



ROAR

March, 2024

Volume 24, Issue 3

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Let's ride.

The Official
Publication
Of Top Cats
Illinois



Upcoming Events

MARCH

- 5 GENERAL MEETING
- 9 VOLO AUTO MUSEUM
- 12 BOARD MEETING

APRIL

- 2 GENERAL MEETING
- 7 GRASS CLASS
- 9 BOARD MEETING
- 21 KICK-OFF RIDE

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



**SPRING
IS
COMING!**





ROAR

PRESIDENT'S POINT

And Now a Word from your President...



Hello, Top Cats!

I hope you and your family are all well and enjoying some of the fantastic weather we have been gifted this spring. I tend to think we will "pay" this good weather back eventually. But in the meantime, go for a walk, picnic, or RIDE....

The year is shaping up to be another great riding year. Keep your eyes on the calendar, look out for blasts and get rides into your calendar right away. Let Greg Smith and Rick Agrimonti know ASAP, if you are not getting blasts.

Activities from February... be sure to read the details below!

February 3) Mike Bradbury held the annual Road Captain's meeting on Feb 3. This is the meeting where we review our GRASS presentation, discuss any new safety points and start planning our rides for the year. The GRASS presentation has been updated and now we are loading rides into the calendar. New opportunities to create great memories are on the way, sharing great rides with great friends!

February 10) The annual award banquet (for 2023) was held at Emmett's in Palatine. It was a great evening with lots of great stories. This was a new venue which turned out to be very nice with good food and staff. We already locked in a date for next year (February 15, 2025) so get it on your calendar now.

February 17) WSHD Cabin Fever. We had a booth there to promote our event Ride, Rock, Rumble (June 9th, 2024. Get that on your calendar now!!) and the club. The event was pretty well attended, at least better than last year and there were several people stopping by to hear what we had to say. Thanks to Mary, Greg, Jane, Cindy, Don and Jim Wiseman for setting up and running the booth.

February 24) No IMS breakfast. Tiffanys was fantastic as usual. Lots of great conversation was had with great friends.

Activities for March...

March 9th Yes... I was planning to go to the Auto museum in Roscoe (near Rockford) and then have lunch at JohnnyPam Cakes... Unfortunately, the museum is closed until April 1st... Who's the fool...?? Well anyway, this gives us a great opportunity to move over to the location allowing us to use their facility and providing discount entrance for our charity ride attendees. Yes!! Volo Auto Museum. What a great way to get together and see first hand the place our ride participants will visit June 9th. This will give us great talking point when asked about the museum. Entry is around \$23, and if you spread that price across each thing you see, you are only paying pennies to see some of the great wonders they have there. We will have lunch there as well. More details to come.

April 8th GRASS at Keller-Williams in Barrington. Mike has arranged this class so you all have the opportunity to start the season off right with a refresher of how we ride. Attending this class will not only satisfy your requirement to stay a member in good standing, but also get you prepared for our first ride (Kick-off Ride), which Mike Bradbury has in the works. Not to mention, you get to spend more time with your Top Cats family.

***See the clubs calendar for more detail on these events..

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.

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

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



KAUTION KORNER

Initially, last month

What Condition is your Mental Motorcycling Condition In??

By: Ted "Hogski" Makerewicz, Senior Road Captain



ness, anxiety, being preoccupied and fear can all get in the way of thinking clearly right now! These all dampen your ability to be in the moment. To be in the moment means we cannot think of things in the past as well as things in the future. We cannot think what we have to do next, or later that day, or next month. These things

Initially, last month when I discussed my safety tip of what we can do in the non-riding months to improve our riding skills, I was limited in scope to looking at stop gap things to plug into what we do during the rest of our riding year. I wasn't "AWARE" of our need to see 'what condition our mental motorcycling condition is in all year long! We've heard of the term, "Mindfulness" or where our mind is in the present or at the moment. The awareness we are looking for is called, "in the moment awareness" or in real time as opposed to "historical awareness" which means you understand yourself and how you've reacted to certain situations in the past.

will cause us to lose touch with our senses and lose touch with awareness of the present. When we think of things in the past and in the future and come back to the "in the moment awareness", we are not 100% in the moment. There is a bit of time where we were not fully paying attention to our body, bike, or the road. We were not hearing or seeing critical changes in our riding experience and so we cannot make the proper adjustments.

The bottom line is we need a sharp mental focus and awareness when riding a motorcycle. Riding demands constant concentration and a filter that restricts distractions and allows us to stay focused on the road ahead. Skilled motorcyclists need to mentally rehearse maneuvers in their mind before executing them.



Other types of mindful conditions

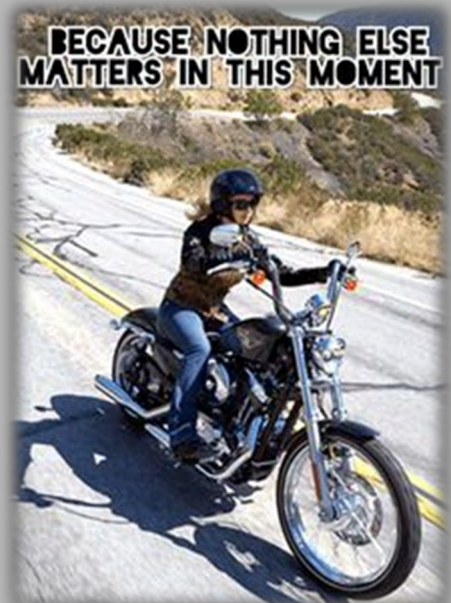
we need to be cognizant of as motorcyclists is when we say you are "in your head" or "in your

body". In your head means you are thinking, remembering, analyzing, daydreaming or mentally wandering here and there. It means you are preoccupied with other important issues and are disconnected from your body and your senses and from your bike. "In your body" means your senses, seeing, smelling and notice what is happening in real time. You are connected to your bike, the driving surface, the conditions, and what is happening around you. You will be able to anticipate hazards and situations that arise and overall be in control of your riding experience.

But our awareness does not come automatically every time you get on your bike. Many things block awareness. Emotions, reaction to life events, physical ill-

Remember, mental preparation is just as crucial as physical skills when it comes to mastering the art of motorcycling.

Do you know what condition your mental motorcycling condition is? (Based on the 1967 song by the First Edition, "Just dropped in to see what condition my condition was in").



Oil Spots

By Traveler



California Bill Threatens Speed Governors on New Vehicles



In an effort to curtail road deaths in his state, California Senator Scott Wiener (D-San Francisco) introduced SB961, recently. The bill is part of the Speeding and Fatality Emergency Reduction on California Streets (SAFER California Streets) package.

SB961 would mandate a manufacturer-installed speed limiter on all new vehicles beginning with the 2027 model year.

The speed governor would arrive in the form of smart devices that could automatically cap a vehicle's speed to just 10 miles above the posted legal limit. The bill would exempt emergency vehicles and would also allow the Commissioner of the California Highway Patrol to authorize the system to be disabled on other vehicles based on specified, as yet undisclosed criteria.

Senator Wiener said. "There is no reason for anyone to be going over 100 miles per hour on a public road, yet in 2020, California Highway Patrol issued over 3000 tickets for just that offense."

According to a recent report from TRIP, a national transportation research nonprofit, between 2019 and 2022, California traffic deaths increased by 22 percent. Nationwide, the figure was 19 percent.

Speed governors are nothing new. Many semi-trucks and fleet vehicles come equipped with them. Many new private vehicles, too, including new Volvos (112 mph), already have speed limiters on them

The technology proposed uses GPS to verify local speed limits and prevent cars from going 10 miles per hour over that threshold. Among a number of unanswered questions, it's unclear from the language of the bill how this would impact cars used, for example, as daily drivers during the week and then for track days on the weekend.

Harley-Davidson Reimagines 2 Iconic Touring Motorcycles

New 2024 Street Glide and Road Glide Models

The 2024 Street Glide and Road Glide models feature an evolved fairing profile that appears refreshingly modern yet retains Harley-Davidson design DNA that makes them instantly familiar. Additional key features include:



- An updated Milwaukee-Eight 117 V-twin engine with a new cooling and enhanced intake and exhaust flow to boost performance.
- Selectable Ride Modes — Road, Sport, Rain and Custom — electronically control the performance characteristics of the motorcycle.
- Infotainment is powered by Skyline OS and presented on a 12.3-inch TFT color touchscreen that replaces all analog instrumentation and most switches. A new 200-watt audio amplifier powers a pair of fairing-mounted speakers.
- Improved aerodynamics enhance rider comfort and reduce helmet buffeting at highway speed by an average of 60%. Rear suspension travel is increased to 3 inches. A redesigned one-piece seat shape and padding materials offer a significant improvement in long-range comfort for most riders.



New CVO Road Glide ST Model Leads 2024 CVO Lineup

The CVO Road Glide ST is the fastest and most-sophisticated performance bagger ever produced by Harley-Davidson. A deep solo seat and 6-inch riser paired with a moto handlebar put the rider in an aggressive, upright position. Key features include:

- Two premium paint choices: Golden White Pearl or Raven Metallic. A Screamin' Eagle graphic on the fairing sides and fuel tank and CVO 25th Anniversary graphics celebrate a milestone in factory customization.
- The Milwaukee-Eight 121 High Output V-twin engine is exclusive to the CVO Road Glide ST model, tuned to produce 127 horsepower (94 kilowatts) and 145 pound-feet (193 newton meters) of torque — the most horsepower and torque ever from a factory-installed engine in a production Harley-Davidson motorcycle. A lower final drive ratio is selected to enhance acceleration performance in every gear.

(Continued on page 5)



Oil Spots, , Continued...

• The use of alternate materials helps reduce dry weight to 800 pounds (363 kilograms). Mufflers have lightweight titanium shells and forged carbon fiber end caps; forged carbon fiber composite is used to form the front fender, seat cowl and tank console; the oil pan is formed of lightweight composite; and wheel design and wave-style front brake rotors are optimized to minimize unsprung weight.

• Fully adjustable front and rear suspension includes SHOWA rear shock absorbers with remote reservoirs and inverted 47-millimeter SHOWA 1×1 forks.

• Premium Brembo braking components provide outstanding braking feel and performance for added rider confidence.

• Selectable Ride Modes — Road, Sport, Track, Track Plus, Rain and multiple Custom modes — electronically control the performance characteristics.

Infotainment technology is powered by Skyline OS. A color touchscreen replaces all analog instrumentation and most switches. A premium audio system features a 500-watt amplifier and Harley-Davidson Audio powered by Rockford Fosgate Stage II 6.5-inch fairing speakers.

Harley-Davidson revealed four new 2024 motorcycle models, ushering in a new era of touring performance, technology and design. The all-new Street Glide and Road Glide models, featuring the new Milwaukee-Eight 117, are more powerful, comfortable and lighter, and they are packed with advanced technology, including a new infotainment system — all wrapped up in a dramatic new visual design. Commemorating the 25th anniversary of Custom Vehicle Operations (CVO), the new CVO Road Glide ST model takes hot rod bagger performance to the next level with racing-inspired, high-performance suspension and brakes, as well as a potent new Milwaukee-Eight 121 HO engine and low final drive ratio that combine to produce the kind of acceleration and mid-range thrust aggressive riders crave. The new CVO Pan America debuts as the first CVO offering in the adventure touring segment, ready to take on anything with a host of standard equipment all wrapped up in exclusive custom paint and finishes.



Harley-Davidson CVO Pan America

The CVO Pan America motorcycle is the CVO program's first adventure touring (ADV) motorcycle. All of the features that have made the Pan America 1250 Special model a leading choice are retained, including the smooth-and-powerful Revolution Max 1250 engine, semi-active front and rear suspension, touchscreen display, selectable ride modes and Daymaker Adaptive Headlamp technology. The CVO Pan America model is outfitted with a host of rugged accessories selected to enhance the journey, including Adaptive Ride Height suspension, rugged aluminum top and side cases, a Screamin' Eagle quickshifter, tubeless laced wheels, auxiliary LED forward lighting and an aluminum skid plate, providing excellent value to the adventure rider who wants it all and more.

[New I-PASS stickers replace Illinois Tollway transponders](#)



Illinois riders are set for a big change when it comes to the Tollway.

That clunky I-PASS transponder on your windshield will soon be a thing of the past as the Illinois Tollway says transponder boxes will soon be replaced with radio frequency identification (RFID) sticker tags.

The new stickers were first made available at oases, participating Jewel-Osco stores and the Tollway's headquarters on Jan. 26, but they will also be available for online ordering by February.

"I-PASS Sticker Tags mark the latest advance in toll collection," Illinois Tollway Executive Director Cassandra Rouse said in a statement. "Sticker tags are being adopted by toll agencies across the country and by the Illinois Tollway as they provide a convenient and reliable and travel experience for our customers."

According to officials, 19 states are part of the E-ZPass program, and the tag will work for all of those states.

Unlike transponders, there will be no deposit fee, according to the Tollway. Drivers will also be able to receive multiple stickers to link to the same I-PASS account, meaning that stickers won't have to be moved between vehicles.

What to do if you already have a transponder

Current transponders will remain active until their designated expiration date.

The stickers can be used immediately on the Illinois Tollway system, though officials say that there may be a 24-hour

(Continued on page 6)



Oil Spots, continued...

waiting period for use on the Chicago Skyway or for other states that are on the E-ZPass system.

What to do with your old transponder

The Tollway asked customers to dispose of old I-PASS transponders in "an environmentally sound way." Drivers can return them to the Illinois Tollway or go to the [Earth911 website](#), search by "lithium-ion batteries" and enter a zip code to find available recycling locations.

Where should you put your new sticker?

"I-PASS Sticker Tags are required to be mounted to a vehicle's windshield near the rearview mirror," according to the Tollway, "and, they are not designed to be moved between vehicles. There is no battery, and they last until removed from the vehicle."

Note: It seems that you can put it on your helmet and ride any bike that you want to. Hmmmmm

Ten states with the most speeding tickets

Top 10 States with the Most Speeding Tickets



1	North Dakota	8.7%	6	Wyoming	6.8%
2	Wisconsin	7.8%	7	South Dakota	6.7%
3	Ohio	7.8%	8	Virginia	6.6%
4	Iowa	7.1%	9	Utah	6.5%
5	Idaho	7.1%	10	Oregon	6.4%

Source: Insurify

INSURIFY

in 29% of all traffic fatalities, according to the most recent National Safety Council (NSC) data.

Speeding also has financial consequences. Riders with a speeding ticket on record also pay significantly more for bike insurance than drivers without a violation. Insurify turned to its database of more than 97 million quotes from partner companies to determine which states had the speediest drivers.

Following the speed limit is safe ...economic...and lawful.

Florida passes bill to ban left lane driving

The Florida legislature has passed a bill that would ban motorists from cruising in the left lane of highways, sending it to Gov. Ron DeSantis for his signature.



"If someone in the left lane is going slower, and you pass them (on the right), you are creating an infraction, and you can get ticketed," bill sponsor state Sen. Keith Perry (R) said.

Under HB 317, drivers on a road, street or highway "with two or more lanes" where the speed limit is "at least 65 miles per hour ... may not operate a motor vehicle in the furthestmost left-hand lane, except when overtaking and passing another vehicle; when preparing to exit ... or when otherwise directed by an official traffic control device." The restriction would not apply to high occupancy lanes.

Anyone found to be in violation of the law would face fines for a moving violation, with fines up to \$158, according to the bill text.

There is an exception for authorized emergency vehicles and vehicles "engaged in highway maintenance or construction operations."

Perry said the measure is intended to improve highway safety. "Last year we had 247 instances where people were either incapacitated or deaths that happened from improper passing on the right-hand side on someone's blindside," he told Action News Jax last week.

Should DeSantis sign the bill, Florida would join eight other states where it is currently illegal to drive in the left lane except for turning left or passing, according to Auto-Insurance.org. States with those restrictions include Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Massachusetts, New Jersey, and West Virginia.

"Driving is a pretty uniform practice across the United States, so most of us don't think twice before crossing new state lines. However, many states have their own traffic laws that pose legal penalties and physical dangers if not obeyed," said Jeffrey Johnson, an insurance lawyer.

For that reason, 27 states require drivers to stay right if they are moving slower than the cars surrounding them.



Ride Planning: Too Long, Too Short, Just Right?

By Traveler



When on tour I often get this question from my pillion partner at the beginning of each day's ride: How many miles are we riding today? Sometimes, if we're just letting the road be our guide, I don't really know. But usually, I've planned the route and know the answer, not counting any side trips that may strike our fancy along the way. This exchange, however, often makes me wonder what the ideal touring mileage is for a day in the saddle. In deciding that number, though, there are obviously a number of factors to consider:

Riding Environment

Weather: Because of the more exposed nature of motorcycle touring (versus a car), checking the weather forecast each morning is a regimen followed by most experienced riders. For example, the expectation of thunderstorms may dictate altering the day's route to avoid them. But much of the weather experienced on tour can't be avoided in advance. Many of us have had to ride out unexpected thunderstorms in a café or some other protected structure. And even riding in a non-threatening steady rain usually means reduced visibility and a slower average speed.

Besides storms, very hot or cold weather may dictate more stops than originally planned for hydration or warming up with a hot drink. High winds can also affect travel mileage. In Wyoming exceptionally strong, steady cross winds required riding slower than normal highway speeds and keeping the bike leaned into the wind to counteract nature's strong embrace. Weather is always a wild card on any motorcycle trip, which can slow the rider's rate of progress.

Terrain: Mountainous terrain usually means more curves—and more smiles—than flat prairie, but lots of curves invariably results in a slower average speed. A two-hundred-mile ride in the mountains will take noticeably longer than a comparable distance with few curves, and it usually will be more tiring. Also, mountainous terrain is often more scenic, inviting more stops to enjoy it.

And then there's the situation when riders want to get to the most desirable riding area as quickly as possible. To maximize their riding time, riders crossing desert or prairie often want to cover a lot of miles in the shortest amount of time. Because that can't be done on backroads, the super slab is probably their best bet. Terrain is an important consideration in planning the day's distance.

Type/Condition of Roads: Paved versus unpaved roads

will make a large difference in mileage each day. A 100-mile day astride an adventure bike on challenging, unpaved roads takes much longer and more energy than riding several hundred miles on pavement. Also, where roadways are often in poor condition after severe winters, average speed on rough pavement is always slower than on smooth tarmac.

Traffic and Construction Delays: Construction delays on rural two-lane roads and bridges during the warmer months can put a big dent in a rider's

rate of progress. There are websites that can alert riders to construction projects, many of those construction zones appear with little warning. We've been stopped on a two-lane road on the expansive plains of South Dakota, where the flagman was out of sight, from the other end of the construction zone. We waited quite a while for the pilot truck to arrive and guide us at low speed along the single lane of new, hot, asphalt.

Touring & Travel Goals

Reservations: Reserved lodging is an advantage. Riders know they have a place to bed down regardless of their arrival time. This is comforting when unexpected delays cause the ride to take longer than planned. This may be caused by severe weather, bad roads, mechanical problems, etc. Reservations can always be cancelled, unless it's too late.

When traveling without room reservations, start looking for a hotel no later than around 4:00 p.m., or even earlier, before the "No Vacancy" signs start lighting up.

Planned and Unplanned Stops: Plan one or two interesting stops each day, which typically include museums, battlefields, national or state parks, historical sites, etc. And then there are those unplanned, surprise stops, which make motorcycle touring spontaneous and enjoyable.

It's not always places or things that prolong an unplanned stop, but the interesting people you meet along the way. Riding a motorcycle cross-country frequently triggers conversations with curious strangers that won't happen in a car. Nobody has ever come up to me at a gas station and said...."Nice truck, where you from?"

Preferences of Other Riders and Passengers: Riding with others means that their preferences have to be considered in planning the day's route and distance. Some riders only want to hit the twisties for as long and intensely as possible each day. Other riders want a more relaxed ride, stopping to rest frequently. Rather than frustrating one or both sets of folks, a good idea may be to split into two riding groups, taking different routes to the same destination.

In reality, there is no optimum number of miles to cover each day on any ride.

Just like any activity, it depends on the group, the weather, the riding conditions and, above all, the freedom to do what is enjoyable!



General Membership Meeting Minutes February 6th, 2024

Respectfully Submitted
by: Jane Smith

President's Section: Gene Rigsby

- ◆ Meeting called to order at 7:01 p.m.
- ◆ Pledge of Allegiance
- ◆ Guests – None
- ◆ **Announcements**

- Birthdays: David Ramirez: February 11

Condolences for Ric Case who passed away January 21.

- ◆ Windy City HOGs has invited us to attend their meeting tomorrow night at Emmett's in Palatine for a memorial to Ric. Wayne will also speak. They will be planning a "last rev" for him on June 8.
- ◆ A memorial donation for Ric was presented to Jim Wiseman for NISRA.
- ◆ Thanks to Daniella Maca for a donation to the club in memory of Stefan and for bringing heart donuts to tonight's meeting.

Vice President: No report.

Past President: Wayne Kirkpatrick

- ◆ He will be sending out meeting notes to those who attended the last Posse meeting.

Safety: Mike Bradbury

Accident/safety review

- ◆ Briefly reviewed his article in the Roar, "Head and Eyes!" about using your eyes and looking where you want the bike to go.
- ◆ Two safety videos were shown.
- ◆ Still looking into advanced riding courses. They are costly so want to make sure we have enough people interested; possibly team up with another club.
- ◆ Kaution Korner preview: Ted will have an article in the next Roar about preparing mentally and physically for riding season. Do some yoga, get body and mind in shape. Think about rides you've been on. Keep a journal and make notes about what was good about the ride and what went wrong and could have been better.

Membership: Ted Makarewicz

- ◆ No new inquiries.
- ◆ We will have a table set up at Woodstock Cabin Fever to promote the club.

Activities: Greg Smith/Rick Agrimonti

Recent Activities:

- Breakfast at Southern Belle (January 20) – Good food enjoyed with good friends.

- ◆ Road Captain meeting (February 3) - Missing a few. Reviewed qualifications of Senior Road Captains.

Future Activities

- ◆ February 10 – Awards Dinner at Emmett's in Palatine.
- ◆ February 17 – Cabin Fever at Woodstock HD
- ◆ February 24 – No IMS Breakfast at Tiffany's in Des Plaines. (Rigsby)
- ◆ March 9 – Lunch at Johnny Pancakes and tour of Auto Museum in Rockford. (Rigsby) Might be changing the date for this as the museum is not open until April. May plan another ride on this date. Details to follow.
- ◆ March 24 – GRASS class at Keller Williams-Barrington. Must attend class every 3 years, but the more you go, the more the information comes naturally.
- ◆ April 27 – Kick off ride. Just a short 150-mile round trip ride to get the bugs out. (Bradbury)
- ◆ May 26 – Rolling Thunder will be having their annual POW/MIA Demonstration Ride and a candlelight vigil at Fort Sheridan the night before on the 25th.
- ◆ June 24-July 1 – Adler 24 (trip to Germany). Members from Top Cats and Rolling Thunder will be going. Plans are continuing.
- ◆ July 29-August 6 - Sturgis Adventure – Still time to sign up. (Boand)
- ◆ August 6-12 - Front Range Ride – Only a few have committed; would like more! Looking at seeing different sights and roads this year. (Kirkpatrick)
- ◆ September 22 – Rolling Thunder's Thunder Run from Lovell in North Chicago to Woodstock HD (Kirkpatrick)
- ◆ Other rides have been planned and dates chosen, but they are still in the planning stages. Watch the calendar for updates.

Charity: Mary Kirkpatrick

- ◆ Talked with Jim at Volo Auto Museum. Working with the food court manager to add food as part of the ride. Getting posters to put up to advertise the ride and will have some cards for Cabin Fever.

Products: Ted Makarewicz

- ◆ Buy your shirts now so you are ready for the riding season.
- ◆ Will be getting more black bandanas by the next meeting.

50/50 Raffle: Andy Hasztrakiewicz - No raffle tonight.

Meeting adjourned by Gene at 7:55 p.m.



Board Meeting Minutes February 13th, 2024

Respectfully Submitted
by: Jane Smith

President's Section: Gene Rigsby

- ◆ Meeting called to order at 6:55 p.m. All Board members were present except for Ted M.
- ◆ We are looking for a candidate to replace Ric Case. Suggestions? Would like to decide by next month's meeting.

Past President: Wayne Kirkpatrick

- ◆ Jersey Pine Cruisers has dissolved. They were one of the oldest clubs around – about 26 years old. Did not have a lot of rides anymore.
- ◆ Wayne reminded us again that he has a yearly subscription to Zoom in case we need to do any Zoom meetings.

Vice President: Open Position

- ◆ Come to the next meeting with suggestions for a replacement.

Treasurer: Don DeLordo

- ◆ Report/review
- ◆ Don presented handouts showing balances and activity in the main account and the charity account.
- ◆ Decision was made to purchase plain black bandanas without logo or print as they are less expensive. Don will go ahead and order them.

Activities: Greg Smith

Review Past/Future Events:

- ◆ January 20 – breakfast at Southern Belle in Barrington
- ◆ February 3 – Road Captain meeting at Waconda Legion
- ◆ February 10 – Awards banquet (Bradbury/Rigsby)
- ◆ Everyone agreed that the venue was great, and the food was good. Suggestions for next year would be to have extra help to serve the food as it was not hot when it arrived at the table and to have a vegetarian option available.
- ◆ Decision was made to have the banquet at Emmett's again in February 2025.
- ◆ February 17 – Cabin Fever at WSHD. Setup at 9:00 a.m. The Top Cats canopy will be set up to draw attention to the booth. Mary will bring pictures, cards, and flyers promoting the charity ride. A slide show of past club rides will be shown.
- ◆ February 24 – No IMS breakfast at Tiffany's in Des Plaines
- ◆ March 9 – Lunch at Johnny Pancakes at Kegel's H-D and car museum in Rockford will be postponed to possibly April 27th as the museum will not be open until April 1. Gene will plan a different ride for the March 9th date.
- ◆ June 24 – Riding in Germany. Jurgen is working on details in Germany.

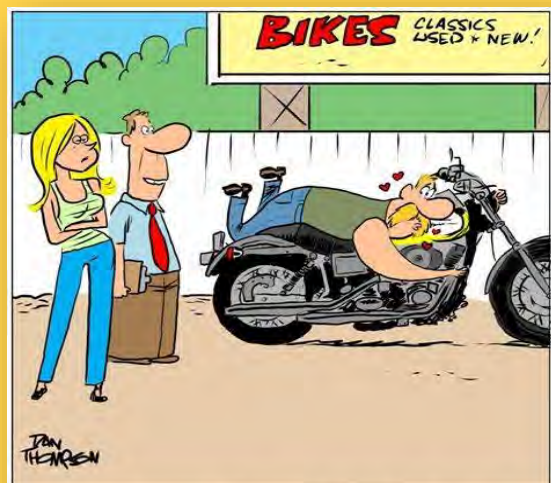
Safety/RC: Mike Bradbury

- ◆ House Representative, Daniel Didech, has entered a bill to make helmets mandatory in Illinois.
- ◆ March 24 – GRASS class is scheduled at Keller Williams office in Barrington.
- ◆ There is some interest from McHenry Hogs chapter to attend, however, have not heard back from them. Could also invite CMA to attend.
- ◆ Safety Topics – Contacted Paul at Rolling Thunder about a CPR class, but no response.
- ◆ Discussed the issue of some road captains not submitting safety articles for the Roar or not getting rides on the calendar. They do not meet the requirements of a Road Captain.

Membership/Products: Ted Makarewicz (absent)

- ◆ Need to get amounts of current inventory of products. Determine how to get rid of the old inventory – sale, raffle item, etc. Would like to start using Land's End portal for new merchandise.
- ◆ Charity: Mary Kirkpatrick
- ◆ No updates. Looking at options for food at Volo.
- ◆ Secretary: Jane Smith
- ◆ Received a thank you card from NISRA for Ric Case's memorial donation.
- ◆ General
- ◆ The past problem on the website with the pictures has been resolved.
- ◆ Discussed idea of a memorial page on the website of deceased members.

Meeting Adjourned by Gene Rigsby, President at 8:30



"IS THIS WHAT YOU MEANT WHEN YOU SAID TO NEVER LET THE DEALER SEE HOW MUCH YOU'RE INTERESTED IN THE BIKE?"



Top Cats Banquet... Another Good Day!

The pictures show the faces of Top Cats enjoying the celebration of a great 2023!



Cindy and Don DeLordo
Don Delordo & Tom Malia



Jim Wiseman, Kathie Bradbury,
Ted Makarewicz, Mike Bradbury



Jane and Greg Smith
Bill Fulton and David Ramirez



Wayne Kirkpatrick & Gene Rigsby
Boenna & Andy Haszlakiewicz



Linda and Ted Makarewicz
The Girls!





Chuck and Deb Carlson
Ted Makarewicz & Georg Raab



Deb and Bill Fulton
Gene Rigsby and Jim Wiseman



Most Active Top
Cat!
Jane Smith (Tie)



Donation Made to
NISRA!



Most Active Top
Cat!
Cindy DeLordo! (Tie)





Our Top Cat Director took a Trip to Cuba... But like most of us, the Top Cat Spirit comes along! Thanks for sharing, Ted!

Top Cats Invaded Cuba!!!



March Birthdays and Anniversaries!

8 Prinya Bunyasaranand
24 Cindy DeLordo

Happy Days to our Top Cats Celebrities for March!

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

March 25,
Greg and Jane Smith



*Top Cats Buy, Sell, Trade....
The best way to ensure
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TOP CATS BUSINESS MART

BUSINESSES OWNED AND/OR MANAGED BY TOP CATS MEMBERS

kw SUCCESS
REALTY

KELLERWILLIAMS.

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Realtor

262-344-6228

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600 Hart Road, Suite 105
Barrington Illinois 60010



Each Office Is Independently Owned and Operated



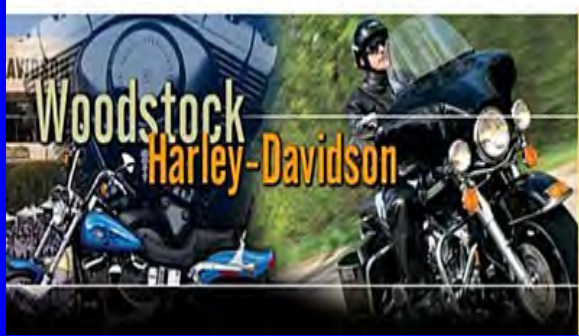
*Network with your fellow
Riders here...*

And Be Thankful!





Support the TOP CATS Patrons



Woodstock HD and Staff Support our Top Cat's Ride for Dreams!

Knight Performance (Harleys only)

Contact: **Eric Knight**

304 N. Johnson St
Harvard, IL 60033

ericknight1@hotmail.com

(815) 770-0302

TAK MC (Primarily Harleys)

Contact: **Tim Harwood**

28841 N. Darrell Road
McHenry, IL 60051

timharwood11@yahoo.com

(708) 525-6316

WAR Performance (All makes plus dyno and storage)

Contact: **Mike Witt**

120 Grant Highway
Marengo, IL 60152

info@warperformance.com

www.warperformance.com

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, March 5th	General Meeting	Palatine	Alley 64	7:00 pm	Rigsby
Saturday, March 9th	Volo Auto Museum	Volo	Volo Auto Museum	10:00 am	Rigsby
Tuesday, March 12th	Board Meeting	Palatine	Alley 64	7:00 pm	Rigsby
Tuesday, April 2nd	General Meeting	Palatine	Alley 64	7:00 pm	Rigsby
Sunday, April 7th	GRASS Class	Barrington	Keller Williams	8:00 am	Bradbury
Tuesday, April 9th	Board Meeting	Palatine	Alley 64	7:00 pm	Rigsby
Sunday, April 21st	Kick-Off Ride	Speedway, Kelsey Rd Lake Barrington	Hank's Farm Ottoawa	9:00 am	Bradbury
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