



**G**reetings again! This time I get to greet you as the new SW Newsletter editor as well as your Area Director. Sorry for the lateness of this issue, but I'm learning a lot of new skills lately! Thanks to all who have helped get this issue out to you. Mike Wolf has once again been a great help and has my profuse thanks.



I trust you have all been out enjoying our weather and scenery. By the time you are reading this, SW COG will have hosted just under thirty scheduled rides and rallies.

I trust that each of you gets a chance to attend one of the rides or wrenching sessions, or better yet – get some other riders together for a ride that isn't on the schedule!

### **Get Regional in Utah! September 26-28**

We have some great rides and events coming up throughout the region in the second half of the year. Of course the one that is near and dear to my heart is the SW Regional Rally in Panguitch, Utah. Never heard of Panguitch? That's not too surprising, as it is a very small town with a population of less than 2,000. What this town *is* known for is it's proximity to some of the most amazing color country in Utah. A short 24-mile ride will take you to Bryce Canyon National Park, a stunning area that simply must be seen. Within a 50 mile radius of Panguitch you will find Brian Head Ski Resort (beautiful in fall!), Cedar Breaks National Monument, Kodachrome Basin, Panguitch Lake, and Red Canyon, all very scenic areas with lots of twisty roads to get you there. Sound good? I will be leading a ride up through Escalante/Grand Staircase National Monument to Torrey, which takes us through some spectacular hill country in Dixie National Forest and ends up at the western edge of Capitol Reef National

Park.

For a different style of Saturday evening get-together, we'll have a catered barbecue dinner in the covered patio at the Marianna Inn, where we are staying. I'm really looking forward to this trip and hope to see many of you there. For complete details, see the schedule section below!

I would like to thank Randy Bishop for his tenure as AAD for Colorado, and welcome his replacement. I'll let Randy tell his story later in this newsletter. We appreciate all the hard work Randy has done for COG and look forward to seeing him on one of his rides in the future.

***- Kerry Perkins - SWAD***

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### **From the Editor:**

Hey, that's me again! But seriously, I would like to thank Eric "Tex" Williamson for volunteering to take over the duties of SW Newsletter Editor. I look forward to working with him in the future to bring you all the latest in the Southwest area.

The following response was received by me regarding Steve's Long's "Motorcycle Meanderings" column that appeared in the last edition of this newsletter. KP

Dear Editor:

Re: Steve Long's "Don't Buy a New Concours" article in the April 2003 newsletter, I'd like to throw in my \$0.02....

So what's the big deal with throwing old tech bikes at consumers? Guys who buy Kawasaki aren't looking for the bleeding edge googaws – they want Bang for the Buck, and Big K delivers. If you NEED to be on the bleeding edge of technology or styling, don't buy a Kawasaki in the first place.

Oh sure, the really great bikes end up getting long in the tooth, and the Concours, ZX-7 and KLR650 are all fine examples. But so what? I've got a 12 year old Connie that might as well be a 10 to 17 year old bike (or a 1 year old, if you don't count front brakes and fancy gauges) that manages to haul 2 people and 100 lbs. of gear on multi-state camping trips, and it's not going to be the back marker on a day of 1 up canyon strafing. I didn't



have to take out a mortgage to get one, either. (A \$14,000 to \$20,000 MOTORCYCLE? - That's crazy talk.)

Nobody ever accused Kawasaki of being on the cutting edge of technology. Kawasaki's mode of operation has always been One-Upmanship. They traditionally come out with great bikes, just a year or two after Hondamahazuki throws some gorgeous chunk of road machine at us. Guaranteed, the K machine is going to have more horsepower, not handle quite so well, maybe need better brakes, etc. But it's gonna go fast!

Yamaha didn't want to bring the FJR to the States, citing a "flat" sport-touring market, and only did so after consumer demand justified it. Now let's see, Honda does the ST1300, Yamaha brings the 1300cc FJR, Kawasaki sits back a couple of years, and the next thing you know - Shazam! Fast forward to 2005 and what's that I see? A ZX-12R based, shaft driven Concours II from Kawasaki. Wait for it.

In the meantime, I've got a comfortable old pair of slippers that I just can't seem to throw away. That's what loyalty is all about.

Dan Sullivan  
Napa, CA  
'91 Concours  
'95 ZX-7  
'91 EX500  
'68 CT90

### What's Going On Around the Southwest

#### Colorado - Randy Bishop – Littleton

Yesterday, June 21, was the official first day of summer, but it already seems to be flying by. We've had four COG events in Colorado so far, with four more yet to come. A special thanks to Rick Hall, Phil Tarman, Tom Mulvany and Wendy Nyman for investing the time and effort to plan and lead some rides this year.

If you'd still like to volunteer to lead a ride in 2003, contact Phil Tarman or myself. Late additions to the schedule aren't as successful as ones that are planned early enough to be promoted in this newsletter, but we can do them anyway, promoting via e-mail and on the web.

If you aren't receiving e-mails about the rides once in a while and would like to be included, e-mail Phil Tarman at [ptarman@kci.net](mailto:ptarman@kci.net) or me at [bishoprl@earthlink.net](mailto:bishoprl@earthlink.net). As always, for the latest COG Colorado ride schedules,

maps, reports, and photos, check [www.concours.org/co](http://www.concours.org/co).

Why have I mentioned Phil Tarman as a contact? Because he has enthusiastically agreed to take over as the COG AAD for Colorado. I inherited the job from Mark "Ride the Divide" Folsom 5 years ago in November 1997 and have really enjoyed my participation in the club, but my energy level for the tasks at hand has been diminishing so I figured it was time to pass the torch. Phil has been very active in COG over the past 4 years, helping with the COG Continental Drift Rally in 2000, and leading some very well attended prairie rides to Nebraska and Wyoming in the spring. He will be a great AAD.

What have been some of the highlights of being the AAD? Number one has been spending time with other motorcyclists. We come from diverse economic and vocational backgrounds, but sure have shared our common interests in motorcycling and exploring Colorado and the neighboring states. We've had some fun riding experiences and have shared some fun stories (and maybe some tall tales) at gas and lunch stops, and around a few campfires. The memories definitely put a smile on my face.

Another highlight has been leading rides. The first, called the Summer Solstice Tour, was in June of 1997. I planned and planned, pre-ran the route, prepared maps, and got the word out. Only one other guy showed up at the start, Bob Dombrowe, who had come all the way from Omaha, Nebraska. We had a great two-day ride! We modified the route a little to emphasize some places he wanted to ride, he got the individual services of a tour guide, and I got to show off some of my favorite roads and places in Colorado. Our route even included gravel roads over Boreas Pass and up Pikes Peak. If you check the main page of [www.concours.org/co](http://www.concours.org/co) you'll see us smiling at the summit (The picture was taken by a Japanese tourist that was really excited about seeing a Kawasaki up there!). It's a dangerous thing to leave me alone with a map, so planning and leading rides has been something I've enjoyed being able to do.

Building and maintaining the web site has been a highlight also. It's just a hobby and it's been done it without any fancy software, but I've enjoyed being able to express a little creativity using words and photos to tell the story about some of our COG events. And it's been fun to banter back and forth with Rick "Webmaster" Hall about all the bandwidth I've been using. And that will continue as I've agreed to stay on as the COG Colorado web guy.



Some thanks are also in order. First to Mark Folsom for encouraging me to take the AAD job and for organizing the Ride the Divides that got me involved in COG in the first place. Thanks also to those that have led rides for us: Rick Hall (tech days at his house and Front Range Canyon Blasts), Phil Tarman (prairie rides to Cabela's and Oregon Trail sites, mountain ride to Deckers), Lance "COG #84" LaCerte (track day at Mountain View), Carl Thomte (Wyoming Border Crossing), Doug Lane (multi-day ride to the Black Hills and a ride to the Wet Mountains), Larry and Mary Kay Sanford (hosted a BBQ lunch on that ride), Mark Folsom (for hosting us overnight during our ride to the West Slope), Don Dotson (led a ride around Utah before there was an AAD specifically for Utah), Ed Shaw (Front Range Canyon Blast), Tom Mulvany (the Mineral Ride), Wendy Nyman (Deckers loop), and BJ Ondo (Cripple Creek ride in July). Did I miss anyone? I hope not because I very much have appreciated those that have volunteered their time and efforts to our group.

As I wrap up here, I gotta pass on a little advice one more time: No tickets. No stupid passes. No crashes. Read Nick Ienatsch's "The Pace" and follow his words of wisdom. Remember that you're not connected to the bike ahead by a string and don't have to immediately mimic his velocity or every action. Don't do dumb things around cars such that a mom or dad turns to their kid and says, "You'll never ride a motorcycle". Give tourists a little extra space and slack so their memories of the beautiful Colorado mountain scenery won't be tarnished by some crazy antics of a motorcyclist. Slow down enough to enjoy the scenery yourself. Don't break your face smiling while riding up Willow Creek Pass. Or Monarch Pass. Or Berthoud Pass. Or McClure Pass. ....

Thanks for allowing me to be the AAD and giving me the opportunity to serve the motorcycling community in that way. See you later, most probably at a COG ride or event yet this year.

-- Randy Bishop, ex-COG AAD for Colorado, June 25, 2003



**Upcoming Events Across the Southwest!**

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**Cajon Pass to Mentone - Big Bear Loop (SoCal)**

Date: 7/5/2003 Desc: Cajon Pass to Mentone - This Year's Big Bear Loop. Meet at McDonalds @ intersection of I-15 and Hwy. 138). 9:00am roll out, so be fueled and ready to go! We'll be doing highway 138, Lake Gregory Dr., 18, 38. See you there! Email: Jim Souders at [jamesouders@yahoo.com](mailto:jamesouders@yahoo.com) or call (714) 525-5826 for more information.

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**AMA/World Superbike Races at Laguna Seca (NorCal)**

Dates: 7/10/2003 to 7/13/2003 Desc: Come check out the World's and US's finest road racers at one of the most memorable tracks in the racing history - Laguna Seca. See ya at the races! Email Chad Olson at [olsoncm@worldnet.att.net](mailto:olsoncm@worldnet.att.net) or call (925)458-2674 for more information.  
<http://www.laguna-seca.com/00events.htm>

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**AMA District 36 Road Riders/COG Gypsy Tour (NorCal)**

Date: 7/19/2003 Come join us on a relaxing 300-mile tour of California's Northern Sierra back roads. This route has the roads to satisfy all types of riders & passengers, whether you want to carve curves or just sightsee. The guided group ride will be a comfortable pace and route directions will be provided. You are encouraged to travel at your own pace and the group will reform at all major turns and stops. The Gypsy tour will start in Marysville, CA and head directly up into the mountains to beat the heat. The route will wind through the high mountain meadows, past Mt Lassen and finishing in the Shadow of Mt Shasta at Lake Siskiyou. We will finish with a BBQ in our own group camping area at Lake Siskiyou Camp Resort. The BBQ is included with your entry and everyone is invited to sit around the campfire. <http://www.lakesis.com>

For those who wish to camp, our group tent area will accommodate the first 50 paid camper entries. The low camping fee includes entire weekend, so you can stay until Monday morning if you wish. Amenities include hot showers, boat rentals, a beach etc etc. If you are not a camper, Mt Shasta City is just 4 miles away with plenty of Hotels and shopping. But make your reservations early the Hotels do fill up.  
[http://www.mtshastachamber.com/vinfostay\\_motel](http://www.mtshastachamber.com/vinfostay_motel)



Starting point: Marysville, California where Hwys 20 and 70 meet. Start time: 0830 Riders Meeting and at 0900 we ride. So be gassed up and ready to go. Entry form will be available soon. Email John Flowers at amarider@concours.org for more information.

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**Colorado - Cripple Creek Gold Rush**

Date: 7/20/2003 Desc: Explore the back roads of the Cripple Creek and Victor gold rush area. Start in Woodland Park, visit Victor, lunch in Cripple Creek. Then continue to Florissant. Details are being put together. Email BJ Ondo at billyondo@msn.com for more information.

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**Colorado - A Bunch of Passes**

Date: 8/2/2003 Desc: Ride a bunch of passes in the Colorado Rockies. Denver to Berthoud, Loveland, Vail, Tennessee, and Fremont Passes. Lunch at Butterhorn Bakery in downtown Frisco. Then Hoosier, Red Hill, and Kenosha Passes. Approx 300 miles. Meet at the Conoco gas station just east of C-470 and Bowles on the SW side of Denver. Depart at 9am. Email Randy Bishop at bishoprl@earthlink.net or call (303) 972-9683 for more information.

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**Back Roads of Sonoma/Marin Counties (NorCal)**

Date: 8/9/2003 Desc: Meet in Petaluma at Denny's. Denny's is on the north side of town. From 101, take the Penngrove exit and go west about one block to this palace of culinary delight. There is a Chevron directly across the street (please gas up before we leave). I'll be there for breakfast about 8. We'll hit the road at 9am. For more info call me at 707-829-6824. An alternate meeting point will be Robin Bringolf's house in Walnut Creek. Please show up about 3am, feel free to honk, (he'll get up) and I'm sure Eggs Benedict will be served to everyone. Email Jeff Johnson at jeffrey-1953@msn.com or call (707) 829-6824 for more information.

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**5th Annual Central Coast San Simeon Campout (SoCal/NorCal)**

Dates: 8/22/2003 to 8/24/2003 Desc: Same event as the Morro Bay Campout, but different venue due to State Parks scheduled remodeling of the Morro Bay Campgrounds. Day Ride up Coast hwy 1 to Carmel and back down through the Carmel Valley on Saturday. The usual Saturday night tri-tip/albacore BBQ feast with trimmings, firewood included. Cost will be \$20.00 per bike and single rider or \$30.00 for two-ups (price includes campsite fee, food, and soft drinks). We have 4 campsites reserved but there will be an extra vehicle fee (for late arrivals) once the reserved site quota (eight

people) is reached. Our accountant will equalize your fee at the site (save receipt). Bring a tent. Showers will be available at the campground, for more campground details see:

[http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page\\_id=590](http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=590)

\*NOTE\* This gathering has been really popular in past years. We would like to have everyone RSVP to Linda Swart by August 20th so we can get an idea of how many will be attending. Hope to see you there!

Contact: Linda Swart at Kaw95@aol.com or George Jercich at Menobewhan@hotmail.com 805-528-6544 for more information.

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**Angeles Crest Highway Double Cross (SoCal)**

Date: 9/6/2003 Desc: Meet at "The Summit Inn" @ the top of Cajon Pass on I-15. 9:00am roll out, so be fueled up and ready to go! We'll be doing Highways I-15, 138, Lone Pine Cyn. Rd., 2, with lunch at Hill Street Café. See you there! Email Jim Souders at jameassouders@yahoo.com or call (714) 525-5826 for more information.

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**Ride to the Coast (NorCal)**

Date: 9/13/2003 Desc: Join us for a ride out of Fairfield, through the wine country and over the hill to Highway 1. We will stop for lunch in Point Arena and head back through Boonville. There is a 40 mile section that may be a workout for cruiser riders, but the rest of the route is easy to moderate, and is about a 325 mile loop. We meet at Coffee World, 2401 Waterman Blvd., Fairfield, CA (in the Safeway shopping center @ Waterman Blvd. exit off I-80). 8:30am coffee, 9:00 rider meeting, 9:15 roll out. Fill up your tank an exit before as there is no gas station here. For info and meeting spots contact Jonathan Jensen at Baronvonfried@hotmail.com or call (707) 425-5144.

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**Colorado - Hot Rod Show and BBQ**

Date: 9/13/2003 Desc: Hot rod show and BBQ. Check out the 500+ hot rods, muscle cars, and classics at the big Summerset event at Clement Park, just east of Wadsworth and Bowles in SW Denver. 9am-12. At noon, the BBQ will be at Randy Bishop's just a mile or so south of there. RSVP at least a week before so we can have enough hamburgers and fixings ready. Email Randy Bishop at bishoprl@earthlink.net or call (303) 972-9683 for more information.

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**South West Regional Rally - Panguitch Utah - Bryce Canyon**



Dates: 9/26/2003 to 9/28/2003

Get regional in Utah's color country! I have reserved the entire motel, the Marianna Inn, at a rate of \$55/night for up to three people. I am making arrangements for a catered BBQ in the parking lot (which features a covered patio) on Saturday night. The motel is small, but motorcycle friendly, as the owner told me that she has had several rallies there every year for HOG and BMWMOA. The town of Panguitch is very small (population under 2,000) and definitely not a destination resort, \*but\* the riding in the area is superb, with many options available. Here are some mileage figures: Bryce Canyon NP - 25, Brian Head - 35, Panguitch Lake - 20, Red Canyon - 15, Cedar Breaks NM - 40, Zion NP - 75, Kodachrome Basin SP - 50, Escalante Grand Staircase NM - 72, Capitol Reef NP - 97. There are so many options for day rides from here that there should be something to appeal to everybody. I will probably take a sight-seeing tour (yeah, right...) up to Torrey, which takes you through some incredible roads in Escalante and the Capitol Reef area. I fell in love with this area on the way home from Montrose last year, and want to share it with you. So "get regional" with me and join me for some spectacular color country in Utah! You'll find the registration form at the end of this newsletter, as well as on-line at the SW web site - <http://www.concours.org/sw>, and the California web site - <http://concours.org/ca/>.

**Motel:** Marianna Inn <http://www.mariannainn.com/>  
 699 North Main Street  
 Panguitch, Utah 84759  
 1-800-331-7407

**Camping:** There are two campgrounds located in Panguitch:  
 Bryce Canyon KOA Campground  
 555 S. Main St.  
 Panguitch, UT 1-800-562-1625  
 Hitch-N-Post Campground  
 420 N. Main St.  
 Panguitch, UT 1-800-282-9633

**Contact:**  
 Kerry Perkins  
 Email: [kerrymp@pacbell.net](mailto:kerrymp@pacbell.net)  
 Phone: 805-583-3790

**Ride for Kids Sacramento (NorCal)**

Date: 10/5/2003 Desc: Come out and ride for kids!  
 Check out all of the details here:  
<http://www.ride4kids.org/sacramento/index.htm>  
 Email Steve Long at [selong@hotmail.com](mailto:selong@hotmail.com) for more information.

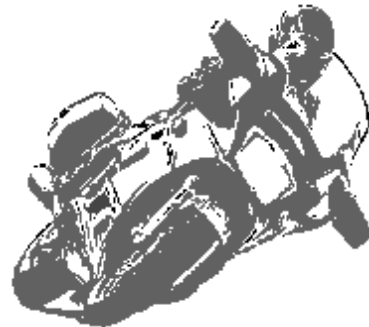
**Linda's SoCal Romp and BBQ (SoCal)**

Date: 10/18/2003 Desc: Linda's BBQ ride - October 18 @ Tehachapi (possible Caliente loop). More details to follow! Email: Linda Swart at [kaw95@aol.com](mailto:kaw95@aol.com) for more information.

**Joe Chase Memorial Ride & BBQ (NorCal)**

Date: 10/25/2003 Desc: This is a note to all who attended Joe Chase's ride and BBQ in years past to remind them its time to do it all over again, but in Joe's memory. Alas Daylight Savings Time is about to conclude. We need to celebrate that last hour of extra daylight and the great riding season we're having so I invite you all to attend my ride. We'll meet at McDonald's (780 Cochrane Road) in Morgan Hill CA at 9 am and try to leave by 9:15 for a run of about 115 miles. Concluding with a BBQ at about 2 pm at my house (16790 Ranger Court Morgan Hill, CA) <http://www.geocities.com/extexasboy/homemap.jpg>. This should be another great time with a great group of Coggers. As always other bikes and your friends are welcome. Email: Eric (Tex) Williamson at [texwmson@charter.net](mailto:texwmson@charter.net) or call (408) 778-5279 for more information.

*Note: For ride schedule updates throughout the year, be sure to check the COG website at <http://www.concours.org/schedule/index.asp>*





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*Visit the COG web page:*

**[www.concours.org](http://www.concours.org)**



**CONCOURS  
OWNERS  
GROUP™**

**Southwest Area Newsletter – June, 2003**

***“SPORT TOURING AT IT'S FINEST”***



**Concours Owners Group  
Southwest Regional Rally  
September 26-28, 2002  
Panguitch, Utah**



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_  
 (one person per form)  
 Street \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_  
 State/Province \_\_\_\_\_ Zip/Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ COG # \_\_\_\_\_ AMA # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Yr/Mfr/Model of Motorcycle \_\_\_\_\_ Lic. Plate # \_\_\_\_\_

T-Shirt Size/Quantity Requested: Med \_\_\_\_ Large \_\_\_\_ XL \_\_\_\_ 2XL \_\_\_\_ 3XL \_\_\_\_  
 One (1) T-Shirt is included per participant. Additional T-Shirts are available separately for \$12 (US) each.

**Please read and sign the following Concours Owners Group Release:**

I understand that the Concours Owners Group (COG) cannot assume responsibility for my personal safety in this event. I choose to participate in this event voluntarily, based on my own assessment of my abilities, the route conditions and facilities, and therefore assume all risks. I release and hold harmless COG, its officers, agents and members, from any and all injury and/or loss to my person or property that may result from my participation in this event. I further certify that my vehicle and I are in compliance with all license, insurance and financial responsibility laws applicable to my participation in this event.

**All participants under 18 years of age must have a parent or guardian sign the following additional release:**

**As parent or guardian of the above participant, and being informed or familiar with the risks associated with motorcycle events, I hereby consent to his or her participation in this event, and accept and adopt all representations and assumptions of risk set forth in the foregoing release.**

**Participant Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent or Guardian Signature (if applicable)** \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\* PLEASE COMPLETE THIS SECTION IN FULL \*\*\*\*\*

Emergency Contact Information: Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

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**Mail completed form(s) and  
 \$30 (US) for each registration(includes t-shirt and Saturday night banquet)  
 personal check or money order (payable to the Concours Owners Group)**

**To:  
 Kerry Perkins  
 2692 Tumbleweed Ave.  
 Simi Valley, CA 93065**

**Deadline: Entry forms must be in Kerry's mailbox by Monday, September 22nd !!**



