



LAST CALL: ECMC's 60th Anniversary Weekend!

For the most flexibility as possible for all our guests from all over, all events are "dutch treat" without any advance ticketing, except for our walking tour and our dinner cruise.

Kindly note that the "free" walking tour tickets have sold out, some \$35 tickets remain available and cash at door for others.

Due to ever-increasing expense, this will very possibly be the last dinner cruise ECMC will ever host. Do not miss this one.

Schedule of Events

Friday

08:00 PM – Welcome to NYC Barnight at Ty's, Christopher St
11:00 PM – After-Hours party at (ask an ECMC member!)

Saturday

11:00 AM – AMCC 201st Meeting at Julius'
12:00 PM – Lunch at Julius'
01:00 PM – Historic Gay Tour* - register at <https://ecmc-tour.eventbrite.com>
06:00 PM – Get to 2430 FDR Dr Service Rd E, New York, NY 10010 to prepare to board The Cosmo
06:30 PM – Board the Cosmo, we will depart at 07:00 PM Sharp!
07:00 PM – Dinner Cruise on the New York Harbour, tickets: <https://ecmc60th.eventbrite.com/>
11:00 PM – Party like it's 1964 at a private Empire City MC barnight!

Sunday

11:00 AM – Brunch – Refer to your Run Book
12:00 PM – Lewis & Tim's NYC Brewery Tour
06:00 PM – Sunday Roast at Zero Irving St Food Court
08:00 PM – Christopher Street Pub Crawl, ending at Ty's by 10:00 PM

Monday

09:00 AM – Brunch at Lexington Candy Counter and farewell!



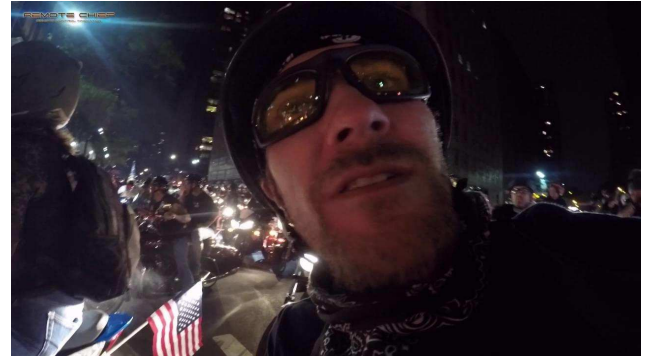
Tickets ON SALE NOW for Empire City MC's 3-hour Dinner Cruise on the New York Harbour!

<https://ecmc60th.eventbrite.com/>

23rd Anniversary of 9/11

It's hard to believe that it's been 23 years since the terrorist attack on America, but Empire City MC remembers and, once again participated in the "Midnight 9/11 Memorial Ride"

A few other rides popped up on the radar over the years, asking for money and claiming it's for charity. They have powerful marketing online and have dwarfed the news' attention from the original 9/11 ride, which is a FREE event, which has happened since 2002. They depart at 10pm from New York Harley-Davidson (Queens) and ending at midnight at Ground Zero where a wreath is laid, and a memorial service is performed.



Avoiding This Terrifying Nightmare

You're leading a ride down a beautiful country road, suddenly someone's front wheel locks and everyone behind them slams into each other.

This is the most terrifying nightmare any Road Captain ever has to face, as if a collision wasn't bad enough, a pile up is a horrifying thing. As Road Captain you tend to feel personally responsible for all of the bikers in your group.

Part of the job of Road captain is to ensure that all the persons riding in the group have safe vehicles, are sober and have the skills necessary to ride in a group.

If you as a Road Captain are ever concerned that somebody has had too much to smoke or drink, or has an unsafe motorcycle, or has shown signs of aggressive or dangerous driving it's vital that the Road Captain do his job and politely and discreetly tell the person to please leave the group. The life you save might be your own as well as your brothers and friends. In bad weather situations and precarious roads it's also important for the Road Captain to be flexible to allow for the newer riders in the group.



It's also vital that at least once a year road captains encourage people to take rusty rider classes to brush off the dust from the winter hiatus. Great Road Captains make sure that multiple people in their group know basic first aid such as haemorrhage mitigation and CPR.

As my time as Road Captain of Empire City MC comes to an end this riding season, I will find myself passing the baton onto a new person. On a group ride, the Road Captain is pretty much the guy everyone looks to for guidance and direction. It's important that the new Road Captain is aware of their shadow and can make quick judgement calls, especially while riding on the highway and situations rapidly change. In addition to being the safety expert on the road, they also are a travel agent making hotel reservations and communicating with other clubs, working with the vice president to set up bar nights in other cities, and don't forget where to blame for all weather except good weather so get to know your radar apps so you can be a good meteorologist on top of it all!

Yes, being the Road Captain is a tall order, but it's quite rewarding! It's fun being the lead rider, deciding where we're going to stop for lunch and eventually, ice cream!

Duties of a Motorcycle Road Captain

Road captain is the name for the rider who coordinates a multiple-bike ride. Road captain can refer to both the leader and the sweepers who, among their other duties, check that other riders are safe. Working as part of a team, the road captain is responsible for the safety of the riders and the smooth running of the ride itself. Duties include planning, thinking ahead, communication and rider education. The road captain may even act as a tour guide

Planning the Ride

- A road captain is a fundamental part of any ride planning. Especially where riders may number in the dozens or even hundreds, she has to be well versed in the route. She must know about potential hazards, road conditions and any special events that are happening at the time of the ride. A road captain will ride the route a few days in advance to make sure that nothing has changed, will keep an eye on the weather, and will also be present at ride planning meetings.

Educating and Informing Riders

- The road captain is expected to brief the group before the ride. He will inform riders about the pace of the ride, tell them about staggered formation, and will explain what the rules are. Some rides require the participants to ride together in tight formation, while others have a more loose, "at your own pace" style. The road captain will also answer questions and educate new riders in hand signals and other riding etiquette. Finally, the road captain will let riders know what to do should they break down or have a mishap, and might have a tactful word in the ear of a rider whose behavior is causing problems.

Leading the Ride

- The road captain leads the ride. Riders are expected to keep an eye on her for cues as to where to go next. Working in conjunction with blockers or sweepers, the captain will also help to block off intersections to allow riders to pass without worrying about traffic. She will then pass back to the front. Sometimes the road captain stays in front and only the blockers do the intersection work, and sometimes she works with the blockers.

When a lane change is performed, the leader signals the change and the rear guard initiates it. This prevents lane-changing bikes from crashing into one another and also provides a safer block to traffic. Indicators are seen from the rear and a large column of bikes changing is less likely to be cut off.

Stop Coordination

- At gas and fuel stops, the road captain will set up in a staging area he has previously chosen so that the line of bikes can assemble. After leaving, the

Empire City Welcomes More New Members

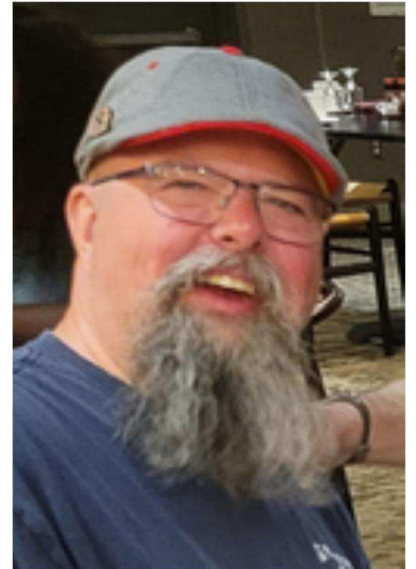
Empire City MC has been busy expanding our organisation outside of the New York area for the last 10 years. We now have full members and associates in Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, southern New Jersey, western New Jersey, Boston, New York City, central New Jersey, Long Island, Westchester County, and our most recent member from Coal Centre, Pennsylvania!

Over the past five years we've been focusing our club on gay men who own and operate motorcycles. We've been hanging out and riding extensively with the only other gay motorcycle club on the East Coast (that we know of), Spartan MC out of Washington DC.

We have fundamentally changed the way our organisation operates: from a regional one, to an interstate one. Even now, only one of our officers lives full time in New York City! Our monthly meeting (first Wednesday of the month) and social call (third Wednesday of the month) have kept our club close, communicating, and have eliminated the need for meeting in person for business purposes – we can focus upon our primary directive: Riding motorcycles and being close brothers.



⇐ Our newest member is none other than **Mike Natale** of the MAUL fame! Mike is a former motorcycle cop and has been riding professionally for a very long time. Over the past 10 years, Mike has been a guest Road Captain (lead rider) on various ECMC rides in both the upstate New York Fingerlakes area, as well as around the Pittsburgh area. He and his husband Doug have been the kind hosts of our motorcycle weekend the past three years. We are looking forward to doing much more with him in the near future!



⇒ Another recent addition to our club is **Edward Murray**, he has joined us on many rides over the past few years and has proved himself to be dependable and safe on the road, plus the kind of person you can feel is a brother from the moment you meet him.

We are not very active recruiters, and our club tends to be a bit of a mystery to people on the outside, but I assure you if you're gay or bisexual man and you ride motorcycle, you might wanna check us out! We're going to be changing a few things up in the years to come to make our organisation even more hyper-focused on riding and doing fun things together – we'd love it if you came along!

What!? Gay Men Can Have Babies Now?

On many ECMC events and rides, you've seen Uri. He's the cute guy who's always stirring up some fun, riding on the back of Chaz' motorcycle and hanging out with Erik! Well, you won't be seeing him as much anymore, at least for the next 18 years... He's fathered a child via IVF and a surrogate in Columbia! Lucas was born Friday, 16 August 2024 and Uri couldn't be happier.

All we can say at this point is congratulations, Uri – and that I think this was the first baby shower ever at Ty's gay bar!! 🎉



Can I Play Too? Yes! Please do!

We are often asked if people are welcome to come to our rides and events if they're not a member, so as a reminder: All publicly published events and rides, unless specifically stated otherwise, are open for all motorcycle riders and friends. Just pop into our calendar and see where we're meeting up for a ride and come along!

Suggestions? Questions? Drop our Road-Captain@EmpireCityMC.com an e-mail, or call voice only: +1 212-212-2429 and leave a message for us with your name, phone number and any suggestions/questions! You KNOW you want to ride with us, we even take folks for rides sometimes!



UPCOMING EVENTS & RIDES

We're trying a new format this month, let us know if you like it! As always, for the latest information and granular details about any events and rides, please visit <http://calendar.EmpireCityMC.com>

2024-09-14	RIDE	Bike HSS Benefit Ride
2024-09-21	RIDE	Trains & Wolfs of Pennsylvania
2024-09-27	RIDE	Back of The Dragon (Spartan MC)
2024-10-04	EVENT	HOIST Pig Weekend V (Hampshire, TN)
2024-10-11	EVENT	Empire City MC's 60th Anniversary Weekend
2024-12-06	EVENT	Excelsior MC's Annual Trim-A-Tree
2024-12-07	EVENT	ECMC's 60th Annual Toys for Tots

* **SOCIAL HOURS & OPEN GENERAL MEETINGS:** Empire City MC hosts two primary meetings monthly. Our Open General Meetings are on the FIRST WEDNESDAY of each month, 20:00-21:00. Our Social Hours are on the THIRD WEDNESDAY of each month, 20:00-21:00. All interested parties are welcomed, keeping in mind that our O.G.M. is a business meeting. You may join any of our conference calls by using Zoom Teleconference software and utilising this link: <https://bit.ly/ECMC-MEET> (this link is new as of June 2024!)

For further information on any of these rides and events, please see our official online calendar at: <http://calendar.EmpireCityMC.com>

For even further information, in our organisation, the Vice President (vice-president@empirecitymc.com) is in charge of EVENTS the Road Captain (road-captain@empirecitymc.com) for RIDES (travel), president (president@empirecitymc.com) for meetings.

There are other events and rides in our official calendar! Be sure to bookmark our official calendar at <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.**

Join the conversation! Chat with us and other bikers on our private 'Motorcyclists on Signal' group: <https://bit.ly/motonsig> - for membership information, <http://empirecitymc.com/membership.php> to view and download our constitution, bylaws and membership application. We're on social media at <https://mewe.com/join/empirecitymc> where you can chat with us.

Please send any articles, photos or letters to the editor at newsletter@EmpireCityMC.org

