



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

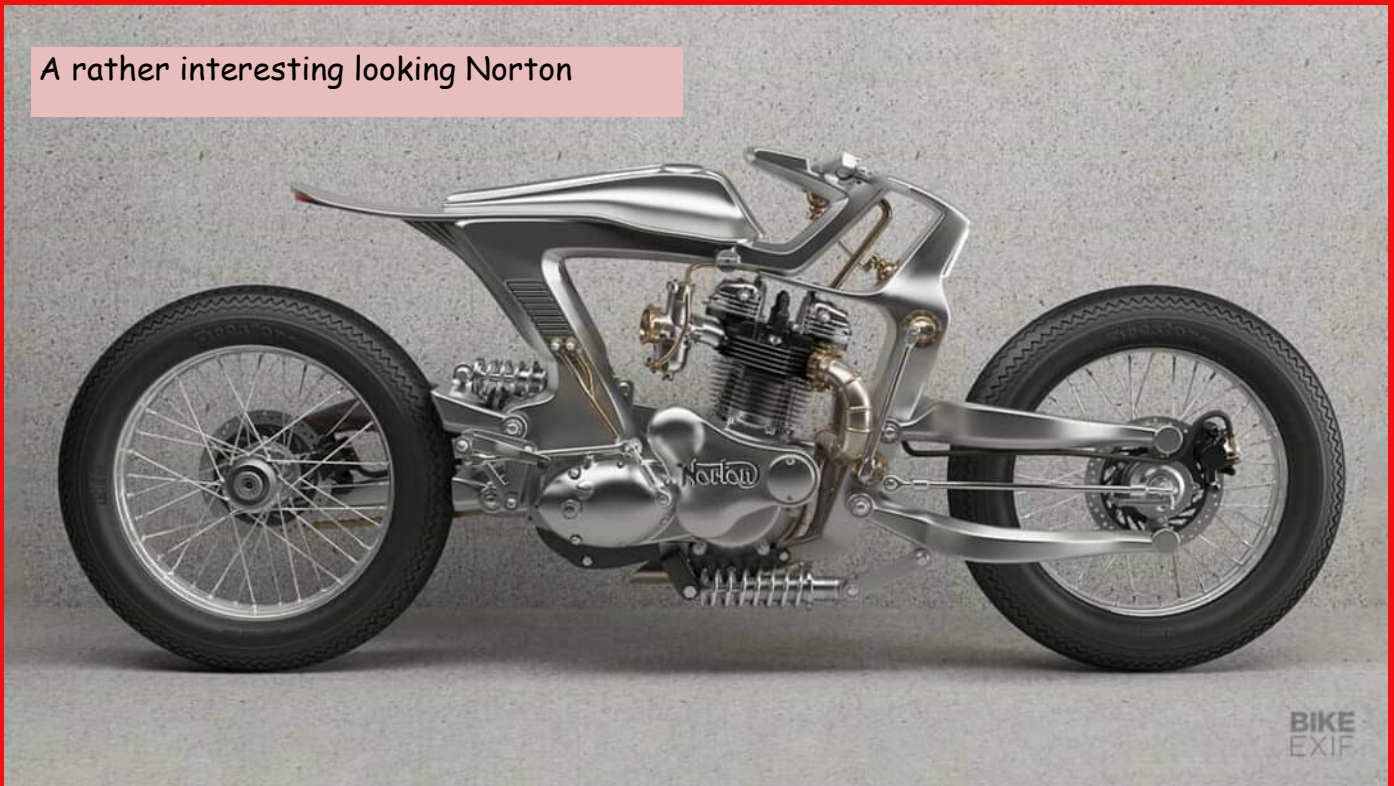


Norton Colorado

www.nortoncolorado.org Newsletter

May 2022

A rather interesting looking Norton



Upcoming Events

May 22 (Sunday) Distinguished Gentleman's Ride

May 29 (Sunday) BBQ at Eric Bergman & Susie Saarinen's

June 5 (Sunday) Group Ride

Look for club emails or check the website for more details about these gatherings.

Glenn's Norton Adventure: by James Ingram

Back in the late 1970s and early 1980s I was a mechanic at a Norton/Triumph & BMW dealer in Oklahoma City. I will tell you right off the bat that I was never a great mechanic but that job was one of the highlights of my life.

Many fun and funny things happened on that job but it was the people that made it really interesting. There seemed to be a steady flow of shop regulars, travelers passing through and the occasional eccentric person to make things interesting.



I knew Glenn from his slightly scruffy, dark green 1969 Norton Fastback. Things were a bit more informal in those days and sometimes customers would sit on a roll-around and watch us work on their bikes. I didn't mind as long as they didn't get in my way.

I was working on Glenn's bike in some capacity and as I worked he related a story to me. It seems that Glenn had been working in some capacity which led him to have a large sum of cash along with some time on his hands. This might have involved him working offshore. I was never clear on this. He decided to take his Norton (the one I was working on) for a road trip before settling on a new course of employment.

He was riding around and enjoying the hospitality and charm of the deep south. One evening he fell into the company of some local lads who led him astray with drink. He woke up in jail then next morning having been picked up for drunk and disorderly. Glenn said that "he was not concerned as his pockets were tight with cash and he could pay the fine." Later that day he was brought before the magistrate. The charges were read and he ask how much the fine was. The next thing he heard shocked him to his core. "Ain't no fine Boy! Pea picken' time, 90 days county farm!" He said "my mouth was gaping like a catfish gulping air" as they were taking me out of the courtroom.

He said that they were true to their word. He spent the first 30 days picking peas and beans. Then they found out he had construction experience and he spent the remainder of the time building roads and bridges. When his sentence was up they took him back to the town where he was arrested. Gave him his clothes, his bike, plus \$20 and told him "don't come round here no more." He said "I don't! I go around that state if I have to travel."

He never told me what state this was but a few names come to mind.

Registering Debbie's Silver Norton by James Ingram

I just love Vermont. They have a workable system for registering motorcycles that have long been off the road. As many of you know, I purchased Debby's Silver 1974 Norton but since it was a project it didn't have any paperwork. Today I received my license and registration from Vermont. It was a long time coming but well worth it.

How did I do it? I first started by taking some pictures. You have to prove, after all, that you are in possession of the bike. Pre-COVID you used to have to get a physical inspection for bikes over 500cc but Vermont has waived that requirement. I included pictures of the bike on both the left and right side. I added pictures of the chassis ID plate, the engine VIN number close up, and the odometer. I also included payment of \$48.00 to cover the registration fee and \$241.80 which is 6% of the NADA "fair" valuation of \$4030.00 and I provided hard copies of the NADA web page valuation, the signed bill of sale, and a cover letter explaining all that I sent. I packaged it all up and then I waited.

Just so you know, the "fair" valuation is based on a machine that is all there but needs work to make road worthy. As the Silver Norton had been sitting a while and since it had no battery I felt comfortable with this valuation.

In two weeks I got my packet back with instructions from the Vermont DMV. I had failed to fill out one of their tax registration forms and the odometer statement. I thought my bill of sale would cover this but it didn't. I carefully filled out and signed the missing Vermont Registration Tax and Title Application. I sent everything back including the check and waited some more.

I know this sounds like a lot of forms and hoops to jump through but it's not that bad and it all makes perfect sense. About ten days later my wife informed me that the check had cleared. This was a good omen. About ten days after that my new Vermont license plate arrived along with my Vermont registration.

Now, all I need is a little insurance and I can ride it. With insurance I can also get it inspected and then I can get the title transferred to Texas. That would be really cool.

James



Bob Martin's Tech Session

Once again Bob hosted another fun gathering and tech session. We had a pretty huge crowd show up this year. There was even a bike to work on which kept a handful of the guys busy for a while. Unfortunately, the bike had too many bugs to work out in the time available, but progress was made. There were some new faces in the crowd and some old faces I hadn't seen in a while. The pictures will tell the rest of the story.





I don't usually put pictures of cars in the newsletter, but Paul's 1966 Chevelle was too cool not to show off.



Motorcycle Stuff on the web:

Pointless but fun ride on a Norton café

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3ANShUq_sAw

Great Bikes and Bad Business : A Brief History of Norton Motorcycles - YouTube

www.youtube.com/watch?v=isy4AnnThmU

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3ANShUq_sAw

TUNNEL OF LOVE, also known as "Cafe' Racer," is a short film about a middle aged British Norton Commando rider and his pursuit of a beautiful young blond driving a convertible. The bike ridden in the film is a 1968 Norton Commando Cafe' Racer. A bit of an odd film, but very entertaining. The original score for this film was written by Joe Strummer, the lead vocalist of the British punk rock band, The Clash." A true short film masterpiece by Steve Doyle and Robert Milton Wallace! The film also includes a cameo appearance by Mark Wilshire, of the legendary Ace Cafe'.

New Criteria for Earning the Coveted President's Trophy

After many years of earning the President's Trophy by attending club events and riding Nortons some new ideas have been tossed around. Taking attendance at each event and keeping track of points earned has become a hassle.

Here's a new way for anyone in the club to get recognized. Right now, Jack Abeyta has the trophy. It will be up to him to pick the next recipient based on what ever criteria Jack decides is appropriate. The next person will then give the trophy to the person of their choice.

Please pick someone who has not had the trophy in a while, let's say 5 years. By giving the trophy away in this manner it will give more members a chance to keep it for a year. Spread the recognition to the person who always shows up to events, someone who tells the best stories or the guy who is always there when someone in the club needs a hand or whatever. This year the trophy will be presented at Eric and Susie's BBQ in May.



Bikes For Sale-- From Greg Ray

Anybody wanna buy my 47 knuckle? Looks like good time to sell. I have owned bike since 1986. I have the 48 pan bobber for sale and also bob martins 55 panhead. Also for sale is three titled 1975 honda goldwings. 1 beautiful one, one nice one and a rolling complete chassis. One more gold wing is a titled 1978 full vetter equipped bike. motor turns over but not running. The morgan three wheeler is also for sale. Please call 406-538-3914 for any answers to your questions. More stuff like 2 hot rods and a fire truck! Stay safe, Linda and Greg

INOA 2022 Rally Information

The Rip Van Norton Rally IS ON!

July 11-15 in upstate New York.

Pre-registration is open: [INOA 2022 Rally - INOA Rally \(nortonrally.com\)](https://nortonrally.com)

Chuck Contrino Rally Chairman 347-881.6490

New event update for Colorado Vintage Motorcycle Show from Bob Kelly

Folks - The Progressive International Motorcycle Show is held this year in Loveland, Colorado at the The Ranch Events Complex, 5280 Arena Cir, Loveland, CO 80538, June 17-19, 2022. They need 12 to 20 bikes to show at the event. If you can support please contact me at 720/837-9090 or email me at superhawk65@gmail.com"



2022 Officer Elections Results are in !!!

All the present officers and other support staff have once again been given a vote of confidence as no one chose to run for any of the jobs. We will all gladly continue to do the things we do for another year. Thank you.

Norton Colorado 2022 Event Schedule

These are the events planned so far. As you can see there is still plenty of open time for you to host an event. Group rides will be announced throughout the season on short notice, based on weather conditions. In the interest of variety, volunteers are solicited to lead group rides on their favorite roads. Likewise, we're looking for volunteers to host an open garage. Tech days are usually scheduled on short notice as they become necessary. Contact Eric <eric@nortoncolorado.org> for more information or to volunteer.

February 12 (Saturday) Open Garage @ Dennis Horgan's

March 20 (Sunday) Clancey's

April 24 (Sunday) Tech Day/Open Garage at Bob Martin's

May 22 (Sunday) Distinguished Gentleman's Ride

May 29 (Sunday) BBQ at Eric Bergman & Susie Saarinen's

June 5 (Sunday) Group Ride

June 16 - 19 (Thurs - Sun) Four Corners Rendezvous

July 10 (Sunday) Mt. Evans Ride & Brunch @ David Sheesley's

July 23 (Saturday) BMAC Picnic

August 6 -7 (Saturday - Sunday) Wimpy Campout @ Jamie & Michell Jones'

August 13 (Saturday) Colorado Vintage Motorcycle Show

September 11 (Sunday) Old Bike Ride 19

September 18 (Sunday) English Conclave

October 2 (Sunday) Plains Ride

October 16 (Sunday) Open Garage @ Jonathan Chaikin's

December 4 (Sunday) Pints Pub

January 1, 2023 (Sunday) New Year's Day Ride

January 15 (Sunday) Lincoln's Road house



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 2022 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>



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Credits: Thanks to Peter Allen, John Hartman, James Ingram, Dennis Oberwetter and Jo Teague for their contributions to this newsletter.
I also want to say thanks to others who sent me things I will use in future editions.

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