



ROAR

September. 2022

Volume 22, Issue 9

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The Official
Publication
Of
Top Cats



*The Dream Came True!
Ted's Ride to the Field of Dreams
near Dyersville, Iowa, was a
HOME RUN!*

Upcoming Events

SEPTEMBER

6 GENERAL MEETING
13 BOARD MEETING
25 MEMORIAL RIDE

OCTOBER

4 GENERAL MEETING
11 BOARD MEETING
15 HAUNTED PICNIC RIDE

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





PRESIDENT'S POINT

And Now a Word from your President...



Hello Top Cats!!

I hope all is well with you and your families. Remember, "absence make the heart grow fonder" ... so you need to take a bit of time away from them and ride with your Top Cats Family!! What's the best way to stay socially distanced...? Breeze on your knees with your Top Cats family!!!

We have a new member joining us this month. Frank Esposito. Look for him at the September meeting and say hello. I'm sure he will be glade to meet you.

August had some really great riding opportunities.... Sturgis, Front Range Ride, Field of Dreams overnight and 2 weekend lunch rides.... A BIG THANKS, to the road captains that lead these rides. Hopefully you were able to get in on the action. If not, we will be recapping these events during our September general meeting. As well, there will be more ride opportunities before the end of the season.

September is wide open for ride dates with only Ric's annual memorial ride set for 9/25. Though not a Top Cat ride, there is an opportunity to ride and support our crossover Top Cat family members. 9/18 is Rolling Thunder's annual Thunder Run. An opportunistic RC or RC prospect could arrange a satellite ride to the starting point and



get lined up a good space in the group. Reach out to Ted for more details.

WE STILL HAVE OPEN SPACE ON THE CALENDAR..... Let's go Road Captains!!! Let's fill it in. Get your rides on the calendar NOW so we can plan to attend. DO IT!! 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..... It's great to see folks I haven't seen for a while out on a ride. That makes it worth all the effort to keep our club going. 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. gene.rigsby@gmail.com, or phone, 847-770-9425..

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

KAUTION KORNER



Riding with a First-time or Long-time Passenger

By: Greg Smith, Senior Road Captain

What Do We Owe Them As Their Driver??

As motorcycle enthusiasts we all enjoy riding our motorcycles whenever we can. We also love to share the enjoyment of motorcycle riding with others. When someone who has never been on a motorcycle expresses interest in taking a ride, most of us are happy to share the opportunity. However, before we put a passenger on our bike we first owe that passenger several things.

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Kaution Korner, Continued

However, before we put a passenger on our bike we first owe that passenger several things.

- ✦ The proper state licensing is required. An instruction permit typically does Not permit its holder to carry a passenger. You must have a state motorcycle-class license. It's best to check with the DMV of your state for motorcycle license regulations.
- ✦ Before adding a passenger we need to have gained experience as a driver, have taken a motorcycle safety course, and understand how a passenger seriously changes the operating dynamics of our motorcycle.

What We Owe a First-Time Passenger:

- * We are always responsible for our passenger's safety. They should be wearing proper protective gear that fits. Their gear should include but not limited to a helmet, long pants, jacket or long sleeve shirt, gloves, proper footwear, and eye protection.
- * We need to advise our passenger on what not to touch, such as hot engine parts and exhaust pipes. Instruct them on how to get on and off the bike and when it's okay to do so. Make sure they're aware of how they should hold on, whether it is at handhold locations or around the waist of the driver.
- * We need to give our first-time passenger an idea on what to expect. Encourage them to minimize movement and stay relaxed. In turns they need to look over the driver's inside shoulder and lean with the bike and not against it. Let them know how to react when the bike is accelerating and breaking.
- * We need to give them an enjoyable ride and remember their safety is our responsibility. This is No time to show off our motorcycle's redline capabilities. For our first-time passenger even the most basic ride will feel exciting. Take it easy their first time out.
- * A first time motorcycling experience often draws a strong reaction from the passenger. You'll probably know right away whether your passenger liked the ride or not. Having a conversation with them after the ride gives you an opportunity to answer any questions or misconceptions they might have.

What We Owe Our Loyal Long-Time Passengers:

- * They are not just a passenger but part of the team. They should have a role in planning the trip including gas stops, rest and food stops.
- * They must have the proper safety gear. Just like a first-time passenger their gear should include but not limited to a helmet, long pants, jacket or long sleeve shirt, gloves, proper footwear, and eye protection. Make sure they're aware of handhold locations if the bike is unfamiliar to them.
- * The bike should be properly set up to accommodate a passenger. This should include properly set shocks, tire pressure, passenger foot pegs, handholds, and mirrors adjusted because of the extra weight.
- * You will need to recalibrate your riding technique. Enlarge your safety cushion by adding more distance for stopping and more time to swerve.
- * You must have flexibility on your travels. If you were planning on getting to a particular location by the end of day but the weather and/or the end of day arrived before your destination, or you are just plain tired, STOP. Don't push your luck to go further. Don't take chances; remember you are out to have fun.
- * All you may need to enjoy the day is to be on the road riding your bike. However your passenger might actually want to stop and see some of the attractions along the way. Don't be afraid to stop so everyone can enjoy the day.



Remember, carrying a passenger on your motorcycle can be a fun and rewarding experience if you take the time to do all that you can to keep both of you safe.



Oil Spots

By Traveler



10 WOMEN WHO MADE THEIR MARK ON H-D HISTORY

Today, female riders represent the fastest growing segment of the motorcycle marketplace. But it wasn't always that way. Here we celebrate 10 pioneering women who have carved out a distinct place in the motorcycle world.

From THE ENTHUSIAST August 2022

1. VIVIAN BALES

Vivian Bales was born in 1909 and purchased her first Harley-Davidson® motorcycle, a single-cylinder Model B, while still a teen, later trading it in for a 45 Twin D model. In 1929, 5-foot-2, 95-pound Vivian headed off on her famous 5,000-mile, 78-day journey from Albany, Georgia, to the Harley-Davidson factory in Milwaukee, meeting President Herbert Hoover in Washington along the way. Vivian became the first motorcycle cover girl, appearing on *The Enthusiast*® in May and November 1929. She took her last ride at age 86.



2. SUSAN LANG

Susan Lang and her family-owned H-D dealerships in Waterbury, Connecticut, and Providence, Rhode Island, where she learned to rebuild her bike's engine. In 1915, she made the record for the longest motorcycle trip unaccompanied by a man – with her three children in the sidecar. In 1917, Susan was recognized as the most accomplished female motorcycle mechanic in the United States.



3&4. EFFIE AND AVIS HOTCHKISS

In 1915, the adventurous Effie Hotchkiss of Brooklyn, New York, decided to hop on her brand-new Harley-Davidson Silent Gray Fellow and ride across the country to San Francisco and back. Her mother, Avis, wouldn't hear of Effie venturing onto the rugged, dangerous and largely unpaved roadways alone, so Effie rigged up a sidecar for her mother, and the two women headed off together. A nation of curious onlookers gazed in disbelief at the sight of two courageous women riding a Harley-Davidson motorcycle coast to coast.

5. BESSIE STRINGFIELD

Bessie Stringfield, a petite, outspoken African American, became known as the "Motorcycle Queen of Miami." She started riding as a teen in the late 1920s and went on to own 27 Harley® motorcycles. Her accomplishments include completing eight solo cross-country treks, serving as a dispatch rider in the U.S. Army and inspiring the AMA Bessie Stringfield Award, which recognizes individuals who have introduced motorcycling to emerging markets. Bessie was inducted into the AMA Hall of Fame in 2002.



6. DOROTHY "DOT" ROBINSON

Known as the "First Lady of Motorcycling," Dot Robinson covered more than 1.5 million miles on Harley-Davidson motorcycles, competing in endurance runs in the 1930s, '40s and '50s. From 1935 to 1971, Dot and her husband, Earl, ran a Harley-



Davidson dealership in Detroit, and in 1941 she founded the Motor Maids with fellow enthusiast Linda Dugeau. Dot died in 1999 and is still remembered for her custom-painted Harleys, specially equipped with her signature lipstick holder.

(Continued on page 5)



Oil Spots, , Continued...

7. LINDA DUGEAU



Linda Dugeau started riding in 1932 at age 19 on a Harley-Davidson Model JD. She went on to start a campaign to reach out to women motorcyclists, which culminated in the formation of the Motor Maids of America (now Motor Maids), the first all-women motorcycle club, in 1941. Linda was a

motorcycle courier (on a Harley-Davidson, of course) from 1950 to 1975, worked in a Harley-Davidson dealership and hosted motorcycle tours of Southern California before hanging up her distinctive red motorcycle jacket and scarf for good at age 72.

8. LINDA "JO" GIOVANNONI



Jo Giovannoni (left) co-founded *Harley Women* magazine in 1985, serving as editor and publisher until 1997. She also co-founded the Harley Women Ladies Day Ride and Party in Sturgis in 1986 and was inducted into the AMA Motorcycle Hall of Fame in 1996 for her support of women in motorcycling. Jo followed this with a

career in motorcycle media before becoming a motorcycle accident investigator. She passed away earlier this year. Photo courtesy of the Motor Maids

9. CRISTINE "CRIS" SOMMER-SIMMONS

AMA Motorcycle Hall of Fame member Cris Sommer-Simmons is a modern-day champion of women in motorcycling. Cris co-founded *Harley Women*, the first magazine dedicated to female motorcyclists, with Jo Giovannoni – along with the Harley Women Ladies Day Ride and Party in Sturgis; she completed the inaugural 2010 Motorcycle Cannonball endurance race for vintage motorcycles on her 1915 Harley-Davidson named "Effie" (after Effie Hotchkiss); and was instrumental in setting up Ladies of Harley®.



10. VALERIE THOMPSON

Valerie Thompson is the world's fastest female motorcycle racer, holding the motorcycle land speed record twice from 2006 to 2008 and again from 2009 to 2010. Valerie started drag racing in 2005 on her Harley-Davidson Fat Boy® before taking it to the next level on a turbocharged V-Rod® Destroyer. Valerie took the AMA World Land Speed record at Bonneville at 145.647 mph on a 120-inch Harley-Davidson Panhead in 2006 and hit 328.467 mph in the BUB 7 motorcycle streamliner in 2018.



DAYTONA BEACH 30TH BIKETOBERFEST RALLY

Daytona Beach is celebrating a significant milestone in 2022 with the 30th annual Biketoberfest rally on Oct. 13-16, the Southeast's best motorcycle rally.



The four-day motorcycle rally attracts motorcycle enthusiasts to Daytona

Beach and Volusia County area with beautiful Florida weather; live music; the industry's top vendors; bike shows; motorcycle racing at Daytona International Speedway; and miles of scenic rides along famous A1A, historic Main Street or the scenic loop.

For the 10th straight year, GEICO will serve as the official sponsor of Biketoberfest.

"For three decades, motorcycle enthusiasts have gathered by the thousands in October in Daytona Beach for Biketoberfest, and we're looking forward to continuing that tradition in 2022," said Lori Campbell Baker, executive director for the Daytona Beach Area CVB. "With venues stretching from iconic Main Street, Daytona International Speedway, Destination Daytona, Midtown and points in between, riders will be able to explore a variety of activities and experiences during their visit to the destination."

(Continued on pg 6)

Oil Spots, continued...

The Official Biketoberfest Welcome Center presented by GEICO will be at ONE DAYTONA, located directly across from Daytona International Speedway (One Daytona Blvd., Daytona Beach, FL 32114). Along with information about the area, the Welcome Center will be handing out free posters, pins, poker chips and helmet stickers for visitors.

As motorcycle enthusiasts explore the area, they will want to make sure to check out Downtown Daytona Beach and the recently opened south end of the Riverfront Esplanade, where they can visit the Veterans Memorial and the Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune bronze statue. When fully complete later this year, the Riverfront Esplanade will extend a mile along the Halifax River and include a promenade along the water's edge, running and walking rails, and landscaping designed to encourage relaxation and reflection including water features, shade tree and raised botanical gardens.

More information is available on the official event website, Biketoberfest.org, including a list of area events, concerts, demo rides, places to stay, top scenic rides and more.

Steve McQueen's Husqvarna 400 Cross



Steve
McQueen's
Husqvarna
400 Cross
sells at
auction for
\$186,500

A 1970s Husqvarna motocross bike owned by The Great Escape star Steve McQueen has sold for \$186,500 (£157,919) at an auction in California.

The 1971 Husqvarna 400 Cross is said to still be in the condition it was when ridden by McQueen. It has not been started since being sold in the 1984 Steve McQueen Estate Auction after his death, and still has all the dents and scratches from his use.

Powered by a 396cc two-stroke single, the favored Husky was sold with a certificate of authenticity, plus the bill of sale given to the buyer back in 1984. Since

that time, it's had three owners, with the latest keeper enjoying it for the past 11 years.

The 400 Cross formed part of The Quail Auction on August 19, which took place at the Quail Lodge and Golf Club in Carmel, California. Nestled amongst a 137-strong line-up of rare and collectable cars, it was one of three motorcycles at the event.

Joining this was a 1950 Vincent Rapide Series C Black Shadow, and a 1954 Norton Big 4. These sold for \$51,750 and \$11,500 respectively.



How to check motorcycle tire pressure

Checking your bike tire pressures on a weekly basis is a really good habit to get into.

Not only will you ensure that your handling stays sweet, but simply crouching down to check pressures and condition of the rubber will help you spot any other adjustments that may be needed to the chain, belt, or brakes.

Motorcycle tire pressure tips:

- ♦ Tire pressures should always be checked when the tires are cold. As a rule of thumb, tires are considered cold when they haven't been used for three hours or have travelled for less than a mile.
- ♦ Gas station gages are better than they used to be, but there's no substitute for your own gage, either digital, or the pencil type (and don't forget to replace the valve cap). If the tire seems to be losing 5-10% a week, check that there isn't a small leak from the valve itself. Get some spit on the tip your finger and draw it across the valve so that it forms a film. If it starts to bubble up you know you need to replace the valve.
- ♦ Checking your tire pressure when the tires are hot will give you a reading that exceeds the recommended cold pressure rating and may be misleading
- ♦ However, if you check hot tire pressure and get a reading at, or below, the recommended cold pressure rating. That is a sure sign of a leak and impending tire failure. Have the tire checked immediately.

(Continued on page 7)



Oil Spots, continued...



Harley-Davidson Raises the Bar With Apex Factory Custom Paint

Sharp new paint scheme available for nine Harley touring models.

During the recent Sturgis Motorcycle Rally, Harley-Davidson revealed its new Apex factory custom paint, which will be an option for nine different touring models. This paint option will be available globally for the rest of the 2022 model ordering window.

“Apex factory custom paint gives riders the opportunity to express the thrill of speed and competition on the bodywork of their bagger,” said Harley-Davidson VP of Design and Creative Director, Motorcycles Brad Richards, quoted in a company release. “This paint scheme communicates velocity and forward momentum with lines and colors inspired by Harley-Davidson competition motorcycles.”

The XR-750 flat-track bike served as a primary inspiration for the new colorway, and its influence can be seen in the graphic design along the tank, fairings, and fenders.

Designers began with a base of Vivid Black, accenting it with stripes of Jet Fire Orange, the same color used on the XR-750 racebikes. Panels feature drop shadows and a subtle Bar & Shield pattern throughout. Each Apex factory custom paint job is applied in-house at the Harley-Davidson York Vehicle Assembly and Harley-Davidson’s Tomahawk Operations center.



The models that qualify for Apex custom paint include:

- Road King Special
- Street Glide Special (in chrome and black trim)
- Ultra Limited (in chrome and black trim)
- Road Glide Limited (in chrome and black trim)
- Road Glide Special (in chrome and black trim)
- Details of the new Apex paint are largely inspired by the XR-750 racebike.

Harley will offer Apex paint on nine different touring models. Harley-Davidson

Apex factory custom paint will be an option for all qualifying models during the rest of the 2022 model ordering period.

The Apex paint will be available globally.

1,800 MOTORCYCLES SEIZED BY POLICE SINCE JANUARY IN FRENCH RODEO CRACKDOWN



French police are continuing to increase their crackdown on urban motorcycle ‘rodeos’ in the country, but will their methods solve the issue?

The issue of urban motorcycle ‘rodeos’ continues in France, with 1,800 bikes reportedly seized by police since the beginning of the year.

The ‘rodeos’ have been an on-going issue in France for some time now, but authorities are making ground in their battle against them.

They essentially involve young people ‘claiming’ public roads at night racing motorcycles around them. Of course, we all love motorcycles and we love people that love motorcycles but the danger to the public cannot be ignored, especially from the perspective of the police.

Since the start of this year, the French police has stepped up its efforts to clamp down on the rodeos,

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Oil Spots, continued...

and Le Repaire des Motards reports that 1,800 bikes have been seized by authorities since January. Additionally, 2,200 people have been arrested in more than 16,000 operations to try to control this rodeo culture.

Le Repaire reports that there has been an intensification of police efforts in the last couple of weeks, with 2,914 operations carried out in the week beginning 8 August alone. This resulted in 338 arrests, and the seizure of 157 two-wheelers.

They should not do the rodeos, for sure, because they can cause danger and harm to other people. But, to draw them away from the rodeos you need to show them an alternative.



From here, it seems that if France promoted their motocross stars to people outside of motocross, and publicly subsidized track days for young people on motocross tracks throughout the country to make them affordable, they would make more ground in their battle against urban rodeos than by simply arresting people and seizing their motorcycles.

Air Force Crew Grounded For Unauthorized Stop To Pick Up Classic Motorcycle



A WC-130 Hercules made an unauthorized stop at Martha's Vineyard to pick up a crew member's 1970 BMW R75/5.

During a training mission in March, 2022, an Air Force Reserve crew was reprimanded for making an unscheduled stop on Martha's Vineyard. According to



The *Martha's Vineyard Times*, the detour was made on March 25 so that a member of the crew could pick up a vintage motorcycle. The crew was part of the U.S. Air Force Reserve's 53rd Weather Reconnaissance Squadron, 403rd Wing based out of Keesler Air Force Base in Mississippi.

Crew qualifications were downgraded for all members, and administrative steps were taken, following the unauthorized stop. "Air Force Reserve crews must put in flight training time each month to keep their qualifications, and off-station training achieves valid training requirements," Col. Stuart M. Rubio, 403rd Wing commander, explained in a press release. "This personal stop was an abuse of government assets. We hold our reservists to the highest standards of conduct, and these actions are not tolerated." He concluded.

The WC-130 Hercules jet that landed at Martha's Vineyard Airport was a huge plane, and understandably caused quite a stir. These planes, also known as Hurricane Hunters, conduct meteorological reconnaissance missions into hurricanes and weather systems of all sorts to collect data on movement, size, and severity. The crew of five personnel traveled from Keesler to Quonset Air National Guard Base on March 24, according to the report.

They went to Martha's Vineyard the next day to pick up a crew member's 1970 BMW R75/5 motorcycle. The leadership of the 403rd Wing was reportedly unaware of the 15-minute unauthorized stop.

The team flew to Mather, California after the unapproved halt to acquire specific equipment intended for use in atmospheric operations.



On March 27, wing leadership learned about the stopover, and ordered the crew to return to California. They were picked up by another plane, and the classic [BMW](#) remained in California.

(Continued on pg 9)



Oil Spots, continued...



Supershirt From Adventure Spec. Tough As Leather, Light As A Feather.

The Supershirt gives motorcycle riders the freedom to wear what-

ever they want for their ride without compromising safety, style or comfort.

Unlike traditional armored base layers that require abrasion protection to be worn as a jacket over the top, The Supershirt combines both impact protection and abrasion protection into a remarkably thin, wicking and breathable base layer.

By wearing all your protection next to your skin, riders are free to wear whatever they want over the top, confident that they are protected by this base layer shirt.

KEY FACTS:

- ◆ CE AA Certified
- ◆ Forcefield Level 2 armor in back, shoulders and elbows / Level 1 armor in chest for comfort
- ◆ Constructed from Ultra High Density Polyethylene and nylon mix
- ◆ Extremely breathable
- ◆ Moisture wicking
- ◆ Thumb loops prevent arms from riding up
- ◆ Cut long to tuck deep into trousers

Up until today you had the choice of wearing one jacket that served both these purposes, probably a heavy leather or textile jacket.

Or maybe you wear an armored base layer, but that wouldn't survive a slide down the tarmac so you put on that leather or textile jacket over the top.

Or maybe you think, to hell with the protection! A T-shirt is super comfy, but boy that's a risk.

The Supershirt gives you a new choice. A safe choice. A comfortable choice. A choice that gives you the freedom to dress however you like for your ride without compromising safety or comfort.

The Supershirt is a CE AA rated motorcycling shirt that is worn next to your skin as your base layer.

It is constructed from a unique mix of Ultra High Density Polyethylene (UHDPE) fabric that heavily

resists abrasion and a nylon blend that provides stretch and comfort. Industry leading Forcefield Level 2 Armor sits in the back, elbows and shoulders, and Level 1 Armor in the chest.



Wear The Supershirt as your base layer and add or remove layers as required. Cold? Add your insulated jacket. Wet? Add a raincoat over the top.

All the safety of a heavy adventure riding jacket but with far more versatility.

Wear The Supershirt underneath and be free to wear as much warm or waterproof gear as you like knowing you will be protected if you fall. It's highly breathable so does a great job of helping to regulate temperature when you are riding.



The technology required to create materials that are light, breathable, comfortable and extremely abrasion resistant has been five years in the making. The Supershirt utilises some of the most innovative knit technology in the motorcycle PPE clothing sector.



Up to 15 Times stronger than similar weight of steel, Ultra High Density Polyethylene (UHDPE) outer facing threads give a previously unheard of level of abrasion resistance in a fabric of this weight.

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Oil Spots, continued...

This UHDPE is woven into a blend of nylon 6.6, elastane and silver ion yarns that create an extremely comfortable inner face fabric that can be worn next to your skin.

The elastane provides a comfortable level of stretch and the silver ion yarns reduce bacterial build up, meaning The Supershirt stays fresher for longer.

The chest armor is Forcefield Isolator Level 1 armor, chosen for its balance between protection and bulk.

The zone 2 shoulder and elbow abrasion areas are all double layered with UHDPE fabric, providing extreme abrasion protection and ensuring The Supershirt meets CE AA certification.

The Supershirt benefits from an open knit material construction that allows air to flow freely through the garment. When you are riding you feel the air flow against your skin.

The UHDPE material used is hydrophobic, it does not absorb water. Sweat build up passes through the shirt and wicks away.

The protective outer layer and comfortable inner layer are woven together which means that the material will not delaminate after washing. The Supershirt can be washed without armor at 30 degrees C.

Does it perform as advertised? Only one sure way to find out and, let's hope that never happens.



Let's Go!

V.P.'s Vision

Hello Top Cats!

As you know, Carl 'Virgo' Bender was the founder of our Top Cats Illinois Club. His creativity, ingenuity, and intelligence was the guide to in making us what we are today. And, it seems that same creativity, ingenuity and intelligence is still alive in our present members!

We will be having a 'Memorial Ride' on Sunday, September 25th in honor of Virgo and all of our Top Cat members who have gone to make ready the highways in the sky! I will have more on Virgo's story and the details of our ride at our next meeting on Tuesday, September 6th! See you there!

And... Thanks, Virgo!





The Ride that Went so Differently than Planned!

By: Michael "Motorcycle" Bradbury,
Senior Road Captain

Sunday, July 31st, the Sturgis riders formed up at the Wauconda BP gas stations early and as planned. Bard did his pre-ride briefing providing route information and an overall plan. Mike Wyman gave a prayer

The Grumpy Troll Ride, on July 31st, was planned to begin under Bard Board's leadership, riding along with his annual Sturgis ride, leaving that Sunday for South Dakota. We rode on their ride until the second stop in Middleton, Wisconsin. From there, I was going to lead the official ride to a place for

lunch in Mount Horeb, Wisconsin called the Grumpy Troll. Trolls are a Mt. Horeb theme and lunch at this gastropub was expected to not disappoint! Kathie and I had a terrific time there during when we pre-rode the ride. The planned return ride was to continue biker friendly, scenic, twisty, idyllic farm and rural roads all the way to the Speedway in Volo. From "tip-to-tail" combined, this was to be a 290-mile ride.

Alas, this did not happen the way I planned it! It was a beautiful sunny day with clear skies, comfortable temperatures. light traffic and good roads. We got to Bards ride's the second stop and my ride began.

Ride Execution Comments:

Mike led us out before the Sturgis group departed so we could get to lunch at an adequate time as planned.

The ride went smoothly until Bruce Handler misjudged a curve and slid out on the gravel shoulder. He was in the third spot with 2 riders behind him including Tom Malia, our tail gunner.

Almost immediately, there were folks stopping to help. One of the people who stopped was a nurse and another called 911 all within the first minute or so. Within about 5 minutes the first responder arrived, and shortly after the police, EMTs and fire rescue all arrived. I was in contact with Bruce, the nurse, the police, EMTs, fire rescue and was managing the scene. I ensured 911 was called and traffic was managed in both directions.

I met the Sheriff as soon as he got there and gave him a quick summary of the situation and told him Bruce's name. The sheriff called Bruce by his name when he started talking to him and I felt good that he did that.

The EMTs assessed Bruce on the

scene and moved him to the ambulance and hospital. The fire rescue folks helped with the tow truck, called by the police officer. Once Bruce and his bike were addressed, I assembled our group and informed everyone that I was going to lead us to Spring Green for lunch as planned. Tom left the group and went to the hospital to check on Bruce. During lunch, Gene was in contact with Bruce's wife. After lunch, (2) of my riders went home and Gene and I rode to the hospital to check on Tom and Bruce. Bruce was OK, even though x-rays would show he had fractured ribs.

Bruce had lost his glasses so we went to the yard, checked Bruce's motorcycle, and could not find them.

Following up with Bruce, he said he does not really recall what happened that day. He had 5 broken ribs, and his Kawasaki Cruiser motorcycle was totaled. He wanted Top Cats to know he was ok. One of the things he said to me was Top Cats would probably kick him out of the club for having an accident. Of course, I reassured him that was totally not the case!

Tom, Gene and I went home and finished the ride. Not the way it was planned but secure in knowing we did what we could. Bruce said his wife told him he can still ride motorcycles, but he will have to get a smaller one now. Now that is supportive!

In Summary: The good handling of this incident and what followed is directly related to our Group Riding Safety Seminar and the outside training did this year on accident scene management. All riders participated in doing our best to manage the incident and contribute to Bruce's care. This another example of why we all need to train and attend GRASS on an annual basis.

Looking forward to seeing you on the road again, Bruce!



we
is



The Dream has Finally Come True!

By: Ted 'Hogski' Makarewicz
Senior Road Captain



Mass we meet up with the rest of our group at the only open local breakfast restaurant and sampled some of the famous Iowa Bacon. From there on to the Field of Dreams which is less than 4 miles away.

The long-awaited ride to the Field of Dreams took place on Saturday, August 27th and Sunday August 28th. We started our Dream from Huntley, Illinois with a total of three bikes and one trike. The first part of the ride consisted of back roads to the National Motorcycle Museum in Anamosa, Iowa. Approximately 181 miles. The initial problem we encountered was unexpected blacktopping of a section of Rt. 47. The roadway was grooved and sprayed with tar causing the bikes to be skittish. Extreme caution was called for with low speed and maintaining a straight line of travel. We made it to Anamosa and had lunch at the General Store Pub in the historical quarry town of Stone City. The General Store is constructed of local limestone and is perched on the banks of the Wapipinicon River. The building is famous because Grant Wood, the artist who painted American Gothic also painted "Stone City Iowa" in 1930.

After lunch we toured the National Motorcycle Museum which is a "must see" if you are in the area. It has over 500 motorcycles and all sorts of motorcycle memorabilia from the past 100 years. Our own member, Andy Haszlakiewicz even became an Evil Knievel impersonator on display!

After lunch it was a short ride to Dyersville, Iowa and the Field of Dreams. It was late in the day, so the visit to the Field had to wait until Sunday. For some of us we attended 7:00 a.m. Sunday Mass at the Basilica of St. Francis



Xavier, a minor basilica in Dyersville. There are only two other minor basilicas in rural America. The interior was absolutely stunning! This is especially impressive since there are only three block in the business district and the basilica is on one of them. After

The Field of Dreams compound represents the ultimate in American advertising. They created this simple baseball field with corn stalks outlining the outfield and turned it into a multimillion-dollar venture. A major league stadium was built with metal bleachers just a little way away but is off limits to the public and only used for major league ball games during the baseball season. But never fear, our Top Cats members rose to the occasion and walked out of the corn stalks unto the baseball field!

Our next destination was again on back roads with a scenic view of the Mississippi valley to the oldest bar and restaurant in Iowa, Breitbach's, a German restaurant established in 1852 in



Ball Town. Here we enjoyed their Sunday buffet dinner consisting of fried chicken, rib tips, pork tenderloin and shrimp with a traditional salad bar. And yes, that included desert of strawberry shortcake all for the sum of \$16.95!

After lunch, we took back roads to Dubuque and onto Rt. 20 across the Mississippi River and into Illinois. All day it was threatening rain, so a decision was made to forego the planned route and head home the quickest possible way. That was Rt. 20 to I-90 back to Chicago. We caught

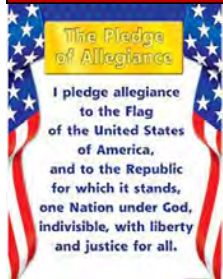
about a half hour of rain, but we missed most of the rain and high winds. Everyone made it home safely and relatively dry. Total mileage for the trip was 530 miles. Greg Smith best summed up the trip as, "We ate our way through Iowa." A good time was had by all.





GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES JULY 7TH, 2022

Respectfully Submitted
by: Diana Lanute



President's Section: Gene Rigsby

- ♦ 7:00 pm, Meeting called to order by Gene Rigsby
- ♦ Members stood to recite the Pledge of Allegiance
- ♦ Guests – Introductions – Frank Esposito and his two daughters
- ♦ Moment of Silence

♦ Announcements

- * 8/16 - Jane Smith
- * 8/24 - Greg Smith
- * 8/28 - Gene and Noelle anniversary

Vice President: Ric Case

Past President: Wayne Kirkpatrick (Abs)

♦ Safety: Mike Bradbury

The primary location for accidents are intersections and curves. Use safe speeds and practice safe driving.

♦ Safety Tip – Greg Smith “Dress for the slide, not for the ride.”

♦ Kaution Korner – Mary Kirkpatrick , abs

♦ Safety Videos: Mike Bradbury

- * **The Most Misunderstood Control on a Motorcycle -**
- * **Clutch control and how it affects your motorcycling**
- * <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0YuM2ZqWN9I>
- * One good tip discussed was to keep the clutch squeezed and bike in first gear at a light; watch out for cars behind you as you might need an escape route. Use the link mentioned here to view the whole video for many more tips on proper clutch use.

Membership: Ted Makarewicz

- ♦ New members Rich and Christine Kimball received their welcome package.



Activities: Rick Agrimonti / Greg Smith

♦ Recent activities

- * 7/9: Kansas City – a 500 mile ride each way. Riders will receive a pin starting next year – **Mike Bradbury**
- * 7/23: GRASS class – **Mike Bradbury**
- * 7/23: Post GRASS class ride – weather not good for ride – **Gene Rigsby**
- * 7/31: Grumpy Troll – Rode to Ashley Corners (Madison, WI) – **Mike Bradbury**

♦ Future activities

- * 7/31-8/9: Sturgis – **Bard Boand/ Kirkpatrick**
- * 8/6 - 8/9: FRR satellite ride – **Mike Bradbury**
- * 8/9-8/15: Front Range Ride – **Wayne Kirkpatrick**
- * 8/26 - 8/28: Field of Dreams – Kick stands up 7:30am. Rooms are \$124/night in Dyersville. Prior to that will stop at a museum - **Ted Makarewicz**



Charity: Rich Lanute

- ♦ NISRA has received 25 years of support by Top Cats. Mary and Rich will be updating our members on possible venues on our Ride for Dreams 2023.

Products: Ted Makarewicz

♦ Get your gear now!!

50/50 Raffle: Andy Haszlkiewicz was absent, so no raffle tonight.

Picture: Group picture taken tonight, by Mike Bradbury

**Meeting Adjourned 8:30pm
No Board Meeting this month.**



Bike for Sale!

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262.344.6228**



September Birthdays and Anniversaries!



5 Bruce Handler
9 Andy Haszlekiewicz
11 Mary Kirkpatrick
15 Bob Parquette
22 George Raab

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

4 Wayne and Mary
Kirkpatrick



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RIDES & EVENTS

Date	Ride/Event	Location	Destination	Time	Leader
Tuesday, September 6th	General Meeting	Palatine	Alley 64	7:00 pm	Rigsby
Tuesday, September 13th	Board Meeting	Palatine	Alley 64	7:00 pm	Rigsby
Sunday, September 25th	Memorial Ride	TBD	TBD	TBD	Case
Tuesday, October 4th	General Meeting	Palatine	Alley 64	7:00 pm	Rigsby
Tuesday, October 11th	Board Meeting	Palatine	Alley 64	7:00 pm	Rigsby
Sunday, October 15th	Haunted Picnic Ride	TBD	TBD	TBD	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



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

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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**

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