

CLASSIC BIKE RAMBLINGS

Introductions...Explanations and Living machines

This is a new column that will deal with older, antique, vintage, and unique specialty motorcycles. I guess we should define the above categories. OLDER will be any bikes 20 years or older from the current year down to ANTIQUE (in FL this is where you can get a blue plate which is 30 years old plus. Then to VINTAGE (in FL this is where you can a red forever plate that states horseless carriage or HC) this takes place from 1945 and earlier. Unique and specialty bikes this will be a catch-all for modern collectibles, limited production bikes or older ASPT (assembled from parts) bikes or "home" built (these bikes may have different year frames and engines)

The west coast of Florida has many bikes that fit in the above categories. Some ridden daily, some trailered, some restored, some un-restored, some models only "collectible" to the owner, some coveted by all who see the bike. I have my own opinion on the many facets of collecting, what to collect and what their purpose is in the motorcycling community, and what connection they give me to the ride, the past and what each bike contributed to the next generation of bikes after it (some changed small things some were milestones) I also have many friends in the antique/vintage community that help me keep these bikes going, locate some for me, and give me different perspectives and viewpoints on many brands and years. You may have seen many of my motorcycles in local and national shows. My aim in these shows (great up front parking is a perk!) is to show people bikes of different years, styles and uses. A bike that stands out from the custom paint, chrome and after market bolt on accessories (these bikes also have a place in the shows and on the road) Bikes that evoke a "wow" or "cool" or a "I used to have one of them in high school" and then if you get recognized with a trophy it shows respect of the bike and your decision (also trophies on an old bike are a great chick magnet) Vintage and Antique bikes take me back to a simpler time and place (Remember no CDI's, computer brains, sensors, or even needing a battery) a different historical event or time (WWII, the 60's, the 70's, England, Italy in the spring, high school) and many personal times of riding with past friends, your dad or a brother who is no longer here. Over different articles we will explore the lure and fascination with the old dinosaurs of the past that laid the groundwork for today's smooth 180mph techno wonders, the gsxr's, busas, v-roads, big dogs (a long way from easy riders capt. america and billy bike). While I always see a perceived separation from



the sporty bike crowd and the cruiser crowd at gatherings the antique bikes seem to be accepted by all, which is very cool to me. I think everyone re-

spects history and the preservation and display of it.

Thanks B.D. "watch out for cars they're everywhere"

Tomorrows Best Bets:
Based on Ride-ability - parts - service - maintenance and near state availability

Mid-High Range

**1958-1974 Harley Davidson
XLCH Sportster
price then (1968) \$1600.00
price now \$3000.00-\$11,000.00**

Entry-Low Range

**1978-1982 Honda CX 500
price then (1978) \$2398.00
price now \$700.00-\$1700.00**

**1946 MotoGuzzi Superalce 500cc
1966 Gilera Super Sport 106cc
1968 Kawasaki Bushwhacker 175cc
1969 Kawasaki Bushwhacker 175cc
1970 Suzuki TS250 250cc
1974 MotoGuzzi Eldorado LAPD 850cc
1975 BMW R90/6 w/ sidecar 900cc
1975 Yamaha xs 650
1976 BMW 100/7 Sport
1982 Suzuki GS300L
1982 Yamaha seca 400
1996 Triumph Trident 900**

"SUPER BIKE" UPDATE

BMW has given a 2 year contract to 2 time Superbike World Champion Troy Corser of Australia. After being out of factory racing for 50 years, BMW began road racing testing bikes at last year 2007 24 hours of LeMans. BMW will be entering the 2009 Superbike Championship, being dominated by Ducati and the big four of Japan, with a 190 HP inline 4 1000cc, the BMW S 1000RR. They will build 1000 units to meet homologation requirements for this production based class. This is a sure bet to become a collectible classic in the future.

MR. 300 "ALL CLASSIC TEAM"

WAYNE LANDRY - A true classic that overcomes



adversity, keeps running through thick and thin and is a definite collectable as a friend to so many. A great bike show judge, tireless charity promoter and helps any biker in need. Here's to you Wayne for being the first member of Mr. 300's All Classic Team

