

Delaware Valley Norton Riders

# NEWSLETTER

WWW.DVNORTONRIDERS.COM

January 2002

## Christmas Party at Frank Mohr's a Big Success

Many friends of Frank's – possibly 100 or more -- turned up at his home in Blue Bell, PA, on December 22<sup>nd</sup> for a Christmas gala that witnesses and guests alike will be talking about with fond recollection for months to come. Loads of sumptuous food and large portions of laughter. Some of the DVNR Members in attendance were *Pete Bartholomew, Shokie & Elizabeth Bragg, John & Patte Brownell, Rich Casey, Pat & Deb Daloisio, Ron Ettinger & Lisa, Mike & Deiree Forte, Pete Gallo, Rick Hill, Bob Katz, Don Kuterbach, Frank Mohr* (of course), *Howard Nenner, Bob & Tari Norum, Nikki Radway, Todd & Diane Robertson, Tom Schaefer* and *Hans Winberg*.



Lisa Evans was evidently shocked that her tongue turned green.



Chef, host and new DVNR President Frank Mohr puts the finishing touches on a marvelous baked salmon.



Pat Daloisio shares a moment with Don Kuterbach's friend, Becky, who won \$53 in the 50-50 raffle.



Patte Brownell feeling pretty lucky. She chose the 2 bottles of Norton wine in the Christmas auction.



**Bob Norum, left, and Pat Daloisio kiss Deb Daloisio.**



**Rich Casey and Tom Schaefer, who also sit side by side when they perform with the Westfield (NJ) Symphony Orchestra, observe the exchange of gifts.**



**John Brownell, who will be host the February chapter meeting at his home on the 17<sup>th</sup>, talks with Lisa Evans, left, and Desiree Forte.**



**Todd & Diane Robertson**



**DVNR Treasurer Tari Norum, left, and Patte Brownell.**



**Mike Forte, left, and Pete Gallo make their ways along the buffet line.**

## 2 John Hudson Videos Available to Borrow



DVNR has two VHS tech videos produced by the Norton Owners Club: *Norton Twin Engine Strip & Rebuild*, and *Norton Gearbox Strip & Rebuild – Lay-down and AMC for Twin and Post War Singles*. Legendary Norton Factory Service Manager and erstwhile NOC President John Hudson narrate both. John was reputed to be the Norton technical

expert to whom importers, dealers and owners alike turned when all else failed them.

*Twin Engine Strip & Rebuild* runs 123 minutes. *Gearbox Strip & Rebuild* runs almost 1-½ hours.

If you would like to borrow either or both of these videos for a reasonable amount of time, and you are a paid-up DVNR member, they are now available on a first-come, first-served basis. Contact Frank Mohr at (215) 661-9148, or at [sgtnorton@aol.com](mailto:sgtnorton@aol.com). Naturally, any shipping expenses will be the responsibility of the borrowing DVNR member.

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## 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.

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## “DVNR Should Welcome All Riders in 2002”



Frank Mohr

Happy New Year to you all. Now that the riding season is on hold, most of us have the opportunity to look over our Nortons. I for one am replacing the carburetors. I had a new set of Amals lying around the shop and after 25,000 miles on the old pair, I think it's time for a change. Rather than re-sleeving the old set, I preferred buying a new pair. The cost is double, but well worth it. And at least you have the benefit of all new parts. With this set I also have the chrome slides. They seem harder and hopefully won't wear out as fast. I sure am looking forward to a good steady idle. At the same time I'll replace the throttle cables. You would be surprised how all those bends can cause cracking and binding. That's my only project for the Interstate this winter.

If you don't know who I am, let me introduce myself. My name is Frank Mohr. I have officially taken the banner from outgoing Chapter President Bob Katz. I was President for 5 years about a decade or so ago. I first took over the position from Steve Atkinson, one of the four men who estab-

lished our Chapter back in 1984. (The other 3 were Steve Fahey, Glenn Logan and Hans Winberg.)

I still remember being in the kitchen of Bob & Tari Norum's house when I decided to take over back then. We were a small group -- possibly 11 strong. We have grown since then. Now we have almost 80 paid-up members.

One of the things I would like to see happen this year is an increase in membership, but not of Norton owners exclusively. We should welcome all riders, because, after all, we are a riding group. I feel that the more people we invite to ride with us, the more these people will be exposed to the benefits of the Norton. This will hopefully keep DVNR going, and increase the National membership, too. With the ease of distributing our electronic newsletter, we can easily add new subscribers and new members. So the next time you come to a meeting, bring a buddy along and ask him or her for the \$12 annual membership fee. Have your friends who ride try us for at least a year.

E-Mails are a great way to stay informed or get together. I often thought about putting the word out for an occasional breakfast meeting, in addition to our regular 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday chapter meeting, and wait

for responses to see who would show up. I feel we can and should use e-mails to our advantage. If one of us knows of an event, or knows a cure for a Norton problem, pass it on.

Don't forget about the National in July in New Hampshire. I was at the one in '91 (?) and had a great time. The roads were nice and I even made it up Mt. Washington, and rode to Maine for a Lob-

ster lunch. It's Norton Country. The New England boys sure know how to host a Rally. So take advantage of it. By the way, we will camp together this year. So if you're going, please start planning now.

I hope I will see you on February 17<sup>th</sup> at John Brownell's house.

**Frank**

### **Our Rich Casey Spots a Bogus Dreer at NYC Motorcycle Show**

The flashy color article beside these words appeared in the February issue of *Cycle World*, and sang the praises of the newest prom queen to come out of Kenny Dreer's engineering plant. DVNR's Rich Casey saw the actual motorcycle at a show at the Jacob Javits Convention Center in New York City in December. When he saw the piece in *Cycle World*, his outrage forced him to the keyboard. His missives from earlier this month follow:

January 1, 2002 -- My Fellow DVNR Members: Before you get all excited by the Dreer 880, be advised that as a result of my seeing the bike in person, very close up, I learned that it is a mere 'stage prop'. It is not a real bike. It has no operable transmission, gearshift linkage, clutch, main shaft, clutch release mechanism, primary drive, or wiring. The engine cases are not the ones that Dreer states he will use either. So, the thing is, at present, a mere fantasy. What the thing is is a nice pile of parts that would make a nice Commando if it were finished. But as it stands, it is not what is purported to be. I am a bit distressed by such a hoax. Happy New Year. **Rich Casey**

January 2, 2002 -- Hans, I would be delighted to talk to you about the Dreer 880. I also e-mailed Mr. Dreer and reeled off my observations to him, requesting some kind of feedback. I have gotten none as of yet. His lack of a response appears to me to be a sort of "Oops, I

January 3, 2002 -- To *Cycle World*: I would like to ask David Edwards if he had the opportunity to scrutinize the Dreer Norton 880 he wrote about in the February issue of *Cycle World*. My reason for asking is that I had the chance to



got caught" sort of thing. I am also about to write to David Edwards of *Cycle World* and poke him in the eye about this bike since he wrote the piece in the latest issue apparently without looking at it close enough to tell that it's a phony. It should be interesting. **Rich Casey**

examine Mr. Dreer's 880 Norton at the Javits Center in NYC last weekend and learned a few things about this bike that concern me. Bear in mind my concern is connected to the fact that this particular motorcycle is being raffled off for

a charity benefit and thus the public would assume that this is a real motorcycle. What I learned upon inspecting this mantle piece more closely is as follows: It appears to have no operable transmission, gearshift linkage, clutch, main shaft, clutch release mechanism, primary drive or wiring. The engine cases are not the "unit construction" ones that he states he will use either. What I did see is the following: A reinforced Commando frame with Jet Hot coating on it, a custom instrument and indicator light mount, nice forks and trees, beefy MkIII type engine cases, a standard Norton or Quaife gearbox shell, a nice swing arm, gorgeous brakes, some nice carbon fibre parts and beautiful body work. A Harley-esque starter motor was mounted above a gearbox that was obviously not driving anything.

January 4, 2002 – From Dave Edwards of *Cycle World*.

Good eyes, Richard. The deal with the new VR880 is that the bike shown is indeed a mockup, assembled quickly (and with no engine internals, either) to make the show circuit. Dreer is working away right now on details for the new bike and, going on past experience with the man, we have no doubt he'll pull it off by the time the winning ticket is drawn later this year. Besides, after several months banging around in the back of a truck going from show

So the thing is, at present, it is a partially executed prototype with the really tough part of the job yet to be completed. I can't wait to see how the supposed Harley aftermarket 5-speed box is going to be mated to the present combination of clutch release hardware. Mr. Dreer's design would look more feasible if he at least planned to use a standard Sportster clutch assembly along with the H-D type gearbox that's planned. And the unit-construction Commando engine cases? I can't wait!

My view is that some explaining is in order, both on the part of Cycle World and Mr. Dreer himself. I have e-mailed Mr. Dreer but have not heard back from him.

OK, Mr. Edwards, what's the deal?  
Thanks. *Rich Casey*

to show, the bike needs to be gone over cosmetically, anyway, so the VR shown gets new paint, redone chrome work, parts replaced (if it isn't bolted down--and sometimes if it is--things "walk" away), etc. The electric-starter, by the way, drives the (dry) clutch assembly on the left side of the bike.

Hope that helps,  
*David Edwards*  
*Editor-in-Chief*

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### Letters, etc.

Hans, I happened to catch a couple of things in the December newsletter that should be corrected. The national rally dates are not July 19<sup>th</sup> thru the 22<sup>nd</sup>, but 17<sup>th</sup> thru the 20<sup>th</sup>. Please update the "Coming Events" page.

In the blurb about the February meeting, my home street address is correct, but not the town. My address is 1310 Wainwright Court, Lower Gwynedd, PA 19002. A minor detail, but if someone uses mapquest for directions, they won't find me. By the way, Lower Gwynedd and Ambler are interchange-

able as they both have the same zip code. See you at the February meeting. Patte makes the best sticky buns and my venison chili is awesome! I'll talk to Frank Mohr about a meeting topic and I'll let you know. Hey, I got my wife a digital camera for Christmas so I can e-mail you pictures from now on.

Happy New Year!!!  
*John Brownell*

Hans, Great website! When you get the chance would you please update your link to the North Texas Norton Owners Association (NTNOA) to: <http://www.ntnoa.org>.

Thanks,  
*George Tuttle, Webmaster for the NTNOA*

Hans, Can any of your fellow DVNR members help find a featherbed rolling chassis for sale? My friend Troy needs a home for a T120 motor and would like to build a Triton. I have recommended psychological counseling, but to no avail. You can call him, not me: Troy Real, (937) 298-2306.

Thanks,

**Stan Smith, Rocky Point Cycle**  
**Xenia, OH [www.rockypointcycle.com](http://www.rockypointcycle.com)**

Hans, Tony Cain here. Just would like to say thanks for sending a complimentary issue of your newsletter to our chapter. It is GREAT. It's a joy to read and to hear how the club is doing. As you know we [The N.U.T.S.] do not have a newsletter, a President, Secretary, Treasurer or dues. We are a loosely organized group of Norton riders who ride anywhere for any reason.

**Tony Cain, The Head NUT, Norton United Touring Society (NUTS), Lancaster, Ohio**

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### **1<sup>st</sup> Annual British & European Classic Motorcycle Day**

**Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, 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 19<sup>th</sup>, 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 Classic 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](mailto:terryBSA@hotmail.com).

Sincerely,

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

### **Calendar of Events**

**February**

**17<sup>th</sup> February Meeting: John Brownell's Home -- 1310 Wainwright Court, Lower Gwynedd, PA. 11am. For more information or directions, call John at 215 628-8813, or e-mail him at [DucDoc@aol.com](mailto:DucDoc@aol.com).**

**March**

**2<sup>nd</sup> -10<sup>th</sup> Bike Week, Daytona Beach, Florida.**

April  
21<sup>th</sup>

9<sup>th</sup> Annual *GATHERING OF THE NORTONS*, Washington's Crossing State Park  
Washington's Crossing, NJ. No rain date.

May  
19<sup>th</sup>

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



DVNR's Howard Nenner, Rich Casey & John Brownell near the 2001 International Rally in Canada. Photo courtesy of Bob Katz.

July  
17<sup>th</sup> -20<sup>th</sup>

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 17-20.

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](mailto:kjacobso@city.kelowna.bc.ca).



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[www.britishbikeconnection.com](http://www.britishbikeconnection.com)

**For Sale or Wanted**

- ❖ **For Sale: 1995 M-Z Skorpion Tour**, 7500 miles. Extra performance parts. Excellent shape. Must sell. Tom Schaefer (908) 803-7405 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](mailto:trob@fast.net).
- ❖ **For Sale. 1967 BSA Lightning.** Boyer, Halogen headlight, etc. Call 609-397-4698.
- ❖ **For Sale. 1967 Norton Atlas.** Restored by Walt Merk and located in Florida. Call 850-773-3107 or [emerk@streamail.com](mailto:emerk@streamail.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. 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](mailto:hanswinberg@home.com), or call 908 518-9603, or fax to 908 317-0584.

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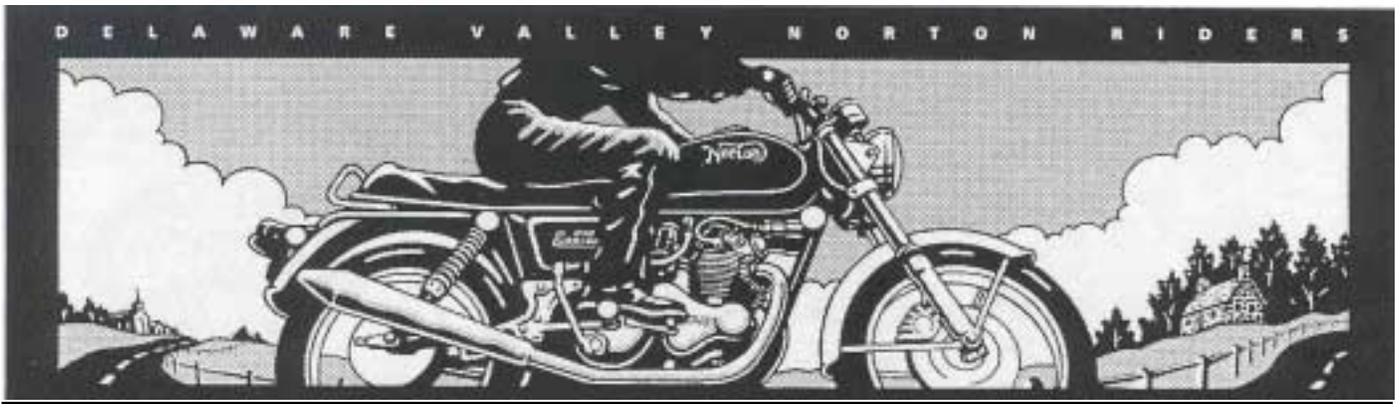
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Important Notice: Participation in any DVNR activities, meetings or rides is done exclusively at the personal risk of the participant. The DVNR or any of its members cannot assume any responsibility for the safety of any participant or the behavior 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.



**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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