

VMOA Europe

Bike Meeting
MK Staaari Rokeri Umag (Croatia)
May 6-9 2010

After missing the 2009 event the VMOA, Italy Chapter, made the trip to Croatia to join the spring VMax event. We were determined not to miss this gathering of European VMax riders. The event was organized by the Staaari Rokeri MC. It was the ninth annual event and was held in May.

For us it was a great occasion to meet the CroVmax's, (Vmax Club of Croatia), close friends and all the other Vmax clubs in attendance from all over Europe! This year, in fact, we had one more opportunity to appreciate the great hospitality of our Croatian friends and also to meet, for the first time, the Vmax Clubs from Belgium, Czech Republic and Slovenia.

The trip route and organization is quite "proven". We started, (me and the Southern Europe Director Gianni), on the morning of Thursday, May 6 and for this part of the trip we were only accompanied by rain showers at regular intervals...



we rode for more than two hours until we reached the Adriatic coast near Pescara. After a brief stop we started again heading north to Ancona where we meet Maximiliano (aka XMas), Mirko (aka LupoVmax) and his girlfriend Laura. After a brief rest stop, we continued, (riding faster than the clouds), to what will be the first stop of our journey of about 800km (500 Miles).



At 5 PM we come near the beautiful town of Ferrara where we will spend the night on a farm after we had a very "generous" dinner!

On the morning of Friday, May 7 we headed eastward. On the way we hooked up with all the Vmaxers coming from different areas of Northern Italy. We rode together to the "mythical" lunch, organized by Stefano (duca72) in Portogruaro (Venice), and we were all well fed at the established meeting point, we now numbered about 25 bikes! In the afternoon (with a full belly) the group of Vmaxes finally moved into Trieste and Slovenia and then finally we crossed over into Croatia. At Umag like our final destination. Along the border between Slovenia and Croatia we meet the Vmaxers from Belgium with whom, we arrived at the same time in the late afternoon at Umag, a beautiful seaside resort on the Istrian peninsula.



Just a little time to arrange our luggage in the rooms we booked



(SANDRO THANKS!) and soon we head to the campsite where the meeting takes place and where we are expected from the members of CroVmax. After the initial greetings and sincere hugs with our Croatian friends we are immediately surrounded by the electrifying atmosphere of the bike gathering: rock bands

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playing live, hectoliters (Lots) of beer, burgers, characteristic cevapcici and... screaming engine "full throttle" and burnouts. We spent a pleasant evening in harmony with all our Vmax brothers in the large "tables" area. We tell about us and we exchange opinions about



bikes and "The Bike" drinking (a lot of...) beer.

On the morning of the 8th of May was certainly not the best, from our bungalow we could hear the sound of the rain outside!! Looking up to heaven everyone prayed for better weather conditions... But all of this is not enough to discourage us, after breakfast we enjoy ourselves riding the bikes in the rain



and we gather in a pub which can hold us all. After a couple of hours spent together, funny the rain finally gives us a break, so the group start for a ride of about 40km (25 miles), (small compared to the expected tour). The asphalt was made hazardous by rain but no shortage of opportunities and roads to give vent to our "beasts"!



Saturday evening is the culmination of the entire event: many riders have attended despite the weather! And even though the weather conditions were not exceptional I think there were about 2000 bikes of all types and

from all over Europe).

The atmosphere was very passionate we had the opportunity to listen to several bands playing rock and roll and to eat and drink lots of good food & beer. One more time we got to spend time enjoying together. When the night grew long we decide to participate at the "show": We started dancing to the rock bands' music... everyone of us gave his best (or worse) performance a lot of strange dancer "evolutions"!

For several months we will remember these moments of the care-free joy and the pleasure of sharing the passions and joy of life with some close friends. After a night like this the Sunday



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morning is only useful to gather strength, prepare luggage, give thanks and farewells. Before lunch time the different groups of riders start to head back home with their hearts full of sadness and melancholy. Along the road home some gradually leave the group because they arrived at their final destination... each departure is like losing

a little piece of my heart!

Finally at about 8PM on Sunday, May 9th me and Gianni reach our homes in Rome. We are the last after more or less 800Km (500 miles). Now we have only a fixed idea: VMOA Italy back to Umag in 2011!!!!

During this weekend none of us have shown any thoughts about who unfortunately is no longer with us... I've often thought about our dear friend Leo and I am sure many others have done this also. I am also sure he was with us... in a way that escapes the normal human perception but involves spiritual perception.



I would like to thank all the VMOA members and friends present at this event,

let me give special thanks to Oli and Tiho (CroVmax), Stefano (aka duca72) and Sandro (aka Stranger) who give us a lot of their time so all the things was perfectly organized.

BACK TO UMAG IN 2011 !!

Mauro Bianchi (AKA k-max) #4762
VMOA Chapter Italia
<http://www.v-max.it>



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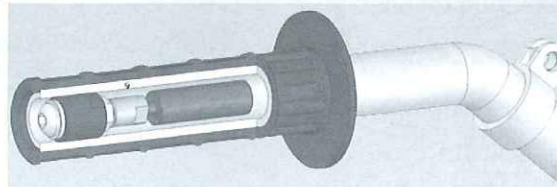
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Product Review - Vibranator

Right before I left for Thunder I installed a set of Vibranator Tuned mass dampers into my handle bars. I have experienced that annoying buzzing in my wrists and the subsequent pain and numbness that soon follows... You have all experienced it or watched as a riding buddy takes his throttle hand off the handle bar and starts shaking it to try to get the blood flowing and get some feeling back into their hand! There is an actual explanation for this phenomenon, it is called **Tonic vibration reflex** which is a sustained contraction of a muscle subjected to vibration. Experts agree that vibration causes an involuntary muscle response directly correlated with vibratory pulses. Unnecessary muscle response creates excessive arm fatigue and lactic acid build up. There is a direct connection between the handlebar vibration, arm pump, hand numbness and tingling.

There are many different solutions to this problem... I have tried most of them, with varying results, most disappointed. I have tried Bar Snakes, Sand, Lead Shot, Silicone Caulking, Gel Grips, special designed padded Gloves, ETC... and now I have gone High tech with the Vibranator tuned Mass Dampers....

The first thing I noticed was that everything in my mirrors was now a lot more viewable... before, everything was just a blur no matter what speed I was going! Now I can actually make out what is behind me, not that that really matters!



time it was adapted for use on Motorcycles.

The installation could not have been easier, the set came with an instruction sheet w/pictures! The Vibranators slip right into the end of the handle bars and get locked into place with a rubber expansion sleeve. you do not have to remove your throttle control or anything else, unless you have a set of bar end mirrors. Once the Vibranators are in place you can reinstall your bar end mirrors.

I must say that this "solution" to the Handle bar "Buzz" syndrome is not cheap... the set of Vibranators was \$69.99 delivered to my door via Priority Mail. After riding my bike with these little jewels installed and not suffering from Tonic vibration reflex... priceless! I highly recommend this product.

Check it out at;

www.vibranator.com or give them a call at: 888-630-7776

Steve Jasse #708 Editor VBoost Magazine