



**Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club ® Inc.  
Office of the Region 4 Director**

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**2016 end of year report**

THANK YOU to all of Region 4 members for their support in 2016!

There were a lot of great rides last year and we need to continue to build on each one. I was able to attend the 9/11 ride with LA 1 chapter. I was invited to be their Grand Marshall for the ride, it was truly an honor and a blessing. I also took that opportunity to do the IRON BUTT ride, 1000 miles in 24 hrs. I attended both Spring & Fall board meetings, International Convention, NC State meeting, Red Helmet ride in Raleigh NC, and other events within Region 4. In 2016 Region 4 lost 8 members. The hardest part of this job is attending a funeral for one of our members.

This year I am taking a hard look at what I think our club needs for the future. I have come to the realization we need to get back to the basics of why the club was formed and to recruit younger members. In order to get the younger members, we must identify what they see in a club and address the items. It is time we, as the older generation, start grooming the younger members to be loyal, open minded and do what is good for the club, even if we may not agree on everything. I have asked in my chapter for the younger members to let us know what they like so we can make them feel more welcome and engaged in the club.

*My goal this year* will be to work on a program that we can introduce to all chapters to help them attract younger members. However, I cannot do this alone...therefore for 2017, *I challenge every chapter* to add four new members! In addition, *I challenge every chapter* to add two new members of the age 30 or younger. If we take a hard look at our chapters most members are at the age of fifty or older. ***We need to build for the future now!***

I would like to encourage each member if you have any topics that you think the board should address please send it to your Regional Director so that it can be discussed. Remember this is your club.

The Dixie Rally this year is May 18<sup>th</sup> – 21st. It is being held in Raleigh North Carolina. You can find more information on the Rally on the web site <http://nc12redknights.com/>. We look forward to seeing each of you.



Note: We have started using the chapter email accounts only. If you are requesting anything from the International, it will be sent only to your chapter email account. If you are having any problems getting emails, please notify me so we can correct the issue. Again, some of us old ones (me included) that do not enjoy computers, do not be afraid/shy to ask for help.

This year I will be attending the Dixie Rally, 2017 convention, 9/11 ride TN7 chapter and other events. I will be at the Spring and Fall board meeting. If you have anything that needs to go before the board please email me at [region4@redknightsmc.com](mailto:region4@redknightsmc.com). Remember this is your club, without you there is no club.

As we start a new year let's remember who we are.

Who am I" ...by Thomas Powell

August 28, 2010

"My profession is somewhat unique in comparison to that of the average person. At any one fixed moment in time when duty calls upon me, I am prepared to sacrifice my own life to save the lives of others I may not even know. I am willing to do this because I understand that we all make choices in life. As for myself, this is the choice and path of service that I have chosen to follow. Though my job is often rewarding, it can also be unsettling. I often reflect upon the simplicity of one question, "Who am I?" At times, I cannot provide this answer, not even for myself. So, "Who am I" to choose a profession in life that regularly shows no mercy for the preciousness of life? "Who am I" to willingly, without hesitation, invite myself into some of the most uninviting situations known to mankind? "Who am I", so that when duty calls, may never again lay eyes on the loved ones I could leave behind? The assumed simplicity of this question is not so simple after all. Understanding "Who I am" may be difficult to answer at times. However, all I need to do is pause, think about, and remember those lives I have positively influenced and maybe even saved. All I need to do is look back on the years of service I have given to my community and realize that I helped make the world a safer place in which to live. In my heart, I know I made a difference. "Who am I?" I am a Firefighter!"

**WE ARE A FAMILY OF ONE, THE RED KNIGHTS.....**

Hope everyone has a great and safe year of riding.

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