



# ROAR

March, 2021

Volume 21, Issue 3

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## Upcoming Events

### MARCH

- 2 GENERAL MEETING
- 9 BOARD MEETING
- 14 RC MEETING

### APRIL

- 6 GENERAL MEETING
- 13 BOARD MEETING

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



The Official Publication  
Of  
Top Cats Illinois



## PRESIDENT'S POINT

### And Now a Word from your President...

Hello Top Cats!!

I cannot believe it is March already, though not complaining about getting to the riding season sooner. More about the riding season below... I hope you and your families are safe and doing good. We are doing fine here at the Rigsby hut.

As mentioned last month, our Top Cat RC's will be meeting soon to start planning our riding events and loading the calendar with them. I already know of a couple great rides to get in on, like the annual Sturgis trip, and the Post Sturgis ride, heading out to Colorado and into the southwest. Beautiful part of the country to ride in with a lot of history. I highly recommend signing up to go if you have not been out that way. Also, I know of one more ride that is planned and another in the works. Details for those rides to come soon.

Keep your eyes open for these and new opportunities to create new shining moments sharing good rides with good friends! I can't wait! Less than a month to spring and not long after to club riding!!

In the meantime, we have scheduled a couple special guests for our March and April meetings. First, in March, we have Doug Jackson from Woodstock Harley Davidson coming in to talk about the past, current and future of WSHD and the HD brand. Please send along any questions you may have for Doug to Gene before the March meeting. Second, for our April meeting, we have Marc J. Shuman of Marc J. Shuman & Associates, Ltd coming in to discuss motorcycle insurance. If you would like, you can bring your bike insurance information in for him to evaluate. Marc is a lawyer and member of the Motorcycle Safety Lawyers (<https://motorcyclesafetylawyers.com>) providing legal services for riders. He does not sell insurance so this is not an insurance sales pitch.

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



## Get your Kit Ready!

By: Ted "Hogski" Makerewicz  
Senior Road Captain

Everyone has a first aid kit some where on their bike, but do you recall in which saddlebag its located and when was the last time that you actually opened it up! A good first aid kit should be a mandatory part of your riding equipment, just like always wearing a helmet, boots that cover your ankle and a good pair of riding gloves. It goes with the saying, "All The Gear All The Time" (ATGATT). A good first aid kit is even more of an essential part of your gear, because it could possibly save a person's life.

This topic came up at our recent G.R.A.S.S. class, accident scene management module for road captains which is the impetus of this article. It seemed that we all know what a first aid kit is, and what it's used for, but no one had a good definition as to what all should be contained in it. I myself have opened up my first aid kit and saw an assortment of band aids, sterile gauze pads, alcohol pads, roll of tape, some aspirin, scissors and a pair of tweezers. I zipped it up and thought I am good to go. Wrong!

The first thing a rider must determine in putting together a comprehensible first aid kit is the type of injuries you may encounter during your trip. There are five basic types of injuries you might encounter on the road. They are:

- ★ Burns - sunburn and contact with hot engine parts and mufflers;
- ★ Eye injuries – objects flying into the eyes and insect bites or stings;
- ★ Trauma to the Head, Neck, Spine, Chest and Abdomen.
- + Cuts, Abrasions and Scrapes
- + Fractures – bleeding;

(Continued on page 3)







## KAUTION KORNER

KK, continued...

The first aid kit that we are all familiar with is the one we find in our homes and autos. It's the white plastic Johnson and Johnson first aid kit with the red cross on the cover. This first aid kit is good for minor cuts and burns, but it will not suit our needs as a result of a motorcycle accident. Therefore, we need to look at a kit that include life-saving items called EPIK, (Emergency Personal Injury Kit) to meet our needs.

The following list of items are a combination of items found in both types of first aid kits to give you a comprehensive first aid kit to treat the five basic types of injuries. Those items are as follows:

- ✦ A good compact first aid book.
- ✦ Antiseptic Wipes – 5 or 6 packet wipes.
- ✦ Antibiotic Ointment or powder – Individual packets. Pack of 6.
- ✦ Anti-microbial Hand Cleaner – Waterless: They make waterless hand cleaners in individual packets. Bring five or six
- ✦ Band-aids – A variety of shapes and sizes for small cuts and scrapes. Pack knuckle and fingertip band aids.
- ✦ Steri-strips (Butter-fly sutures, Adhesive Sutures, Adhesive Closures) – used to pull a small gaping cut or wound together.
- ✦ Large Combine Pads – For heavy bleeding.
- ✦ 5 Large Sterile Gauze Pads – For bleeding. Most first aid kits do not have enough gauze or absorbent dressings to be useful in a motorcycle kit.
- ✦ 5 Medium Sterile Gauze – If you don't want to carry this smaller size carry extra of the larger size and cut them down to what you need.
- ✦ CPR Mask. This is important because the purpose of a CPR mask is mainly to keep the victim from vomiting on you.
- ✦ Emergency Blanket – These are great for retaining body heat and can be used as a reflector for rain and ground cover.
- ✦ Normal saline 10ml vials – this doubles as an eye wash or wound cleansing.
- ✦ Instant Cold Pack/s – These are so useful with burns, bruising, swelling and sprains.
- ✦ Burn cream or gel – Aloe Vera aids in healing, pain relief, has anti-inflammatory properties, helps prevent blistering and scarring.
- ✦ Glow Stick – High intensity emergency glow stick for directing traffic or signaling for help.
- ✦ Heavy Duty Zip-lock Bags – Tons of uses including removing used and contaminated gauze, gloves and dressings.
- ✦ Latex gloves – Bring a minimum of 6 pairs. If you have multiple riders down, you need to change gloves for every person you touch.

- ✦ Other medication – sample packets of Anti-diarrheal tablets, anti-acid, Antihistamine: for mild allergic reactions and Pain relievers.
- ✦ Triangular Bandage – For slings, padding, strapping limbs to splints when fractures are suspected.
- ✦ Trauma shears – Heavy duty pair, a size 7 ½. You'll need to be able to cut through leather. You won't have time to unzip and undress if there is heavy bleeding you'll need to cut through the leathers.
- ✦ Curved Scissors – Curved medical ones are great as they don't have sharp points. In an emergency you might need to cut clothes away from an injury. With sharp edges it is easy to poke through something and cause further injury when you are in a hurry or under stress.
- ✦ Elastic and crepe bandages – a few different widths. 10cm (2") and larger are often more versatile than smaller ones.
- ✦ Tweezers – A good pair of tweezers with easy-to-grip handles.
- ✦ Charged Mobile phone – to call 911
- ✦ Sting Relief and Burn Gel
- ✦ Duct Tape Mini Roll
- ✦ 2x Safety Pins – To pin bandages in place.
- ✦ Flashlight and Utility Tool/Knife

Now the difficult part. You need to get all of these items into a soft-sided waterproof zipper case to fit in your saddlebag. Believe it or not, all of the above items can fit into a bag 7"x 5" x 3"!!! Your first aid kit should be easy to access, and it should be placed in the right saddlebag. The non-traffic side of the bike. Also, organize the items with a system that will allow you to use them quickly. Familiarize you with what's in your kit.

There are many sources regarding first aid kits and I would recommend using google to see the many first aid kits that are offered and their prices. Harley-Davidson even offers a moderate priced Biker's Compact First Aid Kit.

But the bottom line is to be familiar with the contents of your first aid kit. You should on a routine basis, go through your first aid kit, to check to see if any items have expired but more importantly is to know the purpose of and how to use every item in your kit. Otherwise, it's just taking up space. The best stocked first aid kit is useless if you do not have the knowledge to use it.

Finally, if you happen to be involved in a motorcycle accident scene, and you are using your first aid kit to render aid to a fallen biker, know your limits in providing medical assistance, and if you have any doubts, seek professional help through a 911 operator to connect you to an expert to help you assess injuries and recommend immediate action until professional help arrives.

## Oil Spots

By Traveler



### NO – Name Harley?



The already-announced (but as yet unnamed) 1,250cc water-cooled performance cruiser will also play into Harley's plan of balancing "classic with cutting edge." *Harley-Davidson*

At the same time as showing the 1,250cc, water-cooled Pan America in full, Harley says it will be revealing more about the custom model that it's also previously shown using the same engine. This bike is a replacement for the Sportster in Europe, where that existing air-cooled range hasn't been updated to meet the latest Euro 5 emissions limits (and indeed is no longer shown on the company's European website).

### Daytona Bike Week Is on for 2021



80th  
Anniversary  
of Bike Week  
March 5-14, 2021

The pieces are slowly falling into place for Daytona Bike Week to roll out its 80th anniversary in 2021.

COVID-19 has hit the moto industry hard over



the last 10 months, and while it didn't stop the Sturgis 2020 Rally from happening, the latest resurgence of the pandemic has had Daytona Bike Week's organizers fearing they might have to pull the plug on the 2021 rally.

Bike Week is always a huge economic driver for the region, and with this year being the 80th anniversary, businesses were especially looking forward to the needed financial boost. The Daytona Beach City Commission endorsed plans for the annual bike rally.

Some of the main drivers in their decision were the fact that this year marks the 80th anniversary of the Daytona rally, and local bars and restaurants volunteered to reduce their occupancy by 40 percent; with that the commissioners felt comfortable enough to give a thumbs-up to the event despite lingering concerns over the pandemic.

This bash on the beach will run its usual 10-day course, from March 5 to March 14. But there will be rules and restrictions in place this year to remind riders that COVID-19 is real with deadly consequences. City commissioners agreed to issue permits that allow businesses to temporarily do things outside that they normally can't.

Commissioners agreed to that in exchange for a promise from bars, restaurants, and shops to limit indoor occupancy to 60 percent during the event. There will also be enhanced sanitizing measures and distancing arrangements to try to keep people safer.



Tickets are on sale for the Daytona Supercross race on March 6, and it seems like fans will be allowed in, but with restrictions and

social distancing measures in place. The Daytona 200 has also gotten the green light and is scheduled for March 13 at the Speedway.

(Continued on page 5)





Oil Spots, continued...

There's a fairly robust slate of other activities like bike shows, swap meets, and more racing already on the calendar as well, with additional events sure to follow.

## Royal Enfield's Build Train Race Program For Women



Women racers and their race-prepped Royal Enfield Continental GT 650s will compete in

select rounds of 2021 MotoAmerica road – racing series.

MotoAmerica will be the Race portion of Royal Enfield's Build, Train, Race (BTR) program with a group of women selected by Royal Enfield to prepare and race its Continental GT 650 motorcycles in three rounds of the 10-round 2021 MotoAmerica series.



merica series.

Additionally, the BTR participants (and their Royal En-

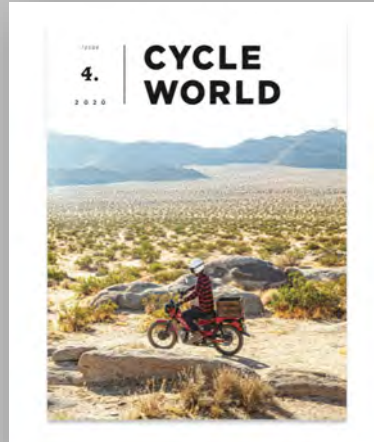
fields) will be interacting with fans at the opening round of the MotoAmerica series at Road Atlanta in Braselton, Georgia, April 30-May 2.

Professional road racer and current BTR Flat Track program participant Melissa Paris has agreed to mentor the women during every phase of the BTR Road Race program. She will work with each participant on creating a design for their builds, creating sponsorship decks, and training off and on the track.

The women who are participating in this program have never built a race bike or raced before. They are anxious to get training and get out there with the rest of the MotoAmerica paddock. The Continental GT 650 Twin is the perfect motorcycle for people looking to get into road racing and MotoAmerica and the BTR program is the perfect partnership to showcase that.

## Cycle World Magazine is Going Digital!

One more sign of the future.....



Starting in 2021, *Cycle World* magazine will be delivered digitally. There will be four issues a year—completely ad-free—and the editorial mission remains the same as ever. All subscribers will be given access to the entire *Cycle*

*World* magazine digital archive dating back to the first issue in January 1962.

This interactive archive will allow access to new issues of *Cycle World* as they are released, as well as some 700 issues in the back catalog.

To access a digital issue, visit:

<https://www.cycleworld.com/magazine> beginning on March 15th, 2021.

## Discontinued: The Motorcycles that Won't be Sold After 2021

One of the hardest things about growing old is seeing all your friends die off, okay, some of them. Also, some of the motorcycles we've grown up with and loved. Unlike people, at least these motorcycles will still be around for years, as great bargains. But once the dealers sell them all, that's it. It's the circle of life.



### **Harley-Davidson Sportster**

Harley built the first one in 1957, the Sportster's got to be one of the oldest bikes in continuous production. Harley's been upgrading the bike forever. They must have produced 5000 versions over the past 64 years. Most Sportsters are still around with more aftermarket support than any bike on the planet.

(Continued on page 6)



Oil Spots, continued...



The 2021 Iron 1200 is among the last of the Mohicans, and after it and the Iron 883 and Forty-

Eight are done, that's it for the Sporty. But you know H-D's got something up its sleeve to fill the gap. Also defunct after they're all sold out: Street 500, Street 750, and Street Rod. The Streets were produced beginning in 2014, but failed to gain traction in the marketplace.

### Yamaha VMAX

The outlandish Yamaha VMAX, first introduced as the V-Max in 1985 before getting a big overhaul in 2009 that made it so bombastic its name became ALL CAPS, is finally seeing the end of the line. The OG power cruiser, the VMAX's anime-like styling was a shock to the system in 1985, and its 1197cc V-four engine – and later the 1679cc redesigned version – was revered for its ability to rip your arms off while making excellent dragstrip sounds. The original Max came with a feature called V-Boost that imitates turbo boost by opening butterfly valves at high rpm to send a rush of fresh mixture to the combustion chambers.



### Yamaha R6

The going-away of the YZF-R6 is another one that has us asking not for whom the bell tolls: It's us geezers. Al-

ways a contender in the 600 supersport wars since its inception in 1999, and right through its radically racy 2008 redesign, it's fitting that Yamaha will still be

selling the leftovers for offroad use only, as the R6 Race.

Also leaving the building after 2021: the **WR250R dual-sport** and **SMAX scooter**.



### Ducati Monsters

Well, there is an all-new Monster with the 937 liquid-cooled L-Twin, but the monstrous Monster 1200 is already gone, and now the Monster 797 joins it in the family crypt. The 797 will be most missed, because it was the most direct descendant of the original air-cooled M900 Monster of 1994.



still get an elemental air-cooled Ducati in the form of the 803cc Scrambler Nightshift.

Also MIA in the new Monster is that iconic steel trellis frame that was for decades a Ducati hallmark. Thankfully, you can

### KTM Dukes

The light and powerful 690 Duke single was a fave, until it was superseded by the 790 Duke twin just two model years ago... now both have ridden to the top of the ash heap of history. The 790

Duke remains in the line-up as a 2020 model. And you can still get an awesome and powerful 690 LC4 single, but now housed only in the 690 Enduro R, or the SMC R. The mourning period will be mercifully short for the Dukes, given how good the new 890 Duke and Adventures are.



(Continued on pg. 7)





Oil Spots, continued...

These are the ones we'll miss most, but once again, fresh green shoots are already sprouting up to take their place.

## Yamaha Super Ténéré

Across the pond, where the ability to adapt to Euro 5 standards is critical to survival, bikes on the chopping block there, that probably will be in the same situation here in the US shortly thereafter, include the Yamaha Super Ténéré: The FJR1300 sport tourer is already gone from European markets.



## Honda VFR1200X

Various Euro sites are also reporting that Honda won't be bringing any of its V-four bikes

up to Euro5 spec – no more VFR800F, VFR800X Crossrunner or [VFR1200X](#) Crossrunner for Europe. For the USA, no great loss, as the Honda VFR1200X is the only one American Honda sells, and none too successfully.

May they rest in peace. Or in pieces, or on eBay. On a positive note Euro 5 bikes are of course cleaner than ever and, nearly all run better, smoother, and just as powerful as ever.

## Buell Is Back!



Buell Motorcycles is back in production in America. The new Buell Motorcycles will launch 10 performance models by the 2024 model year. The exciting

models will be representative of the superbike performance and handling expected of the legendary brand. Exciting times ahead for fans of American Motorcycles.

“Buell is back!” said Bill Melvin, CEO. “We are excited to bring Buell back with this awesome assortment of superbikes and performance motorcycles. We start with the fastest American production motorcycles, hand built in the USA, so that’s a nice start! We’re building out those platforms for more touring & adventure models, then we’re expanding our displacements to be competitive with other global brands. The passionate Buell Nation can grow and thrive again.”

Buell Motorcycle upcoming models will include variants for dirt, dual-sport, touring, and cruisers while expanding the line up to include medium and small displacement motors. Buell is also in the initial exploration phases for a high-performance Electric model and is open to collaboration ideas with other companies. The models currently in production are built by hand in Grand Rapids, Michigan and based on the high-performance 1190 platform, known for the innovation of Fuel in Frame, Perimeter Brake Rotor, exceptional handling, and high horsepower.



“Buell is known as the American brand for high performance, innovation, & adventure. Fast is fun again on a Buell. We will continue and expand

on that,” said Melvin. “We have already launched a dirt bike with Cipala Racing that won an AMA Championship and Buell will be dominating at NHRA this year. Follow us Facebook and Instagram where we’ll showcase passionate fans, new developments, as well as racers and riders having fun on a Buell. The future will be fast and fun on a Buell.”

|                                                                                                  |                                                                                       |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>-EBR 1190 RX-</b>                                                                             |                                                                                       |
| <b>Weight</b><br>100 kg                                                                          |  |
| <b>Fuel capacity</b><br>17.1L                                                                    |                                                                                       |
| <b>Exhaust</b><br>Primary + Secondary                                                            |                                                                                       |
| <b>Displacement</b><br>12.6 cu in. (1100cc)                                                      |                                                                                       |
| <b>Fuel Delivery</b><br>Electronic Fuel Injection with 2 port injectors and 2 Showhead injectors |                                                                                       |
| <b>Compression Ratio</b><br>13.4 : 1                                                             |                                                                                       |
| <b>Peak Torque</b><br>101.6 ft-lbs. @ 8500 rpm<br>(137.8 Nm @ 8500 rpm)                          |                                                                                       |
|                                                                                                  | <b>Gore x Stroke</b><br>4.19 in. x 2.66in.<br>(106 x 67.3 mm)                         |
|                                                                                                  | <b>Peak Horsepower</b><br>185 hp @ 10,500 rpm                                         |

(Continued on pg.8)



Oil Spots, continued...

EBR Motorcycles acquired the Buell brand in early 2020 and began developments to bring Buell back. Buell will be present at Daytona Bike Week 2021 at J&P Cycles Destination Daytona Mega Store.

### Arizona Businesses Unite To Make Safer Roadways



Last year alone, there were more than 3,100 crashes and fatalities on Arizona roads. And, with people from the west coast moving to the state in droves, ever-increasing challenges continue to emerge... especially with regard to the number of crashes and fatalities statewide. However, one organization – Arizona Motorcycle Safety & Awareness Foundation (AMSAF) – created the first and only program of its kind in the United States to offer discounted training for motorcyclists while promoting a “Share the Road” campaign to reduce distracted driving.

According to Mick Degn executive director for AMSAF, a multitude of corporations, state leaders, small businesses and non-profits, have joined AMSAF to turn the tide on Arizona’s statistics and to encourage positive outcomes.



“Share the Road is a statewide public awareness effort aimed at focusing Arizona motorists on the critical need to be undistracted when driving and to provide scholarships, statewide, to train motorcyclists how to ride more defensively,” said Degn

AMSAF, which celebrates its 10-year anniversary this year, developed its distinctive program concept in 2011. Initially, AMSAF focused on creating a reduced cost motorcycle training effort for first-time riders and for those with years of experience who need to hone their abilities and receive an endorsement. The goal? To give riders the skills they need to ride safely and defensively.



In January 2021, the State of Arizona implemented a hands-off law to penalize people using cell phones. And, because riders and drivers share the state’s roadways equally, AMSAF has expanded its reach to include the rampant problem known as distracted driving. AMSAF’s unique role model program continues to expand awareness with the long-term goal of reducing distracted driving and providing reduced cost motorcycle training.

AMSAF’s mission is to promote safety and awareness and reduce crashes and fatalities. The organization is located in Peoria, AZ

## Questions...

By Traveler



Ever wonder why or what if? On those loong motorcycle rides, we tend to day-dream, sing to the radio if we have one, think of evil things to do, try to solve the world’s problems, etc. Just to help you when you’re in that day-dreaming mode, here are some things to ponder.....

- ? No matter how much you push the envelope, will it still be stationery?
- ? If we didn't pay an exorcist could we possibly get repossessed?
- ? If we read a book about anti-gravity will we be able to put it down?
- ? What if you didn't like your beard, would it grow on you?

(Continued on pg.9)





Questions, continued...

? If a crossed-eyed teacher can't control her pupils, could she lose her job?

? If you get a bladder infection, would you say urine trouble?

? If you stay up all night to see where the sun went, would it eventually dawn on you?

? If a thief stole a calendar would he get twelve months?

? If we buy a new battery, is it really free of charge?

? Isn't a will just a dead giveaway?

? If a kid refuses to take a nap, would it be considered resisting a rest?

? If a motorcycle can't stand alone, would it be because it's just two tired?

Hmmmmmmmm

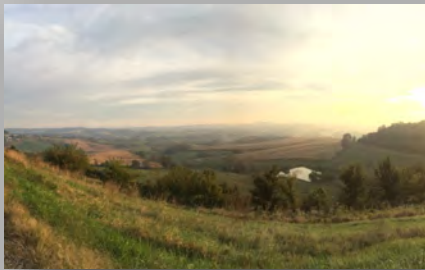


## Right Near Home!

## V.P.'s Vision

By: Mary 'Trooper' Kirkpatrick

So... remember the days when you used to climb in the car on a Sunday and go for a ride? Well, we can begin our plans for climbing on the bike on a Sunday for our rides. We have a whole lot of options already in motion and will soon be on the calendar, but here are a few for those of you thinking that you might like to become a Road Captain, but want to do a ride closer to home:



**Long Hollow Scenic Overlook**, near Galena. This could be a beautiful day ride with the destination: Galena. Many of our Road Captains have routes that will assist you in getting this ride on the books with ease. Making this your first ride would hook you into wanting to lead the rides more often!

**Morton Arboretum and Fermi Labs:** Plants and Science all in one day... Add a food stop and this day will be complete! Lots of experience in the club to assist you with this one too!



## Old World Wisconsin,

Near Oconomowoc.

This would bring the old days in America back to life. And... there is a little cafeteria with old world Wisconsin flavor.

These were just a few ideas to get you thinking! Become a Road Captain, and lead your friends into great adventures!



# Where is Harley Going?

By: Traveler



H-D Street Bob 114 is a new model for 2021.

## Harley Cuts Breakout, Deluxe, and FXDR From 2021 Lineup

During Harley's virtual introduction for its 2021 model year machines the company listed a few of the models Milwaukee was *not* bringing back including several Softails like the FXDR and Breakout, a Sportster, and even a Street model or two. The cuts were one of the main goals of Harley's Rewire strategy to streamline the product portfolio by up to 30 percent.

Take a look at the discontinued models.



First, the Softails. Because the new Street Bob 114 took center stage in the 2021 model announcement, H-D likely felt the Milwaukee-Eight 107-powered Street Bob was redundant, especially since the Softail Standard introduced last year is essentially the same bike with different finishes. Another Softail, the Fat Boy 114, received some different finishes and new graphics but no mechanical changes, and there was no reason to carry over the 30th Anniversary model for 2021. H-D has also chosen not to bring back the Softail Deluxe for 2021.

The base-model Low Rider didn't make the cut for 2021 along with the FXDR 114, Breakout 114, and Deluxe models dropped outright from the 2021 Softail lineup.

Also on the chopping block this year was the Softail Breakout 114. The 2021 Softail group now consists of eight models (down from 14 in 2020), with four of them running the 114 engine. In addition to the four previously mentioned bikes, the series includes the Softail Slim, the Sport Glide, Fat Bob 114, and Heritage Classic with either an M-8 107 or 114 engine.

The Sportster group was feeling the axe too. There are just three models remaining in the 2021 lineup—the Iron 883, the Iron 1200, and the Forty-Eight. The Roadster has been dropped from the line, at least in North America, but in Europe, it's even worse; the entire series has vanished from the website, undoubtedly the victim of looming Euro 5 emissions regulations.



Last but not least is the Street series, which sees its larger-displacement Street 750 and Street Rod models deleted, leaving just the Street

500 as the sole representative of the line.

(Continued on pg. 11)





Harley, continued...

For Harley's Touring line no models are exiting for 2021, though Harley did usher in a major change for all Touring bikes including the Special machines, the premium CVOs and both Trikes, as far as clutch operation goes.

Last year all those models ran with a hydraulically actuated Assist and Slip wet clutch setup; for 2021, they'll get a mechanical (cable actuated) Assist and Slip clutch arrangement.

The LiveWire is still listed as a 2021 model, but no other electrics can be seen anywhere under the heading. Not sure what H-D's e-strategy will be going forward in terms of new models.



Might be that the Motor Company is saving all the marketing hype for the Pan America 1250 adventure model, due to make the scene on 21 February.



At the same time as the reveal, Harley is set to fully reveal the details of its new five-year strategic plan, The Hardwire, "will be grounded in enhancing the desirability of our brand and protecting the value of our iconic products." Not sure what the real translation of that is, but we'll all find out soon.

## Harley-Davidson Reveals "The Hardwire" Plan



Five-year strategy involves a refocus on the firm's core strengths.

Under the new plan, Harley is following a "70-20-10" structure, with 70 percent of its efforts going into the core business, 20 percent into expansion into new segments that offer clear potential for more profit—for instance, the launch of the Pan America adventure bike—and 10 percent on testing ideas for longer-term growth, such as the company's continuing plans to develop small-capacity bikes for new markets in partnership with China's Qianjiang and India's Hero MotoCorp.



The push for a small-capacity cruiser in Asian markets is also likely to go forward. *Harley-Davidson*

Refocusing on existing Harley customers makes a lot of sense for a company like Harley-Davidson. Putting huge investments into approaching market segments already populated by successful rivals carries a large risk of failure.

But the risks actually ran even deeper than that. If the firm poured time, energy, and money into the expansion into new markets, that would inevitably mean forthcoming developments to Harley's existing lineup would have to be cut back to balance the bottom line, thus potentially alienating loyal customers—those likely to return to the brand again and again—in the hope of catching the eye of less-dedicated buyers.

(Continued on pg. 12)



Harley, continued...

The Hardwire brings the emphasis back to Harley's strengths, and while it might mean we lose some potentially interesting new bikes, it's hard to argue with the logic behind it.

"The priorities of our Hardwire strategic plan are built upon desirability," CEO Jochin Zeitz said. "We intend to:

One, invest in our strongest motorcycle segments that drive profit;

Two, selectively expand into and redefine segments where we have a winning offering;

Three, invest in innovation in the electric market which will be a critical part of our future;

Four, grow our complementary businesses, both in product and lifestyle;

Five, enhance and customize the Harley-Davidson experience for all customers, riders and non-riders, across all steps of the customer purchase journey; and

Six, prioritize inclusive stakeholder management and how we think about people, planet, and profit."

### Electrified Harley Davidson



H-D also confirms development in the electric motorcycle space will continue under a separate division, and likely with more focus on urban mobility. Will that signal the return of H-D's concept scooter? *Harley-Davidson*

Despite The Hardwire's reversion to traditional Harley markets, the company's recent strides in electric bike development are set to continue.

Under The Hardwire plan, Harley-Davidson is going to set up a stand-alone group to focus on its electric bike strategy with a leadership team solely dedicated to developing the most desirable electric motorcycles in the world.

However electric power isn't currently compatible

with Harley's key cruiser and touring market segment. "When you look at the core segments of Harley-Davidson, it will take a lot longer for electric to arrive simply because the technology that is required, in particular in the touring segment, is not there yet," Zeitz admitted.

A Harley-branded electric scooter—something the firm has previewed in the past—appears more likely to be the next step in the brand's electrification plan. "The electrification in the motorcycle segment will happen much faster in what I'd call the mobility segment, when you talk about urban centers around the world where a motorcycle essentially becomes a mobility product to get around town," Zeitz said. "That's where technology and range and customer expectations meet quicker and where we will see electrification happening much faster."

### The Harley-Davidson Pan America



With the upcoming Pan America, H-D says it's looking to expand market share both in Europe and North America. *Harley-Davidson*

The most obvious survivor of Levatich's More Roads to Harley-Davidson plan is the Pan America adventure-tourer shown to the public on its full launch February 22, 2021. While it's going to be a hard task to compete with the dominant BMW R 1250 GS in the markets the Pan America intends to target, it's a route that has the potential to see Harley expand its market share in Europe, where cruisers and tourers aren't big sellers.

Adventure-touring is the largest segment in many European markets with both attractive margins and high growth," CEO Jochin Zeitz explained. "It's also a largely untapped segment in North America, and we're excited by the potential it unlocks for Harley-Davidson. This segment is a natural fit.







## **FIRST 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.



This year is the 81<sup>st</sup> Anniversary of the legendary Sturgis Motorcycle Rally and, traditionally one of the most exciting Top Cats' group rides each year.

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

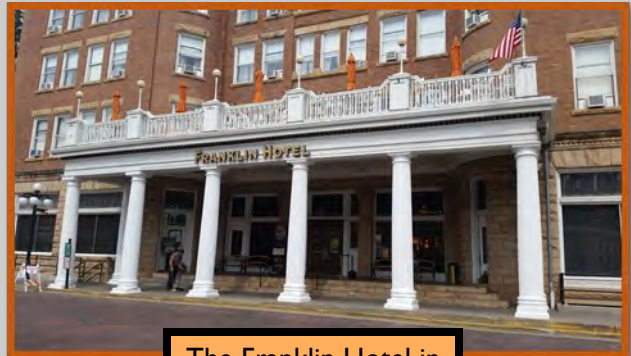


If you have the interest and you can afford the time and the cost of the trip, then you'd better make your hotel reservations for Sturgis ASAP for what might

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.



The Franklin Hotel in  
Deadwood  
South Dakota!



**WARNING:** As this edition goes to publication, we are only 90 days away from our cut - off date of 1 June 2021 for making or cancelling hotel reservations at the Alex Johnson Hotel in Rapid City, SD.

(Continued on pg 14)

**Sturgis, continued...**

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 and guests 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, etc, or a direct return home.



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 find a hotel room, typical Bike Week hotel rates will run from between \$400 / 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.

**Sun 1 August 2021:** NEW: 0800 Lv BP Gas Station, 512 w. Liberty St. (Rt 12 and Rt 176 ), Wauconda, IL (Wauconda to Mankato, MN ~400 miles). City Center Hotel, 101 E. Main St, Mankato, MN. (Arrive 1 Aug, Depart 2 Aug) \$79.00 / night + tax, Contact Angie or Front Desk, (507) 345-1234. Cut-off: 1 July. Cancel w/i 24 hrs of arrival.

**Mon 2 August 2021:** (Mankato, NM to Pierre, SD ~350 miles). Baymont Inn, 713 W. Sioux Ave ( Hwy US 14 ) Pierre, SD. (Arrive 2 Aug, Depart 3 Aug) \$69.00+ tax Contact Ron or Front Desk (605) 224-4140 Cut-Off: 1 July. Cancel w/i 72 hrs of arrival.

**Tue to Thur 3 Aug to 5 August 2021:** (Pierre SD. to Deadwood, SD ~300 miles). Franklin Hotel/Casino, 700 Main St, Deadwood, SD, (Arrive 3 Aug, Depart 6 August) \$145.00 / night + tax. Contact Elena Dagit, (800) 584—7005, X 627 Cut-Off: 1 June. Cancel w/i 72 hrs of arrival.

**Fri to Tue, 6 to 10 August 2021:** (Deadwood to Rapid City SD ~50 miles). Hotel Alex Johnson, 523 6th Street, Rapid City, SD. (Arrive 6 Aug, Depart 10 Aug or Anytime) Thurs: \$169, Fri forward: \$214, Contact Taylor Hildreth or Front Desk, (800) 888-ALEX (2539) Cut-Off: 1 June. Cancel by 1 July or you PAY one night rate!

NOTE: Details on the Front Range Ride (Post Sturgis) will be published shortly. Dates are 10 -14 Aug.

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...*







## O. RAY COURTNEY'S 1936 K.J HENDERSON MOTORBIKE

Posted by [ehehr1955](#) on February 22, 2014 and submitted by Mary Kirkpatrick



After being motivated to research this bike by a post on Michael Bradbury's facebook page, here is the information for you too! This is quite a creation! 1936 too! Now that is dreaming in the face of disparity! Let not time stand still! The entire article is here, but if you would like to see the original, see it all here:

[O. Ray Courtney's 1936 K.J Henderson Motorbike | EHehr1955's Blog \(wordpress.com\)](#)

In 1936, at the height of the Art Deco movement, O. Ray Courtney built this custom motorcycle, based off of the 1930 K.J Henderson model. Little is known about Courtney, who built a variety of custom motorcycles throughout his life. In a *Popular Science* article from 1953, Courtney was briefly mentioned alongside photos of other motorcycles he had modded during the early 1950's, the style of each bike evoking the idyllic sense of modernism prevalent in the atomic-age, cocktail generation of the fifties.

Although the man himself remains a mystery, his motorcycle designs give us a great insight into his aesthetic palate, as well as the influence of the shifting culture around him. His 1936 custom shop KJ Henderson is the most enduring and fascinating of all his motorcycles.

In the shadows of large motorcycle companies such as Indian and Harley Davidson, Henderson motorcycles struggled to compete throughout The Great Depression. From 1912 till 1931, Henderson produced 4 cylinder motorcycles that, at the time, were the largest and fastest motorcycles available.

In 1929, shortly before the owner of Henderson Motorcycles, Ignaz Schwinn, closed the company due to an escalating fear that The Great Depression would continue for another decade, Henderson released The Henderson Streamliner model, commonly referred to as the "KJ". The Streamliner model featured improved cooling and a return to the IOE (inlet over exhaust) valve configuration. The Streamliner was fast – capable of a genuine 100 mph (160 km/h), and advanced for its time, with such features as leading-link forks and an illuminated speedometer built into the fuel tank. The Streamliner model was produced from 1929 until 1931, and sold for \$435. This bike is the original foundation of the O. Ray Courtney model.



The art-deco influence in Courtney's motorcycle is obvious: the smooth curves, the angles, the influence of Cubism, and the aerodynamic design that had become a predominant feature in everything from architecture to household appliances. Outside of the art-deco influence, the bike can be looked at as a physical manifestation of the social consciousness of 1930's America, a society that was increasingly romantic about high technology, futurism, and novelty machinery; a general outlook on design that favored form to function. All of the mechanics of the O. Ray Courtney motorcycle are hidden, covered up with the black metallic surface of a stealth jet.

This was a time when most motorcycles were a triumph of design, with exposed cooling fins, brake drums, and suspension springs. O. Ray Courtney altered that to create a motorcycle that looks slightly menacing and neo-futuristic, even by today's standards; something you might see a high ranking military officer driving down the smooth marble streets of a distant utopian society.

The bike is now owned (and was restored) by Frank Westfall of Syracuse, New York.





Respectfully Submitted  
by:  
Diana Lanute

## GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 2ND, 2021



### Announcements:

Anniversary: Jim and Lisa Purcell  
Birthday: Rich Lanute

### President's Section: Gene Rigsby

7:00 pm, Meeting called to order

Pledge of Allegiance

Guests – None

### Announcements

- ✦ Ron Kostus – Ron passed away last month. He was our past Secretary and friend. Gene asked us for a moment of silence for Ron.
- ✦ Virgo Bender - 20th anniversary of passing (Moment of silence)
- ✦ Bill Yates – Bill has been hospitalized and is improving. Get Well flowers will be sent to his home from our club.
- ✦ Mike Gilfillan - Moving to Tennessee in the near future.
- ✦ Feb 2 - Jim & Lisa Purcell Anniversary (30th). Congratulations!

### V.P. : Mary Kirkpatrick

- ✦ The club will make a donation to the Cancer Foundation regarding Ron Kostus.

### Past President: Wayne Kirkpatrick

- ✦ The POSSE has been asked to fill in their calendars for this year's activities to avoid much conflict of events. Doug Jackson, WSHD, has advised us of cost cutting efforts on the part of the Motor Company this. Last year's accessory parts book will only be offered in the online version. A 113-page supplement will be provided in lieu of the big book,

### Safety: Ric Case, excused tonight

- ✦ Kaution Korner- Mike Bradbury presented the Kaution Korner article ,“SIPDE”, a simple method to deal with any common road hazard. SIPDE is an acronym for Scan, Identify, Predict, Decide and Execute. Read this month's Kaution Korner to learn more about this month's defensive driving technique.

### Safety Video: Gene Rigsby

- ✦ 5 Motorcycle Skills EVERY Rider Needs to Develop: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b2dwAtrpsE0>
- ✦ **Membership: Ted Makerawicz**
- ✦ New 2021 membership cards were passed out to those who attended this month's meeting. Our membership count is 26.

### Activities: Jim Purcell/ Greg Smith

- ✦ Recent activities – None.
- ✦ Future activities
- Sturgis departing 8/1/2021. More information from Bard to follow.
- Award Banquet tentative date June 14.

### Charity: Jim Purcell

- ✦ New director - Board to appoint until the next election.
- ✦ Charity Ride scheduled on June 13, 2021.

### Products: Lisa Purcell, excused tonight.

Get your gear now!!

### 50/50 Raffle: Jim Purcell, excused tonight.

Meeting Adjourned By Gene Rigsby at 8:45 p.m.

### Brother Bill Yates

By Top Cats Board

Our Top Cats brother of 17 years, Bill “Mr. Bill” Yates had been ill and hospitalized since mid December 2020.

We are happy to learn that good – old Mr. Bill is now home and doing better. We need to keep Bill in our thoughts and prayers to be sure that he'll be fully up and running by this year's riding season as one of our trusted and valued Tail Gunners!

This report from Jan, Bill's supervisor, road captain, boss, and....wife:

*“The flowers came today from the Top Cats. They are beautiful! Bill says “Thank You and I say thank you too. That was very thoughtful of the guys and gals to do that. We really appreciate it.*

*Bill is doing good and very happy to be home!!!! Take care and talk to you*







Respectfully Submitted  
by:  
Diana Lanute

## BOARD MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 9TH, 2021

### President's Section: Gene Rigsby

7:00 pm, Meeting called to order

No Immediate needs by any members at this time.

### Past President: Wayne Kirkpatrick

- ✦ Network Solutions sent an invoice to our club. Gene said our club does not use the Services of Network Solutions. We pay I-Power for our domain name and American Creative for our website hosting and support.
- ✦ POSSEE – Those clubs have gone dormant.
- ✦ HOG, WSHD – Membership is down 40%. Wayne will invite Doug Jackson to speak to us in March or April.

### VP: Mary Kirkpatrick

- ✦ Nothing to report and no concerns at this time.

### Activities: Greg Smith, excused tonight

- ✦ Future Events and Calendar reviewed.
- ✦ Ideas and Possibilities were discussed
  - Movie night a possibility?
  - Wayne suggested a Sturgis Seminar (with/without Bard) to explore new ideas for this ride.
  - NISRA – If Jim has a time in his schedule, perhaps he could provide a meeting room for us and give us a tour of the facility.
  - Range Time – Any interest in this activity?
  - Gene suggested a guest speaker, perhaps our insurance man, to look over each of our motorcycle policies.
  - Gene has offered us the October campfire again this year.
- ✦ Top Cats banquet date – Are there any suggestions for a couple of dates at The Onion Pub Restaurant? There is an option to receive a blast and pick a couple dates to vote on.
- ✦ Ride for Dreams Date: June 13.

### Safety: Ric Case, excused tonight.

- ✦ RC meeting date will be identified by Mike Bradbury.

### Membership: Ted Makarewicz

Membership cards – Ted sent out cards to all members. Ted suggested the idea of a themed meeting in which he would hand out patches, etc. We could also take a ride. During a meeting, Ted would like to give everyone a chance to speak out about what Top Cats means to them.

### Charity / Products: Open

A replacement for Director of Charity and Products is needed soon to keep compliance with State. Wayne suggested Mike Bradbury for Charity Director.

Gene will ask him. Vote taken and all agreed.

Chairperson for Charity and Products – Jim Purcell will remain as chairperson.

### Treasurer: Don DeLordo, excused tonight

Accounts status review – Don's report needs to be changed due to date mistake. There was a motion made and accepted to approve Treasury Report subject to audit.

### Secretary: Diana Lanute

Flowers with a get well wish from Top Cats were delivered to Bill Yates at his home address.

**Meeting Adjourned by Gene Rigsby at 7:30 p.m.**

## Random Google Information on Motorcycling!

**Symbolism: Motorcycle** represents speed, need for speed, actions, efforts, success, achievements and competition. Dreaming of a **motorcycle** can be a very pleasant one at times, especially if you like riding bikes. ... If you are sitting behind someone who is driving the **motorcycle** for you in your dream, it indicates support.

**Motorcycle.** To **dream** of a **motorcycle** is associated with solid progress in a situation that you have been working towards. ... This **dream** signifies that you are moving forward in a situation in your life. The **motorcycle** can also mean that you are looking for freedom, maybe financial freedom in life.



If you observe someone **driving** the **motorcycle**, you may experience changes in life, along with someone else, who exists in your life.

Read the site below for more details on what it means to dream about motorcycles.... Things we already know, but it is always nice to see it in print!

<https://alodreams.com/dreams-about-motorcycles-meaning.html>

Sweet Dreams!

## March Birthdays and Anniversaries!

### Birthdays!



9 Rich Lanute

Happy Days to our Top Cats Celebrities for March!

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

### Anniversaries!

25th - Greg and Jane Smith!



*Top Cats Buy, Sell, Trade....*

*The best way to ensure good quality at fair prices!*

### GREAT DEALS!



Put your items here and get the word out that you have stuff to sell!





## TOP CATS BUSINESS MART

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



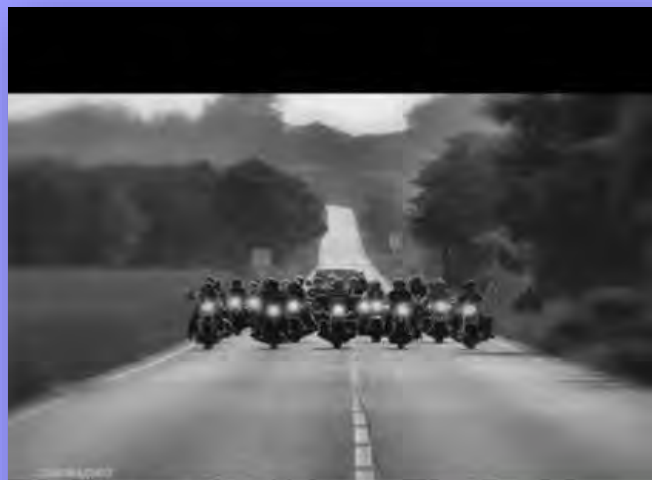
### CHASE PRIVATE CLIENT



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JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A.

**Network with  
your fellow  
Riders  
(Brothers)**



- Dad , why do people who ride bikes look so happy ?

- Look son, in my opinion they are crazy.

Also they have a weird philosophy,  
they think they are free, they believe in enjoying the wind in their faces,  
the dust, the rain, the sun and everything else.

They call their friends brothers; they help each other,  
they greet each other even though they are strangers.

When they get off their bikes they embrace as if they have not seen each other in years,  
they live for the day, they are likely to die at any time but apparently do not care.

- Dad can you buy me a motorcycle.



## 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**

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60010**

**847.870.0957**

**Have one of our own Top Cats work  
with you to buy or sell your home!**



Winter Wonderlands...  
Time to explore before the  
Riding Begins!







## RIDES & EVENTS

| Date                | Ride/Event      | Location           | Destination                                                                         | Time    | Leader   |
|---------------------|-----------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|----------|
| Tuesday, March 2nd  | General Meeting | Palatine           | Alley 64                                                                            | 7:30 pm | Rigsby   |
| Tuesday, March 9th  | Board Meeting   | Palatine           | Alley 64                                                                            | 7:30 pm | Rigsby   |
| Sunday, March 14th  | RC Meeting      | Virtual            | Your Computer                                                                       | TBD     | Bradbury |
| <i>Let's</i>        | <i>Get</i>      | <i>Ideas</i>       |  |         |          |
| <i>On</i>           | <i>Our</i>      | <i>Calendar!!!</i> |                                                                                     |         |          |
|                     |                 |                    |                                                                                     |         |          |
| Tuesday, April 6th  | General Meeting | Palatine           | Alley 64                                                                            | 7:30 pm | Rigsby   |
| Tuesday, April 13th | 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)



**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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| <b>Vice President</b>        | Mary Kirkpatrick<br>mawalters57@gmail.com | <b>Archives</b>    | Open                                      | <b>Editor-in-Chief</b>                      | Mary Kirkpatrick<br>mawalters57@gmail.com                                   |
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