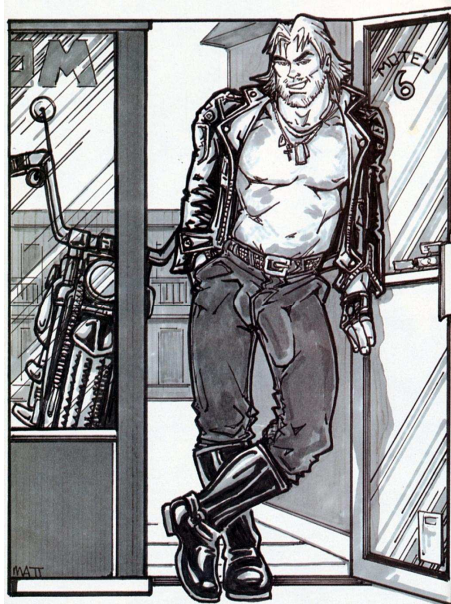
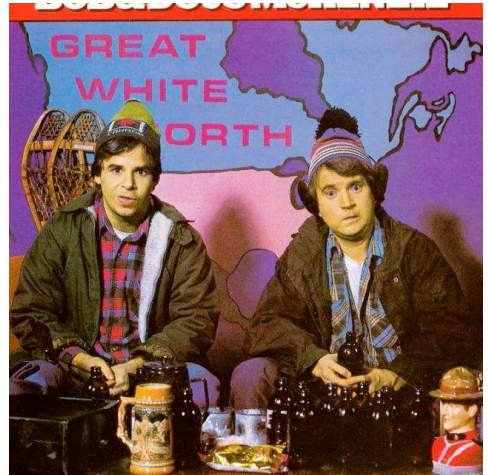




TORONTO-BOUND!

We've got a gang of members and non-members riding *and* flying to Toronto for our 4th annual visit later this month. Our typical modus operandi has been to ride to the Rams' Run (a weekend of alcohol-fuelled fun near Albion, NY) then zip up to Canada for some north-of-the-border fun Sunday and Monday, returning to New York City on Tuesday. Sadly, the Rochester Rams' are in the process of restructuring and won't be hosting a run this year – but all's not lost! We're going to pop up to Toronto Friday thru Monday, 28th-31st August and have some fun with the locals and members of Spearhead LDSC! Our home-base will be the Ramada Plaza Downtown at 300 Jarvis Street, right around the corner from the famous Maple Leaf Gardens (which is now a Loblaws supermarket) and Church Street (the Gay Village). We'll be partying at Zippers, the Black Eagle and other places in the evenings and on Saturday take a yacht to Hanlan's Point clothing optional beach for a picnic lunch! All-in-all, we're expecting about 12 people and still have room for more! Want to join us? Book your reservation at the hotel on kayak.com, shoot us an e-mail at ecmc@empirecitymc.com to let us know you're coming and meet at the hotel Friday afternoon at 3pm! We check out Monday morning for the return trip.



UPCOMING CLUB ANNIVERSARIES & RUNS

HARBOUR MASTERS: There has been a slight change to the timing for registering for Sailaway 33. Guests must register for the run no later than 31st July 2015. (Oops, a bit late notice for this printing!) The reason for this is that you have to register for your room at the Admirals Inn by 31st July 2015. If not, then the Admiral's Inn will release all holds on the empty rooms in the White Rose Inn which would allow non-Harbour Masters members and guests to reserve a room there. You must register for the run first, before registering for a room. Applications and pay online at the Harbour Masters webpage: <http://harbormastersofmaine.com/>

COMMAND, MC: The 26th Annual Mr Maryland Leather contest will take place in Baltimore, MD the weekend of November 6th. The cost of full run passes has been reduced to \$89 and includes Friday evening cocktail parties, two afterhours parties, the contest, anniversary dinner and more. The host hotel is currently taking reservations. More information and tickets are available at <http://commandmc.org/>

There are more AMCC affiliated club events at <http://amcc76.org/> – but be sure to get your club events published in ECMC'S RUMBLINGS by sending your AMCC or non-AMCC club event listings to secretary@empirecitymc.com

DO YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO BE AN ECMC MEMBER?

Empire City MC is always looking for prospective members! If you're a gay or bisexual man who's 21 or older, ride safe and sane, work well with others and desire to have adventures both on and off the road, perhaps Empire City MC is for you! We're a fraternal organisation of like-minded individuals who believe that our brotherhood is far more meaningful in our everyday life than nearly anything else. If this level of commitment appeals to you, come ride with us and come to our open general meetings on the 1st Wednesday of the month – get to know us as we get to know you. Even if you're not interested in joining, you're welcome to come to most of our rides and events.

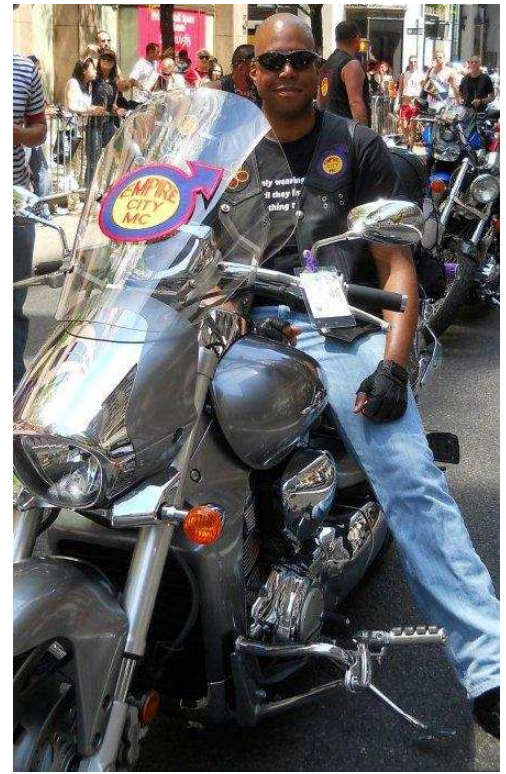
MEET THE MEMBER – JOE M



Joe has only been riding five years, but you'd never know that if you watch him perform sweep/safety on a formation ride – he's better than some guys who've been doing it for 20+ years! Joe rides a 2008 Suzuki Boulevard M109R, a two-cylinder four-stroke liquid-cooled V-twin bike named "Stampede" with a wide rear tyre that looks like a road-eating beast.

Joe met our current president, Evil Ed, via a friend – and Evil Ed introduced Joe to the world of motorcycles. It was an instant appeal and he went out and purchased a motorcycle before he was even comfortable riding them, having Evil Ed ride his new purchase home for him!

Joe has been an EMT (Emergency Medical Technician) and has seen his share of motor vehicle collisions. His best advice to other bikers to prevent from becoming a casualty is to make your presence known and to "own the road".



Joe joined Empire City MC in August 2011. He says it was a sort of "coming out" for him and a gay motorcycle club was very appealing to him. If he could change any one thing about ECMC, it would be hosting more events that involve our emeritus members*. The wealth of knowledge they have is vital to us and should never be discounted.



Joe expressed that he really enjoyed the ride out to Provincetown, MA for Bear Week with Chris some time ago and that his dream ride would be Pacific Coast Highway (CA-1) [not to be confused with US-1 which runs from Key West, FL to Maine.]

*Emeritus members of ECMC are former full members (who had been members in good standing for ten years or longer) and who have decided to "retire" from riding and/or the club. Emeritus members have no dues nor participation requirements but are unable to hold office, make motions or vote. They are considered extremely valuable resources for historic club information and guidance. Read more about our membership levels in our [Constitution and Bye-Laws](#).

LOOP-THE-LAKE: 18th-28th September 2015

Loop-the-lake is a ten-day, 1,500 mile road trip circling Lake Ontario (anti-clockwise) with stops in Boston (MA), Portland (ME), [Gargoyle House](#) (Newbury, VT), Montréal (Quebec, Canada), Ottawa (Ontario, Canada), Toronto (Ontario, Canada) for Spearhead's 45th Anniversary and then to [The Ranch \(Al & Dan's\) in Hemlock, NY](#) before heading back to New York City.

There will be some lovely riding, including a short hike in the middle of the Kancamagus Highway in New Hampshire!

Interested? Contact ChazAntonelli@gmail.com for details. Reservations at various stops need to be made in advance, especially for Spearhead's 45th Anniversary Weekend (event and hotel) as well as the Gargoyle House!

ECMC'S FIRST-EVER "BIKE & HIKE"

This was something new for Empire City MC, our first-ever "bike and hike" was held 9th August 2015. We met up at [Lexington Candy Shop](#) a luncheonette that serves as our usual haunt when we're travelling north-bound. We rode two hours north to the Appalachian Trail where it crossed NY-55 at GPS: 41.589973, -73.659329. You know you're not in the city when you start using GPS coordinates!

There were eight motorcycles, mostly ECMC members. Our friend Snake showed up at breakfast with a brand-new Honda Valkyrie, his new ride. I think it looked grape-purple, but he insists it's candy-red. Sadly, our day got off on the wrong



foot as Snake (gently) dropped his new bike on 83rd Street as we were just pulling out to start our ride. He was okay, but his new bike got some scratches on the right side. We're so sorry Snake! We've all been there.



We rode up the Saw Mill Parkway to the Taconic State Parkway to NY-52, NY-216 and then finally south on NY-55 for about 1.2 miles to the 'secret car park' where we parked our motorcycles and loaded up our hiking gear. I must admit, I was surprised when I turned around to see Scot looking completely different in a floppy hiking hat and checked shirt looking very much like a hiker indeed! After a few false-starts, we headed inward on the blue-blazed trail to the white-blazed Appalachian Trail heading north-east.

Mind you, none of us have been on this hike and some of us hadn't hiked in many years (if ever at all!) Trekking over unstable rocks and edges of cliffs was daunting for some of us, although exciting at the same time! After about an hour, we made it to Nuclear Lake where the trail with the yellow-blazes started indicating the lake loop trail. Many of our photos on our [facebook group's photo album area](#) were taken at this point. You could see the lake in it's full glory, keeping in mind that Nuclear Lake has been named "the most beautiful lake on the Appalachian Trail" by many.



I know what you're thinking – why would we ever want to visit a place named 'Nuclear Lake'? Let me set your mind at ease. The only reason it's even called Nuclear Lake (and I know you're going to think this is so funny when you hear it), is that in 1972, a chemical explosion blew out two windows in the experimental nuclear research lab that used to sit on the shore of the lake, blasting an unspecified amount of bomb-grade plutonium across the lake and surrounding woods. See? I bet you thought it was something bad!

Okay, so maybe it doesn't sound that fantastic. But the trails around the lake were extensively tested, cleaned and declared safe many years ago, and who am I to argue with all those Geiger counters? I'm sure they dumped plenty of kitty litter and sawdust on top of that plutonium. To visit the place, you'd never know anything untoward had happened at all. The Chamber of Commerce probably wouldn't mention the whole plutonium thing, but it's pretty wild that there was a nuclear research facility in Pawling, NY, right? Who knew?



Being a self-admitted geek, I brought my dosimeter (radiation detector). It only chirped with an alarm once, as we passed by a large boulder, indicating 0.50 $\mu\text{Sv/h}$ (which is about twice the natural global average background radiation), otherwise it was quite low, measuring between 0.09 to 0.15 $\mu\text{Sv/h}$. In other words, we're not glowing. For comparison, New York City's average background radiation is 0.12 $\mu\text{Sv/h}$.

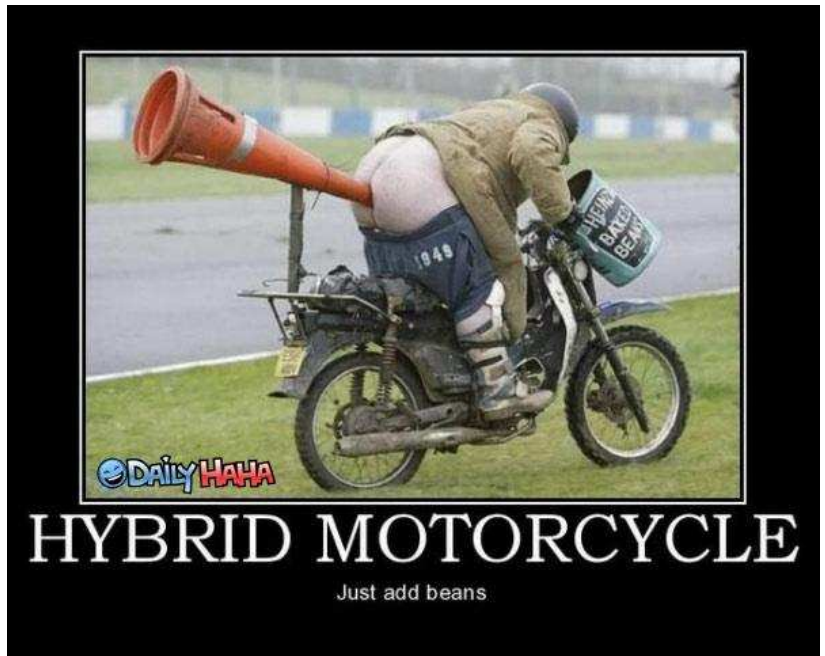
For the most part, we all enjoyed ourselves, even if we didn't get to go swimming in Nuclear Lake. Next time, we shall! The yellow-blazed lake loop trail was very rugged for some of us – it tested our tenacity. I'm sure that this will be the last hike for some, other than perhaps Central Park or getting from the (2) train to the (E) train in the tunnel! Most importantly, we all survived to tell the tale!

I know that three of us really enjoyed ourselves and we will strive to plan some more of these nature-centric rides!

GIBBLEGUTS.COM By Dan Gibson



After all he's probably been through, I just don't have the heart to tell him that it's a TOY bear run.



SAFE AND PRIVATE WEB SURFING!

Look, we're not just bikers – many of us are professionals too! I work with computers and sadly, I see many people getting hurt from viruses, exploits, spamming, malware, adware, phishing and more. It's a scary world on and off the road!

If you're going to surf a computer, you should have protection these days! I avoid many Google products now for privacy's sake. My home page is protopage.com which allows you to configure your home screen to show RSS feeds and other items of use (like Google used to!) I also use DuckDuckGo extension as well as in the search default, as they do not track you. I use Firefox (not Chrome nor I.E.) and my standard Firefox extensions (add-ons) include:

- DuckDuckGo Plus
- NoScript (blocks scripts XSS and more)*
- Adblock Plus (stops banner ads and more!)
- Saved Password Editor **
- Cookies Manager+
- Video Download Helper (downloads nearly anything)
- Downloads Window (old fashioned download window)

* NoScript is a pain to get used to and configure your whitelist at first, then you'll never know how you surfed without it!! Well worth the PITA.

** Saved Password Editor allows you to peek in your Firefox saved password database, make corrections/changes, save passwords on websites that typically don't allow your browser to remember a password and more.

With Mozilla Firefox, do take advantage of the CTRL+SHIFT+P to browse privately from time to time when you want no evidence left in your system or on theirs!

On your computer's desktop side, ClamWin (clamwin.com) is a FREE and awesome anti-virus tool. Note: it will sometimes report a false positive, which can be easily checked for free online at virustotal.com. I'd rather have a false positive, check it, then filter it than have it miss something entirely, wouldn't you?

And lastly, DO NOT SURF without MalwareBytes installed! Go to malwarebytes.org to purchase this tool, it's the best!!



UPCOMING EVENTS & RIDES

August 20th: RIDE: Bike Night in Times Square! Bikes park free along 43rd Street – bring as many people as you want. Go to <http://j.mp/TSbn2015> for more information. Hosted by Gotham City BikeLife Motorcycle Crew.

August 27th–September 1st: As there is sadly no Rochester Rams' Run this year, Empire City MC will instead trek to Toronto, Ontario, Canada to raise a little hell! Bikers leave NYC on Thursday 27th and stay one night at The Ranch, then complete the three-hour journey to Toronto for a fantastic weekend of fun! Non-bikers are welcome to meet us at our host hotel, The Ramada Plaza Toronto Downtown, 300 Jarvis St, Toronto. If you are going, please let us know, shoot an e-mail to ecmc@empirecitymc.com so we'll look for you!

September 2nd: Empire City MC's open general meeting is held the first Wednesday of the month at The Centre, 208 W 13th St, NYC. All interested men and prospective members are welcome to attend. Check the posted schedule to see which room we're in.

September 10th: RIDE: Ground Zero Memorial Midnight Ride. Meet up at NYC Harley-Davidson, 42-11 Northern Blvd. Arrive by 10PM, Kick-stands up at 11PM for this escorted ride from Queens to One World Trade Centre, arriving at midnight for services.

September 12th: RIDE: Six Flags Great Adventure! Join us for some roller-coaster thrills! E-mail us at ecmc@empirecitymc.com if interested.

September 18th–20th: RIDE: Rehoboth Beach/Ocean City Bike Week. Contact road-captain@empirecitymc.com if you want to come along!

September 18th–28th: RIDE: "Loop-the-Lake", an 11-day, 1,500 mile around Lake Ontario featuring Spearhead of Toronto LDSC's 45th Anniversary Run! Visit <http://j.mp/ltl-2015> for details, register with ecmc@empirecitymc.com prior to 3rd September 2015 and also register with Spearhead LDSC at <http://spearheadtoronto.com/> if you're going to participate on the run!

September 25th–27th: EVENT: Spearhead LDSC's 45th Anniversary In-Town Run, Toronto, Ontario, Canada. <http://spearheadtoronto.com/>

October 7th: Empire City MC's open general meeting is held the first Wednesday of the month at The Centre, 208 W 13th St, NYC. All interested men and prospective members are welcome to attend. Check the posted schedule to see which room we're in.

October 11th (Daytime): RIDE: Concrete Canyon Run

October 11th (Evening): Empire City MC's 51st Anniversary Dinner. Speak to any ECMC member if you'd like an invitation to attend.

October 16th–18th: RIDE/EVENT: Harbour Masters' Annual Run, Ogunquit, ME. <http://www.harbormastersofmaine.com/>

December 4th: BARNIGHT: Excelsior MC's Annual Trim-A-Tree to be held at the Eagle NYC!

December 5th: Empire City MC's 51st Annual Holiday Party & Toy Drive to benefit Leake & Watts. More information forthcoming!

January 16th 2016: BARNIGHT: Join ECMC at The *NEW* DC Eagle for an amazing and sexy barnight on Saturday night during the Centaur MC's Mid-Atlantic Leather Weekend! Mark your calendars now!

REMEMBER: There will be plenty of other events and rides added to our official calendar on a regular basis, especially day rides! Be sure to bookmark our official calendar at <http://calendar.EmpireCityMC.com> and come along with us!

Empire City MC's mailing address is:

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



Are you interested in becoming a member of ECMC? For more information about membership with Empire City Motorcycle Club, or to download our membership application, constitution and bylaws, please [click here](#).

Get in on the conversation! [Click here](#) to join our facebook group or go to <http://facebook.EmpireCityMC.com/>

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