



Indian Motorcycle Riders Group Tucson Black Mountain Chapter

Newsletter #26 - Fall 2022 PART 2

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Activities Director: Bonita Reiter
Road/Safety Director: Phil Reiter
Newsletter Editor: Debbie Ostrom
Web Master: John Fucci

Editor's Note

By Debbie Ostrom

Welcome to our 61-page record-breaking Fall 2022 Newsletter. **Here is Part 2 of 2 parts!** Thanks to all the contributors this month!

Thanks to Keith Ogden, IMRG MCO, who sends an article from across the pond! We cover the Blues in Bisbee Festival, Taco Sunday, Monday Bike night and Saturday wine tour. We go off road, Run to the Rez and blast to the River Bottom.

We wrap it up with Sidecars, Halloween Odds and Ends, credits and caption fun.

Please share your ride experience through an article and a few photos. Your contributions continue to make this a nationally recognized publication.

Please send all submissions to: mdostrom@gmail.com



President's Corner

By Mike Ostrom

Fall is probably my favorite time to ride in southern Arizona, and I'm not the only one. We have more rides and events than ever. Thanks everyone!

Thanks to Frank Leadley for his service as VP and especially allowing us to meet at his clubhouse and cooking wonderful breakfasts for us each month! Thanks to Ed King for stepping up as our new VP and helping organize our Holiday party on Dec 10!

Thanks to John Fucci for developing our website! Check it out here: <https://www.imrgtucsonbmc.org/>

A special welcome to new members. We've enjoyed meeting and riding with you. Everyone is welcome to join us! Just send an email: President@IMRGtucson.org

For the latest rides and events see Facebook: **Indian Motorcycle Riders Group of Tucson, Black Mountain Chapter** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/448704798634482> or our website.

Look forward to seeing you on a ride or event soon. In the mean time be careful out there!



Mark Your
Calendars!

Dec 10, 2022
6-9 PM



**Annual IMRG Tucson
Black Mountain
Holiday 3-Course Banquet**
Steak, Chicken or Salmon

Active Members \$20, Guests \$40
Ordering details coming soon!

Desert Diamond Hotel
7350 S Nogales Hwy.
(877) 777-4212
Rooms \$99 before 12/3/22

Everyone is Welcome!



Across the Pond with MCO

Super Sausage Cafe A5 Towcester

By Keith Ogden, IMRG MCO Riders President



Buzzzzzzzzzz Buzzzzzzzz. 06:50 and the watch alarm has me rising out of bed like a leaping salmon, OK, like a zombie at a sloth party. Out of there at 07:10 to route down to Ronald's place on the A50 Uttroter bypass for breakfast meeting up with Brian & Val Harrington, Karen Thomas, Andrew Staton, Michael Allen, Andrew & Sharon Thomas along with Paul Banister and the main man Josh.

A healthy breakfast consumed and we were off at 08:50 to meet up with Mätt Ríchard along the A444.

Took A roads down, alas with some that were strewn with lose chippings, stones, cow crap and generally anything that could

throw a rider from their steed, but we all made it through for a quick stop after seeing signs that the A5 was shut along the route. Oh the joys.

Anyway, after a quick look at Google maps we decide to trap on down the A5 to pick up the M1 for 2 junctions and carry in along the A5 to our destination.

Another cracking event pursued and meeting with some old friends and making some new. A bit of networking promoting the MCO Riders 50 Castle Challenge where we picked up a few hopefuls who will join us or donations towards the total to Derian House.



Across the Pond with MCO

Super Sausage Cafe A5 Towcester (continued)

A fantastic gesture was made by the guys on the Motorcycle World Stand who were very generous by donating #3 of 50 print which will be raffled off (watch this space) to raise further funds for our 2022 charity Derian House an end of life care for children and support for siblings. We really can't thank Motorcycle World enough for their donation.

After filling our faces and meeting people at the event with us being close to being the last to leave it was time to part company and make our way home.

A short trip up the A5 to the M1 via Watford Gap for a short break. Here Mick made his way directly back home without stopping along with Paul and Josh after a goodbye stop made their way back.

Leaving Andy and Andrew at WG both myself and Brian and

Val made our way up the M1 to the A50 (think it would have been quicker just heading up the M6 but hey, I was having a moment) to M6 parting company at Knutsford services.

Thanks to all who could make it today & for making it a very well MCO attended event.

Next ride is the Mid Wales Romp with Andy being in charge. Please ride Safe and see you all again soon.



Rides and Events

Blues in Bisbee Festival 2022

By Bonita Reiter

It's been a long time coming.

Due to Covid the 2020 and 2021 Blues Festivals were canceled, but last year IMRG Tucson didn't let that stop them from having fun. We kept our plans to visit Bisbee and had a blast. Then we just made plans for September 17, 2022 Blues Festival this year.

This year, we all met at the Shell station off Wilmot on Friday, and we were so excited to get the festivities started. Dean Hurt was the road captain for the trip, I (Bonita) was 2nd in line, then Phil, with Ed and Connie King bringing up the rear in their cage. The beautiful Noreen had Dean's back. Dean set the route and off we went taking the freeway to the Sonoita exit. The weather was just beautiful. Dean kept a



moderate pace going up through the canyons, Before we knew it, we came up on a huge Festival truck that makes popcorn going about 40 MPH. We all managed to get around safely, but it was a challenge with a lot of oncoming traffic. We stopped in Sonoita for a bathroom break and a few of us went over to the dollar General for last minute items. We arrived in Tombstone where we had lunch at Big Nose Kate's. After enjoying walking around looking in the shops, we headed to Bisbee to check in at the Bisbee Grand Hotel, where we all had rooms. It was so awesome that Bisbee Grand had parking for motorcycles only, right across the street.

Rides and Events

Blues in Bisbee Festival 2022 (continued)

After settling in we contacted others from the group who had come down separately, to meet up for dinner. Mike and Debbie Ostrom, as well as, Chris Sellick joined us on the front patio at Screamin' Banshee Pizza. What a beautiful night of food, drinks and laughter. The entire town was full of music, lights and people walking up and down the streets exploring the beauty Bisbee had to offer. On the way back to the hotel we stopped in at the Bisbee Social Club to view the "art" photos on the walls, and for some night time fun. Then we stopped in at the Bisbee Grand's saloon, where a guy with a guitar was playing covers of old rock-n-roll in his own unique style. We all enjoyed a little liquid refreshment, and stayed for a couple of sets. On Saturday, Bisbee was offering free shuttle rides to Warren



Park, the venue for the Blues Festival. A few of us decided to take them up on that. Mike, Debbie and Mark Grosvenor, who had ridden to Bisbee that morning, met for brunch at Bisbee Breakfast Club and were at the park when we arrived. They had settled in with a good view of the stage. Chris Sellick had ridden his motorcycle to the park. We could feel the festivities as soon as we walked in the gates. The band was playing, we could feel that beat and people were up dancing. The smell of warm kettle corn was in the air. The crowd was excited to be back. "It was a long time coming". Last year, Covid had the world locked down, and now it was time to "let it all hangout". Many were dancing like know one was watching. We laughed, danced, shared food, made new friends, saw old friends from Tucson we hadn't seen since Covid, like Randy Moore & Angie Bacca. A few of us stayed over into the night listening to the bands. We took a lot of memories with us from the Bisbee Blues Festival 2022 and made it home in time for the membership meeting on Sunday afternoon.

Rides and Events

Blues in Bisbee Festival 2022 Pictures (continued)



Rides and Events

Handlebars For Monkeybars



Rides and Events

Taco Sunday

By Mike Ostrom



It can still get warm in September, but by our 10:35 AM KSU it was only 89 degrees with humidity in the lower 30's for the last Taco Sunday of the month. A dozen riders made the meetup on Ina Road on a bright sunny day. I was the official Road Captain on my Vintage, but Mark let me

know he'd be bouncing to the front on his GSX-S GT sport tourer. After a ride up Mt Lemmon on Friday, Debbie was still hurting and asked me to give everyone her love. Tom Johnson and Nancy were on the Multistrada V4, complete with new exhaust followed by Moose and Squirrel on the Roadmaster, and Poblano Moreno and his wife on their Harley Street Glide. Art Wasserman was shooting video, from his Chieftain, behind Bonita on her Vintage and Road Director, Phil Reiter ran sweep on his Stratoliner.

With a few brief exceptions, the route kept us moving through the curves of Picture Rocks Road and down Sandario. Shortly after Mark passed slower traffic on Sandario, Tom and Nancy came zipping past. The new exhaust sounded great as he used the quick-shifter with Nancy holding tight! As we came up on the new roundabout at Twin Peaks, it looked busier than normal. Mark and



Tom did about three laps around it, eventually heading west on Twin Peaks before getting dizzy! The rest of us continued on Sandario to the Avra Valley T-bone, so we could enjoy the sweepers heading south.



Rides and Events

Taco Sunday (continued)



The Circle S Saloon had a busy day on Saturday. It was the only stop on the Handlebars for Monkeybars run, supporting Satori School, before the final party at Whiskey Roads. The good news was, with so many regulars at the Saloon on Saturday the place wasn't even half full when we arrived around 11:15 AM. The bad news was, all the servers were visibly dragging ass on Sunday. I thought Mark's and my beer would be warm and flat by the time it showed up! I was wrong, it hit the spot. Tom and Nancy's friend from Springerville, Dennis, showed up. Turns out he has a Vulcan and a place in Red Rock for the winters. The kitchen was not dragging ass, as the food showed up right away. Just as it did, Chris Sellick walked in and helped Phil with his order of ground beef tacos. We managed to squeeze all 14 people around our long table in the back.



We noticed it warmed up to about 95 when we walked back outside. I had an order of tacos to-go for Debbie and wanted to get moving, so I took off alone. It felt pretty good once I was moving, as humidity had dropped into the 25% range. Some guys wanted to extend the ride and took the scenic ride home. I just did a Doordash up Twin Peaks to Tangerine, delivering Debbie's tacos by 1:15 PM. She didn't need to heat them up.

Rides and Events

Taco Sunday (continued)



Rides and Events

Moto Sonora Monday Bike Nights

By Mike Ostrom

Moto Sonora Brewery has a Bike Night every Monday, year round, and some pretty cool bikes and bikers show up most weeks. We took a little break from attending during the summer because it sucks riding in rush-hour traffic when it's 100+ degrees out and by the time the sun sets it's late for a week night or any night for us old folks. While the new micro brewery has some tasty draughts and a selection of visiting brews that rotate through, there are some seasonal disadvantages beyond the commute to Park Ave and 20th Street.



There is limited seating inside where the temperature is controlled. When we were there to welcome October, there were only three small tables inside and they were all taken on a reasonably nice night. The real attraction to the place is the courtyard out back. On bike nights, the back gate is open and motorcycles are allowed to park on the wide sidewalk adjacent to the brewery. In the winter, when it can get chilly after an early sunset, they



have provided some fixed and portable heaters. In the summer there's nothing to cool you down, except a cold beer.

The other complaint I hear is, there is no restaurant on site so you have to order from the Vegan Food truck out front or stop and pick up something on the way. When the place is busy during nice weather, the wait at the one-woman food truck can easily be over an hour. On our most recent visit, we all arrived around 6 PM, just at sunset, and either brought food or ate before coming. Temperatures dropped from upper 80's to upper 70's for a glorious ride home around 9 PM. Hope to see you for a Bike Night soon!



Rides and Events

Sonoita/Elgin Winery and Distillery Overnighter

By Mike Ostrom

We had talked about doing the Sonoita/Elgin Winery and Distillery Tour for a couple of years but never pulled the trigger on setting it up until this fall. The idea was to ride to the Sonoita Inn, check in early and then jump on and off the Sonoita Wine Shuttle all day visiting local wineries and distilleries without worrying about driving or the weather.

On October 8th, the monsoon is supposed to be over, but Mother Nature didn't get the note. The chance of rain was pretty low in the morning, despite some dark clouds forming earlier than expected, and about 50% in the afternoon. We really weren't too concerned as long as we could make it there and back home the next morning without getting wet.



The wineries all open at 11 AM, so I scheduled a KSU departure time from the Shell on Wilmot and I-10 for 9 AM. It was a perfect morning for a ride with temperatures in the upper 60's. We had a few more people show up at the meetup than expected. Frank Leadley and fiancé Sherry Morgan were there on their new Yamaha Venture and Tom Johnson and Nancy Ellis were there on their new Ducati Multistrada V4s, so Debbie and I rode our Multistrada as well. Joel Dierks was

in the neighborhood doing some house hunting and stopped by to say hi and get a hug from Debbie. Vince and Blue Gantz rolled up on their his (Road Glide) and hers (Sportster 1200) Harleys to join us for most of the ride to Sonoita before turning toward their campsite for the night. Gayleen Farrier had rsvp'd "Going" but rode directly to the Sonoita Inn from Green Valley on her Indian Springfield.



Rides and Events

Sonoita/Elgin Winery and Distillery Overnighter (continued)



We actually arrived at the Inn at 9:50 AM, ahead of schedule. Our rooms weren't ready yet so we stowed our gear in the laundry room and got keys for our rooms, before jumping on the Shuttle at 11 AM. We asked driver, Ben to take us to Flying Leap Vineyards and Distillery first, but he dropped us off at Deep Sky Vineyards instead. It was 20 minutes before I realized we were not where we thought! It was serendipitous, because their wines were some of the best of the day and a great way to start our tour, overlooking their vineyards and the mountains in the distance.

The plan was to have lunch at Copper Brothel, except they were closed due to a plumbing issue when we pulled up, so we checked out the Café and there was an hour wait. Plan C was to Pronghorn Pizza as a light drizzle fell. The rain made most of their patio seating off limits, causing about a 45-minute wait for a table. Unlike the Café, Pronghorn provided wine tasting! How serendipitous again, Nancy commented. Tom treated us to an appetizer while we waited. We all ordered different pizzas and traded slices for a nice variety.



Next stop: Flying Leap! Ben pulled into Deep Sky for the second time! We wondered if there was a kick-back arrangement or if he had a mental block, confusing the two places. Eventually, Ben delivered us to the real Flying Leap and we showed up as a colorful Bachelorette party was just wrapping up in the spirits tasting room. Some of the ladies joined in the celebration. Our host offered a variety of spirits on the six-taste flight



and a couple optional ones for a couple bucks extra. We went from vodkas to brandies, including one that tasted like an orange creamsicle, to 100 Proof Bourbon to six-year-old brandy that tasted like whiskey to my untrained palette.

Rides and Events

Sonoita/Elgin Winery and Distillery Overnighter (continued)



The sun was descending behind the dark clouds as we pulled in to club favorite, Hops and Vines. Ben had recommended we save it for last, as it is open later. They had live music playing inside, probably due to the weather, and they were jamming in matching outfits. We ordered a flight of six wines, presented on a muffin tin with snacks occupying the spots without wine. We sat outside, keeping the ducks and peacock company.

Just down the hill is the Meading Room. Gayleen had raved about mead and this place dedicated to it. We knew we had to include it when we checked out the winery map. Debbie had to rely on me to walk any distances, as we didn't even pack a cane. It helped that we were all pretty lubed by now and it was down hill. We each ordered a flight of meads and the girls played with a big poodle enjoying the evening breeze. Ben showed up as the sun was setting and for the first time we had to share the 12-seat bus with another group. By the time he dropped us off it was after 6 PM.



For dinner, we walked over to the Steak Out next door. Frank had gone over early to get our name on the list. By the time we walked in a table in the bar was waiting for us. They know how to cook a steak or a burger, for that matter. It was delicious and a nice ending to a great day of laughs.

Debbie and I had to leave by 8 AM the next morning to meet a guy who wanted to rent the Royal Enfield. The bikes were all covered in morning dew, so I wiped down all the seats. It was only 52 degrees as we rolled out but we had layers and Debbie even turned on the heated seat. It was a great ride home on Sunday morning vacant streets.



Rides and Events

Sonoita/Elgin Winery and Distillery Overnighter Pictures



Rides and Events

Rail X Ranch Dirt Ride

By Mike Ostrom

Many street-bike riders have dabbled riding off road at some point in their lives. I know many in the Black Mountain chapter have. Some riders got their start on an off-road bike or mini-bike when they were kids. My first experience on motorized two wheels was courtesy of a Briggs and Stratton 2 hp lawn mower engine stuffed in a bicycle frame when I was 14, over 50 years ago. We rode it on streets and off road. Many riders get away from riding in the dirt and some get away from motorcycles in general during their middle-age years, while raising a family. Then they get the bug again once they enter their empty-nester, second childhood.



Regardless of their motorcycle history, many members and friends still like to play in the dirt, even during retirement. Bob Gardner put together a ride through Rail X Range on a beautiful Friday in October. Bob rode his Suzuki DR 650 with knobbies and soft bags, Mark Grosvenor was on his BMW F750GS with 90-10 street tires and I was on my Honda XR650L with 50-50 tires.

We grabbed the trail in Catalina, off Edwin Road around 9 AM and rode a 30-mile loop through foothills ending on Cochise Canyon Trail near Marana Road, by I-10 just before noon. The route had a nice variety of dirt road with loose rocks, some sand and mostly moderate

hills. Most of the hills had ruts and washes at the bottom with deeper sand. Bob considered the route a C+ to B-, with C- being novice and A+ being Expert skill level. Mark and I considered some sections a solid B. Bob is one of those guys with lots of knowledge and experience riding off road. He regularly rides B rated trails and doesn't shy away from a technical A route. I followed him most of the day and observed his technique and line through the rough sections.



Rides and Events

Rail X Ranch Dirt Ride (continued)



We stopped every half hour or so to hydrate and snap a few pictures and Bob would pause after a tricky section to make sure we made it through without going Tits Up. Mark was on a heavier bike with less suspension travel than Bob and me. He hit a couple big bumps that bottomed his front forks, which can cause handling issues at the exact wrong time. On one extreme wash crossing he ended up with the 500-pound bike parked on top of him and a sprained foot. At one point the bike's rear wheel had buried itself in sand until the frame bottomed out on the hill. Bob rode back to help him dig it out and get going again. I was on my way back and a guy in a passing 4X4 truck said the bike was up and Mark gave him a thumbs up. I shot a short video of the two rejoining me. Mark didn't realize it at the time, but his foot became more sore as we finished the day. He either broke a bone or had a severe sprain with a nice bump by the time he got home.

I followed Mark for the remainder

of the ride. We hit some moderately deep sand for some of it and instead of standing on the pegs he stretched his two legs out to act as outriggers as the front wheel squirmed left and right plowing sand. At one point the sand was about 4 or 5 inches deep and he came to a stop almost perpendicular to the trail, but kept it up. I had almost dropped it in the deep sand a few times, but managed to ride it out. Having a lighter bike with dirt-biased tires helps. I've ridden in sand on my 600-pound Moto Guzzi Stelvio adventure bike and it's a lot of work!

Even with my 350-pound XR650L, I was exhausted by the end of the ride. Standing with my knees bent, suspending my 260-pound



mass, for half of the three-hour ride had turned my legs into rubber. My nerve-pain medication was no longer doing its job, so I was starting hurt by the time I pointed the bike south to the O ranch. Mark headed directly home to get some ice on that foot and Bob rode further west from Marana to do some more dirt riding before calling it a day!



Rides and Events

Run to the Rez 2022

By Phil Reiter



It was a beautiful Friday morning for our ride up to the Apache Gold Casino for the yearly Run to the Rez rally. Our host, Dr. John Bush, aka John RezRider, has been organizing this yearly event for over 20 years. It was originated as an event to celebrate all of the local Apache veterans. Over the years, it has grown in popularity, and now attracts folks, many of whom are Native Americans of many tribes across America, and even a few from Canada.

We arrived at the meetup point, and were pleased to find Shon and Linda Lowry, who from now on will be wintering in Tucson instead of at their new home in Sturgis, ND. We had expected several other folks to show up, but at KSU time, it was only the four of us. We



proceeded up to the casino at a comfortable pace, and without incident.

After arriving and checking in at the casino's hotel, we walked over to the casino, paid our registration fees, and put our tickets in the box for the raffle grand prize, a new Harley motorcycle. We immediately met up with several friends and acquaintances from previous events. Bonita seemed to know just about everybody that we encountered. There were lots of hugs received, and photos taken. We also met up with TJ Moose Johnson and Teresa Squirrel Davidson. The ladies, of course, spent time poring over the vendor stalls located conveniently near the front entrance to the casino.



Rides and Events

Run to the Rez 2022 (continued)



The Friday night event was billed as a traditional dinner, held out on the grassy expanse of the unused golf course on the casino grounds, which featured either Chili soup, or menudo, tamales with a Carne Seca filling, and fry bread. Following the meal, everyone gathered in a large circle, and local Native American dancers performed several dances and blessings. After the dinner, we went looking for some live music at the casino. There were 2 local bands playing some good rock and roll that night.

Saturday mid morning, all of the bikers lined up with their own groups for the ride to San Carlos village, for the ceremony honoring the veterans. There were over a hundred bikes in the parade, and for the most part everyone minded their riding manners. All along the road into the center of town there



were families who had come out to watch the parade of bikes, waving and saluting as we passed. There was one accident as we neared the destination; one of the riders who was following too closely, ran off the road when the rider in front of him stopped quickly avoiding a child who had run into the road. Squirrel was at the scene, and tended to the injured rider. Fortunately, Paramedics were stationed nearby and arrived within a few minutes.

The event was held in the local gymnasium. Following the flag ceremony and singing of the Anthem, there was a speaker who recognized and honored all of the veterans who were present. There was also a ceremony honoring the family of one of the local Rez Rider Club members who had died from injuries incurred in a motorcycle accident during one of the rides on Thursday.

Rides and Events

Run to the Rez 2022 (Continued)

Following the ceremony, we snacked on Indian tacos, made with thinly sliced steak cooked over mesquite, green chili, and cheese in a flour tortilla, one of our favorite parts of the ride to San Carlos Village! Following the event, there was a scheduled poker run, which took place mostly at locations in the town of Globe. Also happening was a yearly Native American festival, featuring traditional drumming, singing, and dancers of all ages in costume.

Unfortunately, the sky had turned dark, and it was obvious that rain was eminent. We chose to hang out at the casino with friends. Those brave folks who participated in the poker run got pretty soaked.



Saturday evening the steak dinner was held at a large arena which is within walking distance of the casino. The dinner was basic, but tasty. The main event after dinner was the outdoor concert, which was located in front of the casino. Fortunately, there was plenty of room for seating under the awning at the casino entrance, because the sky opened up and it began raining hard shortly after the music started. The opening band, which was a CCR cover band, was forced to cut their performance short due to the storm. The main attraction was a Metallica cover band, which was able to set up and play once the rain let up. The raffle drawing for



the motorcycle was to be held at the end of the concert, and you had to be present to win. About 20 minutes into the concert, we decided that the odds of our winning were less than the odds that we would go to sleep before the drawing was held, so we retired to our room. Much to our surprise, we found out in the morning that our winning ticket had indeed not been chosen. Pam DeVall won the Sportster, Jacket and \$1,000 from Superstition Harley-Davidson.

Sunday morning, there were dark skies and obviously heavy rain toward the south. We put on our rain suits, and had the bikes packed just as rain started falling. We rode in rain for about a half hour before riding out of it. Fortunately, the remainder of the trip back home was dry. All in all, it was nice riding and a fun experience, which we will look forward to participating in again next year.



Rides and Events

Saguaro Park October Redux

By Mike Ostrom



Monsoon has been stubborn this year. We weren't sure if we'd be able to complete the tour of Saguaro National Park West after our October 16th monthly meeting without getting wet or not. The chance of rain hovered around 50% all morning and search as we might, blue sky was nowhere to be seen. Debbie and I were happy to arrive at Home Plate Restaurant for breakfast and the meeting without getting wet. We thought we might be pushing our luck to complete the Saguaro loop after dodging rain the night before at the NW Moose Riders Bike Night, but we were on a roll.

The overcast skies kept the temperatures in the upper 60's for the 10:30 AM departure. Of the other folks that rode to the meeting, only Chris Seat joined in. John Fucci put the top down on his

Vette and ran sweep. Ed King had to be back in Green Valley and decided he better not risk being late. Chris Sellick, likewise had Honey do's that needed attention. Some of the usual suspects were returning from the Run to the Rez rally near Globe and didn't make it in time.



We had done a similar Saguaro loop after the August meeting when Manny and Stella were in town, but in the opposite direction (see page 21). This time Debbie and I rode the Chief Vintage down Wade Road and over Picture Rocks, then took Kinney Road through the Park and over Gates Pass. We didn't stop at the top this time, even though the skies appeared to be clearing. We all turned on Camino De Oeste for a run over the roller coaster and Chris followed us on Camino De Cerro to the freeway as John continued north on Silverbell. We arrived back at the ranch, dry and happy to have completed the trifecta of beating the odds.

Rides and Events

River Bottom Blast

By Mike Ostrom

I posted it should be a beautiful day to sit on the patio at River Bottom Grill in Florence; and it was! We tried our late lunch strategy for this cool autumn day. We met at the Valero in Catalina for a KSU at noon-ish. The idea was to allow the first wave of the lunch crowd to leave and free up tables for us so we could order and eat before the Last Train to Juárez started playing at 2 PM.



Eight of us on five bikes started climbing out of Catalina on AZ 79 under overcast skies with dark clouds. The temperature kept dropping from 71 to a low of 65 degrees which was a bit cool for everyone who was in a mesh jacket, like Dave and Robyn Nicholson, Debbie and me, or just a tee-shirt like Tom Johnson and Poblano Moreno. Nancy Ellis was wearing an appropriate light-weight leather jacket. I had locked the cruise in at 70 MPH on the Chief Vintage, so it felt cooler.

After about five miles we came upon a slow line of traffic doing 55 in a 65 MPH zone, headed by a caravan of vintage Volkswagen buses. If I recall, these things have about 67 hp and were probably approaching their

top speed! We had to follow them for quite a while, waiting for enough clear line of sight for the group to pass. After we did, it was clear sailing into Florence. About ten miles out we saw the sun for the first time all afternoon and the temperature started to warm as the elevation dropped. By the



time we rode around back of the River Bottom it was a perfect 74 degrees.



Rides and Events

River Bottom Blast (continued)

We arrived right around 1 PM and the band was just setting up. The patio was about 80% full and there were a few completely empty picnic benches open. Poblano found one that seated all eight of us that had a nice view of the actual river bottom and the gray skies we left behind. The veterans of busy River Bottom Sundays know the best strategy is to go up to the bar for your first beer. They always seem short-handed for the crowd and the servers won't make eye contact with newcomers right away. Debbie and I got ser-



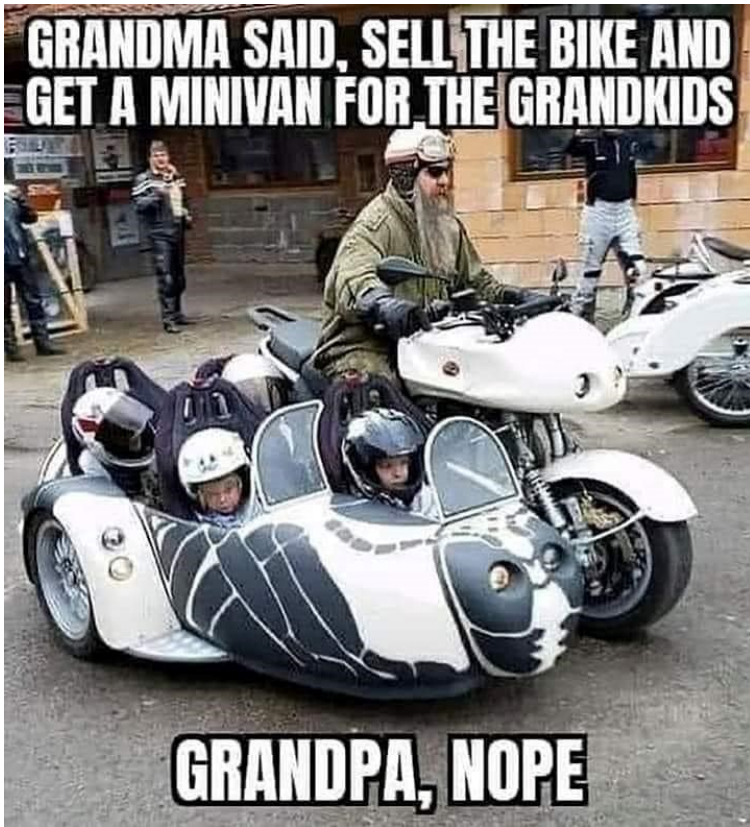
vice at the inside bar right away. The Killlifter on tap hit the spot. We ordered our second one with lunch. My Road King burger was excellent as usual, with double roasted green chilis. Poblano shared his garlic mushrooms with the group. Debbie may order them instead of the popcorn shrimp next time.

The band did a sound check tune at 1:15 and then kicked off their first 45-minute set at 2 PM as advertised. It was their third gig of the weekend and the lead singer said his voice was shot, but we couldn't tell. They sounded great and had a nice mix country and some blues. Everyone ended up taking home some leftovers. We had a great time. We waited for our checks as the band started their second set around 3 PM. Tom had tried to buy the first round and I had tried to buy the second, but the waitress told us everyone would pay for their own. What?!



Debbie and I left for home first and a repeat of the weather pattern played out in reverse. We rode from warm sunny skies to dark overcast skies where the temperature continued to drop until bottomed at 63. We got just a few sprinkles in the same spot, coming and going, about 15 miles from the AZ 77 T-bone. Poblano passed us and the line of cars we were following about 10 miles out. It warmed to 68 in Catalina as Dave and Robyn rode by while Debbie was taking a comfort break at McDonald's. Tom and Nancy waved goodbye and did a U-turn head back toward the RV Park, as we headed for the ranch with smiles on our faces.

Sidecars

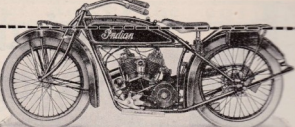


'Tis the Season



Odds & Ends

134 POPULAR MECHANICS ADVERTISING SECTION



Indian Scout Model G-20

FOR years the motorcycling public has demanded a "perfect middle-weight solo mount." This demand has now been met in the latest triumph of the "Factory behind the INDIAN"—the new INDIAN Scout Model G-20. Though this model is 120 pounds lighter than the far-famed Powerplus, nothing has been sacrificed in the way of strength or sturdiness or mechanical perfection.

INDIAN Scout innovations in design and construction are many. Note carefully the illustrations and descriptions of its motor and transmission, given on the left and right of this page. Eminent engineers and motorcycle experts have pronounced the INDIAN Scout the "marvel of motorcycle engineering." Its balance and ease of operation are remarkable. It is the most economically operated machine, 75 miles on a gallon of gasoline! And it's the cleanest and most silent of all motorcycles. Gives the greatest comfort in riding, and yields all the speed and power you'll ever want.

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Amusing captions submitted for this picture:

“Brother of the Third Wheel”
“Buck Rodgers mobile”
“I can get 70 Miles per gallon with this hog”
“Airstream all electric model”
“Tail Fin holds 30 gallons”



Just for Fun—Caption Contest

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The best will be featured in the next newsletter.



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