

Gathering of the Nortons 2109

Every year the members of the Delaware Valley Norton Riders look forward to our annual bike show / meet up held at Washington Crossing Historic Park. Because Easter fell on the third Sunday of April the event was moved to the following week end. The date was set and plans were made for weeks and months ahead of the event. Collectively as a motorcycle club our members feel the "Gathering" is our contribution to the bike community of the Delaware Valley. We encountered some new problems with event insurance through the American Motorcyclist Assn. which was no longer available. We solved the problem and acquired our contract with the Penna Dept of Conversation and Natural Resources. The date was set for April 28, 2019 at the traditional time of 10AM until 1PM. The advance weather forecast looked good with a potential for a little rain in the afternoon. Bob Katz lined up a food vendor who is known for his excellent Bar-B-Que. All of our experienced volunteers were prepared to help in any way they could.

Sunday Morning, April 28. Today the picture looked entirely different than the earlier forecast. The sky was very overcast with dark clouds in all directions and the forecast called for periods of rain all morning. Charlotte and I took the rain gear that had been packed in our tail bag and readied for our trip. With a late start we mounted the MKIII and headed East to Washington Crossing Historic Park, a one hour ride. During our ride we encountered a good deal of mist but few raindrops.

When we arrive the Park had a flurry of activity taking place. Roger Rinker was positioned to direct arriving bikes to the desired locations. George and Michelle were busy setting up the club pop up and merchandise tables. Jack Kimple had brought a second pop up to cover everything on display. By 9:30 a line was forming at the club table. Bikes continued to arrive and line up in the main parking lot while other bikes of domestic manufacture were directed to park in the back lot. The meet was on.



DVNR Merchandise Table ready to serve.

As the morning wore on there was only a brief period of very light rain and at times the sun shown through the clouds. Unfortunately



DVNR Norton Line UP. President George at the front of the row.



the attendance was light because of the forecast but the show went on and the attendees seemed happy to be out and about. DVNR shirt sales continued through the morning with sales of 44 Art of the Bike shirts and 90 of the DVNR event shirts. Water sales were light but the Food Guy was busy selling coffee all morning. Good coffee I might add.



Thanks to Tari Norum and Brian Safer for the photos. More photos will be posted on the DVNR Webpage in the near future.



At noon we conducted our 50/50 drawing and the winning ticket holder was present to win. Note: ticket buyers were instructed to put their phone number on the ticket if they thought they would leave before the drawing. No problem this time.



President George reported earlier in the week that we had 27 Norton in our line up. Roger counted about 300 total bikes, and George estimated 400 to 500 people in attendance. That's about half of what we expected but we were thankful the day remained dry with periods of sunshine.

After 1PM we cleaned up the site and put away the remaining merchandise then headed to the Wycombe Publick House for a sit down lunch. After lunch President George laid out plans for the next few months.

(1) In May some of our members will be riding to the Classic Motorcycle Day in Mt. Airy, Maryland on the third Sunday (19th) of the month while others are welcome to gather for breakfast at Orlando's in NJ.

(2) Jack Kimple will host the June meeting at his home in Flemington NJ on June 16. The International Norton Owners Rally will be held in Brooklyn Michigan on June 24 to 28. Several of our members are planning to attend.

(3) Rick Hill offered to lead a ride to the Shore for the July activity on July 21. This event has not been confirmed at this time.

(4) Chris Owen has offered us an overnight stay at his family property on Lake Wallenpaupack for our August 17-18 club activity. Chris has three historic cabins right on the lake with accommodations for 22 people (more in sleeping bags if needed). At this time it looks like we ride up, less than 100 miles, in the morning. Take a ride around the entire lake. Have dinner there or nearby. Leave to ride home Sunday morning. More details to follow.

George and myself thanked everyone who helped to make the "Gathering" a success in spite of the crappy forecast.

While I have your attention. The following members remain unpaid for 2019 and will soon be dropped from the email list. The "Gathering" has been the deadline for dues payment for many years.

Respectfully

Daniel Sellers

DVNR Treasurer/Membership Secretary

Overdue:	Tony Reed
Jim Barnitz	Doug Strange
Tim Boylan	Charles Strunk
Brian Cindry	Patrick Wells
David Clements	Tad Zeilinski
Mike Forte	
Mitchel Green	
Brian Gundry	
Al Hartman	
Ray Hull	
Russ Hunt	
Joe Matkowski	
Bill Mekeel	
Chip Menz	
Tony Morgano	
Will Myers	
Curt Pierson	