



# ROAR

The Official Publication of the TOP CATS OF ILLINOIS

## PRESIDENT'S MINUTE



new Board members, replacing retiring committee chiefs, updating our safety program, scheduling safety articles and briefing tips, verifying our road captains' qualifications, and scheduling a year's worth of events.



The result of everyone's preparation for our 2013 season has been nothing short of incredible!!!!!!!!!!!!



Anyone who has ever sighted down a gun barrel knows that you do so with

Every year, precision, patience, anticipation and excitement. Well, gang...I am please to tell you that our Activities Committee (Larry Scalzitti, Tony Loden, Fred Creed, Devin Smith, and Gene Rigsby) has put together one of the most ambitious schedules of events in the history of our Club. Once you see it...you'll feel like you're lookin' down the gun barrel at over 80 events scheduled for 2013. Awesome!

We also welcome two new elected directors serving two – year (2013 – 2014) terms; Gene Rigsby and Emil Kornecki. Gene will have cognizance over Activities and Awards committees while Emil will have Membership and Products.

To fill the two director vacancies we have, for one year remaining terms, we will benefit from having Ric Case responsible for Safety and Charity and Jeff Tietz with Web Site and History oversight.

Stewart Johnson will continue in his two – year term (2012 – 2013) as our trusted Treasurer along with Mary Walters (2012 – 2013) as our untiring Secretary.

I am proud to continue to serve the Club as President for the 2013 – 2014 term along with my good friend, competent and trusted Vice President, Larry Scalzitti. On behalf of all of us, we are honored and humbled to have the opportunity to serve our brother and sister Top Cats as members of your Board.

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January, 2013

Volume 13 Issue 1

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### Upcoming Events

#### JANUARY

- 8 General Meeting
- 12 Shoot Out
- 15 Board Meeting
- 26 Top Cats Banquet

#### FEBRUARY

- 5 General Meeting
- 12 Board Meeting

Put your Winter Activity Here!

Contact Larry Scalzitti with your ideas



## KAUTION KORNER

### Winter Storage

By: Ric Case

Senior Road Captain



Things to consider:

- ◆ If your motorcycle is water cooled make sure you have a sufficient level of protection so that the coolant does not freeze.
- ◆ When storing your motorcycle near other vehicles that collect snow, make none of that melted stuff gets on your motorcycle. Salt can do serious damage.
- ◆ Cover the motorcycle with a breathable cover so that moisture does not accumulate and cause rust.
- ◆ Use a battery tender if you have one available. If not disconnect the battery unless you ride it more than once a month. If you do start it up, make sure to move it around or take a short ride to make sure that you evaporate all the moisture. Side bar: I keep my tender hooked all year round when not using it and I've managed to get six years of use out of each battery.
- ◆ Fill the fuel tank completely and add ethanol safe stabilizer or c-foam. Again, a partially tank will collect moisture.
- ◆ Operate the controls every once in a while to keep them freed up.
- ◆ Change the oil as soon as you bring it out of storage.
- ◆ Are you starting to get the picture? Moisture is a motorcycle's worst enemy during storage.
- ◆ If you have an interest in storing your motorcycle with easy access see Larry Scalzitti. He has storage space available.
- ◆ One last item before I leave you, make sure to inspect all your riding gear both summer, autumn and winter for wear, damage, and/or mold. Then repair and/or replace it. Lots of deals right now during this off-riding season.
- ◆ Oh.... and do have a Happy New Year and a great 2013 Riding year.





## Your 2013 Board and Committees.....

By: Traveler

Here they are. For those of you who could not make the 4 December General Meeting where we voted for two directors, Vice President and President. here are the results. Note that elections were for President and Vice President and two directors for the 2013-2014 term. Our Secretary, Treasurer, and two more director positions are not open until the 2014-2015 term. Talk about fortunate....what a powerful team of "Fast Movers" this gives us for 2013!



**Director: Emil Kornecki.** Elected to first two-year term (2013 – 2014). Emil will have oversight of our Membership Committee, (Chaired by Greg Smith) and our Products Committee (Vacant).



**Director: Gene Rigsby.** Elected to first two-year term (2013 – 2014). Gene will have oversight of our Activities Committee, (Chaired by Tony Loden) and our Awards Committee (Vacant).



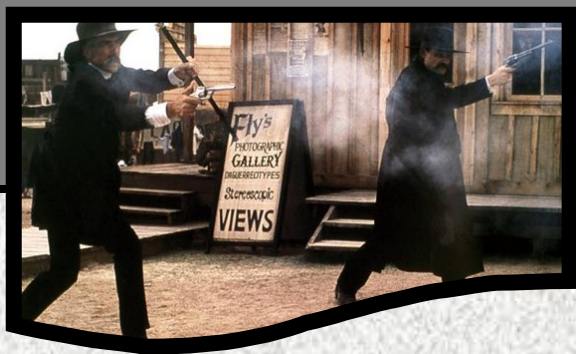
**Director: Jeff Tietz.** Appointed to one-year term (2013) to fill vacated Director position. Jeff will have oversight of our Web Site Committee, (Chaired by Rich Flynn) and our History Committee (Vacant).



**Director: Ric Case.** Appointed to one-year term (2013) to fill vacated Director position. Ric will continue to have oversight of our Safety Committee, (Chaired by Gary Brandt) and our Charity Committee (Chaired by Noelle Rigsby).



**Treasure: Stewart Johnson.** Stewart will continue to serve his second year of his first two-year term (2012-2013). Continued on page 10)



## SHOOTOUT!

By Traveler



Many of us were interested in spending some time at a local shooting range so.... we have planned our first Top Cats' Shootout!

We will meet at Island Cafe, 310 E. State St (RT 176), Island Lake, IL at 8:30 AM, Saturday, 12 January 13 for breakfast. Afterwards...it's on to the range at On Target, 560 Beechcraft Lane, in Crystal Lake, IL.



Our range is reserved for Top Cats from 10:00 AM to noon. The folks at On Target will give us a facility tour and a special hourly rate.



We will have the 12 lane long gun range reserved so members can fire both handguns and long guns on the same range.

### Illinois State Firearm Owners Identification

**(FOID) Card:** On Target requires one adult with a FOID card per lane. If you do not have a FOID card, you can fire with another Top Cat who has a FOID card. However, if you want to apply for your own FOID card, it is a pretty simple process:

1. Go to the Illinois State Patrol site at: <http://www.isp.state.il.us/docs/6-181x.pdf> and fill out and print the on – line FOID Application.

2. Get a 1 1/4" by 1 1/2", (Passport photo) head and shoulders only, and attach it to your application. There is a photo booth right at the main entrance to eSkape.

3. Sign your application, enclose a \$10.00 check made out to FOID and mail to the address indicated on the application.

It will take about 8+ weeks or so for you to receive your FOID card and, when you do, you'll be all set to own and shoot a firearm.

**Range Requirements:** Some of the requirements are:

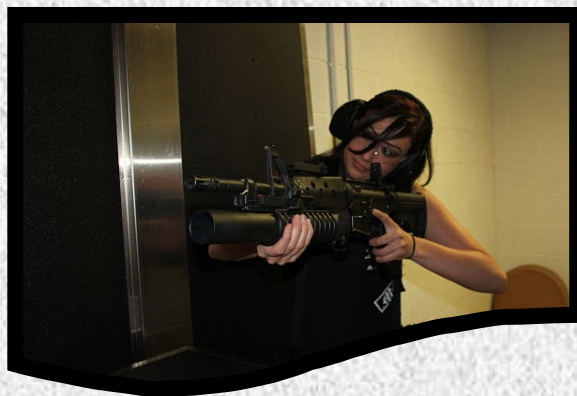
- ◇ **eye protection** (clear glasses, ballistics goggles, etc)
- ◇ **ear protection** (plugs, headsets)

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- ◇ **lane rental is \$15.00 / hour.** Normally \$20.00 / ◇ **signed waivers are required** and will be available at our next Top Cats General Meeting, at Island Cafe during breakfast and, at On Target.
- ◇ **one adult with an Illinois State Firearms Owners Identification (FOID) Card per firing lane.** We also need the card to purchase or rent a firearm and ammunition.
- ◇ **there are some ammo restrictions** like; only .44 and below caliber, no armor piercing, etc.
- ◇ **rental hand guns** are \$15.00 per hour with no limit on how many you can fire within that hour.
- ◇ **rental gun ammo** must be purchased from On Target.
- ◇ **targets,** silhouette and bulls eye can be purchased for \$1.00 each.



*So, get your FOID card application in now block 8:30 AM to noon, 12 January 13 on your calendar, and....standby for a mass blast reminder on a great time at our first Top Cats' Shootout!*

**Save The Date!**  
**January 26,**  
**2013**

**Time: 6:00pm to 10:00pm ...**  
**Dinner served at 7:00pm**

**Location: Millrose Restaurant**  
**45 S. Barrington Rd.**  
**South Barrington**  
**(NE corner of I-90 and Barrington Rd)**

**Room: Rosewood Room**

**Entree Choice: Broiled Salmon**  
**Pork Tenderloin**  
**Brest of Chicken**



## Top Cats Patch Evolution....

By Traveler



In the biker world of tradition, history, culture, and the mythical lure, there are a few tenets rarely found in any other sport. Those include a strong sense of pride, freedom, and independence combined with an unequalled depth of camaraderie. All of those traits are often reflected in the club's logo, image, pin, and patch.

Historically, there are three types of MC clubs; a single - patch club, a two - patch club, and a three - patch club.

The single patch simply identifies the club. One patchers were typically social riding groups.



A two patch is a flash on top of the club image. Two patchers were a group with a National identity.



A three patch club has a flash on top with the club name, the club image in the center and a rocker on the bottom indicating location or territory. Three patchers were often outlaw clubs who laid "Claim" to a particular area.

Waaaay back in the day, our Top Cats' logo originated with our Founder, Carl "Virgo" Bender. The design on a 3.5 inch circular patch included the Lion

to symbolize the "Top Cats" of business and industry and the words "Top Cats" above the lion and "Illinois" below. The original patch was black and white and...the lion had genitals until the Founder's wife decided that either the Founder had genitals or the lion but...not both. So, the solution is reflected in the below patch.

The patch also included the state name of Illinois as it was intended to provide for expansion and growth in other states with patches like Top Cats - Virginia, Arizona, etc

While most motorcycle clubs wore back patches, Top Cats correctly decide not to use a back patch for two reasons; 1.) We were not a motorcycle club but rather, a group of business owners who were motorcycle enthusiasts and, 2.) We did not want to be confused with a two or three - patch motorcycle gang during the emergence of the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act (RICO) prosecutions of motorcycle gangs in the mid 1990's. That is why, to this day, we wear our Top Cats' patch on the front of our vests and we display no back patch.

The colors for the patch were based on the fact that successful businesses operated in the black and unsuccessful ones, in the red. Hence, a black on white patch.



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In 2000, then Top Cats President, Wayne "Traveler" Kirkpatrick, suggested, and the Board approved, establishing a patch to recognize current and former Board members. The proposed patch was a black and gold version of the original Top Cats 3.5 inch circular patch with a gold Lion and lettering on a black background. The gold lion was symbolic of success within a group of already successful people. Additionally, flashes (arc tabs worn on top of the patch) would indicate the current position held by that Board member i.e. president, VP, secretary, treasurer, past president, director. Rockers (arcs worn under the patch) would indicate those same positions previously held by the wearer.



In 2001, the Board concurred with the establishment of a road captain program, and a group riding safety program initiated by Ric "Clutch" Case, Wayne "Traveler" Kirkpatrick, and Terry "Lizard" Kumro. The safety program became today's Group Riding and Safety Seminar (GRASS) and the road captain program evolved into our current Road Captain certification process and Senior Road Captain Program. As

an indicator of qualification, initially certified road captains were awarded a black and white rocker, with the words "Road Captain" to be worn under the Top Cats patch. Senior Road Captains would wear the same rocker with gold letters on a black background.



In 2010, Top Cats celebrated our 15th anniversary based on the date of our articles of incorporation. While the club has been functioning since 1994, we recognized 1995 as our official birthday. This anniversary was recognized by issuing current members a distinct 15th anniversary commemorative patch with the number "15" centered on the lion. Patches were issued in both black and gold Board colors and black and white member colors.

As we continue to grow, our Club patch takes on a variety of different memories for each of us who have enjoyed the benefits of being a Top Cat. We have never had any member wear the patch incorrectly, not wear it with pride, or fail to maintain the good reputation of our Club through personal decorum and conduct. The reason is simple....they are the Top Cats in everything they do....

**Happy New Year!**  
**Think 'Riding' to keep**  
**you warm through the**  
**winter!**







# Oil Spots

By Traveler

## **NOW HEAR THIS!**

Scientific and medical studies have identified an inordinate amount of hearing loss in motorcyclists, due not to "loud pipes" but to air rushing past our ears at deafening intensities at highway speeds. After accelerating, most of the sound that a rider hears is wind noise, and audiologists admit that even helmets do not provide much protection against hearing loss caused by wind buffeting in and around a helmet.

Acoustical engineers say that audible wind noise inside a helmet can reach rock-concert levels as high as 115 decibels, and the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health warns that exposure to noise at 100 decibels is safe for only 15 minutes and permanent hearing loss can result from prolonged exposure -- so motorcycle riders in particular should pay attention to the warning signs: a ringing sound in the ears immediately after exposure, and hearing voices and other sounds as muffled.

Hearing loss isn't reversible, but it is preventable. While even the most expensive helmet won't provide significant protection against noise, an inexpensive pair of foam earplugs, readily available at drug stores, can reduce sound levels by 20 to 25 decibels. However, this simple solution may also be illegal.

Even though riders have come to recognize that noise can be a serious health issue, many U.S. jurisdictions prohibit the use of earplugs, and one long road trip could take a rider through numerous changes in state and local laws.

## **MOTORCYCLES REMOVED FROM MOST-WANTED LIST**

Although the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) has called upon states and the federal government to pass motorcycle helmet laws for all riders, this year's annual "Top Ten Most Wanted List" of the agency's most important safety priorities no longer lists any motorcycle safety concerns.

After making the hit list the past three years, which are recommendations to government bodies that are often put

into place through further laws and regulations, NTSB Chairman Deborah Hersman indicated that "Safety areas are dropped from the list when meaningful progress has been made."

## **COULD YOUR NEXT BIKE TALK...TO CARS?**

Well, only if they are each fitted with technology that can communicate with similarly-equipped vehicles to keep each other out of harm's way, according to the 19th World ITS (Intelligent Transportation Systems) Congress, held in Vienna in October.

The "Motorcycle Approaching Indication" application is a connectivity system that warns both driver and rider when it detects that there is an obscured vehicle potentially approaching their direction of travel. So far warning systems for the two most common types of car-bike collisions - T-boning and being cut off by a car turning left - have been demoed successfully.

ITS could potentially also communicate with roadside infrastructure, warning of hazards in the road.

## **DON'T SMILE FOR THE CAMERA**

The New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission has banned smiling for driver's license photos.

According to the National Motorists Association (NMA), drivers showing off their pearly whites apparently confuses the new facial recognition software New Jersey launched earlier this year. The aim of the system is to prevent people from acquiring driver's licenses under alternate identities by comparing photographs in the database.

In the wake of 9/11, policymakers called for stronger national standards to verify the identity of driver's license applicants. This led to the Real ID Act of 2005 which established requirements for a national identification system based on the driver's license. Among the 18 benchmarks the states must comply with is the implementation of facial recognition.

Despite being enacted seven years ago, Real ID has not been fully implemented. Many states, citing a range of privacy and budget concerns, have rejected the act through statute or legislative resolution, or have simply refused to comply.

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## HARLEY-DAVIDSON ASKS FOR SUIT DISMISSAL

Harley-Davidson has asked a judge to throw out a lawsuit claiming a defective cruise control caused a man's bike to hit a concrete highway barrier. □

William Simmons sued the motorcycle maker, DFWHD Management LLC and **Adam Smith Texas Harley-Davidson** in 2011. He says he was injured in July 2009 when the cruise control on his motorcycle engaged as he entered a curved freeway onramp. □ He claims the cruise control remained engaged when he applied the brakes to enter the highway.

But he's failed to identify the specific defect or any experts who can establish a defect, the Motor Co. says, so the case should be thrown out.

## AMA MOTORCYCLE HALL OF FAME INDUCTIONS

Actor / motorcyclist Perry King hosted the 2012 AMA Motorcycle Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony (presented by KTM) where 7 new members were inducted into the Hall of Fame as the Class of 2012.

The newest members are: the late **Rod Bush**, KTM North America president and industry visionary; world championship roadracing tuner **Nobby Clark**; off-road racing champion **Ty Davis**; 1975 AMA Supercross Champion **Jimmy Ellis**; pioneering female motocrosser **Sue Fish**; world-class bike restorer **Brian Slark**; and the late iconic race starter **Al Wilcox**.

## TRAGEDY AT MACAU GRAND PRIX

Race organizers of the Macau Grand Prix announced that Portuguese motorcycle rider Luis Filipe de Sousa Carreira died after a crash during qualifying for the Macau Motorcycle Grand Prix. The 35-year-old rider crashed at a curve on the Guia circuit. Reports are that it was a single bike incident. Carreira was taken to a hospital where he died about 20 minutes later. Organizers cancelled the rest of the qualifying session after the crash. Carreira raced for the Bennimoto Raider-Cetelem team.

## STURGIS MUSEUM PROPOSAL

Dawings for an expanded Sturgis Motorcycle Museum and Hall of Fame feature a 40 ft. tall 1938 Indian jutting from the front of a large tiered structure taking up what seems to be most of a city block (see image).

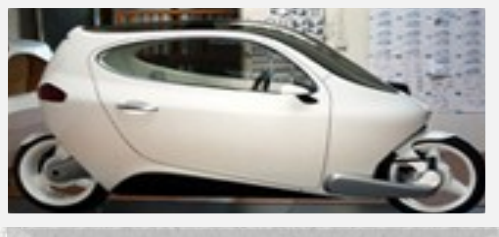
The museum purchased a parcel of land just east of its current location for an expected expansion.

Funding for this and other expansions to revitalize downtown Sturgis, if approved, would come from vendor permit fees during the annual rally, city manager Daniel Ainslie told residents.



## DESIGNER TO LAUNCH 2014 ENCLOSED MOTORCYCLE

Anyone who's ridden on a freeway can sympathize with the occasional feeling like you'd be better off riding with a suit of armor, but it was a shop accident that inspired Daniel Kim's new enclosed motorcycle design.



Kim, 33, started on his design eight years ago, after a car he was working on fell off the stands and nearly crushed him.

Now he has developed a working prototype of a self-balancing motorcycle, which he hopes to bring to market in 2014. He says the goal is for it to remain upright when struck by a Ford F-150 truck traveling at 35 miles per hour. Kim's bike uses two stabilizing gyroscopes, 40-pound disks 12 inches in diameter. They spin in opposite directions at up to 12,000 revolutions per minute to counter tipping forces, guided by seven sensors.

The plan calls for the bike, [the C-1](#), to be enclosed, with steel-reinforced doors, seat belts, and an airbag. The result is a two-wheeler that looks like a cross between a Smart car and a luxury suitcase.

Kim hopes to start selling the motorcycle for \$24,000 — less with tax rebates — and is in talks with four manufacturers to license the balancing technology for use in cars and trucks.





## Board Introductions, Continued



**Secretary: Mary Walters.** Mary will continue to serve her second year of her first two-year term (2012-2013) and perform as Editor for the ROAR.



**Past President: Mike Bradbury.** Mike will continue to serve as immediate Past President for the term (2013-2014).



**Vice President: Larry Scalzitti.** Larry will serve his first year of his first two-year term (2013-2014) as Vice President.



**President: Wayne Kirkpatrick.** Wayne will serve his first year of his first two-year term (2013-2014) as President.

*As we all realize, our Club runs by committee. The ground work, daily effort, and projects all get accomplished by the great people we have on our committees. For 2013, we will all be the beneficiaries of the dedication and leadership of the following committee chairs.*



**Greg Smith**  
Membership Committee Chair



**Tony Loden**  
Activities Committee Chair

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**Richard Flynn**  
Web Site Committee Chief



**Gary Brandt**  
Safety Committee Chair



**Noelle Rigsby**  
Charity Committee Chair

We owe tremendous gratitude to our 2012 committee chiefs, some of who have turned the reigns over to new blood for 2013. They leave a legacy of high standards, high achievement, and never giving up on the many challenges they have encountered or on their fellow Top Cats. Our sincere thanx to Dennis Dougherty who ran our web site while traveling throughout the country, to Jeff Tietz who handled Membership while preparing for his retirement, to Gene Rigsby who brought the Awards Committee to new levels of success, and to Mike Bradbury who ran our complex and challenging Road Captain Committee.

On behalf of all of us, we are honored and humbled to have the opportunity to serve our brother and sister Top Cats as committee chairs and as members of your Board.

## ***Oil Spots, Continued***

### **CHROME CAPITAL LEASE BACK OPTION FOR HARLEY RIDERS**



Under a new leaseback program Harley-Davidson owners can get quick cash by selling their bikes, and

then leasing them back for a preset period of time.

Under the the Cash & Ride program, Harley-Davidson dealers would facilitate the agreement between the customer and Naples, Fla.-based [Chrome Capital](#), which would purchase the bike. The customer then leases it back using one of the company's 24- or 36-month leases and rides away. At the end of the lease, the customer can either return the bike to the dealership, get another bike at the store, or buy back the original bike.

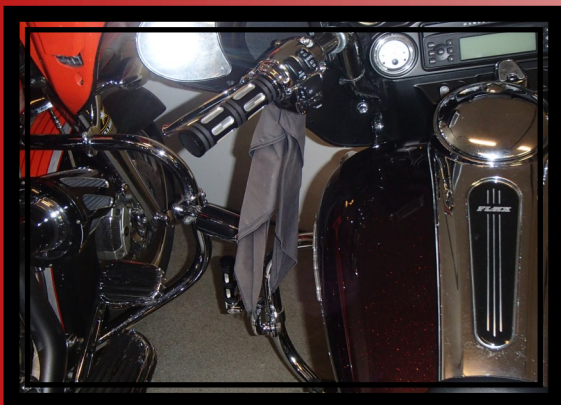
“With Chrome’s products, dealers see a higher degree of transactional volume on an annual basis, and can rely on the predictability of the lease to drive future, additive sales,” said Stephen Swain, Chrome’s CFO.

(Sources: Dealer News Alert, Motorcycle Powersport News, Iron Works News and Information, National Coalition of Motorcyclists {NCOM}, [SNAKEBIT SAM](#))

## Black Bandannas

By Traveler

Legend has it that waaay back in the day of real leather jackets, no helmet laws, and kick-starters, most motorcycle clubs communicated with their members, other clubs and observers, visually. Hence, the advent of "Colors" or club flags, club logos, images and patches to communicate who they were and where they were from.



One aspect of communication was to let people know when a club had a member pass away. This was done by tying a black bandanna, or memorial rag, to the left side of the handlebars, mirror, cables, etc. The display of a black bandanna became the universal visual signal to observers that someone from that club had died. It was also a way to maintain the memory of, and show honor and respect for, the fallen rider.



The black bandanna was flown from the handlebars constantly until...the next club member passed away. When the next rider died, club members would replace the black bandanna on their handlebars with a new one. Traditionally, the old bandanna would then be placed in the casket of



he recently deceased rider as a gesture of honor and to signify that the spirit of the last fallen rider was accompanying the spirit of the recently fallen rider to the "Promised Land".

When one club would pass an oncoming club on the highway, or one rider pass another oncoming rider, they would notice the black bandannas flying from the handlebars and know that it symbolized a fallen rider. Dark, black, new bandannas indicated that that rider, or club, was honoring a recently fallen rider. Faded, torn, sun bleached bandannas were a sign that it had been a long time since that club had lost a rider.



To this day, Top Cats, like old – school clubs, maintain this tradition however, the significance of the black bandanna is fading with the emergence of newly formed clubs with younger riders. Top Cats, will always embrace the black bandanna tradition as our way of honoring each of our five fallen brothers over the past 18 years and those to come.





# SAVE THE DATE

## JULY 28, 2013

# RIDE FOR DREAMS!

Wondering What You Can Do NOW To Ensure A Successful Ride?

- ⇒ Talk to friends... Put the date on THEIR calendars too!
- ⇒ Make a list of places that would support us with donations or poster displays... Tell Noelle Rigsby!
- ⇒ Gather donations from your local haunts and give them to Noelle Rigsby!
- ⇒ Get your bike ready... And tell Noelle Rigsby! I guess that's not really needed...
- ⇒ Talk to Noelle Rigsby to get other ideas.



## GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

### DECEMBER 4, 2012

ESKAPE ENTERTAINMENT, 350 MCHENRY RD, BUFFALO GROVE, IL

Submitted by Mary Walters

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Wayne Kirkpatrick  
Members were asked to stand and say the Pledge of Allegiance

No guests tonight



#### **President's Report: Wayne Kirkpatrick**

- ◇ Activities for the summer of 2013 are being developed at this time. The Committee has a very full calendar already. Contact Gene Rigsby or Tony Loden with ideas for 2013.
- ◇ Jerry Dederich's wife, Pat, sent an e-mail that was read to the club. She was grateful for the pictures, the memorials and the fact that we all came as a club. Jerry's son asked that the club *keep Franks for the Memories* on the club activity list for each year.
- ◇ Wayne previewed the "Range Day" event that is being planned for January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2013. The plan is to go to take the tour at the range and then spend the next hour shooting. Cost is \$15/hour. If you don't have a FOID card, you can begin the process now. You will not get the card in time for the shoot, but there is a 'one card per lane' requirement, which allows others to shoot on a lane with a cardholder. Plan on attending! It will be a great opportunity to spend time with your Top Cat friends.
- ◇ Election process.
- ◇ The elections occur every year. Two officers and two directors are elected each year.
- ◇ Each position on the board is a two year term, with a three term limit.
- ◇ The nomination requirements for each position were discussed and actual nominations were reviewed.

#### **Past President's Comments: Mike Bradbury**

No comments tonight.

#### **Secretary's Report: Mary Walters**

Roster changes should be given to Mary Walters as soon as they are made.

#### **Vice President's Report: Gary Brandt**

- ◇ Voting Procedure was explained.
- ◇ Each of the candidates was given a few minutes to highlight the talents and abilities that they bring to the club.
- ◇ The balloting began. Gary Brandt passed the ballots out and they were collected and counted by Gary and Stewart Johnson.

#### **Treasurer's Report: Stewart Johnson**

Stewart has the quarterly report on the website if members would like to review it. All deposits and payments are current.

#### **Awards / Membership: Greg Smith**

- ◇ New member, Dave Wechselberger was welcomed as our newest member and was given his membership envelope.

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- ◇ Awards Banquet update was given by Gene Rigsby. The plans are final and the information will be given in a mass blast soon.
- ◇ The members were given the 2012 Awards ballot to fill out. If you need one... contact Greg Smith or watch for a Blast with the Ballot!

## **Safety / Charity: Ric Case**

- ◇ Charity Update was made. All things are presently under development. Save the Date cards were passed out to the members to pass out to friends and family.
- ◇ Safety Tip was given by Ric Case and he reminded everyone to be careful when taking the bike out on a warm winter day. He also said to keep cardboard under your bike to catch leaks or dripping after riding. Use a battery tender if the bike will be sitting for longer than a month and check to make sure that the tender is truly charging. Other tips include the need to use breathable covers for the winter so that condensation will not cause damage to the bike. If you store your bike in public storage areas, make sure that the area has steady temps of 60+ degrees. Changes in temps can cause condensation and damage.
- ◇ Next GRASS will be held March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2013.

## **Activities / Website: Larry Scalzitti**

- ◇ Activities Updates was made by Tony Loden who updated all of the information for getting rides on the calendar and the events that are now being planned.
- ◇ 2013 Events are being planned and all Road Captains are going to be asked to do at least ONE ride for the next year! 2013 will be previewed at the January Meeting!
- ◇ Web Site is being adjusted and Rich Flynn let the members know that the website is up and running after it had some problems earlier in the month.

## **Elections: Gary Brandt**

The Results, with a 28 count majority vote included:

- ⇒ Wayne Kirkpatrick as President, first 2 year term.
- ⇒ Larry Scalzitti as the Vice President, First 2 year term.
- ⇒ Directors will be Emil Kornicki and Gene Rigsby, both for their first 2 year terms.
- ⇒ Wayne stated that pending Board approval, Ric Case and Jeff Tietz will be appointed for the other board vacancies.
- ⇒ Stewart Johnson will remain Treasurer and Mary Walters will remain Secretary for the 2013 year.

50 / 50 winner pulled by Ron Freudenberger. Muriel Brandt won the \$37.50 and Emil Kornecki and Ric Case won leather business card holders donated by Kelly's Leather in Richmond, Illinois.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55.

Merry Christmas / Happy Holidays





## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

### DECEMBER 11, 2012

ESCAPE ENTERTAINMENT, 350 MCHENRY RD, BUFFALO GROVE, IL

Submitted by Mary Walters

All past and new Board Members were present: Gene Rigsby, Mike Bradbury, Emil Kornicki, Gary Brandt, Larry Scalzitti, Ric Case, Greg Smith, Jeff Tietz, Stewart Johnson, Wayne Kirkpatrick, Mary Walters.

**President** Call to Order by Wayne Kirkpatrick at 7:30 pm

- Elections : Statistics 28/43 (65%) members participated in the election and results are:
- Welcome to Larry Scalzitti as the 2013 Vice President, for his first two year term.
- Welcome to Emil Kornecki and Gene Rigsby as the new 2013 Directors for their first term of two years
- Appointments that have been made and unanimously supported by an e-mail vote on Wednesday, December 5th: 2 Directors Jeff Tietz to replace Larry Scalzitti, and Ric Case to complete the last year of Larry Johnson's term.
- Thanks to Gary Brandt and Greg Smith for the years of service that they have given to the Board and to the Club. Greg has agreed to take the Membership Committee and Gary will continue to Chair the Safety Committee, so their imprint on the club will continue.

**Vice President:** Gary Brand

- Gary clarified the requirements of the By-Laws as it relates to new members.
- New Members who are not business owners are required to serve on a committee. This will allow them to develop their connection to the club and to demonstrate their ability to take responsibility for club activities.

**Secretary:** Mary Walters

- Mary will send out the newest updates for the Rosters along with the minutes to the meetings for December.
- The rosters will be used to update the website and the Mass Blast list, so Rich Flynn and Tony Loden will also be sent these updates.

**Treasurer:** Stewart Johnson

- Top Cats Financial Status is updated quarterly and put on the website.
- The third quarter reports are on the website now.
- The account is current and all deposits have been recorded and monies deposited.
- Stewart reviewed the responsibilities of the Treasurer and the process that he uses to reconcile the accounts each month.

**Past President:** Mike Bradbury

- Mike thanked Gary and Greg for their service to the club and expressed his respect for the work that they have done with their positions on the Board.
- Mike also congratulated the new Board members as well.

**Director:** Larry Scalzitti

- Activities Status for 2013 is in full swing!
- Shootout Event has been planned and the details discussed by Wayne Kirkpatrick
- CPR/ First Aid will be the focus for one of our events for this year.
- The web seems to be secure at this time and the information accessible and current.
- The old members have been purged in the roster area of web site.
- The Mass Blast list must be edited as well.

(Continued on page 17)





**Director:** Greg Smith

## **Membership**

- New member application was given to Greg Smith by Adam Brooks.
- He has attended two events: The Charity Ride and the Cantigny Ride
- Greg made a motion to add him to the membership, Larry Scalzitti seconded the motion and the Board voted unanimously to accept him as the newest member.

## **Awards**

- Only one ballot for awards has been received at this time
- Gene Rigsby will get a ballot to Tony for a mass blast this week. There are 20 awards this year.
- Gene Rigsby will put together a DVD for the event.
- Gene and Greg will review the checklist and contact anyone for supports and help for the event.

**Director:** Ric Case

## **Safety**

- Kaution Korner and Safety Tips List is being developed for the 2013 season.
- Starting with January: Ric Case will do the KK Article and Larry Scalzitti will do the Safety Tip.
- The Website list of Road Captains has been updated and is current as of today, for the 2013 season
- The dates for the 2013 GRASS classes have been set and the site has been booked.

## **Charity Committee Update**

- Posse will be the focus for energies to begin outreach to the community for support of our event.
- Noelle Rigsby was accepted as the Committee Chair for the 2013 event
- Doug Jackson may ask some of his personnel to do a safety demonstration.

## **Board 2013 Responsibilities / Protocol:** Wayne Kirkpatrick

- :Meeting content at a Board Meeting is open to all members, except for personnel issues or other information that is sensitive. At that time the Board will go into an Executive Session.
- Minutes of the meeting are published in ROAR.
- Management Philosophy includes
- The idea that the Board Members should be well versed so that when questions are asked, Board Members can be counted on for accurate answers.
- Board Members should make efforts to be available for the rides that are sponsored by our members.
- Passion for the positions is an important aspect of doing a good job! Be pro-active in your area of the club.
- Attendance is important for many reasons. But, if Board Members cannot make a meeting, they are to let Wayne know so that the meeting will not be delayed waiting for member arrivals.
- Director Responsibilities
  - ROAR: Director: Walters
  - Awards: Director: Rigsby
  - Activities: Director: Rigsby (Committee Chief: Tony Loden)
  - Membership: Director: Kornecki (Committee Chief: Greg Smith)
  - Safety: Director: Case (Committee Chief: Gary Brandt)
  - Charity: Director: Case (Committee Chief: Noelle Rigsby)
  - Products: Director: Kornecki
  - History: Director: Tietz
  - Web Site: Director: Tietz (Committee Chief: Rich Flynn)

## **New Business:**

Ric asked about the Board's need to identify a By-Law 'expert' for Board Meetings. It was decided after discussion, that all Board Members should be 'experts'.

Wayne asked Gary to get information out to Top Cats about the Rolling Thunder Ride in the spring.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:50.



## President's Minute Continued...



To kick off our 2013 season with a bang (I know...bad pun) we are conducting our first ever Top Cats' Shootout at On Target Range facility on Saturday, 12 January. Following a breakfast, we will have two – hours of rifle / pistol firing on a range reserved for Top Cats. The significance of this event is three – fold; it gives us a Club activity for the winter months, it gives us an opportunity to do something different, and we literally do kick off the season with a bang. Watch for details in a mass blast email and announced at our January meeting.

Our next general meeting will be on Tuesday, 8 January since Tuesday, 1 January is a holiday. Our Board meeting will be the following Tuesday, 15 January. Both meetings will be at eSkape as usual. At that meeting Tony Loden will also update us on the many highlights of our 2013 events schedule.



So...as we enter 2013, be prepared to pull the trigger on an exciting Top Cats' year. See you soon.....

Let's roll,

**Traveler**  
President  
Top Cats - Illinois

## January Birthdays



*Wayne Kirkpatrick January 1st*

*Noelle Rigsby January 2nd*

*Jeff Tietz January 25th*

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





## 2012....

Record our Top Cat History!  
Take pictures... Write Stories....  
And Submit them to the ROAR!

The Barrington Area library has finished archiving about **150** pages of our club photos.

They are found at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/barringtonhistory/tags/topcats/>.  
Check them out... and see how things used to be..

## TOP CATS BUSINESS MART

*BUSINESSES OWNED AND/OR MANAGED BY TOP CATS MEMBERS*

**KELLER WILLIAMS**  
REALTY  
**Team Realty**  
Each Office Independently Owned and Operated

800 E. Northwest Highway  
Palatine, IL 60073  
Direct: (847) 241-2237  
Office: (847) 241-2200  
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E-Mail: [gbrandt@kw.com](mailto:gbrandt@kw.com)

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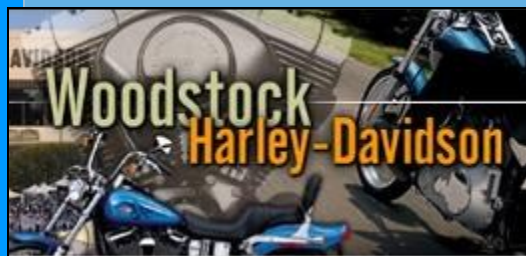


[www.lrn2ryd.com](http://www.lrn2ryd.com)    847-438-6588    [scalzitti@mindspring.com](mailto:scalzitti@mindspring.com)  
Basic Rider Course - Experienced Rider Course - On Street Courses

## Support the TOP CATS Patrons



Top Cats Get 20% Off Certain Parts and Merchandise at City Limits Harley-Davidson



Top Cats Get 20% Off Certain Parts and Merchandise at Woodstock and McHenry Harley-Davidson

## Membership Has Its Privileges!

All suppliers and vendors who support the Top Cats by providing discounts to Top Cats members will be listed in ROAR.

## HELP WANTED WEBSITE EDITOR

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

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

For more information contact any board member or

Richard Flynn

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

## WANTED



## Top Cats Historian

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

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

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

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





## RIDES & EVENTS

Date	Ride/Event	Location	Destination	Time	Leader
Tuesday, January 8th	General Meeting	Buffalo Grove	EsKape	7:30 pm	Kirkpatrick
Saturday, January 12th	Shoot Out	Island Cafe, Island Lake	On Target Crystal Lake	8:30 am	Kirkpatrick
Tuesday, January 15th	Board Meeting	Buffalo Grove	EsKape	7:30p m	Kirkpatrick
Saturday, January 26th	Awards Banquet	Barrington	Millrose	6:00 pm	Smith/Rigsby
Tuesday, February 5th	General Meeting	Buffalo Grove	EsKape	7:30 pm	Kirkpatrick
Tuesday, February 12th	Board Meeting	Buffalo Grove	EsKape	7:30p m	Kirkpatrick

**Save the Date! January 26, 2013**

**Top Cat's Awards Banquet...Watch the mail for your invitation and more details!**

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

### **FREE ADVERTISING in ROAR for TOP CATS Business Owners**

***Attention all Top Cats business owners!***

As part of our ongoing philosophy to support our members and goal to provide a more value-rich publication, we are now offering free advertising space in ROAR for Top Cats business owners.

Each business owner can submit advertising content and graphics up to 2 X 3.5 inches (Business Card size) for their company.

We will run the ad for 3 months after which you will need to resubmit it.

This offer is for Top Cats business owners only. We are not accepting advertising for other businesses at this time.

Submit your ad along with contact information to the ROAR editors at  
**[ROAR@TOPCATS.org](mailto:ROAR@TOPCATS.org)**



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

For more information about the Top Cats visit our website at **[www.TOPCATS.org](http://www.TOPCATS.org)**

ELECTED OFFICERS & DIRECTORS		COMMITTEE LEADERS		ROAR	
<b>President</b>	Wayne Kirkpatrick wkirkpa177@aol.com	<b>Activities</b>	Tony Loden Tloden@strbr.com	<b>Executive Editor &amp; Board Liaison</b>	Mary Walters Mawalters57@gmail.com
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<b>Director</b>	Emil Kornecki EKornecki@wmblair.com	<b>Website</b>	Rich Flynn Richflynnjr@aol.com	<b>Membership</b>	Greg Smith Vethog@Wowway.com
<b>Director</b>	Gene Rigsby- gene.rigsby@gmail.com	<b>Products</b>	Open	<b>Charity</b>	Ric Case Riccase@Comcast.net
<b>Director</b>	Jeff Tietz JAT5070@gmail.com	<b>SGT at Arms</b>	Ron Freudenberger FreudyR@comcast.net	<b>Events &amp; Calendar</b>	Tony Loden Tloden@strbr.com
<b>Founder</b>	Carl 'Virgo' Bender 1941-2001			<b>Motorcycle Community</b>	Wayne Kirkpatrick wkirkpa177@aol.com

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