



The Newsletter of the Northern California Norton Owner's Club

No. 325

January 2006





THE 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 any article ,technical tip, photograph (original or otherwise) as long as it is in good taste so that other Norton enthusiasts will enjoy it. The deadline for items to be submitted for publication is the 18th of the month The Norton Notice welcomes contributions submitted electronically. Articles and photos can be sent in almost any format generally common to most computers. Contributions can be sent to LorinGuy@Yahoo.com

Membership in the Northern California Norton Owners Club is available for \$20.00 per year and open to all Norton Motorcycle enthusiasts. Membership dues are payable to the Treasures (see page right for address). Renewal dues are payable at the end of the individuals membership year, which is designated by the last digit on the mailing label of your Notice or on your membership card.

AD RATES

Advertising rates are 60.00 per year for 1/4 page ad. Contact Editor for larger ads and rates.

All Change of address or questions about membership, dues or the Norton Notice would be directed to the Editor or Club Treasurer.

The Northern California Norton Owners Club is affiliated with both the Norton Owners Club of England (NOC) and the International Norton Owners Association (INOA).

CLUB BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT/ NOTICE EDITOR

Lorin Guy
2329 Cimarron Dr/, Santa Clara, Ca. 95051-1306
(408) 961-3468
Loringuy@yahoo.com

VICE PRESIDENT

Jerry Kaplan
2329 Catalina Dr., Davis, CA 95616
530-902-1670 cell
jerrykap@pacbell.net

SECRETARY/ TECH ADVISOR

Alan Goldwater
1780 Chanticleer Ave., Santa Cruz, Ca. 95062
(813) 475-7505
magicsound@aol.com

RIDES COORDINATOR/WEB MASTER

Ian Reddy
5114 Devon Park Ct., San Jose Ca. 95136
(408) 266-9574
ian_reddy@sbcglobal.net

TREASURE/ MEMBERSHIP

Ray Pallett
462 Del Medio Ave. #2, Mountain View Ca. 94040
(650) 947-9780
Raymond.pallett@oracle.com

HONORARY MEMBERS

Brian Slark Jodi Nicholas
Bill Knight Dick Slusher

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The Object of the Northern California Norton Owners Club is to promote, encourage and develop motorcycle activities. The Club's members are owners or enthusiast of Norton Motorcycles and often submit for publication in the Norton Notice technical tips, which are published. These tips are reviewed for technical content and are believed to be both correct and workable, but no guarantee is made or implied that these tips or articles will work. The Club or membership assumes no liability or responsibility for issues or problems, omissions or deletions in connection with technical information. The Norton Notice articles or other materials express the authors views only and are not necessary the official policy of the Northern California Norton Owners Club The Editor reserves the right to accept or reject or edit and or alter all editorial and advertising material submitted. The Editor serves at the discretion of the board of directors.

THE NORTHERN CALIFORNIA NORTON OWNERS CLUB

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

The Northern California Norton Owners Clubs (NCNOC) purpose is to promote and encourage the preservation, restoration, use and development of Norton motorcycles in sporting activities, events and rides.

Club membership is open to Norton owners and all Norton motorcycle enthusiast. So if you like to ride, repair and admire Norton motorcycles, it will cost you \$20 a year to join. Please print and fill out the application on line at www.nortonclub.com or complete this application and mail it to the address below along with your payment.

The Club offers monthly rides and meeting (at rotating venues) as well as the website, a Yahoo chat group and a monthly news letter.

The NCNOC maintains a relationship with the International Norton Owners Association (INOA) and the Original Norton Owners Club in England the (NOC). If you are interested in joining the INOA and/or the NOC you can get information from the club Treasurer.

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: Tari Norum 276 Butterworth Lane Langhorne, PA 19047.

We look forward to seeing you and your Norton out on the high road.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

TEL: _____ E-mail _____

MOTORCYCLES OWNED

Make Year Model Engine/Frame/Plate Numbers

I hereby apply for membership in the Northern California Norton Owners Club (NCNOC). New Application [] 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 advties. Participant does hereby execute this release, waiver, =it indemnification for himwlforhenelfand his or has, successors, representatives, and msigns, and hereby agrees and represents ~ follows: To release the Northern California Norton Owners Club ("the Club") and its officers, agents and members from any and 0 liability, loss, damage, costs, claims, and/or cause of action, including but not limited to all bodily injuries and property damage wising out of pwicipation in the club's wtvites, 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 embers and hold them harmless for the results of the undersigned's participation in those wtvites. Ms indemnification shall include attorney's fees incurred in defending my claim or judgement and incurred in the negotiation of my seulement. It is understood and agreed that the undersigned shall have the opportunity to consent to my settlement; provided, however, that such consent shall not be reasonably wtiuheld.

I have read and agree to the additional terms and conditions set forth on all pwis of this application. Other affiliated clubs and organizations m also represented and protected by this release.

Applicants Signature _____ Date _____

SEND ALL APPLICATIONS OR INQUIRIES TO:

Ray Pallett, 462 Del Medio Ave. #2, Mountain View, CA 94040 (650)947-9780

CLASSIFIEDS

NOTE

The club actively encourages members and non-members to post ads for motorcycles, motorcycle parts or accessories in our for sale section. Send correspondents to the Editor for inclusion in the following months issue. Ads run for three consecutive months if editor is not notified of sale. Ads submitted may also appear in our on-line for sale section of accompanied by a picture. This is a free service of the NCNOC.

1975 TRIUMPH TRIDENT T-160

5-speed, E-Start. Picture is of bike as it rolled out of basement where it had been under a cover since 1987. Spent three weeks and hundred\$ getting all dried out rubber replaced and bugs out of the workings. Looks much better, runs great, with some missing OEM parts replaced. No tach, only a center mounted speedo. New rear Dunlop TT100, front good TT100. No directional lights needed here in MO. 3-1 exhaust, but have OEM 3-2 header pipes. \$75 manual goes too. Price is \$3495 firm and can arrange shipping or may deliver myself! Mike, INOA #2634 417-742-4542 or email mkhansontx@hotmail.com

1973 NORTON COMMANDO

New battery installed, very clean. Available on consignment at Santa Rosa BMW. Call for more information. Suzanna at 707 838-9100 ext 2

1972 TRIUMPH BONNEVILLE

Low original miles, engine and transmission were gone through 500 miles ago. Runs strong, very original, matching numbers. \$4250. Call for more information. Jeff at 408 973-1938 or 408 921-4996

1972 DUNSTALL COMMANDO

1972 Norton Dunstall Commando \$3000. 750 engine supposedly Combat spec, stock 4 speed right shift, 1 up, 3 down. Dunstall rearsets, headers, tank, seat, aftermarket Decibel mufflers and fairing. Bike somehow got registered as a 1974 long ago. Everything works except speedo and I'm in process of replacing the speedo drive, again. No idea what real mileage is as speedo broke 2 other times, maybe 20,000. Very hard seat and uncomfortable riding position. Needs swing arm bushes and rear isolastic and a little more carb adjustment. Also the clutch slips a bit when revved hard, maybe time for new friction plates. Made the All British Ride in Marin County last week just fine. I've had it 2.5 years and put about 3500-4000 miles on it. I have 3 other bikes. Not a bike for "regular" people. You gotta be willing to put up with having to fold the right footpeg to kickstart it, etc. Price firm. Bike's in Oakland, CA. Keith at unclpatsbike@yahoo.com

1975 COMMANDO

I have a 1975 Mk3 850 Commando for sale. It has a Boyer ignition; Norman Hyde seat, Mukuni 32mm carb but I will include the stock Amals and manifolds, \$1500 in recent receipts for front fork rebuild and sprag gear and bearing. Alas the starter only works occasionally but the bike starts right up first kick, even when cold. The Mukuni might still be a tad lean but I have many extra jets to go with the included spare parts and a couple tools. It has 21300 miles on it and I don't know if or when it was rebuilt. It runs very well and doesn't burn oil. It does however leak a little. I'm sure you folks understand. All electrics work well. Tires good to fair. Disc brakes and left-hand shift. \$5250 obo. Fred in Felton, Ca. at FredFLatta@aol.com

1960's NORTON

I have a 1960's Norton I think it is a 650 but I'm not sure it has not been registered since 1967. The bike is complete, with some rust but needs a caring home as I'm old and not able to take of anymore call Delvin 916-991-1003, You could also call Jim at 831-338-4598 and maybe he could get and send you a digital photo. cherokeejp@msn.com

1972 CZ

Street bike 477/1 175cc runs great, older restoration looks fantastic. \$1500.00 OBO Call 408.242.1976 or Email loringuy@comcast.net

WANTED

Command MK III front hub and/or Norton brake discs
Please contact Leo at: leoriley@hotmail.com

Dunstall type gas tank and seat/tail section, rearsets for 1971 Commando, building a cafe bike. Any parts considered must be good cond. Fast cash payer
Don in CA. 805-466-4758 or maxx@charter.net

Tank and Seat, Steel Interstate tank in decent shape. Also needed Interstate seat, prefer MK III .
Contact Steve at snksims@yahoo.com

DIARY

.....JANUARY.....

19th - Meeting - Harry's Hofbrau - San Jose

.....FEBRUARY.....

9th-Meeting-Tommy's Joint-San Francisco

26th - Adopt-a-Highway Clean-up Day

This is the first highway clean-up day of 2006. Meet at Alice's Restaurant (Skyline and SR-84 in Skylonda) at 9:30am. Have a good time doing a good deed!

.....MARCH.....

25th - Clubman Show

We will need some volunteers to assist at the Clubman's Show Booth. These should be people willing to spend a continuous block of time at the booth to greet visitors, sign up new members and sell club paraphernalia. If you can help there, please contact Lorin Guy.

28th - Adopt-a-Highway Clean-Up Day

Meet at Alice's Restaurant (Skyline and SR-84 in Skylonda) at 9:30am.

.....APRIL.....

13th - Meeting - TBD - Fairfield

.....MAY.....

11th-Meeting- Harry's Hofbrau-San Jose

.....JUNE.....

8th- Meeting- Prince of Wales-San Mateo

.....JULY.....

17-21- INOA National Rally (10 points) Held in Michigan this year.

.....AUGUST.....

11-13 - Dardanelles Weekend/North-South Weekend

Our annual three-day, two-night, camping and party fun event at Dardanelle Resort. See <http://www.thedardanellesort.com/> for more information on the destination and accommodations or phone (209) 965-4205 for reservations. On Saturday, the NCNOC Alternative Day Ride will depart from here.

27 Adopt-a-Highway Clean-Up Day

Meet at Alice's Restaurant (Skyline and SR-84 in Skylonda) at 9:30am

OUTINGS SCHEDULE

IAN REDDY, RIDES COORDINATOR

JANUARY 22, 2006 - POLAR BEAR RIDE (DOUBLE POINTS)

This is our traditional January ride where just showing up at the start will get you double points. Meet at Alice's Restaurant (Skyline and SR-84 in Skylonda) at 11:00 AM. Depending on the weather, we will either ride somewhere to seek food, or stay there and seek food.

FEBRUARY 12, 2006 - ANNUAL DUNCAN FERGUSON MEMORIAL/SWEETHEART RIDE

This ride will again start out at The Florence, 37349 Niles Blvd, Fremont (PH: 510-792-5522). A ride leader and plan is still needed, please volunteer. Plan to leave The Florence promptly at 11:00 AM.

MARCH 19, 2006 - EAST BAY RIDE

Details TBD. Leader Eric Rhodes.

MARCH 26, 2006 - MORNING AFTER RIDE

TBA. This is a great ride that kicks off the Bay Area Riding season, so do not miss it!

APRIL 16, 2006 - MT. HAMILTON

Ride Leader Tom Dabel reports that he will be leading us again this year starting from his house in San Jose. Tom asks that you be there by 10:00 AM so that we can leave shortly thereafter. To get to Tom's house, exit I-680 in San Jose on McKee Rd and go east. Turn Left On Toyon and left again on Golf. Turn right on Linda Flora and stop when you get to a bunch of Nortons parked on the east side of the road! Call Tom at 408-272-0369 if you need additional info.

MAY 14, 2006 - NORTH BAY RIDE

Details TBD. Leader Jim Carton.

JUNE 2-4, 2006 - CAMBRIA (w/SCNOC)

Joint weekend event with the SCNOC. CNOC will depart from the Bay area and ride south down to the Cambria area. Details TBD. Leader Alan Goldwater.

JULY 2, 2006 - SOUTH BAY MEETING/RIDE

Ride is on your own. Meet at Peter and Joan's German Restaurant at 11:30 in downtown San Juan Bautista. Following brunch there will be a club meeting in the patio.

JULY 16, 2006 - NORTH COAST RIDE

Details TBD. Leader Jerry Grainger.

! July 17-21, 2006 - INOA National Rally (10 points)

Held in Michigan this year.

AUGUST 12, 2006 ALTERNATIVE RIDE

If you cannot make the whole weekend, make the day ride. David Crader will lead, details TBD. Contact David if you have questions: (925) 513-3148

SEPTEMBER 10 OR 24, 2006 - GOLDWATER RIDE

Ride plan and leader needed.

SEPTEMBER 15-17, 2006 - SIERRA LOOP RIDE (w/SCNOC)

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TECH TIP

Oil changing is something we all do on a regular basis but when was the last time you cleaned your oil tank? Good question, sludge can clog and corrupt your clean oil very quickly. On early Commandos you can open the side hose drain plug, stick your finger in and if you get sludge, "time to clean it" on later Commandos when the tank is removed check the drain plug at the bottom for cracks buy adding a little gasoline, if it leaks better get it welded or fixed. Clean the tanks with solvent and let air-dry. Good maintenance prevents later costly repairs.

Phil Radford

Fair Spares America

NOTEWORTHY

The February issue of Classic Bike Guide will feature an article on the 1966 Norton 750, written by Art Sorota and mentions club members Phil Radford, Mike Burnham and Bob Raber. Look for it at local newsstands.

The 15th annual Las Vegas Motorcycle show and auction is January 11-14 at the Star Dust Hotel in Las Vegas, NV. This is sponsored by J&P cycles and is a Mid-America Auctions production. Called the largest motorcycle auction in the world, Las Vegas is always a fun event filled with classic and interesting bikes

NCNOC MINUTES

HARRYS HOFFBRAU, SAN MATEO

NCNOC Exec Meeting 12/5/05 2PM

Lorin, Ian, Jerry, Alan present

1. Club officer candidates for 2006 as printed in the Notice are uncontested and qualified, and were approved by the current board.
2. Club Historian when volunteered and appointed will scan and post back issues of the Notice and other content for the web site.
3. Fred Fortune is redesigning the web site with super graphics. Ian Reddy will implement the design.
4. I requested a backup of the club database from Ray.

Adjourned at 2:20



PROTECTING YOUR INVESTMENT

BY LORIN GUY

It's a bit disturbing and somewhat unbelievable that some owners do not have insurance, or still play the old game of insuring one, canceling or transferring their policy so they can ride another. Vintage insurance is very reasonably priced these days even in California.

It's important that you cover yourself and your ride in the event of an incident, and I don't mean just a traffic mishap. Your bike could just fall over and damage some part that is unobtainium, or for the most part expensive. These things happen, I mean these are after all motorcycles and we ride them.

There are three basic ways to value a bike: actual value, stated value, and agreed value. Actual value is usually based on the blue book or another published reference. Stated value is where a value is set between the insurance company and the insured for a stated amount. Unfortunately, most stated value policies have a clause that says the value of the bike is the lesser of stated value or actual value. Agreed value is where the insured and the insurer agree on a value, and the policy will pay that value. There are dozens of companies that offer this sort of vintage or collector insurance.

But there are only two collector insurance companies that I have actually had dealings with, J.C. Taylor and Hagerty. Both have offered excellent coverage and no hassles. Almost any bike can be insured as a collector bike under Taylor and Hagerty policies as long as the insured has a locked garage and another vehicle for daily transportation. Bikes that are in active restoration can be insured. Race bikes can be insured up to the moment they enter pre-grid at a sanctioned race. Non-sanctioned track events such as rider training days and open club track days may be insurable. Generally, collector bikes are limited to 2,500 miles per year, but distance traveled to special events is not counted.

Rates for bikes 25 years old or older are based on a set fee for \$300k liability and 60 cents per \$100 evaluation for comprehensive and collision. A bike valued at \$10,000 would cost \$115/year to insure. Bikes newer than 25 years old are \$1.40 per \$100 evaluation. There is a zero deductible, though claims less than \$500 are discouraged.

It's reason enough to want to protect your investments and yourself; with the choices available there is no good reason not to be covered. So insure it and then ride it like you stole it.



NCNOC AT THE IMS CYCLE WORLD SHOW

The NCNOC was one of the featured clubs at the Cycle World motorcycle show in San Jose December 16-19. The McEnery Center was the venue and the world's manufactures were almost all present. The show is a wonderful way to get a look at the new bikes and talk with factory representatives, but the highlight for most was the awesome vintage bikes display.



The NCNOC took part in this vintage display with six classic Norton motorcycles. Thanks to members Fred Fortune (café' 850 Commando), Ian Reddy (74 Roadster), Jerry Grainger (67 P11 desert racer), Keith Milne (1953 Manx / Tickel, long stroke), Tom Keeble (62 Manx, short stroke) and Lorin Guy (70 "S" type Commando) for the loan of their bikes. This cross section of Norton motorcycles gave the enthusiast a better understanding of this classic British bike.



Vintage Triumph Riders Group (VTRG) and a cross section of other vintage bikes rounded out the display area. Some notable displayers were Patrick Hayes with his 1946 Moto Guzzi SuperAlce, Hans Milberg with a 1961 Parella MSDS, Tom Keeble with his 1954 BSA flat track racer (Ex Sonny Kenyon), Lorin Guy and his 1967 Ratt Tracker T100, 1976 Bonneville 750, 1962 MotoBi Imperiale Sport Lusso and 1970 Ducati 250GT/GP, Raleigh Atkins and his beautiful Triumph 750 Track Master racer, and 67 TR6R, Russ Harris and his 1963 CL72 Honda Scrambler, James Banke and his 750 Triumph Street Tracker



Thanks to Condor Motorcycle Stand Co for the loan of a few stands, they work fantastic. Big thanks to all the club members that came out and either visited the display or worked in the booth, especially Ian Reddy who pulled several shifts.

The comments by the main staff of the IMS were very flattering, they said it was the best vintage display of the year and that we manned the booth said a lot about the dedication of the club.

The IMS organization was very pleased and impressed with NCNOC display. Representatives said it was the best of this years 13 shows. Working hard all weekend Ian Reddy and family, Lorin and Kathryn Guy, James Banke and Steffen Guy made sure all questions were answered and flyers were passed out. Thanks to BSA Club President Berry Porter for sending along Clubman show flyers.

VMOTO ANNOUNCES 2006 RIDE SCHEDULES

Vmoto has announced a new program for this year aimed at the collector and not the racer. Those who would like to get out and ride their machines in the safest way possible can now take part in **Parade rides** at some of the west's great race circuits. Just think, you will never be more than 2 miles from help if you brake down, there is no on coming traffic, and there is even a safety crew to help you out if the worst happens.

Now in it's fourth year Vmoto will offer four events in 2006, first event February 11-12 at Laguna Seca. Laguna is a world-class race course and it always sells out. The chance of a lifetime to ride one of the legendary racecourses in the world on your Norton. Sign up quickly, as registration is now open. April 22-23 finds Vmoto in Reno and the 3rd Reno Historic Races. This new track at Fernley is fantastic, long and smooth it offers some challenging corners and a wonderfully fun banked turn. July sees Vmoto in Portland Oregon for the Historic Race event there, this event offer big crowds and loads of fun, The Portland track is wonderful to race with sweeping turns and a long straight and the ever challenging carousel turn, the big crowds makes this week end really fun. Then it's back to Reno/ Fernley for the Memorial races in September this race will use the new 4-mile course! Long sweepers and super smooth straights make this truly Norton Country.

Vmoto offer a special deal for NCNOC riders if you are a regularity rider and bring one new racer or regularity rider your entry will be reduced by 50%, two new riders 75% and if you bring three riders your entry will be FREE! For information see www.vintagemoto.com



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY LORIN GUY

Riding season is on the way again and it's time for us to take a look at our bikes. I know we all try hard to maintain them all though out the year but it's not a bad idea to take a pre-season detailed check of some of the things that might get overlooked during regular maintenance. It might make it easier to just start at the front and work your way back, looking at the front wheel, check spokes and tightness of the axel nuts. Check tire condition and set the pressure. Inspect your brake linkage and if disc brake check for fluid seep at the caliper, pad condition too is important. Look at the brake hose and be sure the metal line is tight and leak free. Check to see that the fender is tight. Look at the fork seal area for evidence of leak. The headlight and gauges area check to see that all is tight the lights work (not that we ever use them). The tank snugness and that the petrol cocks are tight and leak free. It's always prudent to check fuel hoses and that the connections are good and tight. Well you get the drift of this, we can all enjoy our rides issue free if we all take a few more minutes to check out the stuff that generally does not get looked at until its an issue.

We had a great riding season last year and this year it should just get better. It's so nice to see some new names looking to lead rides and that means some new destinations.

The event schedule is full too and although some stuff is still in planning it will be great fun to have some new activities. Tech sessions and guest speakers, movies and videos all are in the planning stages for later this year.

The 2006 club season is full of promise and lofty goals. I can let you all in on some of the plans.

As for the Notice, look for sweeping changes to its look and content over the next few months, (I want to win the Best Newsletter of the year in INOA for 2006) so I'll be working hard on the news letter.. you know you can write and submit articles to the Notice for publication? The Website will be completely re-done. New look and feel, new content and cool pictures. New to our web will be E-commerce and an archive of past Notices and pictures of past events, members and tech articles.

My goal for both is to be the best in the NOC and INOA. I want the NCNOC to be the authority on Norton though out the world. When anyone searches for Norton motorcycles the premier information site will be the NCNOC web pages. We need your help in all this but it will be worth your time to know you helped put this together for Norton owners and enthusiasts all over the world.

The board will be working hard at making these goals a reality along with some new changes in what the club offers to it's members. The perceived value of membership has to exceed the cost of membership and in doing this we can do more for the members and the club as a whole.

Remember this is your club, you need to participate, and your involvement only makes the whole experience better, for you and for every other member.

As always I am open to all suggestion, inquires or criticisms. Call or Email me

Lorin Guy

loringuy@yahoo.com

408.961.3468

NORTON CLUB HOLIDAY PARTY A BIG SUCCESS

The club Holiday party was December 2nd and was held at Jerry and Wendy Grainger's beautiful home in Hillsbrough. The party was a fun filled afternoon of motorcycle chat and great company. The 2006 club board was introduced after a short meeting. The highlights included live music from Art Sorota, Harry Bunting and Lorin Guy. The Gift exchange, it's always a hoot... the Mini auction was great fun. Thank you to all who participated and were so generous.

The Awards for 2005 were handed out and saw Terry Morrison being awarded new member of the year, Club recognition to Mike Sullivan and Jeffery Potter for their years of service, The "I got in over my head" award went to Ian Reddy for taking on rides co-ordinator and Web master for the club. The club has honored Alan Goldwater for his dedication and years of service with the September ride now being named the "Goldwater Ride". Member of the year goes to Don Goforth and the winner of the prestigious Norton Cup for 2006 is Ray Pallett.



Alan Goldwater (in Holiday sweater) waiting as dinner is served Don Danmeier and host Jerry Grainger catch up on months gone bye and talk of pending bike deals. Yvonne and Erin Reddy with listen as club awards are presented. .



The Dinner line forms as the refreshments are tasted, Harry Bunting and Art Sorota exchange musical set lists. Kitchen crew scrambles to get the dinner on as host Jerry Grainger leads Kathryn Guy and George Solbo.

