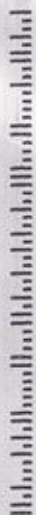


BMW **ON**

The Quail Gathering



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On the Cover:

Stephen Burns #111334 took this photo at the inaugural Quail Motorcycle Gathering in Carmel, California in May. Learn more about this new event in Stephen's report beginning on page 107.

By Stephen Burns #111334

The Quail Motorcycle Gathering



CLASSIC MOTORCYCLE ENTHUSIASTS were disappointed earlier this year when it was announced that the 4th Annual Legend of the Motorcycle Concours d' Elegance at the Ritz Carleton in Half Moon Bay, California would be postponed until next year; another victim of the falling economy. The Quail Lodge Resort and Golf Club in Carmel, California, is known for hosting the Motorsports Gathering each August and this year they successfully hosted the inaugural Motorcycle Gathering on May 8th and 9th, on the beautiful lawn of their driving range. The event was not officially a Concours, as there was no judging. Show entrants were asked to cast votes for their favorites.

The \$65 ticket included an excellent barbecue lunch with fresh ingredients from local farms and access to the Bonhams & Butterfields auction at day's end. Beer and wine were also available for sale. A 100-mile

tour of the Monterey Peninsula was offered on Friday for classic bike owners. The \$250 fee included breakfast, lunch and dinner.

San Diego based BMW master restorer Tim Stafford's beautiful 1961 R60/2 won the Cycle World "Elegance in Action" trophy. Entrants had to ride in the tour to be eligible to win this award. Later that day, the Slash 2 with only 500 miles on it, fetched \$23,400 on the auction block.

I had the opportunity to meet the legendary Mert Lawwill featured in the classic film *On Any Sunday*. Soon after, local Monterey resident Wayne Rainey the former Grand Prix road racing champion showed up for a chat with Mert. Kenny Roberts was also there and had a booth displaying a few of his bikes.

One bidder paid \$39,780 for Steve McQueen's last vintage bike, a 1929 Harley-Davidson 45ci DL. Steve's 1963 Triumph



Bonneville Desert Sled, built by off-road racing champ and stunt rider Bud Ekins and painted by detailer Von Dutch, was sold for \$84,240. McQueen's International Driver's License issued to the actor in 1964 fetched more than four times its estimate, at \$42,700.

Here's hoping that the Quail Motorcycle Gathering will be back next May 2010 as promised. ●