





ROAR

June, 2018

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



routes and destinations.

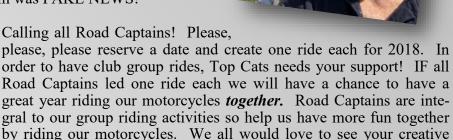
PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

And Now a Word from your President...

Hey Top Cats!

We had a somewhat event filled month in May, in spite of some obstacles! First, Chicagoland broke a May rainfall record last set in 1945. Second, our fellow brother and sister motorcyclists had what I presume was another phenomenal event honoring POW's and MIA's in Washington, DC over the Memorial Day weekend. BUT...Top Cats did many rides in the month of May!

Wait what? That last claim was FAKE NEWS!

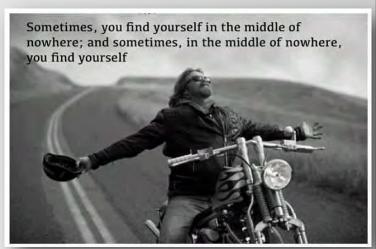


Coming Soon: Top Cats will be hosting our Ride for Dreams charity event on June 10th. You all should be planning to attend this important club event. The Ride for Dream's arrangements are phenomenal sounding with many interesting parts and including this year's new destination, Volo Auto Museum. We will have a signature car doing the ride with us, a raffle with great prizes, free breakfast, a GREAT Bike Show and more. Your charity committee, led by Lisa Purcell, is doing a terrific job! With an ever expanding amount of club member support, Lisa and the committee have arranged all this to provide the greatest donatable amount we can to the Northern Illinois Special Recreation Association. Pass the word and invite other bikers to spend their day with the Top Cats having a good time and most importantly, supporting our worthwhile charity for the last 22 years.



See you at the Ride For Dreams and beyond!

Sincerely,
Mike Bradbury
"To ride or not to ride, that's a stupid question!"
~ Anonymous







KAUTION KORNER

ethal Technology

By: Traveler, Senior Road Captain



Back in the day, motorcycles had limited instrumentation and other distractions. Riding was safer, slower, and less to worry about.

What has creeped up on us is the lethality of motorcycle - related technology existing today. Everything that distracts our attention from the highway in front of us increases the potential for a deadly encounter.

Think of the things that take our attention away from safe, focused riding....

Instrumentation: Gages that flash when they reach a



pre-set limit like oil pressure or fuel level. Analog and digireadouts that change colors to indicate pre-set specs. Warning lights that flash for low fuel hi or temps.



Navigation Systems:

GPS units that dis- We will soon that can be changed met tions.



Entertainment Systems: MP3 players, CD players, radios, Bluetooth music sources.

Phones: Hands – free or not, talking or texting is a major distraction.



Intercom systems: Bike

− to − bike or rider − to

- co rider communica-

tion brought us another

method of distraction.

Idle chatter, unrelated to

safe motorcycle opera-

tion, simply takes our

from focused riding.

concentration

Bike Group

Intercom

Heads up displays:

play routes and talk heads - up displays in to you. Nav systems full production. Helmanufacturers while traveling or have the technology to have music, weath- display selected imager, or traffic selec- es like maps, gages, weather, traffic, etc. on helmet visors.



(Continued on pg. 4)





Kaution Korner. Continued...

suppose that one could argue that all of these systems somehow contribute to safe operation of a motorcycle. I would propose that, without the dedicated

skill to scan ahead before you look at gages or the GPS, change radio stations, answer a phone call, or whatever, these distractions will erode your critical ability to maintain situational awareness that is so important to safe motorcycle operation.

All of you have heard the old adage "keep your eyes on the road", but when you get on your motorcycle, keeping your eyes "just" on the road isn't quite enough. You need to be aware of all your surroundings.

Constantly scanning can help accomplish this. Scan the highway ahead of you, make sure it is clear BE-FORE you take your eyes off the road to look at any of these distractors. Scan to mirrors then back to the road ahead to blind spots on each side of you. Being aware of your situation means you are better equipped to react to your situation.

Do not dwell on any one distractor. Remember, your bike goes where you look. If you're not looking ahead, your bike goes where it wants to.

So unless you want to take a really close look at that tree or truck, or the orange bike in front of you..... keep those eyes moving and always clear the road ahead before you look at anything else.

V.P.'s Vision

By: Gene 'Lucky' Rigsby

Hello Top Cats!!

Welcome to summer!! I hope you enjoyed the 3 day Memorial Day weekend and spent time with your families reflecting on and celebrating the holiday's meaning. Now, on to the riding season.

Our calendar is a bit thin so far this year so I would urge you to take advantage of every Top Cats riding opportunity possible as the activities committee works with our road captains to prepare more rides.



Be patient... They are coming. And don't forget that there are rides on the calendar now, so get in there, check out the scheduled events and then add your ideas to the calendar. Contact me or Jim Purcell, our activities committee chair, if you have a ride or event idea that you would like to share with your Top Cats family.

Jpurcell333@gmail.com

Gene.rigsby@gmail.com

Be sure to join us on the rides this summer! Take advantage of these opportunities!!!

Make some plans!!!

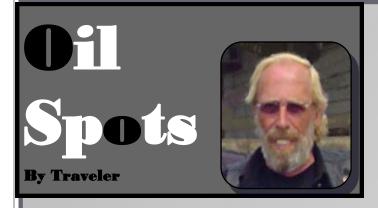
I am very serious

Look at me, now.... I'm talking to you...

Looking forward to seeing you there.... Gene "Lucky" Rigsby

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Indian Motorcycle & Carey Hart to celebrate Armed Forces Day with troops



Indian Motorcycle, torcycle icon partnered to Hart take Hart's Good Ride fundraising platform overseas to

active soldiers based at U.S. Army Garrison (USAG) Stuttgart in Germany.

On May 20, Good Ride Salutes USAG Stuttgart honored U.S. military soldiers and the freedom they protect with an Armed Forces Day ride and barbeque celebration. In support of the honorary ride, Indian Motorcycle have donated up to \$30,000 to the Infinite Hero Foundation from test rides completed at Indian Motorcycle dealerships during the According to the Motorcycle Safety Foundation, there is a month of May. Donations to Hart's Good Ride (a 501C3 of troops and veterans.

With an anticipated count of more than 200 participating motorcyclists, Hart will lead the ride from USAG Stuttgart through the picturesque Black Forrest and German countryside. Following the ride, the Armed Forces Day celebration will continue with a family-friendly barbeque, live music, prize drawings and a kids' zone.

In support of Good Ride Salutes USAG Stuttgart, Indian Motorcycle will run a test ride promotion that will raise up to \$30,000 for the Infinite Hero Foundation. As the primary beneficiary of Hart's Good Ride Rally, the Infinite Hero Foundation funds programs that drive innovation and accessibility of effective treatments for military heroes and their families dealing with service-related mental and physical injuries. For every motorcycle test ride completed at an In-

dian Motorcycle dealership in the month of May, Indian will donate \$20 in that rider's name.

"Indian Motorcycle's commitment to the American military dates back the first World War. and it's something that will forever be a



part of our brand DNA," said Steve Menneto, president, Indian Motorcycle Company. "It's both an honor and a privilege to bring a little piece of home overseas to these brave men and women with this special Good Ride event and Armed Forces Day celebration."

America's first mo- To further the Armed Forces Day celebration, Indian Mocompany torcycle dealerships around the U.S. and Canada will host founded in 1901, honorary military events on May 19. Many dealerships will and freestyle moto- offer food, drinks, and giveaways, including an Indian-Carey branded multi-tool.

> **Motorcycle Safety Foundation focuses** on turn signals for Motorcycle **Awareness Month**



clear and present danger in today's traffic environment: oncharity) can be made at www.goodriderally.com in support ly about half of all car and truck drivers use turn signals. Whether due to drivers being distracted or careless, motorist -to-motorist "communication"

is at an all-time low.

A study conducted in 2006 by Response Insurance found that 57 percent of drivers admitted they do not use their turn signal when changing lanes. Their reasons:



- ♦ They don't have time (42 percent)
- They're too lazy to bother (23 percent)
- Fear of forgetting to turn it off (17 percent)
- Too busy changing lanes to use it (12 percent)
 - Simply not important (11 percent)
 - No one else signals (8 percent)
 - Adds excitement to driving (7 percent)

(Continued on page 6)

Oil Spots, Continued...

(Note: total exceeds 100 per-

cent since respondents could select multiple reasons)

Similarly, a 2012 observational study published by the Society of Automotive Engineers found that 48 percent of drivers did not use their turn signals while changing lanes and 25 percent of drivers did not use signals when making turns at intersections. SAE estimated this neglect causes roughly two million crashes each year. Along with this behavior, drivers also do not always look over their shoulders or glance at their mirrors before changing lanes. These combined inactions threaten all roadway users, especially motorcyclists, who are more vulnerable to unexpected intrusions into their path of travel than car or truck drivers, since they lack the four-wheelers' thousands of pounds of protective structure.

"Using turn signals is one of the most basic rules of the road, as it connotes respect and cooperation, and is the primary method of vehicle-to-vehicle communication. Drivers need to take driving seriously and pay attention to the traffic environment," said Dr. Ray Ochs, vice president of Training Systems at the Motorcycle Safety Foundation.



To that end, Dr. Ochs said MSF is calling on car and truck drivers to make a renewed effort to consistently use their turn signals.

Serious motorists

know that safe driving is built upon a host of small acts – using signals, looking over one's shoulder before changing lanes, maintaining an appropriate following distance, keeping right except to pass, alternating the merge when two lanes become one, using a speed appropriate for con-

ditions, and more as such, turn signal use can be thought of as a kind of barometer of safe, cooperative motoring.

The Motorcycle Safety Foundation promotes safety through rider training and education, operator licensing tests, and public information programs. Standards established by the MSF have been recognized worldwide since 1973. The MSF is a not-for-profit organization sponsored by BMW, BRP, Harley-

Davidson, Honda, Indian Motorcycle, Kawasaki, KTM, Piaggio, Suzuki, Triumph and Yamaha.

Colors Banned!









(Continued on page 7)



Oil Spots, Continued

of A.B.A.T.E.

Sweet Melissa's in Lakemoor has joined Longshots in of motorcycle crashes," Allard said. Lakemoor and the Broken Oar in Barrington in banning the display of any motorcycle organization's "Colors" from their establishments. Rich Gruener, President of The Northern Illinois Chapter of A.B.A.T.E plans to meet with the owners of those an establishment that discriminates against our culture and sport!!!!

AMA objects to absence of motorcycles in 'Road to Zero' report



The American Motorcyclist Association strongly objects to the lack of motorcycling safety strategies in a

recently released national report developed by the Road to Zero Coalition, managed by the National Safety Council.

"The AMA is a member of the Road to Zero Coalition and has been an active participant in nearly every coalition meeting since the program began in 2016, because the safety of motorcyclists is so important to the core mission of the AMA," said AMA Vice President of Government Relations Wayne Allard. "We were disappointed to find that our expertise and insights into motorcycling and motorcyclist safety were torcyclists. not sought in the development of this report."

The AMA has sent a letter to the Road to Zero Coalition and to the National Safety Council regarding its concerns and is requesting that the report be amended to address motorcycle safety in a comprehensive manner.

The report, titled A Road to Zero: A Vision for Achieving Zero Roadway Deaths by 2050, was re-

leased in late April and lays out roadmap to achieve the Road to Zero's important and worthy goal of zero road deaths by 2050.



The Northern Illinois Chapter "This report should have included such issues as imreports that proved infrastructure and further study of the causes

> The Road to Zero proposal holds the potential to allow insurance companies to price some drivers and vehicles off the road.

"While we are concerned about unsafe drivers on our establishments to resolve the ban. We might be well roads, we are alarmed at this proposal, which would advised to think twice about spending our money in give insurance companies license to dictate which vehicles can and can't use public roads," Allard said. "There have been previous attempts by insurance companies to ban classes of motorcycles. By endorsing this proposal, the Road to Zero Coalition is accepting the logic that some motorcycles, despite meeting federal and state requirements for use on public roads, don't belong on those roads."

> "It is vital that motorcycles be part of the testing and development of these technologies, if they are to truly have the safety benefits for motorcyclists that the

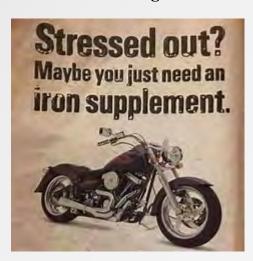


AMAand the Road to Zero Coalition hope they can have," Allard said.

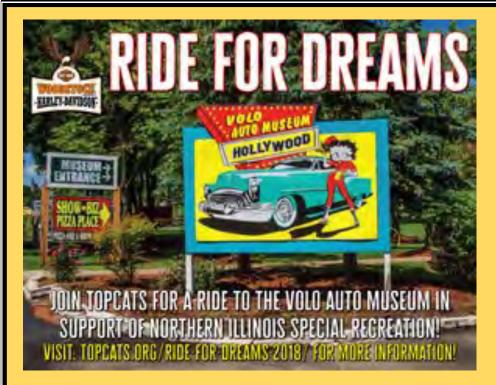
The report also suggests simple

application of automotive technology to motorcycles, such as automatic emergency braking, without any discussion of the potential for unintended consequences for motorcyclist training or the safety of mo-

Final Thought:







JUNE 10. 2018

> Be There!

The Ride will Benefit NISRA

Northern Illinois



Special Recreation

Registration & Breakfast Start at 9:00 am





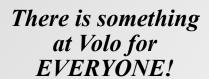
33+ Unique Exhibits

During your visit to the Volo Auto Museum, you'll see more than cars. You'll discover thousands of Mechanical Marvels from the first motorcycle to a self-playing orchestra. Whether you're taking a stroll down memory lane or experiencing these vintage artifacts for the first time, our 33 exhibits will leave you in awe.

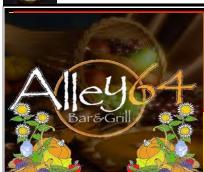




Old, Young, Cool Fun....







GENERAL MEMBERSHIP

MEETING MINUTES MARCH 6TH, 2018

Respectfully Submitted by: Ron Kostus, Top Cat Secretary



- 7:00 pm, Meeting called to order
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Guests introduction Chuck Ivey potential new member
- Birthdays : 5/24 Ron Kostus

Charity: Lisa Purcell

- A bit of history Top cats have donated \$285,000.00 over the 23 years NISRA has been our charity of choice.
- Lisa P. stated that the ticket sales and participation have gone well, but we still need to step up our efforts.
- ♦ Lisa P. asked that if you haven't done so as yet please return your raffle tickets and if you can't sell them please purchase them yourselves as a charitable donation. Please respond by next meeting.
- ♦ Jim Wiseman and Holly Dorn introduced our special guests for the evening: Austin Kramer and Tara Diedrich who gave us a very heart felt summary of how N.I.S.R.A. has impacted their lives.
- These young adults are eager to live life as normal as all of us.
- N.I.S.R.A. is on a firm replacement schedule for their buses; our "Ride for Dreams" donations will all go to help pay for new vehicles being purchased. Transportation is key to all their activities.
- Wayne P. passed around pictures of the trophies which will be presented at the upcoming "Bike Show" Charity ride 6/10.

Safety: Ric Case

- ♦ Kaution Korner / "Start your Engines After the checklist is complete" see also the Roar for further details by Don De Lordo.
- Ric C. summarized Don De Lordo's article in his absence.
- Don De Lordo to present his article in full detail to the club at a later date.

Activities / Awards : Jim Purcell

- 5/12 Sunrise ride Lake Shore Drive Gene R. Blast will be sent with further details.
- ♦ 6/3 G.R.A.S.S. class Ric C.
- ♦ 6/10 "Ride for Dreams" charity ride and bike show Lisa P., Wayne K.
- ♦ 6/17 Father's Day ride Mike B. look forward to further details.
- ◆ 7/11 Ride around the Lake Mike B. Blast will be sent detailing Ferry Boat fees, Hotels, Etc.
- Ric C. reminds all Road Captains to get their rides in soon to be added to the calendar.

Communications: Mike Bradbury

• Reminder to send all ride photos you wish to have published to Mary K. directly.

Video Presentation: Ron Kostos/ Gene Rigsby

- ♦ MC Rider video presentation " Dreaded U turn".
- Ten minute post discussion. Video was informative and well received. Riding techniques videos shall be continued.

50/50 Raffle: Lisa Purcell was the winner and she donated the winnings to our charity.

Meeting adjourned by Mike Bradbury at 8:17pm.



Upcoming Events!

June 6th
GRASS
Classs
Fox River Harley
10:00 am

Top Cats – Illinois provides a safe riding environment for our members and guests through our Group Riding and Safety Seminar (G.R.A.S.S.). Members are required to attend GRASS and non-members are welcome. GRASS doesn't teach riding...it simply shares with new members and guests how **Top Cats** ride safely.

<u>It's more fun when it's safe for everyone</u>, and **Top Cats** does our part to promote safety.

This is called the Lake Michigan Ride because we circumnavigate most of Lake Michigan! This ride totals about 980 miles spread over 4 days of beautiful, scenic riding and 1 day off the motorcycle to rest your tushy and visit Macinac Island. We will experience many things including but not limited to riding the S.S. Badger ferry across the lake, visiting the Sleeping Bear Dunes National Park, having our own campfires on the Lake Michigan shore, crossing the 5th largest, 7 mile suspension bridge in the world, seeing the Tahquamenon Falls State Park and Pictured Rocks Lake Shore, riding the Tunnel of Trees which is considered one of the most scenic motorcycle routes in the state of Michigan and as noted, spending a day on Mackinac Island.

July 11th -15th Round the Lake

A Mike Bradbury
Tour

Experience the largest annual gathering of aviation enthusiasts. From unique, historic aircraft to world-class daily air shows, you don't want to miss the World's Greatest Aviation Celebration.

July 28th EAA Air Show

July 31 - August 7th
Sturgis
Or Beyond to August 13th

500,000 Riders attend this historical motorcycle rally each year. Sturgis is located in the Black Hills of South Dakota! Join your Top Cat Family and visit, the Badlands, Mt. Rushmore, Crazy Horse, Custer State Park and see some of the most scenic riding in the country! After that... You can head home or join us for a tour of Colorado, New Mexico and Missouri. Plan now! Space is limited!



BOARD MEMBERSHIP

Respectfully Submitted by: Ron Kostus, Top Cat Secretary

MEETING MINUTES MARCH 13TH, 2018

President's Section: Mike Bradbury

- Meeting called to order at 7:00 P.M.
- Short discussion "What is our Board " The Board is the supportive group for all of the membership; "we are the heart of the club".

Charity : Lisa Purcell

- Flyer distribution ride of 5/6 was a lot of fun; many new stops had been covered and were well received.
- Gene R. working on getting ride info added Volo Auto's website calendar; has been completed.
- Lisa P. reviewed the original support stop list of the group.

Activities / Awards: Gene Rigsby

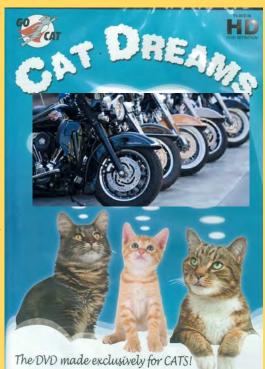
- Gene R. has phoned our Road Captains rides are in the works, but no solid commitments as yet.
- The Club has ten active Road Captains, but only five rides are presently on the Calendar.
- 5/12 Sunrise ride Gene R.
- 6/3 G.R.A.S.S. class Ric C.
- 6/10 Ride for Dreams Lisa P. Woodstock Harley
- 6/17 Father's Day ride Mike B. details to follow

Club concerns: Mike Bradbury

• Our tax exempt club status has expired and Mike B. is seeking a solution and/or person to address the various forms and information required to re-establish our standing with the State.

- ⇒ Mary K. has agreed to take on this task and report back to the Board once she has had time to review the documents.
- Discussion of general meetings Wayne K. suggested there be a greater division between the "business" and the "social "parts of the meetings.
- ⇒ Response to MC Rider videos has been good and will continue to be presented.
- ⇒ Outside speakers would add diversity to the meetings Wayne K. said he would talk to Doug the GM of City Limits and see if we could schedule a meeting at their facility. Possible topics to be decided.
- ⇒ Board reviewed Road Captains responsibilities and possible need for team building / leadership exercises.
- ⇒ Ron K. asked how is ride responsibilities handled and who heads up the group.
- ⇒ Wayne K. reminded Ron K. that Road captains responsibilities and listed on the TC website.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:16 pm: Mike B.



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G.R.A.S.S. CLASSES for 2018
June 3rd - Fox River Harley
July 29th - Keller Williams, Barrington

Group Riding and Safety Seminar

At **Top Cats** – **Illinois**, our primary goal is to provide a safe riding environment for each and every member and guest. Our Group Riding and Safety Seminar (G.R.A.S.S.) is an effective way to meet our goal. G.R.A.S.S. sessions are offered are offered multiple times each year and are required for all new members during their first year of membership, every 3 years thereafter and strongly recommended as a refresher course to maintain good membership standing. This 3-hour seminar is a classroom presentation with no riding exercises and is taught by our Senior Road Captains.

For convenience, G.R.A.S.S. seminars are held at multiple locations. All classes generally begin at 8am with coffee, doughnuts and bagels, followed by the educational presentation, which starts promptly at 8:30am. Generally, classes end by noon. Please note: this seminar does NOT teach how to ride a motorcycle: it teaches new members how our Club rides.

G.R.A.S.S. consists of lecture and video presentations within five (5) modules:

- 1. Top Cats Group Riding Protocol this includes proper hand signals, formations and parking.
- Riding with a co-rider (passenger) this module also explains motorcycle club dynamics, adjustments, duties and responsibilities.
- 3. **Road Captain Responsibilities** from planning to ride execution and follow-up.
- 4. Accident Scene Management Although we hope we never, ever need to put this into practice, this module starts with the incident and includes necessary skills, requirements and responsibilities, including hand-off to emergency personnel.
- 5. **Road Captain Training** a module of instruction for Top Cats Rides, from activity planning to the logistics of the actual ride. It includes instruction in ride day responsibilities and mentoring future Road Captains.

As a public service, Top Cats-Illinois presents G.R.A.S.S. to other local Motorcycle Club Organizations upon request at no cost. Guests are always welcome to attend unless exclusivity is specifically requested.



13th - John Curry 25th - Bard Boand

June Birthdays and Anniversaries!

Happy Days to our Top Cats Celebrities for April!

Let us know your special Dates so that we can celebrate with you!



10th - Mike and Kathie Bradbury

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Harley Davidson XL Sportster.

883cc. VERY clean and fast. 10,000 miles. Custom paint, engine upgrades, S&S Super E carburetor, windscreen, passenger seat and backrest. Good tires, major service performed. Ready to roll. \$3,600.

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TOP CATS BUSINESS MART

BUSINESSES OWNED AND/OR MANAGED BY TOP CATS MEMBERS



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Telephone: 847 857 0913 lisa.a.purcell@chase.com

JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A.

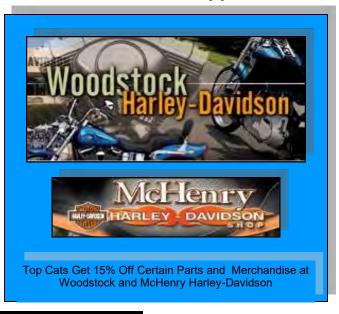


JULY 10TH...
RIDE FOR DREAMS
BENEFITTING
NISRA

SAVE THE DATE, SUPPORT THE EFFORT, AND BRING SMILES TO MANY FACES!



Support the TOP CATS Patrons





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.

Sign-up your favorite merchant today!



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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RIDES & EVENTS

Date	Ride/Event	Location	Destination	Time	Leader
Sunday, June 3rd	GRASS Class	St. Charles	Fox River Harley	10:00 am	Case
Tuesday, June 5th	General Meeting	Palatine	Alley 64	7:00 pm	Bradbury
Sunday, June 10th	Ride for Dreams	Woodstock Harley	Volo Auto Museum	9:00 am	L. Purcell
Tuesday, July 10th	General Meeting	Palatine	Alley 64	7:00 pm	Bradbury
Wednesday, July 11th	Round the Lake	Volo, Thorton's Station	Around Lake Michigan	KSU 8:00 am	Bradbury
Saturday, July 28th	EAA Air Show	TBD	TBD	TBD	G Rigsby
Sunday, July 29th	GRASS Class	Barrington	Keller –Williams	8:00 am	Case
Tuesday, July 31st	Sturgis & Beyond	Lake Zurich Mc Donalds	Sturgis	8:00 am	Boand

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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