

KING OF THE ALPS

PHOTOS & TEXT BY JOHN HERMANN



Where have we been? You of course recognize the plains of Latvia in this photo of Wesley Stark on his mighty Euro-bike. He's out searching for rare

Zundapp parts, and the search lead him across Poland to Latvia.

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Meanwhile Bob

Palin is threatening to become a resident of Torrey, Utah. You know, the metropolis near Capitol Reef National Park.

And Ed Kolker went to Cuba recently. Not on a bike.

Pippa and Scott Dinger did Glacier, Jasper, Banff.

Club treasurer Ray Higgins absconded to muddy Vermont for that final *Pfish* concert. He says his daughter made him go.

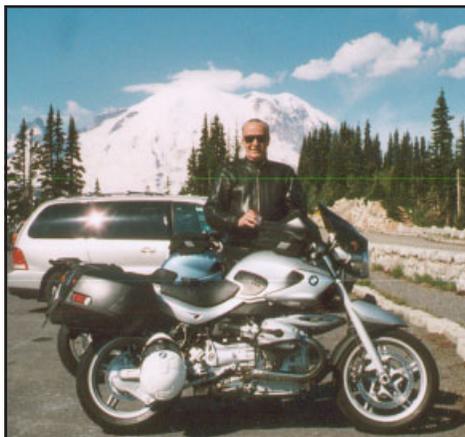


And "Homemade" Bob Skirvin invaded the passes of Colorado on his new KLR.

While David Kuhnle has actually purchased a home in Silver City, New Mexico, where the roads are great and the traffic non-existent. Hope the house is big enough for company.

Brad Pitt (yes) took the BMW off road riding course at Hecklingen near Munich on a new GS.

Jerry Franklin of F650 fame is just back from South Africa. He was there as crew on a Dragon Boat. He's heading to Hawaii for an outrigger race between Molokai and Oahu, and then to Shanghai for another Dragon Boat race.



Don Picker on his 1150R got this close to Mt. Rainier's Sunrise Highway at about 6,000 feet elevation.



Turk Konuk got this close to the snow and forests of Olympic National Park at 6,000 feet on Hurricane Ridge road



After ferrying from Whidbey Island to the Olympic Peninsula, Don Picker and Turk Konuk found this hamburger tasty. It was right where Washington's Highway 20 meets Highway 101.



The fine Picker trailer behind the fine Picker Explorer proved a fine way to get from San Diego to Washington. Don is demonstrating his expert tie-down technique here at home in La Jolla.



Here Turk Konuk is supervising the process at the other end of the line, Seattle. That's Herm's bike beside Don Picker's on the trailer. And please understand, the two bikes, off the trailer, were ridden 2500 miles in the state of Washington.



Two signs seen often along the highways of Washington. This particular "turnout" sign was in the Cascades National Park.



This particular advice to motorcycles sign was in Olympic National Park. Similar signs were posted often, and seemed to relate to paving underway.



At a lunch stop along the Washington state Pacific coast, Don and Turk met up again with Gerhardt Pilz of Chicago. Gerhardt and his wife had been in the same motel in Spokane and at an adjacent motel at Winthrop, Washington.

John Diffin, late of Brattin Motors and now of Michigan, and his wife Stephanie have a new daughter.

Don Cox, who's been without a BMW for some years, now has a new R1150 R. Black.

Carol Hughes has been away recently helping her father following her Mother's death.



Bill and Linda Blaylock are getting a tour of Mark Pohlson's new R1200GS. Then they told Mark how their plane got struck by a flying outhouse. They were flying toward Spokane in their high performance plane, and stopped near La Grande, in northeast Oregon. That night there came a storm. A flying porta-pottie was blown into their plane.



Out west for the Spokane rally was Dick Climes, here at Giovanni's with Ken Snyder.



Up to no good. Bill Siebold is astride Gary Walker's new Adventure, while Gary makes some minor adjustments to the special lights he's recently installed, all under the supervision of Chuck DuVivier.

Beer for all after the wedding of Heidi Weldon and Bob Still at Top 'o' the Rockies.

Determined to break some sort of record, Charlie Parks is off to do a Four Corners thing on the mighty GT. Meanwhile, club founders, Mike and Reva Randall are visiting in Nebraska. While Ken and Pat Shortt are just back from cruising to Alaska on the Norwegian Star, which ship the Wagners and the Blaylocks and John Hermann hope to enjoy come January on the way to Acapulco.



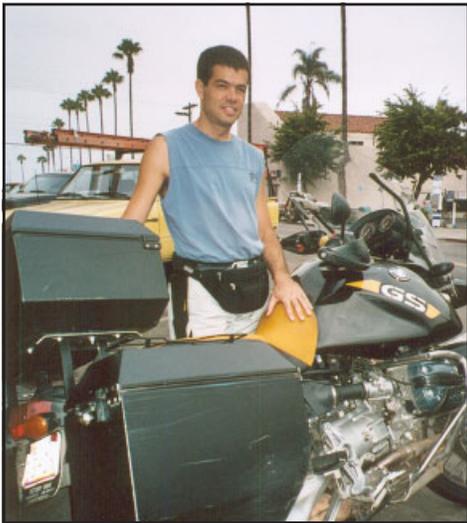
New club member Ken Jensen bought this R75/5 at the factory in Munich back in 1973. Don't know where he got the helmet.

KING...

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Two Iron Butts check details. Jamie Edmunds, left, and Dave Shealey. Jamie bought this RS in celebration of beating cancer (hence the Krebs sticker, among the several on his fender). Dave has just finished some engine repairs on his LT.



J. D. Smith of Arizona is just back to Margarita's from Tierra del Fuego on his Adventure with the 11 gallon Touratech tank and Jesse bags. About 33,000 miles. Flew from Panama to Bogota, then south on the west coast. Northbound, he took the new road from Rio that goes to Peru, via Brazilia. At the Amazon he took a boat down to Manaus. He says there's a good road from Manaus to Venezuela. And, he says the scuff marks on the tank were put there when Jimmy Lewis dropped the bike.



Klaus Thiel's sidecar rig is from Switzerland. Note the front wheel brake scoop. Klaus assembled it himself.



There was this wondrous party last month at the Wagner's mansion in Encinitas. Ken Dinckan and his daughter, Melody, were on the edge of the spa.



Sign up now for *Oktoberfest*. Turk Konuk has been busy making sure it'll be grand.



Another great *Oktoberfest* tee shirt design comes from Miki Keanum, at a recent meeting with Marc Waterman.



Jim Hyde of RawHyde Adventures, right, told the August club meet about his off-road training and park up by Gorman, and his ride in Tuscany with Beachs. Steve Strachan is getting the after program lowdown.

Pat Wagner is off to Ramstein near Frankfurt, Germany, to meet a new grandchild.

All the poop on the new, not yet released K bike. That's what we'll learn from Harry (and Polly) Brattin at the next club meeting, Tuesday, September 21, at Giovanni's.

They're just back from the Nürburgring in Germany where Harry got to test ride the bike on the famous ring, and also on public roads including the Autobahn. At speed.



Polly Glantz photo

Polly took this picture of Harry with one of the in-line transverse fours with drive shaft on the left and those funny front forks. She says it's Harry. We'll never know for sure, because she said she was aiming at the bike, not him, and left his head off.

Harry and Polly stayed at the hotel built into the Nürburgring and report that it's fabulous.

Come and see at the September meeting.



This K1 rider is off to ride a K1200S at the Nürburgring; one of four chosen by BMW from the USA. Mike Moore was also a finalist.

