



Two Long-Standing D.C. Gay Bars Close Their Doors

The two bars are the latest LGBTQ institutions to close in the District in less than two years – by Jonathan Franklin.

Two longstanding gay bars in the District have announced this week they are closing their doors permanently.

DC Eagle, a historic gay leather bar, made the announcement of their closure at a virtual meeting with employees on Monday. The building, located at 3701 Benning Road NE, had been sold and employees were told that there were no plans to relocate or reopen the business.



This past November marked the bar's 48th anniversary of opening, celebrating almost half a decade of serving the LGBTQ community in the District.

'The Eagle' has been temporarily closed since March 15, when the order went into effect for non-essential businesses in D.C. to close due to the coronavirus pandemic. It is unclear if the closing is related to the pandemic.

DC Eagle is the second LGBTQ bar in less than a week to close.

Ziegfeld's/Secrets, a gay club that's been a staple in D.C.'s nightlife for nearly 40 years, has also closed its doors for good. The club's Facebook page shared the sad news of the closing Friday.

"Ziegfeld's/Secrets regrettably has been forced to close our doors. We all have been honoured to bring you the best in entertainment for 40 years, regrettably the option to stay and even have a closing event has been taken from us during this crisis," the post reads. "To the many dancers, drag queen, bartenders, DJs, and support staff over the years thank you for making us one of DC's best venues. Stay safe and healthy. Till next time."

It is not clear if Ziegfeld's closure is directly related to the pandemic, either, but being shut down for several weeks with no revenue certainly didn't help.

Dozens of patrons mourned the bar's closure on the Facebook post: "Heartbreaking. Thank you all for so many wonderful memories," one comment reads. "Thank you to every member of the Z/S family who made this city such a fun and welcoming place to be. You will be sorely missed," another comment said.

When visiting their website for more information, a heartfelt message is displayed thanking patrons for their years of service.

"Maybe we'll get to it again someday. Be safe and stay healthy," the message reads.

Ziegfeld's/Secrets is among several gay bars to close in the last few years in the District. Both Town Danceboutique and Cobalt closed their doors in 2018 and 2019 to make way for residential units.

The club owners for Town – under the new name of Town 2.0 – have plans to reopen inside of the former Saint Phillips Baptist Church located at 1001 North Capitol Street NE in the NoMa neighborhood.

According to its alcohol license application, Town 2.0 is planning for an occupancy of more than 500 people and an outdoor sidewalk café.

More Cancelled Events 😞

The following events have been cancelled:

Mal & Jose's 4th of July Party	Arktos Bear Run
Gay Pride Montréal / Montréal Trip Canada/U.S. border closure has been extended. 😞	Delta Run
Delaware River Tubing Trip with the Hunterdon County HOGs	

ROAD EMERGENCY!

WHAT TO DO IF YOU ARE FIRST ON THE SCENE OF A MOTORCYCLE ACCIDENT

BASICS Scotland has issued a list of top 10 first aid tips for motorcyclists that could help save a life. Compiled by Kevin McCloskey, a Senior Staff Nurse in Orthopaedics and Trauma at Forth Valley Royal Hospital, Kevin is an instructor for the charity and has also worked in the med centre and trackside at Knockhill circuit.



Whilst qualified medical personnel are the people to deal with any accident – there are things that untrained people can do to help the victim before medical help arrives.

1. Stop and take two deep breaths to help you remain calm. Everyone will take orders from a calm person who seems to be in control.
2. Reassure the victim - they will be in a confused and scared state and often the only thing on their mind will be their bike. It is important to make sure they will not try to move or get to their bike.
3. If other people are around – establish the best medically-trained individual to attend to the victim.
4. If breathing is taking place normally, LEAVE THE HELMET ON! Remove the helmet only if the airway is blocked or the victim is not breathing.
5. After establishing the seriousness of the injuries, call for an ambulance. Give as many details as possible remembering to include: the number of people involved; the injuries; the location and your number.
6. Check the victim's pulse every 5 minutes and document it. Check the pulse on the throat initially - the carotid artery, right next to the wind pipe/adam's apple on either side - and subsequently on their wrist. If pulse is not present, remove helmet if necessary and begin CPR immediately. If you are not sure ask the Ambulance Operator for advice.
7. Have person check breathing every 5 minutes, by listening and watching their chest and document it.
Watch for signs of person going into shock:-
 - i. Inability to answer simple questions coherently (Who are you?, etc.)
 - ii. Pale, cool, clammy skin
 - iii. Delayed capillary refill. Squeeze the patient's fingernail so that it turns white. It should turn back to pink in less than 2 seconds. If you suspect shock ask the Ambulance operator for advice.
8. Stop bleeding: using sterile bandages/dressings if available. 80% of motorcycle accidents involve someone going over the top of their motorcycle. Femur (the thigh bone) injuries are very frequent. There are huge arteries that run along the inner thigh; if these are compromised the person can bleed to death in a very short amount of time. Use a pressure point above the cut to control blood flow out of the femur artery. If you are not sure – ask the Ambulance operator for advice.

If someone else is dealing with the victim you can help with scene management by:

- Establish a few people around the immediate accident scene to help direct traffic, to point out fluid spills, and to move smokers well away from flammable materials.



When the ambulance arrives you can help by:-

If people are available, get someone uproad and downroad to wave down traffic. This is especially important in tight twisties where they may not have time to stop after seeing the accident site.

Indicate hazardous material spills to the ambulance crew (gas, oil, brake fluid) to avoid slip hazard.

Turn off ignition of bike and other vehicles and be aware of undeployed airbags.

Before the Police arrive, try to not move motorcycle parts any more than necessary! They may need to take accident scene notes and by moving things around you may confuse the situation for them. Parts will need to be moved off the road to avoid further accidents, but move them directly to the side so the police can determine roughly where it stopped if necessary. Try not to disturb the bike any more than necessary.

If the helmet was removed, send it along in the ambulance. The doctors may use the visible damage to the helmet to assist them in what to look for in terms of injuries.

Take a basic first aid and CPR courses! They are offered through the Red Cross and several other organizations periodically. Go with some riding buddies or get your club to have a class!

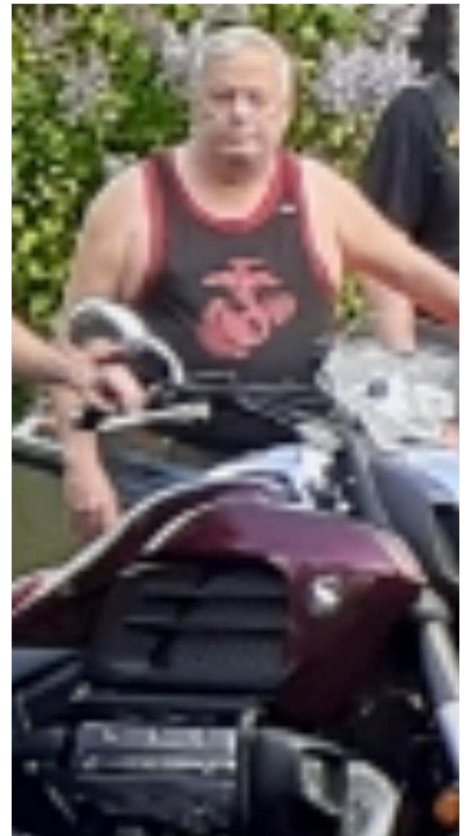
Biker Run Virgin has his Cherry Popped

Hearing the call for articles, I have tried to dust off and WD-40 my High School journalism skills for this submission. This May, I attended my first Motorcycle Run. What a thrill! Yes, I have attended Olympia and through point accruals was once named God of Olympus too many decades ago. Yes, I have attended Badger and due to both the excitement and the altitude was high all of the time. Yes, I attended Lonestar at the TCC site and was introduced to the dexterity skills and sexual athleticism skills required of Buddy Riders in Bike Games.

Your Empire City MC May Run at the Ranch made this Biker Run virgin very happy. My Mentors had guided me on this, and while I started riding 44 years ago, I have only been riding in metropolitan environments for a year. One of those Mentors you may know (Len from Delta and the Centaurs). He was the one who passed on Manners and Respect to our community as it was introduced to him by a surface warfare Navy Chief from Norfolk (This is in the audio history being compiled for submission to multiple LGBTQ+ archives.)

Len also informed me of the Ethos of that group of men that used Tom of Finland drawings as a playbook (or vs. versa). Len also conveyed the comradery, assistance, and advice that you would see in such a Band of Bikers. Thank you for allowing me to experience it.

Best Regards in Brotherhood,
Richard



Vermont instead of Montréal

Since the Montréal trip has cancelled, we're going to go to the Green Mountains of Vermont instead!

We've reached out to Gargoyle House (a clothing-optional, gay men only, bed and breakfast with wood-fired hut tub, food-fired sauna and lots of things to do! <http://www.gargoylehouse.com/>).

We will be departing NYC on Friday 14th August and returning Monday 17th August, so if you're working, you'll need those two days off.



If you're interested, contact ChazAntonelli@gmail.com for further information or to help plan!

UPCOMING EVENTS & RIDES

Keep Calm and Ride On

As 2020 progresses, it's becoming obvious that ALL events involving more than 10 people are being cancelled. The Delta Run (the LAST outdoor leather run on the east coast) just cancelled their annual Labour Day Run, leaving NOTHING on the calendar until the snow comes. Even Ty's has no idea when they will be able to re-open.

That being said, Empire City MC will continue to have official motorcycle rides nearly every weekend with destinations that are naturally social-distancing or social-distancing friendly.

We shall post them on our calendar at <http://calendar.EmpireCityMC.com> as well as here on our facebook group.

ALL safe motorcycle riders are welcomed to come along! Just read the information for each ride to ensure your riding skills are appropriate for each ride.



Some Featured Rides & Events:

Sat 11th / Sun 12th July: RIDE: ECMC needs to consume Philly Cheesesteaks! We're heading down to Philadelphia to do some riding and hang with each other. Wanna come? Let Gary P know at garyph0@gmail.com

Sat 18th July: RIDE: Lunch at Brooklyn Dumpling Shop Automat. I'm not going to lie: This ride is all about DUMPLINGS! After we meet up and have lunch, we'll go for a club ride -- perhaps on Long Island? Brooklyn Dumpling Shop, located at the corner of First Avenue and St. Marks Place, will have both metal detectors scanning customers' temperatures and glass lockers with food that open just by scanning a smartphone, according to the New York Post, which first reported on the details of the planned fast food restaurant. Owner Stratis Morfogen, founder of the splashy Chinese restaurant Philippe Chow, and FiDi's Asian steakhouse Brooklyn Chop House, started working on the plan after the pandemic hit, he says. <https://www.brooklyndumplingshop.com/>

Sun 26th July: RIDE: Wurtsboro HOG 26th Annual St. Jude Fundraiser. 09:00-11:00 Registration (\$20 per person). 12:00 Kickstands Up. 12:00-16:00 Pig Roast at Mamakating Town Park See details here: <https://www.facebook.com/WHOGStJudeRaffle/photos/p.109241880760403/109241880760403>

Wed 5th August, 20:00 – 21:00: MEETING: Empire City MC's Open General Meeting, held 8pm-9pm on the first Wednesday of each month now hosted on Zoom Teleconference due to COVID-19. All motorcyclists are welcome to participate. Join our Zoom Meeting with your computer at: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/959200515?pwd=NVVja2tZd0pndzFuU1hWaEZZRC84dz09>

Fri 14th - Mon 17th August: RIDE: ~~Montréal weekend get-away!~~ Since Montréal was cancelled, we're going to the Green Mountains of Vermont instead! If you're interested, contact ChazAntonelli@gmail.com for further information or to help plan! We've reached out to Gargoyle House (a clothing-optional, gay men only, bed and breakfast with wood-fired hut tub, food-fired sauna and lots of things to do! <http://www.gargoylehouse.com/>). We will be departing NYC on Friday 14th August and returning Monday 17th August, so if you're working, you'll need those two days off.

REMEMBER: There are plenty of other events and rides added to our official calendar on a regular basis, especially day rides! Be sure to bookmark <http://calendar.EmpireCityMC.com> and come along with us on some great rides! Our physical mailing address is: **Empire City MC, 10 W 15th St, Suite 609, New York, NY 10011-6821.**

For membership information, visit <http://empirecitymc.com/membership.php> to view/download our constitution, bylaws and membership application. We're also on facebook at <http://facebook.EmpireCityMC.com> where you can chat with us.

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