



# ROAR

June, 2020

Volume 20, Issue 6

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### Upcoming Events

#### JUNE

- 5 NISRA PARADE
- 13 MEATY RIDE
- 20 NEW DIGGINS ???
- 26-29 FIELD OF DREAMS ??

#### JULY

LET'S PLAN...BUT, STAY TUNED!

WATCH FOR BLASTS WITH EVENT UPDATES...

LET'S KEEP HOPING THAT WE CAN MAKE THESE HAPPEN!

Talk to Greg Smith and Jim Purcell and get your ideas on the calendar!





# ROAR

## PRESIDENT'S POINT

And Now a Word from your President...



Hello Top Cats!!

I hope you are all doing well.

As you should know by now, our June meeting will be canceled due to the extended stay at home order. As well, we must POSTPONE the Ride for Dreams. Lisa and Jim are working on a new date and venue considerations and will send out the updates as soon as possible so we can all SAVE THE DATE and participate.

Regarding our first club ride opportunity(ies?), Mike Bradbury is set to lead his ride on the 13th and Mary is working on a ride which we will be able to get in even sooner than that... See the details below. NISRA would like to surprise their residents with a special event. Motorcycles!

Don't forget to "buddy check". Send me a note, letting me know how you are doing. I received some responses in the last few weeks, but I know we can do better, so please do.

Buddy Check... [gene.rigsby@gmail.com](mailto:gene.rigsby@gmail.com)...

It would be great to hear from you. Let me know how you are keeping busy.

Our Top Cats family is why Top Cats - Illinois is the premier motorcycle riding club in the Chicagoland area.

Please feel free to reach out to me anytime via my email: [Gene.rigsby@gmail.com](mailto:Gene.rigsby@gmail.com), or phone, 847-770-9425.

Looking forward to seeing you there.... Gene "Lucky" Rigsby



### *Calling All Top Cats!*

*Our Presence has been requested on a Very Special Ride!*

*Friday, June 5<sup>th</sup> , 10:00*

*NISRA Parking Lot*

285 Memorial Dr, Crystal Lake, IL 60014

We will meet with acceptable social distance in the NISRA parking lot, WITH OUR MASKS, and then be led on a parade to NISRA's group homes to wave and honk!

We will finish and head home by noon.

If you work, we know that it's a difficult time to get away, but please consider participating for a bit, to quench our need for NISRA in June. Watch for more details on the future of *RIDE FOR DREAMS!*



Wish we could say that we would be sharing a meal, but that will have to wait for a few weeks.... Hopefully, Mike's Meaty Ride will resume our consumption of food as a club!





## KAUTION KORNER



# Lethal Consumption

By: Traveler

Top Cats believe in the freedom of choice. As adults we acknowledge the use of alcohol and prescriptive and/or over the counter drugs as legal in today's society but we still urge caution in their use and, we DO NOT condone their abuse.



The Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC) level for a DUI in most states' is .08 BAC. However, in Zero Tolerance states BAC limits range from 0.00 to 0.02. In almost all states, a law enforcement officer can determine an operator to be driving while impaired without a blood-alcohol test. It doesn't matter if it's alcohol, legal or illegal drugs or fatigue.

Do you know how much alcohol it takes to get to .08? There is a common misbelief that 2 drinks/1<sup>st</sup> hour and 1 drink per hour after that will keep you below .08 BAC.

That is fine for a svelte 22-year-old metric rider but not for everyone. Example, with that formula a 200lb male rider having 4 beers (drinks) in 3 hours would have a .03 BAC level. Not intoxicated but still exhibiting signs of mild euphoria, increased self-confidence and decreased judgement and inhibitions.

Another male rider weighing in at only 140lbs and consuming the same amount in the same time frame would have a BAC of .06, though legal; still impaired.

A female at the same 140lbs would be at .079 BAC and is right at the legal limit. Females have a different absorbance rate and therefore their alcohol BAC is typically about 25% higher.

The chart in the next column references some typical scenarios. Understand that a 12 oz Beer equals a 5 oz Wine that equals a 1¼ oz Hard liquor.

In low concentrations, alcohol reduces inhibitions. As blood alcohol concentration increases, a person's response

to stimuli decreases, speech becomes slurred, judgement is affected, visual acuity is reduced, and they become unsteady and have trouble walking, let alone riding.

It doesn't take much to get intoxicated and these are only generalizations but still good guidelines. Intoxication can be amplified beyond the above chart numbers based on food consumption, mixing medication with alcohol, fatigue, and many other factors. The safest thing to do is NOT DRINK AND RIDE.

With prescription drugs, when used by themselves or when used with alcohol can often increase the effects of impairment. Understand the side effects before you operate any vehicle or mix with alcohol. The safest thing to do is NOT TAKE MEDICATION AND RIDE.

At the end of a long riding day we're all usually tired. Fatigue is just as deadly when you fall asleep riding or are no longer alert to hazards on the roadway. Police departments can and will write a citation for impaired driving if your fatigue effects the operation of your vehicle. The safest thing to do is NOT TO RIDE WHEN YOU'RE FATIGUED.

We ask you to act and ride responsibly not only when you're with the Top Cats but at all times as well. If a member exhibits signs of altered behavior, their fellow Top Cats will assist them in securing their vehicle and arranging safe alternate transportation for them.

(Continued on page 4)

NUMBER of DRINKS PER HOURS	100 lbs	120 lbs	140 lbs	160 lbs	180 lbs	200 lbs	220 lbs	240 lbs
	M / F	M / F	M / F	M / F	M / F	M / F	M / F	M / F
1 drink in 1 hour	.02/.03	.02/.02	.01/.02	.01/.01	.00/.01	.00/.01	.00/.00	.00/.00
1 drink in 2 hours	.01/.02	.00/.01	.00/.00	.00/.00	.00/.00	.00/.00	.00/.00	.00/.00
1 drink in 3 hours	.00/.01	.00/.00	.00/.00	.00/.00	.00/.00	.00/.00	.00/.00	.00/.00
2 drinks in 2 hours	.03/.04	.03/.04	.02/.03	.01/.02	.01/.02	.00/.01	.00/.00	.00/.00
2 drinks in 3 hours	.02/.03	.01/.03	.00/.01	.00/.01	.00/.00	.00/.00	.00/.00	.00/.00
2 drinks in 1 hour	.06/.07	.05/.06	.04/.05	.03/.04	.03/.03	.02/.03	.02/.02	.02/.02
3 drinks in 3 hours	.06/.09	.05/.06	.03/.05	.02/.03	.01/.03	.01/.02	.00/.01	.00/.01
3 drinks in 2 hours	.08/.10	.07/.09	.05/.06	.04/.05	.03/.04	.02/.03	.02/.03	.01/.02
4 drinks in 4 hours	.09/.11	.08/.08	.04/.06	.03/.05	.02/.03	.01/.02	.00/.02	.00/.01
4 drinks in 3 hours	.10/.13	.08/.10	.06/.08	.05/.06	.03/.05	.03/.04	.02/.03	.01/.03
5 drinks in 5 hours	.11/.14	.08/.11	.05/.08	.04/.06	.02/.04	.01/.03	.00/.02	.00/.00
3 drinks in 1 hours	.10/.12	.08/.10	.07/.08	.06/.07	.05/.06	.04/.05	.04/.05	.03/.04
5 drinks in 4 hours	.13/.16	.09/.12	.09/.10	.05/.07	.04/.06	.03/.05	.02/.04	.01/.03
4 drinks in 2 hours	.12/.15	.09/.12	.08/.10	.06/.08	.05/.07	.04/.06	.04/.05	.03/.04
4 drinks in 3 hours	.14/.18	.11/.14	.09/.11	.07/.09	.06/.08	.05/.06	.04/.05	.03/.04
3 drinks in 2 hours	.16/.19	.13/.16	.10/.13	.09/.11	.07/.09	.06/.08	.05/.07	.04/.05



KK continued...

Our policy, that has worked well over the past 20+ years, includes:

1. On an overnight group ride, park the bikes and walk to a bar/restaurant.



2. If you want to drink, buy something and take it back to the hotel.

3. On day rides where a rider may have an alcoholic drink with lunch, we all keep an eye on that rider to assure that they don't drink to the point of being a hazard to themselves and a hazard to their fellow Top Cats. The same thing for medication.



4. The legalization of [marijuana](#) in Illinois poses another dimension of hazards to all of us just like alcohol. We recognize that; 1. It is not legal in all states, 2. It is another form of intoxicant and, 3. It is not legal at the Federal level yet. As such, and to protect our riders, Top Cats discourages the use of marijuana at any Top Cat activity.

Riding sober, alert and safe is not only the law....it is an obligation that we have to our families, to the public, to our fellow riders and....to ourselves.



## Oil Spots By Traveler

### MOTORCYCLE HELMETS EXCLUDED FROM TARIFFS UNTIL SEPT. 1, 2020

If you anticipate buying a new helmet this year, you might want to do that sooner than later.



Following multiple requests by the MIC Government Relations Office and several MIC members to exclude motorcycles, parts and accessories from China List 4 tariffs, the United States Trade Representative has determined that motorcycle helmets are now excluded from tariffs that were imposed in 2019.

“Tariffs are additional taxes paid by American consumers and businesses, not by China,” said Erik Pritchard, president and CEO of the Motorcycle Industry Council. “May is Motorcycle Safety Awareness month, so we are pleased that the USTR has decided to exclude additional taxes on motorcycle helmets. Safety equipment must remain affordable and readily available to all riders.”

The MIC’s government relations team worked with MIC members, testifying together before the USTR and the United States International Trade Commission. Letters were also sent to the agencies and to policy makers.

### Another E15 Bomb

You may have seen this in the latest AMA magazine. If not, you need to consider joining AMA to help us lobby against legislation like this. Can you imagine gas stations with only one pump for an entire group ride?

(Continued on page 5)



Oil Spots, continued...

## MINNESOTA

H.F. 3699, introduced in the Minnesota House, and companion bill S.F. 3605 in the Senate would require the state to move to an E15 blend of vehicle fuel.

If the bills become law, Minnesota would be the first state to require the use of the fuel, which contains 15 percent ethanol by volume. The national standard for fuel is E10 (10 percent ethanol by volume).

The bills would exempt fuel sold at airports resorts, marinas, houseboat rental companies and fuel sold for use in motor sports racing, collector vehicles, and off-road use.

The legislation also requires retail stations to provide one fuel pump with a dedicated hose and nozzle dispensing a fuel blend containing 9.2 to 10 percent biofuel for use in vehicles—such as motorcycles—that are not approved by the U.S. EPA for use with more than 10 percent ethanol.

## Lane Splitting Laws

You may have also seen this in the latest AMA magazine. Lane splitting is the act of riding a motorcycle between



vehicles that are stopped or moving slow as in a traffic jam. Different states have different laws. IF it is legal where you are riding be very CAUTIOUS because:

1. Lane splitting tends to irritate, if not antagonize, vehicle operators. Road rage can be hazardous to our health.

2. Some states allow motorcycles to pass on the shoulder in a traffic jam. We still need to be cautious because vehicle operators don't expect us riding on the shoulder.
3. Vehicle operators typically do not expect motorcycles to be inches away from them hence, they aren't watching for you and could easily hit you. Be careful of the suddenly opened car door and the lame excuse that they didn't see you.
4. When you lane split, you have to be highly alert to the traffic around you to avoid some of these hazards.

Even though lane splitting may be legal in some states, common sense would tell us to consider the risks before deciding to lane split and, an experienced road captain would never lead a group between cars. Circumstances may allow a group to pass stopped traffic on the shoulder yet it would still be just as risky.

If motorcyclists have survived OK over more than a century without legalizing lane splitting, what's the hurry anyway?

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## 2020 LANE SPLITTING BILLS

Here are some of the lane-splitting bills introduced this year.

**VIRGINIA:** H.B. 1236. Died on a tie vote in a subcommittee. Expected to make it to a full committee in 2021.

**MARYLAND:** H.B. 920. Failed in committee, same as in 2019. But the hearing was "at least friendlier," Sayre said.

**UTAH:** Lawmakers took up a couple of bills to adjust technical issues with the lane filtering law. State Rep. Walt Brooks, sponsor of Utah's lane filtering bill in 2019, H.B. 149, has been very receptive to other legislators contacting him about why he supports the Utah law after he was the victim of a rear-end collision while riding a motorcycle.

**RHODE ISLAND:** The state's first bill on lane splitting, H.B. 7758, was referred to the Judiciary Committee.

**MASSACHUSETTS:** Several bills were introduced that would allow lane splitting and riding on the shoulder of the road. The AMA supports the lane-splitting provisions.



Oil Spots, continued...

## Harley-Davidson Bronx and Pan-America models delayed until 2021



Harley-Davidson has delayed the arrival of their Pan-America adventure bike and Bronx naked until 2021. The two models, which boast the brand new water-cooled revolution engine, were originally scheduled for release in 2020, however the website has quietly been changed to say they're now coming in 2021.

Part of the delay is likely due to a recent change in senior management, who dropped the 'More Roads to Harley-Davidson' program that spawned the new models in favor of the 'Rewire' plan. The rest of the delay will be related to the current Coronavirus pandemic, which has affected manufacturers across the world.



## Five Good Coronavirus Motorcycle Rides

Many stores, parks, tourist destinations, restaurants, and hotels are currently closed as part of stay-at-home orders and social

distancing measures enacted to help stop the spread of the novel coronavirus. That means a lot of places that would have otherwise served as a ride destination aren't open. But that doesn't mean you can't enjoy a memorable motorcycle ride or a quick motorcycle trip.

The widespread quarantine closures also means there are far fewer folks on the roads. A ride on your favorite mountain road might be a whole lot less congested than it typically is. And if you're in a bigger city, freeways are likely much more accommodating than normal. If you're in a state where they haven't closed all dispersed camping on BLM acreage, then you could also plan a solitary camping trip. Or maybe it's time to relive some old memories at a favorite spot.

The point is, with a little imagination, a great ride is still right around the corner. Just remember, if you're going into a different town or state, be courteous and observe all

social distancing measures as best you can. Pack a mask with you if you plan to be off bike near others, and wash your hands as often as you can.

### Ride Idea #1: Cruise The Interstates

With freeways nearly deserted in some places, a full day's ride on the interstate might not be so bad.

When will there be another chance to have four, five, or six lanes all to yourself in most metropolitan areas? It might not be the most exciting or fulfilling ride when you're done, but you'll be able to say you did it, and that's better than being parked in the garage.

### Ride Idea #2: Ride Your Favorite Back Road Loop

You've probably already done this a time or two in the past, but practice makes perfect. Imagine you're preparing for an event like the Isle of Man and you've got to know every nuance of the road before the big show. This is a great time to make this route your route, so when the time comes for you and your buddies to get back out there together, you'll be able to ride the route with more skill and confidence.

### Ride Idea #3: Visit A Place You Haven't Seen In Years

Take a walk down memory lane and plan a ride to some location that was important to you once, but you haven't seen in a while. If it's nowhere specific, maybe just a ride through a town you used to live in. A lot of times places like this tend to be overlooked or disregarded as destinations because there's cooler places to go when everything is business as usual.

### Ride Idea #4: Plan A Camping Trip

Check with your local authorities to make sure that dispersed camping is still allowed on public lands with regard to shutdown restrictions as this may not be an option. If camping on public lands isn't an option for you, maybe you're lucky enough to have a friend with some land, and if that's the case, butter them up real nice and see if you can pitch a tent for a night or two on some distant corner of their lot. However you can do it, a night or two under the stars is valuable recharge time.

### Ride Idea #5: Let Fate Take The 'Bars

Fill up your tank and pick a road you've never been on. Ride that road until you're just about half a tank. Where did you end up? Is it worth a picture to commemorate the event? Did you discover something awesome you never knew existed, or was it just a whole lot of the same ol', same ol'? If there's a gas station somewhere nearby, fill up again and go for another half a tank. This is just a play on the go somewhere you've never been angle, but just make sure you've got enough fuel to make it back home again.

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Oil Spots, continued...

## ELECTRIC MOTORCYCLE WITH CLASSIC 2-STROKE SOUND



The Emula electric concept motorcycle offers different modes to sound as though you are riding a classic

two or four-stroke machine instead. Isn't technology wonderful? For every innovation that makes our lives easier, there is a gimmick that appears to answer a question nobody ever asked...

One case point is this, the Emula electric concept motorcycle, which – as the name ‘emulates’ – lives to give the illusion that it is a conventionally-fueled bike complete with roaring - engine soundtrack and faux gearbox functionality.

There is some logic to the Emula's creation. The motorcycle market may have been relatively sluggish at adopting zero exhaust emissions - free transport but there are an increasing number of electric machines hitting the market at the moment, led by a number of professional start-ups such as Energica, Zero and Damon.

However, green though they are, they simply don't illicit the same emotion as a conventional motorcycle does, whether it's the sound of a rumbling engine between your legs or the satisfaction of clicking through the gears under acceleration. While no-one wants to kill the planet, for now the alternatives need to be more convincing.

Enter the Emula, which comes with an intriguing party-piece in offering a series of settings that intend to give its otherwise quiet electric motor a livelier soundtrack. While this isn't necessarily a new idea – with a number of firms pursuing the idea of a faux engine note – the Emula takes this further by installing modes that throw right back to another era when we were less aware of the impact of our gas-guzzling.

As such, you can select three different engine notes – using what it refers to as the McFly Controller - to blast out as you accelerate it, including a 1999 600cc four-stroke, four-cylinder generating a perceived 100bhp @13,000rpm, a 2004 800cc four-stroke, two-cylinder developing 77hp @9000rpm and a 1989 250cc two-stroke, two-cylinder generating 60bhp @12,500rpm.

More than that though, there is a faux clutch included, so you can follow the trajectory of the rev limiter and click through those gears if you want to.

At a time when motorcycle noise is becoming a more prevalent social issue, having a soundtrack of a singing two-stroke may seem somewhat misjudged, but you can get around this by having the sounds beamed straight into your helmet via Bluetooth so you get the full effect without pissing off the neighbors.

Taking the cynicism down a notch for a moment, it's actually an impressive piece of kit and – as it states – merely a concept for the time being, while the sport bike design itself looks smart

Not entirely sure riding a motorcycle with overt imitated sounds and actions quite allays the concerns of those who'd much rather have the real thing, but as a piece of tech you can't help but be intrigued at the very least.

## INDIAN MOTORCYCLES FILE TWO NEW TRADEMARKS FOR FUTURE MODELS

INDIAN has just filed for trademark applications for two potential new bikes from the American manufacturer.

While the patent doesn't shed any light on what the Indian models could be, there are a few theories...

The Indian Guardian and Indian Pursuit have been filed with the USPTO (US Patent and Trademark Office) and the Australian Intellectual Property Office.

While both new bikes sound like the sort used by highway patrol and police forces, the chances of the firm developing a ground-up new machine just for this task is slim. Police motorcycles usually just wear the same name as their commercially available siblings, normally with a solitary 'P' at the end of the model name to signify their use. And seriously, come on – if you were going to chase criminals there are much more viable options than a 800lb super-cruiser!

### Indian FTR120



On the patent application it is simply stated that the names are to be used on

“Motorcycles and structural parts therefor.”, meaning it sadly doesn't state where in the Indian line-up the bikes could fit. To try and figure this out though, look at the gaps in the current range.

(Continued on pg. 8)



Oil Spots, continued...

With the FTR 1200 range now bulging, it's likely the new bikes won't reside in this lightweight and sporty sector – the names don't really suit a flat-track street racer either.

Instead it'd be more realistic to see the Guardian and Pursuit to slot into the Challenger range which currently only has one bike in it. The two new bikes could be the custom cruiser and full-dress tourer editions of the Indian Challenger bagger model that is already available.

Another "wait and see" situation.

## MISSOURI MIGHT GO BACKWARDS ON HELMET LAWS

State legislators in Missouri could be about to allow adult riders to feel the wind in their hair once more.

In a move that may seem backward to many, the Midwestern state of Missouri could be about to allow motorcyclists to ride without wearing a helmet.

The proposal is one small part of a massive state transportation bill being put before the state governor this week. The Bill is being pushed by a Republican Candidate, Jared Taylor, who claims he has already had the governor agree to sign the bill, although a spokesperson for them advised "there will be a thorough bill review to see what else is in the bill."

The new proposals could mean that any rider over the age of 26 can choose whether or not to use a motorcycle helmet when riding any motorcycle. They must though have full health insurance (I'm not sure what good that will be if you do crash without a helmet) and be able to provide proof of 'financial responsibility'.

Democrat from St. Louis, Rep. Gina Mitten opposed this part of the bill on the House floor.

She said, "None of my constituents probably care a bit about the myriad of other things in this bill, except for the helmet law," she told colleagues. "I don't know about the other folks in this room, but I got a ton of emails over the past few days saying, 'Do not do this.'"

One of the strangest parts of the new law is that the police would be restricted from pulling over a helmet-less motorcycle rider to check if they have the correct health insurance in place!



Missouri tried to push on with a similar rule change in

2019, although the same state governor rejected it at that time.

2019, although the same state governor rejected it at that time.

## ARIZONA BIKE WEEK 2020 IS READY TO ROCK 'N' ROLL!!



On

March 17, just fifteen days away from opening the gates for Arizona Bike Week 2020, we were hit with COVID 19 fallout and had to postpone the rally. Fifteen days later, on the very day they were supposed to be kicking off their event, they announced new rescheduled dates.

Rebuilding an event that they'd been working on for almost a year, in just a couple weeks, was a



tremendous undertaking, with many business offices shut-down due to the quarantine. But as we were all being bombarded with such rapid-fire bad news, Bike AZ felt it was important to get some good news out to the riding community as quickly as possible. They managed to get the commitments needed from the biggest pieces of our massive puzzle in order to comfortably announce their new dates.

Since then, they've continued to reconstruct the event and announce, that all of the original entertainment will remain intact.

This includes all of the RockYard and HandleBar Saloon bands. They had to switch around which night some of the headliners would perform to accommodate the bands' schedule but all five of them are on board:

- ✦ Wednesday, October 7 - Jackyl
- ✦ Thursday, October 8 - The Offspring
- ✦ Friday, October 9 - Texas Hippie
- ✦ Coalition AND Blackberry Smoke
- ✦ Saturday, October 10 - Lynyrd Skynyrd



All tickets purchased for the April dates will remain valid for the new dates.

Now, comes the hardest part... Waiting until October!



## NEWS RELEASE: City of Sturgis Motorcycle Rally Consideration Protocols



STURGIS, SD - The Sturgis City Council has prepared a set of protocols that will be used when making the decision to hold or cancel the upcoming City of Sturgis Motorcycle Rally scheduled for August 7-16, 2020. This decision will be under consideration because of the widespread COVID-19 pandemic.

### Considerations for the Rally in 2020

- Before hosting any event, the City must be reasonably ensured that it would not levy an undue burden on the health of our residents and our health care services.
- Nearly every corporation in America has greatly reduced travel and trade shows. If the Rally is held, there will likely be a great reduction in the number of major corporate exhibitors along with smaller vendors who also will be hesitant to travel.
- Beyond the additional revenue for 43% of our residents (broken down below), many of our businesses are heavily dependent upon Rally revenue, if the event is not held, we anticipate significant negative impacts up to and including foreclosures for our community's restaurants, hotels, Main Street gift shops and hospitality industries (including pet services). Any closure will likely take years to be replaced by a new business. This is true in neighboring communities throughout the Black Hills.
- Many of the smaller vendors rely upon the City of Sturgis Motorcycle Rally for the bulk of their annual profit. If the event is not held, they may not be able to make it to the next year.



### Impact of the Rally

The City of Sturgis hosts the state's single largest tourism event. The 79th Annual Rally generated the following:

- ★ \$655,090,000 of direct spending by visitors
- ★ \$65,509,000 in additional indirect spending
- ★ \$615,116 in funding for local non-profit and charitable organizations
- ★ \$1,165,688 in net profit to the City of Sturgis

- ★ On 2014, the City's SIP resident survey indicated 15% of residents rent their homes, 6% rent their yards and 22% work a Rally job – 43% of our residents are a part of the Rally

- ★ This income is generally 5-15% of a household's annual income

### Metrics for Consideration to Open

The City has determined that it will make a decision on holding the 2020 City of Sturgis Motorcycle Rally based upon empirical data. This will focus on whether the state is capable of hosting a larger number of visitors and if the areas where our visitors usually come from have a high probability of carrying the COVID-19 virus.

#### **Resource Availability in the state:**

- ICU beds available
- Ventilators available

#### **Virus Case Growth**

Percentage weekly change in infections in South Dakota

#### **Virus Case Growth in primary markets** (represent 50.6% of attendees)

Follow weekly growth in cases (infection curve) for MN, CO, NE, CA, WI, WY, WA, IA, KS and AZ

### Timeline

There will be a series of calls to begin gauging the temperature of the industry leaders. This will be combined with the metrics to guide the Council's decision regarding whether the City of Sturgis Motorcycle Rally should be canceled.

#### **> Week of May 11th – 15th**

##### **Set Up Calls**

Contact the following groups to see if they would like to be included in the decision:

- Governor – State Tourism – State Health – Senator Rounds – Senator Thune –
- Representative Johnson – Black Hills & Badlands – Monument Health
- Hotel/Motel group – Local Owners – Southern Hills – Rapid City – Spearfish
- Significant campground venues – Pappy Hoel – Buffalo Chip – Glenco – Lamphere – Steel Pony
- Kick Stand – Rush No More – Sturgis RV – Days End
- Businesses – Main Street businesses – Sturgis Indian – Black Hills Harley Davidson – Sturgis
- Motorcycle Museum
- Sponsors
- Mayors & Chambers from throughout the hills

(Continued on page 10)



### Sturgis Update, Cont...

#### ➤ Week of May 18th make calls to:

- Hotel Motel Group
- Campground Group
- Sturgis Monument Health
- Week of May 25th make calls to:
- Black Hills Businesses
- Chambers & Cities

#### ➤ Week of June 1st make calls to:

- Sponsors
- State and Federal Government Groups

#### ➤ June 8th

- Special Council Meeting - for discussion only

#### ➤ June 15th

Regular Council meeting to vote if the Rally is canceled (7 ½ weeks before the start of the City of Sturgis Motorcycle Rally)

Questions related to the above information can be directed to Jerry Cole, Director of the City of Sturgis

**Motorcycle Rally 605-720-0800.**

To all of our Favorite Dads...



June 21st!

Just in Case you're forgetting what we all look like...  
**Quarantine Life!**



Greg and Jane catching up on some well earned quiet time with cold drinks and fragrant flowers. A little bit of Paradise...



Rich And Diana have had some visitors... Richie, daughter Gina and introducing a new member of the family... Jack!

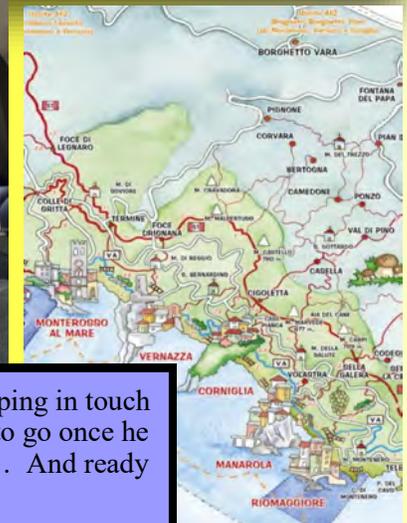




## Top Cats in Quarantine... Continued.



Wayne completed a restoration of an HD '66 Bobcat this winter (check out the shine bolts!)... and then we celebrated!



Mark has been keeping in shape, keeping in touch with friends and dreaming of where to go once he can travel safely again! Very busy... And ready to ride!



Gene and Noelle have been rehabbing their 2-flat in Chicago. The work was a labor of love, as this was Noelle's childhood home. See the next page for more of the beautiful transitions... and their COVID Journey.





## Top Cats in Quarantine... Continued.

Rigsby Chicago rehab project - 2020  
Phase 1 - First floor apartment

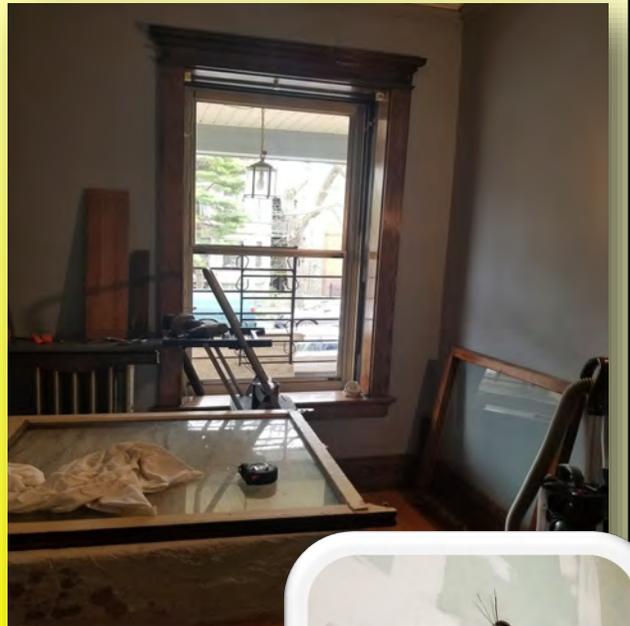
Noelle and I, and sometimes the kids, started rehabbing our 2 story building in Chicago. The plan is to do this in 3 phases. The phases being one for each floor (2 up, 1 down). With, a bit of exterior work sprinkled in for good measure. The exterior work includes new rear windows, repairing or replacing the balcony and repairing the windows, to name a few items needed.

With the new Covid pandemic outbreak, our initial plans had been stalled a bit as we had to make immediate arrangements to bring our daughter back from the UK and we self quarantined with her as recommended by the CDC. However, our phase 1 plan got a much needed boost from Noelle, as she was furloughed from work for nearly 2 months and was able to spend a good amount of time in Chicago. There was some long days put in, especially in the last 2 weeks as we pushed to keep our May 1st deadline and move in date for our tenants.

Enjoy the pictures....

Even with all the hard work and ups and downs, it was a great experience. BUT, we are sure glad that it is done.

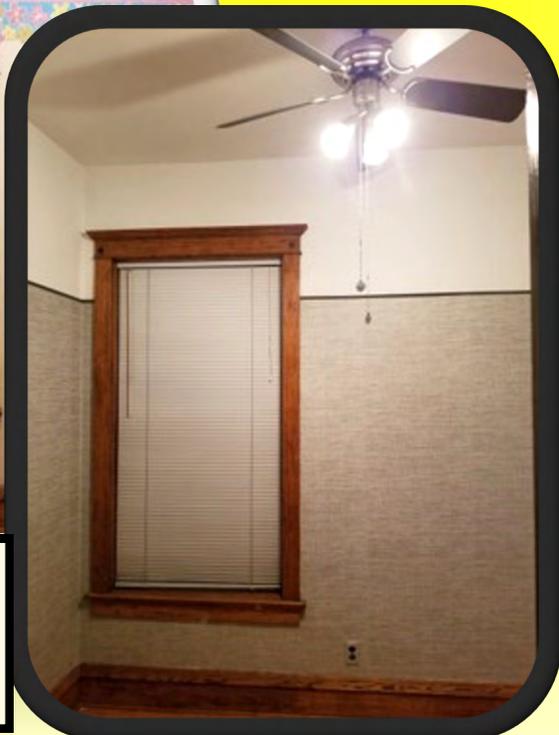
Now on to Phase 2... the second floor.... Not as much needed as the first floor, but will have its own challenges.



BTW... This was not the first time we rehabbed this apartment. Ask me about next time you see me.



*Before*  
*And*  
*After*

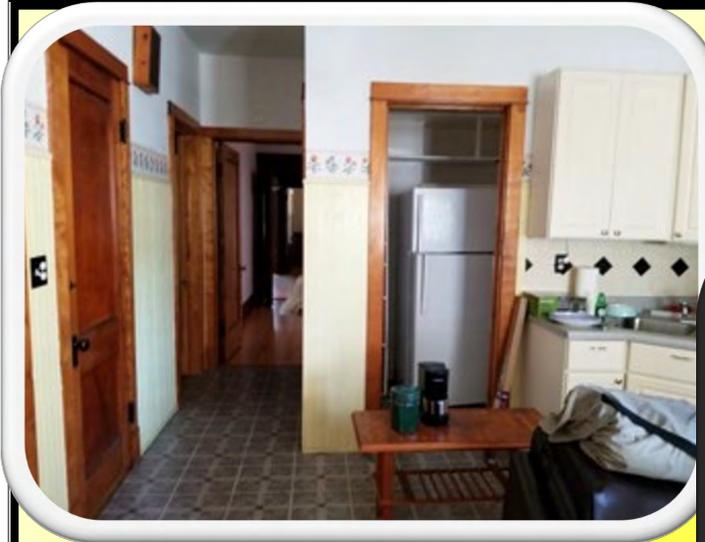


*Before*  
*And*  
*After*





*Before*  
*And*  
*After*



**So... Gene and Noelle,  
I think we will all need a  
complete tour. Noelle, could  
you lead the ride there when  
we are back on the road???**

## TYPES OF BIKES... AND WHAT THEY COMMUNICATE

**NORMAL BIKE:** "I'M FAR COOLER THAN ANY CAR ON THE ROAD. EXCEPT ON DAYS WHEN IT HAILS"

**SPORT BIKE:** "I'M 18! AND CAN'T CONCEIVE OF MY DEATH!"

**CHOPPER:** "I AIN'T MET A NACHO I AIN'T LIKED"

**\$85,000 CUSTOM CHOPPER** "I'M ON WIFE #3!"

**REALLY, REALLY, REALLY PRISTINE HARLEY:** "I'M A MIDDLELEVEL V.P. OF HOME LOANS AT CITIBANK. ... ALSO, I RIDE ONCE A YEAR!"

**THE 'EVERYTHING MATCHES' BIKE:** "WE'RE RETIRED! CAN YOU TELL?"

## HANDGUN CARRY WHILE RIDING A MOTORCYCLE

**BY DERYCK POOLE**  
Submitted by Traveler



Motorcycle riding continues to increase in popularity. For some it's because of increased gas prices. For others it's a sense of freedom, a way to temporarily unplug from the world. And for others it's something they grew up doing and it's become a way of life. The reasons why we ride are as varied as the number of different makes, models, and styles of motorcycles on the road.

I fall into the "way of life" category and log in the neighborhood of 10,000 miles per year. My yearly riding profile consists of daily commuting, errands, rallies, and at least two long-haul (2.5k+ mile) trips.

Through all these years and miles on a motorcycle, I have managed to carry in some form the majority of the time.

My experiences while riding, my evolution as a firearms instructor, as well as student questions, have given me time to really think about concealed carry while riding. My thoughts on the "why," "how," and strategies for success have evolved over the years based on these factors.



*The type of motorcycle you ride influences which type of carry method you employ.*



### **PLAUSIBILITY**

A quick Google search will bring up a lot of links to forum opinions on how to carry, as well as ads for various motorcycle accessories for carrying

while riding. I even found one forum where someone (a naturally right-handed shooter) said, "When riding I carry left handed.... It would have to be an extreme situation when I would actually shoot from my bike, moving or stopped, but I have trained that way."

What isn't readily available is information on a strategy for concealed carry while riding. To come up with a strategy, you first need to apply the plausibility principle: What are the most probable and plausible situations you could encounter while riding where you would need to defend yourself with a firearm?

The situations while riding a motorcycle are basically the same as if you were in a car — the situations all involve being stopped. The quick run to the store, getting gas, stopped at a traffic signal or sign, taking a break at a rest area, and the list goes on of the different places you would stop.

The major difference is that sitting on a motorcycle, you don't have an intermediate barrier to give yourself extra time to react and to provide cover or concealment.

Let's quickly cover that statement about carrying left-handed for "just in case" scenarios while riding. To be clear, I have heard this from multiple sources (students as well as strangers at rallies). Is it possible that someone could threaten your life while riding down the road? Absolutely! This usually comes from being tailgated or having your right of way taken. In these situations, your first reaction is to get out of the way, come to a stop, or some other evasive maneuver, not draw your gun.

I submit that even if in some post-apocalyptic anomaly where someone starts shooting at you while riding, your first action should still be escape, evade, or safely come to a stop. You are already in a compromised position by being on two wheels and with no steel cage surrounding you. Taking one hand off the bars to draw a weapon only magnifies your bad position.

*If pocket carry is used, you most likely will need to shift*



### **CONSISTENCY**

The second area I like to look at when developing a strategy is consistency.

We all have limited time, money, and energy, so whatever we do that is different from our primary carry method, some portion of time needs to be dedicated to training. For this reason, I recommend that whenever possible, carry in the same manner and position while riding as you do when walking around.

I recognize that this isn't always possible, based on things like the type of motorcycle you ride and how you're positioned on the bike.

If your everyday carry is inside-the-waistband appendix and you ride a sport bike, I am pretty sure this wouldn't be comfortable (or good for the tank paint).

(Continued on page 15)



## Carrying on a Bike, Cont...

To see more great personal defense guides like this, and to watch exclusive training videos, make sure to visit us at [www.personaldefensenetwork.com](http://www.personaldefensenetwork.com). Improve your skills and join our community.

*On-Body: Riding vest with built-in holster is a possible alternative carry method and should be included in your training.*



## ON-BODY METHODS

As I said earlier, a Google search will bring up more than enough opinions on the various positions to carry. I will break it down into the categories of on-body and off-body, the pluses and minuses of each, and some tips.

In my opinion, on-body carry is preferable to off-body whenever possible. Remember the plausibility principle and when you are most likely to need to defend yourself — while stopped or at some point after you have parked and dismounted. It's a big plus to have the gun readily available if it's needed, and you don't have to worry about finding a private spot to transition from a storage location.

Now for the downside. I was a Motorcycle Safety Foundation Certified Instructor as a RiderCoach for my state. I began every class with the statement, "There are two types of riders: those that will go down and those that have gone down." That said, the typical on-body carry positions don't dissuade me from still recommending on-body whenever possible. The gun safety (or safeties) and holster (covering the trigger) should be more than enough to keep the gun from going "bang" in the event of a crash.

Depending on where it is on your body, there's a good chance you will land on the gun. And depending on the type of retention, it's possible it could come out of the holster when you go down. So keep in mind where you carry and what the chances are of it being an impact area should you go down.

Some of the impact areas are subject to your body type, type of motorcycle, and your position while riding. But there is one type of carry method I don't think anyone should ever consider while riding: small-of-the-back carry.

It's bad enough you have worry about being injured in an accident, so why put a hunk of metal and polymer right up against your spine and increase the potential of severe injury or paralysis?

One final thing to consider with on-body carry. When riding down the road, you are "in the wind" and it's pushing your pant legs up, making the bottom of your shirt flap around (and sometimes ride up), as well as trying to push items out of your pockets. This is why I highly recommend wearing a jacket, vest, or some other cover garment that has a strong zipper (or snaps) and will not easily ride up.

Also, if you are going with pocket carry, make sure to use a good holster that has enough tack and/or is shaped such that it will stay in your pocket (or the pocket has a closure).

One note on pocket carry: if you need to access the gun immediately upon stopping, you most likely will need to shift your body to open up room in the pocket and pant leg to complete the draw. If this applies, make sure it is incorporated into your training.



*Off-Body: Fanny pack is a convenient and covert option for off body carry.*

## OFF-BODY METHODS

Going back again to my days of teaching new riders, here's another quote from every class: "Everyone has a different definition of risky behavior or what risk they are willing to accept." Maybe you aren't willing to accept the perceived additional risk of on-body carry while riding, or maybe off-body is your preferred method out of necessity.

Off-body is storing the gun in a saddle bag, tour pack, tank bag, or some other variant not attached to you while riding.

The plus side of this method is you don't have to worry about the on-body downsides, meaning the consequences associated with a crash or your cover garment riding up and exposing your gun. On the minus side is the fact that you don't have immediate weapon access upon stopping.

Here are some things to consider with off-body carry. When stopping, are you going to transition to on-body? If so, develop a routine when stopping, such as finding a private area to perform the transition without detection and then moving to your desired parking spot (or gas pump).

(Continued on page 16)



Carrying on a Bike, Cont...

Another solution that's convenient for on- or off-body motorcycle concealed carry is the fanny pack. I know people who use this method and, when they stop, the first thing they do on dismount is pull out the fanny pack and strap it on. I've heard that the fanny pack screams "guy with gun," but the evidence doesn't support that argument.

When carrying your firearm in one of your bags, understand that, if you are in an accident, the contents of your bags may be strewn everywhere (aka the "yard sale"). Because of this possibility, I strongly recommend putting the gun not only in a holster but also in another bag or, better yet, invest in a "vault" made for your motorcycle.

### FINAL THOUGHTS

You may be wondering why I didn't cover rides where you cross state lines. There are a couple of reasons for this. First, because it is no different than travelling in a car. You must plan ahead and decide your strategy for carry and storage accordingly.

Second, with laws constantly changing, you have to do your own research and contact the necessary authorities for clarification.

Hopefully I have provided the information needed to develop a strategy for motorcycle concealed carry while enjoying the freedom found on the back of a motorcycle.



## Let's Make it Happen

### V.P.'s Vision

By: Mary 'Trooper' Kirkpatrick

American Life has taken quite a twist over the past few months. We've been isolated/quarantined for going on three months and now we have a very challenging social issue to address in order to begin moving forward confidently. 2020 will be a huge chapter in the History books in the years to come...

As Top Cats, we have a kinder gentler arena to escape to when things get too overwhelming. Motorcycles offer a chance to feel fresh air and let thoughts run freely about the goodness we have at hand.

As we ride, let's take the time to think of ways that WE can make a difference... a positive difference. Let's start with our NISRA family on Friday creating a bunch of Smiles for those in their group homes.... See page 2 for details an hope to see you there!

## All-new motorcycle limited to 30 bikes in U.S.

Submitted by Traveler

A premium British motorcycle brand has been introduced The first motorcycle officially linked to the James Bond franchise, but there aren't many of them. In fact, only 30 of the 250 total bikes being produced will be available in the U.S.



In December 2019, Triumph announced a new official partnership with EON Productions, revealing the dynamic action feature of Triumph motorcycles in the forthcoming 25th James Bond Film, No Time To Die.

The Scrambler 1200 Bond Edition features a unique 007 design scheme and is limited to a production of just 250 models worldwide, with only 30 marked for the United States and 5 for Canada.

This special Bond Edition motorcycle was inspired by the incredible custom Scrambler 1200 action vehicles featured in No Time To Die and has all of the top specification Triumph Scrambler 1200 XE's exceptional performance and capability, together with premium higher-value details.

Beautiful and unique James Bond design scheme, Premium 007 bodywork, including; exhaust number board and lower side panel finisher with 007 branding, real leather seat with embroidered logo, 007 paint scheme inspired by the bike ridden by James Bond in the 25<sup>th</sup> film, black anodized rear and front mudguard, high-value engine badges with gold accents and, fog lights with unique black anodized shrouds;



The new Scrambler 1200 Bond Edition is available to order in markets around the world.

**Beautiful and Unique 007 Design Scheme**  
Inspired by the Scrambler 1200 action vehicles ridden in No Time To Die

(Continued on Pg 17)



Troumph, Cont...

## Ultra-Rare Limited Edition



Every Bond Edition owner will also receive a special tailor-made handover

pack unique to their bike, featuring a numbered letter hand-signed by Triumph's CEO Nick Bloor, a beautiful Scrambler 1200 Bond Edition bike cover, and a premium leather rucksack.

### Thrilling performance

The Scrambler 1200 Bond Edition offers the charismatic 270° firing interval to ensure a smooth, linear power delivery from the slick six-speed gearbox. Evolved specifically for the Scrambler, the 1200 engine provides 89 HP @ 7,400 rpm, and additionally, is tuned to deliver 'high torque' off-road and on, low down and across the mid-range, with peak torque of 81.1 LB-FT at a low 3,950 rpm.

Delivering the Scrambler soundtrack is a beautifully crafted twin high-level exhaust system with stainless steel headers and an Arrow silencer with carbon fiber end caps for a deep punchy scrambler sound.

Just like all the new generation Bonneville, the Scrambler 1200 engine offers ride-by-wire, as well as a sensitively incorporated liquid cooling system for enhanced performance and cleaner, more fuel efficient riding.

### Category-dominating capability

The Scrambler 1200 Bond Edition features Triumph's latest generation full-color TFT instruments with a unique 007 startup screen, a stylish design and two information layout design themes that can be personalized. This also allows the rider to update the startup screen message with their name.

### 6 riding modes, including 'Off-Road Pro'

The Bond Edition features Road, Rain, Off-Road, Sport and Rider-configurable riding modes which adjust the throttle response, ABS settings and traction control setting to suit rider preference and riding conditions.

On top of these five modes, this Scrambler 1200 also features the 'Off-Road Pro' mode, which delivers our most off-road focused setup for advanced adventure riding and scrambling. The 'Off-Road Pro' mode turns ABS and traction control off, and uses the 'Off-Road' throttle map.

The motorcycle is equipped with Optimized Cornering ABS and Traction Control as standard. These maintain the optimum braking performance and automatically adapt the level of traction control depending on the riding conditions and the lean angle.

IMU — Inertial Measurement Unit

An advanced Inertial Measurement Unit (IMU), developed in partnership with Continental, supports the optimum function of the Optimized Cornering ABS and Traction Control and takes constant measurements of roll, pitch, yaw, lean angle and acceleration rates, responding with appropriate active safety features.

### All-LED lighting with \*DRL headlight

The Scrambler 1200 Bond Edition comes with all-LED lighting, including 5-inch headlight, tail light with attractive diffused opacity detailing, and indicators (in applicable markets). The headlight also incorporates LED Day-time Running Light (\*in applicable markets) which provides excellent visibility and a distinctive light profile.

### Illuminated backlit switches

The switches on the Scrambler Bond Edition are backlit from LEDs housed inside the switch cubes, enhancing rider interaction and improving control by giving a soft glow in all lighting conditions.

### Torque assist clutch

Designed to reduce clutch lever effort for the rider, bringing a lighter touch and feel to the clutch and making it easier to ride, and for longer.

### Keyless ignition

Triumph's keyless ignition system is fitted as standard on the Scrambler 1200 Bond Edition. The system recognizes the proximity of the keyless fob and then enables ignition via the switch cube mounted start button. There is also the ability to disable the key's wireless transmission function at the touch of a button for even greater security.

### Heated grips

Heated grips are also fitted as standard to the Scrambler 1200 Bond Edition and are neatly integrated with a button on the left hand grip, providing greater rider comfort, with two modes.

### Cruise control

Electronic cruise control is fitted as standard to the Scrambler 1200 Bond Edition. This is a single button system fitted into the left hand switch cube. This feature can be easily accessed while riding for maximum convenience and safety.

### USB charging

The new Bond Edition features a 5-volt USB power socket for charging personal equipment. This is integrated into a new foam-lined storage box under the seat.

(Continued on page 18)



Triumph,

My Triumph Connectivity System and App With TFT instrument styles designed specifically for connectivity, the optional My Triumph Connectivity System and App seamlessly enable phone call and music operation, turn-by-turn navigation, and GoPro control – all accessed via the switch cubes and displayed on the TFT screen.

### Class-leading specification & equipment

With a unique Öhlins collaboration, plus a dedicated Scrambler chassis tailored for focused off-road capability and comfortable rider ergonomics, the Scrambler 1200 Bond Edition delivers an exceptional dual-purpose ‘classic and adventure’ capability.

The Bond Edition features premium fully-adjustable twin-spring Öhlins rear suspension units with piggyback reservoirs that deliver category-leading wheel travel (250 mm) and suspension capability, for amazing off-road capability and ground clearance.

Topping off the high-specification engineering innovation there are premium Brembo M50 radial monobloc calipers, adjustable folding foot controls, and first-in-class tubeless tires and spoked 21-inch front wheel.

**A Women is hit by a motorcycle, who's fault is it?.. The motorcyclist's, he shouldn't be driving a motorcycle in the kitchen anyway.**

**WHEN IN DOUBT  
THROTTLE IT OUT**

## June Birthdays and Anniversaries!



25th - Bard Boand

Happy Days to our Top Cats Celebrities for June

Let us know your special Dates so that we can celebrate with you!

### June's Love Story...

10th - Mike & Kathie Bradbury



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**GEAR  
UP  
FOR  
SPRING  
RIDING**

**Coming  
Soon....**

**June  
13th!**

**Network with  
your fellow  
Riders here...**



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**Have one of our own Top Cats work with you to buy or sell your home!**



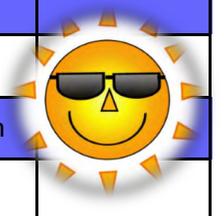
When we are released from our quarantine, let's remember Alley 64 and get back there quickly!





## RIDES & EVENTS

Date	Ride/Event	Location	Destination	Time	Leader
Friday, June 5th	NISRA Parade	NISRA'S Parking Lot	Group Homes	10:00 am	M Kirkpatrick
Saturday, June 13th	Meaty Ride	Thortons, Volo 205 S. U.S. 12	Bob's Bitchin' BBQ	7:45 am	Bradbury
Saturday, June 20th	New Diggins	TBD	New Diggins Burger Joint..	TBD	DeLordo
Keep	Your	Eyes	Out	For	Details
	In	The	Coming	Weeks.	
	As	The	World	Changes,	
	We	Will	Update	Information	
	On	The	Website!	Fingers Crossed!	



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



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