

Norton Notice

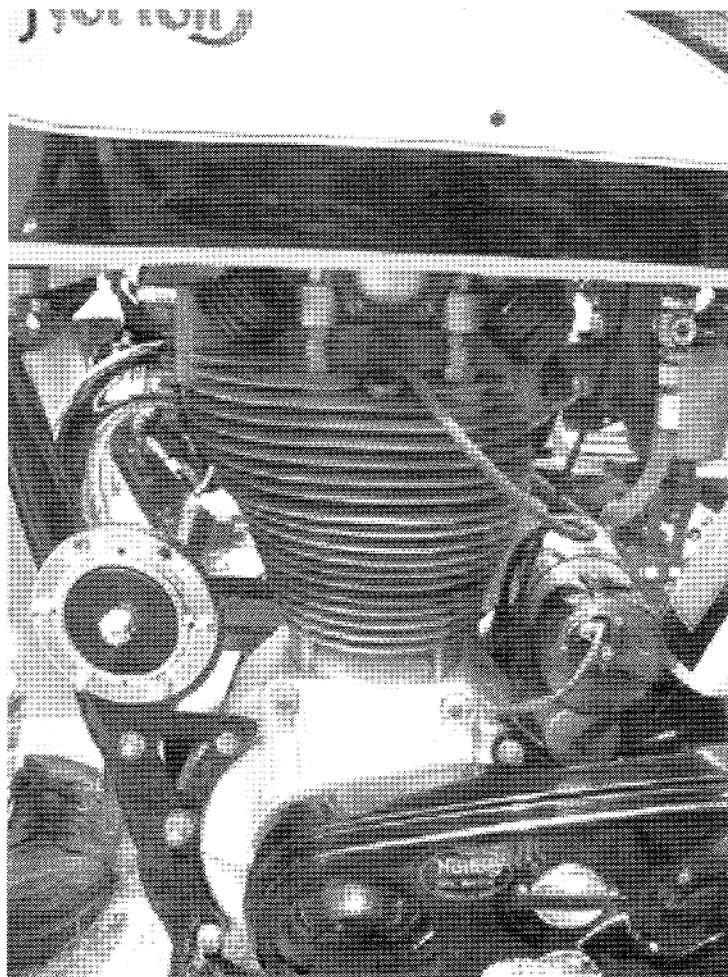


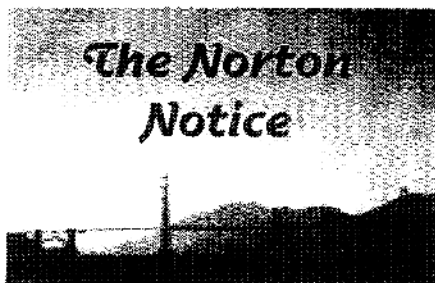
The Newsletter of the
Northern California Norton Owners Club

No. 274

July 2001

30 YEARS OF THE NCNOC





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 18th 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.

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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

2001 Club Rides Schedule

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>MEET AT</u>
Jul 1	noon	San Juan Bautista Ride	Donkey Deli
Jul 15	10:00am	Social Ride	Ken Armann's
Jul 18-21	none	INOA Thousand Islands	Rally, Ontario
Aug 10-12	none	Dardenelles	Dardenelles Hwy108
Sep 22-23	10:00am	North/South Ride	Oakhurst, Ca
Oct 7	10:00am	Old Timers Ride	Alice's/Skylonda
Oct 21	10:00am	Delta Ride	Geno's/Livermore
Nov 4	10:00am	All British Ride	Lyons/Novato
Nov 25	TBA	Turkey Ride	TBA

*NCNOC Points Rides in bold print

2001 NCNOC meetings

All Meetings start at 8:00pm (except Jul 1)

Jul 1 - Ride/Meeting to San Juan Bautista

Aug 9 - Prince of Wales

Sep 13 - TBA

Oct 7 - Annual General Meeting & Old Timer's Ride San Mateo Memorial Park

Nov 8 - East Bay (TBA)

Dec 9 - Christmas Party

Prince of Wales - 106 E 25th St, San Mateo

The Boat House - 1 Harding Rd at Lake Merced

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

Its summertime and the livin' is easy. The weather is great and the roads are dry so get out there and ride ride ride. The only problem are the tourists with their RVs pulling boats. Oh well, you do what you can and ride when you get the chance.

This past month has seen two great events; The Vintage Motorcycle Rally at Lake Cachuma and The Club Wine Country ride. For those of you who did not go to the Lake Cachuma Rally, you really missed something. This was my first year and if I had only known what it was like I would have gone previously. The campground was great, being a county facility. Plenty of shady oak trees to camp under on mowed dried grass. The toilets were outhouses which were cleaned daily but there were hot showers. The organizers really go out of their way to keep you entertained and fed. For the \$100.00 fee you get 8 full meals ranging from eggs plus for breakfast every day to steak, chicken; and ribs for dinner.

At the awards dinner Sunday night there were a bundle of door prizes and it seemed that everyone got something. As Norton was the marquee of the year the NCNOC gave a special award for the Best Norton at the Rally. The award choice was hard to make as there was a very nice Interstate, a good looking early bitsa ES2, but the award was presented to Chuck Bohn who brought along and rode a very nice bright yellow original '71 Roadster. It turned out that he is a new Club member that lives in Reedley and can't normally make the meetings and rides. Perhaps we will see him at the joint North-South ride meet at Oakhurst in September.

The other event of note was the Wine Country Ride led by Jerry Kaplan. At first, upon arriving at Muskowite Corners, I was doubly disappointed by 1) a low turnout and 2) the fact that there was no gas available as the automatic pumps were not working at the gas station. Things started looking up when Jerry showed up with about 10 members in tow while about another 10 riders dribbling in. Gas remained a problem until Jerry was able to convince the Management at the Spanish Flats Resort and Marina to let us have what we needed. There were a total of 22 riders signing up of which 18 were on Nortons. This was one of the best attended events in a long tome. Many thanks go to Jerry for leading us on our merry way.

Tech Tip.....David Crader

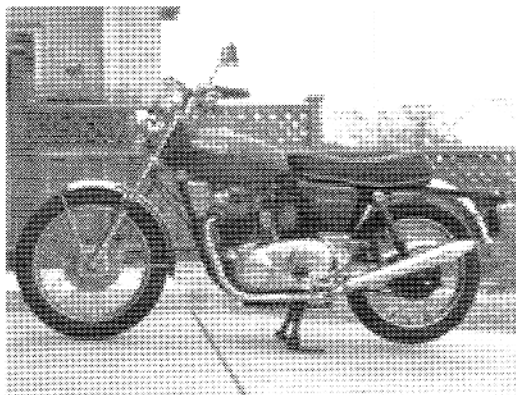
I've talked about the tendency for the Boyer electronic ignition to have problems with the low tension leads coming from the plate replacing the points plate. During the North Bay ride I was having that old mid range misfire again and it plagued me from Sears Point to Brentwood (home). Having had this before I knew the engine would get me home if not with ease.

The following weekend, I removed the pickup board, again. Removing the previously replaces wires, I thought I'd try something I read on nortons.com. One guy suggested replacing the soldered on wires with 4-40 screws making two studs that the low tension leads to the black box can attach. It wasn't too difficult once the previous wires were heated and removed.

Now the test run. All seemed to run acceptable, however the engine was backfiring slightly on the overrun and mid range seemed like it wasn't always hitting on the combustion. In neutral, revving between 3000 and 4000 there was a definite miss. Off came the 4-40 screws and back to new soldered wires. Returning to running in neutral between 3000 and 4000 the results were still the same.

This is where you have to start asking yourself, what's really going on here. The engine wasn't really misfiring and seemed like it could be fuel mixture at these engine speeds. The manual says the jet needle regulates the mixture at this point, but I hadn't changed anything on the carbs for quite a while, so it didn't seem likely. A quick check on the needle position and I found they were in the top groove. The book says middle groove for a '72 combat engine, so I changed them. Instant success. The surging I've been noticing for several months is all gone.

There's two morals here. First an unsteady engine can be caused by ignition or fuel mixture. Second, when in doubt always make the settings or adjustments per the factory spec, then go from there.



June 10th North Bay Ride Report

It was a great day to look for gas.

More than 20 clubmen and their friends assembled at Muscowite Corners to find that the areas only gas station had turned into an automated cardlock that stoically refused all common credit cards and had no provisions for cash purchases. So there! What to do? One bike (hi-rider tank) was already on reserve. With a little sharing of precious bodily fluids of the mechanical kind we were able to keep all engines running while we searched the roads around Spanish Flat (west side of Lake Berryessa). Thanks to the federally mandated underground fuel tank rules all the small stores in the area stopped selling gas.

It was quite a challenge to get the word out to the various clusters of riders scattered hither and yon along the road as we stopped at 2 or 3 places to be told no gas here. Lots of confusion and U-turns. Finally our search led us to a boat marina that had a no-motorcycle policy. The owner, realizing our predicament, broke her own rule and invited us down to her dockside gas tanks and topped off all comers with sweet 92 octane. Relief. (PS I believe it was Keith who picked up the tab for all this. As a convenience to all he offered to pay for the fuel with his credit card. I for one still owe him for my 1.2 gallons.)

After that delay (about 45 mins.) we were able to continue on with our planned ride. Fortunately it made all the fuel hassles worth while. The Weather wasn't too hot, the traffic was sparse and the Oakville Grade always delivers.

We had a great patio lunch with many animated conversations going on simultaneously. Robert Newman from nearby Boyes Hot Springs joined us and some of us went back to his home/shop for a little bike fettling. Alan Goldwater came all the way from Santa Cruz just to be with us for a couple of hours. That's dedication. All in all it was a wonderful day together and I'm proud to say I was the only guy not riding a Commando. My new (ha) P11 did just fine.

Sincerely, Jerry Kaplan

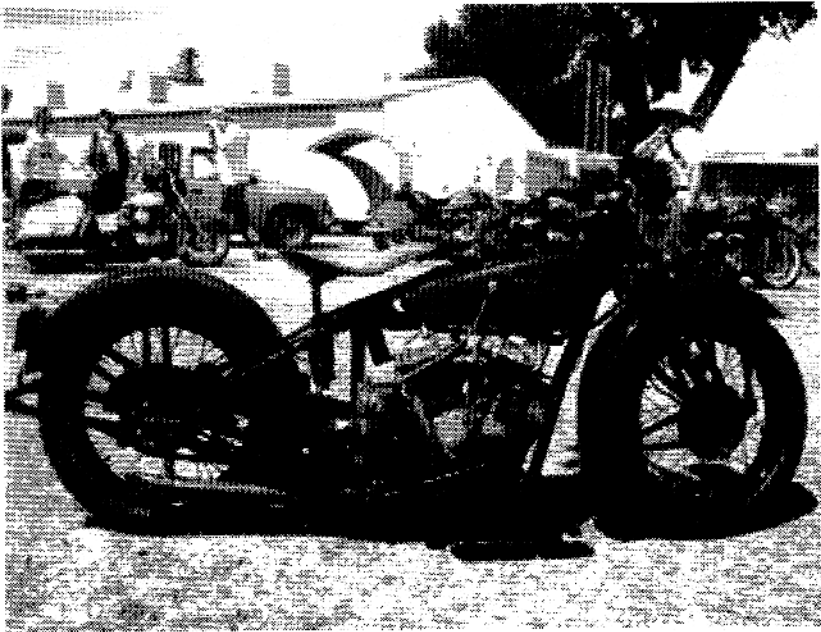
PS My congratulations to Art Sirota. He passed my little test and wins the coveted Amal Retentive award for correctly stating that my '70 Commando is not an "S" type.



Above: Members at the Jack London Pub in Glen Ellen on the North Bay Ride.

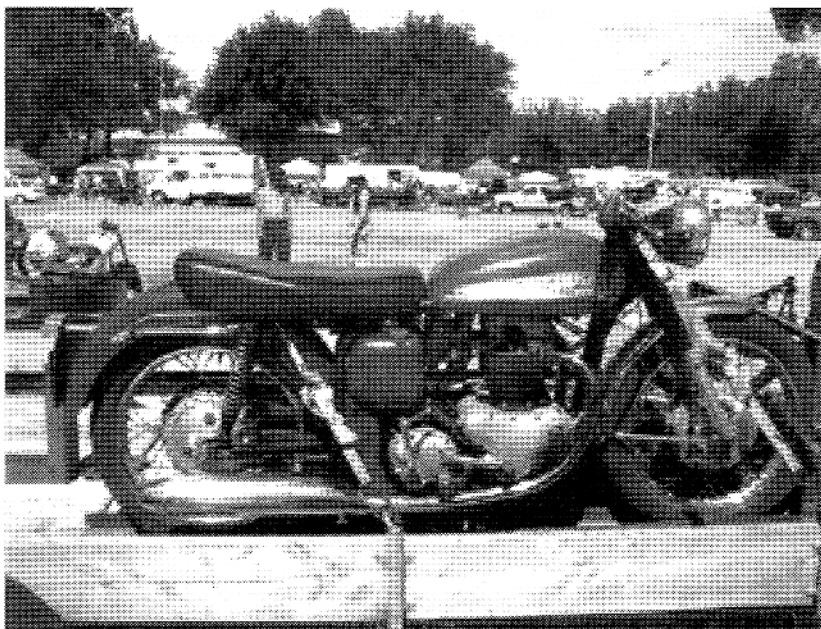
Below: Jerry Kaplan in his famous garage. A tasty group of Brit Bikes.





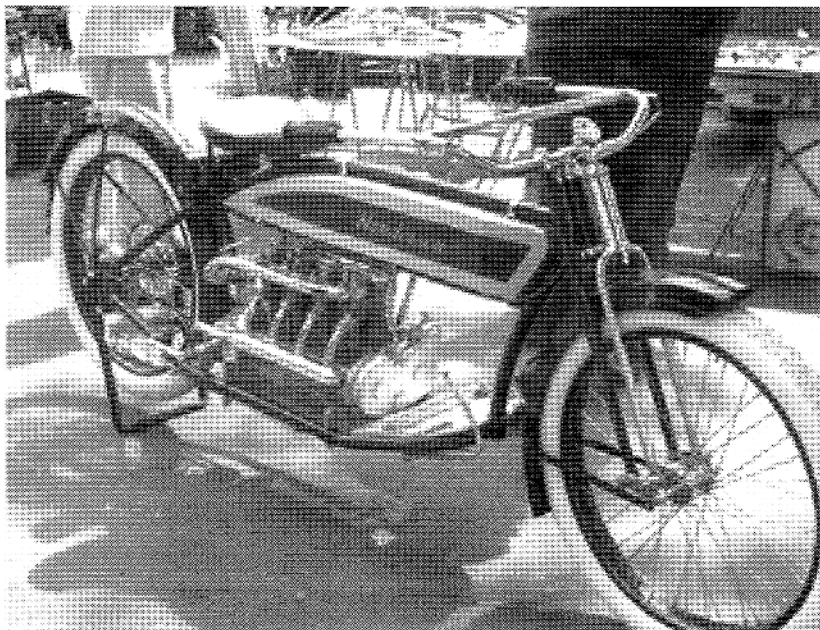
The pictures on these two pages are from the AMCA Dixon Show. If you made it there you were treated to a large dose of Indian and early Harley with added bits of early American marques and a few Brit bikes. I enjoy this show for the historic machines as well as it's fairly close to home. On Saturday while I roamed around I saw Tom Dabel, Don Danmeier, Frank and Lizabeth Recoder and Jerry Kaplan. Pappy would have liked it.





Above: '61 Manxman on sale at the AMCA show in Dixon

Below: Henderson 4 on show at the AMCA.



Editor's Line....David Crader

I recently received a message from John Covell our Public Relations officer. We're loosing another member to Virginia as John is packing up and moving. See his letter on page 15. Sounds like Steve Coburn in Virginia may have a clubman to recruit. Good luck to John and let us know how the roads are in your new location.

The North Bay ride turned out to be the most attended of the season. I think I remember last year's also having many Nortons show up. The only glitch was the closure of several gas stations around Muscowite Corner that had the pack going back and forth on hwy 128 in the heat. Thanks to Jerry Kaplan for another well organized ride. By the way Gar, I made it from Davis to Glen Ellen on one tank of gas...go refueling from Frank.

Terry Grey from Orland joined the ride at Jerry's house. He and I have been corresponding for several months in his quest for a '74 Commando. As the good weather came, Terry did as I did and succumbed to a '72 combat roadster. Terry said he will have questions about maintainence and modifications, so the experts in the club help him out.

The AMCA show was held at Dixon Fairgrounds over the last weekend. I went up with my son on Saturday. This is mainly antique American motorcycles, but has a few British bikes on display. The AJS/Matchless club had a booth and two motorcycles on display.

Around the corner a 1961 650cc Norton Manxman was strapped to a trailer with a for sale written on a piece of duct tape on the gas tank. These are pretty scarce and if anyone is interested you might contact Tom Dabel who knows the owner.

This months cover picture is the engine on a 1950 Norton Model 50 International. Bob Scott, a retired flight engineer for Pan AM, is the owner and it was being displayed at the Dixon show. Bob bought this bike in 1950 and now wants to sell it. I introduced myself and offered to put an add in this issue (see page 18).

Seems museum Nortons are coming out this summer. Jerry Kaplan told me he knows of a 1926 Model 18 in this condition for sale in Davis. Any of you interested in these older Nortons should jump on the opportunity as they don't come around very often.

Hope to see many of you at the Social Ride starting at Ken Armann's shop on July 15. Oh yea, just picked of a 21 tooth sprocket from e-bay for \$8.56. That'll make the long freeway ride to Campbell easier.

UPCOMING RIDES

July Rides

San Juan Bautista Ride

July 1, 2001 - 12:00 PM

For this one we meet at the old Donkey Deli (now Joan and Peter's Restaurant, 322 3rd Street, PH: 831-623-4521) on the main drag in San Juan Bautista at noon for lunch and the July meeting. Afterward we can cruise on over to Holister to see how the "other half" lives.

Ken Armann's Social Ride

July 15th 10:00 AM

Meet at Ken Armann's shop at **861 Camden Ave, Campbell (PH:408-379-4300)**. This will be a short local ride anteceded by socializing and followed up with friendly chatter.

INOA Thousand Islands Rally, Ontario, Canada

July 18-21

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**2001 a Norton Odyssey
 INOA Thousand Islands Rally
 July 18-21, 2001
 Ivy Lea, Ontario Canada**

The Ivy Lea KOA will be the host campground for the first INOA International Rally of this century. Located minutes from the US - Canada border. The Ontario Norton Owners are going all out to make the Thousand Islands Rally one of the best ever with group rides planned all over Leeds County and the Thousand Islands region.

Rally fees include:

- Awards Banquet Saturday night
- BBQ Friday night with entertainment
- Group rides Wednesday, Thursday and Friday
- Peoples choice concours Saturday afternoon
- Field events
- Poker Run during the rally
- Door prizes and trophies
- Rally pin

Pre registration (post marked by July 1)	At the gate
Adult: \$50 (US)	\$80
Children 6-16 years: \$20	\$25
Children under 6 free	free
Family of 4 (2 adults) \$130	\$140
Additional children \$20	

Camping available at \$2 per night, RV hookups first come first serve

Contact : Guy Fortier of the Ontario Norton Owners

<http://www.kingston.net/~fortierg/indes.htm>

or give David Crader or Mike Sullivan a call, we have a copy of the pre registration form

President's Message...continued from page 4

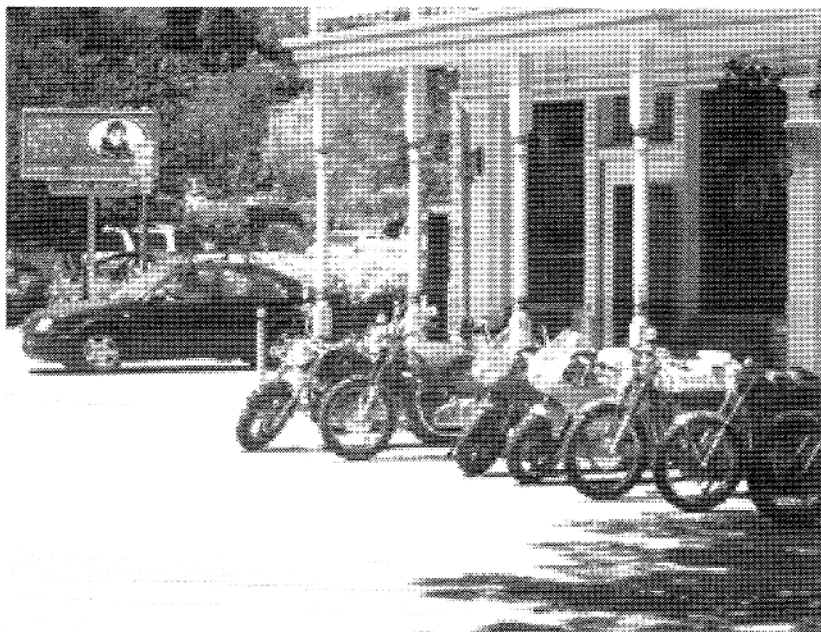
Contrasting to the fine turnout at the Wine Country Ride was the poor turnout for the monthly meeting at the Boathouse. There were only 10 people present, two of which were ladies. One bright spot was the return of Jerry Grainger who reported that he is feeling fine. Welcome back, Jerry. Frank Recoder asked that a more current membership list be published with phone numbers and email addresses. I will look into this with Alan Muller when he gets back from vacation.

Next Club events are the July 1st ride to the Donkey Deli in San Juan Bautista and the Social Ride meeting at Ken Armann's shop in Campbell on the 15th. For those of you who are star gazers, check out the weekend of August 10-12 at the Dardenelles. Contact Ken Armann for details. There will be no Thursday night meeting in July.

See you on the road.

Mike Sullivan
President

Below: Some old and some new British iron at the Jack London Pub in Glen Ellen.



NCNOC Bulletin Board

Utah British Bike Club

1000 Lakes Annual Gathering

July 13 - 15

1000 Lakes Park & Campground Utah

(801) 435-3500

This is the site of the 2000 Red Rock INOA National Rally

BMT Promotions

7th Annual

British-European Vintage Motorcycle Show & Swap Meet

July 21 & 22

Saturday

Show and Swap Meet
Fuji Park - Carson City

Sunday

AHRMA Vintage Moto-X
Silver State Raceway - Carson City

Info (775) 267-4996

bmtpromo@aol.com

Goodbye to our Public Relations officer, John Covell

Hi Alan, Dave, et al.,

I am sorry I was not able to make this evening's club meeting in the City, my schedule is just too packed up and I couldn't get back over the water. I have to get ready for the movers, who are coming on Monday/Tuesday for my household goods, and by Wednesday I'm going to be away, too. I guess I'll just have to do like Steve Coburn and drop in from time to time.

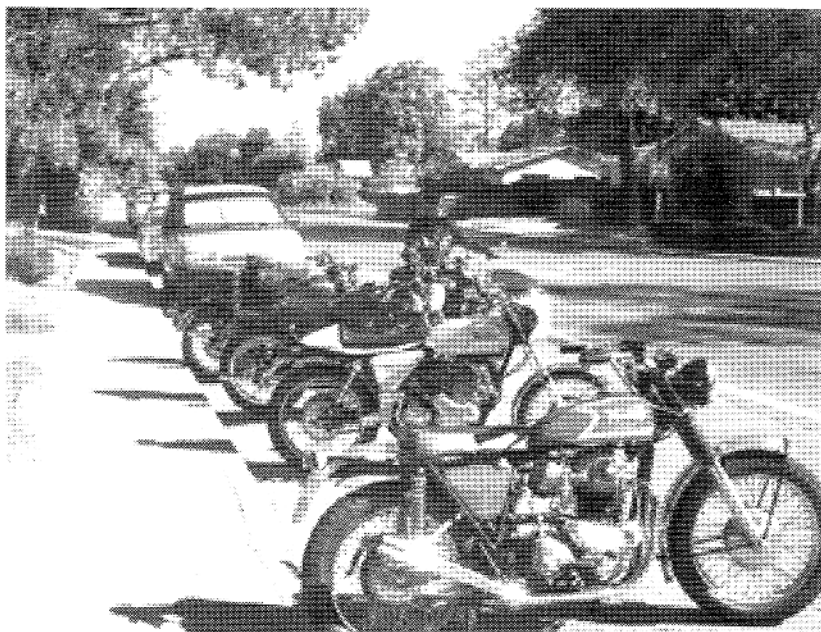
I just got back from a successful advance trip to find a place to live. I've bought a condo in Alexandria VA. I start my new job July 2nd. I will be driving cross-country in time to get there.

Please note my new mailing address: PO Box 23413, Washington DC 20026-3413. I suppose I will finally have to relinquish my vestigial office of Public Relations. I hope someone will step up to the plate and make more of it than I have lately!

Stay in touch y'all!

John

Outside Jerry Kaplan's garage in Davis. Jerry's P11 in the foreground.



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

1971 Triumph Bonneville 650

Very Clean, mechanically perfect.
Bronze/Black/White original paint
scheme (repainted)

\$3800.00 Greg Fuller (925)449-1762
(9/2001)

1974 John Player Replica 850 - older
restoration in excellent condition
with low miles - Gene Ross (559) 734-
5165 - \$5,000 (9/2001)

1972 Dunstall Norton 810 - excellent
condition with low miles. Gene Ross
(559) 734-5165 - \$4,000 (9/2001)

Traderonline

Prices for 1969 to 1975 Commandos
on June 18, 2001 (34 ads appeared)

Low: \$1,800

High: \$8,000

Average (mean): \$4,2621. 47

Median: \$3,625

For Sale

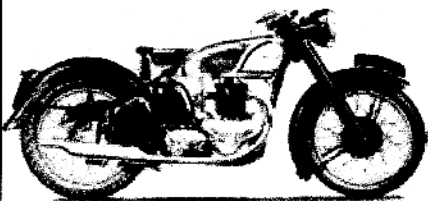
'73 850 Commando. Dunstall equiped,
including fairing (not mounted
currently), fender, tank, seat, 2-1-2
exhaust, crossover rearsets with left
foot shift. Also has Boyer electronic
ignition, alloy wheels with disc brakes
front & rear, and Dunstall replica
mufflers, K&N air filter, and oil
cooler. Blue, fast, & fun. \$4200. Call
Bill @ (510) 489-6121 or e-mail



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(408) 379-4300

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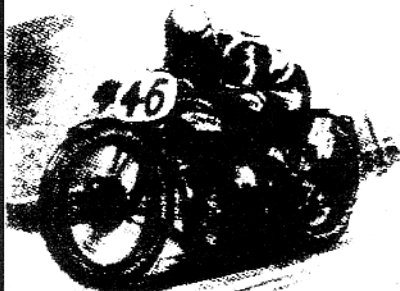
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 Owners Club*

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

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

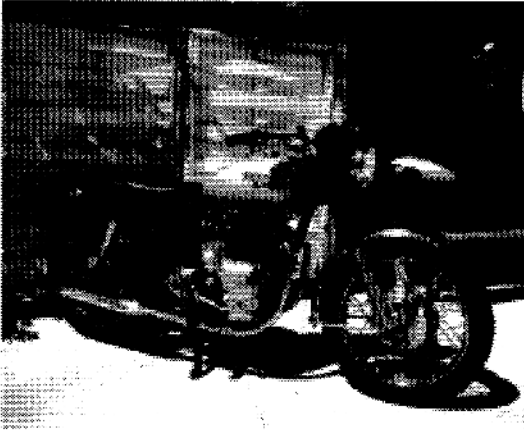
For Sale

1968 Royal Enfield Interceptor MK1A. This machine is complete and 99% original, with new continental (low pipe) exhaust and n.o.s. seat, fresh paint on the original 3 gal tank, and new Dunlop Sport Elite tires. Also included are 4 and 5 gal. Enfield tanks, with a good set of chrome trim panels and badges. The bike is currently registered and carries the original black CA plate.

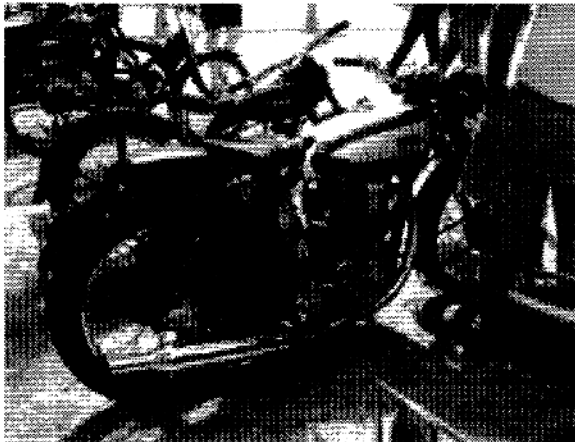
You can see it at

<http://members.aol.com/NortonClub/RE.html>

\$4500 Alan (831) 475-7505

**For Sale**

1950 Model 30 International I met Bob Scott at the Dixon AMCA show. He was showing this machine which is up for sale at \$12,500. Bob bought it in 1950 and it's in beautiful condition. Phone Bob at (619) 228-2588



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