

The Raindrop

Since 1973

P.O. Box 23001, Billings, MT 59104

October 2008

Side Roads From the President Election Year?



Let's skip it— no one seems to notice that gas prices are out of control; foreclosures are near 75%, the economy is in shambles (thanks Washington DC) and our young men and women are dying in a war that has no end in sight. McCain wants to stay there forever, while Obama seems to want everyone home no. Our system (?) of government never ceases to amaze me. The process by which we elect our leaders sounds so good on the surface, but fails almost every time. Yeah, lets just skip it

****Every man is guilty of all the good he didn't do-
Voltaire****

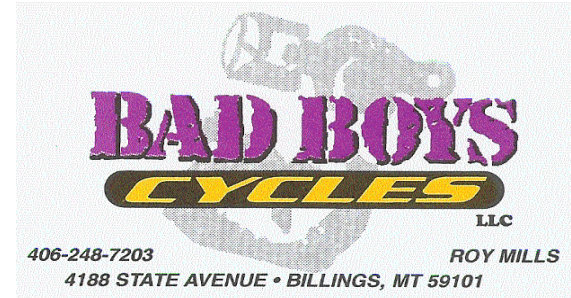
The ride season officially ended on September 28th with the Magical Mystery Tour. Ride Captain, Mike Henry will be collecting your mileage soon for plaques to be given away at the 2008 Rainmaker Christmas Party.

Just Ride Baby Ride! *John*



Monthly & E Board Meetings

The monthly meetings are the 2nd Wednesday of every month at **The Red Door**. Monthly meeting starts with dinner @ 6:30 & meeting @ 7:30. E Board meetings are the last Wednesday of each month @ 6:30. ALL members are welcome to attend.



"THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU"

To all of the 22 Rainmaker Members who showed up for our last ride of the year. I felt this was a very successful ride considering the weather was perfect, the wind was not a problem, the camaraderie was superb, and the food was out of this world.

Congrats to Bill "B" for the low ball hand, Gene "W" for the high poker hand and Goldie "S" who wone the 50-50.

I also want to thank those members that stepped up to help out to make the ride a success. Two things I think deserve special notice.

First of all the call tree. I took just 45 min. out of my Saturday afternoon and called almost all of our members on the phone. I did leave messages when possible and was able to talk to many. To a person, everyone that I talked to thanked me for the call and appreciated the call. Several stated they had forgotten about it and would try and make it. We had a nice turn out some came only because of the reminder call. While on the ride several members thanked me again for the call. What a nice feeling it gave me to have such a response. I think the Rainmakers need more of this personal touch when preparing for a ride. It wasn't long ago that the call tree was a weekly thing.

Second, I wish to thank Bob Brown for leading the second group of the ride, and for doing it right. Bob held his second group back from the first group by about a quarter to half a mile at most times. This I think is most important, as it does give those faster cars a much better chance to pass. Too many times I have seen the second group following the first by just a car length or so and this just is not enough space when riding at 60 MPH +. All in all we had a really nice last ride of the year and now I am looking forward to another great Christmas party.

Hope to see everyone there.

JACK



Rainmaker Birthday's & Anniversaries

October Anniversaries


October 1– Darrel & Juanita Brewer

October Birthdays

October 14– John Liggett

October 23– Goldie Siemens

October 29– Darrel Brewer



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What's Happening Rainmakers

October 15– Dinner Ride to Gusicks @ 6:30.

December 13– Rainmaker Christmas Party at the Red Door

January 1, 2009– New Year's Day Ride to Columbus.



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New Member Information:

Rainmaker Vests– Purchase a vest of your choice, denim or leather. ACES (All Color Embroidery Services) on Overland Ave and John and Ginger can embroider "Rainmakers" and your name on your vest.

License plate frames, pins, patches, windshield covers, flags, etc etc–Contact an officer of the club, they can help you.

Miscellaneous Websites :

Prescription Eyewear www.flyingpigeeyewear.com

Denim Chaps www.zone-tailed.com

www.badboyscycles.com

www.skidrowjoe.com (patches)

www.ridemt.com

www.mdt.mt.gov



Websites:

<http://home.bresnan.net/~bcpmmach/>

Yahoo-members' only site

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/RainmakersMC/>

From the Editor..... The Raindrop is posted to both websites each month. **No email ?** I'll mail you a hard copy! **I can always add you to the email list if you get email!**

Deadline for submissions is the 25th of the month. **It's nice when you contribute!** Contact me @ 252-7704 or email @ bcpmmach@bresnan.net. *Cheryl Blaquiere—editor*



2008 RAINMAKER RIDE SCHEDULE

MAR 23	10:00 AM	BLESSING OF THE BIKES @ EAGLES IN BLGS HGTS	
APR 13	10:00 AM	COLUMBUS SHAKEDOWN	MIKE HENRY
APR 20	10:00 AM	SHOW UP	
APR 27	10:00 AM	RAPELJE/RED LODGE	JOHN VANOVER
MAY 4	9:00 AM	POWELL/LOVELL	DICK SLAGOWSKI
MAY 11	9:00 AM	SHOW UP (MOTHERS DAY)	
MAY 18	9:00 AM	FISHTAIL & NYE	DAVE DEBOER
MAY 25	9:00 AM	SHOW UP (3 DAY MEMORIAL WEEKEND)	
JUN 1	8:00 AM	SHERIDAN, WY	TERRY JESSEE
JUN 7-8	8:00 AM	CODY MUSEUM/ YNP (SA, SU)	BILL BLAQUIERE
JUN 8	8:00 AM	SHOW UP	
JUN 15	8:00 AM	SHOW UP (FATHERS DAY)	
JUN 22	8:00 AM	DEAD INDIAN PASS	PAUL MUNDSCHENK
JUN 29	8:00 AM	CODY-PAHASKA TEEPEE	DICK SLAGOWSKI
JUL 4-6	7:00 AM	LOLO PASS (TENTATIVE FR, SA, SU) (_____)	
JUL 6	8:00 AM	SHOW UP	
JUL 13	8:00 AM	BIG HORNS	DON BUSHMAN
JUL 20	8:00 AM	STORY, WY	DARREL LAVOY
JUL 27	8:00 AM	BEARTOOTH ATTACK	DAVE JARZYNA
AUG 3	8:00 AM	PHIL K ISS PICNIC & RIDE	EVERYONE
AUG 10	8:00 AM	SHOW UP (STURGIS RALLY WEEK--- AUG 4-10)	
AUG 15-17	7:00 AM	WIND RIVER, TETONS & PARK (FR, SA, SU) MIKE HENRY	
AUG 24	8:00 AM	SARPY CREEK	LARRY NICHOLS
AUG 31	8:00 AM	SHOW UP (3 DAY LABOR DAY WEEKEND)	
SEP 7	9:00 AM	UTICA/HOBSON HAY BALES	GENE WASIA
SEP 14	9:00 AM	INGOMAR-PASS THE GASS	DAVE ALDER
SEP 21	9:00 AM	MONTANA HANNAS	DAVIS & HESS
SEP 28	9:00 AM	MAGICAL MYSTERY TOUR	BYRNES & BROWN
JAN 1, 09	NOON	NEW YEARS DAY RIDE	DARREL LAVOY

< RAINMAKER'S "SATURDAY" SHOW UP RIDES>>>>>>

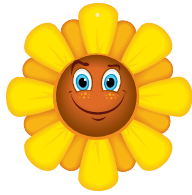
4 HRS MAXIMUM>>>>>> <<<<<< ON THE 1ST & 3RD SATURDAYS OF EACH MONTH>>>>>>
10:00-2:00 IN MAY, JUN, SEP 8:00-12:00 IN JUL & AUG

OCTOBER SHOW UP RIDES @ 10:00 AM AND NOVEMBER THRU APRIL @ 11:00 AM

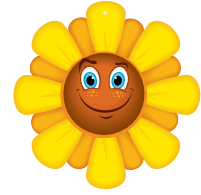
MID WEEK DINNER RIDES DEPART @ 6 PM FROM MCDONALDS SOUTH BLGS BLVD.

1/1/08	307 BAR 7 GRILL / COLUMBUS	322-4511
1/16	JADE PALACE / BLGS	656-8888
2/20	SANTA FE REDS / BLGS	252-2221
3/19	LAUREL COUNTRY CLUB / LAUREL	628-2060
4/16	THE ROCKPILE / BLGS	245-5985
5/21	WHITLOCKS STEAKHOUSE / COLUMBUS	322-8677
6/18	HOMESTEAD CAFÉ / JOLIET	962-3911
7/16	TINY'S TAVERN / BLGS	259-0828
8/20	FORT ROCKVALE / ROCKVALE	962-3963
9/17	STROKERS TAVERN / HUNTLEY	348-2042
10/15	GUSICKS / BLGS	652-5441

The Rainmakers Motorcycle Club was formed in 1973 as a Touring Motorcycle Club to promote goodwill and fellowship. Meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month. The Club is open to all makes of motorcycles.



Rainmaker Meeting Minutes September 10 , 2008



John Vanover called the meeting to order on September 10 2008 at 7:30 p.m. We had 17 RMC members present at the September meeting. Darrel and Janice Lavoy and Alice and Todd Slagowski came to this months meeting.

Bill Blaquiére motioned to accept August minutes and Dwight Hodges seconded the motion.

Treasury Report: No report, Bev was out of town on vacation. We are guessing we still have around \$871.00.

Old Business:

Ride reports were given on the following rides:

- 3 day Teton ride— 3 bikes, 5 riders. Weather cool, wet, pleasant and warmer. Total miles 995.
- Sarpy Creek ride— 9 bikes, 12 people. Bev rode her trike to Hardin and then returned to Billings. Made the loop thru Custer. About 202 miles.

New Business:

Rainmaker Christmas Party to be held Saturday December 13th at the Red Door Lounge. More details to follow after the September 24th E Board meeting.

The group got off track slightly with a quick discussion on concealed weapons permits.

50/50 winner was Janice Lavoy for \$10.00. Shake A Day added another \$12.50

Motion to adjourn by Cheryl Blaquiére and seconded by Dave Alder.

Submitted by Cheryl Blaquiére for Bev Mundschenk

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FOR SALE PAGE

RainmakerT- Shirts

Short Sleeves-\$10.00 to \$13.00

Long Sleeves- \$13.00 to \$15.00

Call Cheryl Blaquiere @ 252-7704.



Rainmaker Items for Sale:

Small Stickers	\$2.50
Large Stickers	\$4.00
Rainmaker Pins	\$2.60 ea
Rainmaker Patches	\$7.00 ea
Large Rainmaker Patches	\$18.00
Rainmaker MC License Plate Frames	\$15.00
Rainmaker Auto License Plate Frames	\$20.00
Rainmaker flags	\$12.95
Montana Flag	\$10.95

There are now new Rainmaker license plate frames. Call John Vanover or Bill Blaquiere for information.

Custom Made Windshield Covers

Any make or model of bike.
\$60.00 plus \$5.00 shipping
Contact Bill Blaquiere, he has information from Darrel.



Memory Patches

Dick Slagowski– Bev Mundschenk now has these available for \$6.00 each.

Phil Kniss -@ Monograms Unlimited @ \$6.00 each.

FOR SALE

2001 Yamaha Royal Star Venture, 33K miles, Excellent condition, asking \$ 7900.00. Call Dave 259-9009



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Male/Female Driving Etiquette

Gender-Specific Driving Etiquette

A woman is driving at night on a narrow country road . At the same time a man is driving in the opposite direction on that same road. When they narrowly pass each other at high speed, the woman rolls down her window and loudly shouts - **HORSE!** Immediately the man shouts back - **BITCH!** The man laughs . He is proud to have reacted so quickly to the shouting woman and takes the next turn in the road, maintaining his speed .

Moral of the story:

Men never listen, and when they do, they don't understand one word a woman says .

HIS LAST DAY AS A CARPENTER



Montana State Motorcycle Laws

Road— submitted by Larry Nichols

Safety Helmet Required by law under age 18

State Funded Rider Ed Available for all eligible applicants

Eye Protection Not Required

Daytime Use of Headlight Required by law—modulating headlight permitted

Passenger Seat Required if carrying a passenger

Passenger Footrest Required if carrying a passenger

Passenger Age Restriction None

Helmet Speakers No Restrictions

Periodic Safety Inspection None

Mirror Left(L) Right(R) One required by law

Radar Detector No Restriction

Turn Signals Not Required

Muffler Muffler required

Maximum Sound Level Max A-weighted sound levels based on measurement at 50 feet from closest point to motorcycle (61-9-418):

- 1) manufactured before 1970--92dBA;
- 2) manufactured after 1969 but prior to 1973--88dBA;
- 3) manufactured after 1972 but prior to 1975--86dBA;
- 4) manufactured after 1974 but prior to 1978--80dBA;
- 5) manufactured after 1977 but prior to 1988--75dBA;
- 6) manufactured after 1987--70dBA.

State Insurance Requirements Not required.

Handlebar Height No Restrictions

Rider-Education Waiver Skill Test

Accept Motorcycle Endorsement From Other States Yes

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 Bill Downs 669-3160

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The Pre-Ride Motorcycle Inspection

These days' motorcycles have become so reliable that it is easy to take their mechanical fitness for granted. Back in the day, we were cautioned about carefully examining our clutch cable and to avoid holding the clutch lever in while waiting for a light as to avoid the possibility of the cable suddenly breaking and sending us careening off into the crossing lane of traffic. Now days we are told, and rightfully so, that it is best to keep the bike in gear with the clutch in at intersections to allow for an immediate escape if a car should suddenly veer toward you.


Back then bolts frequently vibrated loose, spokes broke, steering head bearings needed routine attention, drum brakes required regular cleaning and inspection, you needed to check your oil constantly to see how much had leaked or burned out and so on and so on. At least this is what I've been told by the "old timers". I'm far too young to remember any of this stuff!

Fortunately for us "youngsters" huge strides have been made in the quality of materials and in the design and the manufacturing tolerances of our trusty steeds. These things have given us much more reliable bikes. It is tempting to assume that everything is copasetic and nothing is on the brink of failure. But you know what they say about assume.

Therefore it is prudent to pay close attention to the mechanics of your ride, no matter how road worthy you "assume" it to be. Check the things that you can see or get a wrench on. Feel or measure controls for proper adjustment. And what I believe to be the most critical of all is check the tires before every ride for proper inflation, foreign objects and excessive wear. The Motorcycle Safety Foundation has developed a simple checklist, outlined in the accompanying list, summarized with the acronym T-Clock, for the headings of each section.


Although this is prescribed as a "pre-ride" inspection, by far the best time to do it is shortly after your last ride. This helps to insure that your bike will be ready for the next ride because it gives you time to fix anything you find wrong before you want to take that next ride.

*Ride Safe,
 Your Referee,
 Bill Blaquiere*

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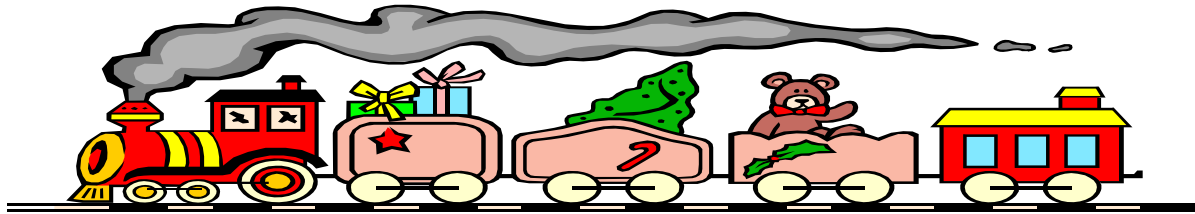
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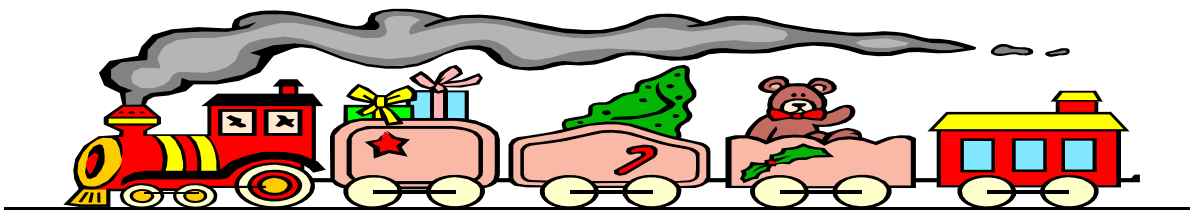




Rainmaker Motorcycle Club *Christmas Party 2008*

- When:** **Saturday December 13, 2008**
- Where:** The Red Door on Grand Ave. 5:30 to 9:00
- Time:** 5:30 p.m. Cocktail Hour
6:30 p.m. Dinner (see menu below)
7:30 p.m. Fun
Games
Prizes
Entertainment
Awards for 2008
- Bring:** A non-perishable food donation to be given to the Billings Food Bank.
A positive attitude to have fun!
- Menu:** To be decided upon at the next Rainmaker meeting.
- RSVP by:** October 8, 2008
Saturday December 6, 2008.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.
May 2009 be happy, healthy and prosperous.



October 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
All Show Up Rides leave McDonalds at time shown on calendar.			1 Anniversary Darrel & Juanita Brewer	2	3	4
5 Show Up Ride @ 10:00	6	7	8 RMC Monthly Meeting — Dinner @ 6:30, Meeting @ 7:30 @ The Red Door	9	10	11
12 Show Up Ride @ 10:00	13 <i>Columbus Day</i>	14 B-Day John Liggett	15 Dinner Ride @ 6:00 to Gusicks/ Billings	16 <i>Bosses Day</i>	17	18
19 Show Up Ride @ 10:00	20	21	22	23 B-Day Goldie Siemens	24	25
26 Show Up Ride @ 10:00	27	28	29 E Board Meeting @ 6:30 @ the Red Door B-Day Darrell Brewer	30	31 <i>Halloween</i>	

RAINMAKER'S FAVORITE FOOD AND COFFEE STOPS

*DENOTES THOSE WITH RAINMAKER PLAQUES

*Bear Lodge, Big Horn Mtns	307-752-2444	Roberta or Timothy Young
*Horse Trader Café, Belfry, MT	406-664-9395	Jim or Carol or Kim
*Bridger Café, Bridger, MT	406-662-3201	Tabitha Olson
Brown Bear Inn, Roberts, MT	406-445-2318	
*Busy Bee Café, Roundup, MT	406-323-2204	Mark Petrie, Mary or Jennie
*Cowtown Café, Cowley, WY	307-548-2990	
Flagstaff Café, Tensleep, WY	307-366-2745	
4 Aces Café, Lewistown, MT	406-538-9744	
*Jersey Lilly, Ingomar, MT	406-358-2278	Jerry Brown, Lynn Pinkerton
**Fort Custer Café, Custer, MT	406-856-4191	(Hilltop Café)
*Rails Inn, Forsyth, MT	406-346-2242	Carol
*Spring Creek Bar, Sarpy Creek, MT	406-342-5414	Sandra Hewitt
*Stockman Café, Rapelje, MT	406-663-2231	Gee
Sunset House, Cody, WY	307-587-2257	Julie
Montana Hanna's, Nye, MT	406-328-7400	406-328-7373
Branding Iron Restaurant, Dayton, WY	307-655-2334	
Purple Cow, Hardin, MT	406-655-3601	
Wagon Box Inn, Story, WY	307-683-2443	800-301-3120
Cowboy Bar & Supper Club, Fishtail, MT	406-328-4288	
Wade's Drive Inn, Harlowton, MT	406-632-4533	Mary Beth & Tom Bennett
Country Kitchen, Sheridan, WY	307-672-8144	Ryan Buchanan, mgr
Far-West Café, (Riverboat), Hardin, MT	406-665-3317	
Painter Outpost, Chief Joseph Hwy	307-527-5510	Kathy Oceanak or Carol Lunger
Uncle Sam's Eatery, Columbus, MT	406-323-6227	
Carters Camp, Nye MT	406-328-6186	Ken

*

Dinner Ride Restaurants

Fuddruckers Heights	406-259-2489
Laurel Country Club	406-628-2060
DJ's-Laurel	406-628-8780
Rockvale Restaurant, Rockvale, MT	406-962-3963
Grizzly Bar, Roscoe, MT	406-328-6789
Hungry Bear Café, Bearcreek, MT	406-466-9177
Next Generation Grille, Roundup, MT	406-323-2318
Brown Bear Café, Roberts, MT	406-445-2318
Crazy Mary's (Long Branch), Ballentine	406-967-3855
Apple Villiage, Columbus, MT	406-322-5939
Stroker's Supper Club, Huntley, MT	406-348-2042
Montana Hanna's, Nye, MT	406-328-7400/406-328-7373
Briarwood Country Club, Billings	406-245-2966
Jade Palace, Billings	406-656-8888
307 Bar & Casino, Columbus, MT	406-322-4511
Rockpile Restaurant, Billings	406-245-5985
Montana Jack's, Billings	406-252-0243
Tiny's Tavern, Billings	406-259-0828
Santa Fe Red's, Billings	406-252-2221
Gusick's, Billings	406-652-5441
Whitlock's Steak House, Columbus, MT	406-322-8677

T-CLOCK INSPECTION - MOTORCYCLE INSPECTION CHECKLIST

Owners Name: _____ License Plate # & State: _____

Make: _____ Model: _____ Vehicle ID # (VIN): _____

T-CLOCK ITEM	WHAT TO CHECK	WHAT TO LOOK FOR	CHECK	- OFF
T - TIRES & WHEELS				
Tires	Condition	Tread depth, wear, weathering, evenly seated, bulges, imbedded object.	Front	Rear
	Air Pressure	Check when cold. Adjust to load/speed (list)	F/	R/
Wheels	Spokes	Bent, broken, missing, tension, check at top of wheel "ring" OK - "thud," loose spoke.	Front	Rear
	Cast	Cracks, dents.	Front	Rear
	Rims	Out of round/true = 5mm, Spin wheel, index against stationary pointer.	Front	Rear
	Bearings	Grab top and bottom of tire and flex: No free play (click) between hub and axle, no growl when spinning.	Front	Rear
	Seals	Cracked, cut or torn, excessive grease on outside, reddish-brown around outside.	Front	Rear
C-CONTROLS				
Levers	Condition	Broken, bent, cracked, mounts tight, ball ends on handlebar lever.	Front	Rear
Cables	Pivots	Pulls hard, Lubricated.		
	Conditions	Fraying, kinks, lubrication: ends and length.		
	Routing	No interference or pulling at steering head, suspension, no sharp angles, wire looms in place.		
Hoses	Condition	Cuts, cracks, leaks, bugles, chafing, deterioration.		
	Routing	No interference or pulling at steering head, suspension, no sharp angles, wire looms in place.		
Throttle	Operation	Moves freely, snaps closed, no revving		
L - LIGHTS				
Battery	Condition	Terminals, clean and tight, electrolyte level, held down securely.		
	Vent Tube	Not kinked, routed properly, not plugged		
Lenses/ Reflectors	Condition	Cracked, broken, securely mounted, excessive condensation.		
Wiring	Condition	Fraying, chafing, insulation.		
	Routing	Pinched, no interference or pulling at steering head or suspension, wire looms and ties in place, connectors tight, clean.		

Student's Signature: _____

Instructor's Signature: _____ Date: _____

T-CLOCK INSPECTION - MOTORCYCLE INSPECTION CHECKLIST

T-CLOCK ITEM	WHAT TO CHECK	WHAT TO LOOK FOR	CHECK - OFF
Headlamp	Condition	Cracks, reflector, mounting and adjustment system.	
	Aim	Height and right/left.	
O - OIL			
Levels	Engine Oil	Check warm on centerstand, dipstick, sight glass.	
	Hypoid Gear Oil	Transmission, rear driver, shaft.	
	Hydraulic Fluid	Brakes, clutch, reservoir or sight glass.	
	Coolant	Reservoir and/or recovery tank – cold only.	
	Fuel	Tank or gauge.	
Leaks	Engine Oil	Gaskets, housings, seals.	
	Hypoid Gear	Gaskets, seals, breathers.	
	Hydraulic Fluid	Hoses, master cylinders, calipers.	
	Coolant	Radiator, hoses, tanks, fittings, pipes.	
	Fuel	Lines, fuel taps, carbs.	
C – CHASSIS			
Frame	Condition	Cracks at gussets, accessory mounts, look for paint lifting.	
	Steering-Head Bearings	No detent or tight spots through full travel, raise front wheel, check for play by pulling/pushing forks.	
	Swing arm Bushings/Bearings	Raise rear wheel, check for play by pushing/pulling swing arm.	
Suspension	Forks - Front	Smooth travel, equal air pressure/damping anti-dive settings.	
	Shock(s) – Rear	Smooth travel, equal pre-load/air pressure/damping anti-dive settings, linkage moves freely and is lubricated.	
Chain or Belt	Tension	Check at the tightest point.	
	Lubrication	Side plates when hot. <i>Note:</i> Do not lubricate belts.	
Fasteners	Sprockets	Teeth, missing bolts, nuts.	
	Treaded	Tight, missing bolts, nuts.	
	Clips	Broken, missing.	
	Cotter pins	Broken, missing.	
K - KICKSTAND			
Centerstand	Condition	Cracks, bent.	
	Retention	Springs in place, tension to hold position.	
Sidestand	Condition	Cracks, bent (safety cut-out switch or pad if equipped).	
	Retention	Springs in place, tension to hold position.	