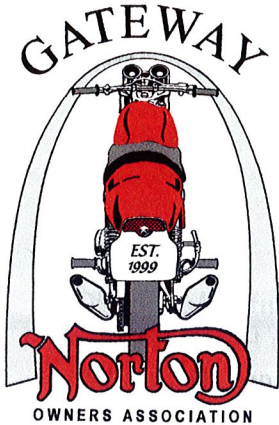


# Gateway Norton Owners News #20



**"To Promote the  
Use and Pride of  
Norton Motorcycle Ownership"**  
Compiled by Marty and Peggy Dupree  
June 2004



**CLUB RIDE THIS SATURDAY!!!**  
**DETAILS ON PAGE 2**



## FROM THE NEW PRES

Hello all! My name is Steve Hurst. I am your new president and will be taking over where Joe left off. I own a 1975 Norton Commando III and have had it since 1978. The bike and I have been through a lot of changes since then. When I bought it, it was retro-chopper and so was I. Now we are both back to old stock, classic standard.

I first heard about the club from Mike French. I first met Mike on the phone after seeing an ad I had posted in the EMU newsletter selling old Triumph parts. I needed someone to help me rebuild my Norton back brake calipers and thought he might know someone, and he did . . . him! My bike had "Notrun" in several years but I knew stopping was also important. We - he rebuilt the brakes and told me about you guys. He said that there was a meeting coming up at his house on Saturday and I should try to be there. Mike called it "Spring Tune Up" and said the guys loved to work on other people's bikes. For free!! This sounded too good to be true but it wasn't. I trailered my bike to Mike's and on that Saturday some of you did my carbs while some mounted my tires, changed my oil, and at the end of the meeting got my bike started for the first time in 10 years. WOW! That was also the first time I met Joe Jump.

To say Joe was in to the hops was an understatement. He asked me three times in the course of 5 minutes what my name was. This guy could drink some beer! As he wasn't driving that day, he took advantage of the situation. Joe looked at my pride and joy and said, "We can't let you into the club with a bike like that." I was crushed. What? I said. He said, "Well, first look at those high "pull back" handlebars - those are wrong! That highway bar . . . it's gotta go! That king/queen seat - where did you get that? And those 2-into-1 megaphone exhaust pipe, no way!!!" Well, I told Joe I would make the changes and he said OK and took my \$5 for my first year dues.

Now Joe, I've got your job! I think we have a great club and the greatest members anywhere. We have fun. We help each other out, go on great rides that end at member's homes with great food and drink. I will try to follow in Joe's footsteps the best I can and look forward to a great couple years as your new president. Hope to see you all on the next ride or at the bike show at McNair Park in St. Charles in July.

Steve



## CLUB RIDE - JUNE 19<sup>th</sup>



Jack Geers will host this ride from his house at 1670 Saddlespur Lane, Florissant. Meet at 10am for coffee and donuts. The ride will go to the new Lewis and Clark Exhibition in Hartford, IL and then up the River Road to have lunch at someplace to be determined. These rides are always a lot of fun and they are what make the club what it is. Call Jack at 314-831-2880.

## MEET ONE OF OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

Hello! My name is Jerome Ray. Here's a little information about me (and my Nortons). I'm a retired aerospace engineer, recently moved to Belleville, IL. I worked for many years on NASA and Department of Defense space hardware (Apollo, Space Shuttle, Hubble Telescope, and "spy" satellites). I worked at LTV in Dallas and later at Ball Aerospace in Boulder, CO. I've been in Illinois now for about a year.

My interests include skiing, climbing, shooting, photography, Ham radio and motorcycles. I've been a member of INOA for several years but never had time to participate in one of their events. The Gateway chapter is listed in their newsletter so I knew you guys were here. Now, perhaps, I'll have the time for riding and restoring.

I own three Commandos, all 1975 Interstates. One is an older restoration, fully rideable; one is partly restored, runs but needs more work; one is original, fairly clean, runs but needs work. In addition, I also own one BMW (1100 GS).

I'm looking forward to meeting other Norton owners.

**PLEASE HELP MAKE THIS NEWSLETTER POSSIBLE.**

**SEND SUBMISSIONS TO:**

**MARTY DUPREE, 2637 SNEAKWOOD LANE, FORISTELL, MO 63348**

**E-MAIL:** [madx2@worldnet.att.net](mailto:madx2@worldnet.att.net)

**PHONE: 636-398-4049**



## FROM THE (Ex) PRES

**Thank You** As you probably know by now, Steve Hurst has graciously stepped forward to assume the helm as the second president of the GNOA - Long May He Reign! Just Kidding! Actually, I feel Steve is the right man for the job; 50% of that due to the fact that he wanted the job, the other 50% due to his communication skills (you can tell anything to your barber!). Please support him in his efforts & ask him if there is anything you could do to help.

Naturally, I thank you all for allowing me to serve you as president for the last 5 years. It has been an honor to represent such a great group of guys. We have had some great times & I fully expect for them to continue. The key is for all of us to stay active & interested. I have a lot of personal things to attend to over the next few months that will keep my profile low on the horizon, but I should be able to bounce back pretty hard come the Fall.

## **NORTON FIX-IT DAY AT MIKE'S**

As in years past, Mike and DeDe graciously allowed the club to invade their house for our unofficial kick-off-the-season get-together. Everyone seems to enjoy this because we get to work on the bikes, BS, eat and plan the upcoming riding season. Twenty-one members attended and some of the highlights of the meeting were:

- Everyone agreed to keep the club focused on Nortons. We like the other British makes, but our club name says it all.
- Three new/recent members were present. They were: Scott Dowler, Jason Dickus and Frank Fessler.
- Marty Dupree volunteered to look into making club business cards. Let him know what you think should go on the cards: 636-398-4049.
- Mike French is going to check with his neighbor, who has a fancy-schmancy embroidery machine, about doing club logos on various items (hats, patches, etc.).
- The website was talked about again. Roger Yount has registered the domain name, [GatewayNorton.com](http://GatewayNorton.com), for the club and is waiting for pictures and other items to post there.
- Upcoming events were discussed. Some have already passed but check the calendar of events for ones that are coming up soon.
- Steve Hurst gave a presentation about last year's British car show. He told us that on Saturday September 18, 2004, for a small fee, we can ride along with the British cars from Westport Plaza to Forest Park. A police escort will take us right into the park to a designated area on the grass near the hot air balloons . . . no hunting for a parking spot and you can leave whenever you want. There will also be other festivities that weekend. Check them out at [stlouismgclub.com](http://stlouismgclub.com).
- Mike French has volunteered to do the campout at Rocky Top again.

## THE DUPREE DIMENSION RIDE

By Tom Mitchell

The Dupree Dimension ride, so named as Marty laid it out (by car) on the wet and cold April 10<sup>th</sup>. Dimension, or dimensional, refers to all the sights, sounds, and smells that early Spring group riding affords. On the 10<sup>th</sup>, Marty had explained how one of his favorite stretches was the Femme Osage Creek section. My mind kept telling me this as we meandered the road with freshly cultivated dirt on the right and the creek and adjacent steep rock banks on the left. Watching our ten bikes one by one follow the S turns on this beautiful day was a rare sight. One can see so far ahead on the creek road as each bike turned right, then left, right, left; too far for any sound to be heard, just sight. It was like part of a Bruce Brown movie sequence. It was beautiful to witness!

Attending the ride were John Wuebbeling (leading), Mike the Bike, Steve Hurst, Merlin Libby, Ted Hoyer, our friend Jack Schnelker, Bill Langer, Gary Kirk and Gary Creech with his granddaughter on pillion. What a well-mannered, smiling granddaughter you have, Gary. I'm sure you are proud. Also attending were Sylvia and Robin Swaysland, not by bike but by a Z06 Corvette, Ferrari red and all! It is fun to see such a well-designed machine as Robin's 'Vette because it is meticulously perfect.

As usual, food, drink and camaraderie at the Dupree's was outstanding. Marty had the latest version of his ES2 on display (very soon to be finished I'm certain), as well as his '71 Dunstall 750 Commando. It is just as his friend had picked it up in England while they were stationed in Italy. The bike has a touch over 3000 miles on it and is perfect. Even the Avon tires are original.

After sandwiches and beverages, Robin gave it a go on Marty's "Grasshopper" - a hydraulically driven, turn on a dime lawnmower that cuts a five foot swath. It must be something like steering a D-6 Caterpillar except in fast motion. You can cut a lot of grass in very little time on these machines.

At about 4:00 people started leaving the Dupree's and then it, save for Peg and Marty's cleanup, was all over. Thank you, Peg and Marty, for a superb day with many friends as Spring was getting into full swing. Hawks were soaring, fields were plowed, colorful trees and plants in bloom were everywhere. We were riding our Nortons on the Busch Wildlife roads, on an 85 degree day with clear skies and little traffic. Pinch me, please!

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- June 19: Club ride. Meet at Jack Geers' house, 1670 Saddlespur Lane, Florissant, 10am. Call Jack at 314-831-2880 for directions.
- July 11: Car show (bikes welcomed) in downtown Collinsville, IL by the giant ketchup bottle. Call Mike Prosser 618-345-6242 for details.
- July ??: Car and bike show at McNair Park, St. Charles, MO



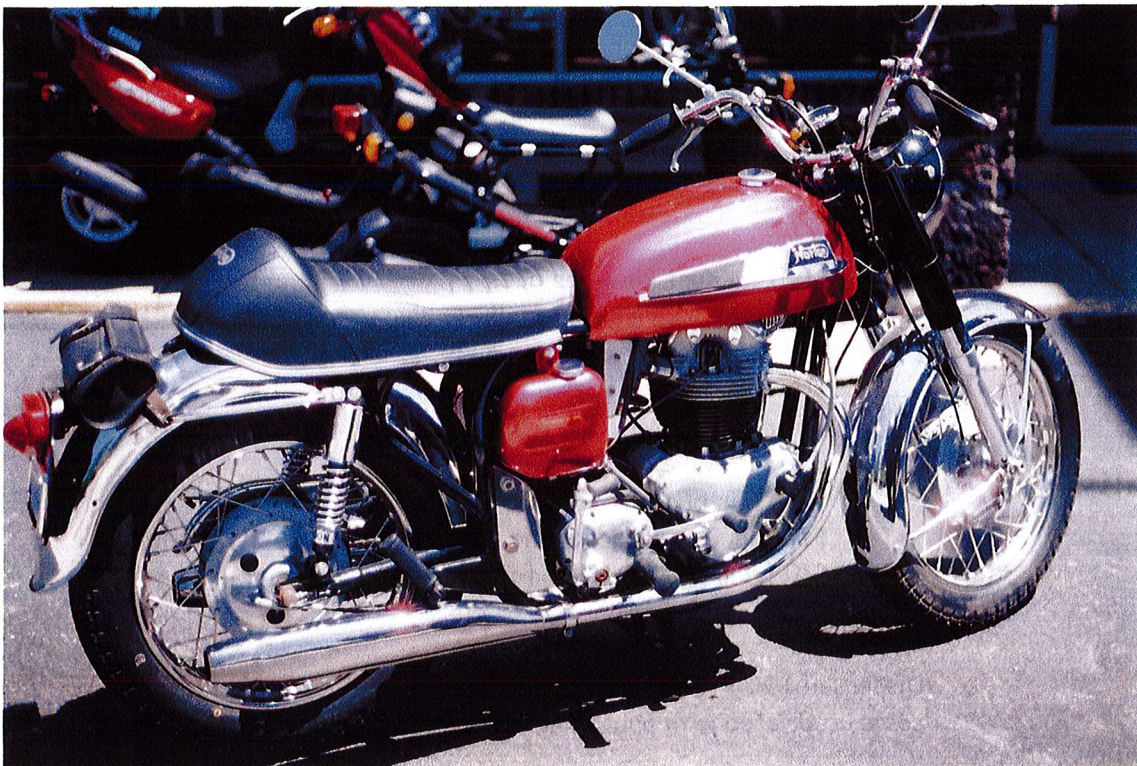
## Mid- Ohio

By Joe Jump

I'm planning on attending Mid-Ohio again this year & I hope you all can do the same. In the past we have trailered our bikes up there; it's about a 10-hour drive on the Interstate. You could ride out on US 40, which I hear is a pretty nice ride, but it's the coming back on Sunday that might be a little tough. Of course, if you could take your time on the return, it would be a great trip. Normally we depart on Thursday morning (July 15 this year), Vintage Motorcycle Days are Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, and we return on Sunday (18<sup>th</sup>). But if you were so inclined, you could leave Monday morning from Honey Creek & ride to the Norton National, which will be held the following week in Northeastern Ohio-just an hour or two ride from Mid-Ohio. Heck, if you've ridden that far, go ahead-make a week of it!

In the past we have stayed at Honey Creek Campground which is about 8 miles from the track in Belleville, Ohio; they have a website-do a Google search. You can stay at the track (costs extra to camp there) but we've enjoyed the privacy of the off-site campground. They have showers there & plenty of space for everybody - we camp in a shady field next to a hillside & it's great! Amazingly, the weather has been fine for the last 3 years & even though it's the middle of July, I've needed to wear my leather around the campfire at night. Virtually no mosquitoes or chiggers. It's really a good time.

If you have any questions give me a call, but do it soon-I'll be gone for most of June. Hope to see you there!



Jack Geers' pretty Atlas. Not a stock color, but "Hot Poppy" sure looks nice.

# GNOA Treasury Report

2004

Updated 3-29-04

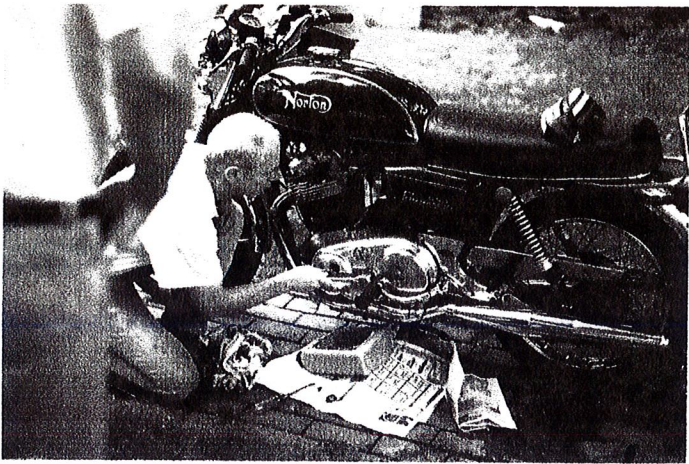
	<u>Debits</u>	<u>Deposits</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Brought Forward from 2003			\$ 479.14
January 12 <sup>th</sup>	-----	\$ 10.00	\$ 489.14
February 20 <sup>th</sup>	-----	\$ 5.00	\$ 494.14
March 27 <sup>th</sup>	-----	\$ 75.00	\$ 569.14
29 <sup>th</sup>	\$200.00	-----	\$ 369.14
April 1 <sup>st</sup>	-----	\$ 5.00	\$ 374.14

## Record of Activities 2004

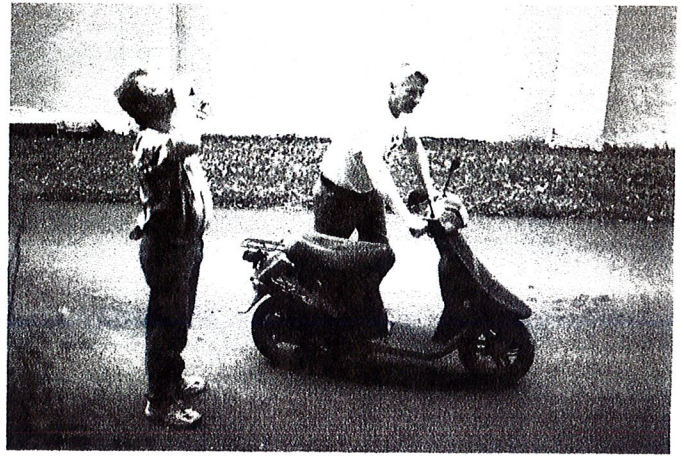
Jan	12 <sup>th</sup>	Received \$10 from Jason Dickus for club dues
Feb	20 <sup>th</sup>	Received \$5 from Jerome Ray for club dues
Mar	27 <sup>th</sup>	Received: \$5 from Kurt Baue for dues \$10 from Jack Geers for dues \$10 from Mike French for dues \$5 from Zoli for dues \$5 from Tom Mitchell for dues \$5 from Mike Prosser for dues \$10 from Ernie Trakas for dues \$5 from John Wuebbeling for dues \$10 from Scott Dowler for dues \$10 from Ernie Stanley for dues
	29 <sup>th</sup>	Dispersed \$200 to Marty DuPree for reimbursement of printing/postage costs associated with publishing the newsletter.
Apr.	1 <sup>st</sup>	Received \$5 from Frank Fessler for club dues (new member).



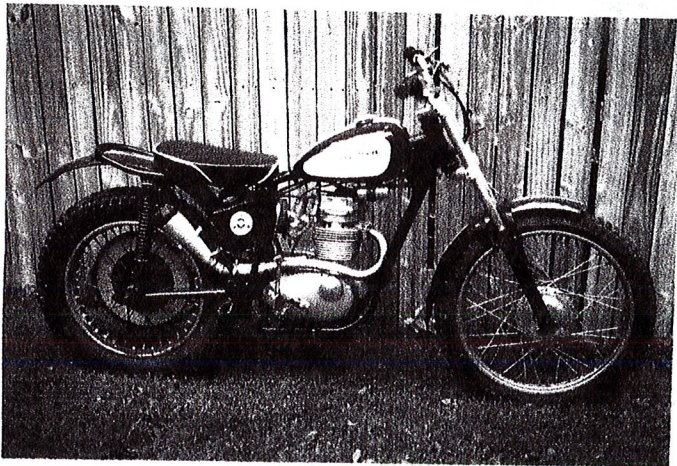
SOME OF THE SIGHTS AT KURT'S FIX-IT DAY ON MAY 23rd



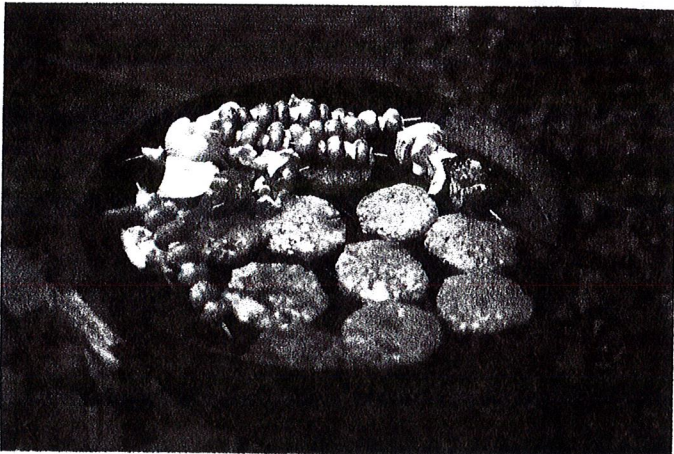
Bill Langer prepares to check timing.



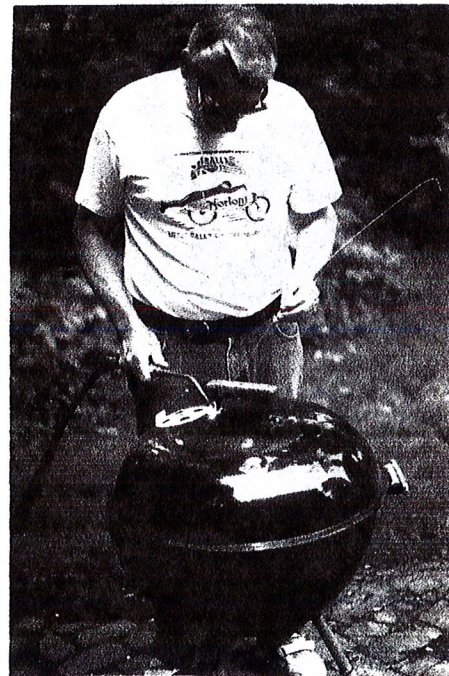
Mike kills one while kurt tries to bring one to life.



Kurt's 250 Triumph Trials bike.

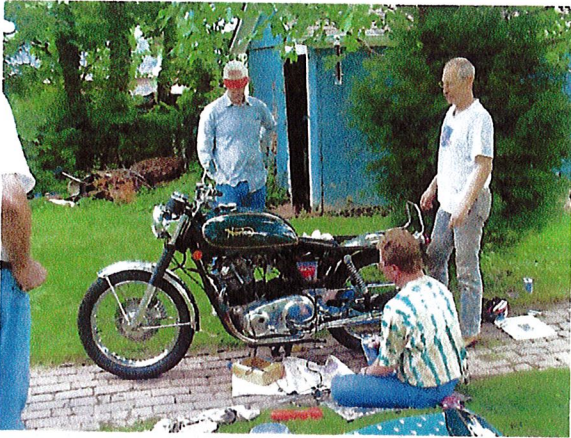


Burgers, mushrooms, onions, tomatoes, peppers... see what you missed!



Everything's fair game on "FIX-IT DAY"





Jack, Tom + Bill watch Mike work.



Custom-built firebox in the  
Commando shed.  
The world's only wood-burning Norton?



If you're looking  
for your other pair  
of glasses — they're  
on top of your head.

How many beers is  
that anyway?



Kurt Baue 528 N. Benton St Charles MO 63301 (636) 947-3895	Jim Hughes 136 Mareda Arnold MO 63010 (636) 296-8493
Bill Bluemel 8278 Albin St Louis MO 63114 (314) 423-8321/428-4740	Joe Jump 435 W. Argonne Dr. Kirkwood MO 63122 (314) 909-0712
Kevin Budd 5231 Lindenwood St Louis MO 63109 (314) 351-5950	Dale Knaus 2205 Kentucky Louisiana MO 63353 (573) 754-3277
Gary Creech 209 W. Rosehill Kirkwood MO 63122 (314) 822-4590; cell- 662-2744	Bill Langer 320 Penshurst Pl Chesterfield MO 63017 (314) 469-4934
Jason Dickus 14 Fox Moor Ct. St. Charles MO 63304 (636) 928-0329	Tom Mitchell 2309 Headland Dr. St. Charles MO 63301 (314) 946-0717
Scott Dowler 809 Clover Ln. O'Fallon MO 63366 (cell) (314) 378-6600	Steve Moose 5026 Shady Ln. Jefferson City MO 65109 (573) 893-4413
Marty DuPree 2637 Sneakwood Ln. Foristell MO 63348 (636) 398-4049	Tom Moors 1211 Hepperman Wentzville MO 63385 (636) 639-1152
Frank Fessler 539 N. 5 <sup>th</sup> St. St. Charles MO 63301	Ed Perry 514 N. Maple Mt Sterling IL 62352 (217) 773-3590
Mike French 861 Chestnut Oak St Charles MO 63303 (636) 940-9365	Lyle Perry 10 W. Hanover New Baden IL 62265 (618) 222-7997
Jack Geers 1670 Saddlespur Lane Florissant, MO 63033 (314) 831-2880 (314) 580-4490 (cell)	Mike Poirot 10 N. Kossuth Millstadt IL 62260 (618)
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Gary Hollowich P. O. Box 450 Caseyville IL 62232 (618) 344-7683	<b>Bill Ruekert</b> <b>11843 Aire Ct.</b> St. Louis MO 63138 (314) 741-1022
Zoltan Horvath 4271 Glendale Rd House Springs MO 63051 ( ) 671-1102	Ernie Stanley 1421 Hebert St Louis MO 63107 (314) 241 1824
Ted Hoyer 709 Greely Ave. Webster Groves MO 63119 (314) 968-4506	Ron Sutton 812 Brown St. Alton IL 62002 (618) 465-0170 [474-0691 fax] 474-7086 (w)
Steve Hurst 966 Weybridge Ct. W. St. Charles MO 63304 (636) 928-3391	Robin Swaysland #6 Jamestown Farm Rd. Florissant MO 63034 (314) 355-0053



Ernie Trakas 10 D Berview St Louis MO 63129 (314) 894-6959/ (636) 237-2603 (w)	
Dan Woerner 301 Prospect St. Louis MO 63110 (314) 533-0290 (work)	
John Wuebbeling 1600 Point Prarie Road Foristell Mo 63348 (636) 332-9990	
Roger Yount 421 Carswold Dr. Clayton MO 63105 (314) 727-2524 (h) (314) 919-3101 (w)	

### CONTEST!!!

Win a free year's membership.

We had such a good time with this last year, so let's pick on Mike again.

To be the winner, all you have to do is submit what the editor thinks  
is the best answer to this question:

*"What the hell is Mike thinking this time?"*

Call or e-mail Marty - info is on page 2.

