



ROAR

The Official Publication of the TOP CATS OF ILLINOIS

PRESIDENT'S MINUTE

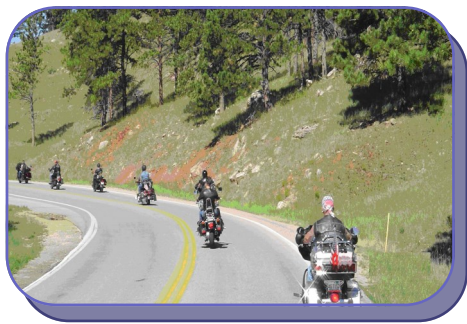


As we close the book on 2013, we can reflect, with pride, on the tremendous accomplishments of Top Cats – Illinois.

What has become normal to us, in terms of annual activities and accomplishments, is something that many local MC groups are still striving for. Achievements like:



Three new events (shootouts)



Close to 10,000 miles of group riding



32 gatherings (Meetings, GRASS, etc)



Thirteen social events



Zero reportable accidents/ loss of life/injury
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January, 2014

Volume 14, Issue 1

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Upcoming Events



JANUARY

- 7 General Meeting
- 14 Board Meeting
- 26 Road Capt. Meeting

FEBRUARY

- 4 General Meeting
- 11 Board Meeting
- 22 Awards Banquet

Winter Events are in the works too... Put your idea on the calendar for-
January,
February, and March
Riding Season will be back soon!



President's Article Continued



36% average ride attendance



99.2 membership renewal



Eight guest speakers

Now....on to make 2014 twice as good as 2013!!

Happy New Year, Let's roll, see you at Alley 64....

Traveler
President
Top Cats – Illinois



YOUR BOARD... AND COMMITTEES!

Here they are. For those of you who could not make the 3 December General Meeting where we voted for two directors, Secretary and Treasurer, here are the results. Note that elections were for Secretary and Treasurer, and two directors for the 2014-2015 term. Our President and Vice President, and two more director positions are not open until the 2015-2016 term. Talk about fortunate....what a powerful team of "Fast Movers" this gives us for 2014!

Director:

Emil Kornecki. Serving second year of two-year term (2013 – 2014).

Emil will have oversight of our Membership Committee, (Chaired by Greg Smith) and our Products Committee.



Director:

Gene Riggsby. Serving second year of two-year term (2013 – 2014)

Gene will have oversight of our Activities Committee, (Chaired by Tony Loden) and our Awards Committee.



(Continued on page 3)



Board and Committees, Cont..



Director: Jeff Tietz.

Elected to serve first year of two – year term (2014-2015). Jeff will have oversight of our Web Site Committee, (Chaired by Rich Flynn) and our History Committee.



Past President:

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

Director: Ric Case.

Elected to serve first year of two – year term (2014-2015). Ric will continue to have oversight of our Safety Committee, (Chaired by Gary Brandt) and our Charity Committee (Chaired by Noelle Rigsby).



Vice President:

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



Treasure: Stewart Johnson. Re elected to serve a second, two - year term (2014-2015) as Treasurer and Financial Chair.



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

Secretary: Mary Walters.

Mary has been re elected to serve a second, two - year term (2014-2015) and perform as Editor for the ROAR.



As we all realize, our Club runs by member participation. The ground work, daily effort, and projects all get accomplished by the great people we have, in the Club, on our committees, and on our Board. For 2014, we will all be the beneficiaries of the dedication and leadership of the committee chairs, whose information follows on the next page.



Board and Committees, Cont..



Greg Smith
Membership Committee Chair



Tony Loden
Activities Committee Chair



Richard Flynn
Web Site Committee Chief



Gary Brandt
Safety Committee Chair



Noelle Rigsby
Charity Committee Chair

We owe tremendous gratitude to our **2013** committee chiefs and Board members. 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.

Collectively, your current Board represents about 86 years, yes....86 years, of membership time and 31 years of time spent serving on the Board. With that experience, dedication, and commitment to their fellow Club members, we can't help but have another record year in Top Cats – Illinois.

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



KAUTION KORNER

What's in YOUR First Aid Kit?

By Gary Brandt, Senior Road Captain



We have heard many times the importance of having a First Aid Kit on our bikes. We often will be asked during a pre-ride meeting for those who do have them to raise their hands. The Top Cats have made great progress over the years raising the level of importance of carrying these kits and of course we have held First Aid and CPR courses every other year or more often.

One Web site that has a significant amount of information on this Topic is www.firstaidanywhere.com. They point out that the most common injuries for motorcycle riders are:

Burns, both major (from exhaust pipes) and minor (sunburn)

Eye Injuries (things blowing in our eyes).

Cuts, scrapes, road rash and fractures.

Then we have things such as bee stings or other allergic reactions.

These are many of the same things we learned in our first aid classes. It never hurts to be reminded often about what we may face.

Back around 2007 the Top Cats had a safety kit campaign. Over 30 kits were assembled and sold to our membership. Based on ideas similar to what the web site offers up, many items were purchased in bulk to make the kits.

One of the tips we receive often, but in many cases ignore, is to replace items in your First Aid kit each year. So of course that brings us to a real life, Top Cats Story!

This past season, I had the opportunity to need some first aid on one of our rides. While riding some great country roads near Galena, a large bumblebee ended up under my sleeve and on my shoulder. It proceeded to sting me multiple times. Due to some past issues, I was concerned about a possible reaction.



Our Road Captain

pulled us over. It was my intention to take some Benadryl as a precautionary measure. Tony Loden did have an epi pen, which would have been handy if a reaction took place. Greg Smith looked in his first aid kit and pulled out some Benadryl. The only issue was it had expired 5 years ago. With no stores in sight, the old Benadryl would hopefully do the trick, which turned out to be true.



When I got home I pulled out my own first aid kit and discovered that mine had some old expired Benadryl in it as well, along with a whole bunch of other old stuff.

So not only did my kit have old stuff in it, I had no idea it was even in there. The truth is that in my mind the kit was not that old, maybe a year or two. Whenever I heard someone remind us to replace items in our kits, I simply thought good idea, when mine gets old!

Most of the items in our kits do expire. The alcohol wipes dry out, band aids lose adhesive strength and drugs lose their potency.

Let's make this winter the season that everyone checks their First Aid Kits, replaces the old items, and understands what they have. Don't have a first aid kit? Perhaps this is the year to get one.



NOTICE, NOTICE, NOTICE,

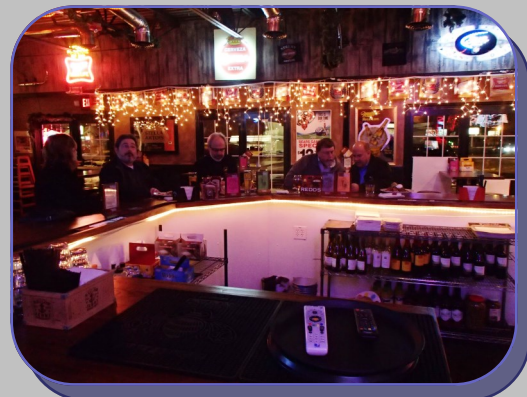
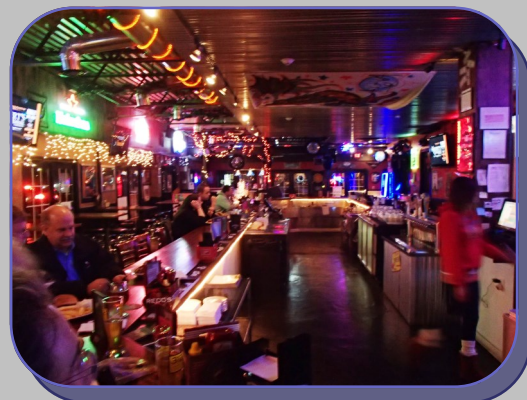
Effective January 2014, our meeting place for general membership meetings and Board meetings, subject to membership consensus, will be Alley 64, 2001 N. Rand Road, Palatine, IL, www.alley64palatine.com.



We will meet at Alley 64 (Directly south of, and next to, City Limits Harley Davidson), starting with our 7 January 2014 meeting at our normal time of 7:30 PM. Food and drinks from an ala carte menu are available.



Alley 64 is a "motorcycle friendly" bar and restaurant with a private room in the rear, and doors that seal it off from the main dining and bar area. The room seats about 40 + and is just a bit larger than our current meeting place. We will have wait service and a full menu. You will find Alley 64 upbeat, accommodating and friendly. It should prove to be a good place to meet, eat, and greet.





Oil Spots

By Traveler

AMA Opposes Task Force's Recommendation for Federal Mandatory Helmet Laws

A federal task force is poised to recommend that all states have mandatory helmet laws for all motorcyclists, which the task force says would reduce injuries and deaths as well as result in economic benefits, the American Motorcyclist Association (AMA) reports.



The AMA has expressed its belief that motorcyclists would be best served if regulators and legislators focus on programs to prevent motorcycle crashes from occurring in the first place. The AMA also said that any economic benefits would be insignificant since health care costs related to motorcycle crashes are miniscule in the context of total health care costs nationwide.

"The AMA continues to strongly encourage the use of personal protective equipment, including gloves, sturdy footwear and a properly fitted motorcycle helmet certified by its manufacturer to meet federal safety standards," said Wayne Allard, AMA vice president for government relations. "But we also believe that adults should have the right to voluntarily choose to wear a helmet."

The Community Preventive Services Task Force, whose 15 members are appointed by the director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), makes recommendations to the CDC and reports to the U.S. Congress about community preventive services, programs and policies to improve health. The task force is preparing to recommend that all states have universal helmet laws, which

means that all riders, regardless of age, would be required to wear helmets.



The task force is ready to make the recommendation based on its belief that a universal helmet mandate would reduce motorcyclist deaths and injuries, and that mandating riders to wear helmets would result in economic benefits. The task force believes health care costs for injured helmeted riders wouldn't be as high as those of injured unhelmeted riders, and that universal helmet laws would result in fewer missed days of work for injured riders.



Explaining the AMA's opposition to the proposed recommendation, Allard cited the official AMA position on voluntary helmet use.

"The AMA strongly advocates helmet use, but helmet use alone is insufficient to ensure a motorcyclist's safety," said Allard. "There is a broad range of measures that can be implemented to improve the skill of motorcycle operators, as well as reduce the frequency of situations where other vehicle operators are the cause of crashes that involve motorcycles."

In its position on voluntary helmet use, the AMA noted that mandatory helmet laws do nothing to prevent crashes.

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Oil Spots Continued...

"The AMA supports actions that help riders avoid a crash from occurring, including voluntary rider education, improved licensing and testing, and expanded motorist awareness programs," said Allard. "This strategy is widely recognized and pursued in the motorcycling community."

Concerning the task force claim of economic benefits, the AMA noted that injured motorcyclists are less likely than the general population to use public funds to pay for injuries sustained in crashes, and are just as likely to be insured as other vehicle operators.

In addition, the AMA said the costs associated with the treatment of motorcyclist injuries account for a tiny fraction of total U.S. health care costs. An even smaller portion of these costs is attributable to unhelmeted motorcyclists, the majority of which are paid by privately purchased insurance.

AMA Announces Dates for 2014 Vintage Motorcycle Days



The AMA [American Motorcyclist Association](#) announced that its Vintage Motorcycle Days will take place July 18-20 at the Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course in Lexington, Ohio.

"There's nothing quite like AMA Vintage Motorcycle Days, and we know that it's a must-do highlight on the summer motorcycling calendar for riders from throughout the region and beyond," said AMA Vice President of Operations Jeff Massey. "When the gates open at Mid-Ohio on July 18-20, riders, fans and racers know they'll find racing in all vintage disciplines,

North America's largest motorcycle swap meet, seminars, demo rides, special exhibits and much more – with all riders and types of motorcycles welcome. We'll be announcing more details soon, so make your plans now."

Activities include the AMA Racing Vintage Grand Championship, which features road racing, motocross, hare scrambles, trials and dirt-track racing; North America's largest motorcycle swap meet; bike shows and awards; stunt shows; demo rides of current production bikes; and seminars on a number of topics by noted motorcycling experts.

All proceeds from AMA Vintage Motorcycle Days benefit the AMA Motorcycle Hall of Fame. The goal of the Hall of Fame, located on the AMA campus in Pickerington, Ohio, is to tell the stories and preserve the history of motorcycling's legends and heroes. For more information visit the Hall of Fame's website at www.motorcyclemuseum.org.

Revolution Motorsports Group buys Lake Shore Harley-Davidson

LIBERTYVILLE, Ill. – A Harley-Davidson dealership that was facing foreclosure has been sold to Revolution Motorsports Group.

Lake Shore Harley-Davidson, which was [facing foreclosure](#) is the newest addition to the Revolution Motorsports group.



The Revolution Motorsports group includes **Chicago Harley-Davidson** stores (Glenview and a downtown gear store); as well as **Renegade Harley-Davidson** in Alexandria, downtown gear stores **Voodoo Harley-Davidson** and **Bourbon Street Harley-Davidson** in -

(Continued on page 9)



Oil Spots Continued...

New Orleans, and New Orleans Harley-Davidson in Metairie, Louisiana; **Smokin' Harley-Davidson** in Winston-Salem, N.C.; and **Harley-Davidson of Cool Springs** in Franklin, Tenn.

Not much is expected to change physically at the Lake Shore dealership. The new owners will retain the name and 80,000 sq. ft. showroom and service center in Libertyville.

The new management took ownership Nov. 19 and reopened Nov. 20 without a hitch. Now plans include adding staff, adding digital and other merchandising enhancements and expanding customer events.

"We will be doing more hiring. We're going to have enough staff to meet the customer needs. Right now we feel we need to add some people across the store," Gordon said. "We fully intend to commit to a full-blown marketing effort to bring excitement to the dealership – bike nights, events and fun activities that that Harley-Davidson riders will enjoy."

U.S. motorcycle thefts dropped 1%

Four Japanese OEMs' motorcycles were the most stolen bikes in the United States last year, with Harley-Davidson rounding out the top five in a year that saw motorcycle thefts decline overall by 1 percent.



A total of 46,061 motorcycles were reported stolen in 2012 compared with 46,667 reported stolen in 2011 – a decrease of 606 thefts or 1 percent, according to the National Insurance Crime

Bureau (NICB). The NICB report is based on National Crime Information Center (NCIC) motorcycle theft data for 2012.

American Honda Motor Co., Inc. had the highest reported thefts in 2012 with 9,082. In second place was Yamaha Motor Corp. with 7,517. Third was American Suzuki Motor Corp. (7,017), followed by Kawasaki Motors Corp., U.S.A. (4,839) and Harley Davidson, Inc. (3,755).



More motorcycle thefts happened in California than any other state in 2012 with 6,082. Florida with 4,110 thefts, was second. Texas (3,400), North Carolina

(2,574) and Indiana (2,334) complete the top five states.

Looking at the cities where motorcycle thefts were reported, New York, N.Y., was at the top of the list with 903 thefts. In second place was Las Vegas, Nev., with 757. San Diego, Calif., was third with 633. The fourth spot was held by Indianapolis, Ind., with 584 and in fifth was Miami, Fla., with 535.

While the recovery rate for motor vehicle thefts in 2012 was 53.9 percent, for motorcycles in that same year it was only 39 percent. If not quickly recovered, stolen motorcycles are often "chopped" and resold for parts. Others are kept intact and resold to unsuspecting buyers after attempts to alter their identification. Still others are hidden away for years and, on occasion, recovered as they are headed for export in shipping containers.

At the Port of Los Angeles recently, a 1953 Triumph motorcycle stolen more than 46 years ago from Omaha, Neb., was found in a shipping container destined for Japan. Officers with U.S. Customs and Border Protection Service at the port sought help from the NICB in

tracking down the NCIC theft record that led to the original theft report taken by Omaha police in February 1967. From the theft record, the original owner was found still living in Omaha.



(Continued on pg.10)

Oil Spots Continued...

Those with information concerning insurance fraud or vehicle theft can report it anonymously by calling toll-free 800-TEL-NICB (800-835-6422), texting keyword “fraud” to TIP411 (847411) or submitting a [form](#) on NICB’s website. Also available via download is the [NICB Fraud Tips app](#) for an iPhone or Android device.

Wheelies turn motorcycle wheels into TV screens

And you thought it was cool having TV screens all over your dealership.



The latest in mobile bling can turn motorcycle wheels into TV screens by displaying static and streaming media content on the wheels of motorcycles and automobiles.

The technology has the potential to turn essentially any wheel in the world into a brilliant, full color billboard or video screen.

For advertisers, this could extend brand exposure with a flashier version of flat graphics that are common on the sides of cars and vans.

One-Wheeled Microcycle

Check out the awesome one – wheeler at: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z1YoCfm7nxU&feature=player_embedded



RYNO Motors announced that the company would start to accept customer deposits for the RYNO, a one-wheeled electric microcycle.

The self-balancing electric RYNO is designed for city errands, commuting to work and for personal transportation within large campuses and industrial facilities where people need to move quickly and efficiently over short to medium distances. The RYNO is small enough to be brought into offices and elevators, and it mingles well with pedestrians.

“The RYNO is a fun, efficient and convenient way to get from place to place,” said Chris Hoffmann, CEO and founder of RYNO Motors. “It’s half the bike and twice the fun.”

To operate a RYNO, the rider must balance the RYNO from side to side in the same way as any other bicycle, but the forward and back balance is managed by the electronics on the vehicle.

With a top speed of 10 miles per hour, the RYNO is suited for use in bike lanes and on sidewalks. It produces zero emissions, is easily charged in a normal AC outlet and costs under a penny a mile to ride. According to the company, initial pricing is expected to be \$5,295 per cycle.

The RYNO has garnered a lot of attention among consumers and media since the company began designing the product.

Destination Dealership: Des Plaines Honda

By Matthew Bemer

When Jeff McLennan and Harry Pacynski purchased Des Plaines Honda from Claude and Diane Sondag in 1998, they decided that in order to be successful, they needed to focus on one thing and one thing only: customer satisfaction. The two recognized that because they were located in the Chicago area, unit sales were subject to the seasons. In order to keep customers coming back in the off-season, they needed to satisfy them and give them the best possible experience.

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Oil Spots Continued...



To this day, Des Plaines Honda still ranks customer satisfaction as priority No. 1 and makes a concerted effort to give everyone who walks through the dealership an experience.

Des Plaines Honda was founded in 1983 by the Sondag family. Claude and Diane Sondag put in their time growing the dealership, and even in the business' early days, they focused on selling experiences. The Sondag family grew the dealership through marketing to the touring crowd and becoming the premiere Honda Goldwing dealer in the Chicago market. McLennan was a part of the Sondag team throughout the '90s and saw the dealership grow to be one of the largest Goldwing dealerships in Chicago, and in the Midwest.

Learning from the Sondag family, McLennan and avid motorcyclist Harry Pacynski



purchased the regionally known dealership. "We put forth a strong effort in making the purchasing experience fun and exciting," said McLennan. "We all must recognize that we are selling a want, not a need."



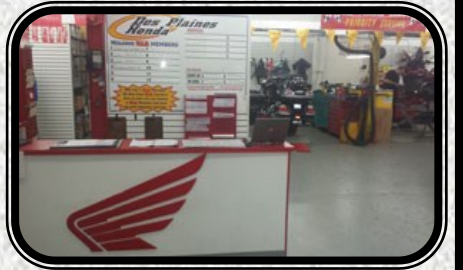
Des Plaines Honda takes advantage of its regional presence by staying very well connected with the local community. "Des Plaines

Honda believes you need to be involved in your community and local motorcycle community," said McLennan. "We have supported our community by

purchasing, servicing and training the police department on ATVs. We'll also send a representative each month to our local motorcycle clubs and have a presentation for them."

These are just a few of the things that the dealership does for its community. Des Plaines Honda also runs a "Customer of the Month" article on

its website highlighting a customer, their bike and a few personal riding stories. Des Plaines also sponsors numerous charities such as the Muscular Dystrophy Association, Pediatric Brain Tumor Association and Ronald McDonald House, as well as individuals like Damian Jigalov, a local 8-year old who recently won the 2013 road-racing championship in his class. Jigalov will move on to the WERA Circuit in 2014.



The dealership holds in-store events, such as new rider classes, service clinics, ladies nights, an annual Christmas party and more. "Events like these have driven our fourth quarter sales up over 10 percent year by year since 2011," said McLennan.

Des Plaines Honda reaches national buyers as well. Because the dealership is located just five miles from the O'Hare airport, customers will fly in and ride home from there. "Chicago is an international hub, and we've seen an increase over the past few years in people who purchase a motorcycle to ride the country and sell it back to us three months later," said McLennan. "It's created a nice flow of late model used motorcycles for us."

This past June, Des Plaines Honda celebrated its 30-year anniversary. "We're proud of that accomplishment," said McLennan.

Des Plaines Honda is still growing, and new and used sales is just one of the ways that the dealership turns a profit. The dealership has a strong service department and even an award-winning finance department. No matter what though, Des Plaines Honda puts customers first and in return, customers are loyal to the dealership! And....That's what it's all about!



GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

NOVEMBER 12TH, 2013

J and D's,
24600 N. Rand Rd, Wauconda, IL 60084
Submitted by Mary Walters



Meeting called to order 7:30 PM by Wayne Kirkpatrick, President

The Membership was asked to stand and say the Pledge of Allegiance.
There were no guests tonight.

President's Report: Wayne Kirkpatrick

- The NISRA Holiday event was a great success and all those who went to the event enjoyed the day.
- Revolution Motor Sport is the new owners of Lake Shore Harley.
 - ⇒ They have numerous dealerships across the U.S.
 - ⇒ They are a mega-dealership and that seems to be the look of the future.
 - ⇒ This will definitely impact the ability to do comparison shopping for bikes as well as the ability for the consumer to negotiate the final purchase price of a motorcycle.
- Accident Scene Management class was of interest for some of the members and will be looked into as a possible event coming up in the new year.
- The new meeting place for January will be Alley 64. The site was investigated by Stef Levy and there are many reasons for making the change. Alley 64 has storage space for our things and a good food menu at reasonable prices. They are also very excited to have our meetings there regularly.
- Elections are tonight. Two director positions, the secretary, and the treasurer positions are open.
- Movie Night will be investigated, planned and a Mass Blast will let you know the details.
- Ladies Events
 - ⇒ Discussion concerning events solely for women has revolved around the idea that women are to be more than auxiliary. The events that are planned should hold equal importance within the club.
 - ⇒ Ladies only activities should be scheduled with Gene so that they can be put on the calendar to ensure that there won't be other activities at the same time.

Past President's Comments: Mike Bradbury
Nothing to report tonight.

Vice President's Report: Larry Scalzitti
Larry will be the official who validates the vote for this year.

Secretary's Report: Mary Walters
Nothing to report tonight

Treasurer's Report: Stuart Johnson
Nothing to report tonight

Products / Membership: Emil Kornecki

- Two possible new members will be contacted by Emil.
- Products are available for purchase – possible holiday presents?



(Continued on page 13)



Safety / Charity: Ric Case

- Charity Summary was given by Noelle Rigsby.
- ⇒ The event is under way and all of the committee is busy with the start-up events.
- ⇒ Raffle items will start to be gathered for the event. Bring donations to the general meeting and bring them to Noelle at the General Meetings.

Safety Tip

- Road Captain Meeting Topics will be addressed at the next Road Captain meeting to ensure that the topics that are covered are timely, important to riders, and not redundant. This came from the discussion concerning winter bike storage, which was covered in the October ROAR and again this month.

Activities / Awards: Gene Rigsby

- International MC Show will be held in February and a breakfast is being planned for the club as has been done in the past.
- The Awards Banquet is presently being planned at the Millrose again the year. It has been a great venue in past years.
- ⇒ An alternate location for the banquet is being investigated also.
- Tony Loden presented his ideas about the Adventure Ride for this year.
- ⇒ His 7 day ride was detailed with maps and ride information.
- ⇒ March 29th – April 6th dates have been blocked with hotel destinations reserved.
- ⇒ Transport Reservations must be made by January 15th to guarantee a place for your bike. After that date, the transport will be opened to two dealerships who have rides planned to AZ Bike Week
- ⇒ Bikes will be shipped ahead of the ride so that riders will be able to begin riding around AZ on the afternoon of the 29th. Bard Board is developing the ride for that afternoon.
- ⇒ This has been scheduled during AZ bike week, but the bike week is NOT a part of this event. AZ has begun to charge to enter the venue, and this seems to be the up and coming way to work these events. Tony's ride will not include AZ bike week attendance.
- March Bike week in Florida is March 7th – 16th.
- ⇒ If anyone is interested in planning a ride to Daytona, Let Tony or Gene know and they will block it on the calendar. Tony Loden will be able to help you with his expertise in long distance riding.
- Hockey games, Bowling nights, Shoot-outs, and movie nights are also being planned at this time for the winter months.
- Other activity ideas should be brought to Gene or Tony and they will help you develop the ideas for the club.

History/Web Site: Jeff Tietz

Nothing to report tonight. All is well

The **50 / 50** was pulled by Ron Freudenberger and was won by Wayne Kirkpatrick.

Tonight's election results are:

- Mary Walters was elected to serve a two year term as Secretary. This is Mary's second consecutive term as Secretary
- Stewart Johnson was elected to server a two year term as Treasurer. This is Stewart's second consecutive term as Treasurer.
- Ric Case was elected to serve a two year term as Director. This is Ric's second consecutive term as Director.
- Jeff Tietz was elected to serve a two year term as Director. This is Jeff's second consecutive term as Director.

Thank you for a great 2013!!!



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

DECEMBER 10TH, 2013

Alley 64

2001 N. Rand Rd, Palatine, Illinois

Submitted by Mary Walters

Present: Ric Case, Jeff Tietz, Stewart Johnson, Larry Johnson, Mike Bradbury, Gene Rigsby, Wayne Kirkpatrick, Mary Walters

Excused: Emil Kornecki

President: Meeting was called to order by Wayne Kirkpatrick, President, at 7:30

- Meeting Location for tonight was Alley 64.
 - ⇒ The board was seated in the back room which would fit 40-45 comfortably. Another 10 would fit as well if needed.
 - ⇒ The room is quieter with doors that separate the room from the bar area.
 - ⇒ The food was common bar food. It was hot, tasty and reasonable.
- CCW Class for March
 - ⇒ The question was posed, “is the club spending too much energy and time on shooting?”
 - ⇒ The initial comment was, “No, everyone seems to be interested in this activity.”
 - ⇒ A concern was raised, though, about the insurance liability at events like this. It was noted that a good lawyer could find ways to link the club to any situation that could occur.
 - ⇒ David Whiteside has offered to hold the Conceal and Carry class himself disassociated from the club.
 - ⇒ The discussion ended with the fact that we still have time to decide. This issue is important and the board needs to take its time to address this overall.
- Annual Adventure Ride
 - ⇒ Is the transporter insured and bonded? Gene Rigsby will investigate this and report back to the club.
 - ⇒ This is the same transport that Stewart Johnson used previously and was not satisfied with the care given to the bikes.
 - ⇒ Discussion on this topic covered other transporters and their processes. Stewart will talk to Tony Loden about this situation.
 - ⇒ The April Meeting will be held during this ride. Most officers will be on the ride, so Ric Case will take the lead and Mary Walters will assist in organizing the meeting.
- Board duties for 2014
 - ⇒ Presently the Rosters are being kept by the Secretary.
 - ⇒ Would it be better to change the roster responsibility and add it to the Membership Committee? The Roster is a very key piece to maintaining the history of the club as well as the data needed to support the club's growth.
 - ⇒ The ROAR is another possible piece to be changed within the club. Rather than one person alone, an editor and publisher would allow the publication to become more creative and encompass more of the motorcycle community.

Vice President: Larry Scalzitti
Nothing to add tonight.

Secretary: Mary Walters

- ROAR – There is a need to address the duplicity of article topics for KK. There will be a system put into place at the ROAD Captains meeting.
- Master Rosters are being updated and will be sent out by the end of the year.

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**Treasurer:** Stewart Johnson

- Financial Report was discussed and Stewart asked what information the board would like to hear each month or quarterly. It was agreed that a monthly report of spending and income would benefit the board as well as a comprehensive quarterly report that would detail all totals.
- Stewart spent \$170 on a new software system for record keeping
- 2014 Liability Insurance will be reviewed.
- ⇒ Wayne will create a summary of what coverage we have for the club and for the Board.
- ⇒ He will also identify the cost for that coverage.
- ⇒ Presently we are insured for the *Ride for Dreams* and the travel to and from meetings.
- ⇒ Shopping for policies is the responsibility of the board to ensure that the money spent is getting the best for the club. This will be part of the review for this year.
- ⇒ It was agreed that working with a member of Top Cats was more advantageous than going outside of the club to purchase a policy.

Past President: Mike Bradbury

Nothing for tonight

Director: Gene Rigsby

- Activities for 2014 will be in the process of development. Calendar events will begin to show up in print on the website.
- ⇒ December 21st – movie night at Alley 64.
- ⇒ January 26th will be the Road Captain Meeting
- ⇒ Feb 7th -9th is the International Motorcycle Show. The club will go on the 8th and Gene will find a place for us to meet before going to the show.
- ⇒ February 22nd is the date for the Awards Banquet.
- ⇒ Accident Scene Management Class is being planned by Ric Case for March.
- ⇒ Is there an interest in having the Illinois State Patrol again? That will be planned for the January or February meeting.
- ⇒ March will be targeted for the next shoot-out. We will know our liability coverage by that time.
- The Awards Banquet is under way and is promising to be a good time with some great awards for the 2013 year's end!
- ⇒ There was a motion made for an initial budget of \$2000 for this year by Mike Bradbury, second by Ric Case, and passed unanimously by the board.
- There is now a back-up plan for mass blasts to ensure that they are sent out and are on time. Both Tony Loden and Gene Rigsby will set timers in their schedules to check on the Mass Blast for each event.

Director: Emil Kornecki was not in attendance tonight**Membership**

- No New members at this time.
- President's Welcome Letter is being updated and will be included with the pins and patch in the new member's packet.

Director: Ric Case**Safety**

- GRASS Schedule 2014 will be added to the calendar.
- Road Captain meeting 26 January, 2014
- ⇒ This meeting will include creating a schedule for KK and the process for submission will be covered at that time.
- Charity Committee
- ⇒ Will meet again on January 21st, 2014.

(Continued on page 16)



Board Minutes Cont.

Director: Jeff Tietz

History: Jeff will contact Rose at the Library to check on the backup of the ROAR and the Pictures

Web Site: All is o.k. for now. Rich will add the changes of the location to Alley 64, for our meetings.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:30



1st Wayne Kirkpatrick

2nd Noelle Rigsby

25th Jeff Tietz

January Celebrations

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



2014....

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..

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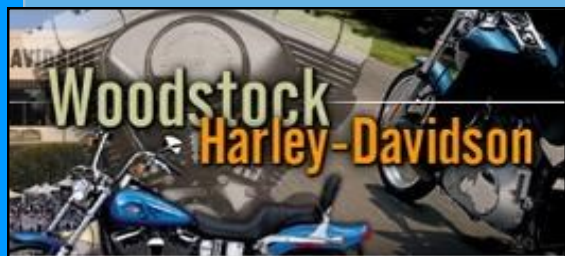
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Office: 847-726-1405
Cell: 847-207-5160

E-mail: scalzitti@mindspring.com

Support the TOP CATS Patrons



Top Cats Get 15% Off Certain Parts and Merchandise at Woodstock and McHenry Harley-Davidson



Top Cats Get 15% Off Certain Parts and Merchandise at City Limits Harley-Davidson

Membership Has Its Privileges!

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

HELP WANTED WEBSITE EDITOR

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

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

For more information contact any board member or

Richard Flynn

RichFlynnJr@aol.com

WANTED



Top Cats Historian

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

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

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

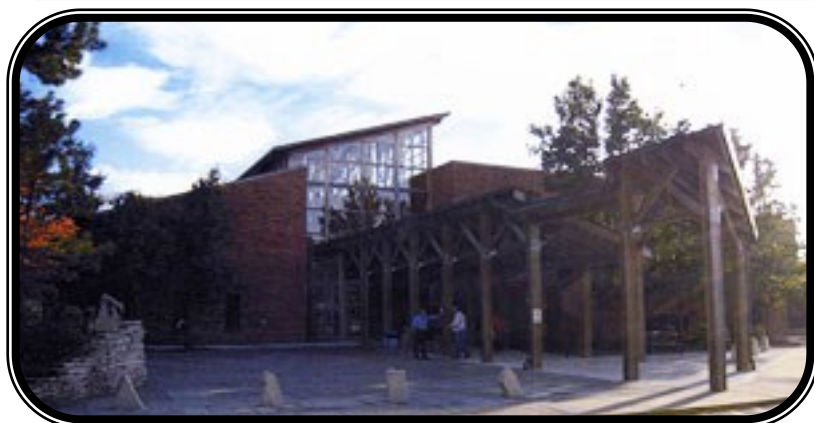
If you have an interest in becoming Top Cats Historian or being a part of this activity please contact Dennis P. (Wombat) Dougherty at wombat@dpdougherty.com



RIDES & EVENTS

Date	Ride/Event	Location	Destination	Time	Leader
Tuesday, January 7th	General Meeting	Palatine	Alley 64	7:30 pm	Kirkpatrick
Tuesday, January 14th	Board Meeting	Palatine	Alley 4	7:30 p m	Kirkpatrick
Sunday , January 26th	Road Captain Meeting	Keller—Williams	Palatine	8:00	Case
Tuesday, February 4th	General Meeting	Palatine	Alley 64	7:30 pm	Kirkpatrick
Tuesday, February 11th	Board Meeting	Palatine	Alley 4	7:30 p m	Kirkpatrick
Saturday, February 22nd	Awards Banquet	TBD	TBD	6:00 pm	Rigsby

All ride and event information along with the Photo Gallery can be found at www.TopCats.org.



Barrington Library

Location and Hours

505 N. Northwest Highway
Barrington, IL 60010

847-382-1300

balibrary.org

See the Top Cats Archive

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



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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For questions or to submit comments or articles for publication, contact the editors at

ROAR@TOPCATS.org