



ROAR

JUNE 2010

Volume 10 Issue 06

The Official Publication of the TOP CATS OF ILLINOIS

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Carlton R. 'Top Cat' Marcyan



"THE VERDICT"

The Lake County Jury has spoken, Lora Hunt guilty of reckless homicide! A victory for the Anita Zaffke family and the People of Lake County, but nevertheless, the collision caused by Hunt resulting in the death of Anita, remains a tragedy for all. To be commended are the

States Attorney for Lake County, Michael Waller and his chief of criminal prosecutions, Michael Mermel, for pursuing the homicide case and taking it to a successful conclusion. Next step is sentencing, which can fall in the range of probation to the maximum of 5 years in prison. We will keep you posted. A word of thanks to our Top Cat, Joe Rominski, who is an attorney and attended the trial, providing us with up to the minute developments via cell phone texts directly from the scene.

RIDING SEASON HAS BEGUN AND LET'S CELEBRATE OUR 15TH YEAR!

The weekend of July 16, 17 and 18 is the centerpiece of Top Cats 15th Anniversary celebration. Friday night dinner planned, barbeque Saturday evening and ride on Sunday. Our past presidents have organized a terrific weekend of food, fun and frivolity. Don't miss out. Make sure to mark

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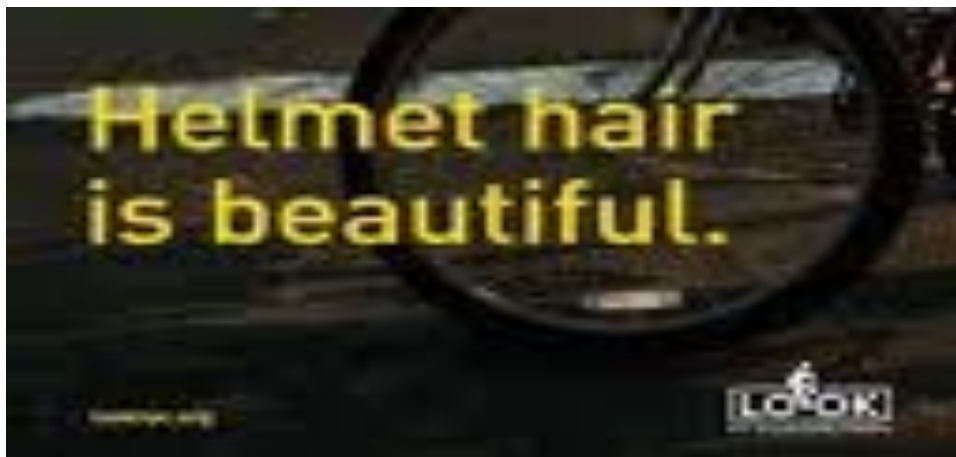
Upcoming Events

JUNE

- 1 General Meeting
- 5 NISRA Fishing Derby
- 8 Board Meeting
- 12 Poopy's Run
- 15 Frank N Fries Ride
- 18 Little Sturgis Ride

JULY

- 6 General Meeting
- 10 Big Cat Ride
- 11 Byron's 5 Alarm
- 13 Board Meeting
- 16-18 TC Celebration Wkd
- 20 Frank N Fries
- 25 Ride For Dreams
- 31-01 Police Foundation



BIKERS WHO MEAN BUSINESS

KAUTION KORNER

FEELIN' GROOVY

by Numbersman—Don Schaffer

Back in the 60's being groovy was good, whether it was groovy music or the way you felt or acted. On a bike, groovy is dangerous. The physics of motorcycling depend on the ability of the tires to not only rotate, but also to lean and to turn left and right. What happens when that movement is restricted by a groove in the road? Very likely you will go down.

There are lots of types of grooves in the road. A groove that is perpendicular to the road will not usually cause you much trouble, but tangle with one that is parallel with your line of travel can get you in trouble very quickly. The most common parallel hazard is one that is with us all the time, the edge of the road. Stay away from it. It may be fun to demonstrate your expertise by riding on the white line next to the edge or next to the concrete gutter, but you are begging for road rash. Get too close to a curb and you are trapped. You can't turn away from the curb because as the front of the wheel turns away from the curb, the back hits it and is restrained. You can't lean the bike away from the curb with a counter-steer because the front of the wheel hits the curb. Worst case, you counter-steer, the front wheel climbs the curb and the back wheel hits it as it tries to follow. What's next? A classic high side. The only correct answer to this dilemma is to slow down and hope you get stopped before your ability to steer is totally impaired. What if there is no curb. You can still get into the same trouble, just on the opposite side of your tire. Slip over the edge of the pavement and the left side of your tire is trapped, or even worse you could find your tire in a groove that traps both sides.

Another common parallel groove is the drop off between lanes when a road is being paved. No problem for a car, but on your bike you can get into trouble either dropping off of or trying to climb the two inch differential. A groove does not have to be parallel to get you into trouble. We all watch out for railroad tracks that cross the road at an angle, but it does not take three inch steel rail to grab your tire. The newly rebuild tollway entrances no longer have a seamless asphalt surface, but concrete with seams that are not always flat. Approach them as carefully as you would a steeply angled railroad track.

Look ahead, plan ahead, and be sure that the only Groovy problem in your life is what tunes to put on your iPod.



Tech Talk

Technology That Can Impact Your Life

SPRING CLEANING FOR YOUR COMPUTER

By Andy Konsewicz

Your computer and peripherals is a magnet for dust, dirt, and other nasty items that can even make you sick. Computers have fans blowing through them all day, and lots of places to catch dust, hair, and other bits of debris. Peripherals aren't any better but they too attract dust and have our dirty hands all over them. Think of all the places your hands have been before sitting down to your PC.

The following are some tips and tricks will help you get your computer clean for spring, running cooler, and less covered with germs.

Printers, switches, hubs, and other peripherals

Computer peripherals are the easiest to clean. Electrostatic dusting products come in dry cloth and spray versions. If you don't dry dust before using a slightly damp cloth on more stubborn scuffs or stains, you'll end up turning the dust into clumpy mud. It's way easier to swipe it away with an electrostatic cloth than it is to scoot all the rolled up balls of dust and lint all over. For most peripheral cleaning, all you'll need is a quick pass with a dust cloth. For any stains like a coffee drip or an ink smudge, you can usually squeeze by with using a damp cloth. For deeper stains, yellowing, or scuffs and marks that just won't come up, a Magic Eraser is a great tool.

Monitors, Web Cams, Scanner beds

Here you need to be a lot more careful. If you scratch your monitor it will have a staring contest with you every day and it will win.

Start with giving your monitor the same electrostatic-cloth treatment you gave your peripherals. Unless you have the bad habit of poking your screen with your fingers, you should get by with a light dusting, but remove fingerprints, smudges,

and other like things with a very lightly dampened cloth. Don't use paper napkins or towels as paper products can scratch delicate LCD coatings. Stick to a 100% cotton or microfiber dust cloth. Never wet the monitor itself with any solution. Always lightly dampen the cloth itself. LCD manufacturers strongly recommend against using cleaning products on your monitor such as ammonia-based window cleaner, alcohol cleaning sprays, or the like. If you run into a smudge that just won't come up and your efforts with just water and a dust cloth seem only to move it around the screen, you can try something a little stronger. Dilute white vinegar in water in a 50-50 mix, or even weaker if you'd like, and use that to break up the oil. It's better to use a little bit of vinegar to lift a heavy smudge than it is to keep rubbing and applying unnecessary pressure to the screen.

Keyboards and Mice

Unless you've recently given your keyboard and mouse a good cleaning, it's dirtier than a toilet seat at Wrigley Field. All day. All week, all month, and all year, everything you touch between hand washings ends up on your keyboard. Germs from the office front door, the guy you shook hands with, the neighbors' nasty little dog that you decided to pat on the head and the other thousands of things you touched before sitting down to surf the web. And if you want to be extra cautious, you can shut down your computer and unplug your peripherals before cleaning them. It's easier to leave everything plugged in and just lock up the inputs while you're cleaning. Disinfecting wipes are perfect for this job. After unplugging or locking down your keyboard, give it a good firm wipe down with the disinfecting cloth. You'll be

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amazed how much grime comes up, even the most plain looking black keyboard can darken a couple wipes with finger oil and dirt. Repeat the same process for your mouse making sure to wipe it down all over—pay special attention to the trackball on trackball mice, you'll want to give it a good spin and wipe it all over.

If you've gone a really long time without cleaning your keyboard you can clean between the keys with an old soft bristled toothbrush or even take the keyboard apart to really get to the bottom of it.

Cleaning the Inside of Your Computer

Dust is an insulator. When you open the case of your computer and it looks like a dust bowl, you're looking at a computer that's facing a limited life span. Dust will insulate your machine and that raises the temperature of components across the board. Your computer might not be that dusty but given how easy it is to clean out a computer, it's silly not to.

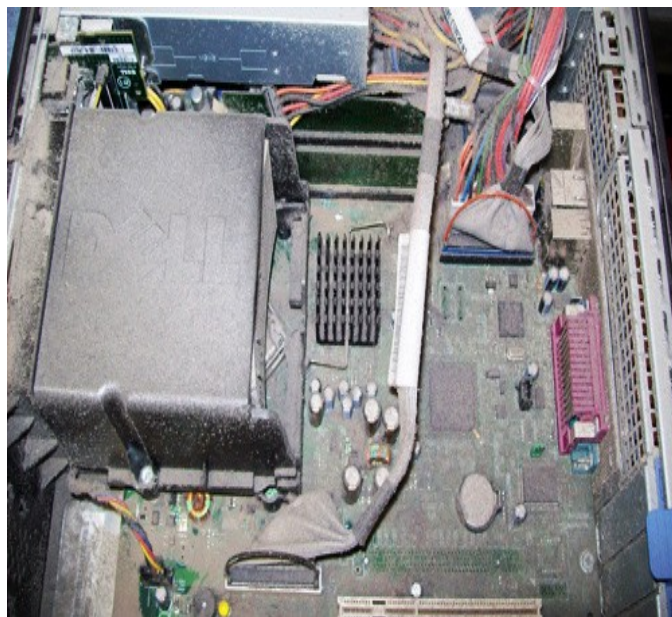
Start by disconnecting the power cord, monitor, keyboard, mouse and any other peripherals. Take the tower to a well-lit place outdoors on a porch or to the garage, or outside. Do not skip this step because the compressed air is going to blow up a cloud of dust and chemicals you don't want in your home, office or in your eyes or nostrils any more than necessary.

Using a can of compressed air with the thin straw attached to the nozzle, blow the dust off all the components inside your PC's case. Keep the can upright as much as possible to avoid liquid coming out of the can. Be sure to get into all the cracks and crevices as well as the grill on the back of the machine. PC makers says that compressed air should not be used to clean fan blades because it will make them turn faster than they were meant to and this may cause harm to them. The fan is plastic and can be cleaned with a damp cloth.

The fan over the computer processor is a trap for airborne dust, pet hair, smoke and particles that can build up over time and slowly break this fan down and eventually overheat your computer. Some cleaning and a drop of oil can help prevent this type of catastrophe.

Finally, lube the fan mechanism. Pull up the sticker on the fan. Some computers may have a rubber plug over the bearing inside. If yours does, pull up the plug with a fingernail or screwdriver. Then place one single drop of oil over the axle part which turns the fan. Then replace the sticker and remount the fan, hood and any nearby parts you had to remove to get to it. Before you close up your case, make sure all the connections inside your computer are tight and that no wires are hanging loose or pulled too tight. Tighten any screws mounting PCI cards or drives and close up the case. If possible, keep the machine raised off the floor to reduce dust exposure.

After the cleaning, your lubed-up, clean PC should run quieter



This may be your computer



BATTLE RATTLE

BY TRAVELER

Extensive and clandestine pre operations recon and planning were complete. Secret coordination meetings had been conducted, classified participants were all read in on the plan, and supplies were quietly pre – positioned. Time – on – target was 0800 hours at the main assembly area (City Limits Harley – Davidson) and 1000 hours at the Forward Operating Base (FOB) (Russell Military Museum) commanded by Joe Rominski.

The Task Force Command Group included TF Commander (Rolling Thunder CH-2, IL President) Lee Murphy, Unit Commanders (Road Captains/Tail Gunners) Wayne Kirkpatrick, Gary Brandt, Greg and Jane Smith, Don Schaffer, and Chris Marcyan.



The time was 0930 hours, armed escorts (cops) were ready, and the thunder rolled out on the attack on the first annual Battle Rattle charity ride for Rolling Thunder.

Weather was cool, sunny and the unit infiltrated through the back roads of northern Illinois and southern Wisconsin, in five lethal, and heavily fed, groups. All groups were on time to be on target at the FOB. One group deviated from the prescribed course to confuse any enemy observers.

At 1130 hours, after a 70+ mile road march, all units closed on the Southern Wisconsin Veterans Memorial Cemetery to pay respects to interred Veterans by placing flags at the entranceway.



Once flags were planted and rest stops were made, the group mounted up for a 30+ mile ride to the FOB for rest, recuperation, resupply, and debriefings.

At 1217 hours, the unit closed on FOB Russell, the Task Force Commander declared mission complete and Rolling Thunder, Chapter 2, IL hosted about 50 riders and guests to Music by Tahoe Sky, food by some jerk who showed up late, and waaay too many raffle prizes.



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The purpose of this ride was to; maintain POW/ MIA awareness, honor our Veterans, and to celebrate the contribution of American service women to our Nation's defense.



Following the festivities, the music, the raffles, the vendor displays, and the museum tour was an age – old military tradition....police call.

So ended the first annual Rolling Thunder Battle Rattle and a big thank you to all the Top Cats who hold dual membership in Rolling Thunder and Top Cats. You folks made it happen!

The highlight of this ride was not so much the great route we rode, nor the super music and the great vendors at the end. It wasn't the helicopter rides and the tank rides, or the interesting military displays at the Russell Museum. It was the comments of the guest speaker, US Navy Commander Joanne Cunningham, Chief of Staff of the Naval Training Service Command, Great Lakes Naval Station, IL. Commander Cunningham spoke to the progress of women in the military, their accomplishments, and their sacrifices in a way that reminded us all of the many hurdles and cultural barriers that women had to overcome in striving to contribute to the defense of our Nation, our democracy, and our way of life. With no exception, her words were welcomed, and her personal service appreciated.





the World According to Andy

Little Known Facts & Useless Information

"Stewardesses" is the longest word typed with only the left hand and "lollipop" with your right. (Bet you tried this out mentally, didn't you?)

No word in the English language rhymes with month, orange, silver, or purple.

"Dreamt" is the only English word that ends in the letters "mt." (Are you doubting this?)

Our eyes are always the same size from birth, but our nose and ears never stop growing.

The sentence: "The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog" uses every letter of the alphabet. (Now, you KNOW you're going to try this out for accuracy, right?)

The words 'racecar,' 'kayak' and 'level' are the same whether they are read left to right or right to left (palindromes). (Yep, I knew you were going to "do" this one.)

There are only four words in the English language which end in "dous": tremendous, horrendous, stupendous, and hazardous. (You're not doubting this, are you?)

There are two words in the English language that have all five vowels in order: "abstemious" and "facetious." (Yes, admit it, you are going to say. a e i o u)

TYPEWRITER is the longest word that can be made using the letters only on one row of the keyboard. (All you typists are going to test this out)

A cat has 32 muscles in each ear.

A goldfish has a memory span of three seconds. (Some days that's about what my memory span is) (How do they KNOW that?)

A "jiffy" is an actual unit of time for 1/100th of a second.

A shark is the only fish that can blink with both eyes.

A snail can sleep for three years. (I know some people that could do this too.)

Almonds are a member of the peach family.

An ostrich's eye is bigger than its brain.

Babies are born without kneecaps They don't appear until the child reaches 2 to 6 years of age.

February 1865 is the only month in recorded history not to have a full moon. (And it wasn't an issue needing politicians to resolve it.) In the last 4,000 years, no new animals have been domesticated.

If the population of China walked past you, 8 abreast, the line would never end because of the rate of reproduction.

Leonardo Da Vinci invented the scissors. Peanuts are one of the ingredients of dynamite!

Rubber bands last longer when refrigerated.

The average person's left hand does 56% of the typing.

The cruise liner, QE 2, moves only six inches for each gallon of diesel that it burns.

The microwave was invented after a researcher walked by a radar tube and a chocolate bar melted in his pocket. (Good thing he did that)

The winter of 1932 was so cold that Niagara Falls froze completely solid.

There are more chickens than people in the world.

Winston Churchill was born in a ladies' room during a dance.

Women blink nearly twice as much as men.



The Little Angels Pledge Run *May 16th 2010*

By: Mary Walters

John Lunde, A Top Cat Road Captain, gathered ten bikes and 13 bikers at a Starbucks early on a Sunday morning.

Destination: Woodstock Harley Davidson and the Little Angels Pledge Run

It was a bit chilly for those who left early to meet and have coffee, but by take-off time, the sun was starting to warm the air and give the promise of a good ride. John gave his pre-ride safety talk, and the group took off on a pleasant ride to Woodstock Harley Davidson.

Now, people who do not ride are always impressed with the 'early on a Sunday morning' part of the story... This group, though, was wide-eyed and bushy-tailed (ask Joan DeRango to model the hat that inspires that saying) and ready to go. They were fueled by the sun and the opportunity to once again display Top Cat enthusiasm for helping out a good cause. John Lunde has been doing this ride for many years, and states, "you have to see the house and the kids – and you will be back here every year! The things that this community does for the families of Little Children are impressive!" John returns every year and has on occasion helped out in a pinch when extra ride leaders were needed due to the large crowds.

Here is a bit of The Runs History taken from their website: The Annual Little Angels Pledge Run began in 1988 as a means for an Elgin Harley owners group to give back to the community. The group approached 2 other charities before Little Angels and was turned away because of their "biker image." This organization then reached out to Little Angels Administrator Shelley Lewis and found a grateful recipient. To read more about past rides or to see the most recent information on the 2010 ride, go to the ride website at: http://www.littleangels.org/pledge_run.php. Once again, the biker image proves to be meritorious!!

And here is a bit of information on the Little Angels organization: Little Angels is a loving home for children and adults with severe disabilities and complex medical needs. It is a state-of-the-art facility offering round-the-clock skilled nursing, therapeutic and habilitation services in a warm, caring environment. Founded in 1958 by Elgin residents Pat and Bob Wasmond, Little Angels may not be a home in the traditional sense, but it does provide the most important aspects that make a home--love, care and support. The Cathy Freeman Center for Developmental Training, a dynamic therapeutic day program for young adults with severe disabilities is adjacent to Little Angels. Both facilities are located on Rt. 58, on the eastern edge of Elgin, IL.

To read more about the facilities and the organization go to their website at:

<http://www.littleangels.org/index.php>

For those of us there at the event on May 16th, 2010, it was a great ride, a good chance to greet old friends, and an opportunity to make some new friends. It was inspiring and uplifting to be able to have a good time all the while knowing that the efforts of the day will create benefits for others far into the future!



NISRA Fishing Derby Ride

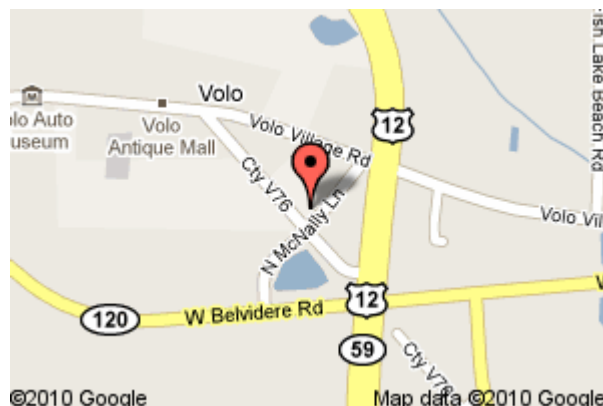
By Joan DeRango

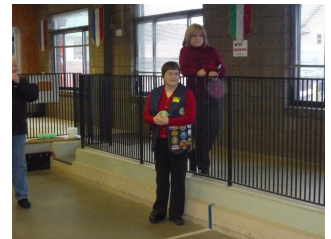
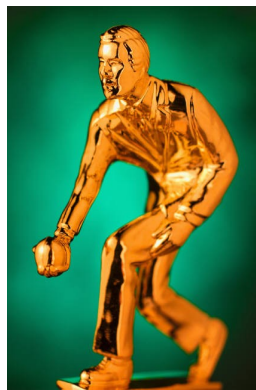
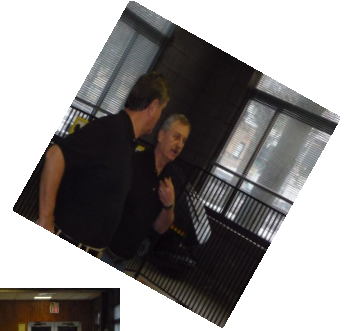
On June 5th, Top Cats will be hosting a ride that will end up at Bangs Lake in Wauconda, Illinois. This fish shaped lake is known for its ability to create excellent fishing stories for visitors, but it is also home to the 16th Annual NISRA Fishing Derby. Located in Wauconda, Illinois, the town and the lake have a long history. Traditions say that **Wauconda** was named for an Indian Chief by that name, who is buried somewhere on the southern bank of Bangs Lake, where the town hall was later built. The word, translated from its Indian language, means "Spirit Water."

In preparation for the Top Cat's 15th Annual Ride for Dreams, which will be held on July 25th, it is suggested that you get in the spirit by experiencing the 'Spirit Water' town and the NISRA Fishing Derby. June 5th will be a day for NISRA families to gather together at Bangs Lake and enjoy the weather, setting, fun times and camaraderie. Top Cats will be on hand to support the families by cooking and serving lunch that day. It is our opportunity to interact with the people who benefit from our 'Ride for Dreams'. You can meet and greet the children, and it will warm your heart to see how much they enjoy the experiences and friends that NISRA activities provide.

So meet with us at Bobby's Barrel Inn in Volo. See the map below for directions. We will meet at 8:00 am for breakfast and we will take a leisurely ride to the lake. We will arrive at 11:00 and begin helping the NISRA staff get lunch for the families. I look forward to seeing you that morning and working with you side by side to create a wonderful day for NISRA and TOP CATS!

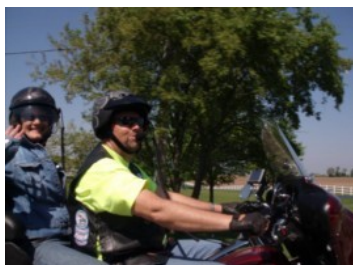
Bobby's Barrel Inn at 35009 N. Gilmer Road, Volo, Illinois. 815-385-8811.





BOCCI BALL





Aunt Millie's Ride

May 23rd



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PRESIDENTS CORNER

(Continued from page 1)

your calendar now and make your reservations.

NEXT MEMBERSHIP MEETING

will return to Villa Sofia in Wauconda. Our last meeting, which took place at Lake Shore Harley Davidson, was lots of fun. The dealership treated us very well, serving refreshments and barbequed pork sandwiches. Many thanks to Kory Atlas, LSHD service manager, for all of his efforts, including preparation and clean-up. When you visit the dealership, please go into service and thank him again for a job well done.

TIME TO RIDE ON

So, see you at the next membership meeting, June 1st in Wauconda.

Carl

WANTED



Top Cats Historian

The Top Cats Board is looking for a member to become official historian for the club.

Over the next year we want to create a written and oral history of our club that we can share with existing, new, and potential members.

The club turns 15 in 2010. Many of our legacy members have or will be moving on. We want to capture their and others' stories of our humble beginnings as well as favorite tales of the road.

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

HELP WANTED WEBSITE EDITOR

The Top Cats Board of Directors is looking for an enterprising and creative individual to assume responsibility for coordinating the content on our soon-to-be upgraded website. No 'technical' website experience is required.

The primary responsibility will be to work with the webmaster and various individuals who 'own' certain areas of the website to ensure our content is fresh and inviting as well as come up with ideas for additional content and enhancements to the site to bring more value to our members.

For more information contact any board member or Dennis P (Wombat) Dougherty at wombat@dpdougherty.com



GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

MAY 4TH, 2010

LAKE SHORE HARLEY DAVIDSON - LIBERTYVILLE, IL

Submitted by Muriel Brandt

The meeting was called to order at 7:35pm by Carl Marcyan, Top Cats President

Opening

The membership was asked to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

Carl introduced and thanked Kory Atlas (service manager of Lakeshore Harley) for having us and providing the food.

Guests:

Andy Hay, Marc Peter and Todd VanSlyke

Also representing Little Angels, were Doug and Joan Welsher and Scott Moore

Scott Moore talked about the upcoming Little Angels ride on May 16th.

Stewart Johnson, representing membership, summarized the requirements to become a Top Cat.

Carl passed out information on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall coming to Northbrook.

Carl discussed the large amount of information that is available regarding places to see in Illinois, on the states website.

Past President-Gary Brandt

Gary Brandt repeated the plans for our Top Cat's 15th Anniversary Celebration Weekend, being held on July 16th, 17th & 18th. Friday night dinner, a door to door ride, on Sat, and a brunch ride on Sunday to Eagle WI (site of Top Cats 1st Charity Event). Gary asked members to save the dates.

Chuck Prettyman asked members if they had any suggestions for the dinner on Saturday night.

Cat History

Rob Mann (Top Cats first President) gave some of the early history on the Top Cats. In 1994 the original members of the Top Cats began forming the club. They held some rides and a picnic. The first Top Cat ride was to the Kettle Moraine area. In September of 1995 the bylaws were complete and the Top Cats were official.

Rob discussed how the Top Cats decided to give back to the community and how it ended up being a charity ride with NISRA as the benefactor.

Charity-Joan DeRango and Mike Bradbury

Mike and Joan attended the Jersey Pine Cruiser meeting and spoke about our upcoming charity ride.

Mike passed out flyers for the charity ride and asked members post them at different locations.

Joan reminded members to try and get donations for auctioning off the day of the ride.

Carl asked members for their help with set-up and take down for the event.

Mike reported that NISRA is looking for help at their June 5th fishing derby.

ROAR -Website- Dennis Dougherty, Andy Konsewicz and Mary Walters

Carl reported that the new website is up and running and asked members to get any comments or points of interest to Dennis.

Carl commented on a great Roar.

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Safety/GRASS/Road Captains-Wayne Kirkpatrick/Don Schaffer/Ric Case/Gary Brandt.

A full update on the status of fellow Top Cat Nick Bender was given by Wayne. He reviewed how Nick was wounded during battle and talked about the care and attention he has been receiving from local Rolling Thunder chapters.

Wayne reported that he checked people's tires at the kick-off ride and 7 out of the 9 bikes needed new tires. He suggested that everyone check their tires and replace them if needed. As his safety tip he discussed tires in general and mentioned the article in May's ROAR that contains a lot of information.

Wayne and Rob Mann presented the recruiter patch to Tony Loden for bringing in two new members. It has been many years since the recruiting patch has been awarded. All Top Cats are encouraged to bring in quality new members.

Wayne reminded members to see him after the meeting to get a 15th Anniversary patch if they haven't gotten one and Top Cat coins were available for purchase.

Gary told road captains that if they were leading a ride to get a mentor.

Next GRASS class is scheduled for August 1st.

Activities-Larry Scalzitti/Greg Smith

Larry said he was looking for members to lead rides and thanked Tom Malia for leading the Epic Blacknail Memorial Ride which was on May 1st for Anita Zaffke.

Larry talked about upcoming hot dog run, which is held every third Tuesday (except in Aug. which will be the fourth Tuesday).

Greg reviewed the ride calendar for the next few months. Road Captains who were present were given the opportunity to talk about their rides.

Wayne encouraged everyone to make hotel reservations for Sturgis.

Membership-Stewart Johnson/Eileen Perry

Stewart Johnson presented new member, Mano Gawat to the club. Mano was a Top Cat in previous years and has returned.

Vice President-Mike Bradbury

Mike will be placing orders for Top Cat merchandise.

50/50 Raffle

This month's winner Gary Brandt

Meeting adjourned by Carl Marcyan at 9:04pm.





BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

MAY 11TH, 2010

D&J BISTRO - LAKE ZURICH

Submitted by Muriel Brandt

Present: Carl Marcyan, Wayne Kirkpatrick, Gary Brandt, Muriel Brandt, Stewart Johnson & Larry Scalzitti

Absent: Tom Nichols, Dennis Dougherty and Mike Bradbury

Guest: Randy Braun

President-Carl Marcyan called meeting to order at 7:28pm.

Carl showed a prototype custom belt buckle that could be purchased by members.

Carl was given five Top Cat coins to be passed out at his discretion. Carl indicated that one would be given to Kory Atlas at Lakeshore Harley Davidson for hosting our May general meeting.

Membership-Stewart Johnson

Stewart presented the board with three applications for new members. A motion to approve Todd VanSlyke as a Regular member was made by Carl Marcyan, seconded by Gary Brandt and approved. A motion to approve Bob Malmen as a Regular member was made by Gary Brandt and seconded by Larry Scalzitti and approved. A motion to approve Andy Hay as a Regular member was made by Larry Scalzitti and seconded by Gary Brandt and approved.

Vice President-Mike Bradbury

Gary Brandt reported for Mike that small flyers for our charity ride were ordered.

Treasurer- Tom Nichols

Carl Marcyan passed out the updated financial reports (provided by Tom Nichols). They were reviewed and there were no issues or questions.

Safety and Awards-Wayne Kirkpatrick

Safety committee activities for 2010 are going well. Two G.R.A.S.S classes have been held with two remaining.

Several new ideas for the safety committee to follow up on were discussed, including motorcycle safety checks during pre-ride meetings and the possibility of a ride designed with safety check points.

Wayne suggested for 2011 safety and awards should be two separate committees.

Past President-Gary Brandt

Gary commented on the low turnout of road captains at the past two G.R.A.S.S classes.

Planning continues for the 15th anniversary weekend celebration. A pig roast is being planned for Saturday after the door to door ride. Gary will be sending out an r.s.v.p. for the pig roast. Board agreed that Top Cats can bring one guest (spouse or significant other).

Carl asked Muriel to send out a reminder for the anniversary weekend every week until the event.

Gary will be setting up another speaker (past president) to discuss the history of Top Cats for June's general meeting.

Activities-Larry Scalzitti

Larry reported that the activities calendar was filling up and there are some available dates open in June and July for rides.

Carl suggested getting a senior road captain to speak at a general meeting about how to go about setting up and leading a ride.

Roar/Website-Dennis Dougherty

No report

Secretary- Muriel Brandt

Nothing to report

With no further business, a motion was made to adjourn at 8:30pm



A Top Cat You Should Know... Our TOP Top Cat!

By: Mary Walters

The December Issue of *Leading Lawyers Network Magazine* has a very familiar face on the cover. Top Cats' current president, Carl Marcyan is featured as the "Tai Chi Master" of Law. Not sure what that means? Well, the origins of Tai Chi go back over 5,000 years in China and are based in the Taoist philosophy. They were developed and refined by great Taoist thinkers such as Tao Te Ching, Lao Tzu, and Chuang Tzu. According to this line of thought, change is constant, but by understanding change and acting in accordance with the laws that govern it, we can work effortlessly to achieve our goals.

Now, how does this apply to Carl Marcyan? Well, his job is to help people deal with changes and he seems to have mastered an understanding of the laws that govern change. His specialty is family law, so he deals regularly with divorce. What bigger change can there be in life? I think that there are a few of us Top Cats that can attest to how important it is to have a 'Master' who can help with this kind of change! Carl's job is to help his clients set their goals and find ways to achieve those goals. In the December article, by Pat Milhizer, the interview clarifies Carl's way of addressing this:

*When handling high-stakes divorce cases, Carlton Marcyan occasionally sits across the courtroom from attorneys who like to play fast and loose with the facts. "The hard part is dealing with that and getting the judge to understand what the reality is, and who's the good guy and who's the bad guy," Marcyan says. A senior partner at **Schiller, DuCanto & Fleck LLP**, Marcyan prefers not to fight fire with fire. "Because those lawyers love to have the challenge, they love to have the name-calling," Marcyan says. "You're feeding into what they like to do. So you almost have to use reverse psychology, or what's the martial art where you use their energy against them?" It sounds like he's referring to tai chi. "Yeah," he says, "legal tai chi."*

So, by day, Carl works and uses his calm 'tai chi ways' to maneuver through the complicated and emotional divorce court settings. He achieves his goals and makes sure that others get to enjoy their goals too. After hours, Carl has many other things that also require his calm demeanor. He and his wife, Ana, have three children; Maggie, Colt, and Baron. Ana is also a lawyer, so their work and family schedule is very full!

And as you know, Carl is an ardent motorcyclist. He seems to enjoy the diversity that he finds in the riders that he encounters. He told Pat Milhizer, "... You might have some doctors, business owners, some folks that are truckers, and they like to ride...it's a little bit of everybody. The bikes help riders get along, no matter what their social or professional backgrounds. It's the common denominator. Everybody enjoys riding; they like traveling." (So... maybe we could get Congress to start riding?)

The theme that runs through Carl's life seems to be 'bringing people together'. Whether it is finding together time for family, common ground in court, or twisty roads to ride, Carl is honing the art of applying Tai Chi philosophy. And the Top Cats Motorcycle Club is grateful for his talent! He inspires and motivates.

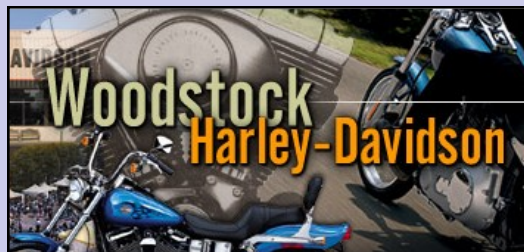
I suggest that you read the entire article to find out more about what makes Carl the Carl WE know and appreciate. Cut and paste this address into your internet service. It is a very thorough article with some good pictures!

http://65.36.200.64/RA322S10/assets/files/documents/Carlton_Marcyan_Leading_Lawyers_Article.pdf

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RIDES & EVENTS

Date	Ride/Event	Location	Destination	Time	Leader
Tuesday, June 01	General Meeting	Villa Sofia	Wauconda	7:30 PM	Carl Marcyan
Saturday, June 05	NISRA Fishing Derby	Bobby's Barrel Inn in Volo	NISRA Fishing Derby - Bangs Lake	8:00 AM	Joan DeRango
Tuesday, June 08	Board Meeting	D & J Bistro	Lake Zurich	7:30 PM	Carl Marcyan
Saturday, June 12	Poopy's Run	Shell Station, Corner of RT176 and Rt14	Savannah, IL	8:00AM	Tony Loden
Tuesday, June 15	Franks and fries	Gene & Judes	River Forest	6:30 PM	Larry Scalzitti
Friday, June 18	Little Sturgis	Rt120 and Rt12	Davenport, Iowa	8:30 AM	Gary Brandt
Tuesday, July 06	General Meeting	Villa Sofia	Wauconda	7:30 PM	Carl Marcyan
Saturday, July 10	Big Cats Ride	Broken Oar	Valley of the Kings	9:30 AM	Stefen Levy
Sunday, July 11	Byron's 5 Alarm Firehouse & Pub	Shell Station, Corner of RT12 and Lake Cook	Byron, IL	8:30AM	Tony Loden
Tuesday, July 13	Board Meeting	D & J Bistro	Lake Zurich	7:30 PM	Carl Marcyan
July 16 17 & 18	TC's Celebration weekend	See web site for details	See web site for details	See web site for details	Past Presidents
Tuesday, July 20	Franks and fries	Scooters	Lake Bluff	6:30 PM	Larry Scalzitti
Saturday, July 25	Ride For Dreams	Volo Auto Museum	Volo	9:00 PM	Mike Bradbury
Saturday, July 31-Aug 1	Police Foundation Memorial Ride	Walker Bros. Pancake Arlington Heights	Springfield	8:00 AM	Carl Marcyan
Sunday, August 01	G.R.A.S.S. Class	Keller Williams	Palatine	8:30AM	Ric Case
Tuesday, August 03	General Meeting	Villa Sofia	Wauconda	7:30 PM	Carl Marcyan
Wednesday, August 04	Sturgis-A	D&J Bistro Lake Zurich	Rapid City, SD	8:00 AM	Boand
Thursday, August 05	Sturgis-B	Rt120 and Rt12	Rapid City, SD	8:00 AM	Gary Brandt
Sunday, August 15, 2010	Wisc State Fair Ride	TBD	TBD	TBD	Mike Bradbury
Tuesday, August 17	Board Meeting	D & J Bistro	Lake Zurich	7:30 PM	Carl Marcyan
Tuesday, August 24, 2010	Franks and fries	Dog and Suds	Richmond	6:30 PM	Larry Scalzitti

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TOP CATS OF ILLINOIS is a group of motorcycle enthusiasts with similar interests. Members consist of responsible Leaders, Presidents, Chairmen, Owners, Proprietors, Partners, principals, CEO's, and other 'Top Cats' of large, medium and small organizations, institutions, and companies.

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

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