

Meet The Staff

The Faces Behind The Words

ON A FAIRLY REGULAR BASIS, we get questions about the people actually doing the testing, writing, riding evaluations and product research in MCN. That makes sense. After all, the height, weight, inseam, riding style and experience of the person commenting on a particular bike or product might mean a lot more or less to you depending on how closely that person's profile matches your own. And, a person's background can affect how they review a particular product.

So, we asked all of our regular contributors to supply us with a few vital statistics about themselves, to help you get a little better acquainted with the riders behind the bylines.

We will also post this information on our Web site, www.mcnews.com, so you can use it for future reference.



Patti Carpenter
Associate Editor

Height: 5'5" **Weight:** 105 lbs.
Inseam: 26" **Years Riding:** 38
Bikes Currently Owned: None
Favorite Bike Ever: 1970 Kawasaki 350 Avenger
Favored Riding Style: Long-distance touring
Favorite Riding Venue: Any road going anywhere, the farther the better
Background: If you're looking for history, Patti is "it," where MCN is concerned. She has been with the magazine as a photojournalist and test rider since the earliest days (when it was *Road Rider*) and still shares her moto-savvy with the readers in every issue. She began trail riding in 1966, moved to the street on a 350cc Kawasaki in 1969, and has logged over 850,000 solo miles in 31 countries around the world.

Dave Searle
Editor-in-Chief

Height: 6'0"
Weight: 185 lbs.
Inseam: 33"
Years Riding: 41
Bikes Currently Owned: 1946 Velo Solex
Favorite Bike Ever: Britten V-1000
Favored Riding Style: Sport and sport-touring
Favorite Riding Venue: California's Highway One, from Cambria to Carmel
Background: Education in engineering, photography, filmmaking, advertising, fine arts and journalism. Experience as motorcycle mechanic, service manager, shop manager, teacher, artist, promoter, inventor. Life-long hot-rodder and racing enthusiast.



Franke Santos
Associate Editor

Height: 5'6"
Weight: 140 lbs.
Inseam: 27" (And I always wish for more)
Years Riding: 3 (cumulative)
Bikes Currently Owned: none
Favorite Bike Ever: Haven't ridden enough to have a top five list yet—I'll let you know in five years.
Favored Riding Style: I predict sport-touring will be my favorite.
Favorite Riding Venue: Pacific Coast Highway (but not on weekends)



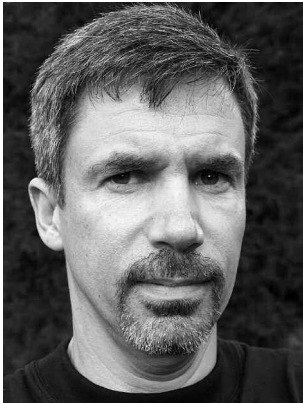
Background: Came to riding first as a pillion rider on a BMW K75. Bought my own Rebel 450 nine years ago, just got back to riding in the last two years. Former newspaper reporter covering cities, agriculture, tourism. Various self-employed. Happy to be covering something I'm actually interested in.

David L. Hough
Contributing Editor

Height: 5'6" **Weight:** 195 lbs.
Inseam: 30" **Years riding:** 41
Bikes Currently Owned: '71 BMW R75 "Toaster," '80 BMW R100/Ural dual-sport sidecar rig, '93 BMW K1/EZS Rally sidecar combination, '03 BMW R1150GS Sport
Favorite Bike Ever: BMW R1150GS Sport
Favored Riding Style: Exploring—both paved and unpaved roads
Favorite Riding Venue: Southern Alps



Background: Dave and his wife Diana have traveled extensively throughout the world, most recently to New Zealand. Hough (rhymes with "rough") currently has four motorcycles in his garage, a selection of BMWs from different decades. Two are sidecar rigs. He does all his own maintenance and repair. He has written for MCN and its predecessor *Road Rider* for more than 30 years. He initiated the first skills column, "Proficient Motorcycling," which eventually became the best-selling books *Proficient Motorcycling* and *More Proficient Motorcycling*. Hough also writes the monthly column "Street Strategy." A series of Street Strategies was ultimately collected into a book of the same name several years ago, but more columns continue to add to the list. Hough is one of a few motorcycle journalists who has been certified as an instructor both by the MSF for two-wheeled motorcycles, and by the S/TEP for three-wheeled motorcycles.



Mark Barnes, Ph.D.
Contributor, *Mental Motorcycling*

Height: 5'8" **Weight:** 155 lbs.
Inseam: 31" **Years Riding:** 32
Bikes Currently Owned: Honda VTR1000F Superhawk, Honda CRF250X
Favorite Bike Ever: BMW R1200GS
Favored Riding Style: Sport-touring, enduro
Favorite Riding Venue: Pacific Coast Highway
Background: Clinical psychologist in private practice; MCN contributor since 1996; self-taught mechanic (expensive tuition). After owning 16 different bikes, the current two are finally keepers; nothing beats riding in the woods with my two boys.



Ken Condon
Contributor, *Proficient Motorcycling*

Height: 5'9" **Weight:** 150 lbs.
Inseam: 32" **Years Riding:** 30
Bikes Currently Owned: '00 MZ Scorpion, '00 Suzuki DRz400e, '05 Kawasaki ZX-6R
Favorite Bike Ever: Kawasaki ZX-6R
Favored Riding Style: Sport and sport-touring
Favorite Riding Venue: Back roads and racetracks
Background: Six-year contributor to MCN, 11-year MSF instructor, five year Tony's Track Day instructor, expert-level roadracer, family motorcyclist with wife, Caroline and daughter, Jeannine.



Bill Shaw
Contributor

Height: 6'1" **Weight:** 215 lbs.
Inseam: 30.5" **Years Riding:** 31
Bikes Currently Owned: '95 BMW R100GSPD, '05 BMW R1200GS, '06 Yamaha FJR1300A
Favorite Bike Ever: '75 Honda Elsinore or '74 250 Husqvarna
Favored Riding Style: Long distance/endurance riding
Favorite Riding Venue: Cherohala Skyway and Blue Ridge Parkway
Background: Professional—Law enforcement background first with the Fairfax County Police Department before joining the Department of State, Diplomatic Security Service (retired 1995). Started riding dirt bikes in 1975 and now I am involved in the unholiest motorcycle activity of all—long distance (endurance) motorcycle riding.



Walt Fulton III
Contributor, bike tester

Height: 5'9" **Weight:** 175 lbs.
Inseam: 32" **Years Riding:** 51
Bikes Currently Owned: BMW R1100RS, Kawasaki ZZR1200, Buell S3, Kawasaki KDX200.
Favored Riding Style: Track days, long distance sport-touring, and off-road
All-time Favorite Bike: '68 Triumph Bonneville
Favorite Riding Venue: Northern California, Utah and Colorado
Background: Factory racer for Suzuki, Harley-Davidson, and Kawasaki. Riding/racing coach, and owner of Streetmasters Motorcycle Workshops.



Steve Natt
Contributor

Height: 5'8"
Weight: 175 lbs. of pure muscle
Inseam: 31" **Years Riding:** 30
Bikes Currently Owned: A modified '01 Buell X1 Lightning
Favorite Bike Ever: The last one I rode...
Favored Riding Style: Fast and smooth
Favorite Riding Venue: The canyon roads above Malibu, CA.
Background: Longtime motojournalist in print and on TV. Former sponsored road racer and mechanic.



Glynn Kerr
Contributor, *Motorcycle Design*

Height: 5'11" **Weight:** 170 lbs.
Inseam: Never measured
Years Riding: 26
Bikes Currently Owned: '01 Suzuki Bandit 1200S, '78 Moto Guzzi Le Mans Mk.1, '29 Thomann, '25 San-Sou-Pap
Favorite Bike Ever: Moto Guzzi 500 V-8 GP
Favored Riding Style: Sport-touring
Favorite Riding Venue: The Pyrenees
Background: Graduated in Transportation Design, Coventry, UK, 1981. Designer with TVR Sports Cars, UK, then BMW car exterior division, Munich, Germany. Transferred to BMW motorcycle division in 1984, and specialized in bikes ever since. Independent consultant since 1986. Clients include Ducati, Triumph, Aprilia, Kawasaki, Yamaha, Honda, Kymco, Boxer/Voxan, Fischer etc. Creative Director of Motovisions. Co-founder and president of the Motorcycle Design Association.



Doug Jackson
Contributor, *World Motorcycling*

Height: 6'1" **Weight:** 199 lbs.
Inseam: 33" **Years Riding:** 49
Bikes Currently Owned: '06 BMW 650GS, '73 Monark ISDT replica, with BMW F800ST or GS in the plan.
Favorite Bikes Ever: BMW F650GS, K100RS, K75S, & F800, Aprilia Pegaso 650, Moto Guzzi 1100 Brevia, Corda 2.5
Favored Riding Style: Touring
Favorite Riding Venue: Primarily Wales.
Background: Began corresponding with factories around the world at 11 years of age; to date, archive exceeds 50,000 photos. Started contributing to magazines in 1963. Always seeking news of the latest, most unusual and unique models. Riding mostly on weekends year round.



Steve Larsen
Contributor

Height: 5'9" **Weight:** 190
Inseam: 29" **Years Riding:** 35+
Bikes Currently Owned: '01 Honda GL1800, '05 Suzuki DL-650 (V-Strom)
Favorite Bikes Ever: Suzuki DR-350S, Ducati Monster
Favored Riding Style: Sport, sport-touring and off-road
Favorite Riding Venue: Twisty, well-maintained roads with little traffic or bugs, anywhere on the planet.
Background: When I'm not writing for MCN, I'm a high-tech CEO for early stage technology companies.



Danny Coe
Bike Tester

Height: 5'6" **Weight:** Sub 165
Inseam: 30"
Years Riding: 36 (or, 10 less than Walt)
Bikes Currently Owned: '70 Yamaha JT1, '75 Yamaha RD350B, '89 and '91 Honda NT650 Hawk- GT's, '88 Spondon-Rotax (256 twin), '86 IT200 Yamaha.
Favorite Bike Ever: Any of Phil Schilling's Ducatis
Favored Riding Style: Tight canyons or fast race tracks
Favorite Riding Venues: Mugello, Misano and Philip Island circuits
Background: Tester for the "late" *Cycle Magazine* '81-'90, currently testing for MCN and SuperbikePlanet.com. Other experience includes UJM testing and product planning, AMA 250cc GP competitor '82-'90, Suzuka 8-hour 1990 (Team Fukui Ducati).



Buster Moldenhauer
Contributor

Height: 6'1" **Weight:** 280 lbs.
Inseam: 31" **Years Riding:** 10
Bikes Currently Owned: R1200RT, KLR650, Derbi Senda
Favorite Bike Ever: R1200RT
Favored Riding Style: Sport-touring
Favorite Riding Venue: Colorado Mtns.
Background: I started riding late in life, at about age 50, on a 20-year-old airhead Beemer. I fell in with a group of guys who were into sport-touring and that's been my preference ever since. I've dabbled a little in the long-distance genre with a couple of Iron Butt Association rides and like to travel as far around the country as time off from my work as an Investment Advisor will allow.



Flash Gordon
Contributor, *Medical Motorcycling*

Height: 5'4.5" **Weight:** 170
Inseam: 28" **Years Riding:** 44
Bikes Currently Owned: '95 BMW R1100RSLA, '03 Aprilia Tuono RSV1000
Favorite Bike Ever: '03 Aprilia Tuono RSV1000
Favored Riding Style: Streetfighter (aggressive commuting / traffic surfing / lane splitting)
Favorite Riding Venue: City traffic, sport-touring
Background: Daily urban commuter for decades. Trained as a physician; self-taught motojournalist; inveterate (not invertebrate) punster. Author of *Blood, Sweat & Gears: Ramblings on Motorcycling and Medicine*.



Jerry King
Cartoonist

Height: 6' **Weight:** 185 lbs.
Inseam: don't know
Years Riding: I don't
Bikes Currently Owned: None
Favorite Bike Ever: n/a
Favored Riding Style: n/a
Favorite Riding Venue: n/a

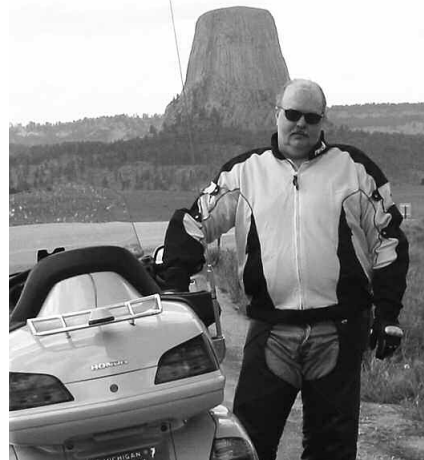
Background: Currently one of the most published cartoonists in America. Aside from drawing cartoons for MCN, I draw cartoons for several other publications worldwide. Former boxer for eight years. Former world heavyweight champion Buster Douglas and myself had the same trainer.



Fred Rau
Contributor, *Contact Patch*

Height: 5'10" **Weight:** 268 lbs.
Inseam: 29" **Years riding:** 37
Bike Currently Owned: '81 Suzuki GS1000L
Favorite Bike Ever: Yamaha FJR1300
Favored Riding Style: Sport-touring
Favorite Riding Venue: Austrian Alps
Background: Began freelance writing for motorcycle magazines in 1977. Editor of

Wing World magazine in mid-1980s, managing editor and later editor-in-chief of *Road Rider* 1989-91, editor then senior editor of *MCN* 1991-2004. Currently freelancing for *MCN* and other magazines; editor of the MRF Reports for the Motorcycle Riders Foundation. Manager of Excalibur Adventure Motorcycle Tours and EagleRider Motorcycle Rentals in Connecticut. Current stats: 1.25 million miles ridden on approximately 300 different motorcycles.



George Streeter
mcnews.com Forum Moderator

Height: 6'1" **Weight:** 250 lbs.
Inseam: 32" **Years Riding:** 37
Bikes Currently Owned: '03 Honda Gold Wing, '06 Suzuki 650 V-Strom
Favorite Bike Ever: Gold Wing
Favored Riding Style: Touring
Favorite Riding Venue: South Dakota
Background: When I was a kid, I saw a picture of my dad on a Harley-Davidson WLA. I took it to my parents and respectfully asked if I could have a mini bike. The next day I was riding a Rupp around the backyard. I soon upgraded to a dirt bike. A few years later I saw *Easy Rider* and then and there decided I wanted to be free and travel the country like them. Now, after 30 years of working for "the man," my wife and I are able to travel like we always wanted to. During that 30 years I raised two kids and earned a degree in Computer Engineering. Being a geek, I was excited when Dave asked me to moderate the forum at www.mcnews.com. The group of people we have there online is the best—we have such lively discussions and debates.



LT Snyder
Contributor, bike tester

Height: 6'1"
Weight: 170 lbs. (without combat gear)
Inseam: 34" **Years Riding:** 21
Bikes Currently Owned: '74 Ducati 750 Sport, '92 Ducati 900SS, '93 Ducati 888, '95 Ducati 916, '96 Ducati M900, '98 Ducati 748 (Track only), '00 Cagiva Gran Canyon, '00 Ducati ST2, '02 Ducati MH900e, '03 Ducati 999s, '04 Ducati MTS1000
Favorite Bike Ever: Whatever bike I'm riding that day.
Favored Riding Style: Sport, Sport-Touring, Adventure-

Touring

Favorite Riding Venue: The Nacimiento-Ferguson Highway and Cherochala Skyway, gazing at the Grand Canyon.

Background: LT's background is in four career fields. First, he is a college professor, specializing in business strategy, international business and business ethics. He has been instructing, writing and consulting for 20 years on these topics. Second, he is a Major in the Army Reserve, specializing in Special Operations. His military service spans 15 years of duty, both domestically and overseas. Third, he runs a small business servicing Ducatis, and designing and reselling aftermarket motorcycle parts and maintenance manuals for these Italian exotics. Fourth, he has been a staff writer for *MCN*, and a freelance motojournalist for the past eight years. Motorcycling is his passion, but other career endeavors pay the bills. LT maintains his fitness through regular strength, flexibility and cardiovascular training. His favorite hobby is his marriage of 10 years, and he lives by the motto that idle hands are the devil's workshop. His dying wish is to be stuffed into his leathers, bent into a race tuck, and buried aboard his Ducati 916.



Tony Foale
Contributor

Height: 5'9"
Weight: Was 203, now 181 but reducing fast, target 155 to 163
Inseam: No idea
Years riding: 46
Bikes Currently Owned: QL, SV650S, 125 scooter.
Favorite Bike Ever: Too many to list. Can't choose.
Favored Riding Style: Rapid. Also solo, hate 2-up.
Favorite Riding Venue: All, except in towns and cities, hate traffic. Dirt, road, race track—all favorites.

Background: Professional engineer. Started riding in Australia. Began racing, trials and motocross in early 1960s. Started making own machines for racing, both engines and chassis. Moved to the UK in 1971 to race in the Isle of Man TT and ride in the ISDE. Rode five times in Isle of Man. Started a business in the UK in 1973 to build race chassis. Moved to Spain late 1980s. Current work: Motorcycle engineering design consulting; suspension, chassis consultant to race teams; author; journalist; motorcycle dynamics software development; motorcycle dynamics seminars; guest lecturer on motorcycle engineering for various universities.



Dr. Gregory Frazier

Contributor

Height: 6'3"

Weight: Undisclosed

Inseam: 34"

Years Riding: 39+

Bikes Currently Owned: Kawasaki, BMW, Indian, Excelsior-Henderson, Yamaha, Suzuki, Harley-Davidson, Royal Enfield, Honda, NSU, Hodaka, Horex

Favorite Bike Ever: Kawasaki

Favored Riding Style: Adventure touring

Favorite Riding Venue: The world

Background: The only person known to have circumnavigated the globe solo by motorcycle four times, and a fifth time with a pillion. Author, moto-journalist, professional photographer, film producer, lecturer, certified motorcycle mechanic, motorcycle roadracer, economist, event promoter, and fisherman.



Ken Freund

Contributor, Bike Tester

Height: 6'1"

Weight: 195 lbs.

Inseam: 34"

Years Riding: 40+

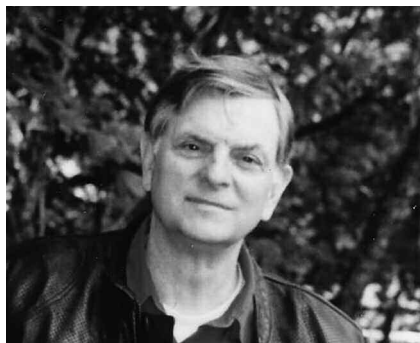
Bikes Currently Owned: '99 Suzuki Katana 750, a street-legal '92 Honda XR600R and a restored '64 Triumph TR6 SS

Favorite Bike Ever: Vincent Black Shadow

Favored Riding Style: Sport-touring and dual-sport

Favorite Riding Venue: All around the US, the Alps and Africa

Background: I've always loved motorcycles and cars and have worked with them most of my life, as an enthusiast, technician, service director and more recently as a writer and moto-journalist. During my riding years I've had the pleasure of riding in many of our states and in Europe, Asia, Africa, Australia and South America.



Brian Salisbury

Contributor

Height: 6' Weight: 185 lbs.

Inseam: 30" Years Riding: 42

Bikes Currently Owned: '59 650cc Triumph Thunderbird TR6, '61 650cc Triumph Trophy TR6, 1971, 750cc BMW R75/5; 1999, 1100cc, BMW R1100RT

Favorite Bike: BMW R1100RT

Favored Riding Style: Touring

Favorite Riding Venue: Starting a full day of riding far from home at sunrise on any empty back country or mountain road that I've never experienced before.

Background: My father instilled motorcycles and travel into my blood. Years later, whenever I'd start a trip, he'd say, "Take a second look for me," which I still do for myself, my family and others. My first trips took me up and down the East Coast as far north as Newfoundland and south to Key West. I toured the Rocky Mountains and rode through Alaska while exploring the country. Now, for enjoyment and to gather stories, most weekends I'll spend at least one day riding 500 or more miles while exploring the countryside.



Gary Prickett

Contributor, Bike Tester

Height: 5'8" (and coping)

Weight: 160 lbs. (and holding)

Inseam: 28" (and struggling with some seat heights)

Years Riding: 36 (and just getting started)

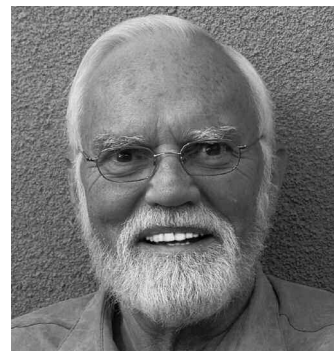
Bikes Currently Owned: '04 BMW R1150 GS, '97 BMW F650

Favorite Bike Ever: Any BMW GS model

Favored Riding Style: Sport-Touring

Favorite Riding Venue: At home: California's Trinity Alps. Away from home: The European Alps.

Background: Following a decade of off-road riding in the deserts and mountains of California, I transitioned to pavement, thankful for the skill-building experience that only dirt riding can provide. Then came 20 years filled with motorcycling vacations in countries outside of the US, accompanied by my tolerant and good-natured bride of many continuing years. Determining that my day job of selling stuff to hospitals around the world was interfering with my riding time, I opted to alter that situation. Now, with the time available to indulge my passion for motorcycle riding, the annual miles traveled have increased exponentially.



John Wyckoff

Contributor, Industry Reports

Height: 5'11" Weight: 170 lbs.

Inseam: 32" Years Riding: 55

Bikes Currently Owned: Honda, Yamaha, Kawasaki, Suzuki, BMW, Ariel, Bultaco, Harley, Buell

Favorite Bike Ever: Kawasaki KLR 650

Favored Riding Style: Exploring paved and dirt roads.

Favorite Riding Venue: Hwy 14 From Albuquerque to Mountainair, NM—great mountain road seldom traveled.

Background: Service tech, store manager store owner, founder of Intersport Fashions West (Hein Gericke, FirstGear leathers). Faculty of Harley-Davidson University for 12 years. Published *MYOB* and *MYOB-2* (how to run a powersports dealership). Consultant for all the major OEMs. Publish monthly column in *Motorcycle Product News* and *Automatic Data Processing ADP*. Served on the Board of Directors of the AMA and the aftermarket committee of the Motorcycle Industry Council.



Jeff Bertrand

Contributor

Height: 5'11" **Weight:** 200 (lost about 50)

Inseam: 32" **Years Riding:** 37

Bikes Currently Owned: 2005 Honda ST1300A

Favorite Bike Ever: 2005 Honda ST1300A (by default, I guess!)

Favored Riding Style: Sport-touring, Long Distance Riding

Favorite Riding Venue: Secondary roads, the twistier and more technical the better.

Background: Started riding dirt bikes (Bultaco) at about 14 and got addicted immediately. Tried my hand at motocross then got into street bikes in the early '70s and have owned a succession of Bultacos, Nortons, Yamahas and Hondas. Professionally (besides part-time motojournalism) I am a senior principle scientist for Medtronic, the world's largest medical device manufacturer. All that's pretty boring next to riding though!



Nancy Foote

Bike Tester

Height: 5'3" **Weight:** Undisclosed

Inseam: 28"

Years riding: 23

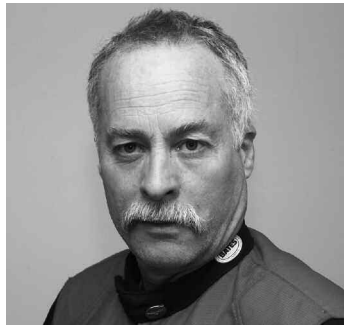
Bikes Currently Owned: '90 Honda CBR400RR (two of them!), '90 Honda CB-1, and '03 Kawasaki ZRX-12.

Favorite Bike Ever: CBR400RR

Favored Riding Style: Sport-touring and sport

Favorite Riding Venue: Any road with curves, nice scenery, and away from crowds

Background: As a motorcycling enthusiast, I enjoy watching all kinds of motorcycle racing and believe in education as a way to create better and safer riders.



Tracy Martin

Contributor

Height: 5'11"

Weight: 185 lbs.

Inseam: 32"

Years Riding: 42

Bikes Currently Owned: H-D Road King, Moto Guzzi V11 Sport, Yamaha FJR 1300.

Favorite Bike Ever: Aprilia Tuono

Favored Riding Style: Sport-touring

Favorite Riding Venue: West Virginia back roads

Background: Tracy Martin has ridden all types of motorcycles for over 40 years. When not riding, Tracy writes for MCN and several other magazines. He also presents riding skills and motorcycle suspension seminars across the US and recently in the U.K. and Russian Federation. Author of three books, Tracy co-authored the MSF's *Guide to Motorcycling Excellence*, Second Edition. Motorbooks will publish his most recent book, *How to Diagnose and Repair Motorcycle Electrical Systems*, in January 2007.



BALFOUR WALKER

Andrew MacDonald

Contributor

Height: 6'1"

Weight: 165 lbs.

Inseam: 32"

Years Riding: 37

Bike Currently Owned: Repsol CBR100RR Honda

Favorite Bike Ever: Repsol and Superhawk

Favored Riding Style: Sport-touring

Favorite Riding Venue: The country lanes of the county of Buckinghamshire, England will always be my favorite roads.

Background: I emigrated to this country in '75 at the age of 21 and have been a motorcycle mechanic ever since.



Steven E. Alford

Contributor

Height: 6'

Weight: 190

Inseam: 32

Years Riding: 15+

Bikes Currently Owned: '03 Honda VTX 1800C; '00 Triumph Sprint ST

Favorite Bike Ever: The one I'm riding
Favored Riding Style: Upright with rubber on road surface

Favorite Riding Venue: Curves

Background: A Texan in exile teaching at Nova Southeastern University, I have been active in the scholarly end of motorcycle writing. I am a board member of the International Journal of Motorcycle Studies (ijms.nova.edu); have an article in the recently published *Harley-Davidson and Philosophy*, edited, along with two colleagues, *Two Wheels to Freedom: Discovering Motorcycle Culture* (a collection of essays which will be published hopefully before the ice caps melt) and will be publishing, with the lovely Suzanne Ferriss, the book *Motorbike*, in 2007.



Marcy Toschi

Copy Editor

Height: 5'3"

Years Riding: 0

Bike Currently Owned: None

Favorite Bike Ever: Indian from the '20s
Favored Riding Style: Watching vicariously on a big-screen TV.

Favorite Riding Venue: Anywhere MCN goes on our "Great Destinations" page.

Background: Having never been in the driver's seat, my oldest experience was when I was 15. I was offered a ride home on a boy's motorcycle one day after school. We only rode for a short while on the busy streets when a policeman pulled us over and gave my friend a ticket because I was riding side saddle. We had a very nice walk up the hill to my house after that, viewing the scenery and walking the bike alongside us.

Moshe K. Levy

Contributor

Height: 5'9"

Weight: 165 lbs.

Inseam: 29"

Years Riding: 11

Bikes Currently Owned: 1973 BMW R75/5, 1974 BMW R90/6, 2004 BMW R1150RT

Favorite Bikes Ever: 1974 BMW R90S, 1977 Harley-Davidson XLCR Sportster Cafe, and BMW GS1200 Adventure

Favored Riding Style: Sport-Touring

Favorite Riding Venue: Any place not in New Jersey

Background: I got my start in 1997 on a 1981 Kawasaki 440LTD. Soon traded up to a 1998 Harley Sportster 1200 Custom, which I modified extensively and documented on my web site. This quickly became one of the most popular Harley-related personal web sites, and some of my reviews were reprinted in magazines. Thus, my freelance moto-journalism career was born. In 2003, I purchased a 1973 BMW R75/5 which began my transition toward BMW as my favorite marque. I received my MBA from NYU in 2005, and when not riding, I serve as CEO of a military-spec electronics contract manufacturer.



Matthew Wiley

Contributor,
Downtime Files

Height: 5'9"

Weight: 225 lbs.

Inseam: 34"

Years Riding: 28

Bikes Currently Owned:

Yamaha XJ900R Seca

Favorite Bike Ever: Yamaha

XJ900R Seca

Favored Riding Style: Sport-touring

Favorite Riding Venue: Any mountains (Rockies, Smokies, Alps someday!)

Background: Started riding in high school, led to tinkering with bikes for fun and profit, went to AMI (American Motorcycle Institute), and became an AMI Certified mechanic. Since 1985 I've specializing in touring bikes, worked as tech, managed various dealerships in southwest Ohio from '85 to 2000. Served as an instructor and technical trainer for MMI (Motorcycle Mechanics Institute) from 2000-2005, and since 2005 I've done Internet sales, motorcycle service, technical writing & powersports business consulting. In 2007, I switched to Operations Manager for a racing suspension company and served as AHRMA Vintage Road Race Support. I love all bikes and riders but I have a passion for vintage street bikes. My motto is "real race bikes have two stokes and antifreeze doesn't belong on motorcycles."

