

EAGLE WINGS MOTORCYCLE ASSOCIATION



Chapter Illinois G2

September, 2023

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We had another great breakfast ride on August 5 to the Riverside Cafe in Gurnee. Tim's ride was another hit but the restaurant wanted a single check for the group even though our group sat at different tables. I talked them into providing separate checks.. This restaurant has many unique selections, like barbacoa benedict. So it's a shame we may have to avoid it in the future. Thanks to Tim for another great ride.

Seven of us: the Martens, Gary Cueno, Steve Donato, Tony Valicenti, Holly and I enjoyed the ride that I led to the Prime Quarter in Janesville. Though none of us actually grilled our own steaks, everything was perfectly done and everyone enjoyed the food.

Any Toth and Glenn Hansen attended the Region E Ride In in La Crosse. Read what Andy reported in Tony's meeting minutes.

Lastly, we had our annual picnic on August 27. Everyone had a great time. The burgers and brats were nicely grilled and there were plenty of sides to satisfy everyone. Our thanks go to Gary Cueno for managing the event and for Gary Wanke and Karen Giambalvo for working with him to set up and take down everything. And thanks to the Gilsingers for handling this previously and advising Gary.

September has a breakfast ride on the 2nd, a dinner ride to the McHenry Snuggery and the chapter meeting on the 24th. See the dinner ride flyer on page six.

And our annual chili social will be held at the home of Ed and Barb Harms on Saturday, October 14 at 5:30. Please put this on your calendar now as it's a fun event. We plan to limit the food that is served so we are not overwhelmed with too many choices. So if the food list is filled when you respond just let the Harms' know you are coming. See the flyer and sign up sheet on pages seven and eight.

And don't forget the holiday party on December 2. It's held at the Continental Restaurant in Buffalo Grove. The chapter supplies hors d'oeuvres and desserts. You order your meal off the menu and pay for it yourself. Our gift exchange is a lot of fun and there may be a surprise this year.

We hope to see you soon.



Ellary and Holly Kahan

G2 WEB PAGE

www.ilg2.com

G2 PHOTO ALBUM

Under construction



September Birthdays

- 5 — Joe Nolan
- 20 — Kathy Randall
- 21 — Andy Toth



Got something to say?

This is your newsletter. We accept articles from any member.. Send your articles to the editor at ellaryk@gmail.com. MS Word or equivalent format preferred. Text should be in Times New Roman font, single spaced with a one-quarter inch first line indent on all paragraphs except the first. Use .5 in. margins. Any photos should be cropped for publication. All submissions become the property of IL-G2 and may be edited.

Upcoming G2 Events

September

- 2 - Breakfast Ride
- 9 - Dinner Ride (Muhlenfeld)
- 17 - Rolling Thunder Ride
- 24 - Chapter Meeting

October

- 1 - Slimey Crud Run
- 7 - Breakfast Ride
- 14 - Chili Social (Harms)
- 22 - Chapter Meeting

November

- 11 - Dinner (Wanke)
- 19 - Chapter Meeting/Calendar Planning

December

- 2 - Holiday Party

G2 EWMA Store

Choose what you want to order from the EWMA store then contact Greg Natenberg natenb8@aol.com to place your order. Our EWMA logo color is yellow with a white eagle.

To order name badges contact Tony Valicenti.

EWMA

CEO:

Anita Alkire

EWMA.CEO@gmail.com

President

Bruce Beeman

brucebeeman01@gmail.com

CFO

Patti O'Neil Esposito

ewmacfo@gmail.com

IL District:

Director:

Bob Adams

my1986goldwing@yahoo.com

Chapter Meetings are held at the Full Moon Restaurant, 1300 Skokie Hwy, Lake Bluff, 9 AM breakfast, 9:30 meeting.

Ride Coordinator

We had a fast but fun month of August for riding. I can't believe the month is just about over already. But we didn't waste any time starting things off with a breakfast ride the first weekend. We had a record signup of eighteen people to go on the ride. We ran through a state park and toured what seemed like 10,000 lakes through Lake and McHenry counties and ended up with fifteen bikes at a cozy cafe along the Des Plaines River. A great time was had by all.

Our second ride of the month was our traditional dinner ride to the Prime Quarter in Janesville Wisconsin. Ellary led this ride to a fun restaurant where you have the option of cooking your own steak on the grill or letting them grill it for you. They also have a great salad bar for those that like their veggies! I wasn't able to make this ride myself but I think those that attended enjoyed it very much.

Our third weekend was the Region E Ride In in La Crosse WI. This event was different than a rally in that it was a ride in. The local group set up about five different rides for those who were attending. I wasn't able to make it but I understand the participants could choose between guided rides or self guided tours of western Wisconsin. This was one of the first larger events for EWMA. I hope it was a great turnout.

Our Annual G2 Picnic was held on the 27th at Chain O'Lakes State Park. We usually get a good attendance at this event with friends, family, and sometimes even grandkids! This year the picnic was coordinated by our fellow G2 rider Gary Cueno. He did a fantastic job planning everything. We thank him for his efforts. The only thing that fell apart was the Jenga game, but no worries, it happens every year!

Looking ahead to September we have the Eagle Wings Rendezvous in Knoxville, TN. There will be seminars, a bike show, a light show, dinner, dancing, and of course ICE CREAM. Have fun folks. Also, that weekend is another breakfast ride on the 2nd. I'll get the details out soon on that.

The second Saturday of September, the 9th, is a dinner ride. Mark Muhlenfeld had originally planned to take this dinner but as it turned out he had a fantastic opportunity to spend five or six weeks of quality time on two wheels visiting friends and family. We hope Mark has a safe and memorable adventure. David Bierman has stepped in to make the arrangements for a nice dinner at the Snuggery and I will lead the ride.

That's all for now. Until next month, take good care and ride safe!

Tim McGuire.

July 23 Meeting Minutes

Chapter Director Ellary Kahan called the August monthly chapter meeting to order at the Chain O'Lakes picnic area around 11:45 am. The meeting was attended by Andy Toth, Bob Manion, Craig & Lonnie Gilsinger, Ed Etzkin, Ed & Barb Harms, Ellary & Holly Kahan, Gary & Angela Cueno. Gary Wanke, Greg & Blair Natenberg, Guy Newell, Jim (JT) Thomas. Karen Giambalvo, Tim McGuire, and Tony Valicenti.

Ellary began the meeting in the pavilion on the beautiful August day by remarking that August was a month full of activities, beginning with a dinner ride to the Prime Quarter and a breakfast ride at the beginning of the month. John Martens led a terrific lunch ride to the Pleasant Ridge Store in Dodgeville, WI on 8/9. Seven people signed up for the dinner ride to the McHenry Snuggery on September 9. One event to remember is the annual Chili Social on October 14 which is hosted by Ed and Barb Harms, and Barb passed out flyers and a sign-up sheet. This is a wonderful event every year and is an introduction to Fall activities. Attendees are requested to bring either some chili, hors d'oeuvres, salads or a dessert.

There will be dinner rides in October and November, but most couples will begin to travel in cars. As usual, the next year planning meeting will be held immediately after the November chapter meeting. This meeting is open to everyone and is an opportunity for all to give some suggestions for rides and activities for the coming year. Ellary suggested that everyone mark their calendars with our holiday dinner on December 2 at the Continental Restaurant in Buffalo Grove. This is always a fun event complete with a gift exchange and lots of good food. G2 supplies the hors d'oeuvres and desserts and the members order whatever they want and are responsible for their dinners and drinks. Good food and carrot cake is a great way to start the holiday season.

Tim said that the EWMA Rendezvous in Knoxville will be attended by Andy and Glenn and will include a scavenger hunt 8/30-9/1. Tim will design and lead the breakfast ride on 9/2 and the dinner ride on 9/9.

Andy and Glenn attended the ride in LaCrosse and said that there were lots of senior citizens attending, and that about 70% of them ride trikes. Attendees traveled from Illinois, Nebraska, and other states, with a heavy emphasis on riding. They took all non-interstate roads and plan to do the same on their Knoxville trip.

Ellary introduced a new member, Guy Newell from Cary who purchased his 2008 Gold Wing in December and is getting re-acclimated to riding. Gary Cueno not only organized this year's picnic, but served as the grill master and his helpers (Angela, Gary W. and Karen) did a terrific job setting up and serving a good feast. Thanks also to Craig and Lonnie for all of their assistance.

Until we meet again, take good care of yourself and your family and friends, stay healthy and be safe.

**THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE ON
September 24,
2023.**



Respectfully
Submitted,

Tony Valicenti

Going From Two Wheels to Three.

A journey of mixed emotions

Over the past 10 years, many have heard me say that if I ever feel the need to ride on three wheels instead of two, that will be the day that I stop motorcycle riding. The only time I had ever examined a three-wheeled motorcycle (referred to as a “trike” in this article) was in the parking lot at the 2014 Madison Wing Ding, and it was a lot more work than riding the Gold Wing and my other two-wheeled motorcycles (referred to as “bikes” in this article), and that’s when I decided that it was two wheels or none.

Last year, after 54 years of safely riding, I suffered a non-riding injury that is still healing and I missed an entire riding season on my Gold Wing. During Fall 2022, I considered my old promise, and decided that it was much better to eat a little crow than to miss another season of Tim’s rides, and I started looking at trikes as a possible option, should I not heal completely. I spoke to several 3-wheeled riders and considered the “Tilting Motor Works” conversion to a Gold Wing, but was discouraged by some stories from those who had tried that route. Conventional trike riders said that riding their trikes was much safer and more relaxing than bikes and left me three options: “trikeing” my Gold Wing, buying a triked bike, or buying a reverse trike, designed from the ground up as a trike. The Can-Am Spyder RT is a touring motorcycle (called a Roadster by its manufacturer, BRP) that has properties similar to touring bikes and the alleged stability and safety of a trike. In January, I was able to find a well-maintained low age and low mileage model for a below Blue Book price and became a trike owner. I started riding this strange-looking vehicle in April and was immediately made aware of the differences, both positive and negative from that of a bike.

Because a trike has three contact points with the ground, it is stable and resists tipping over. The Spyder electronics involve stability controls which attempt to regulate the speed of the machine around curves to maintain its upright posture. A good thing. However, three contact points means that you cannot lean the trike around curves as I had done for 54, now 55 years, and counter-steering is not only ineffective on a trike, but as I quickly learned, dangerously counter-productive, and points you off in the wrong direction. Taking curves at higher speed, leaning a bike and your body into a curve places the weight of you and a bike directly over the wheels, resulting in greater traction and stability. The trike, because it only leans slightly when the road is not perfectly horizontal, goes around the curves in a flat orientation and the only leaning that happens is that the centrifugal force makes the rider lean in the opposite direction, so the rider is forced to lean his/her body forcibly into the curve, just to stay on the trike. Everyone said that I would get used to this, and I am, but still prefer the way a bike does its thing. Also, a bike in motion really only has one track, and can usually easily avoid a pothole, branches or carcass, but since the trike operates on three tracks, it is usually riding over something that the bikes avoid. It is a constant challenge to ride over the road hazard by positioning it between your single wheel and one of the twin wheels.

Now for the advantages. In addition to stability, having three wheels eliminates the need to balance the trike when it’s not moving or at low speed, an extra wheel adds to your braking power, trikes have more storage room, and lastly, the safety factor. The Hurt Report, a motorcycle safety study initiated by the Department of Transportation’s National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and first published in 1981, says that approximately 77 percent of accidents involving two-wheeled motorcycles comes from the frontal (or “11 o’clock to 1 o’clock”) position. This high percentage of crashes from the frontal positions is because the other driver involved in the collision does not see the motorcycle as easily as they see another vehicle. Because of its greater width, a trike is better noticed by other vehicles, and the chances of front and rear-end collisions are lessened.

Well, that just about sums it up. I’m still not used to the appearance of a reversed trike, but other people sure do notice it. With time, I am sure that I will get used to its different appearance and its different ride. I am happy that that this machine has allowed me to enjoy my passion for motorcycling once again on my favorite scenic roads this summer with my favorite chapter.



My Bike



My Trike

Tony Valicenti

Join us for a
Dinner Ride
Saturday, September 9
4:30 PM

to

The Snuggery
801 N. River Rd.
McHenry, IL

Please respond to
David Bierman
dbierman@ameritech.net

by

Thursday, September 7



Chapter Illinois G2
CHILI SOCIAL
Saturday, Oct. 14

PLEASE JOIN US !

The festivities start at 5:30 PM
Ed and Barb Harms home
18 Whitby Ct., Lincolnshire

Hot mulled cider, water and coffee will be provided
BYOB any other beverage you would enjoy

The food we need for this event includes:

- 2 Hors d'oeuvres
- 2 Chili
- 2 Salads/Sides
- 2 Desserts

Please call or text if you can bring one of these items

RSVP by Oct. 8

847-910-2031 or barbharms@comcast.net





Chapter Illinois G2
CHILI SOCIAL
Saturday, Oct. 14
5:30 PM

FOOD SIGN-UP SHEET

Please put your name and what you are bringing

Hors d' oeuvre:

1. Tony Valicenti - Shrimp

2. _____

Side dish/Salad:

1. Blair Natenberg – Chili Dorrito Salad

2. _____

Bread & Butter:

1. _____

Dessert:

1. Ed Etzkin

2. _____

Please put your name and type of chili (i.e. vegetarian, meat, etc.)

Chili:

1. Ellary Kahan - Vegetarian

2. _____

3. _____

Chili Fixings, Hot mulled cider, water, coffee and tea will be provided.

BYOB all other beverages

The Good Book Guide

Brad Meltzer's *The Book of Lies* takes readers on a roller-coaster ride through a dual narrative that weaves together two seemingly unrelated story lines: one set in the present day and another focused on the biblical figure Cain and the historical mystery of the murder of Superman co-creator Jerry Siegel's father. The novel's intriguing premise promises a mix of conspiracy, historical secrets, and contemporary mystery.

One of the strengths of Meltzer's writing is his ability to create characters who are relatable and multi-dimensional. The protagonist, Cal Harper, is a likeable and flawed individual who struggles with personal demons while trying to uncover the truth behind his father's murder. Meltzer skillfully reveals the complexities of Cal's relationships, particularly with his estranged mother, and adds depth to his emotional journey.

The pacing of the novel is generally well-executed, with alternating chapters that keep readers engaged and invested in both storylines. Meltzer's incorporation of historical elements, particularly the legends surrounding Cain and Abel, adds an extra layer of depth to the narrative. His research and attention to detail shine through in these portions, creating an immersive experience for readers interested in historical mysteries.

However, some readers might find the frequent switches between timelines and characters slightly disorienting, especially as the connections between the two story lines are slowly revealed. Additionally, the blend of real historical events and fictional conspiracy elements could be seen as a double-edged sword; while it adds intrigue, it may also blur the lines between fact and fiction in a way that some readers find challenging.

The mystery aspect of the novel is compelling, keeping readers guessing and engaged as the layers of secrets are peeled away. However, the resolution of the mystery might leave some readers divided. Some might appreciate the unexpected twists and turns, while others might find certain elements of the conclusion a bit convoluted or unsatisfying.

Brad Meltzer combines history, family dynamics, and conspiracy in a way that's signature to his writing style. While the book might not be without its flaws, it offers an engaging read for fans of thrillers who enjoy a mix of historical and contemporary elements.

Jake Tapper is a CNN anchor of *The Lead* and *State of the Union*. He's also a novelist. *The Hellfire Club* is set in the 1950s during the height of the Cold War and offers a mix of historical accuracy and fictional intrigue. The novel follows the story of Charlie Marder, a newly appointed congressman from New York, who quickly finds himself entangled in a web of political secrets and dangerous conspiracies as he navigates the complex landscape of Washington, D.C.

One of the strengths of the book lies in its meticulous attention to historical detail. Tapper effectively recreates the atmosphere of the era, capturing the paranoia, tension, and political dynamics of the McCarthy era. The portrayal of the political climate, with its power struggles, hidden agendas, and loyalty tests, adds authenticity to the narrative and immerses readers in the time period.

Tapper's background in journalism is evident in his sharp writing style, which keeps the story moving at a brisk pace. The narrative is filled with twists and turns, and Tapper effectively captures the sense of suspense and intrigue that characterizes the political thriller genre. The inclusion of real historical figures, such as

President Eisenhower, adds an extra layer of authenticity and allows the fictional elements to seamlessly blend with actual events.

The protagonist, Charlie Marder, is a relatable and well-developed character who undergoes a significant transformation throughout the novel. As he uncovers deeper layers of corruption and deception, readers are drawn into his emotional journey and moral dilemmas. The supporting cast of characters, including his wife Margaret and various political figures, adds depth and complexity to the story.

However, some readers might find the abundance of political and historical references overwhelming at times, especially if they are not familiar with the intricacies of 1950s American politics. Additionally, while the pacing is generally well-maintained, there are moments where the narrative feels slightly uneven, with some scenes progressing more slowly than others.

The resolution of the mystery and the various plot threads might also polarize readers. Some might appreciate the twists and surprises that come together in the final act, while others might find certain revelations and conclusions a bit convoluted or rushed.

Jake Tapper successfully combines his expertise in journalism with his talent for storytelling. The novel provides an intriguing glimpse into a turbulent period of American history and offers a mix of suspense, political intrigue, and character development. If you have an interest in political thrillers, historical fiction, or stories set in the corridors of power, you'll enjoy this novel.

The Inner Circle is a political thriller novel written by Brad Meltzer. Published in 2011, the book combines elements of historical mystery, conspiracy, and suspense. Set in the heart of Washington D.C., the story follows Beecher White, an archivist at the National Archives, who stumbles upon a mysterious and encrypted book that seems to hold hidden secrets from the past.

Meltzer weaves a complex narrative that alternates between present-day events and historical flashbacks, delving into the inner workings of a secret society known as the Culper Ring, which supposedly played a role in shaping American history. The novel blends real historical figures with fictional characters, blurring the line between fact and fiction to create an engaging and intriguing storyline.

One of the strengths of the book is its meticulous research and attention to historical detail. Meltzer's portrayal of the National Archives and the secrets it might hold adds a layer of authenticity to the novel. The pacing is generally well-executed, with a mix of action scenes and intellectual intrigue that keeps the reader engaged.

However, some readers might find fault with the book's plot twists, which occasionally feel contrived or overly convenient. Additionally, while the historical flashbacks add depth to the narrative, they can also disrupt the flow of the story for those more interested in the present-day events.

Meltzer's writing style is approachable and easy to read, which makes the book accessible to a wide range of readers. The characters, though not extremely deep, are relatable and engaging, allowing the reader to connect with their struggles and motivations.

Ellary Kahan

