

# NorCal Voyagers Newsletter

February 2004

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## Your Club Newsletter

You have something you want to see in the NorCal Voyagers Newsletter??? Well, send it along to [news@norcalvoyagers.org](mailto: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...

### CLUB MEETING

This month's meeting will be held at the Café Orleans in Modesto. For directions or information, go to the NorCal Voyagers Web Site and click on the CALENDAR button, then click on the date for the meeting.

## Next Month...

### TURLOCK CAMPOUT – MARCH 12/13/14

From Modesto take hwy 132 east to Waterford Ca, about 14 miles, take a right turn at the 4 way stop sign in Waterford, onto Hickman Road, go to the first stop sign (about 1 mile) & turn left onto lake road, take lake road for about 11 miles, this will bring you right to the camp grounds. Phone # 209-874-2008 or 209-874-2056

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## Club Information/Business

### A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

As I sit here at the keyboard, I'm feeling a little rum dumb; I drove from Borger, Texas to Fresno yesterday, a distance of 1,367 miles. When I say I, I guess I should also add that my brother drove half of that distance. Regardless it was a long way and I am really bummed out.

Here it is January 25th, 2004 already; we didn't have much of anything going in January, Don & Doris Brubaker made a showing at the Death Valley camp out. I couldn't make it, so Don & Doris represented the NorCal Voyagers.

About the only thing we really have going for February is our first meeting of 2004 and it will be held in Modesto on the 21st. We were going to change it to Santa Nella or Los Banos, but since this is the only meeting we have set up so far for this year I decided to just keep it in Modesto. But if we do have any more this year other than at our events, they will be moved to Santa Nella or Los Banos.

I was going to go over this weekend and set something up, but since my mother passed away and I had to make a run back to Texas, I didn't get a chance to do anything.

I would like at this time to welcome three new members into our club. One is Forest (Bill) Burns, who lives in Novato Calif. Bill doesn't have a computer so we will have to do the snail mail routine on him. The other two are Larry & Dorine Kirkes from Fowler Calif, which is about 12 miles south of Fresno. They do have web access so I can harass them with e-mails. We also gained three more back in December, they were

Robert Lahn from west Sacramento, Don Rochester from Salinas, and last but not least we have Aunt Betty, (my wife) I decided to sign her up even though she won't ride or camp with us.

I also want to remind everyone that hasn't already done so; it's time to send in your dues for 2004, we need the membership and the money. So let's get off our duff and get this little chore over with.

Please remember we have a camp out this coming March 12 - 13 - 14th, at the Turlock reservoir, the directions are on the web site. And for those without web access I will snail mail them a copy.

That about does it for this month, so keep the rubber on the ground & the plastic in the air. Oh yes I almost forgot, I want to thank all of you for your cards and condolences I received for my mothers passing. You are very special people in my life and you are loved very much.



*Uncle Ray – President NorCal Voyagers*

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February 2004

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## GRAND TOUR 2004

The NorCal Voyagers Grand Tour 2004 kicked off January 1<sup>st</sup>. This is a way to enjoy your riding experience by photographing locations you've been to and submitting them on October 31.

The theme of the Grand Tour is to find **Fire Stations** in towns around your home state and take pictures of you and your bike in front of them. The trick is to get pictures of towns that start with the letters:

### **NORTHERN CALIFORNIA VOYAGERS CLUB**

For more details on this fun event, go to the club website and see the official rules and entry forms.

Join now and get an early start of those photos of different Fire Stations in and around your hometown!

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## EDITORIAL THOUGHTS

As the editor of the newsletter, I thought I'd put into words some thoughts I've had about the club newsletter.

I really appreciate being given the opportunity to help the Northern California Voyagers Club with both the Monthly Newsletter and the club Web Site (<http://www.norcalvoyagers.org>).

I took these responsibilities because I believe the club needs resources like these in order to be seen by other people (thus increasing our club size and strength) and because I have the talent and desire to do this, so it's inexpensive for the club to have these resources.

It also helps the membership know what's going on with the club, especially if it's difficult for you to make meetings or events.

I know how difficult that is, because I rarely make these events due to my work schedule and distance from my home to most of the events and meetings.

I enjoy keeping the web site up to date (which is a non-stop affair), as well as collecting information and writing articles for the Monthly Newsletter.

I badger Uncle Ray on a monthly basis to provide me with a monthly column on his view of what's going on. I have solicited the board members and Uncle Ray has requested articles and input from the club membership. I go through other Voyager related club Internet sites to garner information that I feel is interesting and informative for our club membership.

But I always get this nagging feeling that it isn't enough and I think that I need to do a bit more.

That's where you come in...I would like to request that every club member, old and new alike, send me a little about themselves in an e-mail ([editor@norcalvoyagers.org](mailto:editor@norcalvoyagers.org)).

Write a paragraph or two about yourself, or write about a ride that you went on that was particularly satisfying to you! Or maybe one that was a complete nightmare!!!

You can also provide mechanical tips (special thanks to Fritz Wells for the input to this month's newsletter) or riding suggestions.

Anything would be appreciated! Send a photo of you and your motorcycle. Tell us about the new addition or chrome thingy you put on. How about a safety tip?

These are all good items to be able to share with the club membership, and I'd be happy to accommodate that.

Remember, just send your articles, photos, motorcycle tips, or personal information to [editor@norcalvoyagers.org](mailto:editor@norcalvoyagers.org) and I'll get them in the newsletter and/or on the web site.

Thanks for reading the Monthly Newsletter!

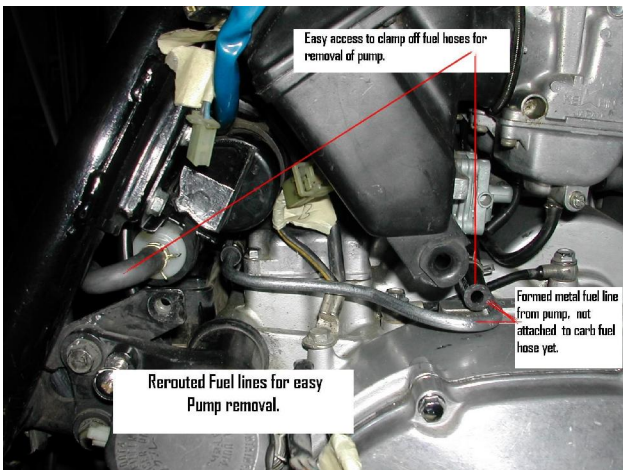
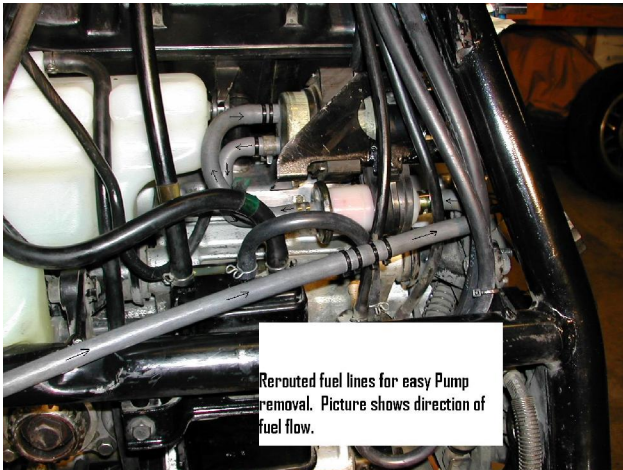
# NorCal Voyagers Newsletter

February 2004

## Member Input and Info

### FRITZ WELLS

By re-routing the fuel lines as shown, it takes about 5 minutes to remove the fuel pump. I also reversed the direction of the fuel filter. I carry two hose clamps in my tool kit to clamp off the fuel lines in case the pump ever needs to be pulled out and fixed on the road. Besides re-routing the fuel lines, I also formed a metal fuel line, which is pictured.



(The NorCal Voyager Web Site has larger versions of these pictures; go to [www.norcalvoyagers.org](http://www.norcalvoyagers.org) to see them).

### BRYCE EICHHOLZ

I came across a Voyager newsgroup. <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/VoyagerXII/> It's kinda' anemic right now, but if we help spread the word we might be able to use it for general all-around communications.

### JIM TINLIN

After seeing the Voyager group above, I thought it might be interesting to host our own Voyager Group on Yahoo. I have some experience in doing this, so 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. This costs you nothing and is just to allow Yahoo to manage their groups. If you do not presently have a Yahoo Account Name, you will be given the opportunity to create one (once you go to the above web address).

Once you have your Yahoo Account Name and go to the above address, just ask to join the group. I'll get an e-mail indicating you wish to join and I'll OK it (make sure there is enough detail in the request that I will be able to recognize you). The reason we do this is to control SPAM and Adult Content on this site.

I hope the site will be of use to you, it is a very convenient way to keep in touch as any message that is posted can be sent to you via e-mail. There are also locations for storing files, pictures, etc.

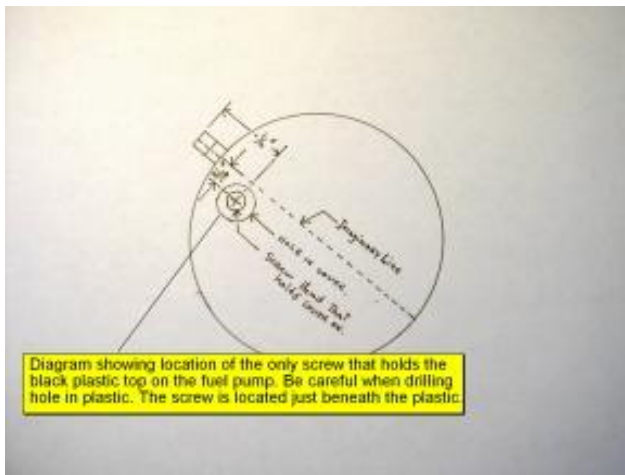
Let me know what you think of it!!!

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February 2004

## FRITZ WELLS

Following are pictures of the Voyager fuel pump, which show how to fix it should it stop working. Along with the pump pics there is a diagram showing how to remove the black end cap so the repairs may be done. Personally, I have never had one fail and do not believe this to be a wide problem. Although removing and replacing a fuel pump can take a little time if you have never done it before, the fuel pump itself is fairly easy to repair. There are contact points under the black plastic cover that sometimes stick from constant electrical arcing. When this happens, the pump will stop working and the contact points will need to be filed clean. Be careful when drilling through the plastic cap to expose the screw. The screw is JUST below the top. If you have a sharp blade, you might even be able to cut out a small square instead of drilling a hole.



(The NorCal Voyager Web Site has larger versions of these pictures; go to [www.norcalvoyagers.org](http://www.norcalvoyagers.org) to see them).



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February 2004

## The Last Page

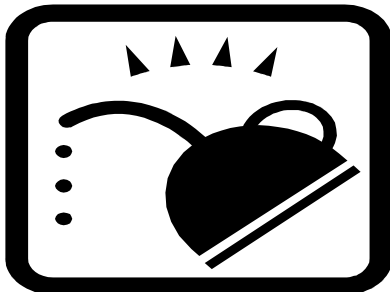
### And finally...

I saw this little article on the AVA (American Voyager Association) website. I thought it was appropriate since the first rides of the season for many people will be starting soon. Slick roads can be very dangerous for those of us on 2 wheels; here is some insight and caution for all of us...

### Safety Tips

#### GREASY OIL TRACKS:

A recent incident involving a fellow Voyager rider reminds us that the nasty oil slick you find at intersections or anywhere vehicles must stop can be an unwanted surprise to riders. In the summertime, vehicles tend to overheat and loose coolant from the overflow at these locations, making them extra slick. Centerline oil tracks can be nasty. The main thing I can say about these accidents waiting to happen is, stay alert, be aware, be prepared, and take appropriate steps to avoid or minimize the effect. Ride off the centerline, slow down early and maintain control. Be aware that leather soled shoes or boots are not very good at providing good footing in these areas. The best advice is to avoid these areas, or at least be in control in these areas. Common sense will prevail!



### Thanks to You!

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

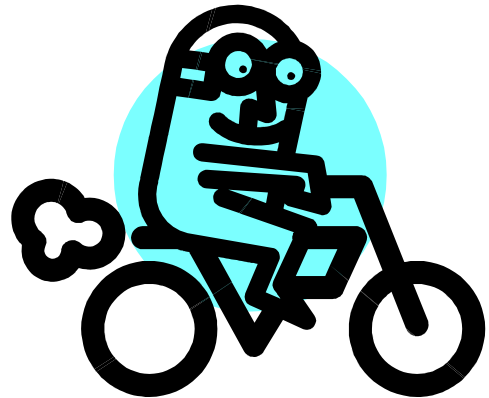
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Bob Webb ([vp@norcalvoyagers.org](mailto:vp@norcalvoyagers.org)) – Vice Pres.

Fritz Wells ([themaskedrider@earthlink.net](mailto:themaskedrider@earthlink.net)) – Member



#### HELP US HIT THE MARK

Is this content what you're looking for? Let us know by sending e-mail to any of the club board members (you can get their addresses off the web site). We appreciate the comments and want to make this newsletter useful to all our members.