



# ROAR

May, 2023

Volume 23, Issue 5

## Inside This Issue

<b>PRESIDENT'S POINT</b>	2
<b>KAUTION KORNER</b>	2
<b>Oil Spots</b>	4
<b>VP's Vision</b>	10
<b>NISRA</b>	11
<b>RIDE PREVIEW!</b>	12
<b>GENERAL MEETING</b>	14
<b>BOARD MEETING</b>	15
<b>GRASS Schedule</b>	16
<b>Celebrations!</b>	16
<b>Business Mart</b>	17
<b>Top Cats Patrons</b>	18
<b>Rides and Events</b>	19
<b>TC Organization</b>	20

The Kick Off Ride was Sunny, even though the weather was not!



*The Official  
Publication  
Of Top Cats  
Illinois*

## Upcoming Events

### MAY

- 2 GENERAL MEETING
- 9 BOARD MEETING
- 20 PICNIC RIDE
- 27 POTOSI RIDE

### JUNE

- 2 DOOR COUTY!
- 6 GENERAL MEETING
- 11 RIDE, ROCK, RUMBLE!
- 13 BOARD MEETING

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





# ROAR

## PRESIDENT'S POINT

And Now a Word from your President...



Hello Top Cats!!

I hope you and family are doing well, staying safe as usual and getting out to ride when the weather cooperates! Hopefully we will be able to enjoy spring in the coming weeks. Maybe you got out on the kick-off ride...??? I'm so looking forward to the summertime riding season, which is approaching very quickly. More opportunities to spend time with your Top Cat family.

I held the kick-off "ride" this past week. I say "ride" because I did not ride, though there was one brave soul that did. Everyone else drove out to have lunch together, which was a great time. It was a last minute call to skip the ride, but still meet at the destination. This time it was a weather driven decision, but changes can happen at any time. It's always a good idea to check your email before you ride to see if there were any ride changes.

The Kaution Korner this month is chock full of great information, which is timely for the season, so make sure to check it out in the May ROAR... Speaking of the ROAR, Thank you Mary!!!

Speaking of RIDING... we already have a great selection of rides on the calendar and there are more to come. So head over to our website and copy those dates over to your calendar right now, so you don't miss any opportunities to ride with your Top Cat brothers and sisters.

**SPECIAL NOTE: SAVE THE DATE... 6/11/2023 is our charity ride. Be there!!!!** We have a whole new look this year and need everyone's support to make our event all it can be. Watch for updates this month on the progress of the ride and what YOU can do to help!

As usual, watch for blasts and check the Top Cats event calendar regularly and by all means **SAVE THE DATES first**. Don't forget to get any activity or ride ideas to Rick Agrimonti or Greg Smith.

As always, please feel free to reach out to me at any time via my email: [Gene.rigsby@gmail.com](mailto:Gene.rigsby@gmail.com), or phone, 847-770-9425.

Looking forward to seeing you there....  
Gene "Lucky" Rigsby, President of Top Cats Illinois

## KAUTION KORNER

When was the last time you  
checked your Riding Gear?

By: Don DeLordo  
Sr. Road Captain and Treasurer of Top Cats Illinois!



Safe equipment is just important as a safe attitude and cycle!  
Don't wait until you are on a ride to do your check! Start before the ride begins... or before the season begins!

Lets start out with your **helmet**? Did you drop it last year? Are there any cracks on the outside? What about the liners? I am referring to the Styrofoam liner along with the cloth liner. Did you wash the liner before retiring the helmet in the winter? If the liner can be removed, take it out and wash it. Don't throw it in the washing machine, though, wash it by hand and allow it to air dry. But, if they are dry and crumbling, now is the time to replace the helmet.

(Continued on Pg 3)





## Kaution Korner, Continued



Next let's check your **rain gear** for holes, zipper functions, snaps etc. Are you still riding with that black rain gear you bought back in 2000? Is it really safe to wear something that is not reflective and blends in with your black ride when caught in the rain at night? For your own safety as well as the safety of the rest of our chapter members, please take a look at the newer reflective color gear.

We have all tried to be frugal by trying to reason that I really don't get caught in the rain that often, so why should I spend so much money for an expensive suit? Over the years I figured out you get what you pay for. I always recommend that you go to your favorite dealer and try on the various styles and sizes so the one you buy fits well rather than ordering one on line and taking chances.

In addition to the suit, the type of **gloves** you wear in the rain can make a big difference in controlling your bike. Being a scuba diver in my younger life, I found that neoprene diving gloves are great for wet weather, because they help to keep in your body heat while improving your grip.

Now that we have looked at the rain suit, how about your heated gear. When was the last time you wore the heated jacket, vest, pants or gloves? Check this equipment out for fit and function. Possibly you've gained a couple of pounds and they just don't fit as well as they once did.

Working our way from head to toes, how about your **boots**. Now is the time to polish and inspect them for cuts, rips, etc. Do they need new heels, soles or do you need to break down and get new boots?

Doing all of this before the season gets busy will allow you to take your time, do some research and get it right!

Don't get caught with faulty gear, check it out now!

And like I said in the beginning of this article:

*Safe equipment is just important as a safe attitude and cycle.*



Be Ready... for  
Rain or **Sunshine!**





# Oil Spots

By Traveler



## Indian and Jack Daniel's Partner on Old No. 7 Indian Chief Bobber Dark Horse



Indian Motorcycle and Jack Daniel's have once again partnered for a celebration of American craftsmanship with the creation of the 2023 Jack Daniel's Limited Edition Indian Chief Bobber Dark Horse. As the seventh limited-edition offering from the two iconic American brands, and developed in partnership with Klock Werks' Kustom Cycles, the latest model draws its inspiration from Jack Daniel's legendary Old No. 7 Tennessee Whiskey.

Hand-painted and highly exclusive, Indian Motorcycle will produce only 177 units for global distribution. The Jack Daniel's Limited Edition includes several fine-touch details that make the bike one of a kind. The bike features Jack Daniel's branding throughout, and, for the first time ever, real Jack Daniel's Old No. 7 whiskey mixed directly within the bike's Super Graphite Metallic paint.

Jack Daniel's branding will be found throughout the bike, including the front and rear fenders, stamped on its solo seat and on a Montana Silversmiths Badge with each bike's unique serial number. For ultimate exclusivity, Jack Daniel's signature can be found on the rear fender and etched into the exhaust. The 2023 Jack Daniel's Limited Edition Indian Chief Bobber Dark Horse touts a tank with a single Indian Motorcycle Script "I" along both sides. The Thunderstroke 116 engine features non-machined highlighted cylinders and heads, Cloud Silver painted rockers and pushrod tubes, giving it a throwback style that delivers a raw metal look.

The limited-edition motorcycle also features white center

rims; a solo-saddle seat; a tinted Klock Werks Flared Deflector; a Pathfinder 5.25 Adaptive LED Headlight, which monitors the bike's lean angle to maximize nighttime illumination; three ride modes; and a 4-inch touchscreen powered by RIDE COMMAND with Bluetooth, weather and traffic overlays, turn-by-turn navigation and more.

Starting at \$24,499, the Jack Daniel's Limited Edition Indian Chief Bobber Dark Horse is exclusively available through Indian Motorcycle dealerships. The order window opened March 14, 2023. The Jack Daniel's Limited Edition Indian Chief Bobber Dark Horse began shipping to Indian Motorcycle dealers throughout the U.S. and Canada in March 2023. Riders can learn more at their local Indian Motorcycle dealership, or by visiting [IndianMotorcycle.com](https://IndianMotorcycle.com).

## 2023 Motorcycle Trends: EVs and Emerging Technology

You know that EVs are coming, but how close are they? As emission regulations continue to



tighten, the days are numbered for internal combustion engines. So, how close are we to seeing electric motorcycles out on the road? They may be closer than you think.

BRP started construction of its first EV manufacturing plant in Mexico, and it plans to start production of its e-bikes in Q3 of 2024. That's still more than a year away. However, it shows how serious BRP has become about producing EVs in the future.

## Livewire S2 Del Mar



Livewire announced that it is accepting deposits on its upcoming S2 Del Mar electric bike. Livewire, a Harley-

Davidson company, is known for its innovative Livewire One electric bike. The S2 Del Mar is a bit smaller than the One, but it is a sleek, fun-looking machine.

(Continued on pg. 5)





Oil Spots, , Continued...

## Zero Motorcycles SR-F



Zero motorcycles is another power player in the EV space with a lineup of street and dual-sport bikes that can fit the needs of a wide range of riders. The company's SR/S and SR/F bikes boast a Bosch powertrain, a range of up to 187 miles and a top speed of 124 mph; they can also charge 95% in as little as 60 minutes. These are some serious specs for an EV and should be quite competitive in the market

## Kawasaki Z and Ninja BEV



Kawasaki has its Z and Ninja BEV, which are

expected to be available in 2023. During the 2022 EICMA Motorcycle Show in Milan, Kawasaki unveiled a range of pre-production and prototype models and announced Kawasaki's company-wide vision focused on carbon neutrality. While underlining Kawasaki's commitment to internal combustion engines and research into future fuel types, It also unveiled a new symbol headlining the new "Go with Green Power" initiative with its goal of achieving carbon neutrality for Kawasaki within a strategic timeframe

## Safety Systems Continue to Surge

This trend shows no signs of slowing down. It seems like almost every new bike these days is being equipped with some form of advanced rider aid. This might be lean-sensitive anti-lock brakes (ABS), traction control, wheel lift control or more — the list goes on and on.

## Kawasaki H2 SX SE ARAS

Look at the Ninja H2 SX and Ninja H2 SX SE as an example of this technology. These bikes are offered with Forward Collision Warning (FCW), Blind Spot Detection

(BSD), Vehicle Hold Assist, tire pressure management system (TPMS) and more. FCW and BSD are warning systems only: They do not offer any sort of intervention in the event of an emergency. But in a world of distracted drivers and other road hazards, they might just save you from a nasty collision.

We hope to see this technology trickle down into the less expensive bikes and, we could see a future where riders are safer, especially during their first year or two of riding.

## Ducati Diavel LEDs

LED lighting also falls into the safety category. Once you've ridden a bike with LED lighting, you'll never want to go back to halogens!



## Road-rage shootings on the rise



A recent report from an advocacy group says that road-rage fatal shootings have increased every year since 2018, when 70 road-rage shooting deaths occurred. In 2022, that number doubled, to 141. Non-fatal injuries increased

from 176 "to a staggering 413 people in 2022. These incidents translate to a person being shot and either injured or killed in a road rage incident in 2022 every 16 hours, on average."

According to the report, the five states with the most road-rage shootings are New Mexico, Arizona, Oklahoma, Tennessee, and Wisconsin, which make up 8 percent of the U.S. population, but accounted for 20 percent of road rage shooting victims.

Perhaps we should recommend Kevlar bullet – resistant vests for our rides thru Wisconsin?

(Continued on pg 6)

Oil Spots, continued...

## U.S. mandates in-vehicle DUI detection ... before tech is ready



The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act from late 2021 was known largely for funding a wave of electric-vehicle charging services. But buried deeper inside was also a mandate for a new technology that has nothing to do with EVs. The law calls for a final rule to

be issued next year requiring all vehicles sold in the U.S. to have the ability to passively detect when drivers are under the influence of alcohol and prevent them from driving. That's a piece of technology that does not exist yet—at least, not as a commercialized market-friendly original-equipment vehicle component. So the auto industry is scurrying to come up with the technology.

It appears that Asahi Kasei, a Japanese company, may have a head start. It has had a Swedish subsidiary working on alcohol and gas detection sensors for other applications for 25 years. It is now working with a consortium of interested parties, including automakers, Tier 1 suppliers and government agencies, to move the technology into commercial feasibility—and to do so in a hurry, according to the director of North American mobility for the company. The law could ask to see the technology on the road as early as 2026. Where the automotive industry goes....so follows the motorcycle industry. However....this might well be a good thing for our survival.

## Motorcycles Without Engines?

More than sixty Republican cosponsors have introduced House Resolution 1435 “To amend the Clean Air Act to prevent banning the sale of internal combustion engines.”

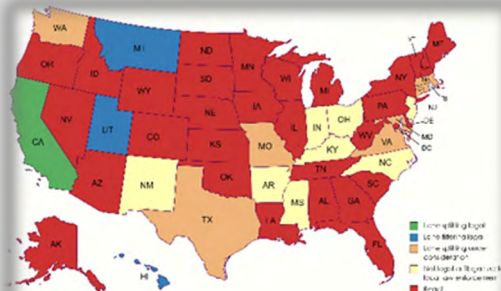


H.R. 1435 was introduced March 8 and is designed to protect Americans’ right to choose the technology that powers their motor vehicles, and the measure was introduced in response to the California Air Resources Board’s (CARB) plans to ban the sale of new internal combustion engine (ICE) vehicles by 2035. The Act would restrict the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) from issuing any new regulations that would ban the sale or use of new motor vehicles with internal combustion engines (ICEs).

Lawmakers supporting H.R. 1435 say it is important that the EPA does not permit CARB’s ZEV (zero emissions vehicle) mandate to take effect, as it could lead to 17 other states that have followed all or part of California’s previous clean-car rules adopting similar proposals.

## State Motorcycle Legislation

Note:  
Blue=legal,  
Tan=Being  
considered,  
reen=legal,  
yellow=  
Officer's  
discretion,  
Red=Illegal.



Pushed by Clean Air Initiatives, States are finally embracing pro-motorcycle legislation from coast to coast, with many states considering laws to prohibit anti-biker profiling by law enforcement, allow motorcyclists to filter between traffic lanes, and eliminating helmet laws.

Tennessee has two legislative efforts: SB 1450 would create a four-year pilot program excluding adults 21 and older from wearing a helmet unless they are insured under the state’s Medicaid program; and bills HB 1454 and SB 0298 which “authorizes two-wheeled motorcycles to be operated between rows of stopped or moving vehicles in the same lane on certain limited access highways and interstate highways when the speed of traffic is 25 miles per hour or less.”

For most States in the U.S., lane splitting is considered illegal, but more and more are considering legislation that re-examines the scope and possibilities such as Colorado's HB 23-1059 that seeks to fund a feasibility study titled “A Bill for an Act Concerning Studying Permitting Motorcycles to Drive Around Motor Vehicles Traveling in the Same Direction.

A new lane filtering bill is under consideration in Oregon again, and SB 422 is substantively identical to a 2021 bipartisan bill to allow riders to operate between lanes of slow-moving traffic on a highway, but that bill was vetoed by then-governor Kate Brown.

Lane splitting would still not be allowed in Missouri, but low-speed lane filtering in certain situations would be fine if HB 1046 passes. According to the legislative language, lane filtering “between rows of slow-moving vehicles” would be allowed within the state, but lane splitting between fast-moving traffic would not.

(Continued on pg 7)





Oil Spots, continued...

This bill comes about two and a half years following the repeal of Missouri's helmet law. Nebraska has hopes of becoming the 32nd state with partial or no helmet laws, with the introduction of Legislative Bill 91 on January 5, 2023, which would exempt riders 21 or older who have passed an approved rider training course.

## Banishing Kids from Motorcycles



While some states require that a passenger's feet touch the footpegs to legally ride on the back of a motorcycle, indicating adequate physical stature, New York and Georgia are attempting to restrict passengers by a minimum age.

A New York law would "Prohibit children under twelve from riding on a motorcycle," while SB71 in Georgia states; "Motorcycle passengers shall be no younger than 16 years of age," Both bills have been referred to their respective committees where staunch opposition can be expected from rider groups.

## TAYTAY Institutes "No Helmet Policy"



### **Com'on man! Helmets or not?**

The former Kingdom of Taytay in the Philippines has enacted an executive order forbidding riders

from wearing helmets.

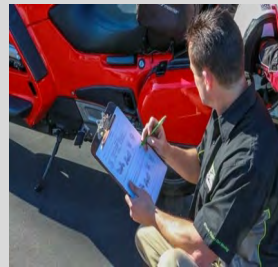
In 2009 law in the Philippines, mandated all motorcycle riders, and their passengers, wear a helmet. But this year, Executive Order (EO) No. 62, now "prohibits motorcycle riders, as well as their passengers, from wearing safety helmets, masks, and similar objects while riding on municipal roads within the territorial jurisdiction of Taytay."

The new law was enacted in response to the rising incidents involving "unknown motorcycle driving assailants" who "carry out crimes and escape arrest from police authorities," and authorizes deputized enforcers to require riders and their pillioners to remove their helmets, balaclava, or similar face covering while riding on city streets.

Motorcycle Rights Organization (MRO), slammed Taytay's new rule, calling it "another knee-jerk legislation" that compromises the safety of motorcycle riders and their pillioners. "Our lawmakers need to learn how to do research and study fair legislation before they even try to make the rules," said Jobert Bolanos of MRO.

## Good Habits and Preflight Checks

We try to practice good riding techniques and develop good habits as safe motorcyclists. Have you ever thought of expanding your riding habits to pre-season preparation? It's pretty simple and it will save you embarrassment, frustration and, maybe even avoid unsafe situations.



Every year, probably out of boredom, I check the following:

- ⇒ **GPS:** Update software and maps on add-on units like Garmin, Tom Tom, etc. Check bike manufacturer for same updates.
- ⇒ **Maps:** Typically, maps will require updates as well as such databases as dealership, hospital, police, hotel, restaurant and gas station locations.
- ⇒ **Roadside Assistance:** There are many roadside assistance programs available like AAA, Road America, etc. They are an outstanding addition to your riding program not only for you but, with some programs, you can use them to help a friend in need. Usually, they are a one-time only assistance program so, read the fine print closely.
- ⇒ **First Aid Kit:** Check the condition and expiration dates of everything in your first aid kit to be sure that your kit is current, up to date, and complete. Remember, someone might have to use it on you.
- ⇒ **Helmet Condition:** Wash it. Try your dishwasher on a low setting. Then, Check padding and lining for any deterioration.
- ⇒ **Goggles:** Check any and all eye protection, even night glasses and helmet shields for scratches. Refrain from trying to polish away any scratches. It seldom works and will become a major problem at night.
- ⇒ **Glasses / Contact Lenses:** If you wear prescription glasses / contacts, carry a spare pair. Even an older prescription is better than no spare.
- ⇒ **Check for Recalls:** Find your VIN and go to <https://www.nhtsa.gov/recalls> to check for any safety recalls. Do this early on so you can have the recall applied before your riding season.
- ⇒ **IPass Expiration:** Every IPass has an expiration date. Check it before the season starts and renew it if necessary.

(Continued on pg. 8)



Oil Spots, continued...

- ⇒ **License Expirations:** Obviously we need to keep our drivers license up to date and assure that we have a motorcycle indorsement. BUT, don't forget to check the expiration date of your FOID and any State Conceal Carry Licenses you have. You don't want any license to expire halfway thru a trip.
- ⇒ **Owners Manual:** Some motorcycle manufacturers publish changes to their operators manuals, particularly when it may relate to a recall. Check your manufacturer's website.
- ⇒ **Maintenance Intervals:** Be sure that your next scheduled service doesn't come up during an extended trip or even a weekend trip. Waiting in a dealership for your bike to be serviced while all of your buddies are out riding is a clear waste of time and should be....illegal.
- ⇒ **Insurance Expiration:** Just like anything that has an expiration date, be sure that your insurance doesn't come due during an extended trip.
- ⇒ **Vehicle Registration:** You wouldn't want to ride with an expired registration in Illinois or any other State. It is, in fact, a violation. Try to make sure that your registration renewal doesn't occur while you are on a trip or, make provisions for renewing it before your trip.

### Securing Your IPASS



**This is from the Illinois Department of Transportation:**

1. Windshield: If the motorcycle has a windshield, the transponder can be mounted on the windshield (It must be placed above any metal windshield bracket).
2. Handlebars: The transponder may also be secured to the handlebars with a strap (not included).
3. NOTE: The transponder must not have any metal between it and the radio antenna that reads your device as you go through tolls.
4. Aftermarket brackets: Transponder brackets also be purchased online. Search "toll transponder holders for motorcycles." Choose the one that best suits your bike.



**Just two of a wide variety of transponder holders that you can find on Amazon!**

### Do loud pipes really save lives? New research says no (But, they really sound cool!)



The widely held belief that noisy exhausts are a safety feature has been disproven by researchers in Romania and the Netherlands.

A study by the Association for the Development of Motorcycling in Romania, along with the Department of Road Vehicles at the Polytechnic University of Bucharest, and Netherlands-based specialists Enviro Consult, concluded that even the loudest pipes can't be heard in modern cars.

The scientists measured the sound heard inside a car with the windows up, the engine running, and the radio playing at a level low enough for easy conversation.

Outside the car six different motorcycles revved their engines to the redline producing sound levels between 80 dBA and 110 dBA. The bikes were positioned at distances of 50 feet and 33 feet behind the car, then with the bikes' front wheel next to the car's rear wheel, and finally 13 feet in front of the car.

Even at their very closest researchers said the bikes could only just be heard and concluded, "unfortunately, it is too late to be safe." At anything beyond 33-foot distance, the driver of the car couldn't hear the bikes at all. "We consider that noise is not a warning for the car driver," added the researchers. "It can even be considered a danger because you will not have time to adapt to the new reaction of the driver."

This places more emphasis on being seen, as it seems likely you won't be heard, even if you have the most awesome-sounding exhaust on your bike. The soundproofing of modern cars has reached a level where drivers are completely cocooned from the outside world, which might be great for driver's relaxation, but not so good for our sport.



Continued on page 9)





Oil Spots, continued...

## New Indian Pursuit Elite and Chieftain Elite



Indian Motorcycle introduced the Indian Pursuit and announced the return of its ultra-premium Chieftain Elite. Each Elite model is crafted as the ultimate in American V-twin style and exclusivity.

**Indian Pursuit Elite.** Pricing for Indian Pursuit Elite begins at \$35,499.

The Pursuit Elite's premium Super Graphite Metallic and Black Metallic paint with Shadow Bronze Chrome accents exude sophistication. Color-matched Elite badging and premium components complete the bike's beautiful design.

With best-in-class 122 horsepower and 128 foot-pounds of torque, the Indian Pursuit Elite delivers incredible V-twin touring performance with unmatched passing power.

Electronically adjustable rear suspension preload from Fox allows riders to adjust their preload for optimal comfort and handling under varying conditions. The electronically adjustable rear suspension preload is managed from the bike's infotainment system.

Plus, the Indian Pursuit Elite offers Smart Lean Technology using a Bosch Inertial Measurement Unit to tune traction control, anti-lock brakes (ABS), and torque for more control and handling. Backlit switch cubes improve the rider's ability to see the bike's controls at night, while the Pathfinder Adaptive LED Headlight combined with Pathfinder S LED driving lights and saddlebag lights deliver improved visibility and more eye-catching style in dark conditions. Both rider and passenger get a heated seat with adjustable controls on the seat and infotainment system.

The Indian Pursuit Elite is equipped with a 7-inch touchscreen powered by RIDE COMMAND and offers Apple CarPlay integration, turn-by-turn navigation, Bluetooth connectivity, one year of RIDE COMMAND+ connected features and more. Built-in amplifiers, a nine-band equalizer and 16 speakers provide crystal clear sound. Equipped with remote-locking storage, riders can keep all cargo protected inside spacious, weatherproof saddlebags and trunk. For riders looking to achieve further customization, a quick-release, low profile trunk is available as a color-matched accessory.

**Chieftain Elite.** Pricing for Chieftain Elite begins at \$39,999.

The 2023 Chieftain Elite features aggressive styling with custom-inspired details straight from the factory. With only 175 units available globally, the Chieftain Elite is a limited build and highly exclusive.

The Thunderstroke 116, the Chieftain Elite delivers 126 foot-pounds of torque. Rear cylinder deactivation improves rider comfort when riding through slower traffic, while three selectable ride modes, including Tour, Standard and Sport, allow riders to adjust the bike's throttle response to match their riding style.

The Chieftain Elite features the 7-inch touchscreen display powered by RIDE COMMAND with Apple CarPlay, GPS with navigation, and RIDE COMMAND+ features like live traffic and weather overlays as well as a vehicle locator feature. As standard equipment, the 2023 Chieftain Elite features backlit switch cubes, an integrated PowerBand audio system, and includes ABS, keyless ignition, tire pressure monitoring, as well as weatherproof and remote-locking saddlebags with more than 18 gallons of storage. For riders looking to personalize their rides, color matched accessories are available, including a quick-release touring and low-profile trunk as well as hard lower fairings.

## Dress for Your Route, Not Your Driveway

A common mistake that we all make is dressing for a motorcycle ride based on the weather conditions in our driveway. That works perfectly IF you're staying in your driveway. Another common

MOTORCYCLE WIND CHILL CHART											
Riding Speed (MPH)	Air Temperature (°F)										
	15°	20°	25°	30°	35°	40°	45°	50°	55°	60°	
25	-4°	3°	9°	16°	23°	29°	36°	43°	49°	56°	
30	-5°	1°	8°	15°	22°	28°	35°	42°	49°	56°	
35	-7°	0°	7°	14°	21°	28°	35°	42°	49°	56°	
40	-8°	-1°	6°	13°	20°	27°	34°	41°	48°	55°	
45	-9°	-2°	5°	12°	19°	26°	33°	40°	47°	54°	
50	-10°	-3°	4°	12°	19°	26°	33°	40°	47°	54°	
55	-11°	-3°	4°	11°	18°	25°	32°	40°	47°	54°	
60	-11°	-4°	3°	10°	17°	25°	32°	39°	46°	54°	
65	-12°	-5°	2°	10°	17°	24°	32°	39°	46°	53°	
70	-13°	-6°	2°	9°	16°	24°	31°	38°	46°	53°	
75	-13°	-6°	1°	9°	16°	23°	31°	38°	46°	53°	
80	-14°	-7°	1°	8°	16°	23°	30°	38°	45°	53°	
85	-15°	-7°	0°	8°	15°	23°	30°	38°	45°	52°	

mistake is to watch an area – wide TV weather forecast that gives you general weather conditions and predictions, read guess.

Experienced riders will check the weather along their route, at their destination and on the return route at the times that they will be there.

But, to be safe, always carry rain gear and dress on the warm side. You can always take off a heavy jacket but you can't put it on if you left it at home.

Another bit of insurance is to carry chemical hand warmers. They feel great inside your gloves, on the back of your neck, in your shirt pockets and, be careful but, you can put one in your helmet for a short time. They heat up quickly.



## In the Beginning....



### V.P.'s Vision

In days gone by, one of our most popular rides was known as our Progressive Dinner Ride. The way it worked was like this:

- ♦ Members would volunteer for one of four courses.
- ♦ Appetizers, soup and/or salad, main course, dessert.
- ♦ Virgo would select a starting point (if I remember correctly one was even at a Forest Preserve—near Barrington).
- ♦ On our motorcycles we would ride to the members home or a location they chose that was comfortable for everyone. This first stop was for appetizers, which we would enjoy consuming along with good company.
- ♦ Then we would move on to the next place for soup or salad or maybe both. Again, we and eat our salad and or slurp our soup with good company!
- ♦ The main course followed. Sometimes a buffet and sometimes an actual sit down and served meal. Again, with good company!
- ♦ Last but not the least of all ~ dessert. We would make this the last stop. Here we socialized and did a little partying. Some riders even took their motorcycles home and returned for dessert in their cages so they could safely party. We (Jacquie and I) used our club house when we hosted the dessert course.

The Club would partially subsidize the hosts with some funds, particularly the main meal host. This event was popular, fun and always with the majority of Top Cats membership involved. Maybe we could resurrect this one sometime in the future. We definitely have great people in our club that would make for good company, which was the main ingredient of those **Progressive Dinner Rides!**

Submitted by: Your THEN  
overweight director and  
NOW, Vice President.



NISRA — enriching the lives of people with disabilities through meaningful recreation experiences.  
All proceeds benefit: nisra.org  
NISRA  
Northern Illinois Special Recreation Association  
TOPCATS.org  
26th Annual  
TOP CATS ILLINOIS  
Ride  
Rock  
Rumble

**June 11, 2023**  
\$25 per Bike • \$5 per Passenger

Includes: pre-ride coffee & pastries and entitles the ticket holder to purchase a ticket at 1/2 price for \$10.00 to the Volo Auto Museum and /or Jurassic Park.

**Ride STARTS:**  
**Woodstock Harley Davidson**  
2235 South Eastwood Dr.  
Woodstock, IL 60098  
woodstockharley-dav.com

- Registration 9:00 am
- Ride Brief 10:15 am
- Kick-Stands Up 10:30 am

**Ride ENDS:**  
**Volo Auto Museum**  
27582 Volo Village Rd.  
Volo, IL 60073  
volocars.com

**Ride-in Bike Show!**  
\$10 to participate - registration at Volo Auto Museum  
1st & 2nd Place trophies in 6 Categories





## Celebrating our Helping Hands, and NISRA Families!

Words by: Mary Kirkpatrick



For many years... 26 to be exact, Top Cats has worked to ensure that Northern Illinois Special Recreation Association has a place in our Annual Schedule. Why? Well, talk to one of the families and ask them what NISRA does for them. Stop by and See Jim Wiseman or Laura Cullatta to hear what they do each day. Check out the NISRA website. Attend the annual Fashion Show. Any one of these would give you a glimpse into what makes NISRA so special! The recreational activities provided by our donations are so very important to enhancing the quality of life for NISRA Families!

Look at the faces in these pictures! See the smiles that are provided by the NISRA activities. See how lives are enriched by the work that is done by all of the families, staff and supporters of NISRA.



Now that you have reflected on the goodness of this wonderful community, you may wonder what YOU can do. Top Cats has a great opportunity for you! On June 11th, 2023, we will hold our annual Charity run starting at **Woodstock Harley Davidson**. We will take a leisurely ride to **Volo Auto Museum** and use the 1/2 price tickets to enjoy the activities that VAM provides. WE NEED YOU to make this a successful event! Most of the supplies are already in place, so the day of the ride will be the key! Come early to help us set up in the parking lot at Woodstock Harley. Help us to sell 50/50 tickets, get bikes placed as they come into the lot, talk with riders about our **Ride-In Bike Show** and encourage them to enter, talk with Jim or Laura to find other ways to help during the year, pay for the ride and enjoy the roads on the way to VAM, help park bikes when they arrive, be ready to vote for the bikes in the show, No matter how you decide to participate, the most important thing you can do is to **BE THERE!** Warm your heart by warming others' hearts!

NISRA families are also invited, so this may be a chance for you to see those smiles in person!





## Blue Skies... Sunshine... and Reasons to Ride!

Information from our Website: [TopCats.Org](http://TopCats.Org)

Take a look at some of the opportunities that we have to ride this summer! Check the website for details on our Road Captains and for making reservations!



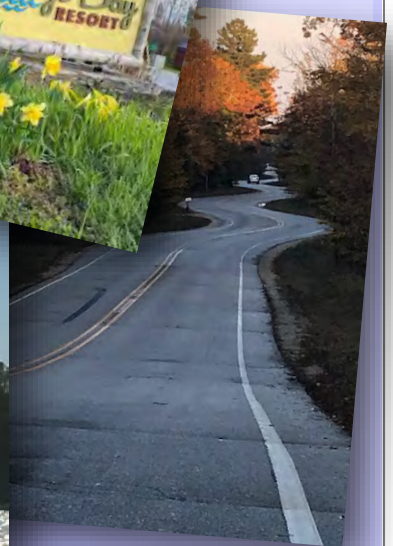
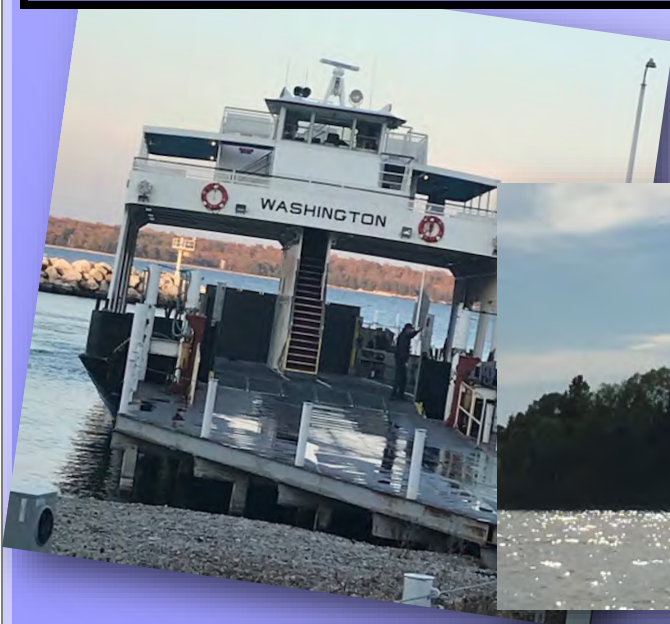
### Potosi, Wisconsin May 27th, 2023

Take a Ride with Tom Malia, one of our great 'Back Road' Captains! One day ride with a great stop for lunch. Call Tom and join us! 847.971.5766

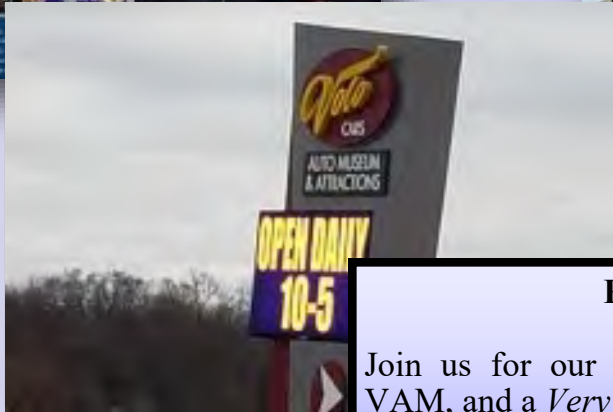
### Door County Dreamin' June 2 - 4, 2023

Join us for 3 days of beautiful roads, a trip to Washington Island, a fish boil and a great meat market! Call Greg or Mary and come along!

Greg: 847.975.7653 or Mary: 262.344.62228

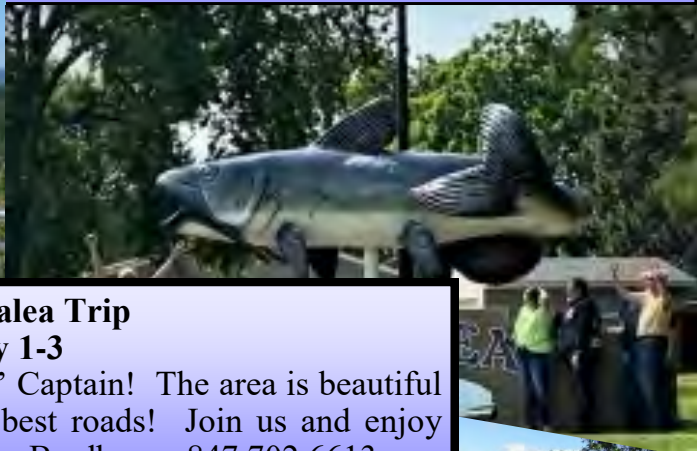
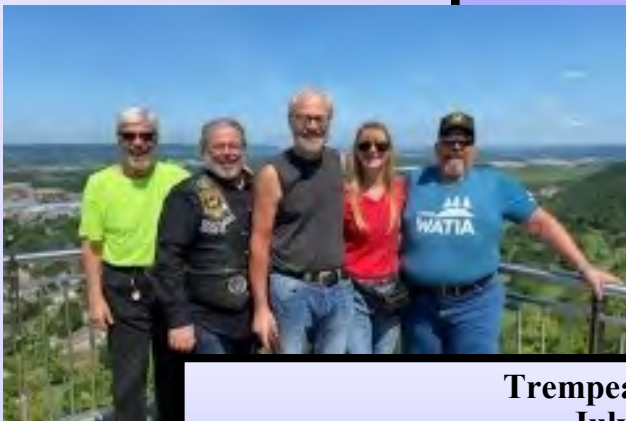






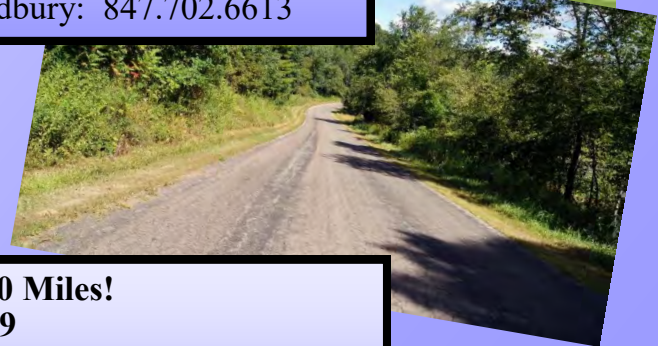
## Ride, Rock and Rumble! June 11th, 2023!

Join us for our 26th Annual Charity Ride! Bike Show, VAM, and a *Very Special Cause... NISRA!* Volo is offering us a great deal on their new family friendly layout! Come, bring the family and help to make this a REAL SUCCESS!



## Trempealea Trip July 1-3

Join another great "Back Road" Captain! The area is beautiful and Mike Bradbury finds the best roads! Join us and enjoy this wonderful event! Call Mike Bradbury: 847.702.6613



## I will Ride 500 Miles! July 8-9

Get your buns ready for baking on a 500 mile run... just because! Gene Rigsby will lead to Duluth, Minnesota to test stamina! It's fun to know how far you can go! Call Gene: 847.770.9436



## General Membership Meeting Minutes April 3rd, 2023

Respectfully Submitted  
by: Diana Lanute

### President's Section: Gene Rigsby

- ♦ 7:00 pm, Meeting called to order.
- ♦ Pledge of Allegiance
- ♦ Guests – Introductions
- ♦ Rich Gruner (ABATE)
- ♦ Announcements
  - 4 - Shawn Holton B-Day
  - 4 - Rich Kimball B-Day
  - 9 - Chuck Carlson B-Day
  - 11 - Diana Lanute B-Day
  - 18 - Robert Rudy B-Day

### V.P.: Ric Case

- ♦ Ric read an article pertaining to the inspiration behind origination of Top Cat's G.R.A.S.S. class. It began with a group ride to downtown Chicago. This in turn helped develop protocols which led to the formation of the G.R.A.S.S. class we now have.

### Past President: Wayne Kirkpatrick

- ♦ Wayne discussed the technological advances made with motorcycles in the past year; much of these advancements have trickled down from the automotive industry.
- ♦ Kawasaki now has blind spot protection; it senses lean angle and adjusts your input on the handlebars to correct where the bike is going. There are collision avoidance systems.
- ♦ Of interest, Wayne cited five states that lead in road rage shootings: NM, AZ, OK, TN and WI. Read more in this month's ROAR.

### Safety: Mike Bradbury

- ♦ Rich Gruner (ABATE)

The meaning of "ABATE" is "A brotherhood aimed to educate". ABATE is pushing for red underglow brake lights; and, for 2 bills working through the House: HB1248 – underglow lighting and wrap around turn signals, and HB 2582 – This will remove duplicate testing at the Secretary of State. Rich Gruner also discussed "lane filtering" where you can filter to front to avoid getting hit but traffic must be stopped, and "lane shouldering" which allows shoulder riding. ABATE also is fighting for the ability to choose safety gear.
- ♦ Additionally, Wayne discussed Act 2021 regarding infrastructure; and HS 1435, Americans right to choose the kind of motor they have.

- ♦ Safety Tip (Don) - Don said you should check your bike, your gear, your helmet, your rain gear (black is out, colors are in). More to come next month.
- ♦ Kaution Korner (**Gene**) – See report in April ROAR. Now is a good time to update your "maps". Mike presented Senior Road Captain patches to Don DeLordo and Tom Malia.

### Membership: Ted Makarewicz

- ♦ New member business? There were 2 queries on the internet. One of them will be here next month. Any ideas on membership? Please call Ted.

### Activities: Greg Smith / Rick Agrimonti

- ♦ Recent activities
  - 3/19 Awards Banquet - Mike B
  - 3/26 GRASS - Mike B
- ♦ Future activities
  - 4/15 – GRASS class – Next class at City Limits.
  - 4/23 – Kick Off Ride by Gene.
  - 5/20 – Picnic Ride – Gene – progressive to his house.
  - 5/27 – Potoski, WI – Tom M – It is a long ride but enjoyable.
  - 6/2 – Greg leading through Milwaukee to Door County; Raleigh's Bay is end of ride.
  - 6/11 – Charity Ride
  - 7/1-3 – Mike B – Trempeleau, WI
  - 7/8-9 – Gene to get rooms available soon.
  - 7/30-8/1 – Front Range Ride, CO, NM, TX, IA, and home. Wayne has 30 people going. Let him know so we can open up more rooms for additional riders.

### Charity: Rich Lanute / Mary Kirkpatrick

- ♦ 6/11/2023 – Rich has ride pins. We have located parking cones, etc., all intact.
- ♦ We are waiting for flyers and cards.
- ♦ Open discussion – Rich and Mary are going to Volo to prepare staging.

### Products: Ted Makarewicz

Ted discussed TC shirts; Mike B is working on Lands End portal for us.

### 50/50 Raffle: Andy Haszlkiewicz

No raffle tonight, Andy was absent.

### Meeting Adjourned: Gene Rigsby

Meeting adjourned by Gene Rigsby, President at 8:10pm.





## Board Meeting Minutes April 10th, 2023

Respectfully Submitted  
by: Gene Rigsby for  
Diana Lanute

### President's Section: Gene Rigsby

- ♦ Meeting called to order 7:00pm
- ♦ Immediate needs? None

### Past President: Wayne Kirkpatrick

- ♦ Open discussion: 2 new hotels found for ride out to Sturgis. All good. 6 people are attending the Front Range Ride

### VP: Ric Case

- ♦ Open discussion: Nothing to add. The group noted that Ric should continue his history/stories at the general meeting

### Treasurer: Don DeLordo

- ♦ Report/review: Don reviewed the monthly balances and cost associated with the banquet and the possibility to find lower cost options as next year the Wild Onion will add a \$150 room fee.
- ♦ Gene noted that Jane and Cindy had offered to look for alternate locations. Gene suggested that they do this soon so we can review with the club members, set a date, etc....

### Activities: Greg Smith

- ♦ Review past / future Events: Greg reviewed events  
Calendar review - Mar/Apr/May,
  - ⇒ 4/23 - KO ride - Gene
  - ⇒ 5/20 - The Presidents Progressive Pick-up Picnic Ride - Gene
  - ⇒ 5/27 - Potosi - Tom

### Safety/RC: Mike Bradbury

- ♦ Safety topics: Mike spoke about the GRASS class at City Limits HD 4/15 and noted that we are all set

### Membership/Products: Ted Makarewicz

- ♦ New member applications for review – None this evening.
- ♦ Membership drive ideas?

Ted spoke about providing more involvement for potential members, like attending meetings and rides, prior to applying. Wayne suggested a mentor could/should be assigned. We can do this at the board meeting during the application voting process.

- ♦ Product needs? None identified at this time.
- ♦ Product payment (Ted to work with Don).
  - Ted provided Gene a breakdown of the payments he made and monies collected for club merchandise. Gene asked him to work out a payment schedule with Don, ASAP.
  - Mike spoke about the Land's End web store setup and that he reviewed a large amount of clothing options and is close to getting the site ready to launch.

### Charity: Rich Lanute (Abs), Sent information to Gene for presenting to the Board.

- ♦ Ride for Dreams date (6/11)
- ♦ Printing charges? Covered by MC Lawyers? Rich is following up with the MC Lawyers on the fliers and costs.
- ♦ Pins: Rich provided details about not finding any 2023 pins at WSHD. He noted that we have non-dated pins, which we will use. Gene Asked the board if this was a good direction and all agreed, noting we can save the finds for the charity.
- ♦ Help needed? Rich and Mary are asking everyone to be ready to help
- ♦ Mike sent the flier to Wayne so he can share with POSSE
- ♦ Ric said that On Target has new owners. He is checking with the new owners to see if we can still get the membership donation
- ♦ Some suggestions were made to help promote the event:
  - ♦ Reach out to local HOG chapters to invite them as a group
  - ♦ Contact Hot Rod clubs to see if their member would attend/promote ride in bike show
  - ♦ Have music/entertainment at VAM to attract attention

### Secretary: Diana Lanute (Abs)

No information was submitted to the Board for this meeting.

Meeting Adjourned: at 7:50 by Gene Rigsby, President of Top Cats Illinois



## G.R.A.S.S. CLASS FOR 2023

We have 3 dates for the G.R.A.S.S. Class this year!  
See the chart below and add these to YOUR calendar!

Come and learn how we ride as a group!

All riders, co-riders, non-riders are welcome and all motorcyclists from our great Motorcycling Community are welcome!

If we can train other riders to ride more safely, we all benefit!

Reach out to your motorcycle friends and everyone else in the motorcycle community and invite them to come too!

Watch for BLASTS for each date!

LOCATION	DATE
<del>Keller Williams Success! 600 Hart Rd. #105 Barrington, IL 60010</del>	<del>Success! Sunday, March 26, 2023</del>
American Legion Post 911 515 S. Main St. Wauconda, IL 60084	Saturday, July 22, 2023
Keller Williams 600 Hart Rd. #105 Barrington, IL 60010	Sunday, October 22, 2023

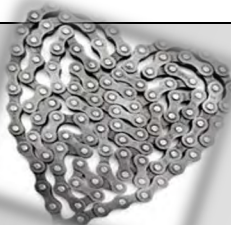
**Directions into the Keller Williams site:**

Enter in the main door and the first door on your left is the Keller-Williams offices.

G.R.A.S.S. will be presented in the conference room at the back of the office.

**Directions into the American Legion Post 911 site:**

Through the main door and Immediately to your left!



### April Birthdays and Anniversaries!

11 Stephan Maca  
22 Daniella Maca

Happy Days to our Top Cats Celebrities  
for April!

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

10 Mike and Kathie  
Bradbury  
(That's all we know! Tell us if  
we're wrong!)



*Top Cats Buy, Sell, Trade....  
The best way to ensure  
good quality at fair prices!*

## GREAT DEALS!

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







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**Mary  
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w: [MaryKirkpatrick.kw.com](http://MaryKirkpatrick.kw.com)



600 Hart Road, Suite 105  
Barrington Illinois 60010



Each Office Is Independently Owned and Operated



*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,  
Top Cat's Monthly Meeting Spot!

### 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 support to Top Cats members  
will be listed in ROAR.

**Sign-up your favorite merchant today!**



**Greg Smith**

**Keller -  
Williams  
Success  
Realty**

**600 Hart Rd.  
Suite 105  
Barrington, IL  
60010**

**847.870.0957**

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

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
Tuesday, May 2nd	General Meeting	Palatine	Alley 64	7:00 pm	Rigsby
Tuesday, May 9th	Board Meeting	Palatine	Alley 64	7:00 pm	Rigsby
Saturday, May 20th	Picnic Ride	TBD	Rigsby's Home	TBD	Rigsby
Saturday, May 27th	Potosi!	TBD	Potosi, Wisconsin	TBD	Malia
Friday—Sunday, June 2nd - 4th	Door County Dreamin'	BP Wauconda	Door County, Wisconsin	8:00am	Smith/ M Kirkpatrick
Tuesday, June 6th	General Meeting	Palatine	Alley 64	7:00 pm	Rigsby
Sunday, June 11th	Ride, Rock and Rumble Charity Ride!	Woodstock Harley Davidson	Volo Auto Museum	8:00 am	Lanute
Tuesday, June 13th	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](http://balibrary.org)

See the Top Cats Archive

## FREE ADVERTISING in ROAR for TOP CATS Business Owners

### Attention all Top Cats business owners!

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

We will run the ad for 3 months after which you will need to resubmit it.

This offer is for Top Cats business owners only. We are not accepting advertising for other businesses at this time.

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



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

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

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