



# ROAR

April, 2015

Volume 15, Issue 4

The Official Publication of the TOP CATS OF ILLINOIS

## PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

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NOW, NOW, NOW is the time where the changing weather is giving us all small opportunities to break out the bikes and ride. We officially are in Spring season, which means we will spring onto the bikes and ride any chance we can! When this issue of ROAR hits the streets, some of us will have already gotten on our new and old cycles and gave them a "dirty" ride on these messy roads, including yours truly. With these thoughts in mind, the Top Cats are "roaring" along and moving forward with club events and rides. Good things will be resulting from our newly enlarged Activities Committee. Our official first ride of the year, called appropriately The Kickoff Ride, is May 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**CALLING ALL ROAD CAPTAINS!!!** Please lead at least one ride this year! While we already have 4 multi-day rides, there are a lot of opportunities for day rides on our calendar

Also look for, find, nurture, support and mentor someone who is interested in leading a ride and becoming a road captain! Imagine a club where we have so many RC's and riding events that challenge us to ride more together. Oh what a wonderful world that could be!

To make sure this is a good season, I urge you all to attend a GRASS class

whether you've already met the requirement or not. It is a good time to refresh your training before the riding season gets rolling and to debate which hand to use to signal a turn, (I bet most of you already know this one)! And no, what you just did with your finger is not an official signal though of course, is internationally recognized J

The Charity Committee is doing great things for *The Ride For Dreams* event. At least do your part and register. N.I.S.R.A. is a deserving charity offering services in 13 local communities. Our members are located in many of these communities. Supporting N.I.S.R.A. requires more than lip service. We need our members to be active supporters. Helping the committee, obtaining donations, talking up the event with non-member motorcyclists and finally registering yourselves for the ride whether you plant to attend or not! See Noelle Rigsby or Lisa Purcell with any donations you've gotten right away and offer to help in any way you can.

I am looking forward to riding with my fellow brothers and sisters and having fun! Together, riding our bikes safely, sniffing each other's exhaust, roaring along on interesting rides and bragging of our motorcycling prowess at the next stop sounds okay to me! Did I mention having fun too? That's what I'm talking about!!!

So come on....Let's go!

Michael Motorcycle  
President  
Top Cats of Illinois

### Upcoming Events

#### APRIL

- 7 GENERAL MEETING
- 12 CPR CLASS
- 14 BOARD MEETING

#### MAY

- 2 KICK-OFF RIDE
- 5 GENERAL MEETING
- 12 BOARD MEETING
- 16 GRASS CLASS



Summer is right around the corner! Good friends will continue to find ways to enjoy the days...

What Ideas do you have to get everyone together? Talk to Gene Rigsby and get your ideas on the

Calendar for winter or summer Months!





## KAUTION KORNER

### Riding in the Rain

By: Bob Stevenson



I personally don't care for riding in the rain. I don't think I have ever met another motorcycle enthusiast that actually enjoys riding in the rain but sometimes it is unavoidable.

Rain is just water. I exclude the storms that deliver rain horizontally with winds that can propel you airborne. In that case, take appropriate cover (not under a tree) and wait for the storm to pass.

There are quite a few things to consider when riding in the rain but one of the most important is a good quality high visibility rain suit, rain gloves and waders (boot covers). Life is too short for a cheap rain suit. Make sure you have good quality rain gear. They make breathable rain gear now so that can be a consideration if you are in the market to purchase rain gear.

Most of these tips are common sense:

Always have the proper rain gear with you and use it. Make sure your helmet has at least a shield that covers your face because rain above 30 mph hurts!

Slow down. Stopping distances will be greatly increased. Panic stops could easily put your bike into a slide.

Allow larger spacing between the vehicles in front of you to give yourself more reaction time.

Watch the road. What used to be kind-of slippery is now extremely slippery. White lines on the roads become slick, metal plates/manholes are super dangerous, avoid them like the plague.

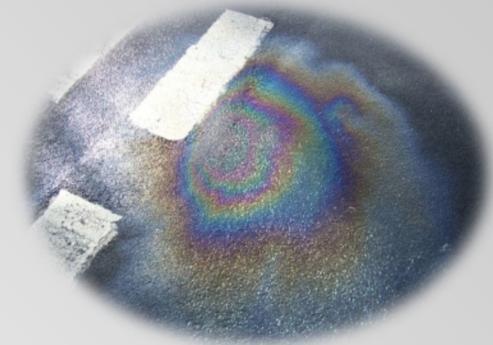
Avoid puddles. Can that puddle in front of you in fact be a 4 foot deep hole? Do you want to find out the hard way?

Use extreme caution when rain starts after many days of dry weather. The first 15 minutes of a rain storm is the most treacherous since there's a lot of oil and dirt on the road.

Take railway crossing as perpendicular as possible. Go slow on open deck bridges. Remember the railway tracks and open deck bridges are metal, and wet metal is slippery!

If hail or lightning starts up take cover immediately away from trees.

If you see a rainbow effect on the ground avoid it. It's probably an oil or gasoline spill which tends to be very slippery when wet.



Relax! Getting all cramped and bunched up is not good and will cause you will to get tired very quickly and that in itself is dangerous. Relaxed riding is much better!

Riding in the rain is necessary at times and you should not stop riding just because it's raining. Suit up, relax and enjoy the ride. You are after all riding a motorcycle and that in itself is fun. ENJOY IT!



## VP's Vision

By: Ric 'Clutch' Case

To begin this column, I'd like to let you know that Jo Giovannoni will present *Women in Motorcycling* at our June 2nd General Meeting. This is a great opportunity to meet and listen to one of the first memorable women in modern Harley History. She lives and works in our area and has agreed to stop in and talk to us and answer questions.



Linda "Jo" Giovannoni (pronounced Joe-Van-No-Knee) is an influential motorcycle journalist and rider who co-founded Harley Women magazine, the first national motorcycling publication devoted to women motorcycle enthusiasts. Her involvement with Harley Women led to appearances on national shows such as Geraldo, The Vicki Lawrence Show, National Public Radio and many more. The book "Hear Me Roar," by Ann Ferrar, also features Giovannoni. Be sure to set aside time to meet and talk with 'Jo' at our June meeting.

I will also be sharing with all of you at our April meeting, some tips I picked up from The Networking Seminar I attended. It will include some updated techniques for riding two up, including mounting, turning, and handling high speed curves with two people on one bike. We'll also take some time to review suggestions for safe group riding, such as keeping the group small.



Remember, as we begin the new season to begin thinking about safe riding skills. When we meet we can also discuss what we each do to get ready... such as positioning and the skills we practice as much as possible to build our confidence for the upcoming rides!



CELEBRATE GOOD TIMES, COME ON!

## Top Cats' 20th Anniversary Adventure 20

By: Traveler



How does a rider celebrate a Top Cats' anniversary in an appropriate way? Ride 4,000+ miles out west and back in less than two weeks, with a group of your best friends, that's how! Gear up, tune up, pack up and get ready for our 2015 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary journey to the Black Hills and beyond!



We have a little more than 120 days until we saddle up so at this point in time, you ought to be doing your research on time, budget, routes, hotel reservations, and what you're going to pack. To help you put your trip together and plan your time, here is the concept for our 20th Anniversary Black Hills Blast and Adventure Ride 20.



As with everything related to the sport of two – wheeled travel, flexibility is the foundation of executing a multi – day group ride. That's why we're referring to this as our concept, rather than a hard, fast plan. We understand also, that some riders' schedules might not allow them to make the entire trip or to ride with a particular group. Over the 20 + year history of Top Cats, we typically have riders return home from Sturgis on their own or meet us out at Sturgis and...that's OK.

We usually buy them a drink in sympathy of all the fun they missed riding solo.

This year, we'll have two groups of Top Cats for planning purposes...one group riding out to Sturgis on 28 July 2015 and one group riding back home via the Santa Fe Trail starting on 4 August 2015. Group 1, led by Bard Board, is leaving on Tuesday, 28 July and arriving in Rapid City on Thursday, 30 July. The reasoning is that this year is the 75<sup>th</sup> Black Hills Rally anniversary and it will be packed. Room rates have also skyrocketed. Arriving early will afford us better room rates, less crowds and...the same opportunity to ride the Black Hills as we have in the past 20 years.

Group 2, led by Wayne Kirkpatrick, will form up at the Alex Johnson Hotel, in Rapid City and depart on a six day ride home via the Rocky Mountains, Pikes Peak, Garden of the Gods, The Great Sand Dunes, Angel Fire, NM, Red River, NM, and the Santa Fe Trail to Dodge City and Boot Hill. Six days? Yes, recall the thesis that good rides are based on flexibility? This ride will be about 2,000 miles over 6 days with the option, on any given leg of the trip, to cut the ride short and head directly back home for those who have to be back by a particular date / time. We'll buy you a drink in sympathy.

Now, why ride the Santa Fe Trail back? Just because it's a cool thing to do. Imagine this conversation....  
*"How was your ride to Sturgis? We had a great ride, great time, and great friends. When did you get home? We left on 28 July and got back on 8 August how about you? Wow, what took you so long? We took a few days and rode the Santa Fe Trail home with side trips through the Rocky Mountains, Cripple Creek, Pikes Peak, and Garden of the Gods, The Great Sand Dunes, Angel Fire, Red River, and the Santa Fe Trail...."*

See what I mean about the cool factor? Interested by now?

Well come along on my pictorial pre ride on the next pages and see for yourself...



TC Awards Banquet, Continued

## 4 Aug, Tuesday

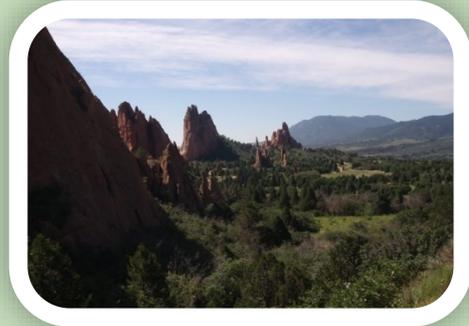
**Rapid City, SD to Colorado Springs, CO**  
**Via RT 385, 85, and I 25 (470 miles)**



Picture 1 RT 385, South Dakota

## 5 Aug, Wednesday

**Colorado Springs, CO**  
**(Local Tour) (150 miles)**  
**Garden of the Gods**



Picture 4 Garden of the Gods, Colorado Springs



Picture 2 RT 85, Wyoming



Picture 5 Garden of the Gods



Picture 3 Colorado Springs, CO, Pikes Peak

Pikes Peak  
(Optional)





Picture 7 Pikes Peak Very Challenging Ride

## Cripple Creek



Picture 8 Cripple Creek, CO



Picture 10 Phantom Canyon Trail - Difficult!



Picture 9 Cripple Creek Casinos



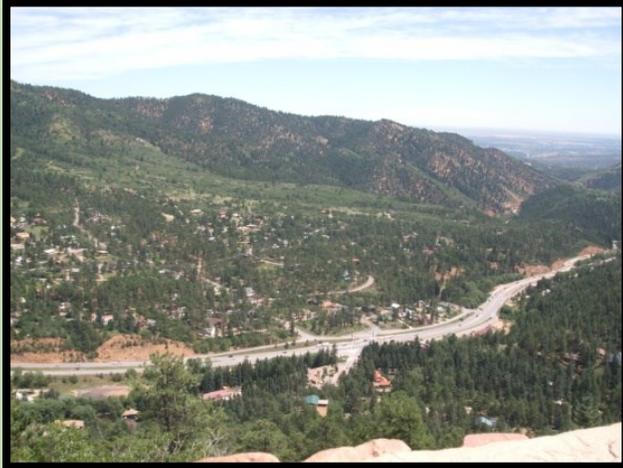
Picture 11 Phantom Canyon Trail



**6 Aug, Thursday**

**Colorado Springs, CO  
Via Million Hwy to Red River, NM  
(229 miles)**

***Million Dollar Highway***



Picture 12 Million Dollar Highway, Colorado



Picture 13 Million Dollar Highway, Morning Fog

**Great Sand Dunes  
National Park, Colorado**

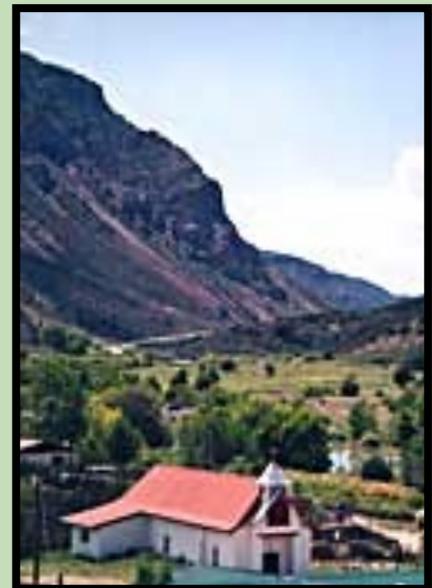


Picture 14 Great Sand Dunes, One Mile Away

**Red River,  
New Mexico**



Picture 16 Red River, NM, Ski Resort



Picture 17 Red River, NM



## 7 Aug. Friday

**Start Home via Santa Fe Trail to Dodge City, KS, (~400 miles)**

### **Angel Fire, NM**



Picture 18 Remote Town of Angel Fire, NM



Picture 21 Santa Fe Trail, Miles of Nothing

## 8 Aug. Saturday

**Dodge City, KS to Springfield, MO, Optional Departure Home Day (260 miles)**



Picture 19 Angel Fire Viet Nam Veterans Chapel



Picture 22 Santa Fe Trail, Kansas

### **Santa Fee Trail**



Picture 20 Santa Fe Trail, Southern Cimarron Route



Picture 23 Santa Fe Trail, Missouri



**9 Aug, Sunday**

**Springfield, MO to Chicago, IL (450 miles)**



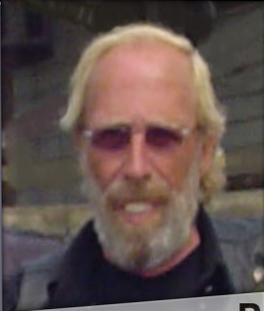
Picture 24 Final Stretch Home

Excited? Well now is the time to schedule your vacation, and start making plans. We'll have all of the hotel information in future notices. Let me know if you are interested so I can start blocking hotel rooms and negotiating room rates.

[Wkirkpa177@aol.com](mailto:Wkirkpa177@aol.com)

Picture 25 Chicago-Sturgis-Colorado-  
New Mexico-Oklahoma-Kansas-  
Missouri-Illinois





## Oil Spots

By Traveler

### Polaris joins AMA as business member, affinity AMA

Polaris Industries has become an American Motorcyclist Association business member, and now owners of Victory or Indian brand motorcycles can opt into a new AMA affinity program that includes Victory- or Indian-themed membership cards.



CEO Rob Dingman said. "We are happy to have Polaris as a business member and look forward to a long and fruitful relationship."



"Supporting this organization aligns with our values of protecting our riders' rights to ensure they have the best possible experience on

the road. It is important to our organization to endorse and promote the motorcycling lifestyle," said Steve Menneto, Polaris' vice president for motorcycles.

Other AMA affinity membership cards include KTM, Kawasaki, Yamaha, Star, U.S. Armed Forces, Woman Rider, Scooter and ATV.

### Shoei Photochromatic Face Shield

Shoei has partnered with Transitions Optical Inc. to offer an adaptive face shield for multiple riding conditions. The Shoei Transitions CWR-1 photochromatic shield ranges from clear to very dark, and it will fit the RF-1200 full-face helmet.

The shield, with an MSRP of \$169.99, utilizes photochromic technology developed



by [Transitions](#). It automatically self-adjusts from clear at night and in low-light conditions to dark gray in bright sunlight. The Transitions shield also blocks UV rays.

The Transitions CWR-1 shield is currently being processed through United States customs and will be available to both dealers and consumers in the near future.

### Polaris unveils Slingshot SL LE



(Continued on page 10)



## Oil Spots, Continued...

### ***The Slingshot...***

After unleashing the much buzzed about Slingshot, Polaris debuts the most exclusive Slingshot yet, the limited edition Slingshot SL LE is packed with head-turning features including striking Nuclear Sunset Orange coloring throughout. This sharp 3-wheel roadster is also equipped with dual windscreens and an interior LED white and blue lighting package for an exhilarating nighttime driving experience.

#### **The unique Slingshot experience includes:**

A low, wide stance which lets you feel the rush of pavement under the seat

An open-air cockpit for a 360-degree rush of sight, sound and smell

A shared riding experience allowing both the driver and passenger to get a front row shot of adrenaline

Optimized weight distribution and proprietary low-profile tires for maximum cornering

Lightweight and powerful, the Slingshot delivers exhilarating acceleration

#### **Slingshot Trim Levels:**

Slingshot is now offered in three distinct trim levels for a limited time only.

*The base Slingshot* with a U.S. MSRP of only \$19,999 features titanium metallic paint, 17-inch lightweight alloy wheels upfront and an 18-inch wheel in the rear.

*The premium Slingshot SL*, with a U.S. MSRP of only \$23,999 features red pearl paint, larger 18 inch forged aluminum wheels upfront and a 20 inch wheel in the rear, as well as a blade windscreen for wind protection. It also features a media console with a 4.3" LCD screen, back-up camera, Bluetooth integration and a 6-speaker audio system.

*The Slingshot SL LE* has a U.S. MSRP of only \$24,999.

“Dealers are also happy with initial reaction to the Slingshot three-wheeled ‘motorcycle’ with brisk sales out of the gate. Texas dealers tell us that they still can’t sell the Slingshot in their state, as it does not fit

the legal definition of a motorcycle. For now, though, this fact will have little impact on sales forecasts, as dealers in every other region where the vehicle is legal is still on allocation and seem to be selling out of Slingshots shortly after receiving them.”

### **H-D’s LiveWire Daytona Debut**



Harley-Davidson Motor Company is ready to roll into the 74th Annual Daytona Bike Week as the official motorcycle of the rally. A special reveal of the 2015 CVO™ Street Glide® in the new Carbon Crystal with Phantom Flames paint is planned, and there will be demos of some of the latest General Merchandise products.

#### **New for 2015:**

Project LiveWire™ JUMPSTART™ – Harley-Davidson embodies the spirit of American Reinvention with Project LiveWire – the first electric Harley-Davidson motorcycle. Making its first appearance in Daytona, Project LiveWire brings innovation to the street to get feedback from customers on what they expect from an electric motorcycle that is authentic Harley-Davidson.

Wounded Warrior Project – In November, Harley-Davidson announced a new partnership with Wounded Warrior Project® (WWP) to help improve the lives of service men and women living with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

Harley-Davidson Museum previews upcoming Willie G. Davidson summer exhibit – Willie G’s 1983 FXDG Disc Glide Prototype is being displayed in the Harley-Davidson Museum.

(Continued on page 11)

**Oil Spots, Continued...**

This prototype was customized by Willie G. Davidson and ridden to the 1982 Daytona rally to promote the release of the 1983 FXDG limited-edition model. Now part of Willie G.'s private collection, this motorcycle is just one of the unique personal treasures that will be on display in the summer 2015 exhibition Willie G. Davidson: Artist, Designer, Leader, Legend opening June 13 at the Harley-Davidson Museum in Milwaukee. Visit [h-dmuseum.com](http://h-dmuseum.com) for more information.

**Analyst: Top trade-in for Indian bikes is Road King**



Indian dealers remain “quite upbeat about business,” according to a research note provided to *Powersports Business* by BMO Capital Markets Corp. analyst Gerri-ck Johnson.

Here are some outtakes of what Johnson writes about each brand:

**Indian**



“Dealers in northern climates tend to have more sold motorcycles on the floor than unsold ones, as the company has been slow in re-stocking dealers’ inven-

tory, while many buyers choose not to pick up their motorcycle until the weather warms up.

The new Scout is selling particularly well, and is already being called the motorcycle of the year by many industry followers. One dealer claims that over two-thirds of the Scouts he has sold since launch have occurred without the customer even seeing or sitting on the motorcycle.”

“Dealers estimate that sales are coming from a broad collection of buyers, evenly spread across new buyers, trade-ins from former Harley-Davidson owners, and trade-ins of import brands. Indian recently ran an offer in the month of February for \$1,000 off to any customer trading in a Harley-Davidson, showing, if there was any doubt, exactly the customer Polaris is going after. Dealers note that the top trade-in model on this offer has been the Harley-Davidson Road King, which makes sense as Road King has been Harley’s weakest performing heavy-weight bike at retail over the last year.”

**Victory**



“After some weakness in 2014, when the Indian brand took center stage in the company’s motorcycle business, dealers believe the Victory brand is again regaining sales momentum. With the Indian brand being utilized to tap into the older, heritage American motorcycle market, Polaris has repositioned its Victory brand to be more attractive to younger consumers who value performance and more aggressive styling. By eliminating bells and whistles not always appreciated by a younger crowd, the company has also been able to drop the price on many models in the Victory line, further enhancing its appeal with this segment.”



## Save The Dates and Book Your Rooms NOW!

**The Great River Road Ride** is a multi-day ride held on July 3 – 5<sup>th</sup>. This ride will travel on one of America's great scenic byways to Trempealeau Wisconsin. We will lodge at Trempealeau and explore the area known as the Coulee Region on Independence Day. The Great River Road and the Coulee Region have amazing motorcycle friendly roads with beautiful views and interesting topography including ridges, bluffs and valleys and the Mississippi River. Our route home takes the "Amish Highway" through Wisconsin all with roads motorcyclists would typically enjoy riding.

So come all you "flatlanders", book your rooms now from these choices, and R.S.V.P. and come ride some of the best roads in a 4 state area. All bookings and R.S.V.P.'s must be completed by May 31<sup>st</sup>.

**The Bluff Inn**, (608) 534-6615

**Inn on The River**, (608) 534-7784

Ask for Mike's Top Cats Bookings

See you there!

R.S.V.P.'s to Mike Bradbury at

[bradbundy@comcast.net](mailto:bradbundy@comcast.net) or (847) 702-6613.



**Bike Time!** This is a multi-day ride held on July 17-19<sup>th</sup>. Any time called "Bike Time" will be a good time! This ride will be going to a local rally held in Muskegon, MI called "Bike Time". Last year this rally had 75,000 motorcycles but this year more is expected! The rally has been moved to a local race track with 900,000 square feet of pavement in expectations of a greater turnout. All the usual rally activities will be there including, vendors, motorcycle stunt teams and riders, food, motorcycle accessories, show bikes, a bike building contest all with biking in and around Muskegon which is within shouting distance of Lake Michigan

Save the Date and Let Mike know if you plan on attending.

Watch for Information on the accommodations!

Mike is looking for just the right spot!

R.S.V.P.'s to Mike Bradbury at

[bradbundy@comcast.net](mailto:bradbundy@comcast.net) or (847) 702-6613.



Save the Date!

June 19, 20 and 21

Ride the Door...

Door County, Wisconsin!

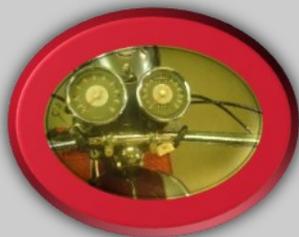
Watch for Details!



**For Sale or Do you have?  
Buy, Sell, Trade...  
Top Cat's Deal**

## **1970 Triumph Bonneville T120R**

Immaculate and 99% original, iconic Triumph Bonneville, 650cc. Restored engine with 4+ hours on it. 4,900 original miles. New period paint, original parts with no upgrades, Perfect condition and ready to roll. \$7,500. Contact Traveler: [wkirkpa177@aol.com](mailto:wkirkpa177@aol.com)



## **1998 Harley Davidson Road King Classic**

Old reliable. Great over the road bike. 1340 cc fuel – injected Evo engine. Leather covered, classic saddlebags. Many new parts, fresh engine overhaul, good condition all around. \$6,800. Contact Traveler: [wkirkpa177@aol.com](mailto:wkirkpa177@aol.com)



## **1999 HD 883CXL**

11,000 Miles  
New Front Tire  
Cobalt Blue  
Bags  
Engine Guards  
Modified Bars  
\$3,200

**For More Information Contact:  
Ric Case  
[RicCase@comcast.net](mailto:RicCase@comcast.net)  
847.363.1542**



## Buy, Sell, Trade... Cont

### 1992 Harley Davidson XL Sportster.883cc.

VERY clean and fast. 10,000 miles. Custom paint, engine upgrades, S&S Super E carburetor, windscreen, passenger seat and backrest. Good tires, major service performed. Ready to roll. \$4,200.  
Contact Traveler: [wkirkpa177@aol.com](mailto:wkirkpa177@aol.com)



I traded in my bike for a new 2015 CVO Limited. I am not able to mount my flag kit on this new bike, so I am looking to sell.

The kit is complete with all hardware: PF1000, with a total of 3 flag holder sockets which attach to the Harley using kit HWK020. This kit lists for over \$315.00 plus tax. It was only used once and is in great condition. If you are interested in adding a flag mount to your Harley, please let me know. I would like to get \$275.00 plus I will help you with the install.

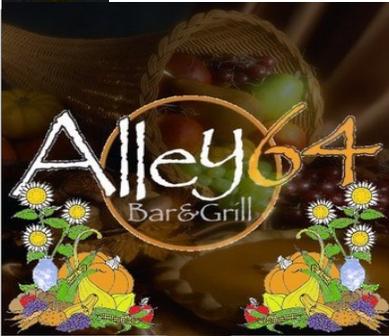


Don De Lordo  
[Don\\_De@ATT.net](mailto:Don_De@ATT.net)

### 2001 Suzuki Intruder VS 800 GL.

Literally new. 1,800 miles, saddlebags, windscreen, backrest, good tires, recently serviced. Low seat height, good highway cruiser or starter bike. \$2,600. Contact Traveler: [wkirkpa177@aol.com](mailto:wkirkpa177@aol.com)





## GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES MARCH 3RD, 2015

Alley 64  
2001 N. Rand Rd, Palatine, Illinois

Submitted by Mary Walters



### Meeting called to order at 7:30 PM

by Mike Bradbury, President of Top Cats

*The members were asked to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.*

### Guests were introduced:

- John and Lynn Canger, who ride a 2012 Heritage and Honda 700, but a sportster is in the future!
- Chris Heller and Linda. Chris was previously a Top Cat and is considering joining the club again.

*Mike welcomed the group* by inviting club members to make comments to tell a joke. It was surprising how many bad jokes there are... but they were made good with comments from the 'gallery'. Being present was necessary to enjoy this information!

### Past President's Comments: Wayne Kirkpatrick

- Wayne was glad to be able to say that, "As past president...", he had nothing to say! But then he went on to say.... We should identify the guests who are here tonight... (See above)

### Vice President's Report: Ric Case

Road Captains are ready and willing to assist any member in becoming a Road Captain. See one of the identified RC's and get a ride on the calendar, then your RC/Mentor will walk you through the planning stages needed to make your ride successful.

### Secretary's Report: Mary Kirkpatrick

- The ROAR was again sent by way of e-mail for March. Everyone should have received a copy. If not, check with a board member about your e-mail address.
- Members have been stepping up and offering to do some writing! Watch for the new 'pens' in the coming months.

### Guest Speaker:

- Bill Stade and Tony from the Elgin Area Organization of Motorcycle Riders came to talk to our group about their charity run. EAO began as a Hog Chapter out of Fischer's Harley Davidson. When the owners' sold the dealership, the HOG chapter had to go private. They are now the EAO Motorcycle Riders. Many of the members are still there from the 'old days'.
- In 1987, the HOG Chapter was looking for a Charity to Support. Many of the groups turned them down, because they didn't want to be connected with 'motorcycles'. But Little Angels welcomed the Chapter and their generous hearts, and in 28 years, the ride has grown to about 2,000 riders participating each year! Little Angels is a facility that houses and cares for children and people of all ages who are fragile and need physical care. They are on the Eastern edge of Elgin and are very grateful for all of the help. Last year the ride provided \$100,000 from this pledge ride. Top Cat's has been a very active part in this growth.
- May 17<sup>th</sup> is this year's ride and it promises to be another great day and event! Bill and Tony offered the club a chance to register early and buy raffle tickets

(Continued on page 17)



## General Meeting, Continued

### Activities: Gene Rigsby

- Gene reviewed the events for the next two months.
- May 2<sup>nd</sup> will be the 2015 Kick-off Ride to New Diggins led by Don DeLordo with Bob Stevenson as Tailgunner! It promises to be a great start to our 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year.
- Top Cat's will be celebrating the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year with many events. Wayne Kirkpatrick spoke about the Banquet that will be held in Sturgis this year on Saturday, August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015.
- Gene gave out the pins and awards that were not given out at the Banquet.
- **Safety / Charity:** Ric Case

### Safety

- The next GRASS class is March 15<sup>th</sup> at Keller Williams in Palatine. If you miss that one, there will be another on May 17<sup>th</sup> at the same place.
- Safety Tip/Kaution Korner – Don Delordo was unable to be at the meeting tonight, so Ric Case gave a short summary and you can read the entire article in the March Edition of ROAR

### Charity Ride

- Noelle Rigsby summarized the work that is being done for *The Ride for Dreams* as well as the Big Cat's Ride on May 31<sup>st</sup>. The Big Cat's ride is being planned and coordinated by Stephan Levy and the Charity committee. Working together, we hope to capitalize on the publicity and the energy for both rides.
- At this time, The committee is gathering gifts for the auctions and raffles and is asking the members to each get at least one item. That would give us over 60 items to auction! What a great addition to our event and it will speak to the dedication of our members to the NISRA cause!
- Other events that day include a precision riding event competition. There will be antique autos and fire equipment and... possibly a Dixie Land Band.
- Cabin Fever Event was a great success. There were a few early registrations, vendor contacts were made and donations were given at the event.
- David and Laura Whiteside offered a Conceal Carry Class to the Top Cat's members. The money they raised above the costs of the class, they donated to NISRA. They presented a check of \$155.00 to Noelle Rigsby.

Thank you David and Laura!

### Products / Membership: Emil Kornecki

- New member candidates include our guests today and Jurgen Lutz from Germany.
- Product Updates included the Antiqua shirts that Jim Purcell has been able to get for the club. \$44 for a short sleeve and \$48 for a long sleeve shirt. There are different styles for men and women.
- Flags are still being researched. It is hard to find good quality flags and holders. Updates will be sent out as they come in.

### Web Site:

- Jeff Tietz was unable to be at the meeting tonight, so Mike Bradbury gave an update to the club on what is happening with the website.

**50 / 50 Raffle** was pulled by Jim Purcell and Jim Chevalier was the winner of \$32.50 and Rich Flynn was the winner of the Top Cat's Coin.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:50.



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

### MARCH 10TH , 2015

Alley 64

2001 N. Rand Rd, Palatine, Illinois

Submitted by Mary Walters

**Present:** Mike Bradbury, Wayne Kirkpatrick, Ric Case, Gene Rigsby , Mary Kirkpatrick  
Jeff Tietz, Emil Kornecki  
**Excused:** Greg Ludwig

**President,** Mike Bradbury, Called the meeting to order at 7:36.

- Meeting Speakers- Commitments and Ideas
- ◇ George Gryparis will speak at the April meeting on The Indian Motorcycles.
- ◇ Jillian Geisse from NISRA, and Gina Woods from Open Road Radio are other suggestions for future meeting.
- ◇ Director Candidates
- ◇ Mike presented a slate of names for consideration for Director and committee chair people. Mike will discuss these positions with the members named and report their responses back to the board.
- ◇ The board reviewed the dynamics of the last general meeting. Starting with a joke and having the membership involved in the meeting were two of the main variables that added to the upbeat atmosphere.

**Vice President:** Ric Case

- Ric addressed a change in the next GRASS Class date because it conflicted with the Little Angels Ride.

**Past President:** Wayne Kirkpatrick

- Wayne brought up the process that the board needs to use to re-accept members and to clarify the positions that they can hold.
- The Board discussed a number of possible policies and will develop guidelines to discuss at a future meeting.
- The \$204 of the \$239 that Wayne was charged for the Ipower Domain was credited back to his account.
- A discussion was held on the fact that the website manager should also be the holder of the domain and how the domains are managed in tech-space. The board will make sure that our new provider will also be the holder of the domain.

**Activities:** Gene Rigsby

- Committee Status
- ◇ Gene organized a meeting of the Activities Committee before the General Meeting on March 3<sup>rd</sup>. The committee includes Bob and Genie Stevenson, Rich Flynn, Gene and Ashley Lambert and Rox Adonis.
- ⇒ Rich will take care of the Calendar
- ⇒ Bob will Blast Manager
- ⇒ Genie will promoting and coordinating activities
- Gene will train all members of the committee in all of these areas so that we will never be left without someone to take action.
- Awards Banquet Costs were presented by Mike Bradbury and they met with Board approval.

**Membership:** Emil Kornecki

- New Candidates that are up for Board Vote are:
  - John and Lynn Canger
  - Jurgen Lutz
- Greg will scan in their applications and send them out.  
Board will do an e-vote when they have received the information.
- The Comptroller at Woodstock Harley will be at our next general meeting and is interested in joining the club.
- Membership Cards have to be passed out at the next meeting.
- The card can be used to identify the important emergency information.

(Continued on page 19)



## Board Meeting, Continued

**Safety:** Ric Case

GRASS

- The March 15<sup>th</sup> class will be monitored by Abate Wisconsin.
- May 16<sup>th</sup> will be the next class. It was changed from the 17<sup>th</sup> because it conflicted with the Little Angels Ride.

**Website:** Jeff Tietz

- Web Copy and Content Review
  - o The American Creative draft of the new website was passed and the Board made suggestions.
  - o Mike and Jeff have collected the comments and will pass them on to American Creative.
  - o Another review will be forthcoming when the comments have been incorporated into the content.
- Website Sustainability Requirements
  - o The procedures for Logins and Passwords will be addressed at the next board meeting. They will have to be clarified before the website goes live so that the board can assure continuous security.
  - o The Time Frame was addressed and the board agreed that the website needs to be finished and activated by the start of the riding season.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:15

Check out the changes that are developing on the website...





## Why do you ride?



### Why We Ride?

For Oh so many reasons. To be with other good people, on good roads, in good places....

Top Cats offers us the opportunity to live our own movie!

~Mike Bradbury

## Why do you ride as a Top Cat?



I like the contacts I've made. The people are successful and strive to do the best they can be in this life! It is a great opportunity to see what the world has available to us all when we work hard. ~Rich Flynn

*It's peace, a sanctuary, no worries, and SPEED of course!*

~Lisa Purcell



**The Brotherhood of the club, the new things that we can connect with because of the club. It was the original vision of Virgo that I hold dear and want to carry into each New Year.**

~ Ric Case



## Celebrations!

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





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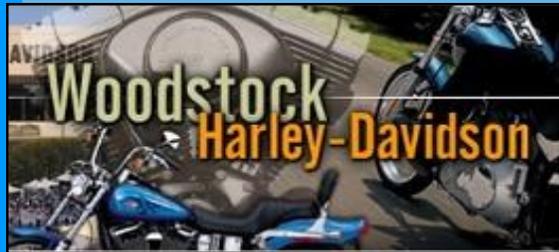
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LOCATION EVENTS MENU

*Network with your fellow  
Riders here...  
See Mary Kirkpatrick for  
Information*

## Support the TOP CATS Patrons



Top Cats Get 15% Off Certain Parts and Merchandise at Woodstock and McHenry Harley-Davidson



Top Cats Get 15% Off Certain Parts and Merchandise at City Limits 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

Richard Flynn

[RichFlynnJr@aol.com](mailto: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.

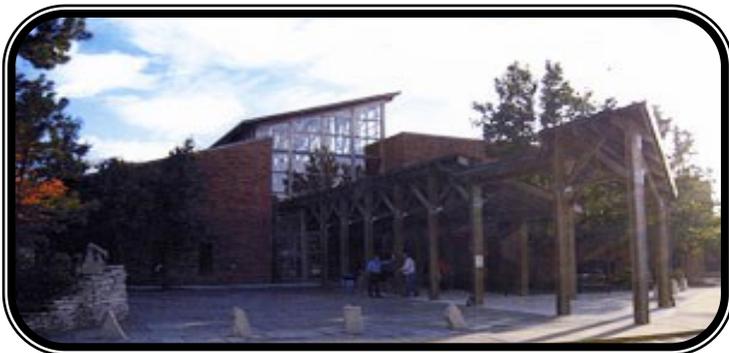
If you have an interest in becoming Top Cats Historian or being a part of this activity please contact Dennis P. (*Wombat*) Dougherty at [wombat@dpdougherty.com](mailto:wombat@dpdougherty.com)



## RIDES & EVENTS

Date	Ride/Event	Location	Destination	Time	Leader
Tuesday, April 7th	General Meeting	Palatine	Alley 64	7:30 pm	Bradbury
Tuesday, April 12th	CPR/First Aid	Palatine	Alley 64	7:30 pm	Rigsby
Tuesday, April 14th	Board Meeting	Palatine	Alley 64	7:30 pm	Bradbury
Saturday, May 2nd	Kick—Off Ride	TBD	TBD	TBD	DeLordo
Tuesday, May 5th	General Meeting	Palatine	Alley 64	7:30 pm	Bradbury
Tuesday, May 12th	Board Meeting	Palatine	Alley 64	7:30 pm	Bradbury
Saturday, May 16th	GRASS Class	Palatine	Keller Williams	8:00 am	Case

All ride and event information along with the Photo Gallery can be found at [www.TopCats.org](http://www.TopCats.org).



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See the Top Cats  
Archive  
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**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](mailto:ROAR@TOPCATS.org)



# 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](http://www.TOPCATS.org)

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For questions or to submit comments or articles for publication, contact the editors at [ROAR@TOPCATS.org](mailto:ROAR@TOPCATS.org)