

**Minutes of Last Meeting** by Chaz

Greetings,

We held our annual "Dyno Day" meeting on May 11, 2002. In an otherwise wet and chilly spring (no one is complaining, we need the rain) we enjoyed a sunny day. The near-perfect riding weather brought out the largest gathering of Norton's ever at "Dyno-Dave" Comeau's home in Ipswich Mass. Bikes representing the last fifty years of Norton history covered Dave's lawn from one end to the other. Machinery included an ES2, an Atlas, an array of Commando's - as well as Dave's own project bikes (Atlas and a Dunstall). Oh, and to top it off, if you pressed your nose to the bay window of Dave's living room you could spot three BSA in various stages of re-build.

Our biz meeting followed hot dogs, hamburgers and Dave's falling-off-the-bone ribs.

- Ken Dube talked about routes he has checked out for rally riding. He will be doing pre-rides over the Memorial Day week-end.
- Mike Frick announced that we will be setting up at the Annual British Motorcycle Meet at the Auburn Mass. Elks Club. The date is Sunday June 2 This is our second *official* event of 2002.
- Our next *official* event is the following weekend June 8 and 9 at the Gunstock Vintage Races. **Also, our club meeting will be taking place there too!**

*(Just so you know dept: Last year around this time we voted-in a list of yearly events. These are "official" in the sense that NNENO has made commitments to show up. We are also committed to having fun participating - whether selling t-shirts, schmoozing, or flagging vintage races.)*

- Mike brought a trophy with our Rally logo on it. These will be awarded to participants at our rally *show* on July 20. The trophies look great by the way - Mike was able to put together a handsome package without *breaking the bank*.

- Lee was on Vacation in Florida - so we didn't go deeply into any Rally details, except to note that things are basically under control. He'll update insurance, endless paperwork and so on elsewhere.
- Mike spoke about Rally t-shirts, which are *supposed* to be ready for June 2.
- Mike Pappas reports that as of May 11th he had 30 pre-registrations for the Rally. About half of these people have also ordered t-shirts. We expect that Mike will be busy now that summer is near.
- A reminder - day passes for the Saturday Rally "show" event will be \$10.00.

That's about it. Because the weather was so nice for riding, we left Dave's a little earlier than usual.

**Rally Update****Rally T Minus 2 Months**

Well we are just 2 short months away from our Rally, and this is sounding like a broken record but what we 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. A letter has been composed and will be delivered to the local authorities concerning the rally so they are not surprised and allow time for feed back.

- *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*—Mike Frick has received the trophy plaques. There are roughly 45 trophies that will be awarded at the rally. The list on the web page is now to be a standard for all future rallies.
- *E-mail Address*—The email for Lee Patterson has changed to 71norton@attbi with no problems that I am aware of.
- *Insurance*—The AMA home office was contacted and was very helpful on which forms we needed to fill out and lucky enough we had the correct forms on hand, so as they say the check is in the mail.
- *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*—T-shirts have been ordered. We will have the *Energette* style shirt for the British M/C Meet on June 2nd. The *Rally* t-shirt will not be available until after June 11th.
- *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 [NNNENO.ORG](http://NNNENO.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.

- Lee and Mike Frick went up to Gunstock on Memorial Day weekend (Sunday) to assist in the setup of the track for the beginning of Bike Week. After that we stopped a several police stations to drop off our letter of introductory and we stopped at Fluffy's Roast Beef in Laconia. Fluffy's is owned by one of our members brothers and would like to be included in the rally somehow... It's not far from the campground and the roast beef is excellent!!

### **Welcome New Members!**

If your a new member and I missed ya this month... I'M SORRY!!! With any luck, I'll get ya next month!

### **Editorial** by Mike F.



I had the opportunity to attend the MSF Advanced Riders Course recently and I came away impressed. Of course, I didn't take the class cause I thought I needed it... I took it so I could ride my motorcycle onto the AF base I was working at. So my initial intensions was to just take the course and learn whatever it was so I

could pass and get my certificate. That little card saying I took the course was my ticket onto the base. As with most things in life, you usually get more than you bargained for... and in this case, it was a good thing.

I figured that the best motorcycle in my stable to take the riding portion of the course was my Commando. I would have taken my Atlas but I heard they have you perform emergency stops, and I didn't think the drum brakes on the Atlas were up to the task.

So, the Saturday morning dawned clear, bright, and cold. I had to wear my full set of cold riding gear. When I arrived, it appeared the entire class was already there... and I was a bit surprised at the bikes in the parking lot. I would have expected bike that are made for handling.... but I was mistaken. The smallest bike after mine was a new Honda VFR. The rest were a couple of Valkaries, a Triumph 900 Trophy, a new Goldwing, a Honda Shadow cruiser and the balance were Harley Softtails in various guises. And there was Mike on his 1975 **Norton Commando**. Several folks asked me why I rode such an old bike... to which I replied that it was the newest **Norton** I owned! They were to witness, first hand, why I rode this particular motorcycle to an M/C course.

The first half of the course is presented in a classroom discussion type atmosphere. We are asked to "interview" the person next to us and they "present" us to the class. I thought it was a nice idea. Stuff like, address, motorcycle type, reason for taking the class, type of work you do, etc. From there we went WFO into the curriculum. Open class discussions followed by a film or slide presentation... and then more discussion. Overall, I thought it was very effective. Then we broke for lunch to be followed by the entire afternoon in the parking lot putting to practice what we learned in class.

Our first exercise was the proper technique of turning a motorcycle. Even though I've been riding for over 30 years, I still learned an item or two during this exercise. The most important was to turn your head and look towards the end of the turn/corner. After doing this a couple of times for a right turn, ya turn around and do it for a left turn. This left/right thing was to be repeated during the entire afternoon.

Weaving was next followed by weaving and braking, braking and weaving, emergency stopping, emergency stop with your rear brake locked into a skid, etc... I will say that even though some of the exercises we tougher than others, none them were difficult... and the instructors emphasized that we should practice these exercises as often as possible.

At the end of the day came the "final exercise" which was a combination course of all items we had learned throughout the day. The instructors asked for a "guinea pig" to go first. I went first hoping that if I got it right the first time, then I wouldn't have to do it again. Wrong! I was sent to the end of the line to do it again!

Several folks were successful the first time and sent to the "other end" of the parking lot. They had passed! I wasn't alone though as fully 1/2 the class was asked to take the course again. When it came my turn for the second time, I was determined to get the entire course right and concentrate of being smooth... It worked! I was fortunate enough to receive a perfect score! Damn, was I psyched or what!

The best part about taking a course like this is being able to put your learning to good use on the way home... which I did... and I discovered that the course has made a big improvement in my riding. I'm more alert to the potential dangers and I'm much smoother in my riding... and I broke the habit of using my middle two fingers on the front brake.

I would encourage everyone to take the Advanced Riders Course. It will be amazed at your riding skill improvements!

### **Cape Cod Rendezvous** by Tony Lockwood

Because of Memorial Day Weekend, I'm sure Tony is a little too busy to type a report and cause he also has a ride to organize. We'll catch him on the flip side.

For more information, please contact Tony Lockwood at 508-548-3400 or email to [mail@capewind.com](mailto:mail@capewind.com).

### **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.

t-shirt or sweatshirt makes a great Christmas gift. Contact Mike Frick for your shirt today!

## Upcoming Events

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

- *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 tusdra59@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

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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](http://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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