



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



# Norton Colorado

[www.nortoncolorado.org](http://www.nortoncolorado.org)

# Newsletter

October 2017



Marc Lomax proudly displaying his Norton at the English Motoring Conclave.

## Upcoming Events

See page 15 for the entire official 2017 events schedule. If you have any ideas for the 2017 official schedule, please contact Eric.

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. You can probably still buy tickets and join us. We are in Section 6, rows 7,8 and 9.

<http://ev9.eventue.net/cgi-bin/ncommerce3/SEGetEventListgroup-Code=HSG&linkID=denver&shopperContext=&caller=&appC>

Dec 3 (Sun): Pub meeting

Isle of Man 2017



Photos by  
Julian Kowalewski





## National Motorcycle Museum

This museum in Anamosa, Iowa was founded by John Parham of J&P Cycles. They have over 400 motorcycles and tons of memorabilia. Check out their website for more information:

[www.nationalmcmuseum.org](http://www.nationalmcmuseum.org)





## ***St. Francis (Kansas) Motorcycle Museum***

Located just over the Kansas border going east on US 36, this museum houses over 100 motorcycles. For more information check out their website:

[www.stfrancismotorcyclemuseum.org](http://www.stfrancismotorcyclemuseum.org)





## Motorcycle Stuff on the web:

Cool Norton video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6UupzMAAsQ1I>

Some interesting stuff here:

<http://www.landracing.com/>

If you use Avon Road Rider tires read this safety notice:

<http://www.bmf.co.uk/index.php/news/bmf-news/show/bmf-technical-notice-tyre-safety>

## *Peter Allen's Summer Vacation*



12 days and 1156 miles on my 1939 Model 18 Norton. One spark plug and lots of oil, it's been fun. A few days of great weather. But mostly light mist. In Ireland for the Irish Vintage Rally, 150 bikes all pre 1950.



## Up the Poudre Without a Paddle

Up The Poudre Without A Paddle, 2017 Edition

This year's edition of the Poudre Campout was held on September 8 through 10. We were back at Glen Echo Resort this year due to Archer's being booked for a wedding.

I opted to trailer my bike this year, having a 300 mile journey coming up from Crestone. I would have won the Long Distance Award if we had one, but alas we do not.

Most of the usual suspects turned up again this year, some for the entire weekend, others just for the day. This is a very flexible event – you can stay one night, both nights, or just come up for the ride, all good.

Missing this year was Eric Bergman, who over-extended himself with some home improvement projects and ended up with a very sore back. We hope you feel better soon, Eric!

The Saturday ride was out to Walden for lunch at the River Rock Cafe, as usual. This is a great ride, with fun canyon riding and wide open Western panoramas. The rain held off until we were almost back to camp. I got a little wet but did not melt.

Saturday night we all gathered in the Penthouse suite, where the Jim Colt party, including me, was staying. It was very spacious and easily accommodated the entire group. This year the campfire, including Smores, was indoors. No smoke in our faces. What a concept!

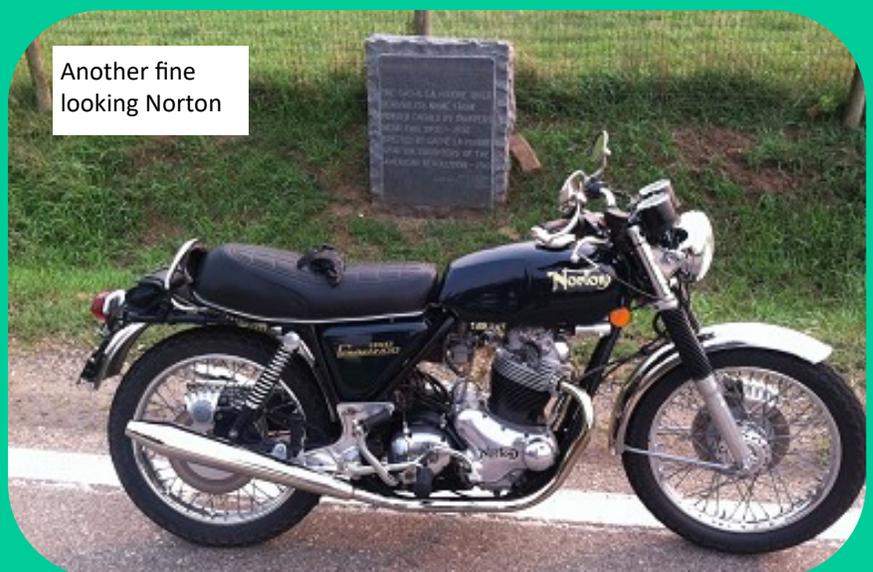
Sunday morning came all too soon and we all headed back home. I got an early start for my long drive back. I encountered heavy rain from Bailey all the way through South Park, so I was glad to be trailering instead of riding!

Huge thanks to Peggy Abeyta and Bob Martin for supplying the food and keeping us all fed. Peggy really put a lot of work into it and we are all grateful. Nobody went home hungry!

– Debby



A great looking Norton



Another fine looking Norton

Up Bingham Hill is the actual spot that spawned the modern naming of the Cache La Poudre river and canyon. This is a photo of the monument.

**Rode a Norton:**

Jack and Peggy Abeyta  
Debby Johnson  
Randy Schneider



Jim teaching Jack how to properly carry chili



Indoor camp fire, no smoke in your face

**Rode Something Lesser**

Bob Martin - BMW  
Mark Liu - BMW  
Mike Powell - BMW  
Jim Colt - KTM  
Scott Shuler and Christine - BMW  
Rick Starkey- Yamaha and Triumph



Post ride



Lunch at the River Rock Cafe

**Got There**

Karen Bailey and Steve Lavin  
Susie Saarinen  
Katie, Jeff and Ella Field



Smores time



Can't pass on a free neck rub

## English Motoring Conclave

### *Rode or showed a Norton:*

Jack and Peggy Abeyta  
Rick Black  
Gene Brown  
Mike Fields  
Mike Homs  
Debbie Johnson  
Jamie Jones  
Marc Lomax  
Scott Robinson  
David Sheesley  
Mike Wilson



### *Rode something lesser:*

King Browne -- Honda  
Jesse Carraway -- Triumph  
Mike Powell -- BMW  
Al Slarks -- BSA

### *Got there:*

Randy Albright  
Eric Bergman  
John Boyd  
Jim Colt  
Jim and Marti Fisher  
Dennis Horgan  
Ric and Joy Landeira  
Bob Martin  
Bob Ohman  
Ken Robinson  
Tom Tallick





***Does this sound familiar? Unfortunately discussions like this are the norm, not the exception.***

Recently I had a flat on my Black Shadow's rear tire. It was caused by the dished washer on the valve stem having come loose during installation, and lodging between the tire and the tube - it eventually cut through the tube.

Now this wouldn't have happened if I'd kept one of the supplied valve stem nuts on the inside of the rim, where it would have retained the washer. It seems there's debate in old bike circles on whether to do this - so I consulted Michelin, who made the new tube. Here is a transcript:

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Me:

I purchased a Michelin motorcycle inner tube, and it comes with a dished washer and two nuts on the valve stem. What is the correct placement of the two nuts? Does one go inside the rim, above the dished washer?

Michelin:

We recommend contacting Your vehicle manufacturer for correct mounting directions.

Me:

Thanks for the reply, but it's not helpful. My motorcycle manufacturer has been out of business for fifty years. In any case, this is not a question where the motorcycle design is relevant. The rim involved is a steel WM2 made by Dunlop.

Given that you make and sell the tubes with the nuts and washer, can you not answer the question?

Michelin:

I am happy to see if we can assist this time, Dave. We do not manufacture the valve stems that come with our Tubes. We only manufacture the tires themselves. When it comes down to installation, we recommend the tires being installed by a Dealer or the Manufacturer of your Motorcycle for proper installation. We will not have any information on proper installment. I hope this was a little bit more helpful. Have a wonderful day.

Me:

I'm afraid I don't understand. You state "we do not manufacture the valve stems that come with our tubes". However:

- The tube in question is a Michelin motorcycle tube; here is a listing with photo: <https://www.denniskirk.com/michelin/standard-17-in-inner-tube-37441.p54267.prd/54267.sku>

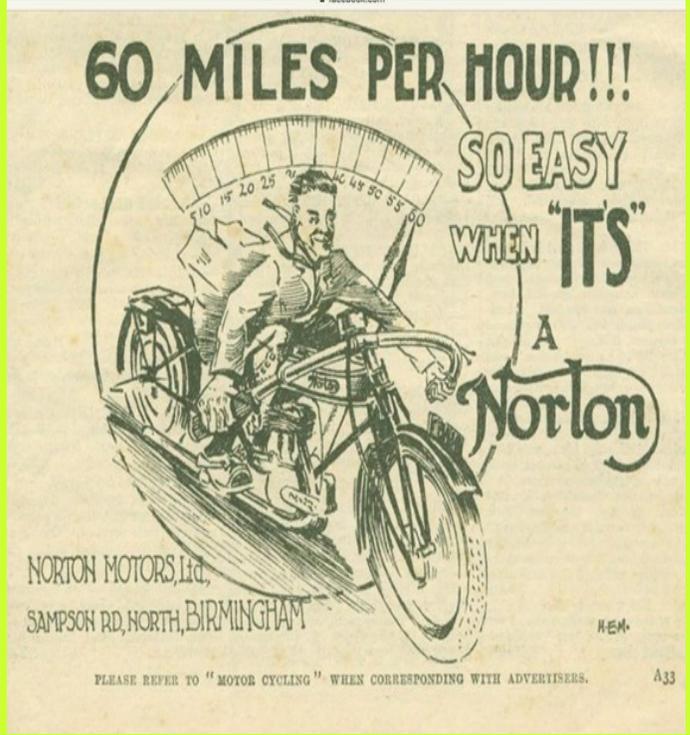
- It comes in a box with the Michelin brand and logo, and "Michelin" is embossed in the rubber of the tube itself. So, it seems clear that you manufacture or at least market the tube.

- The valve stem is part of the tube; it can't be removed and does not simply "come with" the tube.

As I explained, the manufacturer of the motorcycle has been defunct for over fifty years and thus there are no dealers. Yet you continue to advise me to have a dealer install the tube.

This is a very poor response to a reasonable question about a product you make and sell. Any manufacturer should be able and willing to explain how to use and install their products. Can't you do better?

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No further word from Michelin. Probably their lips have been sealed by corporate liability lawyers, although from the replies there's some doubt on whether their customer support staff knows what an inner tube is.



## 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.

We welcome members of the [BMAC](#), the [Rocky Mountain Chapter](#) and the [Phantom Canyon Chapter](#) of the [AMCA](#), and all other riders of vintage motos.

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.

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 Glenn Echo 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*

Debby Johnson	70	11	21
Eric Bergman	56	14	8
Jack Abeyta	53	14	4
Peggy Abeyta	42	11	4
David Sheesley	40	8	9
Scott Robinson	40	9	5
Laf	39	9	14
Rick Black	35	7	0
Mike Fields	27	7	2
Bob Herman	26	2	14



When you are finished BBQing, and the ice has melted, just pull the handle down & the fire goes out.  
Is this a great country, or what?!!

## Current Occupants

### Officers

#### **President**

Arnie Beckman (303) 733-4239  
[arniebeckmanp11@gmail.com](mailto:arniebeckmanp11@gmail.com)

#### **Secretary**

Eric Bergman (303) 278-7445  
[onenorton@gmail.com](mailto:onenorton@gmail.com)

#### **Treasurer**

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1832 Forest Ave., Durango, CO 81301  
970-946-1302  
[NoNortons@gmail.com](mailto:NoNortons@gmail.com)

### Staff

#### **Road Captain**

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#### **Swag Boss**

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#### **Technical Advisor**

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[comnoz2@juno.com](mailto:comnoz2@juno.com)

**Credits:** Thanks to Peter Allen, Eric Bergman, Bob Herman, Michael Homs, Debbie Johnson, Julien Kowaleski, James Lafler and Al Slarks 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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