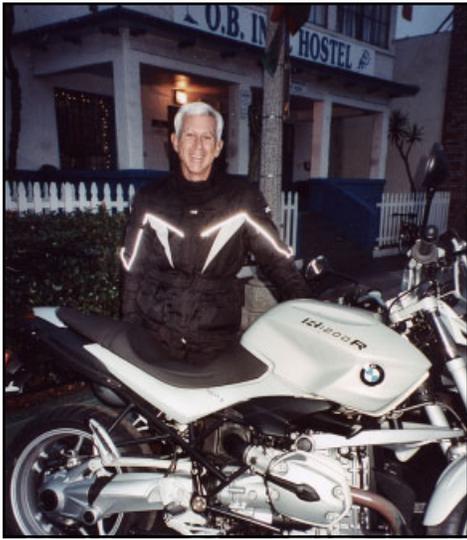


KING OF THE ALPS

TEXT & PHOTOS BY JOHN HERMANN



It's Jerry Franklin and his new R1200 R. His mighty 650 that was famous for finding mud on the 2006 Wildcat Canyon ride was retired. The new bike is gloss silver. Lovely.

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And the new Franklin machine became the subject of detailed discussion after breakfast at Margarita's on Newport in O.B.



Rumor was that Don Picker, on the left here, put a bug in Jerry's ear about the marvels of the R1200 R. Don, left, let Stacy Silverwood inspect his new one.



Stacy's verifying that the front tire's air valve on these newfangled BMW's sticks out to the right on the right side of one of the cast spokes.



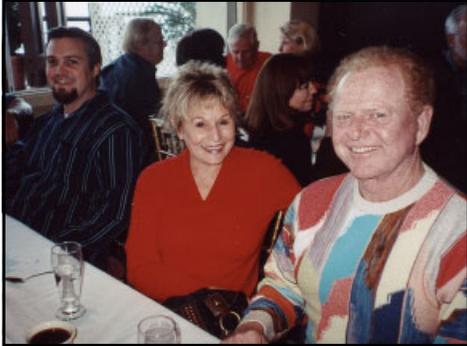
That chief of sales at SDBMWMC, Mike Lynch, is chef of fantastic Eggs Benedict.



At SDBMWMC, often know as the Orr House, Bill Siebold is wondering about this strange sealed crate in back of the shop, distinctly labeled with a Milwaukee product.

Mr. Orr of said house was recently a week in Salt Lake City, apparently getting the latest skinny from BMWNA. Meanwhile Mike O'Keefe was back in the hospital draining a lung, apparently a lingering problem from the

Barstow to Vegas last month. Sooner or later, he'll learn that it's better not to crash.



And speaking of Mr. Orr, he was right there at the club's Holiday Party last month, beside **Judy Higgins** and **Ron Spicer**.



Bill Taylor was at the club's Holiday Party with his wife, **Annelene** with **Louise** and **Dick Sackett** to the left. Louise is still wheelchair bound after major corrective surgery on a leg.



All the way from Borrego Springs Turk came to the party to sit with **Martha Schreiner** and **Hugo**. (Hugo is reported to be smoothing out his Ducati ride with new a new Vanson one-piece in black and red.) The Schreiner's grandson **Liam**, from Oslo, Norway, is in town for the holidays.



And **Mark Eckel** made it to the party, still sporting a brace on his leg. That's **Nanna Frye** on the right.



One table at the party held **Don** and **Peggie Picker** and **Dana** and **Ira Grossman**. Ira's sporting a shirt from the Gailtaler Hof in Austria. It's a well know motorcycle destination at the junction of several good roads, all near the Italian border.



Frida Silveira, hostess of the grand party, posed out on the terrace with **John Hermann**, **Kit Lynch**, **Reva Randall**, and **Pat Shortt**.



Back when **John Barnes**, left, was laid up, **Tom Mooney** organized "take John to lunch" gatherings. Last month, there was a reunion, with **John**, **Fulton Martin**, **Tom Mooney** and **Ron Spicer** at the San Diego Brewing Company in Mission Gorge. **Bill Siebold** and **Ken Shortt** were out of camera range.



OK. Let's ride. If someone would lead, we could get out of the parking lot at Giovanni's.



A K bike rider at Givoanni's is getting the scope from **Gary Walker**. Gary has been sporting sort of a sore hand. He

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has been called to Guadalajara, to be with his wife, **Cuca**, after the recent death of her father.



It is positively glistening, **Bob Ingram's K75**. Joining him in admiring the results of a detail job are **Ken Shortt and Linda Blaylock and Jerry Franklin and Henri Warren and Bill Blaylock**. (Note: Bill went to snowy Montana and retrieved his airplane.) Henri and his wife **Dottie** spent the holidays in Mississippi.



There was an exploratory trip to the Canyon Lands of northern L.A. County. One morning, the hardy investigators awoke to 16 degrees Fahrenheit. Some discovered ice on the walks. After crossing into the Mojave at Crestline, the exploratory group rode across Lone Pine Canyon to Mt. Emma Road to the Sierra Highway to Upper Big Tujunga

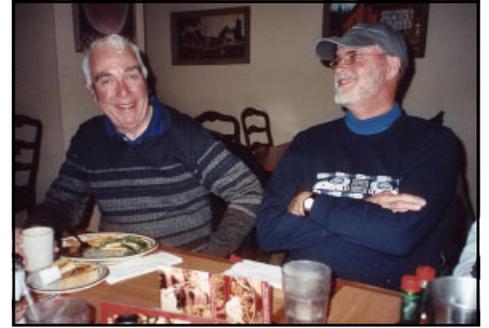
Canyon to state route 2 past Mt. Wilson to Tujunga Canyon to Little Tujunga Canyon to Soledad Canyon to Palmdale's Days Inn.



These canyon roads of L.A. county are empty; this stop was on Vasques Canyon, just off of Bouquet Canyon after crossing Spunky Canyon from San Francisquito Canyon.



The Rock Inn welcomed the hungry group for lunch near Lake Hughes. **Ron Spicer** was on his Cagiva, which was a reluctant starter in the cold weather.



One evening after a hard day in the canyons, **John Hermann and Bill Taylor** enjoyed a warm dinner with the gang. The Days Inn sported a Japanese restaurant with Korean and Chinese employees.

