

# STAFF PROFILE

## Putting Faces with the Names

**O**N 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 size, weight, 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. For example, Fred Rau's evaluation of a bike, as a 5' 10", 240 lb. lifetime touring bike rider, is going to be considerably different than one from Danny Coe, a 5' 6", 145 lb. sport-bike rider and former professional grand prix racer. Neither's opinions are necessarily right or wrong, they just come from different perspectives.

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 (though you'll see some of our female personnel were reluctant to provide certain tell-tale numbers).

We will also post this information on our web site ([www.mcnews.com](http://www.mcnews.com)), so you can use it for future reference.



**DAVID SEARLE**

Editor-in-Chief      Height: 6' 0"      Weight: 195 #  
Inseam 33"      Home: Laguna Beach, CA  
Number of years riding: 37  
Bike(s) currently owned: 2002 Yamaha FZ1, 1948 VeloSolex  
Favorite riding style: Sport- and sport-touring  
All time favorite motorcycle: Britten V-1000  
Favorite riding venue: California Hwy. 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, promoter. Life-long hot-rodder and racing enthusiast.



**FRED RAU**

Senior Editor  
Age: 53      Height: 5'10"      Weight: 240#  
Inseam: 30"      Home: Mission Viejo, CA  
Number of years riding: 34  
Bike(s) currently owned: None  
Favorite riding style: Sport-touring and long-distance touring  
All-time favorite motorcycle: Honda GL1800 and ST1100, BMW R1150RT  
Favorite riding venue: Cherochala Skyway, northern Pacific Coast Highway, Rockie Mountains, Mojave Desert and Texas Hill Country  
Background: Former editor of Wing World magazine and Road Rider magazine. Co-founder of MCN with Bob Carpenter. Former power plant operations engineer. Working on personal goal of achieving one million miles on two wheels by his 55th birthday.



**PATTI CARPENTER**

Associate Editor, office den mother  
Age: 63      Height: 5'5"      Weight: 125#  
Inseam: Long enough for some bikes, but not for others      Home: Wherever I am  
Number of years riding: 34  
Bike(s) currently owned: None  
Favorite riding style: Long-distance touring  
All-time favorite motorcycle: 1970 (I think) Kawasaki 350 Avenger  
Favorite riding venue: Blue Ridge Parkway, Devils Backbone Mexico, Scotland, The Pyrenees  
Background: Been there—Done that.  
*(Patti is the only staff member that goes all the way back to our roots, with the first issue of Road Rider in 1970. She was the first female editor of a motorcycle magazine, and the first female bike tester, and the first woman to win the AMA Life Achievement Award. —Ed.)*



**DAVID HOUGH**

Contributing Editor  
Age: 65      Height: 5'6"      Weight: 190#  
Inseam: 30"      Home: Port Angeles, WA  
Number of years riding: 37  
Bike(s) currently owned: BMW K1/EZS Sidecar rig, BMW R75/5, Suzuki DR350  
Favorite riding style: Long-distance touring  
All-time favorite motorcycle: BMW R100RT  
Favorite riding venue: FS25, Mt. St. Helens, WA  
Background: Daily motorcycle commuter for 25 years; traveled extensively in North America plus Europe and South Africa. Moto-journalist, author of best-selling books "Proficient Motorcycling" and "Street Strategies." Sidecar enthusiast.  
*(Known to many as the "Father of motorcycle rider training," David's accomplishments are far too many to list here. We are proud to call him part of the MCN family. —Ed.)*