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Honda Riders Club of America • Southern California Motorcycling Association • American Motorcycle Association

World Traveler Simon Milward Speaks to Red Hot Riders

You really missed out if you didn't catch this slide show at our last meeting. Simon not only presented beautiful slides of a professional caliber, but enthralled the audience with stories of political bribery, travelling hundreds of miles on unpaved roads without shocks, and leaving the road to travel through dense jungle in Cambodia.

Simon has covered 80,000 miles since embarking on his journey on January 1, 2000. He has ridden through Europe, the Middle East, South and East Asia, Russia, and the United States.

His goal is to raise money for Doctor's Without Borders. See more details at: <http://www.millennium-ride.com/>



Simon shows off his new Red Hot Riders sticker.

These are some of the many slides that Simon presented at the meeting. He met the Dalai Lama, head of the Tibetan people in exile, in Dharamsala North India in April 2000.

"I was awed by the special feeling as he laid his hand on my shoulder, his infectious smile and faith that his people will get their country back within his lifetime. Exactly which lifetime is unclear because according to the Buddhist faith you have many! But all governments should accept the challenge to resolve this conflict peacefully - FREE TIBET NOW!"



Simon with Jay Leno at the Rock Store.

Member Profile: Eric Levy

I was 11 when the kid next door bought a new Bonanza minibike. He wasn't a close friend, but there was something about the sound of that 3 hp Tecumseh engine and clattering centrifugal clutch that would draw me out to the street to watch him zoom by. Of course, he was unwilling to let me ride it, and my parents wouldn't have approved anyway. As the months went by, I became eager and impatient to try it, and I'd find myself running over in excitement every time he'd wheel it out to the street. Sometimes he'd let me pull the cord to start it. Then it happened... He finally let me sneak it out for a ride around the block. As soon as I jumped on and twisted the throttle, I knew I had to have my own minibike. It took over a year of pleading with my folks before they relented and agreed to let me get one.

My minibike arrived unassembled in a huge box. It was a beauty: 5 hp Briggs & Stratton engine, straight pipe, rear drum brake, folding footpegs, the whole enchilada. Within a few months, I became a good rider and could wheelie for as long as the chain would stay on. But by then, the Bonanza had been replaced with a Honda Trail 70. Then my best friend got a Honda SL70 from Santa, and my even better friend got a Yamaha 60 Mini-Enduro. Suddenly, my lawnmower-powered mule was completely inadequate. Just one look at those real bikes put it to shame.

Within a year I somehow managed to save enough for my dream bike, a new-for-1973 Honda XR75. But when I went with my dad to pick it up, a Steen X-100 winked at me from the corner of the shop. With its potent Hodaka 100cc engine, 5-speed gearbox and real knobby tires, this thing could beat the pants off an XR75. It was just what I needed to reclaim my lost pride, er, ego. I bought it and rode with my friends in the tract behind their house for about a year before selling it to buy a new pair of skis.

That was the end of my motorcycling career until I turned 18, when I bought a Honda CB-750F Supersport. I rode it straight from the dealership to the DMV, took the written test, made some figure eight's for the examiner on the back lot, and was on my way. I'll never forget the incredible rush of power the first time I took it past 4,000 rpm after the 600-mile service. A year later, I traded it for a sweet little Honda CB400 Four. I kept that bike for about 4 years. I liked its café racer ergonomics and sporty composure, and even consid-

-continued on back

Join Now!

Your \$15 membership fee entitles you to some super deals at House of Motorcycles, a newsletter, monthly meetings with speakers, organized rides, and special events. You can pay at the meeting or mail your check, payable to "Red Hot Riders" to:

Chris Crawford
16329 Arena Drive
Ramona, CA. 92065.

RHR is Online

The RHR has a quality web site with an up-to-date calendar, classified ads, forum, photos, registration forms, Track Day info and more. Take a look at redhotriders.com.

Michael Gorga is our webmaster and maintains the site. Thanks to him we see new photos, classifieds and an events calendar updated frequently. Thanks Michael!

New Newsletter Look

Brisa Carter donated her time to design the new header for our newsletter. She is a print and new media designer for hire. You can learn more at: www.brisastudio.com.



Peter Fonda? Sonny Barger? No, it is our very own Eric Levy as a pre-teen terrorizing the neighborhood on his Bonanza mini-bike.



Eric all grown up on a Colorado trip with his K1200RS. He is no stranger to long distance sport-touring.

-Member Profile continued

ered myself a skilled rider until I crashed it into the side of a Subaru.

I caught the motorcycling bug again when I turned 33. I bought a Kawasaki Concours and started making excuses for riding to places I would never drive to in my car, like going to Gila Bend for a hamburger.

Then in 1997, when BMW introduced the K1200RS, it seemed like 1973 all over again. I was captivated and just had to have that bike! Five years and a million hamburgers later, it still captivates me. But I've got to admit, that new FJR is looking mighty nice...

Eric has held several officer positions with the Red Hot Riders club over the years and his contributions are appreciated by all. He is currently taking the lead role in organizing the Baby Butt 1000 ride for the second year in a row! Thanks Eric!



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Borrego Springs Ride

Sunday, 4-29-02. We had another successful House of Motorcycles sponsored club ride. We gathered at the House for complimentary coffee and donuts before embarking on our journey. There was a good mix of cruisers, touring bikes and sport bikes. Several riders were attending their first RHR club ride. One rider had a slow speed low side, but he wasn't a club member! Richard French and others stopped to help and he joined our group in Borrego Springs. Robert Dodson also arranged for a sag wagon/flat-bed truck in case of any mishaps. Nice touch!



One group of riders stops at a turnout on Montezuma Highway. You can see Borrego Springs on the left and center. What a view and 76 degrees F! Who says you can't have your cake and eat it too?

Event Calendar

- May 8 Wed Club Meeting
Speaker: Robert Dodson of HOM
- Sept 21,22 Sat-Sun Baby Butt 1000

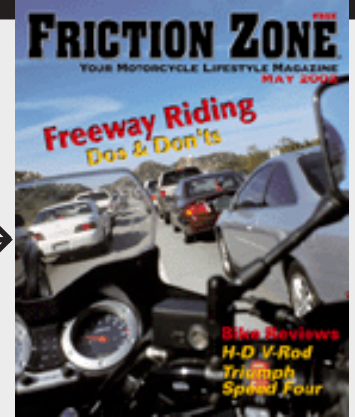
Next Meeting: Wed. 5/08/02 →

Our speaker will be Amy Holland, the Editor/Publisher of Friction Zone Magazine. She will talk about the genesis of the magazine, keeping it going and other interesting information like: all the ups and downs of publishing a motorcycle magazine. To see some of the magazine online, visit: <http://www.friction-zone.com/> or pick up a free copy at House of Motorcycles.

Newsletter Submission
 Please email articles, photos and questions to:
newsletter@redhotriders.com

Club Meetings
 Club meetings take place on the second Wednesday of the month at:
 Acapulco Restaurant and Cantina
 8998 Miramar Road
 (619) 578-6390
 Dinner: 6:00 pm
 Meeting: 7:00 pm

- Officers 2001-2002**
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