

LETTERS

- Cont'd.

BUBBLE GUM RALLY TYPE OF RACE FROM STEAMBOAT COL. TO LAS VEGAS

By Ed O'Brien

Six AM comes early in the Rockies. The morning temperature may only be 25 - 30 degrees, but the engines on our motorcycle are hot and ready.

Why anyone would be on a motorcycle at 6 AM in late April, in Steamboat Springs, Colorado is a question asked over and over by the three cyclist who are dressed like Charlie Brown going out in the winter cold.

The answer? Easy. Get on your cycle, ride like hell for 700 miles to Las Vegas, and do it in 13 hours or less.

The next question is what for? No problem answering that one either; to get your name on a plaque at Thunder Motors, the local motorcycle shop, and earn a very special T-Shirt, all for only \$13.00. But, FUN may be the main reason.

There are a couple of folks in this group who really do turn it on. Seven hundred miles in 10 hours and 13 minutes, (the new local record), isn't exactly loafing, especially when you consider the 7 necessary gas stops, and a 25 minute lunch break. One of the two riders who performed this "feat" was riding a new Ducati 900 Desmo Supersport modified, (as most are), with 40MM Dellortos, Imola cams, and conti pipes. Speeds ranged from 30 MPH in the small towns, to 135+ in the desert and the big curves of Arizona. The bikes ridden ranged from 650 Yamaha, (no problem in 11 + hours), 750 Yamahas, a 750 Suzuki, (ridden by a "fast" lady), 1100 Yamahas, along with a Moto Guzzi LeMans.

The rules are simple....none! To join the fun you need to "unofficially" contact Thunder Motors and arrange for proof of times. One method is taking a picture in front of a local bank time and temp sign, as you get ready to take off. Then, to time your arrival in Las Vegas, either make a long distance COLLECT call when you get to town, or get a time punch from a pretty girl at the front desk of a casino. Proof is important.

This is rather illegal, as well as an extremely dangerous ride if you decide to make the trip in under 13 hours, so please use discretion and remember that if you get hurt, or worse it was no ones fault but your own.

For information call (303) 879-0167 and ask for John, Randy or Gary, or write to: Steamboat to Las Vegas, c/o Thunder Motors, PO Box 9015, Steamboat Springs, Colorado 80477.

Please send self-addressed stamped envelope.

BRINGING BACK THOSE OLD RACING DUKES

I am a member of the Ducati Owners Club in England and centre organizer for the Classic Racing Motorcycle Club.

Part of my "Collection are a 125cc Gran Prix Ducati a 220cc G.P. and a 125 Formula III Ducati. I have over a period of several years "formed" a small sort of "society" to cater for the above machines.

We know of approximately 20 bikes in various states of rebuild and repair. We are now trying to consolidate information and set spares schemes in order to eventually make all the machines once again - useful racing masterpieces.

We are manufacturing F3 rear hubs, brake plates, shoes, rev-counters, drive cambox covers, Grand Prix pistons, valves, valves guides, crank-pins, bevel gears, possibly clutch drums, seats, tanks and fairings. The fairings are in fiber-glass not aluminum as what was original. We will be working with things like a special section tube for brake and gearlever pedals, foot-rests, cylinder liners, megaphones, carb stubs, etc., etc. Obviously if more people are willing to participate in the scheme I can possibly get larger, more difficult parts reproduced.

If any of your members have a GP or F.3 or even 125 Desmo Ducatis and would like to contact me I would be pleased to assist them in any way whatsoever.

Over the years I have also amassed over 500 pages of information on Ducatis and would be prepared to send copys to anyone requiring help. We have contacts in Italy who are trying to track down any remaining new spares etc. Safe riding:

Andy Farrer, 220 Lee Street, Holderness Rd., Hull, East Yorkshire, England.



DUCATI WINS DAYTONA '77

Due to the popularity of this shirt we have a limited amount reprinted. The Drawing is of Cook Neilson riding the famous #31 750 SS. Shirt is on white Hanes, blue ringers (sleeves and collar) Blue and Black art work. A real keepsake for those of us that were there the day we trounced the opposition with a 28 second lead at the finish line. \$6.50 + \$1.50 shpg. U.S. funds, Canada add 20% overseas shipping is \$3.10.



A lot of shops get their experience by turning wrenches and having the customers do their R & D. At GEE VEE PERFORMANCE we get our experience at the race track in all out competition. We test our work at Daytona, Loudon, Ontario, Laguna Seca and wherever we feel we can go and try out against the competition the kind of work we do. We may break a few parts trying to improve on our work but it's a whole lot better to break them at the race track than on your bike miles from home. Come to us our work is competition tested for durability.

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