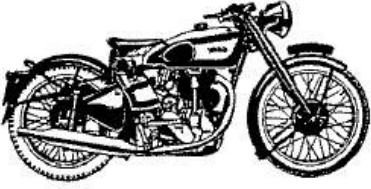
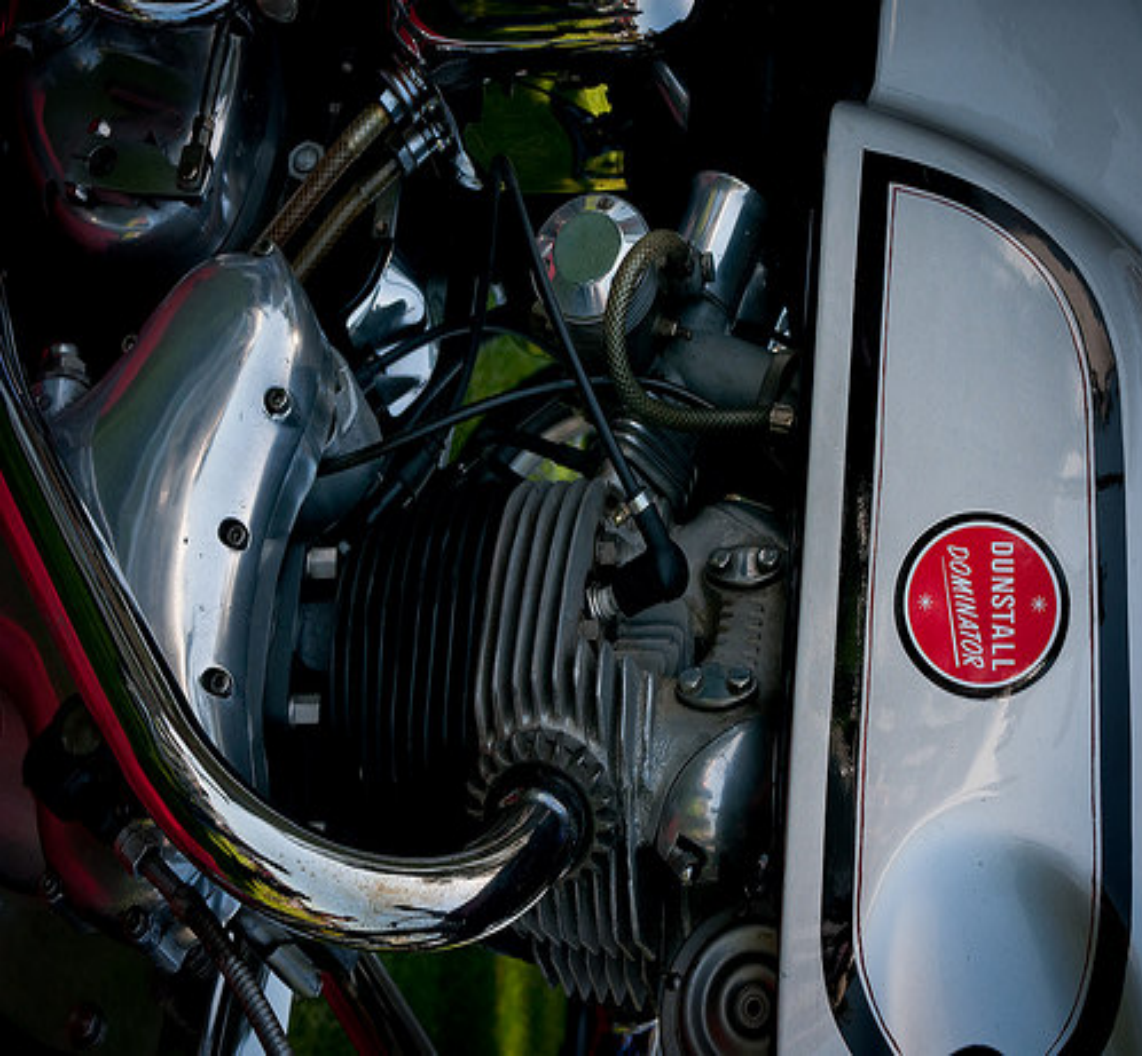


The Newsletter of the Northern California Norton Owner's Club



1706 Ebbets Dr. Campbell Ca. 95008



No. 366

June / July 2010

The Newsletter of the Northern California Norton Owner's Club





NORTON NOTICE

Published by the Northern California Norton Owners 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, photograph (original or otherwise) so that other Norton enthusiasts may enjoy it. The deadline for items to be submitted for publication is the 18th of the month preceding the issue. The Norton Notice prefers contributions submitted electronically. Articles and high-resolution

MEMBERSHIP

The Northern California Norton Owners Club is open to all Norton motorcycle enthusiasts. Membership and renewals can be paid for , to the Club via our web site and is available for \$25 per year. Membership offers a wide range of benefits including the mailed Norton Notice, and 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) and the International Norton Owners Association (INOA)
Honorary Members ,Brian Slark, Dick Slusher, Jodi Nickolas

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- Harry Bunting
- 2856 Hemlock Ave. San Jose, CA 95128
- 408.615.1234
- HarryB2378@aol.com

Vice President

- Dave Crader 925.513.3148
- dpcrader@comcast.net

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- Donna Morrison 415.771.6166
- morrison.donna@sbcglobal.net

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- Elizabeth Recoder 510.222.7771
- ibsrecoder@aol.com

Rides Coordinator

- Keith Karn 510-336-0290
- unclerhomes@yahoo.com

Members in Service

WebMaster

- Ian Reddy 408.218.1087
- lan_reddy@sbcglobal.net

Regalia Manager

- Liz Sain-Dabel 408.272.0369
- lizsain@yahoo.com

Norton Notice Editor

- Lorin Guy 408.242.1976
- loringuy@yahoo.com

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT The NCNOC 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 Ian Reddy.

See us at www.nortonclub.com and join our Yahoo group for information and club activities at NorCalNOC@yahoogroups.com

Cover Pix by BMWBob

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 Elizabeth Recoder 4000 Mozart Drive, El Sobrante, Ca. 94803

You can also join on line at nortonclub.com and use credit card through our pay pal account.

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

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NOCNO Bike Display at the 2010 Quail Lodge Motorcycling Gathering, here early in the morning as the set up was being done catering tents in the back grounds.



Those who ride into the Quail park just 12 ft from the show green, you park and walk across the street As Seen here on the right is the show area.



Hot "Street Fighter" Norton Commando on display at Quail Lodge 2010. Clip-on's with cross over exhaust, sweet ride for the twisties.

RIDE AND EVENT DIARY;

June 27 (Saturday) Bikes On the Bay, Capitola Mall, Capitola Ca. Bike show and swap meet

July 4 (Sunday) San Juan Bautista Ride: leaves from Hobeas in Los Gatos and heads down to San Juan Bautista for Lunch. Ride Leader Harry Bunting 10am leave time

July 18-25 (Tuesday through Saturday) Norton Nortorious Rally in Lumby, BC Canada

July 31st AMA Grand National Flat Track at Calistoga, Ca see www.calistogaflatrack.com for details

August 5-8 (Thursday-Sunday) Traditional camp-out weekend at the Dardanelle's Resort. Watch meteor showers and Nortons glistening by campfire light, ride and fish, breathe fresh air, ...The NCNOC has 3 campsites reserved for Norton Club members.

August 12 (Thursday) Swinging Door San Mateo Address: 106 East 25th Ave. San Mateo 94403

August 29 (Sunday) Adopt-a-Highway Clean Up highways 34@85 Alice's starts at 10am .

September 9 (Thursday) Swiss Park in Newark CA Address: 5911 Mowry Ave Newark, CA 94560-5005 starts 8pm

September 12 (Sunday) Napa St.Helena Ride TBA

October 3 (Sunday) For 2010, the AGM will be held at Loma Mar Store, 8150 Pescadero Creek Rd., Loma Mar, CA 94021 Phone number is 650 -879-3294. We will have a barbeque lunch with hamburgers and bangers. The ride to Loma Mar store starts at Alice's at 10:30AM. Ride leader Keith Karn

October 7-10 SLO Classic Motorcycles rally Downtown San Luis Obispo
Friday day - Catered Diner at Avila Beach Saturday - Motorcycle Show, swap meet Sunday - Ride and lunch see website for contact information

Presidents Message and Ride Report

The Quail Gathering was a fun event for the NC Norton Owners Club. We set up the NCNOC booth, displayed 5 Nortons with at least 15 members present, the lunch was good and we got to see lots of motorcycles. Thank Lorin for making this event possible for all motorcycle clubs that were there and Lorin got to promote Vintage Motorcycle clubs at the Quail on the radio. Put this show on your next years calendar it should be even better next year.

Seems like there's elevated interest in Norton Motorcycles over the last couple of months. First, there is the Wells Fargo TV add with a young married couple restoring an old Norton Commando like dads to instill responsibility, sure! The new 2010 Norton Commando is now available for purchase after a 35 year hiatus and our club showed the 1st one in the Bay area. In April, Peter Egan from "Cycle" magazine bought a chopped Norton and stated that having a Norton in his garage "...some part of my soul is fully at rest"(you must be kidding). In May, Peter's column discussed changing the Norton's rear wheel to a standard 19" with a K81 tire (Why not an Avon RoadRider). What is it with all this stuff?

To top it off, the NCNOC efforts at the "Adopt-a Highway" cleanup has caught the attention of KPIX TV, "Eye On the Bay." They have requested our club members be filmed at Alice's next month doing what we do best. I'll keep you posted on this, so plan to attend and bring your Norton. You could be on TV with your Norton and friends.

Dave Crader will represent the NCNOC at the "National Antique Motorcycle Show and Swap Meet" in Dixon on Saturday, June 19th. He could use some help in the NCNOC booth Sacramento Members!

Art Sirota is having another ride and barbecue also on Saturday in Redwood City; June 19th so you will have to make some tough decisions here.

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Ken Armann

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NCNOC displays at Quail Lodge Motorcycle Gathering

It's early May and the weather is kind of iffy with one day bringing May showers and the other bold sunshine, but in Carmel Valley California it's always beautifully perfect. As was the case for the second annual Quail Lodge Motorcycle Gathering, May 8th 2010. This has to be one of the best shows on the West Coast if not the whole country, and I say that not only as member of the planning committee for the show but also as a motorcyclist. A bold statement I'll admit but there is some very strong evidence to support my statement.

Let's start with the facilities, really this is Carmel and the Quail is one if the world's top golf clubs, the hotel and restaurant have always been 5+ stars. You can't find a more accommodating staff or a more serene surrounding. The Carmel Valley is world renown as one of the most beautiful settings in the world. The food served is fantastic; oh did I fail to mention the catered lunch as part of your ticket price? So now add some of the worlds best restored and most collectable motorcycles, a top motorcycle auction, some of Northern and Southern California's most exotic ridden motorcycles, then throw in the Bay Area's vintage motorcycle clubs and you have the makings of a unique and amazing motorcycle event.

It's only at the Quail Lodge Motorcycling Gathering, that you can find this kind of incredible collection of motorcycles and motorcyclists. The show is designed to be very low key and relaxed, it's a day of camaraderie and celebration of the art of motorcycling.

This year the NCNOC was again displaying along with the NorCal BSA Club, Buell Owners, Central Coast Vintage Motorcycle Club, Lodi Flat Track/Calistoga AMA Grand National, Ducati Vintage and MotoConcorso clubs. The NCNOC booth was a hub of activity all day greeting members and talking with interested prospects. The club presented a fantastic display of club bikes showing the incredible diversity that the NCNOC has within its ranks. From early Norton road bikes to rare models to the exotic Seely racer. Special club member pricing on tickets, just one of the benefits of membership, gave our members a fantastic day on the green, lunch and more motorcycles than is almost possible to take in on just one day.

It was a remarkable display and the NCNOC crew did an illustrious job representing the club. We excitedly look forward to 2010.

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Frank passed us as we turned onto 46 and he took an earlier turn than the one we had taken the day before so we followed. This brought us to Vineyard which we followed this time to Adelaide Road and ultimately to Chimney Rock Road, San Marcus Road and to San Miguel. At the gas station in San Miguel we debated heading North on 101 from there to try to beat the rain that was due in the afternoon. We decided that the pleasure of Vineyard Canyon and the Parkfield -Coalinga Roads was worth the price that could be paid in water later. Frank, Don, Ann, and I set off for lunch at the Ranch Grill in Parkfield. The first few miles out of Parkfield lead to a dirt road that climbs over the ridge. At the top we found Road Closed signs but ignored them hoping that there would be enough pavement for a bike to get through. There was and we duly arrived at the junction with 198.

We still hadn't had to put our waterproofs on but this was about to change. As we came down the hill to the junction of 198 and 25 the rain started. We pulled in and dressed for the weather. Frank decided for the shelter of going north on 25 to Hollister, but Ann and I feared not having enough gas to get us to Tres Pinos so we opted for the direct route to 101 at San Lucas then straight home from there. Don had to get back to Carmel so we all said our farewells and took off. The rain was well set in by the time we gassed up for the slog North.

There is little good to say about the unrelieved misery we suffered for the next 90 miles. I haven't been so happy to get under a gas station canopy since I rode to Rotterdam from Brighton on a Triumph 21 when there was gale in the North Sea. My riding partner was barely talking to me as my optimistic assessment of the chance of rain had been way wide of the mark. In addition the hood of my waterproofs was full of water and when I bent down to pick something up the lot shot out into her tank bag. The rain did stop when we were a bit north of Gilroy and we managed to get to my place just before it started pouring again.

Another great ride and even the soaking didn't lessen the buzz I got from over 400 hundred miles of the best roads California has to offer. Mind you a hot shower and a stiff drink was a fitting end to this year's Mid State Ride.

Presidents Message and Ride report cont.

On June 27th, there is an NCNOC ride from Hobeas in Los Gatos to Capitola, 10:00AM lead by Keith Karn, and the "Bikes on the Bay" show on 41st St. We could also use some member help in the NCNOC booth in Capitola. The INOA rally is in Lumby in July and the Calistoga Half Mile is at the end of the month. In August we have 3 campsites at the Dardanelles for Thursday, Friday and Saturday night with dinner provided on Saturday night.

Check the NCNOC website www.nortonclub.com for more details on the above events.

Our famous NCNOC founding member Bob Bausch is known for his graphical design and he has volunteered to help create a 40th Year Anniversary Norton Commando shirt for our 40th anniversary party next year. We have lots of options for a party venue so we will keep you informed. Think of ideas and submit them to our editor. Now's the time.

I know its been done before but we need a real Norton Club challenge ride. A long "Three Peaks" ride including Mount Tamalpais, Mount Diablo and Mount Hamilton all in one day over some serious back roads is in order. We could even stretch the ride to a fourth peak, Mount Fremont. Are you guys up for the challenge, I am ready?

Harry May Ride Report

Tom Dabel and Liz Sain had 21 members at their house on May 16 for a ride up Mt. Hamilton to Mines Road in Livermore with a stop at the Junction for Lunch. 10 members showed up on Norton's. I didn't hear of any breakdowns and we stopped at Lick observatory and on to the Junction. We had to wait for lunch because there was a Can-Am Spyder orgy in the parking lot and they pre-ordered their food.

It all worked out and we headed off to Livermore and our humble abodes. Great Job Tom and Liz.
Harry

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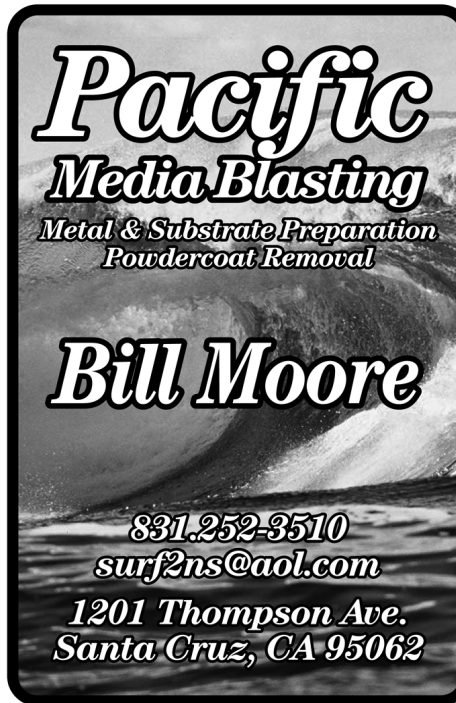
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NCNOC APRIL MEETING MINUTES

April 8, 2010

Harry's Hoffbrau, Foster City, Ca. 20 members present Meeting called to order @ 8:00pm

Club President Harry Bunting welcomed potential new member, Bruce Antell, who is looking to buy a Norton and currently riding a Triumph.

CLUBMAN SHOW REVIEWED: Harry reported that probably 500 people came by the Norton Club booth at the show March 27th, the large number reflecting the interest in the 2010 Norton Commando SE 961 that Lorin Guy arranged to have displayed with us for the day. It was then voted on and approved to reimburse him and Harry for the \$250 in fuel and related costs to bring the bike up from LA and back. The Morning After Ride organized by Keith Karn had at least 60 bikes participating and only 5 break downs.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Elizabeth Recoder stated that the club had 5 new members sign up during the Clubman Show, and 10 members renew, for a total of 181 members. There is currently \$3700 in the bank.

There followed a discussion of the "Norton Notice" advertisers, specifically the 3 advertisers who have not paid and why. Harry agreed to talk with Raber's, a second invoice will go to Williams Welding, and Miles Classic Brake will be offered a lesser ad in place of the full page ad two years in arrears. Lorin Guy noted that advertisers like Raber's don't know if their ads are working unless the members say they "saw it in the Notice".

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QUAIL LODGE MOTORCYCLE GATHERING: May 8. Lorin Guy reported that 10 clubs want to enter but the event has decreased the number of complementary club tickets so clubs may have to pay a portion of the fee. Currently the event is planning only one bike on display per club. Lorin feels the clubs should counter offer three bikes per club on the green with complementary tickets for those owners and their spouses. For those who want to enter their bikes the registration fee is \$95. He has the forms and needs a bike photo. To date the event has 70 pre-entered bikes and is looking for more.

CLUB REGALIA: Liz Sain says sales of club logo hats and shirts was good at the Clubman Show but it has taken a long while to sell the last order. There remains 12 long-sleeved shirts, and the club needs to decide what and when to reorder.

After a gas stop in Cambria we turned inland on Santa Rosa Creek Road. A Californian gem of a road although the surface isn't the best. It meanders alongside the creek and then climbs up to 46. The extra rain this year has done wonders for the vegetation and the hills were in full bloom making the deteriorating pavement of the road well worth tolerating. Turning on to 46 for a short blast to the Vineyard turn off we then took the turn on to Willow creek road to get to Peachy Canyon Rd – a favourite road for this group with the bonus of having been resurfaced recently. So to lunch in Paso Robles and more questions as the whereabouts of Frank. No one had any knowledge of where he might be. We were royally entertained (not) at Papa Sancho's by what seemed like a bachelorette party fully indulged in some potent Margueritas. The volume they put out rivaled Ann's Sportster on full song!


The next leg was a 20 mile hike along 46 to Bitterwater Road. I misread the map – I do that a lot as without reading glasses I struggle to focus but I find it safer not to ride with them on as I can't see more than a couple of feet with them. The result was only a small detour through Shandon. Bitterwater Road is about 30 miles long joining 46 and 58. It was deserted, I think we only saw two cars for the whole length of it. The road climbs quite high in the hills in this area and the views from the top were once again totally worth the miles to get there. As we were admiring the view along came George and Saatchi, I think the only others who did this section of the route. We saw them again briefly at the junction with 58.

Turning West on 58 we headed for the next treat – 229. The temperature was dropping so we had a break to add layers about 10 miles or so short of the turn onto 229. It is only a short stretch of road but 8 miles of it have a bend every 50 yards or so and the surface is first class. It isn't very wide so care is needed because the bends are mostly blind and there is always oncoming traffic to be wary of. The entertainment value is nevertheless way up near 10 on the usual scale. From here it was a steady ride to Atascadero.

The loop from Paso Robles ran over 100 miles and we were all conscious of a need to gas up. The last leg was down 41 to Morro Bay where in the hotel car park we saw Frank standing next to his bike which didn't look at all like a B50. Turned out the B50 had seized up yet again just 15 miles into the ride and Frank had to return home and pick up his trusty Commando.

Into the hotel off with the riding gear and down to the Otter Rock Café for a reward of Fish and Chips washed down with a few pints of good bitter. All rides should end this way.

The weather forecast for the preceding week had included a fair chance of rain for Sunday. The morning was fine as we left Morro Bay. We took Old Creek Road from Cayucas up to 46 and the same stretch as the day before to Vineyard



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Where's Frank?

By Ray Pallett

April 9th was upon us and it was yet again the weekend for the Morro Bay Ride with Frank Forster and the BSA club. The year before we had frozen our proverbial nuts off on the early-morning 90-mile ride from Berkeley to Carmel so this year we decided to go down Friday night, stay in Monterey, have a leisurely dinner, a relaxed breakfast Saturday morning, and arrive at the start in good condition. The plan was for Ann to meet me after work in Foster City around 5.30 pm, bimble down to Monterey and enjoy the ambience. I took my '99 Thunderbird and Ann was on her '86 Sportster as usual.

The best laid plans of mice and men and all that! I just happened to ask Ann as we were gassing up if she had all the paper work for her bike as 10:1 we would be going through Hunter Liggett and we would have to show insurance and registration at the gate. Her insurance docs were not quite up to date and had expired in April 2009!. As is traditional now on the longer BSA club rides, we spent the first couple of hours returning to Berkeley for forgotten items. Fortunately this time Ann was wearing her boots.

Our bimble and leisurely dinner turned into a blast down 880 and 101 with an arrival at the hotel after 9.30 pm. Luckily the place had a pretty good Sushi restaurant attached so we didn't have to go to bed hungry.

Up bright and early (well early anyway) it was breakfast down the road at Denny's where we bumped into Bert and Barbara from the Southern California club, two more of Frank's regulars. Back to the hotel load the bikes and off to the start. Would this be the first time ever that we arrived before the rest had started to leave? It certainly was as when we arrived at the Carmel departure point the only sign that we were in the right place was George Shoblo's truck with his Commando on the back. Where's Frank?

Gas, coffee and an hour's chin wag with the other riders trickling in, and Frank finally turns up in his Accord with his B50 on his trailer. Frank and Elizabeth Recoder maintained their unbroken record of being the last to arrive for any ride in living memory and we had a full complement including the Dabels who had ridden down from San Jose to see us off.

Frank handed out the maps and would you believe it – no Hunter Liggett this year! These rides are typically, in actuality many rides with some folks following Frank's route and others making up their own with a general aim for the ultimate destination. Don Warren, Ann and I set off with the two Franks still unloading their trailers. The first leg was down Hwy 1 to Cambria. I don't think we had ever gone all the way down along the coast in the 10 years or so that I have been doing this ride so it was a real treat. The day was overcast and the brooding hills and grey Pacific made for some stunning views as usual.

About half way down we met up with Tim, Bob and Gregg from Ojai. More questions as to the whereabouts of our fearless leader and suggestions that anno domini might at last be causing him to slow down a bit. Usually he would have passed us miles back. After a brief meeting of the prostate owners club we all continued on towards Cambria. Tim was on a 500 Triumph Daytona and was positively flying probably trying to stay with Bob and Gregg on Commando and T150 respectively. They all left us in the dust.

NCNOC APRIL MEETING MINUTES cont.

April 8, 2010

It was agreed that there will be a discussion of specific items and logos at the next meeting, including a possible design for the 40th Club anniversary in 2011.

40th ANNIVERSARY: Suggestions for the club celebration include an alumni dinner and meeting in a hall, much advertising at next year's Clubman Show, a picnic cook out. All ideas should be emailed to Lorin Guy or Dave Crader.

FUTURE RIDES: Alan Goldwater Ride to Davenport is Sunday, April 11 (will be postponed one week if rain). This is the annual Santa Cruz Mountains Ride from Alice's to HWY 9, onto Empire Grade, then Ice Cream Grade, Martin Road and Bonnie Doon Road to the coast to Davenport. Lunch at Taqueria El Jarro. Mount Hamilton Ride - Sunday May 16. As there is a possibility the junction may still be closed, ride leader Tom Dabel suggests riders MAY have to bring a picnic lunch to have in Frank Raines Park. It was noted that ALL NCNOC rides are posted on the BSA website.

NEW BUSINESS: Harry brought up the question of whether the club wants host a big ride or a big bike raffle like the BSA club. Tom Dable said the NCNOC did a bike raffle at the Clubman Show years ago and it was a worrisome thing that the money would not be made up. Harry noted that the Southern California Club invites ALL riders and so has huge turn outs like three to four hundred bikes at the Hanson Dam Ride. He also reported that the Central Coast Club which is just starting up is based in San Luis Obispo with NCNOC member Bill Bernard as its head, and will have a 4 day rally the weekend of October 9.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50pm.

Respectfully Donna Morrison, Secretary



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NCNOC MAY MEETING MINUTES

May 13, 2010

Swinging Door Pub, San Mateo, Ca. 20 members present – 1 rode a Norton1 rode “other”. Meeting called to order @ 8:00pm

President Harry Bunting welcomed Bruce Antell who attended last month’s meeting and joined the club tonight.

A special thanks was given to Lorin Guy who was able to get many of the clubs to participate in the QUAIL LODGE EVENT May 8th. Note was made of the excellent food and many radio advertisements.

RIDE SCHEDULE:

May 16 (Sunday) MT. HAMILTON RIDE - Tom Dabel said his house is open from 8:00am And ride will leave at 10:00. Note: the Junction Road IS open and there is Food at the Junction. Ride will make the full Mt. Hamilton circle.

June 13 (Sunday) The re-scheduled ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY. Meet at Alice’s at 10:00.

June 13 (Sunday) NORTH COAST RIDE - is CANCELLED and combined with...

June 27 (Sunday) CAPITOLA RIDE to the Santa Cruz summit meets at Baker Square at 10:00am. This ride coincides with CAPITOLA

BIKES ON THE BAY at he Capitola Mall Parking Lot, 41st Street, Santa Cruz 8:00 – 9:00am with free admission for the vintage bike display or enter your own bike.

June 19 (Saturday) Art Sirota hosts lunch at his house in Redwood City to view his bike collection.

July 4 (Sunday) SAN JUAN BAUTISTA RIDE leaves from Hobee’s in Los Gatos, 165 Los Gatos Saratoga Road and winds its way down to San Juan Bautista for Lunch. Ride leader: Harry Bunting.

July 18 – 25 (Tuesday thru Saturday) NORTON NORTIOUS RALLY in Lumby, BC Canada. The INOA rally is a 1200 mile journey (one way) this year.



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NCNOC MINUTES Cont.

July 31 (Saturday) THE CALISTOGA HALF MILE NATIONAL at the Calistoga Fair Grounds, vintage ride-in bike show and half-mile oval flat track under the lights at 7:00pm.

AUGUST 5 – 8 (Thursday thru Sunday) DARDANELLES RIDE & CAMP OUT Harry has 3 campsites reserved for members. He says just “Show up” or the fun.

NEW BUSINESS: Frank Recoder says we have been invited to have a booth to sell club regalia at the Dixon National Swap Meet and Show June 18 and 19. Dave Crader volunteered to run the booth and will call Jerry Kaplan in Sacramento for help.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned 8:25pm. Respectfully submitted, Donna Morrison, Secretary



NCNOC Booth at the Quail Lodge Motorcycling Gathering 2010.

Quail Lodge 2010 Club members relax at the club booth ready for the catered lunch . Alan Goldwater, Ken and Cindy Armann, and Kathryn Guy.

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