

KING OF THE ALPS

TEXT & PHOTOS BY JOHN HERMANN



10 It's his birthday, Mark Pohlson's, center, and he gets some serious congratulations from Bill Blaylock and John Wagner out in front of Giovanni's.



Have you noticed the new chairs in the back room at Giovanni's? They have padded seats and backs and nice arms. Linda Blaylock find them a comfortable improvement over the old wooden ones.



As if one Duchene weren't enough. At least Denis's brother Doug Duchene is riding a cool wine-red K1100RT.



You may have heard that Herm decided that Don Picker was right about the R1200 R. It didn't hurt that every review was a *WOW*, including *Motorcyclist's*, where the review said several times, "This bike hauls ass!" So Stacy Silverwood climbed aboard Herm's silver model on his first Sunday out (after slipping the Ducati on Mesa Grande).



Then there's Bruce Rogers playing motard-ish on his Husquavarna, with Luke Yam examining the bike.

Gary Walker was the Valentine Ride organizer. All participants got a ticket for an exciting drawing prize.



Then Gary and Cuca Walker, right, got the Valentine riders, like Kit and Mike Lynch ready for a trip around San Diego peaks, ending at a wonderful organ concert at Balboa Park.



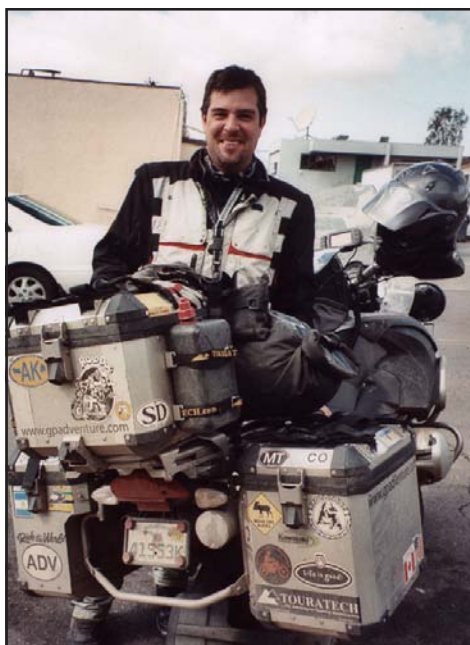
You really need color to appreciate **James Edwards** and his new K1200 S. The bike is sort of electric blue and white with pretty blue wheels. And James has a matching outfit. He was not deterred in getting out on a rainy Sunday.



You must know **Luke Yam**, the friendly enthusiast who rides his blue and white 1150GS every chance he gets. He's mastering Lyons Valley and Mesa Grande.



What's this club coming to? Here's a club ride heading out one Sunday for south county mountains. They found some dirt to start near the Coors Amphitheater in Chula Vista, then up by the Donovan Prison. **Rex Neilson** in front, **Bill Siebold** at left and **Greg Balas**, right.



He's been around, coming and going to Baja, **Guido Pothoven**. He's from Buenos Aires, but he went to the University of San Diego, and he got this

GS Adventure in Miami and then headed for Labrador and Alaska.

Guido's website is <gpAdventure.com>. While you're on the web, check out **Herm's**, <kingofthealps.com>, and also Mrs. VP's, <louisesackett.com>.



He's dedicated to the K1200 R. It's bad. But **Ira Grossman** is amused by the new RS model.

There are so many pretty BMW bikes. Watch for the 800 and G650.



Here he is, **John Collins**, long time club member from Pagosa Springs, Colorado, left, with his son-in-law, right, giving the low down to **Don Picker**, center, about their trip in the Alps last summer.

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KING...



Can you believe this? Fifteen years ago **Aric Henschen** spent some time trying to persuade BMW people to ride Japanese sport bikes. Then he headed for Iraq. Now he's back sporting a black R1100 S.



And then **Doug Gray** left his RS for a Ducati. But now, he's back on an RT, which apparently his wife finds more comfortable.



Skyler Carpenter from the Orr House came to Herm's rescue recently when the new R1200 R collected a big long nail in the rear tire. Note the handy tie down devices that slip over the handle bars. They're called *Canyon Dancers*.



One Monday **Steve Hill** on his new R1200 S led **Gary Orr** on an R1200 R and **Herm** on his R1200 R on a tour of Lyons Valley and 94 and Sunrise and Banner Grade. So. Steve, right, ordered up a lower gear ratio for the mighty S. **Rich Flores**, left, has the new gears. But there's more to change.



Our fine social honcho, **Frida Silveira**, got a big crowd out for a lovely dinner at the 94th Aero Squadron. That's **Dick Sackett**, our Vice President, at left. From right are **Rick Johns** from North County, and **Kit Lynch**, **Mike Lynch**, and **Jim**, then **Lenore Wellnitz** and Secretary **Gene Calbow**.



Sean Stewart, left, is admiring **Bill Sullivan's** K1200 S at Giovanni's parking lot.

