

# KING OF THE ALPS

PHOTOS & TEXT BY JOHN HERMANN

Help! We need help! Come out for the *Wildcat Canyon* ride on April 14<sup>th</sup>, and help make sure Herm gets safely through Wildcat Canyon. (See cover for map.) Check the map and note all the good roads. All helpers get official "certified" escort certificates at Mother's, atop Palomar Mountain.



Heading for Joshua Tree National Park, the whole troop here heads east on 52 from Giovanni's on Saturday, March 16<sup>th</sup>.



There they go, little noting that those fleecy clouds are gonna spell rain and sleet crossing the mountains.



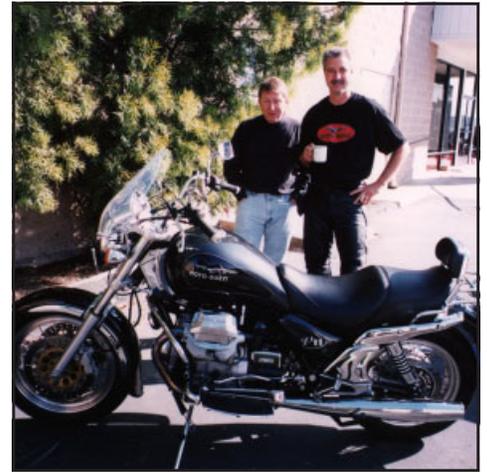
It's already damp as part of the troop stops to warm up at Dudley's Bakery in Santa Ysabel.



But the sun and wind came out in the desert. Here, Ken Shortt leads a major portion of the troop into the south entrance of Joshua Tree. The troop stretched back over the hill.



Ray Higgins decided to get back to motorcycling with a black K1200 RS. Since he got it, he's been out regularly, including all the way on the Joshua Tree ride. That means over the mountain on 74 on the way home.



What you gonna do? Now Doug Tyrone has gone and put a Moto Guzzi in the garage.



Here it is, ladies and gentlemen, the new home of Brecht BMW Motorcycles. That's parts person, Jim Boydston, with the RS. They're already swarming to the site, just around the corner from Auto Park Way. That is, the bees are swarming. Note the cluster in the just-planted palm tree beside the spacious parking lot.



Here, Jim's in the shop area, in back of the sales area. The relatively new building is being completely renovated for BMW.



Even horses can't keep Bill Edwards down. He's back on the road with a new Phoenix cruiser.

Hurrah! The AAA, the Auto Club, is gonna take care of us. For a bit more money. In the March issue of its magazine *Westways*, following two letters to the editor from members of BMWOCSD, it announced that it would begin providing roadside service including towing and tire repair for motorcycles on April 1<sup>st</sup>. It costs \$23 extra to have the coverage. When Herm signed up, he found the telephone operator extremely reluctant to sell the additional service.



Here two former presidents of BMWOCSD, Susan Martin and Eddie Webb, are caught admiring Herm's new (well, almost) R1150 R.



Chuck DuVivier decided to get back to riding... so he got a Capo Nord, and a Bonneville, and then he flew to Denver and bought an almost new R1100 RS, making the ride home his first long trip. He beat the snow storms.



Don Picker has decided to let some of his customers enjoy 2002 R1150 R's. On this one he's installed the deck plate instead of the rear seat. Dave Mishalof, who once rode home atop Herm's backpack where there was no seat, might object.

Did you notice that three of the MOA long distance riders mentioned the fine service they received at Brattin Motors on the Boulevard?

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Herm's first bike, back in 1959, was a Zundapp Challenger. It was a two-stroke, and required that oil be added to the fuel through the gas tank. Now Wesley Stark, that master of all collectibles, has one. Note the nifty deep fender skirt, and the huge muffler. Herm rode his as far as L.A. There was a dealer in downtown San Diego, and in El Cajon.

## KING...



Ken Matousek brought a new belt-drive 650 to Giovanni's one Sunday and immediately had a crowd.



Rich Kapushinski was one of the first to try it out.



Just a few days later, Rich took this picture of Peggie Drobile getting the keys to her new one from Aric Kersten.

Watch the press for news of Charlie Parks. He's planning significant rides this summer.