

# NorCal Voyagers Newsletter

February 2007

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## NCVC Newsletter

You have something you want to see in the NorCal Voyagers Newsletter??? 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.amervoyassoc.org/>

American Motorcycle Association (AMA)

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

## This Month...

EVENT (None Scheduled)

None Scheduled



## Next Month...

EVENT (March 23-25)

Campout: Basalt Campgrounds

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# NorCal Voyagers Newsletter

February 2007

## Club Info and Activities

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Ray Walls, NCVC President

Hello NCVC members & Friends. Here it is February of 2007 already. We held our first meeting on January 27th. Really didn't have much to talk about, so we had a pretty short meeting. We had lunch before the meeting.

The waitresses were a little slow this time, which was alright with us. Gave us longer to shoot the breeze and time to find out what everybody had been doing since our last get together, which was our Christmas party in December.

We had ten members present with two guests, which I failed to introduce. The VP was out of town for this meeting, so I was supposed to make the introductions: and I failed to do so. So ladies please forgive me, and I promise I will never do it again.

Our first event of 2007 is a camp out at San Luis Reservoir at the Basalt Camp Grounds. They have hot showers, flush toilets, and hook-ups at some of the sites. And most of the sites are pretty good. The grass should be pretty and green in March so it should really be a nice camp out. (IF IT DOESN'T RAIN) Let's hope not. The dates are March 23 - 24 -25, you have over a month to get your selves all hyped up for this one. Some of our members don't come to the camp outs because all they have is a motor home or a pull trailer. It doesn't make a darn bit of difference what you have. Just get yourself out there and enjoy Mother Nature's beauty along with the rest of us and enjoy some good BS sessions around the camp fires.

Fritz is still requesting members to submit events they would like to participate in. Be it camping, a two day or longer trip to your favorite hot spot, or just a club picnic at some park on the weekend of your choice. Like I have said before, we are also open to more then one event per month, just as long as they don't overlap each other. If you have some

ideas please contact Fritz or me and we will do our best to accommodate your request.

I also forgot to mention in the minutes of our meeting that Dennis Ellingson has volunteered to take over the duties of tail gunner, AKA safety officer. Bob Joyner said he would do it, but since Bob will be spending the most part of 07 up in Montana fixing up his big spread and setting up camp sites for us when we come up to visit him, he won't have time to do much tail gunning, so good ole Dennis will do it for us. We also have a camp out up at his ranch in June; I think it's the weekend before father's day. Check our web site in about 4 weeks; we should have the itinerary pretty well completed by then.

That about covers everything for now. I am doing very well now and it looks like I just may live after all. I will find out what's going to happen on the 1-30th.

*Uncle Ray*



# NorCal Voyagers Newsletter

February 2007

## JAN CLUB MEETING MINUTES

By Ray Walls, NCVC President

Members present, Bill Burns, Brian Coldicott, Teresa Ashworth, Bill Ashworth, John De Muri, Dennis Ellingson, Jacque Ellingson, Richard Mack, Fritz Wells, and Ray Walls. Our guest were, Betty Burns & Mary Mack.

Meeting was called to order by President: Ray Walls @ 12:53PM.

### Minutes:

November minutes were read by Ray, in the Absents of Trisha Blue.

### Treasurers Report:

January 07 report was read by Ray, in the absence of Wayne Bright. The club as of 1-27-07 has a total of \$2'679.58 in the Treasury.



### Activities Directors Report:

Fritz reported that we have nothing scheduled for February, but we do have a camp out scheduled at the Basalt camp grounds just West of Los Banos on hwy 152 March 23 - 24 & 25. They have flush toilets, hot showers, and nice camp sites (some with hook ups). There is also some good fishing in the lake. Then we have a camp out in June up in Corning at Dennis & Jacque Ellingson's ranch. More details will come as we get closer to June. Fritz said that no one has submitted any suggestions for camp outs or over night excursions.

### Presentation of Bills:

There were none.

### Old Business:

- Dennis reminded everyone that there was a motion made at the Christmas party for the club to pay Ray's membership dues in the AVA. A vote was taken and the motion was approved.
- Ray stated that he didn't have anything except for the club shirts and wants to hold off on them until the March meeting. By this time we will know just how many members have renewed their memberships for 07. Then we can bring it up for discussion again.

### New Business:

- Ray stated that we have about 20 of our 54 members that have renewed their memberships at this time.
- Fritz said he has two helmets for sale. One is a ¾ open face HJC white in color. He is asking \$75.00 for the HJC. It has been worn three times and is like new. The other one is flip up with a sun shield that pulls down inside the face shield, he paid over \$500.00 for it and is asking \$300.00. It also is white and was worn one time, (sorry I can't remember the brand name) but contact Fritz if you are interested. Call me if you don't have his number @ 559- 227-3045.
- Jacque requested that everyone planning on making the camp out in June to please let her know in plenty of time to allow for purchasing the necessary amount of food.
- Ray asked if anyone had anything they wanted to bring up or something to say. No one had anything, so Ray asked what everyone thought about just staying in Manteca for all of our 07 meetings, since it is pretty much centralized for everyone except for Bob Joyner and Jim Tinlin. He said that Bob will be in Montana for most of this year. And Jim still has a little over two years before he retires, and his work schedule at PG&E keeps him from making the meetings most of the time. Ray asked

# NorCal Voyagers Newsletter

February 2007

for a show of hands for those in favor. Everyone raised their hands in approval. So it's settled, we will hold all of our bimonthly meetings at Perko's in Manteca on the last weekend of every month unless it falls on a Holiday, at that time it will be moved up one week.

Ray closed the meeting @ 1:18 pm.



## NAT'L PARKS TOUR: 5

By Ray Walls, NCVC President

SEPT 19: When we left Kingman, we left out on Route 66 again. We went through some pretty rugged country. When we went over Sit greaves Pass there was a pull out on our left over looking the valley below. We could see the city of Oatman Arizona from there. There was also an old timer sitting out in the sun looking out over the valley, just him his old bread truck made into an RV and his dog. We hung around and shot the breeze with him for about thirty minutes, he gave us good bit of historical information on the surrounding area. His wife had died a few years earlier, so he and his old dog were all alone, said he was just waiting for his turn to go; so they could be together again. This sent cold chills down my spine, but still I could understand where he was coming from.

We departed the pull out and headed down into Oatman, we went past some old gold mines that have been abandoned for years, and we went by a couple that are still in operation. It was still pretty early when we pulled into Oatman, there wasn't anything opened up for business at that time of day, but there were a couple of vendors just starting to set up their tables. Oatman is nothing now but a tourist attraction, with a bunch of old retirees that want to get away from the fast life and noise of the cities. I will say one thing for them; they couldn't have picked a much better spot. Man its dead around there. The only thing we saw moving other then the two vendors was a few burrows that hang around town for food hand outs from the tourist coming through. And I guess some of the locals feed them too, I would imagine this is to keep them coming back; they make a pretty good tourist attraction.

We departed Oatman and headed south for Topock and I40. We stayed on I40 all the way into Needles, where we fueled our steeds and ourselves. From there we stayed on I40 for about 35 miles, where we picked up US 66 again. Only this time it isn't know as Route 66 anymore. They now call it the National Trails HWY. The road was pretty good and we made some fairly good time, we did stop at an old abandoned pit stop along the hwy for a rest break and a shot of H2O, I think the place was called Essex, anyway there was nothing around except for a farm house across the road and what was left of what looked like an old trailer or RV park.

We mounted up and headed for a little town called Amboy. It used to be a thriving little community sever years ago, the rail road abandoned it and from the looks of it so did everyone else. There is an old service station still there along with a motel & a café. The station was open only for water and sodas and I think maybe beer. The guy that owns the El Polo Loco chicken franchises found out the whole town was up for sale. I guess he had more money then he knew what to do with so he just up and bought the whole damn town. He says he doesn't want to change anything,

# NorCal Voyagers Newsletter

February 2007

he will leave it just like it is, but he is refurbishing the motel rooms and café and waiting for the environmental people to get off their butts and let him bring gasoline back in there. He is also waiting for the Federal Government to declare the whole Route 66 a national treasure and then he will open for business in a big way. Once this is approved, then all the tour buses will put this place on the map as a tourist attraction. It should be nice and quite around there, unless they start getting a bunch of large trucks coming through at night. We were there for about 30 minutes, got our whistles wet and mounted up for our westward journey.

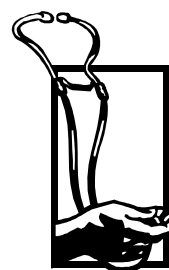
From Amboy all the way up to Ludlow & I40 the road was terrible, there were chug holes you could hide in, and then the wind started picking up, I would say it got up to around 35 to 40 mph. It was about 35 miles from Amboy to Ludlow. We stopped at the local Dairy Queen and had a bit to eat. From there we hit I40 again all the way into Barstow with a 35 to 40 mph head wind. Man talk about kicking your butt, this will do it up proper. We arrived at our motel around 4:30, got checked in, and cleaned up enough for dinner. After dinner we settled down for some R & R and a cold beer.

Sept 20, everyone was up and about by 0730, we went over to a I think a Perko's for breakfast. We were out on the road by 0900. We picked up US 58 from Barstow. The wind was still blowing like crazy. Somewhere between Barstow and Mojave, Roger Allen decided he wanted to cut off and visit an old friend of his. The three of us that remained did a detour around Mojave on US 58 and headed on into Bakersfield. The wind was still pretty strong until we passed over the Tehachapi pass. We stopped in Weed Patch for fuel and a bite to eat. We left out of there about 30 minutes later and headed on over to HWY 99. We hit hwy 99 around 1400 and headed north at a pretty good clip.

We arrived in Fresno about 1.5 hours later. Tired as hell, but ready to do it all over again.

We are at this time working on a tour for next year, since its early yet. It would be nice if some of you got out of the easy chair and assisted us in this endeavor. This way you can say you had a hand in planning a great tour in 2007.

Here again I want to thank those of you that helped make this a wonderful tour. Without you there wouldn't have been one. I enjoyed your company every day that we were together and am looking forward to another on in 2007.



## HEALTH UPDATE

By Ray Walls, NCVV President

Hello NCVV members & Friends. Here is the latest on little ole me. I have had one Epidural that took away about 60% of my pain. Then my doctor decided to put me back on the decompression treatments.

I now have had a total of 11 treatments, and I feel like a new person. I have very little pain and that's only when I strain trying to do something. I have 4 more treatments to go, and then he will re-evaluate my progress on February the 29th.

I talked to the Doctors at the Palo Alto VA Hospital on the 30th. They told me that they would have done the same treatment I have been getting. And they did say that if it becomes necessary for me to have surgery: they will do it for me. So as of now I'm well on the mend. But I do still have to be very careful about what I do and the way I do it. If I continue to heal the way I have in the past three weeks, I think I will be back on the bike by March.

# NorCal Voyagers Newsletter

February 2007



## February 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28			

### 2007 Club Events Calendar

<b>JAN 27</b> – Meeting: Manteca	<b>FEB</b> – VACANT	<b>MAR 23-25</b> – Campout: Basalt
<b>APR TBD</b> – Campout: San Simeon	<b>MAY</b> – VACANT	<b>JUN 9-10</b> – Campout: Corning
<b>JUL</b> – VACANT	<b>AUG</b> – VACANT	<b>SEP</b> – VACANT
<b>OCT</b> – VACANT	<b>NOV</b> – VACANT	<b>DEC 8</b> – Christmas Party: Fresno

# NorCal Voyagers Newsletter

February 2007

## 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](mailto:editor@norcalvoyagers.org)



### NORCAL VOYAGERS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Ray Walls
Vice-President	Don Medina
Secretary	Trish Blue
Treasurer	Wayne Bright
Activities Director	Fritz Wells
Tail gunner	Dennis Ellingson

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](mailto:president@norcalvoyagers.org)  
[vicepresident@norcalvoyagers.org](mailto:vicepresident@norcalvoyagers.org)  
[secretary@norcalvoyagers.org](mailto:secretary@norcalvoyagers.org)  
[treasurer@norcalvoyagers.org](mailto:treasurer@norcalvoyagers.org)  
[tours@norcalvoyagers.org](mailto:tours@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