



ROAR

BIKERS WHO MEAN BUSINESS



**The Official
Publication of
Top Cats Illinois**

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Top Cats

Events for March:

- General Meeting.... March 6
- Board Meeting..... March 13
- GRASS Class.....March 18
- Group Riding and Safety Seminar



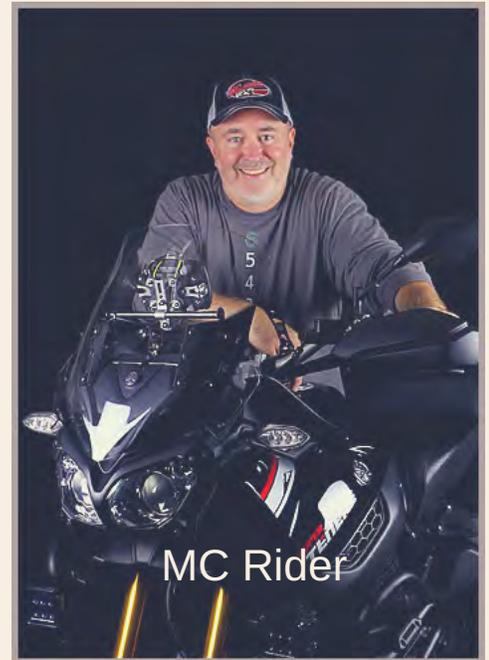
PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE



Hello Top Cats!

Our month started with a terrific general meeting on February 6th at Alley64. We changed the meeting start time from 7:30 to 7:00 and it definitely was for the better.

The same amount of time to socialize beforehand, the same considerable meeting with tremendous content and more time to socialize afterwards all while still getting home in time to howl at the moon. Although we had technical difficulties to show a YouTube video on motorcycling by MCRider, the evening turned out well with a healthy “bull” session of riding stories, comments and more. Rest assured that the technical difficulties have been solved and next week, all are invited to see MCRider video and the floor will be open for comments afterwards. So come and join in the fun!



Your charity committee with help from other members did a kick a** job promoting the Ride for Dreams at Woodstock Harley Davidson’s Cabin Fever on February 23rd. Top Cats were everywhere spreading the word and soliciting riders all to support our charity. Heck, even the executive director of N.I.S.R.A., Jim Wiseman was assisting. Jim has been part of our family so it is only natural that, after recently acquiring a motorcycle, he joined our club. Come to the general meeting and congratulate Jim on becoming a new member of Top Cats!



We are all blessed to have each other to share our love for motorcycling, work together in achieving common goals such as supporting NISRA and enjoying our times together.

Sincerely,

Mike Bradbury, President – Top Cats of Illinois

“Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress;

Working together is success” ~ Henry Ford



Kaution Korner

Have your FAK Ready



By: Ted Makerewicz

Everyone has a first aid kit (FAK) somewhere on their bike, but do you recall in which saddlebag its located and when was the last time that you actually opened it up!

A good first aid kit should be a mandatory part of your riding equipment, just like always wearing a helmet, boots that cover your ankle and a good pair of riding gloves. It goes with the saying, “All The Gear All The Time” (ATGATT). A good first aid kit is even more of an essential part of your gear, because it could possibly save a person’s life.

This topic came up at our recent G.R.A.S.S. class, accident scene management module for road captains which is the impetus of this article. It seemed that we all know what a first aid kit is, and what it’s used for, but no one had a good definition as to what all should be contained in it. I myself have opened up my first aid kit and saw an assortment of band aids, sterile gauze pads, alcohol pads, roll of tape, some aspirin, scissors and a pair of tweezers. I zipped it up and thought I am good to go. Wrong!

The first thing a rider must determine in putting together a comprehensible first aid kit is the type of injuries you may encounter during your trip. There are five basic types of injuries you might encounter on the road. They are:

1. Burns - sunburn and contact with hot engine parts and mufflers;
2. Eye injuries – objects flying into the eyes and insect bites or stings;
3. Cuts, Abrasions and Scrapes
4. Fractures – bleeding; and
5. Trauma to the Head, Neck, Spine, Chest and Abdomen.



The first aid kit that we are all familiar with is the one we find in our homes and autos. It’s the white plastic Johnson and Johnson first aid kit with the red cross on the cover. This first aid kit is good for minor cuts and burns, but it will not suit our needs to treat fractures, bleeding, trauma to the head, neck, spine, chest and abdomen as a result of a motorcycle accident. Therefore, we need to look at a kit that include life-saving items called EPIK, (Emergency Personal Injury Kit) to meet our needs.

The following list of items are a combination of items found in both types of first aid kits to give you a comprehensive first aid kit to treat the five basic types of injuries you will possibly experience while riding your motorcycle. Those items are as follows:

- * A good compact first aid book.
 - * Antiseptic Wipes – 5 or 6 packet wipes.
 - * Antibiotic Ointment or powder – Individual packets. Pack of 6.
 - * Anti-microbial Hand Cleaner – Waterless: They make waterless hand cleaners in individual packets. Bring five or six.
- Band-aids – A variety of shapes and sizes for small cuts and scrapes. Pack knuckle and fingertip band aids.
 - Steri-strips (Butter-fly sutures, Adhesive Sutures, Adhesive Closures) – used to pull a small gaping cut or wound together.
 - Large Combine Pads – For heavy bleeding.



Kaution Korner.... Continued!

- 5 Large Sterile Gauze Pads – For bleeding. Most first aid kits do not have enough gauze or absorbent dressings to be useful in a motorcycle kit.
- 5 Medium Sterile Gauze – If you don't want to carry this smaller size carry extra of the larger size and cut them down to what you need.
- CPR Mask. This is important because the purpose of a CPR mask is mainly to keep the victim from vomiting on you.
- Emergency Blanket – These are great for retaining body heat and can be used as a reflector for rain and ground cover.
- Normal saline 10ml vials – this doubles as an eye wash or wound cleansing.
- Instant Cold Pack/s – These are so useful with burns, bruising, swelling and sprains.
- Burn cream or gel – Aloe Vera aids in healing, pain relief, has anti-inflammatory properties, helps prevent blistering and scarring.
- Glow Stick – High intensity emergency glow stick for directing traffic or signaling for help.
- Heavy Duty Zip-lock Bags – Tons of uses including removing used and contaminated gauze, gloves and dressings.
- Latex gloves – Bring a minimum of 6 pairs. If you have multiple riders down, you need to change gloves for every person you touch.
- Other medication – sample packets of Anti-diarrheal tablets, anti-acid, Antihistamine: for mild allergic reactions and Pain relieves.
- Triangular Bandage – For slings, padding, strapping limbs to splints when fractures are suspected.
- Trauma shears – Heavy duty pair, a size 7 ½. You'll need to be able to cut through leather. You won't have time to unzip and undress if there is heavy bleeding you'll need to cut through the leathers.
- Curved Scissors – Curved medical ones are great as they don't have sharp points. In an emergency you might need to cut clothes away from an injury. With sharp edges it is easy to poke through something and cause further injury when you are in a hurry or under stress.
- Elastic and crepe bandages – a few different widths. 10cm (2") and larger are often more versatile than smaller ones.
- Tweezers – A good pair of tweezers with easy-to-grip handles.
- Charged Mobile phone – to call 911
- Sting Relief and Burn Gel
- Duct Tape Mini Roll
- 2x Safety Pins – To pin bandages in place.
- Flashlight and Utility Tool/Knife

Now the difficult part. You need to get all of these items into a soft-sided waterproof zipper case to fit in your saddlebag. Believe it or not, all of the above items can fit into a bag 7"x 5" x 3"!!! Your first aid kit should not be buried in your saddlebag, and it should be placed in the right saddlebag. **The non-traffic side of the bike.** It is also suggested that you pack like items in separate zip-lock bags. Gauze in one bag, medication in another and medical tools, scissors and tweezers in another. This will make it easier to find what you are looking for and to familiarize you with what's in your kit.

There are many sources regarding first aid kits and I would recommend using google to see the many first aid kits that are offered and their prices. Harley-Davidson even offers a moderate priced Biker's Compact First Aid Kit.

But the bottom line is to be familiar with the contents of your first aid kit. You should on a routine basis, go through your first aid kit, to check to see if any items have expired but more importantly is to know the purpose of and how to use every item in your kit. Otherwise, it's just taking up space. The best stocked first aid kit is useless if you do not have the knowledge to use it.



Finally, if you happen to be involved in a motorcycle accident scene, and you are using your first aid kit to render aid to a fallen biker, know your limits in providing medical assistance, and if you have any doubts, seek professional help through a 911 operator to connect you to an expert to help you assess injuries and recommend immediate action until professional help arrives. Also, know how to use your garmin to identify your location to the emergency teams! Be Safe... and Be Ready for ANY situation!





VPs Vision



Hello Top Cats!!

Is seems March coming in like a lamb. You know what that means...

Well who cares!!! We have lots of activities planned in the coming months that will keep us all busy till the riding season is in full swing, which won't be too long.

We had our annual award dinner for 2017 in early February. As usual, it was a great time. We have already secured our room for next year.

We just attended the Wood Stock Harley Davidson Cabin Fever event and it was a great time. What a great chance to see old friends from the motorcycle community and a great chance to make new friends. We had a great location away from the food/band area, but it was still very busy around the sales floor where we were. It would have been better to see more Top Cats members out and about and helping to promote our fund raiser ride, which is now the longest continuous running fund raiser ride in northern Illinois.

And don't forget that a new season brings new opportunity to use our participation card program. Get your card at the next meeting or event and start filling it in. Simple to do, not sure why you wouldn't.

Looking forward to seeing you
there....

Gene "Lucky" Rigsby



Calling All Top Cat Road Captains!

Our event calendar is hungry! It is longing for a big multi course meal filled with adventures near and far. It is thirsting to be poured a big cup of your rides straight up In all flavors, shapes and sizes. Maybe you are still working on your ride recipe (like I am) but it is essential to at least commit and get your dates locked in. And the earlier notice you give your fellow club members getting your ride dates on our calendar, the better we can plan for your masterpiece of a ride and do it with you!

Your club depends on you! You are essential to my riding weekends and mult-day adventures! Your creative rides and events are the backbone of our riding season! We need you to reserve your ride dates now! I can't wait for my motorcycling season.....

Your President, Michael "Motorcycle" Bradbury



Robert Frost's "The Road Not Taken" is a poem where a narrator describes their solitary walk in the woods and the choices used to decide what path to take and the repercussions of that choice.

Instead of walking in the woods, imagine the motorcyclist who has many choices in their ride, the wanderlust of motorcycling and always longing for the "the rod not taken."

Thoughts from an anonymous TC



Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,
And sorry I could not travel both
And be one traveler, long I stood
And looked down one as far as I could
To where it bent in the undergrowth;

Then took the other, as just as fair,
And having perhaps the better claim,
Because it was grassy and wanted wear;
Though as for that the passing there
Had worn them really about the same
And both that morning equally lay
In leaves no step had trodden black.
Oh, I kept the first for another day!
Yet knowing how way leads on to way,
I doubted if I should ever come back.

I shall be telling this with a sigh
Somewhere ages and ages hence:
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—
I took the one less traveled by,
And that has made all the difference



Oil Spots

By: Traveler

Indian Motorcycles issues Roadmaster recall



Indian Motorcycle is recalling certain 2015-2017 Roadmaster motorcycles when it was found that water may enter the trunk wiring harness, potentially causing the brake light to remain illuminated even when the brakes are not applied. This recall potentially affects 7,392 units.

Indian will notify owners, and dealers will replace the trunk wiring harness with an updated harness that contains sealing plugs in the connectors, free of charge.

The recall began January 30, 2018. Owners may contact Indian customer service at 1-877-204-3697. Indian's number for this recall is I-18-01.

Harley recalls nearly 175K bikes due to brake failure

Harley-Davidson has issued a recall involving nearly 175,000 bikes when it was found that brakes in the affected bikes may fail due to not flushing brake fluid. These deposits may cause a valve within the ABS Hydraulic Control Unit to stick, reducing braking ability and increasing the risk of a crash.



This recall affects 174, 636 units. Harley-Davidson is recalling all 2008-2011 Touring, CVO Touring and VSRC motorcycles equipped with anti-lock brakes (ABS), including Road King (FLHR), Road King Police (EFI) (FLHP), Road King Police (EFI) (FLHPE), Electra Glide Standard Police (EFI) (FLHTP), Electra Glide Classic (EFI) (FLHTC), Electra Glide Ultra Classic (EFI) (FLHTCU) and Street Glide (EFI) (FLHX),



2008 VROD (VRSCAWA), CVO Road King 4 (FLHRSE4), Night Rod (VRSCDA), CVO Ultra Classic 3 (FLHTCUSE3), Night Rod Special (VRSCDXA), 2008-2010 Road King Classic (EFI) (FLHRC), 2008-2009 Road Glide (EFI) (FLTR) and Electra Glide Standard (EFI) (FLHT), 2009-2010 V-Rod (VRSCAW),



2009 CVO Ultra Classic (FLHTCUSE4) and CVO Road Glide 3 (FLTRSE3), 2009-2011 Night Rod Special (VRSCDX) and V-Rod Muscle (VRSCF), 2010 CVO Ultra Classic 5 (FLHTCUSE5) and CVO Street Glide (FLHXSE), 2010-2011 Electra Glide Ultra Limited (FLHTK) and Road Glide Custom (FLTRX), 2011 Road Glide Ultra 103 (FLTRU103), Street Glide 103 (FLHX103), Road King Classic 103 (FLHRC103), CVO Ultra Classic 6 (FLHTCUSE6), CVO Road Glide Ultra (FLTRUSE), Road Glide Custom 103 (FLTRX103) and CVO Street Glide 2 (FLHXSE2) motorcycles.



In the affected models, deposits may form on components within the brake system if the DOT 4 brake fluid is not replaced for a prolonged period of time beyond the 2-year maintenance schedule specified in the Owner's Manual.

Harley-Davidson will notify owners, and dealers will flush the entire brake system with new Platinum Label DOT 4 brake fluid, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin February 12, 2018.

Owners may contact Harley-Davidson customer service at 1-800-258-2464. Harley-Davidson's number for this recall is 0171.

Harley-Davidson introduces 2018 AFT Factory Team

The Harley-Davidson Factory Flat Track Racing Team will combine veteran savvy with youthful potential in a three-rider effort contesting the 2018 American Flat Track (AFT) Twin series. Returning rider Brandon Robinson will be joined by seasoned pro Sammy Halbert and rising star Jared Vanderkooi on the Harley Factory squad for the coming season. The team was announced to the Harley-Davidson dealer network during meetings held Jan. 26 in Nashville.

The Harley-Davidson Factory Team will engage in flat track battles aboard all-new Harley-Davidson XG750R competition motorcycles on the 19-race AFT Twins series and at the Harley-Davidson Flat Track Racing event at ESPN's X Games Minneapolis. The racing season opens during Daytona Bike Week at the March 15 AFT Daytona TT on

a new, enlarged course constructed inside Daytona International Speedway.



The XG750R flat tracker used by the Factory Team is powered by a race-modified, liquid-cooled, fuel-injected 750cc Revolution X V-Twin engine, an engine originally engineered for the Harley-Davidson Street 750, a motorcycle built for maximum urban maneuverability with rebellious Dark Custom attitude.

The race-modified Revolution X engine and a racing frame for the XG750R were developed in collaboration with Vance & Hines Motorsports. The XG750R flat tracker motorcycle is not a production model.

Hagerty's Facebook Answer of the Week: Is Easy Rider's "Captain America" the most iconic motorcycle?

by Jeff Peek

We were hoping a photo from Easy Rider would inspire a debate. Instead, it seems we caused a stamp



We asked our Facebook community, "What is the most iconic motorcycle?" and holy Harley-Davidson, you would have thought we'd just asked, "Who has the prettiest daughter?" After wading through more than 600 comments, we determined: 1. You love Harleys; 2. You love Evel Knievel; 3. You love biker movies; and 4. You don't like people who don't love biker movies.

"Captain America," the patriotically painted Harley-Davidson panhead that Peter Fonda rode in Easy Rider received an overwhelming amount of praise, and it also evoked questions. Like, who built it? And was the motorcycle that sold for \$1.6 million in October 2014 the real thing? And did Easy Rider actually have a plot, or did they just make it up as they went along?

Many of you claimed that "Captain America" and Easy Rider so impacted your life that you eventually purchased a motorcycle of your own — after you tricked out your bicycle, of course. "In '69 I built my Schwinn into a chopper using pipe for forks, and I painted it red, white and blue with stars," David Martin wrote. "Later, I had a '65 Harley-Davidson FLH panhead."

Another bike from Easy Rider received lots of love, too. "You can have Captain America. I'll take the Billy Bike any day," Dennis Main wrote, referring to the Harley that Dennis Hopper rode in the film. "That's a real rider's bike. Stretched-out choppers (like Captain America) may look good, but they can be a pain to ride in 'real life.'"

However, the better-looking and more-practical bike would be the Billy Bike. Even Fonda said his bike was squirrely. If you watch Hopper on his, he had trouble handling it and would never have been able to control that thing Fonda had. No question as to which the icon was."





Moving past Easy Rider but staying in Hollywood, movie motorcycle nominations included Marlon Brando's Triumph in The Wild Ones, the evil chopper in Ghost

Rider, Arnold Schwarzenegger's Harley in Terminator, Tom Cruise's Kawasaki GPZ900R in Top Gun, the Harley FXR in Harley Davidson and the Marlboro Man, and Steve McQueen's Triumph in The Great Escape.

There were plenty of non-movie nominations too. For Gale Henderson, the most iconic motorcycle of all time is the 1947 Indian Chief.

David Harrell picked the HRD Vincent Black Shadow. And Steve Day said "100 million buyers can't be wrong" when he bought the Honda Super Cub.



Charlie Daley described the Triumph 650 "as iconic as it gets." But Dan Clark spoke for many of us when he said "umping ANYTHING on ... The man definitely had a pair!"



Jon Davidson Oeflein's choice is definitely biased, but we certainly can't question his sources. "To me, it is the 1936 Harley-Davidson E (Knucklehead)," he wrote. "It was the last model that my great-grandfather Walter Davidson brought to market and the last model all the four founders of Harley-Davidson were still around for. Also, the OHV design of new motor was a game changer."

Brian Davis loves Harleys, and he owns one, too. Still ... "My choice for most iconic would be the Honda CB 750. It changed the motorcycle world by redefining the standard of design, reliability and performance of what motorcycles should be, and it was the turning point of which manufacturers would excel and which ones would fade away in defeat or barely survive."

The last word goes to Craig Dickinson, even if he didn't actually call it Iconic. "The best bike in the world is the one you're riding today."



Dealership named No. 1 for 2017 by Harley-Davidson

Smokey Mountain Harley-Davidson, located in Maryville, Tennessee, has been named the No. 1 Bar and Shield Award Winner for 2017 by Harley-Davidson.



Harley-Davidson dealerships earn points for each measure based on their performance.

"This was a real rally cry for our team," owner Scott Maddux told PSB. "Once we got word back in September that we were in the top six, we started talking collectively in our morning meetings about being No. 1 and it seemed very doable."

"We really put a lot of pressure on ourselves because when it gets right down to it, it doesn't take much of a stumble to lose a lot of ground, but our lead was spreading — every month we were getting a bigger lead once we really started driving hard on it. We're just getting started, and I think we all think that. Our mission since we wrote our mission statement 13 years ago has always been to be the best dealership that Harley-Davidson has."

Smokey Mountain Harley-Davidson has been named a 50 dealership by Powersports Business in each of the past three years.



And with that, we'll seek your help with adding to our list of Bar and Shield award winners. The Motor Co. keeps the dealership names under lock and key rather than shout them from the rooftops.

Here's the initial list. We'll add your dealership if you let us know.

2017 Harley-Davidson Bar & Shield Award Winners

Platinum
Smokey Mountain Harley-Davidson — Maryville, TN
Black Wolf Harley-Davidson — Bristol, VA

Gold
Mad River Harley-Davidson — Sandusky, OH

Bronze
Adventure Harley-Davidson — Dover, OH
Rock-N-Roll City Harley-Davidson — Cleveland, OH



Good-Bye Good Friend

Until we Ride Again!

By Joe Vince, Patch Staff | Feb 7, 2018 4:08 pm ET | Updated Feb 7, 2018 7:00 pm ET

The Illinois State Police lieutenant's generosity was "second to none," according to a friend and fellow trooper.

TINLEY PARK, IL — Illinois State Police lieutenant and co-founder of the charitable Tinley Wish program, Rich Kozik, died Tuesday. He was 59. Kozik suffered a medical emergency at about 11 a.m. Feb. 6 and was taken to a nearby hospital for treatment, according to an online statement by the Illinois State Police Command Officers Association. He later died at the hospital, the update added.

"Lieutenant Kozik was the epitome of class, hard work, dedication, and charisma," stated a post on the Facebook page for ISP District 15, where Kozik was stationed. "His presence within District 15 and within the Illinois State Police will be greatly missed by all."

Funeral arrangements were still pending, ISP Master Sgt. Nick Hasan told Patch Wednesday. Once details are worked out, the state police will give Kozik a funeral with honors that includes representatives from federal, state and local law enforcement agencies, said Hasan, who worked with Kozik as a trooper and a reserve officer on the Tinley Park Police Department in the late 1990s.

Kozik joined the Illinois State Police around 1998, said Hasan, who followed him to the state police a year later. During his nearly 20-year ISP career, Kozik worked extensively with the 100 Club of Chicago, organizing numerous events for the group, which helps the families of first responders in Cook and Lake counties who died in the line of duty.

"His dedication to the law enforcement family was unparalleled, and his leadership of the ISP Motor Unit was admired by many," a memorial page for Kozik stated on the club's website. "Lieutenant Kozik will be deeply missed." Along with his commitment to the 100 Club, Kozik also worked with the Illinois State Police Heritage Foundation and pushed for building a memorial wall to honor fallen state troopers. "He's going to be a great loss for the law enforcement community," Hasan told Patch.

Kozik's death comes as a blow to the Tinley Park community, as well. Hasan described his colleague and friend's generosity as "second to none" and probably best exemplified by his work with Tinley Wish, a nonprofit program that helps disadvantaged families around the holidays.

Kozik and Dennis Mahoney, a part-time Tinley Park police officer at the time, created the initiative more than two decades ago as a way to give back to the community they called home. Each year the program gathers nominations for deserving families living in the village — the initiative's only requirement — from schools, churches and other village groups and institutions, according to the Tinley Wish website. A committee then looks over those nominations and selects the families most in need of help around the holidays.

Tinley Wish, which operates through the Tinley Park Police Department, finds money to buy presents and offer other assistance from individual donations and various fundraisers throughout the year. The program's efforts are capped off with a convoy of village volunteers — dubbed "Tinley's Finest" — delivering the gifts to the selected families during a morning in December.

Facebook Post

Illinois State Police District 15

Downers Grove

21 hours ago

District 15 announces with great sadness the loss of our beloved Lieutenant Rich Kozik, #4929, Cadet Class 96. Lieutenant Kozik was the epitome of class, hard work, dedication, and charisma. His presence within District 15 and within the Illinois State Police will be greatly missed by all. During this difficult time of grief and sadness, please keep the Kozik family in your thoughts and prayers.





MC MARKET

By Traveler

Harley-Davidson sees U.S. Retail Sales Decrease in Q4

Honda sees double-digit sales revenue increase in Q3

onsolidated sales revenue for the fiscal third quarter (October 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017) amounted to an increase of 13.0% due primarily to an increase in sales revenue from all businesses. Consolidated operating profit for the fiscal third quarter amounted to an increase of 37.0% compared to the same period last year. This was despite profit-decreasing factors such as an increase in selling, general and administrative (SG&A) expenses.

Consolidated profit for the fiscal third quarter attributable to owners of the parent amounted to 570.2 billion yen, an increase of 401.4 billion yen compared to the same period last year, due primarily to the impact of a reduction of corporate tax rates in the U.S. (346.1 billion yen).



Consolidated sales revenue for the fiscal nine months (April 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017) amounted to 11,446.4 billion, an increase of 11.8% compared to the same period last year, due primarily to an increase in sales revenue from all businesses and favorable foreign currency translation effects.



The quarterly dividend for the fiscal third quarter will be 25 yen per share (an increase of 1 yen per share compared to the same period last year), and total dividends to be paid for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2018 are expected to be 98 yen per share (an increase of 6 yen per share compared to the previous fiscal year).

In the fourth quarter, Harley-Davidson worldwide retail motorcycle sales declined 9.6 percent versus the prior year. Harley-Davidson U.S. retail motorcycle sales were down 11.1 percent and the overall industry was down 6.5 percent compared to the year-ago quarter. Harley-Davidson U.S. market share was 50.8 percent in the 601+cc segment in the fourth quarter.

Harley-Davidson, Inc. fourth quarter 2017 diluted EPS decreased to \$0.05 from \$0.27 in the fourth quarter of 2016. Fourth quarter 2017 net income was \$8.3 million on consolidated revenue of \$1.23 billion versus net income of \$47.2 million on consolidated revenue of \$1.11 billion in the fourth quarter of 2016. Fourth quarter 2017 revenue was up on higher shipments. Net income and EPS were adversely impacted by a \$53.1 million income tax charge related to the enactment of the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act and a \$29.4 million pre-tax charge for a voluntary product recall.

Full-year 2017 diluted EPS decreased to \$3.02 from \$3.83 in 2016. Full-year net income was \$521.8 million on consolidated revenue of \$5.65 billion versus net income of \$692.2 million on consolidated revenue of \$6.00 billion a year ago.

Harley-Davidson worldwide retail motorcycle sales were down 6.7 percent in 2017 compared to 2016. U.S. retail sales decreased 8.5 percent and international retail sales were down 3.9 percent.

“We finished 2017 with over 32,000 more Harley-Davidson riders in the U.S. than one year ago, and we delivered another year of strong cash generation and cash returns to our shareholders.” said Matt Levatich, president and chief executive officer, Harley-Davidson, Inc.

As the company executed against its long-term objective to build the next generation of Harley-Davidson riders globally, 57 new international dealer points were added in 2017, and U.S. dealers trained more than 62,000 riders through the Harley-Davidson Riding Academy. The company also maintained its number one 601+cc motorcycle market share position in countries including the U.S., Canada, Japan, Australia and India for 2017.



Manufacturing optimization
Harley-Davidson plans to improve its manufacturing operations and cost structure thru a multi-year manufacturing optimization initiative and consolidation of its motorcycle assembly plant in Kansas City, Mo. into its plant in York, Pa. The company restructuring and other consolidation costs of \$170 to \$200 million and capital investment of approximately \$75 million over the next two years and expects ongoing annual cash savings of \$65 to \$75 million after 2020.

2018 outlook

For 2018, Harley-Davidson anticipates full-year motorcycle shipments to be approximately 231,000 to 236,000 motorcycles. In the first quarter of 2018, Harley-Davidson expects to ship approximately 60,000 to 65,000 motorcycles.

Harley-Davidson expects full-year 2018 operating margin as a percent of revenue to be approximately 9.5 to 10.5 percent including manufacturing optimization costs of \$120 to \$140 million.

The company anticipates 2018 capital expenditures of \$250 million to \$270 million which includes approximately \$50 million to support manufacturing optimization.



Old Gold

By: Traveler

These 7 bikes Sold for Six Figures at the 2018 Las Vegas Auctions

After the flurry of car auctions in Kissimmee, Florida, and Scottsdale, Arizona, last month, Mecum and Bonhams held their annual motorcycle auctions in



Las Vegas. Hundreds of bikes of all sizes, eras and price ranges crossed the block. Also offered were the rights to build Excelsior-Henderson motorcycles, although that lot didn't meet its reserve of \$1.9 million. A significant Vincent at Bonhams broke the all-time record auction price for a motorcycle. Here are the seven bikes that broke into six figures in Las Vegas this year.



1941 Indian Four Sold for \$101,750 at Mecum

Indian's four-cylinder motorcycle of 1927-42 was a technical marvel. It's beautiful to look at, to boot. The later ones with the swoopy art deco fenders are especially cool. When it was new, this Indian Four cost as much as a new Pontiac and could hit 100 mph. The Fours also offer a smoother ride than the V-twin Indians. Really solid restored Fours can command prices in the low \$100K range, and this one, restored in the 1980s but more recently taken apart and reassembled, certainly qualifies.

1955 Vincent Black Prince Sold for \$104,650 at Bonhams



Described when it came out as a "two-wheeled Bentley," the Black Prince is essentially an enclosed version of the famous Black Shadow. Vincent also made an enclosed version of the Rapide called the Black Knight, but the faster Black Prince is definitely the one to have. The enclosed bikes were also Vincent's final new models before the company ceased production. Bonhams sold another Black Prince for about \$150,000 in the UK four years ago, so the result for this all-original 840-mile Black Prince wasn't all that strong.

March Celebrations!



Rich Lanute...
March 9th



Greg & Jane Smith...
March 25th



**1917 Henderson
Four
Sold for \$110,000
at Mecum**



When Indian decided to produce its four-cylinder bike in the late 1920s, the engine design was largely descended from these earlier Hendersons, which began production way back in 1912. This one was owned by Steve McQueen and bought from his estate sale in the 1980s, but there are no specific claims about how long McQueen owned it or how long he used it. Hendersons have sold for more money in the past, including a first-year 1912 model that Mecum sold in Vegas last year for half a million dollars, so this is one of those rare instances where a McQueen connection doesn't translate to big bucks.

**1939 Brough
Superior SS80
Sold for \$120,500
at Bonhams**



The Brough Superior was the great British bike of the prewar years, and while the SS100 (named for its 100-mph speed) became the marque's most famous model, the earlier SS80 was an amazing bike in its own right. Brough Superiors always featured top-notch fit and finish and had performance to match. T.E. Lawrence (as in, Lawrence of Arabia) had seven of them. The result for this late-production Matchless-engined SS80 is at the high end for SS80 prices, but these bikes don't often come to market.

**1926 Brough
Superior SS80
Sold for
\$126,875 at
Bonhams**



Rarely are there two Brough Superiors to choose from in the same place, but that's the appeal of large bike auctions like this. This is an earlier JAP-engined example with a more recent restoration. It similarly sold at the high end for an SS80. For reference, this price would be at the low end for the faster and more famous SS100.



**1911 Harley-
Davidson Twin
Sold for \$154,000
at Mecum**

Harley-Davidson has been sticking with the good-old V-twin engine for well over 100 years now, and the early examples of the V-twin Harley are highly sought after. This one actually dates from the very first year of V-twin production, which makes it one of the most collectible early American motorcycles. This wasn't quite the oldest bike at Mecum's Vegas auction, since there were actually four dating from 1910, but it was the most expensive.



**1951 Vincent Black
Lightning
Sold for \$929,000
at Bonhams**

This near-million-dollar result is the highest price ever paid for a motorcycle at auction, dwarfing the \$775,000 paid for an ex-Steve McQueen 1915 Cyclone three years ago. The bike, which is a factory-modified Black Shadow with lighter construction and a more powerful engine, was already one of the most valuable motorcycles in the world given its incredible performance and the fact that only 33 were made. In 1953, this very Black Lightning set Australia's land speed record at 141.5 mph. That record, numerous race victories, and its mostly unrestored condition made it even more enticing to collectors. Plus, there's no telling when the next one will come up for sale.





General Meeting

February 6, 2018
Respectfully Submitted by:
Ron Kostus, Secretary
Top Cats illinois

President’s Section: Mike Bradbury.

7:30 pm, Meeting called to order
The members were asked to stand and recite
The Pledge of Allegiance
Recognition of guests
Motion to have general meetings start at 7:00 –
motion passed.



Meeting jokes by Wayne Kirkpatrick were of the usual witty and scandalous variety.

Past President: Wayne Kirkpatrick

◆ Heartfelt comments by Wayne K. about the life and influence of Rich Kosik – Professional COP with the Illinois State Police. Rich Kosik earlier passed today. He had great impact on the community and was a great friend to the Top Cats.

Safety: Ric Case

- ◆ 1/28 G.R.A.S.S. + Road Captain and Senior Road Captain meeting was discussed in detail.
- ◆ Kaution Korner presented by Bard Board – tricks and safety tips for riding in the winter. Board detailed items to make your winter ride more comfortable and safe.

Membership: Emil Kornecki

- ◆ Emil K. presented membership packet to our newest Diane Lanute.
- ◆ New 2018 membership cards were made available by Emil K.

Video Presentation

- ◆ Ron K. gave a short verbal explanation of why he thinks watching episodes of MC Rider at the meeting has value.
- ◆ We don’t yet have the technical issues resolved with the meeting room TV so viewing of our first episode has been put off to next month.

Charity Ride: Lisa Purcell

- ◆ Lisa P. gave detailed updates and progress on the June 10th. Charity Ride.
- ◆ Wayne K. has added a Bike Show to be held at the Volo Auto Museum in conjunction with the “Ride for Dreams”.
- ◆ Wayne K. gathered volunteers for the show.
- ◆ Lisa P. asked for volunteers to help out at Cabin Fever – 2/24/28.
- ◆ Raffle tickets will be available next meeting.

Activities: Jim Purcell

- ◆ 2/11: Progressive Motorcycle Show – Meet at Tiffany’s, Des Plaines, 8:30 for breakfast continue on to the show at 10:00 am. – Gene R.
- ◆ 2/24: Cabin Fever – Woodstock Harley Davidson.
- ◆ 3/18: G.R.A.S.S. class – contact Ric C.

Communications: Mary Kirkpatrick

- ◆ Continuing to update information from 2017.
- ◆ Updating 2017 photos for website.
- ◆ Charity Ride info being updated.
- ◆ Anyone can submit an article or photos for the “Roar”

50 / 50 Raffle: Mike Bradbury the winner; donated back to club charity.
Meeting Adjourned : 8:56 by Mike Bradbury





February 13, 2018
Respectfully Submitted by:
Ron Kostus, Secretary
Top Cats illinois

Board Meeting

President's Section: Mike Bradbury

- ◆ Meeting called to order at 7:00 P.M.
- ◆ 2018 General meeting changes were suggested by Mike B. June 12th. Board meeting cancelled, July 10th. to be General meeting, no board meeting in July.
- ◆ There may be changes for August.. wait and see.

Past President: Wayne Kirkpatrick

- ◆ Detailed information package was handed out for the “Bike Show” which is part of the “Ride for Dreams” charity event.

Safety Committee: Ric Case

- ◆ 3/18/18 – GRASS class open to the public – Wauconda American Legion Hall
- ◆ Ric has a plan for updating and organizing ride response sheets from RC's
- ◆ RC's points system under evaluation by Ric.

Charity : Lisa Purcell

- ◆ Detailed presentation of all updates and changes for “Ride for Dreams” Charity event.
- ◆ Lisa suggested a second committee meeting be held mid-March – details to follow.

Treasury: Noelle Rigsby

- ◆ NISRA has received a check for \$4,200.00 from the 2017 charity fund.
- ◆ Noelle reviewed Awards Banquet financials.
- ◆ Mike B. to review with Venue this years meal offerings.
- ◆ \$200.00 donation was approved for the Dead Patrolman's Memorial in Rich Kosik's name.

Activities / Awards: Gene Rigsby

- ◆ Jim P. and Gene working together for a smooth transition as Jim learns the Scheduling and Blast system.
- ◆ 2/24 – Cabin Fever, Woodstock Harley Davidson.
- ◆ 3/18 – G.R.A.S.S. Wauconda American Legion Hall – Ric Case.
- ◆ 4/7 – Tentative Top cats dinner out.
- ◆ 4/28 – 2018 Kick-off ride – Mike B.

Membership: Emil Kornecki

- ◆ Emil to present all Charity Ride donations directly to Lisa P.

Video Presentation: Gene Rigsby

- ◆ “Bugs” with conference room TV being worked out by Gene R.

Communication: Mary Kirkpatrick

- ◆ Reported continued work on photos and documentation.

Secretary: Ron Kostus

- ◆ Suggested that we announce any new presentations or quest speakers on the meeting blasts far enough in advance so attendance and overall interest will rise.
- ◆ General comment – “ Nope “.

Mike Bradbury adjourned meeting at 8:35pm.



For Sale

1996 Harley Davidson FXDL Low Rider

1996 Harley Davidson FXDL
Low Rider

Meticulously maintained and
very reliable. 1340cc. Clean and
fast. 34,000 miles. Custom
saddlebags, windscreen,
passenger seat and backrest.
Ready to roll. \$4,800. Contact
Traveler: wkirkpa177@aol.com



2001 Harley Davidson FXDL Low Rider

Literally new and extremely clean.

Twin Cam 88, 5,000 miles,
Badlander seat or custom Mustang
solo seat, windscreen, forward
controls, good tires, recently
serviced. Low seat height, good
highway cruiser or starter bike.

\$6,000. Contact Traveler:

wkirkpa177@aol.com





Save the Date!

June 10, 2018



The day will include a ride to the
VOLO Auto Museum!
Support NISRA by supporting our
RIDE FOR DREAMS!

For each ticket sold, one ticket will
be given to NISRA to use for their
participants!



Rides and Events

Date	Ride/Event	Location	Destination	Time	Leader
Tuesday, March 6th	General Meeting	Palatine	Alley 64	7:00 pm	Bradbury
Tuesday, March 13th	Board Meeting	Palatine	Alley 64	7:00 pm	Bradbury
Sunday, March 18th	GRASS Class	Wauconda	American Legion Post 911	8:00 am	Case
Tuesday, April 3rd	General Meeting	Palatine	Alley 64	7:00 pm	Bradbury
Tuesday, April 10th	Board Meeting	Palatine	Alley 64	7:00 pm	Bradbury
Sunday, April 29 th	Kick-Off Ride	TBD	TBD	9:00 am	Bradbury

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

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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.

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



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