

# KING OF THE ALPS

PHOTOS & TEXT BY JOHN HERMANN

How many times to Fat Ivor's? The Valley Center Rib Rack has attracted BMW folk for more than twenty years. Mr. "Fat Ivor" Thomas died just before New Year's. But the ribs are still better than any.



New Years Day witnessed the first ride of 2003. Where else but San Diego? Ready to ride from the Spice House at 9:30, Nanna Frye on the

1100R, left, Pippa Dinger, center, on the VFR, and a host of others.



Checking in, left, was Jamie Lenore, Ray Higgins on the K1200, Road Captain Bill Siebold, and Dr. Ed Kolker.

Apparently we failed him. Bruce Redding has faded back into the wilds of Arizona.



The bad news is: the historic watering-hole and tire-kicking and collect-the-gang spot at the upper

end of Wildcat Canyon, where this crowd is doing all of the above, is being fenced for subdivision.



Sad. The Ocean Beach pier is closed due to damage from recent surf. What's the Friday morning gang to do after breakfast at Margarita's? Well, Doc Williams and Lee Steinauer thought about walking out on the rocks. But the waves were too big.

John Collins in Pagosa Springs, CO., ordered some parts from Brattin's. But the UPS would not dare the ice and snow on John and Lee's road.

Meanwhile, Eric Levy has moved his K1200 RS to Evergreen, CO., and has made valued contact with the Colorado BMW dealers.



As you can see, Ed Siebert got the gash in the GS tank fixed. While he waited, he bought a F650.



And Vern Henderson got a new 1150R (wow! what good taste) for his 81<sup>st</sup> birthday.

The *Reader* did a story on Big Shots ... one being Marty Levin, the news anchor at Channel 7/39. Asked, "What do you like about living here?" Marty replied, of course, "I can ride my BMW motorcycle all year long."



One Sunday in January, Dick and Priscilla Climes brought their dog to Giovanni's to say good-bye ... it and they are heading east. Cheryl Nemec and Walter Gates weren't sure how much licking was appropriate.





Styling. That's Stephanie Roehl and John Diffin at Giovanni's. John's sporting the latest chapeau. Very special, because it's knit of pure wool by his mother, from sheep that his mother sheared and raised back in Michigan.

Who should be sitting at Scott's (you know, the super salesman at Brattin Motors) desk on El Cajon Boulevard but Werner Wachter, head man of Edelweiss Motorcycle Tours. Check with Scott to find out about the big deal you can get.



While President Tom Mooney played in the snow of Andermatt, Switzerland, it fell to Vice President Ken Burkett to give the club's \$1,000 donation to the Palomar Mountain Volunteer Fire Department Captain, Karl Bauer. Surrounded by proud club members, Ken did the honors on Palomar Mountain after a Saturday ride.



Then a helmeted San Diego Fire Captain, Stacy Silverwood exchanged a few inside stories with Captain Bauer.

Then some members adjourned to Fat Ivor's for ribs.



Nowadays Turk Konuk's mighty K1200 LT stays garaged while he plays all over the mountains on his new yellow F650.

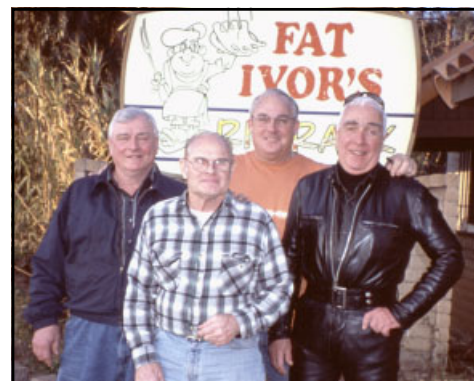


Sometimes the passenger knows best. Susan Martin is discussing seats and backrests with Teresa

Toporoski. She flew to Guatemala while Dan rode the GS.



Here's a pair. One-one hundreth of the Boxer Cup BMWs in America, right at Giovanni's. First, Ken Snyder got one from Brecht to park beside his RT. Then Mike Bernstein got one from Brattins to park beside his other two BMW's.



Of course, they went to dine on ribs at Fat Ivor's.

Dave Swisher, left, is the BMW champion with over *one million* one hundred thousand miles on BMWs. Then Lyle Grimes is no slouch, and he keeps the records on miles for BMW MOA. The two of them rode into San Diego last month. It was nineteen degrees in San Antonio, TX when they passed through from Virginia and Louisiana. The locals, John Hermann and Dave Mishalof joined them for ribs. Besides these four MOA ambassadors, Stacy Silverwood and Carol Alley tested the ribs.

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# KING...



Would you believe, Stacy Silverwood had to have a 999 Ducati to park beside his S. So much for the Aprilia. Cliff Sharp, Ira Grossman and Jim Moore seem to like the Duck.



And there's another 650. Ron DeJohn's GS got taken out by that wild driver last fall on Interstate 15 near Ocean View. The driver got 44 months, and Ron got the 650.



Gary Adler and his son, Greg, at Giovanni's. The son teaches world history to lucky kids in the Bay Area. Lucky 'cause the teacher has been everywhere and done that.



Out at Dudley's Bakery at Santa Ysabel on a recent Saturday, Jim Siebert was tempted to try Dave Mishalof's K1200. The ostrich seats are really nice.



Hugo Schreiner and Tracy Cate check out Snowball, Hugo's GS. Tracy, right, of New Jersey, made his wife bicycle down to Coronado from Marina del Rey. Herm supplied him with a GS and some riding gear. Hugo used Tracy's R100GS in the Alps last fall, and Tracy plans on using it in the Alps this summer, so Hugo's shipping the red K1100 RS over. Remember that the two are sort of related. Tracy's father is married to Hugo's wife's mother.



It was a great day at the January meeting when Harold Schey drove over from Palm Desert and met this MOA Ambassador group ... David Mishalof, Harold, John Hermann, Dave Swisher from Virginia, and Lyle Grimes from Louisiana.



Then Gary Walker of Olivenhain got the new K1200 and there's no stopping him. He still has the R90/6 with 130,000 miles or so. Ask him about touring Egypt.

