



ROAR

The Official Publication of the TOP CATS OF ILLINOIS

PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE



I am sitting at my one-eyed monster called a computer to write the president's article for the May Roar newsletter. It is Sunday, the second day of a rainy weekend precluding most from riding their motorcycles and I am reflecting on our club.

Since becoming a member in 2005 I have seen the club go through a few phases. Many who were members then are still members today. Wayne Kirkpatrick, Mary Kirkpatrick, Emil Kornecki, Jim Heniff, Ric Case and Greg Smith are a few examples of this veteran member group. Members like these have served in many positions, such as president, vice president, officers and directors as well as attending most of the club's events. Their spirit of caring, club support and active participation has always existed and still exists today. This is one of the many positive things about our club.

Gene and Noelle Rigsby are outstanding examples of this spirit. Gene is now serving in two positions as Vice President and Activities/Awards Committee Chair. Noelle is currently Treasurer after spending 3 years as Charity Committee Chair. They exemplify and represent the Top Cats – Illinois spirit well.

Lisa Purcell is another great example of this strong club spirit. She is our Charity Committee Chair which is a dry way of saying she is managing our 2017 charity efforts. She is a great example

of that spirit of caring that motivates and drives us to do a good job to support our charities; N.I.S.R.A. and the Valley of The Kings. She has been doing a terrific job soliciting sponsors. But she can't manage our charity interest all alone. We all must step up, help support and register for our ride, promote registration with our friends and sell raffle tickets to our motorcycling community and beyond.

The April 15th Kick Off Ride was an example of the good comradeship we have as a club. 17 motorcycles with 22 people attending and we all had fun seeing the many motorcycles and curiosities at the Iron Horse Social Club in Savanah, IL. The roads were very motorcycle friendly. There was a need to feed on the way home causing us to stop at the Dairy Haus in Rockton for an ice cream break contributing to our fellowship and great day's ride!

Welcome to our new members, Sharon Langlotz-Johnson and Luis Bonilla. Both submitted applications at our April general meeting and we all are looking forward to your new additions to the Top Cats club.

With a heavy heart, I must report that as of April 29th, Roxray Adonis has moved to Phoenix, Arizona to fill a new position in the 'ecology' industry. Congratulations on your new job, Rox! I hope we will have more opportunities to ride together in the future! The Purcell's should find a new foster kid to adopt!

I look forward to seeing you all at our events! Sincerely,

Mike Bradbury

President, Top Cats, Illinois

May, 2017

Volume 17. Issue 5

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Upcoming Events

MAY

- 2 GENERAL MEETING
- 6 H.D. MUSEUM
- 21 LITTLE ANGELS
- 25-30 RT TO DC

JUNE

- 6 GENERAL MEETING
- 11 RIDE 4 DREAMS TO VOTK
- 15-18 AROUND THE LAKE
- 24-25 THE HILL AND BEND

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





KAUTION KORNER



Beating the Summer Heat

Stay Cool! Eh!!!

By: Bard "Judge" Boand, Sr. Road Captain



Heat Stroke and De-hydration can kill you, so don't let it happen to you! 100+ degree days have been minimal in our area in recent years. But July and August in IL, WI, MN, SD, WY can bring these high temps, so take a few simple precautions to protect yourself, and those riding with you, and that will be "cool".....

Here are few basics:

Dress LIGHT, COVERED and WET, and drink lots of water.

- ✦ Dress in LIGHT colored clothes as they reflect the heat. Black Leather may look cool, but it ain't cool! Dark colors absorb the heat.
- ✦ Stay COVERED for sun protection and heat protection, especially if the temp is higher than 98.6 degrees. Do you get it...??? 98.6 degrees, that's the average body temp, so, if the outside air is hotter than that, you want to avoid having 98.7+ degree air blowing over your skin.
- ✦ The best hot weather riding ware for sun and heat protection would be a white long sleeve shirt, and a white or silver helmet. For added protection in case of a fall, a light colored armored breathable riding jacket will be cooler than a black leather jacket.
- ✦ WET....stay wet around the neck, head and chest. Do you all understand the principle of "air conditioning" and the technology behind it? Simply put, air conditioning is the result of moisture evaporation. When water or moisture evaporates, it cools. God made our bodies with built in air conditioning systems. When we sweat, that provides the moisture to evaporate, which gives a cooling effect. Us bikers want to help that process along on a hot day, by wearing something wet around your neck, on your head, and chest if you will wear a wet t-shirt. Wet Neck wraps, when being hit by wind, cool the neck and the main artery and veins between the heart and brain. Buy a absorbent Neck Wrap, or simply tie a big handkerchief around your neck and pour water on it every hour. I recommend you wear a light colored helmet for many reasons, but if you're like me and don't do what you know you should do 100% of

the time, at least put something wet on your head. I have a ROBO hat, a denim hat, when wet, at 60 mph, it turns my head into an ice cube...the 60 mph wind accelerates the evaporation process of the wet hat, and cools very quickly. This really does work well in 100+ weather.

Water WATER and more water and special beverages that replace the salts and minerals in your body. At every rest/gas stop, drink at least a few pints of water. Carry water on your bike in an easily accessible place which isn't locked in your tour pack.

Cautions on Alcohol and caffeine:

- ✦ ALCOHOL and CAFFEINE will de-hydrate you very quickly. Did you ever wonder why, after a night out painting the town red, you wake up in the middle of the night, just thirsty as hell? It's because of all the ALCOHOL you drank, and then pissed away. I know you are all adults and over 21, but for many reasons, The main one being that it is a club policy, I would appreciate that no alcohol be consumed during the riding day on my ride. Once the bikes are parked for the night, let the fun begin.
- ✦ Caffeine and coffee also de-hydrate, so drink coffee in moderation if you must have a little jolt before other things start working in the morning.

Shop with 'COOL' in mind. Lots of Hi-tech micro fiber clothing is coming on the market which wicks the moisture from your body in the heat, and is very breathable, and insulates and keeps you warm in the cold. Go to your outdoor camping or outfitter store, or to a bicycle shop and check out the new socks, underwear and shirts. As you built your wardrobe of riding gear...think multi-purpose and all-weather. This new micro-fiber stuff also can be hand washed in your sink, and will dry by morning.

*OK boys and girls, are we all 'cool' with this?
It also helps to pray for a 70 degree day.*



"Safely Go Round and Round" An Essay on Roundabouts and How to Manage Them Safely

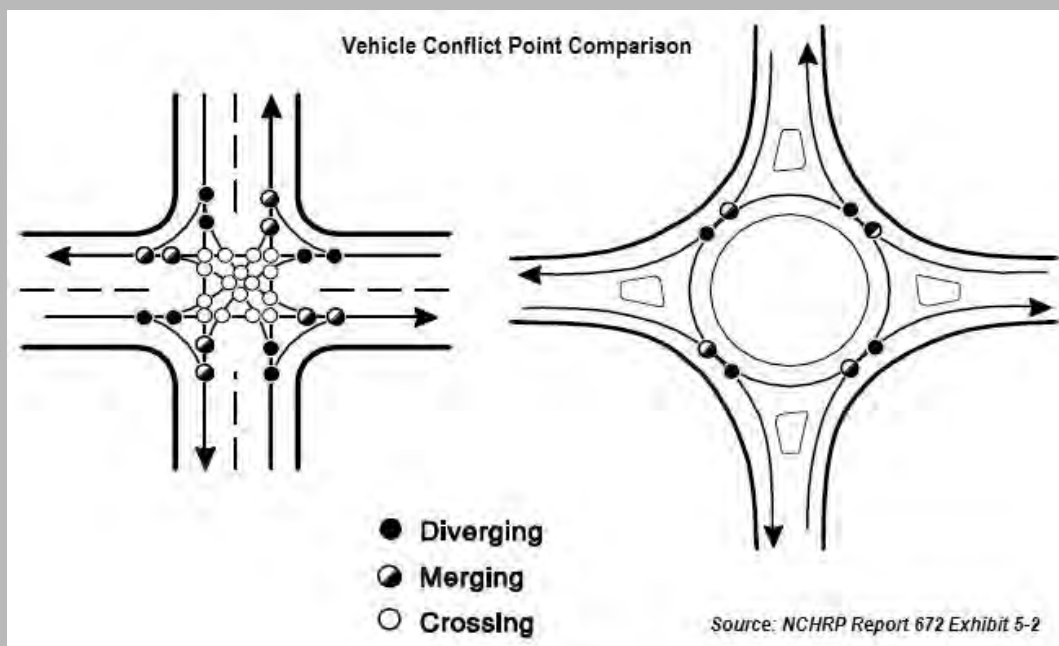
By: 'Motorcycle Mike' Bradbury, Senior Road Captain

Roundabouts are circular intersections where drivers travel counterclockwise around a center island. They are different from the typical four (or five or six in some rare cases) legged intersection. They are an increasing phenomena replacing the traditional intersections that we encounter on our roads today. And for a very good reason. That is because they are a proven tool that increases our overall safety.

Per year in the United States, intersection related crashes cause 7,000 deaths and 1 million injuries. In a conventional intersection, there are 32 conflict points vs. 8 conflict points in a roundabout. In a four legged intersection the conflict points consist of 8 merging (or joining) 8 diverging (or separating), and 16 crossing. In a roundabout you have only 4 merging and 4 diverging.

With roughly $\frac{1}{4}$ of all traffic fatalities in the U.S. associated with intersections, roundabouts have proven to be a safer and more efficient type of intersection.

As the name suggests roundabouts are typically round but can be oval, teardrop, peanut and dog boned shaped. They are safer, more efficient, less costly and more aesthetically appealing than conventional intersections.



The fundamental and essential characteristics of all roundabouts include;

Counterclockwise Flow – Traffic travels counterclockwise around a center island.

Entry Yield Control – Vehicles entering the roundabout yield to traffic already circulating.

Low Speed - Curvature that results in lower speeds generally 15-25 MPH throughout the roundabout. For motorcyclists as well as automobiles who drive through a roundabout, there are a few guidelines to follow to handle it as safely as possible.



Round-Abouts Continued

SLOW DOWN - slow down to 15-20 mph and watch for pedestrians in the crosswalk.

LOOK TO YOUR LEFT AND YEILD to traffic already in the roundabout and ready to merge before you can. If there is no traffic you may proceed without yielding.

Once you see a gap in traffic, ENTER THE ROUNDABOUT proceeding in a counterclockwise fashion. It is always better to stay by priority either in the through traffic or the right lane if it is combined with the through traffic option to either turn right at your designated choice or continue to the next right in counter-clockwise fashion. The roundabout geometry is simply a circle and when you are approaching it from the 6 o'clock position, typically your options are you could turn at the 3:00, 12:00, 9:00 o'clock positions or go a full 360° and make U-turn reversing your direction and going back from the same direction you came. **The right lane position is always better than the left position in a 2 lane roundabout because the right lane will keep you from having to merge to the outer lane to make your turn.**

When leading a group of motorcyclists the main things to remember are: to slow down, stay in the right lane and follow your router. You may or may not separate as a group but typically everyone can see the leader.

Currently there are 4,800 modern roundabouts operating in the U.S. many were constructed since 1990.

Even if you do not believe in the increased benefits roundabouts offer instead of multi-legged intersections, they are being created in increasing numbers worldwide, they benefit all motorists whether in an automobile, a truck or a motorcycle and we all benefit from utilizing them as safely as possible.



For more information on the history and statistics of Roundabouts check out the following websites:

<http://library.ite.org/pub/e26c7ba4-2354-d714-5173-345427dcd867> ,

<http://www.roundaboutsusa.com/history.html> and <http://www.roundaboutresources.org/map.html>

Ride Safe!

Mike



**May 7th -
Mike Gilfillin**

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



Being a Member of Top Cats has its benefits! With over more than two decades of experience, the club has earned a prominent spot in the biker community and is known for our 'Safety First' approach. When you are a member, you inherit this position and the respect that it has in our area.

More importantly, though, you become a part of a club that has a great variety of experience and stories which accompanies each member. You can grow in motorcycle knowledge as well as knowledge about others. You can learn about the places they have traveled and share your stories too. You can learn new techniques of riding and share your techniques too. You can learn how to modify and create a more unique bike and give your ideas too. It is a great community with a wealth of wisdom and knowledge. And it's not just about bikes! Although, for the summer, that is usually the information that you'll be hearing!

It's a Club with character And Characters! It has great potential for growing better ~ because of you. As Mike talked about in his column, there is a spirit here and each of us adds to that spirit. Get involved this year! Volunteer for the Charity, Lead a Ride, Take Pictures, Write a Story for the ROAR, B ring in a Guest... or suggest a Guest Speaker. Get up, Get out of your routine, and Get Active this summer! Member ship has privileges and we need you to keep them strong. See you soon and Ride Safe!

VP's Vision: Membership

By: Gene 'Lucky' Rigsby



Our Unique Top Cats' Vision Leaves the Other Clubs... Out in the Cold!

An Essay on the Micro and Macro Vison of TC Life!

By: Trooper

All of us are in agreement: Top Cats is a great club filled with great people! Individually, we bring our uniqueness and create diversity in the group. We have all come to this one spot, though, because of the idea of riding and seeing the world from the seat of a Harley or an Indian, or a That idea and our individual spirit is the essence of Top Cats! So many times, I've heard that it is the safety component that makes us a unique club, but there are many other things that also add to the mix and create this very unique experience.

As we were traveling over this past week-end, the group passed other solo bikes and groups riding along the way. I began to think of a saying that an old friend recently sent to me ~ It went something like, "when you have good friends, you live many lives.. not just your own." Many ways to look at this idea, but those lone bikers reminded me of days that I was going and experiencing sites and places on my bike... alone. Good times, but only I remember them! When you ride with friends, you have multiple sets of eyes to use along the way. **At the end of the day, you can share the views and experience the ride over again, from the other's point of view.** That is the micro-study of Top Cats... the individual experience. ...shared.

Now for the MACRO... The Big Picture! We are a group of individuals with a desire to understand and master the world around us... Top Cats is a group of 'like-minded' riders who enjoy going to destinations that are enlightening... not JUST fattening! We all are still growing, developing, learning... and the rides that our club schedules have offered opportunities to develop our intellect as well as our riding skills.

(Continued on page 6)



Unique TCs Cont...

The conversations that we have include new content as well as visions from each of our own 'heart and soul'. **Many clubs attempt this and are making this a goal, but I do believe that Top Cats was developed because of and has based the club on this concept... not just added it to the mix.**

A few miles down the road from these thoughts, we encountered a group of riders that looked pretty 'old school'. The stereotypical look of hard, tough, and ready to take on anyone who irritates them. The girls were wearing 'Property of..' patches on their back. It was a sad sight to see, by enlightened standards. Again, the idea of our Top Cats vision came to mind. Never in club History ~ even those first crazy years ~ is there evidence or memory of women included in that way. **Active membership was offered to anyone, of any race, color, creed or gender. It always has been and always will be. It is another 'gold standard' that is a part of our Top Cats culture.** As I looked at all of the pieces of information that I came across on this ride, it became clear why Top Cats has now spanned two decades. **The events, the people and the description of the Top Cats culture needed time to mature in my mind... maybe yours too?**

I am very glad to be a Top Cat and to share that membership with all of you! I am also glad for all of the Top Cats who went before and laid down the foundation of this club we now share. In thinking about this, the feeling of responsibility began to grow. We have been given an opportunity, a character, a vision of what Riding a Motorcycle brings to ANY community. But Top Cats has a unique twist on all of that. It is important to identify and celebrate the very unique place our club has in the Motorcycling community. What is our 'reputation'? What is our place and what are we doing to maintain and build that place within the community?

Let me know what you 'see' as the reason for Top Cats longevity and what makes the club a 'gold standard' kind of club! We can compile our 'views' and publish them. **Why We Ride as Top Cats...**



Sounds like a good movie!

Why We Ride

(Continued on page 7)

Oil Spots

By Traveler



Indian Motorcycle Introduces 2017 Chieftain Limited

The new standard in bagger design and style is here. That's what Indian Motorcycle accomplished with the new custom-inspired Chieftain Limited and Chieftain Elite. For these bold new 2017 Chieftains, Indian Motorcycle's designers added tons of style with a variety of features that provide a more sleek, meaner look than ever before. The new offerings represent a bold evolution of the Chieftain line.

A new lower-profile, sawed-off open front fender showcases Indian Motorcycle's new front wheel – a ten



-spoke 19" contrast-cut behemoth, paired with a matching 16" rear wheel that perfectly complements the powerful dual 300mm floating front rotors with 4 piston calipers. The calipers feature the Indian Motorcycle script logo for a unique custom touch. A color matched headlight bezel and streamlined leather saddle complete the more sleek, aggressive look.

The Chieftain Elite features custom Fireglow Red Candy with Marble Accents paint, all completed entirely by hand at Indian Motorcycle's custom paint facility located in Spearfish, South Dakota. It takes a small, specialized team over 25 hours to hand paint each bike and since no machines are used, no two Chieftain Elites look exactly the same. The Elite also comes with a wealth of premium accessories, including Pathfinder LED headlight and driving lights, a flare windshield, billet driver and passenger floorboards, and a 200-watt premium audio system. Only 350 will be made available for sale globally.

(Continued on page 7)



Oil Spots, Continued...

Both bikes come stacked with the Ride Command seven-inch infotainment system and powerful Thunderstroke 111 engine with 119 ft-lbs of torque. The Chieftain Limited and Chieftain Elite have a wealth of features including key-less ignition, remote locking saddlebags, anti-lock brakes (ABS), chrome front highway bars, power adjustable windshields, and just enough chrome to highlight all the attitude these bikes have to offer.

Senators form first Motorcycle Caucus

U.S. Senators Joni Ernst (R-Iowa) and Gary Peters (D-Mich.) have established the first Senate Motorcycle Caucus. Both Ernst and Peters are lifelong motorcyclists and will serve as co-chairs of the caucus. The caucus will advocate on behalf of both motorcycle riders and manufacturers.

Wayne Allard, AMA vice president, said, "The AMA has long sought the establishment of a Senate Motorcycle Caucus, and we are happy that this bipartisan effort has come to fruition."



Senator Joni Ernst

Ernst said her concern for motorcycles and motorcyclists started when she was a child: "Some of my most cherished memories include motorcycles, from delivering messages as a young girl to my dad while he was working out in the fields, to riding through the rolling hills of Northeast Iowa with family and friends. I am thrilled to have the opportunity to encourage thoughtful discussion and solutions on behalf of motorcycle riders and manufacturers through my new role as co-chair of the motorcycle caucus."

"Throughout my 99 county tour of Iowa, I have heard from many of these folks about some of their priorities, including improving safety, infrastructure and energy efficiency. These concerns are shared by folks across our great state and country, and I look forward to working with Sen. Peters toward solutions."

Sen. Peters explains, "I've loved motorcycles since I was a kid, and I started a newspaper route to buy my first motorcycle at age 11. To this day, I believe there is no better way to see Michigan's beautiful scenery than by bike, whether I'm riding to meet with constituents and small



Senator Gary Peters

lovers across the country." Peters bought his first motorcycle at age 11.

Indian Motorcycle and Veterans Charity Ride to Sturgis Announce Third Annual Ride

Indian Motorcycle has again joined forces with "Veterans Charity Ride to Sturgis," a nine-day journey that provides veterans a chance to use motorcycle therapy as a way to decompress from the challenges of post-war life. Through the "Hero's Ride of a Lifetime" program, well-deserving veteran heroes can be nominated to join the ride from now until May 21.



Rolling out of Los Angeles on July 28, veterans will not only experience the great outdoors and the beauty this country has to offer, but also make stops to meet with other veterans, supporters, riders, and participate in various adjacent adventures. Upon arrival in Sturgis on August 5, the group will be treated to a special "Heroes Welcome" before taking part in a week of activities that further solidify the brotherhood and sisterhood formed during the ride.

"We'll spend over a week riding on America's most beautiful roads, getting to know each other and helping each other through Motorcycle Therapy," said David Frey, Veterans Charity Ride Founder. "The shared experience of serving brings us together, veteran to veteran, to help each other heal."

(Continued on page 8)

Oil Spots, Continued...

“We’ll spend over a week riding on America’s most beautiful roads, getting to know each other and helping each other through Motorcycle Therapy,” said David Frey, Veterans Charity Ride Founder. “The shared experience of serving brings us together, veteran to veteran, to help each other heal.”

Twenty deserving veterans and veteran mentors will join the Veterans Charity Ride to Sturgis in 2017.



“Indian Motorcycle has been a proud supporter of the Armed Forces dating back to its role as a military supplier during WWI,” said Reid Wilson, Indian Motorcycle Marketing Director. “It’s an honor to give back to our military veterans through our relationship with the Veterans Charity Ride to Sturgis and the incredible experience this ride provides.”

[Record Auction Contributes to Sturgis Motorcycle Museum](#)

On a weekend when a historic motorcycle was auctioned for half a million dollars, the Sturgis Motorcycle Museum hosted the first of its regional fund raisers for the 2017 Hall of Fame. A collection of high rollers and motorcycle history buffs contributed to the worthy cause of preserving the history of motorcycling and honoring those who have had a significant impact on the lifestyle. More than \$8,000 cash was raised, as well as some priceless donations to the museum’s cause.

“I don’t know if it was the excitement of the Mecum auction or just the fact that the event was held in Las Vegas, but we had people reaching for their wallets,” says Tigra Tsujikawa, marketing & development director for the Sturgis Museum & Hall Of Fame. “At the Mecum Auction, we introduced the ‘1500 Rider’ Program. We are seeking 1,500 individual donations of \$1,000 to complete the expansion project on Junction and Main by the end of 2018. Our vision is to continue as a world-class museum offering comprehensive and educational exhibits and

showcasing rare and unusual motorcycles significant to our history.”



Achieving this vision was bought closer to its \$1.5 million goal courtesy of supporters such as former AMA Board Chairman Stan Simpson, Mike Tomas from Kiwi Indian and Southwest Superbikes owner (and noted collector in his own right) Mark Peterson. Major collectors like Tom White and Motion Pro founder Chris Carter – who has some historic motorcycles of his own – were in town to see what was going under the gavel at the auction and stuck around for the Sturgis fund raising festivities.

Billed as the world’s largest antique and vintage motorcycle auction, Mecum says sales totals for their 26th annual Las Vegas Motorcycle Auction at South Point Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas, reached \$13.7 million – including the \$490,000 auction price of a 1912 Henderson Four. According to Mecum’s tally, this was the most successful motorcycle auction in the event’s history.

But it’s also for anyone who is simply interested in learning more about motorcycling and about the phenomenon that is “Sturgis.”

Look for the Sturgis Museum display at the next Mecum Motorcycle Auction, June 1-3, 2017 at the South Point Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas.

The 77th Sturgis Rally is set for August 4-13, 2017 and the Sturgis Motorcycle Museum Hall Of Fame Induction Ceremony presented by Strider Sports will be held August 9th at the Lodge at Deadwood in Deadwood, South Dakota.

[Driver swerved into the oncoming lane of traffic to hit a motorcyclist who was passing](#)

In October of 2015, a driver swerved into the oncoming lane of traffic to hit a motorcyclist who was passing. The rider and his passenger were both sent to the ground and, when asked about why he did it, the driver William Crum responded “I don’t care.”

Eric Sanders, the rider, only suffered mild road rash while his girlfriend, the passenger, was treated in the Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital Fort Worth intensive care unit.

(Continued on page 9)



Oil Spots, Continued



years doesn't seem like a ton for what likely should have been attempted murder, he'll be 84 upon time of release. And hopefully without a license.

The *Star-Telegram* also reports that Crum was convicted previously of unauthorized use of a motor vehicle in Somervell County in 1994, where he was convicted again in 2007 of reckless driving and making a terroristic threat. The latter was an incident involving Crum threatening to run little boys over with his car.

There really is no spin or takeaway here. Sanders is seen in the video passing Crum's car over a double yellow line, but witnesses say he was driving 20 miles per hour under the speed limit. Whether you would or wouldn't pass a car on a double yellow line, you don't deserve to be hit by a car intentionally and people who do so should go to jail. Glad justice was served here.



Harley Davidson will shift production, lay off 118 Pennsylvania workers

Motorcycle maker Harley-Davidson Inc will lay off 118 workers at its York, Pennsylvania, plant and shift employment to Kansas City, Missouri.

The company said it told employees in November 2015 of plans to shift production of Harley-Davidson Cruisers from the Pennsylvania plant to Kansas City starting in the

Crum has been in police custody since the incident, and was just sentenced to 15 years in prison for two counts of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon, which is one of the best ways to describe a 90-something Mercury Cougar. While 15



spokeswoman Katie Whitmore said.

Harley-Davidson on Tuesday reported a 25.6 percent fall in quarterly profit, hurt by a drop in shipments. The Milwaukee-based company's net income fell to \$186.37 million, or \$1.05 per share, in the first quarter ended March 26, from \$250.49 million, or \$1.36 per share, a year earlier.

Demand for Harley's motorcycles in the United States has slowed as its loyal baby boomer demographic ages and rivals such as Indian motorcycle-maker Polaris Industries Inc ([PILN](#)) and Japan's Honda Motor Co Ltd ([7267.T](#)) offer competitive discounts.

VW May Possibly Sell Ducati

Volkswagen Group is considering a possible sale of Ducati as the automaker seeks to streamline operations to fund an strategic overhaul after its emissions-cheating scandal, according to two people familiar with the matter.

VW has tasked investment banking firm Evercore with evaluating possible options including a sale of the Italian motorcycle maker, which its luxury division Audi acquired for about \$935 million in 2012.

One of the sources said Ducati has annual earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization (EBITDA) of roughly \$100 million and could fetch a valuation of \$1.63 billion, or 15 times its core earnings, a multiple similar to that of Ferrari. A banker close to the industry said potential buyers were likely to offer Volkswagen an earnings multiple of more than 10.



The motorbike group may appeal to peers such as Chinese groups, India's Hero or investors such as the consortium which bought British sports car maker Aston Martin in 2007.

Private equity firms could also raise their hand for the brand, whose motorcycles have won the Superbike racing competition 17 times.

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Oil Spots, Continued

However, it remains unclear whether large competitors such as Harley Davidson, Kawasaki or Honda could be interested.

The self-balancing motorcycle is aHonda solution to a problem

You might remember the Riding Assist Motorcycle concept, a self-balancing bike that debuted at CES. At first blush a self-balancing motorcycle that doesn't use gyroscopes to level itself – instead using automated steering inputs and a variable-geometry front fork, the particulars of which are explained in the great video by *Engineering Explained* host Jason Fenske above – you might not be so shocked. "Gyros are heavy," you might think, "and expensive.

Honda's solution is emulate what a skilled bicyclist does during a track stand: move the wheels around. To do this, you need to utilize indirect steering; it's steer-by-wire, with a motor actually providing the front wheel movement, just like cars with electric steering racks. There's a motor that changes the rake of the front fork, changing the trail. To provide more stability at low speeds, the Riding Assist Motorcycle removes trail to make the wheelbase longer at low speeds.

The Riding Assist Motorcycle is only a concept, but if it goes into production will it engender the same sort of geeky charm that Mike's Beat does for him? Who knows, but hopefully whoever buys one will appreciate the philosophy behind its wonderfully different approach.

EPG Media launches Woman Rider

EPG Media, the parent company of *Powersports Business*, has released a new *Woman Rider* publication. Aimed at educating and empowering female motorcycle riders, *Woman Rider* has been launched as a website and e-newsletter. *Woman Rider* is also creating a community through its **Facebook** and **Instagram** pages.

"Our goal is to bring you the best, most comprehensive content, including new motorcycle reviews, gear reviews, technical how-to articles, fitness and wellness for riders,



and safety and riding tips, all written by women!" editor Jenny Smith wrote in the first e-newsletter, sent this Tuesday. *Woman Rider* can be accessed at **WomanRider.com**.

Road Names...Who are you??

Article summary by Trooper

Jenny Smith is editor of *Woman Rider*

Tatiana from Axeladdict, wrote an article for their June 23rd, 2016 edition discussing "Road Names". It's an entertaining article and worth a full read at :

<https://axeladdict.com/motorcycles/biker-names>

Short summary.....

Tatiana's suggestion is to make the name reflect who you are and what you stand for in life and in biking. She also suggests the following guidelines for selecting that name that 'tells your story'...

- ✦ **Make it personal:** Use your real name, use your profession, use your hometown, use your interests, use whatever you want that makes it unique to you.
- ✦ **Make it funny:** Not a requirement, but a funny name is always a great conversation starter! I bet Rooster would have a great story behind it.
- ✦ **Make it easy to remember:** This isn't a time to get formal and fancy. Keep your name short and simple so fellow bikers will remember it.
- ✦ **Finally...** Tatiana states that you should have a good reason for your name. "Cool" isn't enough.. It works for teenagers, but bikers... they should know who they are and WHY they RIDE!!

Guys	Gals
Bear	Angel
Big Bass	Archie
Butch	Bumblebee
Buffalo	Claws
Capone	Ducky
Griller	Ebony
Grinder	Fox
Gunner	Hornet
Ink	Legs
Iron	Lefty
Rock	Mama Bear
Rooster	Smoke
Saddle	Silky
Shotgun	Sweetie
Tank	Sunny
Texas	Zippy

- ✦ What stories these names must have!
- ✦ How did you get your name? What is YOUR story?



Alley 64
2001 N. Rand Rd, Palatine, Illinois

Submitted by Mary Kirkpatrick

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES APRIL 5TH, 2016

The Meeting **was** called to order at 7:30 PM by Mike Bradbury, President of Top Cats, Illinois.

The membership was asked to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance

President's Section: Mike Bradbury

- 7:30 pm, Meeting called to order
- Pledge of Allegiance, Moment of Silence
- Guests –Introduction
 - ⇒ Jeff Smith from Windy City Harley Davidson.
 - ⇒ Sharon Langlotz-Johnson has been riding for 2 years and she is the Palatine Township Supervisor and is a legislative aid in Lake County. She raises dogs and plays the bagpipes. She has a Honda Shadow Arrow.
 - ⇒ Louis He was a attendee for the last GRASS class. He is a member of Fox River HOG. He is an IT person in his professional life and rides a Street Glide that he bought in 2013 and has now clocked 100,000 miles!
- Brandon Ryder was a Top Cat from 1997 to 2006. He would like to find a group to ride with again and got in touch with Emil Kornecki and came to the meeting tonight. It was
- Mike paid tribute to Joe Garcia, who was a salesman at Fox River Harley and Windy City Harley. His visitation will be on Sunday April 9th, from 2-6pm. All are welcome!
- Birthday/Anniversary Announcements: **Mary Kirkpatrick**
 - ⇒ Diana Lanute – Happy Birthday!!!
- Meeting Jokes left no biker undamaged... Hondas, Indians, BMWs and Kawasakis were all the targets!

Safety: Ric Case

- The members were polled on who would still need the GRASS Class at this time in order to maintain their 'Member in Good Standing' The next class will be on Sunday, April 16th, 2017. It was changed from the May 21st date, so that Top Cats can attend the Little Angels Ride.
- The Bike Safe Update for tonight was that there is no update at this time. Ben needs to have 10 people committed to taking the class and then he will be able to get the police officers to commit to the date as well. Please let Ric know if you are interested.
- Kaution Korner was reviewed by **Greg Smith**. He cautioned everyone to take a close look at their tires before the riding year begins. He gave the group some tips on how to check the tread and other aspects of the tire to ensure it is in good working order. See the April ROAR for the full article!

Past President: Wayne Kirkpatrick

Wayne reviewed some of the Club History for the group tonight. He talked about the fact that our club has positively affected many other clubs in the area over the years. Virgo began the Northern Illinois Chapter of ABATE, another early member took the style of the club and took it to Palatine Harley. Many of the members have also become Top Cats after riding with Rolling Thunder... who also has adopted the riding styles of the Club. And.. tonight, Jim Heniff, Emil Kornecki, Brandon Ryder, Tom Malia and Wayne Kirkpatrick were back together again for the first time in almost 15 years! It is good to see the commitment to excellent riding by these early members! It speaks to the character of the club!

Charity: Mike Bradbury in for Lisa Purcell

- Status; EAO Meeting impact was excellent! Mike and Lisa spoke to the members and their information was well received as Mary, from EAO was at our last Top Cats meeting.

✦ (Continued on pg 11)





General Meeting, continued...

- Holly Dorn, will bring a NISRA presentation to our next meeting so that you will be able to see the effects of our hard labors.
- Woodstock Open House is next Saturday and volunteers are needed. Members were given a sign-up sheet and Mike stated that Jim Wiseman and Holly Dorn, from NISRA will be in attendance.
- The Sponsor solicitation cutoff date is 4/15. The flyers need to be finalized so that we can get them out into local public venues.
- Promote raffle ticket sales and also promote member participation! Register now for your ride!

Secretary: Mary Kirkpatrick

Mary has been the secretary for over 4 years and voluntarily working as secretary for the past 1.5 years. The job is a very easy one once the routine is established. It requires one hour a month for the general meetings and one hour for the quarterly Board Meetings. The meetings last longer, but the actual work would only require one hour. It is a great opportunity to be in on the conversations that drive the club forward.

Membership: Emil Kornecki

Bob Kostus was given his new member package and was welcomed to the club.

Activities / Awards: Mike Bradbury in for Gene Rigsby

- Bob Morrison was given the Volunteer of the Year – New Member Award. He has been a very active and influential member in the short time that he has been in the club.
- Mike reviewed the event schedule for the next two months.
- Mike discussed the KO Ride which will be on the April 15th!
- HD Museum Ride will be on Saturday, May 6th.
- A Rolling Thunder Ride to D.C. Invitation was made by Wayne Kirkpatrick. He stated that the ride is full, but if anyone is interested, talk to Wayne and he will see if he can leverage another set of rooms.
- Sturgis is also booked, but if interested, see Bard Board or Wayne Kirkpatrick and they will look into getting another set of rooms.

Meeting Speaker: Jeff Smith.

Jeff spoke of the changes that are going on presently with the new changes within the group. There are now 13 dealerships under the name of Ozzie Giglio. Many positive changes are on the horizon, so come in to see Jeff and he will take care of you!

50 / 50 Raffle was managed by Ron Kostus tonight and he did a splendid job... and the winner is MIKE BRADBURY again! He donated his winnings to the Charity Event in June!

Meeting Photo was taken by Bob Morrison! Thanks, Bob for all you do!
Meeting Adjourned by Mike Bradbury at 9:00pm.



Are you Creative?

Do you Enjoy Riding?

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*Here is a chance for you to
enhance the quality of the club!*

*Talk to Mary Kirkpatrick
And help to fill these pages with Top Cats
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 Ride for Dreams to the
VALLEY OF THE KINGS

SAVE the DATE

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Ride Benefitting: Northern Illinois Special Recreation Association and VOTK



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Ride for Dreams to the
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SAVE the DATE

JUNE 11, 2017

Ride Benefitting: Northern Illinois Special Recreation Association and VOIK

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GRASS Classes are held at the Keller-Williams Offices!

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

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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, May 2nd	General Meeting	Palatine	Alley 64	7:30 pm	Bradbury
Saturday, May 6th	HD Museum	Grandts Shell, Arlington Hts	Harley Museum, Milwaukee	8:00 am	Morrison
Sunday, May 21st	Ride to Little	Woodstock HD	Little Angels	8:00 am	Case
Th—Tu May 25 to 30	RT to DC Open to TC	Hinsdale Oasis	Washington, D.C.	8:00 am	Kirkpatrick
Tuesday, June 6th	General Meeting	Palatine	Alley 64	7:30 pm	Bradbury
Sunday, June 11th,	Ride 4 Dreams to VOTK	Woodstock HD	VOTK	8:00 am	N. Rigsby
Th-Sun, June 15th-18th	Round the Lake	Thortons, Hwy 12 Volo	Lake Michigan N, S, E, W	8:00 am	Bradbury
June 24-15	The Hill and Bend	Shell, Peterson and 45 Libertyville	Holy Hill and West Bend, W	8:00 am	

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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