

KING OF THE ALPS

TEXT & PHOTOS BY JOHN HERMANN



No matter that the CHP is dithering in Sacramento, here in San Diego authorities are going for the new R1200 enforcement model. Here's the latest El Cajon Police bike at the curb on the Boulevard, parked next to some antiquated CHP models.



Whilst north in Escondido, Emery Master notes three new R1200 enforcement models. The near one is ready for San Diego County Sheriff. The next goes to Murrieta and the far one to Carlsbad.



The rear view shows that the famous bubble gum flashing lights are no more. They are replaced by banks of LED's.

Mind your rear view mirrors now. We all know these bikes accelerate.



Up at Mothers on the mountain a rider comes running, "I know you," he shouts, pointing at Herm. Seems some years back he dropped by to see his old Navy buddy, Gary Orr, and Gary brought him to a Wildcat Canyon Sunday ride. He claims to still have the Escort Certificate. Fast forward to a couple of weeks ago, he buys a new 1098 in Dallas and takes off non-stop, so to speak, for Palomar Mountain. Gary Kepple inspected the Duc's tires (*q.v.*). They were well scuffed in. Can't have been all Interstate. Somehow, the rider, Rich Diamond seems none the worse for wear. He checked in with Gary on this trip and found Mr. Orr very busy managing the store.



Then Gary, center, and Rex Neilson, left and Gary Walker indulged in a festive lunch at Rainbow. Look at all the gear these guys are carrying. Every bit is essential. You'd think they were on their way to Prudhoe Bay.



Dennis Way, an accomplished BMW rider, brought his son Brian by Giovanni's of a Sunday. Brian is very pleased with his handsome and quick Yamaha.



"Don't make a fuss about it," Tom Mooney said when he drove the Chrysler into the lot at Giovanni's. But some of us thought it was a significant occasion.



Once upon a time, you could spot the red helmet on the faithful Airhead and know that **Butch Hays** was in residence. This shot is of the good side of the bike. Butch also maintained an Oilhead with only 130,000 miles. (Where's he been going?)



Then. Then, the red helmet got a new seat. Butch is smiling. Butch is really happy. This picture was taken at 8 AM at Giovanni's and Butch had already been riding for three hours. He really likes his new K1200 GT. He allows friends to test the bun warmers. He insists that **Esther** endorsed the bike. Butch was silent about whether she has tested the bun warmers.



What BMW riders do very well: discuss the ride possibilities. This covey seems to have several provocateurs, namely **Gary Walker**, **Ken Shortt**, and **Mark Pohlson**. All this at Giovanni's.



A couple of days later, there they are again. This time Gary and Ken have added **Henri** and **Don**, outside Margarita's.



Margaret Churchill showed up on her new R1150 R, and immediately made contact with R1100 R expert, **Carol Alley**. Margaret rides out of Escondido with her husband who can make an LT corner like a dirt bike.

KING...



Out on Mission Gorge Road, near the intersection of 52 and 125, is this fine motorcycle shop, specializing, as the sign says, in BMW's.



The race champion, owner, chief mechanic, father of a five year old, is none other than **Dave Campbell**. He's doing some fine detailing on **Ken Shortt's** famous Airhead GS, getting it ready for the infamous day in the dirt out at Plaster City.

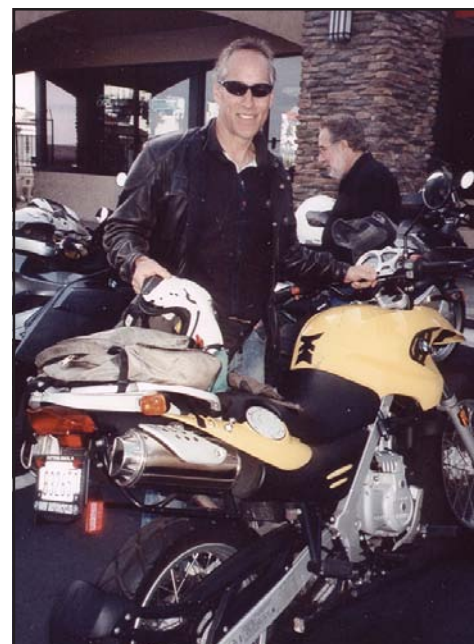


Gery Marcelino really likes the R1200 R. He took out a demo and really burned up some rubber. Hardly stopping because...



...he can get only one tippy-toe on the ground by sliding off to one side of

the seat. No way can he get the side stand extended. So he has to get off the bike while holding it up with one toe and balancing on said toe. "I see what you mean," observes **Edward Bell** who has no such problem.



Don Petrick shows up every once in a while, and who can guess on what bike. The license plate bracket on this 650, in case you can't read it, says "Daytona Beach, FL."



"Yeah. The bike works fine, the HP's a great bike," says **Mike Moore** to our Editor, **Fulton Martin**. Good thing it has fine front brakes...



...cuz, down below, Mike's broken right ankle is catching the breeze in some sort of strapped on contraption. You know those plates in there are holding good.



Nice shot. Nice smiling subject. Nice Dakar 650. Nice view of the flag grass around the restaurant at Santa Ysabel. Who is it? (Richard House)

