



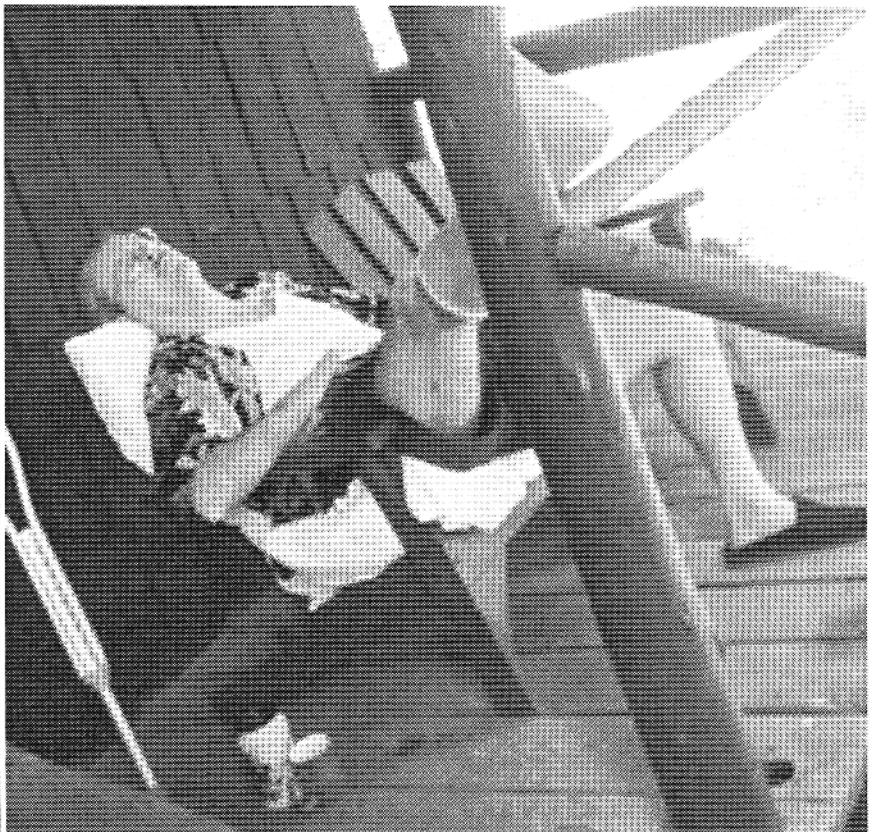
# Norton Notice



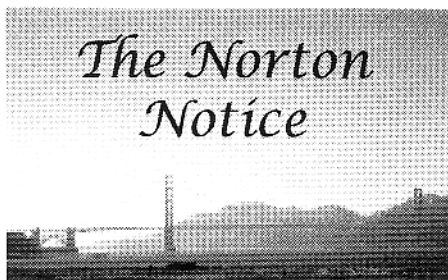
The Newsletter of the  
Northern California Norton Owner's Club

No. 310

September 2004



**Your President  
Jerry Grainger hard at work planning next  
years INOA Rally**



## The Norton Notice

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 PC can read it. E-mail can be sent using INTERNET to [mikemill20@aol.com](mailto:mikemill20@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.

**WEBSITE: [www.nortonclub.com](http://www.nortonclub.com)**

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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

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# Upcoming Events

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## 2004 Meeting Schedule

Northern California Norton Owners Club  
2004 Meeting Schedule

NEXT MEETING

**Thursday September 9**

**Prince of Wales Pub  
106 East 25th Ave.  
San Mateo**

**650-574-9723**

Meeting starts at 8:00pm

Bench racing starts as soon as the second member arrives

September 9th - *Meeting - Prince of Wales*

October 3rd - *Old Timers Ride and AGM - Loma Mar Store, Pescadero Road about 1 mi. west of Memorial Park* Note date change. Incorrect date was in previous issues.

November 5th - *Meeting - Prince of Wales*

December 5th - *Christmas Party (no ride in Dec.)*

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## Ride Schedule..

by Gar Jorgenson, ride coordinator

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<b>Points Leaders:</b>	<b>Alan G.</b>	<b>82</b>
	<b>Ian Reddy</b>	<b>74</b>
	<b>Lorin Guy</b>	<b>70</b>
	<b>Tom Dabel</b>	<b>60</b>
	<b>John Maka</b>	<b>60</b>

*(Please note that the points tally isn't totally accurate because I have not yet received attendance sheets for the August meeting, Cameron's Ride, The Dardanelle Ride, or the August Clean-up Day. These numbers will change when those tally sheets come in.)*

### **September**

#### **September 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> (Saturday – Sunday) – North/South Ride**

Ride Leader Alan Goldwater. This will be a hook-up with the Southern California Club in Sonora. Meet Saturday at 10 AM in Sonora at the entrance to the Junction Shopping Center. Since the new section of Hwy 108 now completely bypasses the town, exit at Mono Way, turn right and watch for the Hava Java / Fuel Depot, 0.8 miles on the right. We'll leave at 11, and after a lunch stop at Dardanelles, we'll proceed to Bridgeport and stop overnight at the Virginia Creek Settlement about 5 miles past town. There are still some tent cabins available for \$20, but bedding is \$6 extra so bring your sleeping bag. One motel room was also open as of 8/15 but will probably be gone soon.

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For reservations call 760 932 7780, or go to <http://www.virginiacrksettlement.com/> Across Highway 395, Willow Springs Motel and Campground (760-932-7725) still had a few motel rooms available as of August 20<sup>th</sup>. Virginia Creek will be serving a buffet breakfast for us (around \$10), so we can avoid the morning chill for our Sunday ride south to Lee Vining and over Tioga Pass.

My cell phone is (831) 278-1156 in case of trouble.

Alan Goldwater – Ride Leader

**September 18<sup>th</sup> (Saturday) – Alternative Day Ride.**

*Cancelled for lack of a ride leader.*

**October**

***October 3<sup>rd</sup> (Sunday) – Old Timer's Ride and AGM***

*Ride Leader – Mike Sullivan.*

**October 17<sup>th</sup> (Sunday) – Delta Ride**

Ride leader Gar Jorgenson – Starting from Antioch at 10:30, this year's ride will include a ride on at least one of the ferries and a few of the more obscure roads between Antioch and Sacramento. Lunch will be at Al the Wop's in Locke. We will be back to Antioch by about 3 PM.

**November**

**November 6<sup>th</sup> (Saturday) – All British Ride**

**November 21<sup>st</sup> (Sunday) – Adopt-a-Highway clean-up day**

9:30 AM before the Turkey Ride

**November 21<sup>st</sup> (Sunday) – Turkey Ride**

Ride leader – Lorin Guy

**December**

***December 5<sup>th</sup> (Sunday) – Christmas Party (no ride or meeting)***

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## EDITOR'S CORNER

Well, fall is in the air. You can feel it and see it as dew on the cars in the morning. At least this is the way it is on the Peninsula. You riders in the East Bay, South Bay, the Concord Tri-valley area and further beyond might not believe it, but you better be checking your tires as the rains will be here sooner than you think.

I have received some flyers about the El Camino College and Del Mar Shows down in Southern California. The El Camino College Antique Motorcycle show and Swap Meet will be held this year on Saturday October 2. The Del Mar Classic Concours d' Elegance & Parts Exchange will be held on Saturday October 16<sup>th</sup>. This is strange timing as the two meets used to be held on subsequent weekends so the show people and tradesmen would not have to travel home and then back again. Oh well, I know none of you would miss the Old Timer's Ride and Annual General Meeting held on October 3, but you might want to go to Del Mar. For more information go to [www.batorinternational.com](http://www.batorinternational.com) or call 805-646-9566.

Notification has been sent by Dave Crader about the re-newels of the NOC Memberships. For those of you who are NOC Branch members, or would like to be branch members, send your forms and checks for \$28.00 to Dave. He is compiling them and will send all the dues in to the NOC by credit card. Contact Dave by email at [dpcrader@comcast.com](mailto:dpcrader@comcast.com) or [david.crader@VikoTestLab.com](mailto:david.crader@VikoTestLab.com) or call him at 925-513-3148.

It was brought to my attention at the last meeting at Tommy's Joynt that we have been carrying the date for the Old Timer's Ride and AGM as October 2 whereas it should have been stated as Sunday October 3. Be there or be square. This is your Club so if you want to have any input, now would be the time to do it.

And NO, Honda has not bought Norton. I took the photo in Italy last summer. I do not know if Kenny Dreer bought the trademarked names when he acquired the rights to Norton, but if Honda is illegally using the Dominator name he will have a long row to hoe to get them to stop using it.

Mike Sullivan, Editor

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**President's Message by Jerry Grainger**

August 22, 2004

Hi Riders

Well gosh, there's just been so much enjoyable Norton'ing going on! We had a nice long weekend at the Dardanelles on the Sonora Pass recently, with some excellent hospitality and pleasant camping and dining under the stars. See Alan Goldwater's minutes for details. Today about a dozen of us met for our Adopt-A-Highway effort, starting at Alice's, and taking an hour or so to tidy up, and enjoy a little fellowship, courtesy of Lorin and Kathryn Guy. And the 8/12/04 business meeting at Tommy's Joyn't in S. F. may've answered the question about where to meet in the City.

Looking ahead, the next business meeting on Thursday, Sept. 9 will be a return to the Prince of Wales Pub in San Mateo, dining and bench-racing before the 8 p.m. meeting. The POW is always a Norton-friendly venue.

Coming up the weekend of Sept. 18-19 is the North-South ride, again to the Sonora Pass, winding up overnight at the Virginia Settlement, just outside of Bridgeport along Highway #395. I've booked a four-bunk cabin, so there should be a little extra space available, if you haven't yet reserved (and see Alan G's announcement). Food and lodging are quite reasonable, and this has been a fun trip in the past, getting together with our brethren from Southern California, swappin' lies and swattin' flies.

Our annual business meeting and election of officers (AGM = Association General Meeting?) takes place on Sunday (not Saturday) Oct. 3, winding up at the Loma Mar store along (8150) Pescadero Road, only about a mile west of our traditional location in the County Park, which is no longer available. Thanks to Lynne Miller for securing a very promising picnic facility. Bring a musical instrument if you're inclined.

If you want to make a nomination or stand for office in the NCNOC, now's the time to consider it for this meeting. Positions on the NCNOC Board are always highly coveted, due to the enormous salaries and perqs., or at least that's what they told me before I was elected. See the masthead of this Norton Notice for a list of club officers, and as always, elsewhere in this issue for further details as to the various events.

As for 2005, be sure and mark your calendar for the International Norton Owners Rally at Lake Selmac, in southern Oregon, on July 13-17, 2005. Alan G. reports that plans are progressing nicely for this fun and family-friendly event, and it's already getting a lot of buzz throughout the country. It's a joint effort with our northern Pacific Coast affiliates, and will be our chance to show once again, why we're the best Norton chapter in the known universe.

Your feedback is welcome as to any of the above, or what you will.  
See you on the road.

Jerry Grainger  
President,

## Sierra Passes Ride Report – David Crader

Gar and I transported the Commandos to Sonora traveling on Hwy 120/108 through Manteca. Traffic was pretty heavy through Oakdale and I'll take a different route next year. We got to Sonora at 9:50, just in time for the 10:00 departure. I wasn't expecting anyone else so with just the two of us we headed toward the Dardanelles. Not having to ride across the central valley really made the distance to Pinecrest/Strawberry short. Steve & Linda Marsh were waiting for us at the Donelle vista turnout and we continued another 10 miles to meet up with the weekenders at the campground.

At 11:30 the combined group of 4 Nortons and 4 BMWs headed up Sonora Pass. The road passes a 9,000 ft marker and continues to rise above the tree line. In mid August there are still patches of snow on the sides of the peaks. Once over Sonora Pass it's down the eastern Sierras with a change to evergreen and aspen trees. This year there were no Marines training as we passed the MCMWTC (Marine Corps Mountain Weapons Training Center).

Lunch at Walker Burgers was the usual gather, however the service was actually faster than I remembered. The weekenders decided to join the day riders up Hwy 89 and Monitor Pass. Another usual for this ride is the stop at the view point rising toward the pass. Did I mention the tone of a Commando is deeper and more muffled at these altitudes. I really enjoy the sound winding up the speed on the switchbacks. As I reached the rest of the group at the view point, Tom Dabel mentioned I was having too much fun from the note coming from my approaching engine.

At some abandoned former "mansion" the weekenders stopped for a tour while the day riders continued west on Hwy 4. This road narrows considerably as it approaches Ebbitts Pass. Again a change of vegetation with alpine fir predominating and looking like living Christmas trees. I had told Mike Sullivan we would make some noise as we passed through Angels Camp where he was doing a family thing, but the small group decided to cross over at Parrotts Ferry bridge and return to Sonora through Columbia. Steve and Linda left us there. Gar and I got back to Sonora just before 5:00pm. The total round trip was actually 207 miles.

Next year I'm thinking about changing the route. It might be nice to take in Sonora Pass then south on Hwy 395 and see Bodie. Whataya think?

---



## ADOPT A HIGHWAY CLEAN-UP DAY

Aug 22, 2004:

Highway 35 at Highway 84

Northern California Norton Owners club met to police the highway at the corners, affectionately known as Alice's restaurant area. It was exceptionally littered, as the crew was to find out. Everyone ended up with one to two bags full of the usual roadside clutter. A healthy showing of members included our President still sporting his bright orange cast on his leg. Mike Sullivan was first to hit the streets north bound followed by Kathryn Guy and Ian Reddy. Liz Sain and her lovely niece set out south bound followed by club Vice President Lorin Guy.

Late shows Alan Goldwater and Tom Dable worked the infield area and help Club President Gerry Grainger man the sign in table.

Again Kathryn Guy set a lovely tale of coffee, tea, and cocoa along with morning sweet treats.

Overall, another successful clean up for the club and a job well done.

Thanks to all who showed up to help.

*Lorin Guy, V.P.*

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**NCNOC Minutes 8-12-04**

Called to order at 8:05 by Jerry G. with 15 members present

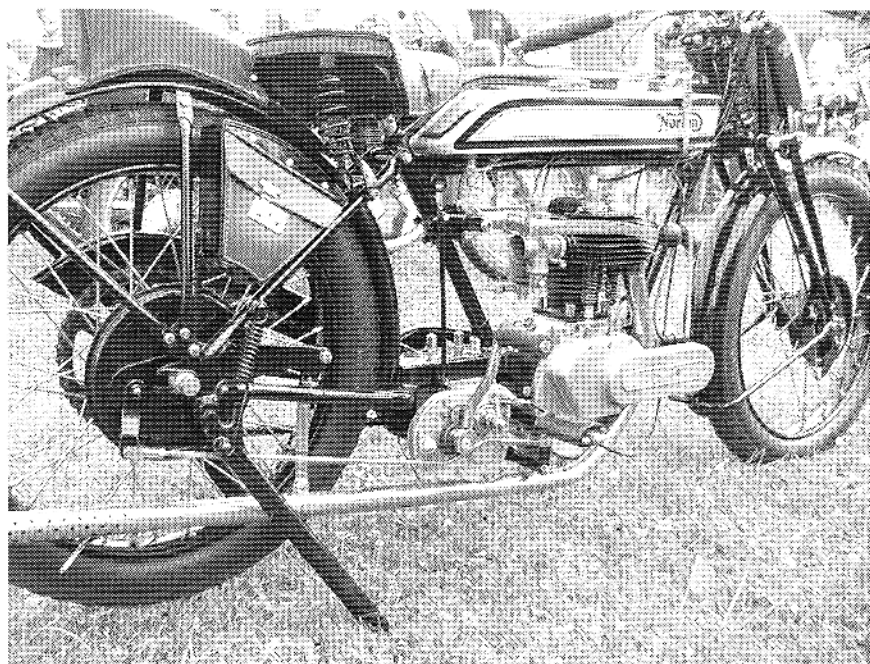
- 1) Reading of last months minutes was waved by consent.
- 2) Ray reports we have about \$1000 in treasury and 170 members plus comps
- 3) Jeffrey Potter has revised the web site, and also reports he hasn't been getting the Notice. Ray will fix
- 4) Mike Sullivan reports that the Norton Notice costs around \$230 per month including postage.
- 5) Lorin reports that there were about 22 riders on the Camerons ride. No one got lost or fell down.
- 6) Dardanelles ride weekend following the meeting. Turnout was light, with six members plus three on the day ride. Weather was cooler than normal with some rain, but the riding was great as usual. Many thanks to Robert and Cathy Ohannesian for hosting the campsite parties with fine style and generous meals.
- 7) The North-South weekend ride with SoCal Norton Owners will be September 18-19, with the same itinerary as last year. See details elsewhere in this issue.
- 8) Old Timers ride & picnic will be Sunday October 3, not Sat. 10/2 as previously shown. Lynne Miller has secured the Loma Mar Store as a venue (8150 Pescadero Road.) The Club will supply meat, and we'll buy drinks at the store and pay them something for the use of their picnic ground. Moved, seconded and approved.
- 9) The Delta ride October 17, led by Gar with route to be determined.
- 10) Cleanup day at Alices August 22. The sign is still not up but CalTrans says 'any day now'.
- 11) I discussed the Rally05 status. Lorin will be handling PR/Vendor/Door Prizes. and promotion to other clubs. He could probably use some help with this big job.
- 12) Club shirts – we need another supplier and new artwork. I will act as a clearinghouse and collect bids etc. I'd like to see some new artwork, so if you have an idea, do a sketch and present it at the next meeting.
- 13) We also need artwork and (onsite) supplier for the 05 rally shirts. Proceeds to be split with NWNOC.
- 14) New member Nathan in Reno area sent an introductory letter and invitation to contact him if in the area. He came to meet the Dardanelles group ride at Walker Burger, and passed around some pictures of his Nortons. Thanks for the extra effort Nathan, it was nice to meet you.
- 15) Lorin reported on the upcoming AHRMA vintage racing at Thunder Hill. Reports on the email group were very enthusiastic, so we may want to put this event on our ride calendar next year.

Meeting adjourned at 9PM

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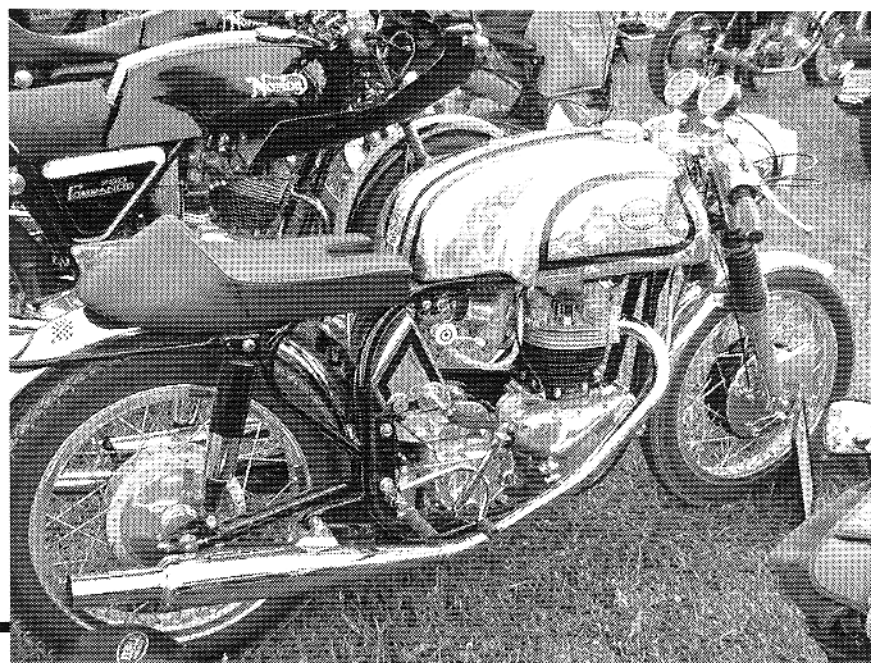
**\*\*\*FLASH\*\*\*  
HONDA BUYS NORTON!!!  
SEE EDITOR'S CORNER**



2004 INOA Rally Top: 1923 16H Concours winner

Bottom: Dunstall Dominator

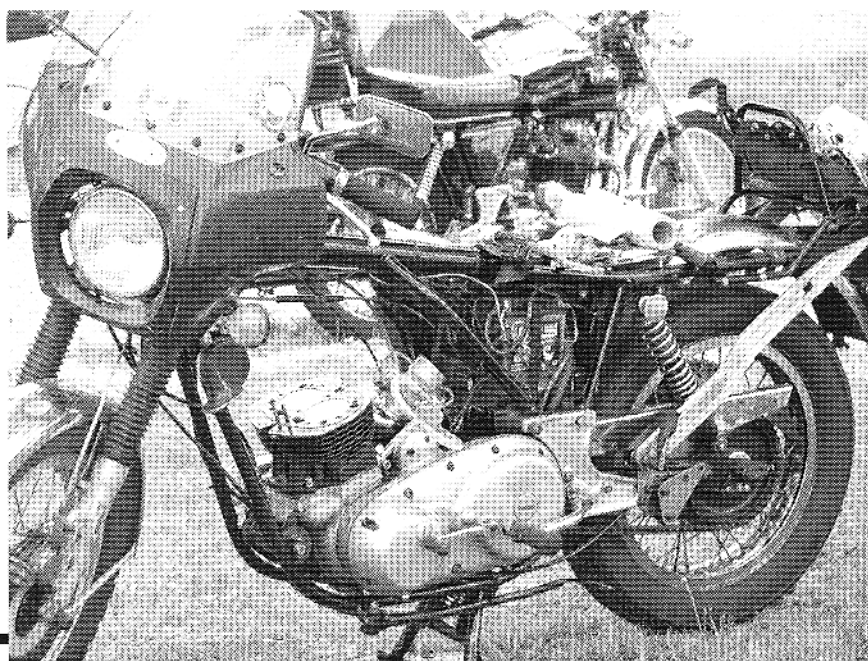
Photos by Alan Goldwater





Top: Don Danmeier and Shirley  
Rode to the Rally

Bottom: Onsite repairs  
Bent Valve Award?

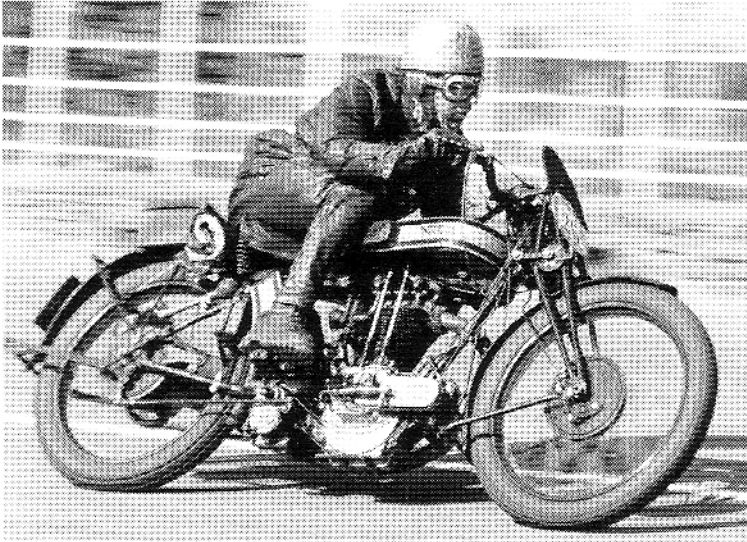






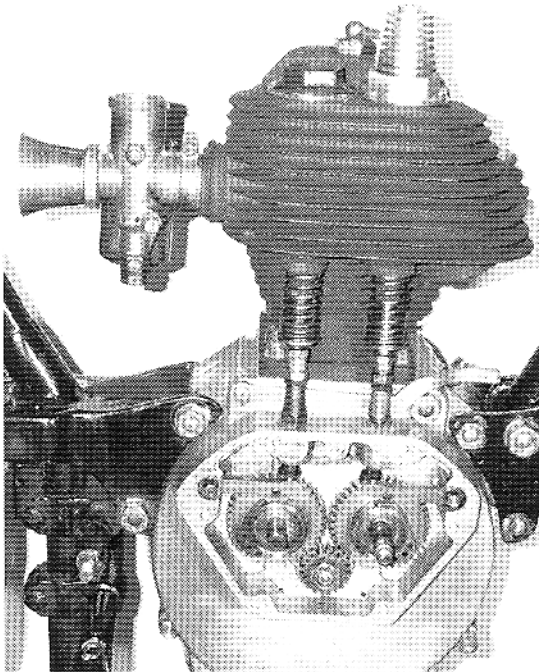
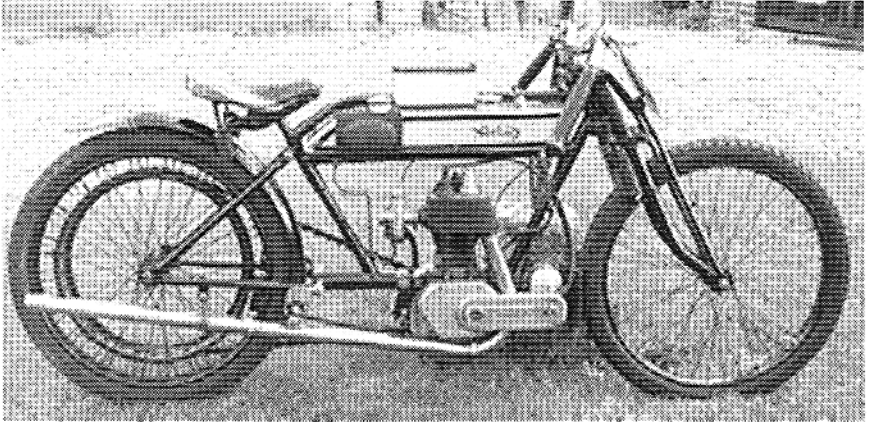
Concours lineup at the INOA

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Dr. George Cohen 1927TT at '91 IOM

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caused everyone to  
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**Alloy fork nuts**, polished alloy. Commando pn 06-0345A \$30.00/pair

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With logo for Commando only pn 06-0345AL \$48.00/pair



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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:**

'74 Commando Roadster

Good tires, good runner, decent appearance. Driven to British Columbia and back in '03 with no problems, not driven since.

Boyer, Superblend mains, but basically stock with matching numbers and original paint.

**\$3,800.00**

Call Robin at 530-389-2304

-----

*Advertisements needed  
Send Sales or wants to  
your editor*

**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**

**FOR SALE:**

REFERENCE ITEMS FROM  
CURRENT EBAY.

1970 Commando S

Concours winner 12,011 mi.  
in Colorado

Last bid: \$5,195.00

1951 Model 18

Tele/rigid Restored in  
Australia 10 years ago.

Bike in Canyon Country  
(Utah?)

Last bid \$4,900.00

1974 John Player Norton

14,200 mi Best Norton at  
Mid-Ohio Vintage Days.

In Brooklyn

Last Bid \$8.000.00

**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 \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**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**