



# ROAR

December. 2022

Volume 22, Issue 12

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We Wish You and all of your Loved Ones the Best of Holidays and Warm Roads in the New Year

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### Upcoming Events

#### DECEMBER

- 4 TOYS 4 TOTS
- 6 GENERAL MEETING
- 13 BOARD MEETING
- 31 NEW YEAR'S EVE!

#### JANUARY

- 3 GENERAL MEETING
- 10 BOARD MEETING

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



The Official Publication  
Of Top Cats Illinois



# ROAR

## PRESIDENT'S POINT

And Now a Word from your President...



Hello Top Cats!!

I hope you and your families had a great Thanksgiving holiday and are thankful enough to last until next year. We are still working on the turkey leftovers at our house. But we are VERY thankful to have them....

The busy holiday season is quickly approaching. And, as we near the year end, we usually reflect on the past as we enjoy more time spent with family and friends. We also tend to look ahead to all the promises a new year will bring. I Still haven't heard of anyone with a real crystal ball so unfortunately I don't know everything to expect. But, I do know the coming year will bring more opportunity to share time with our Top Cat family out on the road.

In the meantime, be sure to share more hugs with family and friends and pass along well wishes to your neighbors and folks that you meet, spreading more kindness and holiday cheer. you never know what the person on the other side of your eyes is going through. Help make their season bright. It will help to make your season even brighter.

Speaking of riding... we still have an opportunity to get out on the road for Ted's Toys for Tots ride (12/4). The forecast is a splendid 40 degrees and clear. I'm in!!! Come on along.

Even though the weather has put a damper on our riding options, we will have other Top Cat events to look forward to like the annual award banquet (for 2022), a movie day, chili cook-off and the International Motorcycle show and more to keep us busy until we can get out on the road again.

Thanks again to all our Top Cat family including our board and committee members who keep our club running now and into the future.

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](mailto:gene.rigsby@gmail.com), or phone, 847-770-9425.

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



## KAUTION KORNER

Are you a winter rider? A few safety tips for riding in cold weather: make sure your



tires are warm and the road surfaces are warm and dry before making any aggressive maneuvers, look for frost spots and icy surfaces. When addressing them make no sudden moves. They may not have thawed before you see them.

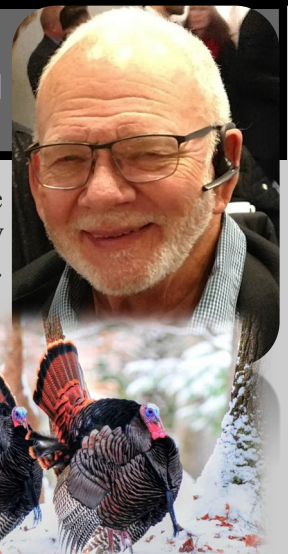
As the day warms up be on the lookout for critters small and large.

They get very hungry After a cold night in the wilderness.

(Continued on Pg 3)

## Winter Riding Tips

By: Ric "Clutch" Case, Senior Road







## Kaution Korner, Continued

I have noticed there are many accessories available for heated electric gear being offered now. Jackets, gloves, chaps, pants, socks, hand grips just to name a few.



Caution: when adding heated electric components, make sure your electrical system has the capacity to handle the additional amperes and volts required. Nothing worse than getting away from home and blowing a fuse when you add an additional accessory.

And be sure to discontinue using an accessory that may have caused a fuse to blow until you can identify the correct way to attach that item so that you can use it safely without damage to your motorcycle's electrical system. Which reminds me, make sure you carry a variety of spare fuses that work with your motorcycle. And If you would like a great article on how to address the electrical aspect of adding heated gear to your riding experience, check out this article In *Rider* called ***Electrical Accessory Installation Best Practices!*** Written by Ari Henning, it has some initial advice on what to do... [Installing Electrical Accessories on Your Motorcycle | Rider Magazine](#) .



Have a happy and comfortable cold weather riding experience if that's your desire.



## Oil Spots

By Traveler



### Emergency SOS: How to Call for Help



God forbid if something tragic happens while you're out riding, who you gonna call? That's the big question. In the worst-case scenario, you may be so far away from civilization that you

may not be able to call anyone.

Mobile device manufacturers have started adding satellite connectivity that can help riders to get help in remote places where cellular connections may be impossible.

Apple recently launched an Emergency SOS via Satellite feature that will be included in the iOS 16 update. Google, too, has indicated that satellite connectivity may be coming with the next Android 14 version.

But even if you use an older phone, you can still try to alert emergency services—even when normal phone connectivity is at zero. Unfortunately, many riders don't know about their phones' emergency features, which could put them at risk.

Look at how different mobile emergency SOS features work, so you can call for help if you get in an accident.

#### Apple Devices

Although the satellite feature isn't out yet, Apple has released instructions so riders and others can learn how to use it.

Apple phones also allow you to set emergency contacts in the Health application. These contacts will receive an alert when you use SOS features, so you can let your loved ones know about your plight as well.

#### Emergency SOS via Satellite

To use the satellite connectivity, you will need an iPhone 14 model updated to the iOS 16 version. Even this device can't call emergency services, but it can send text messages over satellite to call for help. Here's how it works:

1. If no regular cellular service is available, you will see an "Emergency Text via Satellite" button on the lock screen.
2. Tap "Emergency Text via Satellite."
3. Tap "Report Emergency."
4. Your iPhone will prompt you to answer simple questions by tapping the presented options.
5. Select whether you want to also alert your emergency contacts.
6. Connect to the satellite with the presented button.
7. Follow the on-screen instructions to establish and maintain the connection.
8. Once connected to the emergency services, you can send additional information via text messages.

Apple says the satellite feature will initially be available only in the U.S., Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands, and Canada.

#### Emergency SOS on iPhone 8 or Newer

Even if you don't have an iPhone 14, you can still use your device to call for help in an emergency. As long as your device is an iPhone 8 or newer, it has SOS functionality. Here's how to use it:

1. Press and hold the side button and one of the volume buttons until an SOS slider appears.
2. Drag the SOS slider to the right.
3. If you can't pull the slider, keep holding the buttons down and the phone automatically calls emergency services.

#### Emergency SOS on iPhone 7 or Older

In case you rely on an even older iPhone model, you can alert the authorities in an accident. This is how the feature works:

1. Rapidly press the side or top button (depending on your device) five times.
2. Drag the SOS slider to call emergency services.

#### Apple Watch

You can also use your Apple Watch to contact emergency services. To activate this feature, press the device's side button for several seconds until an SOS button appears.

Be aware that your iPhone must be nearby for the SOS feature to work. You also won't be able to call anyone with just your Watch, but you can send automated emergency messages.

#### Android Devices

Android phones don't yet support satellite connectivity. Google has hinted that the feature may be coming with the next major Android update, but for the time being, Android users have to rely on cellular connections.

(Continued on page5)



## Oil Spots, , Continued...

As another small hitch, Android systems differ between different manufacturers' devices. As such, your phone may function a bit differently from the below instructions. It's a good idea to check your phone's settings for how to activate SOS features.

### Stock Android

Some manufacturers run a mostly unmodified—or “stock”—version of Android. These devices include Google Pixel and phones by Motorola, Asus, Sony, and Nokia, among others. On these devices, simply **tap the power button five (5) times** to call for help.

Tapping the power button will bring up an SOS screen that lets you call the local emergency number, play a loud alarm sound, share your location with emergency contacts, and share a video of your surroundings. You can select which options you have available through your phone's Safety app.

### Samsung Phones

Samsung's popular Galaxy devices run a proprietary modification of the Android platform. These phones let you set your own emergency settings. Depending on what you've chosen, you can activate SOS mode by **clicking the side button three or four times**.

To set your emergency settings, launch your phone's Settings app and navigate to “Safety and Emergency.” Here, you can determine how many times you need to press the side button and how you want to contact emergency services and emergency contacts.

### Other Android Devices

With so many Android variants on the market, it's difficult to give detailed instructions for every device. If your Android device wasn't mentioned above, you should check how its emergency features work.

On most Android phones, you can open the Settings app and use the search function with keywords like “SOS” or “emergency” to find emergency settings and instructions for how to use them. If this fails, check the internet for your device's instructions.

Some Android devices—especially older ones—may not have emergency features at all. In this case, consider installing a reputable emergency app on your phone. These apps aren't as reliable as in-built SOS features, but they may save your life in a pinch.

### Tips for Staying Safe in the Saddle

Always be prepared for emergency situations before you head out for the ride. Here are some things you should do before you hop in the saddle and hit the road.

### Charge Your Phone

Even the most robust security features won't help if your phone is out of battery. Always charge your phone to

100% before you start a ride.

### Get a Sturdy Phone Case

Protect your phone so it doesn't break on impact and leave you helpless on the side of the road. Invest in a strong, impact-resistant phone case.

### Keep Your Phone on Your Body

Place your phone in an interior jacket pocket or another pocket so that you won't be separated from it during an accident. This ensures your phone is at hand and not on the other side of the road when you need it.

### Waterproof Your Phone

Water is electronics' worst enemy. Buy a waterproof phone case and keep your phone in a waterproof pouch or pocket while you ride.

### Activate All Safety Features

As you've learned, most phones let you pick which emergency features activate in SOS mode. For maximum safety, use everything at your disposal—set emergency contacts, allow SOS mode to use your phone's location, and write preformatted emergency texts.

### Don't Charge Your Phone on the Bike

Many bikes today come with charging docks and outlets but avoid using them unless absolutely necessary. If your phone is docked during an accident, the impact may break it or send it flying out of your reach.

### Ride Safely

Ideally, you should never have to use your phone's emergency features. Always remember to pay attention to traffic, road conditions, weather, and other risks so you can enjoy many more rides in the future.

## 4 Winterizing Tips

Whether we like it or not, the changing of the seasons is upon us, and that means some of us are mentally preparing for the saddest day of the year—when we tuck our bike into seasonal storage. It can be a rough day for a bunch of reasons, but a little stress and care right now can make for an extra delightful spring when you take your car out for that first drive.

### Top up

Storing with non-ethanol fuel is best, but not everyone has access to it, or it may come at enough of a premium that it's not in the cards right now. Regardless of fuel type, fill the tank to the top and add an appropriate fuel stabilizer. Some fuel tanks are steel and are very susceptible to rust, which can flake off and fill your fuel system with debris.



(Continued on pg 6)



## Oil Spots, continued...

With the tank topped off, there is no room for air and thus rust is kept at bay. Once you have some stabilizer in the tank, be sure to run the bike for 10-15 minutes to make sure that it circulates through the entire fuel system.



## Insulate your tires

Tires are made for riding, not for parking. That's why long-term storage is likely to cause flat spots or dry-rotting. There are appropriate products on the market that

can help, but it's also just as easy to pick up some insulation like carpet, foam board, etc, and cut a few squares that fit under your tires. If you want to go an extra step in moisture management, lay down a tarp or painter's plastic sheet under the bike to prevent the bike frame from condensing any moisture that might rise up from the ground.

## Cover up

Motorcycles are best taken care of with a cover. If your storage spot has windows or is open on one side, be sure to utilize a good quality bike cover. UV degradation can happen fast when a bike is parked



in one spot and the sunlight only hits a specific spot day after day. Your seats, paint, and trim will thank you for covering up, as it will also keep scratches and dust off your precious ride. Be sure that the bike is clean before you cover it. *Really* clean. A cover can grind any dirt and debris left on the bike into your delicate paint. Also, remember that covers don't do much to protect from dents, so make sure your [bike](#) does not become a shelf or leaning place for other things in the garage.



## Fresh fluids

At a minimum, your bike should get fresh oil. Oil traps combustion byproducts, and if left in the crankcase to sit all winter you can

end up with corrosion or deposits that require serious work to remove. An oil change right before storage is cheap insurance.

While looking at fluids, take a moment to inspect your brake fluid, as it can absorb moisture too. Flush with fresh fluid if the reservoir is anything but a nice light amber color. Good luck. Spring will be here before you know it. (We hope.)

## Yamaha Testing New Electric Power Steering Prototype for Bikes



Motorcycle engineers continue to evolve two-wheeled technology with an ever-increasing smorgasbord of electronic rider aids to bolster safety and performance (cornering-ABS, traction control, adaptive cruise control, etc.).

Yamaha is experimenting with an innovative electronic power steering system, currently in the prototype stage. Yamaha's Electric Power Steering (EPS) is different from traditional power steering systems seen in automobiles and trucks.

The EPS uses a magnetostrictive torque sensor to measure rider input to the handlebar. It transmits that data to the system's control board and determines the amount of assistance.

An actuator bolted directly to the motorcycle's headstock translates the information and adds or reduces assistance (friction) through a geared shaft mated to the steering stem, applying appropriate force to aid steering depending on speed and rider input. The degree of influence the system initiates is directly dependent on how much physical force the rider is putting into the handlebar.

In addition to inputting alternating degrees of influence to ease turning at various speeds, the EPS sensors provide additional functionality as a steering damper at higher speeds. The system can differentiate between rider input and road influences.

All the while, the EPS retains a natural feel—and also reduces rider fatigue. It's all part of the brave new world technology is bringing to motorcycles.

(Continued on page 7)



Oil Spots, continued...

Power steering as a viable option for motorcycles presents yet another rider aid that can add to safety and manageability—especially with larger, heavier motorcycles. The advantages of electronic power steering on street motorcycles of all sizes and models is obvious, especially as it makes riding more enjoyable.

Power steering had a huge impact on the auto industry and is now the norm on virtually all cars, trucks, and four-wheeled vehicles. Similarly, the motorcycle industry and riders now embrace ABS, despite a great deal of negative skepticism in the years following its introduction.

It is perhaps only a matter of time before electric power steering becomes standard equipment on all new motorcycles, as well.

## [Oh, deer: Permanent daylight savings time would cut collisions](#)



A recent study says that the practice of moving our clocks forward in the spring, which is the start of daylight savings time, reduces night-time vehicle accidents with

deer by 16 percent.

Researchers developed a model that demonstrates the benefits permanent daylight savings time has, “not only in saving animal lives but also in reduction of collision costs and human injuries.”

Using data from 23 state agencies from the U.S. Department of Transportation, Cunningham’s team analyzed 1,012,465 deer-vehicle collisions and 96 million hourly traffic observations across the United States. Their analysis showed that collisions are 14 times more frequent two hours after sunset than before. Taking these numbers, the researchers were able to predict that if daylight savings time became year-round it would prevent 36,550 deer deaths, 33 human deaths, 2,054 human injuries, and \$1.19 billion in collision costs annually.

## [Technology vs Injury / Death](#)



Knowing how your bike will react under emergency braking or swerving around an obstacle might just save your life. This knowledge tends to come with time and experience, which means that newer

riders are more at risk when they first start out.

Statistically speaking, novice riders are much more likely to be involved in an accident. According to the Ohio Motorcycle Operator Manual, more than 50% of riders have been riding for six months or less. This statistic may help to explain why we’ve seen such a surge in safety systems and equipment in the motorcycle industry of late.

Many of these innovations found their way from the race-track to the streets. We may not be racers, but we can still reap the benefits to better protect ourselves in the event of a crash, from safer, lighter, stronger, more protective gear to more advanced onboard safety systems

Safety systems are surging in many modern bikes. Looking back 10 to 20 years ago, anti-lock brakes (ABS) were almost unheard of on bikes, but now they’re a standard feature or an optional extra on a number of models.

Let’s look at the 2022 Yamaha state-of-the-art six-axis inertial measurement unit (IMU). The IMU system was originally developed for the YZF-R1, but it has evolved into a smaller and lighter unit featuring two sensors that measure three-axis angular velocity and three-axis acceleration. The IMU enables a suite of rider aids including lean sensitive traction control, a slide control system (SCS), a front wheel lift control system (LIF), engine brake management (EBM) and a brake control (BC) system with lean sensitive ABS.



Yamaha’s goal during the IMU development was to build a bike that brings out the rider’s strengths while allowing the rider to focus more attention on racing rather than on how the machine is behaving. The IMU is able to electronically control the throttle position, ignition timing, ABS and other factors in order to maximize performance, grip and maneuverability. It’s a great example of race bike technology trickling down to the street.

Ducati has also brought some technology from the race-track and integrated it into its street bikes. Some models may see safety systems like Ducati’s adaptive cruise control (ACC) and blind spot detection (BSD). Ducati also offers advanced systems, such as an intelligent cornering system and semi-active suspension systems by Öhlins on some of its high-end motorcycles. The semi-active suspension has the ability to automatically adjust compression and rebound damping in response to riding style based on information received from the inertial platform and other onboard sensors.

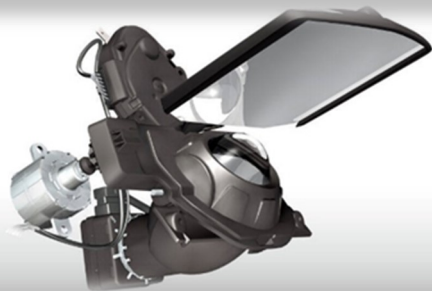
(Continued on pg. 8)



Oil Spots, continued...

These are just a few examples of this trend, but we can expect it to continue in the coming years.

BMW adaptive head-lights model (BMW Motorrad)



BMW Motorrad is also committed to rider safety through its Safety 360 Concept.

This concept consists of three areas:

1. Cutting-edge vehicle safety technology
2. Highly innovative and functional rider equipment (protective gear)
3. A focus on the rider, and passive safety through high-quality rider training courses for every skill level and every type of terrain.

On the technology front, BMW offers such systems as ABS, traction control, stability control, tire pressure monitoring, selectable riding modes and adaptive headlights, which are able to self-adjust based on lean angle and ride height.

## Buell's Fuell Electric Motorcycle



Buell built its reputation on building Harley-Davidson-powered sports bikes, but now founder Erik

Buell has switched over to electric and even renamed the firm Fuell. Having launched a high-end e-bike called the Flluid in 2019, Fuell now has its first electric motorcycle ready.

The Fllow has been designed as a daily driver, rather than an out-and-out sportster, with a top speed of 85 mph courtesy of a 35-kW (47.5 hp) hub motor of the rather exotic, transverse-flux variety. Weighing in at 396 pounds and carrying a 10-kWh battery pack as a structural element of the frame, it will accelerate to 62 mph in a claimed 2.7 seconds, which makes it swifter than Harley's Livewire One. A realistic range of 150 miles is said to be achievable, with prices starting at \$11,995. Customers are being invited to

put down a \$200 deposit and, if 3000 reservations are received, production should go ahead.

The high specification, Tron-inspired styling, and low price look great, but the funding isn't in place yet. Question marks remain over whether Buell will get this bike into production.

## Automatic Motorcycle Transmissions



Although some view the notion of an automatic transmission on a motorcycle as an outright sin, the reality is the growth of electric motorcycles and scooters has significantly altered percep-

tions of an automatic motorcycle. With electric motorcycles coming ever more in vogue, an automatic transmission provides an easier transition to a more traditional or larger displacement motorcycle.

The first mass-produced automatic transmission for automobiles was introduced in 1939 by General Motors and was offered as an option on the 1940 Oldsmobile Series 60 and Cadillac Sixty Special. There was a 1904 rendering of an automatic for a horseless carriage, but unfortunately it was plagued with mechanical woes. Back then, anything that detoured from a foot clutch pedal and manual gear changes was viewed as a fad that would never catch on. Jump ahead 80-odd years and you'd be hard-pressed to find a new car with a manual transmission (in the U.S. anyway). In time, automatic transmissions may become as common in motorcycling as they are in the automotive world.

## Tips for storing motorcycle batteries

Maintaining a battery to last for years is not an exacting science, but it is a science. But with the weather changing and bikes heading for storage, it's a good time to review what you should know about this vital component.



(Continued on pg 9)





Oil Spots, continued...

Technology has advanced significantly over the years, but many of the principals around how batteries work, and how to best care for and feed them, have not. Knowing these best practices will save you money, peace of mind, and even time.

## Lead acid vs. AGM vs. lithium ion



Lead-acid batteries often ship dry and the user has to fill the acid properly themselves.

Most batteries look more or less the same—the exterior is commonly a plastic case with two terminals, one positive and one negative.

The most basic battery that you will encounter in motorcycles is a flooded lead-acid. These consist of multiple electrode plates suspended in a case flooded with a mixture of acid and distilled water.

The next step up is an absorbed glass mat (AGM) battery, which is functionally the same as a flooded lead-acid. The biggest difference in an AGM battery is that the positive and negative plates are separated by fiberglass mats that absorb the mixture of acid and water to prevent it from sloshing.

AGM batteries can be sealed, and are often easier to mount since the acid is captured in the fiberglass mats. You can position them with the terminals facing any direction—up, down, or sideways—without worrying about leaks. By comparison, a standard lead-acid battery requires venting as they do emit gas during regular charge/discharge cycles. That vent dictates how the battery needs to be mounted.

The Optima Redtop is an example of a AGM battery. These are much more durable than flooded lead-acid ones but carry the same weight and packaging size.



For even more benefits, you can leave lead-acid behind completely and switch to a different chemical makeup—lithium ion. These batteries are smaller, lighter, can handle being fully discharged much better, and operate better across a wider range of

temperatures. Of course everything comes with a drawback, and the big one here is that lithium-ion does not tolerate being overcharged.

A lithium-ion unit is often smaller, lighter, and even more durable, but that all comes at a cost.



All three of these types work well in automotive starting applications, where the rate of discharge and charge are not extreme and large amounts of storage is not required. Each has strengths between cost, ease of use, and lifespan that owners will need to balance when selecting the right one for their ride.

## Trickle vs. regular charging

Type “battery charger” into your search engine of choice and you will be inundated with options and likely paralyzed by choice. Here is a quick breakdown of the three types.

**Regular:** This is meant to quickly top up a battery that has been discharged. Bringing one back from fully empty to a usable level takes time, and a regular charger is your best bet to get back on the road the fastest.

However, it is not the right tool for keeping a battery in top charge while not being used. Proper use would require using a regular charger for a short period every 30–45 days, depending on discharge rate. Remembering to connect and disconnect the charger appropriately can be tough and could lead to damage if the battery is overcharged or let go until it’s completely discharged.

**Trickle:** A trickle charger slows down the rate of charge being put into a battery, increasing the voltage slowly. It can sometimes revive batteries that a regular charger would damage. The trickle charger is perfect for long-stored bikes, but there is still no cutoff which means if left on indefinitely, this type of charger could still damage your battery.



As a cautionary note, lithium ion batteries typically require special battery tenders. As with any battery, read the directions that come with it regarding maintenance.

Finally, the answer to the age – old question of “When should I replace my battery?” is complex and depends on the bike and it’s electronic demands, weather, storage conditions, charging rates, engine heat, etc. The obvious answer is to replace it when your battery goes dead however....that is usually in some remote area, on the side of a road, in a rain storm on a cold night.

A good rule of thumb is to replace your battery every two to three years.



## DISTINGUISHED and STEADFAST BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2023



Consistent with our Bylaws, we have completed our nomination/election process for three vacant positions for 2023 - 2024. Those position vacancies and current qualified incumbents, or nominees, are:

- I. President (2023-2024): Nominee – (Incumbent) Gene Rigsby
- II. Two Directors (2023 - 2024): Nominees – (Incumbents), Ted Makarewicz, Greg Smith

Our nominees were vetted for eligibility and the slate was reviewed and approved by our Board at the 8 November 2022 Board meeting. Voting will occur at our 6 December General Membership meeting. Our new Board will take office on 1 January 2023.

Our full Board of Directors, and the term they will serve going into next year will be:

- President (2023 – 2024):** Gene Rigsby
- Vice President (2022-2023):** Ric Case
- Secretary (2022-2023):** Diana Lanute
- Treasurer (2022-2023):** Don DeLordo
- Past President (2023-2024):** Wayne Kirkpatrick
- Director (2022-2023):** Rich Lanute
- Director (2023-2024):** Greg Smith
- Director (2022-2023):** Mike Bradbury
- Director (2023-2024):** Ted Makarewicz

Our Club is directed by our Board and....we could not do the great things, adventures, charity work, and events that we do without them. Please cast your vote carefully with a view toward maintaining the Top Cats legacy as a premiere motorcycle enthusiasts' organization!

Remember, to be eligible to vote, you must be a Member in Good Standing. That requires that you meet the following requirements by November 30th of each calendar year. (pro-rated the first less than 12 month period following probationary status)

- ▶ Attend a minimum of 5, official Top Cats events per year (meetings and, or, events).
- ▶ Attend the Group Riding and Safety Seminar within your first year then once every three years of membership.
- ▶ All dues or any other financial obligations have been met.

Come to our 6 December meeting prepared to vote and congratulate our new Board for 2023.





## TOP CAT'S ELECTIONS

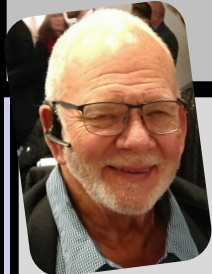
By Traveler



Remember, we will hold our annual elections at our 6 December 2022 general meeting.

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Come to our 6 December meeting prepared to vote and congratulate our new Board for 2023!

## My Riding Career! Stories

VP's Vision

Continued...

1997 I rode to Sturgis with Terry Kumro, Bard Board, Eric Eisman, Coach, And Jim "Tiger" Irving. His "Bike" was painted with white and black tiger stripes. Eventually he had a seat made to match the the paint. We rode the route that is still used today, with a few modifications.

In the following four weeks we visited the following attractions. Crazy horse, to see what progress was made from year to year, Mount Rushmore, Custer State Park with free range buffalo, Devil's Tower. Hewitt, Sundance with its burn outs,

and small town drag racing right down the middle of a towns Main Street. All very exciting first-time experiences for a country bumpkin like me. Staying at the Alex Johnson was the first year at this great hotel and the great time here and made the ride memorable. It has become the cornerstone of the ride to this day. Here is a recap of the events from when Jacquie arrived in Rapid City until I left to return home.

At about 10:30 pm Tuesday night I picked her up at the Rapid City airport. We threw her luggage into the room at the hotel, and then proceeded to Sturgis for it night life. We stayed until it closed down around 1:30 am. As can be when we are young, we grabbed about 3 to 4 hours sleep, rose again around 5am and rode back to Sturgis to buy souvenirs and t shirts. Then we met up with the gang in Spear Fish Canyon and rode to Cheyenne. The morning of the next day we did some white-water rafting. (Youngsters!) Then rode to Red Lodge and left the group to visit and dine with my cousin Lorrie, in Billings Montana. The next day we rode to Yellowstone National Park to see "old faithful" staying at a lodge that night with rooms at the South Gate. I complained about not having A/C so we went to the main lodge dining room for its A/C and dinner with the group. After dinner, we retired to our room for the evening. At 2:30 I woke up to our room at 38 degrees. (So that's why they did not need A/C).

It was all coming to an end... Jacquie took a shuttle to the airport for her flight back home and I caught up with Tom Malia, and Terry Kumro, and Jim Irving with his tiger bike in Casper, Wyoming. We rode for two days and about 1100 miles back to Barrington in the rain arriving about 6:00 pm.

Stay tuned for the REST of the STORY in my column in January of 2023 after you have a Merry Christmas and a Very Happy New Year... and Traveler's New Year's Day Birthday.

Ric "clutch" Case  
Your very own VP



## General Membership Meeting Minutes September 6th,

Respectfully Submitted by: Diana Lanute

### President's Section: Gene Rigsby

- ◆ 7:00 pm, Meeting called to order
- ◆ Pledge of Allegiance
- ◆ Guests – None

### Announcements

- ◇ 11/5 Mike Bradbury
- ◇ 11/7 Andy Haszlakiewicz
- ◇ 11/16 Mark Sullivan
- ◇ 11/20 - Rich and Diana anniversary

### V.P.: Ric Case.

- ◆ Ric asked for a show of hands for target practice at "On Target" range. Breakfast to be planned before or after.

### Past President: Wayne Kirkpatrick

- ◆ Election Wayne discussed requirements for voting
- ◆ Details to follow in an email blast and ROAR

### Safety: Mike Bradbury

- ◆ See Kaution Korner tonight.
- ◆ Kaution Korner Safety Tip – Wayne demonstrated a Marcola LED safety light
- ◆ Kaution Korner - Mike B – Wear your helmet! You will be dramatically safer!

### Safety Videos: Mike Bradbury

Safety video not available this evening.

### Membership: Ted Makarewicz

- ◆ Ted discussed new members and sponsors. The sponsors are to help the new members feel comfortable and to understand what is happening at meetings and rides.

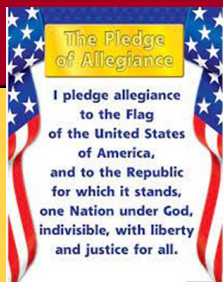
### Activities: Rick Agrimonti / Greg Smith

#### Recent activities

- ◇ 10/15: Haunted Picnic - Rigsby
- ◇ G.R.A.S.S. - Mike B – Class on 10/23. Teachers are mentioned and thanked.

#### Future activities

- ◇ 11/19 – Fashion show at NISRA. Top Cats table has 10 chairs at a table and 5 are still open.
- ◇ Gene suggested possible off season activities, such as a movie.



### Charity: Rich Lanute / Mary Kirkpatrick

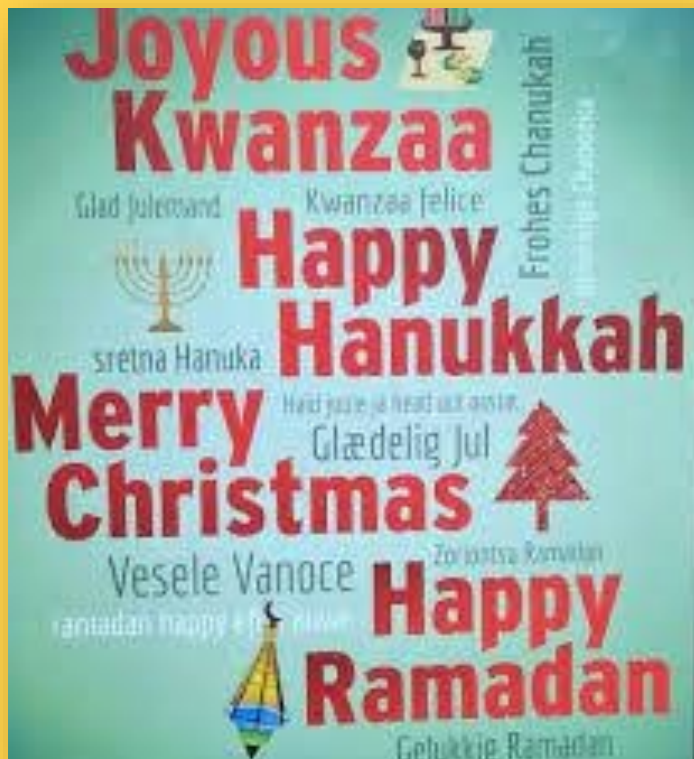
- ◆ 6/11 - Ride for Dreams - Last year 22 members attended of which only 4 were nonmembers. Board concern is getting riders from the community. Mary is going to send out a blast polling the members as to what they want to see our club do to support Ride for Dreams. Mary agreed to call and contact Volo and see if we can book June 11 for our ride date. We need some new ideas on how to promote Ride for Dreams.

### Products: Ted Makarewicz

- ◆ Get your gear now!!
- ◆ Ted promoted new pullover shirts tonight.

50/50 Raffle: Andy Hazlakiewicz. No raffle tonight.

Meeting Adjourned 8:45 pm by Gene Rigsby, President of Top Cats Illinois







## BOARD MEETING MINUTES SEPTEMBER 13TH, 2022

Respectfully Submitted  
by: Diana Lanute

### President's Section: Gene Rigsby

- ◆ Meeting called to order
- ◆ Immediate needs – None.
- ◆ **Past President: Wayne Kirkpatrick**  
Election slate approval – Slate same as last year. Wayne gave a copy of the slate and asked for a show of hands to vote; Wayne made motion, Rich seconded motion.
- ◆ Review of members needed.
- ◆ Rob Rudy name needs to be corrected in roster.
- ◆ Eligible members to vote total 21.

### VP: Ric Case

- ◆ Possible club shoot-out at “On Target” range.

### Treasury: Don DeLordo

- ◆ Report/review - Dues went out on 10/22. Review of paid and unpaid dues.

### Activities: Greg Smith

#### Future Event

- ◆ Blast and calendar review
- ◆ Calendar review - Nov/Dec – 11/19 – NISRA Fashion Show.
- ◆ Need recommendations for future events – Maybe indoor and watch a movie.

### Safety/RC: Mike Bradbury

- ◆ Mike B has 2 dates planned for G.R.A.S.S. class – 5/25 and 10/21. Tentative date is 7/22.

### Membership/Products: Ted Makarewicz

- ◆ Membership drive ideas – Ted said all is quiet.

### Charity: Rich Lanute

- ◆ Updates/changes - **Volo** - Question was asked about what has changed from previous successful years? Rich will contact Doug at Woodstock Harley Davidson to reserve the 6/11 date.

### Secretary: Diana Lanute

- ◆ No comments tonight

Meeting Adjourned at 8:40p.m. by Gene Rigsby,  
President, Top Cat Illinois



Gifts to think about for the Holidays coming up...



**Personalized Bobble Head.**  
<https://www.dolls2u.com/motorcycle-rider-p-15615.html>

1. Upload or email your pictures
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BikeChainJewelry.com  
\$23.00



## December Birthdays and Anniversaries!

17 Emil Kornecki

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

No December Anniversaries (That we know of...)



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

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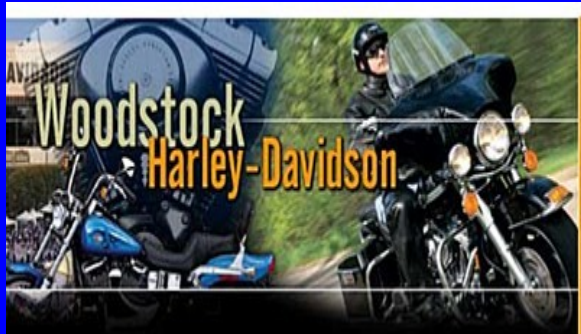


*Network with your fellow  
Riders here...*

*And Be Thankful!*



## Support the TOP CATS Patrons



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

NISRA Families have so many wonderful opportunities because of the NISRA staff...  
Can we find ways to continue to help them?





## RIDES & EVENTS

Date	Ride/Event	Location	Destination	Time	Leader
Sunday, December 4th	Toys 4 Tots	The Copernicus Foundation	Toys and Podhalanka	9:30 am	Makarewicz
Tuesday, December 6th	General Meeting	Palatine	Alley 64	7:00 pm	Rigsby
Tuesday, December 13th	Board Meeting	Palatine	Alley 64	7:00 pm	Rigsby
Tuesday, January 3rd	General Meeting	Palatine	Alley 64	7:00 pm	Rigsby
Tuesday, January 10th	Board Meeting	Palatine	Alley 64	7:00 pm	Rigsby
IDEAS?	Talk to	Greg or Rick	And get them	On the	Calendar!

All ride and event information along with the Photo Gallery can be found at [www.TopCats.org](http://www.TopCats.org).



### **Barrington Library**

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

847-382-1300  
 balibrary.org

See the Top Cats Archive

**FREE ADVERTISING in ROAR for  
 TOP CATS Business Owners**

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As part of our ongoing philosophy to support our members and goal to provide a more value-rich publication, we are now offering free advertising space in ROAR for Top Cats business owners. Each business owner can submit advertising content and graphics up to 2 X 3.5 inches (Business Card size) for their company.

We will run the ad for 3 months after which you will need to resubmit it.  
 This offer is for Top Cats business owners only. We are not accepting advertising for other businesses at this time.

Submit your ad along with contact information to the ROAR editors at [ROAR@TOPCATS.org](mailto:ROAR@TOPCATS.org)





# ROAR



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For more information about the Top Cats visit our website at [www.TopCats.org](http://www.TopCats.org)

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