



# Norton Notice



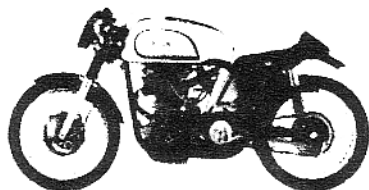
The Newsletter of the  
Northern California Norton Owners Club

No. 250

July 1999



**LAKE SELMAC RALLY  
DATES CHANGED! TO:  
AUGUST 5TH-7TH**



## Norton Notice

*The Norton Notice* is published by the Northern California Norton Owners Club. It's purpose is to inform and entertain members regarding all aspects of the Norton motorcycle.

The dead-line for submissions is the 20th of every month. Send articles, pictures etc. to: **Norton Notice Editor- 1318 Eleventh Ave. San Francisco, Ca. 94122** You can also send text or scanned art (any format) via e-mail to: **dana@spazzco.com**

**Advertising rates are \$60 per year for a 1/4 page.** Membership in the Northern California Norton Owners Club is available for \$20 per year. Membership dues are payable to the branch treasurer (see application form 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 this mailing and on the membership card. **All changes of address or membership questions, please call the club President...not the Notice editor!!!**

The Northern California Norton Owners Club is affiliated with both the Norton Owners Club of England (NOC) and the International Norton Owners Association (INOA). Interested persons can join these two organizations per the terms on the Branch membership form.

## Club Officers

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**Honorary Members:**  
**Brian Stark, Jodi Nicholas,**  
**Bill Knight, Dick Slusher**

### Tech Tip Fine Print

**IMPORTANT** Norton Notice members often submit technical suggestions for publication in the Norton Notice. Submissions published have been reviewed for technical content and are believed to be acceptable, 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 connections with club activities. Norton Notice articles and other materials express the authors view only and not necessarily the policies of the Northern California Norton Owners Club, NOC or INOA. The editor reserves the right to accept, reject or alter all editorial or advertising material submitted for publication. Advertising does not mean endorsement of products, goods or services.

## ◆ 1999 Club Rides ◆

date	time	alt	date event	meet at	contact
July 25	**	N/A	North Bay Ride	**	(925) 449-1762
August 5 - 8	**	N/A	West Coast Norton Rendezvous	**	magicsound@aol.com
Aug 11 to 15th	**	N/A	Dardanelles Run	Call for reserv's or camping info	(209) 965-4355
Sept 2	10 AM	N/A	Mt Hamilton Ride		** Tom D. 408-272-0369
Sept 26	10 AM	Oct 14	Old Timers Ride Annual Meeting		**
Oct 10	10 AM	N/A	Delta Ride	Gar Jorgenson	(925) 634-9395
Nov 7	10 AM	N/A	Marin Ride	**	
Nov 21	11 AM	N/A	Boulder Creek	Alices	Alan G.

\*\* to be determined

Earn Norton Points by attending OfficialNOC events Ride a Norton: 6 Points, Any other bike: 4 points, Ride on 4 wheels: 2 points Weekend events are tallied by day. At the end of each year the member with the highest point total is awarded the Norton Cup and gets a free year membership.

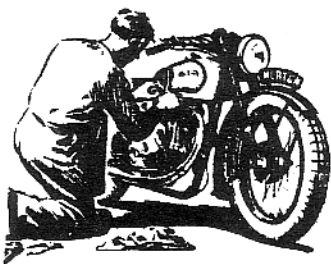
## 1999 Club Meetings

The club meets at 8:00pm on the second Thursday of each month at rotating venues.

July 8	Boathouse S.F.	Oct 14	Harrys Hofbrau Mtn View
Aug 12	After Dardanelles Ride	Nov 11	Harrys Hofbrau San Leandro
Sept 9	Price of Wales, San Mateo	Dec ??	Xmas Party

## *Alan's Wrench*

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July 1999

I'm pleased to report that we had some excellent rides last month. We had 15 Nortons and a Triumph on the Peninsula ride, where I managed to get lost (again!) on the last leg up Verde road. I wasn't the only one, as the group arrived at Cameron's Pub in several scattered bunches. Everyone finally made it, and we enjoyed the excellent 'pub fare' before scattering again to the 3 points of the compass.

On the Santa Cruz ride the turnout was a bit less, with 9 bikes. The route was the same as last year, down 9, then up Bear Creek to the Summit Road, where fresh gravel kept the pace down and riders nervous. We arrived at Britalia in time for pizza, with sodas provided by our host. Frank Recoder brought a Norton rider he met at a car wash, Gary Biggins of Bellingham WA., who keeps a Norton at in-laws in the North Bay. Gary promptly joined the

club, so I guess he enjoyed the ride!

In between these two events, I rode down to join the SC NOC ride from Jolon back to Cambria. I had a good time bench racing with our Norton riding cousins, with bs and spirits flowing in equal amounts. On Sunday I came straight up 101, which is a pleasure on my Norton 'Rotostate'. The weather was warm and clear, and I was home in time for lunch.

**The Lake Selmac Norton Rendezvous with the Northwest Norton Owners has been rescheduled to August 5th-7th.** I received word of this too late to correct the June Notice, and I apologize for the inconvenience this may cause. The North Bay ride has been reinstated for July 25, so those of you who have set aside that weekend for Nortoning still have a worthwhile activity. The ride will leave from Hercules at 11 am. **Contact Greg Fuller at (925) 449-1762 for details**

I received some email from an INOA member, asking about the effect of 'reformulated' fuel additives on fiberglass fuel tanks. Since there is a safety issue here I thought I should make sure of my facts. I contacted club member Jim Meadows who owns a petroleum maintenance company in Reno. He says that based on his experience there is NOT a problem

with MTBE in fiberglass tanks or with rubber parts. However, there IS a problem with ethanol, and in fact Norton fastback tanks are particularly bad in this regard. Jim should know, as he crashed and broke his shoulder some years ago, due to a carb slide stuck open by deposits of fiberglass resin goo! He has also seen instances of older fiberglass fuel storage tanks which have failed due to increased concentration of ethanol in the fuel. New tanks he installs use a different resin chemistry

which is ethanol tolerant.

Jim highly recommends that if you run a fiberglass fuel tank, treat it with a tank liner product that specifically resists alcohol (ethanol). The hazard from a failed tank is substantial, including potential leak and fire risk, as well as motor damage or crashing from a stuck carburetor.

That's all for this month. I still have all sizes of the new club shirts (longsleeve, black/gold) but the XL is going fast so don't wait to order if you want one.  
-Alan

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**Minutes of Meeting  
Submitted by John Covell,  
scribe pro tem**

Convened by President Alan Goldwater at 10:25am, 6/12/99, at Skylonda. Ten members present on eight Nortons, one rotary-driven, plus a Triumph; and one miscreant in a rotary-powered 4-wheeler. The route for the days ride was discussed, debated, researched, verified, confirmed, and mandated.

The Lake Selmac ride has been rescheduled to August 6-8.

Consequently, the North Bay ride for July 25 has been reinstated. It will leave from Hercules at 11am, go to St. Helena, Lake Berryessa, etc., and return to Hercules. Greg Fuller is coordinator for the ride, direct any questions to him. Further details presumably to appear in the NN. Clubs shirts were available, at least one was bought. (Thanks, Gar.)

Meeting adjourned at 1035am. Riders departed for Britalia, Santa Cruz, a few minutes later.

**JOIN THE CLUB RIDE!  
JULY 25TH  
"NORTH BAY RIDE"**

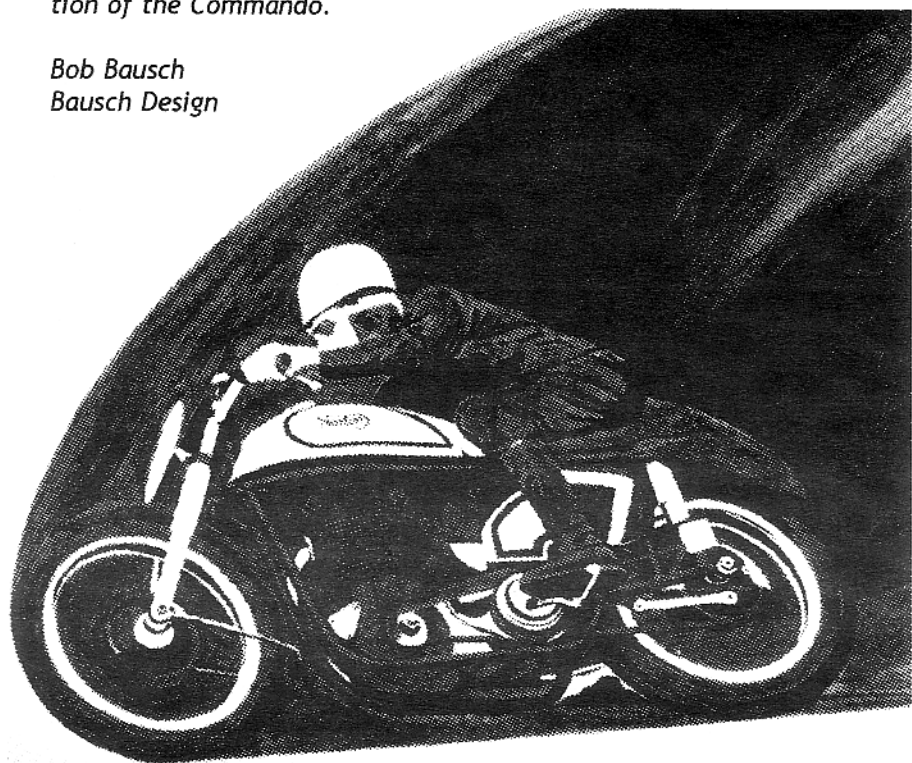
*Dear NCNOC*

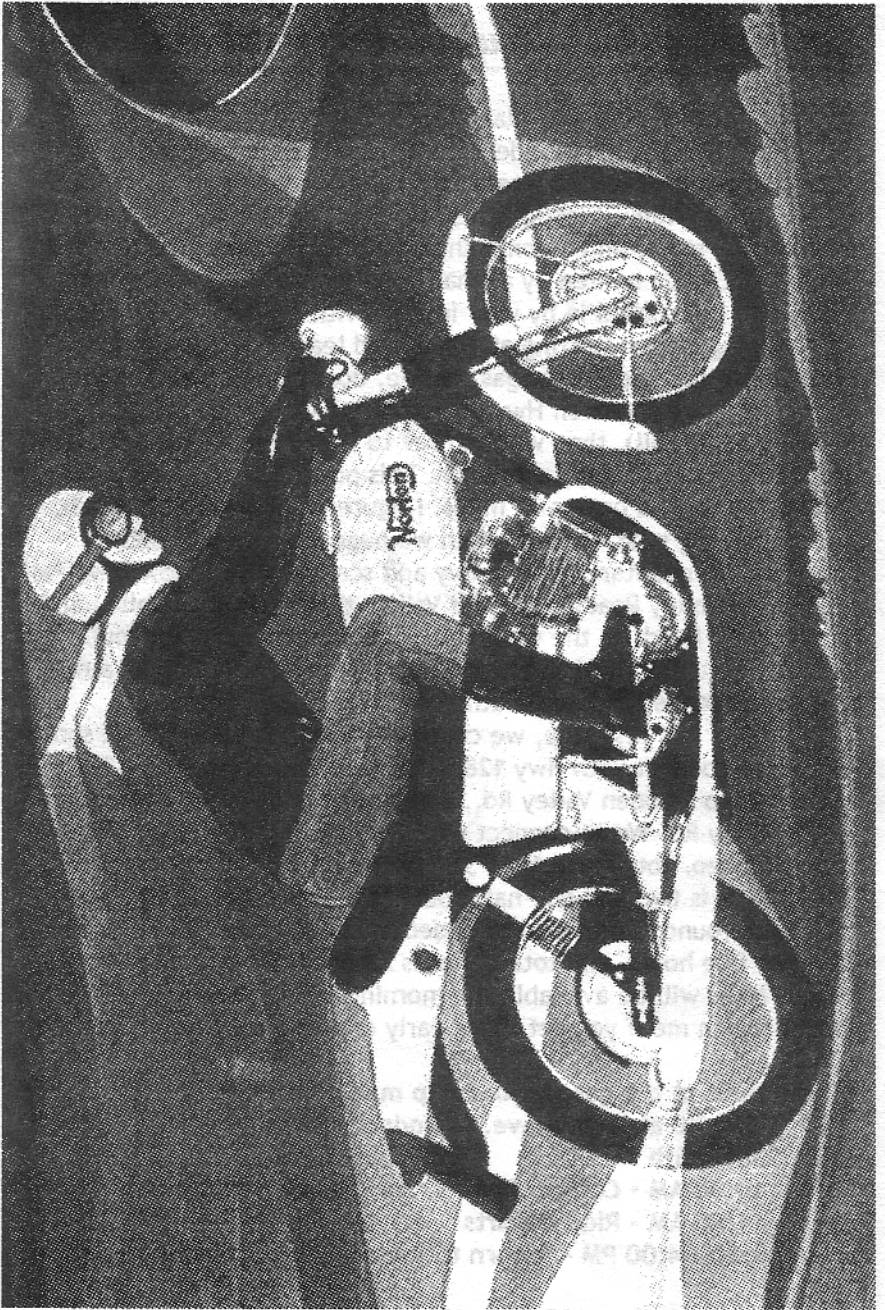
*I started the San Francisco Branch of the NOC back in 1970, with the help of Jerry Kaplan. This is the branch that evolved over the years into the present day Northern California Norton Owners Club.*

*I Bought my Quicksilver and Burgandy Fastback at Frank Servetti's on Valencia Street in June 1969, and still have it 30 years later! Went on my first club ride in many years a few weeks ago (the "Cameron's ride") and had a lot of fun (just ask Alan G.).*

*Anyway, I did some Norton art back in the 70's, and recently scanned some slides to see if I could get anything worthwhile for the Norton Notice. The originals on all of these are full color, and unfortunately they do lose something going to grayscale! (See art below and next few pages) The Fastback art, by the way, is a watercolor that I sent the original of to Dennis Poore, the chairman of Norton Villiers at the time, and the person probably most responsible for the introduction of the Commando.*

*Bob Bausch  
Bausch Design*





## *NCNOC North Bay Ride 07-25-99*

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Actually, I took license and planned what more accurately might be called the "Northeast Bay Ride." The ride gathers near the city of Rodeo, where Highway 80 intersects with Willow Avenue. Just south of Hwy 80 on Willow Avenue is a small strip mall with a gas station, convenience store, and a donut shop that is unfortunately closed on Sunday. Not to be beaten by a small problem like that, donuts and coffee will be trucked in by your intrepid ride leader. We'll meet at the shopping center starting at 10am, and leave for the ride at 11am sharp. Come early for gas, coffee, donuts, and socializing.

The ride starts on Hwy 80 across the Carquinez bridge (the standard \$2.00 toll), then we cut over to Hwy 29 and head up to St. Helena for our first stop, and lunch. This portion of the ride takes about an hour, and covers 40 miles. I figure an hour for gas, lunch, and sightseeing in St. Helena, then we head east toward Lake Berryessa. Things start to get curvy and scenic as we follow Deer Park and Howell Valley Roads into Pope Valley, then take Pope Valley and Pope Canyon Roads to the west side of Lake Berryessa. Our route follows the west shore of Lake Berryessa, where we will stop at a rest area for a short stretch and bathroom break.

After our rest stop, we continue along Berryessa's west shore until we re-connect with Hwy 128, then cutoff south on Hwy 121. We follow 121 to Wooden Valley Rd., and take that south as it becomes Suisun Valley Rd. We re-connect with Hwy 80 in Cordelia, and take 80 back to Rodeo. Total time from St. Helena to Rodeo, including the rest stop(s), is two and one-half hours, and covers around 60 miles. Total time round trip (Rodeo to Rodeo, including stops and lunch) is less than five hours, and total miles is around 100.

Maps will be available the morning of the ride, and coffee and donuts are on me if you get there early enough. See you on the ride!

**Where:** Meet at the gas station/strip mall,  
Hwy 80 at Willow Ave. in Rodeo

**When:** July 25th

10:00 AM - Coffee, Donuts, conversation and preparation

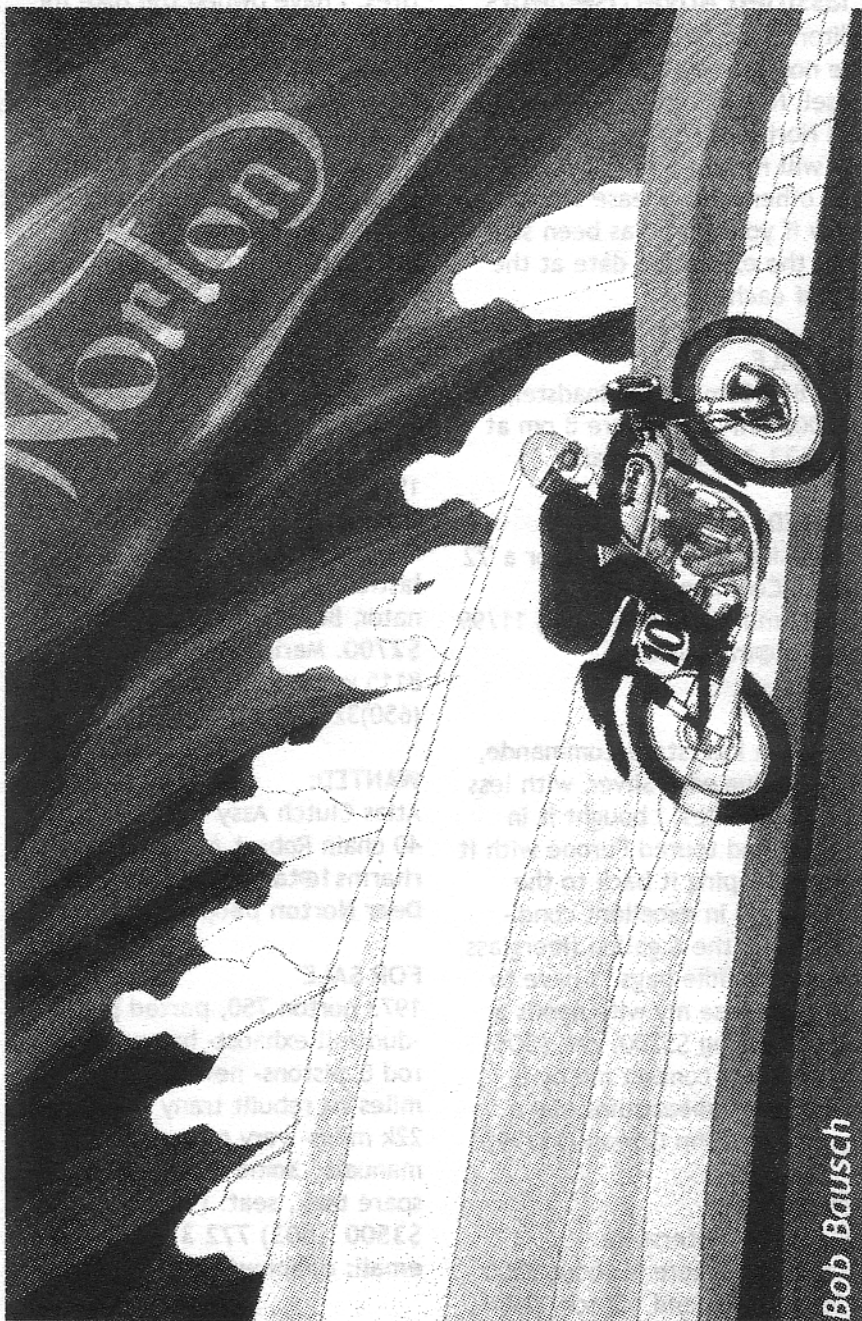
11:00 AM - Ride departs

3:30 - 4:00 PM - Return to Rodeo - End of ride

**Contact:** Greg Fuller (925) 449-1762 email: gfuller52@aol.com

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Bob Bausch

## Classified Advertisements

Editors note: We actively encourage non-club members to post ads to sell Norton motorcycles, parts and Norton-specific services. All ads will run for 3 months (unless told otherwise). Please let us know if your item has been sold. Note the expiration date at the end of each ad.

### FOR SALE

1973 850 Commando Roadster, \$3500, call Jeff before 8 pm at 209-533-3690 for details.

### WANTED:

I'm looking for a gas tank for a '72 Norton Commando  
M. McCandless (e-mail only) 11/99  
mikemc@inficad.com

### FOR SALE

73 Norton Interstate Commando, 750 cc, Blue with Silver, with less than 6000 miles. I bought it in England and toured Europe with it before shipping it back to the States. It is in excellent condition. It has the 6 gallon fiberglass tank and saddle bags. I have to sell it because my wife needs a car. I'm asking \$5500. call (505) 292-8676 or contact me by e-mail, jgowan@earthlink.net  
Thank you, John Gowan (11/99)

### FOR SALE

1974 Norton Interstate Commando. There is about 3500 miles on: top end, clutch, paint,

tires. I have owned the bike for about 3.5 years. It looks and runs great. \$4000 obo  
call anytime (650)856-8578 (10/99)  
ErrolArm@aol.com

### WANTED:

Norton Atlas, Triton or similar featherbed twin. Also need chainguard, side stand, rear shocks and handlebars for a 1967 Atlas.  
Call Terry (916)727-2673 (10/99)

### FOR SALE

1972 Commando. Excellent condition. Many improvements: Norvil floating disc front brake, MkIII isolastics, 3-phase high output alternator, Boyer, sleeved carbs.  
\$2700. Marick Payton: (650) 723-8115 work;  
(650)321-5083 home.(10/99)

### WANTED:

Atlas Clutch Assy with the single # 40 chain Robert A. Harms  
rharms1@tampabay.rr.com  
Dear Norton people:

### FOR SALE

1973 norton 750, ported polished -dunstall exhaust- balanced crank, rod & pistons- new top end -100 miles on rebuilt tranny one owner-- 22k miles- very nice, all receipts, manuals, some special tools, spare tank, seat. (10/99)  
\$3500 (503) 772 3147  
email: deapow@teleport.com

**FOR SALE**

I have a one owner '73 750 Norton for sale in portland it is in great shape with only 22k miles..never been mistreated. new top end , new tranny, ported, polished, dunstall exhaust, balanced crank etc, only \$4500.00 contact Robert Shafer at: [rjames@teleport.com](mailto:rjames@teleport.com) (503) 772-3147 (10/99)

**FOR SALE**

Redline Synthetic Oil (20W50) at dealer cost, \$6 per quart or \$72/case, plus tax and shipping. Protect your Norton with the best oil made.

**FOR SALE:**1973 850 Commando, very good condition, black/gold, low miles rebuilt engine, runs strong, electronic ignition, good rubber \$4250, obo Call (602) 870-0595 or (10/99)

There is a firm that can repair the Veglie speedometers from the Commando Mk.3 bikes. I just had mine, which was badly broken, fixed by them. The charge was \$95, which included return postage. The address is as follows.

Attn: Joel Levine  
Precision Instrument  
Repair Service  
445 Beaver Ruin Road  
PO Box 581  
Lilburn GA 30247

Telephone: 1-800-456-6267.  
Thanks to Ken Armann for the lead.

*John Covell, Public Relations  
Officer*

The Norton logo is a stylized, bold, black font with a thick, rounded outline. The letters are closely spaced and have a classic, slightly gothic feel. The 'N' and 'O' are particularly prominent.

**Isle of Man TT '99 LIVE on the INTERNET.**

For the first time using the substantial resources of REAL AUDIO, Road-Racing fans can listen to LIVE commentary from Radio TT: <http://www.radiott.com> With results as they happen and Web Cam views of the pits from the Grandstand. All this and more from Main Sponsors DUKE VIDEO. Coverage starts on Saturday, June 5th at 00:01 am GMT, -8 Pacific, -5 Eastern, +8 Hong Kong, +10 Sydney. CATCH THE ACTION - LIVE - WITH <http://www.radiott.com>

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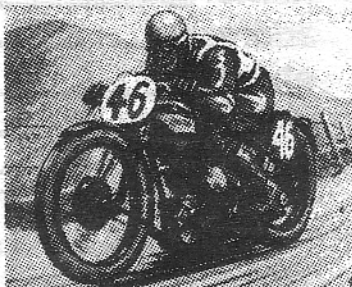
Monroes three mechanics have been familiar with Nortons for a number of years. We can replace exhaust port threads *with the head on the bike* - we don't know of anyone else who can. The job looks like original factory. Call for shop prices. We also have a good supply of Norton parts.



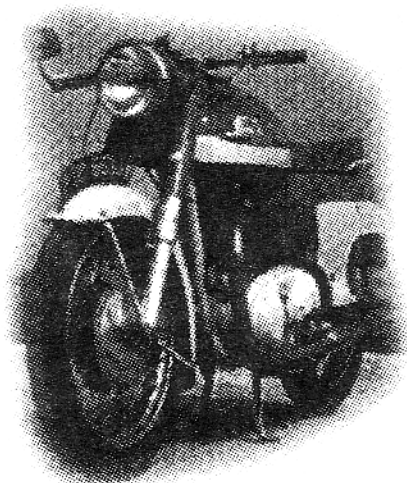
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**Norton West Coast  
Rendezvous III  
Lake Selmac, Oregon  
August 5 – 8, 1999**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

address: \_\_\_\_\_

phone: \_\_\_\_\_

# of adults: \_\_\_\_\_ # of kids: \_\_\_\_\_

NWNO  NCNOC OTHER: \_\_\_\_\_

Four days of Nortoneering, camping, field events, and fun!  
Join Norton owners from all over the West in this traditional event.  
Adults \$20, kids \$10, Dogs free. Send this form and your check to:

Steve Craig, 10643 S.E. 125th St. Renton, WA 98059 (425) 255-4637

## 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 typically limited to Norton Owners, but we look the other way all the time, at least as long as you would like to own a Norton, own other British bikes, or are just a great person to be around. So if you like to ride, repair, eat, drink and be merry and admire Norton motorcycles, it will cost you \$20 to join.

The club has monthly rides (some times more frequent), monthly meetings on the second Thursday of each month (at rotating venues) and award winning 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 the INOA) as well as the original club in England. Our club secretary will tell you how to join the U.K. organization if you have an interest.

The USNOA hosts 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 merchants all over the country who advertise in the News as well as a national membership list. It is well worth joining and will cost another \$20. Send that to: Dian Stark, 12603 BelAire Circle, McCalla, AL. 35111 Phone: (205) 477-4340.

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Motorcycles Owned

Make \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_ Model \_\_\_\_\_ Engine/Frame/Plate Numbers \_\_\_\_\_

Attach additional sheet to list more.

I hereby apply for membership in the Northern California Norton Owners Club (NCNOC). Check One:  New Membership  Renewal application.

The undersigned application certifies that he or she is a legal resident of the U.S. over the age of 18, has a valid motorcycle drivers 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 it's officers, agents and members from any and all liabilities, loss, damage, cost, claims and/or cause of action, including but not limited to all bodily injury and property damage arising out of participation in the Club's activities, it being specifically understood that such activities include the use by applicant and others of motorcycles. The applicant further agrees to indemnify the Club and it's officers, agents and members and hold them harmless for the results of the undersigned's participation in those activities. This indemnification also includes attorney's fees in defending any claim or judgment in the negotiation of any settlement. It is understood and agreed that the undersigned will have the opportunity to consent to any settlement; provided however, that such consent shall not be unreasonably withheld.

I have read and agreed to the additional terms and conditions set forth on all parts of this application. Other affiliated clubs an organizations are also represented and protected by this release.

Applicant's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Send all applications or inquiries to: Alan Mueller, 128 Windsor Ct. San Carlos, CA. 94070  
(415) 591-5444