



**Planning underway for 2016!**

As you can see from our rides and events calendar, planning for 2016 is well underway! Our new Vice President has big plans for many social gatherings and our Road Captain is just as busy planning club rides!

It's a good time to remind non-ECMC riders a few things about our rides – nearly everyone is welcome to join us on our rides, provided you're a safe and friendly rider. You need not be a member nor an associate member of Empire City MC in order to attend our events; furthermore, there will be no pressure to join our club. We ride for the fun of it, we hope you do too!

Want to reach out to us? You can contact any of our officers directly with these direct e-mail addresses:

President .....	<a href="mailto:president@empirecitymc.com">president@empirecitymc.com</a>	The big guy who runs the meeting
Vice-President .....	<a href="mailto:vice-president@empirecitymc.com">vice-president@empirecitymc.com</a>	All <u>e</u> vents and the president's right-hand
Road Captain .....	<a href="mailto:road-captain@empirecitymc.com">road-captain@empirecitymc.com</a>	All <u>r</u> ides and <u>t</u> ravel planning
Secretary .....	<a href="mailto:secretary@empirecitymc.com">secretary@empirecitymc.com</a>	Recording, correspondence, e-mail, website, newsletter
Treasurer .....	<a href="mailto:treasurer@empirecitymc.com">treasurer@empirecitymc.com</a>	The guy with the cash
Past-President .....	<a href="mailto:past-president@empirecitymc.com">past-president@empirecitymc.com</a>	Advisor and e-board member*
AMCC Representative .....	<a href="mailto:amcc-rep@empirecitymc.com">amcc-rep@empirecitymc.com</a>	Our member who interfaces with AMCC
General enquires .....	<a href="mailto:ecmc@empirecitymc.com">ecmc@empirecitymc.com</a>	Our "catch-all" mailbox

\* Our Past-President is the most recent former president who is not a current officer. It was Eddie for the past four years, and as of this year, it's now Evil Ed.

**C.L.A.W.S. Special Ops: Parliament Invasion**

In 2015, a handful of Empire City MC members attended the "C.L.A.W.S." run and had a great time! See for yourself – you can see some family-friendly photos at <http://i.mp/claws2015>.

Now you can attend their 2016 run 25<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> August, 2016 at the gay clothing-optional Parliament/Metropolis resort in Augusta, GA!

We strongly recommend this weekend for a heaping helping of their "southern hospitality" (and sausage gravy and biscuits!)

Read more about it and get your run application at <http://www.clawslc.org/a2016-run/>



**The last first word...**

As Evil Ed steps aside, I find myself once again in the wheelhouse of this amazing ship, the "HMS ECMC". On one hand, I'm very honoured that the membership has re-elected me into this position; but on the other hand, I want to ensure that I foster leadership in many of our younger members and hope they too will step up over the coming years to lead this wonderful group of brothers into the annals of gay history.



## Nashville Conductors going 'Under the Big Top'

The Conductors, Nashville's local levi, leather, and fetish club, will host its 34th annual leather run the weekend of March 4–6, 2016. The theme of this year's run weekend, Track XXXIV, is "Under a Big Top." Nashville will play host to leather men and women from all over the United States for a fun-filled weekend of leather, fun and brotherhood.



The Conductors—a member club of the Mid-America Conference of Clubs—is also one of Nashville's longest-surviving social service organizations. Originally founded in 1982 by a core group of friends who shared an appreciation for leather, the group has built fellowship within the local leather community, while building goodwill in the wider LGBT community by giving back.

The emergence of the AIDS crisis in Nashville shortly after the group's formation, and the formation of Nashville CARES soon after, led The Conductors to focus fundraising efforts on offering financial assistance to clients of CARES.

The Conductors fund an emergency assistance program through CARES that assists clients with severe and emergent need who have exhausted all other sources of financial support. The Conductors program is anonymous. Member Jackie Walton is proud of the fact that "we support Nashville CARES and in 33 years we've never turned anyone down." The group has funded prescriptions, co-pays, eyeglasses, utility bills, home repair, rent, among many other need items for those in dire need.

But the social element has always been at the centre of The Conductors' mission as well, and a big part of that is the annual run. From The Conductors' website: "Since our founding in 1982 we have celebrated our anniversary every year, primarily in March, with our club's 'Run.' This is a chance for us to invite our leather brothers and sisters to Nashville for a weekend of fun and fellowship...."

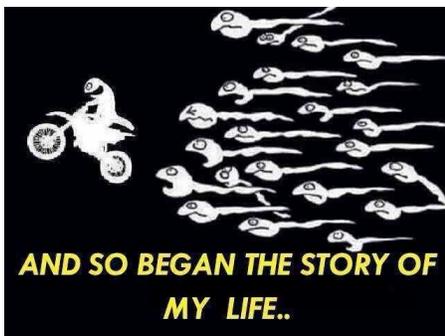
The "Under a Big Top" weekend begins with registration at 3 p.m. on Friday, March 4, and the cocktail parties start at 5 p.m. (10–15 official cocktail parties are planned over the weekend). All food and drinks are included in the price of the run (except during bar crawls). Transportation will be provided for any events outside the host hotel. Final Farewells will be held Sunday, March 6, starting at 2 p.m. at the Stirrup, which is the club's "home bar."

A few of the events to look forward to during this year's run include:

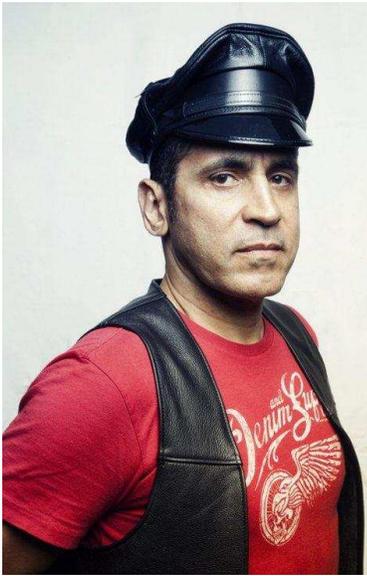
- Official events, like the Mid-America Conference of Clubs Fall meeting for all member clubs, the formal dinner with clubs in uniforms and colours, and awards, along with cocktail parties hosted by clubs, bars and members
- The Conductors Run show—a show unlike any other, featuring Conductors club brothers and associates in ways you always (or never!) wanted to see
- "Freak and Fetish," an annual event hosted by the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence at Trax
- Bar Crawls—Stirrup, Trax, Tribe, Play, Canvas, Blue Genes, and Vibe
- After Hours with demonstrations/teaching and playroom time
- Mr. Friendly

The Conductors promise that every moment of the event, between opening and closing, will be filled with opportunities for entertainment and brotherhood. For more information or to register, visit [www.conductors.net](http://www.conductors.net). (outandaboutnashville.com)

## Biker Funnies



## Meet the member... Giorgio!



We're into 'year two' of our "meet the member series" and we've still got more to go! This month, meet Giorgio, our Brazilian Adonis from Queens.

Giorgio became a full member of Empire City MC in January 2013, prior to that, he had been a solo rider since 2007. Although he had known of ECMC's existence (thanks to our webpage), he felt coming to a meeting was somewhat awkward as he didn't know any of the members, especially after seeing all the photos of members embracing each other like life-long friends. One fateful day while he was shopping at New York Harley-

Davidson, he ran across one of our members, Eddie. Eddie introduced Giorgio to the club, Giorgio felt that it seemed like a fun thing to do and the rest was history!



Giorgio came to the United States from Brazil where he had been riding since he was 13 years old. His first bike was a 50cc Honda, but he quickly went through many more – 75cc, 100cc, then a Yamaha 250cc and up to a Honda CB 550. When he came to the States, he rode a 1200cc H-D Sportster for a couple years then upgraded to a 2009 H-D Rocker C, a 1600cc beast of a bike (with lots of lighting effects!) Giorgio's dream bike is a robust H-D Road King-Style Trike (3-wheeler).

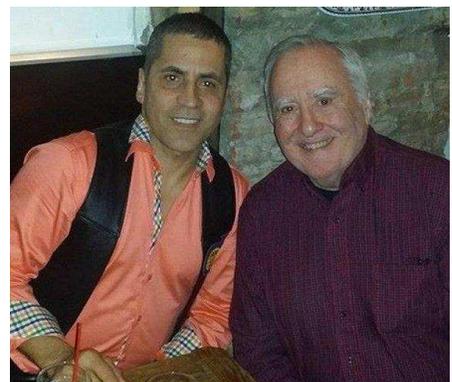
Of all the ECMC rides and events to date, the trip to Ocean City Bike Week has been his favourite – with the ferry ride over to Cape May and the constant rumbling of thunder from all the bikes there. Giorgio's dream is to ride the "Trail of the Mountain Spirits", a ride through the deserts and mountains of the mid-west United States.



Giorgio is married, but his husband, Ed, is not a rider and isn't interested in riding; however, Ed's completely comfortable with Giorgio riding and going out of town on some weekends, provided Giorgio stocks the fridge and pantry before he leaves, jokes Giorgio. He says he's been very lucky to have a naturally-occurring work/life/riding balance and there's almost never any conflict.

A few years ago, Giorgio became a vegan (for those of you who aren't 'in the know', vegans are the next level up from vegetarians and do not consume any animal nor animal by-products. I provided the description, as some of Giorgio's friends thought "vegan" was the same as "straight" or "not gay anymore!") This was a life choice he made for himself and isn't one to impose his lifestyle upon others. You can see in some of the photos here that he has lost significant weight and looks much happier; however, he reports that the conversion to being vegan wasn't easy and required that he hire a coach to help him. Bikers tend to eat at a lot of rubbish places, many whom don't know what is and is not vegan-friendly, so Giorgio has learnt to pack some food of his own and carry on. Educating people what a vegan is and is not seems to be the only preaching he does, and I'm sure that's because he does not want to be thought of as "straight!" 😊

In addition to motor-biking, Giorgio also enjoys BICYCLING ultra-light speed bikes. As you can imagine, with only two days off a week, there's a bit of contention as to if he will ride the bike or the motorcycle – as there are no folding versions of speed bikes, they are mutually-exclusive pastimes! Giorgio had a very happy home-life with his husband Ed who enjoys astronomy and reading. (And yes, if you're wondering, Giorgio convinced Ed to become Vegan as well!)



# UPCOMING EVENTS & RIDES

**2nd March:** 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.

**12th March:** ECMC is proud to perform security services for the Imperial Court of New York's Night of a Thousand Gowns!

**19th March:** Long Island Ravens' Anniversary Dinner. Applications at <http://liravensmc.org/anniversary24/>

**2nd April:** RIDE: Staten Island Ride (details coming soon!)

**6th April:** 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.

**24th April:** RIDE: Hogs 4 Hope. This straight motorcycle club's ride benefits Ronald McDonald House and starts at the Croton Gorge Park, 35 Yorktown Rd, Cortlandt, NY 10520. Riders \$25, Passengers \$20. Kickstands up from Croton Gorge Park at 11AM, followed by their famous pig roast BBQ in Yonkers! Police escorted - parkways & roadways closed for our exclusive use!

**4th May:** 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.

**20th-22nd May:** The Island of Misfit Boys is Excelsior MC and Twilight Guard's annual run on Fire Island. Empire City will be there to provide libations and stir up some trouble! See you there!

**27th-30th May:** Empire City MC's annual Biker Weekend in the Finger Lakes Region. Applications will be coming out soon!

**1st June:** 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.

**5th June:** RIDE: New Jersey Pride Parade. Did you know that six of our members don't live in New York City? Come ride with Empire City MC as we celebrate our pride by riding in the New Jersey Pride Parade in Asbury Park, NJ!

**12th June:** RIDE: Philadelphia Pride Parade. Two of our full members are from Philadelphia, so we'll be there to ride in the Philadelphia Pride Parade! Come join in on the fun!

**17th June:** EVENT: ECMC Bike Blessing. Our annual blessing of the bikes on Christopher Street in front of Ty's Bar. This FREE event is for bikers, buddies and all motorcycle fans! Hot bikes and hotter men! The fun starts around 6pm!

**18th June:** RIDE: ECMC Biker's Picnic. Empire City MC "gives back" with this annual picnic for all bikers and buddies. Admission is FREE, but it is restricted to motorcycles only -- no four-wheeled vehicles allowed please!

**19th June:** EVENT: Folsom Street East. Stop by ECMC's booth at the Folsom Street Fair for a freebie (while they last) and say hello to some of the sexiest and friendliest guys too!

**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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