

Arrival of the new stars

Yamaha kicks off 1996 with powered-up new products symbolizing Yamaha's spirit of challenge that shines through in models like the Drag Star, unveiled at the '95 Tokyo Motor Show.







Drag Star

A completely new Americantype cruiser featuring a 400 cc air-cooled V-twin engine fitted on a long and low body with 1610 mm (63.4 in.) wheelbase and 650 mm (25.6 in.) seat height, classy chrome plated exterior parts and muscular pulse sensation. This model will be released on the Japanese market in February.

PRODUCT RANGE 1996

A wide variety of '96 models represent Yamaha's unending challenge into new fields and further advanced technology. Ongoing business diversification and globalization are also to be seen in new products like the JW-I power unit, Yamaha Water Supply System and the AX-ION.



MI1100Wave/VN Venture

The new flagship model of the MJ series for three passengers powered by a 3-cylinder 106 hp engine. The powerful engine performance with great acceleration and high top speed along with the large capacity 50-liter fuel tank means wide use potential from water skier towing to long distance touring.

AX-ION

MBK's first electro-hybrid bicycle mounting the Yamaha P.A.S. (Power Assist System) unit, which is supplied on an OEM (Original Equipment Manu-

facture) basis. This model features a lightweight, high-rigidity fiberglass composite monocock frame in response to the popularity of sport models in Europe today. Since last October, test marketing of 100 units has begun in France, Switzerland and Belgium.



YMF350FW

This new 4x4 driven by a torquey, muscular 4-stroke engine and fivespeed dual-range transmission with reverse is also equipped with electric starting and an automatic clutch. It offers great combined load capacity of almost 90 kg (200 lb.) on its front and rear racks.

JW-I

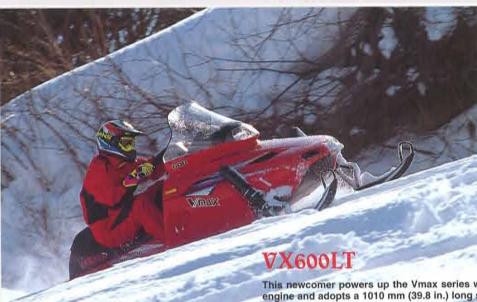
Yamaha enters the health-welfare equipment field with the development of a new electric power unit that is attachable to existing manual wheelchairs to turn them into electric powered ones. The unit, which is lightweight, 15 kg (33.1 lb.) including battery, with an easy joystick lever operation, has been test marketed in limited areas in Japan since November, 1995.

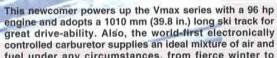
A wheelchair fitted with the JW-I unit.



YPX220

By adopting an all new AC servo motor, Yamaha's new pick-and-place robot, YPX220 can finish one operation, 150 mm (5.9 in.) forward/backward, 50 mm up/down in less than half the time (0.48 sec.) of the existing model. The 109 mm (4.3 in.) compact body saves space, too. Sales started on the Japanese market in December 1995.





fuel under any circumstances, from fierce winter to warmer spring weather and from lowland to highland.



Yamaha Emergency Water Supply System

This new emergency system utilizes a school's swimming pool water for fire extinguishing, household use and even for drinking water. With a special three-step filtering system, it can supply 66,000 liters of water a day, including 6,000 liters for drinking and 60,000 liters for household use. Sales in Japan started in October 1995.

A quarter century of building

■ Yamaha Motor do Brasil Ltda. ■ Location: São Paulo, Brazil

Founded: 1970 Employees: 451 (Oct., 1995)

Back in 1970, the same year that Yamaha introduced its first four-stroke motorcycle, the XS-1, a new Yamaha group company was being launched on the other side of the world in São Paulo, Brazil. That company, Yamaha Motor do Brasil Ltda. (YMDB), which went on to become the first overseas manufacturer of Yamaha motorcycles in 1974, recently celebrated its memorable 25th anniversary. Here is a report from YMDB's Mr. Kazuhiro Munezawa of the Marketing Dept.



YMDB's President Sato (left) thanks the long-time employees

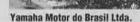
n November 1, 1995, VIPs from the international Yamaha community, including YMC's President Hasegawa, President Francisco J. Sierra of Incolmotos (Colombia), President Juan Raimundo of Zanella (Argentina), and President Gianfranco of Yamaimport (Chile) gathered along with government officials, business partners and dealers to celebrate our 25th anniversary in a grand ceremony at a hotel in São Paulo.

It was a quarter century ago that YMDB was formed as an importer of Yamaha products in Brazil and four years later that it became the first company to manufacture Yamaha brand motorcycles outside of Japan. Since then our company has introduced over 50 different models on the Brazilian market on CKD (Complete Knock Down), SKD (Semi-complete Knock Down) and CBU (Complete Built Up) basis, including the market's

first trail motorcycle, the TT125, sports bikes like the RD350 and on/off-road models like the XT600 Ténéré.

Today YMDB not only offers our Brazilian customers a full line of 35 Yamaha products for the land and the sea but also, together with Yamaha Motor da Amazonia Ltda. (YMDA), plays an important role in the global Yamaha Group as an exporter of Yamaha products to such countries as Germany, the U.S.A., Canada and our South American neighbors.

Yamaha has long held a reputation as a company with a spirit of challenge that always keeps it in the forefront in technological excellence. Nowhere is this corporate image stronger than in Brazil, where we became the first domestic motorcycle manufacturer with the introduction of a highly popular trail model in 1974. After that YMDB diversified into the scooter market, where the Yamaha JOG created such a sensation that in



Brazil today all scooters are called "jogs," no matter what the maker. Later we continued to expand our motorcycle range with American style cruisers such as the Vmax1200 and XV1100 Vírago.

Most recently, our release of the BW'S has sparked a boom in scooters that offer a new dimension of twowheeler enjoyment. What's more, YMDA became the first domestic motorcycle manufacturer to win ISO 9002 (International Organization for Standardization) certification for excellence in

manufacturing standards.

At the employee recognition ceremony

On the day before the big 25th anniversary celebration, YMDB held a special ceremony to recognize employees who have given long years of service to the company. In his speech prior to the awards ceremony, YMDB's President, Mr. Sato, remarked that he was full of admiration for the speed and savvy with which the company's employees respond to the rapidly changing conditions of the Brazilian market.

He was followed on the podium by YMC's President Hasegawa, who reflected on the 40 years since Yamaha's founding, saying that the one thing that has not changed from those early days as an inexperienced upstart and today when it stands firmly established as a diverse



YMC's President plants a commemorative mango tree



Paulo, began with a speech by YMDB's President Sato welcoming the 170 distinguished guests. Next, YMC's President Hasegawa stood up to address the audience, stressing the increasing importance of developing a global corporate strategy to deal with the recent political-economic environment that includes all Yamaha production bases around the world. He concluded by promising that Brazil, with its strong industrial base, is assured of steady economic growth in the future and that YMDB will have an increasingly important role in the vital Brazilian market as well as a critical role as an exporting production base in the global Yamaha

This was followed by speeches of congratulations on the company's 25th anniversary by a representative of the Brazilian dealers association and Mr. Sierra of Incolmotos. The celebration then proceeded with an enjoyable dinner followed in true Brazilian fashion with a lively Samba show. The jubilant mood captured everyone and many joined in with the gyrating circle of dancers out on

the dance floor.



GENERAL

ITALY

Italian dealers visit Japan

A tour of 44 selected Yamaha dealers and staff from Italian importer Belgarda arrived in Japan to enjoy a tour of the country that began in Tokyo with a visit to the Tokyo Motor Show on October 31. From there the party traveled to Shizuoka-ken where they were guided through YMC's 1st and 5th Iwata factories. The official Yamaha welcome continued that night with a reception party at a hotel in nearby Hamamatsu, YMC's Managing Director Satoshi Watanabe was on hand to present the visiting dealers with commemorative gifts and plaques.

The next day the group was off to the ancient capitals of Kyoto and Nara for sightseeing before returning to Italy.



The dealers enjoy the welcome party

U.S.A.

Full power meeting for '96

From October 1 to 4, the U.S. '96 season dealer meeting entitled 'The Power of Yamaha' took place in Dallas, Texas, attended by more than 3,000 people

from 1,697 dealerships who learned about Yamaha's new machines through seminars and demo rides.

On the second day, people attended related seminars on each product category and customer retention, and also had a chance to ride the custom cruiser Royal Star, the fully-rigged jet boat 'Exciter' and new Water Vehicles like the Wave Venture.

The participants also enjoyed special attractions such as carnival-style games, songs of some of the top names in the country music industry sung by lookalike artists, as well as a chance to bid on autographed memorabilia from Country Western stars, autographed personal helmets from Yamaha racers like Colin Edwards II and Jeff Emig, with proceeds benefiting the Feed The Children organization.



New-type leisure jet boat 'Exciter' was well received by the dealers

MOTORCYCLES

MEXICO

SR250 for patrol

To aid in its security and crime prevention work, the police public safety department in Xalapa, Veracruz, proposed to equip their patrol corps with motorcycles that would enable them to patrol smaller roads and paths where cars cannot go.

When the project ran into budget trouble, the state government decided to buy two Yamaha SR250s from local dealer Tumoto Xalapa to donate to the public safety department. As a part of its after-sale service Tumoto staff organized a training session to instruct the patrol unit on good riding and maintenance techniques.

As a result of these two motorcycles

popularity, the department is now seeking government and some private sector support for 15 more motorcycles to fulfill their security program goals.

From Denisse Escobedo P. of YMMEX, Mexico



The motorcycles for police donated by the govern-

GREECE

8,500 km on the TDR250

A young couple from Greece traveled on their TDR250 through Turkey, Syria and Lebanon, covering a total of 8,500 km. (5,270 mi.) Before they started the trip, their only preparations were changing the battery, lubricating oil, bulbs, adding a spare tire and the necessary tools, and getting a green card for the motorcycle and visas for Syria and Lebanon.

They stopped for gasoline every 200 km and checked the battery and the chain every 500 km. After a first stop at Kavala, they crossed into Istanbul. From there they went through Bolu, a beautiful village 726 m (2,381 ft.) above sea level to get to Ankara, and from there, they left for Adana, 489 km (303 mi.) away, riding at 80-100 km/h on average.

Despite the load, the TDR's performance was perfect even on uphill roads and it never betrayed them.



Off to new adventure on the TDR250

After they reached Babel, a village on the Syrian border, the great Syrian desert was waiting for them.

After that, their long and adventurous trip went on to Lebanon, and from there they made their way home again.

From Elena Vakirtzi of Yamaha Motor Hellas S.A., Greece

GERMANY

MBK scooters for police

Mitsui Maschinen GmbH has recently signed a contract with the police in Germany for the supply of 50 units of MBK Evolis 80 scooters which will be used as police vehicles in the country's major cities.

These 50 scooters are specially painted in police white and are equipped with windshields and topcases.

The Evolis 80 was chosen by the police authorities because of its engineering excellence and overall quality.

From Karlheinz Vetter of MMG, Germany



MMG Managing Director Manfred Weihe (right) together with representatives of the police

VENEZUELA

Stopping the imitations

Yamaha's distributor, Venemotos C.A. is carrying out a campaign to combat the increasing presence in the market of imitation accessories and parts that produce a negative effect on Yamaha's quality image.

In recent years, there has been a proliferation of importers of non-original spare parts. These parts are now penetrating the market and confusing the clients, because in some cases even the package is the same as the genuine item.

In order to deal with this situation, a market survey was conducted and Venemotos decided to implement a publicity campaign featuring security-lock labels attached to all Yamaha genuine parts, leaflets, posters and mobiles bearing the campaign slogan "Mine is genuine! My Yamaha's too!" and diptychs which explain how to recognize the imitation spare parts. In addition to these effective tools for spare parts shops, they ran adds in newspapers as well.

From Aristóbulo Rojas M. of Venemotos C.A., Venezuela



A part of the poster to be put up in shops and workshops

NEW ZEALAND

Rental Yamahas for touring riders

A special partnership has been formed between Yamaha and New Zealand Motorcycle Rentals (Tel/Fax +64 9 358 2252), a company providing a large range of Yamaha models to motorcycle enthusiasts from around the world.

New Zealand Motorcycle Rentals is an independent rental company that has chosen to use only the Yamaha brand.

"It's not hard to answer why Yamaha," said Darren Tonar very quickly. "I have been in the motorcycle business for over 15 years and when I set up the rental business I needed the most comfortable and reliable motorcycles available for my clients. After many hours of testing other brands, Yamaha was the



Touring through farm country with the XT

only brand that could meet all the necessary requirements of the models I needed. We have models from the XT225 up to the new XJ900 Diversion, New Zealand is one of the best countries in the world for touring by motorcycle, so we have the best motorcycles in the world to tour with!!"

From Darren Tonar of New Zealand Motorcycle Rentals, NZ

MALAYSIA

500,000 engines produced

On September 5, Hicom-Yamaha Manufacturing Malaysia Sdn. Bhd. (HYMM), a joint company of Hicom Bhd., Hong Leong Industries Bhd. (HLI) and YMC founded in 1983, held a ceremony to celebrate the production of its 500,000th motorcycle engine for the Yamaha Y80/100/110.

In attendance were President Hasegawa from YMC, Mr. Tan Sri Jamil Jan from Hicom Bhd., Mr. Kwek Leng San and Mr. Ron Lim K.C. from HLI. and Mr. Aziz Ibrahim and all the employees from HYMM. The commemorative ceremony started in a solemn tone with the offering of a Malay style prayer and as a finale, the 500,000th engine rolled off the assembly line to the accompaniment of a spectacular smoke and light show.

From H. Shibata of YMC, Japan



Mr. Tan Sri Jamil Jan (left) and YMC President Hasegawa shake hands at the ceremony



FRANCE

New models light up the Paris Show



The dynamic new supersports like Thunderace always attracts motorcycle enthusiasts



Visitors could try out the AX-ION simulator at the MBK booth

Over the 10 days from October 29 to November 8, the biannual Paris Motorcycle Show was held at Porte de Versailles, making it the first European show of the new season. More than 320,000 people including 1,100 journalists visited the show and enjoyed displays by exhibitors from 28 countries.

The Yamaha booth stood out with its substantial line up including eleven new models, such as the TRX and TDM850, featuring a new V-twin engine with a 270° crank phase, the new supersports

YZF1000 Thunderace and the YZF600 Thundercat, the sport single SZR660, the big custom 1300 Royal Star and the scooter 250 Majesty.

As for scooters and bicycles, the MBK booth presented the Booster Rocket, a sports version of the 'Booster Next Generation' which attracted many young people, and introduced the electro-hybrid bicycle, 'AX-ION' for the first time in Europe.

Another highlight of the Yamaha booth was the 'forum' space, a tiered stage that showed movies of Yamaha's racing stars, American touring, race footage and so on, and where live interviews of the pilots were conducted by French TV journalist Jean-Louis Bernardelli. This special event attracted many visitors and autograph-seekers.

From YMF PR Dept. and Claude Alombert of MBK, France

DENMARK

The Prince chooses a Diversion

It is not a Prince on a white horse that people are seeing on the roads these days, but the Prince on his new Yamaha motorcycle. H.R.M. Prince Joachim of Denmark who used to get around the kingdom on a Yamaha XJ600S Diversion has now moved up to more powerfull XJ900S Diversion.

The Prince chose a Yamaha motorcycle again as he has been very satisfied with



H.R.M. Prince Joachim of Denmark (left) gets some tips from Mr. Kjeldgaard

the high performance and reliability of his previous Yamaha.

It so happens that a few days after delivery of his new motorcycle, H.R.M. the Prince announced his engagement to Miss Alexandra Manley from Hong Kong and the royal wedding took place on November 18 in Copenhagen.

From Henning M. Kjeldgaard of Yamaha Motor Denmark A/S, Denmark

GERMANY

Adventurous diversion



Nine participants mastered difficult snow covered passes

Nine Yamaha fans, who participated in a prize draw competition, won a special tour on the XJ900S Diversion from Neuss to Nice. The Yamaha tour started at MMG headquarters in Germany and took in stops at the Nürburgring Formula one track and Moselle Bitche in France.

After crossing the Alsace on beautiful roads, the bikers faced the challenge of the snow covered Col de la Schlucht. Having successfully mastered this difficult pass through the Voges, the riders had another opportunity to prove their riding skills in the French Alps. Despite the Col de l' Iseran being closed to general traffic the bikers decided to risk the passage through enormous walls of snow.

After four exhausting days the riders reached Nice and were rewarded with the warmth and serenity of the Mediterranean. Highlights of the return trip to Neuss were the 'capital of perfume' Grasse, the Grand Canyon de Verdon, the impressive Grands Goulets, the vineyards of the Rhône valley and the Formula one circuit of Spa Francorchamps. Having each clocked up more than 3,300 km (2,046 mi.) on their

XJ900S Diversions, the participants reluctantly parted with their bikes on arrival back in Neuss.

From Jürgen Mainx of MMG, Germany

MARINE

JAPAN

Yamaha sailing club victorious

Japan's first sailing cruiser regatta contested by corporate yacht clubs, the '95 Japan Inter-corporate Yacht Regatta, was held on November 18 and 19 out of Hayama Marina in Kanagawa, Japan.

Four boats emerged from the preliminaries on the first day to battle in the highly competitive final series. In the end, the Yamaha Sailing Club was pitted against the Hitachi Yachting Club in the final match race for the championship. After trailing the Hitachi boat for most of the race, the Yamaha team pulled off a dramatic come-from-behind victory just before the final line when Hitachi lost time on a tactical error, thus bringing to Yamaha the title of Japan's first corporate yachting champion.



Yamaha team shares a joyous victory right after the final

TURKEY

A Yamaha on every beach

In the Turkish marine market where commercial rental operations are important customers for Yamaha Water Vehicles, importer Burla A.S. conducted an eye-catching promotion this past season that put the Yamaha name on beaches all along that country's Aegean and Mediterranean coasts. Burla asked its

major dealers to select their best rental operating customers and present them with a specially prepared Yamaha tent supplied by Burla. The appreciative rental operators set up these tents on the beach as rest areas for their customers to wait for their Water Vehicles or boats.

This well-received promotion will be continued next season.

From Hakan Yilmaz of Burla A.S., Turkey



Yamaha promotional tent

POWER PRODUCTS

SWEDEN

Environmental prize for Smart Carb

The biggest snowmobile magazine in Europe, Snöskoter, has awarded Yamaha the Environmental Protection Prize for 1995.



HEMAB's Managing Director Staffan Eneqvist receives the prize

It was Yamaha's high-tech carburetor system 'Smart Carb' that was chosen over numerous other achievements in the field of environmental protection, to receive the prize.

Smart Carb is an electronically controlled carburetor featured on Yamaha's Vmax 600ST. This system supplies the correct mixture of fuel and air for optimum combustion efficiency and power over the full range of operating conditions.

Smart Carb thus makes for a more environment-friendly engine. Different sensors supply information about atmospheric pressure, engine rpm, engine temperature, intake air temperature and throttle position. A micro computer then adjusts fuel/air ratio in the carburetors based on this data by means of fast, electrically controlled solenoid valves.

From Wera Andersson-Allo of HEMAB, Sweden

I just thought 1 would let you know that this is the 25th anniversary of my 1971 Yamaha SL338B.

This snowmobile was purchased new in 1971 by my family in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, and is still in full operation and about to commence another season.

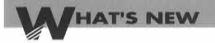
This year is the first time that any major work has had to be done to this

machine; after 25 years it deserved an engine overhaul and new track. Other than a re-upholstered seat and back rest this is all that has had to be done.



Thank you and your engineers and technicians for developing such a reliable and enjoyable product. Hopefully next year I will finally replace it with a 1996 model.

Daniel W. Elliot



Signing ceremony for Escorts Yamaha

On October 12, (from left) Mr. S. K. Taneja, President of the new company, Mr. Rajan Nanda, Chairman of Escorts Limited and YMC President Hasegawa gathered for the signing ceremony held at the YMC head office for the newly established Escorts Yamaha Motor Limited.



The three representatives at the signing ceremony

The new joint venture company, located in suburban New Delhi, will manufacture and sell motorcycles. Operations will start in February '96 with the goal of manufacturing 130,000 units in the first year and 200,000 units by the 5th year of production.

The realization of this new company has attracted attention as a positive response to the increasing motorcycle demand in India.

Competing in overall service skills

At the '95 Yamaha National Service Mechanics Contest held on November 8 at the Yamaha Tsumagoi resort, 35 outstanding mechanics who were selected from 350 entries vied for top honors in tests of their technical and working skills. Held since 1989, this contest aims to encourage highest levels of overall technical and customer handling skills that are so important to Yamaha's "No. 1 in Customer Satisfaction" policy. Held this year under the slogan "Show your professional technology, win customer satisfaction," the contestants competed in two classes, 22 in the Masters class and 13 in the Basic class, where they were judged on the basis of overall points in the four categories of technical knowledge, practical skills, measurement and customer



The practical skills test lasted 70 minutes

handling.

The winners of each category were the mechanics from YOU SHOP Minami and YSP South Kawasaki in the Tokyo

■ Medal with Blue Ribbon for YMC Chairman

YMC's Chairman Hideto Eguchi was awarded the Medal with Blue Ribbon for his contribution to the growth of the motorcycle industry, the presentation ceremony was held at the Ministry of International Trade and Industry on November 15 and the winners received an audience with the Emperor at the Imperial Palace on the following day.

Chairman Eguchi is widely recognized as one of the leading figures in the motorcycle industry, having served as Chairman of the Motorcycle Committee of the Japan Automobile Manufacturers Association and the Japan Boating Industry Association.



Chairman Eguchi (right) at the award ceremony

■ TPM program recognized

On September 28, the Japan Institute of Plant Maintenance announced its '95 PM Prize for Excellence. Yamaha Motor Company awarded the Special Award for Distinguished TPM Achievement at a commendation ceremony in Tokyo on October 16.



(right) receives the awards

Yamaha Motor's Total Productive Maintenance (TPM) program, in effect since 1984, is aimed at improving the relationship between the workers and the facilities they use by reducing loss and waste to an absolute minimum and optimizing the effectiveness of facilities. Already, seven Yamaha Motor factories including the head office factories were awarded the PM Prize for Excellence in 1989. Since then YMC has developed TPM programs aimed at the globalization of TPM activities, the realization of Customer and Community Satisfaction (CCS) and the reinforcement

domestic factory organization.

In addition to YMC, Yamaha Motor Taiwan and Sanshin Industries Co., Ltd. have been given the Award for Excellence in Consistent TPM Commitment First Category, and Kiyoshi Inoue of the casting department has won the Award for Distinguished PM Paper-Second

FROM THE PUBLISHER

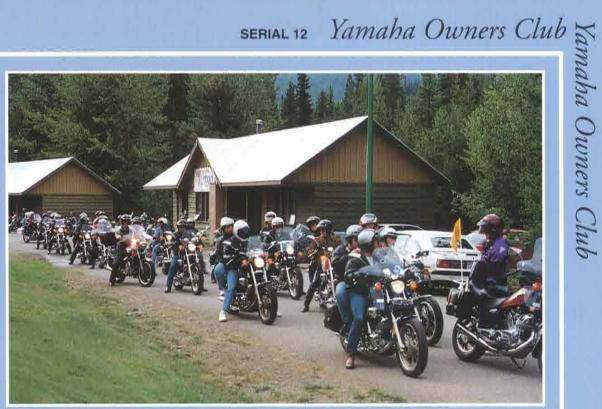
I hope that all our readers had a relaxing and enjoyable festive season with family and friends and have come back to work refreshed and enthusiastic for what is sure to be an exciting 1996. This year promises to be a great year for Yamaha Motor Company with so many exciting new products. On behalf of all the team at Yamaha News, I would like to wish you all the best for 1996.

THE VIRAGO **OWNERS** CLUB

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Nearly 50 people gathered for a half-hour cruise through twisty mountain roads to a buffet breakfast at the end

The fun is all in the Family

Ryk Brown, VOC Provincial Coordinator for British Columbia

he Virago Owners' Club is an extended 'Family of Riders,' and you don't even have to be a Virago owner to belong. The only requirement for membership is a love of motorcycling. Gathering together to make friends with people who enjoy riding the same machine is what we are really about.

The club's biggest event is the annual 'Family Reunion' that started as a weekend summer camping

trip with the "Brewmaster" and his friends. This was in Connecticut in 1981 and it just kept growing every year until it is now a four-day event that brings the Family together every summer from all across North America to enjoy riding their motorcycles as a group.

They say Yamaha originally intended the Virago as a boulevard cruiser rather than a highway touring bike. However, I am one of the many Virago owners who never got that message. I recently turned the odometer over to zero again on my 1985 Virago 750. I have used it to travel from my home in Vancouver on Canada's west coast to Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, the country's easternmost point.

Our club president Mike Orr is another example. He came all the way from Illinois to join the Pacific Northwest Regional Rally hosted by our local chapter, the "Coast Riders" of Vancouver, British Columbia. Among the 70 attendees, most were from the Pacific Northwest. However, oth-



Grilling up hamburgers for the Friday night barbecue

ers such as Mike, who won the 'Longest Distance Traveled' award, came from as far away as California, Montana and Colorado. Everyone enjoyed the Friday night 'Wine & Bar-B-Que' at the headquarters of our event, Manning Park Resort, in its beautiful mountain setting. On Saturday morning an impressive entourage of 48 people on 32 Viragos set out on a 68 km (42 mi.) breakfast run to Mr. Mike's restaurant in Princeton, BC. From there, we enjoyed a day of riding on beau-

tiful roads twisting through mountain passes and lush pine valleys. The highlight of the Rally was Saturday afternoon's field events, including a 'slalom road course,' the 'slow race,' and the ever popular 'Water Balloon Limbo,'

In the traditional 'Show and Shine' contest following the games, the proud owners competed for prizes in seven different categories such as 'Best of Show' and 'Best Custom.' Thanks to donations from four local Yamaha dealers there were lots of great prizes to win in the Raffle, as well as many door prizes.

Our first regional rally turned out to be a great success and I Manning Park Resort has been reserved for a repeat run on July 26, 27 and 28, 1996.

Founded: 1981 by Brewmaster and his friends Members: 1,000 across North America Main events: Family Reunion (August) /

Other activities: Weekly touring, International/local newsletters, etc.

Regional rallies

No other challenge can match it

The 1995 F1 GP championship finished with the Nokia Tyrrell Yamaha Team in 9th place with five Constructors' points. We asked Yamaha's F-1 project leader Takaaki Kimura to give Yamaha News his appraisal of the hard-fought '95 season.

What are your feelings now that the 1995 season is over?

G oing into each season we set specific goals for the performance levels we want to achieve in our engine development. For the '95 season we felt we have reached those goals. As for the team's performance, we fell far short of the 20 to 30 Constructors' points we had been aiming at.

Based on our team's great performance in the '94 season, we had gone into '95 thinking we



The super-compact Yamaha OX11A achieved a 20 kg weight reduction and a higher max rpm of 16,000



Mika Salo ended the '95 season with a 5th place finish in Australia

would be very competitive.

But, many of the other teams, especially the top teams, made some very rapid technological advances, and the end result was that we simply got left behind. With regard to the OX10C engine, however, I am satisfied with the fact that we were able to generally meet our development goals.

How would you describe the team's two drivers, Ukyo Katayama and Mika Salo?

The two have almost completely opposite driving styles. Katayama places importance on front-end grip and prefers settings a bit on the oversteering side, but Mika dislikes any rear-end sliding and wants his settings on the under-

steering side. They are also very different in character, with Ukyo tending to be more intense and willing to take chances when the time is ripe, while Mika seems to have nerves of steel and is always calm and cool. In the end, Mika produced better results, but you have to recognize Ukyo, too, because most of his failures came from pushing to the limit to place as high as possible.

Tell us about the new engine and what expectations you have for it this coming season.

It is an entirely redesigned engine. True to our Yamaha ideals, we have achieved a lightweight, compact design that still delivers high power output.



In the pit at the French GP

Besides attaining our technological goals, we are determined again to win 20 to 30 constructors points and finish the season in the top five. If we keep the spirit of challenge as we work toward each new goal, I'm sure we can succeed.

As a stage for testing our abilities within a given set on limitations, solving problems with the greatest speed and also using our imaginations to create new technologies, nothing can beat F-1 racing. I think there is no better place to train our young staff to face difficult problems and

overcome them. That is another reason I want to continue to compete in F-1 for a long time to come.

Ukyo speaks

I plan to sign again with the Tyrrell team this season. Having stuck with me and supported me through the '95 season with all its hard times, I feel that there is more than just a maker - driver business relationship between me and Yamaha.

I'm going to start this year with a completely new attitude and give it 100%.

