



Norton Notice



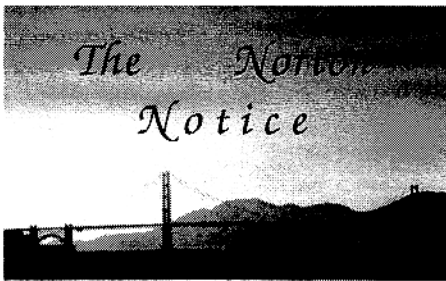
The Newsletter of the
Northern California Norton Owners Club

No. 292

January, 2003



PASSING THE GAVEL



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. Articles and photos can be sent in almost any format and the Editors Mac can read it. You may also send articles directly to the editor via fax at 650-595-3368. E-mail can be sent using INTERNET to norton2@earthlink.net or norton2@aol.com

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 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 and the membership card.

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 Treasurer or the 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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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

2003 Meeting Schedule

January 9th – Prince of Wales

February 13th – Boathouse S.F.

March 13th – Prince of Wales

April 10th – Harry's Haufbrau – San Jose

May 8th – Dublin

June 12th – Prince of Wales

July Ride/Meeting San Juan Bautista

August 14th – Boathouse S.F.

September 11th – Prince of Wales

October 5th – Old Timer's Ride and Annual General Meeting

November 13th – Dublin

December 7th – Christmas Party (no December meeting)

Press Production and

Halftones:

John and Carrie Follett:

White Oak Press, San Carlos, CA

Ride Schedule..

by *Gar Jorgenson*, ride coordinator

EDITORS NOTE: This schedule is still somewhat tentative. If anyone knows of a major reason any of these rides will not work..PLEASE....contact Gar.

It's hard to believe that 2002 is drawing to a close and that, by the time you read this, all of the year 2002 rides will have been ridden! The year 2003 ride schedule is a rather energetic one with 18 opportunities for all of you Nortoneers to limber up your right leg with some good kick starting exercises. There are three over-night rides scheduled along with alternative day rides for those who can't make the overnights. This year the INOA National Rally is being held in British Columbia and is close enough that many of us from the NCNOC should be able to attend. So take a look at the schedule and start planning now. 2003 is less than a month away.

January Ride

January 12th, 11:00 A.M. – Polar Bear Ride (*Double Points*)

Join us in inaugurating the 2003 ride schedule while getting yourself a jump-start on the trek for Norton Club Ride Points. This is a really easy way to start the year with 12 points. Remember, just showing up on a Norton is all that it takes for this one.

The ride starts at Alice's Restaurant at 11:00 A.M. at the intersection of SR-84 and Skyline Drive just west of Woodside. Depending on the weather, and who all shows up, we will ride somewhere for lunch, or just stay put until we decide to go home.

February Ride

February 16th, 11:00 A.M. – Sweetheart/Ferguson Memorial Ride

The ride will start at The Florence, 37349 Niles Blvd, Fremont (PH: 510-792-5522). Last year this ride went through the East Bay hills and culminated with lunch at the UK Café in Livermore. Don Goforth has offered up his place in Fremont as an end point this year so, as soon as I hear from Jerry Jolliff, past ride leader extraordinaire, I will get the details out on what this year's ride will be. Check the January Notice

March

March 23rd – Morning After the Clubman's Show Ride (*date to be confirmed*)

This ride is on the Sunday after the BSA Clubman's Show. Since I

haven't spoken to anyone from the BSA Club yet, this is my best guess on the date. Check future Notices for confirmation. The BSA club assigns this ride to one of the British Bike Clubs in the Bay area. Look for details in upcoming Notices.

April

April 6th – North Bay Ride

Ride Leader - Jerry Kaplan.

May

May 18th – Mt. Hamilton Ride

Ride Leader – Tom Dable

June

June 21st & 22nd – Mono Hot Springs Ride

Ride Leader – Tom Dable.

June 22nd - Alternative Day Ride – Pt. Reyes

Ride Leader Needed. This ride is designed for those who are unable to make the overnight ride to Mono Hot Springs but still want to do a day ride. If you are interested in planning and leading this ride, please call me.

July

July 6th – Ride/Meeting San Juan Bautista

I will try to coordinate a meeting point (or two) for the ride to San Jaun Bautista.

July 20th - Cameron's/Half Moon Bay Ride

Ride Leader Needed.

July 16th, 17th, 18th & 19th, INOA National Rally, B. C., Canada (10 Bonus Points)

People are already making plans for the National Rally at Lumby, B.C. At the November NCNOC meeting, several members said they were planning on going, and a couple of folks are talking about riding their Nortons up and back. Perhaps we can get a group together to ride up. Norton Points for the rally will be awarded as follows: Six points for each day of the rally that is ridden on a Norton. Six points for each day riding on a Norton to the rally (up to three days, maximum). Ten bonus points for attending the rally. Lesser numbers of points will be awarded in keeping with our normal procedure if you ride something other than a Norton.

President's Message*by David Crader*

The Christmas party at Maya's house had a large turnout including a few good members arriving on Nortons. If you haven't been to Maya's, it's decor is definitely British motorcycle and specifically Norton. "Snort" joined us in the dining room and in the living room hall was a beautiful silver Mk3 Interstate. The generosity on our host and the holiday trimming combined to really set the spirit of the season. Maya, THANKYOU!

During the meeting the new club officers were announced by Mike Sullivan. I will be taking over the duties as NCNOC President while Mike remains in service as Vice President. Alan Mueller will continue his job as Norton Notice Editor and Treasurer, however during the coming year we will be tapping a replacement for the Editor's position. Alan Goldwater will continue as our Recording Secretary and new to the position Lorin Guy will be the Public Relations Officer. Rounding out the list, Gar Jorgenson extends his service as Rides Coordinator.

The club meeting and rides schedules are complete and can be seen elsewhere in this issue. I took the liberty of inserting the Englander Pub in Dublin replacing Coco's. I'm not quite sure about this site yet, but will confirm sometime in this month. It's a new British Pub just up the street from Coco's. The rides this year have more overnights as you can see. For those who cannot make multiple day rides we have also scheduled alternative rides. For some of the rides Gar is requesting volunteers to lead rides. If this is something you can do, please contact him.

The INOA rally in Lumby, B.C. is in July. Alan Goldwater, who is also our representative to that organization, would like to see a minimum of 20 NCNOC attendees. For more info on that contact Alan or see him at the club meetings.

At the January 9 meeting at the Prince of Wales, I will be presenting a slide show of some past club events including the 1982 Rally at Pinecrest. One slide is of a very young club officer, Art Sirota, making announcements. Twenty years ago there seemed to be more color in the Commandos. They weren't all black! Come join us for a few laughs and some nostalgia.

Use these cold, wet winter months to get some maintenance done on your Nortons. We have some great rides scheduled for this year and they are much better with more of that rumbling Norton sound. Come join us on the rides or at the club meetings. Norton spoken fluently here!

MEMBER AND GUEST NORTON CUP RIDE POINTS 2002

KEN ARMANN	22		
DON BARTNER	6	JERRY KAPLAN	
RON BASTIAANS	14	KEITH KARN	72
GARY BIGGINS	6	MAYA LAI	24
DAVID BRIGHT	10	LEONARD LLOYD	10
HARRY BUNTING	24	CHRIS LAWTON	4
MIKE BURNHAM	6	STEVE MARSH	16
JIM CARTON	6	BRUCE McGREGGOR	30
MIKE CHO	2	GARY MEEHAN	6
LEO CHRISTIANSON	8	LOUIS MENDELOWITZ	4
EARLE CONKLIN	12	LYNNE MILLER	38
DAVE CRADER	52	ALAN MUELLER	64
TOM DABEL	62	STEPHAN OLMO	4
DON DANMEIER	8	RAY PALLETT	72
SCOTT DUNHAM	4	JEFFERY POTTERY	26
ART FLATRAY	2	PAT QUINN	4
CHRIS FREITAG	10	PHIL RADFORD	30
GREG FULLER	18	FRANK RECODER	44
<u>DON GOFORTH</u>	<u>100</u>	FRED RHODE	30
ALAN GOLDWATER	64	ERIC RHODES	4
JERRY GRAINGER	68	MARGIE SIEGAL	14
JERRY GURLEY	6	RICK SIMSON	4
LORIN GUY	48	GEORGE SHOBLO	42
RICK HARRIS	12	ART SIROTA	24
DAVID HALEY	4	TOM SMITH	12
PAT HART	12	MIKE SULLIVAN	88
DAVID HODGES	10	JOE TIMMONS	4
LEN IOSTY	20	DAVE WEEKS	2
JERRY JOLIFF	8	KIM WILLIAMS	4
GAR JORGENSON	48	ROBERT YATES	6

2003 Ride Schedule continued

August

August 15th, 16th, 17th – Dardanelle Weekend (date to be confirmed)

August 16th – Alternative Day Ride – Ebbets/Sonora Pass Loop (date to be confirmed)

Ride Leader – David Crader. This will be an alternative day ride that will take us over the Sierras for lunch in Coleville, and then back home. David Crader and I did this ride in August 2002 and had a great time. We will be making a stop at Dardanelle so those who can't make the whole weekend ride and camp-out can be made jealous of those who can!

September

September 13th & 14th – North/South Ride

Ride Leader – Alan Goldwater. This is going to be a meeting of the Southern California Norton Owners Club and the NCNOC for an overnight ride in the Sierras.

September 14th – Alternative Day Ride – TBA

Ride Leader Needed. This will be another day ride for those who can't make the full weekend North/South Ride.

October

October 5th – Old Timer's Ride and AGM

Ride Leader Needed.

October 19th – Delta Ride

Ride Leader – Gar Jorgenson

November

November 2nd – BSA Club All British Ride (date to be confirmed)

November 23rd – Turkey Ride

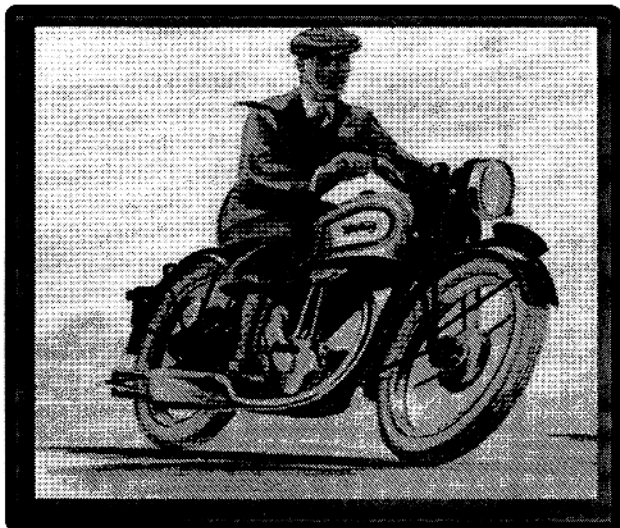
Ride Leader needed.

December

December 7th – NCNOC Christmas Party

2003 NOC CALENDARS

PLACE YOUR ORDER SOON!!



Call Alan Mueller at (650)591-5444

or

e-mail at "norton2@earthlink.net"

PRICE

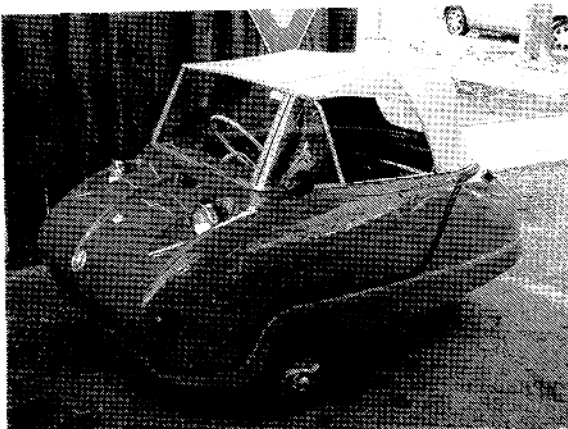
\$15 if picked up

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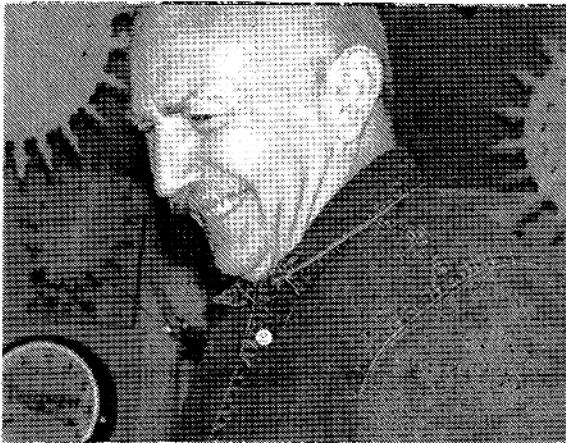
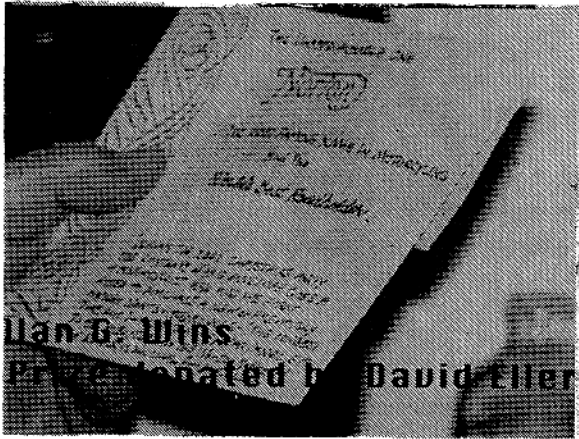
\$18 if mailed

Fun at the Christmas Part

Thanks to Maya!



Alan's 67 Atlas was the oldest



My First Arizona Ride

Jeffrey Potter NCNOC Web Editor

As most of you know by now I packed up the family and moved to Arizona. But that a different story.

Finally got the house situated where I could go for a ride and discover some of the Arizona countryside. I asked my wife Cathy if she was interested in riding along and got a big yes from her. So we put on our helmets and jackets, rolled out the Norton, she fired up on the third kick and we were off.

Well kind of off, we hit stop-and-go traffic all the way out of town. Christmas shoppers were everywhere and this leads to interesting maneuvers by caged drivers. We have an intercom system so we can talk and pretty much laughed at the people. I kept my distance and watched everyone. Going through Sun City I stalled the bike at a stop sign. Cathy had to jump off so I could restart the Norton. I had a hard time getting into neutral (this has been a long time problem) and when I tried to kick start it, Cathy forgot to put up the passenger foot peg! The driver behind me was very patience, which I really appreciated. Lifted the peg and she started right up. I wave to the lady behind me and we were off.

Finally made it out of town and into the open desert. We traveled up Lake Pleasant rode to Highway 74. I wish I were riding a P11 to go through some of the construction work the ADOT (AZ Dept of Trans) was doing. A Commando with street tires does not make a good dirt bike!

We went west on 74 and over some nice roads. A great little section that was made for a Norton was a blast. OK so I was only going a few miles an hour over the speed limit, but remember I am the club's self-appointed slow guy! The scenery was beautiful, jagged mountains, desert flora, and crisp clean air to breathe. Found the Lake Pleasant turn-off and continued to the Park Entrance. Paid my \$5 and toured the lake. Absolutely blue water and deep blue sky was amazing. I am use to the brown color of the Delta and Bay so this was nice.

The Park was pretty empty so riding the roads was nice. If we wanted to stop and see the sites, no problem, just pull over and stop. Since there wasn't anyone else out, traffic was never an issue. Few folks were on the lake fishing and boating, some campers too.

On the way out of the park I was familiar enough with the ride that the ride back was a little more spirited. Have you seen the BMW commercial with the husband and wife riding together and scrapping the pipes, well we came pretty close. The road twisted around and there were some big dips that made the ride fun and almost like a rollercoaster. The Norton performed famously and the addition of a passenger it never seemed to mind.

So we decided to head on home. Out of the park and back on highway 74 going east. The drive home seemed so fast, not sure way that is so. Back through the construction and into town. I took some side streets back home. We only traveled about 70 miles and took about two hours, but it nice to have a chance to see some of the site before it get too hot.

We might try riding up to Las Vegas; it is only about a five-hour trip. But Cathy's butt was a little sore after two hours of riding, sure glad no one showed up seated on a Corbin might have lost her! (Hmmm, maybe I watch to much TV).

Nortons at NCNOC Events

David Crader

I just read a letter to the editor in Roadholder No. 225. This is the NOC semi monthly publication. The author made a few negative comments about the NOC Chairman Chris Grimmet and others. The term used was "snobs" as these gentlemen want Nortons only during their functions. Excuses for not riding a Norton to these functions included some members can't afford one and wanting to ride a more reliable machine. Besides only Norton singles are true Nortons and the proponents for riding Nortons are all on twins....sniffle.

There really hasn't been an issue regarding this with the Northern California club even though there are the errant marques during our rides. In the member application for the NCNOC it says membership is technically limited to owners of Norton motorcycles, but we look the other way all the time....as long as you at least admire Norton motorcycles. The name of the club however is "Norton". If at all possible that is what should show up for Norton Owners Club rides. For those who don't because of maintenance issues, we have members willing to provide aid to get your machine on the road. After all, the club charter was to keep Nortons alive and running. Hopefully no one is riding other than a Norton when a perfectly good model is sitting in the garage. After seeing one gentleman at the All British Ride on a 1930 ES2, I'd say any model of Norton could make these rides. Ask Mike when he's on his Model 50.

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Alan's Wrench.....by Alan Goldwater

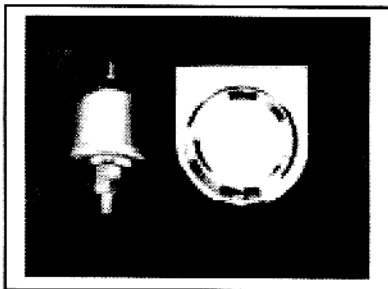
Last month I talked a bit about oil pressure, and the possible effect of centrifugal force in the crankshaft oil passages. I couldn't find a flow sensor under \$300 that would handle hot oil, but I needed to at least make some pressure measurements. Many years ago, I had tried a miniature gauge that fit in place of the



ammeter on my Atlas. Shortly thereafter, I noticed my headlight was leaking oil around the rim, and decided that a mechanical oil pressure gauge really wasn't such a good idea on a Norton. I later installed an 'idiot light' and a pressure switch from a late-70's Triumph onto my MKIII, and this combination has worked reliably for 12 years. The switch is Smiths #PS/5300/1/07, and has a standard

1/8 pipe thread. I made my own adapter to mount on the rear rocker shaft cover plate, but you might find one at a Norton parts supplier, as they are commonly used to fit a pressure gauge. The switch turns on at 5-8 psi, and the light will typically flicker a bit at idle, once the oil is hot.

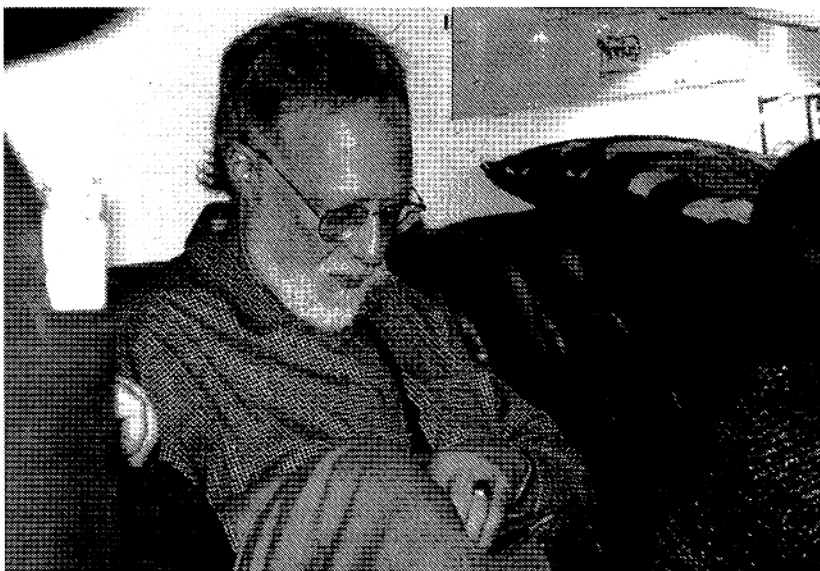
To actually measure the pressure without the risk of serious oil leaks, I wanted an electric pressure gauge that would work on Norton's positive-earth wiring. I found a low-cost electric oil pressure gauge kit (Sunpro CP-6202, \$28.95) and was able to fairly easily convert it by opening the case and swapping the meter wires and a diode. The sender unit fit the old adapter with the addition of an elbow; and the installation only took around an hour. Here are some typical measurements on my never-rebuilt MKIII with 43k miles on the original bearings and the oil pump rebuilt once at 20k miles.



Idle	cold 75-80 psi	hot 5-10 psi
3000 rpm	warm 50 psi	hot 30 psi
4000 rpm	warm 60 psi	hot 40 psi
5000 rpm	have mercy	hot 50 psi

I expected that with a Commando's high volume gear pump and pressure bypass valve properly set (around 80 psi), the oil pressure would continue to increase with rpm, and it does. So if centrifugal force is affecting the measurement, at least it does it proportionally. I think a measurement of little or no pressure anywhere above idle indicates a serious problem with the engine and should be investigated. A good place to start is the oil pump, as a rebuild is pretty easy and usually improves pressure considerably on a high-mileage motor.

I'll leave the gauge in place to test its reliability, and report any problems in a future column. Also under test for future reports are silicone rubber valve cover gaskets from Stan Smith (Rocky Point Cycle), a multi-color LED battery voltage indicator by A.O. Services, and a trick servo clutch design from Heinz Kegler.



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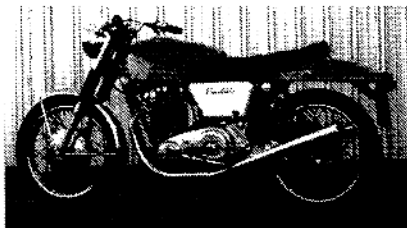
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CLASSIFIEDS

EDITOR'S 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 three months. Please notify the editor if your item has been sold. Your ad will automatically be removed after three months if we have not been informed. Note the expiration date at the end of each ad.*

FOR SALE: 1963 & 1965 Norton Electras. Built for two ladies in my life who have decided not to use them. Both are complete and original except for aftermarket front fenders and (Harley) silencers; these bikes are renovations meant for riding, not concours restorations. Everything works, including the starter and those cute bar-end signals. \$2000 each. Call Don Danmeier, 415-893-1650 (days) or 415-898-0330 (eves till 9pm). (3/03)

WANTED: An un-restored '69, '70 or '71 750 Commando Scrambler!! No basket case!! A complete bike needing restoration. Don De Martino, 541 Baldrige Dr. Henderson, NV 89014 (9/02)

FOR SALE: 1971 Norton Commando Roadster, runs & looks good. No horn or front light, some fender dents. 18kmiles and 2k since rebuild. 16" back tire, wide fender and different tail light, chrome kickstand, dunstall mufflers, new front tire, rim and spokes and Lucas electronic ignition. \$2800 or OBO. Kevin 916-683-1704 or "kheylin@yahoo.com (7/02)

FOR SALE: '73 Commando. Hasn't started in 5+ years so needs attention. Black /gold pistrife. Original owner. Manuals. Always garaged. Borrani rims, Marzoochi rear shocks, new tires, fog light. Best offer over \$2000. Call Mark (415)896-0499 (12/02)

FOR SALE: 1974 Norton MK2, 850 last registered in 1996, w/38k miles. Mitch Braiman
"mitchco@bbs-la.com (7/02)

FOR SALE: 1975 Commando, original spec, exyensive upgrading incl. engine head, all electrics, exhaust, brakes. Superb rider. call 650-465-6578 or "nvasant@earthlink.net...serious Norton fans only (7/02).

Let's see if anyone reads this page!!

Here is a list I got from the NOC as to the names of our NCNOC members who are also NOC Branch members: If you are and you don't see your name either call Alan Mueller or check with the NOC.

P. Brown	A. Mueller
L Lloyd	P. Radford
S. Forrest	E. Hjertberg
D. Crader	T. Dabel
G von Klan	D. Eller
J. Steinmetz	S. Harris
G. Jorgenson	M. Sullivan
H. Jorgenson	J. Potter
A. Goldwater	G. Licht
B. Reynolds	

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.

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)477-7780.**

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 reasonably 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