2025!

There are a lot of smiles and friendships in those miles. Keep riding and ride safe!



Americade again returns to Lake George, and for 2025, during the latter part of Memorial Day week and runs from Tuesday, May 27 to Saturday, May 31. The vendor area opens on Wednesday, May 28.

Americade still provides a large number of motorcycle manufacturers to peruse as well as seminars and shows that help round out the week.

No matter if you come up for a day ride, a few days, or for all the days, besides the rally events sponsored by

Americade, the Adirondack region still gives us all reason to smile with the miles of great roads to ride, and the friends that we do see when visiting Lake George.

Need a new route to ride? Just ask our Road Captain Tim Kilhart and he will give you a quick list of a half-dozen or more favorite routes to take when in NY.

The Red Knights have been part of Americade since the beginning and 2025 will be no different. We suspect that the local NY chapters will again be planning opportunities for Red Knights to get together, and we will update you on those as we hear about them. Usually, NY3 has a Wednesday ride and on Thursday, we expect the long-standing RKMC Open House (and selling of chapter wares) to be on board at the Lake George FD.



Peg B presented President Hamberg with the chapter's original banner. Peg told us that it accompanied she and Ed to the many conventions that they attended over the last 4 decades!

If you have not received your 2025 membership card, contact the Treasurer.

Psst... we'll let you in on a secret. Some friends from Nova Scotia 1 told us that they are hosting the **2026 Atlantic Rally** in Truro on July 29 through August 3 — with plans to incorporate a Cabot Trail ride on August 2 and 3.

*If you like planning ahead, that might be something you put in your calendar. A number of us have gone to Region 2's Atlantic Rallies and they are a lot of fun!*

And since the International Convention is in Australia next year, a Canadian trip could keep you international if you are not headed down under!

*On the road with our friends...*

It was 21 degrees at daybreak on the morning of our Polar Bear Ride! Blessed are the curious for they shall have adventures! By our meeting time of 11:00 it was up 20 degrees further and we had a great ride under the bright blue sky following our Road Captain around northwestern Worcester County and up into NH for lunch at Emma's in Rindge. The day topped out just over 50 degrees on the way home.



Todd McLain from NC13 is a master wood craftsman and made a new display case for the RKMC Founder and Board members' commemorative coins.

A number of MA-2 members were present for the unveiling of this beautiful display at the Boylston Memorial Hall.



Sworn in at our Christmas party as newly elected, appointed, or re-elected officers: Charlie Hamberg (Assistant Road Captain), Tim Kilhart (Road Captain), Bob Laford (Treasurer), and John Loiselle (Vice-President)



Diona Laford and Tim Kilhart were recognized by VP John Loiselle at the Christmas party as the 2024 high-mileage female and male riders in the chapter.



Also serving you on the E-board for 2025 are President Jeff Hamberg, Secretary Jim Skehan, and Sgt.-at-Arms Ian Hurley.



**July 9 –11 Mid-week Overnight Away with Red Knight family.**

Last year we hoped for an overnight, but found the prices were pretty steep for when we scheduled it! Prices for lodging are cheaper during the week, so your officers are looking at something different with an overnight—maybe mid-week. Another potential is that the MC Trials World Championship is in Rhode Island later that week. Would that be something different people would like to attend?

**Let President Hamberg know what your thoughts are and if it is something you are interested in doing and we will start making plans for those who wish to join us!**

**Our Motorcycle Registrations Expired on Dec. 31.**

Don't wait until that first unexpected warm day with clear roads to realize that you have not renewed your registration! (Inspections are due by the end of May).



**Spring State Meeting**

We (RK MA-2) will be hosting the Spring State Meeting, on Saturday, May 3, 2025, at the Petersham Congregational Church on Route 32 (21 North Main Street).

Coffee at 9:00 am and the meeting will be at 10:00. *(Our calendar said coffee at 10:00 and meeting at 11:00—oops)*

It is an honor to host the first meeting where our own Kevin Martin will take up the gavel at his first meeting as State Rep with his Assistant State Rep, our own Joe Hopkins by his side!

*As we did in 2024, our chapter's Blessing of the Bikes and Ice Cream Social will be on the Petersham Common at 1:00 pm (after the meeting).*

*Please consider attending to support both Kevin and Joe — and our chapter!*



**2025 Yankee Rally**

June 5-8, 2025 In Bangor, ME

The host hotel is the Hilton Garden and the secondary hotel is the Hampton Inn, with a third hotel availability at the Comfort Inn.

Plans are in place to offer self-guided routes to enjoy the area, an early bird ride on Thursday, June 5 to Fort Knox and Penobscot Narrows Observatory, a Moosehead Lake ride on Friday, and a Sea Wall Ride on Saturday followed by a Lobster Roll lunch.

There will be daily 50/50 raffles with Super 50/50 draw and auction on Saturday.

There are Red Knights from not only Region-1 registered but RK family from Region-2 (Canadian Maritimes), Region 3 and Region 4 going to Maine for the rally!



Bill Bourque, Darlene Kilhart, and Don Hurme were presented with anniversary certificates and pins at the Christmas party, for 15 years as a member, 25 years and 25 years, respectively.

For the 2025 International Board elections we, as a Region-1 chapter, will be voting for President, Treasurer and Region-1 Director. We will only cast a ballot if there are contested positions.

Later in the spring we will discuss candidates and issues so all members will have a chance to voice their opinions before the chapter casts a ballot.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Gear Swap

Thank you to all who participated in this year's Gear Swap. We saw gear coming in and going home with new owners!



We had coats and riding pants, rain gear, gloves, helmets, pieces parts, and even a motorcycle bear from the VT Teddy Bear Company!



Thank you to Pam Hamberg for crafting this RK colored Afghan for us to use. Those present at our winter meeting voted to use it as a raffle at the State meeting, with proceeds to benefit the On-Site Academy.

## RKMC Mass-2 Honor Guard Program

The establishment of a MA-2 Honor Guard has been under consideration for some time. I am pleased to share that we now have a new formal, written and accepted protocol in place. This protocol governs the procedural as well as the ceremonial aspects of providing consistency, clarity and respect in the memory and legacy of a member who has passed.

This is a notable step forward for our organization and provides a structured testament to the value we place on our members.

If you have yet to read this document, I urge you to please do so to appreciate the full scope of this achievement.

Members of the Honor Guard will be providing a meaningful contribution to the lasting memory of their chapter members in a way that really makes a difference.

With that said, I am beginning to recruit members who would like to volunteer to become a part of the newly established MA-2 Honor Guard. It is a minimal time commitment, and instruction and guidance will be provided in all aspects on how to carry out this important and dignified role.

If you have an interest, please contact me by phone, text message or email and I will be happy to answer your questions and explain the importance of this initiative. Thank you.

I also remind members of the companion document to this new protocol, the MA-2 Family Assistance Form. Consider completing this form and returning it to the Executive Board to ensure your wishes are known.

John Loiselle  
Vice President Red Knights MA-2  
978 660-1608 — [Jmloiselle32c@gmail.com](mailto:Jmloiselle32c@gmail.com)

The Executive Board wishes to acknowledge and thank Vice-president John Loiselle for his work on drafting our chapter's Honor Guard protocol. Copies of the protocol were shared at our winter business meeting and is included with this newsletter.

## Our Winter (Breakfast) Pot Luck and Meeting

We enjoyed the company of a good turnout of our members at our Winter Meeting and Pot-luck brunch in February. It was a cold but dry morning, with snow moving in later in the day, so travel was good this year!

There was plenty of good food, even with hand dipped chocolate covered strawberries made by Faith Hamberg to celebrate Valentine's Day!

Our Ride Schedule and updated phone list was ready for distribution. The display board was on hand, as well, so members could list what big RK events they plan to attend in 2025.

The largest component of our meeting was the discussion of our Honor Guard protocol, which VP Loiselle speaks of, above.

The details of the winter business meeting were shared via email when the minutes were sent out. Let us know if you did not see them!



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 <https://www.redknightsmc.com/help-a-knight-program>

Consider becoming part of the HAK program, so you can lend a hand. And **definitely** have a copy of the program available to you if you are traveling, so you can reach out to a fellow Red Knight if you need a some help while on the road!

On a personal note, I have used the HAK program to reach out to fellow Red Knights as I travel, just to get together for a coffee or a meal. And sometimes they'll join along for the ride for a few miles! *Bob*

If you think that helping out a fellow rider is a cool idea, you can also talk to President Hamberg about the "Bunk-a-Biker" program. (Jeff and Faith have hosted a number of traveling riders over the years). Another similar program is the "Motorcycle Travel Network" <https://motorcycle-travel.net/>

## RKMC — MA2 and Rev. Geoffrey Smith of the Petersham Congregational Church

### Invite you to a **Blessing of the Bikes and Ice Cream Social**

Saturday, May 3, 2025, 1:00 pm  
Following the Mass State Meeting  
At the Petersham Common — Route 32

A free-will donation of \$10 per bike is asked, and all proceeds will be donated to Home Base, a Massachusetts-based Veterans Support Service



### **RUN TO THE HOME 2025**



**SATURDAY, AUGUST 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**Location: FASNY FIREMAN'S HOME**  
125 Harry Howard Ave., Hudson, NY 12534

**Time:** Registration - 9:30 am - 10:45 am / KSU - 11:00 am

**Cost:** \$25 per Person / \$20 per non-riding participant



**Includes:** Ride, Music, Door Prizes & Food

**Proceeds to Benefit the FASNY Fireman's Home**

**For information contact:**

Dan Bransfield (860) 990-2831  
rkmcny29@gmail.com  
[www.facebook.com/rkmcny29/events](http://www.facebook.com/rkmcny29/events)

The 2024 blessing saw over 80 people and 60 bikes (and a few bicycles, too). (29 from MA2)

We had RK from MA, VT, CT and NY (Long Island), and also others from the Spyder Ryders, CMA, Veteran's groups, and our friends the 3 amigos (remember them from Americade?)

Because of the generosity of those who attended and those who made donations, we were able to send a donation of \$600 to Home Base!



Home Base, a Red Sox Foundation and Massachusetts General Hospital Program, is dedicated to healing the invisible wounds for Veterans of all eras, Service Members, Military Families and Families of the Fallen through world-class clinical care, wellness, education and research. Home Base operates the nation's foremost private-sector clinic devoted to treating the invisible wounds associated with military service. Since its inception, it has provided excellent complimentary care to over 24,000 veterans and family members.

For more information on Home Base visit [www.homebase.org](http://www.homebase.org)



## RK Mass-2 CHRISTMAS 2024

What a great day we had at our Christmas party in December! Judy Belliveau and her staff at Slattery's were phenomenal. Our room was all ready for us when we arrived, complete with the appetizers waiting for us and the tables waiting for our 2024 picture board and all our Yankee Swap gifts.

Our room quickly filled with conversations and laughter as our 35 members arrived. President Hamberg welcomed everyone and recognized our Charter members who were present, thanking them for starting our great club, 41 years ago! Present were Charlie Clarkson, Phil and Bea Jordan, Maury Lizotte, Jim Skehan, and Wayne Stacy.

A side room was prepared for the hot buffet, and as the staff started to prep the buffet they brought out a large salad so we could settle in and enjoy the salad before the main meal was served. And what a meal it was! The buffet included Penne Marinara, Italian Meatballs, Baked Atlantic Haddock, Roasted Turkey Breast, potato and vegetables and chocolate cake for dessert. From beginning to end it was hot and there was plenty to eat, too!

After we were through with the meal, President Hamberg took the floor for several presentations. When people came into the room as we arrived, Charlie Hamberg was passing out door prize tickets (and Diona Laford was passing out meal tickets), We had three separate door prizes. One was a donation from Viking Bags, a sponsor we have on our webpage. Julie Ricketts was the winner, and with Jeff's help she modeled the mobility of the bag! Other door prize winners were Linda Stacy and Bill Bourque.

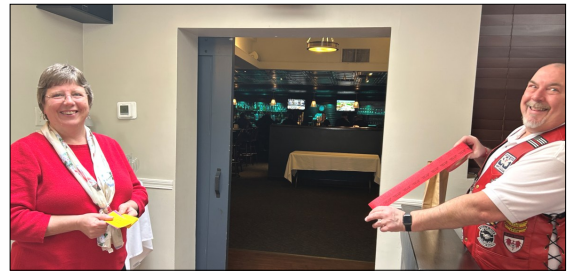
Jeff presented anniversary pins and certificates to Bill Bourque (15 years), and Darlene Kilhart and Don Hurme (for 25 years).

Vice-president John Loisel presented the high mileage awards to Diona Laford and Tim Kilhart. (You can review details on our chapter's 2024 mileage elsewhere in this newsletter).

The officers who were elected and reelected at our annual meeting were called to the front of the room. Secretary Jim Skehan spoke of the roles and responsibilities of the officers collectively and also spoke to each of their individual responsibilities and their service to the chapter. President Hamberg swore in those officers for their new term.

The Yankee gift swap is always fun with quite the variety of gifts. We had tools, and chocolates, and coffee, and glassware, and candles — and a number of gifts that seemed to be passed around from person to person.

The entire afternoon was a lot of fun. If you were not able to join us this past December, make sure you mark your calendar for December 7, 2025 and join us this year!



*With all the gift cards we collected at the Christmas party, we sent a donation of \$370 to Sherry's House!  
THANK YOU ALL for your generosity.*

## Non-Red Knight events to support our communities

Thank you to everyone who came out in December to support the **Marine Corps League Toys for Kids**. We staffed the Toys for Kids tent at the Walmart in Orange on the Sunday after Thanksgiving and were in awe of all the generosity shown to the program by all the shoppers and our members. Our chapter made a generous contribution, as well, that allowed a few of our members to go toy shopping in the store while we were "on post." (Mark your calendars for the Sunday after Thanksgiving 2025 and we will be back!)



It was an honor to have some MA-2 members participate in the 2024 **Wreaths Across America**. We joined several hundred other volunteers in placing wreaths at each of the over 3,700 graves at the Veterans' Cemetery in Winchendon.

We know there are other Red Knights around the country who participate in these events at over 4,200 different Veteran's Cemeteries and each of us knows how important it is to give this well-deserved respect to our Veterans-passed.

Please consider joining us in December 2025.

Our members voted to donate half of our 2024 50/50 proceeds to the On-Site Academy in grateful appreciation for all they do for first responders and military personnel. Appropriately, the day before Thanksgiving the officers presented a check to Dr. Hayden Duggan and also visited their newly dedicated Garden of Honor and Remembrance.

We will be having our summer cookout at the On-Site facility in July, so you can all visit the memorial garden.



We received a communication from the Marine Corps League thanking us for our help with their toy drive. Please mark your calendars for November 30 to work "in the tent" later this year!

*The assistance of you and your Red Knight colleagues is much appreciated--it would be a far less successful toy drive without the aid of the Red Knights and other motorcycle clubs.*

*Merry Christmas to you all--you've "made the season bright" for a lot of kids.*

*Best regards,  
Mark Ellis*

And shortly after receiving Mark's note, the Pioneer Junior Women's Club, in Orange, posted, "Thank all those who donated to the Orange Santa Fund and Toys for Kids, and to the Marine Corps League and their partners who collected the toys this 2024 Holiday Season. We were able to assist in supplying gifts for 178 children across 76 families [in Orange]."

Similar numbers of support would have been received by the Athol Santa Fund, which means close to 400 children and over 150 families would have received gifts through the toy donations!

## Winter tips for coping when not riding

(Excerpts from Revzilla on-line)

As winter's dreary gray-brown palette dominates the landscape outside my garage window, I take comfort in the warm orange glow of the space heater angled between my bike and workbench. I do have to "winterize myself," finding ways to cope with this dramatic reduction in riding frequency. Regardless of climactic issues, virtually every motorcyclist must contend with the occasional riding hiatus, and we need to keep our motorcycling selves charged, just as we protect our batteries from the consequences of disuse while the bikes they inhabit sit inert.



Here are some ways we can winterize ourselves in these long, dark days:

Garage time. Garage time is a solution cherished by those of us who love spinning wrenches. Winter offers a great opportunity to install aftermarket parts, perform maintenance and repairs, or simply clean, polish, and adjust every little bit on our bikes to absolute perfection.

Planning future rides. The fun of riding isn't confined to the time we spend with wheels turning. When we plan an adventure (even a tiny one) many weeks in the future, we enhance the entire interim. Collecting gear, prepping our bikes, discussing routes with riding buddies, and imagining the upcoming event all extend its pleasures all the way back to the present.

Learning. While having a special goal in mind usually improves our focus and motivation, we can also bolster our mental and physical readiness for riding in general during forced downtime. Sitting in front of the fireplace with a warming beverage, reading books and articles or watching videos devoted to skill development will keep our awareness of technique fresh and sharp.

Maintenance is not just for motorcycles. We tend to get fatter, stiffer and weaker during the winter months, retreating deeply into our caves to wait out the cold passively, hibernation-style. Without regular and substantive fitness-related activity, we'll climb back into our saddles in the spring in considerably worse shape than the last time we rode, increasing the dangerous discrepancy between our pent-up enthusiasm and lagging physical condition.

Entertainment for motorcyclists in forced hibernation. Motorcycle-oriented entertainment provides vicarious thrills and discoveries. Watching races, riding travelogues, and historical documentaries helps pass the time as winter, or any other riding interruption, drags on.

Finally, if you're like me, you may also find some satisfaction just sitting in a warm garage, silently admiring the aesthetics and engineering of a beloved machine you can do nothing else with at the moment. My space heater isn't the only thing glowing on this dim winter afternoon.

## 2025 RKMC International Convention



**RKMC International  
2025 Convention**

Please join us for our annual Red Knights International MC convention in Peoria, IL.

**August 20, 2025 - August 24, 2025**  
Embassy Suites by Hilton East Peoria  
Riverfront Hotel & Conference Center  
100 Conference Center Drive  
East Peoria, IL 61611 USA

**Convention Highlights:**  
**Thu 8/21** Starved Rock Kayak Tour  
**Fri 8/22** Firefighter Memorial Ride OR  
Starved Rock Kayak Tour  
**Sat 8/23** Business Meeting &  
Breakout Sessions  
Evening Reception &  
Banquet Dinner

**SECURE YOUR SPOT!**  
[www.redknightsmcil.com/convention](http://www.redknightsmcil.com/convention)



*Are you registered, yet, for this year's international convention in Illinois?*

Hosted by the IL State Red Knights on August 21-24 at the Embassy Suites by Hilton East Peoria Riverfront Hotel & Conference Center.

Our hosts have a number of events planned for our stay in Region 3. From thrilling rides, kayaking trips, a visit to the Illinois Firefighter Memorial, and the comradery of fellow Red Knight members.

Starved Rock Kayak Tour options on both Thursday and Friday. On-Site Games and Self-Guided Rides available, and the Firefighter Memorial ride and lunch will be on Friday.



Visit [www.redknightsmcil.com](http://www.redknightsmcil.com) for more details, hotel information and the convention registration form.

### Locations to remember for future conventions:

- 2026 to be hosted by Australia 5
- 2027 to be hosted by Ontario-1 as a cruise out of Florida!

## Know Your Riding Risk Factors — from Road Runner magazine on-line

There are some similarities between the causes of plane crashes and the reasons for motorcycle accidents: it's often a combination of factors, or risks, that cause incidents in both cases. And in both, the fundamental cause can usually be traced back to "human error." Just as in doing a preflight check before flying your own airplane, a motorcyclist should take stock of his or her risk factors before their ride. Unlike the airline industry, which has many rules, regulations, and certifications in place to help prevent accidents, the motorcycle rider is pretty much on their own.

[You should be thinking of the] four fundamental categories of rider risk and how they can overlap to create even higher levels of accident risk to riders.

The Four Rs For Evaluating Motorcycle Riding Risk are Rider, Ride, Route, and Riding Environment.

### **You, The Rider**

The question here is, are you physically and mentally prepared to ride safely? Here are some of the most important considerations:

**Physically Fit?** Physical impairments, like injuries or lack of sleep, will compromise alertness and safety.

**Emotionally Fit?** Riders should not be preoccupied with emotional distractions.

**Chemically Unimpaired?** It goes without saying that motorcycle riding and consumption of controlled substances is often a lethal combination. I cringe when I see a bunch of motorcycles parked outside of a bar. An ambulance should be on-site, like at racetracks, to pick up the pieces!

**Wearing Proper Gear?** Because the risks of motorcycling can be mitigated—but not eliminated—it's imperative that riders wear all their protective gear all the time. That includes a full-face helmet, proper boots and gloves, and riding jackets and pants with armor.

**Have the Right Attitude?** Riders

should display a proper attitude, enjoying the ride, but doing so responsibly. Wheelies, stoppies, riding with legs draped over the handlebars, excessive speed, or other high-risk behaviors, inevitably, will lead (sooner or later) to a rider going down and endangering themselves and others.

### **Your Ride**

**Bike Mechanically Fit?** Like the pilot who does a walk around of a plane before takeoff, riders should make sure their bike is ready to ride: properly inflated tires, turn signals and brake lights working, no obvious mechanical issues, etc.

**Familiar Bike?** When I ride an unfamiliar bike, it usually takes me at least 30 minutes of riding before I feel "dialed in" and fully in control of the new motorcycle. It's important to take it easy and not push any limits until your confidence level is at 100 percent.

**Visible to Others?** Are you riding a blacked-out bike (without reflectors or auxiliary lights) in black leathers, wearing a graphite color helmet at night? One of the leading causes of accidents is other motorists not seeing the motorcyclist. Be visible!

**Hauling Cargo?** If you will be hauling human or other cargo, the bike will handle differently: directional changes will be slower, braking distances will increase, and acceleration will be degraded. A slower responding bike requires adjustments to speed, following distances, and other similar riding considerations.

### **Your Route**

**Road Conditions/Hazards?** Bad pavement, tar snakes, pot holes, animals, poorly maintained railroad crossings, road debris, and plastic strips used to denote cross walks can all increase the risk of a crash. Speed and caution should be adjusted accordingly when these are present.

**Level of Difficulty?** If you've just gotten your motorcycle endorsement, riding technically demanding roads with steep elevation changes, switchbacks, and hairpin curves should be avoided until your skill level

progresses to meet such demands. The Tail of the Dragon will still be there when you're ready for it.

**Services Available?** Riding in remote areas, where gas stations are few and far between and emergency medical service is not readily available, requires more planning and riding caution.

### **Your Riding Environment**

**Time of Day?** Riding into the sun, either in early morning or late evening, can severely limit a rider's ability to see where he or she is going and avoid hazards. I usually try not to ride at night, because my ability to see and be seen is greatly compromised. It's also at these times of day that deer and certain other members of the animal kingdom are most active, further increasing risk.

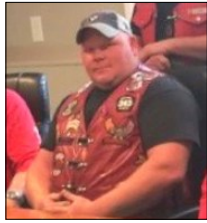
**Weather?** Fog, rain, snow, freezing temperatures, extreme heat, thunderstorms, and other types of severe weather pose a much greater threat to a motorcyclist's ability to avoid hazards and be visible to other motorists, not to mention the danger of being injured or killed by the severe weather itself.

**Traffic Congestion?** With drivers talking on cell phones, texting, trying to read while driving, and the myriad of other distractions available in the 21st century, the heightened exposure of riding in heavy traffic is pretty obvious. Because many of those other drivers may not be alert to your presence, riders have to be extra alert to the rapid-fire succession of threats developing around them.

If you start combining some of these hazards (and I'm sure you can add to the list), as illustrated by the areas of overlap in the Venn diagram, then it's apparent that your risk profile can increase dramatically. Riders should continuously assess their riding perils, both before and during the ride, so they can mitigate them. Sometimes, when the threat level is just too high, the best mitigation may be to just not ride.

## WHO, WHO, WHO... WHO ARE YOU?

Chapter President, Jeff Hamberg, joined the fire service with the Orange Fire Department in late 2009 as an on-call firefighter/EMT and then was hired fulltime in 2011. Jeff became a Paramedic in 2012 and worked in Orange as a career Firefighter/Paramedic, being promoted to Acting Captain in 2017 and after completing certification was promoted to Captain of group 2. Jeff transferred to Southwick Fire in 2022 to help form their new Training division and in 2023 he began his career in Charlton as a Firefighter/Paramedic, where he is currently in the promotional process again, there. He is also a member of the Hatfield Fire department as a per-diem Firefighter/Paramedic and holds the rank of Lieutenant, there.



Jeff joined the Red Knights in 2014 and has served as both the chapter Road Captain and as President of (as he says), our amazing chapter.

As most of you know, Jeff enjoys traveling via two-wheels and has found great joy in long distance endurance riding holding several certifications with the Iron Butt Association.

Jeff tells us that he cannot wait to hear from all of you and learn more about the members of this chapter.

Our newest addition to the chapter E-Board, John Loisel, our chapter's Vice-President was first a call firefighter in 1975, then appointed as a career firefighter in 1976, and then promoted to Lieutenant in 1978 – all with the Gardner Fire Department. John was hired as Fire Chief in Westminster in 1990.



John also served on the Fire Science Advisory Board Mount Wachusett College 11 years, and as an Adjunct Instructor Fire Science Technology Curriculum Mount Wachusett College 14 years.

After retiring from the fire service in 1998, John was a Technical Training Instructor and Course Designer for Simplex, and Tyco in Fire Protection Systems and Equipment for 15 years.

John joined MA-2 in 2002, and still enjoys being a member of the Red Knights because of the shared love of riding a motorcycle with an amazing group of people. He tells us that his favorite bike was a 2017 Indian Roadmaster and his favorite vacation/ride as a Red Knight was “without question” - the years of annual trips to Lake George N.Y. to Americade.

John has a musical background as well, and people may be surprised to learn that he plays the violin and guitar!

Chapter Secretary Jim Skehan is one of our Charter members, having been with the MA2 since 1983. Jim was just a young'un when he joined the chapter, and shortly afterwards headed off to serve 8 years in the Navy, where his home was a USS Guided Missile Destroyer!



He was a call firefighter with the Ashburnham Fire Department for 19 years.

His favorite bike has been his Goldwing which he still loves riding even after 14 years of ownership.

Jim says that he enjoys riding with the members, building friendships, and adding great memories. Oh, and he says that stopping for lunch is a favorite, too! He has many favorite rides, but always remembers the great times we all had at Lake George Cabins.

Chapter Treasurer Bob Laford joined MA2 in 1988 and has been VP, President and now Treasurer. He also served the International as webmaster and editor of the international newsletter.



Bob was a career firefighter in Orange, and was Captain in charge of training before heading to UMass as Campus Safety Officer and then Assistant Director of Emergency Management before retiring. He was also an instructor with the Fire Academy and at Mt. Wachusett Community College.

He was with the Petersham Fire Department obtaining the rank of Deputy before hanging up his helmet.

Times in Lake George at the Cabins are some of Bob's favorite memories. Any ride that he sees Diona in his mirror on her bike is a favorite ride!

On bike information, Bob passed 400,000 riding miles last summer. A non-riding piece of information is that Bob was an Apprentice Toolmaker for Union/Butterfield in Athol after high school, and had the factory not closed in 1983, he probably would not have become a firefighter or EMT!

We'd like to learn more about you?

We know that you are a Red Knight and a member of our chapter — but what makes you tick, or rather makes your wheels spin? Just drop an email to our treasurer to answer a few questions about yourself!

- Name?
- Fire Department/ Public Safety history?
- Joined the Red Knights in?
- Still a member of the Red Knights because (or a favorite memory)?
- Do you have other vocations or avocations ... if not a career firefighter what did you do/do you do?
- Favorite bike over the years, and/or favorite bike vacation or ride?
- Anything else about you that might surprise us that you would like to share?

And to start off this effort, here are some background information about your chapter officers!

## WHO, WHO, WHO... WHO ARE YOU? (continued)

Our Road Captain Tim Kilhart served as an on-call firefighter for 34 years in Orange (achieving the rank of Captain) and also served as a firefighter in Warwick, MA.



Tim joined the Red Knights in 1998, and has served both as our Road Captain and for eight years as our treasurer, previously.

Tim says that he is still a Red Knight because he loves riding and the Red Knights are a great group of people and are like his extended family. He loves being around RK members and doing all of the activities that we do.

Tim is a retired DPW Director from Harvard, MA and currently working part time as a certified road flagger and enjoying not having to go to work everyday.

Tim has loved the Yamaha Venture motorcycles he has owned (4 of them) but is now enjoying his BMW K1600 as is his wife, Darlene. Their favorite trip was the 2004 Red Knight Convention in 2004 in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. He states that he doesn't think that one will ever be outdone.

Tim said that he is so thankful that he joined the Red Knights as it was one of the best decisions that he ever made.

Charlie Hamberg, Assistant Road Captain of MA2 (2025) joined the Red Knights as a "Social" member in 2016 after being referred by my son, "Active" member Jeffrey Hamberg.

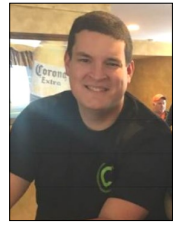


Charlie worked in retail grocery stores for 48 years (the last 42 years in the role of Meat Department manager) before retiring in 2022. He has also served in differing volunteer roles, including 25 years on the Board of Directors for Franklin First Federal Credit union.

Charlie enjoys following sports, but his greatest interest has always been motorcycles, starting at a young age. He has owned 4 off road motorcycles and 6 street bikes, the last two being top end BMW touring models, which he has enjoyed immensely. His passion for motorcycle riding was inherited by his son (Jeffrey) and more recently his grandson (Matthew) which has led to a three generational involvement in the Red Knights, which he says he is very proud of.

Charlie looks forward to the new riding season and plans on participating in as many Red Knight events as possible!

Ian Hurley, our chapter's Sergeant-at-Arms (2025) started as a call firefighter in Ayer in 2012 and became an EMT in 2014. He started working for Cataldo Ambulance in February 2015, was a per diem firefighter/EMT in Shirley in 2015 and was hired full time for Orange FD in 2016. Ian continued with his fire service career when he was hired at the Southwick FD in 2022. Ian also works per diem with the Hatfield FD.



Ian joined our chapter in 2018 and took on the Sergeant-at-Arms role in 2021. Ian is the first member to hold this position in our chapter.

Ian tells us that he enjoys riding his motorcycle with friends that he has made in the Red Knights and enjoys the camaraderie of the club. He says that the food isn't bad either! Ian tells us that the "mini" tour of Switzerland a few years ago when he went to the convention in Austria in 2023 was by the far the most fun (and most challenging) motorcycle trip he has taken so far.

Ian was a professional automotive technician (a.k.a. mechanic) for about 8 years before taking the plunge into private EMS to use that job as a steppingstone to become a career firefighter.

Outside of the Fire Service and the Red Knights, Ian plays the snare drum in a Scottish bagpipe band and travels and competes with them for many years.

Thanks to Matt Regnier for bringing his race bike to our winter gathering in February. As you can see, his bike sports our chapter's decal as a "sponsor!" Matt can say he's the first one to ride at a 2025 chapter event, as he fired up the bike when he left the hall and rode it back down the walk to his truck!

During the first half of the 2025 race season he will have some races in Winchester, NH and down in Southwick. We will get his schedule and maybe make it to one of his races!

The second half of 2025 is going to be a busy one for Matt, as he has been hired as a police officer for the town of Leverett and will be heading to the police academy.

Congratulations and best of luck Matt!



# **Red Knights MA-2 Honor Guard Procedural and Ceremonial Protocol**

## **Scope:**

This protocol provides the procedural and ceremonial policy for the Red Knights MA-2 Chapter Honor Guard.

It shall be carried out in full compliance with family wishes, and information provided within the MA-2 Family Assistance Form<sup>1</sup>.

## **Procedural:**

- Upon notification<sup>2</sup> of a member's passing, a Family Liaison will be assigned by the chapter President or designee. Unless special circumstances dictate differently, this liaison will come from within the Executive Board. This liaison will work with the family to guide the process through completion.
- The Family Liaison shall notify the chosen funeral director, of the family request for participation of the MA-2 Honor Guard. This notification shall also include any additional requests for representation such as The Patriot Guard, or others.
- Members of the MA-2 Chapter Honor Guard shall be volunteers from within the chapter membership. The Honor Guard will be recruited and established as soon as the Honor Guard is formally created by the chapter. This does not preclude an RK member that has a special relationship with the deceased member, and who is not a member of the Honor Guard, from volunteering.
- The generally accepted number of roster members in the Honor Guard is to be a minimum of 6, to ensure coverage as may be necessary.
- The Executive Board shall appoint the chapter Vice President or designee as Officer of the Guard (OOG). The appointed person shall lead the Honor Guard at all events in which the Honor Guard has participation. The OOG shall also be responsible for recruitment, orientation, and maintaining proper levels of staffing as well as any equipment, regalia and documentation.
- The OOG shall coordinate with the Family Liaison to ensure the family's wishes are met.

---

<sup>1</sup> A copy of the Family Assistance form is included with this document. The Family Assistance form is a voluntary means to assist a member or their family in planning final arrangements.

<sup>2</sup> If an Executive Board member receives notification of a chapter member's death, that officer shall contact the Chapter President. The chapter president (or designee) will notify the chapter members, when appropriate, of the member's passing. The chapter president (or designee) is responsible for contacting the Red Knights International through their notification protocol on the passing of a member. Whenever possible, the members of MA-2 will be notified, and the notification posted via chapter social media, prior to the public announcement to be made by the Red Knights International.

## **Ceremonial:**

- For viewing, there shall be an Honor Guard member at the head and foot of the deceased member. Shifts are recommended to formally change every 15 minutes. However, a longer period can be adapted as the situation dictates, but not to exceed 30 minutes.
- The formal placement and change of the Honor Guard shall be conducted and led by the Officer of the Guard. Honor Guard members shall salute each other prior to and after posting.  
**Note:** There may be occasions where the Honor Guard duties will be shared with additional agencies. In those cases, the Officer of the Guard shall ensure the details and cooperation.
  - At the funeral parlor, the order of viewing shall be as follows:
    1. MA-2 Executive Board, followed by the MA-2 membership.
    2. Other MA Red Knight chapters.
    3. Red Knight International members.
    4. Other visiting (RKMC) guests.
- In the event the Honor Guard is requested to a church for a funeral service, two (2) Guards will post outside the main entry door before and after the service. Special family requests may alter this part of the protocol.
- If the Honor Guard is requested for interment, it shall be under the direction of the funeral director in coordination with the Officer of the Guard.
- Colors shall include the United States Flag and the Red Knights Chapter Flag, with the US Flag always at the head of the casket (on the left of the audience).
- Dress of the day for the Honor Guard shall include:
  - Red Knights Red Vest
  - White gloves
  - Badge covers
  - Arm bands
  - Gold shoulder braiding
  - Long Sleeve white shirt and black tie
  - Black pants
  - Black shoes
  - Honor Guard pin
- The Officer of the Guard shall be responsible for the storage and availability of uniform supplies of the honor guard, as described above. This storage shall also include a file that contains any completed Family Assistance Forms that have been shared with the Executive Board by members and their families, so that they may be easily retrieved when necessary.





# Red Knights Motorcycle Club Massachusetts Chapter 2

P.O. Box 221  
Petersham, MA 01366

---

## Family Assistance

Massachusetts Chapter 2 of the Red Knights Motorcycle Club and its members are available to assist our families during final arrangements and services.

The club's participation in this role is exclusively at the request of the member's family and is not intended to be intrusive to the personal wishes or planning undertaken by a member or their family in their preparation for the member's final services and transfer to the Heaven-1 Chapter of the Red Knights.

This document is not intended to capture all means by which the Red Knights can assist a family and honor our fallen member, but rather serve as a guide for communication between the family and the Red Knights.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Will be family representative to RKMC

\_\_\_\_\_  
Will serve as RKMA2 Liaison to family

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

---

For consideration by the family:

We would like the Red Knights to be present as a uniformed contingent at the services for our family member.

We would prefer that Red Knights attend services individually with / without uniforms for our family member.

We would like the Red Knights to provide pall bearers for our family member.

We would like the Red Knights to provide an honor guard at the wake for our family member.

The Patriot Guard Riders provide flag lines at services for Veteran's and First Responders. Red Knights who served as Firefighters are eligible for this honor.

We would like the Red Knights, Mass-2 to make these arrangements for the family

The family will make these arrangements for our loved one's services

We do not wish to have the PGR flag line at the services.

We understand that the Red Knights International have a funeral protocol that includes a presentation to the family, in honor of our family member.

We would like this presentation done during the

We would prefer that this presentation be done privately with members of the family.

Name as it is to appear on the RKMC Memorial in Boylston:

\_\_\_\_\_

Funeral Home and/or Church: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Other information/family requests: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**RKMC®**  
**Yankee Rally 2025**

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



**EVENT CONTACT:**  
**EMAIL: YANKEERALLY2025@GMAIL.COM**

**HOST HOTEL:**

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

Booking link:

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

**SECONDARY HOTEL:**

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

Booking Link:

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

**3RD HOTEL**

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

Booking link:

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

**Booking code for all hotels: RDK**

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

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



Yankee Rally 2025

P.O. Box 35

Topsfield, Maine 04490

Email: yankeerally2025@gmail.com

Facebook: Yankee Rally 2025



RKMC® Yankee Rally 2025

June 4th - 8th, 2025

Bangor, Maine

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

Cost

Guest Name

Last: \_\_\_\_\_ First: \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Circle one: Driver Passanger

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ State and Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Saturday Dinner (circle one) Lobster dinner Barbecue Steak Dinner

Yankee Rally 2025 T-shirt:

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

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

Additional Yankee Rally 2025 Tumbler (\$10 each)

Enter desired quantity and calculate amount \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Yankee Rally 2025 Coin (\$15 each)

Enter desired quantity and calculate amount \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Yankee Rally 2025 Rocker (\$5 each)

Enter desired quantity and calculate amount \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_

Yankee Rally 2025 Beer Stein (\$20 each)

Enter desired quantity and calculate amount \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_

Yankee Rally 2025 Coffee Mug (\$10 each)

Enter desired quantity and calculate amount \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_

Payment Options:

Make Check Payable to:

RKMC ME5 Yankee Rally 2025

Grand Total: \_\_\_\_\_

Paypal:

yankeerally2025@gmail.com

Please include \$3 processing fee for all PayPal payments

## **Schedule of Events (Subject to Change)**

### **Wednesday, June 4<sup>th</sup>**

All day self guided rides, exploring and fun

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

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

### **Thursday, June 5<sup>th</sup>**

All day self guided rides, exploring and fun

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

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

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

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

9:00 am - KSU at Hilton Garden Inn

Prices as follows:

#### Fort and Park Only Entry

Veterans: Free

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

Maine Resident Seniors (65+): Free

Children (5-11): \$2.50

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

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

#### Fort and Park plus Observatory:

Veterans: Free

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

Maine Resident Seniors (65+): \$2.50

Children (5-11): \$5.00

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

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

### **Friday, June 6<sup>th</sup>**

All day self guided rides, exploring and fun

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

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

### **“Moosehead Lake Ride”**

9:30 am - Pre-ride briefing at Anah Shrine Hall – 1404 Broadway Bangor, Maine 04401

10:00 am - KSU

### **Saturday, June 7<sup>th</sup>**

All day self guided rides, exploring and fun

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

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

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

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

### **“Sea wall Ride”**

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

10:00 am – KSU

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

\$25 for 2 lobster rolls

\$15 for 1 lobster roll

Payment to be made at the club house

**Please note that Sunday breakfast is not available.**

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

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

# Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club®



## 2025 CONVENTION

Hosted by the Illinois State Association



### DATES

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

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

### SCHEDULE

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

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

**Mail or Email Registration Form To:**

RKMC IL State Association

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

[rkmc2025convention@gmail.com](mailto:rkmc2025convention@gmail.com)

**Make Checks Payable To:**

RKMC Illinois State Association

**Mail Checks to Address Provided Above.**

All registrations must be paid by check/money order or  
by PayPal to [rkmc2025convention@gmail.com](mailto:rkmc2025convention@gmail.com).

No Cash or Credit / Non-Refundable

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



# Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club®

## 2025 CONVENTION

### Hosted by the Illinois State Association



## REGISTRATION FORM

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

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

**MAKE CHECK / MONEY ORDER PAYABLE TO:**

RKMC IL State Association or submit payment through PayPal to [rkmc2025convention@gmail.com](mailto:rkmc2025convention@gmail.com)

**No Cash or Credit / Non-Refundable**

### ATTENDEE(S) INFORMATION

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

### REGISTRATION FEES

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

### PRE-ORDER MERCHANDISE

CONVENTION T-SHIRT (\$15 each) (only <u>limited</u> quantities will be available at Convention for purchase):							
Small	Medium	Large	X-Large	2-XL	3-XL	4-XL	5-XL

TOTAL Convention T-Shirt(s) ( of t-shirts X ):

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

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

TOTAL Other Pre-Order Merchandise:

### ADVENTURES

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

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

### PARTICIPATION IN SOCIAL GATHERING & BANQUET

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