



www.redhotriders.com

Honda Riders Club of America

Southern California Motorcycling Association

American Motorcyclist Association

Ride Report – December

By Ron Farkas

No, you didn't miss a club ride; this report is about one of the events in the December Event's Calendar. It's a ride up to the International Motor Cycle show in Long Beach. I'll skip the details about the actual ride as it was mainly done on the super slab and was uneventful, but some of you might enjoy a quick review of what the show experience was like.

Arriving at the convention center, the parking lot outside clues you in on how many motorcycles actually are in Southern California. The large area taken over by all those kickstands dwarfed the murals of whales painted on the side of the convention center. Lines and columns of every kind of bike imaginable are parked, filling the area quickly and pushing the "free" Harley and Buell test rides up into a corner of the lot.



Arriving mid-morning, I expected to wait in line to purchase tickets, but not the 90 minutes the security guards were quoting! The lines were well organized and the walking felt good after the ride up from San Diego. (I could of purchased the tickets on line via the Internet and walked right in, but I'll remember that for next year!) The line started moving and what was quoted as 90 minutes turned out to be more like 45, or maybe it was the new friends I made from Simi Valley as we chatted and compared notes on our recent rides/weather and the wild fires back in October.

Once inside, a carnival like atmosphere takes over and you learn quickly to go with the flow if you want to make any progress in seeing or trying the latest bike on for size. The big four (Honda, Yamaha, Suzuki, and Kawasaki) along with Harley Davidson impact your visual senses as soon as your clear the entry way doors. Honda had their new CBRR1000, the Jesse James VX1800 "Sport Bike" (now on the cover of many motorcycle mags.) the XR650 that won Baja in 2003, and many cruisers with "factory" customizing parts. Factory reps as well as some salesman from local dealers were available to answer questions. The best part was trying on all the bikes, even though there were some salesman present – there was no pressure to buy anything, it was a great way to try on that next bike of your dreams or compare your

present bike to the factory's latest offering.

BMW and Triumph were off the left and from the looks of things were very busy with many people looking over both brands for their latest innovations and models.

The other European brands were scattered about the "Back 40" with MotoGuzzi displaying its new concept/race bike, Aprilia with both beautiful girls and bikes, and Ducati in an island by itself with the new 999 as a centerpiece. MZ and KTM were also there, but missing was their much anticipated sport twins. Farther back a couple of large local dealers and accessory stores had set up shop right in the show selling all types of gear at "discounted show prices".

In between all the large booths are the real treasures of the show as there are many small specialty companies with the eye candy readily available whether it be a performance or customizing piece, you often get to speak directly to the owner of the shop.

Missing this year seemed to be the tire companies; at least I didn't find any that jumped out at me. The AMA was there trying to sign up more riders and If you showed your membership card you got a \$1 back from admission. The AMA has changed the design of the logo (kinda looks like the old Maico logo) check out their web site to see the new "look". Was there any other Red Hot Riders there you may ask? –

Sure was – in the short time I was there ran into **Andy Mansker, Richard French** and saw **Jim Branch** in line for overpriced tube steaks!

If you want to go next year – leave early from SD, buy your tickets "on line", and wear comfortable shoes!

Safety Report

Last year we ran this article on Hypothermia, by Keith Knapp (our former Rider Education Chairman) - with the recent cold snap, it's time to run it again!—editor

Hypothermia occurs when the body loses heat faster than it can be produced by muscle contractions, metabolism and shivering. Wind Chill is a measure of how quickly your body loses heat. NOTE: Speeds of 4 miles per hour or less have little affect on the wind chill, and speeds above 50 mph have little additional chilling affect—at least that's what the experts say!

Some early symptoms of hypothermia include: shivering, clumsy movements, and poor judgment. Treatment of mild hypothermia includes getting out of the cold and /or wet environment, using warm blankets, radiant heat, and hot water bottles. Moderate to severe hypothermia can quickly lead to unconsciousness and death if heat lost continues and requires hospitalization.

Wind Chill Table			
	Speed (Miles per hour)		
	35	45	55
Air Temp			
60F	42	41	41
50F	27	25	25
40F	11	9	9
30F	-4	-7	-7

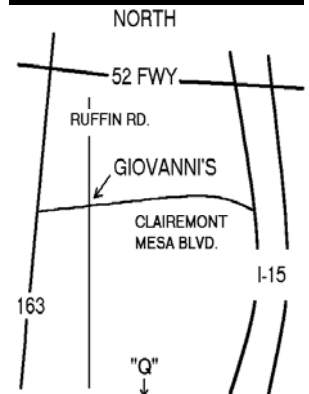
2004 Membership Fees are Due!

2003 memberships expire on January 1, 2004. Renewal Forms & checks made out to **RED HOT RIDERS, Inc.** (\$15) should be mailed to:

Ron Farkas
13995 Hickory St.
Poway Ca. 92064

Renewal Forms are available at club meetings and on the Red Hot Riders Website

MEETING LOCATION
Giovanni's Restaurant
9353 Clairemont Mesa
(858) 279-6700



Want to do it in the Dirt?

The deserts have cooled off and dirt bike riding season is here!

Check out the Sidewinders Motorcycle club's web site (sidewindersmotorsports.com) a San Diego based Dirt bike club for a listing of their events near El Centro (Plaster City). They even have poker runs for those of you riding Dual Sport bikes and really want to get them dirty!- get out there and ride!

Meeting Report for December

By Ron Farkas

December in San Diego doesn't mean it has to snow, but it was cold enough that only the hearty and warmly dressed arrived on two wheels. Giovanni's was alive with the holiday spirit due to the effort by our treasurer's wife, **Judy Krugman**. Judy went over the top with motorcycle themed centerpieces and getting the team at Giovanni's to arrange the tables in a "rider friendly" layout. Christmas decorations adorned the tables; holiday music was in the background, cookies and cake adding to the spirit of our December meeting.

Our guest speaker was the fire chief from the Julian/Ramona area as he was scheduled to officially accept our donation of over \$4000 to help those members of his crew that lost their homes fighting the Cedar Fire. If you missed the Richard French/HOM charity ride in November, the club achieved almost \$9000 in total donations from HOM and the riders that participated in the ride. The balance of the donations went to the two firefighters families from Novato, one that was injured and the other that lost his life.

Jim Branch, our President and motorcycle riding "polar bear" was good enough step in as guest speaker as we waited or the fire chief to arrive. Jim showed us his latest investment in a jacket that not only kept him warm, but also had the latest in protective gear in case of a fall. From Geoff Kings' bag of goodies at HOM, Jim passed around his replacement for those old ski gloves, a pair of

winter gloves from Cortech with ballistic/carbon fiber armor, giving you the added satisfaction of protection while keeping those hands warm.

We started the 50/50 raffle with the added bonus of raffling off the centerpiece at each of the tables. After a time, it was obvious that the fire chief wasn't going to make it, so **Ed Krugman** our treasurer, volunteered to play Santa and deliver the gift from The Red Hot Riders to him. With the end of the meeting many of us reflected on this past Red Hot Rider year with the rides and adventures we were fortunate enough to share with our fellow two wheeled friends.



Next Meeting: 1/14/04

January 2004:

Ray Englehardt, founder of Engineered Racing Products (engineeredracingproducts.com) in Canyon Country, CA, will be giving us a lesson on motorcycles suspension - call it Suspension 101! If "preload," "sag" and "rebound" have always confused you, this will be the night to figure it all out. Ray's an expert in the field and his company caters to racing and street performance set-ups so bring your toughest questions.

February 2004:

You'll have the rare opportunity to get an insider's scoop on the European race scene when Dennis Noyes visits the club. MotoGP aficionados will recognize the name - Dennis is an ex GP racer, author of a book on the history of the GP, a former GP race announcer, and now covers the GP plus World Superbike for a Spanish moto journal as well as the Speed Channel. Dennis' son Kenny just won the Spanish Superstock title. If you follow racing you can't miss this event!



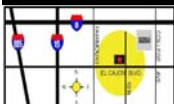
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EVENT CALENDAR

Jan	24 Sat.....	SuperCross - QualComm Stadium, San Diego
Jan	29- Feb 23rd	Custom and Antique bikes at SD auto museum
Feb	11 Wed.....	RHR Club Meeting
Mar	6 Sat.....	AMA Superbikes Daytona, FL
Mar	8 Mon.....	RHR Track Day— Streets of Willow
Mar	10 Wed.....	RHR Club Meeting
April	4 Sun.....	AMA Superbikes Fontana, CA

Inclement weather may cause the cancellation of any of the above RHR events. Contact Jim Branch at (619) 460-0669 the evening before a RHR scheduled ride/Track day if weather is a question. You can also check out the Web site for up-to-date changes in the schedule: www.redhotriders.com

MotoPro
House of Motorcycles

1425 South Coast Highway
Oceanside, CA 92054
(760) 433-4333

Club Meetings:

Giovanni's Restaurant in Kearny Mesa, Corner of Clairemont Mesa & Ruffin Roads 6PM 2nd Wed of the Month

Newsletter Submission:

Newsletters submission can be sent to Ron Farkas, email is: ronfarkas@cox.net Phone & Fax: 858-486-3257

Officers 2003-2004

President.....Jim Branch
Vice President.....Chris Crawford
Secretary.....Michael Gorga
Treasurer.....Ed Krugman

Committee Chairman

Rider Education.....Vacant
Activities.....Richard French
Merchandise.....George Devereaux
Publication.....Ron Farkas
Membership.....Ron Farkas
HRCA Liaison.....Dale Stark
Referee.....Rached Maalouf
Legislative Officer.....Andy Mansker

2004 MotoGP Race Schedule 125 cc 250 cc 500 cc

Apr 18—Grand Prix of Africa
May 2 —Grand Prix of Spain
May 16 —Grand Prix of France
Jun 6 —Grand Prix of Italy
Jun 13 —Grand Prix of Catalunya
Jun 26 —Dutch TT
Jul 4 —Grand Prix of Brazil
Jul 18 —Grand Prix of Germany
Jul 25 —Grand Prix of Britain
Aug 22—Grand Prix of Czech Republic
Sep 5 —Grand Prix of Portugal
Sep 19 —Grand Prix of Japan
Oct 2 —Grand Prix of Qatar
Oct 10—Grand Prix of Malaysia
Oct 17—Grand Prix of Australia
Oct 31—Grand Prix of Valencia (Spain)

2004 AMA Superbike Race Schedule Superbike - Supersport - Formula Xtreme - Superstock

March 3-6 Daytona Beach, FL
April 2-4 Fontana, CA (Superbike Doubleheader)
April 30-May 2 Sonoma, CA (Superbike Doubleheader)
May 14-16 Birmingham, AL (Superbike Doubleheader)
May 21-23 Fountain, CO
June 4-6 Elkhart Lake, WI (Superbike Doubleheader)
June 25-27 Brainard, MN
July 9-11 Monterey, CA
July 23-25 Lexington, OH (Superbike Doubleheader)
Sept 3-5 Braselton, GA (Superbike Doubleheader)
Sept 17-19 Alton, VA (Superbike Doubleheader)

Couch Potato Corner

SPEED TV—

Two Wheeled Tuesdays—
Motorcycles every Tuesday

SPIKE TV (formally TNN)

Motoworld & Top Dead
Center—Saturdays
11:30am

ESPN2— Supercross

Various times - check
local listings

OLN—

Dirt Rider Adventures
Thursdays at 8:30pm