



THIS WEEKEND!!!

**Biker, Buddy and Non-Bikers Welcomed!
Eastbound and Down! RIDE LI 22!**

**SAT, 16th
JULY 2022**

**11:00 AM - BIKES
START RIDE FROM
JONES BEACH STATE
PARK**

**3:00PM - POOL PARTY
AND BBQ BEGINS
SOUTHAMPTON**

GET YOUR BIKES READY FOR A SCENIC TOUR ALONG LONG ISLAND'S SOUTH SHORE AND FINISHING AT PRIVATE RESIDENCE IN SOUTHAMPTON FOR A PRIVATE LEATHER POOL PARTY.

Join us on a two wheel tour from Jones Beach State Park eastward to Southampton for a Private Pool Party and BBQ. Atlantic Ocean, Pine Barrens, The Big Duck, Shinnecock Canal and beautiful Southampton views along the route. Limited overnight beds available, please book early.

Pool Party and BBQ limited to 40 guests. Overnight accommodations on first reserved, first served basis. Please comment on PayPal whether you are planning to stay over.

Scan QR Code to the left or go to liravensmc.org/rideLI22.html or for more information
Secure payment through PayPal
Refunds If canceled due to rain.

NOT A BIKER, JOINS US AT THE END AND WELCOME THE RIDERS AS THEY ARRIVE!

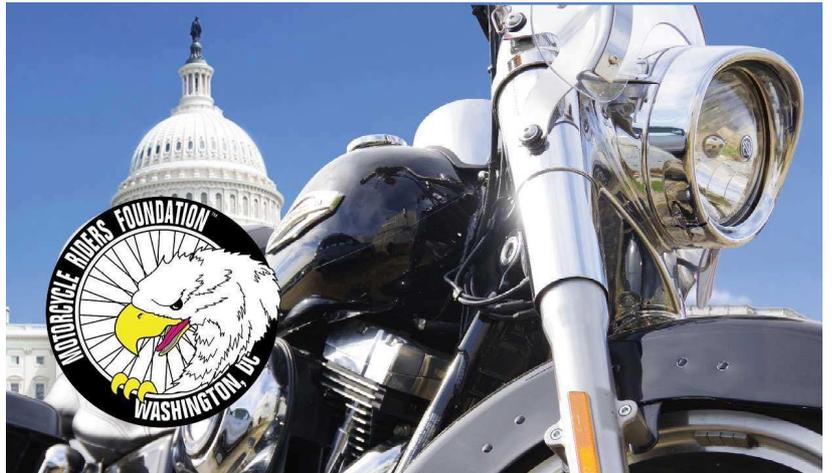
Tickets and more information online at <http://www.liravensmc.org/rideLI22.html>

Federal Trade Commission Says Harley-Davidson Illegally Restricted Right to Repair

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) announced it ordered Harley-Davidson and the maker of Westinghouse generators, MWE Investments, to amend their warranties after the companies allegedly illegally restricted customers' right to repair.

According to the release:

- "Both companies were imposing illegal warranty terms that voided customers' warranties if they used anyone other than the companies and their authorized dealers to get parts or repairs for their products."
- The FTC also alleged that Harley-Davidson failed to fully disclose all the terms of its warranty in a single document, requiring consumers to contact an authorized dealership for full details.
- The companies are ordered to amend warranty terms, inform customers of their warranty rights, and "direct authorized dealers to remove deceptive display materials, train and monitor employees, and not promote branded parts and dealers over third parties."



The FTC alleges that the actions by the companies harmed consumers and competition in multiple ways, including:

- Restricting consumers' choices
- Costing consumers more money
- Undercutting independent dealers
- Reducing resiliency

The vote by the FTC board was unanimous, 5-0. To read the full release from the FTC go here: <https://bit.ly/hdftc>

Twelve Important Things My Motorcycle Taught Me

1. The only good view of a thunderstorm is in your rear-view mirror.
2. Four wheels move the body but two wheels move the soul.
3. I'd rather be riding my bike and thinking about God... than sitting in church thinking about my motorcycle.
4. Life may begin at 30 but it doesn't get interesting until about 75 mph.
5. Midnight bugs taste just as bad as noon time bugs.
6. Sometimes it takes a whole tank full of gas before you can think straight.
7. A bike on the road is worth two in the shed.
8. Young riders pick a destination and go, old riders pick a direction.
9. When you're riding lead, don't spit.
10. Catching a yellow jacket in your sleeve at 75MPH can double your vocabulary.
11. If you can't get it going with bungee cords and duct tape, it's serious.
12. Only a biker knows why a dog sticks his head out of a car window.



Thanks to David R for this fun submission!

Emilio Carranza Memorial & Wreath Laying



On 9th July 2022, Empire City MC laid a wreath on behalf of the citizens of New York City to commemorate Emilio Carranza, nicknamed the "Lindbergh of Mexico" whom was killed on the return part of a historic goodwill flight from Mexico City to the United States.

He crashed in New Jersey shortly after take-off from New York and a monument made in Mexico was placed at the crash site, as seen in the photo with Gary and Erik of Empire City MC along with the Commanding General in charge of the Mexican Air Force. Although information is sparse about Emilio's sexuality, we believe he might have been a closeted gay man due to the story that on 12th July 1928, Carranza received a telegram from Mexican War Minister Joaquín Amaro ordering his immediate return to Mexico City "or the quality of your manhood will be in doubt." According to the legend, the telegram was found at the crash site in the pocket of the aviator's flight jacket, but the telegram no longer exists. The story's proponents do not cite any primary source that confirms the telegram's existence.

In any case, gay or not, Emilio's bravery and valor was not in question and in the mid 1900's, thousands of people came to celebrate his life at this monument; however, the monument was overtaken by forest and then vandalised by white supremacists. In 1999, Senator Leonard T. Connors Jr and Diane Allen Senate bill No. 2025 to establish the "Emilio Carranza Memorial Commission"; it additionally appropriates \$95,000. The focus of the bill was to primarily provide for the restoration and maintenance of the Emilio Carranza memorial monument. Nowadays, a handful of groups return to Carranza Memorial Park to pay tribute annually on the second Saturday in July at 13:00.



Empire City MC is planning on making this a regular event on our calendars.

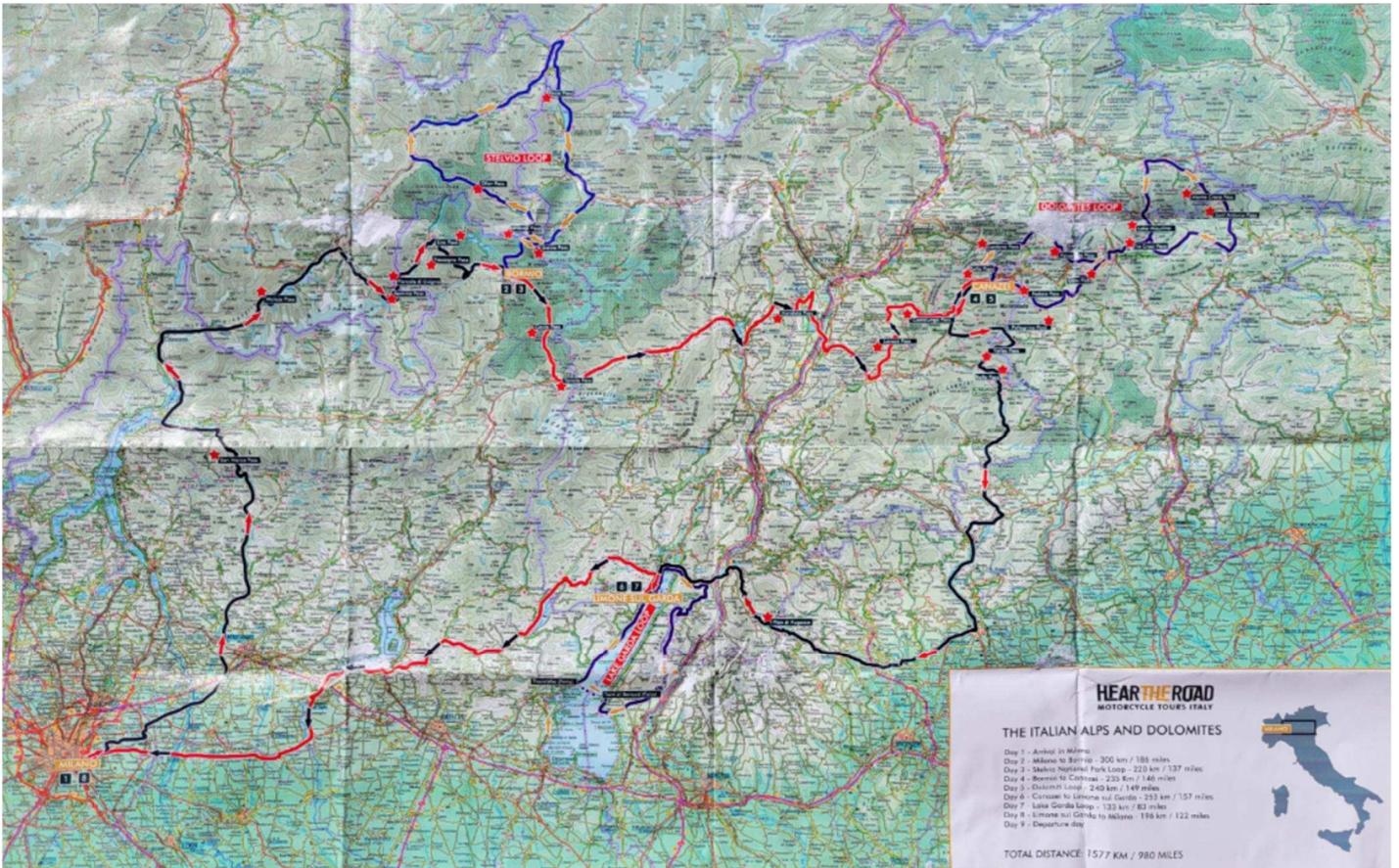
Motorcycle Tour of the Italian Alps and the Dolomites

While still in Europe (Zurich, Switzerland), I write about the past 9-day motorcycle tour of the Alpine Mountains which was one of the most difficult rides I've ever taken! We had nearly eight hours of riding every day for 8 days – my wrists, butt and back are still recovering; however, the views and food were amazing.

The touring company, owned and operated by Enrico Grassi of Rome, Italy leads seven different rides all over Italy, but the Alps and Dolomites tour is considered the most difficult due to the hundreds of switch-backs (hairpin turns) to go up and down the massive mountains, some capped with snow year-round. (to see details on this tour, visit the Hear The Road website for this tour at <https://motorcycletoursitaly.com/tour/the-italian-alps-and-dolomites/>)

I cannot go into complete detail here, but I can say there are a couple critical things I was concerned about this tour – mostly involving language communication issues and behaviour on the road. For example, I had asked if "half helmets" were legal in Italy, as you are expected to bring your own helmet – they indicated that a half-helmet was legal. Sadly, their idea of a "half-helmet" is when most American Bikers consider a 3/4 helmet (covering the ears, not chin). My helmet was confiscated by a local pig in a small town. It's a good thing I had a 3/4 helmet rental "just in case" there was an issue, or the pig might have confiscated my bike!

Another issue is that driving behaviour and the pre-ride briefing. Not much was discussed at the pre-ride briefing about how we would be riding. Concerns I expressed were summarily dismissed, only to be extremely detrimental to a few of our riders. On the first leg from Milan to Bormio, the group inadvertently separated and some (including me) took the wrong way, needing to be collected and returned to the group by the sweep. Good thing I had a working phone! As someone who rides street cruisers and/or touring bikes, I was not prepared for the extreme height of the BMW RS1250 I was renting – although I managed not to drop my bike at all, one of the shorter folks on the trip dropped their bike FIVE TIMES on the first day, damaging the bike so much, it had to be returned to the rental company and that rider rode with their boyfriend the rest of the trip.

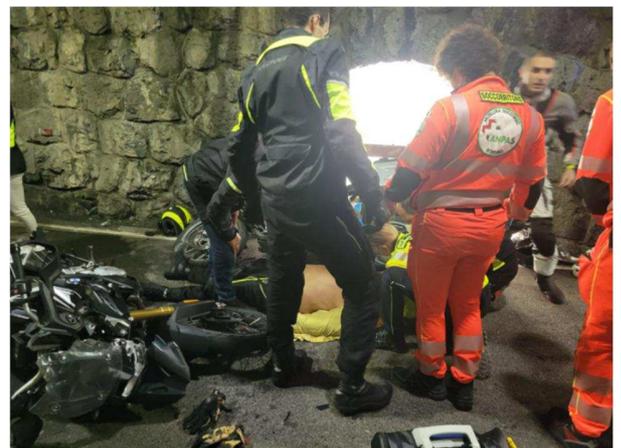


The leader of the group would ride extremely fast, beyond the speed limits and would pass trucks, busses and other cars on the narrow, single-lane roads. Those of us who felt that this was an unsafe practise would NOT overtake vehicles until we could see it was clear. By the time we passed, the first four bikers (who were all dangerous riders in my opinion), they were out of sight and we would be left to fend for ourselves to try and figure out where to go... Later that day, I convinced the leader to provide me an address for my Google Maps GPS on my phone to guide me to where to meet back up which made me feel much more comfortable.

These were the first issues and were considerably mild compared to DAY 2.

For some reason, DAY 2 featured the most difficult ride on the trip -- Stelvio Pass. Search for "motorcycle Stelvio Pass" on YouTube to see some of the amazing videos of this snow-capped mountain, the second-highest paved road in the Alps. If I were the tour guide, I would have done this tour in reverse to allow people to become acclimated to their rental bikes before attempting this... and it became evident that some of us were NOT ready to make the trip up the mountain...

We departed our Bormio hotel to do the Stelvio Pass Loop. The ultra-fast and reckless riders zoomed past me, riding on the centre line between cars going both directions. So unsafe. I refused to follow like that! Twenty minutes later, we entered the second tunnel on the climb up the mountain and as we entered the tunnel, there was the glow of many brake lights. One of our riders was overtaking someone in the narrow,



turning tunnel, and rode at high-speed into another motorcyclist coming down the mountain from the opposite direction. They collided so hard that the rim on the front wheel of his bike bent. He appeared dead, landing on top of his hot motorcycle engine and non-responsive. The other three high-speed riders continued on, never looking back while the ride leader, sweep and the rest of us remained behind to call for help, perform triage, direct traffic, etc. Fortunately, he was breathing and had a pulse, but sadly, he was fully paralysed from the accident as the EMTs stabilised him and took him to hospital. Last we heard, he has recovered partial feeling and movement on his left side. He remains in the hospital for at least 15 days and his family was flying to Italy to be with him.

Also on DAY 2: One of the fast riders clipped a bicyclist, losing a fingernail and getting a swollen hand and another, while passing in a tunnel (like the first guy) ended up hitting an automobile and ripping off a saddle bag. Gezzzzz... We came for the tour, the scenery, the views, and the fun ride – not to die!

The remainder of the trip was far less eventful – much safer, and, on day three, I had achieved “symbiosis” with my BMW motorcycle, almost as in the film “Avatar” where the Na’vi (blue humanoid creatures) performed “Tsaheylu” (creating a neural connection with the mountain banshees).



I was far more comfortable going faster, leaning further on turns, and overtaking (safely) on the narrow roads of northern Italy.

This was good, as we were about to hit our first rain day on DAY 3. I had purchased some nifty new matching rainsuits for K.K. and myself, and good thing! It rained on us for about four hours – we remained mostly dry though! By the time we were on the outskirts of the Dolomites, the sun came out, we took off our rain suits and any remaining moisture quickly evaporated away. As we arrived into the foothills of the Dolomites in Canazei (in the Autonomous Province of Trento), we noticed a heavy police presence and helicopters in the air. On the prior day, there was a massive glacier avalanche, accompanied by rock slides in the Italian Dolomite Mountains less than 5km from our hotel, killing at least eight people and injuring dozens of other hikers. You might have seen this on the news recently.



K.K. and me on our rental bikes



The switch-backs on the back-side of Stelvio Pass

On DAY 6 we left the mountainous region and headed towards Venice (but didn’t go quite that far!), staying for two nights in Limone on Lake Garda. They are known for their Lemons and expensive spas. We took DAY 7 off from riding to allow our bodies to recover and do some sight-seeing! On DAY 8, we returned to Milano rode back to Milano to return the rental bikes and attend the closing banquet.

I will be posting many more beautiful photos of the mountains, the bikes and the tour before the end of July on our social media site: <http://mewe.EmpireCityMC.com> but right now, we need to get home and prepare for our L.I. ride this weekend!

Before I close out this article, here are a few things you should know about the tour if you're interested in going:

- Learn some basic Italian if you want to be less frustrated, it helps!
- Prepare yourself by going to local dealers and sitting on the bike you intend to rent!
- If you can, rent the same bike at a rental agency and learn the bike before you go abroad!
- Do not fear going alone (not on a guided tour), as GPS is great!

I loved the scenery and villages. There appears to be so much to see and do, but this trip only focused upon riding twisties as fast as you can and for as long as you can. If that's your thing – great! But as for me, I'm going to see if I can push to celebrate the 60th Anniversary of Empire City MC on our own tour of the Alps at a normal pace with all sorts of tourist things to do as well! In 2023, I'd like to return to the Italian & Swiss Alps to begin planning for 2024 (Empire City MC's 60th Anniversary), provided I can convince the members to agree to this trip... we shall see!

Interested in going in 2023? Let us know by e-mail: Road-Captain@EmpireCityMC.com

Last Minute Ride Change

Sadly, we need to remove the Hindenburg Crash Site from our Philadelphia Weekend II, as there are no tours available on our travel date. We will continue with the Bike Stop and the Cranberry Bog Tour (provided the cranberries are ripe for harvest – if not, we will have an alternative destination.) Please register for this ride by sending an e-mail to the ECMC Road Captain at Road-Captain@EmpireCityMC.com



Circumcised Sheep Are Getting their Foreskins Back, could humans be next?

You read that right! This is not some weird spammy e-mail with disconnected, misspelled words...

Foregen is a not-for-profit organisation (www.foregen.org), on a mission to heal the physical and psychological damage inherent to circumcision through tissue engineering techniques, which offer outstanding potential to regrow human tissue, especially dermal tissue, lost in trauma. Yes, they are working to re-grow foreskin.

Foregen's Chief Science Officer has released a fourth article on Commentarium, finalizing his biocompatibility series, providing helpful context to the research they are conducting. This entry focuses heavily on wound healing and tissue repair, particularly the difference between tissue repair and tissue regeneration; The latter being facilitated by an acellular dermal matrix, which is the same category of material that the decellularised extracellular matrix (ECM) scaffolds are a part of, which Foregen is using.



Recently, Foregen overcame the last administrative hurdle in commencing the second phase of animal trials. They have reported that the sheep trials began 24th June and they are very excited to move forward as this phase of Foregen's groundbreaking research progresses.

So, in brief -- they are putting foreskins back on circumcised sheep to eventually do the same with humans. Whether it be surgical or regenerative medicine (i.e. take a pill, grow a foreskin), there are hundreds of thousands of men who are displeased being circumcised without consent or requirement -- this might be the answer for many.

2022 Gay Pride March

Empire City MC and the Sirens MC lead the return of the 2022 New York City Gay Pride March once again in a proper parade.

Here are a few photos from the event – a wonderful return of the FULL MARCH following two years of COVID restrictions.

The event biker contingent was small and manageable this year as we welcomed club spouses and their close friends to escort ECMC motorcyclists.

As usual, ECMC kicks off the event with a coordinated confetti toss to mark the moment of silence to honour all the people who are no longer with us.



ECMC Growth Spurt!

We're happy to announce that our associate member Jay D is enhancing his membership to FULL MEMBER! Also, our associate member Lewis K is requesting elevation to FULL MEMBER as well. On top of this, we have our first NEW PLEDGE since before COVID-19 became an issue, Peter G! This is great news for the club!



UPCOMING EVENTS & RIDES

Some Featured Rides & Events from our calendar:

Sat 16th – Sun 17th Jul: RIDE: Long Island Ravens present “Eastbound and Down! RIDE LI 22!” (see page 1)

Wed 20th Jul, 20:00 – 21:00: SOCIAL MEETING: Empire City hosts a social teleconference on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. All interested parties are welcomed. We discuss ride and event ideas, current events, other useful stuff. <https://bit.ly/ECMC-Social>

Wed 29th – Mon 1st Aug: RIDE: Red Caboose & ABBA Concert in Lancaster, PA

Wed 3rd Aug, 20:00 – 21:00: OPEN GENERAL MEETING: Empire City MC's monthly Open General Meeting is held the first Wednesday of each month from 8pm to 9pm by teleconference at: <https://bit.ly/ECMC-Meeting> All interested parties my attend.

Wed 17th Aug, 20:00 – 21:00: SOCIAL MEETING: Empire City hosts a social teleconference on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. All interested parties are welcomed. We discuss ride and event ideas, current events, other useful stuff. <https://bit.ly/ECMC-Social>

Thu 18th – Tue 23rd Aug: RIDE: Montréal Trip 2022 & Lake George, NY (Contact Road-Captain@EmpireCityMC.com for information!)

Fri 26th – Sun 28th Aug: RIDE: Get your kicks on RT-6 (PA)

Thu 1st – Tue 6th Sep: EVENT: 2022 Delta Run #28 (Private, Invitational Event)

Thu 1st – Tue 6th Sep: RIDE: Philadelphia Weekend II (includes The Bike Stop, Cranberry Bog Tour and ~~Hindenburg Crash Site~~)

Wed 7th Sep, 20:00 – 21:00: OPEN GENERAL MEETING: Empire City MC's monthly Open General Meeting is held the first Wednesday of each month from 8pm to 9pm by teleconference at: <https://bit.ly/ECMC-Meeting> All interested parties my attend.

Sat 10th Sep, 22:00 – 01:00: RIDE: 9/11 - 21st Anniversary Midnight Ride! New York City Harley-Davidson, 42-11 Northern Blvd, Long Island City, NY 11101. Arrive by 10PM, KSU at 11PM. No fee! *Don't be fooled by other rides, this is the ORIGINAL!!*

Fri 16th – Sun 18th Sep: RIDE: Philadelphia Weekend with Saturday Cranberry Bog & Hindenburg Crash Site Tours!

Wed 21st Sep, 20:00 – 21:00: SOCIAL MEETING: Empire City hosts a social teleconference on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. All interested parties are welcomed. We discuss ride and event ideas, current events, other useful stuff. <https://bit.ly/ECMC-Social>

Sat 24th Sep, 08:00 – 05:00: RIDE: HSS Benefit Ride. Read about this in NEXT month's newsletter! ECMC is the OFFICIAL Motorcycle Club host for this benefit.

Fri 30th Sep – Sun 2nd Oct: EVENT: Mates Leather Weekend – Provincetown, MA. See <https://www.matesleatherweekend.com/>

REMEMBER: There are plenty of other events and rides added to our official calendar on a regular basis, especially day rides! Be sure to bookmark <http://calendar.EmpireCityMC.com> and come along with us on some great rides! Our physical mailing address is: **Empire City MC, 10 W 15th St, Suite 609, New York, NY 10011-6821.**

For membership information, visit <http://empirecitymc.com/membership.php> to view and download our constitution, bylaws and membership application. We're on social media at <https://mewe.com/join/empirecitymc> where you can chat with us.

Please send any articles, photos or letters to the editor at newsletter@EmpireCityMC.org
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