

NorCal Voyagers Newsletter

August 2004



Your Club Newsletter

You have something you want to see in the NorCal Voyagers Newsletter??? 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...

CAMPOUT AT VETERAN'S MEMORIAL PARK AUG 20-23

Join the club with a nice weekend campout in Monterey.



Next Month...

CALIFORNIA/OREGON TOUR SEP 10-17

Northern California and Oregon is the destination for a week of touring.

{See the Web Site for details}

NorCal Voyagers Newsletter is developed for the membership of the Northern California Voyagers Club and is freely distributed as a benefit of membership.

The *NorCal Voyagers Newsletter* is not a policy or formal arm of the Northern California Voyagers Club, but rather an informational source for its' members.

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Any questions concerning content or information contained in the *NorCal Voyagers Newsletter* can be submitted to news@norcalvoyagers.org for review.

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Club Information/Business

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello NCVC Members & Friends. I guess I can report to you that our July event was a great success. We wound up with 27 participants. I did a write up on the event so I won't dwell on it any farther {*see it on the NorCal Voyagers Web Site, click on the events button at our home page – editor*}. But I will say those of you who missed it really missed out on a good time. We will have some campfire stories to tell at our next camp out, coming up on August 20 through 23.

It will be at the Veterans memorial park. I will show up there on the 19th. So if anyone else wants to come early, just let me know. It would be nice to have at least one other person come early so we can get some choice campsites. They used to let me purchase up to 3 campsites, but they have changed the rules. Now I can only get one site. We can put 8 people per site, so I figure we will need at least two sites. If we have anyone coming in a motor home or travel trailer, they will have to get a site for themselves. Also the rates have changed. They are now \$18.00 per day per site. And they only give you \$5.00 off with your park passes. City coffers must be getting low.

I also have the clubs new flags. I messed up on them, the guy asked me before I left the shop if I wanted to keep the lettering as is (BLACK) I looked at it and told him yes. After getting them I saw I had made a big mistake. The lettering should have been white. So if we ever get rid of what we have, the new ones will have white lettering. The flags are on a royal blue background. We darkened up the brown bear, and made the sun's rays a brighter gold. The flag measures 10" w x 7 "h. We

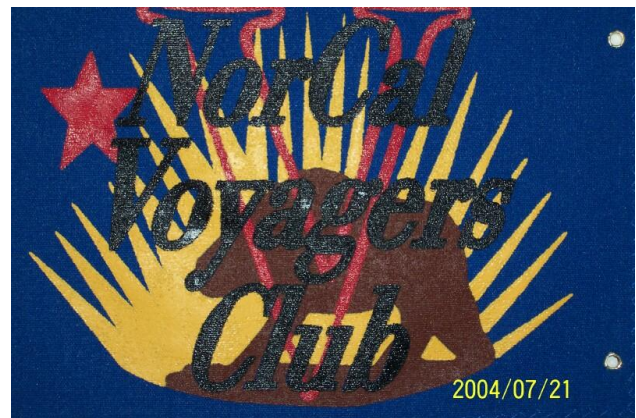
are forced to sell them for \$10.00 each just to break even on them, and the club will pay the postage.

I also have two polo shirts being made up for Bryce Eichholz. One blue, one black. We will let Bryce be our model on the polo shirts. If you like them and want to order some they will be close to \$20.00 ea for small through XL. We haven't discussed the larger ones yet. We wanted to wait and see how the members received them. They also have women's tank tops. No prices yet.

I' am going to see if I can set up a club meeting for the 28th of August, over in Los Banos. I will have it posted on the web site and will e-mail everyone. Those with no E-mail service I will either call you or write you. We haven't had a meeting in over three months. So I think it's about time we had one. Hopefully more members will be able to make a meeting if we set it up close to food. That's about it for now. See you in August.

*Sincerely, Uncle Ray
President NorCal Voyagers*

{Here's a picture of the flag from Uncle Ray – editor}



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Member Tips and Information

Got a tip for the club? Do you do your own maintenance? Have you found a real great place to get your bike worked on? Share your secrets and experiences with the club by sending an article and pictures to the editor. We all can learn from your experiences!

FORK VALVE TOOL

Here is a simply tool you can make your self. It is a tool to hold the valve that is inside the fork lowers, so you can remove and replace the bottom Allen head bolt when disassembling the fork tubes.



The tool consists of a 1/2" pipe nipple extractor (\$2.99) welded to some square steel bar stock (about \$5.00).



I painted mine and put a couple pieces of blue 5/8" automobile heater hose on the handle.



The whole idea here is to hold the valve so the Allen bolt can be removed and replaced. The nipple extractor is the perfect tool for the job. Never did like the factory tool that Kawasaki makes.

Fritz Wells, member NorCal Voyagers

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QUINCY & PORTOLA TRAIN MUSEUM

Larry & I were at Klein's by 7 a.m. for breakfast. Fred Andrews was on time to have breakfast & ride with us a ways. Tom & Dela were in the chaise car that followed Ray, Wayne, Lee & us. Al & Wendy joined us at Sacramento.

Most of the way was smooth riding with a Dairy Queen stop at Oroville. It was between Oroville & Quincy that we had a 20-minute wait (which gave me time to meet a few new nice people) at a road construction site. *Now this is just my opinion*, but to me the pilot driver was going **way** too slow for motorcycles behind him in the slimy, wet, long stretch we were to follow him through. Ray had gotten waved through & made it with a piloted group but the rest of us had to wait then follow this slow moving pilot. We could see Al & Wendy getting a little slipping' action, then Lee kind of walking his way thru the mire. In front of us, at a fair distance, was Wayne who somehow got into a wet spot, grabbed the brake, & went down, then hit the gas for a 180-degree plus turn in the mud. I'm telling Larry "Let's get outta here 'cause he is facing us with the gas on". Larry pulled to the left around Wayne, found an area to stop, & by the time he got off to help a few construction men were already available. It wasn't easy getting the cow (Kawasaki) to stand up in the slimy mud. Once up Wayne did fine the rest of the way...besides by then the pilot driver was well out of our way. I told one of the men to let the driver know that motorbikes can't go that slow in slush.

We arrived at the motel a bit before 5 p.m., which gave us just enough time to swim, shower, & walk to the steak house by 6 p.m. Excellent company at our table; Lee, two men from England, & Al & Wendy. Al & Larry were a natural for conversation with

Al's flying experience & Larry's avionic, air-controller background. The men were well into discussion when the waitress brought the plates of food. Delicious steak you could cut with the fork, but Larry's portion was the same size as the roasts I make when the kids & grandkids are eating with us (suggestion...don't order the large size).

I believe there were 27 people there. Two of the couples we had met before at a campout at Santa Margarita. It was an outstanding bunch of people.

We woke the next day to rain & plans to car shuttle to breakfast, but the rain let up & all were able to ride to the restaurant for a fabulous breakfast at a yuppie/hippie bay-area kind of place. Freedom toast with sesame seeds is crunchy & better than I expected. Larry ordered a short stack 'cause he is not a breakfast kinda guy. What arrived were two pancakes that looked like a round, layered birthday cake...it was huge.

All of this was great, but the best part was yet to come. The train museum seemed to have more to see than the Sacramento or Carson City ones I had been to. I was impressed by Lee's ability to give the stats before we'd get to the info placard on the vehicles. For \$20 each you can be the engineer on two different trains. Larry & I got on one with Lee & Ray. I somehow got voted to be the first guinea pig. I told the volunteer instructor not to give me too much info 'cause I'm a gal with a short amount of memory. "Put the lever this way for forward; this way for reverse. Give it this many tugs on the horn for forward; this many for reverse. Move the lever for the bell when you see an X that means traffic crossing ahead. This lever pushes in, then forward for forward; in then back for reverse. You are in 'idle' so move this lever

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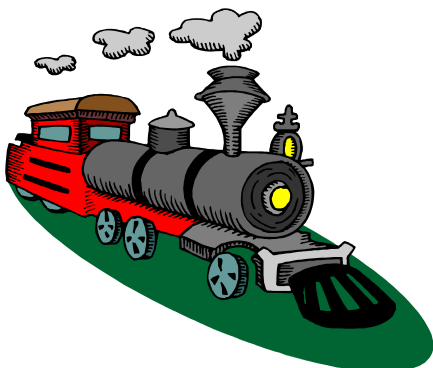
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for the next gears for speeds. This is the brake; this way for break & this way to bleed the brake". Right! Part way through he said, "Give me air". I said "AIR, you didn't say anything about AIR what do ya think I've got gas". He put his hand on mine & guided me through. Then he said give it brake...I'm thinking 'Brake, OK, it's this lever but is it back or forward' he started to guide me again & I thought 'I've got the idea' so I moved the lever & the train came to a complete stop; which was not his plan. What'd he expect for a first time woman driver who admitted to small memory cells. Any way it was a dynamic new experience (put that by my Louisiana trip to catch alligator in V hull aluminum boat). When Larry's turn came it was like he was born into the seat, he did such a great job. He even hit 4th gear.

We left with only having driven one train because we had a minimum 7 hours to home. We left about 12:30 p.m. & were home safe by 7:30 p.m.

We live just a block & a half from tracks & when I hear a train my mind goes to Portola for a totally different concept & a wonderful memory built with the NorCal Voyager Club. Thanks to all of you for helping us to have such a good time.

Dorine & Larry Kirkes, NorCal Voyagers members



THANKS FOR THE ARTICLES!!!

This month we were able to receive a number of write-ups on the Quincy/Portola Event. Members Dorine and Larry Kirkes provided the previous article. We have 2 others available, but due to space limitations in the newsletter we decided to put them on the web page instead. So take a moment to go look at the web page and see the other great write-ups at <http://www.norcalvoyagers.org> and click on the 'Events' button. There will be a table there where you can then click on the Portola event. You'll find the other write-ups on that page.

AUGUST CALENDAR

8/20-8/23 CAMPOUT:
Veteran's Memorial Park - Monterey

Birthdays:

8/2 Jerry Grimsley
8/13 Robert Lee
8/14 Shari Johnson
8/17 Robert Lahn
8/20 Bob Joyner
8/31 Alan Casner

Anniversaries:

8/1 Susan & David Daniel
8/4 Bobbie Dean Hayes
8/9 Mary & Jim Tinlin
8/29 Melody & Tom Hite

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

9/10-9/17 TOUR:
N. Calif/Oregon (George Rogers)

Birthdays:

9/22 Mary Tinlin
9/22 Bill Burns

Anniversaries:

9/1 Christopher Caputo
9/3 Betty & Ray Walls

Please let the editor know of any changes to the above information, thanks!!!

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Other Events/Info

We accept input from other organizations that may be of interest to our membership, as well as info for general club interest.

NCVC CLOTHING AVAILABLE

Hello NCVC members. I was cleaning out my documents, when I came across the clothing inventory. (You can view it at the club's web page, click on the 'Club Gear' button to the left of the home page: <http://www.norcalvoyagers.org>. We haven't sold any clothing or patches for quite a while. I would appreciate it if all of you would scan the list and if you are missing anything and we have it in stock, it would be nice if you ordered some of this stuff. Then I wouldn't have so much on hand. Also, for our newer members, if you haven't seen any of the clubs clothing, you can view it all on our web site. Also a reminder we are now wearing our blue shirts and caps from March 1st through October 1st. The other 5 months we will be wearing the black shirts & caps. So be sure you wear your blue colors at these months' events. Remember it's a \$1.00 fine to be caught out of uniform.

BIKERS BENEFIT FOR KIDS

Our non-profit children and families program is sponsoring the first ever "**Biker's Benefit for Kids**" which will be held at the **Siskiyou Golden Fair Grounds on September 18**. Siskiyou Motorcycle Association is also sponsoring this event with all the proceeds going towards our program because the short of it was that we just didn't have any money to get this thing going!

Siskiyou County has never held a bike of event of this caliber and we want every bike within 200 or more miles to come and help our program out which has had some hard knocks and is trying to get back on it own two feet. We're a community based

organization which houses the Broadway New to You thrift store and the Yreka Family Resource Center our services our pretty much to anyone needing them.

This bike event will be the first but not the last and I personally would like to see a lot of "other" bikes there, not just Harleys! (We have a Venture). We need exposure! Currently we're on 4 online bike event calendars. Some websites to check out are www.motorcycleevents.com and www.siskiyou-motorcycle-association.com

The event will be coupled with the Montague Rotary Hot Air Balloon Fair and the Siskiyou Motor Speedway Races that same weekend. Lots of fun to be had.

Yreka still remembers when you guys came a few years ago and they are asking me if "the neat looking bikes that lit up" are coming!"



RIDE FOR KIDS

October 3rd - Ride for Kids, benefiting the Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation. **NEW LOCATION:** Yolo County Fairgrounds, 1125 East St., Woodland (enter on E. Gum Ave.) Sign in from 7:30 to 9:30. Ride leaves at 10 a.m. sharp. Entry fee: \$35 includes ride pin, continental breakfast and lunch. Volunteers and escorts are always needed. Contact 707-447-0860. Bill Neander - N. Cal. Ride for Kids Task Force

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The Last Page

And finally...

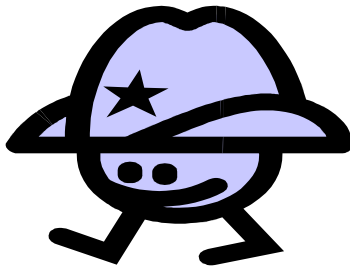
Don't forget to get the word out about our club, go to the following web link and print out the club brochure. Leave it at your favorite bike hangout or motorcycle shop:

www.norcalvoyagers.org/brochure.pdf



Club Colors - BLUE

Remember that our club colors are BLUE from March 1st through September 30th and BLACK from October 1st through February 28th, so when you show up at organized events and meetings, be sure to wear your proper colors or you'll have to pay the \$1.00 fine!



Thanks to You!

Thanks for reading the NorCal Voyagers Newsletter. We appreciate the input from the club membership and hope you enjoy this newsletter. If you have any comments, additions, corrections, articles, submissions, please send them along to: editor@norcalvoyagers.org

Please use this Application Form to join the club

Name 1 _____ E-Mail Address _____ Birthday _____
Name 2 _____ E-Mail Address _____ Birthday _____
Address _____ Phone Number _____ Anniversary _____
State _____ Zip Code _____

Number Joining the Club (check one): 1 [] 2 []

Mail Application and Payment (\$10 for 1 member / \$15 for 2 members) to:
Wayne Bright / 2149 Gibson Avenue (Louis, Ca. / 93611-0698