

KING OF THE ALPS

PHOTOS & TEXT BY JOHN HERMANN



It fits. Seems like the new 1200GS was made just for our editor. He looks so happy and comfortable on it. Too bad. This one's sold. But, who can tell? Someday he may have to have one.

Rich Flores pointed out some of the bells and whistles. Is that a computer driven diaphragm that adjusts the decibel level of the muffler?



With a lot of help, Herm made it through Wildcat Canyon on Wildcat Canyon Sunday, and all the way to Mothers at Palomar Mountain. Fresh snow on the mountain. Lots of escort certificates, like to Dieter-Heinz Kijora on a new Honda, and Blair

Balsam on a new Yamaha. Don Walker all the way from Florida, and Ray Higgins all the way from Del Mar, both on K1200 RS's, stayed close on Herm's tail all the way through Bandy Canyon and over Mesa Grande. In the past, some escorts have proved troublesome, like famous world traveler, Dr. Gregory Frazier, who a couple of years ago chased Herm all the way up the mountain with a tomahawk (see photo). Last year, Tom Roach and his gang from Palm Springs re-enacted the Indian attack somewhere near Ramona. This year, they plotted the same, but they were outwitted. Former Road Captain Ken Shortt led the point group out of Mother's just before 9:30 AM. Some got clean sweeps up Clevenger Canyon on 78, such a fine piece of road. Former Road Captains, Enrique Ortega and John Strayer found their own way. Current Road Captain, Bill Siebold, headed the sweeper group. Erick Anderson's friend Steve rode his silver R1150 R out from New York for the ride.



Don Petrick is telling an uncertain Dan Frey that these are the hot-ticket tires for the GS.



The chapeau lady, Linda Blaylock, is always sparkling under those sequins, except when she's under the RT trying to protect it, except when she's flying in to Laughlin or some such resort.



"There is this bend in the road between Nashville and San Diego," says Gary Walker, "somewhere in New Mexico." Gary in the center of this Friday morning covey on Newport in Ocean Beach, is showing off his new Yamaha 1300 that he flew to Tennessee to get.



Doesn't Lisa Schumacher look good and happy on her R1150 R! Note the windscreen, and the custom seat. She says the seat is comfortably lower.



Tom Mooney and Don Petrick got a sneak look at the R1200 GS when they caught Dave Campbell taking it out for a test ride.



Don't know. Would the "ALP KING" license plates fit on this bike?



Someone said he had a Harley, but we only see Bill Soracco on the Adventure. He had his wife on it for

the Wildcat Canyon ride. Then they joined a select few for debriefing at the Pauma Casino, where they found Ken Light with washtub and broomstick on his R100, fresh in from performing at the Yuma Prison Run.



Cool. You thought ICON made helmets. Yes, and a lot of other weird stuff. The local rep is here showing off the gold plated ICON gloves. That's 24 caret gold plated. The gloves go with the helmet in the background that has a gold shield.

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You can indeed teach an old dog, er motorcycle, new tricks. Look at Ron Spicer's R1100 GS. It has a classy seat, a new Adventure tank, new shocks, all the latest TouraTech bracing, including steering stops on the telelever. And it's clean, too. Not bad.

KING...

Why not spell it "Shay?" To find out, Dave Mishalof and Turk inexplicably followed a course to Canyon de Chelly up in NE Arizona instead of checking the wonders of Wildcat. This month, Dave is threatening to do a quick turn around all 48 states.



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Come on, cut the cake. To wish Sam Ballante a fond farewell, Polly Gillette at Brattin Motors baked him a chocolate cake and gave him a hug while the rest of the staff lined up for a piece of cake and for this photo. Now, you may find Sam at Rocket Motors.



Photo by Ken Shortt

John Hermann, showing the front and back of the Wildcat Canyon Escort certificates, contributed by Brattin Motors.