



# ROAR

March, 2019

Volume 19, Issue 3

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## Upcoming Events

### MARCH

- 2 SHOOT OUT
- 5 GENERAL MEETING
- 12 BOARD MEETING
- 17 "POT O'GOLD" PARTY

### APRIL

- 2 GENERAL MEETING
- 9 BOARD MEETING

Talk to Gene Rigsby or Jim Purcell to get your ride on the Calendar!



The Official Publication  
Of  
Top Cats Illinois



## PRESIDENT'S POINT

And Now a Word from your President...



Hello Top Cats!!

March is upon us and spring is right around the corner, which means riding season is getting very closer.

February was a great month with several club activities.



We started out with the annual awards banquet, which is always a great time and this year was no different. We had a good turn out, though it would have been great to see ALL of our Top Cat family there. But, we definitely had everyone in mind and possibly captured in pictures in the pre-dinner slide show. We had a lot of positive feedback on the location, food and buffet style, so we have set our date for next year. More to come on that later. (more pictures on page 10)

We had our annual IMS pre-show breakfast, which was only attended by a handful of people. We will have to do

better next year. Keep in mind that you don't have to go to the IMS even if you come for breakfast.

This past weekend was the Woodstock HD Cabin Fever event. There was a good amount of people attending and a good number of Top Cats using this opportunity to sell their Ride for Dreams raffle tickets, like Bill Yates (and his family), Noelle, Mary and Jim Wiesman. We also had our new Top Cats membership fliers on the table, thank you Mary..., and spoke with some folks interested to learn more about the club.

We do need more attendance from our Top Cat family at future events like this, not just to sell raffle tickets, or talk to folks about our charity event, though these are good reasons. The need is to have a bigger crowd around our tables, which will attract more attention from the public. Do this and the rest will follow...

As I mentioned last month, the ride calendar is filling up. So check the Top Cats website ([www.topcats.org](http://www.topcats.org)) and get the dates into your calendars as soon as possible so you can be there.

Keep looking toward growing our membership. Bring a friend to a club meeting or have them join us on a ride. We will be working on more membership activities throughout the year, but why wait.... Start now.

Lastly... earlier this year, Lisa did a great job creating a list of all our products. I will work with her to get this list out with pricing to all the members so you will have time to order what you want and we can all gear up when we get out on the road.

As always, please feel free to reach out to me at anytime via my email: [Gene.rigsby@gmail.com](mailto:Gene.rigsby@gmail.com), or phone, 847-770-9425.

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







## KAUTION KORNER

### Safety... Sooooo Important!

By: Mary 'Trooper' Kirkpatrick, Senior Road Captain



For as long as there have been vehicles, there has been a concern for Safety. But, as motorcycles have become more 'high performance', there has been a growing need for organized safety programs and organizations. The Motorcycle Safety Foundation is a United States national, not-for-profit organization and sponsored by the U.S. manufacturers and distributors of BMW, BRP, Ducati, Harley-Davidson, Honda, Kawasaki, KTM, Piaggio/Vespa, Suzuki, Triumph, Polaris Motorcycles and Yamaha motorcycles. It was founded by the Motorcycle Industry Council in 1973. You can peruse the history and reading material at <https://www.msf-usa.org/aboutmsf.aspx>.

The Mission statement reads: To make motorcycling safer and more enjoyable by ensuring access to life-long quality education and training for current and prospective riders, and by advocating a safer riding environment.

Aside from providing riding classes that will give you your license, they compile research and all things '*motorcycle safety*.' This site is extremely organized, and they take their mission seriously. You will find a library packed with information that is pertinent to all areas of riding. And they do research on safe riding. The summary of that section includes: Practice, stay alert – especially in intersections, practice, stay alert-especially in high traffic areas, practice and be ready for the curves by practicing. As in all safety information, you will find that there is no replacement for practicing. But go to the site and do your own research and make plans for your practice program.

National Safety Council is another place to find information on Safety... but this site has everything from home to work and forklift safety!



[www.nsc.org](http://www.nsc.org). It was a great site and encouraged all drivers to watch for motorcyclists.

One interesting fact on this site included a diagram identifying the changing age for the 'most accidents'... in 1974, it was the 16-24 year-old group. Guess what they found in 2014? It was the baby boomers... 50-65. Maybe it has something to do with the fact that it is the same individuals from 1974??? Anyway ~ Practice will keep you out of this group.



The main idea here is that Safety is the key to enjoying whatever you are doing. As Top Cats, we look out for our members by providing our own opportunity to review, reflect and become more aware of what we can do to ensure safe rides...

### **GRASS. Group Riding And Safety Seminar!**

This is Top Cats own Safety Course offered four times each year! It is a comprehensive presentation covering the way Top Cats ride. Developed over many years and using the experience of our Road Captains, it is a great way to increase our common safety vocabulary and create consistency in our riding styles. With this in place, we decrease the possibility of unsafe actions on all of our rides and increase our enjoyment on the rides. The goal of GRASS Class is to get everyone home with only good memories



KK, Continued...

***The GRASS Class includes:***

**Group Riding and Hand Signals.** This section impresses the need to be sure that other riders see you. One of the best ways to do that is to use hand signals as a group. When everyone motions the next move, drivers in the area will become aware of the possibility of a directional change... and give room for safety. This section also discusses the benefits of staggered formation, the dynamics of the bike in motion, around curves and in quick changes. There are many tips on how to stay safe on your ride, whether it is solo or in a group.

**Rider / Road Captain Obligations.** Here you will be made aware of all that you can do before the ride to ensure that the day is enjoyable. You will hear what the Road Captain will do to prepare as well. There is a great deal of pre-ride activity to ensure a memorable ride.

**Co-Riders** Riding with another person on the back creates a different set of variables. Here you will be able to discuss how to adjust your motorcycle, your gear and your ride to accommodate two riders.



9th - Rich Lanute

**March Birthdays and Anniversaries!**

Happy Days to our Top Cats Celebrities  
for March  
Let us know your special Dates so that  
we can celebrate with you!

25th - Greg & Jane  
Smith**Accident Scene Management (Top Cats Version).**

No one plans for an accident, hence the name. But, we can all plan to take care of a situation that may occur. Top Cats has developed a strategy to address situations that fall into the accident category. From an 'easy tip' in the parking lot to a more high energy setting, these strategies will add calm action to a hectic situation. And give you confidence that the others riding with you will give you the best possible help if it is you that is in need.

**Road Captain Module** is the final and optional section and is required to become a Road Captain. This section delves into each of the earlier sections in more detail and allows the Road Captains to combine their



experiences into a solid bank of information on Safety leading the rides.

After viewing the slides and discussion of the details in these topics, you can be more confident about what to expect from the other riders in the group! AND... enjoy the ride! Remember that you are required to take the GRASS class every 3 years, to remain a member in good standing. Need to take it this year? Or just want to refresh before the season starts? We had our first class in January and have three more classes this year:

May 19<sup>th</sup>  
July 21<sup>th</sup>  
October 27<sup>th</sup>.

For YOUR safety and the safety of your Top Cat Family... make plans to attend one of these dates! We look forward to riding with you!





## Oil Spots

By Traveler



### U.S. Households with a Motorcycle Climbs to Record 8% in 2018



one bike in 2018, the most ever recorded in decades of polling by the Motorcycle Industry Council.

Motorcycle households rose from 6.94 percent in 2014 (the last full survey) to a record 8.02 percent in 2018, an increase of more than 1.5 million homes. The United States Census Bureau's most recent estimate put the number of U.S. households at 126,224,000. The MIC Owner Survey found that 10,124,400 of those homes had a motorcycle.

The number of motorcycles owned also reached record levels, according to the survey, jumping to 13,158,100 last year, an increase of more than 2.5 million motorcycles compared to 2014. It is even higher than the previous record from 2009 (11,704,500), which followed a long period of high-volume new-bike sales.

The estimated number of motorcycles in use rose to 12,231,000 in 2018, an increase of more than 2 million since 2014. And that number was more than 1 million better than the record figure from 2009, when 11,015,105 motorcycles were in use.

And what about riders who owned more than one motorcycle, or a home that had more than one rider and maybe more than one bike? The 2018 survey revealed that the number of motorcycles per household with a bike stood at 1.30, up slightly compared with 2014 when it was 1.23, but down compared to 1.53 recorded in 2009.

If you've noticed more motorcycles tucked inside garages across the country, or parked out front, you're not imagining things. Eight percent of U.S. households had at least

### Latest Survey Results of Today's Motorcyclists



We know that more motorcycle owners these days are women, and now we know increasing percentages of all owners are married and college graduates, and they're generally older, according to the 2018 Motorcycle Industry Council Owner Survey.

"Demographics are changing for Americans across the country and it's no different for motorcycle owners," said MIC President and CEO Tim Buche. "For decades, the MIC Owner Survey has told us a lot about who we are, and we're now learning how things have shifted since our last study was done in 2014. Some of the stats are encouraging, like the increasing number of women owners, while other data, such as the rising median age, show where we have more work to do."



#### Gender, Age, Marital Status

Male Owners  
81 percent

Female Owners  
19 percent

Median Age  
2018 – 50  
2014 – 47  
2012 – 45

Married  
2018  
68 percent

2014  
61 percent

2012  
63 percent

#### Education, Income and Work Status

College Graduate  
2018 – 24 percent  
2014 – 20 percent  
2012 – 17 percent

Median Household Income  
2018 – \$62,500  
2014 – \$62,200  
2012 – \$64,100  
Employed – 71 percent  
Retired – 24 percent

(Continued on page 6)

## Oil Spots, Continued...

The owner survey also uncovered trends among the emerging group of millennial motorcyclists. More than half have taken a training course and use their bikes frequently for commuting. Sixty-nine percent say they are interested in electric motorcycles, citing fuel and the environment as top drivers.

## Harley-Davidson Showcases 2 Electric Concepts at X Games Aspen 2019



Harley-Davidson introduced two new electric concepts showcasing the excitement and style of the future at X Games Aspen 2019.

Following the recently revealed LiveWire motorcycle, these two concepts look towards a new electrified chapter of Harley-Davidson's story that will continue with innovative approaches to transportation and technology, wrapped in evocative styling and design.

The upcoming electric portfolio will feature a spectrum of models and price points from a few thousand dollars to Harley-Davidson's halo electric motorcycle, the LiveWire at \$29,799.

As part of the push towards a different future, these concepts explore the potential of urban mobility and two-wheeled adoption. Both concepts bring Harley-Davidson's expertise in expressive two-wheeled experiences and push boundaries in design and technology.

**Attracting New Riders:** The goal for these concepts is to not require a motorcycle license to operate and feature twist and go operation; lowering the learning curve and expanding the opportunity to riders and aspiring riders everywhere in the process.

**The Riding Experience:** With an intended lightweight target for each concept, agility and maneuverability are at the core of their riding experience and ease of use. Combined with electric powertrains that provide instant acceleration, the goal is to offer a thrilling riding experience that adds emotive moments to your daily life.

**Battery design** is intended to be removable and enable single-hand-carry back to an apartment or office space to charge using a charging dock that plugs into any standard household power outlet.

**Individuality in an Urban Mobility Future:** The design language of these two concepts embrace their electric powerplants and put raw emotion into the equation of the future with unique silhouettes, form factors and solutions. Making personal expression more accessible

and individualized is at the very heart of our strategy to grow the next generation of Harley-Davidson riders globally and is a key component in H-D's vision of the future of urban mobility.

## Triumph Introduces Extremely Limited Edition Factory Custom Thruxton Model

With the 2019 launch of the all-new exclusive Triumph Factory Custom line, Triumph delivers a landmark moment for British custom design. Every TFC model will be built

to embody the pinnacle of custom Triumph design with enhanced levels performance, technology, engineering, specification and finish.

The new TFC lineup of limited edition, ultra-premium motorcycles debuts with the beautiful, more powerful, lighter and even higher specification Thruxton TFC and hints at what's to come with the stunning concept Rocket TFC.



### Thruxton TFC Features

- ✦ Custom designed, beautifully crafted models
- ✦ Individually numbered
- ✦ Limited to 750 worldwide Only 187 available in U.S.
- ✦ Unmatched performance, specification and finish
- ✦ Exceptional level of custom detailing
- ✦ Crafted as the most desirable Triumphs ever made
- ✦ Increase of 10 horsepower over the Thruxton R
- ✦ 85 ft.-lbs. of torque @ 4,850 RPM
- ✦ Weight reduction
- ✦ Fully adjustable Öhlins suspension, Brembo radial master cylinder and adjustable brake lever, race-specification Metzeler Racetec RR tires, titanium Vance & Hines silencers with carbon fiber end caps
- ✦ Premium custom finish and detailing including stunning carbon fiber bodywork and billet-machined top yoke with numbered TFC plaque



(Continued on page 7)





## Oil Spots, Continued...

- ✦ Personalized TFC handover pack including a personalized book and signed letter of authentication
- ✦ Availability: June 2019  
Price: \$21,500 U.S. / \$23,500 CAN

## Concept Rocket TFC

- ✦ The concept for the next TFC model is an all-new Rocket TFC, the ultimate motorcycle
- ✦ The world's largest production motorcycle engine transformed
- ✦ Full details and launch to follow on May 1, 2019

With the new TFC models, riders can now experience what was previously only available to a select few. Each of the individually numbered limited editions will feature a higher specification of technology and equipment, better performance and a crafted custom design with class-leading detailing and finish.

With only 750 to be sold worldwide, the Thruxton TFC will be Triumph's most exclusive and desirable modern classic. Featuring premium TFC badging, instrument faces augmented with gold detailing and a beautiful, individually-numbered plaque on the top yoke, each one will be unique and never to be repeated.

These exquisite details come on top of a host of beautiful blacked out features, including premium black anodized multi-spoked wheels, black Öhlins RSU springs with black decals, black engine covers and a black tail tidy. To perfectly complement the black theme and real carbon fiber, the Thruxton TFC is available in one signature paint scheme – a distinctive Carbon Black with brushed tank knee pad detailing and hand painted gold lining. The premium gold detailing is applied across the entire motorcycle, from the lining on the fairing to the detailing in the badging and instrument faces, right down to the ignition key and even features a stylish custom gold drive chain.

The new Thruxton TFC achieves an incredible 10 horsepower more than the standard Thruxton R. This is delivered



by significant engine upgrades including lightweight engine components, high compression pistons, and revised ports and cam profile. Along with the higher power, the Thruxton TFC also delivers a punch of torque both low down and across the entire rev range, peaking at 85 ft.-lbs.

There is also a premium, one-of-a-kind exhaust system manufactured exclusively for the Thruxton TFC by Vance

& Hines, featuring titanium silencers, carbon fiber end caps and finished with a unique laser-etched co-branded logo.

Increasing the level of rider-focused technology are three upgraded riding modes unique to the Thruxton TFC (rain, road and sport), which now adjust throttle map, ABS and traction control settings to better suit the riding conditions or rider preference. This is enabled via the latest generation ride-by-wire, which delivers enhanced rideability, safety and control.

For enhanced visibility, lower energy consumption and greater durability, the Thruxton TFC features all-LED lighting, including a seven-inch headlight with signature profile daytime running light (market specific availability), compact LED indicators, tail light and rear light.

ABS and traction control are also fitted for maximum safety and control, both implemented with minimal visual impact – compact, responsive and unobtrusive. Optimized to reduce lever effort for the rider, the torque-assist clutch makes the bike even more comfortable over long journeys and in stop-start riding, while the USB charging socket improves convenience.

## Safer Motorcycling Research Consortium Announced



Six motorcycle manufacturers have joined together with the vision of increasing safety for on-road riders in the United States through data driven approaches and collaboration with relevant stakeholders.

American Honda Motor Company, BMW Motorrad, Harley-Davidson Motor Company, Indian Motorcycle Company, Kawasaki Motors Corp., USA and Yamaha Motor Corporation, USA have teamed up to form the Safer Motorcycling Research Consortium (SMRC)

The Board of Directors, appointed by the founding member companies, will coordinate and facilitate pre-competitive research activities in collaboration with the interests of relevant federal agencies. SMRC will also include input from associate members consisting of other OEMs, motorcycle industry suppliers and technical or scientific organizations engaged in the field of on-road motorcycle safety.



(Continued on page 8)

## Oil Spots, Continued...

The Safer Motorcycling Research Consortium is committed to increasing the safety of riders through the pursuit of meaningful pre-competitive research and advancement of modern traffic safety.

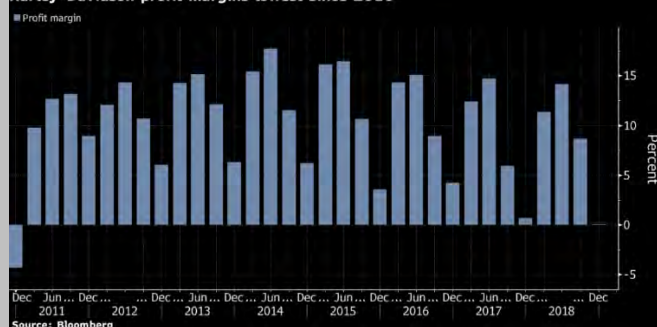
## Harley-Davidson Struggles in Last Quarter of 2018

According to a report from Bloomberg, Harley-Davidson, Inc. barely broke even in the last quarter of 2018. The report noted that the motorcycle company's shares dropped the most last year, noting the international tariffs from the European Union that could add an extra \$2,200 per bike.

In addition, Harley-Davidson's U.S. retail sales fell 10 percent in the last three months of 2018, marking the eighth consecutive quarterly drop. Bloomberg noted: "Chief Executive Officer Matt Levatich is having trouble attracting younger riders and plans to offer cheaper bikes and sell more clothing and gear — including on Amazon — to reach new customers."

### Tariff Troubles

Harley-Davidson profit margins lowest since 2010



*Bloomberg: For 2019, Harley plans to ship between 217,000 and 220,000 motorcycles. The midpoint of that forecast would be the lowest shipments for the company since 2010.*

International retail for Harley-Davidson dropped in Europe and Asia, sending global sales down 6.7 percent in the last quarter. Levatich told Bloomberg H-D's plans call for half of sales to come from outside the U.S. by 2027, up from about 42 percent last year.



The company has been investing in an expansion plant in Thailand to boost exports and produce motorcycles sold in the EU and China by the end of 2019.

Electric is on the rise at H-D and the company introduced as many as five electric models, including lightweight, urban bikes to target growth in Europe and India. Bloomberg analysts think demand for Harley's first electric model, the LiveWire, will be limited because of its \$29,799 price tag.

## Harley-Davidson to Redefine Riding with IBM Cloud

Harley-Davidson Motor Company recently unveiled how cloud, IoT and AI technologies will reimagine the everyday experience of motorcycle riding. The new experiences will arrive courtesy of the iconic American motorcycle manufacturer's first electric motorcycle, LiveWire, and will transform the motorcycle industry over the coming decade.



Earlier this year, Harley-Davidson announced its first all-electric motorcycle, called LiveWire, part of its *More Roads to Harley-Davidson* accelerated plan for growth. The plan also boldly proclaims that Harley-Davidson will lead the electrification of motorcycling.

H-D joined IBM to unveil how LiveWire's H-D Connect service, built on the IBM Cloud, will deliver new mobility and concierge services and how the company is expanding the use of IBM artificial intelligence (AI), analytics and IoT to enhance and evolve the rider's experience of the vehicle. In order to capture the next generation of motorcycle riders, H-D is working with IBM to transform the everyday experience of riding through the latest technologies and features.

The LiveWire motorcycle is equipped with H-D Connect service, a technology that provides cellular connectivity and links a LiveWire owner with their motorcycle through their smartphone using the latest version of the Harley-Davidson App. Built on IBM Cloud, this platform is the foundation on which Harley-Davidson will provide its riders with new services and insights via its first-ever production electric vehicle.

"LiveWire is a fully cellular-connected electric motorcycle" said Marc McAllister, HD VP product planning. "With IBM, we have the balance between using data to create both intelligent and personal experiences, while maintaining privacy and security." (Continued on Pg 10)





## Sturgis, Third Call???

By Traveler



When we hear "First Call" it typically indicates the first chance to get in on something. When we hear "Last Call" it typically indicates the pending loss of an opportunity to do something that we enjoy. It's no different when it's applied to our annual trek to the Black Hills and Sturgis Bike Week. It's getting closer... so another call goes out!

This year is the 79th Anniversary of the legendary Sturgis Motorcycle Rally and, possibly one of the most exciting Top Cats' group rides to Sturgis.



The increasing interest of our members in this iconic Black Hills Rally, combined with better negotiated travel and rally expenses appears to be generating the excitement we traditionally experienced as a club over our annual rides to Sturgis.

If you have the interest and you can afford the time and the cost of the trip, then you'd better make your hotel reservations for Sturgis ASAP for what might be the best, long – distance Top Cats' ride to the Black Hills Rally yet....

As we do every year, we will take a leisurely ride to Rapid City, SD staying in Mankato, MN the first night, Pierre, SD the second night, and new for this year,



we'll stay at the Franklin Hotel in the wild-west town of Deadwood, SD for two nights on the way to Rapid City



the fifth and remaining nights.

**WARNING:** As this edition goes to publication, we are close to 90 days away from

our cut - off date of 1 June 2019 for making or cancelling hotel reservations at the Alex Johnson Hotel in Rapid City, SD.

As most riders realize, it is difficult to plan a ride if you have no idea of how many riders will participate. Once we have an idea of how many Top Cats are going to Sturgis, this year, we will publish our group departure times and location and, canvas our riders for interest in returning home



via, Natchez Trace, Santa Fe Trail, Pikes Peak, Angle Fire, Dodge City, Kansas back roads, or a direct return home.



(Continued on Pg 10)

**Oil Spots, Continued...**

H-D Connect is a technology that provides cellular connectivity and links a LiveWire owner to their motorcycle through their smartphone using the latest version of the Harley-Davidson App. Built on IBM Cloud, this platform is the foundation on which Harley-Davidson will provide its riders with new services and insights via its first-ever production electric vehicle.



For now, IBM Cloud is enabling infrastructure and connected services to fundamentally change the way Harley-Davidson connects riders to their motorcycles and gain insights to power new user experiences such as:

**Powering The Ride:** LiveWire rider's will be able to check bike vitals at any time and from any location. Information available includes features such as range, battery health and charge level. Motorcycle status features will also support the needs of the electric bike such as the location of charging stations. Also riders can see their motorcycle's current map location.

**Powering Security:** An alert will be sent to the owner's phone if the motorcycle has been bumped, tampered or moved. GPS-enabled stolen-vehicle assistance provides peace of mind that the motorcycle's location can be tracked. (Requires law enforcement assistance. Available in select markets).

**Powering Convenience:** Reminders about upcoming motorcycle service requirements and other care notifications will be provided to the rider. In addition, riders will receive automated service reminders as well as safety or recall notifications.

"The next generation of Harley-Davidson riders will demand a more engaged and personalized customer experience," said Venkatesh Iyer, vice president, North America IoT and connected solutions, global business services, IBM. "Introducing enhanced capabilities via the IBM Cloud will not only enable new services immediately but will also provide a roadmap for the journey ahead."

**Sturgis, continued**

So, if you are "on the fence" about this year's Sturgis trip, or you just haven't gotten around to making hotel reservations, better saddle up and make them now. Remember, you can always cancel reservations, but you can't re-negotiate our contract room rates after the cut-off dates.

If you can even get a hotel room, typical Bike Week hotel rates will run from between \$350 / night to \$700 / night for a luxury hotel equal to the Alex Johnson. We have negotiated our annual contract with the Hotel Alex Johnson for a special rate ranging from \$169 / night to \$214 / night.

Here's the info for hotel reservations. You must state that you are reserving your room under the Top Cats block to receive our rates.

**Mon, 29 July 2019** : City Center Hotel, Mankato, MN. (Arrive 29 July, Depart 30 July) \$89.00 / night + tax, Contact Front Desk, (507) 345-1234,. **Cut-off: 15 July**

**Tue, 30 July 2019:** Baymont Inn, Pierre, SD. (Arrive 30 July, Depart 31 July) Single \$62.00, double \$65.00+ tax Contact: Ron or Sonia (605) 224-4140 **Cut-Off: 15 July**

**\*NEW! Wed & Thur, 31 July and 1 August 2019:** Franklin Hotel/Casino, Deadwood, SD, (Arrive 31 July, Depart 2 August) \$145.00 / night + tax. [Contact Front Desk](#), (800) 584-7005, ext 3, **Cut-Off: 10 July**

**Fri to Tue, 2 - 6 August 2019:** Hotel Alex Johnson, Rapid City, SD. (Arr 2 Aug, Dpt 7 Aug or Anytime) Thurs: \$169, Fri: \$214 forward: \$214, Contact Front Desk, (800) 888-ALEX (2539) **Cut-Off: 1 June or you PAY one night booked!**

Please let Wayne; [wkirkpa177@aol.com](mailto:wkirkpa177@aol.com), Cell: (847) 915-8428, or Bard; [bard.boand@att.net](mailto:bard.boand@att.net), Cell: (847) 721-7470, know when you make your hotel reservations so we can finalize our departure times and start to develop our return trip route / plans.

*Remember, life is like one tank of gas....it eventually runs out and it's up to us to decide how to use it. We can burn fuel idling or we can ride through life with a wide – open throttle...*







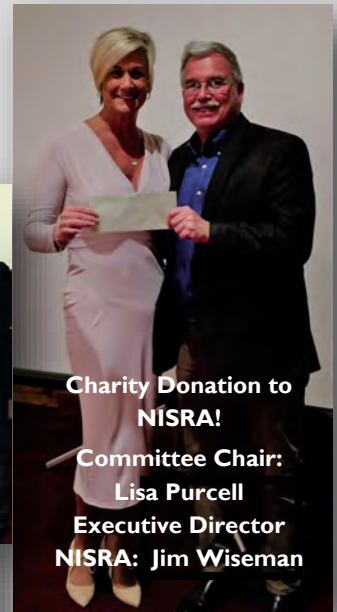
## Banquet was a Blowout Celebration Performance!



**THE GIRLS!**



Jim Purcell was honored with 2 awards....  
TC of the YEAR and VP's Award!



**Charity Donation to NISRA!**  
**Committee Chair:**  
**Lisa Purcell**  
**Executive Director NISRA: Jim Wiseman**



**The Boys!**



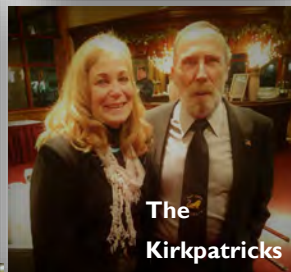
**The Purcells!**



**The Bradburys**



**The DeLords**



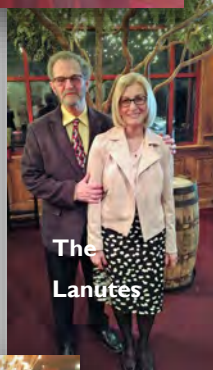
**The Kirkpatricks**



Thank you to the Party Planners:  
Noelle and Gene Rigsby  
Mike and Kathie Bradbury  
.... :)



**Decision Makers**  
**Ted and Mike**



**The Lanutes**



**The Malias**



**The Merry Makers!**  
**Linda, Mary and Cindy!**

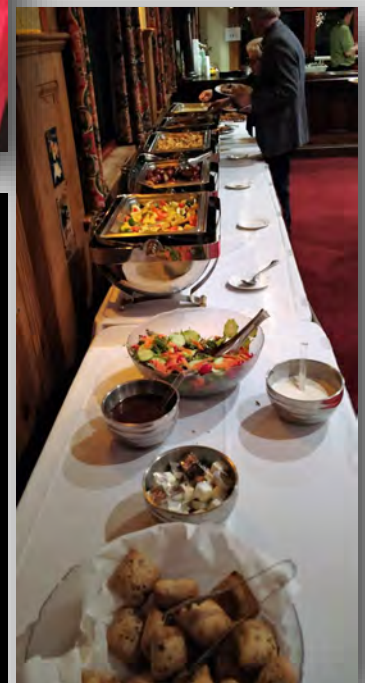


**Bard and Kathy**

Many Laughs  
Many Smiles  
Many Jokes...  
Many Friends!

The venue, food and lighted room was the perfect setting for this year's celebration!

Thanks to all who attended and to those who were not there...  
We missed you!





## GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 12TH, 2018

Respectfully Submitted by:  
Ron Kostus, Top Cat Secretary

### President's Section: Gene Risby

- 7:04 pm, meeting called to order
- Members were asked to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance



- Anniversary: 2/2: Lisa & Jim Purcell
- Guest: Kathy Kramer; friend of Bard Boand
- Wayne K. & Bard B. light hearted jokes

### Past President: Wayne Kirkpatrick

Tip: If involved with an accident take as many pictures of the accident scene as possible.

### Safety: Ric Case

Kaution Korner – “Intersections” presented by Ric C. refer to the Roar for complete details by Mike B.

### Membership: Ted Makarewicz

- We need to add new members to T/C's
- Word needs to get out as to who we are and what we have to offer new people.
- A brochure may be a good starting point as to getting the word out.
- Bring friends to meetings and events.

### Activities/Awards: Greg Smith

- Current activity committee is: Greg Smith, Jim Purcell and Rick Agrimonte
- Greg would like to add two additional members; if interested contact Greg directly.
- 1/15: Top cats board meeting – Alley 64.
- 2/16: International Motorcycle show – Gene R. to put together breakfast and show meeting.
- 2/16: Top Cats annual awards dinner: The Onion in Barrington – Mike B.
- 2/23: Cabin fever – Woodstock Harley.
- 3/2: Top Cats shoot-out – On Target, Crystal Lake, Ric C.
- 3/5: Top Cats general meeting – Alley 64.
- 3/12: Top Cats board meeting – Alley 64.

### Charity Ride: Lisa Purcell

- June 9 Charity Ride – Woodstock Harley to Volo Auto Museum.

Lisa asked for cabin Fever volunteers – 2/23 – Wayne & Mary K. Gene R., Ted. M.

### Top cats products review: Lisa Purcell

Nothing new to be presented this meeting. If interested in products order off the companies own website.

### Video presentation: Ron Kostus

MC Rider “I Speed”, a well received presentation and excellent discussion!

Meeting adjourned : Gene R. 7:51 pm.





## BOARD MEETING CANCELLED FOR FEBRUARY

Respectfully Submitted by:  
Ron Kostus, Top Cat Secretary

### Reminder for the March Activities:

**Shoooooot OUT– Saturday, March 2nd  
7:00 am at On Target in Crystal Lake, 560 Beechcraft Ln.**



## Pot o' Gold Party

Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup>

Kirkpatrick's

105 Cherokee Rd, Algonquin, IL 60102

1:00pm to....

Let's gather together to share an Irish meal, a good movie and celebrate our "Pot o' Gold"  
.... Our TC family truly makes us rich!

All food will be provided: Corned Beef, Cabbage, Potatoes and a variety of Irish Deserts

Also... Irish Coffee (Regular or Decaf) will be available

Bring your own favorite drink!

RSVP by 3/10/19 to Mary: [mawalters57@gmail.com](mailto:mawalters57@gmail.com) or 262-344-6228



## V.P.'s Vision

By: Mary 'Trooper' Kirkpatrick



When the weather breaks, we will all surely be ready to Ride! As we look to the new Riding Season, there are going to be many opportunities to get together and journey to interesting destinations. Hopefully the weather for the summer months will be kinder to us than last year...

In the meantime, there is a great deal of information in this month's ROAR to keep you up to date on the latest motorcycle news. Read it by the fire... and stay warm! Wayne's Oil Spots summarizes statistics on the motorcycle population and the changes that it has experienced over the past 5 years. And the KK has some interesting items to consider...

After reading all of this, I got to thinking about the things that I've seen over the past 25 years of riding... My favorite memory was coming home from the 110th in Milwaukee (in a truck) and passing a line of bikes. The Lead Biker was throwing signals just like Wayne and behind HER were 5 big ~ I mean BIG boys. Tattoos, bib overalls, etc. I imagined her to be the boys mom... And it was as inspiring as it was humorous! THAT, I thought, is the correct order of riding! And it inspired me to continue to practice. And believe that maybe one day, I'd lead a bunch of 'boys' too!

Well, I'm here now... but I don't have the 'style' that she had.. I've still got some practicing to do! But, I'll always have that image in my mind... Oh, did I tell you that she was smoking a cigar and didn't have many teeth? What a lady!

So.... Things have changed. She was out front of her boys and of all of those changes. Bikes have become more efficient! Roads have improved. There is a large variety of directional devices... and dealerships with huge hog memberships.

In looking back, there are a number of movies that document the 'old days'... Would you all like to come by and watch? On March 17th, we will have the 'Pot o' Gold' Party! Each T.V. will have one of the movies from the past... Maybe we'll be inspired to tell stories of our own! Hope to see you then!



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*BUSINESSES OWNED AND/OR MANAGED BY TOP CATS MEMBERS*



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## Support the TOP CATS Patrons



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Thanks, Greg for  
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**Spring is coming!  
YUBBA  
DUBBA  
DO!**







## RIDES & EVENTS

Date	Ride/Event	Location	Destination	Time	Leader
Saturday, March 2nd	Shoot-Out	On Target	Crystal Lake	7:00 am	Case
Tuesday, March 5th	General Meeting	Palatine	Alley 64	7:30 pm	Rigsby
Tuesday, March 12th	Board Meeting	Palatine	Alley 64	7:30 pm	Rigsby
Sunday, March 17th	Kirkpatrick's Corned Beef	Bunker, Hooch, Shop & Kitchen	Algonquin, Illinois	12:30 pm	Kirkpatrick's
Tuesday, April 2nd	General Meeting	Palatine	Alley 64	7:30 pm	Rigsby
Tuesday, April 9th	Board Meeting	Palatine	Alley 64	7:30 pm	Rigsby

All ride and event information along with the Photo Gallery can be found at [www.TopCats.org](http://www.TopCats.org).



### Barrington Library

#### Location and Hours

505 N. Northwest Highway  
Barrington, IL 60010

847-382-1300

[balibrary.org](http://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](mailto:ROAR@TOPCATS.org)



# ROAR



**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](http://www.TopCats.org)**

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