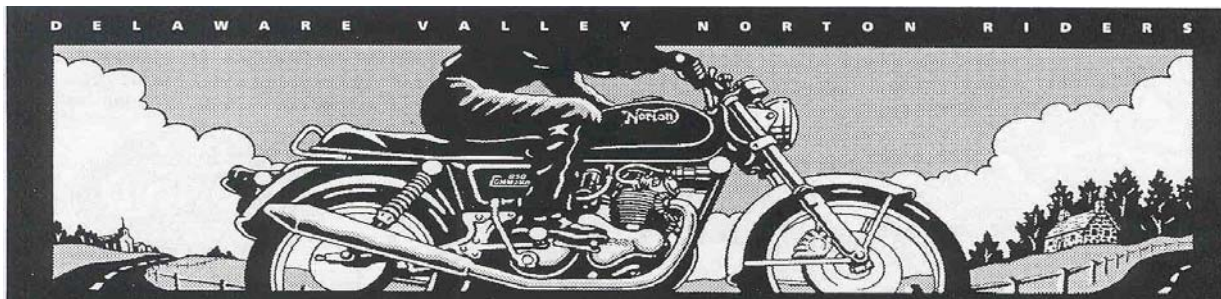


DECEMBER '08 THRU MARCH 2009

**1984 - Twenty-Five Years - 2009**



# **NEWSLETTER**

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**



*January's meeting at Todd Robertson's*

Three monthly meetings have come and gone since the beginning of the year and it wasn't until now when I updated our newsletter banner that I realized our club's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary is upon us. Wow!

Tari and I have participated in the past 20 of those 25 years. Good times then – good times now. We continue to enjoy our lives here in Pennsylvania; a great deal of that enjoyment stems from our many friendships made over the years brought together from a keen interest in British motorbikes. Beer also figures into the equation somewhere as an undefined variable.

First the apologies. I cannot find any written record of thanking Ron Ettinger for hosting (again and again) the DVNR Holiday party this past December (Saturday, December 13). Ron, thank you for always being the gracious host. Everyone there had a great time. The food and drink selection was impressive. Action during the Chinese Auction was spirited. You know you're having fun when you don't want to go home. Unfortunately there was a news media blackout and no photos of the event are known to exist.

Second apology - I am woefully behind schedule on cranking out newsletters. It's been a long, cold winter. The past three monthly meetings were some of the brighter moments of an otherwise dark winter. In hindsight, I apparently have taken some sort of unannounced sabbatical from editorializing. Fortunately, life does go on regardless of an absence of the newsletter. Email helps immensely in keeping the communication and interest up within the club. Monthly meetings have been well attended the first quarter of this year.

Currently there are a lot of Norton-centric activities going on with me this year. I am helping new member Gary St. Cyr bring his '70 Commando back to life after a long slumber. I knew nothing of the differences

between the early and later years of the Commando production period. I have owned 4 Commandos over the years with '73 being the earliest. I have owned both a '73 850 (years ago) and the '73 750 currently in the garage. I have learned that there are a considerable number of differences. I have a library full of Norton books but you never fully appreciate the differences until you put your tools to work.

Pat Daloisio and I are planning on attending the Norton Owners Club's Golden Jubilee 3 day celebration mid-June at Donnington Park, England. We are heading over the pond June 17. My sister, who lives in England, and her man Steve will be our tour guides and transport/accompany us to Donnington Park. Fortunately for us, both Steve and my sister are motorcycle enthusiasts and are looking forward to the event as much as us.

Tari, Erik, and I have made our reservations for the INOA National Rally this July. We have decided to fly to Denver and drive to the rally site in Mancos. Mancos is close to Mesa Verde National Park and the Durango-Silverton Narrow Gage Railroad. Colorado Norton Works has their shop nearby. This rally will be one to remember for a long time.

Enough about me – let's celebrate the club's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year by doing what we do best – getting those Nortons running and having (more) fun!

**- Bob Norum**



***Pretty much says it all!***

So let's do a recap of the past three club meetings so far this year.

January's meeting was hosted by Todd and Diane Robertson - thank you Todd and Diane!

DVNR Secretary Richard Colahan performed the duties of Official Scribe and offers the following remarks.

### ***January Meeting Notes***

On a snowy day, graciously hosted by Todd and Diane Robertson, Todd has an immaculate 1967 Honda CL77 Scrambler on display in their den, outfitted with a VERY rare factory Honda alloy race-kit fuel tank...and of course "Snuf-or-Nots" installed on the exhaust pipes.

The meeting was attended by about 16 DVNR members.

A few tech issues reviewed by Bob Norum included a demo of a pair of trick chain master link removal/re-install pliers.

Review of current DVNR finances. After all Rally expenses are settled, including our financial obligation to the INOC, the club will likely have over \$7000 left in the treasury. Future discussions will take place regarding how to "budget" this balance.

There was quite a bit of discussion on DVNR club activities in 2009. Now that the rally is behind us, most are looking forward to more club rides, weekends, etc.

Meetings will continue to be planned for the 3rd Sunday each month, unless there is a conflict.

Once riding weather arrives (perhaps April??? – *How about May?* - editor) we'll try to schedule a DVNR ride day on the first Sunday of each month. Starting locations will vary, we'll meet early and enjoy a day's ride...Ride leader volunteers are needed!

Our Washington's Crossing Gathering of the Nortons is scheduled for Sunday, 4/19

(therefore no meeting that day...) with a rain date of Sunday, 4/26.

The proposal is to have DVNR members relinquish the chore of providing fund-raising food service at the Gathering. We'll look at having an external organization do this, perhaps the Washington Crossing FD. Remains an open issue... Doing so will eliminate about 80% of the DVNR member logistical burden, which will allow more members to actually participate in riding their bikes to the event.

We will still need to handle event logistics such as signage, lot lay-out and marshalling, clean up, etc.

Expect final event prep discussion at the February meeting.

**- Richard Colahan**

February's meeting was hosted by Frank and Shelly Mohr - thank you Frank and Shelly!

We were thrilled when longtime member Pete Gallo arrived. Pete has been undergoing treatment for a serious medical condition and is on the mend. We wish him well in his recovery.

Bob Katz captured the honor of being the only club member to have ridden their Norton to the meeting – I remember the day being cold and I had the excuse of bringing handouts. That required the use of the car.



**Bob Katz' very nicely done Mk 3 Roadster.**



**Another view - never leave home without it!**

Scribe Richard was off-site somewhere having fun so Kathy Gehhardt volunteered to perform the documentation duties and offers the following observations.



**February's meeting at the home of Frank Mohr – looks like Christmas!**

### **February Meeting Notes**

The meeting, held at the home of Frank and Shelly Mohr, was called to order at approximately 11:30 AM.

President Bob Norum began the meeting by handing out flyers for the April Gathering. It was decided to change the "Corral" to include bikes pre-83. In the past the

Gathering was used as a fundraiser for the INOA rally. Since fundraising is no longer necessary, discussion followed regarding ways to simplify the Gathering so that DVNR members could ride in and work less. A 3<sup>rd</sup> party vendor will be sought to provide food.

It was discussed and agreed that DVNR member Bill Shelton will offer for sale a line of T shirts designed and produced by his new company he co-owns with Jim Willis named "Art of the Bike". Bill offered to donate \$5 per shirt sold to DVNR. Bill brought several samples of his T shirt designs. The images are vintage motorcycle themes. Visit their website <http://www.artofthebike.com/>. *(Everyone liked the shirts – very nicely done – Editor)*

The shirts were well accepted and the idea was voted on and passed. He and Bob will work out the design of a club shirt that might also be available at the Gathering. *(next year – Editor)*

Bob announced upcoming events. A May or June event may be a ride to a private club in Shenandoah. He would like to have 2 club events each month, one a ride and the other a general meeting. A trip to Bill's Bike Barn was also mentioned as a day trip or an overnight.

The website is now under the care of Bill Dudley, INOA webmaster, and renewed DVNR member. It is the same design that was begun by Bill Waddington. Please check the member's area of the website for your dues status. *(I guess I better get that updated – Editor)*

Member news: Rich Casey has recently acquired the Norton Atlas that was once owned by Steve Atkinson, a founding member of the DVNR. He hopes to have it completed within a year. *(Lauretta is thrilled – Editor)*

Nick Lutwyche had his Norton's cylinder head exhaust ports re-threaded. The work was beautifully done in the UK by P. Seager Engineering, Ipswich, UK. The turn-around time was approximately 6 months and cost

about \$500 which included shipping costs. The job included a set of exhaust pipe nuts with threads matched to the port inserts. *(The workmanship is superb – Editor)* Visit Seager Engineering at <http://stores.ebay.co.uk/P-Seager-Engineering>.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:30 for a tech session in the garage and a great lunch provided by Shelly and Frank.

**- Kathy Gehrhardt**



**Frank's kitchen – always a feast**

March's meeting was held at the Norum Hacienda.

Richard was in town that day and performed the duties of Official Scribe. He offers the following abbreviated notes:

### **March Meeting Notes**

Regarding the Gathering of Nortons – The Park Service folks at Washington Crossing recommended Cub Scout Pack 301 from Bensalem. Tari made contact with Anthony Wajda, Cub Master. Bob finalized the agreement. They will provide hot sandwiches and hot and cold drinks. Visit their website at:

<http://www.cubpack301.com/>

All proceeds from their sales go directly back to their Pack to fund scout activities.

Other Gathering assignments and chores:

Ed Varga and Pat Daloisio will transport and set up the "DVNR Table and Canopy" (Easy Up). Tony will arrive early with his cones and vests. We'll mark off bike parking rows

with a specific area designated the "Corral" with cones.

Nortons will be congregated in one grouping, "other" Brit bikes in a second grouping. All DVNR members are encouraged to arrive by 9:30 to assist with set up. Official start time is 10 am.

There are 8 or so event signs available. Those who arrive early will help place the signs at the customary locations.

DVNR Club shirts will be available for sale at the Gathering. Most sizes available!

Ride to follow after the site is cleared...no specific details. *(I'm slipping – Editor – how about the Ship Inn on Bridge Street in Milford, NJ? Just like old times.)*

There was some informal discussion regarding a potential ride to Shenandoah, PA in May ...no details. *(Still working on this one – Editor – more to follow)*

**- Richard Colahan**

Thanks to Kathy and Richard for their note taking.

I look forward to more fun in '09 as we focus on riding, riding, and riding.

Ride smooth, ride as often as you can, and remember to ride the Norton!

Now I'll start working on that event calendar!  
**- Bob Norum**

### Rearview Mirror



**Celebrating 25 years of good times. Cheers!**

- The DVNR Newsletter is published by the Delaware Valley Norton Riders 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 two weeks after the monthly meeting.
- The Delaware Valley Norton Riders 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 Delaware Valley Norton Riders club is currently \$12.00 per year. Annual membership fees are due in January of each year, with a grace period ending with the April monthly meeting. Dues will be waived for new members who joined between November and December of the prior year. DVNR usually holds monthly meetings the Third Sunday of each month but members are asked to check their newsletters or the web site for current information.
- DVNR is affiliated with both the American Motorcycle Association and the International Norton Owners Association. Members are encouraged but not required to join these organizations.
- Group rides are not sponsored by DVNR and participants ride at their own risk. Motorcycling is a dangerous sport and DVNR will not be responsible for individual rider's conduct or safety. Anyone riding on public highways is responsible for maintaining liability insurance. DVNR assumes no responsibility for the acts or omission of its members in connection with club activities.
- DVNR Newsletter articles or other materials express the author's view only and not necessarily the official policy of the Delaware Valley Norton Riders. Technical tips published in the DVNR Newsletter 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 the DVNR 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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# DVNR 2009 Calendar of Events

Monthly Meetings are held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday each month unless otherwise noted.  
Dates and Events are subject to change.

*WORKING ON IT - Editor*



***This way to the Gathering!***

**Delaware Valley Norton Riders**

**presents**

**The 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Gathering of the Nortons**

**Sunday April 19 or Sunday April 26 (rain date)**

**Washington Crossing Historic Park, Route 32, Bucks County, PA**

**10 am to 2 pm**