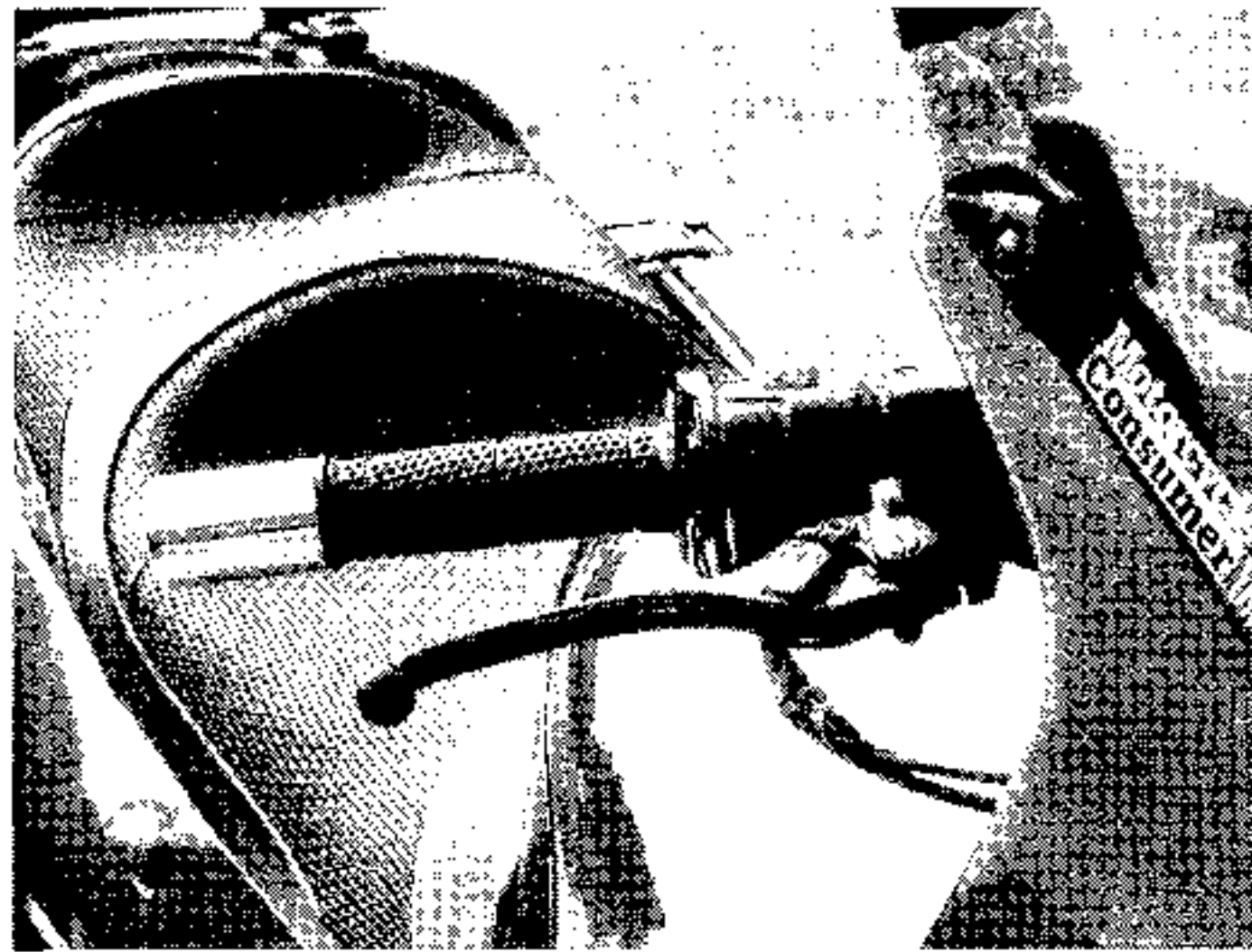


HVPM Bar-End Weights

THERE ARE ALL manner of decorative bar-end weights available, but almost all seem to have lost sight of their original purpose—reducing vibration. The higher the mass, the lower the sympathetic vibration frequency will be for any assembly, and handle bars are particularly problematic because their ends are unsupported and free to vibrate. This is most unfortunate, as hands are especially sensitive to vibration, and high frequency, low amplitude vibration is the most annoying. In severe cases, numbness and loss of dexterity can even result. Are you suffering from this problem?

The operative word in “bar-end weights” is *weight*. Adding weight to the end of the bar, where the mass’s resistance to movement has the most leverage, can substantially reduce vibration frequency. It makes you wonder, what is the point of making fancy bar end weights from lightweight billet aluminum or carbon fiber, doesn’t it?

Apparently, the folks at Hudson Valley Motorsports Parts (HVMP)



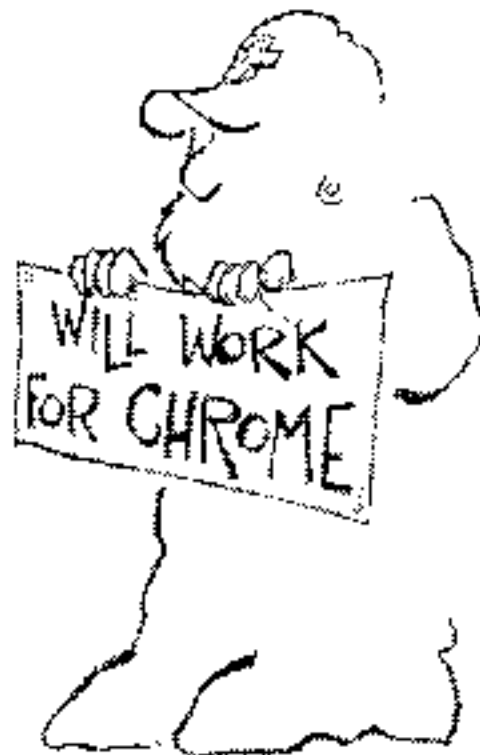
were wondering the same thing. They have come out with a line of bar-end weights that are made of substantial, solid machined stainless steel. We tried a set of these on a staffer’s Honda ST1100, which suffers from a characteristic buzz at about 4000 rpm, even when equipped with some of the largest OEM bar weights we’ve seen. The HMVP units weigh 16.5 oz. each, several ounces heavier than the OEMs, and noticeably reduced the buzz. Prices start at \$35 including mounting hardware, and depending on the applica-

tion, you may have the choice of long or short weights (heavier is better). In addition to working well, they are beautifully machined and solved the perennial problem of repainting the pot metal OEM weights, which somehow resist the adhesion of all known paints.

—W. Jeff Bertrand

Hudson Valley Motorsports Parts—23 Cimarron Rd., Putnam Valley, NY 10579; <http://www.hvmparts.com>.

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