



WE'RE ALL HERE BECAUSE WE'RE NOT ALL THERE



# Norton Colorado

[www.nortoncolorado.org](http://www.nortoncolorado.org)

## Newsletter

March 2019



### *Jack Abeyta does it again.*

For the 4th time in 5 years Jack has claimed the Norton Colorado President's Trophy.

This year Jack attended 15 club events, took 22 solo rides and earned 81 points, blowing away the competition.

## Upcoming Events

See page 12 for the entire official 2019 events schedule.

March 2019

3/2 (Saturday): Group Ride, Parts Depot Work Party or Museum Visit, depending on weather

3/17 (Sunday): Pub Meeting: Streets of London

Look for club emails for more details about these gatherings.

## 2019 Norton Colorado Banquet

Once again our yearly banquet was well attended. About 50 of us showed up at Rock Bottom Brewery downtown . We visited with old friends, met some new members, ate, drank, conducted a little club business and had the usual gift exchange.

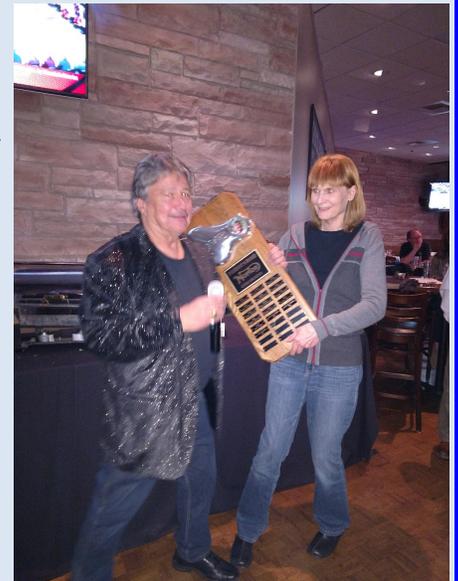


Al Slarks designed a new club T-shirt and they were available for us to purchase. There may be a few left so if you missed out contact Bob Ohman.

Jack Abeyta reclaimed the President's Trophy. All our officers won their elections and will continue to lead for another year. No one contested them, so winning may be the wrong terminology.

Also, all of the staff retained their positions, also due to a lack of volunteers. Jack would like to pass on the role of ride coordinator, so if anyone is interested I'm sure he would appreciate that.

On to the famous gift exchange. Bob Herman acted as Master of Ceremonies and had Amanda, and for the first time,

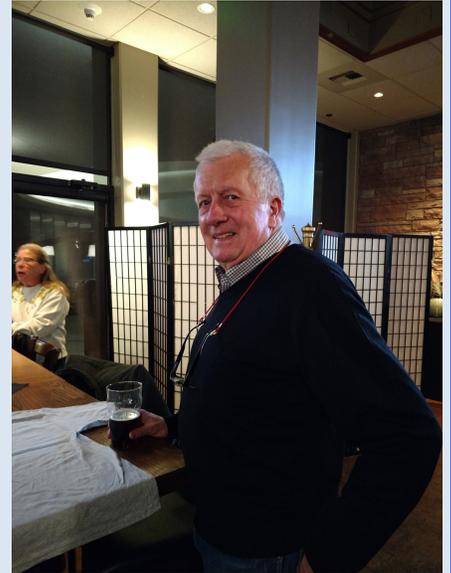


Hazel as his young assistants. Gifts included liquor, tools, a battery charger, books, a post-

er, a motorcycle themed picture frame, a T-shirt and even a pair of cooling underwear.

Gifts were traded and stolen much to the people's delight. I'll let the pictures tell the rest of the story.





Here you go, Tom. Now you can't say you've never been in the newsletter.

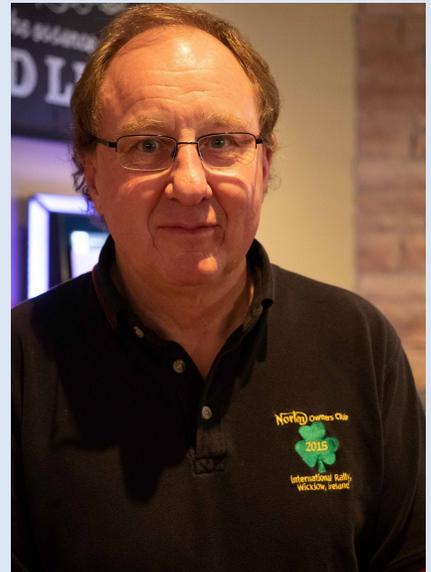
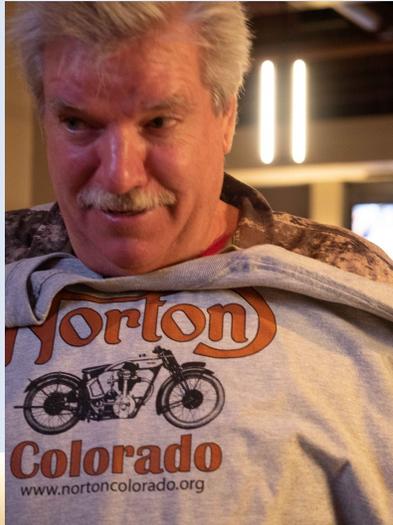


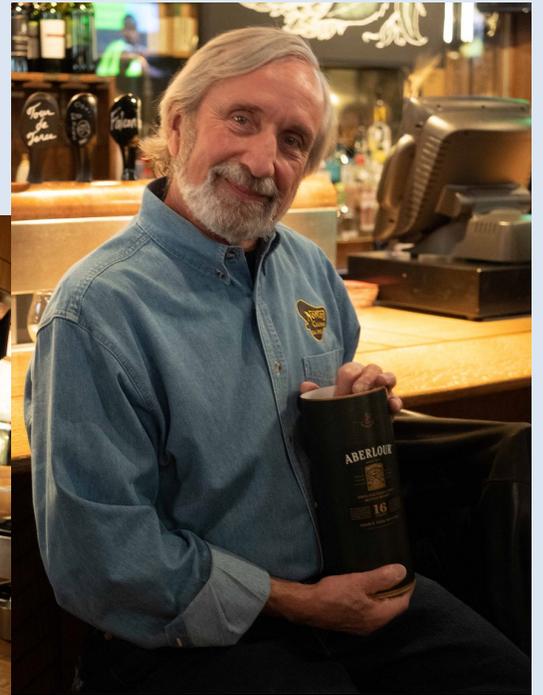
Some old members we don't see often decided to join us, nice to see you Frank and Doug.



We also got to meet two of our new members, Ross and Lesley Petersen. Welcome to Norton Colorado.







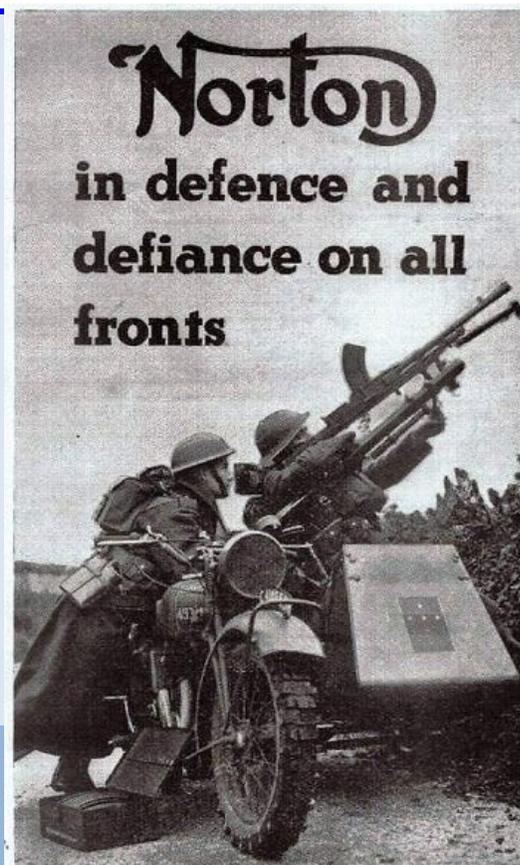
Friends - please be careful

Yesterday I went to the club banquet . I had a few beers, followed by a few cocktails, followed by a few shots....

I still had the sense to know that I was over the limit. That's when I decided to do what I have never done before: I took a cab home.

Sure enough, there was a police road block on the way home, and since it was a cab, they waved it past. I arrived home safely without incident. This was both a great relief and a surprise because I had never driven a cab before. I don't even know where I got it from and, now that it is in my garage, I don't know what to do with it.

I have a 1972 Norton Commando with a early 850 engine for sale! This bike is in very nice unmolested condition except for the 850 engine swap in it's earlier life before I acquired it sixteen years ago. Please contact me or George for details. George is helping sell some bikes on E-bay and mine will be advertised at a price of Eight Thousand and or best offer. Don't quite know when ths e-bay posting starts but will be soon. My home phone number is 406-538-2733. I am currently on crutches due to fall on ice so be patient with phone answering. Thanks, Gregorio See attached photo



Langley's NORTON MOTORS LTD., BIRMINGHAM



I am in search of a rather rare motorcycle called the Alligator, manufactured—as you probably know-- by Dan Gurney in 2002-2003. Only 36 were produced and, when new, sold for \$35K. At the time I did not think enough of the bike to want to buy one given its cost, Honda derived big-single XR-650 engine, and my other two- and four-wheel projects. But, I've now decided that I have to have one and thus, my quest for this beast. I've been looking for some time but haven't had any luck so I thought that maybe, just maybe, by expanding the "search engines" to include the Norton gang, my chances of finding an Alligator for sale would increase significantly. So, if you could pass the word around to the group I'd be very grateful.

Ricardo L Landeira <[ricardo.landeira@colorado.edu](mailto:ricardo.landeira@colorado.edu)>

## What's going on in your garage?

Now that winter is setting in many of us are spending more time in the garage. Here's two examples . If you are spending your time turning wrenches instead of turning a throttle please send me a picture and maybe even write a paragraph so while we aren't riding we can have something cool to read and look at.

In the unlikely event that anyone is interested in the contents of a really messy garage/living room, I am passing these photos along, to be used to fill out the newsletter or decorate the bottom of someone's bird cage. And yes, I expect the Norton monocoque to run again. Just as soon as Robin finishes polishing it.

And yes, we ride every Sunday out here.  
Aloha everyone!  
Dave Webster



How do you like my sparkly new SS spokes ?



It was high time I did this spoke upgrade... the originals were quite corroded at the knobs as they turn through the hub flanges.

She got a full servicing done and a new rear tire also... ready to rock for 2019 !

Cheers,  
James Lafler

## Bob Herman's Winter Project

(Yes, I know it's not a Norton, but this electrical upgrade can also be made to a Norton, so...)

This winter my Commando has not needed any significant work, and I turned my attention to some of the other bikes in the stable. I had a couple of minor details to finish on the Guzzi 1000SP I built last year, and after casting a jaded eye on some dodgy wiring hidden behind my Guzzi



The SP, on the road after 20 years in boxes



CX headlight wiring with M-button.

CX100's headlight I decided to clean it up a little. One thing leads to another, of course, and in short order I tore out all the wiring on that bike and decided to re-wire it from scratch, using a Motogadget M-Unit and M-Button, as I did when I wired up the SP.

The M-Unit is a nice bit of modern tech that replicates all fuses and relays within a package smaller than a cigarette pack - and I'm talking non-filter Luckies, not Benson & Hedges 100s. The icing on the cake is the M-Button, about the size of that last 1/4 roll of TUMs rattling around in my toolkit. In conjunction with said M-Unit, the button consolidates the functions of ALL handlebar switches and sends their signals back to the M-Unit in ONE skinny wire. The M-Unit controls things

from there.

As a bonus, said M-Unit can be programmed to turn off directional flashers after a set time interval, flash brake light a few times before coming on solid, that sort of thing. For a few bucks more, there is an M-Unit that uses Bluetooth technology to chat with a smart phone and offers all kinds of extra features. That did not appeal to me and I did not go that route.



CX100 spaghetti.



CX100 with M-Unit

These gizmos are not inexpensive, and I took a few deep breaths before springing for them on the SP. But having done so, it was easy to decide on replicating them on the CX. The wiring is incredibly simple - about ten pounds of spaghetti, as well as 40-year old mox fittings and other connectors are removed - the whole effect is very clean.

If/when I ever feel the urge to rewire my Norton, I'll look seriously at the M-Unit option for it too. Just have to switch over to negative ground and Bob's yer uncle.



SP m-unit wiring

For More information check out these videos:

<https://revivalcycles.com/motorcycle-videos/HNF-h6oBczg>

<https://revivalcycles.com/motorcycle-videos/HNQKT1gcxY4>

**Jerry Pokorny** from the British Motorcycle Association here. I would like to have you let your members know they are invited to the **Super Show in Colorado Springs on March 2/3, 2019.**

We generally get a pretty good (15 - 20) turnout from the BMAC and always welcome our fellow Brit Iron riders in the AMCA and Norton Club to join in with us to make a strong showing for the old vintage bikes. We get a good display area and if we know you have bikes coming down, we can get them into our area so we have a mass of old iron. Not just limited to Brit bikes so bring the Harley, Indian, etc. and join in the fun.

Besides showing the public what a "real" (old) motorcycle looks like, it's a great place to get some face time with prospective new members for our organizations so bring your banner and application forms with and build your membership.

For any questions about the event contact Pro Promotions. If you get some members coming down, let me know if they want to display with our group and we will work with the promoter to get adequate floor space.

Hope to see you in March!

Carpe Diem,

Jerry

<http://www.pro-promotions.com/pro-events/mss>



**The Colorado SUPER SHOW celebrates 29 years!**  
**MOTORCYCLE & CAR SHOW**  
**& SWAP MEET**

**MARCH 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> 2019**

- Custom and Antique Motorcycles on display
- **CUSTOM & CLASSIC CAR SHOW RETURNS!**  
ALL COMPETING FOR CASH, TROPHIES AND HAND MADE BELT BUCKLES
- **27<sup>th</sup> Annual Colorado Tattoo Competition**
- **Live Music • Indoor Beer Garden**
- **200+ Swap Meet tables!**
- **Huge Charity Auction**
- **Food and Refreshments**
- **Plenty of FREE PARKING**
- **Kids Coloring Contest**

**80,000+ sq ft indoor facility!**

**SATURDAY**  
9am - 6pm  
**SUNDAY**  
10am - 5 pm  
Adults / \$13  
Veterans, Military & over 65 / \$11 (please present I.D.)  
KIDS 12 & under FREE

COLORADO SPRINGS EVENT CENTER  
3960 Palmer Park Blvd.  
Colorado Springs, 80909

**Lite**  
**Coors LIGHT**

Pro Promotions  
www.pro-promotions.com

AUCTION & BEER GARDEN PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN MOTORCYCLE MUSEUM

For Car & Bike Show Entries / Vendor Space Applications visit:  
**www.pro-promotions.com**  
or Call (719) 487-8005

COLORADO SPRINGS ROD AND CUSTOM

## Club Business: T-shirts, club dues and saddlebags for sale

As you may recall, we asked people to pre-order our new-design t-shirts so that we could plan the print run more effectively. Bob Ohman brought the inventory of shirts to the Winter Banquet and distributed many of them, including to people who had not pre-ordered, attempting to hold back the shirts that had been pre-ordered. The attempt was not entirely successful, partly because there was not enough time to organize the inventory prior to the Banquet. The whole thing was complicated by the failure of the printer to deliver the women's shirts because of a manufacturing flaw, but I think they will be available soon.

If you made a pre-order for shirts and did not pick them up at the Winter Banquet, please get in touch with Bob at [<reohman@att.net>](mailto:reohman@att.net) or (303) 570-9333.

If you did not pre-order a shirt but you've changed your mind, talk to Bob. We will make a second print run if there is enough interest. The shirts came out beautifully in my opinion; big thanks to Al Slarks and Bob Ohman for all their hard work to create the new design and manage the printing and distribution. If there is a second print run, I intend to order another one, or two.

### ***2019 Dues are past due***

If you are planning to continue your membership in Norton Colorado, and continue to receive this newsletter and emails from the club use this link:

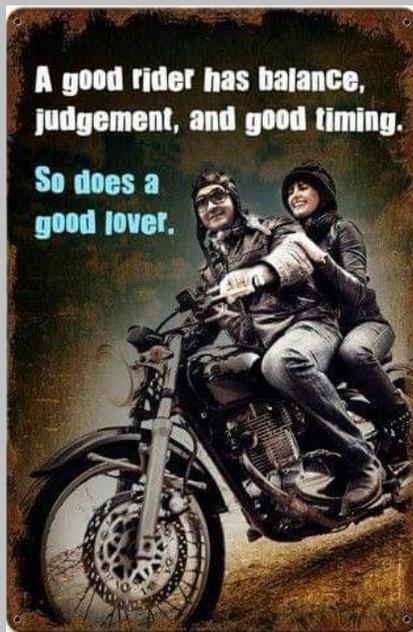
\$20 single/\$22 couple

<http://www.nortoncolorado.org/membership.html>

I wanted the club members to have a shot at these recently uncovered CNW COMM PAC bags and racks. They are used but in good shape and handy for day rides and around town. The racks install in 10 minutes and the bags slip off in seconds. They are held in place with a velcro strap.

I am asking \$250 for the top rack set and \$200 for the other. I also have two right hand bags for an S model but the racks are for the left side. A handy person in the shop can change them to fit the right side. Those are \$75 each I kept a set for my bike and really like them.

Craig Terry [catsguzzi@yahoo.com](mailto:catsguzzi@yahoo.com)



## Motorcycle Stuff on the web:

Science Says Riding a Motorcycle is Good For You - Adventure Rider

[https://advrider.com/science-says-riding-a-motorcycle-is-good-for-you/?utm\\_source=newsletter&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=editorial&utm\\_content=02\\_04\\_2019](https://advrider.com/science-says-riding-a-motorcycle-is-good-for-you/?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=editorial&utm_content=02_04_2019)

Norton Brochures

[Norton Commando Brochures Plus Atlas Dominator and other Norton Models from the 1970s 1960s 1950s](#)

If you've ever been interested in M/C racing, particularly from the 60,s or 70's there go's your morning.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q2kFQ5W5lhE>

A very interesting article on the future of 2 wheel "things".

[https://advrider.com/why-harleys-livewire-costs-almost-30000/?utm\\_source=newsletter&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=editorial&utm\\_content=02\\_20\\_2019](https://advrider.com/why-harleys-livewire-costs-almost-30000/?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=editorial&utm_content=02_20_2019)

Indian Wrecking Crew-Flat track racing Trailer

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wRIFaJuxMuE> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wRIFaJuxMuE>



This John Player Norton is on display in the National Motorcycle Museum in Anamosa, Iowa

# Norton Colorado 2019 Event Schedule

Please check this out and feel free to contact Eric Bergman to suggest more ideas or to volunteer to host an event

## February

2/2 (Saturday): Winter Banquet at the Rock Bottom Brewery, Denver

## March

3/2 (Saturday): Group Ride, Parts Depot Work Party or Museum Visit, depending on weather

3/17 (Sunday): Pub Meeting: Streets of London

## April

4/7 (Sunday): Tech Day @ Bob Martin's

4/20 (Saturday): Group Ride

## May

5/5 (Sunday): Group Ride

5/19 (Sunday): OBR 17

## June

6/2 (Sunday): BBQ @ Eric & Susie's

6/13-16 (Thur-Sun): Four Corners Rendezvous

## July

7/7 (Sunday): Mt Evans Ride & Brunch @ David Sheesley's

7/19-20 (Friday-Saturday): Century Ride

## August

8/3-4 (Saturday-Sunday): Wimpy Campout @ Jamie & Michelle Jones'

8/18 (Sunday): Group Ride

## September

9/6-8 (Friday-Sunday): Cotopaxi

9/15 (Sunday): English Conclave

9/28 (Saturday): Group Ride

## October

10/13 (Sunday): Plains Ride (Scott & Julie Robinson)

10/27 (Sunday): Tech Day at MotoWorks Denver

## November

TBA (Saturday): DU Hockey Night (host Scott Robinson)

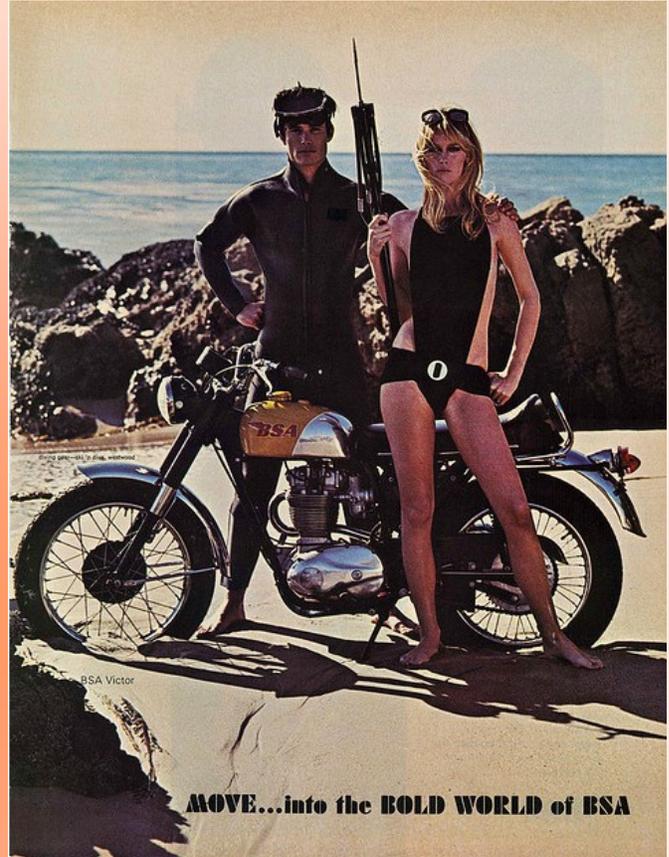
## December

12/1 (Sunday): Pub Meeting

## January 2020

1/1 (Wednesday): New Year's Day Ride

1/12 (Sunday): Pub Meeting



## Membership

Membership in Norton Colorado is open to anyone, regardless of whether they own a Norton, or any motorcycle whatsoever.

Dues are \$20/ year individual, \$22 for a couple or family unit, payable to "Norton Colorado" and sent to the Treasurer, whose contact information is listed on the last page of this newsletter.

The official club membership list is posted on the club website. Please let Eric know if there is an error.

The membership year begins with the Winter Banquet in February. New members who join after August 1 are credited with membership for the following year.



## Club Events

Many events have been scheduled for the 2019 season, usually about 2 per month. Participation in these events will be counted for the President's Award. Events may be added, dropped, or re-scheduled through the year. The schedule can be found in this newsletter or check the schedule on the club website:

<http://www.nortoncolorado.org/meetings.html>

## Prez Points Standings Top 10 (2018):

*points, events, solo rides*

Jack Abeyta	81	15	22
Scott Robinson	62	14	6
Peggy Abeyta	59	11	16
Arnie Beckman	52	11	10
David Sheesley	41	8	7
Mike Fields	40	10	2
Eric Bergman	35	19	0
Debby Johnson	34	5	22
Dennis Horgan	30	12	0
Rick Black	26	6	0

No longer any need to park your bike for the winter. Add chains to the rear and wear skis on your feet. Amazing!!

## Current Occupants

### Officers

#### **President**

Arnie Beckman (303) 733-4239  
[arniebeckmanp11@gmail.com](mailto:arniebeckmanp11@gmail.com)

#### **Secretary**

Eric Bergman (303) 278-7445  
[onenorton@gmail.com](mailto:onenorton@gmail.com)

#### **Treasurer**

Charley Gremmels  
1832 Forest Ave., Durango, CO 81301  
970-946-1302  
[NoNortons@gmail.com](mailto:NoNortons@gmail.com)

### Staff

#### **Road Captain**

Jack Abeyta (303) 426-0594  
[abeytaa@aol.com](mailto:abeytaa@aol.com)

#### **Newsletter Editor**

Scott Robinson (303) 287-6580  
[mister.r@comcast.net](mailto:mister.r@comcast.net)

#### **Secretary of Commerce**

(My new job title reflects my role in the Parts  
Depot as well as Swag slut)  
Bob Ohman (303) 570-9333  
[reohman@att.net](mailto:reohman@att.net)

#### **Webmaster**

David Sheesley (720) 277-6563  
[dks@davidksheesley.com](mailto:dks@davidksheesley.com)

#### **Technical Advisor**

Jim Comstock (719) 646-2610  
[comnoz2@juno.com](mailto:comnoz2@juno.com)

**Credits:** Thanks to Peter Allen, Eric Bergman, Jim Colt, Bob Herman, Dennis Horgan, James Lafler, Ric Landeira, Bob Martin, Dennis Oberwetter, Jerry Pokorny, Greg Ray and Dave Webster for their contributions to this newsletter.

I also want to say thanks to others who sent me things I will use in future editions.

Norton Colorado

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Golden, CO 80401

