



ROAR

The Official Publication of the TOP CATS OF ILLINOIS

PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE



Top Cats have many things to be grateful for as we head into Thanksgiving. 2016 was an exciting year filled with many fun adventures and activities. We have had lively, engaging and thoughtful general meetings. Our G.R.A.S.S. is going strong. We had a great Charity ride by any and all measures of success. We have an exciting outlook for 2017. All of this should be well known to our active members who populate our events!

Now looking ahead, our Activities Committee is polling our membership for what you want to do in 2017. Make your voices heard and give your opinions! Of course it is important to make your voices heard so the club serves all of its members well.

I'm proud that even that we saw many contributions from veterans and newer road captains such as Jim Purcell in our 2016 rides. Becoming a Road Captain is not just an adventure, not just a great way give back to the club, but it is another way to make your voice heard in the rides we do. If you want to do a ride to Starved Rock, or a multi-day ride to *The Tail of The Dragon*, or any other ride idea you may have, is best served when you seek out a mentor from the Road Captains or ask a Board member or club officer for help. Road Captains have the experience and would love to assist you, so start planning now! The winter months are a great time to plan,

initiate and implement our activities for 2017. And one of my favorite activities is keeping up our tradition for fun, interesting rides! Come forward and start the process to become a road captain and get Roaring!!!

After the next 11 days we will experience the results of elections for our community and national leaders. We'll also have the opportunity in December to elect our Top Cat leadership for 2017. All of these opportunities to vote should be viewed as obligations to our community, our Nation, and our Club. With each, we have the solemn duty to elect the people who we believe are dedicated, passionate, experienced, and capable of performing the duties of the office for which elected. Informed and concerned American citizens have a legacy of upholding the democratic process. Let's all proudly continue that legacy....

As we approach our traditional Thanksgiving holiday, let us take the opportunity to realize and appreciate how fortunate we have been over this last year as Americans, as family members, and as Top Cats. We should all appreciate the contributions of our fellow Top Cats in making our 2016 season exciting, interesting, informative and, above all, safe.

Let's Roar and Ride!

Mike Bradbury

President, Top Cats - Illinois

"Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn't do than by the ones that you did do. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover" - Mark Twain"

And ride with your brothers and sisters.."

Mike Bradbury

November, 2016

Volume 16, Issue 11

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Upcoming Events

NOVEMBER

- 1 GENERAL MEETING
- 8 BOARD MEETING

DECEMBER

- 5 GENERAL MEETING
- 12 BOARD MEETING

Talk to Gene Rigsby and get your ideas on the calendar!



KAUTION KORNER



A Simple Method to Deal With Common Road Hazards While on Your Motorcycle...



By: Mike Bradbury
Senior Road Captain

There are many types of road hazards we encounter on our motorcycles. This article does not attend to address how to handle mother-in-laws crossing the street, dead ends, getting stuck in a parade for no apparent reason, soon-to-be road kill and gravel roads. I leave those road issues to your judgments. I will explain here a simple principal I follow to deal with the most common road hazards I encounter on my motorcycle. If you follow this common motorcycling principal, you will better handle what the road dishes out to you on your many bike rides and trips.

The basic principal I follow is known as the SIPDE strategy. I did not make this up; this is a common strategy in riding your bike. The acronym SIPDE stands for Scan, Identify, Predict, Decide and Execute. It is a simple strategy that is fairly easy to understand and employ. The main element is scanning. The quicker you can identify a problem, the easier it is to avoid.

Sometimes, though things may get past you. Yes I'm talking to all you bikers from veterans with years of experience, to beginners. It happens to everyone. If you utilize this system to the best of your ability, you will ride in a safer manner. It is as simple as that.

Here is a brief explanation of what the different sections stand for:

Scanning

This process doesn't just involve looking ahead. You should be sweeping your field of view from left to right, near and far and from time to time including

your gauges as well. This includes your side view mirrors as hazards can come from behind too. This is essential as noted before. The quicker you identify a problem, the more time you have to react and react as safely as possible.

Identify

What is the issue ahead that concerns you? Identification is key in predicting your best course of action and deciding to do it. Should you swerve, stay the course, slow down, speed up, honk, signal, etc. What you need to do is dependent on identifying the hazard you are about to encounter. This will help you decide exactly what you believe your proper course of action is.

Predict

This one is a little tricky. You sometimes need to predict the rates of speed you're traveling and other moving objects about to cross your path, is the road ahead slick or not, is there a future obstacle in your path, the angle of attack of your bike to that future obstacle which basically is the pathway you will follow, etc. All these things are judgments you must make in microseconds to properly handle the pending road hazard you will find. This is analytical but is one of the contributing factors to why riding your bike can be so thrilling. You constantly are doing this whether you realize it or not.



KK Continued...

Decide

This is just like it sounds. After predicting a future outcome, you *decide* what you are going to do to deal with the road hazard you identified is coming upon you while scanning ahead. This is where motorcycle training can play a big part. If you attend Top Cat's G.R.A.S.S. classes and learn from other sources about driving your motorcycle safely, you will act more automatically. Training helps reinforce safe riding ideas and ingrain them in your head so when you encounter an unsafe situation you are better prepared to react in a natural manner, almost like second nature. Training is an important element in making faster decisions. The act of decision also includes making a plan. Sometimes at 50-60 miles per hour. Piece of cake!

Execute

Finally, now we get to doing something on the bike! Action! This is where the rubber stays on the road (hopefully) and you successfully manage your road hazards. This can mean doing almost anything on the bike but not in a reactionary way if you follow SIPDE. This can include many things; swerving, staying the course, slowing down, speeding up, stopping, etc. Whatever you decided you need to do you act upon.

The last thing to consider is that you perform the SIPDE principals constantly. You continually are scanning, identifying, predicting, deciding and executing while you are doing the same. This ultimately means that what you scanned, identified and decided is a changing environment and thus, your decisions on a course of action or execution of your decisions are constantly changing. This is a continual cycle (pun intended) that you ride over and over while you navigate your motorcycle down the road of life. If you follow SIPDE you will be safer for it.

What is SIPDE?



Scan

Identify

Predict

Decide

Execute



VP's Vision

Let's Grow!

By: Ric 'Clutch' Case

Our goal as an organization, is to increase the membership. This is a great time to work on increasing the number of members on our roster. Let's think in terms of value added to the organization.

Historically, we recruited entrepreneurs, business owners and executives and this was the foundation of the organization. What we were really trying to recruit were contributors. When a new member joins, we work to find a way that they can be involved and add value to the club. When working as a consultant, during an interview, I would make the comment that "if I am not providing more value than you are spending, then you don't need me and you should get rid of me".

That remains the same objective within our organization today. Bob Morrison is characteristic of members we are seeking. Always willing to pitch in and provide a helping hand wherever it is needed. Using his specialty and talents in photography, in just a few months, he has made a major contribution by providing a pictorial summary of the month's activities. Guess what? He sought us out. How lucky we are. But we need to continue to identify, and seek those people with similar traits. Let's keep looking and find talent to enhance our club!

Sincerely, your VP, Ric Case
No K,
O.K?

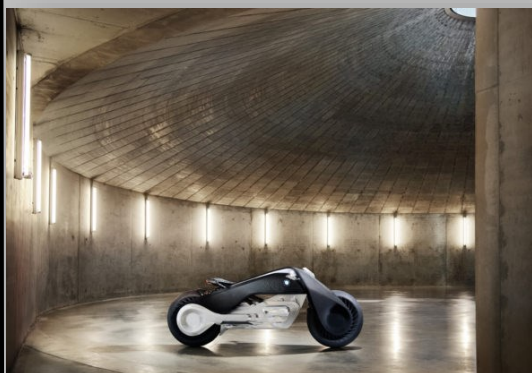
Oil Spots

By: Traveler



BMW showcases self-balancing motorcycle

The BMW Motorrad VISION NEXT 100 was unveiled on Oct. 11 at the BMW Group Future Experience" exhibition in Los Angeles.



The BMW Motorrad VISION NEXT 100 stands for the ultimate riding experience. Acceleration, wind and nature as in touch

with the surrounding world, savoring every moment. The design of the BMW Motorrad VISION NEXT 100 represents the essence of the motorcycle: the perfect synthesis between human and machine. Every detail is of the highest quality. These elements, however, have a contemporary twist, both visually and in terms of function.

The iconic elements in the BMW Motorrad VISION NEXT 100 make it immediately recognizable as a "genuine BMW" and include the black frame triangle, white lines and classic, boxer engine forms. The bike itself, however, is powered by a zero-emissions solution.

(Continued on page 5)



November Celebrations!



Birthdays!

5th- Mike Bradbury

9th - Jim Purcell

16th- John Canger

17th- Kathie Bradbury

18th- Doug Jackson

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

Anniversaries

20th Rich and Diana Lanute



Oil Spots, Continued...

Viewed from the side, the surface of the frame is covered in matt black textile, its silky sheen and fine lines highlighting the characteristic forms and representing a contemporary reinterpretation of this classic BMW detail. The BMW logo is optimally displayed on the dark frame. It is illuminated in the familiar blue and white colors while driving.

The Flexframe being flexible, allows the bike to be steered without the various joints found on today's motorcycles. Turning the handlebar adjusts the entire frame, changing the direction of the bike. The amount of strength needed to steer depends on the situation: at standstill, the Flexframe allows a light steering whereas at higher speeds it remains very rigid.

The power unit, designed and created in the image of the traditional BMW boxer engine, actually consists of a zero-emissions drive unit. Its outward appearance changes depending on the circumstances: when the bike is resting, the power unit is compact, extending outwards only when the bike sets off, to enhance aerodynamics and protect the rider from the elements. Its polished aluminum finish confirms the superior quality of this component.

Body elements such as the seat, upper frame cover and wings are made of carbon.

Beneath the seat shell, two fine, red, illuminated strips form the rear light and indicators - picking up on the typical double-C form of the rear lights on today's BMW Motorrad bikes - but with a new, futuristic twist.

Damping is provided by the tires, whose variable tread ac-

tively adjusts to suit ground conditions and ensure the best possible grip in any situation.



Overall, displays, cables and buttons are a rare sight on the BMW Motorrad VISION NEXT 100. The hand levers with their outward-facing joints are also a reminder of days gone by.

Building on the benefits of the digital world, the BMW Motorrad VISION NEXT 100 takes the analogue riding experience to a completely new level. The unique sensation of freedom is made possible by intelligent connectivity between rider, bike and the outside world - a combination that also allows the prediction of critical situations on the roads. As well as anticipating what lies ahead and alerting the user when action is needed.

The BMW Motorrad VISION NEXT 100 rights itself while even stationary, remaining upright when the rider has dismounted. The balancing systems also work out on the road to ensure a particularly agile and dynamic riding experience with even lighter handling, which seasoned riders will appreciate.

When combined, the BMW Motorrad VISION NEXT 100 bike and the special rider's gear that has been designed to accompany it form a single functional unit: a Digital Companion that provides the situational information and active support the rider needs. But because biking is essentially about the experience, the Digital Companion remains in the background: though constantly active, it works away unnoticed until

required to issue an alert via the user interface or provide active assistance, for instance. Unless the rider or circumstances require it, the Digital Companion remains silent.

Information exchanges between rider and bike take place largely via the visor. This essentially consists of a pair of data glasses that extends across the wearer's entire field of vision.

By collating the data it has gathered, it can suggest ideal lines and banking angles, or warn riders of hazards ahead. When suggesting lines and angles, the Digital Companion appears in the lower third of the field of view, represented by an upturned triangle from which two horizontal lines extend outwards. Like the display in an airplane cockpit, this symbol indicates the current banking angle and ideal lines.



(Continued on pg 6)

**Oil Spots, Continued...**

If the bike's current position does not match what is suggested, the rider can correct it as necessary. If he or she responds too late or not at all, the bike will correct itself

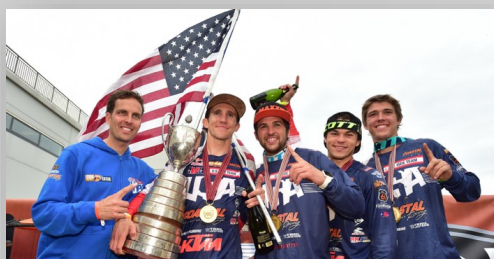
Looking upwards activates the rear-view function in the visor, allowing the rider to see what is going on on the road behind. Lowering the eyes to normal levels opens a menu from which the rider can select an option by pointing a finger. Looking further down opens the map view showing the rider's chosen route.

The rider's gear accompanying the BMW Motorrad VISION NEXT 100 is integral to the unique overall experience. In classic black and white, the airy suit enhances the sense of freedom and is both fashion statement and weather-wear. Depending on conditions, it warms or cools the user. At higher speeds, the neck section inflates to provide extra support for the upper vertebrae and improve overall comfort. Unlike present-day suits, however, the futuristic outfit for riders of the BMW Motorrad VISION NEXT 100 offers no safety features, because the bike's intelligent assistance systems make them superfluous. Instead, sensors in the suit keep track of the wearer's pulse rate and body temperature and provide the right level of heat or cold. The suit also delivers navigation instructions via the vibrating elements in the arms and legs, and alerts the rider when the banking angle is becoming critical. The BMW Motorrad VISION NEXT 100 unites the best of both worlds – digital and analogue – for the ultimate emotional experience: The Great Escape.

America Wins International Six Days Enduro First Time

The U.S. World Trophy Team dominated the 2016 International Six Days Enduro, the longest-running team world championship in motorcycling, winning the ISDE World Trophy for the first time. Held in Navarra, Spain, on Oct. 11-16, it was the 91st running of the ISDE since the Fédération Internationale de Motocyclisme event was founded in 1913.

The U.S. World Trophy Team defeated runner-up Great Britain by 3 minutes, 38.66 seconds, a lead accumulated over six days of racing. The U.S. team was led by Taylor Robert, who was the top individual rider at the event. Robert's teammates were Kailub Russell, Thad DuVall and Layne Michael.



"We finally got it done," said U.S. ISDE Team Manager Antti Kallonen. "Not only did we win the world championship, but we also won the individual overall.

Robert and Russell raced KTM 350EXC-Fs in the E2 class. DuVall raced in the E3 class, and Michael competed in the E1 class. Both rode Husqvarnas.

The U.S. Junior Trophy Team of Trevor Bollinger and brothers Grant and Steward Baylor also made the podium, finishing second after working their way up from a fourth-place finish on the first day to just 45.23 seconds behind the winning Swedish team.

The U.S. Women's World Cup Team of Tarah Gieger, Nicole Bradford and Rachel Gutish finished fourth. They were 32 minutes behind the winning Australian team, which claimed its fourth consecutive ISDE title.

The United States had two teams make the podium in the club team division, which was won by an Italian team. The Trail Jesters, made up of Josh Toth, Ben Kelley and Jason Klammer, finished second, and the Eric Cleveland Memorial Team, made up of Jimmy Jarrett, Broc Hepler and Alex Dorsey, finished third in the team standings.

Toth, who competed in C1, was the top individual rider among the 381 entrants in that division, winning by more than 2 minutes. Kelley won the C2 class, and Hepler finished third in the C3 class.

This year's ISDE was the first year for the FIM Enduro Vintage Trophy. American Fred Hoess, competing on a 1986 WR250 Husqvarna, won the overall.

"I rode here in Spain in 1985 on basically the same bike as I rode this year, and I'd have to say on Day 5, when we were riding in the mountains and I'd look up at the scenery and smell the two-stroke oil and the burning clutch plates, I'd swear just for a second I was back in Spain and it was 1985 again," said Hoess, who had competed in 25 ISDEs prior to this year's special vintage competition.

Limited Edition Jack Daniel's Indian Chief Goes for \$150K

Image, from left to right: Vincent Amato (winning bidder), Brian Klock (Klock Werks), Steve Menetto (Indian Motorcycle), Dave Stang (Jack Daniel's) and Craig Jackson (Chairman/ CEO of Barrett-Jackson Auction Company).

(Continued on page 7)



Oil Spots, Continued...

Indian Motorcycle has announce that the #001 2016 Limited Edition Jack Daniel's Indian Chief Vintage motorcycle auctioned at Barrett-Jackson Las Vegas on Saturday October 15 raised \$150,000 for the benefit of [Operation Ride Home](#), a program that assists active duty U.S. military personnel in traveling home to visit their families through a partnership with the Armed Services YMCA.

One hundred fifty individually numbered 2016 Limited Edition Jack Daniel's Indian Chief Vintage and Indian Springfield motorcycle models were made available for purchase on March 4, 2016, for \$29,999. All but #001 of the 150-unit production run sold in just eight hours on the first day of availability, with that first unit being saved for this auction. These motorcycles represent the first time in the century and a half history of Jack Daniel's that any vehicle has had an officially sanctioned Jack Daniel's livery, making this motorcycle even more special.

#001 of the limited edition series, an Indian Chief Vintage version, was auctioned at



Barrett-Jackson Las Vegas on October 15 at the Mandalay Bay resort. Collector Vincent Amato won bidding and will take the motorcycle home to display in his collection.

"The generosity shown by Mr. Amato in purchasing this special bike is simply remarkable," said Jeff Arnett, Jack Daniel's master distiller.

Created to comemorate the 150th anniversary of the Jack Daniel Distillery and designed in conjunction with Klock Werks Kustom Cycles of Mitchell, S.D., both Limited Edition

Jack Daniel's Indian Springfield and Indian Chief Vintage models feature an array of genuine



Indian Motorcycle accessories, as well as Jack Daniel's-inspired custom paint and logos, badging, leather saddle and saddlebags. Each fender is inscribed with the names of the seven master distillers who have overseen the Jack Daniel's distilling process over its 150-year history, and an inscription of Jack Daniel's "Bottles and Throttles Don't Mix" mantra reminds riders that drinking and riding are meant to be enjoyed separately. Finally, both models also came with a custom-printed Jack Daniel's whiskey barrel top to commemorate each bike, a two-year unlimited mileage factory warranty and free membership in the Indian Motorcycle Riders Group for one year.

Sturgis Motorcycle Museum Celebrates Success



From the motorcycles to the industry's pioneers and innovators, the Sturgis Motorcycle Museum and Hall of Fame recognizes every aspect of what makes motorcycling great. However, the museum would not be possible without the commitment and dedication of the board of directors, the local community and most importantly the sponsors.

"It was time to Honor the Ride and Build the Legacy," says Executive Director Myrick Robbins. "The mission for the Sturgis Motorcycle Museum remains unchanged, however the means to achieving its lofty goals are certainly advancing courtesy of our sponsors and supporters of the Museum."

A record number of visitors over the course of 2016 and a complete sell-out of the annual Hall Of Fame Induction Ceremonies breakfast highlighted a record year for the Sturgis landmark.

"The support of the community and the amazing efforts of Rod Woodruff, founder and President of the Sturgis Buffalo Chip, will make it possible for the Museum to expand on its mission to honor those who have made a positive and significant impact on the sport and lifestyle," Robbins said.

(Continued on page 8)

Oil Spots, Continued...



This year alone the Chip donated \$18,356 toward expansion, part of a total \$228,000 contributed over the past nine years to

help build a world-class Museum in Sturgis showcasing motorcycling's history.

Also making a major contribution to the Museum was Russ Brown Motorcycle Accident & Injury Attorneys. The original attorneys who ride contributed \$2,500. "We know the chal-

lenges, danger and bias that riders face on the road as we were riders long before we became lawyers," says managing partner Chuck Koro. "We are proud to support the museum's efforts to honor the men and women who have dedicated much of their lives to improving, promoting and advancing motorcycling."

Strider Bikes stepped up as the presenting sponsorship for the Hall of Fame.

Harley-Davidson Cafe Las Vegas Closes



After over 20 years, the Harley Davidson Café in Las Vegas is closing, and Nellis

Auction is holding an online auction for 350+ pieces of historical memorabilia. Auction items included signed fuel tanks, framed memorabilia, displayed motorcycles, metal eagle with 20-foot wingspan and more!

Harley Davidson Café was a prominent Las Vegas Strip restaurant for over 20 years.



Family and Friends
Laughter that never ends

Smiles and Jokes
From very Punny Folks

Miles of Sun
On Motorcycle Runs

Bananas and Jerky
At Gas Stops - Hurriedly

A year full of memories
Of life spent happily

Days filled cheerily
With Top Cat Family





A New Top Cat You Should Know...

Bob Morrison



Bob Morrison and his wife Nancy have lived on two wheels for a very long time. Bob-grew up in Niles, born in Chicago, and Nancy was born in Chicago, grew up in Milwaukee and moved back to Chicago during High School – just so their paths would cross - and their story is filled with many motorcycling experiences!

Bob attended Nile West HS, Washburne Trade School, Oakton Community College, and Harper College. Nancy graduated from Taft High School and attended Wright Junior College. Bob began riding with mini bikes and a Lambretta motorscooter in the late 60's, and this evolved into riding motorcycles in 1973.

Since then he has had a variety of bikes including a 1973 Yamaha RD350, a Kawasaki KZ900 and a Harley Davidson Heritage Deluxe Classic.

In his youth, Bob was well on his way to being a Renaissance man. He was in the Cavaliers' Drum and Bugle Corp, racing at Union Grove with a Cuda and Firebird, and a bit of camping and fishing complete the picture. The camping and fishing started at a very early age and ended up being a great way to connect with Nancy, who also loved camping and has always had a great interest in animals. In her youth, Nancy worked as a vet tech for many years and today both Bob and Nancy support The Valley of the Kings in Sharon, Wisconsin. It is a sanctuary for large cats who need a safe place to live out their years. Bob and Nancy will transport any kinds of food to the sanctuary and spend many Sundays there caring for the animals and their habitat. They also support the Feral Feline Project, the Buddy Foundation and other rescues.

Their story began when the two met on May 26th 1978. Bob was out with friends riding, and met Nancy. He asked if she would like to go out to dinner sometime. She took his phone number and a few days later she called and they went out for dinner. Bob then asked her if she would be interested in going to a motorcycle rally in the days following that first date. And they did go to that rally. It was at Beech Bend Park in Bowling Green Kentucky. They actually closed the deal on their present bike while at Beech Bend. To make a long story short, The "Big Boogie", as it was called, was like a bikers Woodstock, Nancy had never been to a rally before..... Ask Bob about how the rest of that went! It was a long time before they went to any other rallies.

After marrying, on October 18, 1980, they began working and building their future together. Nancy worked for Walgreen's for 34 years. She started in 1978, and spent years as an SOS Clerk. She managed an over the counter drug department and managed the inventory. Her last position was to manage the Home Health Care Department with medical equipment. Bob was a plasterer, starting in 1978 with Plasterers Local 5. Through the years, he spent twenty-five years as a Foreman and then a Superintendent for over 5 years. He also became involved with the Union and was on the Board of Arbitration and the Executive Board. He serves as the Vice President for 2 terms and the President for 2 terms.

The two loved riding, through these years, and rode solo on many cross country trips until the late 90s, always 2-up. The two spent these trips camping and experiencing the best of fresh air and panoramic scenery. There were some years without riding, but after both taking an early retirement, they were able to move back onto the open roads.

When they have some extra time, Bob can be found fishing, which he has loved since a very early age. He would go with his Dad and brother, Tim, on the weekends from spring until fall. There is a greenhouse in the Morrison's yard, where Bob can be found daily. It's an intermediate house about 11 x 16 where he grow orchids, and other tropicals. To cover both of their interests, it's also used for a cat colony who have access to the greenhouse all year round. There are 12 cats in the colony and is sponsored by Feral Feline Project and Rising Sun Animal Clinic. To finish their animal kingdom, Nancy and Bob have two Pekinese dogs and one indoor cat. In their 'free' time... well, they don't have any children, but they still have Bob's mom and dad along with Nancy's three sisters and Bob's brother.

The Top Cats are very fortunate that Bob and Nancy have time to join us too. Bob said, "I was interested in how group riding safety was a major factor in the club. Especially in today's environment. Everyone in the club seems to be a seasoned and proficient rider. This makes for a more enjoyable riding experience." Having the Morrison's along definitely improves the riding experience for the rest of us! Welcome to the Club!

Another New Top Cat You Should Know!

Mike Gilfillin



Originally from Detroit Michigan, Mike moved to Arlington Heights, Illinois in 1964 at the age of 12. He was not at St. Viator High School with Ted Nugent, but he probably is remembered with similar sentiment by his classmates. Talking with him for just a few minutes, it becomes evident that his sense of humor and impressive intellect actually surpasses that of Ted. Although, Ted may play a better guitar!

After leaving St. Viator, Mike impressed the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign Campus and earned a Bachelor of Science, in Architectural Science in 1974 and a Masters in Architecture in 1976. Even with all of these academic responsibilities, Mike still had time to develop outside interests which included his early riding days on a Kawasaki 250 and.. just as important... meeting his wife Sue, during freshman year. They married after graduation in '74, lived in Champaign for 2 years during grad school and then, fortunately for Top Cats, moved to Gurnee in 1976. Both Mike and Sue worked in Waukegan at that time. They moved to Arlington Heights in 1985, and raised their two children, Patrick and Betsy. Patrick is married to Rebecca, but no grandchildren... yet and all three of their children live in Chicago. Being a parent of active children motivated Mike to serve on the Park Board from 1987-2003.

In the midst of all of the responsibilities of family, work and community service, The StudioGC Architecture Firm was formed and opened on September 24th, 1992. This historic moment was significant for the Gilfillan family, but also was a crucial step which set in motion the events that led to Mike becoming a Top Cat! StudioGC has always kept Mike pretty busy, but he does enjoy a very flexible work schedule.... "I have a great boss," he's been heard to say. Using that flexible schedule, he has returned to motorcycling, thanks to Jane Smith, Mike's trusted advisor and a very central figure at StudioGC. Enticed by Jane's stories, Mike decided to return to his early love of riding. Encouraged by the thought of open roads, Mike decided last year to jump on a HD Iron 883 and get started again. He now rides a 2016 HD Fatboy S, which is very easy to ride for short runs, but the engine was upgraded to a 110 Screaming Eagle so Mike can keep up with any bike on the road.

Sue and Mike are empty nesters, so there is time to ride again and to do the things that keep families together. Their home has always been in Arlington Heights, Scarsdale Estates, but both of their kids live downtown. They have a little condo in Chicago, which they can escape to once in a while, while visiting children. They have a full life and a full collection of guitars, too. Mike has been collecting them and also breaking the quiet of the day by playing!! There is a good possibility that Ted Nugent will be upstaged at the next Viator reunion!!!



When asked what he wants to tackle next, his reply was, "I am very good at the visual arts; drawing, painting, graphics, photography. When I retire I may pick this up again." Because he is "Still in my younger years!" Mike is the true example of the saying, *So much to do... and so little time to do it!* Welcome, Mike! So glad to have you as a **Top Cat!**



A Few Upcoming Winter Events.... Be Ready!

NISRA Banquet

Tree Raffle
Fashion Show
Good food
Tons of Smiles

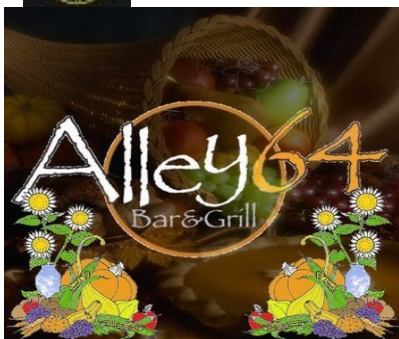


Top Cats Banquet

Friends
Awards
Memories
Smiles

And... of course, Good food

Hope to SEE you all through the Winter!



Alley 64
2001 N. Rand Rd, P
alatine, Illinois

Submitted by Mary Kirkpatrick

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES SEPTEMBER 6TH , 2016

The Meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by Michael
"Motorcycle" Bradbury, President of Top Cat's Illinois



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

President's Section: Mike Bradbury

- ✦ There were no guests tonight
- ✦ Sept/Oct Events were reviewed and highlights covered by Mike. There were many good opportunities to ride over the past two months and great stories to go along with the rides.
- ✦ Meeting Jokes were punny this month! Very little edge, but quite sharp! J

Vice President's/Report Safety: Ric Case

- ✦ Ric Case reminded the members that the G.R.A.S.S. class is a requirement and should be retaken every 3 years. The next class will be held at Woodstock Harley Davidson on October 23rd. The Class will run from 11:00am to 2:00 pm. The class will be open to all clubs and motorcycle riders.
- ✦ Bike Safe Certificates were given to most of the participants last month, but Tom Malia was not in attendance, so he was given his certificate at this meeting.
- ✦ Kaution Korner: **Jim Purcell** reviewed his KK article for the members. It contained a number of suggestions on how to be SEEN and HEARD while riding. See the October ROAR for the entire GREAT article!



Activities / Awards: Bob Stevenson

- ✦ **Bob Stevenson** went over the event schedule for the next 2 months and asked for ideas for the offseason! Send ideas to WICUN@sbcglobal.net. Movies, bowling, shooting or dinner at your favorite eating establishment were all mentioned! YOU can add the details!

Past President's Report: Wayne Kirkpatrick

- ✦ Election details were covered by Wayne Kirkpatrick.
Requirements for eligibility to vote include:
 - Dues Paid
 - 5 activities and/or meetings each year
 - G.R.A.S.S. once every 3 years.**Requirement for eligibility to run for office include:**
 - Member for one year +
 - Head a committee before taking a board position

Membership: Emil Kornecki

- ✦ Ask members to invite their motorcycling friends to come to a meeting and check us out.

Products: Jim/Lisa Purcell

- ✦ Available at the meeting, Men's, Women sized t-shirts and baseball caps:
- ✦ T-Shirts; M, L, XL; \$18 each
- ✦ T-Shirts; XXL; \$22 each
- ✦ Caps; \$15
- ✦ Long Sleeves
- ✦ Decals

50 / 50 Raffle: Jim Purcell The raffle was won by Bob Stevenson tonight. Meeting adjourned at 8:30.



ELECTIONS 2017....

By Traveler



Annually we have the opportunity to either vote to confirm a slate or to choose candidates for our Board of Directors and our Executive Committee for the coming year. Annually, we verify our members who are eligible to vote and who are eligible to run for office based on Club participation, dues, GRASS attendance, committee service, etc, consistent with our Bylaws.

As we approach this key, and critical Club event all of us should be reminded of the impact of our vote....

Ideally, with our vote we are continuing the great legacy of Top Cats – Illinois into our 22nd year and selecting the best possible candidates to run our Club consistent with our By Laws. Ideally, each of us will cast our vote to select or confirm candidates based on their proven performance, dedication, and contributions to the Club. Ideally, our selections will not be based on personal friendships alone, animosity, or in retaliation toward the Club, its leadership, or its members.

When you find yourself faced with a selection decision, simply look at your choices and determine 1.) Who has the best interest of the Club at heart, 2.) Who has a proven record of dedication to the Club, 3.) Who has the experience for that particular position and, 4.) If all else is a tie, ask yourself who you see at every ride, every meeting, every committee activity, every Club event, and every charity ride. That should help you decide.

NOMINATIONS. We have a wealth of eligible candidates this year and we are very fortunate to have each incumbent accept a nomination for another term. The positions up for election / reelection this year are:

Vice-President
Secretary
Two Directors

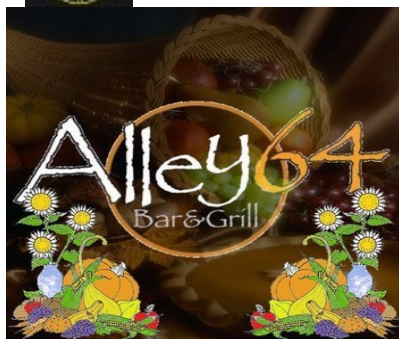
Eligibility for nomination includes; dues paid, attend a combination of 5 meetings/events per year, GRASS attended within the last 3 years, service on the Board or on a committee. In addition to the incumbents, members eligible for nomination to run for President, Vice President, or director, subject to their acceptance will be published after the 30 Oct due date for dues. At that time we ask that nominations be received by a serving Board member by 15 November 2015.

Please be cautious of candidates who violate Club policy of no campaigning or who try to influence voting. That kind of lack of integrity will only result in a negative impact on one of the finest Clubs in this area....Top Cats – Illinois.



VOTING. To be eligible to vote...by 30 November each year each Top Cat must have been a member in good standing for one year, attend GRASS within the first year of membership and within the past three years thereafter, and attend a combination of 5 meetings/events per year.

The Board can waive certain requirements on an individual basis for unforeseen hardships or circumstances.



Alley 64
2001 N. Rand Rd, P
alatine, Illinois

Submitted by Mary Kirkpatrick

BOARD MEETING MINUTES SEPTEMBER 13TH , 2016

The Meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by Michael “Motorcycle” Bradbury, President of Top Cat’s Illinois

Present: Mike Bradbury, Ric Case, Wayne Kirkpatrick, Emil Kornecki, Mary Kirkpatrick

Excused: Gene Rigsby and Rox Adonis

President: Mike Bradbury

- ✦ Meeting was called to order at 7:35.
- ✦ Mike feels that the Club’s Morale is low. He presented statistics that called attention to the low attendance at the general meetings as well as the rides.
- ✦ The board discussed items that may be affecting this phenomena. Age, interest levels, and the feeling of value were all covered.
- ✦ Emil and Gene will be working on a survey that will be broader than just the ride interests.
- ✦ The banquet will be pivotal to identifying and developing a focus for the future of the club.
- ✦ Board meeting schedule was adjusted because of an Alley 64 conflict. The board will now meet on the third Tuesday of each month.

Vice President/Safety: Ric Case

- ✦ The G.R.A.S.S, 10/23, now has 15 attendees. Woodstock Harley has not advertised yet. Wayne sent out an invitation to the POSSE, but there is no need to RSVP as the room at Harley can accommodate 100.
- ✦ Ric stated that Bob Morrison would like to complete a ride this year to attain his Road Captain position. As of now, it will be Halloween week-end and will go to the Harley Museum in Milwaukee.
- ✦ Ric made a motion to the board that the club will subsidize \$15 per person for the Holiday fashion show. Mary Kirkpatrick was the 2nd and the board agreed unanimously. One table to start, and if there is a large show of interest, another table can be purchases.

Past President: Wayne Kirkpatrick

- ✦ 2017 Election slate was discussed and there is still a need for secretary.
- ✦ General Meeting Ideas were discussed and include the history of the club, CPR class info,

Activities: Gene Rigsby

- ✦ Ideas for off-season events include: Dave and Busters, Medieval Times, and Wait-Wait, Don’t tell me...

Secretary/ROAR: Mary Kirkpatrick

- ✦ There is always a need for fresh ideas and pieces that will create a more vibrant and energetic publication.

Treasury: Mike Bradbury

- ✦ The members will be sent their 2017 Membership invoice next week. Mike may have to do them manually, if he cannot get the software to interact with the roster to import the newest information.



General Meeting, continued...

Membership: Emil Kirkpatrick

- ✦ Emil and Gene will be working to complete the survey that will hopefully produce information that can be translated into actions that will move the club forward.
- ✦ Mike also encouraged Emil to find some new venues to recruit new members.
- ✦ Mike also encouraged the board to find new ways to get the membership to be more active in recruiting too.

Products; Mike Bradbury

- ✦ Product incentives were discussed by the board. The board talked about using the participation card to raffle items.

Website: Rox Adonis

- ✦ The pictures are not being updated. We have monthly support that is part of the contract. It was recommended that Rox make this a priority and put these things to use so that we can have current documentation for the club.

Adjourned at 8:45 by Mike Bradbury



Your 2017
Membership
Renewal

is on it's way...

It will be the ticket to another
year of great rides and good
friends...



Proud of your Top Cat Membership?

Want to celebrate? Need new ideas for Gift Giving?

What Products would you be interested in?

Let the board know...





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1970 Triumph Bonneville T120R

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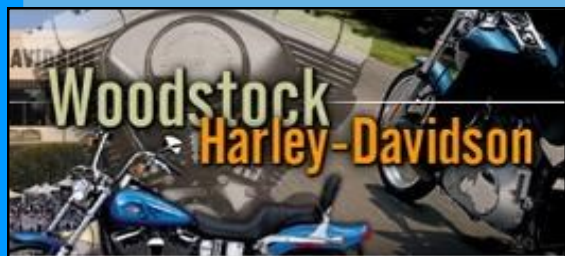
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GRASS Classes are held at the Keller -Williams Offices!

Thanks, Greg for supporting our Top Cat's Safety Class!

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.



Greg Smith
Keller - Williams Realty

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

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847-241-2200

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.

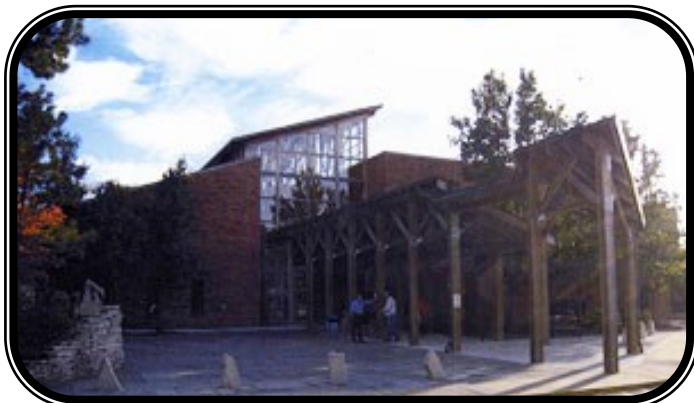
If you have an interest in becoming Top Cats Historian or being a part of this activity please contact Dennis P. (Wombat) Dougherty at wombat@dpdougherty.com



RIDES & EVENTS

Date	Ride/Event	Location	Destination	Time	Leader
November 1st	General Meeting	Palatine	Alley 64	7:30 pm	Bradbury
November 8th	Board Meeting	Palatine	Alley 64	7:30 pm	Bradbury
December 5th	General Meeting	Palatine	Alley 64	7:30 pm	Bradbury
December 12th	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 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



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

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