



ROAR

January, 2024

Volume 24, Issue 1

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HAPPY NEW YEAR

May all you dare to dream of come true for you,
and may you have many safe and enjoyable rides with clear skies,
good roads and great friends.



The Official Publication Of Top Cats Illinois

Upcoming Events

JANUARY

- 2 GENERAL MEETING
- 6 CHILI COOK-OFF
- 9 BOARD MEETING
- 20 SOUTHERN BELLE

FEBRUARY

- 3 ROAD CAPTAIN MEETING
- 6 GENERAL MEETING
- 10 TC BANQUET
- 13 BOARD MEETING
- 17 NO IMS BREAKFAST

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...



Happy New Year, Top Cats!

So long 2023 and welcome 2024...!!! I hope Santa was good to you, and that you and your families are safe and doing good at the start of this new year.

We had a good year of great adventures making great memories with great friends . I can't wait for the next one...

Some great events from this past year:

- | | | |
|----------------|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| Awards Banquet | Front Range Ride | Trempealeau |
| Sturgis | Progressive pick up picnic ride | Door county Dreaming |
| Polosi brewing | Route 66 | Grumpy troll Ride |

These kinds of events don't just happen. Especially the long, involved road trips... It can be a lot of hard work.

Thank you to **ALL** that put a lot of effort into putting on these events, providing opportunities for us to spend time together, making Top Cats the great family it is. Hugs and kisses to you all!!!

You all inspire me and I hope this inspiration is contagious, spreading to all in our family and community. If you are looking for a way to show your Top Cat RCs appreciation for the hard work they put into these events, attend their rides. That's why they do it...

This year we mourned the passing of our brother Stefan Maca who will be greatly missed. I hope you all had an opportunity to ride with him, and get to know him better. To me he seemed a bit quiet when you first meet but not long after, when his open spirit would take over, you were like old friends telling stories and sharing memories. He will continue to ride with us in our hearts and memories. My condolences go out to Daniella and their wonderful family.

Coming up in January...

As with every new year, the RC's will meet and start planning our events and loading the calendar with them. Keep your eyes open for new opportunities to create new shining moments sharing good rides with good friends!

In addition to rides coming from the RC meeting, there are some activities being developed for the non-riding season. Like the annual award banquet 2/10/24 (for 2023), a movie day, chili cook-off, the No IMS breakfast 2/17/24 and more to keep us busy until we can get out on the road again.

Also, we are still working with Rolling Thunder on the details of the riding trip in Germany (June 2024).

So as usual, watch for blasts and check the Top Cats event calendar regularly and by all means **SAVE THE DATES first**. Make sure to send any activity or ride ideas to Rick Agrimonti or Greg Smith so they can get it on the calendar and get the word out to the club.

Wishing You and Yours a Great New Year! Feel Free to contact me! 847.770.9425 or Gene.Rigsby@gmail.com!

Looking forward to seeing you there! *Gene 'Lucky' Rigsby*

KAUTION KORNER



These are just 5 common accidents with recommended avoidance techniques. There are, literally, hundreds of other situations that can cause an accident.

Oncoming, Left Turning Vehicle

This is probably the most common cause of motorcycle accidents. The driver of an oncoming vehicle doesn't see a motorcyclist and makes a quick left turn directly in the rider's path, leaving little or no time to avoid hitting the car. (Continued on pg .

5 Common Motorcycle Accidents!

By: Traveler





Kaution Korner, Continued

Avoidance Strategy: It's helpful to be as conspicuous as possible, which is helped by auxiliary lights and high visibility riding gear. Watch for indications that the oncoming driver may not see you: no eye contact, hands turning the steering wheel, or movement of left front wheel. Ride at a safe speed in traffic congested areas. Higher speed equals longer stopping distances. Be careful NOT to slow to a crawl when you see a left turning vehicle. This is an *invitation* for that driver to turn in front of you!

Animals on the Road

It doesn't necessarily take a large critter to take a two-wheeler down. A 3,000 lb moose or a 2 lb squirrel, can cause an accident. The avoidance strategy is the same.



Avoidance

Strategy: Constantly scan the road and surrounding terrain ahead for animals, particularly when undergrowth and trees are close to the pavement. Those "deer warning signs" are usually present for a reason. Be especially alert when riding in the early morning or evening, when animals are the most active. Adjust your speed and cover your clutch and brake levers in high-risk areas for emergency stopping. Periodically practice emergency stops and swerves so you become proficient.



Gravel on Curves and Corners

Riding through gravel with the bike leaned over at speed is almost certain to result in a crash. The situation worsens

if the sliding motorcycle and rider cross the center line into an oncoming vehicle.

Avoidance Strategy: Gravel / mud on roadways is more likely after heavy rains, near construction sites, and at farm fields and gravel driveways in rural areas. Assume there will be gravel around a blind curve and adjust your entry speed accordingly. The best technique is usually to avoid the gravel. If you enter too fast, bring the bike upright, and apply maximum braking. Maximizing sight lines is also an important strategy for avoiding all types of hazards on blind curves. If you are not sure which way the blind curve turns, left or right, most often the power lines will be an indicator. Note: Most often, not always.



Vehicles Changing Lanes

On multi-lane highways, an adjacent motorist may suddenly pull directly into your path, leaving little or no time for evasive action.

Avoidance Strategy:

Stay out of the blind spots of other drivers. Maximize the space between you and other vehicles. Rush hour traffic on multi-lane highways presents the highest risk for other vehicles changing lanes into a rider. If riding at this time can't be avoided, the best strategy is riding in the far-left lane so only traffic on the right side must be monitored, and you avoid merging traffic entering or exiting the highway via ramps. Be careful not to ride so slow that you become a hazard to traffic.



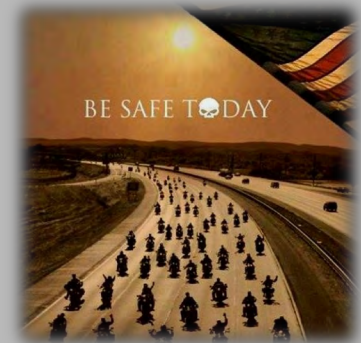
Excessive Speed in Curves

A rider suddenly realizes mid-curve that the turn is tighter than expected (e.g., a decreasing radius curve). Instead of leaning and increasing the bike's lean angle, the rider stops looking through the curve, stiffens their arms, and goes straight

off the roadway. This results in crashing into a stationary object (guardrail, tree, building, etc.) or flying down an embankment.

Avoidance Strategy: The easiest way to avoid crashing on a curve is to slow down before entering a curve and accelerate out of it. Even a highly skilled rider should always keep some of the bike's lean angle in reserve. A very important skill to develop is how to read a curve. Is it on-camber, off-camber, increasing radius, decreasing radius, dry surface, debris free, any dark spots indicating liquid, etc?

Safe riding practices, and developing skills into well-practiced habits, clearly help us avoid accidents and injury, and they also build our confidence and enjoyment.



Oil Spots

By Traveler



The World's First Motorcycle?

The world's first internal combustion motorcycle title is claimed by the 1885

Reitwagen, built by Gottlieb Daimler, the father of all automobiles. The first motorcycle is also a reminder of how far motorcycles have come, here are five cool facts about it.

The First Motorcycle Was A Single-Cylinder Four-Stroke



The 1885 Daimler Reitwagen was powered by a single-cylinder, four-stroke engine. It used petroleum - a rarity back in the day - for internal combustion and produced 0.5 horsepower at 600 RPM. The power reached the rear wheel via a pulley-belt setup that allowed the motorcycle to reach a top speed of 7.5 mph. Since an IC engine was such a marvel back then, Daimler patented the design on April 3, 1885.

The engine was not perfect, though. Due to the absence of cooling systems, the Reitwagen overheated on its first road ride, which lasted just three miles. Paul, Daimler's son and one of the first riders of the Reitwagen, claimed the heat was a serious problem for the rider, as you sat right above the combustion chamber.

It Had A Wooden Chassis

Modern motorcycles comprise all sorts of complex frames carved out of exotic materials.



But the world's first motorcycle had a simple wooden frame. It was basically a bicycle chassis with no pedals, and featured rubber blocks to house the engine. Like the chassis, the wheels were carved out of wood too, and there was no suspension to save you from bumps. Daimler went on to patent the Reitwagen's design in August 1885.

Modern motorcycles comprise all sorts of complex frames carved out of exotic materials. But the world's first motorcycle had a simple wooden frame. It was basically a bicycle chassis with no pedals, and featured rubber blocks to house the engine. Like the chassis, the wheels were carved out of wood too, and there was no suspension to save you from bumps. Daimler went on to patent the Reitwagen's design in August 1885.

The World's First Motorcycle Technically Had Four Wheels

Looking at the wheels, the world's first motorcycle had four wheels instead of two. The two extra wheels were positioned on the sides like



training wheels on a child's bicycle, to keep the Reitwagen upright at all times. This came at the cost of handling, since the Reitwagen couldn't lean while turning, unlike a modern two-wheeler.

The World's First Motorcycle Paved The Way For Automobiles

The Reitwagen became the holy grail for future automobiles. Soon after its first ride, Daimler shifted focus to bigger engines that could power carriages and introduced the world's first car in 1886, alongside Carl Benz (of Mercedes-Benz).
(Continued on page 5)



Oil Spots, , Continued...

Some sources suggest Daimler never wanted to build a motorcycle. But the small size of the first engine couldn't propel a carriage, so he designed a motorcycle around it to check the internal combustion engine's capabilities. Daimler never forayed into the two-wheel world after the Reitwagen. In fact, the world's first mass-produced motorcycle debuted nearly a decade later in 1894.

By Strict Definition, The Daimler Reitwagen Wasn't The First "Motorcycle"



Depending on how you define "motorcycle", the Daimler Reitwagen, was an integral turning point in the two-wheel world, but not the first "motorcycle".

"Motorcycle" in its most basic sense means a motorized cycle, which, when considered, makes the 1869 Roper Velocipede the world's first "motorcycle". The Velocipede utilized a steam-powered engine in a bicycle frame, and had two wheels (not four, like the Reitwagen) to help lean into turns, a key trait of motorcycles. However, Roper never filed any patents for his motorcycle which limited its popularity, unlike the Reitwagen.

Nevertheless, the Reitwagen is the holy grail of all ICE vehicles and it kick-started the ICE motorcycle revolution. Internal combustion engines may be slowly disappearing, eclipsed by all-electric powertrains. If anything, that will only make us cherish the old gas-powered motorcycles even more.

Indian Limited 2024 Models



The 2024 lineup is highlighted by the limited-edition FTR X 100% R Carbon,

Indian Challenger Elite and redesigned Powerband Audio.

Highlighted by a limited-edition FTR x 100% R Carbon, the 2024 lineup features a new Indian Challenger Elite, a completely redesigned PowerBand Audio system and updates across the entire Indian Motorcycle lineup.

In addition to exciting new paint colors, Indian Motorcycle

has improved fit and finish on baggers and touring models, as models receive a gloss paint finish across the dash visor, storage door, dash trim and gauge bezel.

The 2024 Indian Motorcycles feature a wide lineup ranging from the sleek and stylish FTR street bike to its Scout and Chief cruisers to a diverse range of baggers and touring models, including the Indian Super Chief, Indian Springfield, Chieftain, Indian Challenger and fully loaded Roadmaster and Indian Pursuit models.

FTR x 100% R Carbon

Pulling styling cues from 100%'s roots in action sports, the FTR x 100% R Carbon has been beautifully designed for performance. The bike features a Blue Candy carbon fiber tank, headlight nacelle, seat cowl and front fender. Its bright white, powder-coated frame pops, while gloss paint finishes and red accents deliver a high-quality fit and finish.



Nothing is standard about the performance of FTR x 100% R Carbon, which features a 120-horsepower, liquid-cooled V-twin engine with 87 foot-pounds of torque; radially mounted dual-disc Brembo brakes; a 4-Inch touchscreen display powered by RIDE COMMAND with turn-by-turn navigation; Bluetooth connectivity; and three selectable ride modes, Rain, Standard and Sport, which deliver a personalized riding experience.

Starting at \$18,999, the FTR x 100% R Carbon is highly exclusive, with only 400 motorcycles available around the world. Bikes began shipping to dealers in November.

Indian Challenger Elite



With only 325 available around the world, the 2024 Indian Challenger Elite will turn heads with its custom-inspired Charcoal Candy paint scheme.

The bagger is standard with Indian Motorcycle's all-new, PowerBand Audio system, featuring four 100-watt speakers, two fairing speakers and two saddlebag speakers, along with an all-new, custom-stitched seat.

(Continued on pg 6)



Oil Spots, continued...

With a 122-horsepower PowerPlus engine, Indian Challenger Elite delivers incredible V-twin performance with unmatched passing power. The Indian Challenger Elite's premium features include electronically adjustable rear suspension preload from Fox, Smart Lean Technology, an adaptive LED Headlight, LED driving lights, an adjustable flare windscreen, driver and passenger Headdress Floorboards, heated grips, saddlebag lights, saddlebag closeouts and three selectable ride modes (Tour, Standard and Sport)

The Indian Challenger Elite starts at \$38,499 and began shipping to dealers in November.

The 2024 Indian Motorcycle lineup began shipping in November to Indian Motorcycle dealers throughout the U.S. and Canada.

Bentley takes to two wheels with Ducati



Ducati Bentley

Only 18 Bentley buffs will get to own a Batur, but

if you're willing to downsize then you could swing your leg over one of 500 motorcycles that take a few cues from the \$2 million supercoupe.

The \$70,000 Ducati Diavel for Bentley, styled by Centro Stile Ducati in Bologna, comes exclusively in Scarab Green with contrasting Dark Titanium Satin finish for the unique forged wheels. The Diavel's side air intakes echo the two-tone front grille of the Batur, and the bike's triangular rear extractors also pay homage to the back of the Bentley. The front mudguard, fairing and upper tank are styled to mimic the Batur's hood ribs and the tail is also shaped to be reminiscent of the rear of the coupe.



Carbon fiber is used extensively, with the bike's fenders, headlamp cover, engine, exhaust and radiator covers, shrouds, side panels and tail piece all made of

lightweight material. The black Alcantara single seat (a pillion seat is optional) is modelled on the Batur's and has the Bentley logo embroidered on the rear pad.

Each of the 500 examples will be individually numbered

and will have dashboard animation. Buyers will receive their bikes in a special personalized wooden case.

Mechanically the Diavel for Bentley is the same as you'd find without the Brit-inspired bits with power coming from a 168-hp 1158 cc V4 running Ducati's TwinPulse combustion order for a distinctive off-beat sound.

On top of the run of 500 an extra 50 Diavel for Bentley Mulliner examples will be reserved for existing Mulliner customers who will be able to customize their machines with a choice of colors for the seat, brake calipers, carbon parts and wheels. They can also match the bike's paintwork to their car, should they wish.

Ducati has previously partnered up with VW Group member Lamborghini on limited run Diavel and Streetfighter models, which are already commanding a premium at resale, so this collab is a sure-fire cash machine.

Stupidity on Two Wheels

Check out this link and the title will become evident.

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/video/autos/motorcycle-fails/vi-AA1lhJ8t?ocid=winp2fptaskbarhover&t=25>



J&P Cycles Closes Anamosa, IA Store



The store has supported riders in the community for over four decades.

J&P Cycles has announced the closure of its store in Anamosa, Iowa. J&P Cycles, now owned by retailer Comoto, was founded in Anamosa by John & Jill Parham in 1979.

J&P Cycles experienced significant growth and expansion throughout its history and in 2020 was acquired by the Philadelphia-based Comoto Family of Brands, which also operates RevZilla, Cycle Gear, Common Tread and REV-ER. The J&P Cycles brand continues to flourish under Comoto's guidance, currently operating retail stores in Florida, Arizona, Tennessee, Michigan and South Dakota, along with a significant presence at motorcycle rallies around the U.S.

(Continued on page 7)



Oil Spots, continued...

Zach Parham, son of the founders, currently serves Comoto as the president and chief financial and operating officer. Commenting on the closure, Parham expressed, “While it’s incredibly hard to close the door on this chapter in a place as special as Anamosa, we look forward to continuing to serve riders and grow the J&P Cycles business. Anamosa was an integral part of our company’s success, and we will forever be grateful to this community.”

The six dedicated team members impacted by this closure will receive comprehensive support, including severance packages, outplacement services and opportunities to be considered for other roles within the company.

“We have deep appreciation for the loyalty and support we’ve received from the people of Anamosa and want to assure riders that this decision does not diminish the commitment to serving the motorcycle community through our retail stores and online network,” continued Parham.

Tires that will go the Distance!

By: Traveler



bility while reducing mass. Stable, with excellent feedback, the Commander III employs Michelin’s “velvet” sidewall details to complement the styling.

[Michelin Road 6 GT Tires](#)

Michelin has created the Road 6 GT specifically for heavier touring machines. The dual compound tire benefits from 20 years of designing and building tires to handle the special needs and application for heavy touring and sport-touring motorcycles.



Nothing is as important as tires on your motorcycle. The contact patch of a motorcycle tire is about the size of a credit card, so the better compounds, tread

pattern, and construction fit the bill, the safer, more reliable and enjoyable your riding experience.

Here are a few choices for brand name touring tires when getting new ones for your motorcycle.

[Michelin Commander III Cruiser Tires](#)

Created for dry performance and critical grip when wet, as well as a focus on longevity, Michelin’s Commander III is a V-twin and cruiser-focused tire. The Commander III has exceptional handling in the dry, with plenty of stiction in wet weather.

Michelin engineers have managed to achieve an impressive tire life without sacrificing any of that dry/wet performance.

Silica Rain Technology is integrated into the tire’s compound to help prevent uneven wear. The unique, eye-catching tread pattern’s longitudinal grooves optimize water dispersal, granting exceptional grip in the wet.

An aramid-fiber crown ply provides enhanced dura-



[Metzeler ME888 Marathon Ultra Tires](#)

The new Metzeler ME888—or Triple 8 for short—is built for performance and longevity. Developed on the demanding roads of Germany, the Triple 8 was designed specifically for the American market with custom touring bikes in mind, providing stability and smooth handling at both high and low speeds.

Employing a deep tread depth, the tubeless ME888 promises consistently high performance over the entire life of the tire. Offering solid dry performance, the tire utilizes parabolic grooves for its tread pattern to better drain water, ensuring as much rubber as possible stays in contact with the road. (Continued on pg. 8)



Tires, Continued

Catering to the preferred taste of some riders, the ME888 is available in a striking white-walled design. Watch for new sizes of the ME888/Triple 8 to be introduced to accommodate a wider range of motorcycles.

Metzeler RoadTec 01

Metzeler's RoadTec 01 was created with a focus on ensuring grip in the wet, especially on low-friction road surfaces such as city streets with worn tarmac. The tire's stiffness has been rebalanced to provide stronger adherence, and the RoadTec 01 has upgraded belt and carcass tension to increase stability under serious braking.



The RoadTec's footprint pattern is larger and shorter to increase handling and feel. Metzeler has focused on a long tire life, creating a product that would provide exceptional performance over a large range of heavy-weight motorcycles.

The tires, which are rated for speeds up to 168 mph, are distinguishable by a special "weight" icon imprinted on the sidewall. There is also an SE, Supersport version available that utilizes a slicker shoulder tread for better grip when leaned over.

The upgraded belt and carcass increases stability under hard braking. The new Metzeler's are tubeless and available in blackwall.

Bridgestone Exedra Max Tires



Designed for heavy cruisers and large touring motorcycles, the Bridgestone Exedra Max tires use compounds that mix stability, handling, water dissipation, and a long life. All of these are important points for your motorcycle.

Utilizing compounds specifically intended for the demands of heavier motorcycles, the new Max tires provide exceptional traction and handling without sacrificing mileage. The tires have a wide shape that increases the footprint, which in turn softens the ride and helps to reduce rider fatigue—particular crucial on long tours.

The tread pattern provides grip in both dry and wet riding conditions, with a focus on water evacuation for improved handling and safety. Tubeless, with built-in

long life, the Exedra max tires are made for the open road.

Dunlop D404 Tires

Created for certain large modern cruisers (depending on load rating) Dunlop's new D404 tires are built for a smooth ride and maximum comfort. Available in a wide range of sizes to accommodate many cruiser brands and models, the D404 provides a balance between grip and mileage, with a focus on tread patterns that dissipate water for better traction while delivering solid straight-line stability in both dry and wet conditions.



A bias-ply construction provides extra load capacity, which is essential for touring motorcycles. With an emphasis on touring miles, the tires provide decent all-around performance and durability.

Value-priced, the Dunlop D404 is a solid, reliable brand-name tire and is available in whitewall for a distinctive look.

Note—the D404 is not intended for Harley-Davidson motorcycles due to load capacity ratings. For application to Harley-Davidson motorcycles, consider the Dunlop D402/401 series.

Continental ContiTour Tires

The Continental ContiTour tires employ dual reinforcement belts and nylon and aramid carcass plies to provide predictable handling and a comfortable ride even when fully loaded for travel. The tread pattern uses a 6-9mm groove width for optimal water drainage, providing grip in the wet by keeping more tire surface in touch with the road.



Continental infuses the ContiTour tires with its Mileage Plus Technology, which extends mileage without compromising handling and performance for the life of the tire. Economically priced, the ContiTour tires are eligible for Continental's free three-year roadside warranty.

Shinko 230 Tour Master Tires

Designed specifically to handle a loaded large-displacement motorcycle with the long haul in mind, the Shinko 230 Tour Master tires are highly versatile, constructed for distance and high-speed riding.



(Continued on pg. 9)



Tires, Continued

The tubeless, four-ply nylon carcass tires have a belted aramid design and employ a staggered tread pattern to provide good handling in the dry or the wet.

Especially important is the tire's quiet disposition. Long-distance riders can enjoy less road noise and consequently less rider fatigue.

Shinko offers a wide range of sizes to ensure there's a set of 230 Tour Master tires to fit your bike. The high-value tires provide grip and durability while a V speed rating (meaning the tires have been tested to 149 mph) adds confidence.



Dunlop American Elite Tires

Dunlop's American Elite is the only aftermarket tire line for Harley-Davidson motorcycles that are designed and tested in the U.S.A. Available in 28 options to fit most Harley-Davidsons, the American Elite features MT MultiTread™ that delivers enhanced tire mileage thanks to a rear tire compound that incorporates a long-wearing compound in the center of the tire, along with a lateral-grip compound on each shoulder for great handling.

Sizes available in black (BW) narrow-white (NW) and wide-white (WWW) sidewalls for newer and older Harley-Davidson models and select Victory and Indian motorcycles.

From an aesthetic side, the American Elites are handsome-looking tires that have deep, rain-evacuating grooves. The front tire is made of a single compound while the rear uses Dunlop's Multi Tread technology to provide durability in the center and reassuring grip on the shoulders. Dunlop claims the Elites offer more longevity, better stability, more wet grip, and greater bump compliance than Michelin Commander IIs.

So, the formula for tire selection is simple. Determine what type of riding you do (long, short distances) + what type of traction you need (wet, dry) + how fast you ride + load capacity (Passenger, luggage) = type and style of tire you'll need.



Honoring our Friend, Using the Motorcycle Code!

V.P.'s Vision

laughter to many Top Cats events! He and his wife, Daniella traveled

west with us twice in both 2022 and 2023. It was so nice to hear their stories of immigration and family - two very impressive parts of their lives that exemplified their strong and honorable journey!



Many of the members attended Stefan's memorial and Daniella allowed us to place our very faded black bandanas into Stefan's casket so that we will continue to travel with him as he rides with the angels! We will use new ones this year and all that see our NEW Dark Black Bandanas will know that we have recently lost one of our cherished members and maybe we will be asked to tell them all about Stefan. That is part of the motorcycle 'Code of Honor'.

Thank you Stefan and Daniella for brightening our days and adding so much to the rides! Bless you both as you journey forward and bless your family as you continue here on earth with part of your hearts in heaven!

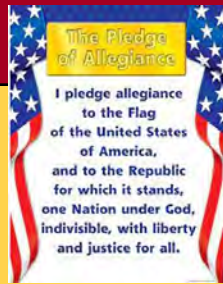
With very heavy hearts, our Top Cats Family was able to honor one of our valued members. Stefan Maca was called to heaven on September 19th, 2023. **He has added smiles and**





General Membership Meeting Minutes September 6th,

Respectfully Submitted
by: Diana Lanute



President's Section: Gene Rigsby

- ◆ 7:00 pm, Meeting called to order.
- ◆ All recited the Pledge of Allegiance together!
- ◆ No Guests tonight
- ◆ Announcements
 - ◆ Emil Kornecki 12/17
- ◆ Stefan Maca condition was reported to the club. All of the members are continuing to pray for Stefan, Daniella and all of their family.

V.P.: Ric Case

- ◆ Ric talked about the new technology of lights for night driving.

Past President: Wayne Kirkpatrick

- ◆ The election was done by a hand vote and the slate was accepted after the voting was checked against the list of 'voters who meet the requirements'.

Safety: Mike Bradbury

- ◆ Accident/safety review included the fact that there is little to report during the winter months. Then Mike gave us the stats on the 'risks' of winter riding... that include the idea that Salt is NOT safer to ride on. There is less contact and traction on salt!
- ◆ Kaution Korner - Ric Case reviewed his KK. See details in the November edition of ROAR.
- ◆ Kaution Korner preview... Wayne said that he will be telling >>>> It's a surprise!

Membership: Ted Makarewicz was absent

- ◆ Membership cards will be given out at the January meeting

Activities: Rick Agrimonte / Greg Smith

Recent activities

- ◆ 11/17 - NISRA fashion show was another great experience for those who attended. Hopefully we will have more next year!

Future activities

- ◆ Banquet review:
- ◆ Food: Greg/Don
- ◆ Date: Gene (1/27)
- ◆ RC committee meeting - Feb 3 - Bradbury
- ◆ Sturgis is still on the calendar! Hope to fill those rooms soon!
- ◆ Front Range Ride is also on the calendar! Those who

would like to go, please talk to Wayne. He is looking for suggestions for places to see along the route.

Future activities

- ◆ Chili cook-off - 1/6
- ◆ Breakfast at Southern Belle - 1/20
- ◆ No IMS breakfast-Feb 17th
- ◆ Lunch at Johnny Pancakes / Auto Museum - 3/9. This is in Rockford. Tickets to the museum will be \$28 or \$23 for Seniors.

Charity: Mary Kirkpatrick

- ◆ Mary will be meeting with Laura Culatta in January and will begin the process of getting the 2024 event in place. She will report back after the meeting.

Products: Ted Makarewicz/absent

Get your gear now!!

- ◆ Gene's new shirt was on display. The cost of the Lands End option is high. The sale shirt that Gene ordered came to be the regular price after the embroidery and shipping.

No 50/50 Raffle. Andy H was absent

Meeting Adjourned by Gene Rigsby, President of Top Cats, Illinois at 7:39





BOARD MEETING MINUTES SEPTEMBER 13TH, 2022

Respectfully Submitted
by: Diana Lanute

President's Section: Gene Rigsby

- ◆ Meeting called to order at 7:10
- ◆ No Immediate needs at this time
- ◆ Gene asked each member of the board to discuss their responsibilities in the club. Jane was asked to sit in to hear the details. The group identified all of the items that are needed to keep the group working so well!! There is a lot of work to keep it all together... but also a lot of rewards too. Good friends is one of the best rewards!

Past President: Wayne Kirkpatrick

- ◆ 2024 Elections results will be clarified in the next ROAR.
- ◆ Open discussion included the news on the motorcycle street!
- ◆ The newest bike is a Bently Ducati pricing in at over \$70,000.
- ◆ Windy City just bought a Polaris dealership with a variety of 4-wheel vehicles and the purchase also includes Indian motorcycles which is part of Polaris.
- ◆ 17 February is Cabin Fever,
- ◆ 20 April is Open House at Woodstock

VP: Ric Case

- ◆ Nothing to Discuss at this time

Treasurer: Don DeLordo

- ◆ Report/review of the financial report. Anyone can get a copy of the report by contacting Don DeLordo.
- ◆ The question came up concerning insurance during the trip to Germany. Research will be done before finalizing the event going to Germany. There are many things that each participant will have to check before leaving.

Activities: Greg Smith

- ◆ Review past / future Events:
 - Calendar review
 - * 1/6 Chili Cook-off - Rigsby
 - * 1/20 Breakfast at Southern Belle - Rigsby
 - * 2/3 RC meeting - Bradbury
 - * 2/10 Banquet review - Mike/Gene
 - * Menu review was done to finalize the choices. Mike/Gene will take care of these items.
- ◆ 2/17 No IMS breakfast - Rigsby
- ◆ 3/9 Lunch at Johnny Pancakes - Rigsby
- ◆ 6/17 Riding in Germany - Lutz/Kirkpatrick/Rigsby

Safety/RC: Mike Bradbury

- ◆ RC meeting will be on the 3rd of February. Ric, Wayne and Mike will put the agenda together and also review the KK schedule.
- ◆ Generating Safety topics was discussed. How to get the RCs to put rides on the calendar and get things moving for the year. Everyone was encouraged to get ideas for the upcoming riding season.

Membership/Products: Ted Makarewicz was absent tonight.

- ◆ No information sent for the meetings.
- ◆ The group discussed the options for embroidering as well as the Land's End purchasing window.

Charity: Mary Kirkpatrick

- ◆ Mary will be meeting with Laura Culatta during the first week of January. Details will be brought to the January Board meeting so that we can have cards/flyers ready for the Woodstock Cabin Fever. June 9th is the date!

Secretary: Mary Kirkpatrick

- ◆ Thanks to all for the work that gets done to keep us going! Thank you Jane Smith for taking this position as we move into 2024!!
- ◆ Nothing to report this evening!

New business:

- ◆ Could we invest in some new flagpoles that fit the space better.
- ◆ What can we do to address the Sergeant at Arms position.
- ◆ Check into the reasons why members are not attending. Can we work on addressing those issues?

Meeting Ad-
journalled at 8:20
by Gene Rigsby,
President of Top
Cats, Illinois





Distinguished and Steadfast Board of Directors - Election Results! 2024

Consistent with our Bylaws, we have completed our / election process for five vacant positions for 2024 - 2025.



Those position vacancies and current qualified incumbents, or nominees, are:

Vice President (2024-2025):

Ric Case

Secretary (2024-2025):

Jane Smith

Treasurer (2024-2025):

Don DeLordo

Director (2024-2025):

Mary Kirkpatrick

Director (2024-2025):

Mike Bradbury

Our nominees were vetted for eligibility and the slate was reviewed and approved by our Board at the 14 November 2023 Board meeting. Voting occurred at our 5 December General Membership meeting. Our new Board will take office on 1 January 2024.

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

President (2023 – 2024): Gene Rigsby

Vice President (2024-2025): Ric Case

Secretary (2024-2025): Jane Smith

Treasurer (2024-2025): Don DeLordo

Past President (2023-2024): Wayne Kirkpatrick

Director (2024-2025): Mary Kirkpatrick

Director (2023-2024): Greg Smith

Director (2024-2025): 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 join together to thank our current Board for their dedication and effort toward maintaining the Top Cats' legacy as a premiere motorcycle enthusiasts' organization!

January Birthdays and Anniversaries!

- 1 Wayne Kirkpatrick
- 2 Noelle Rigsby
- 11 Jim Wiseman
- 15 Jim Chevalier



Happy Days to our Top Cats Celebrities for January!!

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

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



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Barrington Illinois 60010



Each Office Is Independently Owned and Operated



*Network with your fellow
Riders here...*

And Be Thankful!



Support the TOP CATS Patrons



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our Top Cat's Ride for Dreams!



Alley 64
Top Cat's Monthly Meeting Spot!

Membership Has Its Privileges!

GRASS Classes are held
at the Keller -Williams
Offices!

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

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

Sign-up your favorite merchant today!



Greg Smith

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**Have one of our own Top Cats work
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Can we find ways to continue to
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RIDES & EVENTS

Date	Ride/Event	Location	Destination	Time	Leader
Tuesday, January 2nd	General Meeting	Palatine	Alley 64	7:00 pm	Rigsby
Saturday, January 6th	Chili Cook-off	TBD	TBD	TBD	Rigsby
Tuesday, January 9th	Board Meeting	Palatine	Alley 64	7:00 pm	Rigsby
Saturday, January 20th	Southern Belle	Barrington	210 S. Cook St	9:00 am	Rigsby
Saturday, February 3rd	Road Captain Meeting	Wacaunda	Am Legion Post 911	8:00am	Bradbury
Tuesday, February 6th	General Meeting	Palatine	Alley 64	7:00 pm	Rigsby
Saturday, February 10th	TC Banquet	Emmet	Palatine	4:30 pm	Smith/DeLordo
Friday, February 13th	Board Meeting	Palatine	Alley 64	7:00pm	Rigsby
Tuesday, February 17th	NO IMS Breakfast	TBD	TBD	TBD	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.



Barrington Library

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

847-382-1300
balibrary.org

See the Top Cats Archive

FREE ADVERTISING in ROAR for TOP CATS Business Owners

Attention all Top Cats business owners!

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

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

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

Submit your ad along with contact information to the ROAR editors at ROAR@TOPCATS.org



ROAR



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

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

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