



ROAR

May, 2015

Volume 15, Issue 5

The Official Publication of the TOP CATS OF ILLINOIS

PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

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What a wonderful time of year we are entering!

Spring started March 21st, and the weather keeps improving every day! The tem-

peratures are becoming more riding compatible. Most, if not all members, have been fortunate enough to have "blown the carbon" out of your motorcycle(s) once or twice by now. Whether that is the case or not, please do a review ~ASAP~ of your bike's condition including tire and air shock pressure, tire wear, brake pads, fluid levels, battery strength, cables, component wear, loose fasteners and overall mechanical conditions to be sure that your bike safely performs reliably and properly. It is what you do, so everyone returns from your riding expeditions.

Remember, being safe doesn't hurt! For a comprehensive look at what to do to prepare your motorcycle for the riding season, see Rich Flynn's Kaution Korner article entitled "Spring Back... On The Bike". It is located on our website in the Recent Article section or in your March 2014 edition of the ROAR newsletter located in the website's ROAR section.

Come one, come all to our next general meeting on May 5th! Our guest speaker is Jillian Geese from the Northern Illinois Special Recreation Association, Top Cats of Illinois's charity for the last 20 years. Come and learn more N.I.S.R.A.

and what they do in our local community. Also continue the new general meeting tradition by bringing and a joke to share with the group!

Starting the month of May is the Top Cats Kick Off ride on Saturday, May 2nd. Don Delordo is leading us and will earn his Road Captain rocker on his first (hopefully just the first of many!) Top Cats ride. Thanks, in advance, to Don and I hope to see everyone there!

It has been amazing to see the interest and turnouts by other groups to our Group Riding Safety Seminars hosted by your Safety Committee and Senior Road Captains. Don't miss out on joining them to refresh your training or to take the Seminar for the first time. Many thanks to Ric Case and Wayne Kirkpatrick for maintaining the high quality and standards for G.R.A.S.S. and volunteering your time to make this such a strong, high quality safety system universally recognized as such amongst the motorcycling community.

Also in May, on the 31st, is the Big Cats Ride organized by Top Cat member, Stephen Levy. A very neat and interesting ride to the Valley of The Kings which is a big cat sanctuary in Sharon, Wisconsin. See our event calendar on the website or come to the general meetings for more information.

(Continued on page 21)

Upcoming Events

MAY

- 2 KICK-OFF RIDE**
- 5 GENERAL MEETING**
- 12 BOARD MEETING**
- 16 GRASS CLASS**
- 31 BIG CATS RIDE**

JUNE

- 2 GENERAL MEETING**
- 9 BOARD MEETING**
- 14 RIDE FOR DREAMS!**
- 19,20,21 RIDE THE DOOR**



Summer is right around the corner! !

What ideas do you have for destinations this summer?

Bring your ideas to your favorite Road Captain....

And...
Let's
Ride!





KAUTION KORNER

Don't Just 'Spring' into Spring Riding!

By: Gene Rigsby, Sr. RC



Now that the grasp of the LONG "ChiBeria" winter seems to be gone, the tulips are blooming, lawns are getting green, trees are sprouting leaves and thoughts of getting back out on the road is getting us motivated to get our bikes out of the mothballs, we need to start servicing our bikes and checking and prepping our equipment. But there are some more things to keep in mind when spring riding starts.

There are too many items to list them all but here are some early season hazards to be aware of:

The Sun (lower in the horizon at later times)

- ◆ It's a good idea to plan out your travel times based on the sun's position when heading east or west or have the proper eye protection. Even a small strip of window tint on the top of your visor can be a big help.

Dew (early morning and evening)

- ◆ Most think of dew being present in the morning, but it is very possible to have evening dew as well when the temperatures change so quickly.

Unpredictable weather (fast moving storms and quick temperature changes)

- ◆ Plan on bringing extra layers or heated gear and rain gear no matter what the weather folks say. You should also keep in mind that the storm that just rolled through may have left puddles which may cause hydroplaning or get you soaked. And you may avoid these puddles, but cars near you may not. So, it may be a good idea to wait a bit longer before getting out on the road.

Road hazards (Oil, sand, gravel, pot holes, loose pavement and construction)

- ◆ In ideal conditions you should scan the road 4 seconds (immediate Path) and 12 seconds (anticipated path) ahead. Early in the season, add a few seconds to see further ahead and give yourself more time for avoidance maneuvers and if riding in a group, adding a bit more distance between you and the bikes ahead allows you to watch for signs that they are avoiding or pointing out something in the road, again giving you more time to react. Two areas to note that have more potential to hold hazards are the shoulder area and intersections/corners as plows tend to collect and deposit debris off the road and in these areas.

New riders

- ◆ The MSF, as well as other organizations, start riding classes in early April so there may be a lot of new riders out on the road.

New gear

- ◆ Take some time to get use to any new gear you may have added over the off season so you are not distracted trying to adjust or operate something rather than watching the road

Unaware drivers

- ◆ Most drivers do a poor job of looking for motorcycles to begin with but in early season riding this is especially more prevalent as drivers are accustomed to not having any riders on the road. I wrote an article a while back about being alert in traffic and driving defensively, but also about using your horn to alert drivers of your presence and location. I was "approached" by cars 3 times in the same day and the horn helped keep them in their lane. Hi-Vis gear and loud pipes help, but don't bet your life on it.

Animals (young animals too)

- ◆ Animals are becoming more active this time of year, especially at dawn, dusk and at night as they forage for food or looking for love. There are also lots of young animals that do not have the experience needed to keep them off the roads.

You

- ◆ We also need to keep in mind that we are the most important part of our equipment package and that as we head out on the road after a long time away we need to relearn or reeducate our senses and our muscle memory to riding so consider starting on short or familiar rides. And definitely give yourself more space, take corners a bit slower actually underestimating yourself until your skill level is near where you left off at the end of the last riding season. Even ride one up a few times before adding a co-rider or gear. Starting off with smaller group rides is good to as it is easier to ride in a smaller group. As you know, being too confident can be a bad thing. As I tell my kids. Fear is good. It keeps you safe.

(Continued on page 3)



VP's Vision

By: Ric 'Clutch' Case



Your 20th R4D is quickly approaching...Less than 6 weeks away! This meeting will be your last opportunity to register and receive the 33 1/3% discount. Just \$15 for a rider and \$5 for a passenger. A great deal for a great opportunity to spend a day with friends while supporting really good people!

This is the only charity ride we sponsor each year. So what can you do above and beyond registering?

- ✦ We need volunteers to lead groups on the ride. Senior Road Captains, Road Captains and ride leaders can all refresh your leading skills.
- ✦ We need many more donations for our raffle, silent and/or live auctions. Of course we accept cash, checks or credit/debit cards.
- ✦ To be successful we need every member to register as well as contribute. Do not wait to be asked, step up and offer your services and donations.



Jim Wiseman will present the NISRA organizational services at May's meeting so that you can observe all they do for the local communities and the 13 parks and recreation organizations they serve.

Let's make this the BEST *Ride for Dreams* ever.

Kaution Korner, Continued

As mentioned, there are a great deal of things to consider when early season riding so to sum up, get your gear right, get yourself right and take your time to stay safe and ease into the riding season.

May is motorcycle awareness month

Here are some links where you can get more information:

<http://www.msf-usa.org/>

<http://www.americanmotorcyclist.com/Rights/MotorcycleAwareness.aspx>





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 20th 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 75th 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

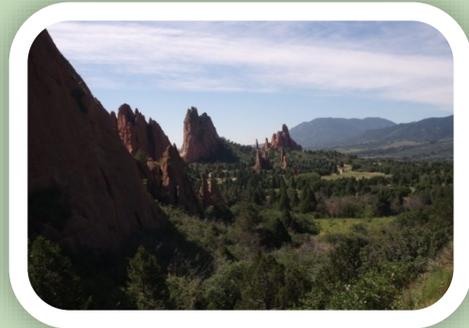
Rapid City, SD to Colorado Springs, CO
Via RT 385, 85, and I 25 (470 miles)



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



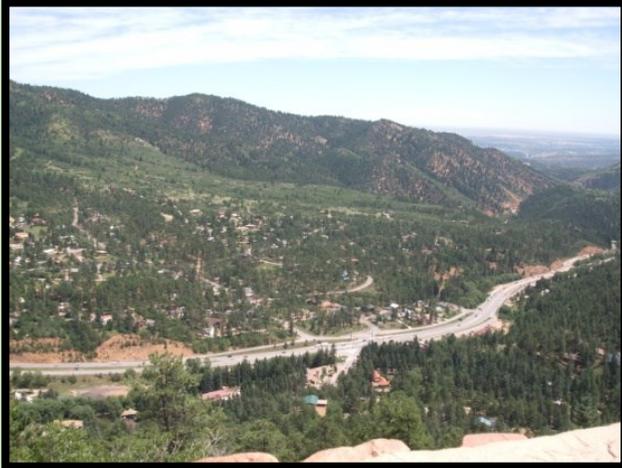
Picture 11 Phantom Canyon Trail



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**

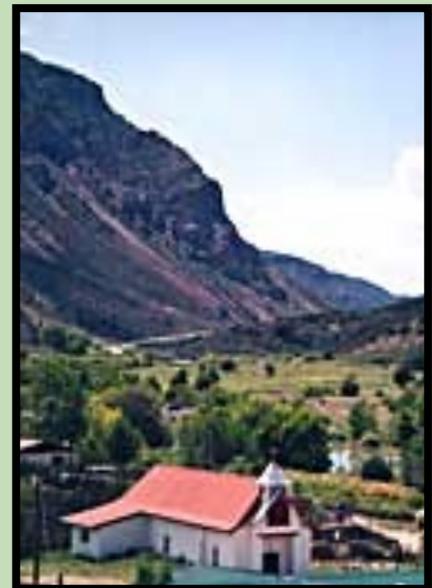


Picture 14 Great Sand Dunes, One Mile Away

**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 23 Santa Fe Trail, Missouri



Picture 20 Santa Fe Trail, Southern Cimarron Route



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

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





Oil Spots

By Traveler

Point – at the corner of Main Street and Harley-Davidson Way – will include a stage for events, concerts and weddings. An elevated area for riders to take pictures on their motorcycles with the iconic

Harley-Davidson Breaks Ground on Sturgis ‘Rally Point’



Carey Hart on a Harley-Davidson Project LiveWire breaking ground on the new permanent location in Sturgis.

Harley-Davidson and the city of Sturgis traded-in gilded shovels and ceremonial hard hats for revving motorcycles and open-face helmets to break ground, or more accurately, tear it up to start construction of The Harley-Davidson Rally Point, the city’s new permanent year-round space for riders.

“Sturgis is a mecca for riders around the world. The Harley-Davidson Rally Point establishes a new site in downtown Sturgis for people to gather year round,” said Bill Davidson, great-grandson of Harley-Davidson founder William A. Davidson and vice president of the Harley-Davidson Museum. “The renaming of 2nd Street to Harley-Davidson Way honors the legacy of our company’s founders along with all the extraordinary men and women who ride our motorcycles.”

Building on the 75-year agreement that makes Harley-Davidson the rally’s official motorcycle, The Rally

Sturgis sign as the backdrop is also part of the plan. Harley-Davidson fans across the country suggested dozens of names for the new Main Street presence. The Rally Point – an enduring term for a ride-starting meeting place – rose to the top. Riders broke ground on the new space, which will be open in time for the 75th Sturgis Motorcycle Rally.

To ensure the new multi-purpose space builds on the legacy of the brand and is pure Harley-Davidson, 74 bricks from the company’s Milwaukee headquarters, a building that once housed the company’s factory dating back more than 100 years, and one brick from the Harley-Davidson Museum will be integrated into The Rally Point’s final construction.



Rally Point stage rendering

As part of the ceremonial groundbreaking, the bricks traveled 900 miles from Milwaukee on Harley-Davidson motorcycles and were delivered to Mayor Carstensen by members of the Harley Owners Group. Carey Hart, motocross star and 2015 Grand Marshall of the Sturgis City of Riders Mayor’s Ride, received the bricks with Mayor Carstensen.

The 75th Sturgis Motorcycle Rally starts Aug. 1, 2015. For more info: www.h-d.com/sturgis.

(Continued on page 11)



Oil Spots, Continued...

Harley-Davidson historical series on deck for Discover Channel



A Harley Davidson is more than a motorcycle. It is a brand that has shaped the cultural landscape and defined our national character. Based on a true story, the series HARLEY- DAVIDSON will tell how Milwaukee schoolyard pals William S. Harley and Arthur Davidson built – and rode – the machines that rule the road. Beginning at the turn of the 20th century, at the shores of Lake Michigan, this mini-series charts the birth of Harley-Davidson during a time of great social and technological change. Full of spectacular crashes, family feuds, inspired engineering and strokes of genius, this epic story of how two 19-year-old kids from Milwaukee started a company in their backyard that would go on to become an American legend.

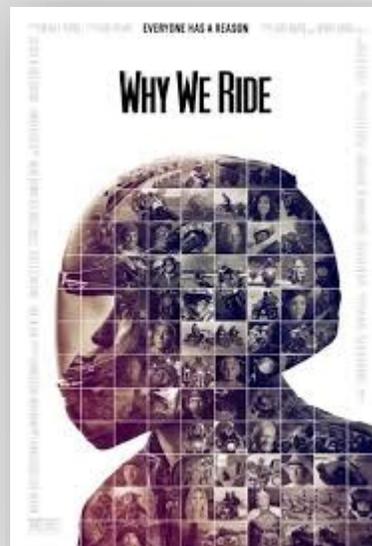
Discovery Channel chief Rick Ross recently announced the channel's upcoming programming lineup, promising a wider audience and types of programs. According to an article on *Deadline Hollywood*, Discovery Channel will play host to a new scripted series that explores the history behind Harley-Davidson.

I Am Sturgis' documentary up next for 'Why We Ride' makers

Why We Ride Films, the production team that brought you *Why We Ride*, the most critically acclaimed motorcycle movie of all time, is launching a Kickstarter campaign to help fund its new film www.IAmSturgis.com.



The impetus for the new movie stems partly from this year's Sturgis Motorcycle Rally being the 75th Anniversary of that motorcycling institution. In recent years, the Sturgis rally has drawn half a million participants, but attendance estimates for this year's anniversary rally exceed one million riders. There may never be a better time to capture the passion, dedication and camaraderie of the motorcycling community, and there certainly is no better place than the iconic Sturgis gathering.



(Continued on page 12)



Oil Spots, Continued...

When making *Why We Ride*, Sturgis was the first filming location, and it had an immediate emotional effect on the filmmakers. “There is a spirit there that enters you and grabs your heart,” says Bryan H. Carroll, producer/director. “The beauty of the Black Hills is God given. You put your hand on a boulder and you feel this energy; you can feel it in the air. It’s easy to understand why American Indians hold this place sacred.”

“Sturgis is not just a place—it’s who we are,” continues Carroll. “When you say, ‘I am an American,’ it’s not about your address or even where you were born. It’s in your DNA, your spirit. It’s why people from all over the world have been coming to this country for the past 250 years. It was always in them—they just needed a place to gather and be around like-minded people. This is the same story as Sturgis. There are many of us out there who are still venturing, still seeking out that next journey.”

To launch the project, *Why We Ride* Films hopes to raise \$350,000 of the production budget for *I AM STURGIS* through their Kickstarter campaign. There are many contribution levels, starting with “The Wave,” a \$5 donation that gets you a digital version of the movie poster. A \$15 “First Ride” donation earns an early digital download of the film. Increasing donations up to \$75 are rewarded with patches, pins, stickers, T-shirts and limited edition Blu-Ray/DVD film combo packs. Large-dollar (ranging from \$125 to \$10,000) donors receive Sturgis 75th Anniversary Club Rewards, movie premiere passes, and they can even get production credits (up to “associate producer” and “co-executive producer”) and private theatrical screenings in their hometowns.

“We made www.whyweride.com about a community,” says producer James Walker. “Now, we want to invite the community to help make our next film: *I AM STURGIS!*”

A campaign trailer for *I AM STURGIS* is viewable

Black Hills H-D Expansion
Powering to a Finish

Eight months of construction are nearing an end, and **Black Hills Harley-Davidson** plans to have its expanded store open in time for the 75th anniversary of the Sturgis motorcycle rally.



“We have waited for this for a number of years,” Black Hills Harley-Davidson president Al Rieman told KNBN. The expansion will make the store one of the largest dealerships in the country, adding 25,000 sq. ft. to the existing 55,000-sq.-ft. facility to create a larger showroom and customer lounge.

“The company has grown, and Harley is providing a lot more for the customer to enjoy, and we have had to grow right along with it,” said Terry Rymer, general manager.

Erik Buell Racing Closes,
Company Assets up for Bid

Erik Buell Racing (EBR) has ceased operations and gone into receivership, and is seeking state protection similar to bankruptcy, according to a published report.



(Continued on page 13)



Oil Spots, Continued...

"The turn we recently took, after we thought we were moving forward, was unexpected. We thought we had secured funding, but in the end, we were not able to get the funding in place. Therefore we need to do the best we can under the circumstances for all parties in interest," Buell said in a statement to the [Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel](#).

EBR was a follow-on to Buell Motorcycle Co., which was owned by Harley-Davidson Inc. for more than a decade before Harley dropped the brand in 2009.

The company is closed for now, Buell said, and is seeking protection under a state statute which is similar to federal bankruptcy law. Attorney Michael S. Polsky will be the court appointed receiver at the company's request. Bids will be solicited for the company as part of the Chapter 128 process, with the winning bid to be determined by the court.



Buell invested his own money into the new venture, the in July 2013, Hero MotoCorp., the largest motorcycle manufacturer in India, [bought a 49.2 percent stake](#) in the company, which had 126 employees.

"To say this setback is a disappointment does not begin to express what I feel right now," Buell said. "I am personally grateful for the support of our outstanding workers, customers and vendors. While this is a sad ending, I personally hope for a new and better beginning."

REV'IT! Completes #95 All-Wheel Drive Motorbike



In celebration of REV'IT!'s 20th year as a leader in the motorcycle apparel industry, a machine was envisioned to match the design ambition of the 2015 collection and the riding ambitions of its intended consumer. Thus the REV'IT! #95 project came to life.



In just four months in late 2014/early 2015, a KTM 950 Super Enduro was found, stripped and reassembled a dozen or more times to create an immediately recognizable, one-off motorcycle, built to mimic the current REV'IT! design philosophy.

The Christini-based system on the REV'IT!#95 transfers power off the countershaft sprocket through a custom-made system of gears and shafts, to the headstock where it's converted again to two counter-rotating drive shafts. These deliver power to the front hub via a one-way free hub. The front wheel is driven at 80% of the speed of the rear wheel to prevent undue torque from affecting the steering, but when the rear wheel outpaces the front, the front digs in to bring the bike into line and convert

(Continued on page 14)

Oil Spots, Continued...

what was once wasted power and roost into forward motion.

The practical benefit of AWD on a full-sized adventure bike is the ability to navigate through deep sand or mud – the spots where a large, weighty bike might typically get stuck. It's the same advantage as a four wheel drive vehicle, and offers a huge bonus to the solo adventure rider: You can traverse more difficult terrain, more easily.

Harley-Davidson Recalls Nearly 46,000 Bikes Because Clutch Might not Disengage

Harley-Davidson is recalling 45,901 motorcycles made between April 28 and Oct. 24, 2014, because the clutch master cylinder may not generate enough lift to disengage the clutch, creating a crash hazard.



When the engine is running and the motorcycle is in gear, if the clutch cannot be fully disengaged, the motorcycle may move unexpectedly, increasing the risk of a crash. The problem is especially acute if the motorcycle has been parked for an extended period of time.

The affected models are: 2014 and 2015 Electra Glide Ultra Classic (FLHTCU), Electra Glide Ultra Classic - Twin Cooled (FLHTCU TC), Ultra Limited (FLHTK), Police Electra Glide (FLHTP), Street Glide (FLHX), Street Glide Special (FLHXS) and CVO Street Glide (FLHXSE); the 2015 Electra Glide Ultra Classic Low (FLHTCUL), Ultra Limited Low (FLHTKL), Electra Glide Ultra Classic Low - Twin

Cooled (FLHTCUL TC), Road Glide Special (FLTRXS), and Road Glide (FLTRX); and 2014 CVO Road King (FLHRSE).



Harley-Davidson will notify owners, and dealers will flush the clutch system and rebuild the clutch master cylinder, free of charge. The recall was expected to begin April 23.

Owners may contact Harley-Davidson customer service at (800) 258-2464. Harley-Davidson's number

June 19, 20 and 21 Ride the Door...

Leaving: Friday, June 19th from the
Libertyville, Shell Station

2070 Shell Drive. SE Corner of Peterson and Rt 45.

Friday's ride will take us around beautiful Wisconsin back roads. We will stop for Lunch in Elkhart Lake and visit Harley Dealerships along the way. Arrival in Algoma, WI at 4:30 pm. Dinner will be at the "Wright House" with a bonfire at "Momma's Place"

Saturday will offer more scenic riding with History, Shopping and Lunch in Fish Creek. Sweetie Pies will be the final stop in the Door... for Pie of course!

Sunday's ride home will be a direct route, Lunch will be Sheboygan Brats and return to the same Shell station in Libertyville, Illinois at 3:00pm.

Reservations: Mary Kirkpatrick, 262-344-6228 by May 15th, please!



Save The Dates and Book Your Rooms NOW!

The Great River Road Ride is a multi-day ride held on July 3 – 5th. 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 31st.

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 or (847) 702-6613.



Bike Time! This is a multi-day ride held on July 17-19th. 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 or (847) 702-6613.



June 19, 20 and 21 Ride the Door...

Door County, Wisconsin! See the previous page for Details!

Contact Mary Kirkpatrick!

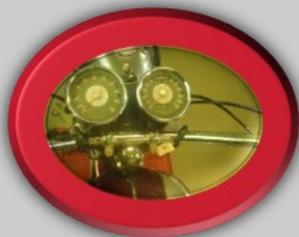
262-344-6228 ASAP!



**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



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



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
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



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

Put your
information
here!
Buy, Sell, Trade
with Top Cat's
Reliability!



ROAR



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.

Meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Mike Bradbury

- ◆ The meeting started with jokes again. All were well received, even when they were not very good... and brought a light start to the meeting.
- ◆ Guests that came with Emil were Tina and Gary Duncan. Gary has raced Motorcross and bikes for many years. He recently bought a Street Glide in order to 'slow down'. Tina drives a stick shift car...
- ◆ Don DeLordo introduced Jim Bolton who rides with the Hog Chapter and wanted to know about Top Cats. Jim has been riding bikes since 1976 while in the military. He rides a CVO Ultra Classic and is looking for opportunities to ride more often.

Past President: Wayne Kirkpatrick

Wayne introduced the club to the new members. His highlights included:

- ◆ The safety vision of the club. The goal is to have biking experiences that all can enjoy because of the camaraderie, safety, and great roads.
- ◆ The club is made of business owners and executives who enjoy sharing the rides as well as learning and experiencing new things.
- ◆ The meetings begin with the pledge and we are a patriotic club, celebrating tonight the new citizenship of one of our members. Roxray Adonis has just become an American Citizen this month! Congratulations, Rox!

Vice President's Report: Ric Case

- ◆ Ric reviewed the information that he learned recently at a motorcycle safety seminar.
- ◆ Ric discussed the highlights of two-up riding
- ◆ Jo Giovannoni will be our speaker at June.

Secretary's Report: Mary Kirkpatrick

- ◆ Mary thanked the members for their support by volunteering articles for the ROAR. Please send your birthday and anniversary dates to Mary so that the club can celebrate your special dates.

Guest Speaker

- ◆ George Gryparis cancelled tonight. His presentation will be rescheduled for another date.

Activities: Gene Rigsby

- ◆ Activities for the next 2 months were reviewed for the members. See the calendar for details.

Safety / Charity: Ric Case

Safety

- ◆ GRASS Schedule was reviewed and described for the new members.
- ◆ Safety Tip / Kaution Korner
- ◆ Don DeLordo summarized his article from March on getting the bike out to begin the season.
- ◆ Bob Stevenson summarized his article from April on riding in the rain.

See the ROAR for the full articles.



General Meeting, Continued

Charity Ride

- ◆ RC commitments are needed to ensure that we have enough leaders for the anticipated crowd.
- ◆ \$5 Pre-Registration Discount will be available tonight.
- ◆ Donation items needed! Lisa took the floor and energized the group with ideas for donations. Before long, there was a long list of ideas and definite donations. Great work, Lisa!
- ◆ Like and Share RFD on Facebook!
- ◆ Mark your calendars for RFD on June 14th and be sure to bring a friend!
- ◆ Jim Wiseman, President of N.I.S.R.A. will give a presentation about NISRA for our May meeting.

Products / Membership: Emil Korneck

Products Updates: Jim and Lisa Purcell

- ◆ Jim Purcell presented the final flag products that will be made available to the members. He has done a great deal of research on the flags and the holders. The final decision was a quality flag that will hold up on the back of bikes.
- ◆ Lisa discussed the present stock of shirts and asked that everyone take a look and buy what she has in stock so that we can begin selling the products on the website when it is finalized.

Web Site: Jeff Tietz

- ◆ Jeff was unable to attend tonight. The Status and Progress of the site will be presented at another meeting.
- ◆ Mike explained that the text for the site was approved by the board and will be used for the website. Watch for the changes.
- ◆ There is also an Antiqua shirt available by order.
- ◆ **50 / 50 Raffle:** Jim Purcell pulled the winner, who was not here. They would have won ½ of \$55, but all of the money was put into the next month's winnings. Gene Rigsby was the winner of the 'collector's' edition of the long sleeve shirt.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:50.



President's Perspective, Cont.

Remember, Top Cats of Illinois is recognized as a premier, top notch club by it's members, other clubs and non-club motorcycle riders as well. All members should be proud of your club affiliation and supportive of our activities. Wear your Top Cat's patch on your gear and display our flag when you ride. Register for your Ride for Dreams, support our charity, step up to train and be a Road Captain and lead rides. Together, as like minded Top Cats, we are strong, invincible and set an example as the place to be for sharing fun, interesting rides and activities together.

Come on, Let's Roar!

Motorcycle Mike
President

Top Cats of Illinois

"4 wheels move the body, 2 wheels move the soul"



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, Emil Kornecki

Excused: Greg Ludwig and Jeff Tietz

President, Mike Bradbury, Called the meeting to order at 7:28

President: Mike Bradbury

- ◆ Mike stated that he enjoyed the last meeting, but was very disappointed that our speaker was unable to make it to the meeting.
- ◆ Wayne made a suggestion for back-up for those situations by using the ‘old timers’ to give *History of the Club* segments.
- ◆ Other speaker options included Snake Alley Custom Bikes, Biker Historians, Garmin updates.
- ◆ The board had a discussion to clarify the terms ‘member in good standing’ and ‘ride leader vs. Road Captain’

Vice President: Ric Case

- ◆ Ric was wondering about changing the responsibilities for the directors at this time.
- ◆ There was a discussion by the board regarding possible changes. Mike would like to take some time to review the structure and overall line authority. He will begin to look into changes to streamline the organization.
- ◆ It was suggested that Mike also make sure that there are checks and balances in place so that financial decisions are transparent.
- ◆ Ric also would like to identify dates for the “Ride Safe” program that could be offered by the State Policeman, Ben Chiakarishi. Ben would like to present the program during the week, but the board agreed that it would be hard to fill spots in a week-day class.

Past President: Wayne Kirkpatrick

- ◆ Wayne presented the new rockers to the board. The gold background with black lettering made the rocker look a bit smaller, but when compared with the old one, it was exactly the same size. The board like the rockers and Ric moved that Mary be repaid \$72 to cover the cost of the rockers. Gene was the second and the board approved the reimbursement unanimously.
- ◆ Wayne also gave an update to the board about the insurance. West Bend was paid last year for two million dollars of coverage by Top Cats. What they charged us was a mistake. We paid the one million dollar price, but because it was their mistake, we were covered for the full two million. There was also an athletic clause that was removed, but was not going to affect the club’s coverage.

Secretary: Mary Kirkpatrick

- ◆ The ROAR is going along steadily, but adding new pages and columns is always needed. Some suggestions included: A fashion page/column; A new parts page as people add to their bikes; Membership Anniversary; A page with business cards from all of those members who would like to network through the club.
- ◆ Mike will bring ask the members about other topics they would like to see in the publication each month.

Treasurer: Greg Ludwig

- ◆ Greg was unable to attend tonight, but sent word that checks will be paid out and the books balanced. He will send updates to Mike for board review.
- ◆ Mike has asked that Greg and the Board establish a budget going into next year. This will be addressed later in the year.

(Continued on page 19)



Board Meeting, Continued

Activities: Gene Rigsby

- ◆ Scheduled Events and Calendar Opportunities were reviewed. Anyone interested in leading a ride or organizing a ride and having someone else lead, see Gene for details.
- ◆ Gene reviewed the next two months events for the board and ideas were discussed. More day rides are needed. At this time, we only have three day rides planned at this time for this summer.
- ◆ Mike asked Gene to be sure and have the calendar updated with all of the events that are confirmed at this time.
- ◆ Gene stated that he is making a list of past rides and will present to them to the Activities Committee. He will ask Genie Stevenson to send an email out to all Road Captains asking that they choose a ride and date and get the information back to her by a designated date.
- ◆ Gene discussed the CPR Class, which had a very poor turn-out. Only four members were in attendance, but the club will be charged for the full \$650. He stated that he should have called the class off on the night before, but due to a situation that required his attention the day before, he did not make that call in time.
- ◆ Suggestions for 'next time' included asking for a deposit and making a full presentation on the importance of the class to the club. Having CPR certified persons is a great advantage for all of the riders on a ride.

Membership: Emil Kornecki

- ◆ Three names were presented to the board for acceptance into the club.
- ◆ John and Lynn Canger. Ric made a motion to accept, 2nd by Mary and the board agreed unanimously.
- ◆ James Bolton. Ric made a motion to accept, 2nd by Wayne, and the board agree unanimously
- ◆ Emil asked for a \$100 discretionary budget to be used for purchasing items that will be used to make new members and prospective members feel welcome.
- ◆ Emil also presented the board with a bill for danglers that he purchased dated 5.12.14. He had misplaced the bill and asked to be reimbursed. The board agreed to send his receipt to Greg and reimburse him for \$39.95.

Safety: Ric Case

- ◆ The board discussed the difference between a Road Captain who plans and executes the ride vs. Ride Leaders who will execute a ride that someone else planned.
- ◆ CPR class along with the AED was discussed and the board collected ideas about safety on the ride. All Garmins have a 'hospital' ID on them to use when presented with an emergency situation.

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

Website; Jeff Tietz

- ◆ Jeff was unable to attend tonight. He sent messages stating that it will be the end of May before the website is complete and operational.
- ◆ Mike was going to relay questions that the board had to Jeff concerning why completion is taking so long?
- ◆ Wayne asked that the last issues of ROAR be posted by Rich on the site now so that we don't fall behind in getting them posted.



Final Note: Mike Bradbury

- ◆ Mike stated that Jim Purcell had finalized a price for the quality flags that he presented at the general meeting. There is a cut rate for orders over 50. The board determined that approximately 95 flags would be purchased. Mike made a motion to allow Jim to purchase flags, the cost to be no more than \$1000.00. the 2nd was Ric, and the board agreed unanimously.
- ◆ Mike thanked all for coming and the meeting was adjourned at 9:35 by Mike Bradbury.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:15

Why do you ride?



Why We Ride?

It takes me back to my Phantom... and being 12 years old!

~ Bob Brizzolara

Yes! That's what it's all about!

Why do you ride as a Top Cat?



Safety!

When I ride with THIS group, I know what to expect and feel confident. It makes the ride more enjoyable, because I can experience where we are going and what we are doing... without worry

~ Genie Stevenson

Stress Free Time, Back Roads, Outdoors, image-breaking looks....

And I'm Really Cool to my Daughter!

~Noelle Rigsby



The stories!
We have such a variety of interests and life journeys in the lives of our members. I love to be able to tell these rich stories to my students!

~ Mary Kirkpatrick



May Celebrations!

- 2nd - Rich and Jessica Flynn's Anniversary
- 10th - Ashley Lambert's B-Day
- 31st - Rich Flynn's B-Day





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*Network with your fellow
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See Mary Kirkpatrick for
Information*

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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

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 |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|----------|------------------|
| Saturday, May 2nd | Kick—Off Ride | Woodstock HD | New Diggins | 8:30 | 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 |
| Sunday, May 31st | Big Cat's Ride | Woodstock HD | Sharon, Wisconsin | 11:00 am | Levy |
| Tuesday, June 2nd | General Meeting | Palatine | Alley 64 | 7:30 pm | Bradbury |
| Tuesday, June 9th | Board Meeting | Palatine | Alley 64 | 7:30 pm | Bradbury |
| Sunday, June 14th | RIDE FOR DREAMS! | Woodstock HD | Woodstock HD | 9:00am | Noelle RigsbyF |
| Fri/Sat/Sun June 19, 20 and 21 | Ride The Door | Shell Station, Libertyville | Door County, Wisconsin | 8:00 am | Mary Kirkpatrick |

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 Hwy
Barrington, IL 60010

See the Top Cats
Archive
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balibrary.org

**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



ROAR



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

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| Vice President | Ric Case riccase@comcast.net | Archives | Open | Editor-in-Chief | Mary Kirkpatrick mawalters57@gmail.com |
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| Founder | Carl 'Virgo' Bender 1941-2001 | | | Motorcycle Community | Wayne Kirkpatrick wkirkpa177@aol.com |

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