



Believe it or not, there was a time before motorcycle shops took on the whole boutique look, when they were all about grease, true grit, and well... bikes. Ah the good ol' days! Well there are a few such shops left in the world, and I was lucky enough to find one thanks to my bandmate Clint Arent. Clint had bought a Harley-Davidson and found Captain Jack's in South Plainfield, NJ, thanks to someone he works with.

I, in turn, dropped by to meet these fine folks and was not disappointed in the least. Owners Jerry and his wife Dianne were very down to earth and simply a pleasure to hang with. Their shop has a unique feel to it, and it is very much personalized by not just their staff, but also their customers. Stickers, signs and even a mug rack boasting the names of regulars on the actual mugs, make this unlike any moto shop experience this writer has ever had.

One of their good customers named Tommy is apparently a frequent reader of this column which is very flattering to learn. Tommy is also a Road Captain for a bike club called The Old Timers ([www.oldtimerssp.com](http://www.oldtimerssp.com)) and he can sure lay down one sick burnout!

If you are in the central Jersey area and need a reliable shop with some of the absolute best pricing and attitudes around, I urge you to check out Captain Jack's. The shop is located at 2280 S. Clinton Ave. in South Plainfield, NJ, and their website is [www.captainjackscycleshop.com](http://www.captainjackscycleshop.com). You can also call them at (732) 692-8175. They can handle everything from oil changes to big bore kits to more involved custom work. They wrench on all kinds of bikes (when I left there I saw a Honda on a lift as well as a couple of Harleys), but they specialize in domestic V-twins. Tell 'em The Ride Stuff guy sent ya!

My buddy Mike Quindazzi from UltimateMotorCycling.com recently had a chance to do a ride review of the all new Yamaha FZ6R, and I asked him for a couple of words describing this machine. Here is what Mike had to say. "Capable and competent, the new 2009 Yamaha FZ6R delivers true intermediate level performance. Aggressively styled with a full-fairing, the bike provides a comfortable riding position for two and precise handling for its class level. With near Toyota Prius fuel economy, this bike makes for a great everyday commuter or weekend canyon carver."