

DIOC NEWS

BY JOEL ELIEL, DIRECTOR

Lord have mussy on mah soul I thought I'd never get to this column, I've been busier than a cow pissing on a flat rock.....?.....(is that the correct saying?) Oh hell I forget these saying faster than I get em, anyway here I am gang and this here is the 14th issue, and theres a few things to tell, first of all I would like to pay penance for having sinned, I don't know how to quite go about this but here it goes.....
..IboughtaMotoGuzzi. There I got it got. Its a 500cc Falcone single, a 1972 antique. And I've been riding the thing kinda of regular and my Duke is pissed at me and the other day it would'n't start and when I park them together the Duke grinds its gears at it..Grrrrrr. I know what you are all saying: Oooh the Dee-Eye-0-See Director riding a Guzzi...get rid of em...right? Well I am sorry and I can't help it the thing is so unique and it just sits there and thump, thump, thump and its so wierd looking and it needed a good home,...really. This Azzole that had it didn't feed it right, I found Mazola corn oil in the crankcase instead of Olive Oil...I mean this guy was not into Eyetalian bikes. He saids this thing aint run in two years and its a pisashit, ya wanna buy it and the Guzzi kinda winks one of its turn signals at me and I knew this bike needed a home, so thats all I have to say, I promise to get back on the 900ss again and start riding it and for having sinned I will do one desmo valve adjustment, read through chapter one of the shop manual, and for my final penance I will try and figure out an electrical problem on a 750 GT. Now hows that gang, I mean I really think that would cover my sins. But you all will have to understand that I have to ride the Guzzi once in a while so it doesn't grow up with some kind of complex, I mean I think that after having been brought over here against its will and not knowing how to start in English we should show it that us Americans can be understanding people. Ok? Alright.

Well how about them Ducatis in the racing side of things, I mean, they have been having a great year, The Isle of Man TT, the race at Mallory Park, all of these wins, and our muual member Paul Ritter won the Sears Point National again, (alright!). Maybe Paul will do a little article for us on his win. We'll keep our fingers crossed. And then again at Laguna Seca Paul almost pulled a win, but had to settle for second. The Laguna Seca story is in the Cycle issue for November 1978. Paul now holds the lap record at Laguna Seca on his 905 Ducati. According to Cycle the Superbike race was the most exciting and best race of that week, and we all know why, they are riding bikes that you and I can go to our dealers and buy, none of this two stroke ring ding two stroke buzz-bomb crap. We are the spectators we pay the bread and these promoters should start giving us all what we want to see. I look forward to the day when the 200 mile race at Daytona will be the Superbike race and the ring dings can run on Tuesday or Wednesday of Daytona race week. Jeez I sure get carried away. Anyway we can all be proud that our Dukes are still doing so well.

SOME DOPE ON THE NEW 900 SUPER SPORTS

I've just gotten some information on the 1979 Ducati 900SS from Berliner. The new SSs will be in Black with gold striping something like the Darmahs and it will have a double seat as standard equipment. I guess the solo seat will be an optional accessory. We can only hope that the seat is comfortable one....
...naah! We all know its goin to be an upholstered two-by-four...I mean, who am I kidding, the only padding we'll ever get from Bologna will be the one on their womens rear ends, maybe those people have so much padding back there that they don't need any on their bike seats. Oh well, and the shifting will be on the left hand side again but this time it will be right through the engine instead of all that linkage and crap they have now. Alright! No more

sloppy shifting. Mag wheels will be standard like the ones on the Darmah from Campagnolo and they will be in gold trim with black accents. The fairing will be the same and here is the last item I have, there will be no more kits available. No more Conti mufflers, 40mm carbs, & sprocket. You'll have to buy these items separately.

There was no mention of the electrics and instrumentation but I hope these are the same that are now standard on the Darmah. The Nippondens tach, and Speedo, the Bosch electrics etc. If they don't implement some new instruments we are all going to be really mad. Right gang? Yeeeah! Those lousy Smith pieces of junk belong on a moped. I have gone through three speedometers and my tach still sits there and waves at me as I drive along, friendliest little cusser you ever did see, well he aint made to be friendly he's made to show me how many Rs my engine is turning, if I would have wanted something friendly to wave at me as I drive along I would have put my dog on the dash.

There is also news that Ducati may discontinue the GTLs 350 and 500 vertical twins. They may be discontinued as soon as they get the V-twins 350 and 500s all squared away.

BERLINER EXPANDS AND IMPROVES NETWORK IN SOUTH

Berliner has appointed Sunbelt Distributors in Boca Raton Florida to improve their service in the Southeastern states. They are busy opening up new dealerships and closing inefficient ones down. All this in the hopes of giving Ducati and Moto Guzzi owners better service and better representation than before. These dealers will have to stock parts, and have a factory trained mechanic on the premises. We would all like to wish Sunbelt Distributors and Berliner Motors the best of luck and if any of you would like to send in your comments about your dealer to me I will see to it that your comments are passed on to the right people at Berliner and Sunbelt.

Berliner Motors has been helping our club in finding parts and mediating between customers and dealers so that the customers problems can be solved to their satisfaction. We are happy to see this kind of co-operation and hope that we can all work together to make the enjoyment of Ducatis a more pleasant experience.

DUCATI TO START GETTING DIOC NEWSLETTERS

We are now beginning to send the Ducati Factory a copy of our newsletter. I am hoping to get a column together so that if you would like to write a letter to the factory and suggest something, or complain about something on your bike, you can do so in this column and they can read it and you'll get an answer. I don't know how it'll turn out and I don't know if they are willing to co-operate but there is one way to find out and that is to try. So I will start this colum called "LETTERS TO THE FACTORY" with the 15th issue and we'll see what kind of results we get.

NEW JERSEY MEMBERS GET NEW REPRESENTATIVE

The new New Jersey state rep is now Mr. William B. Leavens III. His home is open to all NJ & NY members at 1020 HILLSIDE AVENUE, PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY, 07060.

Bill wishes to open his doors to any Ducati rider who would like to drop by and shoot the breeze. He will also be handling any rides and meeting that take place there. So please be sure to get in contact with him soon and let them know you are in the area.

THANKS AGAIN

To all those kind people who sent me all the good info so I could put into this newsletter. Without your help this job would be a real task. Thanks and keep those articles and letters coming, we all love you.