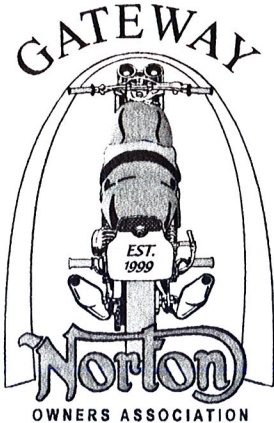


Gateway Norton Owners News #28



**"To Promote the
Use and Pride of
Norton Motorcycle Ownership"**
Compiled by Marty and Peggy Dupree
May 2006



Sad News of the Passing of a Club Member

Club member Ted Hoyer passed away on May 15 from a freak accident at home. While playing with his grandchildren he tripped, hitting his head, causing his death. Ted was a very quiet person and was easy to overlook at a get-together because he never sought attention. A memorial service will be held for Ted on Saturday, May 27 at 2:00 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church, 600 North Bompert, Webster Groves. A nice turnout will show his family how much he meant to us.

TED REMEMBERED

JJ sent me this e-mail he got from Dale Knaus, and we thought we would share it with the club.

Joe, I sent an e-mail to Greg, who does the EMU e-mailing list now, and copied to him the text of Marty's e-mail to put out to the EMU guys. Ted still came to EMU meetings but not very often any more. I think the last time I saw him was earlier this spring at an EMU meeting. I always enjoyed visiting with Ted. He will definitely be missed. I don't remember when we met but it was soon after I started riding with the Euro Motor Union. Do you know if he was a charter EMU member? I think I'll pull out the old newsletter tonight and see.

Thanks for the information - yes, life is fragile! It makes me sad that we have a hobby that is perceived by many to be so dangerous yet in 30 years of riding I have only lost a couple of friends to motorcycle accidents. Illness and accidents take friends away all too often.

Dale

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Hello all! Maybe it's my German/Dutch/cheap upbringing but there is a sort of cosmic balance in depending on a 31 year old motorcycle for riding pleasure. Owning a new bike must be great, but it was back so long ago that I can hardly remember it. (1970 350 Honda) My last new bike still needed work on it before I could ring out a few hours of riding pleasure and then out come the wrenches again. After going through the ride - repair - ride - repair cycle for a lot of years it sort of seems to make some kind of sense. First comes the work and then comes the fun. The winters are spent taking things apart and finding part, patching things up that have broken or dried up or died during last year's riding. Once this is done and the first warm days are here, the first rides are wonderful things. The new parts get tried and the repairs are tested. If all goes well it's a good thing . . . a wonderful feeling.

A Norton that has been personally prepared and is ready to go wherever/whenever is a source of personal pride. Now I know I cheat a little by having other bikes to ride but sometimes it takes that to make sure that one is always ready to go. That is not all bad because each one has a personality of its own and when they are all running I can choose the one that suits my mood, not just the one that starts.

Yes, it must be great to have a new bike that doesn't require anything more than an oil change and tire pressure check to roll out in the spring! But there is something about knowing that I fixed the broken parts successfully or I am not going anywhere. I also have confidence that when I go for a ride knowing for the most part, I can fix whatever might break. That, plus having a friend with a trailer under his deck, all adds up to a wonderful feeling. Hope to see you all soon. Steve

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- JUNE 3: Tech day at Mike French's. Call ahead for appointment. 636-940-9365
- JUNE 18: 9th annual Father's Day Car Show in Collinsville, IL (under the catsup bottle) 6-9 Pm
Call club member Mike Prosser for details. 618-345-6242
- JUNE 24or25: Club ride sponsored by Joe Jump. More information will be available at Mike's
Tech day and by e-mail once the details are sorted out.
- JULY 9: Car/Motorcycle Show at McNair Park in St. Charles. People start showing up around
10 am. A lot of nice things to look at here. You should try making this.
- JULY 28-30: Mid-Ohio! If you're interested, information is out there or call JJ.

MINUTES FROM THE MARCH 18 MEETING AT MIKE FRENCH'S

Meeting called to order by President Steve. Nineteen members were present. After welcoming everyone, old business and club status was discussed. Club membership stood at 30 current members and 10 past due members. New member, Dave Kaufman, was introduced.

The newsletter was discussed and Marty Dupree briefed the club on expenditures associated with the newsletter. He stated that printing and postage runs about \$1.25 per copy. Marty said he gladly pays for the copier ink and envelopes which is not included in the per copy price. He also brought up that he only bills the club for the current members, so he has been subsidizing the past due members and free copies sent to INOA office holders. Upon hearing this news, Bill Bluemel paid \$10 towards the newsletter fees for one year for INOA President Suzi Greenway and INOA newsletter editor Barry Armitage. In an attempt to bring more money to the club coffers, Mike Prosser suggested we sell 50/50 tickets at all club functions. Mike already has tickets and says he will bring them to the functions he attends.

The Treasury Report was shared by JJ and can be found on page 5 in this newsletter.

All last year's events were listed and events for this year were discussed. Upcoming events can be found in the Calendar of Events on page 2. Meeting adjourned.

SPRING KICK OFF AT MIKE'S

Marty

As in the past, Mike French and his patient wife DeDe allowed the club to come to their house for the Spring Kick Off. Living on a dead end street, it puts quite a burden on Mike's long-suffering neighbors to have that many cars and bikes show up, but he claims they don't mind. Plenty of good food was available and it kept our normally active mouths quiet while we ate it.

Stealing an idea from the *Riverfront Times*, meeting/motorcycle themed bingo cards were made up by me and passed around. Technically, it's more of a scavenger hunt because the squares were things like: missing or cracked kickstart rubber - fresh oil under a motorcycle - flaking chrome - part chromed that shouldn't be - wrong part for that year bike; and my personal favorites: Mike complaining about something - Bill Langer relating latest ignition woes. As people spotted these items, they would cross them off bingo style and place them in a hat for the drawing. The prize was a year's GNOA membership (valued at a whopping \$5) and the lucky winner was Bob Yancey.

Jack Geers showed pictures of his visit to the Lone Star Motorcycle Museum in Vanderpool, Texas. It is quite a ways out there (Texas is a big state) but if you're ever in the area, it looked well worth the effort. Jack also shared the news that he is moving in June to North Carolina. See announcement on page 6.

After the meeting, work commenced on two Nortons. Bob Yancey's and Mike Prosser's bikes were "triaged" and running sweetly in a matter of no time.

Thanks again to DeDe and Mike because this is the meeting that sets the tone for this year's riding season.

FIRST CLUB RIDE OF THE SEASON

submitted by Joe Jump

On the morning of Sunday May 7th, I found myself heading west bound on Interstate 44 to join up with other club members for the first Norton Club ride of the season, sponsored by Tom Mitchell & John Wuebbeling. I had high expectations of another good club ride through the beautiful Missouri countryside, and I was not disappointed.

Tom had established the Quick Trip in Eureka (just south of 44 on hwy 109) as our starting point. I was held up in construction traffic along the interstate, and was hoping I didn't arrive too late. Tom was already there, along with Brent Jones & his extended family. Brent and crew had previous commitments which preventing them from partaking in the ride, but came down to see us off. John arrived shortly thereafter, as also did Ernie Trakas. After a while it became apparent that we would not be joined by any other members, so 30 minutes after the designated departure time, the 4 of us headed out northbound on 109. Ernie led us on a short cut behind Rockwoods Reservation that dumped us out onto hwy100, a bit west of where we thought we were. Once we got our bearings, we were headed out through Labade towards Union, where we turned north towards Washington. Soon we crossed the Mighty Missouri and turned up towards Dutzow and one of my favorites, hwy 94. A brisk run past Augusta and on to Defiance was rewarded with a quick refreshment stop. Tom had planned to attend

a church dinner at St Paul's in Defiance; Ernie & John joined him in the feast while I stayed at the oasis.

When finished with their feast, we rejoined forces and resumed our ride heading north on 94, but turning off onto F. This is a great road running past Daniel Boone's home and leading into Forestell, where we stopped briefly for fuel. By this point the time was getting late into the afternoon - John headed home westbound on D while the three of us headed east. Soon we were at 94 & 40 where Tom continued north and Ernie & I headed east. I parted company with Ernie at 270 & Dougherty Ferry for the short trip through Sugar Creek Valley into Kirkwood.

As I was on the last leg of the ride I found myself thinking of previous rides the Club has taken and wondered why our turnout for this one was so small. I guess we find ourselves tied up in other activities that demand our time and trump the rides. Actually the small turnout made it easy for us to stay together and made the ride very enjoyable. I'm thankful that I had the chance to get together with my Norton Pals - you never know how many more chances you may get!

I'm planning on hosting a ride on either June 24th or 25th. Things at work will be putting me on the road quite a bit in June - I'll keep you posted on what the schedule will be.

FOR SALE: '72 Commando - Combat engine. Black. I am the second owner. 7,137 original miles. Completely original except for: B-B ignition, Epco stainless steel mufflers installed in '04 (have originals), replaced fiberglass tank with steel gas tank - cleaned/lined POR 15/repainted. (Have original tank.) Dunlop K81 tires in '04. Have original Avons. No rust. Chrome and alloy parts like new. \$8,000. Available to see in St. Charles County. Call Bob Mareing, 314-374-9488.

I'm always asked, "I want to submit something. When is the newsletter coming out?" I have decided to print in February, May, August, November

Send submissions to:
Marty Dupree, 2637 Sneakwood Lane, Foristell, MO 63348
e-mail: madx2@worldnet.att.net Phone: 636-398-4049

GNOA Treasury Report
2006
Updated 03-20-06

		<u>Debits</u>	<u>Deposits</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Brought Forward from 2005				\$ 444.14
January	25th	-----	\$ 45.00	\$ 489.14
March	10 th	-----	\$ 10.00	\$ 499.14
	18 th	\$ 200.00	\$ 70.00	\$ 369.14

Record of Activities 2006

January	25th	Received as club membership dues: \$10 from Dale Knaus \$ 5 from Larry Leiper \$10 from Tom Mitchell \$10 from Bill Rueckert \$10 from Bob Yancey
March	10 th	Received \$10 from Brent Jones to apply towards club dues.
	18 th	Annual disbursement (\$200) to Marty DuPree for publishing/mailing of newsletters. Received as club membership dues: \$10 from Bill Bluemel (as dues for B. Armitage/S. Greenway of INOA) \$10 from Jason Dickus \$10 from Jack Geers \$ 5 from Mel Hebron \$ 5 from Monty Parsons \$10 from Mike Prosser \$10 from John Wuebbeling \$ 5 from Bob Yancy \$ 5 from Dave Kaufman

TO ALL GNOA MEMBERS

Jack Geers

I am moving to Durham, North Carolina the first of June to live close to my daughter and new grandson. I wish to express my thanks to all the club members that have made me feel welcome to all the club functions and the help I so needed in restoring the Nortons . . . a special big thanks to my mentor and friend Mike French who was ever so kind with his knowledge in working with me. When he really should have kicked me out the door he stayed the course and we put together a couple of real nice bikes. Thanks again to all.

Jack

RULES FOR COLLECTING NORTONS

(This piece was written by Roger Welsh who collects antique tractors in Nebraska. He used to be a regular contributor to CBS's *Sunday Morning* many years ago and would always be wearing bib overalls. It's been modified to run in several different newsletters. I've changed to "Nortons," but almost any collectible with wheels could apply.)

Rule No. 1: Collect only one model of Norton, nothing but Commandos or Dominators for example. When all your Nortons are the same color and shape, it's harder (if not impossible) for anyone to figure out how many Nortons you actually own.

Rule No. 2: Never line up your Nortons - ever! Nothing distresses a difficult spouse more than seeing 12 old Nortons lined up looking for all the world like a pile of burning hundred dollar bills. Scatter the Nortons around: a couple behind the garage, one or two in the garage, another beside the garage, maybe a couple at a friend's house. That way, it is not possible for anyone (if you know who I mean) to see more than one or two or even three from any perspective. Your hobby will be less "irritating" that way.

Rule No. 3: For pretty much the same reason, don't number your Nortons. Give them names. You'd be surprised how much less trouble you will have if you talk about "Mighty Mercury" instead of "Number 23."

Rule No. 4: Early in collecting Nortons, buy a bike you don't want . . . then sell it as quickly as you can. Don't worry about making any money on the transaction, the main thing is to buy a Norton and get rid of it. Then you can say, "Yes, my sweet, I do have six Nortons in the garage while your car is out in the weater. That doesn't mean that I will ALWAYS have six Nortons. Remember the one I just got rid of? I'm thinking of selling another any day now so we can put your car in the garage."

If you have a friend who collects Nortons, make arrangements for him to drop off a Norton now and again. That way, you can say . . . if anyone asks . . . that you bought it. Then have him haul it off again and say you sold it. With this system, you establish your reputation for moderation.

Rule No. 5: Pay for your Nortons with cashier's checks, postal money orders, or cash. This leaves far less evidence than checks drawn on the family account.

Rule No. 6: Now and then, buy a wreck for parts even if you don't need the parts. In fact, you might consider hauling a wreck or two home on the same trailer whenever you buy a good Norton. This is called "Liability Averaging."

If your significant other says something about having enough money for yet another Norton (but not enough for a new refrigerator) point out indignantly to the Nortons on the trailer: the beautiful one, solid and in running condition for which you paid \$1500 and the rusting hulks you got for \$50 each. Then huff "Snuckums, I got those for a little more than \$500 each and the one on the back is easily worth \$2000. This is a tidy profit of \$400." (See Rule No. 7.) Doesn't this make you sound like an investment wizard?

Rule No. 7: When things get critical, consider dragging home a Norton without a transmission or real wheel. If there is a complaint, you say, "Norton? What Norton? That's not a Norton . . . that's only a basket case . . . not even close to being a Norton."

Rule No. 8: Have a dealer or friend call you now and then when you are not at home to tell your spouse, "Bob told me to keep an eye on the Norton going at auction on Saturday, but it sold for \$5000. I know there's no way a financially cautious and responsible guy like Bob would ever pay that much, so I didn't even make a bid on it for him."

Not only will this make you look real good, but next time you buy a Norton say something like, "Lovey bear, this beauty only cost me \$1000 which means we are \$4000 ahead of where we'd have been if I'd gotten the one before. If I keep saving money like this we'll be able to afford to go on a Caribbean cruise next winter." If you say it fast enough, it just might work.

Rule No. 9: If your mate insults your work calling it RESTORATION? laugh a light hearted laugh, making it clear that Nortons are not to you what shoes are to Imelda Marcos.

Should you get to the point where you mate asks, "Who do you love more? Me or your Nortons?" you are on your own.

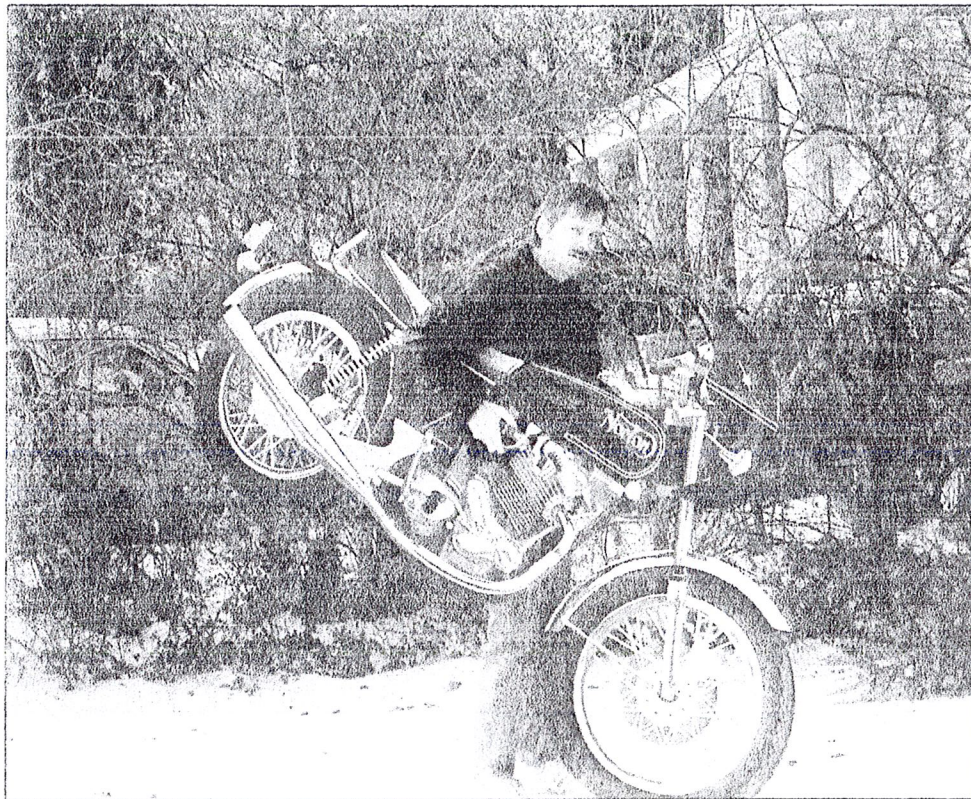
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Steve Hurst, President:	636-928-3391	shurst01@mail.win.org
Joe Jump, Membership:	314-909-0712	jumpig@hotmail.com
Marty Dupree, Newsletter:	636-398-4049	madx2@worldnet.att.net

Dues are \$5 per year running July thru June. They are non-prorated to keep bookkeeping simple. Make check payable to "Joe Jump" or send cash to Joe at: 435 West Argonne Dr., Kirkwood, MO 63122.

Andy Warhol said something like "Everybody will have 15 minutes of fame." Here is our departed club member and friend Ted Hoyer in a reprint from the back page of the September 1991 issue of *Cycle World* magazine.

SLIPSTREAM



When the engine in his Commando seized for the fifth time, Ted was glad he'd taken the Charles Atlas body-building course.

SPOTLIGHT BIKE OF THE MONTH

(These are just ideas to get you started. Please feel free to elaborate.)

— OR WRITE YOUR OWN ARTICLE — WRITE ON

Your name _____

Phone number/e-mail _____

What was the first bike you've owned? _____

How many bikes have you owned and own now? _____

Tell us about your current Norton, i.e. how long have you owned it, what have you done to it, how did you acquire it, history of the bike, etc. _____

What type of riding do you enjoy with your Norton? _____

How many miles per year to you put on your Norton? _____

What is your favorite area to ride? _____

Anything else? _____

Please include a picture that I could include in the newsletter.

I promise I will get it back to you.

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Back if necessary

