

KING OF THE ALPS

PHOTOS & TEXT BY JOHN HERMANN



Big news on the social front. Fat Ivor's is almost ready to reopen right on the old site in Valley Center. The building looks different ... bigger. But the foot print is exactly the same, and the interior is laid out exactly the same, doors in the same place, rest rooms in the same place. But now there's a porch across the parking lot front. The ribs better be just like I remember them.



It's been two years since the fateful fire. On a recent visit, Fat Ivor's widow (he was known to friends as Tommy)

came out to greet visitors. A former staff person dropped by and said, "Gee, I've been worried about what happened to you." They hope to open the end of February.



Will she ride? At the January club meeting, Bill Siebold assured Rosemary Sutton that she'd have a great time as Ron Spicer's passenger. They were contemplating the overnighter to Mike's Sky Ranch in Baja, and Death Valley Daze.



Brian Freeman stopped by Brattins on the boulevard recently. He found this '98 K1200 RS with fewer than 300 miles on it. So he had the helmet painted up to match the yellow checker board scheme. Now all he has

to do is scuff some tires. He's a long-shoreman at Long Beach; home in San Diego.



New owner of North County BMW showed up at the January club meeting. He's busy finishing the interior of the new store with details like a granite counter top. Open soon, the store is west on Hale a couple of blocks from the Brecht site, adjacent to I-15. Coming from Center City Parkway, head west on Washington, which becomes Hale when it goes under the freeway.



Connie Snow showed Linda Blaylock the cast on her right arm. She came to Giovanni's on the S bike with Tom Graves but she insists the break was the result of a skiing accident.



Meanwhile, **Bill Blaylock** (he and **Linda** are our new Social Chairs), was busy telling **Phil Warner** why he might prefer an RT to a GS.



Dan Toporoski has the map of Mexico laid out on the bike. It has the proposed big trip marked on it, which trip is to include **Gary Walker** and **John Sullivan** and who knows, **Ariel Silveira**, who's listening carefully.



You gotta love his enthusiasm. **Gery Marcelino** no sooner bought this CL,

than he started out for Canada. Now, he's ready for anywhere.



You never can tell which bike he's going to play on. Of a recent Saturday, the fire captain from Del Mar, **Stacy Silverwood**, was on the Boxer Cup Replika, out at La Posta Cafe. That's **Don Picker** in the background. They'd enjoyed an enthusiastic welcome from la Posta's boss, who had the Saturday BMW folk draw lots for a free lunch.



A marvelous man, this guy **Henri**. Not only is he a good rider, and an Iron Butt type, he's a great grandfather a couple of times, and he's heading off to Swaziland to work on an A.I.D.S. project with people from his church.



Jonesy used to describe the traffic on Highway 94 out to Tecate turnoff as "wading through busted pop bottles." So after surviving the busted pop bottles on Saturday last month, the gang reconvened at the famous "lookout" turnout.



Tom Mooney is really putting miles on the new R1200 GS. And it manages to attract a crowd . Maybe it's the GPS.

Ask **Gary Orr** at the counter at Brattins about ice in Portland. He made practically a non-stop run from Escondido to Portland, OR on the mighty 650 GS, ready to camp on Mt. Rainier. Then: ice.

Waiting a day for warmer weather, he still had to hack his way out of Portland.

KING...



Just in from Copper Canyon, **Bruce Redding** was singing the wonders of his mighty Kawasaki. He claims to have ridden down to Bataquitos, and then on out, downstream to the Gulf coast. He says a boat is no longer available to get across the river, so they were ferried by a diesel truck. The diesel doesn't conk out under water. From the coast, he ferried to Baja and thence to Margarita's on Newport Ave., in O.B.



Kicking tires in front of Margarita's on Newport Ave., **Turk**, just in from Borrego, encouraged **Don Petrick** to take off for Kauai.



Ron Spicer says the way to go is with a KTM. Checking it out is **John Barnes**, another great grandfather.

