



ROAR

The Official Publication of the TOP CATS OF ILLINOIS

PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE



Top Cats of Illinois possess many qualities. Decisiveness, pride and striving for quality! As our year comes to a close, these qualities become evident as we reflect on this year's events. The pride and quality of our riders can be seen in all of the terrific things we do and have done as Top Cats – Illinois! Together we have created a great 2016, and together, let's start looking forward to our 22nd year as Top Cats - Illinois in 2017.

The year in review includes many fun, interesting and rewarding club events for 2016! There were 12 single day rides and events that allowed us to get together and enjoy the nearby areas. Taking a quick look back, we were able to get together for Shootouts, our Awards Banquet, Conceal and Carry classes, Movie Times, The Racine County Fairgrounds Barbeque, Corn Festivals, and our Memorial Ride, just to name a few. Additionally, we had 7 multi-day rides; some as small as 2 day durations. These shorter rides to The Crystal Lake Cave in Iowa, riding the Driftless Region and experiencing the Fall Colors of Wisconsin, are examples of the fact that Top Cats offers the "goods" with many ride options to enjoy! For those whose schedules allowed for longer excursions, there were the two longer rides, up to 13 days, going to and from Sturgis! This trip included more of the 'goods' for those who loved a more challenging option!

Looking forward, the process to ensure a great 2017 begins with our elections to fill the empty positions of the Board at the December general meeting. With each position we have the solemn important duty to elect the people we believe are dedicated, passionate and capable of performing the duties of these positions. This is an exciting time! To be eligible to vote, members must have paid their 2017 dues, attended 5 activities and/or meetings in 2016 and a G.R.A.S.S. at least once in the past 3 years.

We will begin our 2017 season with responsible leadership and fresh ideas, while following our successful, popular traditions. We do these things in order to maintain our influential, positive and progressive club. Now is the opportunity to build on the existing club leadership while creating the foundation for our club's future sustainability.

I am looking forward to 2017 with all my brother and sister Top Cats. Let's combine our efforts in producing a fun, happy, eventful 2017 year. Go Top Cats of Illinois!

Mike Bradbury
President
Top Cats – Illinois

*"American
by birth,
Biker
by choice"*



December, 2016

Volume 16, Issue 12

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Upcoming Events

DECEMBER

- 6 GENERAL MEETING
- 10 SHOOT OUT
- 13 BOARD MEETING

JANUARY

- 5 GENERAL MEETING
- 12 BOARD MEETING

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



CAUTION KORNER

Aftermarket Junk...

By: Traveler, Senior Road Captain



Brand – name motorcycle manufacturers are held to higher standards when building bikes than aftermarket accessory venders are. They are also much more concerned with liability issues and product reputation.



So, what do new and less experienced riders typically do? They buy, and install, aftermarket accessories based on the “Cool” factor with little regard for safety, functionality, practicality, or

quality.

You can see these examples at any motorcycle rally. New riders buy pipes based on noise level, tone, and sound without

even thinking about the impact on their engine performance.

You’ll see riders buy 10 inch “Ape Hanger” handlebars for a cheap price then find out that they need to buy

clutch and brake lines or cables, turn signal, lights, ignition, horn, and radio control wiring to fit the new bars. After all of that, they learn how difficult, and in most cases uncomfortable it is to ride with 10 inch Ape Hangers.

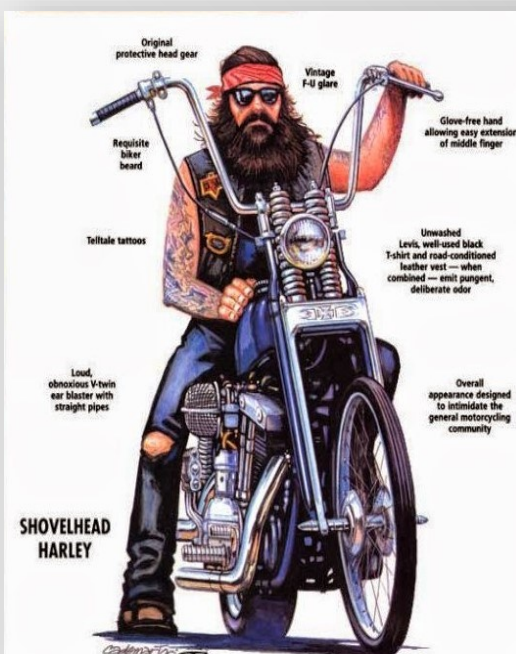
Let me give you a few examples of how the “Cool” factor can impact on your personal safety....

SHIFT PEGS:



Recently, a good friend of mine brought his bike over for some help with installing aftermarket shift lever pegs. They looked great and matched the rest of his bike however, while installing the heel shift peg, we attempted to tighten it and....snap, it broke off. On close examination, we found that these shift pegs, sold by Kuryaken, were made of what appeared to be pot metal and did not appear to be strong enough to hold up to the stress of heel shifting.

Interestingly, this rider talked to a friend of his who also bought the same shift pegs and had the same problem....snap, and it broke.



(Continued on page 3)



Kaution Korner Continued...

When they called the supplier, they were met with resistance in recognizing any design flaw with that product. To make matters worse, the supplier also sold the same peg as a brake pedal for another model of bike. Can you imagine your brake pedal braking off? OUCH!

Be it the brake pedal or the shifting lever, either one braking during use can result in damage or severe injury. BUT, they cool, right?

HELMET QUICK RELEASES:



Aftermarket quick release devices installed on DOT approved motorcycle helmets can pose a hazard to users by allowing the rider's helmet to come off during an accident.

Helmet manufactures produce helmets with both "D-rings" and quick disconnect buckles that meet both the Snell Foundation and FMVSS 218 (DOT) standards.

Only one aftermarket quick disconnect buckle claims to meet the requirements and exceed the DOT standard. This buckle also includes installation instructions where as the other manufacturers do not. The lack of installation instructions may result in a rider improperly installing the quick release device, adversely affecting the original safety rating of the helmet.

If riders use an after market quick disconnect buckle; it must at a minimum, meet the retention standards of FMVSS 218 (DOT) or it simply defeats the helmets safety specs. Much like buying a hand gun for home defense then loading it with blanks

So, with every purchase of something "Cool" for your bike or your personal protection, think first about...



1. Will this device be as safe as my original equipment?
2. Will this accessory require engine retuning or have an adverse impact on the operation of my motorcycle?
3. Will the installation of this accessory void my warranty? And....
4. Is it really worth the extra money and the reduction in performance and safety to be "Cool"?

Hmmmmmm.....

BIKER NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS



1. RIDE BIKES
2. LOOK AT BIKES
3. TALK ABOUT BIKES
4. REPEAT

www.twowrenches.blogspot.com



VP's Vision

By: Ric 'Clutch' Case



Since I became Vice President of Top Cats, I have been using this column to present ideas for our organization to try to improve it. That is why this column is exclusively in ROAR. I hope that when the ideas in the column reach all of you and after you think about it... That it will be the starter of good conversations and new ideas.

"Every really new idea looks crazy at first."

So, now it's your (the members) turn. Give me your ideas for any of our existing committees or ideas for new ones. Maybe some new activities... anything that might be

considered for improvement or development for the club.

Do not be bashful (as if I have to mention that to any Top Cat). Send me your ideas! We can discuss how it will benefit the club, and then I will present it to the Board for consideration. Complete with your suggestions on how to implement and develop the idea. I also promise I will not make you implement it yourself ~ unless you WANT to take the lead.

Let me close by wishing each and every one of you the Happiest of Holidays.

Your VP in action,



The only sure way to avoid making mistakes is to have no new ideas.

ALBERT EINSTEIN

Oil Spots

By Traveler



Autonomous Cars Vs. Motorcycle Riders

Over the last several months, an influx of companies have announced plans to pursue the creation and manufacture of self-driving cars. GM, Daimler, Volvo, Ford, Jaguar, Land Rover, Audi and BMW are only a fraction of global automakers that have already announced their intention to pursue technology making some vehicle models fully or partially autonomous.

Recently, the Department of Transportation gave good indication of where they stand with the issuance of federal guide-



lines released on September 20. The guidance included a 15-point safety assessment for automakers to design, develop and test self-driving cars. The framework also includes options for federal transportation regulators to authorize automated vehicles under existing law, as well as lists legislative or regulatory changes that could be needed "as the technology evolves and is deployed more widely. "In addition, automakers will have to document to federal regulators how they're addressing ethical considerations like whether to program a car to hit another vehicle rather than a pedestrian.

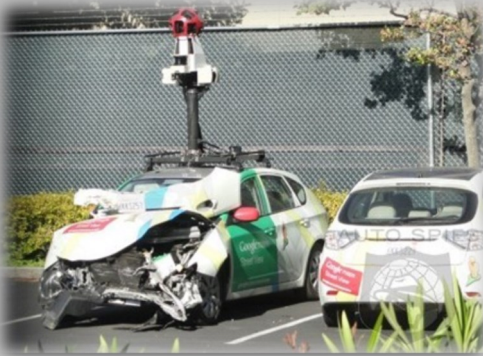
Critics of the guidance say that the Department of Transportation (DoT) needs to establish formal and enforceable regulations governing self-driving vehicles. However, DoT countered saying that going through the traditional rule-making process to establish federal regulations would not keep up with new technology and they needed to remain flexible to address new concerns as they emerge. Supporters of the guidance agreed, saying that the policy gives automakers the green light to be innovative, but still keeps safety at the forefront through its recommended safety assessment.

(Continued on pg 5)



Oil Spots, Continued...

In addition, DoT announced that it intends to update the policy each year in order for it to remain up-to-date and reflect the current technology and environment. It appears through the issuance of guidance rather than regulations that the role of the federal government may lean heavily on oversight and enforcement.



derstand that self-driving vehicles will be on the road in the future, but have started to voice concerns from the perspective of concern for their safety.

While not opposed to autonomous vehicles, the Motorcycle Riders Foundation (MRF) maintains that federal authorities must require robust testing with regard to motorcycle recognition and responsiveness. Given their smaller profile on the road, it's a valid concern for many bikers.



In addition, the MRF insists DoT must ensure that electronic security systems have strong standards to ensure safety and security precautions eliminate risks to motor-

cyclists. In addition, clear liability of fault must be established when it comes to crashes, and in doing so, motorcyclists should not face unfair advantages.



The Motorcycle Riders Foundation plans to file comments on the DoT guidance echoing their concerns voiced above. To see the DOT announcement and review the federal guidance and fact sheets, click on the following: <https://www.transportation.gov/AV>.

Autonomous Motorcycles?

The motorcycles we know today are in a continuous state of evolution from the crude, simple concept of having two wheels, a frame, and an engine, to advanced machines

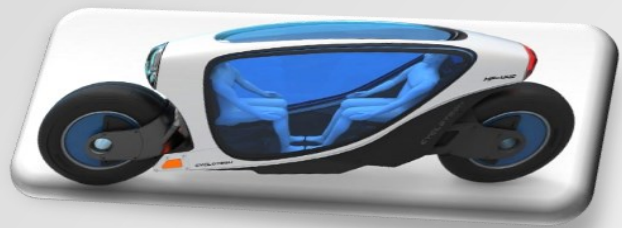


capable of doing complex tasks to provide better performance and greater safety. But are they ever going to be autonomous?

Every rider out there knows that the pure pleasure of riding is getting to be one with the machine and go together places never visited. Training the mind and body to cope with the power and dangers a motorcycle provides creates a sort of addiction that's hard to explain.

This makes the idea of an autonomous motorcycle sound a bit crazy and unnecessary. But that didn't stop mechanical engineer and transportation visionary Charles Bombardier from designing such a thing along with Indian Institute of Science industrial designer Ashish Thulkar.

This is not intended for your average rider, but for typical city dwellers to commute and take less space on the road. Well, that explains a lot, but it seems rather complicated since commuters usually take their cars to work because they are afraid to go on two wheels and also want to be protected from the elements.



The Cyclotron shown here, however, was designed to solve both problems.

(Continued on page 6)

Oil Spots, Continued...

The concept is basically a scaled-up motorcycle built around a cockpit, where two passengers sit face-to-face in a somewhat cozy environment.

The stability problem also gets fixed thanks to a gyroscopic system that will keep the vehicle upright all the times, even when coming to a full stop. Power is assured by an electric motor in each wheel to provide traction in any season and the designer also envisions a reliable wireless battery recharging system.



Yeah, OK but whether or not we'll see this in the future depends on development, money, safety and rider acceptance. Most of today's riders prefer to stick to a traditional motorcycle,

even if it's fully electric and there won't be a single drop of oil left on this planet

Milwaukee Harley-Davidson gets new owner

Windy City Motorcycle Group, a privately held motorcycle company, has purchased Milwaukee Harley-Davidson in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.



"I think Harley-Davidson understands that a sophisticated, multi-store dealer/operator has the ability to provide far more superior customer service by being able to invest more heavily in infrastructure, operations, employee training and customer support mechanisms," said COO Justin Johnson.

Windy City Motorcycle Group is actively pursuing other acquisitions, but is excited to bring Milwaukee Harley-Davidson back to prominence in Milwaukee.

"We will not grow just for the sake of growth," principal Ozzie Giglio said. "We will add to our family of dealerships only when there is a clear synergy, and Milwaukee makes all the sense in the world to us. Our priority is providing world-class customer experiences."



"We are riders and customers of the H-D brand also, and frankly that is what led us to purchase our first dealership in 2001; to offer fair and honest pricing to consumers like ourselves and provide a super fun and friendly place for riders to call home," said Giglio's wife, Jill. "Milwaukee H-D will be no different.

Our simple philosophy of 'be fair and be nice' and always put the customer first is how we've grown to owning multiple dealerships, and has also allowed us to employ over 250 people now, which we are very proud of. Being able to provide for our people and their families, which also supports the local communities in which our dealerships reside, makes this all that more exhilarating."

Now with nine dealerships, Windy City Motorcycle Group has become the third-largest dealership group in the U.S., behind RideNow Powersports and Freedom Powersports. Windy City's Illinois lineup includes Wild Fire Harley-Davidson (Villa Park); City Limits Harley-Davidson (Palatine); Illinois Harley-Davidson (Countryside); Fox River Harley-Davidson (St. Charles); Windy City Harley-Davidson, Chicago (O'Hare Airport); Windy City Triumph (St. Charles); Starved Rock Harley-Davidson (Ottawa); and DeKalb Harley-Davidson (DeKalb).

Military Rider Safety / Mentor Program

FORD ISLAND, Hawaii (Nov. 21, 2016) -- There is no typical day for anyone at Regional Health Command-Pacific (RHC-P). The military and civilian personnel that make up the organization face multiple challenges providing relief and care for Soldiers, retirees and family members in a safe environment.

(Continued on page 7)



Oil Spots, Continued

Safety is a common theme at RHC-P and it applies to more than patient care. No one in the Army Medicine family wants to see a fellow Soldier or civilian get hurt, making the topic of motorcycle safety an essential part of RHC-P's training toolbox.



As the senior motorcycle mentor, Sgt. 1st Class Kevin Edmondson ensures that motorcyclists in the Pacific region maintain the necessary credentials to safely

operate a motorcycle through the motorcycle mentorship program.

"We have approximately 200 motorcycle riders in Alaska, California, Guam, Hawaii, Japan, Korea and Washington State," says Edmondson. "Each location has different laws and requirements. My job is to make sure I emphasize the importance of what safety is, no matter where the location."

Motorcycles tend to build friendships among riders because of the common bond and joy of riding a motorcycle. In most places, motorcycle riders greet one another on the road with a subtle wave just to acknowledge that common bond.

"The Motorcycle Safety Foundation Basic Riders Course does a great job of teaching people how to operate a motorcycle. However, they do not teach people how to operate a motorcycle in traffic," emphasizes Edmondson. "That is what our mentorship program does. We will pair a new rider, with an experienced rider, usually with the same type of motorcycle, in an effort to help them become more comfortable with operating their motorcycle while negotiating traffic."

Unfortunately, the joy of operating a motorcycle comes with the risk of injury or death. In fiscal year 2015, the Army saw 26 Soldier fatalities contributed to motorcycle accidents. In fiscal year 2016 that number increased to 34 motorcycle fatalities.

Edmondson and other motorcycle enthusiasts have seen, first hand, that a motorcycle fatality does not only affect

the Soldier or civilian involved. It also impacts the victim's family, friends and the team or unit the individual is assigned. When one person is lost, the emotional and personal loss is felt for much longer than a few days.

"My goal, as a mentor, is for Soldiers and civilians to safely enjoy their motorcycle so they can return home to their families after every, single ride. One death is too many, let alone 34," adds Edmondson.

Senior mentors in the Pacific region conduct quarterly motorcycle safety days. However, in some areas, such as Alaska, a ride may not be feasible during the winter. All personnel are authorized and encouraged to participate.

As a motorcycle enthusiast, Edmondson has spent the last three years managing and mentoring the safety program. His favorite part is contributing to the mission of making sure each year passes with one less, or no, fatalities or serious motorcycle accidents.

Safer, Cooler, Stylish Helmet?

A graphene-coated motorcycle helmet that dissipates heat and is less prone to cracking in crashes has been introduced by an Italian luxury design firm. The helmet, developed by Momo Design in cooperation with the Italian Institute of Technology

(IIT), incorporates the wonder material into its solid outer shell. Thanks to graphene's heat conductive

properties, the helmet dissipates heat quickly, which prevents degradation of materials used in the helmet's inner shell and provides better comfort for the wearer.

The firm says the helmet also better distributes impact forces, which improves safety.

The company produced the first batch of 3,000 helmets using a graphene-coating process developed by IIT. The researchers managed to successfully integrate the procedure directly into the manufacturing line at the company's plant in northern Italy.



(Continued on page 8)

Oil Spots, Continued...

The manufacturing process starts with the production of a graphene powder consisting of multi-layer graphene flakes. This powder is subsequently mixed into a solution and then spray-coated onto the exterior shell of the helmets.

While the first graphene helmets are already available to customers in selected motoring showrooms, the Momo Design and IIT team is now considering how to use graphene to enhance the inner polystyrene shell of the products.

The researchers expect that a helmet with graphene on the inside could be thinner, but still sturdy and safe .

AMA: 2017 Renewable Fuel Standard 'too high'



The 2017 Renewable Fuel Standard volume requirements announced by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency are higher than the agency's May proposal and will mandate

more ethanol in the nation's fuel supply chain despite a low demand for higher ethanol blends and an inadequate distribution and sales network, the American Motorcyclist Association reports.

The Renewable Volume Obligations call for 19.28 billion gallons of biofuel for 2017, up from 18.11 billion gallons this year. The final EPA figure for 2017 was higher than the 18.8 billion gallons proposed in May.

The AMA objects to this increase in the Renewable Volume Obligations under the Renewable Fuel Standard.

E15 fuel is a blend of 85 percent gasoline and 15 percent ethanol and represents a 50 percent increase in ethanol over the common E10 blend most Americans currently use in their vehicles. None of the estimated 22 million motorcycles and all-terrain vehicles in use in the United States is approved by the EPA to operate on ethanol blends higher than 10



percent. Using higher-ethanol blends in those vehicles is illegal and may cause engine and fuel system damage and void the manufacturer's warranty.

By again increasing the amount of ethanol in America's gasoline, the EPA is further straining the fuel marketplace by exceeding the blend wall

by hundreds of millions of gallons. The blend wall is the point at which no more ethanol can be blended without forcing consumers to use higher blends, such as E15, E30 and E85.

The AMA also is concerned that the increased reliance on corn-based ethanol could further reduce the amount of E0 fuel available. Since the distribution network for E15 and E85 is limited, fuel producers may be forced to reduce E0 output to stay within the RVO rule, leaving owners of older and vintage motorcycles without a reliable fuel supply.

Of the 19.28 billion gallons of biofuels mandated for 2017, 15 billion gallons would be conventional corn ethanol. Of the remainder, 4.28 billion gallons would be advanced biofuels, 2 billion gallons would be biomass-based diesel and 311 million gallons would be cellulosic.

The final EPA 2017 rule can be found here: <https://www.epa.gov/renewable-fuel-standard-program/final-renewable-fuel-standards-2017-and-biomass-based-diesel-volume>.





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 announced after the 30 Oct due date for dues.

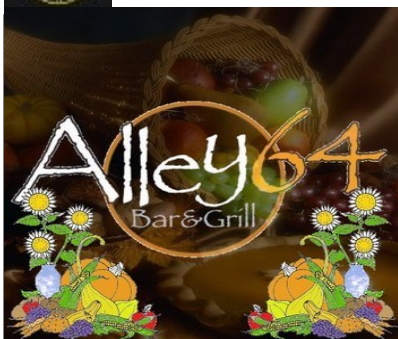
Please be cautious of candidates who violate Club policy of no campaigning or who try to influence voting. That kind of lack of integrity will only result in a negative impact on one of the finest Clubs in this area....Top Cats – Illinois.



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.

Your Responsible Actions
Will Build A Strong Club!



GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES NOVEMBER 1, 2016

Alley 64
2001 N. Rand Rd, Palatine, Illinois

Submitted by Mary Kirkpatrick

President's Section: Mike Bradbury

- ✦ 7:30 pm, Meeting called to order
- ✦ The membership was asked to Honor America and recite the Pledge of Allegiance
- ✦ Guests –Introduction of the ROAD Doc President, Steve Mosias

Vice President's/Report Safety: Ric Case

- ✦ Ric presented the G.R.A.S.S. class results, which included:
 - ⇒ 22 attendees
 - ⇒ Good presentations and interesting interaction between presenters and attendees.
 - ⇒ There was high attendance for other clubs, and Ric will make a full report at the Board Meeting.
- ✦ The next class will be held on January 29th, 2017.
- ✦ Kaution Korner was presented by **Mike Bradbury**. He discussed SIPDE and the importance of being 'in the game' while riding. See the November ROAR for the entire article and the important details!



Charity: Lisa Purcell

- ✦ The N.I.S.R.A. Fashion Show will be held on November 19th, 2016. This will be the 21st Annual Event and the Club will subsidize \$10 of \$45 ticket price.
- ✦ The club was also invited to the NISRA Appreciation Dinner on 6 Dec and the RSVPs will be due by 21 Nov. The Club will support partial ticket price.

Activities / Awards: Gene Rigsby

- ✦ A Participation Card Reminder was given by Gene Rigsby. The members will be sent a list of the events and they can identify the events that they attended this year.
- ✦ Activities: **Bob Stevenson**
- ✦ Event Schedule for the next 2 months was pretty empty, but the members came up with a number of good ideas. Event suggestions included movie time, dinners, shoot-outs and other events. Information will be sent out as it is developed.

Past President's Report: Wayne Kirkpatrick

- ✦ Election will be held at the December Meeting.
- ✦ All members in good standing will be able to vote at that time.
- ⇒ Member in good standing requires members to have attended five activities during the year, attended GRASS class in the past 3 years, and have paid their dues for the next year.
- ✦ Process
 - ⇒ Available Positions and nominations can still be made until November 15th, 2016.
 - ⇒ Vice President
 - ⇒ Secretary
 - ⇒ 2 Directorships

The members decided that the Club History will be saved for the December meeting....
So be prepared to learn about The Club Origin in the months to come!



General Meeting,, Continued

Guest Speakers: EMS Road Docs

- ★ Steve Mosias, is the President of the Illinois Branch of the Road Docs. He and his staff travel along with groups on charity runs and other motorcycle events.
- ★ Medical related courses you give. CPR, BLS (Basic Life safety), First Responder First Aid, EMR. Classes were offered to the club for \$55/class.
- ★ Within the EMS system, they have professional level members who are medically trained professionals. Then they also train non-medical personnel so that they can become trained to attend to medical emergencies.
- ★ Bike First Aid Kit recommended contents were covered and discussed with the club members. Steve brought a list of items that can be found in any of the EMS Road Docs kits. It can be used as a guideline for making your own kit OR you can purchase one for \$100.

Products: Jim and Lisa Purcell

- ★ The following products are available and you can charge the purchase at the meeting... so if you do not come with cash, you can still walk out looking TOP CAT GOOD!
- ★ 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; \$22
 - ⇒ Decals: \$3

**50 / 50 Raffle was won by Gene Rigsby and was paid out by Jim Purcell.
Meeting Adjourned by Mike Bradbury at 8:45.**

Be Sure to Check out the

Top Cats.org

Website...

It is a beautiful thing!





BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

NOVEMBER 8TH, 2016

Alley 64

2001 N. Rand Rd, Palatine, Illinois

Submitted by Mary Kirkpatrick

Present: Mike Bradbury, Ric Case, Wayne Kirkpatrick, Mary Kirkpatrick, Gene Rigsby, Noelle Rigsby and Emil Kornecki

Excused: Roxray Adonis

President: Mike Bradbury

- ✦ Call Meeting to Order at 7:25, as all members had arrived.
- ✦ Roster update was addressed and the newest roster was resent to the board members.
- ✦ Membership Renewal Information:

Club 2017 Dues Payment Status

28 members paid, 2 undelivered invoices
28 out of 54 members paid. 52% paid
No responses include 1 board member

2016 Membership Statistics

68 total members, 54 total Full+Probationary
40 Full Members, 58% of membership

Past President: Wayne Kirkpatrick

- ✦ 2017 Election
The Election Slate was reviewed and approved by the board.
- ✦ Wayne has ordered and received the new GRASS tabs. Mike motioned that Club share these tabs with Rolling Thunder as a 'good will' outreach and a way to get the GRASS class into a more public 'eye'. The board agreed unanimously.

Activities: Gene Rigsby

- ✦ Activity Idea responses included the 'Fly-In', "Wait, Wait, Don't Tell Me", Dave and Busters, Dealership Tour, Alligator Bob tour, Breakfast Club, Ground Hog's Day in Woodstock, and a number of other great ideas. All of these will be investigated and planned by a variety of the members.
- ✦ Ric has booked Dec 10th or Dec 17th and Jan 21st will be 'On Target' events for the club.
- ✦ Ric also reviewed the GRASS schedule for 2017.
- ✦ New activities progress
- ⇒ Participation Card program progress was discussed and the 2016 ride list will be made available at the December General Meeting. Members can check the list and add them to their card with verification then by the Board.
- ⇒ Activities schedule goals for 2017 include getting the calendar developed early in 2017 to include any ideas that members bring and the details can be added later in the year.

Treasury: Mike Bradbury and Noelle Rigsby

- ✦ Account Balances were reviewed and the board agreed to accept the documents as they are handed over to Noelle, who will become the Club's treasurer.
- ✦ NISRA 2016 donation will be made at the Banquet in February.

Membership: Emil Kornecki

- ✦ Emil talked about his outreach to the members who haven't been in attendance.
- ✦ Emil also suggested that we purchase a dinner right after their membership is accepted. The group offered an alternative that would provide the new members with a meal on their first 'ride' with the club.
- ✦ Emil then passed around a draft of the survey that he is compiling and collected suggestions. The goal is to get the feedback in order to generate events for the calendar at the beginning of the year.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 by Mike Bradbury



You might be a **BIKER** if...

1. YOUR BEST FRIENDS ARE NAMED AFTER ANIMALS.
2. YOUR BEST SHOES HAVE STEEL TOES.
3. YOU HAVE MOTORCYCLE PARTS IN YOUR DISHWASHER.
4. YOUR IDEA OF JEWELRY IS CHAINS AND BARBED WIRE.
5. YOU CAN TELL WHAT KIND OF BUGS THEY ARE BY THE TASTE.
6. YOU'RE ONLY SUNBURNED ON THE BACK OF YOUR HANDS AND NECK.
7. YOU KNOW WHERE STURGIS IS.



8. **This is what your living room looks like in winter!**

May Your Winter Bring You Time to Get Ready for Summer!
Happy New Year!

December Celebrations!

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



Happy
New
Year!

2nd - Nancy Morrison
17th - Emil Kornecki
30th - Laura Whiteside
& Dennis Dougherty

2017



Top Cats **Buy, Sell, Trade....**

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



2003 Harley Davidson V Rod

Immaculate VROD well maintained. Deep red with ghost flames. Ready to ride with only 4,000 miles on it. This bike needs nothing but a tank of fuel and a good rider. \$7,000. Contact Traveler:

wkirkpa177@aol.com



***The best way to ensure
good quality at
fair prices!***

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*See Mary Kirkpatrick for
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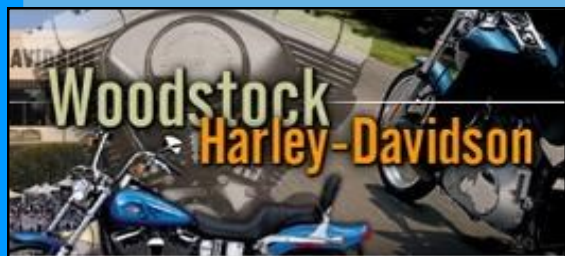


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All suppliers and vendors who support the Top Cats by providing discounts to Top Cats members will be listed in ROAR.

GRASS Classes are held at the Keller -Williams Offices!
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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, December 6th | General Meeting | Palatine | Alley 64 | 7:30 pm | Bradbury |
| Saturday, December 10th | Shoot Out | Crystal Lake | On Target | 9:00 am | Case |
| Tuesday, December 13th | Board Meeting | Palatine | Alley 64 | 7:30 pm | Bradbury |
| Tuesday, January 5th | General Meeting | Palatine | Alley 64 | 7:30 pm | Bradbury |
| Tuesday, January 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



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