



Delaware Valley Norton Riders

NEWSLETTER

WWW.DVNORTONRIDERS.COM

October 2001

September Meeting: Shangri-la in Springtown.

On September 16th, DVNR members **John Brownell, Rich Casey, Ron Ettinger, Mike & Desiree Forte, Pete Gallo & Nikki Radway, Rick Hill,** and **Bob Katz** were treated to an impressive collection of motorcycles, cars and trucks at the September chapter meeting. The hosts, **Jim & Dana Guerra**, live in a 4,000 square foot contemporary-style architects dream house on 6 acres in Springtown, PA, with their two children, Gianna, 13, and Daniel, 10, and their two yellow Labs.

In addition to a '99 Triumph Daytona, a '99 Ducati Monster 900S, and a '91 BMW K100RS, Jim has collected five Nortons: a 1967 Atlas, a very early 1968 Fastback, a 1971 John Player-looking Roadster, and two 1974 Roadsters.

Off from his house is an aluminum Quonset hut-type building the size of a football field where Jim keeps all his collectible vehicles – all but one. There are seven 1966 Oldsmobile Toronados that range in condition from parts car to perfect, a '53 Studebaker Commander, a '54 Ford Country Squire, a '56 Lincoln Mark II, a '59 Jaguar XK150S Roadster, a '64 Jaguar XKE Convertible, an '82 Jaguar Coupe with a 454 Big Block Chevy under the hood,

a '63 Olds Starfire Convertible, and a '75 Cadillac Eldorado Convertible. Forget about the SUVs, trucks and RVs. In the smaller three-car garage attached to his house, his monster car sleeps by itself – a beautiful 1968 Dodge Charger Pro Street with 526 cubic inch blown Hemi that has run a 9.4 second quarter mile.

Following the meeting, Bob Katz described the Guerra home as Shangri-la. And that it is. Shangri-la is defined as a distant and secluded hideaway of great beauty and peacefulness. Springtown isn't all that distant. It's tucked away in the farm country just a few miles southeast of Allentown. But it certainly is secluded, beautiful and peaceful.

Jim bought his first Norton new, a silver 1966 Atlas, when he was a student at the Pratt Institute School of Architecture in Brooklyn, NY. Soon after he graduated from Pratt in 1967, the US Army sent him to Alaska for two years, at which time he sold the Atlas. Jim has been an enthusiastic car collector his entire adult life, but managed to live without a Norton, or a motorcycle of any kind for that matter, until 1999. It is well known that the love of Nortons is somewhat like a virus. You may display



College student Jim Guerra and friend
aboard his 1966 650 Atlas.

no symptoms for long periods, but that doesn't mean you're cured.

In 1999, Michael Andretti's Power Sports of Phillipsburg, NJ, commissioned Jim's eponymous firm, James R. Guerra Architects & Planners, to re-design the look of that motorcycle dealership. There Jim spotted the '99 Triumph and bought it. He has acquired some nice bikes in the short period of time since, and he has his sites set on several more.

Following the meeting, most of the members rode over to a DVNR favorite, Cappy's Bar in Nockamixon. A few rode there sensibly, like Casey

on his new Honda Valkyrie. Unfortunately Katz foolishly chose to try to follow Ron Ettinger there and it cost him a speedometer. Ron likes speed. Just about the time Bob's speedo was nearing 100 mph, it went haywire and hasn't worked right since.

And guess who they ran into at Cappy's -- **Ed Stimmler**. Ed was one of the earliest DVNR members. Man did he have an enviable collection back in the day. His brother **Adrian Stimmler** is a current member. But some time ago, Ed sold all his bikes and bought golf clubs. Apparently he has seen the error of his ways. He was at Cappy's astride his new BMW R1100S.

President's Message

The October chapter meeting will be a breakfast affair at the home of Mike & Desiree Forte in Lancaster, PA, on Sunday, October 21st. The address there is 2948 Marietta Ave., Lancaster, PA 17601. If you'd like to call them for directions, the number is (717) 898-7030. And their e-mail address is desmic@msn.com.

I will be hosting the November chapter meeting, a tech session, at my house. This will be an opportunity to take a good close look at the old Norton I found in a gas station in the Bronx on my way back from the Nationals last summer. It's a 1975 E-Start Roadster. The bike needs to be repainted and cleaned up. The issues I'd like to put

on the table are what possible upgrade improvements are most advisable.

And LET'S PARTY -- Frank Mohr will be hosting the Chapter Christmas Party on December 22nd, a Saturday night. No doubt it will be a great party and a great way to kick off the holiday weekend. Frank is planning to wow the guest's with good food, wine and beer. Frank says, "I've heard people are worried about me and the cleanup effort so close to Christmas. Don't worry. I can take care of it."

Bring friends because there will be plenty. Frank also adds, "Plan on it and plan to stay late. I'm fed up finishing the keg at 4:30am alone." *Bob*

Tech Tip Idea from GANOA

Oil leak fix – Several folks in the club (Georgia Norton Owners Association) have tried the brake booster valve in the oil line to fix the various oil leaks our British Iron is heir to. The idea is that it lets the pressure out on the down stroke, but does not let the air back in on the up stroke, thus creating a partial vacuum in the crankcase. Everyone I have spoken to has said it works great. Just plumb the valve into the return oil line. The important numbers are: Motormite "Help" 80190; Champ Service Line "Underhood" 148000; AMC 4487455; Ford DOAX-2365-A; GM 5472419, 18000139, 18003614. Thanks to Art Bone.

North American Nude Motorcycle Riders Association



As a possible Christmas present, here's a nearly irresistible idea. The NANMRA website, <http://www.nanmra.com/>, is offering its Official Membership T-shirt, 100% cotton pre-shrunk Hanes Beefy T, for only \$20 plus shipping.

Calendar of Events

October

21st Breakfast Chapter meeting at the home of Mike & Desiree Forte, 2948 Marietta Ave., Lancaster, PA 17601. Sunday, October 21st. Please call for directions: (717) 898-7030. Or e-mail: desmic@msn.com.

November

18th Chapter Meeting and Tech Session at the home of DVNR President Bob Katz, 426 Maple Avenue, North Hills, PA 19038-2225. For more details and directions, call Bob at (215) 884-1174. Or e-mail him at bobkat07@home.com.

December

22nd Annual Chapter Christmas Party at the home of Frank Mohr, 1999 Skippack Pike, Blue Bell, PA 19422. Phone (215) 661-9148. Email sgtnorton@aol.com.

2002 International Norton Owners Association National Rally will be hosted in Bristol, New Hampshire (The Free State) 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.



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: Machine Shop Tools.** MSC 13x40 Lathe, 1984 manufacture. Needs belt replaced. Quick change, etc., etc. Three and four jaw chucks, drive plate, various accessories. Good working condition, but not perfect by any means. 110 Volt, can be wired to 220. Linde UCC-305 Tig/Stick welder with Bernard 3500SS stainless water coolant system. Very good condition-Bernard is perfect. 220 SINGLE PHASE Supermax 9x49 Vertical Mill, 2 horse, like new condition. Less than .005 backlash in all axes. These machines are offered as a package at a very reasonable \$6000.00, OVNO. If you have any questions, feel free to call or email. Glenn Bewley, Atlanta Bewley Studios, (770) 414-8444; gbewley@bellsouth.net.

- ❖ **For Sale: 1974 Norvil Commando.** Fewer than 500 miles on Complete Rebuild. Over \$14,000.00 Invested. Fast and Very Reliable. All Bearings Replaced (Superblends, Roller Bearing in Tranny etc.). All Genuine British Parts Used, (Pistons, Rings, Valves, Polished/Lightened Rockers, etc.). Genuine Norvil Parts: Bodywork, Rear Sets, Z-Plates, Head-Steady, Stabilizer, Ameter Gauge, and Clipons. QPD Primary Belt Drive Primary (no leaks).



Lucas Rita Electronic Ignition. High Output Alternator. High Output Coils. Brand new Amal Carbs. All new Cables. Akronts w/Stainless Spokes. Brand New Metzlers. Hagons. Drilled/Lightened Brake Rotor. K&N Filter. Stainless Airbox. Stainless Bolts Everywhere. MK3 Isolastics. MK3 Kickstart. Rebuilt Gauges. New Fork Tubes. Progressive Springs. New Wheel Bearings. New Brakes. New Renolds Drive Chain. Fresh tune, Fast

and Reliable, absolutely ready to ride. Motivated to sell. \$7,500. (Firm). Email: BZIMMER761@aol.com. Phone (612) 770-2995 Minneapolis, MN.

- ❖ **For Sale: Honda V-4/750.** No carbs. #RC07E-4007297. \$200. Call (678) 355-0521
- ❖ [Bill Milish](#) in New Britain, Connecticut, has a **1971 Commando** for sale and “a ton of good used and new service parts and spares.” Double click his name above and you can email him. A lot of stuff on this Commando. And he has pictures. Of the '71 Commando, he lists: Belt drive dry primary with aluminum clutch basket and Barnett clutch plates (friction and floater); dual Mikuni VM32 carbs with K&N air filters; 2-into-1 exhaust system, jet-hot coated; factory optional stiffener kit installed on front brake; factory optional oil filter kit; VW Beetle valve adjusters (eliminates valve stem tip wear); fiberglass front fender; Dunstall headlight brackets with 5” Lucas headlamp; ¼-turn quick throttle; Hi-Rider fiberglass gas tank; Mark II rear brake drum, sprocket and hub assembly; 850 vernier isolastic front mount; 850 headsteady system; and a 19-tooth countershaft sprocket.
- ❖ **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.

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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.