



Norton Notice



The Newsletter of the
Northern California Norton Owners Club

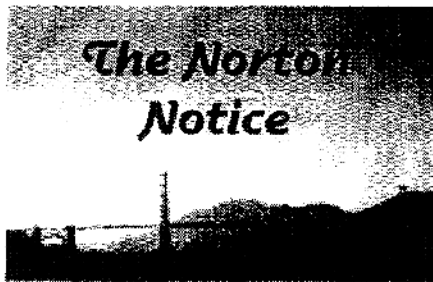
No. 279

December 2001

30 YEARS OF THE NCNOC



Robert Newman and his P11 at the All British Ride



is published by the Northern California Norton Owners Club. Its purpose is to inform and entertain members regarding all aspects of the Norton motorcycle, including history, technical advice, and preservation of the marque.

The NORTON NOTICE is a reflection of the readership, who are encouraged to submit any article, technical tip, photograph (original or otherwise) as long as it is in good taste, so that other Norton enthusiasts may enjoy it. (Good taste is somewhat optional, but hey-this is a group of bikers we're talking about here....that's why we have an editor.)

The deadline for items to be submitted for publication is the **15th of each month**. The NORTON NOTICE welcomes contributions submitted electronically. Please submit articles and photos in a format compatible with IBM PC. You may also send articles directly to the editor via E-mail. Send using INTERNET to dpcrader@thegrid.net.

Membership in the Northern California Norton Owners Club is available for \$20.00 per year. Membership dues are payable to the Branch Treasurer. See application form on inside back cover. Renewal dues are payable at the end of the individual's membership year, which is designated by the last number listed on the mailing label of the Norton Notice.

Advertising rates are \$60.00/year for a 1/4 page ad!!

All changes of address or questions about membership or the Notice, call the President....not the Notice editor!!

The Northern California Norton Owners Club is affiliated with both the Norton Owners Club of England and the International Norton Owners Association. Interested persons can join these two organisations per the terms described on the Branch membership application form.

CLUB OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Mike Sullivan
20 Bayview Ct
Millbrae, CA 94030
(650)872-3336, Mikemill20@aol.com

VICE-PRES/WEBMASTER

Alan Goldwater
1780 Chanticleer Ave.
Santa Cruz, CA 95062
magicound@aol.com
NCNOC Website:
<http://members.aol.com/NortonClub>

NORTON NOTICE EDITOR

David Crader
83 Palm Dr., Brentwood, CA 94513
(925)513-3148, dpcrader@thegrid.net

SECRETARY/TREASURER

Alan Mueller
128 Windsor Ct.
San Carlos, CA 94070
(650)591-5444/ fax (650)593-4850
Norton2@aol.com

RIDES COORDINATOR:

Gar Jorgenson
2241 Biscay Ct., Byron, CA 94514
(925)634-9395
losono@mindspring.com

PUBLIC RELATIONS:

David Crader

HONORARY MEMBERS

Brian Slark
Jodi Nicholas
Bill Knight
Dick Slusher

NORTON NOTICE

IMPORTANT (Please note the following fine print) The object of the Northern California Norton Owners Club is to promote, encourage and develop motorcycle activities. The Club's members are owners of Norton motorcycles and they often submit for publication in the NORTON NOTICE technical tips pertaining to motorcycles of the Norton marque. Technical tips so published have been reviewed for technical content and are believed to be both acceptable and workable, but no guarantee is made or implied that they will work correctly, nor is any liability assumed by either the Norton Owners Club or the members for any problems resulting from the use of these tips. The Club also assumes no responsibility for the acts or omissions of its members in connection with Club activities. NORTON NOTICE articles or other materials express the author's view only and not necessarily the official policy of the Norton Owners Club or its Northern California branch. The editor reserves the right to accept, reject or alter all editorial and advertising material submitted for publication. Advertising published does not imply endorsement of products, goods or services. Now you know.

Upcoming Events

2002 Club Rides Schedule

All Meetings start at 8:00pm

January 10th - Prince of Wales, San Mateo

February 7th - (TBA), South Bay

March 14th - Prince of Wales, San Mateo

April 11th - Coco's, Dublin

May 9th - Prince of Wales, San Mateo

June 13th - The Boat House, San Francisco

July 7th - Peter & Joan's German Restaurant, San Juan Bautista

August 8th - Prince of Wales, San Mateo

September 12th - (TBA), South Bay

October 6th - AGM @ MacDonald Park, San Mateo County

November 14th - Coco's, Dublin

December - No meeting

2001 NCNOC meetings

All Meetings start at 8:00pm

Dec 9 - Christmas Party at the Recorders, Frank and Lizabeth

1:00pm

4000 Mozart Dr

El Sobrante Dr

El Sobrante, CA 94803

(510) 222-7771

President's Message.....by Mike Sullivan

Whew! What a year. It is hard to imagine that a whole year has passed since the last Christmas Party at Jerry Grainger's house. So many events and rides took place it is hard to remember them all. These come to mind: Clubman's Show and Day After Ride, North Bay/Wine Country Ride, Lake Cachuma, The Dardenelles, The Old Timer's Ride and AGM, and The All Brit Ride. All wonderful events and I look forward to them again in 2002.

Just got home from the Turkey Ride. BRRRR! At first I thought no one was going to show up. Then Phil Radford arrived in his truck with the Raffle Bike for next year's Clubman's Show. This one is going to set the NCNOC Clubmembers back financially. The bike is a 1971 Silver Fastback, and is it spiffy. Phil has done an excellent job restoring it and except for some remaining work to be done on the seat it is ready for some serious roadwork. After we all checked it out 10 of the 12 of us went on a short ride to the Alpine Inn at the intersection of Alpine Road and Arastradero Road lunch. The food was just OK and the beer was reasonably priced. We might have to try it again sometime.

On to other things. The All Brit Ride went off smoothly. Thanks to Garwood Jorgenson, Don Goforth, Greg Fuller, David Crader, Alan Mueller, and Leonard Lloyd for helping with the set up and serving of the food and manning the NCNOC Table. We had two breakdown on the ride with our website editor Geoffery Potter's Interstate having the death rattles and Margie Siegle's Roadster running out of smoke. There was the unfortunate occurrence when Doug Ratliff did a getoff, but he is OK although his new Triumph Speed Triple suffered a small amount of damage. We had 27 members show up with 23 of those on their Nortons. I guess we have to excuse Leonard Lloyd for showing up on his Moto Guzzi since he volunteered to work. Hey guys! Next year we need to get some new volunteers so those who worked this year can actually go on the ride. We will try to get the word out earlier so you can figure out your schedules.

The East Bay Meeting was, I thought, well attended. There were 14 members present as well as three Nortons. Coco's worked good and the food is varied and reasonably priced. We will put it on the schedule at least one time next year.



On today's Turkey Ride Frank Recoder told us that the plans are coming along nicely for the Christmas party at his house on Sunday December 9 at 1:00pm. Margie Siegle reports that she scored some Aerostitch stuff that she will be bringing to the party for door prizes. Tom Dabel tells us that he will be bringing a cake again. If you did not see last year's cake, you will have to see this one. The party will be a potluck buffet. The Club will provide a turkey and a ham. Please bring an hors d'oeuvre, salad, or side dish as well as your favorite beverage. If you want to participate in the gift exchange, (this is not mandatory) bring a small motorcycle related gift. This is all ways a lot of fun. Calendars will be on sale at the Party. If you have not obtained yours, you better move quick as there are only eight left out of thirty that we started with.

On to next year, see you at the party.

Mike Sullivan
President

Genuine Norton parts means
FAIR SPARES AMERICA, INC.

NORTON TWINS SPECIALIST

Norton

Phil Radford
(408) 292-6563
Fax: (408) 292-8514
P.O. Box 8224
San Jose, CA. 95155

Send two first class stamps for current lists

- Full range of stainless parts and fasteners
- Norvil Production Racer parts
- Visa - Mastercard - Amex accepted

All British Ride *by Jeffrey Potter*

The All British Ride was scheduled to depart Novato at 10:00 am. I was warned they do start on time, not like NCNOC rides. So up early, showered and got my equipment together. Camera, Palm PDA, cell phone, NCNOC baseball cap, maps, and riding gear.

Kiss the wife good-bye at 8:00 am and I am off. Highway 4 is always busy so no surprise there. The Norton was running smooth. On to the 680, over the bridge, on to 780, then 37. 37 is a nice ride unless you get behind a slow car or truck. Then I got on 101 North. Another Norton came up beside me, so I thought, "Great I'll follow this guy, he knows where he is going." This ended up being my first bad decision of the day. Once we got off 101 he made a turn and I followed. I ended up on a side street. After a few U turns I came across several Nortons and various Brit bikes, so I followed them to the starting point.

After sign ups and a few conversation. Instructions were given and off we went. The ride was nice and the organizers had folks at all of the major turns to minimize getting lost. The ride was beautiful and I got in a group of folks that were going my speed, slow. We followed Novato Blvd and made a few rights and lefts and on to Chileno Valley Road. Nice drive and scenic views of farmlands and animals. A few faster riders went by us but I feel they are missing the important part of the ride. Someone with a newer Triumph decided to go a little to fast and redesigned his bike and leathers. Word was he is OK, just some scratches and bruises.

I started to notice that the Norton was backfiring. Same thing happen to me before the exhaust lock ring came loose. So I found a nice spot to photograph the fog moving into the valley and all of the bikes coming by. As I was looking at the exhaust I noticed the smell of gasoline. Well I had problems with the fuel petcocks and check those first. Then I noticed that the float bowl on the right hand side was hanging down. Both screws must have vibrated out. So I started to look for a replacement screw and Frank Forrester and Neil F. stopped and offered to help. Neil had a small enough zip tie that we used to hold down one side and removed one screw from the other bowl and attached it to the other side of the bowl. Used wire where we removed the other screw. This was good enough to continue on. Thanked them both and I was on my way. Back firing stopped and the ride was nice. Some of the roads were pretty tight and thank God for not much traffic.

On through Bodega Bay and some nice ocean scenery. More traffic, but not bad. Missed a turn off because there was not a corner worker. But noticed that the fellow behind me turned. So I checked the map and turned back and made the turn.

Continued on page 13



Above: The ferry on the Delta Ride

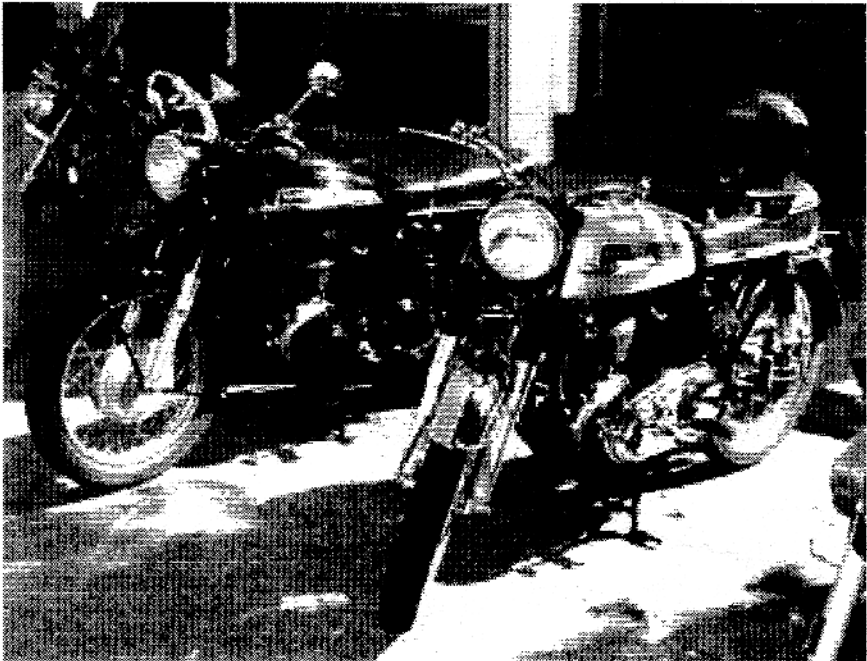
Below: Hanna and Gar Jorgenson and Mike Sullivan in Isleton.





Above: A plate of crawdads for lunch in Isleton (Delta Ride)

Below: 850x2 Norton (if you don't get it ask Mike Sullivan or David Crader).



UPCOMING RIDES

By Gar Jorgenson, Rides Coordinator

As 2001 comes to a close, I thought we would do something novel this year and have a tentative 2002 ride schedule in place in December. At the November meeting, Mike Sullivan and a couple of others went over this year's schedule with me and we conjured up next year's schedule based on that. None of this is cast in concrete and I anticipate there will be a few changes, so if there are any objections or suggested changes, give me a call. I also anticipate we may throw in a couple of more rides during the good weather months. As usual, ride leaders are needed so if you see one that needs a leader and you feel inclined, let me know and you will be it.

January Ride (Double Points)

Polar Bear Ride

January 13th - 11:00 AM

As usual, this ride starts out at **Alice's Restaurant, SR-84 and Skyline drive, in Woodside**. This is a double points ride so if you are interested in winning the coveted Norton Cup, this will give you a good head start. Meet at 11:00 AM and, depending on how the weather is and who all shows up, we will either ride somewhere or have lunch, or both! **RIDE LEADER NEEDED.**

February Ride

Annual Duncan Ferguson Memorial/ Sweetheart Ride

February 10th - 11:00 AM

This ride will again start out at **The Florence, 37349 Niles Blvd, Fremont (PH: 510-792-5522)**. Look for additional details January Notice. Lately this ride has gone through the East Bay hills and culminated with lunch at the UK Café in Livermore. Jerry Jolliff is the traditional leader for this ride so I will be hitting him up for that duty again this year.

March Ride

Day after the Clubmen's Show

March 24th

This is a tentative date. I haven't spoken with the BSA Club yet to determine the actual date of the show or any details on the ride.

Continued on page 10 & 14

April Ride**Mount Hamilton****April 14th****No plans yet. RIDE LEADER NEEDED (Tom?).****May Ride****Cameron's Half Moon Bay****May 19th**

We have a choice here: Get lost or get wet. Or we could have someone other than Alan or Mike lead the ride. **RIDE LEADER NEEDED.**

June Ride**North Bay****June 9th**

Jerry Kaplan led this one last year and maybe he will this year. This ride usually goes up to the Berryessa/Napa area. **RIDE LEADER NEEDED.**

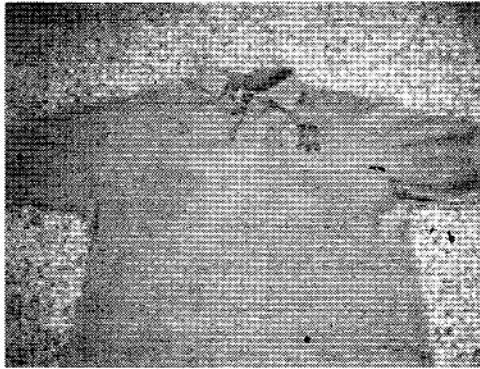
July Ride and Meeting**San Juan Bautista****July 7th****August Ride****Dardenelle Weekend****(Date to be announced)****September Ride****Destination yet to be established****September 22nd**

This is your chance to be creative. **RIDE LEADER NEEDED.**

October Rides**Old Timer's Ride and AGM****October 6th****Delta Ride****October 20th**

I will be leading this again this year, unless someone else has a burning desire to take the lead.

NCNOC Shirts and Hats still available



Shirts available in polo style, long sleeve T-shirt and short sleeve T-shirt with the logo from the hat below. Colors are red, black or grey.

Hats as in the picture are available in black only.

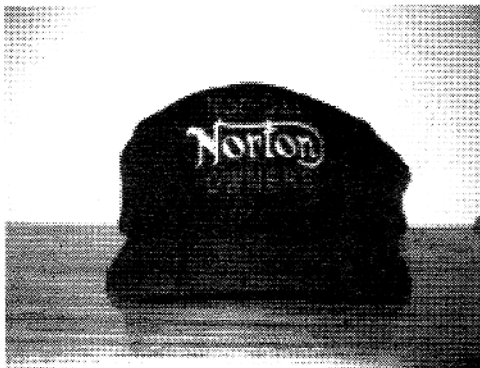
Prices:

Polo shirts - \$25

Long sleeve T-shirts - \$20

Short sleeve T-shirts - \$15

Make check payable to NCNOC. You can pick them up at club meetings or \$4 for shipping. Contact Gar Jorgenson at (925) 634-9395.



2002 NOC Calendars



PLACE YOUR ORDER SOON!!!

(ONLY 30 ORDERED)

\$15.00

**Call Alan Mueller (650) 591-5444 or
e-mail at norton2@earthlink.net**

All British Ride from page 6

Went by the Tomales Junction and continued on. No need to stop, everything was running fine. Missed another turn off and had to U turn again. This time there were several Brit bikes and I think they were in a big hurry to get to the BBQ.

On Wilson Hill Road and heard a bad sound coming from the engine. It sounded like something rolling around. At first I thought it was a rock that went around the fender, but heard it again. So I pulled off the road. Checked things out and all looked fine. So I tried to kick start it and I could not move the kick starter. Like something was locking the engine. Now I knew I was in trouble. Two riders stopped to see what was up. Unfortunately one of them parked their Norton on soft ground and started to fall over. I yelled, but to late, over it went. Got the bike on firm ground and started to discuss the problem. After several things were checked out we decided that the tow truck was needed and one person that stopped went on to get help.

In the meantime, Phil Radford stopped to see what is up. After some investigation Phil said to bring it to the Cheese Factory, as it would be easier to look at. The initial thought was maybe something in the sprag bearing was bad. Mike Sullivan showed up and we loaded the Norton and went to the BBQ.

Food was OK but my mind was more on my Norton. Kind of forgot to take some more pictures of all of the bikes. After the awards were handed out and by the way Marge won the award for being broken down. Sure glad they did not know about me! She had an electrical problem.

So I removed the primary cover hoping that it would be something simple. Phil came by to check it out. We rolled it back and forth and got everything moving, but it would just locked up again. Well Phil gave me that look and said it was too major of a problem to continue here. So I replaced all of the parts and then tried to figure out how to get home. Greg and Gar came to the rescue. Greg had brought his Triumph to sell and he had room on his truck. So we moved the Triumph and loaded the Norton. It was a pleasant drive home and had some good conversation. Though I do believe I will not live this down. But it was all in fun.

So my impressions, great ride beautiful scenery, but my problems kind of spoiled the event for me. Guess I'll be riding the BMW for a while.



NCNOC Bulletin Board

November Rides

All British Ride

November 2nd

This date is tentative pending hearing from the BSA Club. Traditionally it is early in November so this is our best guess for now!

Turkey Ride

November 24th

No details yet. **RIDE LEADER NEEDED.**

December - No ride

Christmas Party

December 8th

NCNOC Christmas Party

This year's party will be at the Rcoders in the East Bay. See Mike Sullivans presidents message on page 4. This should be more centrally located for the majority of the membership. Try to get there as we plan the activities for 2002. Ride the Norton if you can.

NCNOC e-mail list

Our club has a group list that Gar Jorgenson uses to notify members of information related to club activities. The information is usually to late to get into the Norton Notice or to bring up at a meeting.

If you have an e-mail address and haven't been getting messages from the group, send an e-mail to Gar at losono@mindspring.com

From someone on ebay, I received this information about a camchain tensioner product. This was news to me although I'm sure several of you already know about this company. The good news is it's close in San Jose. The idea of this tensioner is to reduce the variation in the cam timing by reducing the chain slop.

RMA Engineering, 447 Santa Mesa Drive, San Jose, CA 95123. (408) 578-4032
Price was \$79.95 for the kit.

Ode to John....by *Eric Rhodes*

I am sorry to hear that John Covell is no longer with us. This has nothing to do with the three dollars that he owes me, for that is an insignificant matter. Even with compounded interest, I've almost forgotten about it completely. And can it be unfortuitous that an attorney owes you money? Never!

So John has gone on to a better place. We will miss him.

I recall first meeting John, many years ago on a North Bay Ride. He and I had been held up by the last stoplight out of some wide spot in the road, falling far behind the zealous bunch that had gotten through. As the two of us tried to overtake the main group, a lady in an innocuous vehicle decided to come to a halt and make a U turn in the middle of a straight-away as we were attempting to pass her.

A fine exercise in emergency deceleration ensued. I recall John's rather elevated voice describing certain species of the animal kingdom, their procreative activities and a reference to gender....we shall miss him.

And if he should someday return, I will probably have forgotten about the four dollars that he owes me, as it is an insignificant matter and grow moreso with each passing day.....Gook Luck John!

Williams Welding

Shop and Mobile

Braze to Heliarc, We Weld Anything

Will work with aluminum, stainless steel, castiron and more! Also we do rust repairs, fabrication and painting.

Open 9am to 5pm weekdays
2056 Clement Ave
Alameda, Ca 94501

Kim Williams	(510) 521-5514
Cell Phone	(510) 541-8012
Fax Number	(510) 521-5095

Classified

Editors note: We actively encourage non-Club members to post ads to sell Norton motorcycles, Norton parts and Norton-specific services. All ads will run for 3 months. Please notify the editor if your item has been sold. Your ad will automatically be removed after 3 months if I haven't heard differently. Note the expiration date at the end of each ad.

For Sale

1975 Norton Commando Electric Start (just refurbished 4 brush), engine completely overhauled, new wiring and electricals, new clutch cable, new Avon Super Venom tires, new pipes, new stepup seat, all original and very correct, excellent condition. New master cylinder, sprocket, and much more professionally overhauled to original specs by Norton specialist. Serious inquiries only. \$5400/fast sale. Call 650 565 7520 and leave msg. San Francisco. (02/02)

I have a

Black Beauty!

Not much looks & sounds better than a well-tuned Norton. **1971 Classic Norton Commando 750.** The original British Superbike. This is a VINTAGE bike and you will be noticed :-)

Excellent condition. Runs Great! 23,000 miles on the ODO. \$5500 OBO.

Remember they ain't making these anymore. Extra ape hanger and sissy bar...

lfein@insync.net. E-mail for photos and original ads from the '70s

I want to make sure it has a good home!

Thanks,

Lenny in Austin, Texas (02/02)

Norton Commando prices

From Cycletrader online Nov 20, 2001 (29 machines)

Year: 1968 to 1976

Make: Norton

Model: (any)

Region: All Regions

Low: \$1,600.00

High: \$10,225.00

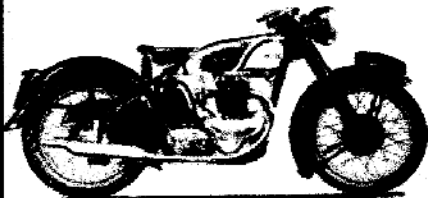
Average (mean): \$5,213.45

Median: \$4,275.00

Ken Armann

Restoration & Repair

BSA Norton Triumph



Campbell, California

(408) 379-4300

Norton Commandos Only

- Restoration
- Repair
- Tune-up
- Maintenance
- Instruction
- 23 Years Experience
- Factory Trained

Norton

Call for quotes

Jim Carton
(510) 483-2045



1984 Stone Ave • San Jose • Calif
Phone: (408) 998-4495
Fax: (408) 998-0642
Web: www.rabers.com
E-mail: <ukspares@rabers.com>

**LARGE STOCK NEW
& USED PARTS**



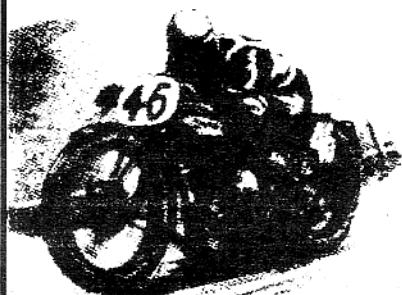
EXPERT SERVICE

MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED
MAIL ORDERS WELCOME

9 - 6 Tues thru Fri • 8 - 5 Sat

Magri Motorcycles

NORTON • TRIUMPH • BSA
PARTS AND SERVICE



(415) 285-6735

1220 PENNSYLVANIA AVE.
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94107
VISA • MASTERCARD

The Prince of Wales Pub

*The Peninsula meeting
place for the Norton
Owners Club*

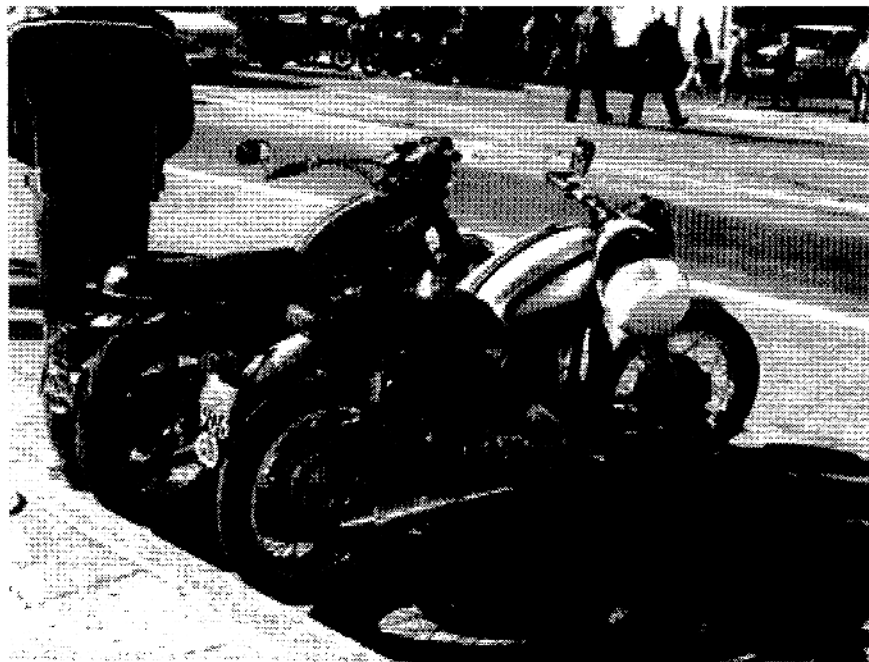
65 Beers - 11 Drafts
Authentic fish and chips
Bangers
Seven Dartboards
Quarter Foosball

106 E. 25th Avenue
San Mateo, CA.
(650) 574-9723



All British Ride in Novato, Nov 3.

Above: A lot of Nortons this year, here at the start. Below: 1954 International.



THE NORTHERN CALIFORNIA NORTON OWNERS CLUB
 Membership Application

The Northern California Norton Owners Club (NCNOC) was started in San Francisco in the early 1970's, and grew geographically larger to become the Northern California Club. Club membership is technically limited to Norton owners, but we look the other way all the time, at least as long as you would like to have a Norton, own other British bikes, or are just a great person to have around. So if you like to ride, repair, eat, drink, be merry, and admire Norton motorcycles, it will cost you \$20 to join.

The club has monthly rides (sometimes more often), monthly meetings on the second Thursday of the month (at rotating venues), an award winning monthly newsletter, and a Website.

If you would like to learn more about your Norton and how to take care of it, would like to buy a Norton, or just want to have a good time with other Club members, join now!

The NCNOC maintains a relationship with the U.S. Norton Owners Association (USNOA, also known as the International Norton Owners Association, or INOA) as well as the original Club in England. Our club secretary will tell you how to join the UK organization, if you have an interest or see their website at <http://www.noc.co.uk>.

The USNOA puts on a North American Rally each year and publishes a fine quarterly magazine called the Norton News. This gives you access to national want-ads and to Norton merchants all over the country who advertise in the News. You also get the national membership list. It is well worth joining and will cost you another \$20. Send that to: Dian Slark, 12603 BelAire Circle, McCalla, AL., 35111...Phone (205)477-4340.

We look forward to seeing you and your Norton out on the high road.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY STATE and ZIP _____

TELEPHONE _____

MOTORCYCLES OWNED

Make	Year	Model	Engine/Frame/Plate Numbers
------	------	-------	----------------------------

Attach another sheet if you want to list more.

I hereby apply for membership in the Northern California Norton Owners Club (NCNOC). This is a _____ new _____ renewal application.

The undersigned applicant certifies that he or she is a legal resident of the US over the age of 18, has a valid motorcycle driver's license, and will use legally required safety equipment in connection with club activities. Participant does hereby execute this release, waiver, and indemnification for himself or herself and his or hers, successors, representatives, and assigns, and hereby agrees and represents as follows: To release the Northern California Norton Owners Club ("the Club") and its officers, agents and members from any and all liability, loss, damage, costs, claims, and/or cause of action, including but not limited to all bodily injuries and property damage arising out of participation in the club's activities, it being specifically understood that such activities include the operation and use by applicant and others of motorcycles. The undersigned further agrees to indemnify the club and its officers, agents, and members and hold them harmless for the results of the undersigned's participation in those activities. This indemnification shall include attorney's fees incurred in defending any claim or judgement and incurred in the negotiation of any settlement. It is understood and agreed that the undersigned shall have the opportunity to consent to any settlement; provided, however, that such consent shall not be unreasonably withheld.

I have read and agree to the additional terms and conditions set forth on all parts of this application. Other affiliated clubs and organizations are also represented and protected by this release.

Dated _____ Applicants Signature _____

Send all applications or inquiries to:
Alan Mueller, 128 Windsor Ct., San Carlos, CA. 94070
(650)591-5444