DIOC NEWS

Joel Eliel, DIOC Director.

Well, it is about $#@*! time that azzole got my DIOC to me! Yeah, yeah, yeah, I can just hear you guys out there in Ducati land crying and monaning. Well, all I've got to say is EXCUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUSE MEEEEEEEEEEEEEE! I have decided to embark on a course to change my entire life and at this momemt it is taking up quite a bit of my time doin it. I've had a couple of business ventures fall through, I've lost some money, gained some here and right now I don't really know where the hell I am, other than my phone has been disconnected due to a $310 dollar phone bill with 16 pages of long distance phone calls made by God knows who from all over the country and I own 50 acres of some beautiful land in La Belle, Florida and I am going to get away from all the rat-race noice in the streets and get into THE MOTHER EARTH NEWS kind of life. Something that I've only been planning since I was 13, I'm now 35 and I've been trying to get there every damn which way but just going straight to it. If any of you out there have any farm equipment you want to get rid of cheap lemme know. Well, now that I've explained why in this rag is late so you all don't think I'm goofing off somewhere under a coconut tree drinking pina coladas, lets get down to this column.

DUCATI ANONYMOUS BOOK TO START WITH THIS ISSUE

A book very much like that put out by the BMW Motorcycle Owners of America will begin publication sometime by the end of this year or sooner depending on how soon I get the enclosed applications back from you all. The idea was sugested by Steve Lilley of Manhattan, Kansas, and on top of that I've had a requests from new members about such a book. The application is pretty much self explanitory. I really would like to see everyone participate in this book so PLEASE fill it out and mail it back soon, before it falls out of this Newsletter and gets lost and you spill some beer on it or the kids get peanut butter and jelly on it. We will be incoporating this application into out current app. and that'll take care of new members, which we have had a huge number of join recently due to two mentions in Cycle World magazine and which has kept me busy as hell too....no complain intended.

I don't know what the cost of this little book is going to be, but it should be really inexpensive to produce and well worth it's weight in gold. You do not have to be a member of the DIOC to join. Anyone who wants to participate in this book can do so . Dealers can pass the applications along to customers, members to other duke owners etc. Hope it works out.

I would like to thank the good folks at BMW MOA for copying this system and hope they don't sue me for doin so. I didn't want to wait and hold this project up too long before the end of this summer. My thanks to them.

DUCATI OWNERS CLUB OF CANADA TO HOLD ANNUAL RALLY

Graham Clayton, the new president of The DOCC informs me that they will be holding their rally again this year. The Rally is usually held at a race track in Canada and the folks race around the track and meet other Duke owners and have a swell time doin it.

Details have not been finalized, but I wanted to get this into this issue so I would not miss telling you in case the Rally takes place before I get the 27th issue out. Graham tells me that they should have most of the details by late April. All interested parties could contact Keith Harte, RR #2, Hamilton, Ontario, L8N 2Z7, Canada or Graham Clayton, Pres. DOCC, 1110 Jarvis, Windsor, Ontario, N8P 1C9 Canada. It is a real fun affair and I guarantee that you will have a great time. It's a fun vacation idea if ya ask me.

REPORT FROM THE FACTORY

The 500 Pantah and the 900SS won two more titles during Pro-Series BRINACO Championship. (You all remember BRINACO DO don't you, it's right next to Julianos Pizzeria in the Bronx) ed.

Chris Bannister Brown on 900 SS awarded himself with the Brimaco Junior Superbike Championship while Jeff MacMillan, winner of numerous Canadian races, on a 500 Pantah, won the Canadian Junior Championship in the 500 cc class.

Pantah wins Bike of the Year award in Spain.

The Ducati Pantah obtained a new reward, being voted "Bike of the year" 1980/81 by the readers of the Spanish magazine "Motociclismo", confirming thus the opinion already expressed in Germany by the readers of "Motorrad" magazine and in Italy by a special commission of experts.

The new award is another evidence of the great qualities of this model of the Bolognese house.

Although commercialised recently in Italy and abroad, this bike has imposed itself everywhere as the best "Half-Litre" in absolute. This new success proposes again the prestigious image of the Ducati Meccanica in the motorcycle field.

Another Victory for the Little L-Twin in South Africa

For the Ducati 500 Pantah the 1981 begins under a sign of victory. The first round of the - NATIONAL STANDARD PRODUCTION - Championship, reserved to bikes of serie up to 560cc, has been taken place on Feb. 2, 81 at Welkon (So. Africa). First and Third have been respectively Shaine Nesbitt and Richard Porter, both on Pantahs. This success obtained by the Duke 500 is particularly important because it is the first time that a race of the NATIONAL Championship - in South Africa is winned by an Italian brand.

DIOC TO EXPAND ON DUCATI PARTS SALES

Due to the large request for spare parts for Ducatis we have widened out parts sales scope to include all Ducati parts available from the factory. These parts are at a discount. See page 15 (classifieds continued) botton left. These are original Ducati equipment and not accessory parts.

We are also in search for 10 Ducati 250 Dianas in original condition only. Anyone interested in selling their machines or know of someone who has one for sale, please contact me. These are scheduled for overseas buyers, we are just acting as export agents. Good prices being paid.

DAYTONA ANNUAL MEET ANOTHER GREAT SUCCESS

Despite what appeared to be a small scale boycott of the Daytona races by the motorcycle folks this years DIOC Annual Meet was a great success. We all had a great time and to top it off the success at the track was just icing on the cake. For more info on the race see RACING elsewhere in this issue. We look forward to seeing everyone at the next Annual Meet.

PARTING SHOTS

Well this is it, I'm getting my butt down to the printers with this thing and hope you all get it real soon so I don't have to spend a whole lot of time sending post cards telling you that your Newsletter is on its way. I want to thank Cycle World for giving the club two plugs in the past two issues of their fine magazine which has brought us a little over two hundred paid members and 123 folks we are waiting to hear from. This has been keeping me going for many an evening. As a lot of you may or may not know, this club is a part time thing for a lot of us. We try and meet our deadlines but times are hard and working 60 to 79 hours a week is common for me and a lot of us who work on this club. The membership does not expire in one year for club members, it expires when you have received 6 issues of our magazine. So if we are late, don't worry, you will get your moneys worth. The club patches will be here for the 27th issue. SURPRISE! Finally got enough $$ to buy the little suckers. The surprise is, what is is goin to look like????? Anyway they are not here now, but I'll have them in time for the 27th issue, which I promise I'll try and get out early.

I want to thank all the contributors to this issue, the folks that sent in the material, the folks that wrote some of the pieces and those that, by their purchases of our goodies make it all possible. I personally beleive that you folks out there in DIOC land are the GREATEST! If it wasn't for the the kind support I get from you guys I would have chucked this thing down the tubes a long time ago. Bye!