

# LETTERS

## He Conducts High Speed Tours

Having just today received the July edition of your news letter, I am anxious to join the club. Information which you request for membership is as follows:

Glen Farmer; 5612 Locust; Kansas City, Kansas; zip 66106. Phone number (913-375-1197)  
I, along with a local bank, own a 750 GT SN 756240  
As a thirty year old I am unmarried and work as a service rep for a small business dealing in automated filing systems.

The Ducati is ridden whenever pure fun is the only object of the ride. However, I ride a T Model Guzzi if I really want to get somewhere.

Best feature of the machine is it's looks.  
Worst feature is the electrical switches.

For the benefit of the club I can offer:

Electronic articles  
Written articles on the local street racing scene  
Photographic input  
First hand rumors  
Second hand truths  
Insulting remarks about Rising Sun Two Wheeled Throwaways  
Religious counseling  
Directions for wart removal by asphalt  
Advice about anything  
High speed tour guide services

Along with this letter I am sending a check for \$25.00 to cover entry into the club, along with enough for one large T-shirt. If there are no shirts to be had just send the membership and keep the rest for grins.

HINT - On My Duke when traveling at high speeds on rough roads some of the fuses would vibrate in their holders. The vibration did no damage, but the sparking where the fuse contacted the tab would cause enough heat build up to melt the end of the fuse body. A sudden disappearance of fire to the plugs when heeled over very far is enough to ruin your day. To keep a fuse tight and inspire confidence, wrap a rubber band around both the fuse and the metal tabs to keep them tight together.

With great hope for the club Glen Farmer

## Hard time for Duke owners in Finland

In the June issue of the Cycle World magazine I found your letter about Ducati owners club. I've always been very interested in Italian motorcycles and 5 years ago I succeeded in purchasing a Ducati 450 Desmo.

Motorcycling in Finland is extremely difficult and expensive thanks to our governments hostile attitude to motorcycles:

- About 70% of a big bore motorcycle's price consists of taxes and other fees. BMW R/90S costs \$ 10,000!
- Motorcycles also have a special top speed of 120km/h- for cars it is unlimited!
- Gasoline costs about \$ 2.00 a U.S. gallon!

And here at the polar circle we have only a 5 month driving season. So as you see, it's not very easy to be a motorcyclist in Finland.

Due to constant changes of the importers of Ducati and badly managed reserve part service, you get a lot of extra nuisance.

I think this kind of international club is an excellent idea and it would be of great help to be able to get information and to be in contact with other Ducati owners.  
Risto Virtanen, Kantotie 6 Savonmaki, 40800 Vaajakoski, Finland

## Who Is "Fats" McElvy?

Let's face it, I'm a big fat slob. However, I come by it naturally since my mother and father are big fat slobs. Well-- to get to the story. I rode around on a Honda 175 for years- not because I wanted too, but because I was fat, stupid and poor. Then one day a rich aunt of mine died. She was super rich and left me a bundle. I got smart real fast and traded in my tired 175 Honda for a brand-spanking-new machine. I bought a new Ducati 860. At first I was sick. You want to know why? Cause everyone said, "I was a jerk to buy an off brand-- in other words a bastard." But you know what? I'm fat, stupid and happy because I'm getting more sex than I can handle since I've been whipping it around town on my new 860.  
P.S. Your newsletter is Great! "Fats" McElvey, no address

IF ANYONE KNOWS FATS, SEND US HIS ADDRESS SO THAT HE GETS THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE DIOC NEWSLETTER (ALTHOUGH HE MAY NOT HAVE TIME TO READ IT).

## From a Z to a D

I would like you to consider this letter as my application for membership in the Ducati Club. I am a court reporter in the district court here in Denton. I own a 1975 Ducati 750 Sport that I just recently purchased, and I love it, especially the handling characteristics. I also own a 1975 Kawasaki 900 Z-1, which I would like to sell. It has about 3,800 miles on it. I just started riding about two years ago -- not for the first time -- but I hadn't ridden a motorcycle in fifteen years, and my motorcycle nut friend, Mark Crutcher, also here in Denton got me interested again and I'm really enjoying it. The first motorcycle I bought was a 1974 Triumph Trident, which I dearly loved, except it didn't want to start part of the time, even after twenty minutes of kicking it, so I traded it for the Kawasaki 900 -- a foolish mistake on my part. Wish I had it back. Last year I rode the trident to Virginia and back, a distance of about 2,000 miles, and loved every minute of it.

I bought my Ducati from Storms Cycle Sales in Arlington, Texas (Doc Storms is the owner), and it was the only 750 he had left. I believe he has one Ducati 860, electric start left to sell, and I think it is a 1975 model. He also services Ducatis in this area, and one of his mechanics owns a Ducati. I think he is closed on Mondays, but operates normal business hours the rest of the week. I don't think his supply of parts, etc. is very good.

I am enclosing my check for \$20.00, which will include my membership fee, plus I would like for you to send me a Ducati T-shirt, large size, and use the remainder for whatever you need it for.

I need to find out where I can get a speedometer cable for my Ducati, as it was broken when I purchased it. They have had it ordered at Storms Cycles for ages but so far they can't seem to be able to get it. Also I would like a shop manual. I talked to the mechanic over at Storms and he seems to think that the older shop manuals for the single cylinder Ducatis were a lot better than the new ones or whatever they have out -- I don't know. Guess it's hard to find either one.

One other interesting point about the Ducati. When I first got it and rode it for a few miles I thought there was something wrong with the front end -- I had been riding the Z-1 with the heavy front end -- and I just couldn't believe it steered that light.

I am strictly a highway rider and I love to travel, so I'm interested in anything pertaining to this end of motorcycling. In fact I'm getting ready to take a trip about August 23rd, and I might just come down your way and say howdy...

By the way, I think your idea of an owner's club is really good and I will spread the word as much as I can.  
Jimmie D. Hughes, Denton, Texas