



**Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club® Inc.**  
**Office of the Executive Treasurer**  
**Leo J. Patry**



**To my Fellow Red Knights:**

The International Executive Board in an attempt to close off the outstanding loan amounts for our memorial site and to ensure that sufficient funding is available for its upkeep, enhancement and future expansion, has taken two courses of action.

Acceptance of Bob Laford's (President of Massachusetts 2) offer to draft up and send to the chapter presidents, a chapter presidents challenge, to hold either a fundraiser at the chapter level or to make a chapter donation to help reduce the outstanding loan balance.

The second course of action is that the International has undertaken to sponsor a raffle for a \$10,000.00 Dream vacation with the proceeds going to pay down the loan balance.

The Red Knights Memorial Site came about as a dream and initiative of our founding chapter Massachusetts 1. They came to the International with the idea in 2003 and in May of that year, they opened a bank account for funds for its realization and asked the chapters and membership to contribute to the fund raising efforts.

On May 19, 2007, the first money was paid out to start construction of the site with the idea of having it ready for dedication at our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary during the convention of 2008. It became clear that the fund raising efforts were not going to provide enough funding to be able to complete the project on time for the 25<sup>th</sup> convention so the International advanced funding in the amount of \$28,608.00 as an interest free loan to be paid back by continuing fund raising to complete the project..

The total cost of the completed project was \$128,152.94 of which \$87,894.50 was in the form of donated goods and services. With the loan, donated goods and services and funds raised by donations from the membership, we were able to dedicate this wonderful site on the date of our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Since then we have spent an additional \$10,763.69 on maintenance and expansion work needed to accommodate the additional name of members that have passed on. The outstanding loan balance now stands at \$12,385.41

So we are asking the chapters to support Bob's suggestions for a fund raiser or donation and to buy at least three tickets each on the Dream vacation raffle and for the members themselves to consider also buying one, the odds are great and everyone can use a \$10,000.00 vacation.

With the support of the membership, we can both retire the loan amount and ensure that there will be enough funds available for future maintenance, enhancements and expansion of the site.