

Greetings Fellow Knights

The highlight of my latest quarterly report would be the trip to San Antonio for my first convention as your treasurer. We covered a lot of business in a few days and still had time to chat and ride with Red Knights from around the world. Sure it was hot, especially for a Canadian, but I still took advantage of the opportunity to join some friends through the "hill country" of Texas on the "Three Sisters." Throw in the Dragon's Tail, Blue Ridge Parkway, Skyline Drive, 22 States in 13 days and people around home were genuinely envious of my trip. A lot of great sites out there folks. Back on home ground I was able to get in a couple of rides with the Red Knights, including our annual 9/11 memorial ride.

Perhaps the biggest piece of work over the last quarter was taken up by adjusting to the new web interfaces. As a side effect to making our webpage better, a number of the systems that were setup on the back end had to be completely rebuilt to work with the new way of ordering regalia, new way of dealing with MAL applications, building a new way of paying dues, and tracking an additional e-mail address.

It seems I raised a few eyebrows at the Annual Business Meeting when I left the room for the discussion on term limits. A number of people asked me afterwards why I didn't want to take part in that decision so, I would like to explain. In my day job, conflict of interest is an extremely important topic with the politicians as it is something they do not want to be accused of. As treasurer, I receive an honorarium each term I serve, thank you very much, so any decision on term limits has the potential to have a financial impact on me personally. Discussions with that potential are exactly the sorts of discussions that get people into trouble from a conflict of interest point of view and removing myself from the discussion was the only action I was comfortable taking. For those who have noticed in the minutes of our board meetings leading up to convention, any votes on this matter did not add up to 11 because I excused myself from those discussions as well. Finally, if anyone thought perhaps that I left because I like to avoid controversial discussions, please check with any other member of the board, I think you will find they will support me when I say I'm not afraid to get into the middle of controversial discussions – actually they may say I'm not afraid to get in at the front end of controversial discussions but that's not important.

As your treasurer, one of the main questions I get is how much the dues are. Unfortunately, our bylaws do not outline the dues in a nice easy to understand format. The note below I will include in each of my quarterly reports so member know where to find it anytime you sign up a new member. I would also like to ask chapter to please provide me with updated rosters whenever new members join.

Chapter Member Dues:

Renewal = \$13 Active & Association, \$7 Social & Honorary (\$50 late fee after February 15th)

NEW member = \$16 all members; \$12 for those joining in August/September; \$8 for those joining after October 1

Joining a second chapter or more = \$13 Active & Associate, \$7 Social & Honorary (25% off August/September and 50% off October or later)

NEW Chapter application fee = \$35

MAL Dues:

Renewal = \$15 Active, \$10 Social (\$10 late fee after March 31)

NEW MAL = \$10 application fee + \$15 Active, \$10 Social (25% off August/September and 50% off October 1 or later).

All dues are US Dollars. Options are to mail a check, pay from your paypal account directly to treasurer@redknightsmc.com or through one of the paypal links on our website at <http://www.redknightsmc.com/membership.htm> with the top button being perhaps the easiest (all you have to do is change the quantity to the total amount of dues being paid).

I have also officially taken over the mapping of members. Unfortunately, the neat little mapping feature we used to have access to for free and is linked to our website has started charging \$99 per month for the number of entries we have. For that reason, I am going to stick with a free option through the link below. If anyone finds any errors in the map, please let me know.

https://www.google.com/fusiontables/DataSource?docid=1NFni--CfC8ql-nSR3K3yTm4hLG0T8Pml_xjY9lVo#map:id=3

Ride safe,
Scott