



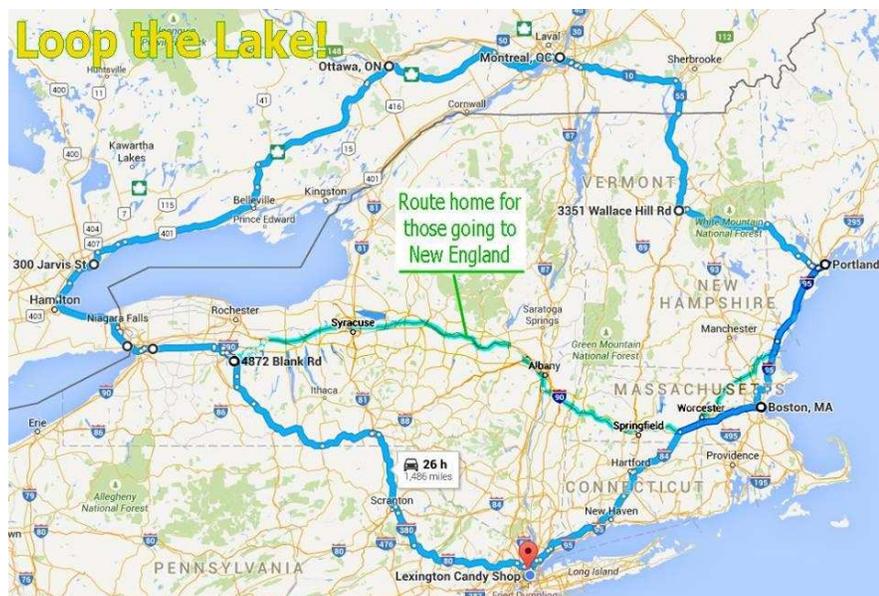
TORONTO TRIP and "LOOP-THE-LAKE" RIDES

Canada, our Great White North neighbour! We've got two trips that venture into Canada lined up this year. For the first one, as many of you are already aware, following the Rochester Rams' Run each year, a group of us bikers travel north to Toronto for some fun, but since there won't be a Rochester Rams' Run this year (or very likely ever again), we're going to go up to Toronto over the Rams' Run Weekend instead! Also, we're opening this event up to non-bikers for the first time this year! Non-bikers will need to arrange their own transportation and we'll meet you at the host hotel at 3PM for check-in! Here's the basic plan:



- Bikers will ride up to The Ranch (Dan & Al's) on Thursday, 27th August to spend the night.
- On Friday, 28th August, we'll ride into Toronto and check into Ramada Plaza Toronto Downtown, 300 Jarvis Street
- We'll explore and party all weekend in Toronto, including The Black Eagle (so bring your leather)
- There might even be another yacht trip to Hanlan's Bay for a picnic and sunbathing at Hanlan's Point Beach
- On Monday, 31st August, we'll check out of Ramada Plaza Toronto Downtown – breakfast plans depend upon the weather.
- Bikers will ride to The Ranch, departing for NYC in the morning on Tuesday, 1st September.

If you're interested in going, make your hotel reservations now on <http://kayak.com> while the price is still low! And let us know!!



The other ride is a bit more complex and longer! This is the first-ever "LOOP-THE-LAKE" ride, travelling anti-clockwise around Lake Ontario! It's 1,500 miles in ten days with stops in Boston, Portland, Vermont, Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto and The Ranch!

It's far too complex to explain here, and people can join in and drop out at any point they like.

Here is the interactive Route Map: <http://j.mp/loop-the-lake> and the facebook event page, which will have many more details as well as discussion among the riders: <http://j.mp/2015-LTL>

Two of the more interesting facts in this trip are:

Accommodations on 19th-21st are at the Gargoyle House in Newbury, Vermont, a gay men's

clothing optional retreat with wood-fired hot-tub, sauna, movie room, play room and more and on Friday-Sunday the 25th-27th is Spearhead's 45th Anniversary Weekend Run!

Notes: For both of these rides, you must have a passport that is valid until at least March 2016 in order to enter Canada. You must also have your motorcycle registration, proof of insurance and licence.

MOTORCYCLISTS: PLEASE STOP BEING SANCTIMONIOUS ASSHOLES

Author: damon@jalopnik.com, Illustration by Sam Woolley, Originally posted on <http://lanesplitter.jalopnik.com/>

Riding a motorcycle is inherently dangerous. It's just the cost of doing a thing we enjoy. Clueless, idiotic drivers texting and talking and generally (or literally) jerking off are part of the equation. It sucks. I know. But that doesn't mean you've been deputized as The Enforcer. You're not helping. And it's time to drop this self-righteous shit already.



Nearly every week a helmet cam surfaces of a rider spotting some driver behaving badly. It's inevitable. And it's inevitably followed up by the tell-tale headshake, some expletives, and maybe an obscene gesture. Yes, most people are awful drivers. You know it. I know it. It's a fact of life that can't be avoided, whether you're on two wheels or four. But the inherent vulnerability of a bike compels some riders take their grievances to the next level. Adrenaline kicks in and a sanctimonious attitude takes over, building up to a tenor that no one would put up with in any civil setting (this kind of shit would never fly in a bar or restaurant). It's dangerous and stupid. And the results are entirely predictable. Here's just two examples that have popped up in the last week to prove the point:

The first comes from the crew at RideApart, which inexplicably gave the rider, Samuel Ayres, a soapbox to stand on after he reprimanded a BMW convertible driver (of course) for playing with his phone at a traffic light. And then the guy clipped him down the road. See: <http://j.mp/sanctimonious-1> -- From the video's YouTube description: "As I was filtering up to the front of a light, I noticed one particular man in a black BMW convertible. He was very busy texting and talking away on his mobile phone. He became visibly angry when I told him to put down his cell phone while he was in his car." You might become "visibly angry" too if someone came out of nowhere and started dropping F-bombs. Ayres might, too. But I certainly understand the urge. Still... The BMW driver's reaction and the ensuing assault -- which, according to Ayres, resulted in a concussion, two hairline fractures on his left shoulder and a broken foot -- is basically attempted vehicular homicide. This asshole needs to go to jail. But how culpable is Ayres in spurring the situation to begin with? Did he believe that berating the driver would actually change his behaviour forever? Would that one interaction start a cascade of circumstances in which BMW Man tells his friends about the motorcyclist that finally opened his eyes to the dangers of distracted driving? Or was Ayres just pissed -- as many of us are -- that drivers aren't focusing on the task at hand, putting our lives at risk in the process, and he decided to finally say something? I'm going with the latter, because again, I've been there. However, that conceited idea that he could somehow change things is just further indication of the twisted sense of superiority some of us feel while on bike -- that we choose to ride -- despite the risks it poses.

Then there's this flaming assbat: <http://j.mp/sanctimonious-2> -- He's riding to the left of a black SUV, thinks the driver could veer into his lane (we're invisible, after all), and rather than ease off the gas and honk his horn, he twists the throttle, bounces the engine off the rev-limiter, and blows by, calling the lady behind the wheel "a dummy." And that's where the civility ended. (Warning: Offensive, disgusting language above). After she blasts past him, he follows up to the driver's side of the SUV, slams on the window, threatens the driver ("I'll rip your fucking face off"), and calls her a series of revolting names. All while stopping traffic. And all while her terrified son sits in the passenger seat. There's no excuse for this kind of aggression.

It's born out of being in a position of risk, but it also smacks of ego and arrogance. Just the fact that these videos are proudly posted as some kind of trophy collected in their quest to rid the world of idiocy comes off as a strange amalgamation of schadenfreude and narcissism. One rider, out to save the world, and call a woman a "dumb bitch" and "glassy-eyed crackhead." Or another, who after initiating the situation that lead to his injuries, now wants you to pay for his bills.

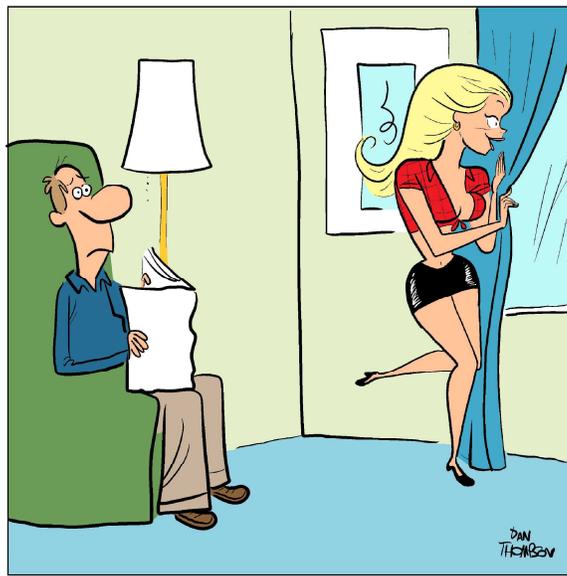
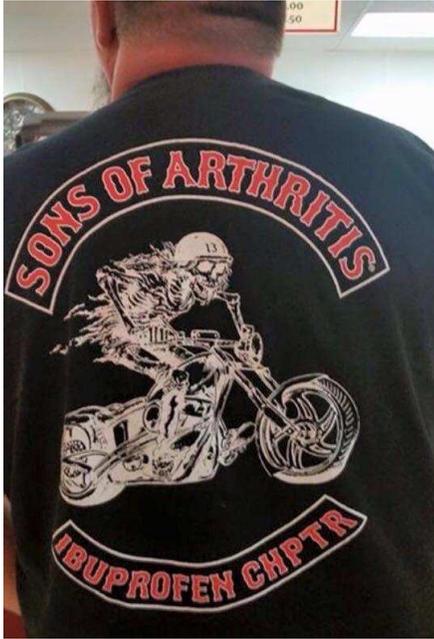
It's easy to adopt this holier-than-thou attitude on a bike. We see everything because we have to be hyper-aware. We know people (friends, loved ones) that have been hurt or killed by careless -- and sometimes unrepentant -- drivers. The risk of dying beneath the wheel of the hapless masses is engrained in us early. It's something we understand. And sometimes, that constant risk avoidance gets the best of us.

But I'm convinced we're better than these assholes make us out to be. Maybe we need to take a dedicated motorcyclist anger management class. Or just stick to dirt bikes. Or take a breath and accept the cosmic idiocy of the universe. Because what some of us are doing right now isn't helping. In fact, it's making the situation far, far worse.

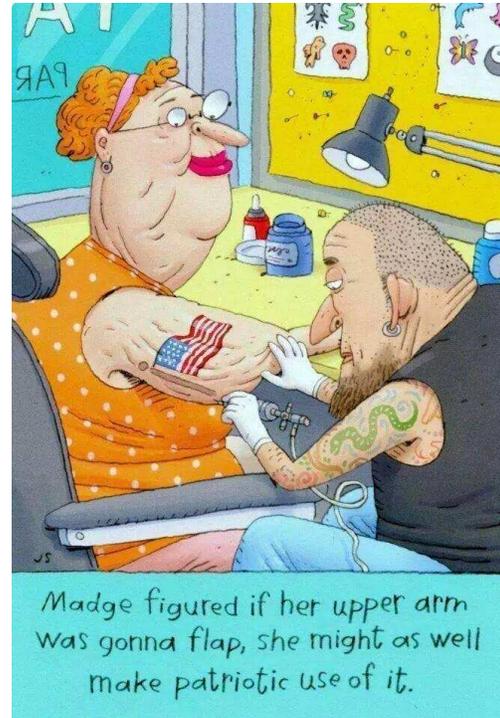
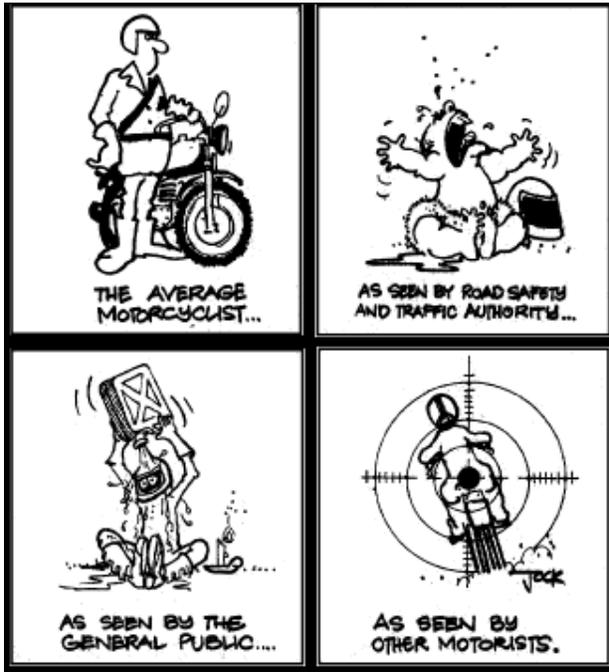
MEET THE MEMBER

As it's a busy travel month, 'meet the member' will return next month with an interview with our former Road Captain, Joe M.

BIKER FUNNY PAGES



"AW, IT'S MAD DOG, HE'S OUTSIDE DOING HEART SHAPE DONUTS ON HIS HARLEY ALL OVER YOUR LAWN, DADDY."



KEY WEST WRECKERS CLOSES THEIR DOORS

After 25 years and after raising over \$350,000 for local and national charities, the Key West Wreckers have disbanded due to lack of participation. In the words of J.T. Thompson, the former president of the 25-year-old organisation, "The Wreckers were down to eight members and sometimes with only had two active members to run events, so it was untenable. From the looks of things here [Key West, FL], people socialize online, not in person, and not in clubs. The Knights d'Orleans and other clubs are gone for the same reason. I wish I had better news from your Leather Brothers in Key West, but the times are a-changing!"



The Key West Wreckers Leather/Levi Club was founded in 1991 by men in the Key West community who shared a similar interest in leather and levi. They shared a brotherhood of friendship, a commitment to contributing to their Community and an ongoing effort to educate leathermen and leatherwomen in their pursuit of safe, sane, and consensual adult sexual expression.

They, and the many other disbanded clubs shall be missed. We are truly an endangered species.

THE PRESIDENT'S (EVIL ED'S) LAST WORD...

Welcome to the middle of riding season. We have lots of warm, sunny days ahead of us. Let's take advantage of the time we have left for riding this year. Get on your bike, ride and make some new adventures!

If you drive a cage, please check twice for motorcycles – motorcyclists, please share the road and be courteous as well and we'll all be better off!



- Evil Ed

UPCOMING EVENTS & RIDES

August 1st: RIDE: Dilly's, Eddie's Cabin & The Raven. Grab a burger, chips and a shake at Dilly's then it's off to give a cabin-warming to Eddie at his new summer home in Quakertown, then up to The Raven in New Hope for some poolside fun in the sun!

August 2nd: RIDE: Pack your insulin, we're going to Gia Gelato & Café in Jersey City to say thanks for catering our 50th Anniversary Run in 2014, then it's off to Polar Cub Ice Cream (allegedly the oldest Ice Cream shack in New Jersey) for some sweet treats!

August 5th: 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.

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. Book now – this hotel fills up quickly! Contact Road-Captain@EmpireCityMC.com for more details or questions.

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 18th-28th: RIDE: "Loop-the-Lake", an 11-day, 1,500 mile around Lake Ontario! Visit <http://j.mp/ltl-2015> for details, and register with secretary@EmpireCityMC.com if you'd like to go.

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 10th: Empire City MC's 51st Anniversary Dinner. Speak to any ECMC member if you'd like an invitation to attend.

October 11th: RIDE: Concrete Canyon Run

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

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:

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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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