



Happy New Year!

If you're reading this on our publish date of 8th January, we have only 12 days before the orange buffoon takes office and begins his "revenge tour".

If you've been watching the news, you know that since the election was finalised, we have been planning and preparing many 'surprises' to hobble and sabotage Trump's grand illusions of bring forward 'Project 2025' and becoming King of America for life.

We understand this is stressful for many, as he intends to strip established human rights away from GLBTQA+ folks across the land, as well as deport anyone he doesn't like, or feels is a threat to his agenda.



Try to remain calm, you are NOT alone. We will have a *great 2025* as we watch the orange ignoramus struggle to accomplish even the smallest executive order, as we are prepared to challenge each one we disagree with!

We have a lot of control in Congress, enough to prevent them from taking any significant action – long enough to: Prepare for a blue wave at midterms, then impeach and remove him as well as the drug-addict, couch-fucking Vance... and if we control the Senate (there's a very good chance of that!), we will have President Chuck Schumer!



We can do this! Set up phone trees now to communicate clandestine via secure, encrypted means, such as Signal. Add Signal to your mobile and desktop: <https://signal.org/> Of note: WhatsApp, Telegram and various other "end-to-end encrypted" chat platforms might still leak metadata to observers, knowing when, who and how much text, voice and data you are staring with others. Signal has superior protection from prying governmental eyes!

Once on Signal, if you have a motorcycle, consider joining our private 'Motorcyclists on Signal' group at: <https://bit.ly/motonsig> –chat with all ECMC members as well as other bikers!

It's going to be a GREAT YEAR, no matter the doom and gloom – the word of the year is: Schadenfreude

Schadenfreude (' ʃ ɑː d ə n f r ɔɪ d ə /; German: [ˈʃaːdn̩, fɔɪ̯də]; lit. – the experience of pleasure, joy, or self-satisfaction that comes from learning of or witnessing the troubles, failures, pain, suffering, or humiliation of another.

Worthy Organisations #2

As we approach an incoming tyrannical government, protecting others from hate is important – especially when those being targeted are children. Each month until Trump is out of office, we shall focus upon a socially rewarding group that fights back in the face of tyranny.



The MODERN MILITARY ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA is one of these groups:

It's important to understand the critical role that politics plays in shaping the military experience. The decisions made by the presidential administration and lawmakers directly affect the lives of service members, veterans, and their families, particularly in these challenging times.

Many service members and their families face significant challenges when stationed in states that limit their civil rights or those of their children and spouses. This often forces them to make difficult choices, such as cutting short their military careers or living apart from family to ensure access to healthcare and safe educational environments. These circumstances can lead to financial strain and emotional distress.

At Modern Military, we are committed to advocating for every service member, veteran, and dependent affected by the current anti-LGBTQ+ legislation and the potential policy changes anticipated with the new administration in 2025. We continue to push back against attempts to reverse progress toward equality and use members of our community to gain political points. Here's what you can expect as we navigate this transition together.

Anticipated Changes:

With a new presidential administration on the horizon, we expect a resurgence of anti-LGBTQ+ legislation and policies. Based on various campaign platforms, announcements, and news reports, we expect these changes to include:

- **Rolling back Title IX protections** that safeguard transgender students.
- **Opposing access to gender-affirming care** for youth and adults.
- **Reinstating a DoD ban on transgender individuals from military service.** President Trump's previous policy only went as far as banning transgender people from joining the military and preventing those currently serving from taking steps to transition. We have concerns a new ban would attempt to go further, expanding to separate the approximately 15,000 transgender active service members from duty and/or eliminating gender-affirming care for service members and their dependents.
- **Ending TRICARE coverage for gender-affirming healthcare** for service members and their dependents.
- **Eliminating travel reimbursements for out-of-state healthcare access**, particularly for reproductive healthcare.
- **Eliminating diversity programs and offices across government agencies**, which would reduce or end some discrimination protections and inclusive trainings and events (like base Pride events).
- **Pushing for federal laws that restrict trans athletes' participation** based on assigned sex at birth.

Resources for You

Despite the daunting landscape of anti-trans legislation — 2024 marks another record-breaking year for such bills — you are not alone in this fight. Modern Military is here to support you with resources tailored to your needs:

- [Join Our Online Groups](#): Connect with others who can offer support and provide answers to specific questions about LGBTQ+ healthcare, policy, and discrimination.
- [MilPride Program](#): Access advocacy resources, a private network, and support specifically designed for military families with LGBTQ+ children.
- [Discrimination Reporting](#): Utilize our discrimination reporting form if you've experienced LGBTQ+ or HIV discrimination at military installations or VA facilities. Your reports help us advocate for necessary legislative changes.
- [Legal Referrals and Community Support](#): Explore a range of legal resources available on our website to assist service members and veterans facing challenges.
- [Bookmark our Blog](#): We will be posting [articles like this one](#) with concrete advice on how to protect yourself ahead of any policy and legal changes.

More Holiday Photos!

We got our photos from Travis Hughes travhughesphoto@gmail.com, the photographer at the 61st Annual Holiday Party and Toy Drive!



ECMC 2025 Elections!

We're happy to announce the results of our 2025 elections of officers for 2025! Here's how things shaped out:

President	Gary P
Vice President	Scot L
Road Captain	Erik R
Secretary	Earl D
Treasurer	Lewis K
Past President/Advisor*	Chaz A

* The "Past President" advisory role is held by the last club president, who: 1) is a member in good standing, and 2) not an officer in the year ahead. They are a role to break e-board voting ties and advise all officers in their roles in the club.



There are NO rides on the calendar at this time, but watch our calendar closely for sudden good riding days!

As always, for the latest information and granular details about any events and rides, please visit <http://calendar.EmpireCityMC.com>

2025-03-13	EVENT	Pennsmen 48th Anniversary
2025-03-21	EVENT	Long Island Ravens' 33rd Anniversary
2025-04-17	EVENT	Easter in Berlin (www.easterberlin.de)
2025-05-16	EVENT	Excelsior MC's "Lust for Life"
2025-05-24	RIDE	ECMC's Motorcycle Week (Hershey, PA)

* **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

All material copyright ©MMXXIV Empire City MC, Inc., All rights reserved.

