

LETTERS

Kansas City Dealer and Road Friend

My wife, Alice and I are Ducati Dealers and fanatics here in Kansas City, and of all five brands that we carry the Ducati is by far our favorite. I ride a 450RT in the dirt, a 750cc punched to slightly over 1100cc for playing in the street and a 860 dressed up for touring.

Although we are dealers and are in the motorcycle business to make a living that doesn't mean we are not willing to help. We have lots of parts (mainly engine and transmissions for the older singles), and a fair supply of parts for the twins, and will be glad to COD parts to anyone, anywhere. We will give all DIOC members a 10% discount on parts.

We will also go to extended length to help anyone broken down away from home. I am including an alternate, after hours phone number for distressed travelers in an emergency situation. Maybe we can help. (816) 737-0231

We are looking forward to meeting many new friends and enjoying the DIOC. Mike and Alice Harper of Harper Enterprises, INC. 6324 Overton Rayton, Missouri 64133 Business Phone 816-353-6251

Long Trip On A Monza

I have always been a fan of Ducatis since 1966 when I rode a new Monza from Chicago, Ill. to Monterey Bay area in California. My wife rode a CA77 Honda Dream and although I had more trouble with the Duke (mainly electrics) it was a completely enjoyable 6000 mile, 6 week journey.

Since then we have relocated to this west coast locale and I acquired a 1966 MKIII Diana that had been stored in a shed for several years. There were less than 2000 miles on the odometer which of course has since died, and the only encouragement it needed to run was a freeing of the cylinder and a new set of rings.

I ride the bike daily to work, about 30 miles round trip, and on various week-end outings.

I have added clubman bars, a modified TT saddle, and an original Ducati fuel tank that I cannot identify. In addition, there is a 32mm Mikuni carb with a 10 degree off set K&N filter, home made rear-sets and shouldered Akront rims. The bike is a joy to ride and a conversation piece wherever it is parked. There have been many comments about the Duke but the best was from the lady who wanted to know if the switch on the tail-light marked N - E was really an Italian compass. James Sedlacek, 12580 Boulder St., Boulder Creek, CA. 95006

HOW WAS YOUR REAR END AFTER RIDING SUCH A LONG DISTANCE ON THE ITALIAN UPHOLSTERED TWO BY FOUR? WOULD YOU MIND LETTING US KNOW ABOUT THE SWITCH ON THE TAIL LIGHT MARKED N-E? ed.

Ducks Live In The Water...

In response to your recent letter in CW magazine, I'd like to request some information about your club as well as five membership applications. I was a bit surprised to see your Ft. Lauderdale address, but I'm beginning to think that half the U.S.A.'s supply of Ducatis must be in Florida. Between Jacksonville Ducati owners I know there are about 15 Dukes (Please never label these works of Italian art Ducks. Ducks live in the water and eat fish; Ducatis live on the road and eat Hondas.) Our 15 bikes are all single cylinder, overhead cam models. They range from 160cc to 450cc and include both Desmo and conventional varieties. D. Harnett, 11920 Betula Rd, Jacksonville, Fla.

The Only Ducati 860 in Norway

Really happy to see what you guys are getting together. Norway's first and only Ducati GT860 belongs to me. There are four 750 GTs from 1974 in the whole country or so the importer told me. I must say I feel quite alone among all the Japanese bikes.

Your club seem to be something for me. I would appreciate if you could send me your newspaper, and some details on what you are expecting from your members. What will it cost? Einar Berge, N. Holland, 4200 Sauda, Norway

French 900 Desmo

I have been owning for one month a Ducati 900 Super Sport and therefore I read with a great interest your announcement printed in the August issue of Motorcyclist.

As I intend to race with this motorcycle I am looking chiefly for technical information and tuning tips.

Thank you for the creation of the club. Yours faithfully, Didier Champion, 34 Rue Vineuse 75016, Paris, France

A Duke Freak in Belfast

I read your letter in a motorcycle magazine advertising the formation of a Ducati Owners Club and am interested in finding out some more about it.

There aren't many Ducati bikes to be seen over here and as there isn't much literature to refer to for parts, etc. (my own model is a Monza Jr. 160cc). If you would send a copy of your newspaper to the above address I'd appreciate it and if I owe you anything for it, include the amount. Kevin Boylan, Al, Cavanmore Gdns., Belfast BT.11 8LZ, N. Ireland

Mercedes, Alfa, Ferrari, Ducati And A Place To Meet

I have a 1967, 160 Monza, a 1967, 250 Monza and a 1970, 450 Desmo Mk-III. Presently I am looking at a Diana.

I am an import auto dealer. I sell Mercedes, Alfa, BMW and Ferrari. Several years ago during a visit to the Alfa factory, I met Bruno de Prato, now the Public Relation Manager for Ducati. I expect to be at the factory in early October.

My dealership facility would be available to any Ducati group wanting to meet in the Chicago area. Since-ly, Knauz Continental Autos, Inc., H. William Knauz, president, 1044 N. Western Ave., Lake Forest, Ill. 60045

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