



Editor's Corner

I owe all those of you who wait patiently for a Newsletter every month an apology.

I have not provided you with your favorite reading material since July, so this here newsletter covers August, September and October.

I guess, the general lack of enthusiasm about the club, that seemingly has taken over most of the membership had grabbed me too. But I will not let this take over and promise to shake it off. I hope many of you, who are currently low on participating in the club will do the same.

The first thing is right ahead of you - our Christmas party on December 3! Allyn has e-mailed the RSVP forms, please respond and join us for this "year-end" get together. You know - the more the merrier...

October it is, already! To me, it seems like when we do not do anything special, like trips and travels or events, time flies even faster. Since one of our dogs had a bout with cancer and surgery, we took this really hard and decided to remain at home and not board her for any time. Signs are looking good and, hopefully, this is behind us and the little rascal will be with us for years to come.

As Sunday after-breakfast-rides have basically disappeared, we ventured out a couple of times on our own or with just with one or two others on day trips.

Nobody has stepped up to take over for Jack Fetzer. I know, these are quite large shoes to fill, but maybe, someone will show some initiative - see my comments above.

We may have a few days left here and there to go on a day ride before we put all the bikes into hibernation - I have to admit, I have started that already - or before we "snowbird" to warmer latitudes for a couple of months. October 22, is an example: BMW Motorcycles of Cleveland celebrates Octoberfest. Maybe we see you there, subject to the weather being cooperative. It looks like "Bratwurst" is on the menu again!

Go Indians!

Mike



October was a big month for Motorcyclists in Europe, Germany in particular, with the "Intermot" happening from the 3rd through the 7th in Cologne. The major manufacturers showed their latest products in the fight for market share. Besides the usual go-faster units to attract the squids and trying to stay 3 hp and 2 mph ahead of the competition, like the Suzuki GSX-R 1000, Honda CBR1000RR SP, Yamaha FZ09 and Ducati Supersport S, the "Retro" theme seemed to be rather popular. The BMW RnineT Racer and Honda CB1100RS and even the Triumph T100 Cup stood out for me personally. Now, that would be bikes I could get excited about, and if I was younger or had Ed Vanaman's funds, an addition to the fleet would be certain. Alas, I have to think of reducing, not increasing the number of bikes in the stable.



Other news were: BMW had a wild paint-scheme 1600GT



..something called a "Segoni", reviving the looks of 1970s MV Augusta, with the 803cc inline-4 from Kawasaki



..and KTM is getting really serious in trying getting close to or even ahead of the R1200 GS with 3 versions of the Adventure - S,T and R.



Just after the Intermot BMW introduced its new American touring bike, the K1600 B, on the roof of the Peterson Automotive Museum in Los Angeles in an attempt to wow the "American Biker" and following Honda and Harley with a "Bagger" loosely based on the previously shown Concept 101. They say: "If you don't have anything good to say, say nothing" I will follow this advice!



The riding season is almost over. We can sit back and relax and wait until Spring to see what everything will look like in real form, right in front of us.



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