



Norton Notice



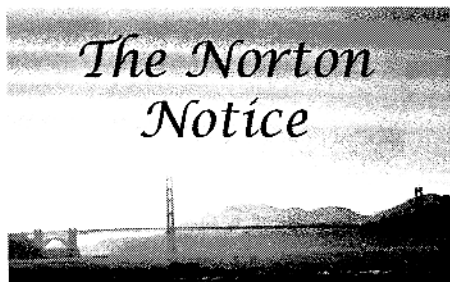
The Newsletter of the
Northern California Norton Owner's Club

No. 304

Jan/Feb 2004



**Tom Dabel:
A Man and His Bike**



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

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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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

Upcoming Events

2003 Meeting Schedule

Northern California Norton Owners Club
2004 Meeting Schedule

February 12th – *Pig and Whistle Pub*
8 PM *2801 Geary St (Geary and Wood)*
San Francisco Ph: 415-885-4779

March - *Prince of Wales*

April 8th – *Harry's Hausbrau – S.J.*

May 13th – *Mimi's Café - Dublin*

June 10th – *Prince of Wales*

July 3rd – *Ride/Meeting San Juan Bautista*

August 12th – *Meeting – S.F. (No meeting place
selected yet)*

September 9th – *Meeting – Prince of Wales*

October 2nd – *Old Timer's Ride and AGM*

November 4th – *Meeting - Mimi's Café - Dublin*

December 5th – *Christmas Party (no ride or
meeting)*

Ride Schedule..

by Gar Jorgenson, ride coordinator

February

February 22nd (Sunday) – Sweetheart/Ferguson Memorial Ride

Ride Leaders - Don Goforth and Ray Pallet. This ride will begin at The Florence in the historic Niles District of Fremont and will go through the East Bay Hills. Normally this ride starts at 1100 AM. Check next month's Notice for details.

February 29th (Sunday) 9:30 AM – Adopt-a-Highway clean-up day

March

March 28th (Sunday) - Morning After Ride

No word yet from the BSA Club on which club will be leading this ride. Watch future Notice editions for details.

April

April 18th (Sunday) – North Bay Ride

This ride has been lead by Jerry Kaplan the last few years. What about this year, Jerry?

May

May 2nd (Sunday) – Mt. Hamilton Ride

Ride leader – Tom Dabel.

June

June 6th & 7th (Saturday - Sunday) – Weekend Cambria Ride

This will most likely be a hook-up with the Southern California Norton Owners somewhere along the way. Alan Goldwater has volunteered to lead this ride.

June 13th – (Sunday) - Alternative Day Ride

Ride leader needed for a local one-day ride as an alternative for those who can't make the two-day Cambria ride.

June 20th (Sunday) 9:30 AM – Adopt-a-Highway clean-up day

July

July 3rd (Saturday) – San Juan Bautista Ride/Meeting

July 19th through the 23rd (Monday - Friday) - INOA National Rally, Ohio

July 25th (Sunday) - Cameron's/Half Moon Bay Ride

Ride Leader – Lorin Guy

August

August 13th, 14th, 15th (Friday – Sunday) – Dardanelle Weekend

Dates to be confirmed. Ken Armann, will these dates work?

August 14th (Saturday) – Alternative Day Ride – Ebbets/Sonora Pass Loop

Ride leader - David Crader.

August 22nd (Sunday) 9:30 AM – Adopt-a-Highway clean-up day.

September

September 18th & 19th (Saturday – Sunday) – North/South Ride (Tentative).

Ride Leader Alan Goldwater. This will be a hook-up with the Southern California Club somewhere in the Sierras.

September 18th (Saturday) – Alternative Day Ride – TBA

Ride leader needed.

October

October 3rd (Sunday) – Old Timer's Ride and AGM

Ride Leader – Mike Sullivan.

October 17th (Sunday) – Delta Ride

Ride leader Gar Jorgenson

November

November 6th (Saturday) – All British Ride

November 21st (Sunday) – Adopt-a-Highway clean-up day

9:30 AM before the Turkey Ride

November 21st (Sunday) – Turkey Ride

Ride leader – Lorin Guy

December

December 5th (Sunday) – Christmas Party (no ride or meeting)

A LETTER FROM A LOST SOLE

A letter from former NCNOC Public Relations Officer John Covell

Sunday, January 4th, 2004
Washington, D.C.

Hello Fellow Club Members,

All's well here in D.C., and life in the east is good. We've had extraordinary weather lately—it's in the 70s today! —But by midweek we are expecting the more usual winter weather to return, with snow predicted for Thursday. My work's great, keeps me pretty busy, and personal life is also excellent.

My work remains doing labor relations for the Postal Service, but now I am in the USPS's law enforcement branch, the Postal Inspection Service. In this capacity, I not only represent the Inspection Service to the Fraternal Order of Police, I also represent the Inspection Service to the parent organization (USPS), as well as Postal Police managers to the Inspection Service. So it's kind of a four-way street. Very interesting.

Because the climate here isn't as bike-friendly as California, and I don't have a garage, and because my personal life has become much busier than in the past (new relationship), I sold my Norton a few weeks ago and have no plan to replace it immediately. At the moment, there just isn't a space in my life for motorcycling; but I've no regrets, and I think I will get back to it in the future at some point. I seem to be following the path that Dave Crader did, just 15 years later. I intend to maintain my NCNOC membership, however, so as to keep up with my friends in the west, whom I number among the finest people I have ever known. Of course, should your travels bring you to the DC area, it would be great to see you, too.

Please pass my regards to all the usual suspects!

John Covell
Washington D.C. Branch
NorCalNOC

President's Message by Jerry Grainger

Hi Riders

We're off to a fine start in 2004, with a full agenda of rides and enjoyable Norton activities already planned (or as Wendy refers to it as "Norton'ing")

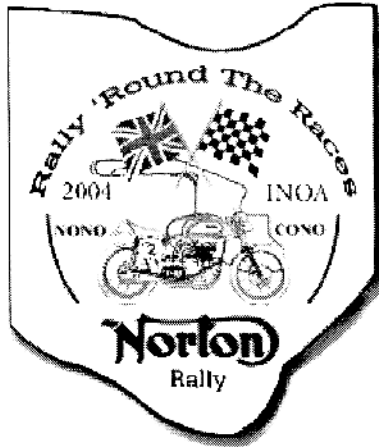
At the December Christmas meeting and party and meeting, Gar Jorgenson and the rides committee presented a full calendar of rides, club meetings, and events for the upcoming year. Don't forget that we are now awarding double points to ride leaders, which may account for the fact that nearly all of the 2004 rides already have a scheduled ride leader. Wisely, Gar will also have some guidelines for this responsibility, so our rides which kicked off on Sunday January 11, should be organized, safe, and fun.

We also re-jiggered the points scheme a bit, which I'm sure you'll find detailed elsewhere in this issue. Competition promises to be keen once again, with newer and longer term members alike taking aim at the Norton Cup for 2004. This is always a fun scramble by the time September or October rolls around, with no shortage of debates over points.

We're demonstrating why we won the INOA Best Chapter Award last year, and why we should do it again. We're working with other Clubs in planning the 2005 INOA Rally, and if you have a suggested name for this event, let Alan Goldwater know.

Our February meeting will be at a new location, The Pig and Whistle, in San Francisco on Geary Blvd. Near Wood Street, February 12. See this issue for further details and mark your calendars now for upcoming Norton'ing. Let me have your suggestions for other ways we might have fun with our cool old Norton motorcycles.

Best wishes in 2004,
Jerry Grainger, President



July 19-23, 2004

(Monday-Friday)

Whispering Hills Campground
 8248 State Route 514
 Big Prairie, Ohio 44676
www.whisperinghillsvrpark.com

Name

Address

Phone

E-mail

Mail check to:

INOA Rally 2004
 c/o Stan Smith
 Rocky Point Cycles
 2509 Linebaugh Road
 Xenia, OH 45385-8590
 e-mail: sales@rockypointcycle.com
 info: ohionortonowners.org
 Phone: 937-376-9792

Tee-shirts: \$12-S, M, L, XL; \$15-XXL, XXXL

Names of others attending with you:

.....

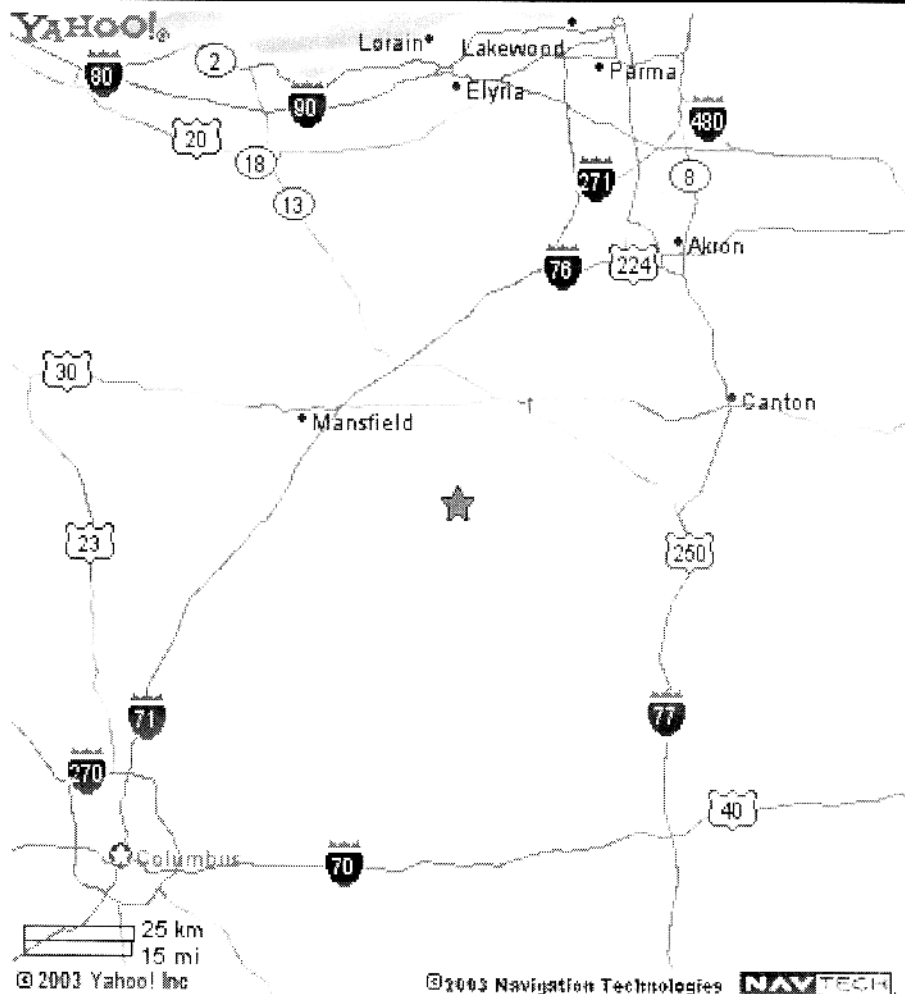
Pre-Registration Rates (USD)

(rates will be 10% higher on-site)

INOA Member	.....	\$50
Non-member	.....	\$55
Youth 6-18	.....	\$25
Children (under 6)	.....	Free
Tee-Shirt(s)	.....	See prices

Camping fees are \$8 per night per person, to be collected at the rally.
 Do not send camping fees.

Make Check Payable (in US dollars) to "INOA Rally 2004"



FLASH

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NORTON 350 \$24,000; 1961 30M MANX NORTON
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EDITOR'S MESSAGE

Well, now I know why no one volunteered to take on the Editorship. Not being a real computer type, some of this has me going in circles.

I hope to have the January issue in your hands before the next meeting at the Prince of Wales on January 8 but looking at the way things are developing it is doubtful. Anyway I am struggling along and doing my best so bear with me. There might not be any photos in the first couple of issues until I get the Photoshop thing figured out in relation to how I have the Notice published.

I would like to thank Jerry Grainger and his wife Wendy for hosting the Christmas party. This is no easy task and there is a considerable amount of work to be done to pull it off. If you guys missed the party that is shame on you. The potluck food was great and the cake that Tom Dabel brought was spectacular with a fine rendition of his International on it.

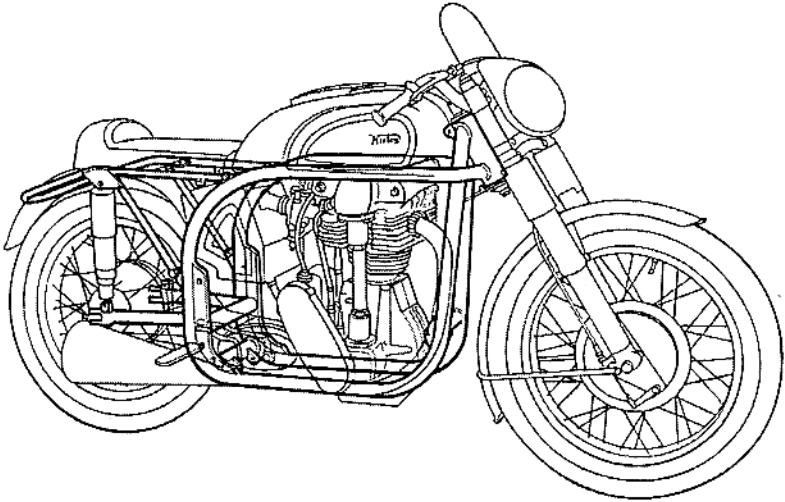
At the Officers meeting and the General Meeting that followed there were some changes to the Ride Schedule made so look elsewhere in this issue and mark your calendars. Speaking of calendars, we still have about a dozen left so pick them up at the next meeting before they are all gone. Also at the meeting the Norton Cup Award points scheme was finalized for the coming year. It is also in this issue somewhere.

Other recent news is that someone has stolen out Adopt-a-Highway sign to the south of Alice's. Lorin Guy is working with CalTrans to get it replaced. This will set the Club back about \$40.00 so it can get expensive in the long run if the thievery keeps up. Lorin is working to get the sign on the north of Alice's moved to the intersection of Highways 84 and 35, maybe if we moved the south side closer in where there is more traffic it will not grow any more legs.

I was personally upset to find that Norton America did not have a display at the last Cycle World Expo at the San Mateo Fairgrounds. The unit that was there was a non-running hack with no fuel or oil tanks and the engine looked like it had been gone over with a welding torch and a big grinder. Even at that it gained a lot of attention. Oh well like the Giants and the 49ers, there is always next year.

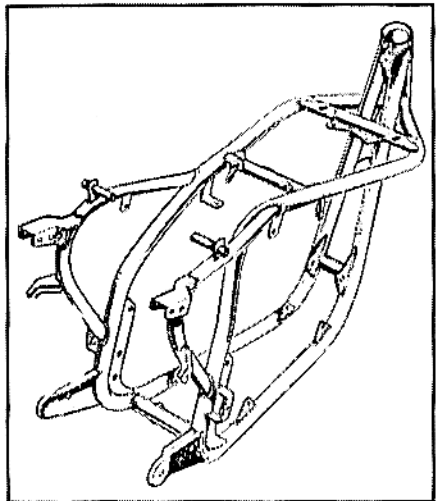
To reiterate what Alan Mueller asked for, please send articles and photos that can be used in future issues of the Notice.

Mike Sullivan, Editor



The Featherbed Frame

The original frame had the top rails parallel to each other and the rear sub frame was bolted on to support the seat and mudguard on the street machines. The Slimline frames had the top rails pinched in to allow a narrower petrol tank at the rear. interestingly, the term "Wideline" was not used until the new style frame was christened "Slimline" by the Press.



Slimline Featherbed frame as for the twins, the single-cylinder version being very similar.

NOC meeting minutes 1/8/04 at the Prince of Wales

Meeting called to order at 8:00 by Pres. Jerry Grainger with 18 members present and 4 Nortons parked outside.

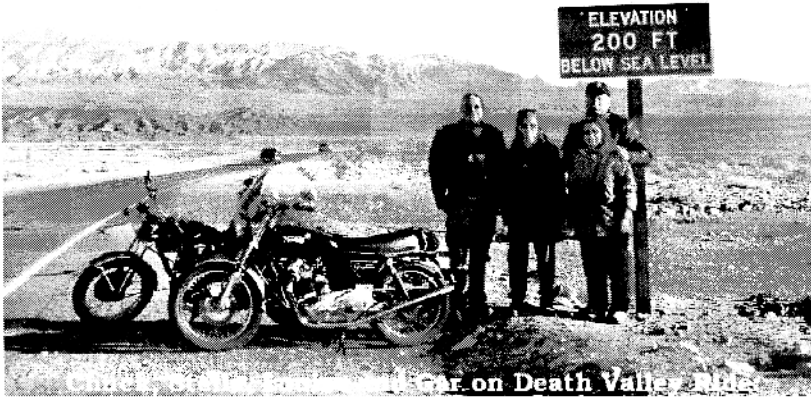
- 1) Al Mueller reports we have about \$1100 in the club account
 - 2) Sunday 1/11 will have been the Freeze Ride. There was a great turnout with 16 Nortons observed at Skylonda Corners. See pictures elsewhere in this issue.
 - 3) Feb. ride – meet at the Florence Bar in Niles as usual. The route is up the east bay hills, to finish in Dublin for lunch.
 - 4) Gar reports that two riders made the unofficial ride to Death Valley. “Coldest weather in 20 years” Margie S and Chuck Bohn were there on Nortons.
 - 5) NOC-UK membership cards were distributed by Al Mueller for those belonging. The arcane membership numbering scheme was explained in some detail.
 - 6) INOA membership was briefly explained and discussed.
 - 7) The northbound Adopt-a-Highway sign was stolen. We will have to pay for a replacement vinyl decal (\$43.50). CalTrans will use more theft-resistant hardware next time. The southbound sign will be moved to the Skylonda junction at the same time. CalTrans is generally happy with our work there.
 - 8) When the club visited the Towe Museum (Delta Ride) we got a club membership. They would like loan of a couple of Nortons for a 30-day display. Contact Gar if you’re interested.
 - 9) Mike Sullivan has 8 NOC calendars available \$15 at the meeting or \$20 mailed. Any remainder will be sold at the Clubman Show Sat March 27
 - 10) The Day After ride will be led by the Velo club on Sunday March 28
 - 11) For the Feb. meeting Lynn Miller suggests the Pig & Whistle pub in SF. On Geary at Wood (near Masonic) top of the hill. Reservation has been confirmed.
 - 12) Clubmans show – The “Best Club Display” is a perpetual trophy and we need to return it (so we can win it again). Lorin described some ideas for this years booth.
 - 13) I reported briefly on our 2005 INOA Rally site in Lake Selmac Oregon. Details will be offered in the next issue of the Notice.
 - 14) Ray Pallett reports that Huckleberry Flat picnic ground has been closed. We are looking for alternate venue(s) in the area. Ray and Tom Dabel will find a suitable site and reserve it for October.
-

- 15) Lorin mentioned the v-Moto race schedule for 2004 and Detailz, a bike detailing company offering use of their 2500 sq ft facility in Santa Clara for the club.
- 16) The idea of a summer or fall swap meet was discussed. Consensus was that spring is better. Why not the Clubman Show? It seems that sellers need a tax resale permit to get a booth there. It was suggested that one of our advertisers will offer to sell individual items for members. Tabled until next meeting.
- 17) Meeting adjourned at 9:05

Respectfully submitted by Alan Goldwater / sec.

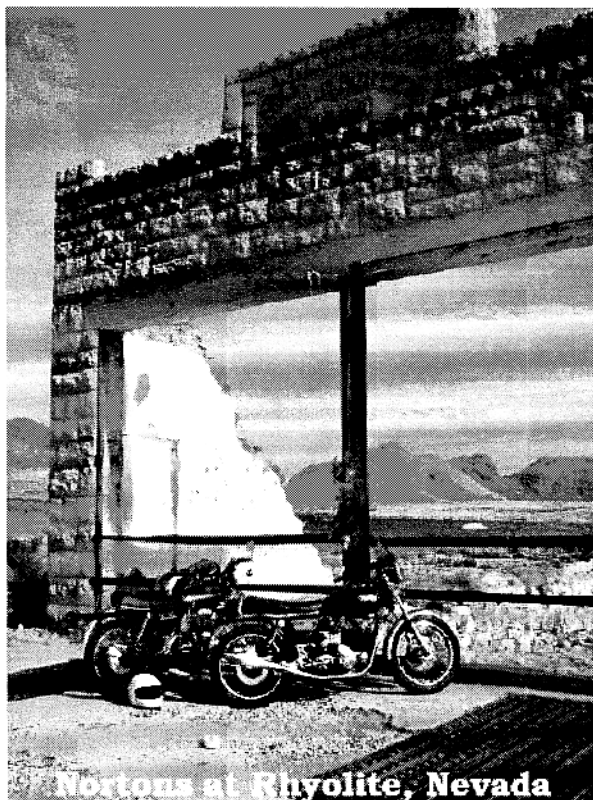
ART SIROTA'S FINE MODEL 7 AT THE POLAR BEAR RIDE





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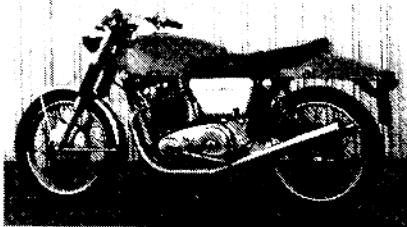
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CLASSIFIEDS

*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.***

WANTED: Send Want Adds to your editor.

**For sale: 1973 Norton Combat 850 Roadster Matching numbers #220114, 18K miles red, Boyer, Front and rear Super Venoms, 2 seats, stock and solo, H/D sportster mufflers, runs great, current registration. Bad knees forces sale \$3,200.00
Jerry Joliff 408-264-8766**

**For sale..... 1973
850 Commando
9,800 original miles since new and correct except for the tail light. Health forces sale.
\$5,000.00 obo
Contact dave at 916-983-5556
days or e-mail at
comanchefy@aol.com**

**FOR SALE: 1971 Commando Roadster. Engine by Ken Armann. single Mikuni. Original carbs included. Sealed battery from Frank Recoder. New rear tire, front tire 80%. Boyer. Easy starter and good runner. \$4000 or best offer.
Mike Sullivan 650-872-3336**

NCNOC Website

**For Sale: 1971 Commando Completely refurbished, new tires, disc front brake. All records. In Danville, CA
\$4,500.00 OBO Contact Ben
510-595-8110 or 510-610-2914
email
bensamrick@comcast.net**

**From Trader mag.
1971 Commando 750 Rebuilt
Lockheed Racing disc brake
cust rear sets & headlight
Akront rims, new shoks and
mufflers. %5,500 obo
408-891-9423**

Bits for Sale:

**Freshly re-upholstered stock roadster seat, silver logo,
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Brand new rearsets right hand shift \$250
Brand new clipons \$50.00
Misc other bits
Rob Heyden, mechanic at
Schlichers in Oakland
510-569-4767**

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/INOA 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 \$25. 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:
Ray Pallett, 462 Del Medio Ave. #2, Mountain View, CA
94040
(650)947-9780