

KING OF THE ALPS

PHOTOS AND TEXT BY JOHN HERMANN

You'd think the smart money would be in cool San Diego. But our editor took his GS swimming in Arizona. Sam Ballante left the counter at Brattin Motors for biking in Montana. Polly and Harry Brattin set sail on the QE II out of New York City for a week of jazz and eating.



While his wife and son checked out the monsoons in Australia, our president, Dietrich Kijora, upper right here, visited the open house at Brecht BMW where he approved of the mount of one of Escondido's finest. That's Brecht's service guys on the left.

Then Dietrich headed for Deutschland.

Missing picture

Blair Balsam recognized Chet Thurston behind those shades and under that hat. Back when he was president of BMWOCSD he wore the duds of an San Diego policeman.



Our BMW sales person, Scott Mastrocinque, put on his Guzzi tee shirt and headed for GP Cycles downtown to inspect the very first and only new MV Augusta in the USA. This gold version with the massive swingarm and fuel injection is supposed to be priced at only \$38,000. Sorry, they say, it's not for sale.

The Italian bug caught David Knetzer over in Tucson for a gathering of Moto Guzzi Falcons and riders, all from Italy.



Former president Susan Martin's plate is empty here. But she and Karen May must be plotting something for Oktoberfest.

Rumor has Gary Orr commuting from Escondido.

New signs up at Mother's Kitchen. Addressed to "Dear Motorcycle Friends," they read, "Mother's Kitchen and Palomar Mountain General Store want to thank you for your patronage, and let you know that we appreciate your love of this mountain and the roads leading to it. We look forward to seeing you here for many years to come." Then in a very pleasant manner, the sign asks for cooperation. Check it out.



Come to find out, a couple of fine San Diego riders decided to decorate my lovely Cruiser with this "L" for learner plate. Then they set me off to cruise the rally at Rhinebeck.

Back from riding to that Rally, Carl Langston (Guzzi mounted), David Mishalof and Tom Mooney. It took each of them almost 9,000 miles to get across the US and back. Dave did go on to Maine, and Tom to Minnesota.

It was **Craig Dickson** of Woods Hole, Massachusetts, who showed me around New England and held my hand for the flat tire ordeal in Vermont. Then he flew to Albuquerque and got his 1100GS out of the garage and spent two weeks getting to San Diego. He stopped in Phoenix to get some Al Jesse bags. Seems Al has left Iowa for Arizona.



Turf McTaggart has completed his move from Roseburg, Oregon to Mission Valley, where his bikes are comfortably garaged. One of the bikes, the KLR, has a special paint scheme here being explained by Turf and examined by **Carl Langston** and enjoyed by **Doc Williams**.

Doc is just back from Sturgis on the K75. He says that a guy came up and said "You must be Doc. I'm Willie G."

Hugo Schreiner followed a gang up Mt. Whitney, led by **Kim Johnson**, and including his daughters. 19 hour round trip from the parking lot.

Carol Alley and **Stacy Silverwood** are heading for Del Mar Heights. Not far from the fire station.

Jimi Udvadia is now on the staff at Brecht.

He went to Italy to sing, **Jim Boydston**, and did indeed sing in St. Peters. Now he's getting ready to sing for High Holy Days in September, as well as tending counter at Brecht.



The brothers **Dorr**, **Barry** and **Harold**, did all the passes in the Sierras. Harold on the 1100GS and Barry on the K75. Here Harold, right was caught reporting to **Ken Robb** and **Ray Gretlein**, also a K75 rider.

Then Harold launched his boat and motored off to Catalina with his wife and kids and dog.



Johannes Radlmaier of Bavaria and BMW AG, showed up at Giovanni's on a recent Sunday and talked with **Doc Williams**, **Greg Balas** and **Bill Siebold**. That's Johannes second from right. Then he and his wife flew Southwest to Vegas to see Siegfried and Roy.



New member **Bruce Redding**, from Oregon, has decided to keep a bike in San Diego. Reportedly, he has a 1100GS and a R50/5. San Diego for the moment gets this Suzuki.

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Back from Rhinebeck in New York to Murietta, **Larry Stonestreet** and wife **Susan** got the daughters on the bikes and got up early enough to make it to Giovanni's for breakfast.

KING...



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The reason **Herta Salzmänn** is hugging this guy is that he

traded up to a BMW at Brecht, and she got his low-riding Shadow.



It says it's an Indian, and it got to Giovanni's to the astonishment of **Turf McTaggart** and **Will Creedon**.



A couple of nice K-bikes (with riders) at Giovanni's on a recent Sunday.



This guy at Brecht's said he was just joining — likely story.

So where are we going now?

Nanna Frye and **David Mishalof** are off on the Three Flags Classic. (Also **Mark Newlander**.) They start in Nogales, AZ, with checkpoints at Glenwood Springs and Cody, Wyoming, and finally, Medicine Hat, Alberta. They may come home a different route. David should have close to 40,000 miles on his new K1200LT by then.

Colorado beckons **Blair Balsam** and **Ron Jensen**. No doubt they'll get their bikes to Colorado "Harley Style." That is, by pickup.

It's Corsica for a lot of San Diegans. You know, that mountainous island in the Mediterranean west of Rome. **Brad Baum** and **Don and Peggie Picker** and **John Barnes** and **John Collins** and **John Hermann** and **Tom Mooney** hope to

meet that *Friend of the Marque*, **Court Fisher** near Nice, France, and ferry by fast boat to Corsica... and back. **John C.** and **John B.** plan to be on Hondas! (Corsica is French, where they call it "*le Corse*.")

Guess who was at the Rhinebeck Rally? **Tizzy Sprecker**, former editor of *Road Signs* and twice chairperson of our Oktoberfest. She's living in Massachusetts now.

Steve Van Twuyver and **Will Creedon** are plotting a Moto Guzzi Rally hereabouts.

Jon Dyer is eyeing Miami, Florida.

