



ROAR

January, 2022

Volume 22, Issue 1

Inside This Issue

| | |
|-----------------------------|----|
| PRESIDENT'S POINT | 2 |
| KAUTION KORNER | 2 |
| Winter Storage Tips | 4 |
| OIL SPOTS | 5 |
| MOTORCYCLE DREAMS | 9 |
| GENERAL MEETING | 10 |
| BOARD MEETING | 11 |
| VP's VISION | 12 |
| MOTORCYCLE MYTHS | 13 |
| Birthdays and Spirit | 14 |
| Business Mart | 15 |
| Top Cats Patrons | 16 |
| Rides and Events | 17 |
| TC Organization | 18 |



The Official Publication
Of
Top Cats Illinois



Thanks Podhalanka (and Ted) for a wonderful Polish meal!

Upcoming Events

JANUARY

- 4 GENERAL MEETING
- 11 BOARD MEETING

FEBRUARY

- 1 GENERAL MEETING
- 8 BOARD MEETING
- 26 TC AWARDS BANQUET

Talk to Greg Smith and Rick Agrimonte and get your ideas on the





PRESIDENT'S POINT

And Now a Word from your President...



Hello Top Cats!!

What's the best way to stay socially distanced...? Test riding a 2 wheeled Christmas present!!

Ted's annual, Toys for Tots run was December 5th. Although the weather was undesirable, our spirits, the excellent food and great

hospitality was not. The toy donations made their way to the collection center to brighten a child and family's holiday spirit and we had great food and excellent service.

Wayne made a great suggestion to "coin" Greg and staff for taking such great care of the Top Cats, year after year. So, next time your there, say hello and thanks to Greg and the staff, and look for the Top Cats coin.

Our 2021 elections were held in December. I want to say thank you to all that nominated someone for a position or nominated themselves, as well as all that participated in the election process. As much as some may think this is not an important event, maybe because we are a smaller group?? This is how we can all have a direct impact on the future direction of the club we all love and appreciate.

Congratulation to our newest board member Rich Lanute.

The new board structure is:

- President – Gene Rigsby
- Vice President – Ric Case
- Past President – Wayne Kirkpatrick
- Treasurer – Don DeLordo
- Secretary – Diana Lanute
- Director of Products and Membership: Ted Makearewicz
- Director of Safety and Road Captains: Mike Bradbury
- Director of Activities: Greg Smith
- Director of Charity: Rich Lanute
- Charity Committee Chair – Mary Kirkpatrick

What a great group to provide support and leadership for our Top Cat family. Please help me to say thank you when you see them at the next meeting or event.

We can always use more hands to make the work lighter (if you call this work). So please offer to help if/when you can.

Merry Christmas, Happy New Year and best wishes to you and your families through the holiday season and throughout 2022!!

It would be great to hear from you.

Feel free to reach out to me anytime via my email: gene.rigsby@gmail.com, or phone, 847-770-9425.

KAUTION KORNER

Winter Motorcycle Riding Tips

By: Wayne "Traveler" Kirkpatrick
Senior Road Captain



Winter motorcycle rides can be a beautiful way to extend your riding season and enjoy the outdoors during the colder months. Winter rides require extra preparation but can be well worth it when you get to enjoy a crisp ride through the open air. Here's a few tips for getting the most out of your winter motorcycle riding season:

Easy motorcycle modifications

Wind chill is the main factor that makes you feel cold on a winter ride, but a few easy modifications to your motorcycle can help protect your body from the wind. A larger windshield can protect your body from the wind, keeping your core temperature from dropping too much. You can also add additional handguards to your handlebars to block your hands from the wind and help keep your fingers from freezing. These modifications are easy to add to your bike and make a huge difference in extending your riding season.



(Continued on pg. 3)



Kaution Korner, Continued



Layer up right

Layering is the key to staying warm and dry during winter motorcycle rides. Start with a moisture wicking base layer, including a top and bottom, to keep your core warm. Include socks that have a wool fabric to keep your toes warm and dry.

For your top layer, add a heated jacket to keep you warm without adding bulk while riding. An adjustable heated jacket is a good way to prepare for different types of weather without needing to carry extra clothing with you. Finally, finish off your layers with a pair of motorcycle gloves made especially for winter riding. Keeping your hands warm is critical when you're on the road, so don't skimp out on finding a pair of gloves that are super comfortable and warm.

Check your tires

Tires are important to staying safe on the road all the time, but especially in the winter, so you should make



sure yours are in good shape before you head out on a ride. Winter isn't the time to neglect your bike maintenance, so make sure your tires are fresh with a good tread and proper inflation.

Roads are slicker than usual in the winter and cold tires offer even less grip on the road surface during the winter months. Remember to use caution when braking, accelerating and leaning at the beginning of a ride before your tires are warmed up.

Modified riding

Salted roads, wet weather and large snow plows can all leave roads in pretty rough shape, so you should adjust your riding accordingly. Take things

slower than you normally would and give yourself extra following distance to give yourself extra time to react to any potholes or cracks in the road. Don't be in a rush to get to your destination and stay alert to any hazards on the road to keep yourself safe.



Watch the forecast

A clear, crisp winter day is perfect for taking the bike out for a spin, but if there is any precipitation in the forecast don't hesitate to hit pause on your ride. A



few flakes can quickly turn into a whiteout and you don't want to be out on the road when that happens. Don't be afraid to cut a ride short if the weather starts to turn and stick to routes you're familiar with so you don't end up lost when the snow starts to fly.

Check in with yourself

Staying out in the cold for too long can make you feel tired, groggy and slow down your reactions, all things you want to avoid while you're riding. Keeping yourself warm uses up a lot of energy and you might find yourself feeling drained faster than usual on a ride. For this reason you should keep your winter rides short or take breaks to get out of the cold and warm up. Keep your mind and body sharp to stay safe on the road and enjoy your ride to the fullest without freezing. Don't forget you can also get dehydrated easily in the cold, so keep up with your fluids even in the cold.



With the right preparation, winter rides can be a great way to get even more use out of your bike. Keep these tips in mind to enjoy some great winter motorcycle riding this year.

Winter Storage Tips and Why?

By Traveler

By now we all have read the “How To” articles on winter storage. Most articles are informative but, few discuss the “Why” of what we do i.e. why do we fill the fuel tank and add stabilizer? Here is a short blast on the why of what we should be doing for winter storage....



Fuel

Most gas contains 10 percent ethanol, which is hygroscopic (it absorbs moisture from the air). If you live in a humid environment, it’s a good idea to store a bike with the tank full, as it minimizes the possibility of water being absorbed from

air in the unfilled portion of the tank. This is particularly important if the bike has a metal gas tank; you don’t want water collecting at the bottom.

Some folks swear by additives like Sta-Bil, which claims to break up water and keep the fuel from oxidizing. If three months of storage turns to a year, you’ll be glad for the stabilizer. If you know in advance that the bike is going into long-term hibernation, you’d be smart to drain the tank first and suck the carburetor’s float bowls dry, as the gooey varnish left by ancient gas can be problematic.

Battery

Cold temperatures and a parasitic drain (alarm system, clock, computer, etc.) will likely kill a battery before spring. If the bike is stored where there’s electricity, a battery tender will keep the battery charged.



You generally want a maintainer, not a trickle charger; a maintainer is designed to stay connected to the battery, whereas a trickle charger should be disconnected when the battery is fully charged—and can overcharge the battery if it’s not removed. If the bike is wintering somewhere where there’s no juice, simply disconnecting the negative terminal of the battery is effective.

Rodent Repellent



Time and environment may slowly eat away at your treasured bike, but between the nesting, the poop, the chewing, and the dying and stinking, the damage rodents can do quickly is astonishing.

Reportedly, rodents don’t like smells, and some folks swear by Bounce dryer sheets, Irish Spring soap, moth balls, peppermint oil, and other aromatics. Others have had luck with ultrasonic devices. Bottom line: Any rodent deterrent is better than nothing and be prepared to react at the first sign of rodents before massive damage is done.

Tires

Having a bike sit for several months will flat-spot the tires a bit, but when they’re driven and warmed up, they’ll probably work themselves round. Longer sits, though, particularly in cold weather, can permanently flat-spot tires. The best prevention is to use jack stands or a center stand and store the bike with both wheels off the floor. Short of that, drive the bike on occasion or at least move it in the storage space. It doesn’t take much. Remember, double check your tires for condition and proper inflation before riding.



(Continued on pg. 5)



Winter Storage, Continued...

Cover

This one's the easiest. Even if the bike is in pampered indoor climate-controlled storage, a cover will keep the dust, the critters, and the sun streaming through the windows off the paint, and those are all good things.



Protectant

There are many products available that will help protect the chrome, aluminum, and painted surfaces of your bike. S100 makes a good corrosion protectant for

chrome and any good paste wax will provide added protection over the storage period.

Remember that the best thing you can do is to keep the layup short, and if at all possible, exercise the bike occasionally throughout the storage.

**HAPPY
NEW
YEAR!**
Best wishes
for peace
and prosperity
in 2022



Oil Spots

By Traveler

Triumph Birthday



Britain's Triumph company marks 120 years since it was originally founded, it has

also just assembled the one millionth bike built since Triumph was reborn in 1990. That bike is a Tiger 900 Rally Pro with custom silver paint and special graphics, but it won't be sold. Instead, the all-terrain tourer will go on display at a new exhibition at the Triumph Factory Visitor Experience at Hinckley, Leicestershire.

The first Triumph motorcycle went on sale in April 1902 fitted with a Minerva engine. A year later the company had achieved 500 sales, but today's Triumph is a totally different story with 700 dealers in 57 countries selling some 75,000 bikes a year. That's plenty to celebrate.

CEO Nick Boor says, "Over the 31 years since we relaunched Triumph with a new line of British designed motorcycles in Cologne in 1990, we have shared so many great moments with our fans across the world. From returning to the TT champions arena, to entering the MotoGP paddock with our Moto2mEngine partnership, to supporting the biggest global riding event and its great cause for health and wellbeing with the Distinguished Gentleman's Ride, to mention only a few. Triumph's success has always stemmed from the passion and commitment we share with our riders."

Death of Motorcycling

A wave of change is approaching the motorcycle community worldwide. California and most of Europe have banned the sales of internal combustion engines after 2030-2035 including motorcycles. Every motorcyclist needs to help assure that electric motorcycles are a part of the future or we could end up with bicycles as the only

(Continued on pg 6)



Oil Spots, continued...

two – wheeled mode of transportation.



Be alert to legislation that affects our sport, support your local A.B.A.T.E. and, don't hesitate a second to notify your congressional representatives regarding your views.

Illinois Driver's License Renewal

I recently had to renew my driver's license and motorcycle endorsement. This appears to be a deep, dark chasm in which lie the secrets of how to renew your license at 75 years old or older. The info out there and the actuality are confusing and conflicting. So, I thought I'd pass on what I found in hopes that it may help my fellow riders.



I expected some major hassle at the Woodstock DMV over renewing my motorcycle endorsement because...it expires on 1 January 2022 and they probably wouldn't give me the skills test in December.

Anyway, I prepared for it by taking a series of sample test questions at: <https://dmv-permit-test.com/illinois/practice-test-1.html>

This is a great site and, after taking all 14 sample drivers tests (490 questions total) and 4 motorcycle operators tests (60 questions total) I felt fully prepared to take any version of the Illinois written tests.

Being fully prepared, I went to the Woodstock DMV early on Friday 10 Dec only to find that they had a big sign out front that stated that renewals were by appointment. Well Sh#@!. I told the DMV guy, Josh, that I had no appointment and he said that they do take senior citizens, disabled citizens and, Veterans on a standby basis.

Since I qualified in all three categories and, there was only one guy in front of me, I decided to wait for an opening.

About 37 minutes later, I got to go in and start the process.

First is the wait for a window and clerk to open up. Go early and they aren't crowded at all. For me, 5 minutes.

The clerk I had asked me some questions, looked at my license and insurance card, then gave me a vision test and told me to go out front and wait for my name to be called to take the road test.

When I asked about the motorcycle test, she said that their MC testing was closed until Spring. I told her that I ride at least weekly when I repair / restore motorcycles and, I couldn't wait until Spring. I also told her to just stop the whole renewal process because I would rather be cited for an expired license than for not having a motorcycle endorsement on a renewed license.

I thought that would be the end of it but, surprisingly, she told me to wait a minute and she would check with her supervisor.

She returned and said that she was also a rider and that she was certified to give the motorcycle skills test. So her supervisor said she could test me as long as the course was dry and safe and the weather was OK. We agreed that I would go get a bike and return at 12:30 pm to take the skills test.

I asked when I could take the written MC test and, she looked around and said, quietly, that she'd wave the written test. Great. Now to the road test.

A DMV officer called my name and, we went to my truck to start the test. First, she asked if I really wanted to test in a truck. After confirming that, she did a safety check of my truck and verified the insurance. Note: Take your insurance card in with you when you start the renewal.

Off we went to do the road test. Emphasis was on things like:

- ◆ Keep both hands on the wheel
- ◆ Make it clear that you are looking at your mirrors before backing
- ◆ Turn into the correct lane (Left or Right) when turning onto a multi lane highway
- ◆ Look both ways when pulling into an intersection
- ◆ Stop at the stop line or pedestrian walk at each stop sign

The road test took about 20 minutes. When we finished I asked about the written test. She looked through the handful of papers and told me that since I didn't take the written MC test, I probably didn't need the written driver's test. (Argggh! No written test after spending hours taking 18 sample tests.)

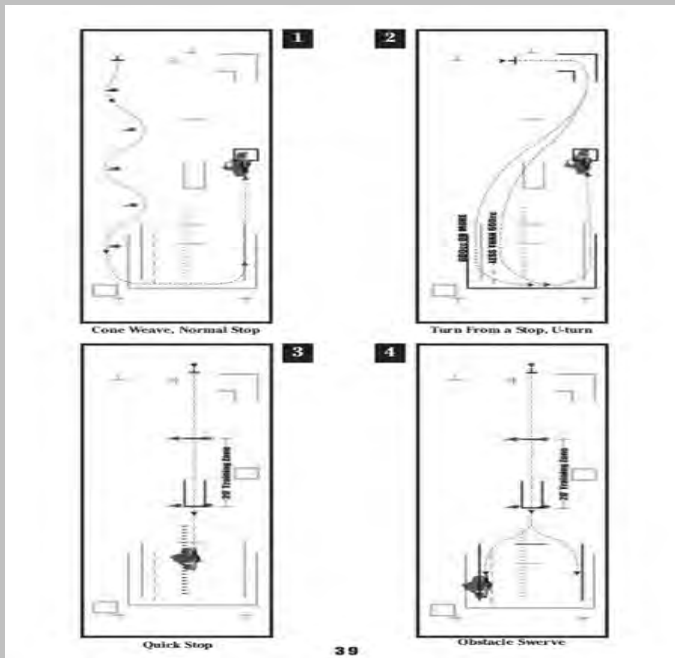
(Continued on pg 7)



Oil Spots, continued...

Having passed the road test, I acquired a motorcycle for that afternoon's skills test. It was cold but, they were letting me take the test. The bike I used was a small 500 cc Harley that proved to be the perfect size for the test. Also, Woodstock HD has a duplicate test laid out in their parking lot for practice.

The test course is comprised of four tests shown here:



The tests are relatively easy and would be no problem for an experienced rider.

The evaluator placed some cones for the cone – weaving test and explained what to do. Simply weave through the cones then do a U turn and stop with the front wheel in a designated box.

I rode the course and asked her how I did. Her only comment was that I rode a bit fast but passed the test. Note: To do the cone – weave, stay close to the cones and try to make it as close to a straight line as possible. Speed gives you more stability.

When I asked her what test was next she replied that she had seen enough and was convinced that I had the skills to ride a motorcycle. Whew!



After a little more paperwork and a short wait, they issued me a paper, temporary, license with a motorcycle endorsement and said it would be 2 to 3 weeks before I received my new license.

What I learned was that:

- ◆ The folks at DMV are accommodating and understanding
- ◆ Regardless of your experience, practice the written tests and the road / skills tests
- ◆ Take the MC skills test on a 500cc or 600cc small bike. It makes it so much easier
- ◆ Practice using the duplicate course that Woodstock HD has laid out
- ◆ The requirements shown for IL License renewal on the internet are not, necessarily, the same requirements that the DMV will require.

So, I hope this helps you and that you safely pass your next renewal test.

[Lego Superbike](#)

Lego gives both young and old the chance to build literally anything their hearts desire, especially with the ever-expanding reach of its highly technical “Technic” kits, which often use gears, pegs, rods, bars, and curved body panels rather than the bricks that we often associate first with the brand. The latest Technic kit announced is the BMW M 1000 RR, which goes on sale January 1, 2022. Featuring a clear engine block and a functional three-speed shiftable transmission, this model is mechanically realistic and also has the look thanks to the winglets and very comprehensive sticker package.



The real M 1000 RR is quite the piece of machinery, especially when equipped with the M Competition package, but all that awesome comes with a big, \$36,995 price tag. The Lego version is much more manageable, and one only needs to part with \$230 to get their hands on it. You'll have to wait until after the holidays, so if you don't find your perfect indoor project under the tree in two weeks' time, make sure your credit card is ready come January 1.

(Continued on pg 7)



Oil Spots, continued...

Harley-Davidson's LiveWire is first publicly traded EV motorbike company

Harley-Davidson's electric subbrand, recently announced its plans to go public via SPAC and trade under the ticker "LVW" on the NYSE.

Branching out into battery-powered bike tech began over a decade ago at Milwaukee. The LiveWire arm pursued further validity and independence by becoming its own separate division in 2019, then brand in 2021. Roughly three years later, the public move positions LiveWire for a valuation of \$1.77 billion. The arrangement will bring in Taiwanese powersports player KYMCO, which brings both logistical expertise and a 100-million-dollar investment.

LiveWire One (\$19,799 after incentives, 146 miles of range) remains the company's only offering heading into the new year.



LiveWire allows Harley-Davidson to explore a new, untapped customer base and helps the nostalgic, V-twin-powered brand put a futuristic foot forward.

Differentiating Harley-Davidson and LiveWire so prominently, however, serves to stave off the dilution of Harley's century-old brand identity.



Motorcycle Dreams!

Submitted by Mary Kirkpatrick
Complete article at:
12 Motorcycle Dream Interpretation |



What does it mean to dream of a motorcycle?

When thinking about motorbikes, the first idea that comes to mind is freedom. A bike is a type of vehicle that represents idealization. It is a willingness to overcome obstacles and live independently. Motorbikes also represent a change in your life journey into an endless adventure. Judging from these concepts, the dream meaning of motorcycles can be comprehensive.

If you dream of a motorcycle, then you will have an adventurous spirit and aspire to achieve freedom. These aspirations have no obstacles. A limited mood is not there for you.

Motorbikes are symbolic of the instinct of freedom and a more independent life. Personal idealization is also related to professional and personal life. Bicycles also represent the potential for achieving goals. It shows the balance of staying focused on the wheel and moving with agility on only two wheels. At this point, in the dreamer's life, the desire to enlarge the world is powerful, both in personal and professional life.

Dreaming of a motorcycle can also connect with your professional moments and the desire for independence and financial growth. It can also be a sign that your network is developing in a way that will help you reach your goals at work.

If you have dreamed of a motorcycle, you need to see the details. The meaning is connected with your aspirations. Do you remember the color of the bike? Did you ride a motorcycle? Each type of dream will have symbolism for the current period.

(Continued on pg. 9)



Dreams, continued...

.Dream of seeing a motorcycle

If you dream of seeing a motorcycle, this means it will depend on the color it has. The dream of seeing a bike has a generic meaning of the concept of freedom, emotion, or emotional balance that is brought by the motorcycle into our lives, especially if the bike is red or white.

If you dream of seeing a white motorcycle, that means you have made good choices in the past. Always maintain and focus on continuing to make good choices and to achieve your goals optimistically. If you dream of seeing a red motorcycle, this shows the aspiration of excessive freedom.

Dream of riding a motorcycle

It is another dream that shows the dreamer's freedom. If you ride a motorcycle, that means there is a strong desire to live your own life, to feel the air of freedom and adventure in you. The dream of riding a motorcycle also shows your willingness to change. Get out of the shackles of routine and find your way; this is the reason you live.

On the other hand, there is a bad meaning of this dream which is related not only to freedom but to your desire not to face or escape from certain situations. However, running away is not the best choice. Try to view each case as a learning experience and be patient. Time will give you a new adventure.

Dream of buying a motorcycle



If you dream of buying a motorcycle, you have to analyze the details. If the bike has a problem, it could mean shame related to people you trust. However, if the bike is in good condition, this means you are

living in a calm period. It can be a sign of a long pause.

Dream of a black motorcycle

Dreaming of a black motorcycle can have two meanings. Black can mean the instinct for power over what guides you and the neutrality of more angry feelings. You have complete confidence, control, and ability to run your life and emotions.

However, black also indicates that you are acting cautiously. You count, be observant, be careful, and pay attention to your choices. You are on the right track.

Dream of motorcycle theft

Dreaming of a stolen motorcycle also has two meanings. If you dream of someone taking your bike, this is a bad sign from some people who know you. These people's feelings are full of envy. It makes them want to hurt you. Stay con-

nected with people you know; focus on your goals without shifting the main focus. Be careful, especially with your money!

On the other hand, if you steal a bicycle, it means you are storing bad feelings, anger, revenge, jealousy, obsession, and a desire to rule over others. Try driving something lighter.

Dream of a broken motorcycle

The dream meaning of a broken motorcycle is quite simple. Try to be more flexible with your emotions and be happy with anyone.

Dream of a red motorcycle

What does it mean to dream of a red motorcycle? The red bike has a proper meaning in general. The red motorcycle shows your strong desire to live for your freedom.

It's not like a dream with a black motorcycle that shows cautious individuals. Dreams on a red motorcycle show rampant freedom. Beware of this excessive freedom, because anything that is out of balance can turn into something serious.

Dream of hitching a ride

This dream also bodes well, especially if the person who gave you a ride is someone who loves you. The dream of hitching a ride with this person shows the mutual trust that one has.

In the opposite dream, if that person piggybacks you, it means he wants to go with you wherever you go, assume the same risk, or live the same dream.

Dream of traveling by motorcycle

This dream has the most literal meaning. Dream of traveling by motorcycle shows your desire to travel the world to find out about other places. To be more authentic, you want to take this trip on a bike. Maybe this is the right time for you to travel to another location, breathe new air and talk with new people.

Dream of a fast motorbike

The dream meaning of a motorcycle at high speed shows your impatience. You want to get things done quickly for a lot of results. But life is not like that. Everything will arrive on time.

Dream of riding without wearing a helmet

When you dream of riding a motorcycle without a helmet, this shows carelessness in life. You often do things without thinking, and you are only limited to luck.

There's one more... Ask mw when you see me next!

And.....**Sweet Dreams!**



GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES DECEMBER 7TH, 2021

Respectfully Submitted
by: Diana Lanute

President's Section Gene Rigsby

- 7:00 pm, Meeting called to order
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Guests – Introductions – Bob Parquette

Announcements

- 12/17 - Emil Kornecki's birthday



V.P. Mary Kirkpatrick –

- Juergen Lutz and Frank and Andrea Kuehne will receive a Christmas ornament from Top Cats with all of our signatures signed on them.
- Cards will be sent to Lovell VA to the vets inscribed with "Thank you for your service." Mary passed around a sheet for our signatures, which will be included with each card.

Past President Wayne Kirkpartick

Election slate – Wayne explained the by-laws of election.

Nominated candidates are –

- V.P.: Ric Case
- Secretary: Diana Lanute
- Treasurer: Don DeLordo
- Two Directors (2022-2024): Mike Bradbury and Rich Lanute

Wayne shared some history of the Army-Navy Game and shared some rivalry between the two teams.

Safety Ric Case

- Accident review – Mike Bradbury – Dangers of being inebriated and riding motorcycles and the potential harm from not using helmets were discussed.
- Kaution Korner - Ric Case – Reviewed T-CLOCS. Ric discussed Road Captain and Senior Road Captain meetings slotted for February. Details in his article.

Safety Video Ric Case

<https://youtu.be/x94PGgYKHQ0>

Provided by Rick Agrimonte

- The five ways motorcyclists become invisible to

other motorists discussed as:

1. SACCADES a rapid movement of the eye between fixation points which can cause a gap in what a driver 'sees'.
2. Selective attention
3. Peripheral blindness
4. Beam blindness
5. Contrast blindness

Membership Ted Makarewicz (ABS) Greg reported for Ted

- New members announcement? None
- Membership drive ideas?? Query the club? If any ideas, see/call Ted.

Activities Ric Case and Greg Smith

Recent activities

- 11/20 NISRA fashion show – Ric Case – Just under 400 attendees.
- 12/5 Toys for Tots - Ted Makarewicz – Successful event including breakfast at a Polish restaurant with some great food!

Future activities

- NEED MORE EVENTS!!!
- Onion Pub event discussed.
- 12/11 – Prime Quarter Restaurant, Janesville, Wisconsin. Arrive by 3:30pm for social time with grilling to start at 4:00pm. Let Mary know if you plan on attending.

Products: Get your gear now!! Ted Makarewicz

- Embroidery ideas
- Shirt order

50/50 Raffle Andy Haszlakiewicz

Bozena had the winning ticket.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:50 by Gene Rigsby



BOARD MEETING MINUTES DECEMBER 22ND, 2021

Respectfully Submitted
by: Diana Lanute

President's Section Gene Rigsby

- Meeting called to order
- Immediate needs? None
- Welcome new board members:
 - ◇ VP – Ric Case
 - ◇ Treasurer - Don DeLordo
 - ◇ Secretary – Diana Lanute
 - ◇ Director – Mike Bradbury – Safety and Road Captains
 - ◇ Director – Rich Lanute - Charity
 - ◇ Chairperson for Charity – Mary Kirkpatrick
- Patch spend approval (\$25): The board voted unanimously to approve the \$25 expenditure on patches.

Past President Wayne Kirkpatrick

- Open discussion –
 - ◇ RC meeting February 5, Saturday at 9am.
- Activities –
 - ◇ We should mentor new members for their first year to acclimate them to club activities.
 - ◇ A lunch ride to Harley-Davidson in Milwaukee, WI.
 - ◇ A summer ride to the American National Motorcycle Museum.
 - ◇ The IMS Breakfast Ride.

VP Mary Kirkpatrick / Ric Case

Open discussion – The ROAR to be ready the end of the month.

Activities Greg Smith

- Future Events
- Calendar review - Dec/Jan/Feb discussed.
- Top Cats 2021 Banquet (Feb 26 2022)
- Budget approval for banquet (\$800) – This is an annual item. Motion to allocate \$800 and passed unanimously.
- Award ideas – give ideas to Mike B.
- RC meeting February 5.

Safety/RC Ric Case / Mike Bradbury

- Update - Accident Scene Management with Motorcycle Lawyers – Mark Schumann to call Ric next week. If we have 10-12 people he will meet us anywhere.

We will offer the basic class this year. Next year we will offer an advanced class.

- We should use Woodstock Harley Davidson as location for GRASS class.

Membership/Products Ted Makarewicz

- Membership – We have two new members. – How about a mentor program to guide new members into club activities?
- Polo shirts are ready and will be here shortly.

Charity Mike Bradbury / Rich Lanute

- New committee chair (Mary)
- NISRA donation amount for 2021/2022 – Discussion of the reserve fund amount. Mary
- The Board suggested table of this motion until February Board Meeting. It would be great if we could get \$5 a ticket.

Treasury Don DeLordo

- Report/review – Don reviewed items on our main account and charity account.
- The Onion Pub Restaurant has submitted a new contract with Top Cats.

Secretary Diana Lanute

No report.

Rockers given to:

- ◇ Mary, as Past VP
- ◇ Ric, as new VP
- ◇ Rich, as a Director
- ◇ Mike B., as a Director

Meeting Adjourned by Gene Rigsby at 8pm





V.P.'s Vision

By: Ric 'Clutch' Case

January 2022

Well 2022 has finally arrived, so Happy New Year to any guest reading this article and to all our member and potential guests. This last year was rather subdued by the fear of COVID19 erupting again. It has been a challenge for the past two years. This year was much like the fanfare of the previous 2020 year, but we did get a few more rides in although it was still challenging.

Now it is our opportunity to plan for a really great 2022. Some activities from the past will continue to evolve. Our annual Road Captain meeting for Existing Road Captains (RCs) want-to-be-RCs and of course, our Senior Road Captains (SRCs) is being planned near the end of January or early February. That date will be announced very soon and we will hopefully have some good ideas for us to look forward to for this summer.

Next up is the awards banquet that covers the events of 2021 to be held February 26th at the Onion Pub on Pepper Road in North Barrington. It will start at 6pm and is always a festive time. Expect nothing less this year.

You can expect a kick-off Ride come April as the weather permits. This is always an exciting time as the new riding season emerges and after the last two years, this one holds even MORE excitement. At this time, the calendar looks very empty until our Ride for Dreams June 12th. But we are going to change that soon! BUT we need your help! Bring your ideas, suggestions, or a plan or execute any ride you deem worthy of Top Cats attention. We have a strong group to put things in place!

At this time, we are getting started on the plans for the Ride for Dreams! Expect us to host it at Woodstock Harley- Davidson. Again a gala affair among motorcycle events. Get on board now and help with the plans. With more hands, we increase the probability of success!



Then comes the annual Sturgis Pilgrimage in the first week of August. Bard and Wayne need our participation to keep it going year after year. I think it is getting close to thirty years that we have been traveling west on this journey! We have made friends who look forward to seeing us each year. Join the fun and make some friends while seeing some of the most beautiful parts of the United States.

In these shortened days and bare trees, we need your involvement to end the year with plans for a stupendous riding season. So, Top Cats, begin thinking about YOUR favorite ride and bring it to our attention. We are here to help in any way shape or form required to make it happen. And turn 2022 into the best riding year ever. That means we need each and every one of us has to get involved to make it happen.



We are always on the look out for ways to recruit well qualified riders for membership.... Well, A great riding season is our BEST marketing tool!

Remember when the going gets tough..
the tough (us Top Cats) get going.
Thx for reading my column,

Your Vice President working for you,
Ric "Clutch" Case



Motorcycle Superstitions... The Stories Behind the Myths

Submitted By Mary Kirkpatrick
Full Article at:

[The Most Common Motorcycle Superstitions \(rumbleon.com\)](http://www.rumbleon.com)

Dropping your Helmet:

“As goes your helmet, so goes your head.” That’s the saying behind this motorcycle superstition that says it’s very bad luck to drop your motorcycle helmet.



We can understand where it’s coming from, too. If you continue to just drop your helmet, there might be a chance that you can cause some damage to it. And a damaged helmet is a worthless helmet. Apparently, it also doesn’t matter how short the fall is. If you drop it, you replace it, because it’s considered unlucky.

It’s thought that if you drop your helmet, your head will follow. That’s not an image we like to picture, so we’ll leave it up to you. But honestly, you’re bound to drop or have dropped your helmet before, and if that’s the case, it’s not realistic to buy a new helmet every time you drop it. When it comes to safety gear, riders typically put in a good chunk of money to ensure that they’re getting quality gear. When your safety is involved in the equation, that’s not an area that you cheap out on. So, in that case, it’s a bit unrealistic to think that someone should replace their helmet every time they drop it.



Guardian Bells:

So this one is pretty interesting, I’m not going to lie. It’s a little unsettling, too. A Guardian Bell is a small bell that some bikers attach to their bike to attempt to ward off evil spirits that are trying to harm them while they’re on the road. It is believed that these evil spirits that you might encounter on the road are what’s responsible for any bad luck that you might face on your trip.

The sound of the bell is believed to get the evil spirits interested, where they suddenly become trapped inside the bell. While in there, the constant ringing of the bell makes them go insane, so much so that they lose their grip and fall to the ground. Morbid... Yes, However, even in the darkest and possibly morbid things, there’s always a little light involved in the situation.

In this case, the bell helps bond a biker community together, especially new riders. It is believed that a rider cannot buy their own bell; it has to be gifted to them by another fellow rider. That tends to create a friendship, a bond, and a potential riding buddy for life. And when

you look at it that way, maybe this motorcycle superstition isn’t so bad.

There’s also a different version of the bell, but this is less of superstition and more of a form of remembrance. Some bikers hang a brass bell from the left side of their swingarm to remember a fallen rider. It’s believed that the fallen rider will get to continue to enjoy the road with their friends. And that’s pretty dang sweet.

Riding with the rear pegs down:

This superstition is similar to the belief about bells, but in the sense that it’s believed you could be encouraging evil spirits to tag along for a ride. It’s believed that if you leave those pegs down, the spirits assume you’re welcoming them to join you. But these riders are not very likely to be as pleasant as other riders because their sole reason for existence is to cause mischief.



This is considered a complicated superstition, simply because if you’re riding your bike in a funeral procession in honor of a fellow fallen rider, you’re supposed to have the pegs down so that your friend can enjoy one last ride. But if you make sure you have that silver bell, this shouldn’t be a problem. At least, I hope so, because then what’s the reason for having that silver bell if it’s not going to do its job?

Stopping to help other riders:

Now, this is one that we think everyone should get on board with if they aren’t already. But not simply on account of luck. Think of this superstition as bad karma. If you see a fellow rider on the side of the road, for whatever the reason may be, you’re always supposed to stop and offer help. Even if it doesn’t really seem like they’re going to need it, you’re still supposed to stop. Always.



The reason basically boils down to karma. If you don’t stop for another rider, it’s believed that no one will stop for you if you’re ever in a similar situation, or you’ll just receive some general bad luck. But let’s be honest, even mildly-bad luck can turn into really bad luck when you ride a motorcycle. It doesn’t take much to completely turn your day upside down.

A huge reason that so many bikers love to ride is that of our **tight-knit culture**. Now, when you don’t help out your fellow riders, what does that say about the awesome culture we’re supposed to have? Even beyond that, you should always try to help people if they seem like they’re in need. It’s the nice thing to do, and if you’re someone that believes in karma, then good karma will come traveling right back to you. Also, no one likes jerks, so...don’t be that guy!

Bikers are the luckiest... who needs superstitions?



*Family, Friends
and Festive
Times...
May you be
Blessed with
All of these in
the
New Year!*

January Birthdays and Anniversaries!



- Birthdays**
 1- Wayne Kirkpatrick
 2 - Noelle Rigsby

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

Anniversaries

None in January!

No Cold Hearts here!



*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

kw SUCCESS REALTY
KELLERWILLIAMS.
Mary Kirkpatrick

Realtor

262-344-6228

e: marykirkpatrick@kw.com

w: MaryKirkpatrick.kw.com



600 Hart Road, Suite 105
Barrington Illinois 60010



Each Office Is Independently Owned and Operated

**GET READY...
ICE SCULPTING IS AVAILABLE
FOR WINTER ACTIVITIES...**

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





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
Success
Realty**

**600 Hart Rd.
Suite 105
Barrington, IL
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, January 4th | General Meeting | Palatine | Alley 64 | 7:00 pm | Rigsby |
| Tuesday, January 11th | Board Meeting | Palatine | Alley 64 | 7:00 pm | Rigsby |
| Tuesday, February 1st | General Meeting | Palatine | Alley 64 | 7:00 pm | Rigsby |
| Sunday, February 6th | Road Captains Meeting | TBD | TBD | TBD | Bradbury |
| Tuesday, February 8th | Board Meeting | Palatine | Alley 64 | 7:00 pm | Rigsby |
| Saturday, February 26 | Awards Banquet | Barrington Hills | Onion Pub | 4:30 pm | Rigsby |

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



ROAR



TOP CATS OF ILLINOIS is a group of motorcycle enthusiasts with similar interests. Members consist of responsible Leaders, Presidents, Chairmen, Owners, Proprietors, Partners, principals, CEO's, and other 'Top Cats' of large, medium and small organizations, institutions, and companies.

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

| ELECTED OFFICERS & DIRECTORS | | COMMITTEE LEADERS | | ROAR | |
|------------------------------|---|--------------------|---|---|---|
| President | Gene Rigsby- gene.rigsby@gmail.com | Activities | Greg Smith GregSmith@kw.com | Executive Editor & Board Liaison | Mary Kirkpatrick Mawalters57@gmail.com |
| Vice President | Ric Case Riccase@Comcast.net | Archives | Open | Editor-in-Chief | Mary Kirkpatrick mawalters57@gmail.com |
| Treasurer | Don DeLordo Don_De@att.net | Charity | Mary Kirkpatrick Mawalters57@gmail.com | Publisher | Open |
| Secretary | Diana Lanute Diana.Lanute@att.net | Membership | Ted Makarewicz Hogski@hotmail.com | ASSOCIATE EDITORS | |
| Past President | Wayne Kirkpatrick wkirkpa177@aol.com | Awards | Mike Bradbury bradbundy@comcast.net | Executive & Board | Wayne Kirkpatrick wkirkpa177@aol.com |
| Director | Rich Lanute Richard.Lanute@att.net | Safety | Mike Bradbury bradbundy@comcast.net | Safety & Road Captains | Mike Bradbury bradbundy@comcast.net |
| Director | Greg Smith GregSmith@kw.com | Website | Mary Kirkpatrick mawalters57@gmail.com | Membership | Ted Makarewicz Hogski@hotmail.com |
| Director | Mike Bradbury bradbundy@comcast.net | Products | Ted Makarewicz Hogski@hotmail.com | Charity | Mary Kirkpatrick Mawalters57@gmail.com |
| Director | Ted Makarewicz Hogski@hotmail.com | SGT at Arms | Andy Haszlakiewicz andyh9946@gmail.com | Events & Calendar | Greg Smith GregSmith@kw.com & Rick Agrimonti Rickandyolie@att.net |
| Founder | Carl 'Virgo' Bender 1941-2001 | | | Motorcycle Community | Wayne Kirkpatrick wkirkpa177@aol.com |

© Copyright 2010 **TOP CATS OF ILLINOIS**
ROAR is the official publication of the **TOP CATS OF ILLINOIS**
and is published on the 1st of each month.

The content and opinions expressed in articles are those of the authors and not necessarily those of **TOP CATS OF ILLINOIS**

For questions or to submit comments or articles for publication, contact the editors at ROAR@TopCats.org