



WE'RE ALL HERE BECAUSE WE'RE NOT ALL THERE



Norton Colorado

www.nortoncolorado.org

Newsletter

June 2017



This guy is named John Stoner. He's not a member of the club, but he rode the OBR on this ratty looking Atlas that he recently bought in the Springs for the grand total of \$970. There are still some "finds" out there

Upcoming Events

See page 11 for the entire official 2017 events schedule. If you have any ideas for the 2017 official schedule, please contact Eric.

June 4 (Sun): *Big Tent BBQ* hosted by [Eric Bergman](#) and [Susie Saarinen](#), 1900 19th St., Golden, 1 PM. We welcome members of the [BMAC](#), the [Rocky Mountain Chapter](#) and the [Phantom Canyon Chapter](#) of the [AMCA](#), and all other riders of vintage motorcycles.

June 15-18 (Thu-Sun): *Four Corners Rendezvous*, at [Mavreeso Campground](#), near Dolores, hosted by [Steve Harris & Charley Gremmels](#).

July 2 (Sun): *Mt. Evans Ride*, followed by brunch at [David Sheesley's](#), 28204 Meadow Dr., Evergreen, (303) 670-7258, (303) 670-7258. Start at [Eric Bergman's](#), 1900 19th St., Golden at 9 AM.

Palmer Lake Ride

Rode a Norton:

Jack Abeyta
Denny Westervelt
David Sheesley
Jerry Pokorny
Rick Black

Rode Something Lesser:

Eric Bergman (Laverda)
Jonathan Chaikin (Vincent)
Mike Powell (Hinkley)
Bob Haggart (Hinkley)
Mike Fields (H-D)
Joe Teague (Yamaha)



Meanwhile, some of our northern members, Randy Schneider, Ed Lucia, Bob Bowser, Rick Starkey and he who cannot be named took their Brit bikes up the Rist canyon & over to and up the Poudre canyon and back down. "If only Palmer Lake were a little closer for us pert ner Wyoming-ites !"



HIGH COUNTRY HARLEY PRESENTS THE 7TH ANNUAL
VINTAGE
MOTORCYCLE SHOW
SATURDAY JUNE 3RD 10AM-3PM
REGISTER YOUR PRE-1990'S MOTORCYCLE FOR FREE!

You can follow this link to register:

<http://www.highcountryfrederick.com/VintageBikeShow>

The most-popular motorcycles among millennials

By Andrew Newton

There are many reasons why classic motorcycles are increasingly popular among younger folks, aka Millennials. Aside from the sheer excitement of riding a fast bike—something Hunter S. Thompson called “a bloodcurdling kind of fun”—most motorcycles are pretty easy for the home mechanic to work on.

There’s no tightly packed engine bay that requires you to do contortions or remove other car parts before finally reaching what you actually want to work on. And they take up a fraction of the space needed to store a car, even a small one. There are also a dizzying number of choices, from mopeds to superbikes and enduros to cruisers. Most importantly, vintage bikes tend to be cheap, which is something that younger folks, saddled with student debt and high rent, appreciate.

According to long-time motorcycle rider and writer Paul Duchene, “What you often see among younger people is the Japanese stuff. The Japanese really cracked reliability in the 1970s. You’re also going to see the bikes that people bought, kept, and cared for, rather than the really racy stuff that people took to the track or crashed. And you’re also going to see a lot of 500-, 600- and 750-cc bikes, since anything over one liter represents a hike in insurance premiums.”

Below are the five most popular makes for riders born 1982-2002, as measured by insurance quotes over the last five years. These brands make up 75 percent of the quotes measured, and 78 percent of them are valued under \$10,000. Bikes from the 1970s are also particularly popular among millennials; 41 percent of the motorcycles quoted hail from that decade.

Honda

If this was a list of the most popular bikes by model, all five spots would be 1970-74 Hondas. They account for 29 percent of the buyer interest among millennials over the last five years. Between [CB350](#) twins and the ubiquitous [CB750](#) fours, there are oodles of vintage Hondas on the market at any given time. Honda is also credited with finally bringing electric starters and reliability to performance motorcycles, a mostly foreign concept for European bikes at the time. High-production volume, great parts availability, low price, and the fact that you can always count on your Honda starting are the reasons why younger buyers find them so appealing.

Harley-Davidson

Harley-Davidson’s status as an American icon has been talked about ad nauseam, but there is no denying Harley’s appeal among all generations. Interestingly enough, while Harleys are twice as likely as Hondas to be quoted overall, they make up only 24 percent of buyer interest among millennials, as opposed to 29 percent for Hondas. According to Duchene, this may be because “Harleys are generally quite expensive for what they are, and people tend to keep them forever or trade them in on new models.”

Yamaha

Yamahas make up 11 percent of buyer interest, and for millennials it’s much the same story as Honda. They’re appealing because they’re generally cheap and reliable, and ample parts are readily available.

Kawasaki

Kawasakis, with 6 percent of buyer interest, are among the wave of reliable and affordable Japanese bikes that came on strong in the 1970s and ’80s. “Just about the best affordable all-purpose bike out there is the [Kawasaki KLR 650](#),” Duchene says.

Triumph

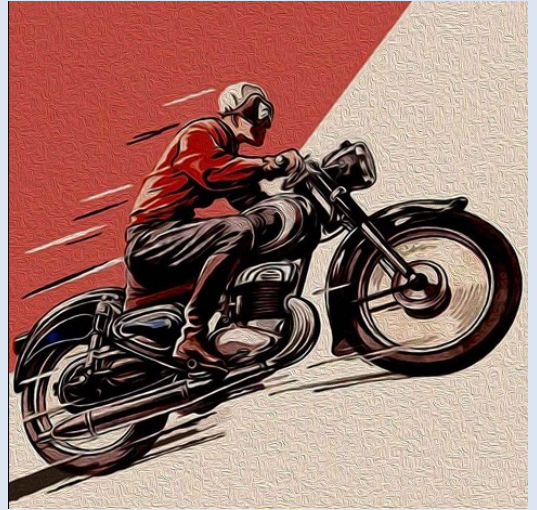
If Harley is an American icon, then Triumph is a British icon, and it accounts for 5 percent of buyer interest. [Bonnevilles](#) didn’t change much at all during the 1960s, and Duchene notes, “Lots of them are being restored. People have fixed up so many of them that they’re cheap, and owners tend to just ride them around town on the week-



Old Bike Ride 15

by Debby Johnson

Things were looking pretty dicey for OBR this year. I was laid low with a bad cold that hit a week before the event, then on Thursday we got that snowstorm. Nederland, the lunch stop, received 30 inches of snow. It looked hopeless.



But the storm rolled out, the roads cleared off, and I got better just in time. So Sunday morning I rolled my bike out and headed to Golden. This year I claimed Female Privilege and rode my W650. Not being fully recovered, pushing a button sounded much better than jumping on a kickstarter.

The course was really fun this year: up Lookout Mountain, down the Mount Vernon Canyon, over to Morrison and up Bear Creek Canyon to get started. I had a great time chasing King Browne up Bear Creek, him on his bevelhead Ducati and me with my little bevelhead Kawi. Traffic was light, the speed trap cops were elsewhere, and the road was clean. Magical.

We proceeded along Evergreen Parkway, took the frontage road to Hwy 119, and went north on the Peak to Peak Highway to our lunch stop at Ned. It was cold on the Peak to Peak, but my heated vest, winter gloves and neck gaiter got me through. After lunch, up and over Hwy 72, down Coal Creek Canyon, and home. 148 miles for the day, which was plenty for me.

Norton turnout was light this year. In fact, I only saw two: Jack Abeyta (sans Peggy) on his purple Commando, and a ratty Atlas with paint by Bondo. Both completed the course, but just barely in Jack's case, as his swingarm spindle reportedly lost all of the fixings and tried to eject itself enroute. Said ejection was stymied by the muffler and he wobbled home. The rider of a beautiful Ariel Square Four was less fortunate, falling victim to electrical gremlins on the Peak to Peak. Eric had to abandon his ride and go get his truck to effect the rescue.

Overall turnout seemed lower than usual this year, but for those of us who made the ride it was a great day. The scenery was gorgeous, with the foothills lush and green from all the rain and snow, and the high country covered with fresh white snowfall. Just beautiful.





Host: Bob Ohman

Rode a Norton

Jack Abeyta

Jim Bay

Rode Something Lesser

Eric Bergman (Laverda)

Al Slarks (BMW)

Marc Lomax (BMW)

Bob Martin (BMW)

King Browne (Ducati)

Debby Johnson (Kawasaki)

Ric Landeira (Kawasaki)

Kris Geller (H-D)

Jonathan Chaikin

(Vincent)

Bob Haggart (Hinkley)

Got There

Randy Albright

Claudia Browne



Host Bob Ohman gathers all the riders for a brief pre ride meeting



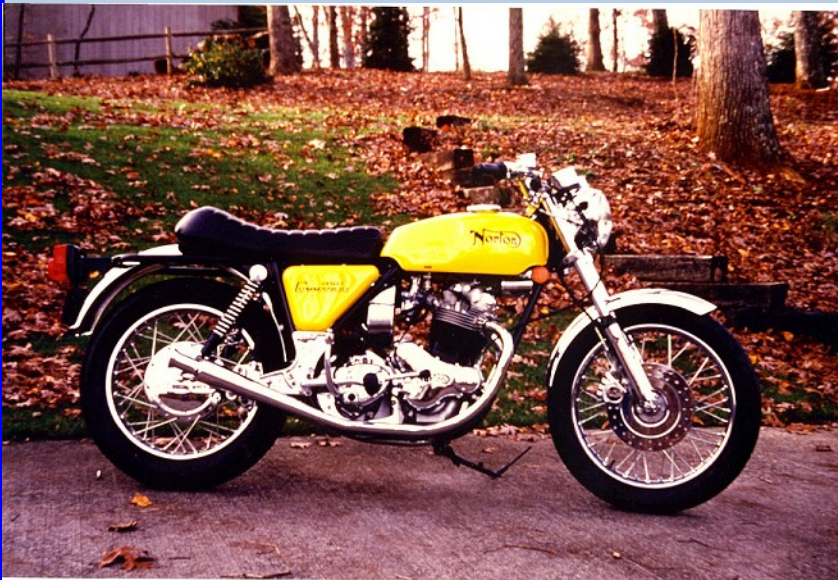
Russ Willard is an absentee Norton Colorado member and prolific restorer. His projects are all frame off, ground up restorations & done by Russ himself with gorgeous results. Russ also works a full time job as a mining engineer for a company that has mines & quarries throughout the south. Russ is a graduate of Colorado School of Mines.

Here are pictures of the tank and side covers from a 74 Comman-do Russ is rebuilding. He decided to do sort of a reverse JPN paint theme; however, he is also having the original JPN (White/blue/red) paint scheme re-done as well. At this point the entire frame/engine, etc. are all in pieces.

An interesting side note, writes Russ, is that Bob Martin machined a beautiful mounting bracket for a Corbin seat. Jerry Pokorny provided Bob with an engineered sketch of how the bracket should be machined. I had the seat given to me but it was without mounting hardware. A call to Corbin revealed you have to purchase the seat to get the bracket. Stupid policy. Lucky for me that Bob is a master machinist and a dear friend for the last 44 years ! My 72 Fast-back and 74 Roadster pictures below. I bought the Roadster from Bob when he had his Norton dealership in 1978 for less than \$500, I believe.



A reverse JPN theme for next Norton project. Frame is silver.



Seat bracket fits like a watch piece. Beautiful !!!



Upcoming events : Add these 2 fun gatherings to your calendar

2017 4 CORNERS RENDEZVOUS

(Yes, it is still going on all these years)

When: Thur. -Sun. June 15-18th

Where: Mavreeso Campground on West Fork Dolores Rd. (same as last year)

From Dolores stay on 145 North (toward Telluride) go 13.4 miles to West Dolores Rd. (the road will widen with a left turn lane and there is a green sign that says Dunton with an arrow on it) turn left go 6.1 miles to Mavreeso Campground. It is on the right. (We will have a group site for camping. If you set up in any other sites, you will have to pay for that site yourself.)

Who: Hosted by Western Slope Norton Riders and Norton Colorado.

Includes: Tent Camping, Morning coffee, Friday night chili and Saturday night brats and burgers, door prizes, 50/50 drawing, and the coveted paper plate awards. Amazing mountain roads and unbelievable, but true campfire stories. Fee is \$30.00 per person.

For further information contact Steve Harris at sharris@frontier.net or call 970-946-1960.

(Please R.S.V.P. so we can figure food)

33rd Annual "Bavarian Mountain Weekend"

Come join the 33rd Bavarian Mountain Weekend Rally on September 8-10th, 2017 in Sipapu, NM, sponsored by the Land of Enchantment BMW Riders. Friday night green chile stew snack and Saturday night dinner. Live music Friday and Saturday (new band!) evenings. Great door prizes. Tech sessions. Located just 25 miles SE of Taos, NM on state highway 518 there is wonderful mountain area riding, with nearby Santa Fe, Taos, Las Vegas and points beyond.

Rally fee \$55 - Pre-register before August 19th for just \$45. Free camping during rally, dorm rooms only available to volunteers.

Contact the Sipapu Lodge at: 1-800-587-2240. Taos area reservation assistance: [HTTP://TAOS.ORG/VISIT/LODGING](http://TAOS.ORG/VISIT/LODGING).

Club contact: Richard Larson, 505.504.4143. Website (online registration form available in May): WWW.LOEBMWR.ORG. Email: INFO@LOEBMWR.ORG or by snail mail, LOEBMWR, PO Box 92095. Albuquerque, NM 87199.

Motorcycle Stuff on the web:

Nicky Hayden dies five days after cycling crash :

<https://www.google.com/amp/s/amp.cnn.com/cnn/2017/05/22/motorsport/nicky-hayden-dead-motogp-cycling-italy/index.html>

Norton prepares for the Isle of Man TT Races 1948

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hU9uS2d9Gp0>

Agnes the Norton Commando 850:

<http://www.motorcycleclassics.com/classic-british-motorcycles/norton-commando-850-zmsz12mizbea?pageid=4#PageContent4>

Bad Salesman

A retired older couple returned to a Harley dealership where the salesman has just sold the bike they were interested in to a beautiful, leggy, busty brunette in a mini - skirt and a halter top.

The old man was visibly upset. He spoke to the salesman sharply. "Young man, I thought you said you would hold that bike till we raised the \$35,000 asking price," said the older man. "Yet I just heard you close the deal for \$30,000 to the lovely young lady there."

And if I remember right, you had insisted there was no way you could discount this model. "The salesman took a deep breath, cleared his throat and reached for a large glass of water. "Well, what can I tell you? She had the cash ready, didn't need any financing help, and, Sir, just look at her, how could I resist?" replied the grinning salesman sheepishly.

Just then the young woman approached the senior couple and gave the car keys to the old man..."There you go," she said. "I told you I could get that idiot to lower the price...." "See you later, Dad."



Schedule for 2017

Feel free to contact Eric Bergman or Jack Abeyta to suggest more ideas or to volunteer to host an event

Feb 4 (Sat): Winter Banquet

Mar 4 (Sat): Museum Tour TBA

Mar 19 (Sun): *Pub meeting* at [Streets of London Pub](#), 1501 E. Colfax, Denver, 2 PM.

April 2 (Sun): *Spring Tech Day* at [Bob Martin's](#), 11838 W. 108th Dr., Broomfield, 9 AM.

April 23 (Sun): Tea Party - host Debby Johnson

May 6 (Sat): Palmer Lake Ride

May 21 (Sun): [Old Bike Ride 15](#), hosted by [Bob Ohman](#), Golden, 8 AM.

June 4 (Sun): *Big Tent BBQ* hosted by [Eric Bergman](#) and [Susie Saarinen](#), 1900 19th St., Golden, 1 PM.

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July (TBA): INOA Rally, Buena Vista, VA

July 15-16 (Sat-Sun): Century Ride

July 29 (Sat): Shop Tour (3-4 Brit-bike shops)

Aug 5-6 (Sat-Sun): *Wimpy Campout*, hosted by [Jamie & Michelle Jones](#), 10800 S. Oehlmann Ave., Conifer.

Aug 20 (Sun): *Breakfast Ride* hosted by [Jim and Marti Fisher](#), 1374 Greening Ave., Erie, 11 AM.

Sept 8-10 (Fri-Sun): *Up The Poudre Without A Paddle* at [Archer's Poudre River Resort](#), west of Fort Collins.

Sept 17 (Sun): [English Motoring Conclave](#), Oak Park, Arvada.

Sept 30 (Sat): *Open Garage* at [Al & Barb Slarks'](#), 6299 Sunshine Canyon Dr., Boulder, 11 AM.

Oct 15 (Sun): *Plains Ride*, hosted by [Scott & Julie Robinson](#), 1711 E. 83rd Pl., Denver, 9 AM.

Oct 29 (Sun): Fall Tech Day - host TBA

Nov 11: Sat night 7:00 -- Hockey Game : National Champion DU Pioneers vs. St Cloud State

Dec 3 (Sun): Pub meeting

Jan 1, 2018 (Mon): New Year's Day Ride

Jan 14, 2018 (Sun): Pub meeting

Membership

Membership in Norton Colorado is open to anyone, regardless of whether they own a Norton, or any motorcycle whatsoever.

Dues are \$20/ year individual, \$22 for a couple or family unit, payable to "Norton Colorado" and sent to the Treasurer, whose contact information is listed on the last page of this newsletter.

The official club membership list is posted on the club website. Please let Eric know if there is an error.

The membership year begins with the Winter Banquet in February. New members who join after August 1 are credited with membership for the following year.

Club Events

Many events have been scheduled for the 2017 season, usually about 2 per month. Participation in these events will be counted for the President's Award. Events may be added, dropped, or re-scheduled through the year. The schedule can be found in this newsletter or check the schedule on the club website:

<http://www.nortoncolorado.org/meetings.html>

Prez Points Standings Top 10 (2017):

points, events, solo rides

Jack Abeyta	35	7	4
Peggy Abeyta	25	5	4
David Sheesley	21	5	7
Scott Robinson	21	5	3
Debby Johnson	20	4	6
Denny Westervelt	16	4	0
Eric Bergman	16	7	1
Rick Black	15	3	0
Bob Martin	12	6	0
Bob Ohman	12	4	0



Current Occupants

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Credits: Thanks to Peter Allen, Eric Bergman, Jim Colt, Debbie Johnson, James Lafler, Bob Martin and Russ Willard for their contributions to this newsletter. I also want to say thanks to others who sent me things I will use in future editions.

Norton Colorado

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