



ROAR

February 2011

Volume 11 Issue 2

The Official Publication of the TOP CATS OF ILLINOIS

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Mike Bradbury



Howdy Gang,

Well I for one am ready for warmer weather and the riding season to begin and it's still January! I am sure most of you are too. I find the cold Chicago winters less endearing each and every year and I'm missing the "vroom-vroom" of the summer more and more. And I have lived here all my life!

I am happy to report that the new 2011 Board has had it's first meeting on January 11th and I am excited about our working together as we moved forward to managing and guiding the club. There was the usual first night jitters (for myself as your new president) but we all have gotten off to a good start. Your board has some new ideas and I think we will all benefit by having a fun and active year together as Top Cats.

The Activities team of Larry Scalzitti and Tony Loden have already kept us busy with things to do and we are only starting our second month of the year. Larry Scalzitti's Movie Night is starting a tradition from last year's "Easy Rider" movie night with a showing of "Then Came Bronson" on January 15th at eSkape. We had a really good club turnout for this so Larry will be challenged to build on this with as a yearly tradition for next year. More to do in February, we have our yearly Banquet Dinner to commemorate our 2010 club year at Millrose Restaurant on February 12th. The Banquet is always a fun evening when our bikes are in storage as we pine over our riding exploits from the previous season. And the awards presentation makes it more fun too! The next morning, on Sunday we will meet for breakfast and go as a group to the International Motorcycle show in Rosemont. On the 27th, we will be throwing balls at our Bocce Ball with Lenny in Highwood hosted by club member Lenny Buffo. Maybe Lenny will have tips on good Bocce ball throwing form. And this is just the beginning of the year!

Congratulations for a job well done to our Safety Committee for putting on a very good G.R.A.S.S. class on January 23rd. Your Safety Committee; Wayne Kirkpatrick, Don Schaffer, Ric Case and Gary Brandt did a very good job in presenting the Group Riding Safety Seminar along with Dennis Dougherty and Chuck Prettyman who also taught sections. It is no accident that we ride so safely as a group. I truly believe that our G.R.A.S.S. program is a part of the club tradition for being a leader in our area (and beyond) in group riding safety and we should all be proud of it as Top Cats.

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Upcoming Events

FEBRUARY

- 1 General Meeting
- 8 Board Meeting
- 12 Top Cats Banquet
- 13 Motorcycle Show
- 27 Bocce Ball

MARCH

- 1 General Meeting
- 8 Board Meeting
- 20 GRASS Class

All TopCat meetings held at the new location at the following.....

eSkape

350 McHenry Rd

Buffalo Grove, IL 6008

**847-821-9000
www.eskape.us**



KAUTION KORNER

Staying in the Game

By Don Schaefer, Numbersman

I'm basically a "one long day" rider. I occasionally take a two or three day ride, but since I live in the Chicago area, the middle of the Midwest, that means I ride on a lot of hours on flat ground. I have to admit that sometimes the terrain gets a bit boring, and boring, especially on a warm afternoon after a good lunch, can bring on inattention or drowsy riding. We talk a lot about how dangerous it can be to fall asleep on two wheels at sixty miles per hour, but we don't say much about how to keep alert. No, I don't mean the admonition of your Road Captain to stay alert. That is just a warning. How do you actually do that?

There are several things you can do that have a direct bearing on your ability to stay safe on that long straight road. They are rest, activity, nourishment and interest. First and foremost, is rest. You will be amazed how refreshing a 15 minute nap can be. When you make a rest stop, gas up the bike, grab something for hydration, take a drink and lie down for a short nap. It will help you more than a quarter hour of bullshitting with your buddies.

Activity does not mean you have to stop the bike. You just have to be careful you do it safely without decreasing control, and that you do not take your eyes off of the road. You can make it a point to stretch every few minutes. If you are moving, it will keep you awake and alert... Work out a routine. Lean back as far as you can and pull on the bars. This is great for the arms and back muscles. Stretch each arm and leg. If you have pegs that are under you, stand up, but take caution if you have forward controls or floorboards that do not give you safe footing or if the tank is too wide. Activity does not have to mean a lot of movement. Chewing gum or some chewy candy can give you some action to stay awake. One of my favorite "keep awake" tricks is to pop a sunflower seed into my mouth. Maneuvering it into position to crack with my teeth, scoop out the edible center, and spitting out the hull provides just enough activity to keep you wide awake. (My apologies to Traveler for violation of the first rule of group riding,

don't spit. Have to improvise if you are not the tail-gunner).

Nourishment can have a huge impact on your ability to ride all day without losing focus. Ration the caffeine to the late afternoon when you need it. Drink decaf in the morning. Drinking caffeine free soda, such as Seven-Up or Coke Zero, and the elimination of chocolate can help lower the overall caffeine tolerance of your body. Save the leaded coffee, the regular Coke, or the Red Bull for when you really need them. Eat a light lunch low in fat. Save the steak and alcohol for dinner after the bike is parked.

The last and most important thing you can do to keep on top of the game is interest. There is no such thing as a boring road. You are just not paying enough attention. This summer I rode with the Top Cats to Sturgis and south. Believe me, there are some really straight, flat roads crossing Minnesota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Kansas and Missouri. Make it a point to see everything of interest along the road. Did you know that the average irrigation boom is about a quarter mile long? I measured a few as I rode by. How is the vegetation changing? Flip the GPS to the screen on *Altitude* and see if you are climbing or dropping. What is the average RPM of a windmill? You get the idea. If you are a road captain, come up with some interesting things for the group to look for. Wayne had us watching a little white dot on the horizon grow into the Great Sand Dune National Park for about 75 miles of what would have otherwise been the most unchanging landscape we saw for days. On another day he mentioned that antelope hide in the cattle herds. Every rider stayed wide awake looking for the white animal in the middle of all those black and brown cows. And try to take in and remember some details to put in the Roar article you will write when you get to your destination.





The Top Cats Gathered...

And then Came Bronson!

Saturday, January 15th, 2011 at EScape

Photo by Traveler; Comments by Mary Walters



What do you call twenty-five Top Cats in a room with good food and a good movie about Bikers? PURRRfect Winter fun . The evening was planned by our Activities Committee headed by Larry Scalzitti and assisted by Tony Loden.

Those who attended were able to spend time catching up with stories and the happenings of these long winter months. After the stories, food and drink, came the 90 minute pilot of *Then Came Bronson*. The series, created by Denne Bart Petittlerc began with this movie pilot on Monday, March 24, 1969. The memories were good ones and the bike stunts... well, Larry? Can you put those moves into a class?

Check out the next pages... and see what other opportunities we will have to gather together before riding again!



New Winter Riding Option... Who's going to be first?

By: Larry Scalzitti

With the first snowfall of the season under our belts, some of us wonder about riding our bikes in the winter. There are those among us who have already bedded their rides down for the year, but others never stop looking for days to be on the bike - even during winter.

For me if the temp is above 20, the roads are clear and the salt has been washed away, I'm on the bike. Whether it's just a commute to work or a longer ride on the weekend or maybe even when work can be put on hold for a few hours, I'm always looking for an excuse to be on the bike. Of course there will always be those

40 plus degree days even in February when a few hours on the bike can be a very special and rejuvenating experience.

Those of us who ride all year long anxiously await the days when the weather allows us to be out on the road. But what do we do when the weather is not too cooperative? Some of us have a dirt bike background or have recently discovered the thrill of riding on something other than asphalt. If you have a middle weight dirt bike, you're in luck, there's a new option for you.

Welcome to Timbersled's new snow bike conversion kit.





It's a bit on the pricey side, but when you consider that most new things - especially if those things are a low volume niche item – are priced a tad more than you might wish for. I was hoping for under \$2000, but I was off by a factor of 2.5. Well, if you have deeper pockets than I do and even better if you also have access to a place up north, then this is the product for you!

Right now they have kits for the following bikes: Honda CRF 450, Kawasaki KXF 450, Suzuki RMZ 450, Yamaha YZ 450, KTM 450, 505, 530, 690 and Husaberg 450, 570 and 650, with more on the way.

Can you see yourself in the snow carving turns like this? Looks like a blast. Someone buy one of these, so all of your Top Cat buddies can get a ride.





TOPCATS ACTIVITIES

YOUR SOURCE FOR UPCOMING ENTERTAINMENT AND EVENTS

BY TONY LODEN

Happy February everyone...

First, I'd like to wish everyone a safe and prosperous 2011. I hope you all had a great holiday season and are looking forward to the first nice days of spring to hear the rumble of pipes, I know I am. With the start of a new riding year comes the time for planning this season's rides and events. We are going to try a number of different things this year. First are the new email promotions; most if not all of the club members should have received one or two of these by now. If you have not, please speak up and send an email to me at tcatsrsvp@comcast.net, I will look into the problem and make sure you are included.

While the list of activities is currently growing, we still need your input on suggested rides and activities to network and socialize with each other during these cold winter months. Camaraderie doesn't have to be put away with the bike when the weather turns bad.

Speaking of camaraderie, as I put the final touches on this column on the heels of our Movie Night, it was a great success with over 25 members in attendance to watch Michael Parks in Then Came Bronson. We all found it interesting that after every ride, crash, or bang up, the Harley Sportster 900 regenerated itself into a brand new bike time and again. The side commentaries during the movie with smart phones aglow following the Packer playoff game against the Atlanta Falcons was also an interesting finish to a great evening. Thanks to all who attended.

As we move into 2011, we have added some of the standards you come to expect plus a few additional rides. Have a ride or place you'd like the club to go to? If you know of a special event that you'd like to ride to, let us know the date, we'll do our best to work it into the calendar. For more information, please contact me or contact one of the other officers or senior road captains.

Also don't forget the monthly General Meetings on the first Tuesday of every month at 7:30 p.m. now at our new home, eSkape Entertainment Center, located at 350 McHenry Road in, Buffalo Grove, IL.

Tony



Here is a look ahead to some of the upcoming events from the Calendar... February is a busy month so please make a point of marking the dates so you do not miss the action!!

Sunday, February 6th
4:30 p.m. – Game Over

Super Bowl Sunday at eSkape Entertainment Center located at 350 McHenry Road in, Buffalo Grove, IL. Kick-off is at 5:28. So come on out and enjoy your fellow Top Cats Football Fans!

Saturday, February 12th
7:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.

The Annual Awards Banquet at the Millrose Restaurant located at 45 South Barrington Road (Barrington RD near I-90) in South Barrington. RSVP's for this event are due by Thursday February 3rd.

Sunday, February 13th
8:00 a.m. - ???

International Motorcycle Show in Rosemont
All interested Top Cats will meet for breakfast at the Egg'lectic Café located at 2905 Algonquin Road in Rolling Meadows, IL and then ride or drive to the show. *Use the promo code "TOPCATS" online to knock \$4 off the 1-day adult ticket price.*

Sunday, February 27th
4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Bocce Ball with Lenny at the Highwood Bocce Courts located at 440 Bank Lane in Highwood, Illinois. Enjoy an afternoon with your fellow Top Cats and get a lesson or two on Bocce from Lenny.

Sunday, March 20th
8:30 a.m. – Noon

G.R.A.S.S. Class and RC module
Top Cats Senior Road Captains host GRASS class at the Keller Williams offices located near the NW corner of Rt14 and Rt53, in the Harris Bank building (the tall one). Open to all members and guests. Second Floor, enter in rear of build-

Friday, March 25th
7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Top Cats Evening of Rock
Stewart Johnson hosts a rockin evening at the James Lumber Center for the Performing Arts located at the Lake County College Grayslake Campus. The Philadelphia-based *Get the Led Out* will capture the essence of the recorded music of Led Zeppelin re-creating the songs in all their depth and glory with the studio overdubs that Zeppelin themselves never performed live and brings it to the big concert stage. Tickets will be \$30/person.



Greetings Top Cats and... Hope you will attend!

We are approaching the 2011 season with great excitement for another great season of adventure ahead of us.

As we enter 2011, we look back at closing out our fantastic 2010 riding season by recognizing the memorable rides and fellow Top Cats who made it all so safe, enjoyable, hilarious, grueling and challenging.

We will recognize the category winners at our annual Awards Banquet on 12 Feb 2011 at the Millrose Restaurant again this year. We will need your ballot returned by 14 Jan 2011.

Thank you for your participation, and for contributing to a safe and great 2010 riding season.

We look forward to seeing you at the Top Cats Awards Banquet!!!

*Board of Directors
Top Cats - Illinois*

**Millrose
Restaurant**
45 South
Barrington Rd.
Barrington, IL



President's Corner... (Continued, page one)

Now looking forward, the Committee Chair for The Ride for Dreams, our Charity ride, is Terri Loden. Our Ride for Dreams is our way of giving to our surrounding communities by creating a donation for the Northern Illinois Special Recreation Association. Terri volunteered and is willing to lead us on this adventure but she cannot do it alone. We will need your help with assistance of your time and efforts to do this and do it well. I believe this is a big part of the Top Cats and gives us a chance to wear our hearts on our sleeves and do something for the betterment of those less fortunate than us. I will speak more about this at our next general meeting.

Well on my last note, that was my segueway to invite you all to come to the general meetings at eSkape in Buffalo Grove. It is a good time to roar together and brag about our past rides and look forward to new ones this year. Come to the meetings and say hello!

Stay Warm,

Mike Bradbury



the World According to Andy

Since more and more seniors are texting and tweeting there appears to be a need for a Senior Texting Code (STC). If you qualify for Senior Discounts this is the code for you. Print this out and carry it with you because I know most of you are a minute away from an Alzheimer's incident.

ATD: At The Doctor's

BFF: Best Friend Farted

BTW: Bring The Wheelchair

BYOT: Bring Your Own Teeth

CBM: Covered By Medicare

CUATSC: See You At The Senior Center

DWI: Driving While Incontinent

FWBB: Friend With Beta Blockers

FWIW: Forgot Where I Was

FYI: Found Your Insulin

GGPBL: Gotta Go, Pacemaker Battery Low!

GHA: Got Heartburn Again

HGBM: Had Good Bowel Movement

IMHO: Is My Hearing-Aid On?

LMDO: Laughing My Dentures Out

LOL: Living On Lipitor

LWO: Lawrence Welk's On

OMMR: On My Massage Recliner

ROFL... CGU: Rolling On Floor Laughing... And Can't Get Up

SGGP: Sorry, Gotta Go Poop

TTYL: Talk To You Louder

WAITT: Who Am I Talking To?

WTFA: Wet The Furniture Again

WTP: Where's The Prunes?





TOP CATS BUSINESS MART

BUSINESSES OWNED AND/OR MANAGED BY TOP CATS MEMBERS



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BATTERY or BOAT ANCHOR?



By: Traveler

It seems that every year we hear horror stories of riders stranded or having their plans ruined because of battery problems. Many of our members could both give us recent firsthand accounts. Since it is easier to type an article than it is to push start a friend's bike, I thought it prudent to offer some basic recommendations on the care and feeding of a motorcycle battery.

Unlike other batteries, motorcycle batteries are exposed to the two biggest causes of battery failure; vibration and heat. The cause of failure is simple. The plates within a typical battery are made in a grid that contains various compounds such as lead. Heat and vibration cause these compounds to harden and fall off of the grid. When compounds fall off of a plate, that battery cell loses its ability to retain power and the battery becomes weaker or you have a Dead Cell. The accumulation of these compounds in the bottom of the battery can build up and touch two or more plates. When that happens, the battery is shorted and will not hold a charge. It is now, effectively, a boat anchor. GEL batteries help prevent these particles from falling to the bottom and shorting out the battery. But, GEL batteries are more expensive. Better, but costly.

Heat in a battery is caused by many sources. When you charge a battery, it generates heat. The most common source of excessive heat is overcharging or fast charging the battery. When you charge your battery, take time to trickle charge or slow charge it. This will avoid damaging the plates with heat. Many "Smart" chargers are on the market and no bike should be stored at home without one. Smart chargers and battery tenders simply limit the amount of electricity flowing into the battery thus reducing heat and damage from overcharging.

Another source of heat comes from constantly charging your battery. Whenever you drive, your battery goes through a constant cycle of discharging and recharging. This cycle will, eventually, turn your battery into a boat anchor, normally after two years. However, corroded or loose battery cables will shorten your battery life also. If the cables are not making solid contact with the battery terminals or the starter or the ground connections, your recharging cycle will take longer, generating more heat and possibly damaging your alternator, or regulator. The voltage withdrawn during starting and normal operation will not be totally replaced. Hence, another boat anchor.

If you are not into reliability, headlights at night, electronics that work, and round trips, stop right here. If you are... read on:

Keep your battery clean. Dirt, oil, grease, etc prevent cooling. A dirty battery will not make it easy to spot cracks and read fluid levels. Most batteries are made of clear or opaque plastic so you can see the electrolyte level and the condition of the end grid plates. When checking your electrolyte level, also look for reddish or white discoloration on your plates. This is an indicator of an emerging boat anchor; compounds that have hardened and are about to fall off.

Keep your battery electrolyte topped off. Use distilled water or boiled water. Regular water may have mineral deposits that could build up and cause a short. Boiled tap water will help eliminate mineral deposits, distilled water works well, and pure electrolyte is best.





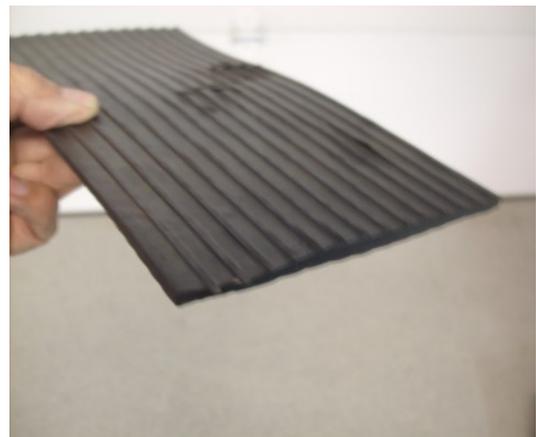
Do not overfill your battery. The heat will cause the electrolyte to boil over. You then have battery acid all over your engine or transmission cases. Wash it off immediately with a mixture of baking soda and water.

Keep the battery cables clean at both ends. Typically, greenish - white corrosion will appear at the battery end of the cable. An easy and thorough way to clean this is to use a tooth brush and a thick mixture of baking soda and water. Brush it on the cable and let it work on the corrosion a while. Repeat the process until all the corrosion is gone.

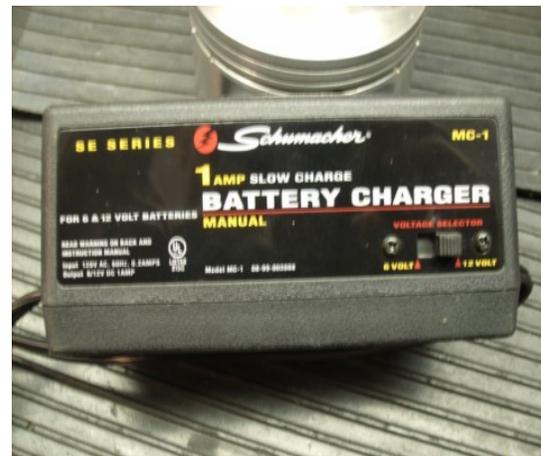


If you don't clean them completely, the corrosion will reappear soon. Coat the terminals with Vaseline or light grease to deter corrosion.

There isn't much we can do to isolate the battery from vibration on a motorcycle. Some manufacturers and after - market shops sell a rubber insert that fits in the bottom of your battery box. This is better than nothing and, when the hold - down strap or the top of your battery box is also cushioned, it does dampen vibration somewhat. The rubber insert also protects your battery box from corrosive residue.



your battery with a charger, as mentioned before, should be done slowly. If you don't have the O.E.M.s recommended charging rate, then a good rule of thumb is to charge at a rate of 10% of the battery rating per hour. A 15 amp battery would be charged at 1.5 amps per hour. If totally dead, it would require a minimum of 10 hours to recharge.



Sealed, maintenance - free batteries, typically found on newer bikes are a different story. They often require a special, low - amp charger. Best bet is to read and abide by your owners manual.

Anytime you work on a battery, overkill safety. Take off your jewelry. Don't smoke because electrolyte vapor is explosive, and remember that you are dealing with hazardous chemicals that require special handling.



Finally, and perhaps most important, it is wise to assume that a battery will not last much longer than two years. It doesn't matter whether it is O.E.M., Diehard, Cryhard, or the Energizer Bunny. Plan on replacing your battery every two years or plan on taking a good book with you every time you ride so you will have something to do while you wait for help to arrive when your scooter won't start.

For long periods of storage or over the winter, a Smart Charger is a good investment. These Smart Chargers stay plugged in and connected to the battery during storage. They automatically monitor the charge level of the battery. They keep the battery charged at peak level and prevent the possibility of cooking your battery by overcharging it.





GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES DECEMBER 7TH, 2010

ESKAPE ENTERTAINMENT, 350 MCHENRY RD, BUFFALO GROVE, IL

Submitted by Muriel Brandt

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by 2010 President Carl Marcyan.

Opening

The membership was asked to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

Guest: Dan Daczewitz

- Carl introduced the 2011 Top Cats Board and administered an oath of office. The 2010 Board was recognized for their service.
- Patches and rockers were distributed to both new and outgoing board members.
- To fill the remaining terms of Wayne Kirkpatrick and Stewart Johnson, who had one year left in their director terms, new President Mike Bradbury appointed Gary Brandt and Greg Smith.
- Several new and returning committee chairs were recognized: Tony Loden (activities), Don Schaffer (safety) and Jeff Tietz (membership).

New President, Mike Bradbury put out a request to fill the position of Sergeant of Arms and a club Historian.

Secretary's Report-Muriel Brandt

Nothing to report

Treasurer's Report-Stewart Johnson

- Stewart reported that the financial condition of the club is good and that all records are in order and has been transferred to him.

He encouraged members to pay their 2011 dues.

Vice President-Wayne Kirkpatrick

- Wayne asked for help getting an award committee established for the banquet.
- Wayne thanked all Top Cats for donating laptops to Walter Reed Hospital for fallen soldiers, specifically Andy Hay for his donation of fifty laptops.
- Wayne talked about the Barrington library scanning all ROARS into an archive.



Top Cat coins are still available for purchase.

Membership-Greg Smith/Jeff Tietz

No new members this month.

Activities-Larry Scalzitti/Tony Loden

- Larry encouraged members to plan rides. Larry spoke about an upcoming movie night.
- A short review of other upcoming events was given by new Activities chair, Tony Loden.
- Tony will be reminding road captains to pick their dates for 2011 rides.

Gary Brandt mentioned that the Top Cat Award Banquet invitations will be going out at the end of the week.

ROAR-Website- Dennis Dougherty and Mary Walters

No update was given.

Safety/GRASS/Road Captains- Don Schaffer/Ric Case/Gary

Brandt.

Gary spoke about the upcoming meeting/class for road captains which will be held on January 23, 2011. He mentioned all regular G.R.A.S.S. classes are on website. Gary asked the members to make it their 2011 goal to attend a G.R.A.S.S class.

Ric Case gave this month's safety tip which was titled the 3 B's.

- Bike: Go through your bike's saddle bags checking your rain gear, helmet and updating paperwork that has emergency numbers.
- Body: Start doing hand exercises to help you strengthen them for when riding season comes.
- Brain: Read different motorcycle books and consider taking motorcycle classes.

Gary thanked Don for continuing his role as safety committee chair for 2011.

Old/New Business

- Wayne spoke briefly about the hotel Alex Johnson contract for Sturgis week.
- January's Board meeting will be held at Eskape.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20pm



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

JANUARY 11, 2011

ESCAPE ENTERTAINMENT, 350 MCHENRY RD, BUFFALO GROVE, IL

Submitted by Muriel Brandt

Present: Mike Bradbury, Carl Marcyan, Gary Brandt, Wayne Kirkpatrick, Muriel Brandt, Stewart Johnson, Larry Scalzitti, Greg Smith, and Mary Walters.

Meeting was called to order at 7:34pm by Mike Bradbury, Top Cats President

- Mike welcomed everyone to the 2011 board and thanked the new and returning members for their service.
- Mike announced a change for the 2011 board meetings. They will be held at Escape Entertainment Center. The board agreed (no vote). Mike will let the previous location know we will no longer be meeting there.
- Mike went over director positions and suggested committee chairs speak at the general meetings rather than the board members, to get them more involved.
- Mike appointed Fred Creed to the Sergeant at Arms position. He will also be doing the 50/50 drawing at the general meetings. Bob Malmen agreed to be an alternate for the same position.
- The position of Top Cats Historian remains open.
- Wayne Kirkpatrick will be the board liaison for the Awards Committee.
- Mike discussed his previous approval for a hard drive needed to store the clubs photos.
- The external hard drive was purchased and will be used by, Dennis Dougherty.

Charity

Terri Loden accepted the position of heading the Charity Committee.

Secretary- Muriel Brandt

Muriel reminded everyone to look over the minutes and return them quickly with their changes. At least five board-members must approve the minutes before they are sent to the ROAR publication.

Treasurer- Stewart Johnson

- Stewart reviewed the financial position including the balance in the checking account.
- Stewart reported on the payment of dues paid so far for the 2011 year. 51 members have renewed and 43 members have not renewed so far. A suggestion was made to send out a reminder email to members to pay their dues and also to please RSVP to the banquet.
- Mike asked Stewart to email the board a template of the budget before next month's board meeting. Board members should start the budget process prior to the meeting and be prepared to discuss.

Vice President Report-Wayne Kirkpatrick

- Wayne discussed the need for the board to improve its communications. Emails back and forth that do not include all board members need to be avoided. It is critical that we are all thinking in the same direction.

(Continued on page 17)



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- Wayne spoke about the history of the Presidents gavel and cigar box that holds the “2” spot. He will also do this at the banquet when the items are passed on to the new President.
- He is counting the ballots for the awards and will brief the President separately.

Membership-Greg Smith

- Greg summed up the number of flags and patches in stock.
- He is looking for the electronic version of various membership documents.
- Greg suggested putting the road captain qualification sheet in the membership packet. All agreed.

Safety-Gary Brandt

Gary reported that all G.R.A.S.S. classes for 2011 are scheduled. A meeting with the safety committee will be held before riding season to go over goals for 2011 and what might need to be improved. The results will be presented to the board at the March meeting.

Past President-Carl Marcyan: No comment.

Activities-Larry Scalzitti

- Larry is talking to road captains to help get rides on the calendar.
- Tony Loden talked about reminders he will be sending out for club activities.
- Wayne and Mike will work together on details needed for the program for the banquet.

ROAR/Website-Mary Walters

- Mary asked for more articles for ROAR and will be looking for ways to increase them.
- She also will be temporarily performing the publishing task.

Old /New business

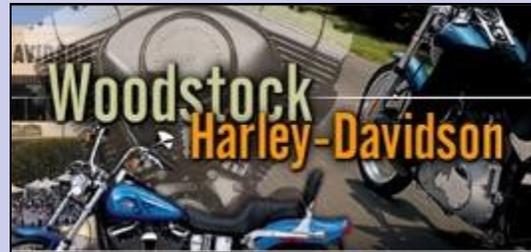
- Gary will be sending out updates for the Director’s handbooks. He asked members to pass on their books to the new board members. It is important to have a copy of the Bylaws and job descriptions for reference.
- Mike spoke about the guest speaker for the upcoming general meeting. Denise Maples from Women’s Motorcycle Fashions will be speaking on business experiences and women in motorcycling.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 9:25pm.

Support the TOP CATS Patrons



Top Cats Get 20% Off Certain Parts and Merchandise at City Limits Harley-Davidson



Top Cats Get 20% Off Certain Parts and Merchandise at Woodstock and McHenry Harley-Davidson

Membership Has Its Privileges!

All suppliers and vendors who support the Top Cats by providing discounts to Top Cats members will be listed in ROAR.

HELP WANTED WEBSITE EDITOR

The Top Cats Board of Directors is looking for an enterprising and creative individual to assume responsibility for coordinating the content on our soon-to-be upgraded website. No 'technical' website experience is required.

The primary responsibility will be to work with the webmaster and various individuals who 'own' certain areas of the website to ensure our content is fresh and inviting as well as come up with ideas for additional content and enhancements to the site to bring more value to our members.

For more information contact any board member or

Dennis P (Wombat) Dougherty at

wombat@dpdougherty.com

WANTED

Top Cats Historian

The Top Cats Board is looking for a member to become official historian for the club.

Over the next year we want to create a written and oral history of our club that we can share with existing, new, and potential members.

The club turns 15 in 2010. Many of our legacy members have or will be moving on. We want to capture their and others' stories of our humble beginnings as well as favorite tales of the road.

If you have an interest in becoming Top Cats Historian or being a part of this activity please contact Dennis P. (Wombat) Dougherty at wombat@dpdougherty.com



RIDES & EVENTS

Date	Ride/Event	Location	Destination	Time	Leader
Tuesday, February 01	General Meeting	Eskape	Buffalo Grove	7:30pm	Mike Bradbury
Tuesday, February 08	Board Meeting	D & J Bistro	Lake Zurich	7:30pm	Mike Bradbury
Saturday, February 12	Annual Banquet	Milrose	S. Barrington	6:00pm	Bradbury/Brandt
Sunday, February 13	Motorcycle Show	Stephans Convention Ctr	Rosemont	n/a	n/a
Sunday, February 27	Bocce Ball w/ Lenny	Highwood Bocce Courts	440 Bank Lane Highwood	4pm - 8pm	Lenny Innocenzi
Tuesday, March 01	General Meeting	Eskape	Buffalo Grove	7:30pm	Mike Bradbury
Tuesday, March 08	Board Meeting	D & J Bistro	Lake Zurich	7:30pm	Mike Bradbury
Sunday, March 20	GRASS Class	Keller Williams Of- fice	Palatine	8:30am	Ric Case

FREE ADVERTISING in ROAR for TOP CATS Business Owners

Attention all Top Cats business owners!

As part of our ongoing philosophy to support our members and goal to provide a more value-rich publication, we are now offering free advertising space in ROAR for Top Cats business owners.

Each business owner can submit advertising content and graphics up to 2 X 3.5 inches (Business Card size) for their company.

We will run the ad for 3 months after which you will need to resubmit it.

This offer is for Top Cats business owners only. We are not accepting advertising for other businesses at this time.



ROAR



TOP CATS OF ILLINOIS is a group of motorcycle enthusiasts with similar interests. Members consist of responsible Leaders, Presidents, Chairmen, Owners, Proprietors, Partners, principals, CEO's, and other 'Top Cats' of large, medium and small organizations, institutions, and companies.

For more information about the Top Cats visit our website at www.TOPCATS.org

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ROAR is the official publication of the TOP CATS OF ILLINOIS

and is published on the 1st of each month.

The content and opinions expressed in articles are those of the authors and not necessarily those of TOP CATS OF ILLINOIS

For questions or to submit comments or articles for publication, contact the editors at ROAR@TOPCATS.org