



### It's LAST CALL for ECMC's 2018 Motorcycle Weekend!

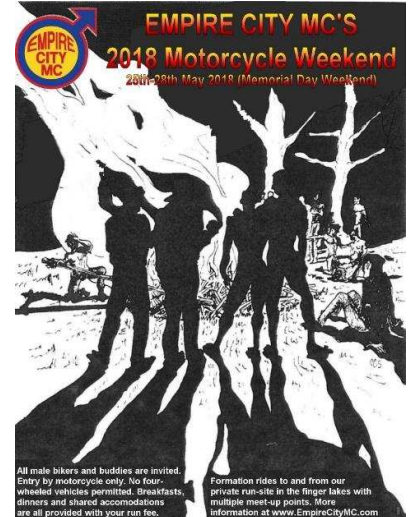
This is your last chance to sign-up for Empire City MC's "Motorcycle Weekend", our four-day event (including formation ride up and ride back) held in the beautiful Finger Lakes region of New York State.

The Run Application is on the last page of this newsletter with all the details you need; however, it's kind of obvious that at a run-fee of \$40/per person, this is a bargain! Run fees under \$100 haven't been seen since the 80s!

Of course, this event is a bit restrictive. All participants must:

- Be male
- Arrive by motorcycle
- Pay the \$40 run fee

AT THIS TIME, DO NOT MAIL IN YOUR APPLICATION: WE WILL GET IT TOO LATE. PLEASE USE THE ONLINE TICKET OPTION AND WE WILL E-MAIL YOU TO GET YOUR MEET-UP DETAILS AND WE WILL COLLECT YOUR RUN APPLICATION WHEN WE MEET YOU UP.



### Two April Events Both Benefiting "God's Love We Deliver"

It is ECMC's pleasure to volunteer at two events benefiting such a worthy cause. God's Love We Deliver was founded in 1986 from the donations of few, serving meals to the those living with AIDS who could neither cook, nor shop for food for themselves. The organization later expanded to serve others with severe illnesses in need of nutritional support and someone to delivery care and support.



We were happy to learn that the Imperial Court of New York's Night of 1000 Gowns on April 8 was a benefit to support God's Love We Deliver, another organization that has raised lots of money in support of those living with HIV and AIDS. ECMC has a long-standing history of volunteering as security at Night of 1000 Gowns. We were happy to do so again in 2018.

But we did not stop there! On April 14, ECMC volunteered at the God's Love We Deliver kitchen in SoHo, chopped onions, dicing vegetables and preparing meals that would go directly to those in need. Further, we enthusiastically encourage other to do the same. We hope to post other opportunities throughout 2018 to volunteering at God's Love We Deliver with ECMC and hope others will join us.

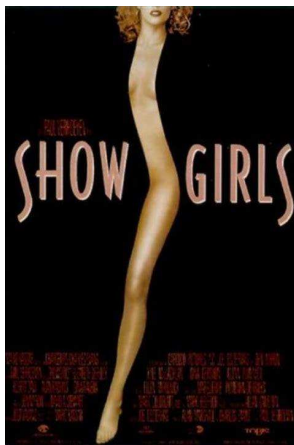
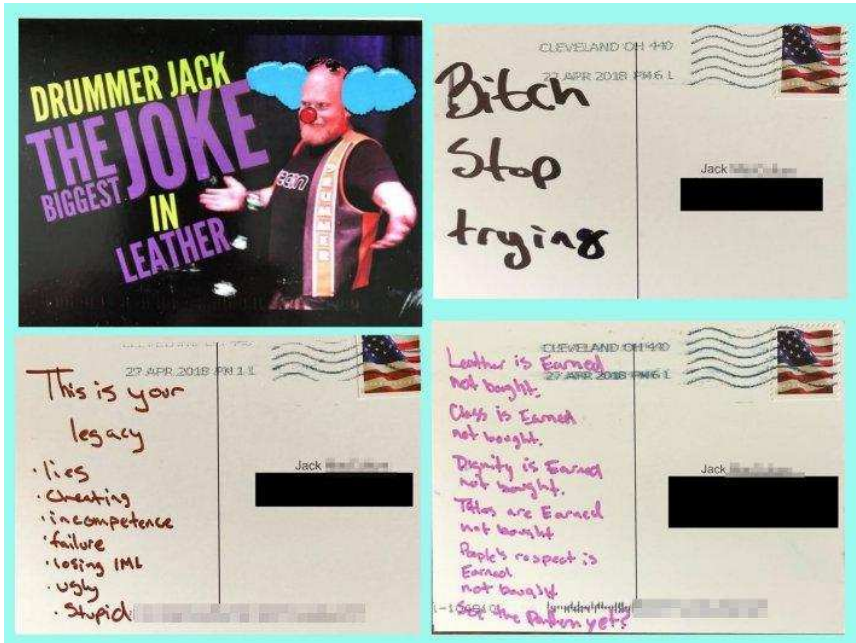


## Drama in the Leather Contest World!

For those of you who enjoy drama, here's an interesting story that's been brewing.

Drummer was a male-only porno magazine from 1975 until 1999. In the beginning, it was the embodiment of what masculine leathermen aspired to. At mid-point, the magazine was sold and the new owners tried to include other areas of gay life and it lost its original focus on the leather-clad leather-daddy and leather-boy image which made it so popular. By it's end, it had been diluted to such a boring magazine that couldn't hold a candle to Honcho.

From 1981-1999 Drummer Magazine held a "Mister Drummer" leather contest, since contests were an up-and-coming thing thanks to International Mister Leather (IML) in Chicago. But when the magazine went tits-up, so did the contest.



Years later, in comes a person (whom I shall not name), who's had his crooked fingers in many areas of the contest circuit, leaving a trail of broken promises, debt and disillusioned men in his wake. He buys the rights to "Drummer" for use with "Drummer Contests".

After some time, Drummer North America (DNA) stops hosting its contest and merges with the International Leather Sir/Boy (ILSB) – that is until there was allegedly a fight between the contest owners. DNA resumed with a lot of bad blood between the two. Something to do with women, men and transgendered people and the contest community, or so I hear...



Now let's get to what's been happening since January 2018:

Jack MacCullum lives in the New York City region and holds a Drummer North America (DNA) title. He's also the victim of an alleged harassment campaign from an unknown source but appears to have its roots in the DNA/ILSB scuffle. Jack has been getting death threats, alleged fake bombs, a dick glitter bomb (a box, that when you open it, penis-shaped glitter bits go flying everywhere) and recently a hateful postcard mailing scheme where his photo has been altered to be like a clown and multiple messages of hate written on the back (see photos above). Of course, the authorities and FBI have now been involved. Who knows where this will lead? Just another example of the bullshit we can thank the leather contests for. Here's what's appeared on facebook recently:



**Jack MacCullum:** In addition to the three fake undetonated bombs, the one dick glitter bomb, as well as three death threats mailed to my home and the numerous facebook messenger comments, I receive these [postcards] in the mail today. 19 in total. This tells me that we are dealing with psychotics, not just one, as the writing is different. Numerous people that have formed a group of minions that are hell-bent to try to tear me down. Well, not so fast. They have been turned over to the FBI as well as the previous evidence sent to my home. I will be prosecuting to the fullest extent of the law as well as civil damages.

For those that are "Beating to the beat of our own drum" and Tina's Army, be aware, I take this as a physical threat. I will stand beside Drummer and what it stood for, whether you like it or not. Your threats and attempts to embarrass me truly are childish and amateur. Move on. Do your own thing. Seek help and guidance. I actually feel sorry for people that see that something is not for them, but continue to try to ruin it.

For those wondering about the threats coming from this anonymous person(s) over the past four months, 'Tina's Army' is most likely the source. People so angry and bitter over something they cannot control or own. It's sad anyone would use threats, harassment, intimidation, and manipulation in an attempt to control an individual or organization. I can't say all of them are culpable but there is at least one.



## Drama in the Leather Contest World! (Continued)

A reply from a reader says:



**L William DeTurck:** I've worked in various categories of alphabet world in the last 25 years. It is quite sad that the leather world which held itself to some high standards (with its flaws) has devolved to Miss America pageants and middle school behavior. I had an event disrupted bc of the terms of a hotel contract that was taken as personal which I can easily show it was not - it was their rules. Just because one slaps on some expensive cow ass and John Wayne walk bc they have a "title", which means nothing in the "real" world, it gets hilarious. Folks want everything tailored to them and if they don't get what they want it starts devolving into high school style tantrums and cliques. Every title contest I have attended, which is many, we are "the leaders" of the community or so folks say on mic on the stage. Somehow that doesn't translate, again, to the real world when it is time to get the hands dirty. I've seen people nail each other to the wall online but no interventions from these so-called, self-professed leaders to step in and tone down the situations. Personal, employment and home threats is totally out of bounds. Lastly, everyone has their own personal thoughts on everything in life. We have to accept those things. I'm not talking about discrimination or situations such as that but most border on what is mostly like/dislike just as people themselves or in a sexual nature. For example, if you don't like fat, don't complain if things aren't set up to "encourage" mixing unless you can concede some things about yourself.

So, this is the 'community' that replaced the leather/motorcycle clubs, eh? I'm not saying that the MC world is drama-free, hell, far from it, but this ongoing saga is utter bullshit.

### Meanwhile...

An argument ensues  
at the Gay Motorcycle  
Club's Clubhouse...



### Empire City MC at Hogs4Hope

Although it was a cool and damp day, members of many Motorcycle Clubs showed up for the annual "Hogs4Hope" charity motorcycle ride to benefit Ronald McDonald House of New York. A true run, police-escorted from Croton Gorge Park to the pig roast and BBQ at JFK Marina Park in Yonkers, NY.



There is an aerial video to see of this event on YouTube:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0pap5xJv38M>

### The Last Word

Most of the readers of our newsletter are aware of ECMC's long history as a pioneer of the LBGQT community. From the 60's to the present, we have been a brotherhood of gay man who loves to ride motorcycles. But we are so much more than that. We support each other with friendship, brotherhood and outreach to our community. Some may think we look like an intimidating bunch of guys, but we only bite when asked . . . politely, Sir.

If you are a gay men who own motorcycles and love to ride [or know someone who does] stop by The Center on 13<sup>th</sup> Street in Manhattan for one of our Open General Meetings, which occurs every first Wednesday of the month at 8:00 PM. It is monthly opportunity to learn more not only about ECMC, its history and how we serve the LBGQT community, but also how you can become part of it . . . and we often go out for a beer afterward.

Aaron

## Many Americans Have a Shortage of “Social Capital”

A high percentage of Americans lack community and social support structures. According to the Department of Commerce, the United States economy grew 2.6 percent in the most recent economic quarter. This is strong economic growth. And according to the Labour Department, the unemployment rate held steady at 4.1 percent in March for the sixth month in a row. Economists consider this number to be near full employment.



And yet we all also know that not everything is going in the right direction in our country. Today, a lot of our communities are struggling with challenges like addiction, family breakdown, and isolation. The economic numbers that our government collects do not provide us with a full picture of American life.



### Social Capital

Genuine human connections are the foundation of a happy life. They occur at home but also in the community in churches, civic groups, neighbourhood gatherings, and workplaces.

Just as social capital is important for each of us as individuals, so too is it important for the life of a community.

Social scientists refer to these connections as “social capital” to illustrate that they are a resource every bit as precious as money. Indeed, more precious. Just as social capital is important for each of us as individuals, so too is it important for the life of a community.

So where is civil society flourishing, and where is it struggling?

This week the Social Capital Project released the Social Capital Index—the clearest picture ever taken of the health of American communities, state by state and county by county. You can read the full report here, but below are a few of its findings. Where Are We Struggling?

We’ll start with the bad news, which will not be news to many of you: Social capital is not distributed equally in our country, and lots of American communities are struggling with challenges like addiction, family breakdown, and isolation.

Churches and civic groups are not the support network and wellspring of meaning and moral education that they once were. States in the South and Southwest have the lowest social capital scores, plus a few states in the North like New York.

In many areas of these states, the institutions and values that support healthy relationships have broken down. Churches and civic groups are not the support network and wellspring of meaning and moral education that they once were. This breakdown of community has left individuals to fend for themselves in increasing isolation.

Sadly, many more Americans live in these struggling communities than in flourishing ones. Three times as many Americans (29 percent) live in the weakest 10 states than live in the strongest 10 states (9 percent).

### It’s Not All Bad News

But there are bright spots as well. States with high social capital tended to be rural states in the West, Midwest, and Northeast. We are better prepared to address important policy questions about family breakdown, drugs, and crime.

Our state, Utah, had the highest social capital score because of its stable families and commitment to helping the less fortunate. Utah ranked first out of the 50 states and Washington, D.C., for family unity, social support, and philanthropic health.

The Social Capital Index is not a competition so much as a tool. Now that we have an understanding of what social capital is and where it is concentrated, we are better prepared to address important policy questions about family breakdown, drugs, and crime.

As we look at Utah’s first-place finish in the index, we should think to ourselves, “What has Utah done right? And how can we use this knowledge to help our neighbours in need, both within Utah and across the country?”

Story by Mike Lee, reprinted from the Daily Signal



# SAVE THESE DATES



**Empire City MC's 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Bike Blessing  
Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> June 2018**

Bikers, line up starting at 6:00pm  
Blessing starts at 8:00pm

Bikers, buddies and friends are all welcome  
to this FREE event hosted at Ty's Bar,  
114 Christopher Street.

**Empire City MC's 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Free Biker's Picnic  
Saturday, 16<sup>th</sup> June 2018 (rain date 23<sup>rd</sup> June)**

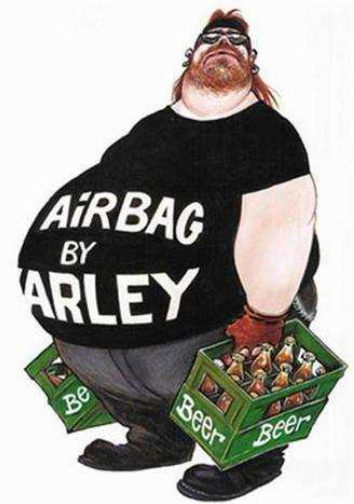
Bikers, line up starting at 9:00pm  
Dutch-treat coffee/breakfast 9am-10am  
at Sweet Life Café, 114 Christopher Street.  
Free picnic at secret location – arrival by motorcycle only!

**Empire City MC welcomes you to join us at  
Folsom Street East Fair - Sunday, 17<sup>th</sup> June 2018**

On West 27<sup>th</sup> St between 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> Avenues  
Doors open at 11am and the event ends at 6pm  
Tickets are \$20 - \$75  
Visit [www.folsomstreeteast.com](http://www.folsomstreeteast.com) for details.

**Empire City MC welcomes you to join us at the  
10<sup>th</sup> Annual Urban Bear Street Festival**

20<sup>th</sup> May 2018 on Little W 12<sup>th</sup> St  
Visit [www.theurbanbear.com](http://www.theurbanbear.com) for details!



*"I invested in a few accessories for my motorcycle. The rest of the delivery is coming tomorrow."*



*"Relax, I'm not here for you. But your bike's battery is toast."*

**WHY I'M NO LONGER ASKED**



# UPCOMING EVENTS & RIDES

**Fri-Mon 11<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> May:** RIDE: Aaron's 50th Birthday Ride

**Fri-Mon 18<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> May:** Rochester Rams MC CanAm Weekend Invitational, Rochester, NY.

**Sun 20<sup>th</sup> May:** EVENT: 10th Annual Urban Bear Street Festival 🐻

**Fri-Mon 25<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> May:** RIDE: Empire City MC's Motorcycle Weekend in the Finger Lakes! See attached run application!

**Mon-Sat 4<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> June:** RIDE: Spartan MC present "Marathon 23", their 50th Anniversary ride and celebration at Americade, Lake George, NY! For more information, visit their website at <http://marathon.spartanmc.com/>

**Wed 6<sup>th</sup> June 20:00 – 21:00:** Empire City MC's Open General Meeting, held 8pm-9pm on the first Wednesday of each month at "The Centre" 208 W 13th St, New York, NY 10011. All interested men and prospective members are welcome to attend. Always check with the front desk/schedule to see which room we're booked into.

**Fri 15<sup>th</sup> June:** EVENT: ECMC's Annual Bike Blessing at Ty's Bar NYC, 114 Christopher St. Bikers: Show up between 6pm-7pm, blessing and christening begins at 7:30pm! Fun for all, biker or not!

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> June:** RIDE: ECMC's Annual Bike Biker Picnic. Join us for this FREE picnic, but you must come by motorcycle – it's bikers and buddies only! Meet-up at 9am for dutch-treat breakfast at Sweet Life Cafe, 147 Christopher St. K-S-U at 10am sharp!

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> June:** EVENT: Folsom Street East – more details coming in the next newsletter and online.

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> June:** RIDE: NYC Gay Pride March! This year the route will change to test the 2019 World Pride and 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Stonewall Riots. Come see the parade or ride in it! Limited tickets at <http://www.sirensnyc.com/pride2018.php>

**Wed 11<sup>th</sup> July 20:00 – 21:00:** Empire City MC's Open General Meeting, held 8pm-9pm on the first Wednesday of each month at "The Centre" 208 W 13th St, New York, NY 10011. All interested men and prospective members are welcome to attend. Always check with the front desk/schedule to see which room we're booked into. (Due to 4<sup>th</sup> July, we moved to the following week!)

**Wed 1<sup>st</sup> August 20:00 – 21:00:** Empire City MC's Open General Meeting, held 8pm-9pm on the first Wednesday of each month at "The Centre" 208 W 13th St, New York, NY 10011. All interested men and prospective members are welcome to attend. Always check with the front desk/schedule to see which room we're booked into.

**Fri-Sun 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> August:** RIDE: The Arktos Bear Run in New London, OH 44851. Details at <http://www.arktosbears.org/>

**Thu-Mon 16<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> August:** RIDE: Gay Pride Montréal. See: <http://www.fiertemontrealpride.com/en/pride/>

**Fri-Tue 31<sup>st</sup> August – 4<sup>th</sup> September:** RIDE: The Delta Run (a/k/a "Gay Kink Camp"), an invitational camping event.

**Wed 5<sup>th</sup> September 20:00 – 21:00:** Empire City MC's Open General Meeting at The Centre.

**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 [calendar.EmpireCityMC.com](http://calendar.EmpireCityMC.com) and come along with us on some great rides!

Our physical mailing address is:

Empire City MC  
10 W 15<sup>th</sup> St, Suite 609  
New York, NY 10011-6821



Empire City MC is a proud member of the Atlantic Motorcycle Coordinating Council. For more information about membership with Empire City MC, [click here](#) to view/download our constitution, bylaws and membership application.



We're on facebook at <http://facebook.EmpireCityMC.com>  
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Send any articles, photos or letters to the editor at [news@EmpireCityMC.com](mailto:news@EmpireCityMC.com)



Empire City MC's Annual Motorcycle Weekend - May 25th – 28th, 2018  
Information and Run Application



With the help of many friends and the dedication of ECMC members, we're excited to announce another great Memorial Day Weekend riding experience including some meals, accommodations and more! Won't you join ECMC for Motorcycle Weekend?

Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> May ..... Ride with us to "The Ranch" in Hemlock, NY through the scenic Hudson Valley Region and the Southern Tier of New York State with multiple breaks/pick-up points.

Saturday, 26<sup>th</sup> May .... Explore upstate New York's Finger Lakes region!

Sunday, 27<sup>th</sup> May ..... Explore upstate New York's Finger Lakes region!

Monday, 28<sup>th</sup> May ..... Ride with us back to New York City.

In order to best prepare and accommodate everyone, we ask that you carefully review the ride as outlined and submit your completed application with \$40/per person run fee to Empire City MC before 16<sup>th</sup> May, 2018. Space is limited to 20 bikers/buddies!

**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 specified in the map on page two. Included for your \$40 run fee are: Accommodations at The Ranch, three dinners and three breakfasts, open bar all weekend at The Ranch. Each person must complete this form and send it in.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Club Affiliation (if any) \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ I am:  Buddy Rider /  Rider

I will meet up at (see map on page 2):  A,  B,  C,  D,  E,  F, or  G

Emergency Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact Phone Number (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

I, \_\_\_\_\_, certify that I have attained at least twenty-one (21) years of age and that I, based upon mutual covenants and considerations, will not hold Empire City Motorcycle Club, Inc. (a.k.a. ECMC), Al Rizzo/Dan Marty (a.k.a. The Ranch) nor the individual and collective officers, members, servants, agents, employees thereof liable for any injury to my person or property during the period of Empire City MC's Annual Motorcycle Weekend. I further agree to indemnify, save harmless and hold harmless Empire City Motorcycle Club, Inc. (a.k.a. ECMC), Al Rizzo/Dan Marty (a.k.a. The Ranch) or the individual and collective officers, members, servants, agents, employees thereof from any and all liability, serious injury, economic loss, and any other loss arising from whatever event, source, manner and/or nature which they may suffer as a result of claims, demands, costs or judgments against them, individually and/or collectively, arising out of their individually and/or collectively granting to me the privilege of attending and participating in part and/or whole of Empire City MC's Annual Motorcycle Weekend.

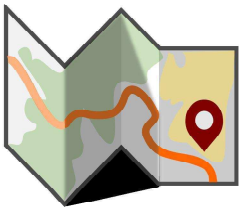
Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail this application in to our Run Chairman for processing. Bed space will be assigned on a 'first registered, first served' basis, so don't delay! Please read the directions carefully and return this page with payment (\$40 per person) by U.S. Mail to:

Empire City MC Motorcycle Weekend  
10 W 15th St, Suite 609  
New York, NY 10011-6821

Save time: Apply online at <https://ecmc-mw-2018.eventbrite.com>





Please note: This may be a different route from prior years – we mix it up!

Don't forget to tick the box on page one to let us know where you're meeting up with us! Furthermore, it's vital that your motorcycle is in good working order and you are on time to your respective meet-up location.

**Meet-up Point "A" (Lexington Candy Shop, New York, NY)**

09:00 - 10:00 ... Breakfast at Lexington Candy Shop, 1226 Lexington Ave at 83rd St, New York, NY 10028  
10:00 - 11:00 ... Kickstands up from Lexington Candy Shop and ride 21 mi (0:60)

**Meet-up Point "B" (Left Exit Gas Station on the Palisades Pkwy, MM 1.7)**

11:00 - 11:15 ... Gas up, bathroom/snack break. Note: GPS: 41°01'39.0"N 73°56'17.9"W  
11:15 - 12:15 ... Kickstands up and ride 54 mi (0:60)

**Meet-up Point "C" (Quickway Twin Cone/Quickway Diner/Citgo, RR 17K, Bloomingburg, NY 12721)**

12:15 - 12:30 ... Gas up, bathroom/snack break/ice cream  
12:30 - 13:45 ... Kickstands up and ride ~82 mi (0:75)

**Meet-up Point "D" (LUNCH STOP at Butterfields Cafe, 16 Division St, Deposit, NY 13754)**

13:45 - 14:45 ... Gas up at the Citgo, then ride around the corner to Butterfield's Café for lunch.  
14:45 - 16:00 ... Kickstands up and ride 71 mi (0:66)

**Meet-up Point "E" (Dandy Mini Mart, 363 White Wagon Rd, Sayre, PA 18840)**

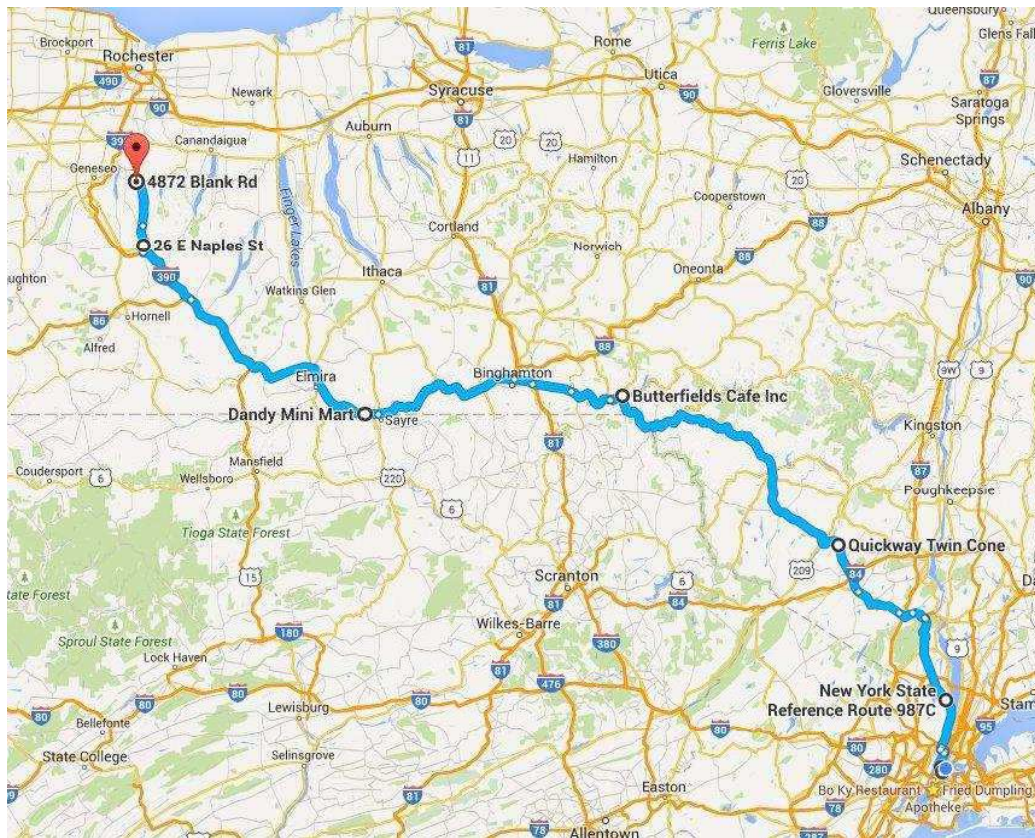
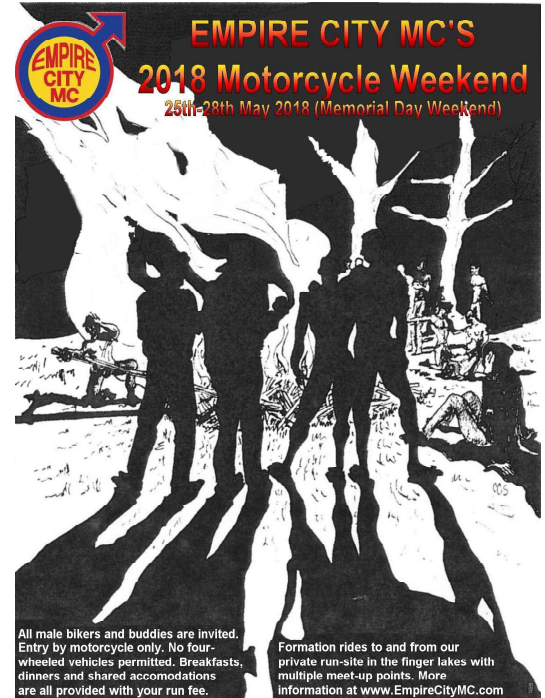
16:00 - 16:15 ... Gas up, bathroom/snack break  
16:15 - 17:20 ... Kickstands up and ride 77 mi (0:70)

**Meet-up Point "F" (7-Eleven/Mobil, 26 E Naples St, Wayland, NY 14572)**

17:20 - 17:40 ... Gas up, bathroom/snack break  
17:40 - 18:00 ... Kickstands up and ride 16 mi (0:20)

**Meet-up Point "G" (The Ranch, 4872 Blank Rd, Hemlock, NY 14466)**

18:00 ..... Arrive at The Ranch



What do you need to bring?

A bed, clean linens and towels will be provided by The Ranch, but for your safety and comfort, we recommend you bring the following:

- bike tool kit
- extra bungee cords
- rain gear
- driving license
- motorcycle registration
- motorcycle insurance card
- mobile phone charger
- medications
- motorcycle insurance card
- dry clothing
- club colours (vest)
- favourite sex toy (optional) ;-)

NOTES:

You may interactively view/tweak our route map online at: <http://bit.ly/2018-BIKER>

The Ranch has play space (should you be interested), as well as a pool, hot tub, bar, nature trails and more! Read more about The Ranch at <http://i.mp/TheRanch>

We will provide gourmet breakfasts on Saturday, Sunday and Monday and gourmet dinners on Friday, Saturday and Sunday dinners at The Ranch. All lunch-time meals and on-the-road meals are your own responsibility.

Save time and a stamp: pay online at <https://ecmc-mw-2018.eventbrite.com>