

## **Mark Brodie**

I had the pleasure of meeting Jim Red Cloud back in 2008 in Sturgis, South Dakota. I had done some work on his bike and he and I just hit it off. He told me about the Hoka Hey Challenge and "FASCINATING" was the only word I could use to describe it.

I continued to stay in contact with my new friend and finally at the 2010 Arizona Bike Week, he asked if my girlfriend and I would like to participate. We both eagerly accepted his kind invitation. On June 17, Robin and I boarded a plane for Key West and the next three weeks were ABSOLUTELY FABULOUS! Robin and I worked some of the checkpoints, drove Ms. Durham all the way to Missoula, Montana and then set off to Alaska. To say I had a life-changing experience would be putting it mildly. The scenery, the friends, the spiritual journey and getting to meet Chief Oliver Red Cloud were the highlights of the entire trip for me. Added to that were the 8,000+ miles Robin and I traveled over some of the most beautiful country God has ever created.

After the ride was over and we were in Homer, Robin and I discussed the change we saw in each other and in every one of the challengers we came to know throughout this whole magnificent event. They were able to find a hidden strength within themselves. More than once, I heard, "I am here to complete, not compete!" I was very proud of each and every one of the challengers, whether or not they made it to Homer.

It's hard to put into a few lines the true experience, you must live it yourselves!

Thank you, "HOKA HEY"  
~ Mark Brodie