



The Newsletter of the Northern California Norton Owner's Club

36 Oakmore Dr. , San Jose' Ca. 95127



The Newsletter of the Northern California Norton Owner's Club

No. 384

August 2013– September 2013



2013 Rally Edition  
INOA Rally at Buffalo Wy.  
The Commando Line Up



**NORTON NOTICE**

Published by the Northern California Norton Owner's Club, its purpose is to inform and entertain the club members. The Norton Notice is a reflection of the readership who are encouraged to submit articles, technical tips, photographs (original or otherwise). The Norton Notice prefers contributions submitted electronically. Send to

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**MEMBERSHIP**

The Northern California Norton Owners Club is open to all British motorcycle enthusiasts. Membership and renewals can be paid for via our web site and is available for \$25 per year. Membership offers a wide range of benefits including the mailed Norton Notice, website, yahoo group, Social activities, Tech sessions and Monthly rides.

**Advertising**

Ads are \$100.00 per 1/4 page for the year. Contact the Editor for information and pricing on lager ads.

**AFFILIATIONS**

The NCNOC is affiliated with both the Norton Owner's Club of England (NOC) <http://nortonownersclub.org/> and the International Norton Owner's Association (INOA) <http://inoanorton.com/>

Honorary Members ,Brian Slark, Dick Slusher, Jodi Nickolas

**2013 Club Executive Board and Members in Service**

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**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:**

The Club gratefully acknowledges the work of Fred Fortune (Fortune2.com) for the designs used in this journal and on the club web site. Website program is thanks to club member Ian Reddy.

See us at [www.nortonclub.com](http://www.nortonclub.com) and join our Yahoo group for information and club activities at

[NorCalNOC@yahoogroups.com](mailto:NorCalNOC@yahoogroups.com)

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**Membership cost is \$25.00 per year and includes a subscription to the Norton Notice, a publication which provides an enormous wealth of information to Norton owners and re-caps of club events.**

*I hereby apply for Membership in the Northern California Norton Owners Club (NCNOC)*

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**City** \_\_\_\_\_ **State** \_\_\_\_\_

**Zip** \_\_\_\_\_ **E-Mail** \_\_\_\_\_

This is a new \_\_\_\_ renewal \_\_\_\_ application.

Norton(s) owned: Year \_\_\_\_ Model \_\_\_\_\_

Year \_\_\_\_ Model \_\_\_\_\_

*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 judgment 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.*

**Applicants Signature and date (required)**

Make your check for \$25 payable to **Northern California Norton Owners Club**. Send all applications & inquiries to Ron Bastiaans, 708 Liberty Street, El Cerrito Ca. 94530 You can also join on line at [nortonclub.com](http://nortonclub.com) and use credit card through our pay pal account.

Join our club Yahoo group at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/NorCalNOC/>

\*The NCNOC is associated with both the NOC and the INOA You can join the INOA and the NOC from our website at [Nortonclub.com](http://Nortonclub.com)

## More Rally remembrances

Thanks from Ian Reddy

Thanks for sharing Jerry. It was wonderful to see you and Joan and everyone else at this year's rally.

Gar and I and the rest of the NCNOC volunteers appreciate all the kind words and kudos sent our way along with the great trust shown by so many in making the rally a summer destination. We aimed for attendance in the high 200s, hoped to break 300, but are very pleased to say that the final official count was 326!!!

A huge thanks to Josh, our volunteer photographer, there are over 2000 pictures posted along with additional contributions from rally attendees in the 2013 Rally Memories section of the website: <http://nortonrally.com/inoa-rally-2013/rally-memories>.

There are so many pictures that the load times can be a bit long. The quickest way to browse is to click on an album name and cursor over the thumbnail pictures. Otherwise, please be patient as an album loads. I will try to group the pictures into smaller albums soon. The pictures tell some great stories. Enjoy!



INOA rally Rrde to the monument at Fetterman : NCNOC member Jerry Kaplan at the rally in Wy.

**RIDE AND EVENT DIARY:** note: dates in bold are NCNOC club events those not in bold are events of interest to the club. **For event details see your club website at Nortonclub.com**

**August 8th Thursday: Meeting:** Swiss Park & Dardanelles

**August 8-12th : Dardanelle's motorcycle Camp Out : club spaces reserved, NCNOC's 21st annual, see website or call club President Ken Armann for details.**

August 21st Wednesday: **TrackerNite 6** ,Barnaby Machine Co Santa Clara Ca. 5:30pm-9:30pm Motorcycle show and BBQ

**August 25th Sunday: Adopt-a-Highway Clean up, meet at Alice's 10:30am**

**September 12 Thursday: Meeting** Sonoma Chicken Coop, 8pm start Campbell Ca

**September 15th Sunday: Delta Ride:** This ride has been one of our favorites great roads, lots to see and it's always fun to see the water ways and boats. Our ride leader Dave Crader has a reputation for being painfully on time, so please be there and ready, gas'd up and ready to ride. 10:30am "sharp" We'll leave Carl's Jr 915 Main Street, Oakley, Ca 94561

**October 6th Sunday AGM: annual meeting Vasona Lake Park, Pepper Tree BBQ spot Ride info coming:**

November 2nd Saturday: BSA Clubs All British Ride, Novato Ca,

**November 14th Thursday : Meeting Harry's Hoff Brau San Jose Ca.**

**November 25th Sunday : Turkey Ride meet at Alice's at 10:30am**

**December 1st. Holiday Party: Lorin and Kathryn Guy will again host more information as it gets close.**

**December 29th Adopt-a-Highway Clean Up meet at Alice's Ride to follow.**

**Always see the club website for event details:**

## President's Message:

You really missed it, you should have been in Wyoming. Gar and Ian with the help of many other NCNOC members did a stellar job putting on one of the BEST Rally's ever.

Weather was great and the setting was really super. They have a pool in town 50 meters on the short side and 150 (or more) meters on the long side all for free, seems it was a mud bottom years ago that got concreted in so the stream water now goes through filters and back to the stream. The lifeguard told me it is a gallon short of a million. (With help I will be posting pictures to the yahoo group.). Thanks to all the members who attended and who helped make it a great time.

The summer is quickly running itself into fall and the amount of daylight is beginning to dwindle so time to get out and finish off with a BANG, The Dardanelle and the Delta rides are coming up and both are events to not be missed, In the past I have avoided the Delta ride as I am not in love with the heat however last year was really exceptional such a fun ride do your best to come and join us.

The clubs AGM is again on the docket and as it appears no one has come up with an alternative, so we'll again be at the Vasona Lake Park, As last year those who choose to go on the club ride, or choose to help with the club BBQ set up and tear down will have the park entry paid by the club, all other it's \$5.00 or free with your California State Handicapped placard.

This year we are looking at the other BBQ spot, where we need not traverse the grass and the scorn of the geese, it's across from the one last year and still offers all the great amenities as the other spot did. It's called "Pepper Tree" event is October 6<sup>th</sup>. Remember to be good to others and play well.

Cover photo courtesy of Harry Bunting at the Concours INOA Rally at Buffalo Wy 2013.

## INOA and the NOC Happenings:

The NCNOC is associated with the NOC of England (Norton Owner's Club) After years of establishing ourselves as the Norton representatives in the USA we joined with the INOA (International Norton Owner's Association). We highly encourage all members to join both organizations, for the benefits to you and your club.

### Coming events in the INOA:

**Turn Six at Barber Vintage Festival 2013**  
**October 12, 2013**  
**Barber Vintage Festival, Leeds, AL**  
**Start time: the racers' lunch break**  
**Free to INOA Members**

### Coming events in the NOC:

August 2-5,2013: **The National Rally for 2013** will be held in Northumbria, the location being Morpeth Rugby Football Club. Morpeth Rugby Football Club, Grange House Field, Mitford Road, Morpeth, NE61 1RJ

August 9-11,2013: **Donington Classic Motorcycle Festival:** An exciting summer weekend of classic motorcycle racing including the Lansdowne Series for classic GP bikes. major club displays, trade stands and grasstrack. this is the 40th anniversary of Norton winning the F750 TT with a mono-coque JPS Norton, ridden by Peter Williams and hopefully Peter will be attending to join the iconic JPS Norton in the paddock over the weekend.

Norton Motorcycles will have a close involvement with the event, demonstrating the 961 Commandos and offering factory visits and hospitality packages.

**The NOC will have a Club stand in the Exhibition area.**

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**So who is Brian Slark?**

We know Brian Slark as a name on the title page of the Norton Notice as a honorary member of our club. He's was also known as the man from Norton Motorcycles, but what we do not know about Brian Slark could fill a whole Wikipedia page or two.

Brian credits Bud Ekins as part of the reason he came to the United States. Brian came to the US to race in the desert and never left. In England he was working for Associated Motor Cycles (Matchless & AJS) in Woolwich, London, England. He worked in the Off-Road Competition Department and as a Production & Experimental Road Tester. Bud invited him to Southern California to race. He raced motocross, scrambles, and trials in the 1950's, 60's, and 70's and was a moving force in the creation of Motocross racing in the US, importing Metisse and Cheney motocrossers. His reputation grew and he was a motorcycle mentor to the stars in So Cal teaching teen heart throb Bobby Darin to ride as well as other Hollywood types.

In the 1960's he opened his own Norton repair shop in Southern California and being a Brit in the US and having ties to England gave Brian a unique opportunity when Norton needed a factory representative here, he worked as the Norton-Villiers Corporation representative visiting all the dealers and working on issues. Through his So Cal off road connections and his British friends he was able to ride the International Six Days Trials in the Isle of Man in 1965 and vintage trials with the American Historic Motorcycle Racing Association. Later working as the Norton-Triumph Corporation's National Service Manager in the United States, Brian met many enthusiast throughout the country. He worked for Clymer Repair Manuals and Lucas Industries also.

He was enthusiast and knowledgeable and was asked to consult with Dave Mungenast to create a motorcycle museum in St. Louis Missouri; that success lead to him being the Technical Consultant at The Barber Vintage Motorsports Museum in Birmingham, Alabama. He's had an instrumental role in the establishment of the Barber Vintage Racing Festival there, Brian also helped with the arranging of The Art of the Motorcycle exhibition organized by The Guggenheim Museum and its tour.

**So Who is Brian Slark?...** Over the years Brian has been a busy boy and the whole time keeping the British motorcycle in the limelight of competition and exhibition. His dedication to the sport and British motorcycling has been appropriately noted as the NCNOC has chosen to honor Mr. Slark with a lifetime honorary membership in our club. Brian was voted into the AMA Motorcycle Hall of Fame 2012.

**Club Meeting Minutes: June 2013**

- 1) Ron Bastian indicates we have \$1740 cash in the bank and a larger amount in the NOC Paypal account.
  - 2) Munroe Motors is selling the "new" Norton Commando. Check out their website for specs:
  - 3) Alan Goldwater gave away remaining rally pins from previous INOA/NOC sponsored rally's. Contact Alan, he may still have some extras, especially the 2013 INOA rally.
  - 4) Alan Goldwater was ride leader for about 10 NOC members to the June 2013 "Bikes on the Bay" Capitola show and swap meet. The show is well attended but seems to be getting a little smaller every year.
  - 5) "MOTO UNIVERSITY" (<http://www.motorcycleuniversity.net>) came to our NOC meeting and delivered their magazine with a picture of club members at Ken Armann's bring out your dead motorcycle repair day. Thanks Mo to U.
  - 6) The NOC gave away the remaining 8 Tee-shirts for door prizes at the 2013 INOA rally in Buffalo. The club needs to formulate a plan for future T-shirt purchases.
  - 7) We all wish Keith the best in getting his Norton MkIII on the road as soon as possible. Contact Keith to offer assistance.
- Best Regards, Harry Bunting

**Club Meeting Minutes: July**

As it turns out we did not get a quorum and that was almost expected as most board members had or were about to leave for INOA rally. But we did have a good turnout of about 18 people and a nice social dinner.

**Club Meeting August :** Will be held on Friday Night Aug 9 Dardanelles Camp Out



## INOA Rally in Buffalo Wy. 2013



Club Chapters gather for the traditional group picture

Grass Games are a staple of most rallies and here it's pin the tail on the donkey ..blind, note blindfold on passenger

**NCNOC** members volunteered and helped with many aspects of the rally.



More games, ride the plank test rider skills and is great for laughs.

2013 INOA International Rally at Buffalo Wy  
Picture submitted by attending NCNOC members



## Editor Notes:

The Dardanelle camp out and motorcycle ride is coming up.. August 8-11 this event has a long standing tradition in the club and is now in its 21 year of happening. I believe the longest standing traditional ride and overnight the club has ever had. Started by Kenny Armann as a way to get away from it all, he eventually dragged the club up there and it's been our event ever since. The club has reserved four camping spots with enough room for up wards of 20 tents.. Rv and trailer spots are available call the Dardanelle office ask to be positioned near the club.

This is a relaxed camp out with a loosely organized ride over the famed Sonora Pass, the second highest pass in California, Sonora is steeped in the history of the western expansion. Its rugged cliffs and majestic views give way to some of the most challenging roads the club rides on. I say the ride is loosely organized because once down on the eastern side of the mountain many choose to forge their own trail, some heading south and other choose north. I do however recommend riding with a few others, not solo, these are high mountains and very spotty cell service and stranded riders are not happy riders. But it all comes together Saturday at the campsite again in the evening for the club dinner a sort of pot luck with the club providing the main courses. The added value of this event is the meteor shower Saturday night, gazing upon the heavens we'll witness the **Perseids** Meteor Shower an amazing array of shooting stars, a majestic display of one of mysteries of spaces, hope we see you all there.

**August 21** an amazing event is coming to Santa Clara Ca. it's called TrackerNite6 this is a "grass roots" motorcycle show and BBQ held on the streets of Santa Clara at the famed Barnaby Machine Company at 954 Shulman Ave. This is a Wednesday night and the show is unique in so many ways being a sort of "flash mob motorcycle show" lasts on-ly from 6:30pm—9:30pm all bikes welcome to show



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## Fancy Club Rider: Member Andrew Shaper '75 850

Club member Andrew Shaper sent in a couple pix of his Norton Commando. He says that after a crash in the early eighties and 30 years or so on the side of a garage a lot of work was required to bring this bike back to life. It's a '75 Mk3 with 18,000 original miles had 13,000 when he got it.

In resurrecting the bike many minor mods were made, Andrew says he wouldn't call them hot, but more to make the bike a more comfortable, reliable rider.



It's got K&N pods instead of air box and aftermarket pipes from an earlier year. Andrew says he called Norman Hyde parts and had them resurrecting a set of MK 3 rear sets; he had the sleeved master cylinder mod with new pistons and rings in the engine. A modern 4 brush starter and 22 tooth primary sprocket with 2 ea. 750 Barnett clutch plates for light clutch feel with no slipping. Andrew says the bike runs and rides fantastic! Andrew thanks Phil Radford for his guidance and help



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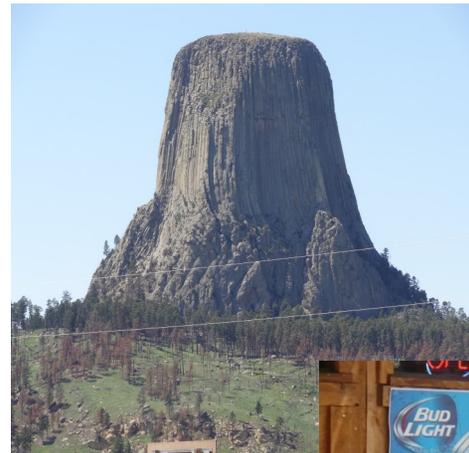
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Devil's Tower  
(upper) Bikes at the ride lunch stop  
(right) (lower right) Phil and wife chatting up on the ride.

(Below ), barrel roll, another of the grass games



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the first 3 weeks of the month, 9 am to 5 pm

**Rally Notes:**

Some observations by long time club member Jerry Kaplan: Joan and I had a fantastic 2 week getaway in our little motor home. It's been 40 years since I was in those incredible national parks and they were even more beautiful than I remembered.

And of course, the Norton Rally in Buffalo was over the top. Great people, places & bikes to play, party & ride with.

So good to be with all the Norton Illuminati. Our very own AMA Hall of Famer and Honorary Member of the NCNOC Brian Slark rode there & back with his wife aboard their late model BMW from Birmingham, AL.

Art Bone on yet another long ride from San Miguel de Allende, MX My Northwest friends and their incredible machines and all the great folks from the Atlanta chapter, plus all the new friends made there. This Rally will be savored for a long time to come.

A special thanks to all that made it happen: Garwood, Ian, Keith, Suzi & Alan, but there were so many others as well. I'm already looking forward to next years INOA rally in Ashland, OR virtually our back yard,

I hope everyone makes it home safe and sound.

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Alan Goldwater of the NCNOC and Suzi Greenway-Haenggi INOA President at the Rally

**INOA Bike Show  
2013 at Buffalo Wy.**

More Concours bikes on display. These are some of the more rare models of Commando, check out the rare rear rack on the fast back...

Commando with Inter Pol gas tank: note compartment on top. Added Oil filter in a matching color and floor boards, Very fancy



2014 INOA International Rally will be in Ashland Oregon USA. And is July 15-18 Make your reservation NOW as this is a small two with limited motels

**MotorCycle Logic: Calling upon my years of experience, I froze at the controls. ~Stirling Moss**