

KING OF THE ALPS

PHOTOS & TEXT BY JOHN HERMANN

A report here from some of our club folk playing in the Alps, and checking out bikes at the huge *Intermot* show in Munich and playing with the new K1200RS at the Nürburgring. Stacy Silverwood and Carol did the Nürburgring thing. Blair Balsam and Gary Orr and Heather did *Intermot* and Mobile Tradition and Munich, and the factory at Berlin. A few of us just rode.



It's the roads. Like this one up the west side of Lake Garda in Italy.



And Passo Mortirolo in the Italian Alps being topped here by Don Picker last month. Passo Mortirolo is famous among bicyclists and often featured on the Giro d'Italia.



And this one with Tom Mooney heading for the bent church steeple at Barbian, Italy.



Bruce Redding took this picture of me way up above the Grimsel Pass in Switzerland.



I was riding this green Rockster from the BMW Niederlassung in Munich. Liked it.



Here's Bruce Redding on his mighty Varadero coming down off the Oberaare road.



And here was the base group awaiting dinner at Andermatt, Switzerland. From left, Dave Rives, Jenny Rives, John Hermann, Don Picker, Bruce Redding and Tom Mooney.



O-Kay. It rained. It even snowed. Frau Gut is sending us off into the rain from Hotel Allegra Pontresina, Switzerland.



Okay. It's fun to eat in the Alps, too. High atop Splugen Pass, just a few meters into Italy, Bruce Redding and Dave and Jenny Rives take in the first pasta of the trip. Dave and Jenny were riding an R1150 RT that they'd rented from Bianco Bleu in Milano.



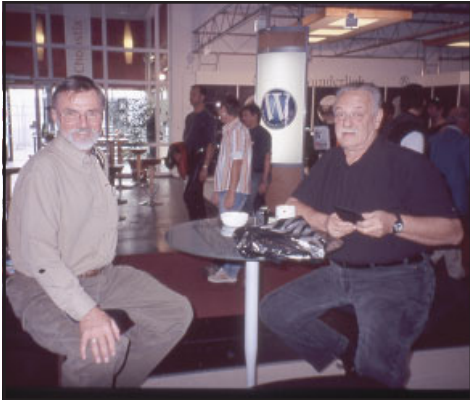
This couple from Belgium found us atop Passo Gavia where Don Picker softened them up. Then later, atop Passo Stelvio, they bought an autographed copy of *the* book.



Back at Munich's *Intermot* show, I noted this aluminum valve cover on the new R1200GS.

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And Don Picker met up with Kari Prager at the BMW display. Kari is a dealer from the bay area, and he had been at the K1200RS intro with Harry Brattin a month ago at the Nürburgring. Now he's back in Munich for a BMW "council" meeting with select dealers about future plans. Hush hush.



And by Sandy Cohen, editor of *BMW Owners News*. Sandy is here being introduced to a Coupe Danemark... a hot fudge sundae.



At Hotel Soller in Ismaning by Munich, where we stay when in the area, we were joined by old time Munich BMW friends, including Issy Radlmaier who was wearing her Oktoberfest loeden outfit.

(Remember, Oktoberfest in Munich is mostly in September).