



ROAR

The Official Publication of the TOP CATS OF ILLINOIS
PRESIDENT'S MINUTE



everything we do.

Some examples.....

Our Charity Committee is in high gear preparing for our charity ride. The excitement is building and the interest in our charity ride booth that the Committee set up at the Little Angels Run was fantastic.



And, speaking of the Little Angels Run, Top Cats received, for about the fifth time, the Largest Organization Participating award from the



EAO. Thanx to everyone who signed in on the Club sheets and, particularly to Noelle Rigsby for making that all happen.

What a great month! It is so rewarding to see the Club new members per meeting. Great come together growth and great people who will and succeed in enrich the "DNA" of our Club.

Our Road Captains and Activities Committee met recently to nail down new rides with 5 new riding opportunities scheduled for the coming months. We also have Sturgis Bike Week filling up fast and our Post – Sturgis ride to the Rockies gaining a lot of momentum.

Thanx to Lisa Purcell for energizing the Products Committee and simplifying the purchasing procedure.



(Cont on pg. 3)

May, 2014

Volume 14, Issue 6

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Upcoming Events

JUNE

- 1 SUNRISE RUN
 - 3 GENERAL MEETING
 - 8 ANNUAL BREAKFAST RIDE
 - 10 BOARD MEETING
 - 17 FRANKS AND FRIES
 - 21-22 LIVINGSTON LIVE!
 - 29 RUSTIC ROADS
- JUNE**
- 1 GENERAL MEETING
 - 8 BOARD MEETING
 - 12-13 PRARIE DU CHEIN
 - 15 FRANKS AND FRIES
 - 20 EAST TROY FLY-IN
 - 27 RIDE FOR DREAMS!
 - 30 STURGIS!

Get your ride idea published





KAUTION KORNER

Trailering Your Bike(s)

By: Bard Board, Senior Road Captain

Ya ya ya, I know, we are a "RIDING" club, and we all 'Ride ours'....ok. However, if you have a second home, or take family vacations with the kids and can never be without your bike (s), or your bike breaks down, a trailer may be a useful tool to have around, and knowing how to trailer safely is also useful information.

First of all, READ all the info in your tow vehicles *Owner's Manual* as well as all info supplied with your trailer. Here are few useful and very general tips, that I have found helpful in towing my 2 place Kendon Strand-Up Trailer back and forth between Barrington and Arizona every year. Some of what I'm about to say may vary with trailer type and weight, and your own personal experience.

*LOADING the trailer should always involve a minimum of two people walking the motorcycle up and down the loading ramps. Loading is usually an exercise of one person standing on the left side of the bike, with engine running and bike in gear and both hands on the handle bars and clutch and brake lever. Gradually slip the clutch and walk the bike up the ramp with the second person on the right side of the bike steadyng as she goes and or pushing gently up the ramp. Unloading is similar but in reverse with the following two exceptions.

The bike is TURNED OFF but still first gear. Pull the clutch lever in, start pulling the bike rearwards, and as you pull back down the ramp, your braking is accomplish by slowly releasing the clutch. With the bike in gear, the engaged transmission and release of the clutch acts as a rear wheel brake.



Tongue weight should be between 9% and 15% of the gross trailer weight fully loaded. Tongue weight is the weight of the trailer on the ball of the hitch, and can be measured with a bathroom scale under the trailer jack stand...close enough for gov't work...lol . Tongue weight towards 15%, generally provides a more stable tow with less sway than tongue weight less than 9%...

So, if your trailer weight 700 pounds and you load a 800 lb. HD and a 500 lbs. BMW, the gross weight is 2000 lbs. Your tongue weight should be approximately 200 lbs which equals 10%.

*TIE DOWNS FRONT AND MID FRAME. Front tie downs usually are from the handlebars to the trailer frame, pulling slightly forward. and mid-bike tied-down are from a secure location on the frame, usually in front of your saddlebags to the trailer frame, pulling slightly forwards as well. Use only ratcheting straps with heavy web strapping. REMEMBER, at each gas stop, especially the first one, check for tightness of the tie downs, they will always loosen up after a few miles. Also check the location of the front and rear tires in the rails, insuring the tire side wall is not being cut into by a sharp rail runner edge. Adjust as necessary.

*TRAILER TIRES ; First refer to tire/trailer manufacturers specs, Usually small trailer tires should have approximately 50 psi pressure and at least 3/32nd tread depth. Too low tire pressure usually leads to tires peeling their tread off early on, and catastrophic tire failure. ALWAYS carry a spare tire and lug wrench that fits your lugs, along with a road side emergency kit with reflectors, flashlight and tire pump which plugs in to your cigarette lighter.

(Continued on page 3)



KK Continued...

*LIGHTS: Check running lights, brake lights, turn signal lights, and carry extra fuses and bulbs,

*LEVELS: Check to make sure your hitch arm and trailer arm are level. If not, adjust with higher or lower trailer hitch sleeve.

Heavier double axle trailers may benefit from electric brakes, sway stabilization and equalizer bars for added stability.

*SAFETY CHAIN: Should be a strong heavy grade chain securely attached between the tow vehicle and trailers frame.

Happy Trailering all you real bikers...LOL...

President's Minute Continued...

By the time you read this, we will have the ability to take credit cards for dues, products, donations, etc. Thanx to Stewart Johnson for putting that together.

Our web master, Rich Flynn and director Jeff Tietz are soliciting a vendor for a major upgrade to our web site that will be a super tool for us to keep members up – to – date and still have an active calendar, pictures, etc.



The Awards Committee can't seem to stop either! Mike Bradbury and Gene Rigsby are still identifying members for awards and developing new ones for this year.

Ric Case and the Safety Committee are preparing to upgrade and refine our GRASS presentation, ROAR continues to be a leading newsletter in the local motorcycling committee, and, your Board continues to work to keep our well – deserved reputation developed by all of our members over the years.

We are a club of people, our accomplishments are those of our people, our enjoyment is due to the efforts of all of our members....Thanx!

Let's roll...safely.....

Traveler
President
Top Cats – Illinois

Save the Date!
July 27th, 2014!

All Proceeds will benefit the programs of
NISRA

Top Cat's Ride for Dreams!



Oil Spots

By Traveler

Missouri No Helmet Bill

A bill endorsed this week by the Missouri House would let motorcyclists over the age of 21 ride without helmets.



Missouri law requires motorcyclists of all ages to wear a helmet, or face a fine up to \$25 for each offense. The bill repealing that requirement for riders 21 and older needs one more vote from the House before moving to the Senate.

Retooling Cancels 2014 Victory Rally

Polaris Industries Inc. is canceling the 2014 American Victory Rally due to extensive transformation of manufacturing lines at the company's Spirit Lake, Iowa, facility, home of the Victory product line and annual rally.



"All of us at Victory are disappointed that we are unable to host the rally this year as we know our riders are passionate about their bikes and the opportunity to connect with each other, the Spirit Lake community and Victory employees at the annual rally," said Marcy Bosch, committee chair, American Victory Rally. "We will be transforming

our manufacturing lines this summer to keep up with the demands fueled by the continued enthusiasm for Victory bikes and our other products, which means we won't be able to free up the facilities and dedicate the resources necessary to support a quality rally. We are grateful to our riders and the Spirit Lake community for their continued support and passion for the Victory brand."

Harley-Davidson Recalls Motorcycles

Harley-Davidson is recalling about 9,100 2013-14 FXSB and FXSBSE models manufactured from March 20, 2012, through March 10, 2014, to identify and fix a problem with the fuel level sensor signal, NHTSA announced.

Suspension variances may affect the gas tank mounting angle, causing the fuel level sensor to read inaccurately, ac-



to

cording to NHTSA. "The gauge inaccuracy may cause the motorcycle to run out of fuel unexpectedly, possibly even before the Low Fuel Warning lamp illuminates," the recall stated. This would cause the motorcycle to stall, increasing the risk of a crash.

The problem was identified in January by a Harley-Davidson engineer who reported that a test bike unexpectedly ran out of fuel while it was being operated. Subsequent investigation by the Motor Co. identified various warranty and customer reports related to the problem, the OEM told the agency. No crashes or injuries related to this issue have been reported, the company stated.

Dealers are asked to apply a software update that will recalibrate the fuel level sensor signal on the affected bikes.

(Continued on pg 5)



Oil Spots, Continued...

Utah PD Motor Officer Badges a First

It's a first for law enforcement and for Harley-Davidson: the Motor Co. has partnered with the Weber County Sheriff's Office to offer motor officers a badge that includes the Harley-Davidson logo along with the standard officer and agency information.



have the H-D logo along with officer's name, rank, the name of the agency and a symbolic winged insignia.

"I loved the idea of being the first sheriff's office in the nation," Terry Thompson told the *Standard-Examiner* at the Weber County Sheriff's Complex, where motors officers Cpl. Nealy Adams, Deputy Todd Christensen and Deputy Matt Nelson sported their badges. About 10 officers regularly use the department's four Harley-Davidson Electra Glides that were bought last year.

Police insignia, especially in motorcycle units, frequently features wings or wheels to signify swiftness or mobility.

"This badge is really for the Harley-Davidson officer enthusiast," Thompson said. "It gives a new sense of excitement when it's pinned on your uniform."

The badges are optional and only available to officers assigned to the motor squad, who pay for the specialty badges themselves and may only wear them while on duty with the motor squad.

The badges

A group of motorcycle owners is suing the owner of a repair shop over claims their motorcycles were destroyed in a fire.

The bike owners filed a lawsuit in the Madison County Circuit Court against Joseph Jones, doing business as **Joe's Hawg Doc**, citing negligence. They claim he knew the shop contained combustible materials, but failed to remove the danger or equip the property with fire extinguishers, alarms, sprinklers or hydrants. The plaintiffs are seeking damages in an amount to be determined by the court according to the [Madison-LeClair Record](#).

According to the complaint, the shop fire happened on June 4, 2011, and the plaintiffs' motorcycles, which were on the premises for repair or modification, were destroyed in the fire.

Lightning Reveals Electric Superbike

Lightning says its new LS-218 electric superbike is the most technologically advanced and highest performing street-legal production



motorcycle in the world. It's based on the company's successful electric race bike technology, which Lightning has been running in a variety of racing environments from Bonneville to LeMans. (Cont. on pg. 6)



ROAR

Oil Spots, Continued...

The Lightning superbike became the world's fastest production electric motorcycle when it turned the best timed run of 218.637 mph at Bonneville during last year's Speedweeks. The bike set a Southern California Timing Association (SCTA) World Record officially at 215.960 mph.

Lightning says on its website that it has a usable free-way-speed range of over 100 miles, and a combined city and highway EPA range of over 150 miles. Oh, and a potential top speed of 218 with no moving pistons or gasoline, and you can even charge it with solar power to lower the energy cost even more.

AMA Petitions To End Motorcycle-only

The American Motorcyclist Association has launched a petition drive aimed at ending the law enforcement practice of conducting checkpoints that target only motorcyclists. The [AMA](#) began tracking motorcycle-only checkpoints when they first appeared in New York in 2007, when the [New York State Police](#) stopped motorcyclists traveling to and from The [Americade](#) motorcycle rally. Since then, more than \$500,000 in federal funds has been spent on these traffic stops.

"This money could have paid the [Motorcycle Safety](#)



[Foundation](#) Basic Rider Course fee for 10,000 potential motorcyclists," said Wayne Allard, AMA vice president for government affairs. "That money could have been used to combat distracted driving or been invested as federal matching dollars in the current comprehensive study to analyze the root causes of motorcycle crashes."

The AMA is calling on everyone to support legislation - such as the Stop Motorcycle Checkpoint Funding Act (S. 2078 and H.R. 1861) now under consideration in Congress -- and to sign the [petition](#).

Indian Dealership Opens in Sturgis

Indian Motorcycle Sturgis opened just blocks from where Indian last year formally unveiled the first full complement of motorcycles in the revived brand. Indian Motorcycle Sturgis is a newly renovated 5,700-sq-ft. facility on Lazelle St that offers sales, service, parts and accessories for the entire lineup of Indian Motorcycles and a full selection of Indian Motorcycle apparel.

(Continued on pg 7)



June Celebrations!

**Let us know your important dates
so we can celebrate with you!!**



6th Terri Loden
25th Bard Board

10th Mike & Kathie Bradbury
29th Randy & Faye Braun



Oil Spots, Continued...

Indian Motorcycle Sturgis is under the ownership/operation of Vern Eide Motorcars.

"The Vern Eide family is honored to partner with Polaris Industries in bringing the iconic Indian Motorcycle brand back to Sturgis, South Dakota. We are both grateful and excited for the opportunity to become a responsible business partner with the city of Sturgis," said Bruce Eide, partner of Vern Eide Motorcars in a press release. "Special thanks to Mayor Mark Carstensen, City Manager Daniel Ainslie and SEDC president Pat Kurtenbach. Their vision and thoughtfulness have been invaluable in our efforts to bring Indian Motorcycle to Sturgis."

The dealership plans to offer demo rides, apparel sales, live music and other amenities during the August rally.

J.C. "Pappy" Hoel, a racer, motorcycle dealer and race promoter, bought an Indian Motorcycle franchise and set up shop in 1936 on Junction Avenue in Sturgis. Two years later, Hoel co-founded Black Hills Motor Classic with his club, the Jackpine Gypsies. In 1947, Hoel sold more Indian Motorcycles per capita than anyone in the nation.

"I'm happy to welcome Indian Motorcycle Sturgis to our rapidly expanding family of dealerships across the country and around the world," said Steve Menetto, vice president of motorcycles at Polaris Industries. "Sturgis is a very special place in the past, present and future of Indian Motorcycle, and I know the team at Vern Eide Motorcars is the right partner in which to entrust this great legacy."

Custom Builders Modify Bikes For Disabled Vets

Michigan custom shops are pitching in to help launch a charity that's been revving up for years: modifying motorcycles for veterans disabled in recent wars.

Retired U.S. Army Sgt. Brad VandenBerg got the idea and started raising money for his Two Wheels for Warriors program after a friend with whom he served, retired U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Justin Madore, was badly injured in an overseas conflict. "Ended up having a knee replaced, lost stability in my legs and

stuff like that," Madore told [WWMT](#). He didn't think he would ever ride again, but VandenBerg wasn't having it.

"I don't believe a disability can keep you from doing things you love and passionate about," he said. VandenBerg started the Two Wheels for Warriors program, raising thousands of dollars to get Madore a custom-made motorcycle, and enlisted **Dirty Boyz Motorcycles** in Plainwell to put the bike together.

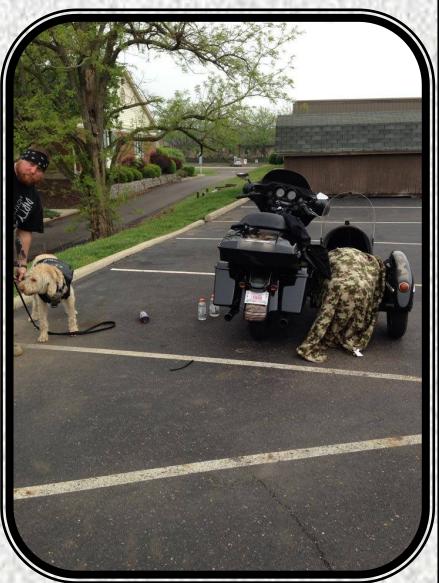
"It was a \$6,000 salvage bike and we took it apart and redid the bike from the ground up," said shop owner Brandon Bruschart, who fitted the bike to accommodate Madore, and even added a sidecar for his service dog, Cody.

"Throwing on a sidecar gives him that stability, we had to adjust the way he sits on his bike to reach his brake pedal," VandenBerg said.

The charity is starting its second build for retired U.S. Army Spc. Bob Body, who lost a leg after being wounded in Iraq.

"You hear a lot about organizations or companies that say they're there to help the veterans, but you hear about it but you don't see it," he said. "This is something I can see and feel as far as everything that's going on."

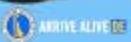
(Continued on pg 8)



**COMING
SOON TO
A MIRROR
NEAR YOU.**



SHARE THE ROAD.



***Oil Spots, Continued...***

Motorcycle Fatalities Projected to Decrease

For the second time in five years, motorcyclist fatalities are projected to decrease, according to a report by the Governors Highway Safety Association, the American Motorcyclist Association reports.

Dr. James Hedlund of Highway Safety North, a former senior official with the National Highway Traffic Safety

Administration, authored the "Spotlight on Safety" report, which projects that the motorcyclist fatality total for 2013 will be 4,610, compared to 4,957 reported in 2012.

Compared with the first nine months of 2012, motorcyclist fatalities decreased in 35 states and the District of Columbia, increased in 13 states, and remained the same in two, the report states. All 50 states and the District of Columbia provided preliminary motorcyclist fatality counts for the first nine months of 2013, according to the governors' association press release.

"The decline in rider fatalities is encouraging news, particularly during Motorcycle Awareness Month when so many motorcyclists are riding," said Wayne Allard, AMA vice president for government relations. "And we hope that these reported declines signal a positive trend in rider safety on nation's highways."

The motorcycle crash causation study is being conducted at the Oklahoma Transportation Center, an independent and well-respected research facility at Oklahoma State University in Stillwater, Okla.



The last major motorcycle crash study was completed in 1980, and it provided a wealth of data that has been used to develop training and strategies to help keep riders safer on the road. In the decades since, the traffic environment has changed enormously, prompting the AMA to begin campaigning for a new study several years ago and leading to the Oklahoma research.

More Women Than Ever Before Are Riding Motorcycles

Roughly 12 percent of the country's motorcycle owners are women, according to the latest estimate from the Motorcycle Industry Council, and that number is growing. MIC data show that the number of female riders has increased by double digits during the last decade.

"With ridership among women growing so rapidly, it is vital for the motorcycling community to recognize

their contributions and find ways to meet their needs," said Rob Dingman, AMA president and CEO. "The AMA has responded with a women's affinity program and by offering seminars at our national convention in October that are specifically geared for women riders."

Maggie McNally-Bradshaw, chair of the AMA Board of Directors, encouraged women riders to join the AMA, adding their voices to the premier organization dedicated to protecting motorcyclists' freedoms and promoting the motorcycling lifestyle.

"There is power in numbers, especially when dealing with recalcitrant government agencies," McNally-Bradshaw said. "Women riders represent a significant and emerging block of power in the motorcycling community. The AMA is a big tent, and we invite everyone who rides to join our advocacy to promote motorcycling and protect our riding freedoms."





NISRA
Northern Illinois
Special Recreation Association



The Day

is almost here!

July 27th, 2014
**Top Cat's 17th Annual
Ride for Dreams
Benefitting NISRA**

What can you do?

Register to Ride that Day!

Register Friends and Family!

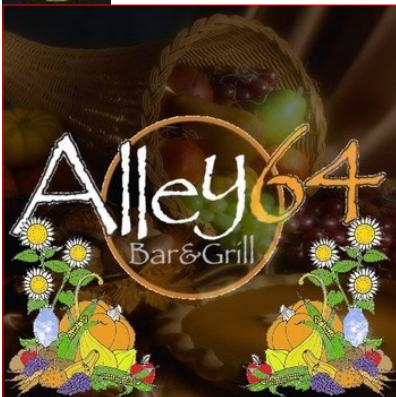
Visit Your Local Merchants and Generate Donations!

Talk To Noelle Rigsby to find out more!



ROAR

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES MAY 6TH, 2014



Alley 64
2001 N. Rand Rd, Palatine, Illinois

Submitted by Mary Walters

A Road Captain Meeting was held before the General Meeting. The intent was stated by Gary:

We are gathered here today to assist the Activities

Committee in filling the Calendar. Gary Brandt is hoping that the monthly meetings will allow the RCs to develop ideas and schedule rides. It seemed to work, as Tony Loden was busy writing in ideas and filling the dates with exciting things for the Top Cats Calendar.



Meeting called to order 7:30 PM by Wayne Kirkpatrick, President of Top Cats, Illinois.

Membership was asked to stand and say the Pledge of Allegiance.

President's Report: Wayne Kirkpatrick

Adventure Ride was a great success. It was fun to see the group on Skype and the club is grateful to Terri and Tony Loden.

Past President: Mike Bradbury

No comments tonight.

Vice President: Larry . Scalzitti

No comments tonight.

Secretary's Report: Mary Walters

All is in good shape.

Treasurer's Report: Stewart Johnson

Stewart reported that the club is very solvent. All paperwork is current and the books are balanced. See Stewart if you would have specific questions or would like further details.

Activities / Awards: Gene Rigsby

• Gene turned the floor over to Tony Loden who had just added a number of events to the calendar at the Road Captain meeting before the general meeting. [See the calendar](#) later this week to find out what has been added. It looks like a great year ahead!

• Tony Loden put out a survey about the adventure ride events.

◊ 63% wanted to have two adventure rides a year!

◊ 2015 rides? The winner at this time with 47% was to Las Vegas – on a National Parks Tour. Florida came in 2nd in the survey.

◊ Comments included – Pacific Coast Highway and Canada!

◊ The Fall ride for 2014 will be to the Ozarks.

◊ Noelle Rigsby offered a Saturday evening event at Woodstock Theatre to a Ragtime concert. There seemed to be an interest and members will be able to talk to Noelle after the meeting.

◊ Wayne Kirkpatrick also talked about the 'Post-Stugis' Ride being another 'adventure ride' opportunity too. It is a southern ride through Colorado, New Mexico, and then on to Dodge City, Kansas before going home.

◊ Wayne also talked about a 'challenge' that was given to the club by the Combat Veterans in Washington D.C. to a shoot-out and the losers would donate to the winner's charity. Nine members expressed an interest... and it looks like this may become the President's Ride for 2014!

◊ Randy talked about a conceal/carry criminal defense reimbursement bond. See Randy for the details. He has options that would include coverage for criminal or civil trials. "Remember, Every Bullet has an attorney attached to it!"

(Continued on pg 11)



General Meeting, Continued

Safety / Charity: Ric Case

Charity: Noelle Rigsby

- ◊ All on Schedule!
- ◊ Registration tonight includes a scratch lotto ticket tonight!
- ◊ If any member brings 5 other riders who are non-TopCats, there will be a gift given in appreciation for their dedication to the event.
- ◊ Flyers were created by Gary Brandt and printed by Shannon Smith, daughter of Jane and Greg. The club displayed their appreciation with a large round of applause!
- ◊ See any of the Committee members if you have questions, donations, or want to work with the group! It is a great charity to be supporting! NISRA does wonderful work for people of all ages with disabilities!

Safety: Ric Case

- ◊ The last Grass Class became a 'Ladies of TCs' event! Noelle Rigsby and Pat Michaud were the attendees for the class!
- ◊ The next class will be in October and will be the last opportunity for 2014 to fulfill the Top Cat Requirement to attend the class once every 3 years.
- ◊ Wayne explained the Group Riding and Safety Seminar to the new members and guests.
- ◊ Rich Flynn discussed the importance of taking a good look at your bike, the conditions, and the rider conditioning before getting on your bike for the first time this spring. Watch for potholes this summer too! It will be a bad season and there is little money to fix holes correctly – so take care.
- ◊ Rich Flynn also suggested that the membership re-read the past Kaution Korners. There is a wealth of knowledge that is archived on our website for safe riding.
- ◊ Fred Creed asked for advice on how to maneuver through a rut that may appear in the middle of the road. A rut is a surface depression within the traffic lane and is a result of permanent deformation of the pavement or sub-grade. This condition is normally caused by heavy loads on roads lacking sufficient strength to support the loading."Larry Scalzitti and Ric Case offered advice, but each situation would require different techniques. Their #1 advice tip was to be AWARE. Scan the road ahead and identify possible problems so that you avoid them rather than working your way out of the problem.

Guest Speaker: Judy Kaenel, Wally Elliot, Dukane ABATE

- ◊ 18 year member in Illinois and also an ABATE member in Alaska.
- ◊ ABATE = A Brotherhood Aimed Toward Education. (other versions exist, but this is the official meaning of the acronym)
- ◊ Abate Started in 1973 in order to address the rights of riders. Free education, Information and Personal Safety without discrimination!
- ◊ The idea is that others who do not ride will not be able to KNOW about rider safety unless there is a rider group who is able to talk to the lawmakers about TRUE rider safety from the view of the rider!
- ◊ With ABATE there are NUMBERS and politicians listen to numbers.
- ◊ Judy stated that she came to be sure that we all know that we have a voice! The time to join is now... Why?
- ◊ There is a lawmaker who is going to do a study on the 'epidemiology' of the global rider culture.
- ◊ New Transportation initiative released five days ago, by President Obama, included a standard national helmet law.
- ◊ Towns are passing laws closing the towns to motorcycles.
- ◊ Tatoo parlors in the past were going to be asked to document tattoos with social security numbers....
- ◊ ABATE's eyes are on all issues and identify things that could become problems before they become problems!
- ◊ These are the issues that ABATE addresses and fights. It is time to join... Support the cause. Bring education and awareness to the street!
- ◊ Wally and Judy discussed the **Poker Run Bill**.
- ⇒ Judy Kaenel addressed the club and told a story about a bar that had a poker run. Commissioners were touring the bars in the area and fining them for having poster's that used the words 'poker run' 'gambling' '50/50' or other terms related to gambling. 595 bars were being fined. Judy and the ABATE community read the wording of the gambling laws and realized that poker runs DO 2550 charitable runs are done each year in our area alone.

(Continued on pg 12)



- ◊ ABATE went to the legislature and got their attention by using the Illinois State Police Run. They agreed that they needed to address this area. They put together a bill and it was going to be passed, but the Department of Revenue wanted a say in the process and threatened to block the new law.
- ◊ ABATE then went to the Department of Revenue and to the Commission of Gaming, both groups were looking to get a cut of any gaming events. The demands they were making included \$250 for an event along with 1/3 of the moneys collected. ABATE stopped the bill from becoming a law at that time so that the wording of any further bills would address the charitable events within the motorcycle community to effectively exempt them from these fees.

General Meeting, Continued**The Blocker Bill**

- ◊ Judy, who wrote the law, advised the group on how to effectively block for the rides. You can block as long as you have communication with the local law enforcement groups. It relieves the communities of car-blocking and alleviates the need for more manpower in the communities. There will not be any formal training or certification required. Use of good common sense is the guideline. Be sure that ALL communities are advised before your ride, so that they will KNOW that your ride is coming through.
- ◊ Wally Elliot identified the ABATE events that are coming up in the near future. See the ABATE website for all of the details! www.agate-il.org/dukane

Products / Membership: Emil Kornecki**New members:** Emil Kornecki

- ◊ Genie and Bob Stevenson were given their new packet information.
- ◊ Kathy Bradbury's packet was accepted by her good friend Mike Bradbury!

Products Update - Lisa Purcell

- ◊ Lisa has inventoried the shirts that are already here. They are looking for all suggestions on what will be offered in the future.
- ◊ Lisa will bring the items next week and also take ideas to order. She was prepared for tonight, but with all of the items on the agenda, she will save the 'reveal' for next meeting.

History/Web Site: Jeff Tietz**Web Site Update:**

- ◊ Rich Flynn stated that there are a number of issues that he has worked on with the present program, but it is now accurately reflecting information on the Calendar, the Photo, and the ROAR pages.
- ◊ He and Jeff Tietz are looking into other options and Rich is looking forward to identifying a new product that will fit the needs of the club.
- ◊ **History Update:** All is well!

New News for the Good of the Club:

- ◊ Roxray Adonis let the club know that he has another club that is interested in organizing a GRASS class for their club, using our staff.
- ◊ Ric Case will make contact with the group and let our club know where and when. If anyone would like to attend this presentation, it WILL meet the membership requirement.

50 / 50 was drawn by Jim Purcell our Sergeant at Arms, and was won by Roxray Adonis for \$61... and he also won a T-shirt! In usual Top Cat Style, he donated the money to the NISRA event.... And took the T-shirt home

ATTENTION: Legislative ALERT:

The Poker Run Bill (SB3312)was passed by the House on May 30th. ABATE is asking all bikers to call the Governor and press him to sign this Bill immediately, so that Bikers can get back to doing what they do best...

HELPING OTHERS! Use both numbers below!

Chicago Office: James R. Thompson Center, 100 W. Randolph 16-100 847-814-2121

Springfield Office: 207 State House, 217-782-0244

TOP CATS OF ILLINOIS

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

APRIL 15TH, 2014

Alley 64
2001 N. Rand Rd, Palatine, Illinois
Submitted by Mary Walters

Present: Wayne Kirkpatrick, Larry Scalzitti, Stewart Johnson, Ric Case, Mike Bradbury, Emil Kornecki, Gene Rigsby, Jeff Tietz, Mary Walters

President

Call to Order by Wayne Kirkpatrick at 7:30.

- ◊ 2014 Web Site updates are under way. Jeff Tietz and Rich Flynn will be working on investigating and finalizing the changes.
- ◊ Insurance & Web Site Quotes status will be given by Jeff Tietz tonight. It will be a two step process.
- ⇒ Tonight will be a review of the present status and the quotes to date. We will generate questions that will be presented to the companies and Jeff will research that data as well.
- ⇒ The next meeting will be a review of that research and a decision will be made at that time.
- ◊ NISRA is having a retirement reception for Brian Shahinian on June 16th. The information will be given to the membership at the June general meeting.
- ◊ Don and Cindy DeLordo, guests of the Stevenson's at our last meeting, and are considering joining the club. They enjoyed the meeting and the friendliness of the group.

Vice President: Larry Scalzitti

Larry is starting the Tuesday night *Franks and Fries Night* again. The first night will be at *Franks for the Memories*. This site is Jerry Dederich's family restaurant. Look for details on the Website.

Secretary: Mary Walters

- ◊ There is nothing new to report at this time., but all comments on the minutes are appreciated!

Treasurer: Stewart Johnson

- ◊ Stewart brought copies of the 2014 reports.
- ◊ The question of using the 'square' for things other than the charity run was discussed. Stewart stated that the 'square' we have now is designated for the charity account. So discussion centered on the idea of having another one for products, dues or other business transactions for the club.
- ◊ Wayne proposed that the minimal investment would allow us to do business faster.
- ◊ Ric Case moved to purchase the' square'. Larry Scalzitti was the second. The board agreed unanimously.

Past President: Mike Bradbury

- ◊ Mike stated that the Road Captain meeting before the meeting was successful.
- ◊ There was a short discussion on the difficulty that there was in communication during the last general meeting. The board was told to keep their eyes open for plan B. There are a number of options, but the issue is not large at this time.

Director: Gene Rigsby

- ◊ Gene gave an update on the Activities for June & July events. See the Website for details on all rides.
- ◊ Tony will be contacted to find out what is happening with the adventure ride patch.
- ◊ After reviewing the data on how many people should have the 3 and 5 year danglers it was determined that the information used for the awards banquet was flawed. After review, there are 30 more people who should be given rockers this year. Gene is working to get these rockers to them.
- ◊ Gene is going to try to promote more participation from the members. Mike Bradbury and Gene are looking to develop an award for committee work. It is difficult to know how to make this work effectively, so discussion and thought on this subject will continue.
- ◊ Gene is still looking for getting the graphics for the flag settled so that he can send the 'vector' file out for a bid.

(Continued on Page 14)

**Director:** Emil Kornecki**Board Minutes, Continued.****Membership**

- ◊ No new members at this time.
- ◊ A discussion was held on the advantages and disadvantages of doing surveys within the club. It is important to make the surveys reflective of current issues and events where member input is valuable and can be acted on.

Products for 2014 are being handled by Lisa Purcell**Director:** Ric Case**Safety**

- ◊ The May 4th Class was held without the Road Captain Module
- ◊ The modules are being updated and will be ready for the October class.
- ◊ Safety Tip will be submitted this month by Bard Board and Gene Rigsby will write the July edition.
- ◊ Ric will not be in attendance for the June meetings, but will ensure that there are representatives there to give reports.

Charity

- ◊ Gina Woods from Open Road Radio will possibly be able to display the HER bike at our charity event. She would also be able to advertise for our event. Ric will pass this information on to Noelle.
- ◊ The next meeting will be at the Smith's on June 20th.

Director: Jeff Tietz**History**

- ◊ All is well at this time at the Barrington Library
- ◊ David Whiteside has agreed to be the photographer for the club.

Website

- ◊ Jeff and Rich Flynn are looking at different website programs and working out an evaluation tool to use when making the final proposals to the board.

Insurance Policy Evaluation

- ◊ Tonight the board will develop an evaluation criteria for what our club needs in an insurance policy. The board is responsible to the entire membership to get the policy that is identified as the best coverage for our money.
- ◊ Jeff Tietz explained that in the decision making process, it is important to be extremely objective. Each member of the board was asked to be sure that they are aware of why they are making their choices and be sure that the criteria and final choice are free of subjective variables. Objectivity is key to being able to have confidence on the final choice.
- ◊ The board compiled a list of things that each considered important when considering policies.
- ◊ Jeff Identified three areas of coverage: Directors, members, events/meetings
- ◊ Umbrella policies are 'catch-all' for things outside of the original intentions of the policies.

The list included:

- | | |
|---|---|
| * Industry rating | * Size of company – and assets they have available. |
| * Referrals | * Value for the money |
| * Accurate for what we need / available limits | * Responsiveness of the company/agent |
| * Costs | * Limitations/Clauses |
| * Legal Resources | * Personal Experiences |
| * Experience, Knowledge and Comfort in working within | * General Liability |
| the Motorcycle Industry. | |
| * Member connections | * Court Case Success |
| * Non-Monetary Loss (Business Continuation) | * International Assets |
| * How does the company evaluate/rate clients. | * Geographic coverage |

The above criteria will be sent to Board members to weight and return to Jeff prior to our next Board meeting.

Meeting was Adjourned at 9:25.



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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

Richard Flynn

RichFlynnJr@aol.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

TOP CATS OF ILLINOIS

RIDES & EVENTS

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Date	Ride/Event	Location	Destination	Time	Leader
Sunday, June 1st	Sunrise Ride	TBD	To see the sun	5am	Rigsby
Tuesday, June 3rd	General Meeting	Palatine	Alley 64	7:30 pm	Kirkpatrick
Sunday, June 8th	Annual Breakfast Ride	Shell—12 & Rand	TBD	9:00 am	Loden
Tuesday, June 10th	Board Meeting	Palatine	Alley 64	7:30 pm	Kirkpatrick
Tuesday, June 17th	Franks and Fries	Libertyville	Slotts Hots	6:30 pm	Scalzitti
Sat/Sun June 21st—22nd	Livingston Live!	Crystal Lake 176/14	Livingston County	8:00 am	Walters
Sunday, June 29th	Rustic Roads	TBD	Winding Twisties	9:00 am	Bradbury
Tuesday, July 1st	General Meeting	Palatine	Alley 64	7:30 pm	Kirkpatrick
Tuesday, July 8h	Board Meeting	Palatine	Alley 64	7:30 pm	Kirkpatrick
Tuesday, June 15th	Franks and Fries	Grayslake	Dog 'N Suds	6:30 pm	Scalzitti
Sunday, July 20th	Fly In	BP—21 and Grand Gurnee	East Troy Airport	7:00 am	Johnson
Sunday, July 27th	RIDE FOR DREAMS	WOODSTOCK HD	WOODSTOCK HD	9:00 am	Noelle Rigsby
Wed 7/30 to Sun 8/6	Sturgis	Mc D's at Ela & 12	South Dakota	8:00 am	Boand

All ride and event information along with the Photo Gallery can be found at
www.TopCats.org.



Barrington Library

Location and Hours
 505 N. Northwest Highway
 Barrington, IL 60010

847-382-1300
balibrary.org

See the Top Cats Archive

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.

Submit your ad along with contact information to the ROAR editors at ROAR@TOPCATS.org



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

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For questions or to submit comments or articles for publication, contact the editors at
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