



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



Norton Colorado

www.nortoncolorado.org

Newsletter

January 2023



Upcoming Events

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

January 15 (Sunday) Lincoln's Road House

February 4 (Saturday) Banquet at African Bar and Grill

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

2023 Banquet Information — Eric Bergman

I hope you've all finished digesting your Thanksgiving fare, just in time to start thinking about our own feast, otherwise known as the Winter Banquet. For the newer members of Norton Colorado, the Winter Banquet has traditionally been the largest gathering of the club each year, and also the one gathering where we attempt to conduct club business in a semi-democratic manner. Sadly, we have been unable to gather for the last few years because of Covid. That grievous era comes to an end soon. Yesterday I confirmed the date of Saturday, February 4, 2023 with the restaurant that will host our Winter Banquet:

African Bar and Grill

955 S. Kipling Parkway

Lakewood CO 80226

[<https://africangrilllakewood.com/>](https://africangrilllakewood.com/)

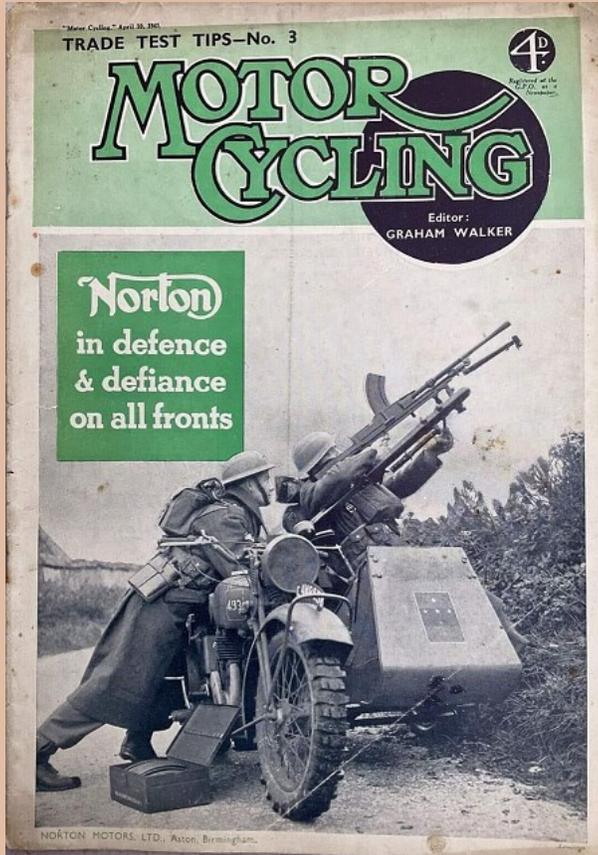
This is at the intersection of Kentucky and S. Kipling, easy access from any direction. There is a huge parking area and none of the security concerns that bothered some of our members (we miss you, Debby) when we had Winter Banquets in downtown Denver. I encourage you to stop in and try it sometime if you are in the area. If you do, introduce yourself to the owners, Theodora and Sylvester Osei-Fordwuo, as members of the Norton club and friends of mine. If you want to start with something familiar, try "Denver's Best Chicken". It really is superb, and the Jollof rice that comes with it will get you started on the unique flavors of African cuisine.

I have eaten there a number of times with family and friends, including Jerry Doe, Arnie Beckman, Stephanie and Amelia, Dennis Horgan and David Sheesley from Norton Colorado. The menu can be intimidating for people with risk-averse dietary habits, but we will coordinate with Theodora and Sylvester to include some friendly, recognizable dishes in the buffet. There are many vegetarian options. Most of the menu is gluten-free. There are a few very spicy things in the menu. If we include any such items in the buffet they will be carefully labelled. I'd like to hear from you if you'd like to try some spicier fare or have any other concerns about "African Food".

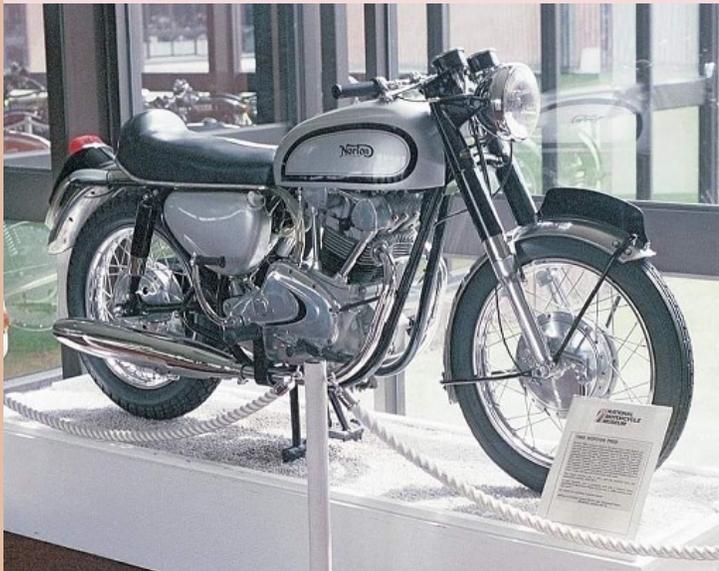
The club treasury is in good shape these days so we should be able to stick with our long-held tradition of charging \$20/person for the food and a range of non-alcoholic drinks (pay for your own alcoholic drinks and some fancy non-alcoholic ones), and subsidizing the remainder from the Treasury. In other words, you will be recouping some of the dues you've paid and also dipping into the dues of others who don't attend. Such a deal!

I will send further information about the Winter Banquet as the time approaches, but there is one thing to emphasize now: I want to have a fairly accurate head-count for the banquet by mid-January. I know some of you (like me) like to keep your options open until the last minute, but Theodora and Sylvester put a lot more effort into the food than the usual facilities we've used for our banquets, and they need a fairly firm number to work with. It's not a matter of boiling up another 5 pounds of spaghetti and opening another 1-gallon can of tomato sauce from Sysco. Let me know as soon as you feel confident that you will attend (and the number of accompanying persons). We usually treat children as non-persons for the purpose of the cover charge, but I'd still like to know how many bodies there will be.

Motorcycles Go To War



Dutch equivalent back in 1940. Not sure what bikes these guys have, probably British, or even Harleys.



1965 Norton P800

Around 1964 rumours were to be heard that a new Norton unit construction twin with parallel cylinders tilted forward in the frame and with twin overhead camshafts, was in the offing. In fact, the machine that had been glimpsed was a prototype that was undergoing test mileage. The rumours were correct - it was a twin with tilted cylinders and it did have twin overhead camshafts. These were chain driven - the chain running through a triangular arrangement of tubes on the timing side of the engine. The engine was of 800cc capacity and built in unit with a 5 speed gearbox. This was housed in a Featherbed frame with standard

wheels and front forks. A twin leading shoe front brake was used.

The engine number was P 10/1 and the machine bore the registration number HGN 36 C. It was, however, only a prototype and with a received being appointed to Associated Motor Cycles Ltd in 1966, nothing more was heard.



Another fun lunch at Pints with members of the Norton Club. Sure had more fun than sitting home watching the Broncos.



David Aurthor Isely

June 23, 1944 – December 15, 2022

It is with a heavy heart that we announce the death of David (Dave) A. Isely. He passed away fairly suddenly from heart failure in David, Panama, the city bearing his name. He was surrounded by his children and grandchildren and in the last few days he reportedly would try to get out of bed because he “had to get to Vintage Twins.”

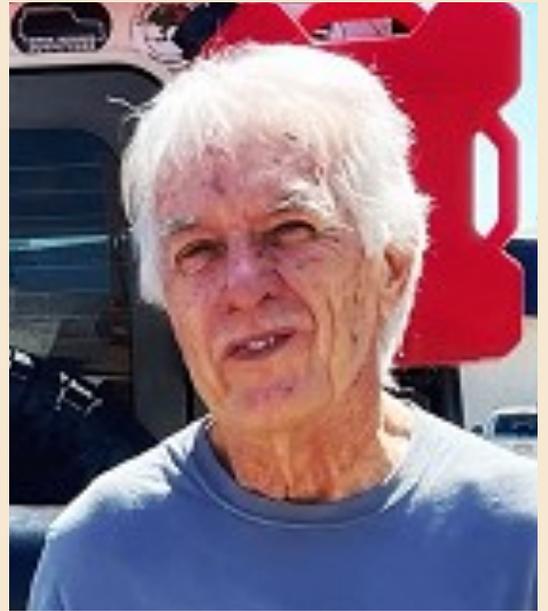
Born in Illinois and grew up in Mesa, Arizona, Dave embodied the true freedom spirit of the American west. For the past handful of decades he spent half the year in the States and the other half of the year in Panama. He’d met and fell in love with a Panamanian woman named Angie. Together they had kids and those kids grew and gave them grandkids. He would talk at length about “the

twins” who probably have always had more bundled up energy between them than Dave ever had in his life! But he was so proud of their athletic and musical prowess, just as he was proud of every one of his family members down there. They were a light to him.

If invited, he would tell his stories of adventure from what seemed to be an endless reservoir of life experiences. Whether he was running fishing boats between Miami and Panama, evading cartels while transporting boxes of clothing overland in Mexico, chugging beers before, during or after ½ mile flattrack races, Dave leaned as heavily as he could into a sense of freedom that most of us in his circles would envy. On one specific occasion, a friend asked for help so Dave jumped in the truck without asking any questions, only to be driven hundreds of miles into the middle of the desert to meet up with a “cargo” plane that landed on the highway in the middle of the night. It was at that moment that Dave started asking the specific types of questions about his exact involvement in these midnight operations.

Since I took over operations at Vintage Twins almost 5 years ago, Dave became a close friend and honorary family member. His face lit up every time my wife made him homemade soup or breakfast scones. He graciously even sent me a text message once, and then quickly vowed never to send another text for the rest of his life...a promise I believe he kept with great pride. I will miss him and I have little doubt that so too will each person he interacted with. Please stay tuned for more details about a memorial gathering in the coming month. Thank you.

Aaron Conley



I'm super bummed about Dave. I found him as soon as I got to Colorado and he dialed in my Norton for me. We had some great chats about motos, Colorado, racing and Panama. He was an encyclopaedia! He will be missed.

Johnny luzzini



Sad news. I met Dave when he was wrenching at Steele's almost 30 years ago. Always a kind and gentle soul. We had him over for dinner year's ago and he met my family. He never failed to ask about them and extend his greetings. A good life, including a dedication to motorcycle racing and service. He worked on my Nort many times, including most recently at Vintage Twins. I will miss him and his smile.

Michael Wilson



Who says you can't take it with you!

What every biker wants



Motorcycle Stuff on the web:

Check out the club websites new photo galleries:

<https://nortoncolorado.org/galleries/>

You probably are aware of this part of Mike Fields' life, but if not:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tML_WyfH0II

Interesting article from Peter Egan

<https://magazine.cycleworld.com/article/1988/1/1/leanings>

If you like trains:

<https://fb.watch/hxNiqVHv75/>



“Although hard to distinguish from this photo angle, the rider, Norton Colorado member **Arnie Beckman**, proudly wears a “Norton Colorado” long sleeve jersey he purchased at the 2017 Winter banquet from extraordinary swag boss the late, great Bob Ohman while competing in a local vintage moto cross race this Fall. The photo first appeared at the AHRMA Rocky Mountain Region webpage and the bike is a 1972 Triumph TR5T 500cc twin.”

Norton Colorado Website Offers Something New from Eric Bergman

I have good news for you: the club's website has just been revised by Jerry Doe to add several fora (or forums) for discussions on topics of interest to our members. This effort was stimulated by a group of our members who wanted a place to exchange information about their BSA Goldstars. Thus there is a forum covering all matters BSA-ish. There is also a Norton-oriented forum, of course, and a General Topics forum. If there is demand, we can add others, but I think we will want to see if anyone actually uses the existing fora before doing that.

All fora are visible to anyone on the internet, so be circumspect about casting aspersions (in other words, mind your manners). The link to the fora is under the Members menu on the main page. Here is a direct link to it: <<https://nortoncolorado.org/discussions/>>. You do not need to log in to the website to view the fora. You do need to log in if you want to post something, start a new topic or reply to an existing one. I suspect many of you have forgotten how to log in to our website. Get in touch with me if you need to be reminded of your login and password information.

For the time being, Jerry Doe, David Sheesley and I will be keeping an eye on the fora but we would appreciate having a volunteer for each forum to act as a moderator. Since this is a small, close-knit community I do not expect many of the kinds of problems that often afflict global fora, so the workload of moderators should be very light.

Clearly, there is some overlap between our little Norton forum and the wildly popular AccessNorton forum <<https://accessnorton.com>> that Jerry also created. Use one, both, or none, as you like. I think it will all fall into place.

Jesse Carraway mentioned that he recently acquired most of the used parts, and possibly a number of new ones, from Matt Rambow at Colorado Norton Works. Matt is no longer building complete bikes so he doesn't need that inventory. Jesse had previously purchased the inventory of the club's Parts Depot when we lost our storage site and he already had a large inventory of his own parts, so at this point I think it is safe to say Jesse has the largest inventory of Norton parts in Colorado. He is glad to help out fellow club members who are in need:

Jesse Carraway
815 S. Estes St.
Lakewood CO 80226
(303) 980-6641
jesse@fastmail.fm



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's

May 22 (Sunday) Distinguished Gentleman's Ride

May 29 (Sunday) BBQ at Eric Bergman & Susie Saari-nen's (postponed to June 12)

June 4 (Saturday) Colorado Vinatge MC Show, Erie

June 17-19 Progressive MC Show, Loveland

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

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

July 24 (Sunday) BMAC Picnic

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

August 13 (Saturday) Colorado Vintage Motorcycle Show

August 28 (Sunday) Open garage at Ric and Joy Landeira's place.

September 11 (Sunday) Old Bike Ride 19

September 18 (Sunday) English Conclave

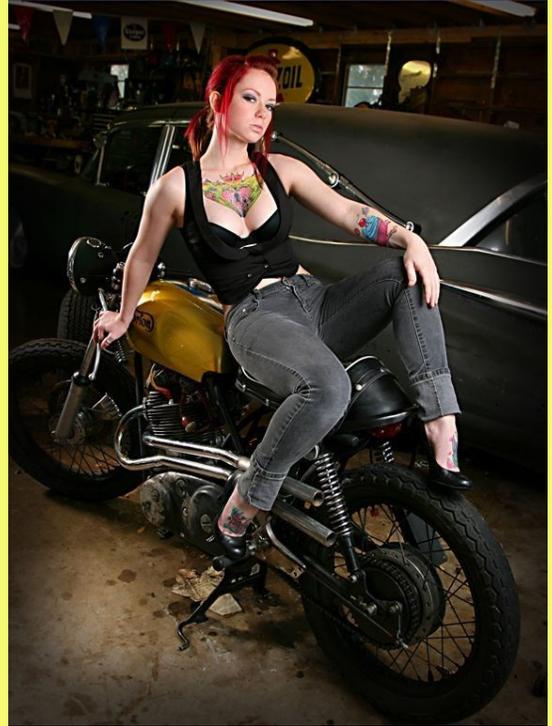
October 9 (Sunday) Plains Ride

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:

<https://nortoncolorado.org/events/>



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Credits: Thanks to Peter Allen, Eric Bergman, Aaron Conley, Mike Fields, Bob Herman, Johnny Iuzzini, Tony Kersberger, Julian Kowalewski and Michael Wilson 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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