

KING OF THE ALPS

PHOTOS & TEXT BY JOHN HERMANN



Ain't it lovely! Kyle Hudson is really enjoying his R90S, silver smoke. He found it up in the bay area and rode it back to Escondido with Stacy Silverwood as escort. Admiring the bike are David Knetzer and Carl Langston and Dan Frey. They all remember 1974/75, when the 90S was the cutting edge of development and style. The cockpit fairing was a first. You can distinguish a 1975 90S because it had holes in the front brake disks. The 1974 had solid disks.



If you don't have a new R1200GS, you may be losing out. Tom Mooney's here is yellow with black trim. It has the BMW rear top case which is expandable and matches the side saddle bags.



Then there's new member Paul Steiger learning about his new GS from Gary Orr. The GS is Paul's first bike in almost 20 years. Paul's GS is red with black.



John Sullivan's new GS is silver, well equipped with Al Jesse bags and top case. John rode all the way to Lake Shasta to get the super saddles of alligator hide. (No, not Lake Shasta alligators).



So many things going on at *Oktoberfest*. Heidi and Bob Still, newlyweds since Paonia, told how easy it is to ride in 49 states in just a couple of days. At a later session, for women riders, Heidi revealed that she had met Bob buying gas somewhere in Arizona. Eventually, Bob gave her a diamond at Key West.



Also at *Oktoberfest*, Cheryl Nemece was wearing her Red Hat and selling raffle tickets. You must know about the Red Hat ladies who always wear red hats and purple. That's the color of Cheryl's tee shirt here which does identify the organization. Note in the background the nifty sun shelters set up for *Oktoberfest*.



There is almost always a Saturday ride from Giovanni's like this one with Tom Mooney on the new GS leading out toward Clairemont Mesa Blvd. and beyond.



One Saturday ride explored possible rally sites, including Twin Lakes "Resort" way out Highway 94. It had hosted *Oktoberfest* back in the 1980's. Well, the resort seems sort of seedy now, but the good news is that it has a new cafe that is very motorcycle friendly, staffed with anxious charming young ladies, with a very reasonably priced menu. Find it all a couple of miles north of 94 at Potrero. Well fed here are Tom Mooney, on the new GS, Tom Schafer, Erick Anderson, and a couple of others.



Another possible site visited was Potrero County Park. It proved to have trees and a lot of dust and no showers. Road Captain Bill Siebold is leading the retreat out of the park.



Coming back from Spokane, I insisted on stopping at Scapoose, Oregon, on the Columbia river, to be measured for a new pair of West Coast boots, and then at Langlitz Leathers in Portland to measured for leathers. West Coast promised to deliver the boots ordered in July sometime in November. Langlitz delivered the new

leathers in September while I was in the Alps. So UPS picked them up and returned them to Portland. When I got home, Langlitz sent them again. I don't know what or whom they measured back in July, but the leathers were really baggy. So they went back to Portland again. They came back again to Coronado recently, much reduced in size, but still pretty baggy. So they may go back to Portland again. UPS stock should go up.

