

Delaware Valley Norton Riders

NEWSLETTER

WWW.DVNORTONRIDERS.COM

December 2001

2001 DVNR Christmas Party is Saturday, December 22nd

The gracious Frank Mohr will be hosting DVNR's 2001 Christmas Party at his home, 1999 Skippack Pike, Blue Bell, PA. If the past is any indicator, the food promises to be great. Bring an appetite. Also, please bring a wrapped gift for the traditional Chinese Auction – something valued at \$20 or less, and motorcycle related. The party is scheduled to start at 6pm; please let Frank know whether to expect you: phone Frank at 215 661-9148. Or email him at sgtnorrton@aol.com.

2002 Dues Due

Our tireless Treasurer Tari Norum wishes to remind one and all that dues are due. \$12. Tari wants your money, please. You will find a handy membership application form accompanying this newsletter. Please use it to update your information. And please make your check payable to "Tari Norum", not to the club.

Frank Mohr To Be DVNR President For 2002



Outgoing President Bob Katz will ceremoniously pass the torch of leadership and responsibility to new President

Frank Mohr at the Christmas Party at Frank's home on December 22nd. Frank will actually assume the duties on January 1, 2002, and will hold the post for one year.

A Tech Point: The Dangers Of Using Brand New Parts

By Rich Casey

Perhaps you would like to hear some techno babble about the dangers of using brand new parts in the repair and restoration of Nortons. Well, the bike I acquired a mere few weeks ago posed a series of challenges that the previous owner and his mechanic could not overcome. The symptoms were severe clouds of blue smoke from the left cylinder

combined with the difficulty in getting the left cylinder to run correctly.

After a good number of hours of tinkering, I removed the cylinder and inspected the bores and the rings. Mind you, the rings were brand new. A close inspection revealed that one of the compression rings had been incorrectly manufactured such

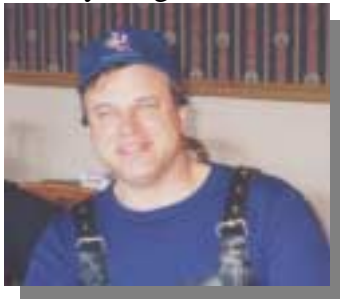
that the ring did not touch the cylinder wall all the way around! A good honing and another set of rings cured the blue smoke problem.

Next was the misfiring problem. All sorts of things were suspected, from a faulty condenser to a weak coil, to a finicky carb. After checking all the obvious things, I began to suspect that the *brand new* Amal carbs might be playing tricks on me. I felt for the amount of play the throttle needed had as it dangled in the needle jet, and I observed that on the faulty cylinder side, the throttle needle didn't seem to have as much 'wiggle' in its jet as the other

did. Now, we all know that the needle jet is a #.106 (don't we?), which means that the hole in the center of the needle jet is .106 of an inch. A drill bit shank of that size should just barely slide into the needle jet orifice, right? So I removed both of the jet blocks and compared the two needle jet holes. Voila! One was the correct size; the other was *way too small*. I then swapped the whole enchilada for a set with the correct size orifice (.106 of an inch) and the problem disappeared! The bike runs sweet! So much for those new parts.

October Meeting at the Forte's Features Food, Foreign Bikes, and a Norton

Sunday morning, October 21st, dawned crisp and clear. I didn't mind the clear, but the crisp was almost too much. I always have trouble deciding what to wear and what to pack for a ride where the temperature starts in the 40's and ends in the 70's. As usual, I was cold in the morning and too warm in the afternoon. What a great day it was! I rode Route 23 all the way from Valley Forge to Lancaster, something I'd never done before, and it was a good choice until about 6 miles east of Lancaster. There the stop and go traffic really got out of hand.



I arrived at **Mike and Desiree Forte's** about 10:15, to find breakfast in full swing and a lot of faces I didn't recognize. Seems that the Forte's were hosting a group called the Dutch Country Riders -- you know, the one's that ride that German brand of motorcycle. As it turned out, I had made the right choice when I chose to ride my BMW that morning.

Not only were there BMWs crowding the driveway, but there was a fair selection of Moto Guzzi's, as well. (Who let them in?).

Desiree really put on a great breakfast, complete with fresh fruit, scrambled eggs and sausage with fried potatoes, hot sauce, fresh bread and even a delicious cobbler for dessert, which I kept sampling -- trying to decide



just what was in it. To be honest, I still don't know. Pineapple and coconut and apples, I think. You would have to ask her for the recipe; it is one worth having.

A fair number of DVNR folks turned out: **Frank and Shelly, Pete and Nikki, Dave and Diane, Mark Yovish** and myself. And even **Shokie** turned up on the only Norton ridden to the event! We held a brief tech session to get Shokie's carbs adjusted, then another one for Pete's Mercedes, which had blown a radiator neck on the way



out. Then the discussion turned to 2002 Officer Elections and this year's Christmas Party at

Frank Mohr's. After much deliberation ... actually, I can't remember the details. You'll have to read about those elsewhere.

I took the long way home, through Reading and Olney and the surrounding hill country. I enjoyed the pleasant afternoon and the beautiful fall foliage. It doesn't get much better than this.

Hope to see you all at Frank's for the Christmas Party on the 22nd!

John Brownell

Bob Katz Buys E-Start, Hosts November Meeting

On Sunday, November 18th, we had a terrific meeting at the home of our President, Bob Katz. In addition to the brace of well-fettled Nortons, there were a couple of beautiful late model Harleys, **Don Kuterbach's** Shovelhead Superglide, a couple of nice BMWs both new and old, and a pair of matching 750 Hondas.

Seventeen Nortons showed up, along with an unknown number of car-driving DVNR folks. The only people conspicuous by their absence were some of the regular folks from Northern NJ.

It was reported that **Pat "5 Quarts" Dalois** rode in covered with motor oil. Apparently he had checked his Commando's oil before leaving home and concluded that though the engine was holding three quarts already, he should add two more. His poor ride looked like the Exxon Valdez, but cleaned up nicely.

Bob provided great eats, and everyone seemed to be enjoying every bit of them. When it got down to business, we talked about the upcoming Christmas party on December 22nd at the home of **Frank Mohr**, our newly nominated President.

We were meeting at Bob's so our President could be the beneficiary of a Tech Session focused on starting his dirty old newly acquired 1975 E-start Roadster. It needed some carb work; we took off the bowls and removed the jet blocks for inspection. After a good cleaning and some readjusting, we put it back together and got it running on the second

kick. Popping and backfiring. The timing was way off. It wasn't running perfectly yet, owing to some remaining clogged passageway or maladjustment. But it was improved. It was surely a good buy for Bob at \$1,700.

The other Norton we worked on was **Shokie's** E-start. It had some charging system mysteries, which were traced partially to what appears to be a bad Zener diode. His bike has two diodes, and the failure of one can create an assortment of problems. We couldn't fix it because of a lack of spares, but we at least zeroed in on a potential source of the problem. Katz says that Shokie, whom he calls "Sparky", always has an electrical problem. Hence the nickname. And he claims that Sparky attends meetings just to get repair help!



Everyone hung around long enough to trade a few tales, suck down some java and then hit the road. A good time appeared to have been had by all. I sure know

I had a good time.

See you all at the Party on December 22nd. Please call Frank to let him know if you are planning to attend.

Rich Casey

1st Annual British & European Classic Motorcycle Day

Sunday, May 19th, 2002

Butler's Orchard, Germantown, MD

Dear Classic Motorcycle Enthusiast:

As you may have heard, British Motorcycle Day (BMD) is no more. For 17 years, the event was the focal point for British motorcycle enthusiasts in the mid-Atlantic region and beyond. It gave many enthusiasts the impetus to polish that old Triumph, BSA or Norton sitting dormant in the garage, finish a restoration project begun long ago, or find a new project to fulfill dreams. It was also the kickoff meet for the classic motorcycle season. So with its passing, there is a void.



To fill this void, a group of enthusiasts in the metropolitan Washington, DC, area are putting on a new event in the same vein.

The new event is called **British & European Classic Motorcycle Day**, and is open to not only British motorcycles (and their riders), but to all classic European motorcycles. It will take place on the traditional date of the BMD, the Sunday preceding Memorial Day Weekend, May 19th, at BMD's old venue, Butler's Orchard in Germantown, MD. The day will

feature a Concourse, a Swap Meet, door prizes, and food & beverages. Admission will be \$10. Children under 12 enter free.

Our purpose for holding Classis Motorcycle Day is to present a venue to display classic British and European motorcycles for the enjoyment of the public and other enthusiasts, and to meet and trade with others interested in our hobby. Our goal is to favorably impress the motorcycling community and advance our good image.

For up to date information, please visit the web site at <http://www.classicmotorcycleday.com/> or email terryBSA@hotmail.com.

Sincerely,

The Members of the Board of CLASSIC MOTORCYCLE DAY, INC.

Calendar of Events

December

22nd **December Meeting and The Annual DVNR Christmas Party. 6pm. At the home of Frank Mohr, 1999 Skippack Pike, Blue Bell, PA. For more details and directions, please call Frank at 215 661-9148 or email him at sgtnorton@aol.com.**

January

20th **January Meeting: the International Motorcycle Show at the Pennsylvania Convention Center, Philadelphia, PA, at 3pm. We will meet at the Triumph Motorcycle display, and then adjourn to a local tavern.**

20th

The Annual Will Stoner Swap Meet, York County Fairgrounds, York, PA.

February

17th **February Meeting: John Brownell's Home -- 1310 Wainwright Court, Blue Bell, PA. 11am. For more information or directions, call John at 215 628-8813, or e-mail him at DucDoc@aol.com.**

March

2nd-10th **Bike Week, Daytona Beach, Florida.**

May

19th **British & European Classic Motorcycle Day, Butler's Orchard, Germantown, MD. Admission: \$10 (Children under 12 free). Contact terryBSA@hotmail.com**

2002 **International Norton Owners Association National Rally will be hosted in Bristol, New Hampshire by the [Northern New England Norton Owners](#). [Mike Frick](#) (603) 883-3038. July 19-22.**

2003 **International Norton Owners Association International Rally will be hosted in British Columbia, Canada. Ken Jacobson 775 Richter Street, Kelowna, BC, Canada V1Y-2J8 kjacobso@city.kelowna.bc.ca.**



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For Sale or Wanted

❖ **For Sale: 2002 BMW R1150RT.** This bike has only 900 miles on it and just had the official 'first service' at the dealer. It is equipped with all 3 bags, engine guards, bar backs and a Sergeant seat as well as the stock seat. Must sell. All reasonable offers considered. **Also For Sale 1995 M-Z Skorpion Tour.** 7500 miles. Extra performance parts. Excellent shape. Must sell. Tom Schaefer (908) 232-4190 FAX (908) 232-8022.

❖ **Wanted: Triumph Parts** DVNR Member Todd Robertson recently acquired a basket case Dunstall Triumph. It needs many parts, mostly normal Triumph stuff. If anyone in the club had parts to sell to please contact Todd at (908) 454-3765. Email to trob@fast.net.



❖ **For Sale: 1970 Triumph TR6R.** Total restoration, nothing to do but ride or show. Everything has been attended to on this bike! Nonstock items are 750cc motor with 5-speed gearbox but old style 650 rocker boxes and exhaust; '67 tank badges and knee for style. She starts first kick, ALL the time, and is a strong and reliable runner, NO oil leaks!! \$5,000. - Firm. Andrew Pramer, Princeton, NJ (609) 924-0947 (home), or (732) 247-9190 (work). apramer@aol.com.

❖ **For Sale. 1967 BSA Lightning.** Boyer, Halogen headlight, etc. Call 609-397-4698.

❖ **For Sale. 1972 Norton Commando 750 cc Roadster,** 4000 original miles, \$6,500. Needs no work. Call Andy Pramer, Princeton, NJ (609) 924-0947 (home), or (732) 247-9190 (work). apramer@aol.com.

❖ **For Sale. 1967 Norton Atlas.** Restored by Walt Merk and located in Florida. Call 850-773-3107 or emerk@streamail.com.

❖ **For Sale. 1970 Triumph Tiger.** Ground-up restoration, except that I didn't keep strictly to the model year details on a few items. Gas tank and fenders are black with a red center stripe, same exact layout as the 1970 Tiger, but much nicer colors than the avocado green. The engine is 1974 750cc 5-speed for better all around drivability, but exhaust, rocker boxes, etc., are the entire original 650 type. Unless you can recognize cylinder base bolt patterns, one would not be able to tell that it isn't a true 650. The ignition system is all electronic, but original zener diode, etc., are preserved for esthetic appearance. If you like Triumphs, this bike is absolutely beautiful. \$6000. Firm. Call Andy Pramer, (609) 924-0947 (home), or (732) 247-9190 (work). apramer@aol.com

- ❖ **Wanted. Commando fork sliders**, front wheel, and rotor. Also wanted, Atlas oil tank. Call Glenn Logan, (856) 453-0007.
- ❖ **For Sale. Disk brake conversion**, Grimica caliper, master cylinder and alloy conversion plate. \$200. Call Frank Mohr, (215) 661-9148.
- ❖ **For Sale Cheap. 1986 Kawasaki 650**. Runs good. Needs TLC. Call Charles Strunk, (215) 679-9147.
- ❖ **Trade. Pre-alternator Dommie Primary Cover**, good condition, black gloss paint, for book by Phil Irving, "Rich Mixture." Call David Schmidt, (215) 269-2755.
- ❖ **For Sale. Dunstall 810 kit**, with pistons (needs a helicoil) \$200; Mk3 gearbox cradle and swingarm, \$75; 750 gearbox cradle and swing arm, \$50; front disk brake assembly, including lower fork leg, caliper, master cylinder and brake rotor, \$125. (All the brake parts need to be re-done, naturally which is easy and cheap.) **Axtel cam**, \$75; **Atlas** gearbox parts and engine cases, \$?; new set of intake manifolds, \$30; a salvageable 750 Commando cylinder head, \$75; most of a BSA 650 gearbox, \$40; and tons of other stuff I'd love to get out of my garage and cellar. Call Rich Casey, (732) 494-0519.
- ❖ **For Sale. DVNR tee shirts**. Black or green with the very popular six color front/back graphics you've seen many of our members wearing. Pete got these great shirts reprinted and they are now available for only \$15 each. All sizes are available. Pete also has **Norton ratcheting tie downs**. They are 5'2" long and include the Norton logo. They are \$15 per pair. Call Pete Gallo, (610) 461-6582.

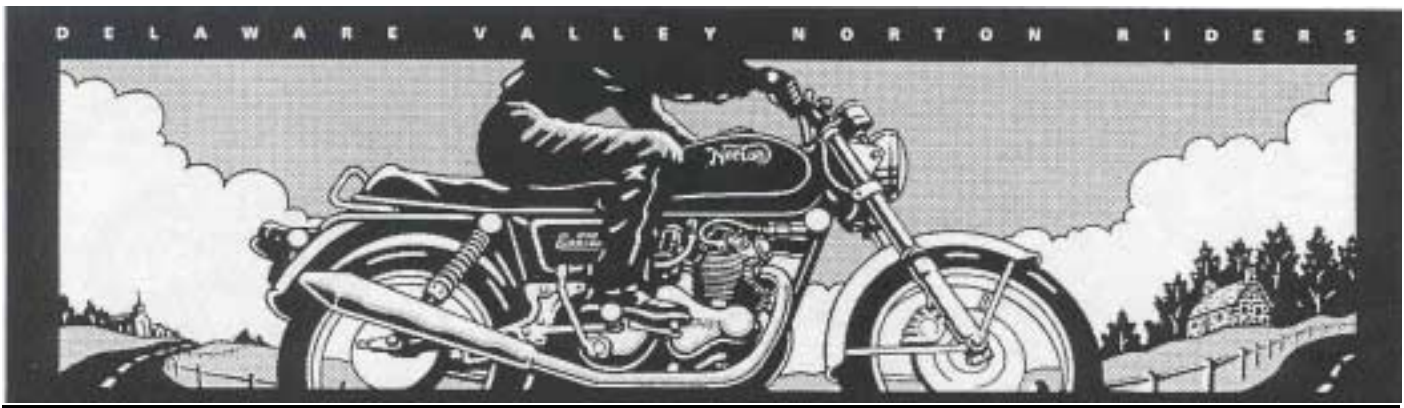
Got a bike you want to sell? Good new or used parts that someone in the club might need? If you are interested in buying or selling anything, please contact Hans with the information and it will be in the next newsletter. E-mail Hans at hanswinberg@home.com, or call 908 518-9603, or fax to 908 317-0584.

***For a Large Number of
Interesting & Useful Links***

Visit our Web Site

WWW.DVNORTONRIDERS.COM/LINKS.HTM/

Important Notice: Participation in any DVNR activities, meetings or rides is done exclusively at the personal risk of the participant. The DVNR or any of its members cannot assume any responsibility for the safety of any participant or the behavior of any other individual particularly in association with the operation of motorcycles. Motorcycles are inherently dangerous and attendance at DVNR activities, particularly those that include operation of motorcycles, is viewed by the DVNR as a personal acceptance of associated risks. Anyone riding on public highways is responsible for maintaining liability insurance.



DVNR MEMBERSHIP FORM

All DVNR Memberships expire at year-end, 12/31.
Please use this form when renewing membership and/or joining the DVNR.

Please mark one of the following: Renewal New Member

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (____) _____ - _____ E-mail address: _____

Can you receive your newsletter via E-mail? YES NO

Dues for 2002 are \$12.00. Monthly meetings are usually held on the THIRD Sunday of each month.
Check your monthly newsletter for the exact time and place.
Please return this form with your payment made payable to:

Tari Norum - Treasurer, DVNR
276 Butterworth Lane
Langhorne, PA 19047

It is important that you completely fill out the above including phone number. Thanks.

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