

I would like *New York Rider* readers to know what happened to Carmella and I at Americade this past weekend. Some of you may have already heard this story but for those of you who haven't....

Carmella and I were "kicked out of Americade" - more or less told that *New York Rider* was not welcome there. We went to pick up our press pass as instructed and were told that Americade did NOT invite us and they had no idea who the person was who did, nor did they care. We had completed a press credentials form (on Americade letterhead) and written a letter of intent the week prior. The woman we were instructed to see in the press room at the Holiday Inn, "Ginny," then told us that *NYRider Magazine* was "NOT what Americade was all about, that it was not what they wanted to promote or encourage, with tattoo parlors, etc., that nobody who comes to Americade wants to read that magazine, and that there are two kinds of biker worlds and that's the kind we don't want here." I could not believe my eyes and ears when she was telling us this.

I knew it was a matter of seconds before Carmella would explode and she did. I let her go, then I had my own say. After all, they insulted our BABY!! Then some other biker in the room, no doubt there to pick up his precious Americade registration packet, took a copy of the mag, slung it over the counter and said, "OK

come on girls, take your magazines and leave so we can get on with our business here." We left quietly but not without insisting that they talk to the people who invited us there (Town of Warrensburg Tourism Dept) - apparently they never communicated with the Americade people. At that point we didn't care about press passes, but the way she talked to us pissed us off too much to let it go. We left there, called everyone we knew, relayed the story, then spent the rest of Friday and all night till 4AM visiting as many stores, bars and restaurants as we could and telling everyone we met about our encounter with the Americade organizers. We also went to Warrensburg and talked to people there.

Of course I already have three letters written for the Americade people, the Mayor, and others, and will be writing to the local papers and of course there will be a major article in the July issue of *NYRider*. My poison pen has been working overtime!

Stay tuned ! If they print what I send to the online newspapers, I may ask NYRiders to write in their own comments so people will see that this affects many people, not just a magazine owner and her editor.....

(Carmella wants to have a "New York Rider-Cade" next year a few towns over...hahaha)

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