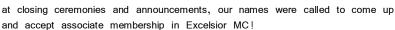
ECMC Rumblings: June 2014

Empire City MC's monthly newsletter



Made Men

Evil Ed and I were shocked and surprised at the Excelsior MC run, 16-17-18 May, on Fire Island whilst



This is the first time anything like this has happened to us, so we were seriously taken aback by this wonderful show of brotherhood! Much thanks to the brothers of Excelsior MC for this prestigious honour!

ECMC 50th Anniversary Weekend, Oct 10th-12th: Hotel registration open, Run applications ready!

Run applications are ready for our 50th Anniversary Weekend in NYC! There is one attached to this newsletter, beneath the "upcoming events" section. As well as online at http://EmpireCityMC.com - send one application per person. Use the same application for full weekend or the

176th AMCC meeting, a three-hour formal dinner/dance cruise with a premium open bar on a yacht in the New York Harbour, cocktail parties and much more!

private dinner/dance yacht cruise. We have a full weekend of events planned for you including: hosting of the

It is vital that if you plan to stay with us in the host hotel, the DoubleTree hotel in Jersey City, you must book your reservations today before they sell out or the price goes up. The special room rate we negotiated for both double and king suites of \$145/night (up to 2 people) and \$165 (up to 4 people) will only be available until September 11th or until the group block is sold-out, whichever comes first. ComicCon will be in New York the same weekend, which will drive all hotel pricing up rapidly. Discount hotel parking for motorcycles and automobiles for our guests is \$15/day.

Make your reservations today at: http://j.mp/hotel-res or by calling 1-800-222-TREE and using booking code "ECM".

If your club is interested in hosting a cocktail party, please contact Chaz Antonelli at ChazAntonelli@gmail.com - we have a limited number of cocktail party slots available.

ECMC's 50th Anniversary Ride, August 2nd-10th:

We're really excited about our week-long motorcycle ride to Deals Gap, North Carolina Saturday, August 2nd through the 10th! Run applications just débuted at the Excelsior MC 39th Anniversary Weekend on Fire Island, and now they are online at http://EmpireCityMC.com/totd as well as attached to this newsletter, beneath the "upcoming events" section.

We'll be staying at the Iron Horse Motorcycle Lodge, a motorcycle-only* resort in the beautiful North Carolina foothills, close to the "Tail of the Dragon", the infamous highway 129 with 318 curves in eleven miles! The motorcycle lodge has 41/2 stars out of 5 on tripadvisor. So you know you can expect only the best! WTF kind of "lodge" gets 41/2 stars?!? Check it out at http://ironhorsenc.com/



In addition to the Tail of the Dragon, there's loads of motorcycle touring and stuff to see & do in the area.

(continued next page)



You might be asking yourself, what's the cost for this week-long affair? Only \$250!! That's an unheard of bargain! If you prefer to pay by credit card, you can pay online (for a small additional fee) at https://ecmc-deals-gap.eventbrite.com/

Your run fee of \$250 per person includes accommodations at our two private deluxe cabins at Iron Horse Motorcycle Lodge (one being designated the "quiet" cabin), breakfast each day whilst at the lodge, one picnic lunch, a formal dinner and a limited-edition commemorative ECMC 50th Anniversary run pin! We have room for up to 22 people, with eight bathrooms, two large kitchen/living spaces and so much more. Check out the cabins: Rocky Top and Hawg Hideaway.

Reminder: Rochester Rams' Run & ECMC Toronto Trip

Empire City MC will be going to the Rochester Rams' Run (the weekend prior to Labour Day weekend) followed by two day trip up to Toronto, Ontario, Canada – and if you're on a motorcycle, you're welcome to tag along! Here's the low-down:

Thursday, August 21st we ride from New York City to 'The Ranch' in Hemlock, NY to spend the night, allowing us to be refreshed and clean when we arrive at the Rams' Run the next day!

Friday-Sunday, August 22nd-24th the Rams' Run takes place — all food, beer, soda, cocktail parties, games, fire pit, and limited accommodations for bikers are provided!

There's a short motorcycle tour on Saturday afternoon led by Jack Dyke amusingly named the "I Like Dyke Bike Hide"



Sunday, August 24th, following closing ceremonies, we depart the Rams' Run Site and ride up to Toronto (about a 3 hour ride). Important: A valid passport or "enhanced U.S. driving licence" is required to cross the Canadian border! We'll spend Sunday night and Monday night at the Ramada Plaza Toronto Downtown Hotel, which is around the corner from the Black Eagle Bar, Spa Excess, Steamworks and the rest of the gaybourhood.

Tuesday, August 26th, we'll ride back to The Ranch and spend the night there, then

Wednesday, August 27th, we'll ride back to New York City, arriving at dusk.

If you're interested in coming along with us, follow these directions:

- Step 1: Register for the Rochester Rams' Run by going to their website at http://www.rochesterrams.com/rams_run.html
- Step 2: Book your reservation for August 24th-25th (departing on the 26th) at the Ramada Plaza Toronto Downtown Hotel (you can get the lowest prices for this hotel at http://www.kayak.com/)
- Step 3: Let our Road Captain (Joe) know you're joining us by e-mailing him at Road-Captain@EmpireCityMC.com



New York City Gay Pride March 2014

Empire City MC was around long *before* the Stonewall Riots. As we celebrate our 50th year, we're proud to continue our tradition as an integral part of the LGBT Pride March, led by our sister club, the <u>Sirens MC</u>. The motorcycles roar and rumble, announcing our presence to onlookers!

Being a part of the parade and a part of the gay community is important to us and we hope to see you come out and cheer us on!

If you're interested in being volunteering to be a parade marshal, please contact 'Lex' of the NY Sirens MC at sirensnyc@hotmail.com

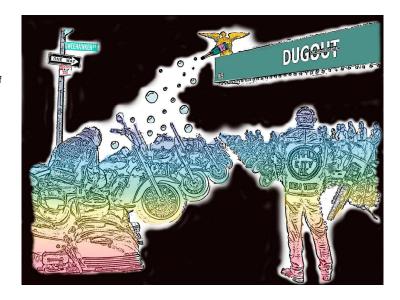
Empire City MC's Annual Bike Christening and Biker's Picnic – June 20th & 21st

Come join us at 7:00 PM on Friday, June 20th in front of Ty's Bar, 114 Christopher St for our annual motorcycle christening and blessing.

All are welcome to come hang out with us and check out the sexy motorcycles and their owners!

Got a motorcycle? Bring it! We'll have special reserved parking in front of Ty's for the entire event.

The next day, meet up at 9:00 AM at Sweet Life Café, 147 Christopher St for a light "dutch treat" breakfast, then it's off to our secret location for bikers only for our 50th annual Biker's Picnic!



Although the christening is open to all persons, the biker's picnic is for bikers and their buddies only please.



Sirens MC make a donation to GMHC

In recognition of our 50th Anniversary, the Sirens MC made a charitable donation to GMHC (the Gay Men's Health Crisis). Here's a little about both organizations:

The <u>Sirens Women's Motorcycle Club</u> is the oldest, largest women's motorcycle club in NYC. Founded in 1986, their current membership is over 40 women. Their founding members placed an ad in the Village Voice and held the first meeting in a living room over 25 years ago. They chose the name Sirens from a list of possibilities that included Skid Lids and Sister Spokes!

Their artist in residence, Lori, created the artwork that became our club colours.

GMHC (http://gmhc.org) is the world's first and leading provider of HIV/AIDS prevention, care and advocacy. Building on decades of

dedication and expertise, they understand the reality of HIV/AIDS and empower a healthy life for all. They fight to end the AIDS epidemic and uplift the lives of all affected.



The brothers of Empire City MC thank our sisters of Sirens MC for their kind act of charity and acknowledgement of our achievement.

ECMC's 2014 Biker Weekend

Members of multiple motorcycle clubs, as well as GDIs, descended upon the Finger Lakes region of New York State last month for our annual Biker Weekend. We couldn't ask for better weather or a more perfect venue for this annual event.

Allow me to provide a little history about how this event came to be... Empire City MC has held our annual Bike Blessing and Biker's Picnic for the past 50 years. In the mid-80s, the event grew bigger and longer, typically falling on the weekend before, the weekend of, or the weekend after Memorial Day. When Rivendale (a.k.a. Valinore Farm) opened their doors, it became the home for our Biker Picnic, providing bunk-house style accommodations, a swimming pool, full kitchen, hot tub and a huge bonfire ring. Many other clubs also used Valinore Farm for their annual outdoor run site, including Bucks MC for their annual "100 Men in the Woods" anniversary weekend. The Biker Picnic was



well loved and signalled the beginning of the riding season for many. There was never a charge for coming to the Biker Picnic as this was ECMC's way of saying "thank you" to the riding community. Valinore Farm was forced to close its doors due to zoning issues initiated by neighbours complaining about all the activity, traffic and noise. The "extended", weekend-long Biker Picnics came

to an end and became an afternoon day ride and event (and are still going strong); however, as of 2013, the Biker Picnic date was moved to the Saturday eight days before the NYC Gay Pride March and the new Biker Weekend was created to recapture the spirit of what our Biker Picnic used to be like - a long weekend of brotherhood, riding, food, fun and frolic on Memorial Day Weekend. Thanks to our friends, Al R and Dan M of Hemlock, NY, who have graciously opened their rather large home up to us, we are once again able to house up to 30 men in a similar environment with all the amenities that Valinore Farm used to offer (plus a few extra things!)

In order to defray the expense of the food for the weekend, we agreed that this new event would have a small fee to participants to defray the costs of food. In 2013 and 2014, the run fee was a measly \$25 per person.

This year, Biker Weekend was well-attended with people from Philadelphia, Cleveland, Boston, Washington DC, New York City and Rochester, NY. Clubs present included the NJ Eagles, Spartans, the Vikings, Unicorn MC and of course, our friends from the Rochester Rams MC were represented as well!



Food was planned and prepared by ECMC's former T.F.L., "K.K.", with the help of many people who lent a hand as needed.

Now, when I say "food", I am doing these culinary delights a disgrace. K.K. worked his ass off to ensure that no one went hungry, flying up to Rochester ahead of the group to shop and prepare all the meals. Each meal had its own theme, such as Saturday night's "Nuovo Italiano" theme, Sunday's Brunch theme of "La Resaca (the hangover)", Sunday's Dinner theme: "八福味國王餐 (eight luck royal tasting menu)" and finally Monday's Breakfast theme: "Early Bird Special". We ate like kings in our fancy disposable compartmentalized trays. No one went hungry!

On Sunday, ECMC offered a choice of six motorcycle rides - anyone could go anywhere they wanted; however, the group seems to pick one and all go on the one ride. In 2013, we visited the Jell-O Museum in LeRoy, NY (yes, Jell-O was created there, and it was only 30 miles from where we were staying.) This year, three of our riders wanted to ride up to Seabreeze Amusement Park in Irondequoit (the north side of Rochester on Lake Ontario) and ride the rides. We all rode up together, dropped off the three thrill-seekers whilst the remainder of us coasted along the shore of Lake Ontario to Charlotte, NY (west side of Rochester) to enjoy a "ground round" on a hard roll, fresh hand-cut onion rings and chocolate shakes at Schaller's Drive-In. Ground rounds aren't just hamburgers - they're ground top round meat and believe me, you can taste the difference! The photo on the right shows Bob K (Unicorns MC) and Scot L (Empire City MC) in front of Schaller's Drive-In.





comfortable with. Want to see it virtually?

On our way back to "The Ranch" (Dan & Al's home), we stopped at Tom Wahl's in Avon, NY. Tom Wahl's is another burger joint like Schaller's with roots going back to the 1950s; however, with one exception.. They still serve their own homemade root beer in frosted glasses! We just had to stop and get one of those!

There was one more thing that had to be done to complete the day-trip: the motorcycle "roller coaster". One of our hosts, Dan, told us about this crazy road last year and everyone loved it, so much in fact that I was requested to lead the riders there again this year. Jenks Road between 15A and Livonia Centre Road has a hill and a drop that will leave your stomach several feet behind you! In order to be safe, we ride single-file, with lots of space in-between, allowing each rider to go at a speed they are Go to 42°52'35.8"N by 77°36'50.9"W on google maps, use street view and travel from

east to west. I know the hill doesn't look like much on street view, but trust me, it's steep. Very steep. You'll see the biker in front of you instantly vanish into the horizon as you approach it. Woo-hoo!!

Does this weekend sound like fun to you? Come along next year! It'll be Memorial Day weekend again, and depending on the results from the poll we've got on http://EmpireCityMC.com/, it might begin on Friday instead of Saturday to get an extra day of riding and fun at The Ranch!

There are more photos from last month's Biker Weekend (and other events we've been on) in the "photos" section of our facebook group - http://facebook.EmpireCityMC.com/



June 4th - Empire City MC's Open General Meeting at The Centre, 208 W 13th St, New York, NY at 8PM

June 6th - Empire City MC hosts a super-special barnight at Rockbar NYC from 9pm to midnight! Come join the members of ECMC as we party down at Rockbar NYC, 185 Christopher St, New York, NY 10014.

June 17th - Join Empire City MC, the New Jersey Eagles, the City Cruisers and other bike clubs and bikers gather at the Ear Inn for Bike Night! You don't have to be a biker to come hang with us every 3rd Tuesday of the month at Ear Inn, 326 Spring St, New York, NY. Folks plan to arrive around 7PM. Check out the sexy motorcycles and hot men!

June 20th - Empire City MC's 50th annual Bike Blessing and Christening at Ty's Bar, Christopher St. Get your motorcycle there by 7pm! (all are welcome to come party with us at Ty's!)

June 21st - Empire City MC's 50th Annual Biker Picnic (a motorcycle-only event)

June 28th - ECMC attends the City Cruisers' "Ride Before Pride"

June 29th - New York City Gay Pride March. Watch as ECMC members lead the parade on motorcycle for our 50th Anniversary! Party in down with loads of events, dances and more in New York City in a celebration of pride!

July 15th - Ear Inn Bike Night! Ear Inn, 326 Spring St, New York, NY.

August 2nd-10th - Once every five years, Empire City MC takes a week-long ride and excursion. To celebrate our 50th Anniversary in 2014, we will travel to an exclusive, motorcycle-only resort in Deals Gap, NC. Information is in the article on page 1 (above) and the run application is below. Only \$250 per person!

REMEMBER: There are plenty of other events and rides added to our official calendar on a regular basis, especially day rides! Bookmark our official calendar at http://calendar.EmpireCityMC.com and come along with us!

Please be sure to mark your calendars for these very special events:

October 10th-12th - Empire City MC's 50th Anniversary Weekend. We'll be hosting an AMCC meeting, as well as putting on a "proper" weekend-long run event in New York City! We're pleased to announce the return of our infamous dinner cruise with premium open bar on our private yacht! Additional information is in the article above on page one and the run application is below.

December 6th - Empire City MC's 51st Annual Holiday Party & Toy Drive at Rockbar NYC.



Following an unusually cold and nasty winter, riding season is now in full swing! This is the time of year when my patience level goes up, thanks to many hours of "road therapy". With the price of gas, it costs about the same as a proper therapist anyway!

It's been difficult to reach out to such a small segment of the community, namely gay motorcycle riders within a three hour ride from NYC, but I think we've been doing better.

There are some fantastic day rides in addition to our "big" rides and events for our 50th anniversary. We've been posting on facebook, updating our webpages on a regular basis, listing our events in our calendar and mass e-mailing people on our mailing list but we still seem to be missing the mark with communicating with so many... I'm hoping our new monthly newsletter will reach even more people so we can get some more participation on our club rides and events.

Perhaps this is a good time to mention that <u>you need not be a member of Empire City MC</u> to ride with us. You only need to be a <u>safe</u> rider that we can trust and feel confident with. In fact, you need not be a member of <u>any</u> club to ride with us.

We've got a number of guys that tag along, and we really respect and appreciate them. If you (or someone you know) also fits this bill, please let them know about us!

Ride planning is a difficult and time-consuming thing, but when done right makes the trip very enjoyable.

It's a crush to any Road Captain when they spend hours working on a ride and no one commits or shows.

Riding is therapeutic - come along with us! Let's Ride!



Empire City MC's mailing address is:

Empire City MC PO Box 1881 New York, NY 10113-1881.

Are you interested in becoming a member of ECMC? If you live within a 50 mile radius of New York City and are a gay or bisexual male motorcycle owner/operator, you can apply to become a full member of Empire City MC. If you reside outside that range, we offer associate membership.

Membership is dependant upon continual club participation as set forth in our



constitution and bylaws. For more information about membership with Empire City Motorcycle Club, or to download our membership application, constitution and bylaws, please visit http://empirecitymc.com/membership.php

Have you seen our online documentary? "Where I Don't Belong" is a documentary series dedicated to smashing stereotypes and obliterating "old wives' tales". In episode two, Kiwi gets an exclusive look into the history and inner workings of Empire City Motorcycle Club. This is an exciting project for everyone involved, as we've has never opened our doors to a journalist at this level ever before. Check it out at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HvCF23NM-rU

Join our private facebook group at https://www.facebook.com/groups/empirecitymc/ and join in the conversation!



Empire City MC's 50th Anniversary week-long motorcycle tour to the Tail of the Dragon, Deals Gap, NC

AUGUST 2nd-10th 2014 OFFICIAL RUN APPLICATION LIMITED SPACE – DON'T DELAY!

Your \$250 run fee includes:

- A guided, formation ride from New York City
- One afternoon picnic and one evening formal dinner
- Accommodations at Iron Horse Motorcycle Lodge
- 24x7 beer & soft drinks at our private lodge
- Six home-made breakfasts at our private lodge
- ECMC limited edition commemorative 50th Anniversary run pin



WARNING OF THE DRAGON DEALS GAP 318 CURVES NEXT 11 MILES

What's not included:

- Hotel accommodations at our ½ way points (estimated at \$50/pp double occupancy each way)
- Dinners, lunches, snacks and other meals not included in what's mentioned above



This is a motorcycle only event! No four-wheeled vehicles are allowed! We understand there are riders from all over that would like to participate in this event without having to enter New York City; therefore we have several meet-up points and times. For detailed information, including meet-up points, online payment and other information, please visit our special website at http://EmpireCityMC.com/totd

Each participant <u>must</u> complete a run application (the reverse of this form) and mail it in, or if paying online, present this completed form when meeting up with us. We will contact you by e-mail for any additional information.

PLEASE COMPLETE THE FORM BELOW AND MAIL IT IN

By participating in our event, you agree to ride safely as per the directions of our Road Captain, understanding he has final say. Furthermore, you certify your motorcycle is in safe working order and you have the proper riding experience to safely complete this journey.

Your information	
Name	
Club Affiliation (if any)	
E-Mail Address	
Address	
City State Zip	
Phone Number () I am: Buddy Rider / Rider	
Emergency Contact Name	
Emergency Contact Phone Number ()	
Accommodations preferences	
I prefer to be in the □ Quiet Cabin or □ Standard Cabin	
Each of the five rooms in our two cabins will accommodate two people. You have a choice of a room (sleeps two persons), or two double beds. If you are choosing the king size bed option, yo bunking with you and they must also specify you as their bunkmate. We will try to accommodate selection; however, if there is an issue, we will contact you by e-mail or telephone to make arran configurations must be submitted no later than 30 days prior to our event, otherwise double beds	ou must specify who is e everyone with their gements. Room
I prefer □ two double beds or □ one king size bed (read note above before ticking!)	
I prefer to bunk with (If you do not choose a roomm	nate, one will be assigned)
I have the following dietary restrictions	
Please read and complete the waiver	
I,	dual and collective officers, riod of Empire City MC's 50 th Motorcycle Club, Inc. (a.k.a. and all liability, serious injury, may suffer as a result of idually and/or collectively
Signature Date	

This event has extremely limited space - don't delay! Please read the directions carefully and return this page with your payment

Empire City MC Deals Gap Ride PO Box 1881 New York, NY 10011-1881

of \$250 (or pay online) by mail to:

Empire City MC's 50th Anniversary Weekend October 10-11-12, 2014 • New York City



Full-Weekend Package Includes:

- * Formal dinner and dance cruise on our private yacht with open bar
- * Hospitality suite at host hotel
- * Saturday afternoon motorcycle tour
- * Meals, snacks, soda/beer
- * Cocktail parties
- * Barnight at Rockbar NYC
- * Invasion of NYC Eagle



Each participant <u>must</u> complete a run application (below) and mail it in, or if paying online, present this completed form when checking in at registration. We will contact you by e-mail for any additional information. For detailed information, online payment and other information, please visit http://EmpireCityMC.com/

PLEASE COMPLETE THE FORM BELOW AND MAIL IT IN

Your Information			
Name			
Club Affiliation (if any)			
E-Mail Address			
Address			
City	State	Zip	
Phone Number ()	<u>_</u>	_	
Emergency Contact Name			_
Emergency Contact Phone Num	ıber ()	<u>-</u>	
Package Options (please tick on	ie)		
□ \$189.00 – Early-bird full week □ \$199.00 – Standard full week □ \$129.00 – Early-bird dinner/d □ \$139.00 – Standard dinner/d	kend package (afte lance yacht cruise	er August 15 th , 2014) with open bar <u>only</u> (before Aug	
<u>Accommodations</u>			
Our host hotel is the DoubleTree in with a convenient stop at Christoph			n which brings you into the city
Accommodations at our host hotel a negotiated a limited number of discopeople). Discount hotel parking for	ount suites at the ho	otel at a rate of \$145/night (1-2 peo	ple) and \$165/night (3-4
Make your reservations today at: ht	tp://j.mp/hotel-res	or by calling 1-800-222-TREE and	using booking code "ECM".
Please read and complete the w	<u>aiver</u>		
I,	nold Empire City Motor thereof liable for any to indemnify, save harn members, servants, and from whatever ever gainst them, individual	rcycle Club, Inc. (a.k.a. ECMC) nor the injury to my person or property during the mless and hold harmless Empire City of gents, employees thereof from any and the source, manner and/or nature which lifty and/or collectively, arising out of the	individual and collective officers, the period of Empire City MC's 50 th Motorcycle Club, Inc. (a.k.a. ECMC) d all liability, serious injury, they may suffer as a result of ir individually and/or collectively
Signature		Date	
Discourse of the discourse of the section			

Please read the directions carefully and return this page with payment by post to:

Empire City MC Anniversary Weekend PO Box 1881 New York, NY 10011-1881