

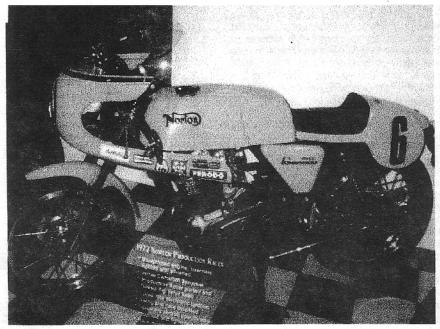
Norton Notice



The Newsletter of the Northern California Norton Owners Club

No. 258

March, 2000

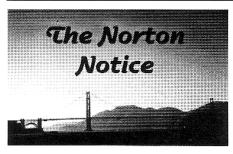


1972 Production Racer

DON'T FORGET!

THE CLUBMAN'S SHOW

(March 25th)



is published by the Northern California Norton Owners Club. Its purpose is to inform and entertain members regarding all aspects of the Norton motorcycle, including history, technical advice, and preservation of the marquee.

The NORTON NOTICE is a reflection of the readership, who are encouraged to submit ant article, technical tip, photograph (original or otherwise) as long as it is in good taste, so that other Norton enthusiasts may enjoy it. (Good taste is somewhat optional, but hey-this is a group of bikers we're talking about here....that's why we have an editor.)

The deadline for items to be submitted for publication is the 18th of each month. The NORTON NOTICE welcomes contributions submitted electronically. Please submit articles and photos in a format compatable with IBM PC. You may also send articles directly to the editor via E-mail can be sent using INTERNET to dpcrader@thegrid.net.

Membership in the Northern California Norton Owners Club is available for \$20.00 per year. Membership dues are payable to the Branch Treasurer. See application form on inside cover.

Advertising rates are \$60.00/year for a 1/4 page ad!!

Renewal dues are payable at the end of the individual's membership year, which is designated by the last number listed on the mailing label of the Norton Notice and the membership card.

All changes of address or questions about membership or the Notice, call the President.....not the Notice editor!!

The Northern California Norton Owners Club is affiliated with both the Norton Owners Club of England and the International Norton Owners Association. Interested persons can join these two organisations per the terms described on the Branch membership application form.

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Brian Slark Jodi Nicholas Bill Knight Dick Slusher

NORTON NOTTCE

IMPORTANT (Please note the following fine print The object of the Northern California Norton Öwners Club is to promote, encourage and develop motorcycle activities. The Club's members are owners of Norton motorcycles and they often submit for publication in the NORTON NOTICE technical tips pertaining to motorcycles of the Norton marque. Technical tips so published have been reviewed for technical content and aare believed to be bothh acceptable and workable, but no guarantee is made or implied that they will work correctly, nor is any liability assumed by either the Norton Owners Club or the members for any problems resulting from the use of these tips. The Club also assumes no responsibility for the acts or ommissions of its members in connection with Club activities. NORTON NOTICE articles or other materials express the author's view only and not necessarily the official policy of the Norton Owners Club or its Northern California branch. The editor reserves the right to accept rejector alter all editorial and advertising material submitted for publication. Advertising published does not imply endorsement of products, goods or services. Now you know

Upcoming Events

Club Rides Schedule

Official NOC events are shown underlined and in bold print. You earn NORTON points only by participating in these events, as follows:

6 points Riding a Norton: Riding other bike: 4 points

Riding on 4 wheels: 2 points Weekend events are tallied per 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.
Call Ride's Coordinator Gar Jorgenson (925)634-9395 for details

DATE	TIME	EVENT	MEET AT
March 25		Clubman Show	S.J. Fairgrounds
March 26	10AM	Day After Ride	Road Rider/SJ
April 9	10:30AM	Rallye de Milani	Milani's Pub
April 23	Dawn	Easter Ride	T.B.A.
April 28-30	Anytime	Sonoma Fest Sears Point	
May 14	10AM	Mother's Day/ Alice's	
		to Cameron's Ride	
May 26-29	Anytime	Lake Cachuma Ride	T.B.A.
June 10	10AM	Santa Cruz Ride/Meet	Alice's
June 24	T.B.A.	Ft. Sutter AMCA Dixon Fairgrour	
July 12-16	T.B.A.	INOA National Rally Torrey, Utah	
August 11-13	Anytime	Ken Armann Weekend Dardanelles	
Sept. 17	T.B.A.	Mt Hamilton Ride T.B.A.	
Sept. 30	10AM	Old Timer's Ride	Alice's
Oct. 15	T.B.A.	Delta Ride	T.B.A.
Nov. ?	T.B.A.	All British Ride T.B.A.	
Nov. 19	T.B.A.	Turkey Ride T.B.A.	
Dec. 10	T.B.A.	Xmas Party	T.B.A.

Club Meetings Club meetings start at 8:00PM

March 9 Harry's Hofbrau, Mountain View April 13 Prince of Wales, San Mateo May 11 The Boat House, SF June 10 Santa Cruz Ride/Meeting July 2 Donkey Deli, San Juan Batista Prince of Wales, San Mateo August 10 Sept. 14 Harry's Hofbrau, Mountain View October 12 Prince of Wales, San Mateo Nov. 9 The Boat House, SF December No meeting

At this time, all rides and meetings are not cast in stone. Events and dates may change!!

Press Production and Halftones:

John and Carrie Follett: White Oak Press, San Carlos, CA

President's Message by Mike Sullivan

Ride report; The Sweetheart Ride 2/13/00...There is no ride report, for this date any way. The way it rained, the only way you could ride was if your bike had pontoons. As a standard condition, on a rainout, the ride is automatically re-scheduled to the following weekend but this ride was postponed until 2/27/00 because the ride leader and ride coordinator were going to be busy on 2/20/00 as it is the Presidents Day holiday weekend. (see the comment later about the request for e-mail addresses) Hopefully the weather will be better.

On other fronts, we have a bit more information that came out at the 2/10/00 Club Meeting at the Prince of Wales. Alan Goldwater was able to find out that the fee for the Rally is going to be \$50.00 on a pre-paid basis and \$55.00 at the door. This price will include two meals. There will be an additional fee of \$3.00 per night for those hearty souls that will be camping. Sachi Shoblo presented some information about three motels in the Torrey, Utah area that she was able to get off the Internet. The three places were: Hidden Falls Resort phone 888-232-4082, rates about \$69.00/night; Wonderland Inn at Capitol Reef phone 435-425-3775, rates about \$60.00-\$70.00 per night; and Super 8 Motel phone 435-425-3688, rates about \$45.00 per night. I also have been able to find in the AAA tour book the following places:

Austin's Chuckwagon Lodge phone 435-425-3335; Boulder View Inn phone 435-425-3800; Cactus Hill Motel phone 435-425-3578; Cockscomb Inn phone 435-425-3511; Holiday Inn Express phone 435-425-3866; The Lodge at Red River Ranch phone 435-425-3322; Sky Ridge B&B phone 435-425-3222; and Torrey Days Inn phone 435-425-3111. I have no idea where these places are located in relation to the campsite. At this point, you are on your own.

It was decided at the meeting that ride points would be awarded for each day that a bike is actually ridden either going to or at the rally, but not going home. This means that those riders that actually ride can pick up some extra points for the effort.

We have preliminary information about the kinda annual North-South get together with the Southern California Club at Cambria. At this point it is tentatively scheduled for the first week in June. This might be a good shakedown ride for those of you who are planning to ride to Utah.

A couple of other things were brought up at the meeting.

First was the status of our website. It is obvious that the current website is not being kept up and so Alan Goldwater has volunteered to set up a new one. At this point it will only be a listing of Club officers and a ride/event schedule.

Continued on page 8

Alan's Wrench. by Alan Goldwater, V. P.

I'm always interested in solving two or more problems with a single repair. While working on my '67 Atlas recently, I found myself in this exact situation. I was doing some rewiring up under the tank, and when I tried to remove the zener diode to fix the ground lead, of course the stud snapped off. This is a common problem as the part is a bit fragile. It's also pricey, but I had a Podtronics Power Module waiting for just such an opportunity for testing, supplied by Bob Kizer of Pins Un-Ltd (281 955-6100, http://members.aol.com/PODtronic/ powermod.html).

This unit replaces both the rectifier and the zener diode. It's built into a block of ally about 2.5 in. square and 1 in. thick, with cooling fins and four wires. Thus it is small enough to fit almost anywhere, and requires no additional heat sink. I mounted mine in place of the rectifier (under the seat on the Atlas) since all the needed connections were right there.

While wiring in the new unit, I also solved a problem, which had frustrated me, since I first built this bike in 1970 - it had no tachometer. For reasons I'll explain later, I couldn't use the usual mechanical-drive Smiths tach which came on most late Atlases. So I had been looking for almost 30 years for an electric tach which would work correctly on a 2 cylinder, positive-ground cycle. There were lots of choices for negative-ground bikes, but that didn't help.

I finally heard of an electronic tach for Commandos being made by Mick Hemmings in the U.K. and distributed here by Old Britts. Fred Eaton kindly supplied on of these units for testing, but unfortunately I found that it was designed for Boyer-equipped ignition (one pulse per rev of the engine), and worked unreliably with my points ignition. I was sad to return this well made and good looking tach, but it just didn't work for my bike.

In desperation, I visited the local Custom Chrome (H-D) outlet, and bought a Drag Specialties DS-243940 tach, which happened to be the same diameter as the smiths gauges and a bit deeper. It also cost just \$65, so I figured I could afford to try insulating it from the frame, to make it work with the Norton positive-ground electrics. It was in the course of this very experiment that I broke the Zener diode, which brings me back to the Podtronics unit.

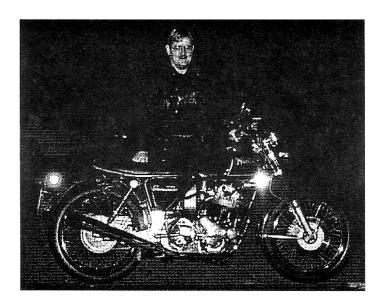
Because the Power Module casing is not connected electrically, it can be used with positive OR negative ground systems. On the Atlas, switching to negative ground turned out to be very simple to do. At the Podtronics module, I connected the black wire to frame ground, and the red wire to the hot lead (negative on the stock bike. Then I swapped the battery connections, hooking the red wire to minus and the brown wire to (with fuseholder) to plus.

continued on page 9

Rider's Rides

For those of you that missed last year's Christmas party, this is none other than our host, Jerry Grainger, standing with his 1972 Combat Roadster. Jerry purchased this bike new in '72 from Gus Kuhn Motors in London, England. Jerry and his wife toured England and Wales on the Norton and then shipped it back home to the U.S. A series of events and circumstances resulted in the Commando being mothballed for 27 years. Early in 1999, Jerry took the bike to Phil Radford for an extensive overhaul. By June it was back on the road and Jerry was back in the saddle. Look closely at the photo and you may be able to make out the riding suit that Jerry is wearing. It was purchased in 1970 on Jerry's previous trip to England. So how many of the rest of us can still fit into a pair of shoes we bought 30 years ago, much less a full riding suit?

Gar Jorgenson



UPCOMING RIDES

March Ride Annual "Morning After Ride" March 26, 2000 - 10:00 AM

This year's "Morning After the Clubman Show" ride is going to be hosted by the Velo Club and meets at Road Rider at 2897 Monterey Highway in San Jose. The ride will be lead by John Ray and will **depart promptly at 10:00 AM**. John reports that the ride will go over the Santa Cruz Mountains to the coast. It will then go up the coast, back into the mountains to Alice's, and eventually back to Road Rider. This year there is going to be a sign-in sheet so be sure to **arrive early** enough to have time to get registered. If you have any questions you may contact John Ray at (408) 353-4852.

April Ride
"Rallye de Milani"
April 9, 2000 - 10:30 AM

As usual, this ride starts out at Milani's Bar at 840 "B" Street, in San Rafael. The ride is being put together and led by Ed Meagor of the BSA Club (Ed is in the Norton Club also but says he is down to "only one" Norton!). The ride will depart at 10:30 so get there early to enjoy all of the bikes that will be lined up on the street. The ride will wind for 75 miles through the Marin headlands. It will culminate back at Milani's for food and good cheer. For those of you who haven't made this ride, this is one of the best. Ed knows some truly beautiful roads and a nice mix of bikes usually shows up. Parking for those who trailer in is available for free in several municipal lots near Milani's. For additional information call Ed Meagor at (415) 457-5423 or you can try Milani's at (415) 459-9947.

Gar Jorgenson Rides Coordinator

Presidents Message

Continued from page 4

Secondly, Ken Armann has found an English Pub in Campbell, The Kingshead Pub, that has an area with a big screen TV and VCR that we might be able to use for a meeting or a ride destination. We will look into it and report on it next month.

Thirdly, I have heard about the "Rallye de Milani" It is scheduled for Sunday April 9th. Meet at 10:30AM at Milani's Pub in San Rafael at the corner of 3rd and B streets. The ride will proceed around Marin County and then there will be a lunch. Ed Meagor has stated that a contribution to Hospice will be gladly accepted.

Lastly, it was put forward by Gar Jorgenson that it would be a good idea to start building an Internet address file. So, all of you tekkies that are on the Internet, please send us an e-mail so we can put you address in the files.

The next meeting is at Harry's Hofbrau in Mountain View on Thursday March 9. See you there.

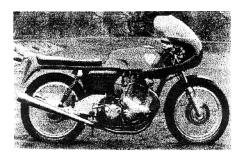
Don't forget the Clubman's Show at the San Jose Fair-grounds on Saturday (not Sunday) March 25. Doors open at 8:00AM

What Happens When It Rains?

Well, the ride gets canceled for one thing! The other thing is that the ride gets rescheduled. The problem is that you don't know the new date unless a rain date has been published. So this is an appeal for e-mail addresses! As your Rides Coordinator, I would be happy to update you on any last minute event schedule changes if you would send me your e-mail address. I will add it to a list, which will allow me to send out one notification to all that are on the list. I have a few addresses now, but I know there are a lot I don't have. Unless you are one of those listed on Page 2 of the Notice, don't assume I have your address. If you want to be on the list, send your address to me at

losono@mindspring.com.

Gar Jorgenson



1972 810 Dunstall Norton

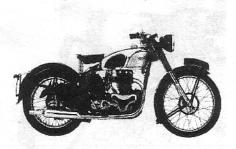
Mike Sullivan

Alan's Wrench continued from page 5

After insulating the Zener terminal, which was no longer needed, I checked with an ohmmeter from the fuseholder terminal (fuse removed) to ground, just to confirm that there were no hidden shorts. Finally I installed and wired the tach.

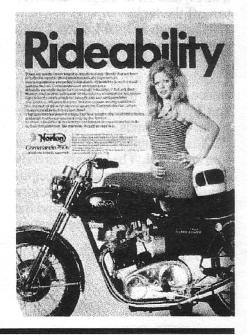
On starting the bike, I found that everything worked including the tach, but the ammeter read backwards. So I swapped its connections and now I have a negative ground British bike with and electronic tach that works great!

In case you've forgotten, I promised to explain why I couldn't use the stock mechanical-drive Smiths tach. Well, my Atlas motor had expired in a major, expensive way in 1970. However there was this Indian Chief motor, see, and so...but that's a story for another day.



Some previews....





Editor's Line

The Commando has been down since Don Danmier's Birthday ride in November. Down in the sense that all the fluids were drained and the guages were sent off to Precision Instrument Repair for rebuild. I was looking forward to the February ride to try out the guages and see how the oil leak prevention was working.

Ride day came and so did the rain. Hey, it's winter still, what can you expect. Some messages came from Gar and Mike that the ride is rescheduled for two weeks later, but I'm ready to ride now. Through the three day holiday weekend, the first chance I get is on Monday. In goes the oil and gas. After the Commando starting ritual, the engine fires (I'm surprised everytime it does) and off to the gas station to top off the tank.

Out here in East Contra Costa County there are several country roads. Though not as nice as Marin County, they are just out the entrance to my home development and I can get into cow country in about 10 seconds.

Starting out, I'm just running at touring speed. The hills are already green from the rains and it's beginning to look like spring. Before long the "S" sign comes up and the speed picks up while accelerating into the curves.

"Let's see how the tune is and push the envelop a little". The roadster doesn't miss a beat. The sound coming out brings to mind a time I was complemented on that sound by a Suzuki rider while I was on the way to a club meeting.

Coming out into a flat, straight at the bottom of a down hill curve, I open up the throttle to see how the mixture is doing at the upper end. A little bit of popping on the run out, probably could increase the main jet size. I think I'll leave it alone, though. It's using the original 230s and besides, this is at an indicated 95 and I don't really need that velocity anyway.

It was about a 30 minute ride, but I'm satisfied for now. Still it doesn't look good for this weekend's weather and the reschedule day is Sunday. May have to sneak another short ride before the Clubman's.

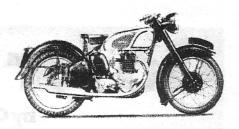
David Crader



Restorer's Column

This section is for people working on that Norton project and is an open forum. Send in your comments about your project or if you have some wisdom to share about your experiences. The last Commando came off the press in 1977 (at least from Andover). That makes even the Commandos at least 23 years old now. Restoration is a very real aspect of the club.

Art Flatray called me last week asking about various parts he needed for a 1932 16H project. Anyone out there have or know of a source for sheet metal or interested in helping Art out call him at 408 264-7856.



1949 Model 7 Dominator

Note the 1948 Model 18, 500cc single, listed in the "For Sale". Jason Len is in San Luis Obisbo. He says if this doesn't sell he will start the restoration in Spring this year. Jason says he's an avid Brit biker and I sent him some info on the club.



1932 flathead Norton

Bob Belle in Saskatchuan has started a new Model 7 club. This is the 500cc twin made from 1949 to 1955. The website for the club is

h t t p:// www3.sk.sympatico.ca.bellle/ index.htm Your editor just got a frame and engine plates back from Spectrum Powder Coating in Redwood City. I'm very happy with the results. The frame number is still somewhat ledgible which I didn't expect as it's not stamped very deep. Fortunately this '61 ES2 originally was black with silver tank. The Brit colors (forest green and dove white) would have been hard to match in epoxy powder. I've got the engine and gearbox in the frame and up on the rebuilt wheels.



The Thirteenth Annual Clubman's

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Sunday March 26, 2000

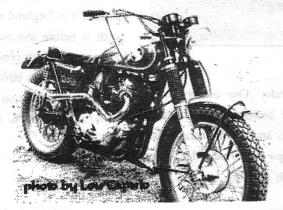
The "Marring After Ride"
Organized by the Velocate Owners Club
Meet or RoadRider Accessories
2897 Monterey Highway
Ride deports 10:00 A.M.
Infest John Roy [408] 3:53-48:52

Show Bike Classes

B - Ridden/Licensed/Raced/Unrestore

Military
Scrambles/Trial

Roadroca Street Modified/Cafe



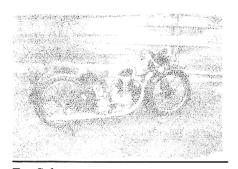
Classified Advertisements

Editors note: We actively encourage non-Club members to post ads to sell Norton motorcycles, Norton parts and Nortonspecific services. Ads will also be posted on our new web site, at http://ru486.hypno.com/ ~norton. All ads will runs for 3 months. Please notify the editor if your item has been sold. Your ad will automatically be removed after 3 months if I haven't heard differently. Note the expiration date at the end of each ad.

FOR SALE:

Found this on Traderonline:

1938 Norton ES2, 500cc, OHV in mint cond. & running perfectly, \$6500 OBO, can ship, phone Canada at 705 264-0361



For Sale

1972 Commando. One owner. 6500 original miles! Never down..no dents in tank. Any offer around \$4K considered. Call Philippe (310)403-1970 or (310)452-8629. (03/00)

For Sale

1972 Norton Commando! Exceptional, original condition. Serious inquiries only! 8500 original miles. Starts right up, very oil tight. \$4500 OBO!! Call John Edwards, Moss Beach, CA (650)728-2470 home or (510)494-2420 work. (03/00)

For Sale

Commando! Comp restoration by British USA of Houston, TX in 1995. 190 miles on restoration. Corbin seat and original seat. Bike is in Grandma's garage in Oklahoma. Mike Semrad (405)368-7451 or (405)853-6095. (03/00)

For Sale

'73 Norton Interstate Commando, 750cc, blue and silver..less than 6000 miles. I bought it in England and toured Europe with it before shipping it back to the States. Excellent condition. It has a 6 gallon fiberglass tank and saddlebags. My wife needs a car, so I must sell! \$5500 Call (505)292-8676. (03/00)

For Sale

1948 Norton Model 18. It needs total restoration. Currently disassembled. Bike includes many new parts: new exhaust and muffler, rear fender, front stays, mag/dyno, foot pedals..etc. It is about 90% complete and would make a great classic when completed. All the hard sheet metal is there, fenders, petrol tank, oil tank...etc. Includes over \$1500 worth of new parts. Can ship via truck and price will include free crating. Engine # C3 15502CT

Jason Lenn 805 544-0332 San Luis Obisbo (05/00)

Wanted

Working on '32 Model 16H. Need various sheet metal parts...fenders.

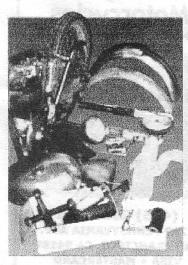
Art Flatray 408 264-78756 (05/00)

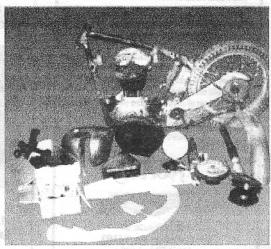
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David Crader 925 513-3148 (05/00)





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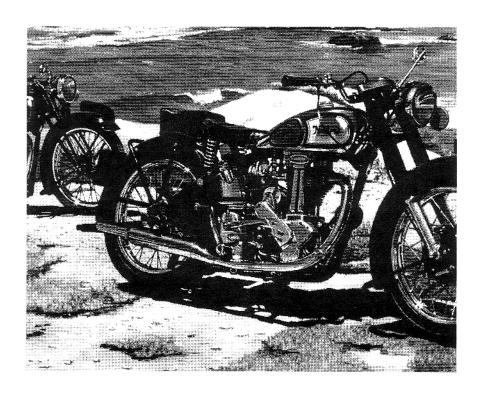
classic motorcycle resource

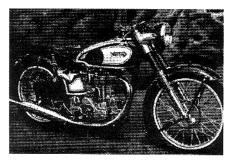
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YEAR 2000 CALENDARS





Available at NCNOC Meetings or Call Alan Mueller at 650-591-5444 Or Gar Jorgenson at 925-634-9395 \$12 for members/\$16 for non-members

THE NORTHERN CALIFORNIA NORTON OWNERS CLUB Membership Application

The Northern California Norton Owners Club (NCNOC) was started in San Francisco in the early 1970's, and grew geographically larger to become the Northern California Club.

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

The club has monthly rides (sometimes more often), monthly meetings on the second Thursday of the month (at rotating venues), an award winning monthly newsletter, and a Website.

If youwould like to learn more about your Norton and how to take care of it, would like

to buy a Norton, or just want to have a good time with other Club members, join now!

The NCNOC maintains a relationship with the U.S. Norton Owners Association (USNOA, also known as the International Norton Owners Association, or INOA) as well as the original Club in England. Our club secretary will tell you how to join the UK organization, if you have an interest.

The USNOA 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 \$20. Send that to: Dian Slark, 12603 BelAire Circle, McCalla, AL., 35111...Phone (205)477-4340.

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

NAME____ ADDRESS

CITYSTATEa	CITYSTATE and ZIP					
TELEPHONE_						
		MOTORCYCLES	OWNED			
Make	Year	Model	Engine/Frame/Plate Numbers			
	Attach a	nother sheet if you	want to list more.			
I hereby apply This is a	for membershi new	p in the Northern Ca renewal a	lifornia Norton Owners Club (NCNOC) pplication.			
and will use legally red and indemnification f represents as follows: any and all liability, lo damage arising out of use by applicant and members and hold the attorney's fees incurre agreed that the under be unreasonably with	quired safety equipmer or himself or herself To release the Northe ss, damage, costs, cla participation in the clul others of motorcycles m harmless for the res ad in defending any cla signed shall have the of held.	nt in connection with club active and his or hers, successors, are California Norton Owners Caims, and/or cause of action, b's activites, it being specificalls. The undersigned further a ults of the undersigned spartical aim or judgement and incurred opportunity to consent to any successions.	S over the age of 18, has a valid motorcycle driver's license ites. Participant does hereby execute this release, waiver, representatives, and assigns, and hereby agrees and club ("the Club") and its officers, agents and members from including but not limited to all bodily injuries and property ly understood that such activities include the operation and grees to indemnify the club and its officers, agents, and expanding in those activities. This indemnification shall include in the negotiation of any settlement. It is understood and settlement; provided, however, that such consent shall no us set forth on all parts of this application. Other affiliated se.			
Dated	Applica	nte Signaturo				

Send all applications or inquiries to:
Alan Mueller, 128 Windsor Ct., San Carlos, CA. 94070
(650)591-5444