



January Ride Report

By Ron Farkas

The first ride of 2004 felt like a mini-Baby Butt 1000. Starting off with a chance of showers, we had wet roads to contend with as we headed out I-8 toward Harbison Canyon. The clouds were breaking up and the sun made it out just in time to enjoy the twists and turns of the back roads. Harbison Canyon looked like a cross between a nuclear winter and an old black and white movie due to the wild-fires that raced through there last fall. The starkness of the black & white canyon was broken up by the green of "Hydro Seeding" on the sides of the hills and the bright blue and white of the cloud filled sky. Our first stop after leaving HOM, was Pine Valley and the chance to warm up with a cup of hot chocolate from the ice cream stand.



Clouds, Hot Chocolate, and good friends

Ed and B-Bird leave to check ahead



The temperature was dropping and motorcycle tires and "Black Ice" don't mix. Ed Seeber went on ahead to check road conditions and came back with an AOK. We started our climb out of Pine Valley to find Sunrise Hi-

way was framed by traces of snow on each side of the road. The road climbed even higher and the mix of low temperatures and humidity developed a wet fog that clung to your gear and bike like a cold-wet glue. The ride out of the fog to the end of Sunrise had us heading up Hwy 67 to Julian. We stopped near the Julian post office to re-group and found out that the air temperature was in the 30s! Time to head for the lower desert and warmer temperatures!

Similar to Harbison Canyon, Banning Grade was also victim of the wild fires. Banning Grade was hit again, with a flash flood as evidence of it appeared to us at the bottom. The Banning "General Store", a regular stopping spot for many motorcyclists survived this fight with mother nature and allowed us to regroup before the run out to Borrego.

The warmth of the desert was a welcome change to all of us and the pace picked up just a little (not too fast—as it was assumed Office Patton, the local CHP would be on patrol!) The roller coaster ride of the highway and the short climb to Borrego was the end of the road, as we all headed into Christmas Circle for some lunch, bench racing and welcomed warmth.



Borrego warmth at Christmas Circle—pix by L.Trilling

Our former HRCA Liaison, Keith Knapp has moved to NASCAR country to help run the charities for Honda Riders Club of America. Some of you may have received the "Ride for Kids" brochure and may be making plans to attend one of the local following events:

Dual Sport Ride—March 21st—according to Keith this will take place at "Hungry Valley" ORV park near Gorman off the "Grapevine" north of Los Angeles.

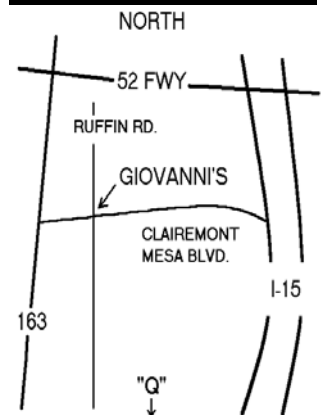
Road Ride—May 16th—Torrance, Ca.—this starts at American Honda's Headquarters, 1919 Torrance Blvd. The sign up opens at 7:30am and closes at 9:45am. The ride travels through the Palos Verde estates and takes place rain or shine.

-additional info on page two

Red Hot Rider's present the Baby Butt 1000 for 2004. This years event will take place on October 2nd. Additional information will be forthcoming.—If you would like to work on the planning committee—please contact Jim Branch

Have you renewed your membership?— Get a **FREE** Red Hot Riders decal. See **Ron Farkas** at the next dinner meeting and get your RHR decal for your bike.

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



2004 Membership Fees are Due!

2004 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

January's meeting report

By Ron Farkas

The cold snap was "on hold" and the weather was cooperating as many of us rode to the January meeting...or was it we just had "cager" fever and wanted to be back on two wheels again! Jim started out with some tips on getting your leathers ready for track day in March, and then we went right to our guest speaker Ray Englehardt. ERP, Engineered Racing Products, is Ray's shop, which is just a stones throw from Willow Springs Raceway. With this location ERP has the advantage in developing products and setting up suspensions for many of the club racers that utilize WSR. Starting off with few technical terms, Ray explained the importance of setting your "sag" which is affected by your springs pre-load, ; "Ride Height" or the attitude of the bike and how it affects "turn in", as well as how shock absorbers work. With the popularity of Suzuki's GSXR series of motorcycles, Ray brought a cut away shock from that bike and explained it's various components and how it differed from other "aftermarket" brands like Ohlins and Penske. Ray's also brought a custom lightweight racing wheel (a beautiful

forged Carrozzeria) that his company sells and explained how it allows your suspension to have an advantage through lower "un-sprung weight" as well as the ability to "spool up" the wheel faster and giving your bike better acceleration. In closing, I reminded everyone about renewing his or her membership; **Michael Kennedy** won the 50/50 raffle and Joel Keller teased us with information about February's speaker.



800-542-9762
19415 Delight Street
Canyon Country, CA. 91351
www.engineeredracingproducts.com

EVENT CALENDAR

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
Mar	17-21.....	BiketoberWest
Mar	21 Sun.....	Dual Sport Ride— <u>Ride for Kids</u>
April	4 Sun.....	AMA Superbikes Fontana, CA
May	16 Sun.....	Road Ride— <u>Ride for Kids</u>

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



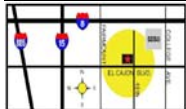
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Don't feel like submitting an article to the newsletter?...well Digital Cameras have come down in price...send me a digital photo via email...let's see if I can use it...a recent ride or a club ride you've been on...the following rules apply:

- 1) Please, Jpeg format (.jpg) only, 2) Do NOT edit or resize the photo,
- 3) Only send me your top 3 choices, 4) The Email attachment cannot exceed 1 Mbyte...thanks, editor

Got a couple of emails that I forgot the World Superbike (WSB) calendar.....on your mark- get set- go!

World SuperBike (WSB) 2004

Feb. 29th	Spain, Valencia
Mar. 28th	Australia, Philip Island
Aprl.18th	San Marino,Misano
May 2nd	Japan,Sugo
May 16th	Italy,Monza
May 30th	Germany,Oschersleben
June 13th	Great Britain,Silverstone
July 4th	TBA TBA
July 11th	United States,Laguna Seca
Aug. 1st	Great Britain,Brands Hatch
Sept. 5th	Netherlands,Assen
Sept. 26th	Italy,Imola
Oct. 3rd	France,Magny Cours



Coney Island Bumper Car + ATV = One Wild Ride!

Next Meeting: 2/11/04

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!

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

Newsletter Submission:
 Newsletter submission can be sent to Ron Farkas, email is: hondaron@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
 HRCALiaison.....Dale Stark
 Referee.....Rached Maalouf
 Legislative Officer:
 Andy Mansker

Additional Info
Ride for Kids
www.rideforkids.org
800-253-6530
 Honda's Rider Club of America

Couch Potato Corner
DAYTONA
 on
SPEED TV
Friday 3/5
Supercross—6pm

Saturday 3/6
Superbike—10:30am

Saturday 3/13
Supersport
&
BoxerCup
10:00pm