

KING OF THE ALPS

PHOTOS & TEXT BY JOHN HERMANN

Don't forget. Wildcat Canyon Ride, the 24th anniversary, is Sunday, April 27. Mark it on the calendar and *be there!*



Four valves and two spark plugs. Herm, here on his hands and knees, is feeling for that second sparker, all on the pristine carpet at Brattin Motors.

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Also on the carpet at Brattin Motors, this huge crowd cheering for Dave Campbell, who they were watching in the Boxer Cup, a contingent away at Daytona. Dave moved up to 24th from his starting position eight or more back in the back. There were cheers every time his position was announced, or he was spotted on the screen. Come to the club meeting this month to get a first-person report from Dave.

A couple of good Saturday and Sunday rides last month.



Road Captain Bill Siebold rounded this gang up for a Dusty Spokes ride that found some unpaved connections, including some fine stuff east of Tecate. Foreground, left, is Ron Spicer on his R100GS that he's taken on every trail in the west. Right, on the clean (so far) KLR is Scott Dinger.



Tom Holland on his first ride with the club, took off on this expedition to discover some native California peonies which were located just north of Circle R. Tom is displaying his newly purchased copy of the book, *Motorcycle Journeys Through The Alps and Corsica, Third Edition*, valuable because it's autographed.



Then there was the Second Annual Women Only Ride, here being coordinated by Herta Salzmänn, Karen Clare, Pat Wagner, Nanna Frye, and Pippa Dinger.



And the overnighter through Joshua Tree National Monument. A couple of new members showed up for the ride, which was a bit of a test because it did indeed storm a bit and blow a bit. One of the new riders were Mick Taylor, right, on the LT. Mick got his bike in Columbus, OH.



“Turk” Konuk, left, on his trusty 650, and Lee Steinauer on the R100GS head out of Giovanni’s on a damp Sunday heading for Joshua Tree.



In out of the deep-deep snow of Colorado, John Collins with his mighty Suzuki has been riding with San Diego folk recently. Behind John and the Suzuki is the pristine BMW convertible belonging to Peggie Picker.



Dan Toporoski and John Hermann share an historic commonality ... they both graduated (can you believe it) from Vanderbilt University. Dan, being the gentleman of the south that he is, hesitates to point out that the two were not in the same class.



Recently, President Tom Mooney dropped by the Coronado Landing for lunch where former club president, Ken Shortt, recognized that it was indeed Tom’s birthday. Tom then rode the GS off to choir rehearsal of Mozart’s Requiem.



At Giovanni’s of a recent Sunday morn, Dave Mishalof (in white shirt) smiles and acknowledges he’s just finished the 100 CCC ... coast to coast in 100 hours. That is, San Diego to Jacksonville to San Diego, almost 5000 miles in 100 hours, all on the faithful K1200 RS. With him, waiting for the doors to open are Charlie Parks, Kyle Hudson, Gary Adler (under the hood) and “Doc” Williams.



Then Dave headed off to Mission Blvd. to lunch with twelve other CCC finishers. Then he took off for Gila Bend, AZ, so he could qualify for 5,000 miles in 100 hours. He proved this by showing up Monday morning at Jimmy’s on Midway Drive where Don Picker verified his presence.



“And here,” says Rex Hosea, “the laptop connects to the whole world.” “Gee,” says Doc Williams. Rex’s Adventure is completely wired.

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You can't top these caps. John Diffin and John Hermann are properly and proudly sporting very special headwear fashioned in Posen, Michigan, by John Diffin's mother. She raises and shears the sheep, spins the wool and knits the caps. John D's is a special tight knit. John H's is 100% natural color wool from "Lenny."

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It was a wet raining evening, but nevertheless, forty or so stalwart San Diego BMW folk gathered last month to hear of the adventures of Simon and Monika Newbound. Starting in Dublin, Ireland they'd ridden across Europe and Asia and to the U.S. on their way to a record ride to a hundred and some countries. Here they're setting up their computer in Giovanni's back room.



Then Monika explained it all to Wesley Stark.



Even though he's a retired British submariner, Simon has a bit of almost American looking stripes on his R1150 Adventure with Al Jesse bags.



Not the least inhibited by the downpour, Porter McRoberts rode down from Redlands for the evening.



Next morning, the sun was shining and Monika had her bike at Brattin Motors for service. Monika hails from the Czech Republic.

Whilst we read now, Chuck DuVivier is motoring across Mozambique toward Malawi (could that have been Northern Rhodesia when some of us went to school?) with a Rotarian load of wheels ... wheel chairs for children there.

