

NorCal Voyagers Newsletter

December 2005



This Month...

EVENT 12/10

Christmas Party

CLUB MEETING

None Scheduled

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!



Next Month...

EVENT

(Calendar not ready yet)

CLUB MEETING

(Calendar not ready yet)

(See the Web Site for details)

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/>

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Club Info and Activities

CLUB MEETING MINUTES

By Bob Joyner, NCVV Secretary

The monthly meeting of the Northern California Voyagers was held at the Woolgrowers Restaurant in Los Banos, California. The following members were present:

Ray Walls, President
Bob Joyner, Secretary
Brian Coldicott
Don Brewbaker
Bill Owens
Dennis Ellingson
Wayne Bright
Bill Ashworth (new member)
Teresa Ashworth (new member)

Guest; Jory Kahlon (grandson of Dennis Ellingson)

The meeting was called to order by President Ray Walls at 1:00 PM.

Minutes from the October meeting were read by Secretary Bob Joyner.

Treasurer's report: The treasury report was read by Wayne Bright who advised the members that the club treasury currently has a balance of \$1,986.42. Wayne reported money was paid out to cover the lunches for our two new members. This practice is customary to acknowledge and welcome new members.

Activities report: The activities report was provided by Don Brewbaker. Don started the discussion to remind everyone of the upcoming Christmas party at Wayne Bright's house, located in Clovis. Don also talked

about next years event calendar and asked everyone to start thinking about things to do in 2006. A ride to the Grand Canyon and the four state corners is in the works. The initial time frame is in September. Bill Owens said he enjoyed the event at Lake San Antonio and would like to do it again next year.

Bob Joyner told Don to pencil him in for April and June. Don said the next meeting will be in March, 2006. The date, time and location are pending.

Old business: None

New business: Ray said the club has sold several sets of brake lines. The profit from the sales has been put into the clubs treasury. Bill Owens said he thought the brake lines were a real deal and were high quality.

Ray also gave a quick run down of the club shirt inventory.

The meeting adjourned at 1:25PM



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NOVEMBER CAMPOUT

By Bob Joyner, NCVV Secretary

Thursday, 10th. Ray Walls, Don Brewbaker and Bob Joyner decided to arrive on Thursday. Bob arrived first, followed a short time later by Ray. The sky was beginning to cloud up and Ray said he had hit a pretty good down pour on the way over. Since he was in his truck, pulling his trailer, he was able to stay dry.

Don Brewbaker on the other hand, was not so lucky. Don called and said he was on his way on the motorcycle and the weather over Pacheco Pass did not look good. Since Don has driven many miles in bad weather, a little rain was not going to deter him. Don came pulling into camp, sometime after 4 PM, none the worst for wear. Both Ray and Don got their trailers all set up and it was "Miller" time.

Bob Joyner's friends, Chris and Al Berget, were staying at the campground also. Al is a seasonal employee at the lake and has his trailer parked up on a hill overlooking the lake. They decided to join us and came down to "chew the fat" a little. We all decided to take a drive down the road a ways to a restaurant which is located on Fort Hunter Liggett military reservation. We were also joined by the Supervising Ranger of the lake and his wife. We all had the Prime Rib special. The menu said it was 14oz., but it was more like 20oz, what a meal! On the way back to the campground we got a few sprinkles of rain but that was about it. Bob started a campfire and it seemed the bigger the fire got, the bigger the BS got.

Friday, 11th. Bill Owens came pulling in on Friday in his pick-up, pulling his camp trailer. Don and Bob went on a ride down

to Paso Robles then rode back by way of Lake Nacimiento and Lake San Antonio.

After dinner at a local restaurant, the rest of the night was spent around the camp fire. The best part of the trip was when Don took a backwards header off his chair next to the camp fire. He stood up but lost his balance and fell back, and back, and back until he was spread eagle on the ground, he was sober too, and it was a true sight for "Funniest Home Videos". Needless to say he didn't hurt himself and a good laugh was had by all.



Saturday, 12th. The weather was outstanding, so on Saturday Bob and Don went on a ride over to the Hwy. 1 and up to Carmel for lunch. The return trip came back by way of Carmel Valley Road, a true road for motorcyclist that likes lots of "twisties". While they were gone, Brian Coldicott rode down to the campground to say hello to Ray and Bill. He didn't stay long but it was good to see him make the trip.

Al and Chris Berget had us all up for dinner at their campsite on Saturday night. They out did themselves. There was more BBQ

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pork than you could eat along with salad, green beans, corn, you name it. To top it off, there was fresh apple pie; life doesn't get much better than this.

Sunday, 13th. Bob's wife, Sandy came up. Bill, Ray and the Bergets packed up and went home. Don, Bob and Sandy stayed over until Monday. Overall, it was a great time, the rides were good, the food was good and with the exception of a little morning fog, the weather was great. Hope to see more people at the next function.

Editor's Note: You can find the write-up and more pictures taken during the campout on the website, click on the 'Events' button on the left side of the page: <http://www.norcalvoyagers.org>

2005 CHRISTMAS PARTY

By Ray Walls, NCVC President

Hello NCVC members. This is a reminder to you all. If you plan to make the Christmas party, you need to let Wayne Bright aware of it. It's going to be in his home and he needs to have some idea of how much food & drinks to buy.

We have less than 30 days remaining before the party. Again it will be on December 10th, you can start arriving (I would guess @ about 5:30pm) please don't leave him hanging, than show up for the party.

The Christmas gifts are to be for \$20.00 or less. You should buy something that you would like to have yourself. You never know what you will wind up with; it could be the very item you brought. Now get on the computer or phone and let him know something. Cheers.

Uncle Ray

EVENT FOR 2006

By Ray Walls, NCVC President

Grand Canyon Skywalk

Scheduled to open Jan. 1, 2006 Hualapai Indian Reservation:

- * Juts about 70 feet into the canyon, 4000 ft above Colorado River
- * Will accommodate 120 people comfortably (how comfortable would you be?)
- * Built with more than a million pounds of steel beams, and includes dampeners that minimize the structure's vibration
- * Designed to hold 72 million pounds, withstand an 8.0 magnitude earthquake 50 miles away, and withstand winds in excess of 100 mph
- * The walkway has a glass bottom and sides...four inches thick



We want to set up a ride in September, right after Labor Day, to go see the Grand Canyon Skywalk, and maybe go on over to 4 corners to Mesa Verde and then on up to Moab to visit the national parks on the East side of Lake Powell, and anything else we can see in; say 7 to 10 days.

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Contact Don Brubaker if you would like to go on this excursion; tell him if you want to camp out or motel it. We can do both, we just want to make sure we stay close together.

We would like to start planning this in January, so we can get it listed on our yearly event calendar.

Also, if anyone has something they would like to host please get back to Don with it, we need all the help we can get. Cheers.

AVA NEWS

Received from Duane Ash

Chapter Presidents—Announcements

1. The Board of Directors of the American Voyager Association voted to change the AVA bylaws to reflect the following change: All officers of AVA chapters must still be AVA members, but there is no make or model requirement for any AVA members, including officers.

This reflects the current trend towards other makes and/or models of motorcycles amongst even our chapter presidents and other chapter officers. In order to be realistic and to keep the AVA as strong as possible, we have voted to remove the requirement that AVA chapter presidents and other chapter officers own a Kawasaki Voyager.

2. We would like to encourage all of the chapters who host large functions to consider getting Naughton Insurance through American Motorcycle Association. This provides legal coverage for any losses suffered (through accident or injury) and protects the individual chapter and the

AVA. If you are interested in more information, please contact us and we will provide you with names, phone numbers, etc. on how to get this coverage.

3. Do not forget the deadline for the next issue (Jan/Feb 2006) is December 10. We cannot take late articles, etc. this time, as we need to get it to the printer as early as possible. With the approaching holidays, any delay in getting it to the printer will only further delay the arrival of the magazine to our membership.

Speaking of delivery delays re: the Voyagers' Voice: As many of you may have noticed over the years, "bulk mail" delivery of our magazine (the least expensive way to send it out) takes more time to be received by our membership than first class mail. Bulk mail is not direct mail, but, rather, sacks of magazines delivered to regional facilities, then to district facilities, then to cities, then to the addressee. It is a time-consuming process. Unfortunately, due to the bulk mail process, there are some of our members who do not get their magazine up to 4 weeks after it is mailed.

However, this is how it has always been sent out and we do not foresee any changes in the near future. We have considered sending it at the next higher class to cut down the general delivery time, but that would add nearly \$800 per issue in postage expenses, and we feel that is simply cost prohibitive. The only way we could afford to do this is to raise membership fees another \$8 per membership and that is something we will *not* do. It is our goal to keep the dues at the same amount as they always have been.

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If any of you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to e-mail me, snail mail me, or call me. I want to hear what you have to say.

Sincerely,

Duane L. Ash, Chairman of the Board
American Voyager Association
ashinid@cableone.net
208.746.3530 or 208.791.6660
2015 Powers Drive, Lewiston, ID 83501

LOCAL RIDE

Received from Bill Burns

My friend Keith came to Novato from San Mateo to take a three day ride I had planned. We left Novato at 8:10 AM; going out hwy 37 to Vallejo and hwy 80 North to hwy 12, thus Rio Vista and stopping at the junction of 99 and 12 for a coffee break; than on to San Andreas and hwy 49, stopping for gas and a break, Than on down hwy 49 thru Angels Camp, Columbia and Sonora; than stopping at James Town for lunch.

After lunch we went on down hwy 49 thru Chinese Camp, Coulter Ville, Bear Valley, than stopped in Mariposa for a break and to call Fresno for motel reservations, went on down hwy 49 to Oakhurst and the junction of 49 & 41; taking hwy 41 south to our motel on Blackstone & Ashlan Ave; arriving at the motel at 4:30PM and got our room. As we were unloading the Motorcycles a light rain started, after unloading we walked to a nearby Mexican Restaurant for dinner in the rain. Before going to bed around 10:00PM it had stopped raining.

We were up by 7:00AM; loaded up and left for Humphrey Station for breakfast and ride

for the day. It was very foggy so we went slowly thru town on Shaw Ave and hwy 168 which becomes Old Tollhouse road, got out of the fog just before turning off old Tollhouse road onto Sample road, picking up Pittman Hill road and stopped at Humphrey Station for breakfast. They had good food and friendly people.

From there we went East on Old Tollhouse road, to Burrough Valley road, down Maxon road, right on Trimmer Springs road passing many horse ranches on the way to hwy 180.

Taking a left on 180 going thru Squaw Valley, taking a right on Dunlap road to hwy 245, going right on hwy 245 we stopped at Woodlake for a break, on down hwy 245 to Porterville for gas and a break.

Wanting to go to Glennville and Lake Isabella and it being 2:00PM; we decided it would probably be foggy in the AM in Fresno and Bakersfield; so we decided to go to Coalinga for the night, we road home thru Priest Valley and up hwy 25 to Hollister and home.

Glennville and Lake Isabella will be saved for another trip. These were all great motorcycle roads: we had a very good trouble free ride.

A note from the President, whenever you want to take a ride down in the Fresno /Bakersfield area: let me know and I can take you on some very nice Motorcycle roads.

Uncle Ray

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10 Christmas Party - Wayne Bright's House
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25 Merry Christmas	26	27	28	29	30	31 Happy New Year

2005 Events Calendar

JAN – Death Valley Campout	FEB – VACANT	MAR – Basalt Campgrounds
APR – Corbin Seat Factory Tour	MAY – Cruise Clear Lake Queen	JUN – Cedar Grove/Fresno
JUL – AVA Rally Durango, CO	AUG – Washburn Campgrounds	SEP – Corning Ranch Campout
OCT – Basalt Campgrounds	NOV – VACANT	DEC – Christmas Party

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OTHER MOTORCYCLE STUFF

As the web site janitor and newsletter editor, I sometimes get 'interesting' solicitations from other motorcycle related organizations. The following information is not sponsored by the NorCal Voyagers but is provided for your interest, please check with them for details.

RIDER SAFETY

Borrowed from another forum...

From letters to the editor in Roadbike Magazine, Oct 2005:

* * * * *

Riders: Read This Letter!

It's that time of year when everyone hits the road, and group riding is a common thing. So, as a bike-riding trucker, I'd like to ask for a few things:

1. Stay off my bumper. I know it's cool to draft, but bumper suckers can't see what I'm running over, and I guarantee I can run over bigger things than you can. A hubcap or a piece of wood can really ruin your day on a bike.

2. If you're in a group, plan ahead. I don't like being surrounded by a bunch of bikes, especially when only half of the riders seem to know what's going on with the group as a whole. You have to leave me someplace to go in case I need to swerve, which I might have to do to keep from running someone over.

3. Stay away from my tires! In the summertime, the roads get very hot, and the heat builds up quickly in truck tires. Most of them (excluding our steering tires)

are recaps. Heat makes the glue let go, and a blowout of a tire inflated to 100 psi can literally blow you off your bike, or at least seriously hurt you.

4. If you pass me, keep up your speed instead of slowing down. There are a couple of riders who almost learned #3 and #4 the hard way in Texas. They passed me and then slowed down. As I went to pass them back, they sped up and stayed on my side so I couldn't get back over. One was nearly decapitated by a chunk of my tire when one of the tandem tires on my trailer blew at 70 mph.

5. When you go by, give me a wave, and please, use all your fingers when you do. I try to be considerate and help riders out by the way I drive and where I drive.

I don't like being around trucks any more than anyone else when I ride, but I know both sides of the story. Truckers don't have the freedom of movement or the speed you do on a bike. If you stay clear, we'll all be a lot safer.

We maintain a bunch of motorcycle related web links on our web site. Just go to:

www.norcalvoyagers.org

and click on the 'Web Links' button on the left side of the screen. This will take you to a menu that lists a number of general groupings for web links. The one above is listed in the 'Clothing' section.

Feel free to pass along links that you feel would be helpful to other club members.

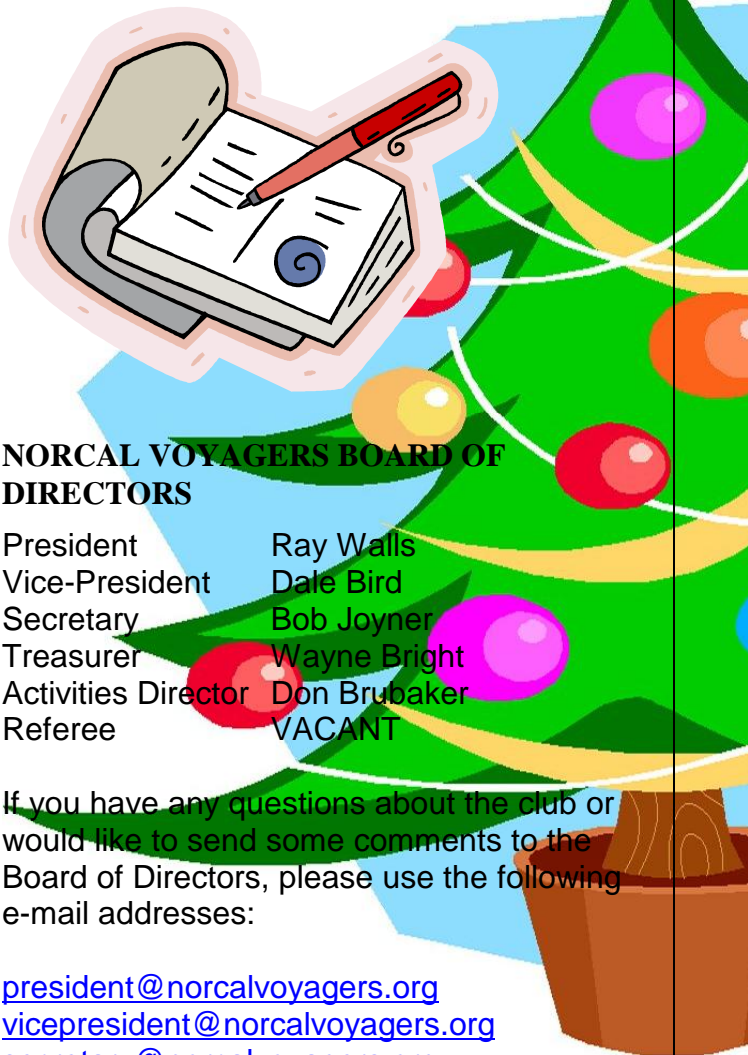
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The Last Page

And finally...

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



NORCAL VOYAGERS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Ray Walls
Vice-President	Dale Bird
Secretary	Bob Joyner
Treasurer	Wayne Bright
Activities Director	Don Brubaker
Referee	VACANT

If you have any questions about the club or would like to send some comments to the Board of Directors, please use the following e-mail addresses:

president@norcalvoyagers.org
vicepresident@norcalvoyagers.org
secretary@norcalvoyagers.org
treasurer@norcalvoyagers.org
tours@norcalvoyagers.org

Please use this Application Form to join the club

Name 1 _____ Birthday _____
E-Mail Address _____
Name 2 _____ Birthday _____
E-Mail Address _____
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