



RED KNIGHTS INTERNATIONAL FIREFIGHTERS MOTORCYCLE CLUB

Director Region 3

256 Bell Blvd, Weirton, WV 26062

“LOYAL TO OUR

DUTY”

Brother and Sister Red Knights,

As I sit here writing this report, I realize that the next 7 months will go quick as the Pittsburgh 2018 Convention will be held in August. Trudy and her crew have put together perhaps, what should be, one of the most memorable conventions in the last few years and have covered the bases very well. The host Hotel is filling up and several campers are headed for Raccoon State Park with reservations in hand.

2017 has been a rather slow year for me. This is the first year that I have not put in 10 hours a week dealing with issues. Not a lot of calls on Chapter and membership issues. A few calls complaining of what the Chapter is doing but like I told the callers, “It is your Chapter. The members decide what, when, where and how to do things. Not me. If you disagree with the majority, I am not the benevolent dictator. Just the Regional Director.” Unless the Chapter has violated the By-Laws or SOGs, it is the Chapter’s business not mine.

The other thing I have spent some time with is member retention. Active participation seems to be down in a lot of Chapters and several Executive Boards are as concerned as am I. For every member we lose, we have to recruit two to grow the organization. There is a PDF file on the RKIFMC website, on the Members tab, if you are looking for ideas in regards to membership retention. Other than the items in the presentation, an investigation into member drop out seems to indicate new jobs, jobs that take the former member out of the area and lack of time to participate. All good reasons and ones that we probably can’t overcome. Letting former members know that we will be there when they have time to come back and will keep them in the loop is about all we can do.

One thing I have been working on lately is the renovation of the II State Association. Out of 10 Chapters in the State of Illinois, 6 have contacted me in regards to attending a meeting in January for election of officers. Larry Nardoni has been the appointed State Rep for as long as I remember and has kept things going. It is time to hold elections and give more members a

chance to be involved. The meeting is scheduled in Bradley, IL on January 21st, 2018. More to come in future communications. You can probably watch for announcements on Facebook first. Either the Region 3 page or All Chapters and MALs page.

Hopefully 2018 will find us all healthier and more prosperous.

Tim