



ROAR

August, 2019

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Upcoming Events

AUGUST

- 5 GENE'S RIDE TO PS
- 6 POST STURGIS -PS
- 11 MENDOTA SWEET CORN
- 13 GENERAL MEETING
- 18 TC MEMORIAL RIDE

SEPTEMBER

- 3 GENERAL MEETING
- 8 SUNRISE RIDE
- 10 BOARD MEETING
- 21-22 GALENA TO CAIRO
- THE GREAT RIVER RIDE

Talk to Greg Smith and Jim Purcell and get your ideas on the calendar!





PRESIDENT'S

And Now a Word from your President...



Now that the weather is **FINALLY** cooperative, the riding season is almost over... Just kidding. There is a **BUNCH** of riding left to enjoy with the Top Cats Family!!

The Crystal Lake Cave Ride was a couple weeks ago and was great. We had a bit of warm weather on the way out but perfect weather on the return trip. And of course, the cave was super cool, or at least 51 degrees year round.



The Annual Black Hills Motorcycle Rally (Sturgis) is next week and a group of our brothers and sisters have started making their way out there to enjoy the fresh air and wonderful sights. Check out the pics on pages 6-7. Remember... next year is the 80th Anniversary for Sturgis and this ride is truly a 'one of a kind'. The team has already



negotiated next years rates and you will not find a better deal anywhere! **GUARENTEED!** We aren't getting any younger! Sign up ASAP... The reservations for 2020 will begin in September!

This weekend, I will be heading out to catch Wayne and his Front Range Ride group as they pass through Colorado Springs in route to New Mexico. Will be a great ride to remember with lots of cool places to stop and see and share with great people.

Coming up on 8/11 is the always anticipated Mendota Corn Fest Ride. Ted Makarewicz will be leading the ride this year, which is a great reason to attend, not to mention the **FREE CORN....** YES, I said **FREE CORN...** Ted is leading this ride... Should be a great time. Make sure to check out the blast and RSVP ASAP to Ted. (Thanks Ted!!)

We still have lots of great riding opportunities scheduled over the next **SEVERAL** months. So, watch the Top Cats calendar and for ride blasts (www.topcats.org).

Still speaking of rides (when are we not??), I have committed to leading these rides: 8/4-6: Post Sturgis satellite ride. This is a ride to meet up with Wayne and his group as they head out on the Ride America's Front Range (post Sturgis).

9/8: Sunrise Ride....

But there are more to plan for. Check the Top Cats Calendar for more detail.

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.... (I really do...)

Gene "Lucky" Rigsby,



KAUTION KORNER



Group Riding... Really!

By: Ted 'Hogski' Makarewicz,
Road Captain



As a member of Top Cats of Illinois, a safety conscience group of riders who promote our style of riding by our GRASS (Group Riding and Safety Seminar) class, I sometimes take for granted the way our club rides. Sometimes we don't realize the importance of this class until we have the opportunity to participate in a group ride with another motorcycle group. Group rides can be dangerous and frustrating and we all should be cautious about joining groups that are not well organized.



We all have responded to flyers for charity runs, but how do you know what type of riders you will encounter

on the ride? There is no indication of the type of rider, but I would look to the type of ride and the ride details that would indicate if the ride is well organized. If a time line for the ride is stated that includes a pre-ride safety briefing, that would be a good indication of a well planned ride. In that briefing should be a discussion of hand signals, riding formation, gas stops and how to handle emergencies. This would be another indicator of a group that is conscientious about safe riding.

Another determining factor for the group ride would be the number of riders. Group rides could be four or five riders or as many as one hundred riders or more. In a smaller group setting of eight to fifteen riders, you could put the aggressive riders in front, the average riders in the middle and the slower riders could bring up the rear, riding at their own pace. This would allow everyone to truly ride their own ride.

Key to the group ride is the Road Captain and the Tail Gunner. The road captain has the responsibility of safely moving the group down the road. And the tail gunner has the responsibility to make sure no one is left behind. One situation comes to mind where you have fifteen bikes and

the road captain pulls into the street and immediately accelerates up to 55 mph.

With two second intervals between bikes, the tail gunner would still be waiting to pull into the street 30 seconds later and trying to catch up to the group doing 55 mph. The road captain should pull out slowly and creep along at 30 mph or so until the tail gunner gets rolling. Once the entire group is rolling, he should accelerate to cruising speed. The same applies for approaching a speed zone. The road captain should decelerate the group well before the speed sign, so when the first bike arrives at the slower zone, the tail gunner has also slowed and doesn't have to brake hard to avoid running into the rider ahead.

The common denominator of a successful group ride is the conformity of the riders to the group. All the riders should be attentive to the road captain especially when parking in a group. The road captain will pull into an adequate parking space allowing the riders to pull to the left of each rider and back into the parking space without waiting. This should allow all the bikes to get off the street in an orderly fashion. Again, do not be creative. Creative parking decisions tend to slow down the process and leave the tail gunner still trying to get off the street.

And finally, when the group stops for gas. It is important to fill your tank and drain your bladder but when the road captain signals to start your engines, you should be ready with helmet and gloves and have everything safely stowed away ready to ride. We all know how frustrating it is to wait for someone who is not attentive to the group. Considerate riding is safe riding. So the bottom line is, when Bard blows that whistle, we all know we better be ready to ride or suffer the consequences!





V.P.'s Vision

By: Mary 'Trooper' Kirkpatrick

Hi All!

Reporting to you from Rapid City, South Dakota. Sunny, 78* and roads as beautiful as you will find ANYWHERE! This is a great adventure, no matter how many times you may have been here before, and can be as frenzied or as relaxed as you would like. There are serene places with quiet beauty or roads filled with every make and model of bike imaginable! Check out our scenic views on pages 6-9 and start thinking about 2020. This will be the

80th anniversary of the Sturgis Rally and Pappy and Pearl Hoel would probably be glad to see you making memories right here in Sturgis... The site of their first Rally on August 14, 1938.



Pappy Hoel and his wife, Pearl, purchased an Indian Franchise in Sturgis in 1936, and began the Jackpine Gypsies that same year. The first Rally, in 1938 was called the 'Black Hills Classic' and consisted of a single race with nine participants and a small audience. The focus of the rally was racing and stunts.

It has been held every year since then, with the exception of the War Years, 1939-41. Gas Rationing limited what could be done, so in order to honor the war effort, the rally was cancelled.



In 1961, they added the hillclimb and the motocross races. There were 19 participants in the first track race. And in 1975 the event evolved into its present 7 day event. Rumor has it, with all of the pre-riders coming into town, that the future may hold 10-14 days as 'official' Rally days!

Other interesting facts include:

- ✦ The Rally averages over 500,000 participants each year with 2-300,000 more during anniversary years.
- ✦ The Rally brings in over \$800 million to South Dakota annually
- ✦ 95% of the city of Sturgis' annual revenue comes from the Rally.
- ✦ An average of 500 rally-attendees get jailed each year.
- ✦ Approximately \$250,000 worth of motorcycles are stolen during each Rally.

So... final thoughts.... Add this to your calendar! Come along with Top Cats! That way, you will not have to worry about the last two 'interesting facts' on this list! Monday, August 2nd is our tentative date of departure.... Watch for final details in the September Issue of the ROAR! Happy Trails!



August Birthdays and Anniversaries!

Happy Days to our Top Cats Celebrities for July!!

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

2 - Vida Kostus
16 - Jane Smith
24 - Greg Smith

25 - Ron And Vida Kostus
28- Gene and Noelle Rigsby



Respectfully Submitted by:
Ron Kostus, Top Cat Secretary

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES JULY 2ND, 2019

President's Section: Gene Rigsby

- Due to the small turnout the "horseshoe" seating arrangement was not put in place.
- 6:59 pm, meeting called to order and all stood for the Pledge of Allegiance
- Guests: New member Larry Johnson was introduced.
- Announcements:
- 7/8 Lisa Purcell – Happy Birthday
- 7/14 Ted Makarewicz – Happy Birthday,
- 7/27 Mike & Sue Gilfillin– Happy 45th. Anniversary



Vice President: Mary Kirkpatrick

Nothing new to report this meeting.

Past President: Wayne Kirkpatrick

Wayne presented last month's "Kaution Korner" – "Practice Living"- practicing motor and mental skills as you ride.

Safety: Ric Case

- Bike Safe update – Ric has reached out, but no contact has been made as yet.
- G.R.A.S.S. 7/21 – KELLER Williams office – Barrington.
- Kaution Korner – "Loading up for a long trip" article presented by Bard Boand. See the "Roar" for complete details.

MC Rider video presentation: Ron Kostus

MC Rider "How to trail brake on your motorcycle without crashing" - Advanced technique of trail braking.

Membership: Ted Makarewicz – not in attendance, presentation by Gene Rigsby

Membership packet was presented to our newest member Larry Johson.

Activities: Greg Smith. Jim Purcell – not in attendance

- 7/9: T/C board meeting – virtual meeting
- 7/13-14: Crystal Lake cave ride – Gene Rigsby.
- 7/21: GRASS class – Ric Case – Keller Williams, Barrington
- 7/27: Field of Dreams – Ted Makarewicz
- 8/4-6: Post Sturgis satellite ride – Gene Rigsby
- 7/29 – 8/5: Sturgis – Bard Boand
- 8/5-8/11: America's Front Range Ride – Wayne Kirkpatrick
- 8/13: General meeting – Alley 64
- 8/18: T/C's Memorial Ride – Ric case

Charity: Gene Rigsby

Wayne Kirkpatrick has agreed to run a "Bike Show" piggy backed on a Woodstock Harley "Band Day". Look forward to further details.

Products review: Lisa Purcell – not in attendance

Let Lisa know your needs and she will bring items ordered to the next meeting.

50/50 Raffle: Jim Purcell – not in attendance – no 50/50 this meeting.

Meeting adjourned : Gene Rigsby: 7:49pm.

No Board meeting this month in order to ride more often!

Any Club Business will be conducted by email and reported in the next Board Minutes!



“Why Ride?” They Ask.... Sturgis, 2019!



Every Day Starts with a
Safety Briefing that in-
cludes weather and an
overview of the days
scenic adventure...
And of course a
WHISTLE!



The views go on and
on... endless sky and
miles of America! You
can also find an occa-
sional quiet respite!





Ron and his crew welcome us every year... You want to go where every body knows your name! and hey sure do!



Views from and of Devil's Tower, Wyoming. No Trip is complete without a little education.

This is a Volcanic Plug that has been revealed over years of soil erosion of the surrounding area!

Spearfish Canyon...
A regular spot to visit
for the Top Cat Sturgis
Ride...
Breathtaking!



Oil Spots

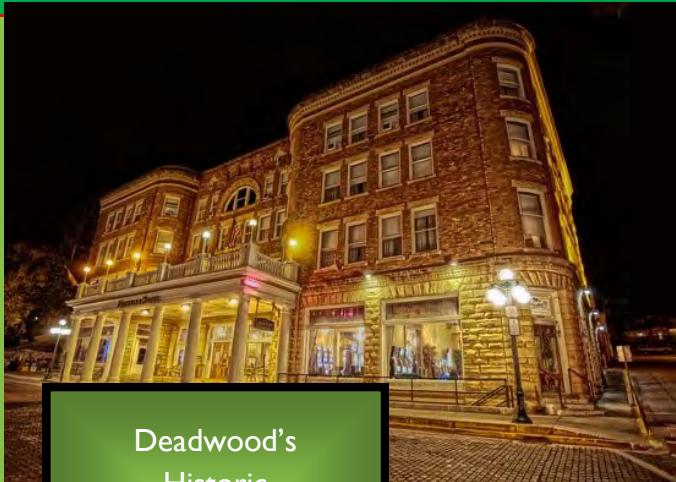
By Traveler

Will return next
month when he is
done "Travelin'"





“Why Ride?” They Ask.... Sturgis, 2019!



Deadwood's
Historic
Franklin Hotel!

With Covered Parking
for TOP Cats!



The feeling of being
with old friends is
everywhere!





Mt Rushmore
And the
Wildlife Loop
Are staples on this
trip!
They never disappoint!



And then.... There is Stugis!
Pappy and Pearl Hoel now
greet you as you enter from
Junction street... This is a
bad angle, but as you ap-
proach, it looks like Pearl is
waving you in!

I wonder if they can see
what they started from the
great beyond!

2020 is the
80th Sturgis Rally!
Our Top Cat Sturgis
Leaders
Are already getting
reservations in place!
Watch for Details!



To Honor and Remember!

This will be an irregular piece that will give our Club the opportunity to Honor and Remember our loved ones who gave us so much as they influenced and shaped our lives.

Please let us know about the passing of your loved one by sending a picture and a short description of their proud moments! We will remember them with you!



Carl B. Sandelius,

Father and Grandfather to the Rigsby family!

My father was born in Stockholm, Sweden. He came over to the U.S. by himself at the age of 19, made his way to Chicago where he stayed for a bit with an aunt and uncle. He was drafted into the US Army and later stationed in France. That turn of event led him to fall in love with a beautiful woman named

Evelyne, my mother. They moved to Sweden for three years. Seeking opportunities they packed their possessions and he convinced my mom to move to Chicago and settled once again in the Andersonville neighborhood. My dad learn the trade of bricklaying and I've been told by his fellow co workers and even one of his bosses he was one of the best at his trade. Many buildings in Chicago and surrounding areas can be credited to his craft, his talents of the corners on buildings in particular. He always had a knack for drawing and painting and that became a hobby of his, the Swedish American Museum had a few of his paintings on exhibit. His love of nature is instilled in me, his favorite pastimes were traveling in their VW camper van camping throughout the US, Canada and even down to Mexico. My mother passed away in 2005 and my father would visit her grave everyday. My father was one week shy of his 89th birthday when he passed this year on March 11th, in Andersonville.

Phyllis M. Wolff, Mother In-Law to Jim Chevalier

Mother to six, grandmother to eleven and great grandmother to nineteen! Jim Chevalier's mother-in-law was a light to all who knew her!

As a young women, Phyllis became a nurse in the Navy and served courageously during WWII. Her character, strength, commitment and dedication to God, Family and Country influenced the lives of all her children and grandchildren.

She leaves behind a family who grieves their loss, but also celebrates the gifts that they were given. It is easy to see her influence in the commitment, strength and dedication that are evident in the lives of her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

To the families of Carl B. Sandeliuw and Phyllis M. Wolff we extend our sincere Sympathy for your loss! But we also cherish our Top Cat Members that were influenced by these great lives!

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**WATCH FOR THE
BIKE SHOW....
COMING THIS
SUMMER...
DETAILS SOON!**

**Network with
your fellow
Riders here...**

**LOOK OUT, SUMMER!
THE TOP CATS
RIDING SEASON
IS UNDER WAY!**





Support the TOP CATS Patrons



Doug Jackson and Staff Support
our Top Cat's Ride for Dreams!



PALATINE, IL

Home to Alley 64,
Top Cat's Monthly Meeting Spot!

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!**

**800 E Northwest Hwy
Palatine, Illinois 60074
847-241-2200**





RIDES & EVENTS

Date	Ride/Event	Location	Destination	Time	Leader
July 29th– August 5	Sturgis	Ela and RT 12 McDonalds	Sturgis, S.D.	8:00 am	Boand
Monday-Tuesday August 5th –6th	Ride to PR	DeKalb Oasis US I-88	Colorado Springs	6:30 am	Rigsby
August 6 th- 12th	Post Sturgis	CO, NM, KS, OK	CO Springs to Home	TBD	W Kirkpatrick
Sunday, August 11th	Mendota Sweet Corn Ride	Shell @ Lake Cook and Rand Rd	Mendota, Illinois	8:30	Makarewicz
Tuesday, August 13th	General Meeting	Palatine	Alley 64	7:30 pm	Rigsby
Sunday, August 18th	TC Memorial Ride	TBD	TBD	9:00 am	Case
Tuesday, September 3rd	Board Meeting	Palatine	Alley 64	7:30 pm	Rigsby
Sunday, September 8th	Sunrise Ride	TBD	Lake Michigan Beach	TBD	Rigsby
Tuesday, September 10th	General Meeting	Palatine	Alley 64	7:30 pm	Rigsby
Sat/Sun Sept. 21-22	Galena to Cairo	TBD	Mississippi River	TBD	Smith

All ride and event information along with the Photo Gallery can be found at www.TopCats.org.



Barrington Library

Location and Hours

505 N. Northwest Highway
Barrington, IL 60010

847-382-1300
balibrary.org

See the Top Cats Archive

FREE ADVERTISING in ROAR for TOP CATS Business Owners

Attention all Top Cats business owners!

As part of our ongoing philosophy to support our members and goal to provide a more value-rich publication, we are now offering free advertising space in ROAR for Top Cats business owners.

Each business owner can submit advertising content and graphics up to 2 X 3.5 inches (Business Card size) for their company.

We will run the ad for 3 months after which you will need to resubmit it.

This offer is for Top Cats business owners only. We are not accepting advertising for other businesses at this time.

Submit your ad along with contact information to the ROAR editors at ROAR@TOPCATS.org



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For more information about the Top Cats visit our website at **www.TopCats.org**

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