

Minutes of Last Meeting by Chaz

Greetings,

Not a whole lot to report this month, but just to make it official:

The April meeting was well attended, with roughly 15 members present. A few new/ or occasionally-seen members showed up including Dave Swartz from Newburyport and his son Tripp. New member Jim Reid also arrived from Billerica. The weather was near-perfect so we were able to sit outside at the Loaf and Ladle. A number of **Nortons** parked out front including Ned on his just-delivered-from-England ES2 and Al Chappell on his newly-resurrected Commando.

After the usual conversation and lunch we got down to business. Mike Frick had to contend with a the wonderful weather, sounds of Exeter falls and Springtime-high-spirits, but he made the best of it and of course no one was in the least bit distracted.

The meeting consisted mostly of updates about the Rally. Ron Pare' has ordered the Rally pins and Mike Frick kept us up to date about Rally T-shirts. We have ordered a "trial run" and hope to get them as quickly as possible.

We all finally succumbed to the weather. (Good thing too, because its been cold ever since.) I decided to follow Mike Friel and Al for a while. I was so hot to get going that I forgot my notebook and a bunch of motorcycle photographs. I didn't realize that anything was missing until I returned to Exeter. Luckily for me Lee saw the notebook and there it was on my doorstep when I arrived.

Our next meeting is the annual Dyno-Day event at Dave Comeau's home in Ipswich MA.

I will include a summary of Rally promotions and fund-raising (my other department) in the Dyno-Day minutes.

Dave Comeau has stated that he will print a membership listing to those who request one.

Rally Update**Rally T Minus 3 Months**

THREE, 3, III short months to go. I know everything will fall into place as I have a great staff helping me out to put this together. What I need more of is people willing to work at the rally. I have received a couple of e-mails a phone call, and a few names at the last couple of meetings but we are going to need more volunteers so no one feels over worked. We want the rally to be enjoyable for everyone.

- *Volunteers*—There will many different chores that are going to need people to help out with i.e.: *On Site Registration/ T-shirt sales* booths are scheduled to be open from 09:00am to 7:00pm. *First Aid Station. Security. Group Ride.* The Group Ride on Friday, the big one, will need people for chase vehicle, traffic control as well as pre-ride safety inspection. Saturday for day passes and parking. Those interested please contact Lee Patterson please give name and a couple of jobs you will be interested in and include T-Shirt size.
- *Registration*—We now have a Pre-Registration form that is on the NNENO.ORG Rally web site and was printed in the Norton News # 125. So, if you can print it from the web or pull it from the News, please get it back to Mike Pappas with all your choices and a check. I know Mike would like to have it now rather than later.
- *Music*—Mike Pappas has nailed down a group called "Two Bones And a Pic." They have a very good blues background and are pretty flexible as I am told.
- *Trophies*—Have been ordered!! They should be ready within a couple of weeks!
- *E-mail Address*—The email for Lee Patterson has changed to 71norton@attbi with no problems that I am aware of.

- *Insurance*—While we did attend the risk management seminar, we picked up forms for insurance, Weather they were the right ones or not, we're not 100% sure. If someone has done this before, please throw a few pointers our way. It sure would help us out a lot.
- *Food*—A deposit has been sent to Catering By Craig and he has started the paper work necessary to bring his business into the USA.
- *T-Shirts*—There are pictures on the web site of the two shirts. We are pre ordering at least 40 tee shirts to be sure all the printing comes out right. There will be a mix of the Rally Logo on light blue, and the Energette on white. If you would like to order a first run shirt we are taking orders at \$10.00 each contact Lee Patterson with your shirt size
- *Promotions*—Chaz will be sending a second wave of mailing to potential donors and sponsors. A BIG THANKS to those that have contributed.
- *Group Ride*—Ken Dube, our Road Captain has nailed down a number of routes for different rides. He is setting up camp at Davidson's and will be riding and mapping the routes he has in mind, Ken also has volunteered to take small groups by invitation on a couple of the longer rides during the rally.
- *Web Site*—Dave Comeau has been doing a great job keeping the website up to date. Check it out at NNENO.ORG

Thank You,
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Tweener Business

This is club business and activities in *between* club meetings and as they happen, I will report them to you when possible.

- More artwork has been passing back-and-forth between the t-shirt printers and Mike. We're hoping for a sample soon.

- The AMA Club Charter has finally arrived! I have the “official” sheepskin in my hot little hands and will bring it to the next meeting for “oohs and ahs.”

Welcome New Members!

- David Swartz - Renewal
7 Kittery Ave.
Rowley, MA. 01969
978-948-2145
dswartz@attbi.com
1972 Combat
- Mark Lindroth - Renewal
45 Nichols Street
Danvers, MA 01923
978-774-3933
Featherbed Cafe
- David Cogswell - New Member
163 G.H. Carter Drive
Danville, NH 03819
dgc1027@hotmail.com
603-382-1501
74 Highrider, 72 Roadster

Editorial by Mike F.



While riding my favorite mount, my Atlas the other day, I got to thinking about what is to become of my bikes when I can no longer ride them. Depressin', I know but it's a reality check for us “old” guys. Now most of us who own these great machines grew up with them. That's one of the reasons we have searched these bike out. Now we have all heard about bringing in new or younger “blood” and it doesn't just pertain to **Nortons**... It affects all “older” motorcycles. The new generation of today has no history with these old, great motorcycles. They're recollections do not even include the introduction of the Honda 750 4, the bike most responsible for the style and direction of motorcycling for the last 25 years!! Most of the younger bikers I talk to either ride Harleys or Sportbikes. The Harley bikers know Evo's and maybe the Shovelhead. The Sportbikers have not known life without the 600cc class! My

friends, that makes us dinosaurs. I remember when we were told that a 500cc two-stroke was an impossible engineering feat. Then Yamaha came out with the 500cc Big Bear!

So, the question is, how do you get a younger generation biker interested in a motorcycle that is probably older than their father? A good question, you say... I'm having a hard time coming up with an answer. If your not a motorcycle history nut, then your not going to care... and if your into the latest techno-gizmo, we've lost ya... and if your into high-output horsepower, our old bikes won't do it for ya.

Where do we find the common ground that all bikers have? I believe it's in the motorcycle itself. Getting on your bike and riding it to events and showing all those young dudes that these bikes are still great motorcycles and are “cool” after all these years is the best way.

Speaking of events... Several members took advantage of the weather and rode down to the Vanson Leather open house on Sunday, April 21st. When I mean “took advantage”, I mean it wasn't snowing and the temps were not in the 20's... but then again, it wasn't exactly balmy either! Al Chappell, Chaz, Lee, and myself met up and rode down, taking the highway mostly. When in southern Mass, we took Rte. 139 the rest of the way. It certainly beats the highway!

Once there, we met up with Jack Alexander, Mike Pappas, and Joe Griffin. First thing we did was get in line for the FREE HOT FOOD! I must say, the food was excellent, free or not... and it was spicy enough to warm us up without causing severe heartburn.

After finishing our meal, we noticed Chaz moving his red Dunstall Commando next to a red VR880, just to show the differences to the crowd. It was quite a contrast seeing both bikes side-by-side, looking great in the sunlight. Of course the crowd standing beside these bike we folks wearing **Norton** shirts. One person in particular I didn't recognize but was graciously introduced to. This gentleman turned out to be non-other than Kenny Dreer himself! Despite some of the negative press I have read about Kenny, he turned out to be a very nice guy and a lot of fun... and a wealth of knowledge. We all enjoyed listening to him give some great detail about his new VR's and what the future holds for his company, **Norton America**. I must say, a new VR in my

garage doesn't sound too far fetched now that he plans on going into production.

What brought us to Vanson in the first place was the apparel, so we ventured into the building only to meet Mike Vanderslessen! He was having a chat with our social butterfly, Chaz. After the formalities, we walked into a sea of leather and cordura before us. Al and I were interested in the traditional cordura coat with vents since our Teknic jackets have no vents, making them perfect sauna rooms during hot days. We were both impressed with the cut, style and quality of the coats and we think we're gonna head back during the next open house and buy a couple. Lee we so impressed with their cordura vented jackets that he bought two!!

After browsing around we went back outside to watch the Star Boys beat the living crap outa two japanese sport bikes by doing burnouts and wheelies.

It was about this time we decided to head back north, which just happened to be the time when the show ended and everyone started to leave! Anyway, we got outa there without too much trouble.

With Joe Griffin in the lead, he managed to show us a quick way out of town... By the way Joe, do you plan on taking us back thru town just to show the locals a group of **Nortons**?

The ride home what quite uneventful cause we just stayed on the highway and motored it back to NH.

All-in-all, I think we had a good time and I know the food hit the spot. Please keep an eye out for the next Vanson open house. I know I'll be there looking for a deal on my next coat!

Cape Cod Rendezvous by Tony Lockwood

The Cape Cod group of NNENO members met April 24th at the Capewind. Members in attendance included Bob Coleman, Joe Griffin, Jack Alexander and Tony Lockwood. We welcomed a visitor, Mac McNeil from Dennis who arrived on his 72 Roadster which he first purchased in 1975. Mac will be joining NNENO. We set our next meeting for May 27th, Memorial Day at 1:00 pm. A group ride is planned to explore some of the back roads of the upper Cape. If anyone is interested, we could have a cookout here before the ride, say at 12:00 pm. Please let me know by email at mail@capewind.com or call 58 548 3400. All members and friends are welcome. We are sold out at the motel for the night of May 26 but the 27th is open

and no charge to members who may wish to stay over.

For more information, please contact Tony Lockwood at 508-548-3400 or email to mail@capewind.com.

Jampot Rallye

The 25th Annual Jampot Rallye Held on Friday, June 21st through Sunday, June 23rd at Bucksteep Manor, Washington, Massachusetts

Once again it's time to think about the beast hibernating in the back of the shed. Will I swill out the carb, free up the clutch, blow out the spiders and rodent droppings, fill the sump and blow up the tires? Hmmm.

Maybe I'll just thumb the starter on the Wing/Beemer/Guzzi. This is the stuff legends and heroic folklore of rallyes past. Characters are encouraged to ride (**Norton's**), trailer, or push AJS, Matchless, or other old and /or unusual motorcycles to an excellent weekend event of riding, bench racing, fish stories, and inevitable wrench clinics.

For those who have not been to a past Jampot or may have missed a few and need a refresher, the rallye begins with a cookout early Friday evening at the campground area of Bucksteep. Beer, snacks and good company await those who arrive early. Bench racing on "The Porch" and bottomless coffee urn Saturday A.M.

We'll blow off the cobwebs with Saturday's breakfast ride at 8am to The Lakeside Restaurant in Cheshire. There will be options of a ride through the scenic Berkshires, a "Dirt" ride and other activities until we ride to Ozzie's for dinner at 6pm. Occasional passing trains add to the atmosphere at this old train depot in nearby Dalton. Buffet will remain the same as last year, \$15.95/adult and \$10.00/child, tax and tip included.

After, back at Bucksteep, there will be keg and specialty beer with plenty of conversation on "The Porch." History, legend, and tales of great feats of engineering have been known to flow into the night hours.

Sunday's breakfast, at 9:00, at Bucksteep will include: Eggs, bacon, sausage, home fries, pancakes, French toast, muffins, fruit, juice, and coffee. Price is the same as last year, \$7.95/person. Don't forget to bring Matchless gas tanks or other cycle related item for the raffle after breakfast.

Bucksteep is located on Washington

Mt. Rd. off Rt. 8 in the serene Berkshire Mountains of Western Massachusetts. Accommodations include: camping, rustic cabins, motel rooms and the Manor house. Reservations are recommended except for camping. For reservations and info contact: Bucksteep Manor, 885 Washington Mt. Rd., Washington, MA 01223. Phone: 1-413-623-5535 or 1-800-645-2825 or buckstee@berkshire.net. For rallye info: Dave Clarke, 1-401-785-3473 weekdays only between 10am and 3pm. Rallye fee is \$20, or \$10 for a single day.

Tech Session

Dave Comeau, our major tech dude, holds tech sessions at each meeting. This is a treat so, if your interested, please attend! Anyone who knows Dave knows he prepares extensively for the tech sessions. He doesn't just show up. If you have a technical question, **please** come to the meeting and ask Dave! I know many of us enjoy the tech sessions and would like them to continue.

Upcoming Events

All events listed, except for the club meetings, are subject to change until I can verify their exact dates.

- **May 11—Club Meeting @ Dave Comeau's house for Dyno Day,** Ipswich, MA. You can get directions by going to www.gis.net/~dynodave or call Dave and ask for directions. As usual, overnite accommodations are available. Dave asks that you call ahead as a courtesy.
- **May 19—11th Annual M/C Bike Show & Swap Meet @ Auburn Sportsmans Club** sponsored by BIA of MA.
- **May 25-27—Memorial Day weekend** at the CapeWind, 34 Maravista Ext. Teaticket, MA 02536. For reservations call (508)548-3400 or (800)267-3401 and ask for Tony. Please contact Tony Lockwood for details on the planned ride. **A NNENO sponsored event.**
- **June 2—24th Annual British M/C Meet @ Auburn Elks. Club Booth will be present! A NNENO sponsored event.**
- **June 8-9—Club Meeting and Overnite Campout @ Gunstock Recreational Area for The Belknap Classic, Belknap, NH. Club Booth will be present! A NNENO sponsored event.**
- **June 8-16—Laconia Bike Week.**

- **June 10—Vintage Road Racing @ NHIS.**
- **June 13—M/C Hill Climbs @ Gunstock Recreational Area.**
- **June 22-24—24th Annual Jampot Rallye @ Bucksteep Manor,** Washington, MA. Contact John @ 413-623-5535 or tuscra59@webtv.net.
- **July 13—Club Meeting @ the Loaf & Ladle, Exeter, NH.**
- **July 17-20—INOA Norton Power Rally, Bristol, NH. Hosted by NNENO. A NNENO sponsored event.**
- **Aug 25—Brit-Jam @ K of C Hall, 1831 Main St. E. Hartford, CT. sponsored by BIA of CT.**
- **October 13—Lars Anderson Classic @ the Larz Anderson Museum, Brockton, MA. Club Booth will be present! A NNENO sponsored event.**

For Sale

If you've got something to sell, let me know. All ads are free to NNENO members! If you want to place an ad, contact Mike Frick.

- **WANTED! 1975 Norton Interstate MKIII** in good to excellent condition. Call Mark @ 978-388-5025

Articles

I know some of you have stories that we would love to hear... well, I'd be happy to print them for all of us to enjoy so, send 'em in!

Club T-Shirts

Since the holidays are upon us, I just wanted to let everyone know that a club t-shirt or sweatshirt makes a great Christmas gift. Contact Mike Frick for your shirt today!

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The NNENO NEWS is published monthly by the Northern New England Norton Owners club to inform and entertain its members.

Members are encouraged to submit articles, tech tips, photographs, classified ads, or other material. The deadline for submissions is one week after the monthly meeting.

The Northern New England Norton Owners' principles are to promote the use and pride of Norton motorcycle ownership, and to provide an arena for the exchange of technical information and parts availability in an effort to extend the useful life of Norton Motorcycles.

Membership in the Northern New England Norton Owners' club is available for \$15.00 per year. Annual membership fees are due Dec. 31st. NNENO holds monthly meetings for members on the second Saturday of each month.

NNENO is a chapter of the International Norton Owners Association. Members are encouraged, but not required to join the INOA.

NNENO's mailing address is: 30 Woodland Drive, Nashua, NH. 03063. Home page: www.nneno.org

Group rides are not sponsored by NNENO, and participants ride at their own risk. Motorcycling is a dangerous sport and NNENO will not be responsible for individual rider's conduct or safety. Anyone riding on public thoroughfares is responsible for maintaining liability insurance. NNENO assumes no responsibility for the acts or omissions of its members in connection with club activities.

NNENO NEWS Articles or other materials express the author's view only and not necessarily the official policy of Northern New England Norton Owners. Technical tips published in the NNENO NEWS have been reviewed for technical content and are believed to be both acceptable and workable, but no guarantee is made or implied that they will work correctly, nor is any liability assumed by either NNENO or the members for any problems resulting from the use of these tips. The editor reserves the right to accept, reject, or alter all editorial and advertising material submitted for publication. Advertising published does not imply endorsement of products, goods, or services.

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