ECMC Attends the Fallen Heroes’ Ride

Saturday, 23rd September marked the 5th annual ride for “Fallen Heroes” sponsored by Brass Knuckle Cycles and BACK (Bikers Against Cop Killers).

The event was attended by Brian, Chaz, KK, Geno, Mark, and Matt (not a club member, but good guy). Weather was spectacular... sunny and in the 80’s all day. It’s always hard to judge the count, but it appeared to me to be about 300-400 bikes.

The registration area was in the centre of town in Easton, with a variety of different food vendors, but surprisingly, no gear vendors. We set off on a 45-mile police guided tour at 12:15, but within 5 miles of town we ran into a delay. A motorist that was in front of the group on Route 611 along the Delaware River, had a diabetic episode and required medical attention, we had to pull off to the side of the road for approximately 20 minutes until the ambulance arrived. The police guided the group around the ambulance and we carried on. Absolutely beautiful countryside, great day, great company and good fun!!

Black & Blue at Oneida Campground

Oneida Campground & Lodge held its annual Uniform Weekend starting Friday, September 15, 2017, through Sunday, September 17, 2017. This year a group of us decided to take it up a notch by adding a couple of additional events. Friday evening, September 15th, the festivities began with a leather meet and greet at “The Dungeon”, located at Michael Pierce site across from the Cafe. There was plenty to drink along with hot men and some light fare. Michael is the owner and host of a very well stocked dungeon. Michael welcomes guest to his dungeon and is usually willing to help them understand how to fully enjoy using the various apparatus and ample collection of toys he acquired over time. On Saturday evening, the men of site 77 (and yours truly Tracy) held a Black & Blue Party which had not been seen at the camp in many years. The party was free to everyone who was either a “perm”, guest of a perm and/or guest of Oneida Campground. The site was decorated with balloons, tents, bar and food station. There was even a huge event tent set up at the site. The tent
served multiple purposes such as a place for people to mingle, dance and just have an overall great time as well as provide our guest with a dry and warm location in the event the weather did not cooperate. The tent was also set up as a dance floor with music, lighting and spinning disco balls. We had 2 DJs (DJ Craig & DJ Rob) spinning music all evening and keeping the dance floor moving. The bartender was busy from the beginning all the way through the end of the party.

We had an amazing time and turn out at the “Black and Blue Party” on site 77 (Sunset Strip), it was one for the record. The turnout of people wearing their leathers, Levis, suits, tux, and uniforms was beyond words, everyone looked sexy as hell. The hosts of the party continue to receive compliments regarding the event and have been asked by many to repeat the party next year. We’re happy to announce we will be hosting the party once again in September 2018 and we anticipate the event will have grown as well as have a few additional pleasant surprises.

We invite everyone in the leather community to join us next year at Oneida Campground & Lodge for another great Uniform Weekend / Black & Blue Party. You can begin reserving a room at the lodge, a cabin or set up a site with your tents. For reservations, Oneida Campground & Lodge can be reached either by phone at (570) 465-7011 or you can email them at reservations@oneidaresort.com. Let them know you were told about next year’s event by one or more of the men who hosted the party, Evil Ed or Michael Matles.

In brotherhood and love,
Evil Ed

**Look who’s turning 45 Years Old!**

Ever since the demise of The Spike, (the original) NYC Eagle and The L.U.R.E., Empire City MC hasn’t had an “official” home bar, but if we were to have one, that would have to be Ty’s. We hold our annual motorcycle christening & bike blessing there annually, we grab a beer or three after each monthly meeting and it’s an extension of our homes for some of our members!

Now Ty’s is turning 45 and celebrating in a big way on Saturday, 14th October from 6pm until you can’t see straight! (Provided you’re NOT driving please!) Please share the love and respect for Ty’s and come on out and help us celebrate 45 years of “no dancing allowed”!
ECMC at Cycle for the Cause

Four days, 275 miles and over $1.5 million raised in the fight to end AIDS.

Cycle for the Cause is a bicycle ride from Framingham, Massachusetts to New York City. It's a 275-mile ride over four days. This is a fund raiser for The Center (where ECMC meets for their monthly meeting) to provide care and prevention for HIV.

Cycle for the Cause covered all expenses including gas, tolls, meals, and hotel accommodations. Along the ride we were able to assist the bicyclists guiding them along the route as well as cheering them on during otherwise long lonely stretches of the route.

This provided an opportunity to be a part of the solution for a condition which has affected our community over several decades. Being part of the solution provides me a sense of productivity and personal fulfilment. It was also FUN! I intend to participate again next year. The one difference is that I will also participate in the fund-raising effort which I did not do this year.

The “Motorcycle Safety Team” (which featured members from both ECMC and the City Curizers) works with staff and local law enforcement to guarantee safe passage for riders along each day’s route. Assist at difficult intersections and other locations as requested. Team members must provide own motorcycle and helmet, as well as valid motorcycle license and insurance. Must be able to stand long periods of time.

New antibody attacks 99% of HIV strains

Scientists have engineered an antibody that attacks 99% of HIV strains and can prevent infection in primates. It is built to attack three critical parts of the virus - making it harder for HIV to resist its effects. The work is a collaboration between the US National Institutes of Health and the pharmaceutical company Sanofi. The International Aids Society said it was an "exciting breakthrough". Human trials will start in 2018 to see if it can prevent or treat infection. Our bodies struggle to fight HIV because of the virus' incredible ability to mutate and change its appearance. These varieties of HIV - or strains - in a single patient are comparable to those of influenza during a worldwide flu season. So the immune system finds itself in a fight against an insurmountable number of strains of HIV.

Rich Juzwiak Heads into the New York Gay Sex Party Scene (by Andy Towle)

Jezebel’s Rich Juzwiak takes a long journey inside the New York gay sex party scene and the history of such gatherings in the city, observing whether PrEP has changed attitudes toward promiscuity or just brought them out into the open at parties like Harder Golden Boys University, and American Whorer Party.

Juzwiak describes in vivid detail how he dropped his inhibitions at the latter and navigated it with his boyfriend (read the piece), concluding:

I found that there is an electric, immense thrill to being in a room with a bunch of horny dudes when you know you could do just about whatever with any of them. The collective energy all focused on pleasure creates a palatable singularity, a carnal brotherhood that is a force beyond the sum of its parts. But, fastened into my own head as I almost always am in public spaces, I soon began to wonder what the point was of having all of these brief encounters with guys that I might not have any interest in if I could actually, you know, see them.

I would like to say that gay men have carved out a utopia for themselves in these spaces, it’s not quite the case. I do believe that some guys navigate these spaces purely for fun and leisure, without negative effects on their mental and physical health.

Juzwiak talks with the party promoters (who now push them on Facebook rather than the back of local gay rags), the attendees, and the acting deputy commissioner of disease control at New York City’s Department of Health and Mental Health, who talked about the changing policing of the parties:

“For many people who have historically linked disease with their sex lives, they have now unlinked disease from their sex lives,” said Dr. Demetre Daskalakis, the acting deputy commissioner of disease control at New York City’s Department of Health and Mental Health, by phone. “It’s not even a question of public health. I think it’s human nature that if you have a pleasurable activity that was associated with a bad outcome, and you’re making that bad outcome nearly impossible, then all of the sudden that activity looks better.”

...The Department’s policy has evolved. Its current attitude toward sex parties seems way more in tune with the realities of how actually prevent disease transmission. “We’re not designed to be a surveillance machine for venues,” the DOHMH’s Dr. Demetre Daskalakis told me. Instead of witch-hunting, the Health Department’s emphasis is on making sure “New Yorkers are equipped with ways to keep themselves healthy however they want to pursue their own pleasure,” venue notwithstanding.

Pharmaceuticals have catalyzed a revolution, to be sure:

Public gay sex in New York, too, never really went away, even during the plague years of the AIDS epidemic—it just got pushed into gym steam rooms and the odd bar back room. Sex parties targeted at men who have sex with men, though, tell a story about gay history and its present: In 2017, men who have sex with men are f**king in a new age of liberation. These parties are remarkable expressions of sexual security within a population of men that, for decades, had reason to feel insecure—if not terrified—of sex.


Biker Funnies

“Oh, it’s not an actual motorcycle... It’s an exercise bike. I made it look like one so my husband would actually use it!”
The Last Word

Another riding year is coming to an end – with unpredictable weather and short days, some of us begin to contemplate putting our motorcycles to sleep for the long, cold winter. I typically put my bike away after our Holiday Party and then get it out when I return from Asia in early April.

As the club begins its 54th year, our eyes set on year 55 as every 5th year we host a week-long motorcycle trip and massive anniversary dinner cruise in the New York Harbour in addition to our regular events. I do not remember all of them because I wasn’t around for all of them! On our 35th Anniversary we headed to the Finger Lakes in Upstate New York, our 40th was the Green and White Mountains of Vermont and New Hampshire, I think we skipped doing a long ride on our 45th and for our 50th we went to Deal’s Gap to ride the Tail of the Dragon multiple times! There have been no suggestions of where or what we’ll do for our 55th as of yet – but you can bet that 2018 will be rife with suggestions! Chicago? Mid-West? Canada? Where would you want to go? Send your suggestions to news@EmpireCityMC.com and maybe we’ll pick yours!

UPCOMING EVENTS & RIDES

**Wed, 1 November, 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, 10-12 November:** EVENT: Harbour Master’s Sail-a-Way weekend run in Portland, Maine! For details, see: [www.harbormastersofmaine.com/Sailaway-2017-run.html](http://www.harbormastersofmaine.com/Sailaway-2017-run.html)

**Fri, 1 December, 22:00:** Excelsior MC’s annual Trim-A-Tree at the NYC Eagle

**Sat, 2 December, 18:00-21:00:** AN AMCC SANCTIONED EVENT: ECMC’s Annual Holiday Party & Toy Drive at the Stonewall Inn

**Sun, 3 December, 10:00-15:00:** EVENT: International Motorcycle Show at Jacob K. Javits Convention Centre, 655 W 34th St, New York, NY 10001

**Wed, 6 December, 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. **Nominations for Officers!**

**Wed, 3 January 2018, 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. **Election of Officers!**

**Sat, 13 January 2018, 21:00 – 02:00:** Empire City MC hosts another Leather/Biker Barnight at the DC Eagle, 3701 Benning Rd NE, Washington, DC. It’s Centaur MC’s M.A.L. weekend, so come out and join in the fun at the DC Eagle.

**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:

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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](http://clickhere) to view/download our constitution, bylaws and membership application.

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

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