

KING OF THE ALPS

TEXT & PHOTOS BY JOHN HERMANN

Look what's coming.

28th Anniversary Wildcat Canyon on Sunday, April 9.

That means that the incident in Wildcat Canyon was on April 1 in 1978. Then Herm was riding a fine R90S, silver smoke. The one on the cover of Whitehorse Press's new book, BMW R90S, is Daytona Orange.

And not to miss in May. The first ride to King City. Starting May 8.



She's always smiling, except when her picture's being taken. **Sandy Shanley** of Margarita's on Newport Avenue in Ocean Beach knows everyone and what they want for breakfast. **Linda Blaylock** is smiling, because she got her special order and two plates. The gathering of unemployed BMW riders has grown so popular that there are often no seats left two minutes after the door opens at 7 AM on Fridays.



Eric Broeder restored this K100RS and it seems nicer than new. Clean enough to pass the **Hugo Schreiner** test.



Vicente Vargas, Professor Vargas, rode a bike all over the place in Viet Nam recently, and came home to get this Dakar model. That might have been the 97,474th BMW motorcycle built last year. That was the total for

the year. With that small total, BMW manages to play with the big boys making millions of bikes a year.



Stacy Silverwood trailered his Boxer Cup to Willow Springs for a CLASS day recently. It was very cold at Willow. So he trailered the bike on up to Laguna Seca, where it rained a bit. Then **Carol Alley** flew up to Monterey and the two came home via Cambria, where they stopped to visit with **Pete Swanson**, his wife **Deborah**, and dog **Grace** ...



... and 500 Honda with a shiny aluminum tank.

Stacy Silverwood photo

Stacy Silverwood photo



Swanson photo

Pete had found the Fastest Indian nearby. The Swanson's traded Ramona for Cambria.



Then Bruce Rogers found this Husqvarna, being appraised by Gary Walker. It's yellow. With a bit of blue.



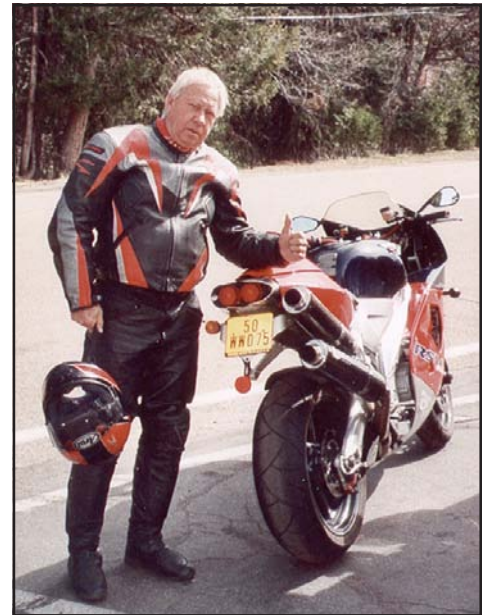
But Honda's have always been red. This perfect specimen, more than forty years old, is being appraised by Mark Pohlson, Wes Ross and Mike Lynch.



These BMW folk keep testing other waters. Ron Spicer found this Ducati somewhere. It's yellow.



Doctor Bill Mazzei rode with the club years ago. Now, he's back with a new GS. It's yellow. Bill says he rode dirt with his son until recently.



And this Honda, ridden by Tom Roach of Palm Springs, is also red. It's a two stroke, and was at Mother's on Palomar Mountain with Parisian (like in France) license plates.



Then Painter Don Francque found this new Triumph, being appraised by Don Picker. The Triumph is yellow.



KING...



Miles and Miles. Millions of them right at the table at Giovanni's recently with Dave Mishalof, Bob and Heidi Stiles (née Weldon). Bob and Heidi were sort of incognito. Their bikes were in a trailer.



Also at Giovanni's on recent Saturdays is Tom Mooney, former club president and rally chair. Mary Parks, behind Tom, made it a special trip to see Tom. Tom was discussing the state of the world with John Barnes and Bob Ingram.



One Saturday ride recently wound up at a mystery stop, *Fat Ivors* in Valley Center. Still ribbing are Gary Walker, John Hermann, Rex Neilson and Brian Muldoon.



There was this big ride, the *Anza Borrego Desert Dash*. Gary Orr is poised ready to dash to the dash as soon as Brattin locks the doors. Note the 39 liter Touratech tank on his 650 Dakar. He suggests it's possible to ride 400 miles without putting a foot down. Some of us are mature enough to wonder how one rides that far without stopping, and mature enough to remember Gary riding a K75.



SCHOOLIN'...

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crawling in the streets as these young girls sold their goods.

This year I have 18 kids in school, less than before, but many are now in high school and one is studying at a university so costs are a lot higher than for kids in grammar school. There are at least three girls now working as teachers and one as a bookkeeper. Some would never even have gone to 1st grade, so they have really accomplished something. I try to visit the kids every year to see how they are doing and to check their grades. If they are not doing well I try to motivate them. If that fails I cut off their help until they are ready to

work at being students again. In a couple of cases I've cut off aid for a couple of years, then have restarted it if they prove to me they are studying and getting good grades.



Padre Kevin on a 25-year-old thumper.

The way the sponsorships work is that people give me money, anywhere from \$50 to \$500 a year, with usually a six year commitment, plus I contribute some money to the fund. I choose the kids and distribute the money, paying all overhead expenses out of my own pocket so that every dollar in the fund goes to help a child. I keep saying I'm going to quit but can't. This year I started paying school expenses for a sweet six year old Kak'chikel Maya girl named Ana. She's an orphan being raised by her aunt and has a smile that lights up everything around her. I couldn't say no.

