



ROAR

The Official Publication of the TOP CATS OF ILLINOIS

PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE



Greetings, Top Cats Brothers and Sisters!

Did you know that February and January were the last two months added

to the Roman calendar because winter was originally considered a "monthless" period? Well we thought that we had skirted most of winter's wrath but judging by the near record cold temperatures this month, I think we were lulled into a false sense of security. Winter never seem to end this time of year! All that being said I have seen a few motorcycles and even a Polaris Sling-shot on the road. So there's two things to look up on Google the origin of the month of February and Slingshots....

I learned about Slingshots with fellow Top Cats when we went to the Progressive International Motorcycle Show on February 14th. After a hearty breakfast, we arrived at the Steven's Convention Center and saw a lot of neat new bike models and custom bike builds. And of course a wide variety of vendors and products were there too. The show is a great place to network and say *Hi* to fellow motorcyclists from the local riding community. All-in-all, the show

is a fun way to spend some time together in the off riding season.

Another fun event in February recently held was Woodstock Harley Davidson's Cabin Fever on Feb. 21st. Your charity committee was hard at work at this event handing out *Ride For Dreams* flyers and soliciting interest and donations for our June 14th charity ride. Please make sure you have reserved the date and are coming to join us in supporting our charity, N.I.S.R.A. All I ask is for you to come and participate in your own club's event which benefits our worthy charity!

Top Cats presented our Group Riding and Safety Seminar on February 8th to the McHenry H.O.G. Chapter at McHenry Harley Davidson. Bob Stevenson and Don Delardo organized the event (Thanks Guys!). The Seminar was received graciously and enthusiastically. The HOGs expressed appreciation for the information and presentation. We must have done a good job, because we have 4 people who liked what they saw about us and are interested in joining our club. With our safe group riding protocols and guidelines, interesting rides and activities, plus friendly and fun members, the benefits of belonging to Top Cats of Illinois speaks for itself!

Calling all Road Captains and Senior RC's! Your 2015 ride(s) need to be scheduled!

(Continued on page 3)

March, 2015

Volume 15, Issue 3

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Upcoming Events

MARCH

- 1 CCW Range**
- 3 GENERAL MEETING**
- 10 BOARD MEETING**
- 14 FEED MY STARVING CHILD**
- 15 GRASS**
- 22 WOODSTOCK OPERA**

APRIL

- 7 GENERAL MEETING**
- 14 BOARD MEETING**

Summer is right around the corner! Good friends will continue to find ways to enjoy the days...

What Ideas do you have to get everyone together? Talk to Gene Rigsby and get your ideas on the Calendar for winter or summer Months!





KAUTION KORNER

ARE YOU READY???

By: Don Delordo



You're ready to ride, but how about the bike?

Last month Ric gave some great tips on preparing ourselves for the riding season with the right equipment, but before you put on the gloves, helmet and goggles, don't forget that your motorcycle needs some TLC before you jump on the bike and ride.

The easiest way to winterize and de-winterize your ride is to have it stored over the winter at your favorite dealer! No need to worry about changing the oil, charging the battery, etc., since they do it all for you...All you have to do is give the service department a call and let them know when you would like to pick up your ride... Many of the dealers ask for a 2 week target date so they are not rushed and may overlook something. No hassles, and you start off the season right.

However, if you are like many of us who store the bike(s) in our garage, you need to take some time and familiarize yourself with the steps to insure a safe startup. I like to get out the owner's manual and follow the steps recommended by your bikes manufacturer.

The AMA also makes reference to "TCLOCK" :

TIRES & WHEELS – How is the tread? Use a penny for a helpful gauge...put Lincoln on his head in the tread. If you see the top of his head, it's time to replace the tire. Don't forget to check the pressure and the wheels too. It is normal to lose some pressure in the winter.



CONTROLS – Check all levers, cables and throttle to insure they function smoothly.

LIGHTS – Check your turn signals, brake and wiring. If your ride is an older model and the headlamp or highway lights are foggy, this will reduce your visibility. You might consider replacing them or updating to LED's. You won't be disappointed with your invest-

ment.

OIL – Check under the bike and around the frame for any leaks or oil build up. Check all the fluids: Oil, brake, and primary.

CHASSIS – Check the bike frame and suspension (shocks & forks) for any leaks. This is a great time to also check the belt (chain) for ware and tare. One thing I found last year was my exhaust crossover bracket had cracked and was making a banging noise. Who would have thought?

KICKSTAND – Check the condition and retention spring.

Now that you conducted these checks, it time to treat your bike to a SPA treatment with a great detailing including washing, waxing and treating the leather. This will help keep the finish showroom new. It's still cold out but in a month or so the sun will be scorching hot and the SPA treatment will help protect the finish and really make your routine clean up much easier.

The last recommendation I would like to make addresses your first aid kit, rain gear and where you carry them on your bike. **First Aid Kit** - Make sure your kit is complete and the expiration dates are all good for the whole season. If not replace them. **Rain Gear** – Make sure there are no rips or tears. Remember the first rain gears, they were black. If you are still using one of those, please get rid of it and get one with a reflective color. Your life depends on it! Where should you carry these items? If you have saddle bags, you might want to consider keeping them in the right side or the curb side. It is much safer if you need to make an emergency stop and you are not in the line of traffic.

The AMA recommend we perform TCLOCK before every ride. Before you head out for the first ride of the season, take a little extra time during your bikes de-winterization, and your riding season will be more enjoyable.



VP's Vision

By: Ric 'Clutch' Case



We had a very successful day signing up folks and getting donations totaling almost \$200 for our R4D by offering a \$5 discount for each rider and a \$5 discount for each passenger. Thanks to Lisa Purcell for her great salesmanship. Because it was so successful we are offering that same discount to our membership at the March only General Members meeting.

Also available are tickets to the NISRA awards Banquet held Tuesday March 17th (yes that's St. Patrick's Day) at the Heritage Ballroom, The Centre, 100 Symphony Way, Elgin, IL. Top Cats will pay for \$10 of the \$30 ticket price, but you must pay in advance. See Noelle at the meeting or contact her before then. Three seats are still available. Paying at the door is no longer permitted.

For R4Ds we have a possibility of a live auctioneer who may volunteer to host our event. Therefore we are encouraging each and every member to obtain an item to donate for that auction. We expect it to make for a very entertaining and lively afternoon.

President's Perspective, Cont....

Reserve a date now with Gene Rigsby and the Activities Committee. The earlier this is done, the more we can plan ahead and arrange to attend your ride. Also please work to identify and mentor someone to become a Road Captain this year. Those rides need to be scheduled too, so step up and reserve your date(s). Top Cats will all be grateful for a rich event calendar filled with your rides.

Looking forward, the club has a lot of neat things already scheduled for 2015. Come to our general meetings and learn more about all the creative and interesting things we are doing in the coming months and the rest of 2015.

Now is the time to look forward and find ways to become more involved in the Top Cats. When you do, you are networking more + learning more + commiserating more + doing more with your fellow members equaling more fun, utilization and rewards with your premier motorcycle club, The Top Cats of Illinois. See me or anyone on the Board for more information.

Mike Bradbury
President





CELEBRATE GOOD TIMES, COME ON! THE TOP CAT'S 19TH ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET RESULTS ARE IN...

After the voting, scoring and verification was complete, the list recognizing the contributions of our members at the 19th Annual Top Cats Award Banquet has been published!



**Quietest Bike,
Greg Ludwig**



The Guys that 'Paid the Price'

Most Often Late, Roxray Adonis



**Most AccesORIZED Bike,
Lisa Purcell**

**Safest Rider,
Bob Stevenson**





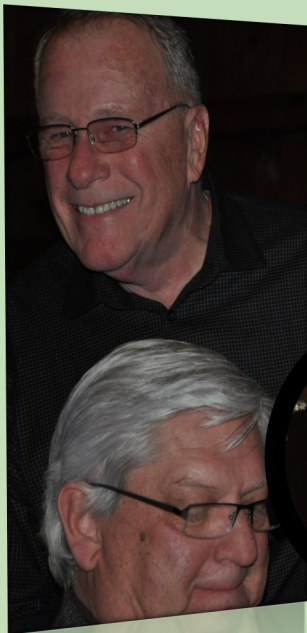
TC Awards Banquet, Continued

Best Ride Execution, Dennis Dougherty's
Ride for Dreams



Cleanest Bike, Jim Purcell

Most Helpful Top Cat, Noelle Rigbsy
Most Unique Ride, Gene Rigbsy's
Sunrise Ride



15 and 20 Year Pins!



***A Few Fish
Stories are
always a part
of the night!***



Most Dedicated Co-Rider, Laura Whiteside
Dirtiest Bike, David Whiteside

Favorite Top Cat Ride, Mike Bradbury's
Rustic Road Ride
Most Scenic Ride, Mike Bradbury's
Rustic Road Ride



Most Active Top Cat,
Mary Kirkpatrick



**Oh What A
Night!**

Best Dressed Rider,
Emil Kornecki



Best Pre-Ride, Ric Case's
Memorial Ride

Best Theme Ride, Ric Case's
Memorial Ride

Safest Ride, Ric Case's
Memorial Ride



TC Awards Banquet, Continued

Our Two Pillars...

Longest Day Ride, Bard Boand's

First Day to Sturgis

Most Grueling Ride, Bard Boand's

Ride to Sturgis



Best Prepared Rider, Wayne Kirkpatrick

Best Multi-Day Ride, Wayne Kirkpatrick's

President's Ride

Favorite Non-Riding Event, Wayne Kirkpatrick's

Move Time

NISRA Presentation!

***\$3000.00 was given by our Charity
Committee Chairwoman, Noelle Rigsby***

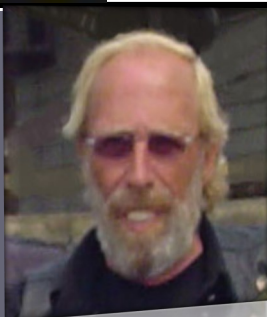
To Jim Wiesman and Jillian Giesse!



***Our own dynamic Duo
Mike and Gene
Much better than Batman and Robin!***



Cheers to a Great Night!



Oil Spots

By Traveler

Levatch succeeds Wandell as CEO of Harley-Davidson



Harley-Davidson announced that its current president and chief operating officer, Matthew S. Levatch, will take over as chief executive officer when Keith Wandell retires May 1. Levatch also was elected to the Motor Co.'s board of directors.

The 50-year-old Levatch (pictured) joined Harley in 1994. Before becoming president and COO in 2009, he held a variety of roles for the OEM in the U.S. and Europe, including vice president and general manager of parts and accessories; vice president of materials management; and president and managing director of the former MV Agusta business.

Levatch has an undergraduate degree in mechanical engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and a graduate degree in engineering management and an MBA from Northwestern University.

Wandell, 65, became president and CEO of the Motor Co. in 2009 and was elected board chairman in 2012. "Keith has been a transformational and visionary leader who joined Harley-Davidson at a critical juncture in its history," said Richard Beattie, independent lead director. "He developed strong leaders throughout the company and at the same time transformed how Harley-Davidson does business."

Lifesaver for Lids

Not sure if that fall from your bike's seat was hard enough to damage your helmet's shell or liner? The Shok SpotR (shok-spotr.com ; \$19.95) helps you monitor the energy of impacts and turns red when your lid has sustained a potentially harmful hit.



ICEdot

ICEdot is taking personal safety for action sports to a new level with the ICDot Crash Sensor. The Crash Sensor will mount onto any helmet. When paired with the ICDot app on a smart phone, the system is able to detect motion, changes in forces and impacts.

In the event of critical forces, the device triggers the app over low-energy Bluetooth to sound an alarm and initiate an emergency countdown. Unless the countdown clock is stopped, the app will then notify your emergency contacts and send GPS coordinates of the incident so that appropriate follow up actions can be taken.

Cycling, skiing, back country travel, team sports, and motor sports all involve significant risks and we know those risks aren't going to stop you, heck, they don't stop us. We're just here to help you Adventure Responsibly.

(Continued on page 9)



Oil Spots, Continued...

Military continues development of stealth hybrid motorcycle



The U.S. Military is moving forward with the development of a [silent motorcycle](#) for its covert ops.

Technical details are still hush-hush, but the team behind the SilentHawk was recently awarded a Phase II Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) award from the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency.

The off-roader is based on the production Alta Motors RedShift electric bike, but is fitted with a hybrid-electric powertrain designed by Logos Technologies that was originally created for use in an unmanned aerial vehicle. It's described as "multi-fueled," which likely means it'll run on either diesel or JP-8, like most military vehicles. The idea is to create a motorcycle that can combine the stealth capability of an electric over short distances with the much greater operational range provided by an internal combustion engine and easily refillable fuel tank.

Logos also describes the power system as "field swappable," which suggests that a depleted battery pack can be quickly replaced with a fresh one, so no time needs to be wasted to recharge. And, as if it weren't unique enough already, the SilentHawk features two-wheel-drive to give it the climbing capability of a mountain goat. The consumer version of the RedShift has an all-electric range of about 50 miles, a top speed of 80 mph, and a \$14,995 starting price.

It's not the only electric bike being looked by The Pentagon, however. [Zero Motorcycles](#) has already provided the U.S. Special Operations Command a fleet of its battery-powered MX bikes for evaluation under operational conditions.

Logos Technologies plans to have an operational prototype ready by the middle of next year, and the company says it believes "that the system resulting from this second phase of the program would have applicability to other ground vehicle systems beyond motorcycles."

Pro Pad Insert - Motorcycle Seats

Pro Pad has announced that the innovative ortho inserts are now being made available for installation into motorcycle seats. The ortho insert has been used in their Diamond Mesh and Tech Series top pads for two years and the positive results have led to the ortho insert being used in all of its top pads.



The ortho insert has a comfort channel that relieves pressure on the rider's tailbone, which, in turn reduces rider fatigue and shortens the recovery time on long rides. The insert is made of a soft, medical grade viscoelastic polymer that will not harden or bottom out. It also withstands extreme temperatures, from -60° to +210°. For installation, the gel can easily be trimmed to fit any motorcycle seat.

Pro Pad recommends having inserts installed by a dealer installer; however a kit can be purchased by the customer, which includes installation instructions.

(Continued on page 10)

Oil Spots, Continued...

2016 Indian Chief Dark Horse

Indian Motorcycle has announced the newest and edgiest member of the Indian Chief lineup and the first 2016 model — the Indian Chief Dark Horse.



The Indian Chief Dark Horse is a cruiser built upon the company's popular Indian Chief platform. Unlike other bikes in the Indian Motorcycle line-up, it is understated with only a flash of chrome and adds a healthy dose of matte black paint to create one of the most "confident silhouettes" on the market. By all but eliminating chrome from the motorcycle and swapping to cast wheels, the Dark Horse projects an aggressive look, and is also the lightest and quickest model in the Chief family.



Blacked-out from end to end, the Dark Horse does not lack features. Powered by the highly rated Thunder Stroke 111 engine and wrapped in the same chassis and suspension of the Indian Chief Classic, the Dark Horse also maintains ABS, a remote key fob for keyless ignition, electronic cruise control, and features a two-year unlimited mileage factory warranty.

Built to be an aggressive solo ride, the Dark Horse loses the oil cooler, analogue fuel gauge and driving lights of Chief Classic. A passenger seat plus either passenger foot-pegs or floorboards are available as part of the Genuine Indian Motorcycle Accessory line-up for those who want to ride two-up.



The Indian Chief Dark Horse is an ideal candidate for those seeking to customize their rides. With 40 available accessories rolling out during the spring and early summer, riders can add components to black-out their ride even more. Items such as ape hanger handlebars, accessory air cleaners, fender struts, slip-on exhaust with black heat shields and exhaust tips, and black fender trim help create the fully blacked-out look.



With the style, quality and features an Indian Motorcycle customer might expect from the brand, the 2016 Indian Chief Dark Horse will start at \$16,999.

(Continued on pg 11)



Oil Spots, Continued...

Legislators introduce bills to allow lane splitting in Texas, Tennessee

Legislators in other states have introduced bills to allow lane-splitting, a practice which to date is only allowed in California.



Texas H.B. 813, introduced by state Rep. Sergio Muñoz Jr. (D-Palmview), would allow motorcycle riders to ride between lanes of traffic moving in the same direction, if traffic is traveling 20 mph or slower, and if the motorcyclist is not traveling more than 5 mph faster than other traffic. Lane splitting would be prohibited in school zones and in areas where the posted speed limit is 20 mph or less. And riders and passengers must wear helmets. S.B. 442, introduced by state Sen. Kirk Watson (D-Austin), omits the helmet provision, but restricts lane splitting to limited-access or controlled-access highways.

AMA is backing **H.B. 1102 In Tennessee**. Introduced by state Rep. Timothy Hill (R-Blountville), the bill would permit lane splitting when traffic is traveling at 45 mph or less and the motorcyclist does not exceed posted speed limits. Lane split-

ting would not be permitted in marked school zones when a warning flasher or flashers are in operation.

Efforts to legalize lane-splitting are also afoot in **Washington**.

The American Motorcyclist Association backs the bills, but objects to helmet requirements, believing adults should be able to choose for themselves. More information on the AMA's position on helmets can be found [here](#).



"Research and evidence suggest that lane splitting may reduce a motorcyclist's risk exposure, which is why the AMA offers conditional support to Texas H.B. 813 and S.B. 442, legislations that would allow lane splitting with the stated restrictions," said Wayne Allard, AMA vice president of government relations.

A 2014 study in California found that motorcyclists engaging in responsible lane splitting were less likely to be rear ended, suffer a head injury or be involved in a fatal crash.

Other potential benefits include an increase in conspicuity because the motorcyclist is moving relative to other traffic; a reduction in motorcyclist fatigue from constant shifting and braking in stop-and-go traffic; a lessening of the risk for engine damage for air-cooled engines; a reduction in motorcyclists' exposure to ambient heat in the summer and car exhaust year-round due to fewer hours spent in traffic.

Save the Date!

June 19, 20 and 21

Ride the Door...

Door County, Wisconsin!

Watch for Details!



***For Sale or Do you have?
Buy, Sell, Trade...
Top Cat's Deal***

1970 Triumph Bonneville T120R

Immaculate and 99% original, iconic Triumph Bonneville, 650cc. Restored engine with 4+ hours on it. 4,900 original miles. New period paint, original parts with no upgrades, Perfect condition and ready to roll. \$7,500. Contact Traveler: wkirkpa177@aol.com



1998 Harley Davidson Road King Classic

Old reliable. Great over the road bike. 1340 cc fuel – injected Evo engine. Leather covered, classic saddlebags. Many new parts, fresh engine overhaul, good condition all around. \$6,800. Contact Traveler: wkirkpa177@aol.com



1999 HD 883CXL

11,000 Miles
New Front Tire
Cobalt Blue
Bags
Engine Guards
Modified Bars
\$3,200

For More Information Contact:
Ric Case
RicCase@comcast.net
847.363.1542



Buy, Sell, Trade... Cont

1992 Harley Davidson

XL Sportster.883cc.

VERY clean and fast. 10,000 miles. Custom paint, engine upgrades, S&S Super E carburetor, windscreen, passenger seat and backrest. Good tires, major service performed. Ready to roll. \$4,200. Contact Traveler: wkirk-pa177@aol.com



1985 Honda Rebel,CMX 250

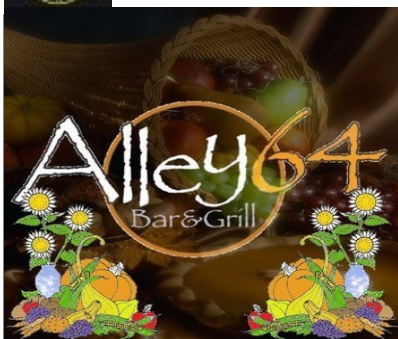
Meticulously maintained, 12,000 miles, recent major service, backrest, new battery. Low, easy – to – ride bike with 27" seat height. 50 mpg+. \$1,000. Contact Traveler: wkirk-pa177@aol.com



2001 Suzuki Intruder VS 800 GL.

Literally new. 1,800 miles, saddlebags, windscreen, backrest, good tires, recently serviced. Low seat height, good highway cruiser or starter bike. \$2,600. Contact Traveler: wkirk-pa177@aol.com





GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 3RD, 2015

Alley 64
2001 N. Rand Rd, Palatine, Illinois
Submitted by Mary Walters



Meeting called to order at 7:30 PM by Mike Bradbury,
President of Top Cats

The members were asked to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Guests

- Ben Chikaraishi – Illinois State Police
- Rich Kozik was also able to be with us tonight!

President's Report: Mike Bradbury

- ✦ The Club is moving forward with a growing list of activities being put together by our activities committee. We have a number of Road Captain candidate that are planning on making their initial Top Cats Ride this summer. These are only a few of the exciting things that are happening during the 20th Anniversary Year of Top Cats, Illinois.
- ✦ This year will have an Activity Emphasis. Make plans now and get them on the Calendar.
- ✦ 20th Year Anniversary Patch & Pins have been made available to all members. If you haven't received yours yet, see Mike Bradbury

Past President's Comments: Wayne Kirkpatrick

- ✦ Wayne expressed his affection for the club and the difficulty he is experiencing at handing over the reins... But the club is in good hands and he cautioned everyone to be careful getting home. The weather is a challenge so be careful if you've decided to have a beer at our meeting...
- ✦ The Sturgis group is growing. At this time, there are 21 bikes signed up, but only 15 rooms have been blocked at the Alex Johnson in Rapid City. Bard is going to try to obtain more rooms, so get your name on the list so that if things change or cancelations happen, you will be the first to know!

Vice President's Report: Ric Case

- ✦ Ric summarized his article on planning for and accessing rider courses. He suggested that everyone work on being a better and safer rider this year... and those courses are a great way to address this. See Ric's article in the February ROAR. Ric introduced our guests...

Meeting Speakers

Rich Kozik, Illinois State Police.

- ✦ Rich was glad to be here tonight and Top Cats was very glad to have him here with us too. His battle with cancer has been a great challenge, but he is back to work and back to attending to community issues. His energy level was high and his presentation to the club created moments of laughter and a good feeling of camaraderie. He expressed his gratitude to Top Cats for their support of the State Police and discussed the Ride for Fallen Officers that will be held on July 18th this year. The money goes to assist the families of the men and women whose lives were taken in the line of duty.
- ✦ Rich detailed stories of a few of Illinois officers who were killed while near or in their vehicles...WITH the lights flashing. With that in mind, it is very important that motorcyclists be as VISIBLE as possible, as safe as possible (as Wayne said, be very careful if you have had a beer) and as skilled as possible. And what better way than to have your skills critiqued by a State Policeman? Which worked as an introduction to Ben....

(Continued on page 13)



General Meeting,, Continued

Ben Chikaraishi – Illinois State Police

- ★ Ben began with a history of the Bike Safe Program being offered by the Illinois State Police. Bike Safe began in the UK because of the huge number of rider deaths in their motorcycle community. The UK had addressed the environmental variables with road improvements and more visible intersections and lighting. The next step was to improve rider skill. Bike Safe was begun.
- ★ South Carolina imported the program after hearing that the UK had seen a 25% decrease in motorcycle fatalities due to the program. It is now available in Illinois and Ben is going to offer the program to the Top Cat members. In this one day program, you will be able to hone your skills with the help of officers who observe and offer personal critiques to the riders, based on what they see as the rider is on the bike and on the street. Dates, times, and places for this course will be announced to the Top Cats when they are finalized.
- ★ Other questions that were raised by the members about a variety of issues that affect the police community today.
- ⇒ Types of weapons used by the State Police are usually whatever they are issued. Personal preference is secondary.
- ⇒ Body cameras are good for many reasons but most officers do not care one way or another. The actions that they take while at work are not affected by the presence of these cameras.
- ⇒ Conceal Carry procedures were discussed when dealing with an officer. The advice given was to be open about what and how you are carrying. When your name is run, your CCW license will come up... so just be up front and cooperative.
- ⇒ What's new in Illinois?
- ⇒ No more leaving licenses with the officer for tickets... it's all 'sign and drive' as of June 1, 2015

Secretary's / ROAR Report: Mary Kirkpatrick

- ★ The ROAR will be e-mailed out to the membership for the next few months while the Website is being updated. This may prove to be a great way to get the publication out to the members and to gain interest in authorship!

Treasurer's Report: Greg Ludwig

- ★ Greg's daughter had surgery this week, so he was unable to attend tonight.
- ★ All accounts are in order at this time.

Activities / Awards: Gene Rigsby

- ★ Gene reviewed the upcoming events for the next two months.
- ★ Noelle Rigsby discussed a play in Woodstock with dinner to follow. She also reviewed the NISRA recognition dinner on March 17th. See the Calendar for details
- ★ Bard Boand gave a brief summary of the ride to Sturgis
- ★ Wayne Kirkpatrick also discussed the ride he will lead following Sturgis into Colorado, New Mexico, Kansas, Oklahoma and home.

Safety / Charity: Ric Case

- ★ **Safety**
- ★ Ric discussed his KK article on reviewing and preparing your gear for the next riding season. To see details, read his article in the February ROAR! You should have gotten a copy in an E-mail from Mike, because the website is currently under construction
- ★ Ric identified the GRASS schedule for 2015.
- o February 8th will be held at McHenry Harley.
- o March 15th , May 17th , July 26th October 25th March, May, July, October = Keller Williams, Palatine

Charity: Noelle Rigsby

- ★ Noelle asked the members to keep an eye out for an antique car club that would be interested in supporting and attending our event. Let Noelle know if you have any information.
- ★ All things are on schedule and the next committee meeting will be at Purcell's on February 26th.

(Continued on page 15)



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

FEBRUARY 10TH , 2015

Alley 64

2001 N. Rand Rd, Palatine, Illinois

Submitted by Mary Walters

**Present: Mike Bradbury, Wayne Kirkpatrick, Ric Case, Gene Rigsby , Mary Kirkpatrick
Jeff Tietz, Emil Kornecki and Greg Ludwig**

President: Mike Bradbury

- ★ Meeting called to Order at 7:30 by Mike Bradbury, President of Top Cats, Illinois.
- ★ The Awards Dinner was a great opportunity to get everyone together in the off season. Many stated at the dinner that it was one of the favorite events of the year! The mix of recognition and levity makes it a great night that builds membership connections.
- ★ Mike is looking for suggestions for meeting speaker ideas. Some ideas that were covered tonight:
 - ⇒ EMT's to explain what to do in case of emergencies
 - ⇒ Gina Woods from Open Road Radio
 - ⇒ GPS experts (Don DeLordo)
- ★ Mike has questioned the Flag storage security at Alley 64. This led to a discussion on the storage of products and other Top Cat items. Mike will check with the Manager of Alley 64, Chachi, to see if he would be willing to house the flags in his office. Other items will be discussed and possibly managed by a the new director who will be appointed by the Board to replace Ric Case, who is now Top Cats V.P.
- ★ The Interim Director Slot was discussed and various candidates were reviewed. The Board will research and discuss the position with members that may be interested. Names of members who have responded positively will be given to Mike by February 17th.
- ★ The new Patches and Pins will be given to Emil, Director of Membership, to maintain the inventory.
- ★ Mike will be out of town for the June General Meeting this year and Ric Case has agreed to lead that meeting.

Vice President: Ric Case

- ★ Ric asked for reimbursement for the money that was spent on the dinner for the guest speakers at February's meeting. Mike made a motion that we pay the bill, Emil was the 2nd. The board approved this unanimously.
- ★ Ric also motioned that we make Rich Kozik and Ben Chiakarischi honorary members of Top Cats. Gene was the 2nd. All agreed enthusiastically. Rich and Ben have been great supporters and friends of the club and enjoy the company of Top Cats.
- ★ Ric brought up the idea that the Board Meeting be moved to the end of the month or the middle of the month in order to give ideas more time to solidify. The board discussed the pros and cons and decided to leave the dates as they are presently scheduled.

Past President: Wayne Kirkpatrick

- ★ Wayne order the Road Captain Rockers.

Activities: Gene Rigsby

- ★ Gene reviewed the upcoming events for the next month.
- ★ Don DeLordo may be interested in doing our 'Kick-Off' ride for 2015. Gene Rigsby has volunteered to be the mentor for this ride and will make arrangements for this ride whether or not Don DeLordo agrees. (Continued on pg 19)
- ★ Gene Rigsby has been enlisting members to get the Activities Committee moving forward. Members who have expressed an interest include Bob and Genie Stevenson, Rox Adonis, and Gene and Ashley Lambert.
- ★ The ASM class is being planned for early April so that we can allow access to this class for the Road Captains before the beginning of the year.
- ★ Gene suggested also that we begin to develop a 20th anniversary video for Top Cats pictures 'Across the Years'.



Board Meeting, Continued

ROAR: Mary Kirkpatrick

- ✦ The membership will be asked to send pictures that are taken at events so that they can be used in the ROAR and on the website.
- ✦ Mary will make sure that there is a cake at the meetings going forward to honor birthdays for the month.

Membership: Emil Kornecki

- ✦ 2015 Membership Cards will be finished and brought to the March Meeting
- ✦ New or Renewed Member Candidates
- ⇒ Mark Sullivan has sent his money in for the 2015 year. It was agreed that he would be added to the Roster.
- ⇒ Tom Malia has also asked to be able to rejoin the club.
- ⇒ Devin Smith has sent his money in for the 2015 year. The board agreed that he would be added to the roster.
- ✦ Emil had a number of suggestions for future events and rewards that will be given to members.

Treasurer: Greg Ludwig

- ✦ Greg was unable to attend the meeting tonight.
- ✦ Greg will be filing all of the Tax papers and will report back to the board.

Safety: Ric Case

- ✦ The next GRASS class will be March 15
- ✦ Both the March and May 17th Grass classes will be attended by the HOG membership.
- ✦ Ric will be updating the GRASS PPT and is looking to have those updates completed by the March Class.

Website: Mike Bradbury

- ✦ A number of issues have surfaced with the website. Uploading has become very challenging, according to Rich Flynn. The February ROAR was not published on the website by the first and the members were sent the copy by way of e-mail.
- ✦ Mike will check into why the website has become difficult to use in a few areas and will report back to the board.
- ✦ Wayne received a notice that he has been charged \$239 to renew the old website. Mike will also check into this payment as well.
- ✦ There was a discussion on what capabilities the board would like to see on the website. These ideas will be passed on to the developer.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35

General Meeting continued...

Products / Membership Emil Kornecki

- ✦ No New member candidates at this time
- ✦ Emil proposed that we use the other hand for the 'emergency vehicle' signal since the Police now know our 'secret' signal.

Products Updates / Status: Lisa Purcell

Lisa showed the members the Antiqua shirt that is available in both women's and men's styles. Short Sleeve is \$44 and long sleeve is \$48.

Web Site: Jeff Tietz and Rich Flynn were both unavailable tonight to update the membership. We will hear about the progress at the next meeting.

50 / 50 Raffle: Jim Purcell asked one of the officers to pick the number ... But they declined because they had bought tickets and had a vested interest in the winnings. Wayne did the picking and the winner was... Rich Kozik! He donated the money back to the club! Thanks, Rich!

Meeting adjourned at 9:20.



Why do you ride?



Why We Ride?

For Oh so many reasons. To be with other good people, on good roads, in good places....

Top Cats offers us the opportunity to live our own movie!

~Mike Bradbury



Why do you ride as a Top Cat?

I like the contacts I've made. The people are successful and strive to do the best they can be in this life! It is a great opportunity to see what the world has available to us all when we work hard. ~Rich Flynn



Trade Your Helmets for a Hairnet... For One Day!

By Highway Honey...

Come join your President and fellow Top Cats as we pack food at Feed My Starving Children on Saturday, March 14th from 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Feed My Starving Children is a non-profit organization committed to feeding God's children. Volunteers hand-pack meals specifically formulated for malnourished children. These meals are shipped to nearly 70 countries around the world.

Meal packing at FMSC is a fun activity that helps build camaraderie among group participants. It's a blast, and the efforts help a very good cause. You can click this link for a brief 30 second video describing the meal packing activity. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZGE4leBAViw>

Afterward, we will go to the Silo Restaurant in Lake Bluff for lunch. The Silo has been a landmark on the North Shore for over 43 years, serving famous Pan Pizza (voted best pan pizza on the North Shore by the Chicago Tribune), award winning chili (1st place winner at Taste of Chicago Chili Championship 3 years running), appetizers, salads, sandwiches, hamburgers, entrees and cocktails.

If you would like to join in the fun, please e-mail Kathie Bradbury at kbhorserida@comcast.net. The more the merrier. We hope to see you there!!!

March Celebrations!

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

20th—Jessica Flynn

25th ~ Greg and Jane Smith





TOP CATS BUSINESS MART

BUSINESSES OWNED AND/OR MANAGED BY TOP CATS MEMBERS



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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.

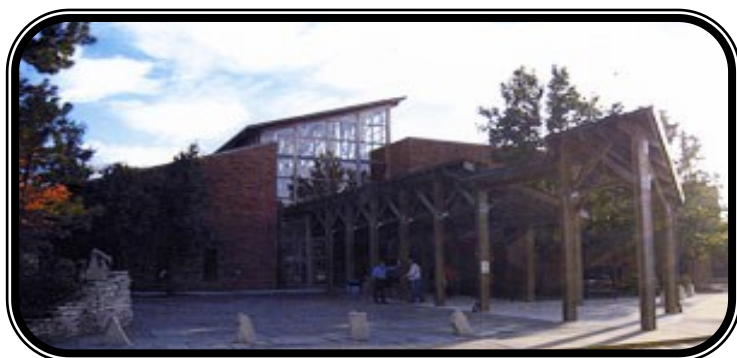
If you have an interest in becoming Top Cats Historian or being a part of this activity please contact Dennis P. (Wombat) Dougherty at wombat@dpdougherty.com



RIDES & EVENTS

Date	Ride/Event	Location	Destination	Time	Leader
Sunday, March 1st	CCW Class	Keller Williams	Palatine	8:00 am	Whiteside
Tuesday, March 3rd	General Meeting	Palatine	Alley 64	7:30 pm	Bradbury
Tuesday, March 10th	Board Meeting	Palatine	Alley 64	7:30 pm	Bradbury
Saturday, March 14th	FMSC/ Silo	Feed My Starving Children	Libertyville	9:00 am	C Bradbury
Sunday, March 15th	Grass Class	Keller Williams	Palatine	8:00 am	Case
Sunday, March 22nd	Opera House	Woodstock Opera House	Woodstock	3:00 pm	N .Rigsby
Tuesday, April 7th	General Meeting	Palatine	Alley 64	7:30 pm	Bradbury
Tuesday, April 14th	Board Meeting	Palatine	Alley 64	7:30 pm	Bradbury

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



Barrington Library

Location and Hours
505 N. Northwest Hwy
Barrington, IL 60010

See the Top Cats Archive

847-382-1300
balibrary.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



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