



ROAR

May, 2019

Volume 19, Issue 5

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Upcoming Events

MAY

- 5 BRUNCH, BOATS AND BIRDS
- 7 GENERAL MEETING
- 11 POTOSI RIVER RUN
- 14 BOARD MEETING

JUNE

- 1 BBQ CAR RIDE
- 4 GENERAL MEETING
- 9 RIDE 4 DREAMS
- 11 BOARD MEETING
- 16 BIG DADDY RIDE
- 22 PSYCHO RIDE

Talk to Gene Riggsby 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!!

The Top Cats riding season has officially started.... Well, almost. If only Mother Nature could make up her mind, (where do you want to go...?? I don't know, how about you???...Ugh!!!), maybe we can get out and really ride.

The kick-off ride, although overridden by the CRAZY weather, was still well attended as a brunch and not a loss as you might imagine. This is a testament to our great club, the great people in it and the great bonds of friendship we have built... sniff, sniff....

So the next opportunity to ride will be Mary's Ride coming up quickly 5/5. The blast has been sent so if you haven't seen it, let Jim Purcell or Greg Smith know so they can make sure you are on the blast list.

I met with the activities committee this month. They are working their plans to get ride and event information together sooner and more efficiently so we can ensure rides are committed to and better attended, because our Top Cat brothers and sisters know about the details earlier and can plan on attending. They have some other great ideas which they will be rolling out soon as well.

My next committee meeting will be this month, and I am planning to meet with the Safety and RC committee. But don't tell them.... Shhhh.

Speaking of rides, As I mentioned over the last months, The Top Cat's ride calendar has a lot of opportunities listed. So check the Top Cat website (www.topcats.org) and get the dates into your calendars as soon as possible so you can make sure to be there. Even if the details aren't available yet, save the date! It is sure to be a good chance to ride and make miles!



July 13-14, 2019...
Crystal Lake Cave
Stalagmites and Stalagmites!
What's Up?

I have personally committed to leading these rides:

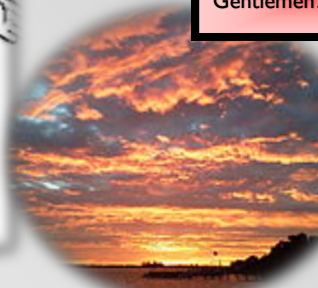
Get the
dates
saved
now!!



August 11, 2019...
Mendota Corn Fest
Awww Shucks!



June 1, 2019...
Great Cars and Great BBQ
Gentlemen... Start Your Engines!



September 8th
2019...
Sunrise on Lake
Michigan
GOOOOD Morning,
Chicago!

And this is only the beginning. Much more to come. Check the calendar and put them on yours!!

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

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



KAUTION KORNER



Spring Things.. Packing your 'Mental Saddle Bag'

Mary "Trooper" Kirkpatrick,
Sr. Road Captain



May!!! It is here and the opportunities that we've been talking about for the past six months have arrived! We can ride the ride instead of just talking the talk ~ or something like that. Yes, the excitement makes the heart pound and the brain reel! BUT... we can't let that affect the level of attention we give to the planning and execution of the ride! With this break in the weather, there are many **Spring Things** that become a part of the ride too...

As I write this, the news is reporting about the rains that are coming, the flooded roadways and the story of a gentleman who experienced a crack that occurred in the road as he was crossing the street. The noise and shifting ground, prompted him to run quickly to the sidewalk. Once on safe ground, he looked back and viewed the large crack that was now visible! This all was caught on video and occurred in just seconds. It made me think of the things we will encounter in just seconds while riding. **Spring Things** like this, including shifts to the ground underneath our tires; rainy, muddy roads; left-over leaves and storm debris; potholes; newly cut grass clippings; and areas affected by flooding. It is important that we have skills and strategies in our 'mental saddle bag' to ensure the success of our Spring rides!

To address the weather that is to blame for these **Spring Things**, we are fortunate to have highly developed weather technology that we can use in planning, and during the ride. Meteorologists of the past have had to endure the



ugly public scrutiny of their forecasts ~ And this seems to have led to much more accurate technologies. From future weather predictions to real time color weather

Garmins, we

have much more knowledge at hand about what weather we will experience along our ride. We can make use of these before we leave and during the stops along the way. But even if we adjust the route to avoid the intense weath-

er, watch for branches, gravel and other debris that may have been blown onto the roadways by previous storms in that area. Be aware and place this information on top of what you pack in your 'mental saddle bag'.

Expecting the unexpected is a *Spring State of Mind* that we need to bring on our rides along with the technology. Just like that street presented in the news, the ground all over is adjusting to the warmer temperatures and the increased saturation levels. Shifting will cause cracks, potholes and additions to the debris in the road. When these things happen as we ride, getting to the 'other side' requires quick responses, knowledge of your bike, and confidence in both areas. The quick response to act, as the man in the news, is only a part of what is needed! To build the response and knowledge required, practice is our best device! So, take some time, go to the parking lot nearby and practice quick maneuvers at variable speeds. There are many practice videos that you can access before going to the lot. Check one out and then re-enact those tactics. Develop confidence in your ability to address quick changes. Develop the knowledge of what your bike can do. Build the connection between your ability and that of your bike, then add this to your 'mental saddle bag'.

And as a reminder... Your Road Captains' abilities will also be a part of the confidence factor of the ride. They are ready to make adjustments to the route, to adjust the overall speed, identify hazards and to signal adjustments to the positions we ride within the group. With all of this in place, we can ENJOY these Spring Riding opportunities and add miles to the season confidently!



Being prepared for the unexpected gives confidence for riding the miles ahead. Your individual skills and readiness to adjust to the signals given by the road captain are the keys that we can use to address these **Spring Things** while on the ride. The Road captains are prepped and ready! Sunday May 5th is looking promising, so 'pack your bags'. Together, we will take on these **Spring Things** and ride!

Oil Spots

By Traveler



Fonzie's 1952 Triumph TR5 motorcycle hasn't lost an ounce of cool

by [Jeff Peek](#)

Back in the 1970s, when *Happy Days* was the most popular show on TV, there was no one cooler than Arthur Herbert Fonzarelli, the lovable hoodlum with a knack for catchphrases and a way with the ladies. Being something of a badass—but not *too* bad, because we're talking prime time TV here—he rode a motorcycle, of course. As motorcycles go, his Triumph Trophy TR5 500 remains a pop cultural icon second only to Captain America's.



Mick Lynch loved that bike. He was 20 when *Happy Days* premiered in 1974. He related to the Fonz and his buddies Richie Cunningham, Potsie Weber, and Ralph Malph because, like them, he

grew up in a middle-class neighborhood of a working class city, in his case, Kalamazoo. Like the Fonz, he had a knack for any- thing mechanical.

ABC added ape-hanger bars, bobbed front fender, peashooter mufflers, and a fictitious "7836" Wisconsin license plate.



No Birthdays in May!

They were at an auction in nearby Belding in 1996, looking for anything they could use and decided there wasn't anything they couldn't live without. Lisa asked if Mick wanted to check out the car auction.

While surveying the vehicles, Lynch immediately recognized the 1952 Triumph TR5 parked in front of him. "I blurted out, 'That's the *Happy Days* motorcycle. Could that really be the real deal?'" Yes, it was. The fellow next to him had exhaustively researched the bike and even talked to Bud Ekins, who helped the show's production team track it down all those years ago. "The guy asked me if I was going to bid on it, and I said, 'Not until you're out. If it goes beyond what you want to pay, I'll jump in.'"

Sure enough, the bidding exceeded the guy's budget. He nodded to Lynch, who raised his hand. After a bit of back and forth with other bidders, the auctioneer dropped the hammer.

The bike was his.

Lynch declines to say how much he spent. For him, the cost wasn't the point. "I'm a big

fan of America and history, and this bike holds a significant place in American pop culture," he says. "I don't buy things as an investment, I buy things because I want to preserve them."

At this point, you may be thinking, wait a sec—didn't Fonzie's Triumph sell for \$179,200 at Julien's Hollywood Legends Auction last year? Yes and no. Yes, *a* bike that Fonzie rode in the show sold, but not *the* bike Fonzie rode. Lynch says that motorcycle, a 1949 Triumph TR5, did indeed appear on *Happy Days*, but the '52 is the primary bike that was used during the show's 11-season run. "It's the one in the opening credits, the one in cent of the still shots," he says. "It's the bike on the posters, lunchboxes, and Thermoses."

(Continued on page 5)



May Birthdays and Anniversaries!

Are we missing any Happy Days for our Top Cats Celebrities in May?
Let us know your special dates so that we can celebrate with you!

No Anniversaries
In May!



Oil Spots, Continued...

He knows, for example, that Lynch tucked the bike away in storage and dove into learning everything he could about it. Fonzie didn't start out with the Triumph. He had Harley-Davidson, but Henry Winkler, who played the Fonz, struggled to keep it upright, so the show's producers switched to a lighter bike (one that Elkins, a respected stuntman who made that epic jump in *The Great Escape*, helped to procure). Even the Triumph was a bit much for Winkler to handle, however. He crashed it at least once because the gas tanks shows signs of damage.



Lynch hasn't bothered fixing or changing anything. The ape-hanger-style bars, bobbed rear fender, peashooter mufflers, and fictitious 7836 Wisconsin license plate are precisely as they were in the show, although somewhere along the line the bike lost its mirrors. "It's exactly as I got it, dents and all," Lynch says. The 33-horsepower 498-cc parallel twin and four-speed transmission haven't been tested in a while. Lynch says they could use some work.

Not long after Lynch got the bike he discovered the great truth about Fonzie's motorcycle: You can't keep it squirreled away. Fans are still interested in it. "Everybody who sees it gets excited about it," Lynch says. He's taken the Triumph to a handful of events, including the Woodward Dream Cruise. Given the bike's place in popular culture, Lynch decided to loan it to the Gilmore Museum in 2014. Lynch and the museum graciously lent it to Hagerty, and it has been on display at our headquarters in Traverse City, Michigan, since last month.

Fonzie didn't wear his trademark black leather jacket in early Happy days episodes because TV sensors determined it made him look like a hoodlum. ABC circumvented the issue by including the motorcycle in as many scenes as possible so it could deem the leather jacket necessary safety equipment.

U.S. retail sales down 4.2 percent in Q1 for Harley-Davidson



Harley-Davidson recently reported first quarter 2019 results. Earnings per share and retail sales finished stronger than expected during

the quarter. The company's More Roads to Harley-Davidson accelerated plan for growth continues to show strong progression, including the appointment of its first-ever brand president and the acquisition of StaCyc.

First Quarter 2019

- ✦ GAAP diluted EPS of \$0.80 per share, ahead of company expectations
- ✦ Encouraged by U.S. retail sales performance; Harley-Davidson U.S. market share up
- ✦ Global dealer inventory down, well positioned for spring selling season
- ✦ Intensified brand focus; hired President, Harley-Davidson Brand
- ✦ Acquired StaCyc, a producer of electric-powered two-wheelers for kids
- ✦ Broadened reach with new Electra Glide Standard at \$18,999 U.S. MSRP
- ✦ Manufacturing optimization remained on-track
- ✦ Thailand manufacturing strategy accelerated retail sales growth in ASEAN emerging markets
- ✦ Increased dividend 1.4 percent, repurchased \$52.6 million of shares

First quarter 2019 GAAP diluted EPS was \$0.80, compared to year-ago GAAP diluted EPS, which was \$1.03. Excluding restructuring plan costs and the impact of incremental tariffs, first quarter 2019 diluted EPS was \$0.98 compared to \$1.24 in the first quarter of 2018. First quarter 2019 net income was \$127.9 million on consolidated revenue of \$1.38 billion versus net income of \$174.8 million on consolidated revenue of \$1.54 billion in 2018.

Harley-Davidson worldwide retail sales decreased 3.8 percent in the first quarter. International retail sales were down 3.3 percent. U.S. retail sales were down 4.2 percent in the first quarter driven by continued weak industry sales which were down 4.7 percent. First quarter worldwide retail sales were impacted by the limited availability of Street motorcycles due to the recall announced in January

Strategy to Build the Next Generation of Riders.

More Roads accelerated plan for growth



Harley-Davidson's strategic objectives through 2027 are to build 2 million new riders in the U.S., grow international business to 50 percent of annual volume, launch 100 new high impact motorcycles and do so profitably and sustainably.

(Continued on page 6)

**Oil Spots, Continued...**

The More Roads to Harley-Davidson accelerated plan for growth is aligned with the company's strategy to deliver sustainable growth and build the next generation of riders by delivering exciting products in existing and new spaces, broader access to Harley-Davidson and an optimized customer experience through an even stronger dealer network. The company plans to maintain its current investment and return profile and capital allocation strategy, while it funds strategic opportunities expected to drive revenue growth and expand operating margin through 2022.

During the quarter, Harley-Davidson made further progress on its More Roads plan, including appointing its first-ever brand president, a move that positions the company to fully engage the power of the brand as a catalyst to achieve its strategy and long-term objectives. The company also expanded its electric portfolio with the acquisition of StaCyc, a maker of electric two-wheelers for kids. During the quarter, the company and its dealers continued preparations to launch LiveWire, Harley-Davidson's first electric motorcycle, later this year.

"In the short eight months since we announced our More Roads plan, we continue to accelerate our progress to build the next generation of Harley-Davidson riders," said Levatich. "During the first quarter we intensified our march by investing in our future and adding capabilities that we're confident will inspire riders today and for generations to come."

Building Riders

As Harley-Davidson continues to inspire diverse, new riders around the globe, the company increased its reach and impact in the first quarter and delivered a wide range of results including the following highlights:

New, more diverse customers

- ✦ 278,000 new riders joined Harley-Davidson in 2018 in the U.S. This group is the most diverse across age, ethnicity and gender in all of the years Harley-Davidson has tracked this data
- ✦ Expanded access to new customers in part with the launch of the new Electra Glide Standard motorcycle at \$18,999 U.S. MSRP
- ✦ Increased marketing support reached more consumers

sooner and drove action -- increased traffic to H-D.com, brand awareness, trial and sales

- ✦ Media spend up nearly 90 percent, focused on brand awareness and driving sales
- ✦ Direct marketing up over 200 percent
- ✦ PR and Media Impression - 2 billion, up from 436 million

Manufacturing

The company started supplying motorcycles to ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) emerging markets from its Thailand operations in late 2018. The tariff mitigation realized by this strategy allowed more competitive pricing and helped drive a Q1 retail sales increase of 126 percent in these markets.

To further improve its manufacturing operations and cost structure, in the first quarter of 2018 the company commenced its multi-year manufacturing optimization initiative anchored by the consolidation of its motorcycle assembly plant in Kansas City, Mo. into its plant in York, Pa. Upon completion of the program, the company continues to expect ongoing annual cash savings of \$65 million to \$75 million after 2020. In the first quarter of 2019, costs related to the manufacturing optimization were \$17.6 million. For the full year, the company expects to realize savings of \$25 million to \$30 million and to incur \$50 million to \$60 million of operating expense.

The U.S. 601+cc industry was down 4.7 percent in the first quarter compared to the same period in 2018. Harley-Davidson's first quarter U.S. market share was up 0.6 pts to 51.1 percent. Harley-Davidson's Europe market share was down 1.6 percentage points to 8.8 percent.

2019 Outlook

For the full-year 2019, the company continues to expect:

- ✦ Motorcycle shipments to be approximately 217,000 to 222,000 motorcycles. In the second quarter, the company expects to ship approximately 65,500 to 70,500 motorcycles

(Continued on page 7)



Oil Spots, Continued...

- ✦ Motorcycles segment operating margin as a percent of revenue to be approximately 8.0 to 9.0 percent
- ✦ Financial Services segment operating income to be down year-over-year
- ✦ Effective tax rate of approximately 24.0 to 25.0 percent
- ✦ Capital expenditures of \$225 million to \$245 million including approximately \$20 million to support manufacturing optimization

U.S. Tariffs Affecting European Motorcycles and Accessories



According to the Motorcycle Industry Association, the U.S. government announced that they will likely introduce a 100% tariff on a number of imports from the EU, which will have a direct impact on several product groups in the motorcycle industry.

This proposal is in response to a WTO investigation of government subsidies to Airbus and is unrelated to tariffs around steel imports. Hearings in the U.S. are set for the month of May with an expectation that a decision on which goods to charge and a start date will be made shortly thereafter.

In terms of whole vehicles, the current list of products includes all combustion engine motorcycles with an engine capacity between 500cc and 700cc.

With regard to other products, the items listed also includes parts and accessories directly related to motorcycles.

The Motorcycle Industry Association is working closely with the UK government and scheduled a meeting with the Minister for early May.

Parking violators rejoice— Court of Appeals rules that chalking tires is unconstitutional



A three-judge panel of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 6th Circuit has unanimously ruled that chalking tires is a

violation of the Fourth Amendment because it is a form of trespass and requires a warrant. The ruling is bad news for law enforcement officers in who use chalk to mark the tires of cars to enforce time limits on parking. That's exactly what Alison Taylor claims a Saginaw, Michigan, police officer has been doing for three years while issuing her 15 parking tickets.

According to the Associated Press and National Public Radio, Taylor alleges Officer Tabitha Hoskins issued every one of her fines after first chalking a tire and then returning to see if Taylor's car had moved. Taylor sued, claiming that the practice constitutes "unreasonable search and seizure" and is therefore unconstitutional. The court agreed.

Philip Ellison, Taylor's attorney, wrote in a court filing: "Trespassing upon a privately-owned vehicle parked on a public street to place a chalk mark to begin gathering information to ultimately impose a government sanction is unconstitutional under the Fourth Amendment."



The court ruled that chalking is indeed a search because government officials physically trespass upon a constitutionally protected area to obtain information. In 2012, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that a warrant is required before placing a GPS tracking device on a vehicle, and the 6th Circuit Court of Appeals determined that the same is true by covertly chalking a tire in order to monitor a car's movements.

The court wrote that by chalking, the city of Saginaw illegally searches vehicles "that are parked legally, without probable cause, or even so much as 'individualized suspicion of wrongdoing'—the touchstone of the reasonableness standard." The case will now head back to U.S. District Court in Bay City, Michigan.



Taylor's attorney says his client doesn't think anyone deserves free parking, and the lawsuit is about principle. "The process (that) Saginaw selected is unconstitutional," Ellison says.

Taylor is happy that she helped "change the law," but any celebration will likely be short-lived. While the method of physically chalking a tire may end, the practice likely won't. Officers can simply take a photo, effectively chalking the car without touching it.



Ride Preview: 4Bs Sunday! Brunch, Boats, Birds and Buddies!

By: Your Road Captain for the day, Mary 'Trooper' Kirkpatrick

This is your preview... What to expect on Sunday, May 5th, 2019!

Weather forecast: 55* at 8:45 am... Kick Stands Up!

- ★ 10% Chance of rain in Illinois
- ★ 40% Chance of rain on the Marsh in late afternoon.

64* at 12:00 pm... Boat Ride on the Marsh

65* for the Day's High and return at 4:00 pm

This forecast promises to be a great chance to get out for a good ride and to spend time with friends! We've been stuck inside for so long, that we will all be ready to share stories, so let's catch up with a bit of good food and fresh air! It looks like a cool cloudy day with some intermittent sunshine. So, be layered and ready for these *Spring Things* that we may encounter!

We will meet at the Thorton's in Volo, Illinois with a Pre-Ride at 8:30 am, then travel for 25 minutes with an adjustment stop in Richmond. We will then follow Rt. 12 to 67 through Oconomowoc and arriving at our Brunch destination at 10:30 am!

Iron Ridge Inn

131 Main St.
Iron Ridge WI 53035
(920) 387-3348
Cost: \$16

Menu: <http://www.ironridgeinn.com/restaurant/menu/>



We will then take a short 10 minute ride to:

Horicon Marsh Boat Tours

305 Mill Street
Horicon WI, 53032
(920) 485-4663

Cost: \$14 per person

Reservations are at 12:30 – 2:00. There is a short video starting at noon... but, we will adjust to the time needed to polish off the breakfast offerings! We may or may not make it to the video... but we WILL see the beauty of the Marsh first-hand!

After the boat ride, we will return to starting point taking a secondary road route and return to our starting point at 4:00 pm! Join us for Brunch, Boats, Birds and Top Cat Buddies for a memorable day!

Looking forward to seeing you!





NISRA

Northern Illinois
Special Recreation Association

Save the Date!
June 9th, 2019

Talk to Lisa Purcell, Chairperson
for our RIDE for DREAMS, and
see what else you can do to make
this year's event a
HUGE SUCCESS!

Help NISRA as they provide
quality activities for their families!

Sell Your Tickets!

Invite Your Friends!

Spread the word and tell others
about the wonderful memories
that NISRA makes for people
with disabilities!





Sturgis, Last 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. Don't miss this opportunity!



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 Dead-



wood, 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 30 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 rid-



ers 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.



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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, Cell: (847) 915-8428, or Bard; 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...



V.P.'s Vision

By: Mary 'Trooper' Kirkpatrick



I finished adding the June rides to this publication... as snow was melting!

That meant we had to gather for broasted chicken at Crandalls ~ by way of cars! Ugggg. But, better to make the gathering a safe and memorable one, than a slippery adrenaline rush. It is a difficult decision to make, when having to 'call' a ride. Especially at this time of year. We are all getting excited to hear our bikes again, and the disappointment when we have to leave them at home is HUGE!

But, the May and June calendar is full... of rides and opportunities! Check our calendar for details on the plans and also send in ideas for the days that are open. Take the opportunity to put your ideas into action and lead our group into another good memory!

May 5th will be the 4Bs ride. Brunch, Boats, & Birds with your TC Buddies. See Page 8 or the TC Calendar for full details.



Also, Pack your 'Mental Saddle Bag' for the trip as we may encounter a few of the *Spring Things* discussed in the KK for this month!

Please invite family for this ride too. They can jump on the back of your bike or come by car! There is plenty of room for making a early Mother's Day Memory!

Enjoy your week and Your Mother's Day too!





GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES APRIL 2ND, 2019

Respectfully Submitted by:
Ron Kostus, Top Cat Secretary

President's Section: Gene Rigsby

- ♦ 7:00 pm, meeting called to order
- ♦ Pledge of Allegiance

- ♦ Guests: Joey Rizzo will become a new member today.
- ♦ Announcements: 4/11 Diana Lanute – Happy Birthday; Jeff Henningson possible new member.



Vice-president: Mary Kirkpatrick, Not in attendance.

Past President: Wayne Kirkpatrick, Not in attendance.

Safety: Ric Case

- ♦ 7/21, 10/27 – GRASS classes.
- ♦ Kaution Korner – “T-Clocks review” presented by Gene R. refer to the Roar for complete article details – issues with your bike.

Membership: Ted Makerewicz

- ♦ Membership cards for 2019 were passed out by Ted.
- ♦ Club business cards were made available to the membership by Gene R.
- ♦ New membership presentations were discussed.

Activities: Greg Smith, Jim Purcell and Rick Agrimonte

- ♦ 4/13: Woodstock HD “open house”.
- ♦ 4/28: Kickoff ride – Gene R. “Best Chicken in Hebron, IL.”
- ♦ 5/5: Brunch, boats and birds – Mary K. – ride to be posted.
- ♦ 5/11: Potosi River run – Tom M. – 400 mile 1 day ride to be posted.
- ♦ 6/2: “Little Angels” charity ride – Mike B. R/C. see future post.

Charity Ride: Lisa Purcell

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

Products review: Lisa Purcell and Jim Purcell

- ♦ “Bombshell Creations” in process of creating proposals and product listing for T/C's.

MC Rider video presentation: Ron Kostus

- ♦ MC Rider “How to be a good passenger on a motorcycle

50/50 Raffle: Jim P. - Jacquie Case winner – donated to our charity.

Meeting adjourned : Gene Rigsby at 7:57 pm.

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BOARD MEETING MINUTES

APRIL 9TH, 2019

Respectfully Submitted by:
Ron Kostus, Top Cat Secretary

President's Section: Gene Rigsby

- ♦ 7:00 p.m. Meeting called to order.
- ♦ Club Tax Filing: Ted Makarewicz stated nothing to be concerned about at this time.
- ♦ Gene Rigsby to meet with each committee separately to discuss future direction. Greg Smith meeting to be scheduled soon.
- ♦ Board members stated no immediate needs at this time.
- ♦ 3/7 Road Captain meeting was well handled by Mike B. our new Chairman.

Past President: Wayne Kirkpatrick, Not in attendance.

Vice President: Mary Kirkpatrick, Not in attendance.

Activities/Awards: Greg Smith

- ♦ Nothing new to report at this time. Calendar was reviewed for upcoming months.
- ♦ Meeting to be scheduled with Gene R. to discuss future activities.

Safety: Ric Case

- ♦ Road Captain committee meeting is being well handled by Mike B. our new Chairman.
- ♦ Ric C. remains as Safety Committee Chair – no new candidates for the position as yet.
- ♦ Next GRASS class to be hosted by Fox Valley HOG Chapter – open to the public.

Membership: Ted Makarewicz

- ♦ Joseph Rizzo membership application was reviewed and approved by the Board.
- ♦ Lisa P. may have possible new member in near future.

Charity/Products: Lisa Purcell

- ♦ Woodstock “Open House” will be covered by the T/C's.
- ♦ Lisa P. to provide link to products supplier for future ordering by membership.
- ♦ Jim P. working on new Vendors for T/C's products and more reasonable pricing.

Treasury: Noelle Rigsby

- ♦ Balances and accounts status were discussed in detail.
- ♦ Again the suggestion has been made that a schedule of yearly account payments be made so that the treasury can anticipate account financial needs.
- ♦ Insurance payment coming due in June.

Secretary: Ron Kostus

- ♦ Discussed what topics the club would like to view in the future.
- ♦ Weather related topics, road conditions problems, advanced riding techniques were suggested.
- ♦ Lisa P. suggested that for all future meetings we setup seating in a horse shoe arrangement so that there will be more involvement within the membership.

Meeting adjourned at 8:27 pm: Gene Rigsby



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FULL GEAR **VS** FOOL'S GEAR

HELMET

Most important piece of protective gear a rider can use. Protects against head injury, windblast, cold and flying objects. Full faced helmet recommended.

FACE SHIELD

Saves face! Any rider who's been hit in the face by stones, insects or debris can tell you the benefits.

GLOVES

Keep hands comfortable, functional and protected. Come in infinite variety for all seasons.

JACKET & PANTS

Long sleeves and trousers resist abrasion and protect against sunburn, windburn, dehydration or hypothermia. Light colors or reflectives increase a rider's visibility.

BOOTS

Provide protection against foot and ankle injuries and give you a good grip on footpegs or road surfaces.

BOTTOM LINE

Proper riding gear protects in the event of an accident and minimized injuries, when allowing you to enjoy the sport in comfort.



HEAD

Considered precious by knowledgeable riders and never exposed by the pros. When fully in view, allows immediate identification of untrained person not using his. Hand out rider education info on site!

EYES, EARS & FACE

Known to experienced riders as "bug and garbage collectors." Common "bare-face" symptoms include windblast-deafening and deformed, narrow-sit, watery eyes.

HANDS

au naturale (not for long). Known to seize into curled position when exposed to cold; not genetically evolved to withstand abrasion.

BARE LIMBS

A phenomenon seen only on riders deemed impervious to any unavoidable accident or inclement weather. Subject to ridicule in riding circles.

FLIP FLOPS

Terminology for what sandals, toes and feet do upon contact with road surfaces, shift lever, brake pedal, footpegs, or windblasts.

BOTTOM LINE

Fool's gear identifies an untrained rider. Learn how to avoid embarrassment, ridicule and injury, while gaining skills and knowledge by contacting the Rider Course nearest you.

THE MORE YOU KNOW, THE BETTER IT GETS.



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

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Let's Ride!



RIDES & EVENTS

Date	Ride/Event	Location	Destination	Time	Leader
Sunday, May 5th	Brunch, Boats & Birds	Thortons, Volo	Iron Ridge, WI & Horicon Marsh	8:30 am	M. Kirkpatrick
Tuesday, May 7th	General Meeting	Palatine	Alley 64	7:30 pm	Rigsby
Saturday, May 11th	Potosi River Run	TBD	Potosi WI Brewery & Mississippi River	8:30 am	Malia
Tuesday, May 14th	Board Meeting	Palatine	Alley 64	7:30 pm	Rigsby
Saturday, June 1st	BBQ Car Show				Rigsby
Tuesday, June 4th	General Meeting	Palatine	Alley 64	7:30 pm	Rigsby
Sunday June 9th	Ride 4 Dreams!	Woodstock HD	Volo Auto Museum	9:00 am	L. Purcell
Tuesday, June 11th	Board Meeting	Palatine	Alley 64	7:30 pm	Rigsby
Sunday, June 16th	Big Daddy Ride	BP at 176 & 12	White Pines, Oregon Illinois	8:45 am	Bradbury
Saturday, June 22nd	Psycho Ride	TBD	Psyco Silo Saloon, Sheffield, Illinois	TBD	J. Purcell

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

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