

NorCal Voyagers Newsletter

April 2004



Your Club Newsletter

You have something you want to see in the NorCal Voyagers Newsletter??? Well, send it along to news@norcalvoyagers.org and we'll get it in the next issue. You can also send articles to any board member in the club and they will get it to the editor.

We're especially interested in doing personal stories about our members. You don't have to go into a lot of detail, but knowing a bit about our members goes a long way towards a more enjoyable friendship. Get those pictures, campfire stories, and humorous biking experiences out and send them off to the editor for the next newsletter!

Useful Internet Links

Here are some web pages that may be useful to our club members:

Northern California Voyagers Club

<http://www.norcalvoyagers.org>

American Voyager Association (AVA)

<http://www.csonline.net/cybersite/american.htm>

American Motorcycle Association (AMA)

<http://www.ama-cycle.org/>

This Month...

LAKE SANTA MARGARITA CAMPOUT – APRIL 1/2/3

The event will take place inside the County Park; Campground section name is "Osprey". It is not at the KOA, which is just prior to the entrance to the lake.

There will be a day ride on Saturday and free spaghetti feed on Saturday night. Santa Margarita Lake is a fishing only lake and is stocked with Trout, Bluegill, Crappie and Bass. A small store is located at the marina.

To get there take the Highway 58 exit from either southbound or northbound Hwy 101. Go east into Santa Margarita and follow Hwy 58 out of town. Follow the signs onto Pozo Road and to Lake Santa Margarita. It's approximately 8 miles east of town.

Next Month...

CLEAR LAKE CRUISE – MAY 8

Riverboat ride on the lake for 2 hours with a lunch.

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Club Information/Business

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello NCVC members. I don't have very much to say today. I just have a few things I want to touch on. First we have 55 members left after the 24th of March. I guess you could say we did all right. We lost 12 altogether, but we have gained 5 since the 24th. We have 55 on the books as of now, but we have a new member coming in this month. His name is George Rahall. He hails from the San Francisco area. His E-mail address is usnww2@aol.com you all might give him a shout and give him a great big ole NCVC welcome.

The next thing is the May event. We have I think 22 people signed up for this one. It sure would be nice to see some more of our members participate in this. I think it's going to be a blast. Betty & I are driving up on Friday night, to kind of get a lay of the land; so to speak... Look on the web site for directions or contact Bob Webb or Bryce Eichholz. They will be more than glad to assist you.

Roger Allen is working on an over night in Portola Ca, at the railroad museum. We were scheduled to do an over night in Tahoe. After checking on motel prices I decided we could go some place else a lot cheaper and probably have more fun. As soon as he gets it all together I will put it out to all members.

Oh yes, Please do not forget the wedding on the 5th of June, Ole Dale Bird is going to bite the dust; as they say in the movies. He & Pam Wright are going to tie the knot on June 5th. You will find an invitation posted on the web site. I would like very much to see the whole club go. But I know this is asking too much. But for those of you that do plan on making an appearance you must send Dale & Pam an E-mail or call

them and let them know you are coming and how many will be in your party. They will then send you out an invitation.

Now lets turn our attention to next year, I know it's kind of early to be talking about next year. We were going to sponsor a ride in or a rally if you will, but we didn't have the support from our members or the money to do it with. So what we are working on for 2005 is a regular ride in. The only thing we will have to do is see that everyone has camp site reservations, for those that wish to camp, and set up a couple of motels in the area for those that wish to motel it. I plan to have some rides too Yosemite, Kings Canyon, and maybe one over on the coast, led by our members. Now this is where you come in. I need some people to volunteer to lead some rides and possibly help run a small concession stand. Those members that are willing to help please send me an E-mail, telling me what you would be willing to do for the three days we have the ride in. I think we will shoot for the third week in June. We will confirm the dates after we see if we have enough support from our membership to put this on.

I have much more to talk about, but I will save that for next month. Hope everyone had a nice March and will have a nicer April. Ride safely and take care.

Uncle Ray – President NorCal Voyagers



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MARCH CAMPOUT – TURLOCK LAKE

March 11th. Was a beautiful day to go camping. I rode over to Tom & Della's house so they could follow me up to Turlock Lake campgrounds.

We left their house a little after 11:00 am and pulled into the campgrounds about 1:00 pm. We found Bob Webb & Richard Mack, (MACK) he likes to be called that rather than Richard; already there waiting for us.

There were no rangers at the gate to tell us where to go, but one of the maintenance men directed us over to the section that was open for camping. We decided to set up camp right in the middle of a large grassy area. I'm not too sure this was legally a group camping site. But that's what we made it for 4 days. And the Rangers that did come through didn't bother us at all; in fact they were very nice to us all the time we were there.

A little later Don Brewbaker rode in and set up camp a little way from me. In fact no one would set up close to me. They say I snore too loud for their tender ears. I say it's a bunch of BS; I have never heard myself snore, therefore I refuse to believe it. After everyone had their campsites set up, we sat around my tent and shot the breeze for a few hours. Don and I had a couple of beers, as did Mack. But this wasn't good enough for Don; he had to break out his medical stash. You know for snakebites & etc. I faintly remember him calling it Crown Royal or something to that effect. Well, needless to say we got snake bit awfully bad that night. In fact it took me three days to get over it. I really think it was too old to be using and should have been thrown away last year.

Friday morning came bright and beautiful. Bob was the first one up and had the coffee on by the time anyone else was even stirring. This guy must get up around 4:30am at home. Everyone eventually pulled their selves out of bed and had a few cups of coffee to open their eyes.

I almost forgot to tell you that Bob Joyner showed up Thursday evening and proceeded to tell me I was on his shi\$#?!/! List. I had told him that I would be leaving my place @ 11:00am and he was to meet me there and ride out to the campgrounds with me. I had remembered that he was coming, but I was expecting him to call to let me know he was in town. He never called, so I figured he didn't make it, so I left with Tom. Needless to say I heard about it at the campgrounds. I really don't know what he was so upset about; he didn't even spend the night with us. But than again that may be the reason he didn't. But he told us he had to work on Saturday. And this guy is supposed to be retired. Now go figure this one out.

I think it was around 2:30pm when Mike & Shirley Wong rolled in, in their pickup with a brand new toy hauler trailer in tow. Now I could write a book about what happened for the next two hours. Come to think of it maybe I should. I have a few photographs that will be posted on the web site for everyone to see. I promised Mike I wouldn't tell the whole world about what happened. But Brewbaker didn't, so I figure you will be getting a story from Don telling all about this little incident. I wouldn't doubt that you would read about it in the Voyagers Voice.

Later on that afternoon Bill Owens came in and he wouldn't camp by me either, my god my reputation is ruined. About 5:30 pm Doris, Sue, Linda & Theresa rolled in with the motor home. I might also add that Linda

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& Theresa are now officially new members of our club. Thank you Ladies for your support, and welcome to your new home away from home. A little later Fred, Judy Jones & Karen came in. Fred on a Harley, and the ladies in a van pulling Fred's trailer. After all the hellos were said and everyone got their monthly hugs, the ladies got their camp sites all set up and did their usual socializing with everyone, than they started cooking dinner. What little I could eat was very good. The snakebite stuff was still lingering with me and I was afraid to eat very much, for fear I would wind up calling Ralph.

I guess I should also tell you the bees and mosquitoes were out in full force. Don's Sister Mary Jo, whom I forgot to tell you also came in with Doris and the other ladies. But she was on her bike and was greeted by three bees before she even got to the campgrounds, after her arrival she had to fight off the mosquitoes too. We did an extra heavy spray job on ourselves and got very few bites. Although I must admit they were only bad for about an hour in the mornings and two hours in the evening. I almost forgot we had one of our IBMC brothers come in Friday morning and spent the weekend with us. I'm not real sure if we will ever see him again. But he did have to admit he was well entertained while he was there with us. He said where else can you go camping for free, fed for free and entertained for free also. I think he has enough fodder from this camp out; he will have story's to tell his grand children for a long time to come. His name was Don Mac Lowry and he was from Southern Cal. He will probably go down there and tell all of his IBMC cohorts all about us. Than none of them will ever want to camp with us.

We also had two gentlemen from jolly old England come out on Saturday and visit

with us for a couple of hours, They even sat in on our meeting and bought tickets for our 50/50. Don did too. In fact he won it. But being the gentleman that he was, he donated \$20.00 of the \$35.00 he won back to the club. I thought that was very nice of him.

Saturday evening the ladies did another miracle with the food and fed us all. This time I could eat something. WARNING. If Brewbaker ever ask you if you want some of his snakebite medicine, my advice to you is to turn him down. I think it does worse than the snake bite its self. We had 20 paid members and 4 guests at this camp out. Now that's what I like to see. Participation. I guess everyone had a little dose of cabin fever and needed to get out of the house for a while.

I'm not too sure we will see Mike Wong again either. But we had a lot of fun at his expense. But he had a very good time too. I guess you could say that a very good time was had by all. Anyway I never heard any one complain about anything so I think I'm safe in saying that. Everyone got up Sunday morning and got their fill of coffee, then started packing up. I told Don I didn't want to leave and that I thought I would just stay one more night. We asked around if anyone else wanted to stay one more night. No takers, But Brewbaker said he would like to stay over one more day, so we just sat there and watched all the rest pack up and go home.

I must say it was very nice that evening, Don and I had the campgrounds all to ourselves except for about 2 hours. I BBQ'ed two rib eye steaks and heated up some bread, cream style corn and sliced potatoes and a can of peaches. Don did the dishes. Than we sat around the campfire

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had a few beers and talked for a few hours. We turned in about 10:30pm.

I was up and had the coffee on by 6:00am. It was going to be another beautiful day. I really would have liked to have stayed one or two more days. But Betty told me Sunday evening when I called her that I was pushing my luck. So we packed up and headed our separate ways. I must say we couldn't have had any better weather for riding and camping. I haven't told you everything that we did, but I gave you a general idea and were going to do it again April the 1st 2nd & 3rd, at Lake Santa Margarita. I know it's quite a ways down there for some of you. But it will be worth your effort I'm sure. Until than ride safely and watch those little old ladies in their Buicks and their world famous left turns.

Cheers, Uncle Ray



MARCH MEETING MINUTES

Date: March 13, 2004

Subject: Minutes, March club meeting

The monthly meeting of the Northern California Voyagers was held at the March campout at Turlock Lake Campground, Turlock, California. The following members were present:

Ray Walls, President
Bob Webb, Vice President
Don Brubaker
Doris Brubaker
Mary Jo Brubaker
Rex Woodruff
Dannette Woodruff
Cecil Anderson
Della Anderson
Wayne Bright
Sue Springfield
Richard Mack
Bryce Eichholz
George Rogers
Bill Owens
Linda Barber (New member)
Theresa Schoonmaker (New member)

Note: Bob Joyner (Secretary) attended the event on Thursday March 11, but was unable to stay for the meeting due to prior work commitment.

The following guests were also present:
Mike and Shirley Wong (Cal Nev ARI)
Don Mac Lowry (IBMC)
Brian Caldecott (England)
John Bennett (England)

Old Business

Treasures report: The treasury currently has a balance of \$1,502.60. No outstanding bills on record.

Activities Report: Ray Walls reminded everyone of the April Campout at Santa Margarita Lake on April 1st, 2nd, 3rd, with travel home on Sunday the 4th. May 8th is scheduled for the Clear Lake Cruise and lunch on the Clear Lake Queen. Everyone should arrive around 10:30 AM. Contact Bob Webb or Bryce Eichholz for more information. There are 21 paid entries so far.

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The Grand Tour has only 6 people signed up so far. The disc used for printing the flags and T-shirts was saved. Therefore, the club won't have to come up with an additional \$100.00. Estimated cost of the flags to the club is approximately \$8.00 each. The flags will be sold at a cost of \$10.00 each. A sample of the flag and Polo shirt will be available at the next meeting for the members to look over for their approval.

New business

Jim Tinlin was thanked in absentia for the great job he is doing with the club's web site and flyers. (*Thanks! – ed*)

Don Brewbaker made a motion that the club rules be changed to allow wearing of the blue club shirts from March 1st to October 31st. The motion was seconded and carried by a large majority.

At the last club meeting, it was suggested that there be more than one club event a month. Roger Allen is working on an overnight stay in Portola Calif. to visit the railroad museum. This will take place after the June wedding of Dale and Pam Bird. 50/50 tickets were sold and a drawing was held. One of the guests, Don Mac Lowery won the drawing. The total was \$70.00 Don split the pot with the club, each receiving \$35.00. Don graciously donated \$20.00 of his share back to the club.

President Ray Walls adjourned the meeting at 2:37 pm.

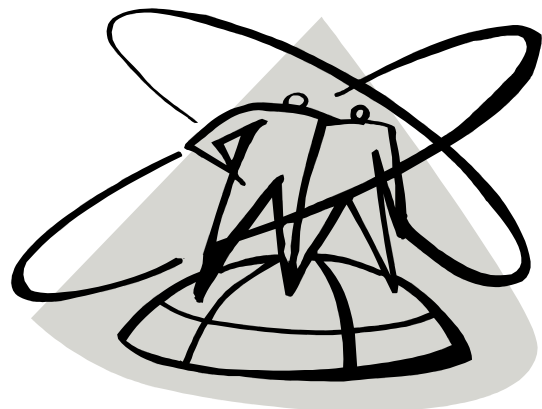


BRYCE EICHOLZ

I came across this site on the ba.motorcycle newsgroup. Thought you might like to see what it is like riding through a real ghost town. It's interesting and at the same time spooky. Bryce

Ukrainian rider Elena takes us on a tour of a dead zone. Armed with her trusty dosimeter, she boldly goes where I wouldn't ride without a lead liner. Her poetic text and excellent photography gives us a taste of post-apocalyptic Ninja madness.

<http://www.angelfire.com/extreme4/kiddofspeed/>



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Member Input and Info

BILL OWENS

Bill has sent me a wonderful write-up of a trip he took from Denver to Sacramento. It's quite long, so I thought I'd leave it on the web site and have you access it that way.

Take a trip to the NorCal Voyagers Web site to see the great details of his trip at:

www.norcalvoyagers.org/newsletter/apr04/AfterDenver.pdf

JIM TINLIN

I created a Yahoo Group called 'NorCal Voyagers Club'. You can access it from this web address:

<http://autos.groups.yahoo.com/group/norcalvoyagers/>

The only requirement for using this feature is to create a Yahoo Account Name.

It's a quick way to stay in contact with your club membership, give it a try!

RAY WALLS

For sale, Kitchen on Wheels

This unit was designed and built to be pulled behind a motorcycle or small vehicle. Empty it weighs about 350 lbs. It has a propane bottle set up on the front, with propane piped into the module. This is for the drop in stove/oven mounted in the rear of the module. It also has two propane outlets on the top, this is for lanterns. There is also a high pressure outlet next to the propane bottle for using other propane stoves & etc. The stove/oven was designed and built for a motor home.

The module is built out of 3/8" shop grade plywood, with a red formica covering inside & out. It has several cabinet compartments

for storing food, pots & pans; one has drawers for silverware and utensils.



This unit was built in 1991. At a cost of \$3,870.00. Dimensions, 8' from tip of tongue to the back of trailer. Module is 48" l x 40" w x 30" h.

The trailer has torsion bar suspension with a weight rating of 800 lbs each.

It has 480x 8" high-speed tires with 5 lug wheels and high-speed bearings.

It has a swivel hitch, designed for a motorcycle.

It also has a red water resistant cover that goes over the entire module & propane bottle.

Asking \$1,000.00, this is firm. Contact ray walls @ 559-227-3045, or e-mail cwalls64@aol.com. I will e-mail you the photograph for closer inspection. If desired.

Thanks to You!

Thanks to the following for providing input and help with developing the NorCal Voyager Newsletter:

Jim Tinlin (news@norcalvoyagers.org) – Editor

Ray Walls (president@norcalvoyagers.org) - President

Bill Owens (bmo-3@comcast.net) – Member

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The Last Page

And finally...

RAY WALLS

We now have the new Brochures. I would like to send some out to all of you, so you can pass them out to bike riders you happen to meet up with. Plus you can always leave a few at the Kawasaki dealerships in your area.

Please send me an e-mail telling me how many you would like me to send you and I will get them out to you ASAP. Or I can E-mail the original to you and you can have as many printed up as you want. We are folding them into thirds. The right side folds in right to left. And the left side folds in left to right over the right side. This way when you open it up, the first thing you see is HOW TO CONTACT US.

Now if any of you have any suggestions on how to make these brochures better. Please feel free to contact me and give me your suggestion. If the board likes it and approves it, than we will implement the upgrade ASAP.

(You can also obtain the brochure file from the NorCal Voyagers Web site by using the following link:

www.norcalvoyagers.org/brochure.pdf)



JIM TINLIN

The Webmaster of a new motorcycle accessory web site, asking if any of our members would be interested in the site, contacted me.

I have added it to our 'Links' page on the web site and will include the information here. Looks like it's more for the 'leather and loud' crowd, but there are still some good deals to be had. Plus, they added a nice bonus for our members:

Come and take a look at our site, <http://www.bikersden.com> and let us know if we can add your motorcycle club to our growing directory.

We would appreciate setting up a link exchange so that people browsing your Website will also be able to benefit from the products and services that we offer at The Bikers' Den.

Regardless of your decision on the link exchange, we would like to invite you and any of your members to visit our site and enter our Grand Opening Contest. We will be giving away a premium leather motorcycle jacket (any size), newly released motorcycle movies and some West Coast Chopper decals.

The Bikers' Den is also offering a 10% discount to all bike club members. This coupon is valid on anything in our store. We would appreciate it if you would pass this coupon on to all of your members. The Discount is valid until May 1, 2004 and you can use it as many times as you want until it expires. Just enter this Coupon ID when you are checking out with your purchase.

The COUPON ID is... d34w7rt989

We appreciate your time and we look forward to hearing from you.

