



RKMC PA # 17  
P.O. BOX # 481  
POTTSTOWN, PA. 19464

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[www.redknightspa17.com](http://www.redknightspa17.com)

## “THE NEWS TO KNIGHTS”

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| QUARTERMASTER: | KAREN McNEAR | ASST. ROAD CAPTAIN: | JEFF “GRIMMIE” GRIMM |

### LATEST MEETING

Hello everyone! Our newsletter editor went MIA on us at this last meeting so you're stuck with my rendition of what transpired at our first meeting of the New Year which was held at the Phillies. Many thanks to them for allowing \*most\* of us to conduct our meeting there! ;)

First off, I'd like to wish everyone Happy New Year! We have a new season of riding approaching and it's looking like its going to be quite eventful.

We had a guest attend our January meeting. Brian Sames, the President of PA Chapter 12 and also our state representative graced us with his presence. Being the liaison between the PA clubs and International, Brian came to inform us personally of some issues International is having with certain clubs and their bylaws. You'll remember a couple months ago we had to change our policy regarding new members. As long as the applicant is affiliated with a fire station and has access to a motorcycle, then they are automatically a member. No voting approval is authorized. Other clubs were making applicants perform some sort of "hazing" ritual or were prospecting for new members that met club expectations or putting new members on a probationary period. These are unauthorized practices that will not be tolerated by International. Our two-meeting; two-ride rule to wear colors? Well, it's a no no. As long as you are a member, you can, at any time, choose to wear colors. You also have the choice of not wearing colors and the club cannot force you to wear them. That makes me happy. Some of you may remember my thoughts about my wearing colors; but that was just my opinion. With these new changes and our original set of bylaws getting nixed by International, our **bylaws committee** has regroup again to hash out the discrepancies. The outcome of these meetings will be posted once they're ironed out.

Brian will also bring back to International some of the issues we are having with some

International officers such as our year-long attempt at trying to get trade mark approvals for our T-shirts. Brian is well aware of the situation with International as PA-12 is trying to get approval for bandanas or was it doo-rags... I forget which they are trying to get approved. Regardless, though, Brian completely understands our dilemma and is working with International to get a resolution. Thanks, Brian!! Glad to have you on our side!

Speaking of **new members**. We had none. ☹ In fact, four of last year's members did not renew their dues. It saddened me to see such a young club suffer attrition so soon. I got to ride at least once with all of them. So, Shorty, Scott Dressel, Bob Bender and Sharon Oister, we're saddened to see you go. We wish you well and you'll always be welcomed to still join us on our rides. And remember our door is always open for your return... just remember your twenty bucks ;) We reached a high of 32 members. Not bad for a group that was only a year old. With the loss of these four, our ranks are now at twenty eight.

On to the riding!! There's actually a ride scheduled in January. The diehards at RMC are having a bonfire on January 21. \$5 per vehicle; free if you're on a bike. I'd say visit their website ([www.readingmc.com](http://www.readingmc.com)) for more information; but I was just there and didn't see anything about it. If you're interested, contact Charlie Keinle. He knows the scoop.

And here's a quick plug for PA-12's [First Pennsylvania Red Knights Rally to Gettysburg Bike Week](#). This ride is scheduled for the weekend of July 6 – 9. Sounds like it will a great ride and a good opportunity to visit the Fallen Firefighter Memorial at the National Fire Academy. If this ride sounds like something you'd be interesting in doing, then remember you **MUST** register prior to the ride. All the details are on PA-12's site.

We're making great strides on our **Poker Ride**. For those who may not remember, PA – 17 will be having our first organized ride. This poker run is to benefit [Operation Save-a-Life](#), a joint initiative started by the Phillies which ensures parents of newborns born at Pottstown Hospital receive a care package at their discharge from the hospital. This care package consists of a smoke detector, window sticker and other life saving stuff. It's a great benefit and I'm glad Red Knights decided to become a part of it.

The ride will start and end at Goodwill Fire Company. Goodwill will provide a breakfast in the morning and a lunch at the end of the ride. Much appreciated thanks go out to Goodwill for providing the food service to greet our guest riders!! We still need to contact Pottstown Borough to get authorization to block off High Street between Baily and Madison so our riders will have somewhere to park their bikes while registering (and grabbing some breakfast!!).

We still need to advertise!! We need to get the word out there that PA-17 is having a Poker Run. It's the start of the riding season and I know people will be itching for a ride. We need to let them know we have a great ride in the works and make sure they schedule us in. What's the route you asked? Well, geez, I'd really like to mention that here; but remember I said the newsletter editor was MIA? Well, he's also spearheading the poker run. But, fear not, I have complete faith in Grimmie and I'm sure it'll be a fantastic ride. Did anyone go to the First Annual Poker Run for Alyssa organized by Kiss Honda? It was a huge ride with over 300 riders and very well organized. Well, that was all Grimmie's work. So, I'm sure he's doing a fine job on this one, too and we'll get an update from him at next month's meeting. But, we really need to advertise it so that all

his hard work will be fruitful. I'm working on something for the webpage so that all the details can be viewed there. We need to get an ad in East Penn Biker Magazine and any where else motorcycle enthusiasts hang out. Oh, I'm not sure if this was ever mentioned at any of the meetings; but I'll mention it here so that everyone can be my reminder to bring it up at the next meeting. What's the cost of the registration fee? We may also want to find out from Goodwill what the cost of the breakfast and lunch will be and we can add that information to the advertising.

Brian Kisch has been working tirelessly on our **Beef and Beer** along with many other club members aiding in ticket sales, fliers and tickets! This seemed to have just snuck up. In case you forgot, PA-17 is having a Beef and Beer on January 28 at the Moose, 320 High Street, from 7pm to 11pm. This is to benefit Red Knights Chapter PA 17... that's us!! And it's less than three weeks away! Approximately 75 tickets have been sold so far; mostly due to Brian's little black book of friends!! But, we still have 150 more tickets to sell with only three weeks left to do it in. So, if you've got the winter blues from being cooped up in the house, then come on out and don't forget to bring a friend or two. Since there won't be another meeting until after the Beef and Beer, please coordinate with Brian any activities associated with this event. We're coming down to the deadline and Brian is going to need the money from anyone who's been selling the tickets. Brian can be reached on his cell phone... 610-587-4803.

We had our 50/50 drawing and Charlie won for the second month in a row!! Way to go, Charlie!! Maybe that fifteen bucks will help offset the cost of the spread Dottie had laid out for us at December's meeting ;)

Our next meeting will be on February 5, 2006 at Empire Hook and Ladder located on North Franklin St at Walnut St. in Pottstown. Yup, that's right. It's on Super Bowl Sunday. Those that were present decided there wasn't anyone they really wanted to watch (other than another wardrobe malfunction) so we stuck with the date.

Well, my notes end here. So, either I got so engrossed in the meeting and neglected to write more stuff down or we concluded the meeting and everyone was sprung for the night. Cya at the Beef & Beer!!

Thanks for listening, Jeanne