



ROAR

JULY 2022

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The Official
Publication
Of
Top Cats
Illinois



No one was 'bi.....n' about this ride!

Upcoming Events

JULY

- 5 GENERAL MEETING
9-10 KANSAS CITY
- 12 BOARD MEETING
- 23 GRASS CLASS
- 31 STURGIS
- 31 GRUMPY TROLL

AUGUST

- 2 GENERAL MEETING
- 3 BOARD MEETING,
- 9 -16 FRONT RANGE RIDE

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





PRESIDENT'S POINT

And Now a Word from your President...



Hello Top Cats!! I hope you and your families are in good spirits and enjoying the more comfortable temperatures. I can't believe July is here.... Woo hoo!! What's the best way to stay socially distanced...?

With the wind in your face...

We had a great Ride for Dreams this year, with many good results including a new member that was a participant on our ride. Who got to know more about the Top Cats and NISRA and decided to join. If that is not a direct testament to the great work you have all done... I don't know what is!! **THANK YOU ALL** for supporting our charity and club and making them something people are willing and proud to become part of. These are YOUR efforts realized.

Speaking of riding... Mike said he wanted to designate rustic roads and BBQ as his themes for this riding season and again, he has kept to it. He lead a ride out to Bob's Bitchin' BBQ on father's day. And all enjoyed some great company, weather and BBQ. It's a great place. We went a few years back (on a Mike ride). So if you missed it, keep a look out for a future chance to go and GO!!

As mentioned last month, we have a lot of stuff coming up in July, like the Kansas City ride Mike is running. A GRASS class. The Sturgis ride kicks off along with another ride from Mike, which may gain you some more rustic

road opportunities and he named after one of us.... Not sure which one! After July, August is packed with riding opportunities.... Sturgis, Front Range Ride and Ted's Field of Dreams ride....

With all that, **WE STILL HAVE OPEN SPACE ON THE CALENDAR**..... Let's go Road Captains!!! Let's fill it in. Get your rides on the calendar so we can plan to attend. Contact Mike, me or any of the Sr Road Captains if you need help getting a ride idea started. We can help.

As I always mention (so you should know now, right??), stay on top of all the opportunities to enjoy riding and being with your Top Cats family. Keep looking out for blasts and check the calendar often for details of events and save the dates ASAP. Take a few minutes right now to go to the Top Cats event calendar and write down the ride/event dates on your calendar. I'll wait.....

Add them to your phone as well, just in case you are not looking at the calendar enough. Also, contact Greg Smith or Rick Agrimonti if you are not seeing the blasts.

Buddy Check... It would be great to hear from you. Let me know how you are keeping busy.

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

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

KAUTION KORNER

Packing for the Long Haul!

Bard 'Judge' Board
Senior Road Captain



We aren't going to talk about WHAT to bring. That's a topic for another article! Here, we will talk about HOW to load what you do bring. Low, center, tight and secure is the key to carrying a months-worth of stuff for your weekend get-a-way.

Loading a motorcycle properly is very similar to getting the weight and balance factor correct on a cargo aircraft, or even a small plane. The CG, or center of gravity is critical for proper and safe flight, and on a motorcycle packing weight needs to be as close to the middle of the bike as possible, and as low on the bike as possible.

(Continued on pg. 3)





Kaution Korner, Continued

Heavy tools should be in the front of the saddle bags, and on the bottom, NOT up in your tour pack on top of your rain gear. All heavy items should be packed in the lower bags and light items in the tour pack. Also, items you may need to access in a hurry, like rain gear, should be on top

in the bags or the tour pack. If you are traveling solo, favor using the rear seat area for storage of heavier luggage vs. the tour pack.



hanging off the rear of the bike. This would aggravate handling and may cause that weight on the rear of the bike to swing around towards the front by a 'polar moment of inertia.'

Good Tie Downs are an important part of keeping your packs in place. Bungees have been traditionally used, but take a look at these ROK Straps. This video, ROK Straps vs. Bungee straps, is a great start. <http://www.rokstraps.com/index.html> I guarantee once you've used a ROK strap you will never use a bungee again. Safer, tighter, adjustable, they are the only way to secure a load securely.

Oh, did I say, don't bring so much? The tendency is to over pack. Do you really need 6 tee shirts knowing you're going to buy 3 or 4 tee's while at Sturgis? Also, consider using the post office, UPS or FedEx to ship extra stuff to your destination a few days before you leave. Then, all you will have to pack are the supplies you will need while on the bike! All three shipping options have a variety of boxes you can choose from.



For those things you DO pack on the bike, the use of plastic garbage bags or vacuum storage bags are great options to wrap or cover stuff that you want to stay dry. Even HD hard bags and tour packs sometimes leak. Once you have all of these decisions made, check the recommended tire pressure, shock absorber settings and air pressure as outlined in your owner's manual for heavier loads. Recommended settings and pressures are much different for a fully loaded up bike!

Now that you have your strategies set, pack up early and BEFORE departure, pre-load your bike and go for a 10 mile ride and cross a few RR tracks and hit some bumps. Then, back in your garage, see what came loose and shifted... hopefully your pre-planning keeps things in place.

No one, not even Gomer Pyle, likes to hear 'surprise, surprise, surprise' at this place and time!

That's it! You now have the basics for HOW to pack! Ready, Set, Go! And...Have a nice trip!

Oil Spots

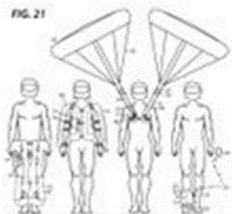
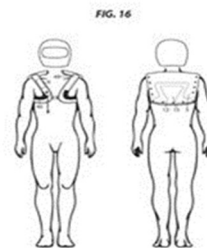
By Traveler



above the rider, the idea is that once inflated, they'll make sure the rider slides feet first and is quickly slowed down, pulling them away from the bike and either coming to a halt quickly or decelerating significantly before impacting any obstacles.

It might prove unworkable in the real world, as the canopies would need to inflate very quickly to prevent tangling, but nonetheless any idea that could contribute to safety is worth a second look.

And.....you can combine two sports into one....free fall parachuting and motorcycling!



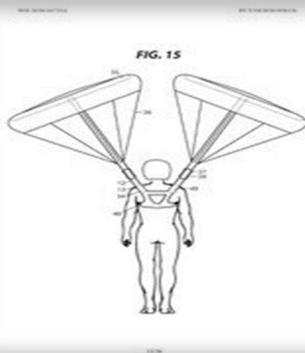
Airborne Bikers?

A Swedish company has been developing an airbag-clothing system that places airbags inside the sleeves of jackets and legs of pants. It's launching its first products, including airbag jeans, an airbag vest, and even airbag shorts later this year.

Parachutes have been used for decades to slow top-fuel dragsters and military aircraft where there is limited room to bring vehicles to a stop quickly. The parachutes also help keep those vehicles pointed straight as they decelerate.



The concept is to use two small canopies that look like small wading pools with an inflatable outer edge that expands into shape immediately. The main "cords" to the canopies are inflated above the rider's head. They're attached to points above the rider's neck and reduce the chance of tangling. The system is inflated using conventional airbag-technology which could be compressed-gas canisters.



With the canopies

EV CHARGING STATIONS ROLL OUT ACROSS US AND EUROPE



In Europe and America, the electrification plans are gathering momentum, as charging stations are set to be added on both sides of the Atlantic.

Bottom of Form

Recently, the European Parliament voted in favor of ending the sales of new combustion vehicles by **2035**, and now the European Commission decided that infrastructure needs to be improved in order to support the decisions of the European Parliament. In particular, they plan to ensure at least one electric fast charging station every 36 miles on Europe's roads by 2025.

That is a major undertaking, considering that three countries - France, Germany and the Netherlands - contain almost three-quarters of Europe's 220,000+ electric charging stations, but comprise less than one-quarter of Europe's surface area.

Between 2010 and 2020, in Europe, the number of electric cars per charging station had increased from two to 11. Presumably this is not considering electric motorcycles, the addition of which would increase the imbalance.

(Continued on page 5)



Oil Spots, , Continued...

Electric vehicles are increasingly common and taking up an increasing proportion of the two- and four-wheeled markets, this investment by the European Commission in electric charging infrastructure is at least a positive start.

A similar problem is faced on this side of the Atlantic where the US government has just committed \$7.5 billion to develop and grow the nation's public charging network.

The total number of charging stations that the US is planning to install is 500,000, all of which must have at least four charging terminals of at least 150kW each. Additionally, they must be not more than 9/10 mile from a roadway, and no more than 48 miles away from each other.

The intention is to nationalize the electrification of personal transport, rather than leaving some areas lagging behind others, which in this case would somewhat cut them off from the areas with better charging infrastructure. Such infrastructure will also be important for the US' plans to electrify its emergency services' response fleets.

KAWASAKI HAS A GOAT YOU CAN RIDE



Kawasaki answers a question nobody has surely ever asked by revealing the Bex Robogoat... are we looking at the next generation Kawasaki?

Bottom of Form

What you see below is a robotic goat, or a 'robogoat' if you will. It has been created by Kawasaki...and you can ride it too.

The Bex is the product of Kawasaki's humanoid program in collaboration with the University of Tokyo and is being displayed and demonstrated at the International Robot Exhibition



in Japan.

It is Kawasaki's second attempt at a free-thinking machine, following on from the Kaleido, a more humanoid yet terrifying creation that could pass as a seriously jacked member of Robot Wars.



While the prospect of a future Kaleido might keep you awake at night, Kawasaki has adopted a friendlier form for the Bex, even if it does look a bit like a photocopier with legs and a head. Watching it in action, it's both as impressive and as weird as you'd expect, Bex lowering and raising, as well as waddling from point to point.



Given Kawasaki knows a thing or two about riding, it's reassuring to know the Bex has the stability to carry a person in a way you'd imagine your rocking horse coming to life as a kid, albeit more akin to the killer machines in iRobot.

The Kaleido was designed to rescue people trapped in disaster zones. Although we're not entirely sure that this is the first thing we'd want to see while waiting to be rescued because Kawasaki claims its actually smarter than a human being... so it probably also could kill you and make it look like an accident.

As for why Kawasaki has created the Bex isn't entirely clear beyond it being a boastful example of how technology has advanced so far we don't need to look to Mother Nature to bear an animal capable of an awkward canter.

Regardless of its whacky form, why didn't Kawasaki deck it out in their famous Kawasaki green?

(Continued on pg 6)

Oil Spots, continued...

Harley Enlists Pan America And Tri Glide For Enthusiast Collection



The military-inspired livery pays tribute to active and prior service members of the U.S. Armed Forces.

Harley-Davidson's military roots date all the way back to the early 20th century when they supplied motorcycles to the U.S. Armed Forces in World War I and World War II. The Motor Company quickly became intertwined with military culture, with many a G.I. remaining true to the Bar and Shield after leaving the service.

To celebrate active and prior members of the U.S. Armed Forces, Harley presents the G.I. Enthusiast Collection featuring the 2022

Pan America 1250 Special and 2022 Tri Glide Ultra. MoCo

designers created a special Mineral Green Denim Deluxe paint just for the series, and military-inspired graphics complete the new uniform.

“The new Mineral Green Denim Deluxe paint pays homage to the Olive Drab paint used on Harley-Davidson WLA models,” revealed Harley-Davidson Vice President of Design Brad Richards. “The tank graphic celebrates the iconic white five-point star, which was used during WWII on military vehicles.”

The new livery looks especially utilitarian on the 2022 Pan America 1250 Special, but the full-size adventure bike remains unchanged. The liquid-cooled Revolution Max 1250 V-Twin is still the heart of the Pan Am. The Army fatigue green colorway, military emblem, and Enthusiast Collection logo on the front fairing push the Pan America 1250 Special G.I. to a \$20,799 MSRP.

The G.I. Enthusiast Collection Tri Glide Ultra edition boasts the same Mineral Green Denim Deluxe color



scheme and service-inspired graphics but adds extra accents with a White Star decal on the trunk door and Enthusiast Collection and Harley-

Davidson badges on the rear of Tour Pak luggage carrier. The special-edition trim remains identical to the Tri Glide Ultra and retails for \$38,099.

This is just the beginning for Harley's Enthusiast Collection, though. Each year, the brand will launch a new Enthusiast Collection series in limited quantities across specific motorcycle models. Just like the G.I. installment, each entry will receive special-edition paint created to honor the unique backgrounds within the Harley-Davidson community.



NYC Crushes 900 ATVs And Dirtbikes

June 21, 2022 marked the first official day of summer on many North American calendars. In New York City, though, it also marked the day that Mayor Adams (D) and Police Commissioner Sewell oversaw the city's annual ATV and motorcycle crushing event. This year, they said, around 900 bikes and ATVs were scheduled to meet their ultimate demise at the hands of a bulldozer operator. The city has been doing this every year for the past six years.



While the city itself didn't characterize this as an annual event, a quick glance backward through news stories and videos going back to at least 2016 reveals it to be such.



(Continued on pg. 7)



Oil Spots, continued...

Unlike most holidays, it doesn't take place on the same day every year—but under the watchful eyes of more than one NYC mayor, it's become as regular an occurrence as ceremonial ribbon-cuttings and holiday decoration-lighting events.

The event itself was pretty straightforward. Mayor Adams waved a checkered flag—which is apparently a holdover from former Mayor de Blasio's (D) brand of showmanship at such events, according to *Vice Motherboard*. Then, the bulldozer begins crushing the assembled group of mostly bikes, some of what look to be scooters, and some ATVs, having to back up once to realign after a bike gets a little bit stuck. Soon, though, it's through the entire row, and they're all knocked to the ground and significantly damaged.

The accompanying press conference was less straightforward. In it, Mayor Adams talked a lot about general traffic safety, as well as public transit safety and police patrols on NYC subway platforms. He started out talking about how the bikes and quads the city was about to crush would no longer terrorize the streets of NYC, and how the NYPD has already seized 2,000 illegal bikes and ATVs this year. He says that's an 80 percent increase over the same time last year. (Meanwhile, felony assault and murder rates continue to climb.)

During the question-and-answer portion of the press conference, someone asked the mayor a really good question: Why isn't there a space for the kids (as the questioner characterized them) to be able to ride these



bikes, "like a track or an exclusive park and something that might not lead to antagonizing between them and police officers wanting to take their bike?"

The mayor then deflected, saying that while they're looking at spaces in the city to do something like that, the main focus is intervention right now—in other words, confiscating unregistered and/or illegal bikes, then destroying them. He then went on to add that he,

personally, loved riding dirt bikes as a child, and that he thinks it's crucial to have those spaces. As we know, though saying you think something's a great idea and then doing it are two different things. You can say whatever you want, but ultimately, it's what you do in the end that matters.

Remember when skateboarding was painted as some type of menace, because kids were doing it wherever and whenever it suited them? Remember how it eventually became a thing where cities and towns started making public skate parks a part of their communities, and how now it's just a fun outdoor pastime that some people like to do?

The same thing could happen with so-called "nuisance" ATVs and dirt bikes, if there was the political will and the follow-through to do it. A solution like that could be a win for everyone.

[Harley-Davidson Ordered To Honor Right-To-Repair Rules By FTC](#)



On June 23, 2022, the U.S. Federal Trade Commission took a big new step in the right-to-repair battle. The FTC is taking action against Harley-Davidson, as well as MWE Investments, the company that makes Westinghouse outdoor generators, due to what the FTC says are illegal restrictions on customers' right to repair their products. Warranties should not be voided if customers take bikes to independent dealers or install non-factory parts.

A big part of this complaint is warranty language from both companies that say the warranty is void if customers choose to use independent dealers to either perform repairs or supply parts. According to the warranties as currently written, use of aftermarket parts and taking your bike to any place other than an authorized Harley dealer for service could void the warranty—which the FTC says is illegal.

Continued on pg .8)

Oil Spots, continued...

The FTC is ordering Harley to fix their warranty language by removing illegal terms that restrict a customer's right to repair the items they've purchased from the company. Another problem the FTC discovered is that Harley, in particular, did not fully disclose all warranty terms within a single document. Instead, it said, customers were asked to contact an authorized dealer for full details—which is a violation of the FTC's existing Disclosure Rule.



It gets better for customers, though. Not only is the FTC requiring Harley to fix their warranty

language, it is also—very crucially—requiring Harley to “come clean” to customers about these changes. In other words, Harley can't just quietly change the language and then not tell anybody about it, relying on customers to just happen upon the knowledge at some random point in the future.

Instead, the FTC says, Harley must proactively reach out to customers to notify them of these changes, and of *their right to repair their own possessions under the law*. Furthermore, customers can and should do so as they see fit—using the parts they deem appropriate, which may or may not have the company's brand name on them.

Now, obviously, Harley-Davidson isn't the only company for which right-to-repair issues have been a major focus of ire among customers. Large and extremely public legal back-and-forth has been going on for some time with both Apple and John Deere, for example. That's why this decision is an important step, and a positive one for regular people who buy things, and then have the crazy idea that they can do what they want with them because they now own them.



In a statement, FTC chair Lina M. Khan said, “Illegal repair restrictions can significantly raise costs for consumers, stifle innovation, close off business opportunity for independent repair shops, create unnecessary electronic waste, delay timely repairs, and undermine resiliency—harms that can have an outsized impact on low-income communities in particular. It is critical that unlawful repair restrictions continue to be a key area of focus for the Commission and that we continue to use all of our tools and authorities to root out these illegal practices.”

Of course aftermarket parts makers are also pleased with this news. “This action taken by the FTC is a huge win for motorcycle riders,” Vance & Hines president and CEO Mike Kennedy said in a statement.

“While we still need to see how this plays out, we anticipate that riders will have more choices in how they repair and update their motorcycles during the warranty period, which is clearly a big deal for companies in the motorcycle aftermarket, too. I hope that the “it will void your warranty” threat for someone who just wants a better sounding or smoother running Harley is a thing of the past,” he concluded.



Cartoon compliments of:
montieandme.wordpress.com



Traveling...

By Traveler

take your riding life to the next level. Here are some basic tips to help you prepare.



is the time to take care of those things. Is your seat comfortable enough for a 250+ mile ride? Do you have a safe place to carry luggage like a luggage rack? Do you have a wind screen?

HIGHWAYS OR BYWAYS?



might be the best choice. If the main point is to enjoy the ride, look for the smaller roads. You won't cover as much ground in a day, but you'll experience a lot more. Because it's not the destination. it's the journey, right?

HELP FROM YOUR FRIENDS

Talk to the people who are going with you. Riders are usually very happy to share their knowledge with new riders. Don't be afraid



Going on your first overnight or multi-night motorcycle trip?

Congratulations!

You're about to take your riding life to the next level. Here are some basic tips to help you prepare.

MOTORCYCLE.

Make sure your motorcycle is as ready as you are. Are you due an oil change? Are your tires in good shape? Are there any potential issues you've been meaning to get checked out? Now

to ask questions. but also keep in mind that everybody has his own opinion. There's no one right way to do most things. If you're taking your first trip solo, the same thing goes: talk to your friends before you leave and learn from their experiences. A good Road Captain for a group ride will have a wealth of helpful knowledge. And most riders know that the old, gray-beard riders didn't get that way by riding stupid. They are an excellent source of knowledge.

MOTORCYCLE DEALERSHIPS



Make a note of the location of dealerships on your route. They are great places to ask questions, learn about the best local roads,

get suggestions on what to see and do or just hang out for a while. If you have a mechanical issue, most dealerships make it a priority to get travelers back on the road as soon as possible.

HOW FAR IS TOO FAR?

If you're not used to riding 250 – 400 miles or more in a day, don't assume you're going to be up for it. Make sure you can handle it by allowing plenty of time to stop, look around and recharge. You'll soon get a sense of what full day of riding' means to you. If you're taking your time and enjoying the sights, 250 miles or less can feel like a VERY full day.



DO YOU HAVE A RESERVATION?

Whether to make hotel reservations ahead of time is a matter of personal preference. Some prefer to know in advance where they'll be staying, but others prefer stopping for the night only when they feel good and ready.

(Continued on pg. 10)



Traveling, Continued

Yes, there's a little bit of risk involved, but that's part of the adventure. If you are going on a group ride, don't worry, the Road Captain will have coordinated a block of hotel rooms in advance for you to make reservations.

WHAT TO BRING

Always err on the side of packing light. It's easy to bring more than you need. Plan to wear some clothes more than

once. Unless you're going to be gone a week or more, two pairs of jeans may be plenty. And if you invest in some synthetic socks and underwear, you can get by with just a pair or two. Just rinse them out in the sink at night, wring them out and hang them on the shower curtain rod to dry overnight. How about day eye protection and night eye protection? Sunglasses, medication, chargers, etc. For multiple day trips, consider sending a box of fresh clothes to a hotel halfway along your route. Then, plan on mailing home your old clothes. Carrying a few dryer sheets also help keep clothes fresh. Experienced riders usually carry pre-addressed mailing labels for sending home items they purchase or just old clothes.

**WHERE TO PUT IT**

In general, put things you'll need while riding near the top of your bag. Heavier items should go in the saddlebags

or at the bottom of a strap-on bag. To help stay organized, consider packing smaller things inside zip-lock plastic bags. Take a small trash bag for dirty clothes. Putting all of your clothes in a trash bag(s) helps keep them dry also. As a rule, if your bike doesn't have a

place to put items like in saddle bags, a tour pak, or a motorcycle travel bag, you're inviting problems. Strapping a trash bag with some clothes in it, on your back fender or seat isn't a good idea. Consider accessories like windshield pouches, drink holders, phone mounts, Ipass holders, etc to make it safer and easier to carry items.

LUGGAGE

How much you can bring is going to depend a lot on what kind of motorcycle you have and whether it has built-in carrying capacity. If it

doesn't consider investing in a strap-on touring bag, which can fit on a variety of bike models and can also double as a backrest. A backpack is an option, but not only does it elevate your center of gravity and effect handling, it can interfere with your movement and cause you fatigue when riding.

**FILL IT UP**

Some riders accidentally run their motorcycles almost dry before refueling. Don't try

pushing the limits. When in doubt top it off. Better to buy fuel more often than to force an unscheduled stop when you realize you're almost out. Or worse, discovering the next gas station is out of range when you're in the middle of nowhere. If you on a group ride, again, don't worry. The Road Captain always plans for fuel and rest stops that will match rider capability and motorcycle milage capability. As a rule of thumb, the older the Road Captain, the more frequently they will stop.

(Continued on pg. 11)



Traveling, Continued...

WEATHER



Nobody likes it when the weather turns ugly but you don't have to let it ruin your trip. In fact, if you prepare for bad weather properly, it can become just another part of the adventure. Good rain gear is a must. You never know when the weather might turn, so always pack good rain gear. A full rain suit is an excellent investment. Regardless of the weather, always carry a warm jacket and warm clothes. Don't start your trip dressed for the weather when you're standing in your driveway. You'll regret it at 55 mph. Experienced riders will always double check the weather forecast along their route and pack clothes to match anticipated weather conditions. (Note: Most bikes today have some kind of GPS that may have weather radar capability. This is an excellent tool for dodging bad weather.)

ARE YOUR BOOTS AND GLOVES WATER-PROOF?



If not, consider making an upgrade. A cheap, temporary fix is to slip plastic bags inside your boots when it rains. This will keep your feet dry but you'll still have to dry out your boots at the end of the day. Stuffing newspaper inside them overnight will help that process as well as putting them by your hotel heater. A temporary fix to wet gloves is the good old hand dryer in most rest rooms. Carry a few sets of this rubber gloves to slip inside of your gloves to keep your hands dry in the rain. For all leather, it is a wise use of your time to treat them with a water repellant like Neatsfoot oil.

EAT, DRINK, STRETCH, REST



No matter how far you ride, it's important to take care of yourself along the way. Be sure to fuel your body as well as your bike. Eat

healthy snacks, stay hydrated, drink before you feel thirsty and be sure to get off your bike and stretch your legs as often as needed. Be alert to signs of heat injury that will be expedited by your dehydration. Difficulty staying focused, dark urine, dizziness, sweating stops, are all red flags that tell you to stop, rest, cool down and hydrate.

GO FOR IT!

Experience is the best teacher, and there's only one way to gain it...get out there and do it! Learn from your mistakes and



try different ways of doing things. If something works, great. If it doesn't, try another tactic. Part of the fun of a motorcycle trip is the uncertainty involved. Be ready for anything, stay safe and remember you're your best sources of information are those experienced riders around you.

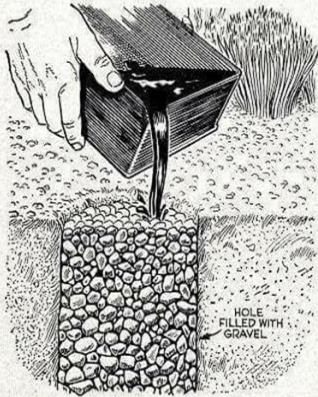


"You bought a bike to celebrate National Gold Fish Day? I get the feeling you were looking for any old reason to buy it."

Actual Automobile Ads

By Traveler

Can you remember when?



Disposing of used engine oil can be a problem. Solution: Dig a hole in the ground with a posthole digger and fill it with fine gravel. Then pour in the oil. It will be absorbed into the ground before your next change. Cover the spot with soil.

166 POPULAR SCIENCE JANUARY 1963

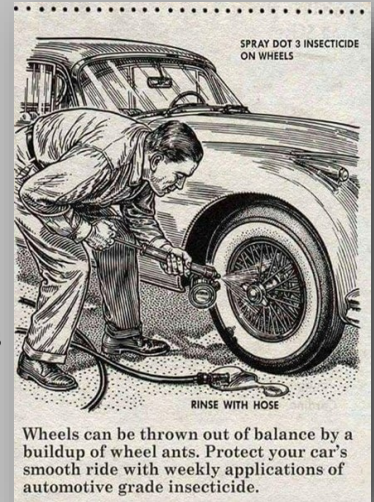
phh-ira-ga@blogspot.com

USED OIL

We can argue that we are simply returning used oil to the place it came from...the Earth. However, this was an accepted way of disposing of used oil in 1963. Today it is an accepted way to incur a major fine.

WHEEL ANTS

Holy creepy crawlers, Batman! You can imagine the hazard to your vehicle and the potential loss of control by wheels that are severely out of balance because of the accumulation of...
WHEEL ANTS!



SAFETY FIRST

Helmet laws?
How about clothes laws?



LEG ROOM?

The words and grammar haven't changed since 1956 but the meaning...?
Nuff said.



Safety, Safety! Charity, Charity!

By: Ric Case, Vice President of Top Cats!

For our membership, our two big focuses are Safety and Charity. That is where all of our energy goes... after riding, that is! So July will bring us opportunities to do both! Although our *Ride for Dreams* is over, we will begin planning for the next year. Gene is correct! There are many ways to evaluate the success of our event and we had many successes. But we would also like to be able to support NISRA with a bigger check each year!

After discussions by the board and the committee, we have many options. We are all supporters of the work that NISRA does for our communities. So many families benefit from the programs provided for people with disabilities! There is no better group

V.P.'s Vision

for our Top Cats to support in our charity event! Please get involved with us as we move forward and find ways to bring them the finances that they can use to continue their work! It is honorable work... and well worth your time and energy! Thank you in advance and looking forward to continuing our *Ride For Dreams* with your help!

And... on the 23rd, there is a chance for you all to attend a GRASS class! We are all required to attend a class every three years in order to maintain a member of good standing. If that applies to you, please make it a priority to attend. Even if you've been to one in the last three years, it is a great chance to refresh your knowledge AND to spend some time with fellow Top Cats as we tell stories to clarify the information in the presentation. A little food and coffee adds to the day.

So... Lets get moving and keep our club alive, safe and ready to give back to the community!

See you SOON!!



A New Top Cat You Should Know!

Bob Parquette



My first bike was a 1966 Honda Scrambler 305. I have had Triumphs, Harleys, A Valkyrie and a few Kawasakis. I really enjoyed riding through South Dakota, Montana and Wyoming. I ride to the Broken Oar a lot to listen to bands.

I am retired, but I seem to always have projects around the house and help out with the gardening. I enjoy talking to and visiting with old friends and family. I have five kids that are spread out around the country and I really like planning trips to visit them!

I enjoy my Rolling Thunder rides. Hoping to make more Top Cats rides too. I have met a lot of great folks in both club!

Another New Top Cat
You Should Know!

Brandyn Simmons



I just started riding in August, 2021! Chicagoland has been the main focus of riding on my 2013 Dyna FatBob, but I would like to ride in the mountains as that is my favorite place to be. Being out on open country roads is the best place because it is peaceful and relaxing.

There has not been many opportunities to ride with others so I look forward to riding with the Top Cats often... and SOON.

When I have time, I enjoy hiking, writing, music and spending time with my kids ~ Westyn, 20; Austyn, 17; and Selah, 9. And I wear a couple of hats when it comes to vocation. I am the pastor of a United Church of Christ congregation on the north side of Chicago. I also have a firm that does executive coaching and business brokerage/mergers and acquisitions advising. Basically I buy and sell companies and coach them to get the highest value possible.

Looking forward to getting to know you better, Bob and Brandyn!

Lets get out soon and RIDE!



GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES JUNE 7TH, 2022

Respectfully Submitted
by: Diana Lanute

President's Section, Gene Rigsby

- ◆ 7:00 pm, Meeting called to order
- ◆ Members were asked to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance
- ◆ Guests – Introductions – Brandon Simmon
- ◆ Announcements
 - Joey Rizzo birthday 6/10
 - Bradbury's anniversary 6/10
 - Bard Board birthday 6/25
 - R4D Call to action

V.P., Ric Case: Ric continued sharing the story of Top Cats first Lake Michigan Tour and ended with the group making their way back home.

Past President, Wayne Kirkpatrick

Wayne reports that trophies have been acquired for June 12 Ride for Dreams. Also, the Front Range Ride is "locked and loaded" with 6 riders going.

Safety Committee Chair, Mike Bradbury

- ◆ Accident/safety review – Bradbury - In 2021 there were 42,915 people who died from traffic accidents. Motorcycle accidents have been predicted to go up 9%. Be alert. Be prepared. Make yourself visible!
- ◆ Kaution Korner - Wayne – First Aid Kits – Know what is in there and know how to use it! Watch expiration dates. Have at least 2 pair of sterile gloves, visible colors such as orange or green which are preferred.
- ◆ Kaution Korner preview – Bard – Bard gives us a preview of how to load your motorcycle for a long distance trip. For the full in-depth article on how to load a motorcycle look at next month's ROAR.

Safety Videos, Mike Bradbury

- ◆ The importance of training for veteran riders: https://youtu.be/ypgz3_MJwkY
- ◆ 5 Things To Never Do on a Motorcycle: <https://youtu.be/W5mqnpTzO7c>. Please click on this link to find out the 5 things you should not do while riding a motorcycle.

Membership, Ted Makarewicz

- ◆ New member intro/welcome package? Brandon Simmons is a new rider and a new member! Membership drive ideas?? Quarry the club?

Activities, Greg Smith/ Rick Agrimonte

Recent activities

- ◆ 5/21 - Pickup picnic ride – Rigsby's – It looked like rain so we rode to Walker Bros. Restaurant in Deer Park for breakfast.
- ◆ 5/22 - On Any Given Sunday - Mary K – We rode to White Pines for lunch. It was a lazy ride. Then, to a private museum. We had a lot of good stories from Wayne and Rich. This was a very nice ride.
- ◆ 5/28 - Who likes BBQ – Bradbury – Mary's son, Mike Bradbury's wife, and Juergen came along on this ride. We stopped for outdoor eating at Smokin' Cuts Bar-Be-Que. We took a country way back. It was a sunny ride.

Future activities

- ◆ 6/12 RIDE FOR DREAMS – RICH – We have 19 volunteers. Rich thanked everyone who helped at WSHD. Mary reviewed her distribution of flyers on 17 stops. NISRA to put out signs to mark path of the route. Wayne gave a nice detailed review of how the bike show will work and he went over all the categories for trophies.
- ◆ 6/19 - Who likes BBQ, Part 2 - BRADBURY
- ◆ 6/25~6/26 – In the air and below the ground – TED – CANCELED. WILL PLAN A AY TRIP.
- ◆ 7/9 – Two day ride, overnigher, to Kansas City – BRADBURY
- ◆ 7/23 – GRASS Class, here at Alley 64 - BRADBURY
- ◆ 7/31 – Sturgis Ride - BOAND
- ◆ 7/31 – Grumpy Troll – BRADBURY
- ◆ 8/6 – Satellite Ride - BRADBURY
- ◆ 8/9 – Wayne's Front Range Ride. Wayne talked about some of the more interesting places he will visit, i.e., Angel Fire, Million Dollar Highway and Pike's Peak - WAYNE
- ◆ 8/26 through 8/28 - Field of Dreams - TED.
- ◆ Charity, Ride for Dreams, Rich Lanute
6/12/2022

Products, Ted Makarewicz

Get your gear now!! Ted Top Cat hats selling for \$20.

50/50 Raffle, Andy Haszlakiewicz

Chuck Carlson won and donated the money to the Charity.

Meeting Adjourned Gene Rigsby 8:15pm



BOARD MEETING MINUTES JUNE 14TH, 2022

Respectfully Submitted
by: Diana Lanute

President's Section, GeneRigsby

- ◆ Meeting called to order
- ◆ Thank you for all the efforts at the Ride for Dreams. Best organized. Fun. Nobody hurt.
- ◆ Immediate needs? - None

Past President, Wayne Kirkpatric

- ◆ Open discussion: Membership Comment – Be more interactive; be a mentor.

VP, Ric Case

- ◆ Bylaws: 6/12/2012
- ◆ Describes: Mission Statement
- ◆ TOP CATS – ILLINOIS
- ◆ 16618 SW Highway, Palatine, IL
- ◆ Purpose: Define forum, what our objectives are. We should be inclusive of type of riders.
- ◆ Board members need knowledge of bylaws to make everyone familiar with all sections.
- ◆ Members: Probation 1 year, complete GRASS class within first year, attend 5 events, pay dues, cannot vote in upcoming election, and must wait for next election cycle.

Treasury, Don DeLordo

- ◆ Report/review – Steve Scott won raffle and gave money back to Top Cats.
- ◆ West Bend American Premium raised our rate this year. Next GRASS class is 7/23/2022.

Activities, Greg Smith

Future Events

- ◆ Calendar review - Apr/May, etc.
- ◆ 6/19 Who like BBQ 2- BRADBURY
- ◆ 6/25-26 – TED'S RIDE – DESTINATION PENDING
- ◆ 7/9-7/10 - Kansas City here we come - BRADBURY
- ◆ 7/23 - GRASS - BRADBURY
- ◆ 7/31 - Sturgis Kickoff - BOAND
- ◆ 7/31 - Grumpy Troll – BRADBURY

- ◆ 8/9 – Front Range Ride - WAYNE

Safety/RC Mike

- ◆ GRASS class - Here at Alley 64 or American Legion or Woodstock. Run by: Mike, Mary, Bard, Ric and Ted.
- ◆ SRC activity ideas – Mike to see if they will mentor him.

Membership/Products, Ted Makarewicz

- ◆ New member mentor - Assign mentors to new members
- ◆ Membership drive ideas?
- ◆ Product needs

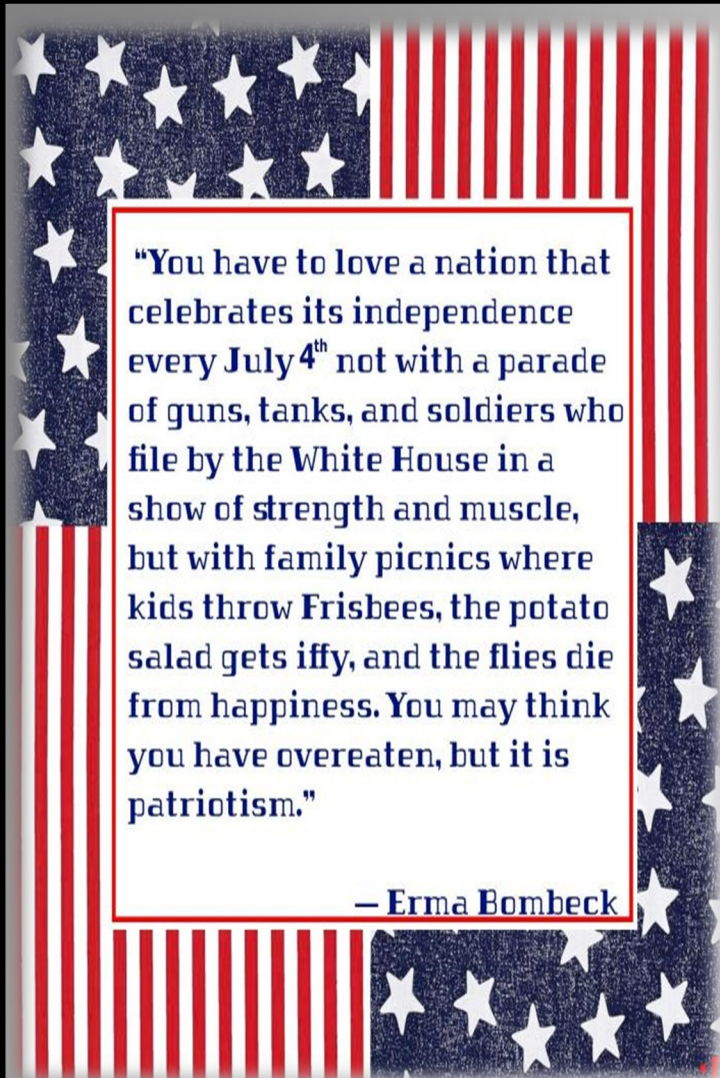
Charity, Rich Lanute

- ◆ June 12th recap. A short recap on our “Ride for Dreams” was presented and suggestions for 2023 were reviewed.

Secretary, Diana Lanute

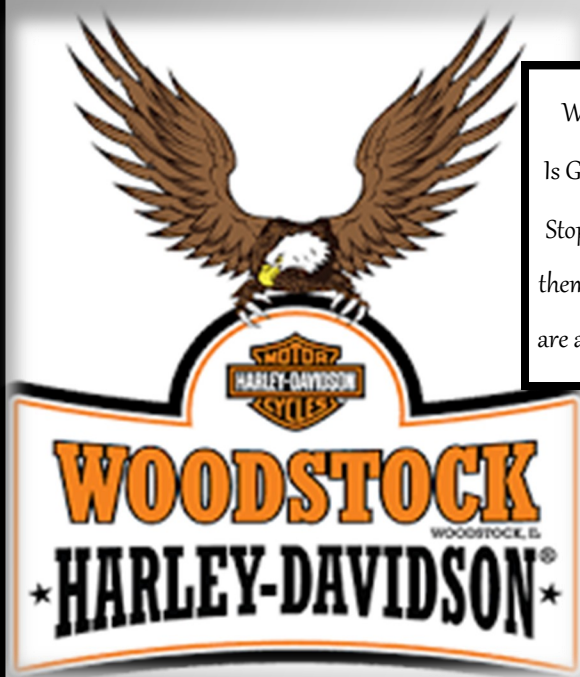
Meeting Adjourned by Gene Rigsby at 8:10pm





"You have to love a nation that celebrates its independence every July 4th not with a parade of guns, tanks, and soldiers who file by the White House in a show of strength and muscle, but with family picnics where kids throw Frisbees, the potato salad gets iffy, and the flies die from happiness. You may think you have overeaten, but it is patriotism."

— Erma Bombeck



Woodstock
Is Good to US!
Stop in and let
them know they
are appreciated!

July Birthdays and Anniversaries!



14 Ted Makarewicz
18 Don De Lordo

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

No Anniversaries
for July!



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



PALATINE, IL

Home to Alley 64,
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Membership Has Its Privileges!

GRASS Classes are held at the Keller -Williams Offices!

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

All suppliers and vendors who support the Top Cats by providing discounts to Top Cats members will be listed in ROAR.

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Greg Smith

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

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Can we find ways to continue to help them?





RIDES & EVENTS

Date	Ride/Event	Location	Destination	Time	Leader
Tuesday, July 5th	General Meeting	Palatine	Alley 64	7:00 pm	Rigsby
Saturday and Sunday July 9th and 10th	Kansas City, Here We Come!	Mobil 21W415 North Ave. Lombard	Kansas City!	6:15 am	Bradbury
Tuesday, July 12th	Board Meeting	Palatine	Alley 64	7:00 pm	Rigsby
Saturday, July 23rd	GRASS	Palatine	Alley 64	9:00 am	Case
Sunday, July 31st	Sturgis	BP Rt 12 and Rt 176 Wuconda	Sturgis, South Dakota	8:00 am	Boand
Sunday, July 31st	Grumpy Troll Ride	BP Rt 12 and Rt 176 Wuconda	Mt. Horeb, Wi	8:00 am	Bradbury
Tuesday, August 2nd	General Meeting	Palatine	Alley 64	7:00 pm	Rigsby
Tuesday, August 2nd	Board Meeting	Palatine	Alley 64	After GM, if needed	Rigsby
Tuesday, August 9th	Front Range Ride	Rapid City, SD	Variety of Destinations!	8:00 am	W. Kirkpatrick

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



Barrington Library

Location and Hours
505 N. Northwest Highway
Barrington, IL 60010

847-382-1300
balibrary.org

See the Top Cats Archive

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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



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

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