

EAGLE WINGS MOTORCYCLE ASSOCIATION



Chapter Illinois G2

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April, 2024

We are changing our meeting location effective with the April meeting. The new location will be the Whistle Stop Cafe, 15 E. Grand Ave., Fox Lake. It's a block east of Rt. 12 at the railroad tracks. They have a new room that was recently built and are happy to have us. This restaurant is much better than our previous one. It is cleaner and has a more varied breakfast menu and I look forward to meeting there.



As we start the riding season there is often concern about how to start your bike. Just start it and let it idle for about 30 seconds to let the oil circulate before taking off.

The March dinner at La Hacienda De Los Fernandez in Deer Park was attended by sixteen of us, the largest dinner attendance yet. Everyone enjoyed the food and the conversation. I thank Steve Donato for hosting this event.

Our April dinner is being hosted by Bob Manion. It will be at the Woodfire Tavern in Long Grove on the corner of Rt. 83 and Gilmer Rd. They have great food, especially the barbecued rib dinner that includes cole slaw, baked beans, corn and corn bread. The ribs are smoked nicely. They're excellent.

We hope to see you soon.

Ellary and Holly Kahan

G2 WEB PAGE

www.ilg2.com

G2 PHOTO ALBUM

Under construction



April Birthdays
13 - Merle Gleeson
20 - Lonnie Gilsinger

April Anniversaries
4 - Bob & Mary Manion
5 - Ellary & Holly Kahan



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. No space between paragraphs. 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

April

- 13 - Dinner, Woodfire Tavern
- 28 - Chapter meeting

May

- 4 - Breakfast ride. McGuire
- 11 - Dinner ride, Natenberg
- 16-18 - EWMA Ill. Dist. Rally, Vandalia
- 19 - Chapter meeting
- 25 - Memorial Day Ride

June

- 1 - Breakfast ride, Cueno
- 8 - Dinner ride, Bierman
- 17- W. VA Trip
- 23 - Chapter meeting

July

- 6 - Breakfast Ride, Natenberg
- 13 - Dinner ride, Muhlenfeld
- 14 - Ill. State Police Ride
- 28 - Chapter meeting

August

- 3 - Breakfast ride
- 10 - Dinner ride, Prime Quarter-Kahan
- 17 - Day ride, Natenberg
- 25 - Picnic

29-31 EWMA Rendezvous, Green Bay

September

- 7 - Breakfast ride, McGuire
- 14 - Dinner ride, Donato
- 22 - Chapter meeting

October

- 5 - Breakfast ride
- 19 - Chili social, Harms
- 27 - Chapter meeting

November

- 9 - Dinner, Wanke
- 24 - Chapter meeting

December

- 7 - Holiday Party, Randall

EWMA Store

Order from mysticalmoment.biz
Our shirt color is royal blue.

Our EWMA logo color is 205 yellow with a white eagle.

The right chest is "Chapter Illinois G2" in 205 yellow.

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 Whistle Stop Restaurant, 15 E. Grand Ave, Fox Lake, 9 AM breakfast, 9:30 meeting.

Ride Coordinator

We don't have rides scheduled for the month of April due to the constant fluctuating weather. But never fear, the month of May will be full of rides.

Our first ride will be a breakfast ride on May 4. I'm thinking of revisiting an old favorite for this ride. The next day on May 5 we have a choice of doing the Slimey Crud Run which several people have enjoyed going to in the past, or a new event, a Blessing of the Bikes in Langley, Illinois which is just west of Starved Rock. Another option would be to pass on the Spring Edition of the Crud Run and look at doing it in the fall. Greg recommended the Blessing of the Bikes as a new event that we might enjoy. This may appeal more to the younger members of the group and these kinds of events are necessary in order to keep EWMA growing. There will be live music and a large gathering of people who enjoy our sport of motorcycling. We may also take this opportunity to take a jaunt down highway 26 on the eastern shore of the Illinois River to either Lacon or Chillicothe for a meal. More on this next month.

Our Illinois District Rally, which is usually in July, has been moved this year to May 16-18. We're hoping it won't be as hot as it was last year. This will again be in Vandalia. See the flyer in this issue for more details.

On May 25 I have a Day Ride scheduled. I'm working on the details but I'm hoping to do a nice ride that is marked by long winding ridges, steep valleys, and many twisting streams and rivers. Plan to be out for a good portion of the day.

The last ride for the month is a large local ride called Rolling Thunder. It is a well



known ride that starts in North Chicago and follows a route of fifty-four miles ending up in Cantigny Park in Wheaton. This ride runs rain or shine. Let's hope we have lots of sun for this Memorial Day weekend.

That's it for now, so until next month take good care and ride safe!

Tim McGuire

March 24 Meeting Minutes

Chapter Director Ellary Kahan called the January monthly chapter meeting to order at the Full Moon Restaurant at 9:25 am. The meeting was attended by Andy Toth, Bob Manion, Ed Etzkin, Ellary Kahan, Gary Wanke, Greg Natenberg, Guy Newell, Jerry Edelman, Mark Muhlenfeld, Jim Thomas, Tim McGuire, Tony Valicenti, and Warren Randall.

Ellary began the meeting by restating the formatting requirements for material submitted to him for newsletter publication. These are found in every newsletter on the bottom left of Page Two, and are as follows. Construct the article using MS Word or equivalent. Text should be Times New Roman font, single spaced with a one-quarter inch first line indent on all paragraphs except the first. No space should be used between paragraphs. Use 0.5-inch margins. Any photos should be cropped for publication.

The Whistle Stop in Fox Lake has recently built a side room which will hold about 20 people and have welcomed us to use the room for our Monthly Chapter meetings. The restaurant is close to our former meeting place at Dino's Den and will be just as convenient for most members. The attendees voted unanimously to pursue the possibility of changing our Monthly Meeting location and Ellary will inform us by email if the restaurant agrees to our schedule. Regarding meeting locations for the start of group rides, although we have normally convened at Woodman's at routes 12 and 120, Tim and others suggested that some group rides should start at locations which are more convenient for a particular Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner or Day Rides as well as multi-day trips. Preferred locations should have adequate parking, gasoline, rest rooms and other amenities, and should be suggested by the ride leader and will be publicized my emails. As with restaurant rides, it is important to inform the event leader if you plan to attend or decline if your plans change and you have previously said that you will come.

Ellary said that we had a very good turnout and everyone enjoyed a fine dinner at our March 9 dinner at La Hacienda in Deer Park. Several enjoyed their shrimp cocktail and other good selections.

Bob Manion will host the dinner at Woodfire Tavern on April 13.

Tim announced that there is a group riding safety class hosted by the Christian Motorcycle Association (CMA) at Moose Riders of McHenry on April 20; the fee will \$10 and the class will start at 9:00 am. Tim will host the Breakfast Ride on May 4 and the next day is the Spring Slimey Crud Run. We may skip the Spring Crud run in favor of the Fall Crud Run, weather permitting.

Tim said that there's the Blessing of the Bikes on May 5 in Langley, west of Ottawa. See more about this in the Ride Coordinator's report. The EWMA IL District Rally is on May 16-18 in Vandalia. May 25 will be an All-Day Ride, destination TBD. May 26 will be the Rolling Thunder ride with registration at 8:30-9:30 at the James Lovell Health Center, and the ride at 10:00 am. This ride will go through parts of Chicago and ends in Wheaton and may be difficult to stay together at intersections. Another RT will be in September and end at the Harley dealership in McHenry.

The 7 to 10-day trip may start on Father's Day, riding to West Virginia with a stop for the Amazing Challenge, then back through Athens, Ohio. Starting on Father's Day will allow for shorter two-day rides at the beginning of the trip.

We may also need to reschedule the June Meeting to June 30. Stay tuned for this.

The meeting was adjourned at around 10:10 am.

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE ON April 28, 2024.



Respectfully

Submitted,

Tony Valicenti

G2 Profile: Dave Hoffheimer

I have always loved motorcycles ever since I could crawl. I took a class at Southern Illinois University in 1987, but never took the test to get my license. Once I graduated and moved back home, I unquestionably wanted to ride. My very first motorcycle was a 1978 Yamaha XS 750 Special. I only rode it around town, but I felt like James Dean. I still did not have my license or insurance! What a not-so-smart little boy...



Not having actually learned how to ride, I crashed that bike into a parked car because I didn't know to look where you wanted the bike to go, rather than at what you did not want to hit.

Typical for a wanna-be smarty-pants kid.

Even though that event felt more like the hit that it was, I walked it off and was not deterred from riding. Once I turned 30, seven years later, I wanted to really crunch some miles and travel across the United States. So, I thought maybe I should take another class and actually pass and get insurance. I was successful and began my journey. I

thoughtlessly went and bought a Honda Shadow Sabre because it had flames on the tank. Ugh. After riding 300 miles or so, I realized I needed a bigger bike.

The Victory TC92 caught my eye, and I found a dealer, Randy's Cycles on Rt 12, which isn't there anymore. I think he's out in Huntley, Illinois now. As I was looking around, the salesman asked me if I was going to Sturgis. I had no idea what he was talking about. He said the whole shop saves up all year long, and then they go to Sturgis. Sounded funny to me, but my buddy and I both bought Victories. I rode the 1507cc home lovin' every minute of it.



My first trip on that bike was to Sturgis and then Yellowstone National Park. In my mind, Yellowstone is still some of the best riding out there. Riding out west at 80mph on a highway filled with bikes out-numbering the cars and trucks, I was on a brand new level of riding. The weather was amazing. The wind was low. The experience was brand new. It was nowhere near the chaos I was told about. Being completely exposed to the elements on 2 wheels was truly where I belonged. My first time seeing trikes everywhere. My first time seeing Boss Hoss motorcycles everywhere. My first time seeing every trailer with motorcycles. I was taking it all in.

At Sturgis one night, my buddy and I stood in the middle of an intersection on the main drag and watched the bikes roll past us in both directions all night. While seeing women in thongs on the back of choppers was quite the impression, I just couldn't get over how uncomfortable it had to be. We camped at the Tilford Gulch Campground, about 5 miles outside of Sturgis. I really enjoyed it, as the facilities were very clean, there was a bar and grill (breakfast was great), and the people were, for the most part, respectful.

After a few nights in Sturgis, we headed west to Yellowstone. Upon arrival, we checked in at the gate. The woman who assigned us a campsite said, "Now, you do know, we have bears." Then, we were informed it was mating season. Then, she pointed out that our campsite was right by the creek the bears crossed to find each other. As we pitched our tents, my buddy broke one of his poles. I laughed, but quickly said, "You're not sleepin' in my tent. Go spoon the bears!" Suffice to say, I got no sleep! Every little noise made me imagine a bear was looking for a meal in my tent.

I called my father from Yellowstone, and told him I had visited Sturgis, and was now relaxing by the fire at the campsite. He told me that my first time to Sturgis was actually in 1973. It was the summer before I turned 5 years old. He said I was obsessed with all the commotion. At that point, he knew I would live on 2 wheels.

On this maiden voyage, I was a newbie, so seeing all the bikes in one place was a thrill. Having learned that Yellowstone is the second most visited motorcycle destination to Sturgis was definitely apparent. Although, when a buffalo, with a head bigger than me, is blocking the road so the herd, with young-uns during mating season can cross, and the guy in front of me is revving his Fat Boy pipes, it was a little nerve-racking. I flipped my highway pegs up, told my buddy to do the same, because if we needed to squeeze through the motor homes that were all lined up, I was going to go!

On the way back east, we headed out the northern entrance/exit of Yellowstone, and got on I-94 through Montana. One of the coldest riding experiences I ever had. It was a ride of many layers before heated gear. Seeing the I-94 signs out west rather than here in Chicago was odd at first, however, knowing we really didn't have to make any turns to get home was comforting. Experiencing the Big Sky State on 2 wheels was absolutely sensational. For much of the Montana ride, we were the only 2 bikes for miles.

As my bike pulled me along at 80mph, I was lost in the scenery, almost in a dream... Until my bike jerked forward and I awoke. Whoa! My TC92 jerked a few more times, almost bucking me off like a bull rider, and I frantically pulled in the clutch. I gave it a little more gas, and eased the clutch back out, but for some reason my bike was still unhappy. I pulled the clutch in again, and the motor completely conked out on me.

As I held the clutch, the TC92 was losing speed, and in the middle of the Big Sky, I was immediately taken by my nerves. My buddy slowed down as I did, making faces at each other not knowing what was happening. Just then, the highway ever-so-slightly went on a down slope. Then, just a touch more. At the low end, there just happened to be an exit that went at an even steeper decline to a stop sign. Not a minute later, a guy in a pickup truck pulled up behind me and got out. He helped me push my bike under the viaduct and up a slight hill to a Shell Station that was sitting there waiting for me. All I could think was, "Please, just be out of gas..."

I filled my 5 gallon tank with just over 5 gallons, and the TC92 fired right up! Whew! Gatorade, granola bar, back on the bike. As I rode up the on-ramp after my buddy, who was riding the same bike (TC92), I was wondering why I was almost left stranded, and his ride was humming along. Was it because he filled his tank sitting upright on his bike, was it because I had done the Stage 1 kit and he hadn't, maybe both? Who knows?

Home safely with new thoughts: Now, while the Vista Cruise Throttle Lock was helpful on the TC92, I was in need of electronic cruise control. This is where I discovered the Honda Gold Wing. Interestingly enough, my car was a Mini Countryman rocking a 1.6L Turbo 4. My new bike was rocking a 1.8L 6. Hmmm... Yes, very interesting.



So, a second trip to Sturgis and Yellowstone took place that following summer. My Gold Wing was the 5 speed, so it rode perfectly smooth, all packed up, at 70mph/3000rpm. With the 4-speaker stereo cranking out Back In Black, I was getting an even 40mpg out of the 6.6 gallon tank. With my comfy seat and backrest, I was riding the Interstate for hours at a time.

The next summer, I did that same Sturgis/Yellowstone trip for a third time. Feeling like I covered all the riding that could be done in 3 summers, on the way back east it dawned on me that the limit was met. The first trip to Sturgis was amazing for the shock value. The second trip was nice because I knew my way around. By the third trip, I realized everyone at Sturgis needed a shower. Gross.

Enough about Sturgis. Don't want to sound cliché, however, it was my first long haul. Some of my other favorite trips include The Blue Ridge Parkway, Natchez Trace (which I still need to ride the southern half), the four corners of Wisconsin, and weekend rides to nowhere.

Now, having ridden in every state, my new goal is to visit every National Park. I plan to visit The Grand Canyon in 2 weeks with Greg, and I am very much looking forward to that

trip.

Future semi-planned trips are US Hwy 2 out west, Americade out east, Portland to Portland, and Hwy 1 on the East Coast. I have never been able to attend Americade because it is always right at the last week of the school year. Now that I'm retired, it finally fits into my schedule. It will be alright if I never go to Sturgis again. I would like to ride out there before or after the rally, though.

There was a period of time when I did not ride at all. When I got back on 2 wheels, I went with a Road King. It was big enough to travel, and small enough to manage. I went through 3 Road Kings, and now ride an Electra Glide Ultra Classic. I feel fortunate that this G2 club accepts all riders and all bikes because, in my



opinion, Harley-Davidson makes the smallest "big bikes" for touring. The Ultra Classic feels manageable for me even when it's packed 2-up.



I have also found a love for riding scooters. I have a Vespa GTS300 Super Sport. I manage the Northern Illinois Scoot Jockey Chapter, which Greg is a member of, and then along came Tim. After riding with these guys for a summer, they convinced me to join EWMA G2. Planning the trip to Davis, West Virginia and Athens, Ohio with Gary, Gary, Greg, and the Zoomers was very enjoyable. I love this club. The people are very welcoming, extremely kind, and I look

forward to traveling together.

I taught Elementary Art (K-5) for 29 years. I now live in Antioch and continue my art. I also have a blues band, the Dave Hoffheimer Band www.facebook.com/davehoffheimerband/ - and have gotten into model trains. I am building a layout in my basement and it's been highly engaging.

Thank you all for allowing me to join EWMA G2 this year!

Join us for
Dinner
Saturday, April 13
6:00 PM

at

Woodfire Tavern
4868 Illinois 83
Long Grove, Ill.
847-478-1160

R.S.V.P.

to

Bob Manion
wetsnow555@gmail.com
630-782-5771

by

Wednesday, April 10

2024 Illinois Fun Run

Hello Illinois District,

Announced at the recent Illinois Winter Warm Up, this year's Illinois Fun Run will be "Illinois Murals." This year puts all of Illinois into play, you will be looking for murals in each Illinois town. You may only submit one (1) Mural per town, take a picture of yourself or group with a Town's "Mural". If you can safely get you and your motorcycle in the picture as well, then this is even better. **The Fun Run runs 1 April to 31 October. Prizes will be awarded in Jan 2025.**

Following are directions:

Submit your photos on the district website www.ewma-ildistrict.org

1. *Go to Events tab*
2. *Select Fun Run and then select Photo Submission.*
3. *Fill out the Illinois Fun Run Photo Submissions form*
4. *When completed click on the "Submit" button at bottom of the page.*
5. *I will get a notification there are pictures to be posted.*

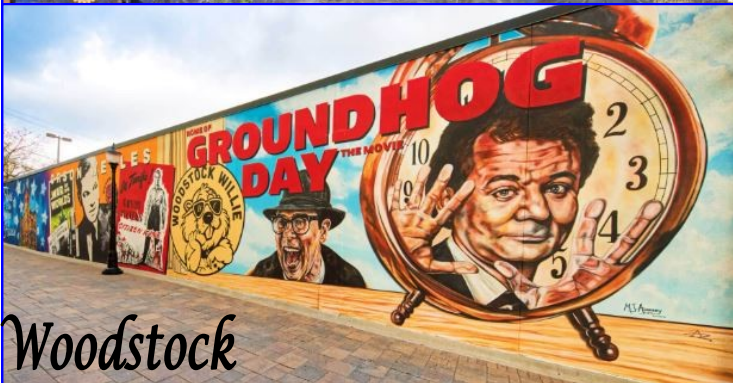
Have fun seeing our state of Illinois and as always "BE SAFE"

Rules: For every 5 locations that you submit your picture(s) with the Mural, you are eligible to purchase one poker hand. A poker hand consists of drawing 5 cards, cost is \$5.00.

Bonus: Purchase 4 hands and your 5th hand is FREE. The drawing of the cards will be at your November 2024 Chapter Gathering. The Chapter Director will conduct the drawing of the cards and mail the tally sheet and check to me.

Make checks payable to: Illinois District and
Mail to: Roy Miller, 537 Franklin Ave., Troy, IL

(Just a few samples below, have fun searching)





2024 ILLINOIS DISTRICT SPRING RALLY - RIDE IN



May 16th - 18th

HOST HOTEL: QUALITY INN

1920 N Kennedy Blvd, Vandalia, IL 62471

IL DISTRICT EAGLE WINGS RATE \$75.00

(618)283-4400

Registration: Members - \$25.00 Non Members - \$30.00

THURSDAY DINNER RIDE/BUG RUN - ORDER OFF MENU

FRIDAY MYSTERY RIDE OR SHAWNEE NATIONAL PARK

SATURDAY HOTDOG LUNCH - FREE

SATURDAY DINNER - INCLUDED IN REGISTRATION (CHILDREN UNDER 16 \$10.00)

HOTELS

RAMADA INN - (618) 283-1400

HOLIDAY INN - (618) 283-0010

CAMPING

VANDALIA LAKE (618) 283-1196

OKAW VALLEY (618) 427-5140

- **Daily 50/50**
- **Light Show**
 - **Rides**
 - **Games**
- **Bean Bag Baseball**
- **and More...**

2024

ILLINOIS DISTRICT SPRING RALLY - RIDE IN

EAGLE WINGS MOTORCYCLE ASSOCIATION



MAY 16TH - 18TH

QUALITY INN
618-283-2400

RIDER NAME: _____ EWMA# _____ EXP Date _____

CO-RIDER NAME: _____ EWMA# _____ EXP Date _____

ADDRESS: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Cell Phone: _____ Email _____

District _____ Chapter _____ Position Held _____

Registration*	Number of Members	_____ x \$25.00	= _____
*(includes Saturday buffet dinner)	Number of Non-Members	_____ x \$30.00	= _____
	Children under 16	_____ x \$10.00	= _____

Day pass \$10.00 (NO MEAL)

Thursday Dinner Ride Yes NO

Friday Mystery Ride Yes NO

Friday Shawnee Ride Yes NO

Total Attending Rally	_____	TOTAL Cost to PAY	<input type="text"/>
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Make checks payable to: Illinois District

Mail Registration to: STEVE GOLLSCHALK
P.O. Box 83, Cambria, IL 62915

Any Questions Contact: Bob Adams

Phone: 815-535-5676

Email: my1986goldwing@yahoo.com

We agree to conform and comply with the rules governing this event and further agree to hold harmless EWMA, co-sponsoring organizations, or any property owners for any loss or injury to self or property in which I/we may become involved by reason of participation in this event. I/we agree to assume responsibilities for any property which I/we damage. I/we have read this waiver and agree with all stipulations on this entry form with signature (s) below:

FORM MUST BE SIGNED BELOW BY ALL REGISTRANTS

Rider's Signature _____ Date _____

Co-Rider's Signature _____ Date _____



Eagle Wings Rendezvous

Eagle Wings Motorcycle Association 2nd Annual Rally

Aug 29th – Aug 31st 2024

KI Convention Center in Green Bay, WI



Take a Scavenger Hunt ride to Green Bay, WI and join your friends at the 2nd annual rally, Eagle Wings Rendezvous! We'll have vendors, FUN, presentations, FUN, guest speakers, FUN, games, FUN, on bike games, FUN, and awesome guided and self guided rides to explore beautiful WI! This is an event you don't want to miss!

Lodging links on website
www.ewma-world.org/rendezvous

Plan for FUN!!!
Daily 50/25/25
On Bike Games
Door Prizes
Guest Speakers & Presentations
Bike & Light Show
First Aid/CPR Class
Vendors, Including Motorcycle stuff, Bling & Chrome

3 Days & Nights of FUN, FUN, FUN!!!!
Thursday GRAND OPENING PARTY FUN, Light Dinner and Entertainment
Friday Night Bike and Light Show Vote for your favorite and enjoy some ice cream!
Saturday Night is Dinner and Closing
***For up to Date Schedule & more info, go to [www. EWMA-World.org/Rendezvous](http://www.EWMA-World.org/Rendezvous)**

GRAND PRIZE and MYSTERY CASH
AND
GRAND 50/25/15/10

Registration Fees (onsite \$10 more)	Cost	Qty	Total
EWMA Members	\$40	_____	\$ _____
Non Members	\$50	_____	\$ _____
Day Passes-available for purchase on site			
Light Dinner on Thursday Night	\$25	_____	\$ _____
Dinner on Saturday Night	\$40	_____	\$ _____
<i>First Aid/CPR—Friday</i>	\$25	_____	\$ _____
Tickets—addition to comped	Cost	Qty	Total
Grand Prize & Mystery Cash—Books of 5	\$10 X	_____	\$ _____
Grand 50/25/15/10— Books of 5	\$20 X	_____	\$ _____

All pre-registrations must be received by August 3, 2024
[Make Checks payable to EWMA](#)
 Mail completed forms to:
EWMA
Patti Oneill
2125 Meander
Prescott AZ 86305
For further information
Contact: Patti Oneill
Email: ewmacfo@gmail.com
Phone 408-639-0415
\$15.00 fee on all cancellations
No refunds after Aug 5th 2024

GRAND TOTAL IN US DOLLARS ENCLOSED: \$ _____

See and purchase our Rally shirt on our website in our store. Pick them up at rally. Some may be available on-site.

CC# _____
EXP _____ **CVV** _____
Billing Zip Code _____

Name: _____ EWMA #: _____
 Name: _____ EWMA #: _____
 Address: _____ Reg/District/Chapter: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Phone: _____ E-mail _____
 The undersigned, agree to comply with the ideals governing this event and to hold harmless the EWMA, co-sponsoring organizations and property owners for any loss or injury to self or property in which I/we may become involved, and I/we agree to assume responsibility for any property which I/we knowingly damage. **EWMA reserves the right to refuse entrance to anyone at any time.**
 Rider Signature: _____ Co-Rider Signature: _____

The Good Book Guide

ISara Paretsky's second Novel, *Deadlock*, Published in 1984, from her web site: "involves the huge Great Lakes shipping industry. Once again the subject is murder—this time the "accidental death" of Boom-Boom Warshawski, an ex-hockey star and V.I.'s beloved cousin, who fell—or was pushed—off a rain-slicked pier on Chicago's busy waterfront. Convinced that Boom-Boom was in fact killed because of information he had uncovered about criminal doings on the shipping lines, V.I. begins a long and frustrating search for her cousin's murderer. In the course of an investigation that takes her to a remote Canadian port city and a calamitous trip on a sabotaged freighter, V.I. finds all too many possible candidates for the killer, including a grain company executive involved in extortion; and rival heads of two shippers, one of whom is being blackmailed for his criminal past; a hockey player whose specialty is graft; and Boom-Boom's lover, an icily beautiful dancer with expensive tastes in men and merchandise."

Many of the venues in this book will be familiar to Chicagoland readers and others are fictional. Some less so as the setting for the crime is the Calumet Harbor area and the Sault St. Marie locks that are probably unfamiliar to most.

We see an improvement in her writing style and structure. But there is still room for more improvement. Even so, the writing is clear enough for the reader to follow the investigation.

I enjoyed this book and will continue reading and reporting on the series

Killing Orders, V.I. Warshawski's third adventure published in 1985, per her web site: "starts when her great-aunt Rosa summons the detective to her cold suburban home. Rosa made V.I.'s childhood miserable and the detective resents the command to help her aunt prove she didn't embezzle five million dollars from a local Dominican priory.

"All hell breaks loose when a mysterious opponent tries to take Vic off the case by throwing acid in her eyes and burning down her apartment. And when a friend who's involved in the case is brutally murdered, it begins to look as if Vic hasn't got a prayer.

"But Warshawski continues to follow every lead, even when they point to some pretty unorthodox conclusions: Perhaps the Dominicans are covering up a financial scandal. Maybe the whole conspiracy is under the patronage of an international conglomerate, or of Don Pasquale, king of the Chicago mob. Worst of all, someone who's close to Vic could be involved—her darkly handsome English lover, Roger Ferrant, or even Aunt Rosa herself."



The New Statesman writes: "Paretsky has done something new. Her achievement lies in the creation, in Vic, of a wholly successful character whose like I have not encountered before. She is tough, shrewd, intelligent, a feminist and all these characteristics are conveyed with the very lightest of touches—there are not discordant diatribes on sexual politics here. . . . The plot is first-class: called in by an embittered aunt to investigate the theft of three million dollars in share certificates from the safe of the local Catholic priory, Vic finds herself embroiled in murder, high finance, Vatican politics, the Mafia and the Calvi scandal. Sara Paretsky's book is not only a joy to read; it restores politics to its rightful place in the mainstream private eye novel, and in doing so revitalizes the tradition."

In the New York Times Book Review Paretsky says "When I started writing, I wanted to do something very different about the way women are depicted in detective fiction, As a reader of mysteries, I always had trouble with the way women are treated as either tramps or helpless victims who stand around weeping. I wanted to read about a woman who could solve her own problems."

Playboy magazine says her character, V. I. Warshawski is "attractive, intelligent, tough and vulnerable."

This book must be popular as I had to wait to get an electronic copy from the library.. You can see that her writing style has finally matured. And the critics at the time loved it. Women should also love this series because of this character.

Ellary Kahan