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

**LaRide Report:
2003 Baby Butt 1000/1500**

by Ron Farkas

The old saying "Your eyes are bigger than your stomach" may be the best way to describe this year's ride. At the Holiday Inn, on Friday before the ride, the typical excitement and anticipation filled the room as riders picked up their route packages at check in. Maps were posted on the wall just like pictures of that Double Double cheeseburger down at the local In-N-Out Burger; it gave the uninitiated an idea as to how long and "tasty" this ride really was. **George Devereaux** was there using a two week vacation from his "job" in Greece, **Lojas Tresser** and **Black Bird Bonny** (Luke) stopped by for moral support, but absent from this year's ride was our club's president, **Jim Branch**, still suffering from a pinched nerve in his neck.

Back to their hotel rooms, or home for us local riders, many of us went to decipher the route book with the hopes that marking-up our own maps with a hi-lighter, would some how magically keep us from getting lost on tomorrow's run!

September is a time for the weather to change and San Diego is no exception. Saturday morning was wet and foggy, yielding only fair visibility and traction. The riders' meeting was standing room only as it spilled out into the hallway of the Holiday Inn. **Jeff Pratt**, the Baby Butt committee chairman was at the helm reminding the riders that this was not a race, but an adventure with a route that was set up to challenge your skills and excite your senses.

At the start, club officials took down our starting mileage and retrieved the receipt envelopes. At the end we would be asked to supply the 3 gas receipts that proved we completed the ride as described in the route guide along with an official check of our odometer.

The 1500-mile "Ya-ta-hey" route (I believe, a word muttered by Mel Gibson/Graham Green in the movie remake of "Maverick") showed the concern and planning that committee put in to layout this ride. It was a straightforward trip through Arizona to Yatahey, New Mexico using major highways and a few interstates. The longest leg was the first leg going out I-8 into Arizona, with the shortest at the end, heading over the Laughlin Bridge to the finish at the River Palms Casino. Those on the 1500 were lucky enough to visit Shiprock, New Mexico, turned west across the Navajo Nation, and finally south through Flagstaff and southwest toward Laughlin. All the riders that entered the Ya-ta-hey, finished the route early Sunday morning before the 6am cut-off.

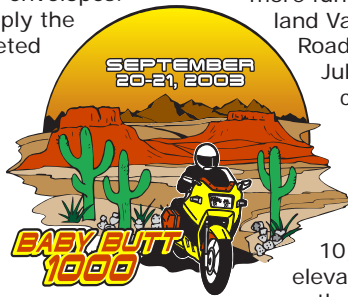
The 1000-mile "Coronado Trail" like that "Double-Double burger", was actually 1100 miles in length. The 1100 headed east into Arizona, but then the "roller coaster ride" started after the first official gas stop in Gila Bend. On to find Maricopa Road and enjoy the roadside Burma Shave-signs like poetry: " this road is smooth...so your car



Jeff Pratt at high altitude in AZ. Jeff did a super job of replacing Eric Levy this year as the Event Chairman. Riders spotted elk, deer, bighorn sheep, mountain goats and black vultures amidst the junipers and pine trees. I rode with Jeff the entire 1,100 miles and he taught me a few lessons about navigating those 15 mph corners. I just hate it when those wimpy 90hp Beemers run away from me! —Andy Mansker

won't rattle... don't drive so fast...and watch out for cattle!" as the remains of a few unfortunate bovines were evident along side the highway. The route headed into Clifton with the largest open pit copper ore mine in the world, as the riders were treated to a challenge of city traffic and local roads. Ultimately reaching Clifton for our 2nd gas receipt and then up on a road that skirted the open pit mine, we then reached the Coronado Trail (US 191). US191's twists and turns were

more fun than Highland Valley Ranch Road and Old Julian Highway combined (Thanks Jeff!) as the road climbed to almost 10,000ft in elevation. By now the sun was setting and the road took on the appearance of a long black endless snake accented with white and yellow stripes. Like a viper ready to strike, a few red cones marking recent road improvements were thrown in to keep the rider awake and challenged. The route headed us to Payson for the final gas receipt and on our way home via Flagstaff. The run took us from sea level to almost 10,000 ft. with temperatures of 100+ degrees during the day to mid-30s at night. Having been laid out in the same spirit as **Eric Levy's** great Baby Butt of last year's, plenty of changes in scenery, environment, and super roads were explored. The committee should be proud of their efforts, as this was a Baby Butt adventure not soon to be forgotten. Thanks again to all those involved in organizing this great event!



OCTOBER Meeting Facility

The Sept. meeting place will be:
Tio Leo's
3510 Valley Centre Dr
San Diego, CA 92130-3301
(Del Mar)
(858) 350-1468



Join the Club!

You can find details online at www.redhotriders.com or drop by the next meeting. We are a friendly bunch and with over 200 members you will most certainly find someone with common interests. We welcome all makes and types of motorcycles.



This was the first year we offered the Bun Burner Gold ride - 1,500 mi. in 24 hrs. The finishers included some old pros and a few that completed their first BBG. *left to right:* Charlie Coyner, Jack Fowler, Ted Hartman, Joel Keller, Ed Krugman, Paul Lax, John Parker, Rick Parker, Ken Pilkington, George Sweetland, Mike Thibodeau, Ralph Turner, Bill Vaughan, Patrick Veth and Samuel Zarcheany.

Arizona Hospitality

During the BB1000 ride through AZ we noticed the riders were particularly friendly. All riders waved - cruisers, Harleys and choppers! We also had a young police officer—in official uniform and vehicle—shoot us a peace sign in one of the small towns.

A special thanks . . .

to the Red Hot Rider's "Trophy Girls", **Libby Keller, Judy Krugman, and Judy Pratt**. They were a welcome site for many of the BB riders with their great attitude and extra efforts which were appreciated by all that finished during the very early hours of Sunday morning!

Meeting report for September

by Ron Farkas

This editor must start off this meeting report with an apology to the membership as we reported that a representative from Lockhart Phillips would be at the September meeting. The representative had to cancel and we were lucky to have Lee from Lee Parks Design, speak to us about his life in motorcycling. Lee, like many of us started out young on two wheels, but was smart enough to recognize his passion for motorcycling and take the necessary steps to plan a vocation involved with motorcycles. Majoring in communications in college, Lee recalled his early days as a writer and the resourceful method that he used to land a job at a major motorcycle publication. As he continued on in writing about motorcycles, his passion forced

him to relocate a couple of times before finally setting up "shop" in the High Desert of California. Racing is a great way to not only test your skills, but also to develop new products and perfect them. Lee has been racing for quite a while by this time and earned recognition as a class champion in the amateur ranks of the WERA. The writer and the racer in Lee finally combined to launch a new book on the methods of motorcycle riding. "Total Control", Lee's book has become an overnight success and available from amazon.com as well as Lee's own web site. An innovator in Deerskin MC gloves, a helmet/gear refresher and "Micro Fiber" cloths, Lee offers all of these products on his web site: leeparksdesign.com (1-800-943-5638), next time you're surfen' the net...check them out!

Club Newsletter: Internet Delivery

Want to receive your newsletter in a 21st century manner? - Red Hot Riders can e-mail it to you! - send a request to hondaron@cox.net to have the newsletter sent via e-mail.

Next meeting: 10/8/03

Mike Schield from Shoei and Greg Haserot from Helmet House will stop by to introduce all the new things going on at Shoei. This is the perfect opportunity to ask all those questions about this high-quality helmet line. Don't miss it!

NOVEMBER Meeting Venue

We are moving the meeting venue in November (NOT October) to a more central location:

Giovanni's Restaurant at the corner of Ruffin Road and Clairemont Mesa Blvd.

North of the "Q", South of the 52, East of the 163, and West of I-15

LEE PARKS DESIGN



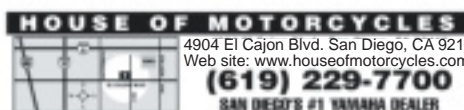
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EVENT CALENDAR

Oct	8	Wed	Club Meeting
Oct	25	Sat	Key Ride (Lymphoma Fundraiser)
Nov	12	Wed	Club Meeting
Dec	12-14	Fri-Sat	International Bike Show Long Beach, CA

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

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

Club Meetings

The October meeting is at:

Tio Leos, Del Mar. See map on front.

Dinner: 6:00 pm

Meeting: 7:00 pm

Newsletter Submission

News letter submissions can be sent to Ron Farkas, email is hondaron@cox.net, Phone and fax is 858-486-3257

Officers 2002-2003

president	Jim Branch
vice president	Chris Crawford
secretary	Michael Gorga
treasurer	Ed Krugman
rider education chairman	vacant
activities chairman	Richard French
merchandise chairman	George Devereaux
publication chairman	Ron Farkas
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HRCA Liaison	Dale Stark
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Red Hot Riders
6357 Lake Aral Dr.
San Diego, CA 92119

