

Annie & Tracie
Janet Birthdays!



GOLD NUGGETS



G.W.R.R.A.

REGION J - CHAPTER BCA, VANCOUVER, B.C.

SEPTEMBER, 2001

Life is a collection of experiences. Some end up in a mental file all jammed together with little to distinguish them from others. Others end up in special files, providing memories available for instant recall because of some particular event or events that one wants to recall.

For us, August was a month full of experiences that fall in the latter category.

After our July meeting we took part in our after meeting ride to Iona Island regional park. A trip to Iona provides a super opportunity to take a close up look at the many aircraft landing at YVR. Amazing that they even get off the ground. We then travelled to Garry Point Park in Steveston where we spent a bit of time chatting and viewing the monument to fishermen lost at sea. 5 bikes took part.

Later that week I travelled to Alaska for this year's customer fishing trip. We again flew to Anchorage and then to Port Alsworth, about 120 miles west of Anchorage. The flight to and from the lodge goes through a pass where glaciers start above you and end below you. Rivers of ice rise beyond sight.

This year, with one of the lodges' Beaver aircraft fitted with wheels, we were able to land on the tundra truly in the middle of nowhere. During a day of fishing we neither saw nor heard anyone else. That included not the sound of a single aircraft, save the one that was flying us. One day we were dropped off with a guide and raft for a 14-mile float down a river whose name I have forgotten. Fishing as we floated we stopped occasionally to fish particular bars and bends. The customer I was accompanying is an excellent fisherman and the lodge was using him as a judge as to the particular merits of various streams. We were the first guests to fish this particular river. Grayling, trout, char, salmon (by accident during spawning). We saw three caribou and a few eagles during the float.

On the return flight to the lodge we flew over a caribou herd numbering in the thousands. They covered an area approximately a mile by a mile. A remarkable sight.

On a second trip to the tundra our noon picnic break took place on a tundra meadow of ground cover as we watched gophers or prairie dogs going about their work. Again not a sound or sign of anyone else. Truly a remarkable experience.

Soon after arriving home we travelled to Kamloops for the Region J rally. We took the motor home with the motorcycle in a trailer. For reasons I can't recall we had booked into an RV park south of Kamloops on Highway 5. I don't remember if we thought that there would be no RV space at the rally venue or if we just wanted power and water. In any event, while there were other Gold Wings in the park and it was a nice park, we missed a great deal of contact with other Chapter A people in attendance, as well as with Chapter D people.

The rally had 305 registrants. On the Saturday I rode out to Lac la Jeune and Logan Lake, through Ashcroft and Cache Creek, and back to base along Highway 1. The weather was beautiful, hot at the lower elevations and pleasantly cool the higher I went. Saturday evening featured a deep fried turkey dinner. As with, at least so it seems, every GW event, this one had a rush of on site registrations, leaving the organizers scrambling. After dinner we took part in a parade to a park in downtown Kamloops where a group of Kamloops children put on an entertaining combination of a play and songs. It was a beautiful evening in the park.

On Sunday the poker run took us through an area southeast of Kamloops and then over to Salmon Arm by way of Highway 97 and Salmon Valley Road. The weather was perfect and the ride great. Sunday evening was time for a wrap-up and presentations. Monday we hit the road for home.

Kirk and Kathy Elliot and all the crew at Chapter BC-G deserve our deepest thanks for their efforts. It was a great rally and will serve as a target for future rallies to equal or beat.

Attendance by Chapter A was very light (disappointing a better word) with Margaret and I, Ib and Ellen Mikkelsen, and Wayne Thurber in attendance.

Another three days at work and we left for a day in Campbell River for business meetings and a half-day on a boat out of April Point on Quadra Island. Weather perfect, boat trip enjoyable. On Saturday August 11 we drove to Sydney to take our boat out for a week. Friends who have boated for many years on the coast joined us.

We left Saturday evening for Montague Harbour on Galiano. Sunday we travelled to Squirrel Cove on Cortes Island. What followed was four days to touring Desolation Sound. Memories

Chapter Director: Barry & Margaret Irvine Phone: (604) 597-8547
Ass't Chapter Director: Rick & Heather McIvor Phone: (604) 273-7282
BCA Web Site: <http://users.imag.net/~opie/>

Clinton Gold Run.

CHAPTER COMMITTEE

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Reg. J Op. Dir. Jim & Doris Carey 1-250-765-3478

Reg. J Trainers Larry/Robyn Merchison 1-604-951-9202

www.surrey.quik.com/merchison

Phoenix

1-800-843-9460

"A"-CTIVITY CO-ORDINATORS

Sign-in Table	Margaret Irvine	597-8547
Newsletter	Meryl Davies	936-3358
Rider Educ. Courses	Ian McAlpine	990-4919
Mall Show	Barry/Margaret Irvine	597-8547
Senior's Ride		
Fun Run	R. McIvor & Others	984-7776
Camp-out	Pat Pearce	530-5133
Longest Day		
Backyard BBQ	Barry/Margaret Irvine	597-8547
Mt. Baker Ride	" " " "	
Prog. Dinner	Fun & Games Committee	
Xmas Dinner	Committee	
Phone Tree	John Plant	522-0951
	Margaret Irvine	597-8547
	Pat Armstrong	273-1004
	Heinz Blisse	937-3123
	Herb Broerken	574-7021
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If you can lend a hand, please contact Barry Irvine or anyone on the Chapter Committee.

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• DESTINATIONS THROUGHOUT NORTH AMERICA

B.C. CHAPTER MEETINGS.

- 4th Sunday BC-A Vancouver**
Barry & Margaret Irvine 604-597-8547
CB#33 ABC Restaurant @ 9:15am
2350 Boundary at Lougheed Hwy.
- 3rd Sunday BC-B Campbell River/Courtney**
Ernie & Halina Lambert 250-923-4871
CB#33 Popsies Log Grill @ 9:00am
1120 Ironwood St.
Every Tuesday @ Tim Hortons
Coffee @ 7:00pm.
- 3rd Monday BC-C Chilliwack/Fraser Valley**
Ken & Karen Thornton 604-826-0590
CB#33 Cross Roads Family Restaurant @ 6:30pm
1821 Sumas Way, Abbotsford. 852-1614
- 1st Wednesday BC-D Surrey**
Emery & Jenny Larocque 604-591-6460
CB#33 Ricky's @ 7pm. 152nd St./Fraser Hwy.
IHOP -19700 Hwy.10 Bypass, Langley
Friday 7pm.
- 1st Tuesday BC-G Kamloops**
Ron & Penny Marshall 250-573-4037
CB#33 Brass Kettle @ 7:00pm. 1485 West T.C.H.
Coffee: West Rock Bakery, Thurs. 7:00
- 2nd Wednesday BC-H Dawson Creek**
Ken & Marion Guay 250-782-2959
CB#33 Hart of the North Café @ 7:30
Apr.-Oct. Coffee & Ride Wed. 7:30
- Every Saturday BC-K Kelowna**
Ralph & Joan Young, 250-766-1390
CB#33 The Specialty Bakery, 833 Finns Rd.,
Kelowna. Every Saturday Breakfast
(8:00am Summer, 9:00am Winter)
www.ogopogo.com/bck

2nd Monday BC-P Prince George
Henri & June Plouffe 250-964-3867
CB#33 Fortune Palace @ 6:00pm Peden Hill.
www.members.pgonline.com/~haggis

2nd Sunday BC-V Victoria
Garry & Monique Shrive 250-380-4624
CB#33 DG's Rest. @ 9:00am
617 Gorge Road East.
garryshrive@home.com

Please Plan On Joining Us:

The Fourth Sunday of each Month

ABC RESTAURANT
2350 Boundary
(Boundary Rd. at Lougheed Highway)

Breakfast at 8:00am.
Meeting at 9:15am.

*Enjoy breakfast with new and old friends, or come
for a cup of coffee before the meeting.
See you there!*

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

**Deadline for articles to go in the newsletter
is one week prior to the monthly meeting.**

Meryl Davies,
2231 Haversley Avenue, Coquitlam, B.C.
V3J 1W3
(604) 936-3358
Or E-mailed to:
Meryl_Davies@telus.net

The Chicken Strip

by Hiro Minowara

Inquiring into the pedigree of an idea is not a bad means of roughly estimating its value.—Herbert Spencer

IT'S A FAMILIAR SIGHT: a leather-clad rider crouches next to a motorcycle and peers intently at the tires, assessing how much lean angle the rider is using. Based on that information, this self-styled tire inspector thinks he can accurately judge just how "fast" the bike's rider must be. The more tire used, the faster the rider. Or so we are led to believe.

The unused portion of the tire is commonly referred to as the "Chicken Strip." The Chicken Strip, unfortunately, has become the gauge by which many new riders, especially sport-bike pilots, judge their progress. Peer pressure—in the form of looks askance, derisive comments, or even good-natured ribbing—often impels riders to push beyond their personal limits and the boundaries of common sense in an effort to decrease the width of the Chicken Strip.

This condition seems to apply most directly to newer riders: in particular, middle-aged men who are either making a return to riding after many years, or have decided to adopt motorcycling as a way to add some distinction or excitement to their lives. Men in this age group tend to put huge amounts of pressure on themselves to show they've succeeded in life, and that they will continue to be successful at anything and everything they do. Fatalities and accidents are way up for people who fit this profile, and it's making big headlines.

The problem is we middle-aged men spend way too much time trying to measure up to some ineffable standard of riding. As a result, we are killing ourselves in record numbers, leaving our families without husbands and fathers, trying to prove we're as good at riding motorcycles fast as we are at our chosen profession.

But there are a few differences. Most of us have been working as professionals for some twenty years. Some of us even went to school to learn our trade. We've busted our balls to climb the ladder, to get better, to build that business or win those promotions, and we've made good on our actions. We're used to being accomplished at what we do, and we don't like starting at the bottom again, even if it's something we may not have done for years, or have never done at all—something like motorcycling.

It's been said so many times it's nearly painful to repeat, but there's no better way to get the message across: *motorcycling does not suffer fools*. Nor is it kind to those with abundant arrogance, hubris, or ignorance. It takes years and years of training and experience to become a good rider, and no matter how good a rider gets, he or she will never be as good as they could be. New riders of all ages are welcomed into the sport,

no matter what aspect of motorcycling they might wish to pursue. However, we strongly encourage every new rider, regardless of his or her success in other areas of life, to treat motorcycling like a coiled rattlesnake, and proceed with prudence and caution.

How is this done? That's a question we're asked frequently; this site is full of ideas about what to do and not to do when enjoying motorcycling. But there are a few solid guidelines:

- **Start Small**
This doesn't mean a ZR-7 or SV650, either. We're talking a 500 Ninja, tops, or a middleweight cruiser if you're so inclined. Better still is a dual-sport machine of the quarter-liter variety.
- **Dress the Part**
"There is no such thing as a casual ride." This statement has been attributed to Nick Ienatsch, longtime journalist and roadracer and current Chief Instructor with Freddie Spencer's High Performance Riding School. It's true. Make sure you're well protected, particularly in the prime impact areas like elbows, knees, shoulders, and hips. Don't wear any article of clothing based on fashion alone; and we highly recommend a full-face helmet (we've seen the aftermath of accidents where the rider had only half a lid, and it's not a pretty sight).
- **Get Trained**
We don't mean just MSF, although that's an adequate starting point; get to CLASS, the California Superbike School, Fastrack Riders, Freddie's School, or something similar. MSF does not provide any instruction on how to operate a motorcycle at full road speed. These closed-course schools do it very well. Testimonials are abundant for skeptics.
- **Avoid Competition**
"Aggressive sport riding," as it's often called, is a dandy way to end up dead. If your buddies streak off ahead and scoff because you don't show up until they're finishing the last bite of breakfast, they're not friends. Ditch 'em and find someone decent to ride with. In fact, it's better to ride alone at your own comfort level than to get pressured into trying to keep up with riders who are accidents waiting to happen.

Middle age is a time to enjoy the fruits of the hard work one has put into life. Motorcycling can fit quite nicely into that equation, but not if approached in a thoughtless or careless manner. There are a lot of ways to become a more competent rider; trying to reduce the width of the Chicken Strip is not one of them.

Courtesy of "The Interactive Motorcycle"
The Lexicon of the Thinking Rider
www.activebike.com

MEMORIES of CHINA

At the time I started on this month's newsletter I was in the process of completing a photo album of my recent trip to China. Barry's remarks at the beginning of his article about how certain experiences impact in a big way on our memory bank couldn't be more true of my trip. This was an adventure for me, travelling solo abroad for the first time. As a "single" person travelling, one becomes acquainted with the penalty you pay on almost all trips for not being "two". I was offered the opportunity to share accommodation with a lady of the same vintage from Prince George. For two weeks, I thought, I can do this. I met Sharon for lunch prior to leaving and we figured "we" could do this together. It would save us each a \$1,000.00.

As this was through BCAA, we all met up with our group at Vancouver Airport and flew out to Tokyo, overnighing, prior to flying to Shanghai. Shanghai is a city of contrasts, tall, modern buildings of stunning design, the Bund with the old colonial buildings. The traffic is an entertainment in itself, double decker buses, buses, scooters, small motorcycles, trucks and zillions of bicycles carrying everything from mattresses to ducks, and everybody playing chicken at the same time. A visit to the Jade Buddha Temple with its burning incense, people praying, giant size jade Buddha, an oasis in the hullabaloo of the streets outside, and the "Hallo" people who chase you with postcards "One dollar, one dollar" (US that is!) The serene beauty of a famous Chinese Garden all water, stones, little trees, ornamental arches transported us to another time.

Reluctantly we left Shanghai (although it was hot and sticky) to Yichang on the Yangtze River to board a riverboat to travel three days down the Three Gorges to Chongqing. This trip through the rugged, high gorges at times narrowing almost to the sides of the riverboat showed China in transition. Our weather was misty and rainy and this seemed to be the mood of the river, people in sampans fishing, little tiny stone villages, then higher up markers where the river would be in years to come and even higher up, blocky stone buildings, the new accommodations. Very stark. At times we passed towns and huge coal depots, and again, the "new" accommodations way up on top of the gorge sides, again very square, functional and ugly. What a contrast with the "big river" and the sides of the gorges that dwarfed us as we sailed along. As there was no elevator on this boat, it was a workout going from our room to the top observation deck. The Three Gorges Dam is an unbelievable endeavour showing that China is indeed on the move.

We left the cosiness of our boat trip and flew south to Guilin. This place of weird shaped limestone peaks and lush, semi tropical scenery is seen in many Chinese paintings, almost a dream landscape. A four hour cruise on the Li River was like being in a time warp. Fishermen on bamboo rafts with cormorants, water buffalo. A major highlight was a tuk-tuk trip into the countryside, a motorcycle with a kind of sidecar for two, side by side driven by a lady we named Joan, couldn't understand her proper name, and a convoy of us roared out into the Chinese countryside. We zigged and zagged in and out of little villages, bouncing and rocking over gravel roads, through a brilliant green

countryside of beans, orange trees, lotus plants, peanut plants, etc. This came to an end too soon, I told Joan she should go in for moto-cross. Our trip to Guilin finished on a high note with a visit to the local theatre to see an Ethnic Minorities Folk Dancing Show. It was "wow" time, glorious costumes of dazzling colours, acrobatic and agile dancing and stirring music. I didn't want it to end.

Another flight to Xian. All of us were anticipating this visit to what has been termed the 8th wonder of the world, The Terracotta Army. Clay warriors unearthed about 30 years ago in an underground mausoleum prepared by an early emperor (similar to the tombs of the Pharaohs). The sight of the rows of clay warriors in the excavated trenches as if on parade, gave one a sense of the passing of centuries. This army stands there as if waiting for somebody to wave a wand and start them marching. It gives one that goose bumpy feeling.

With our heads now full of so many wonders and sights, almost saturated, we flew out to Beijing and into a temperature of 37 deg. C. I don't do heat well, it was "suck it up time". The vastness and sheer space of Tianenman Square dominates everything, with Mao's tomb, and the statue to China's heroes. Surrounded on four sides by huge buildings including the Parliament buildings. We drove for an hour out of Beijing to the GreatWall. When I first saw it, I thought "bleep, bleep there's no way I'm climbing up there"!! However, on closer examination, on this hot day, Sharon and I decided we would do what we could. It is very steep and not very wide, with steps of varying depth, thank god for handrails. You have people going up one side and down the other. We climbed two levels, or heights, enough already. Down again slowly for refreshment?! The wall is majestic and imposing winding away into the distance over the mountains. Another symbol of Chinese ingenuity and will.

The next day we visited the Forbidden City (it's still hotter than Hades). After being guided through the myriad of buildings trying to put in perspective that this was the home of emperors for many years, the ancient architecture, furniture and fittings, I felt like I'd eaten six desserts all at once. It was a relief to drive out to the Summer Palace, the summer home of the emperors with a lovely lake, pagodas and bridges. They had the best ice cream too. Visits to the Ming Tombs and Sacred way ended our visit plus a trip to the Peking Opera. A very stylized form of entertainment, gorgeous colourful costumes, music a bit dissonant, but telling age old stories, with characters that have been handed down through the ages.

This is an amazing country, a kaleidoscope of things modern and ancient. Driving through a city, modern stores and buildings, looking down the side streets, little houses, laundry hanging out windows on bamboo poles, men playing cards in the street. My album is bringing all these memories, sights, sounds, smells back, oh did I mention chinese toilets? A cultural experience to say the least, especially in small towns. They are marvellous craftsmen - we visited a jade factory and a cloisonné factory. I also look at the little jade birds I bought at Shanghai museum and know I have had a unique trip.

Meryl Davies

such as the head of Bute Inlet surrounded by mountains and glaciers. While travelling some 80 miles we saw only two other boats. Four days of fantastic scenery followed by a very scenic journey back down the Georgia Straits before returning the boat on Sunday, August 19.

This month's experiences will be capped off by our annual ride to the top of Mount Baker. By the time you read this you will either be sharing in memories of the ride with us or perhaps wishing that you had taken part.

All in all, a very memorable month. We hope yours was the same.

Margaret and Barry

CLASSIFIED

For sale (3)

BC-G has two riders getting out of biking due to health reasons.

Their bikes are a 1994 Suzuki Intruder 17,000 Km asking \$5,500 O.B.O. includes soft saddle bags.

#2 is a 1983 wineberry Aspencade (GL1100) plus cargo trailer. asking \$3,500 O.B.O.

Contact; Linda Matheson 250-579-9477

For Sale (2)

1991 Anniversary Edition Trike with color matched Cargo Trailer. Easy steer. Outstanding condition. 34,644kms.

Best offers on \$19,500.

Call Darlene Church 250-474-1229

For Sale (1)

1984 Honda CB-750SC Nighthawk.

54,000 km on it, new tires this season, a Rifle Nightflight fairing, headlight modulator, Supertrapp 4 into 1 exhaust (quiet).

This bike is well maintained, very clean and in excellent condition, asking \$3,500 but open to reasonable offers.

Kathy and Kirk Elliott / kelliott@ocis.net

For Sale (1)

1 pair light brown leather summer m/c gloves, wrist length, perforated, size small - \$5.00

1 pair Thinsulate lined black leather m/c gloves, size small - \$10.00

1 pair black leather electric gloves, gauntlet style, Size medium - \$25.00

1 Honda Goldwing Bike Cover \$10.00
Meryl Davies 604-936-3358

Meryl_Davies@telus.net

For Sale (1)

Our local Honda dealer, M & M Performance here in Kelowna phone #250-491-4800 has a 1500 Gold Wing he would like to

sell ASAP. This bike is an x-clean two tone red, 1996 1500SE with C.B. and some extras, it is priced close to \$2000 under book value right now and can be had in the low 14K range. This bike is a local bike and has been well maintained. If some one in your chapter is looking for a bike maybe you could let them know about this one. There is nothing in this for me just trying to pass the word around.

Ralph & Joan Young

Chapter Directors

GWRRA BC-K

web site <http://www.ogopogo.com/bck/>

Subject: 1500 wanted 1200 for sale

Hi All,

Please pass on to your web masters a chap is looking for a 1500 1997 or newer and has a very nice 1985 1200 wineberry for sale. Contact: Randy Burgess in Penticton at 250-490-2279 or by e-mail at ranbur@hotmail.com

Thanks all.

Kirk

FREE: 4 Institutional type armchairs, light brown wood with dark brown vinyl cushions. Comfortable but ugly.

Meryl Davies

604-936-3358

BIRTHDAYS

Sept 1 - Barry

September	2nd	Bob Hoogstins
	3rd	Jan Bai
	12th	Edward Drozdik
	15th	Margaret Irvine
	19th	Paul Shedegar
	23rd	Joan Crandlemire
	26th	Fred Wall
	27th	Manon Eburne

October	5th	Sharon Auld
	15th	Pat Aldred
	17th	Gord Auld

ANNIVERSARIES

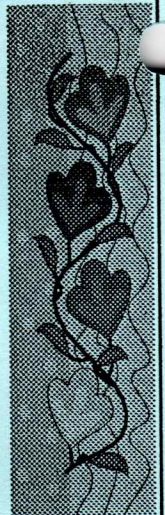
Septembver	28th	Edward & Kathy Drozdik
October	18th	Ron & Faye Seligman

Hey Everyone:

Happy Day, The Newsletter for the Month Of August is posted for your enjoyment. You still have time to find the button.

Ride Safe

Grizzly
GWRRA
105668



"Simon Scott Birthday Ride"

On Tuesday July 31st 2001 as I turned onto Fulton Ave in West Vancouver and headed for Simon Scott's house I could see that there was already a group of motorcycles lined up in front. As I pulled up I could see Ib from BC-A was parking his bike and Simon came out and signaled me to move to the front and park the bike. Before heading into the house I took a quick look at the bikes 4 -Goldwings, 2-Valkyries, Harleys, Cruisers, Sports Bikes, & Crouch Rockets. We met on the back porch for Introductions, sandwiches & refreshments and admired the view of Stanley Park. Then a Reporter from the North Shore News arrived to cover the event. It was brought to our attention by a colleague of Simon's that he must be a "LEO" because only a "LEO" would contact the paper to cover his own birthday party!

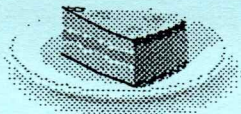
We then made arrangements to head out, Simon said that he would lead and the Wings would take front & back with the others in the middle so to try and keep them together as a group, not an easy job considering that when we headed out there was 18 bikes in total.

West on Fulton, South on 15th, West on Marine Dr. to Whyte Cliff Park for Birthday cake and Gingerale a verse of "Happy Birthday To You".

From here we were supposed to go to Porteau Cove and back but plans had to be changed due to the closure of roads for construction. So we headed for Cypress Bowl and met at the top after the sport bikes and crouch rockets got tired of going slow. After regrouping at the top and taking in the view it was time to say goodbye.

A good time was had by all, and Simon survived another birthday.

Ian McAlpine



Hey all I'm slow but now it's right.

grizzlybear88@home.com

Ride Safe – Grizzly

GWRRA 105668

Webmaster – <http://gwrra.bcv.8m.com>

TRAVELLING IN CYBERSPACE

As most of you know I love to travel and like exploring all avenues to support this endeavour which includes books, magazines, videos, etc. However, accessing the net, I think, is my favourite. The availability of information is almost inexhaustible and exploring this is a never ending journey. I find it to be mind-boggling. When I planned my trip to China I went looking for information that would enhance my knowledge and enjoyment of this trip. The websites I found were brilliant, colourful and informative. I almost had a virtual holiday before I left for the actual trip. All this is to say what a lot of you already know, there is a wealth of information to be had for "surfing the net" travelwise.

It is always fun to free fall and just go where the impulse takes you. Or if you have a focus like mine just follow the websites. However, it is often prudent and helpful to benefit from somebody else's research. I was roaming Chapters one day, which is a frequent habit of mine, and came across the most informative book relative to finding travel information on the internet. **The Virgin Internet Travel Guide, Version 2.0** by Davey Winder (approx. \$14.00)

It is called The Biggest Travel Agency in the World. It has a multiplicity of websites covering every aspect of travel you can imagine, around the world, featuring all countries, hotels, airlines, types of holidays, embassies, travel warnings, weather... ad nauseam. It also has helpful information on browsing and searching. I highly recommend it!

Meryl Davies



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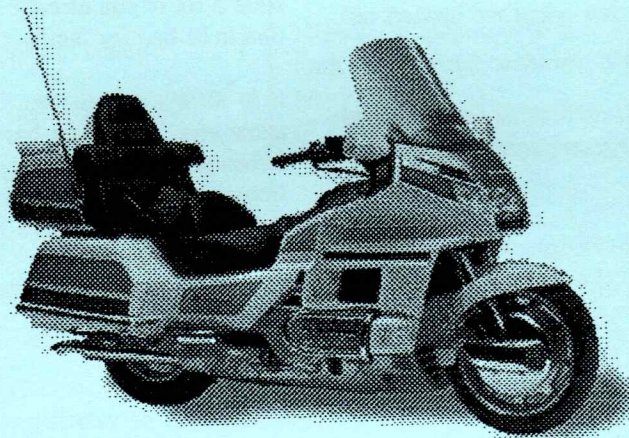
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