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

Norton Colorado Newsletter

www.nortoncolorado.org

November 2026



Plains Ride 2026

Upcoming Events

2026 Calendar See Page 7

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November 7, 2026 (Saturday) Open Garage and Fish Fry hosted by Gary Re
December 6, 2026 (Sunday), Pub meeting.

Look for club emails or check the website for more details about these gatherings.

Bonneville Report 2.0 – A 1944 Royal Enfield at the World Finals by Jo Teague



After missing the record by .02 mph at Speed Week I decided to improve the bike and try again at the World Finals in September. A new carburetor and throttle assembly took care of the fueling problems. A Boyer electronic ignition provided a stronger and more reliable spark.

The first run beat the 50.4 record with a speed of 51.8 mph. I felt great when my backup run showed 52 to 54 mph on my iPhone GPS. I shut off the fuel and waited to be picked up by my crew chief. When most of the course officials came out too I thought they were making a bigger deal out of my record run than was really necessary. In fact, they came out to apologize to me for a timing problem and not recording my run. They then took me back to the starting line for another run.

A hundred yards into the next run the engine began missing. I quickly realized I had not turned the fuel pet-cock back on. Due to the complexity of the remote fuel shut-off I was not able to turn it back on quickly enough. It died on the course and did not finish. That normally ends the day.

Fortunately, the course officials were still feeling bad about missing my record run time and took me back to the starting line again. This time I ran 55.8 mph against the 50.4 record and thus did set a new world record for the 350cc Pushrod Fuel Side Car class.

Thanks go to my brother-in-law Andrew Menzie as crew chief. Also to Eric Bergman, Jesse Carraway, Jerry Pokorney and Dennis Horgan for their support. Vanity Motorworks and Six Sigma (jets) also contributed to the effort.



Plains Ride 2026

As usual, the Plains Ride started with coffee and snacks at our house then an easy, fun ride north along well paved and relatively empty roads ending at Jerry D's in Dacono for lunch. We had 12 for breakfast and 5 of us went on the ride. Thanks to everyone who showed up. Thanks to Jerry Doe for the pictures. He gave me a day off from being the photographer for the event. — Scott







Velocette LE - Wikipedia

RB2 — When Motorcycle Engineering Refused to Follow the Rules

Forget the conventional front fork—the RB2 replaced it with a radical hub-center steering system that made the motorcycle look more like an engineering experiment than a traditional race bike. Developed in the Netherlands by RB Projects, the RB2 emerged around 1988 through the work of Cor van Reeuwijk and Bram Bijl. Its most striking feature was the chassis architecture both the front and rear wheels used single-sided swingarm arrangements, while the front steering system operated around the wheel hub rather than relying on a conventional telescopic fork. The 750cc version was powered by a four-cylinder Kawasaki engine, evolving from the earlier RB1, which used a 600cc Kawasaki powerplant.

The RB2 was not created simply to look different. It was developed with competition in mind, and Cor van Reeuwijk built the 750cc machine for Dutch racer Mile Pajic to compete in the TT Formula 1 World Championship. With its unconventional suspension and steering geometry, the RB2 represented the kind of experimentation that was taking place in high-level motorcycle racing during the late 1980s. The photograph showing the motorcycle without its fairing is particularly revealing because it exposes the complex chassis structure normally hidden beneath the bodywork.

Fun Fact Hub-center steering was not unique to the RB2. During the same broad era, other ambitious manufacturers and racing projects—including Bimota with the Tesi and the ELF Honda racing projects—explored alternatives to the conventional telescopic fork. The goal was to investigate different ways of separating steering forces from suspension movement and improving chassis behavior under braking and cornering.

 The RB2 is a fascinating reminder that motorcycle racing has always been a laboratory—where unconventional ideas sometimes deserve a chance alongside proven technology.





Here's the card of another shop that will work on British motorcycles. They offer do it yourself space as well.

This is the card of Bryan Flanagan, used to work at Vintage Twins. Started his own shop about 6 months ago. I've used him for vapor blasting, good guy. Also works on older Jap bikes. Harder and harder these days to find someone to work on classic stuff, spread the word to the club and bring him your business!



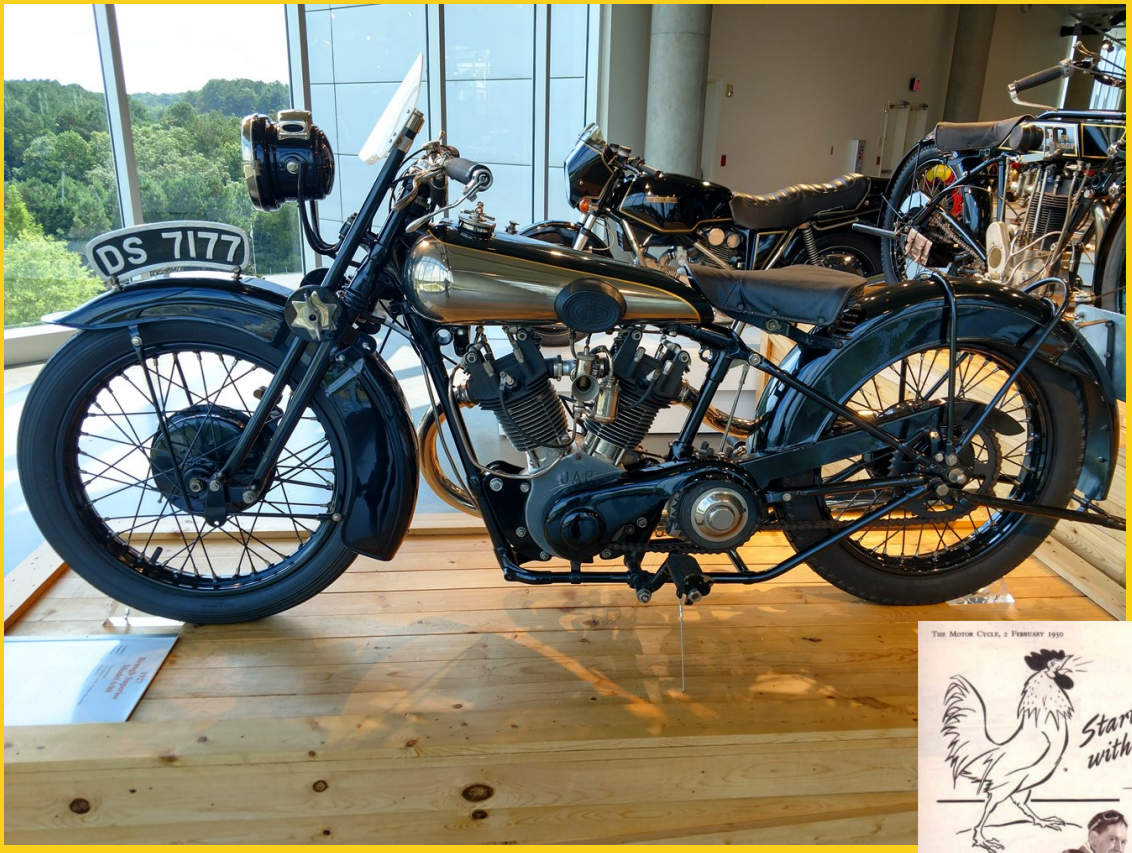


Martin White, a long time Norton Club member, is starting a new business. He's offering a discount to club members. Contact him for more information.



Motorcycle Stuff on the web:

Check out the club websites new photo galleries:
[Norton Colorado Motorcycles - Photo Galleries]



1927 Brough Superior

Barber Motorcycle Museum

[Production Specifications 1927 | Brough Superior Club]



Jesse Carraway recently acquired most of the used parts, and possibly a number of new ones, from Matt Rambow at Colorado Norton Works. Matt is no longer building complete bikes so he doesn't need that inventory. Jesse had previously purchased the inventory of the club's Parts Depot when we lost our storage site and he already had a large inventory of his own parts, so at this point I think it is safe to say Jesse has the largest inventory of Norton parts in Colorado. He is glad to help out fellow club members who are in need:

Jesse Carraway
(303) 980-6641
jesse@fastmail.fm

Norton Colorado 2026 Event Schedule

Here is the first draft of the club's **2026** event schedule. I've taken the liberty (based on past performance) of listing you as a host for an event. Please have a look and let me know if you are still willing to host an event, or if the date needs to be changed. Also, if you would like to host an event of some sort, please contact Eric.



February 7, 2026 (Saturday),
March 28, 2026 (Saturday) Shop visit to Jesse Carraway's,
April 12, 2026 (Sunday), Group Ride,
May 17, 2026 (Sunday), AMCA Swap Meet,
May 17, 2026 (Sunday) Distinguished Gentleman's Ride
June 7, 2026 (Sunday), Big Tent BBQ hosted by Eric Bergman & Susan Saarinen.
June 13, 2026 (Saturday), Colorado Vintage Motorcycle Show, Erie
June 18-21, 2026 (Thursday-Sunday), Four Corners Rendezvous hosted by Steve Harris and Charley Gremmels
June 20-21, 2026 (Saturday-Sunday), Riverside Ride, hosted by Mike Powell
June 22-26, 2026 (Monday-Friday), INOA Rally, Buena Vista, Virginia.
July 12, 2026 (Sunday), Mt. Evans Ride and Brunch hosted by David Sheesley & Matt Norman.
July 19, 2026 (Sunday), BMAC Picnic hosted by Frank & Joanne Puckett.
August 8, 2026 (Saturday), BBQ and open garage hosted Jamie & Michelle Jones.
August 16, 2026 (Sunday) Open Garage/Tech Day,
September 13, 2026, Sunday, Old Bike Ride.
September 20, 2026 (Sunday), English Motoring Conclave.
October 11, 2026 (Sunday), Plains Ride, hosted by Scott and Julie Robinson.
October 25, 2026 (Sunday), Open Garage, hosted by Jonathan Chaikin and Tamara.
November 7, 2026 (Saturday) Open Garage and Fish Fry hosted by Gary Re
December 6, 2026 (Sunday), Pub meeting.
January 1, 2026 (Friday), Clancy's Irish Pub.
January 17, 2026 (Sunday), Pub meeting.
February 6, 2027 (Saturday) Winter Banquet.



Membership

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

Dues are $25 per 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.

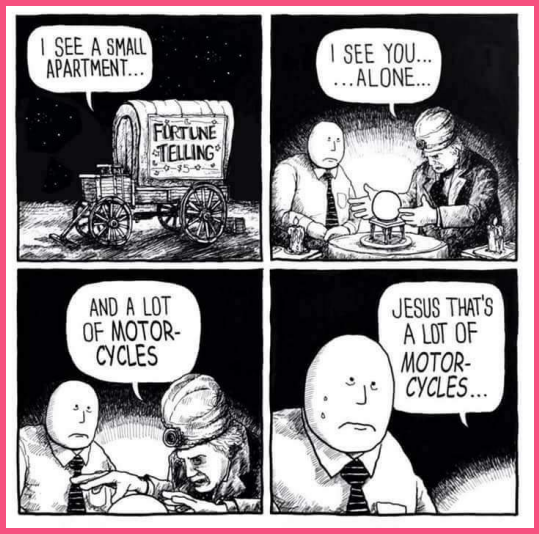
The membership year begins with the Winter Banquet in February. New members who join after August 1 are credited with membership for the following year.

Club Events

Many events have been scheduled for the 2024 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:

https://nortoncolorado.org/events/







Current Occupants

Officers

President
Arnie Beckman (303) 733-4239
president@nortoncolorado.org

Secretary
Eric Bergman (720)400-7835 **NEW #**
secretary@nortoncolorado.org

Treasurer
Charley Gremmels
1832 Forest Ave.,Durango,CO81301
970-946-1302
treasurer@nortoncolorado.org

Staff

Road Captain
Jack Abeyta (303) 426-0594
abeytaa@aol.com

Newsletter Editor
Scott Robinson (303)287-6580
(303)915-3064
newsletter@nortoncolorado.org

Webmaster
David Sheesley (720) 277-6563
webmaster@nortoncolorado.org

Technical Advisor
Jim Comstock (719)646-2610
comnoz2@juno.com

Credits: Thanks to Eric Bergman, Jerry Doe, Julian Kowalewski and Jo Teague 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

1900 19th Street

Golden, CO 80401



