

NorCal Voyagers Newsletter

January 2007



NCVC 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.amervoyassoc.org/>

American Motorcycle Association (AMA)

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

This Month...

MEETING (January 27)

12:00 Noon: Club Meeting (Mantica, Ca)



Next Month...

EVENT (February OPEN)

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Club Info and Activities

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Ray Walls, NCVC President

Hello NCVC members & Friends. Hope everyone had a most wonderful Christmas and a very happy New Year. I also hope everyone received exactly what they wanted the little fat guy to bring them.

Here it is January 2007. Where oh where has the time gone? Just think the NCVC will be 7 years old this coming July. And we are starting out a brand new year with mostly a new governing board. Your new V P is Don Medina from Half Moon Bay, The secretary is Trisha Blue also from Half Moon Bay and your new activities director is Fritz Wells from Watsonville. Your new Sergeant at arms is Bob Joyner from Templeton. Then you have Wayne Bright as the Treasurer, held over by popular demand for the third time. And last but not least your loving President; little ole me, held over by popular demand for the 6th time (no body wants the damn job), so I guess I'm just stuck with it.

Fritz has already started working on our 2007 itinerary and he has asked for some input from you members out there. We know you want to go someplace and do something, whether it be camping or go someplace for a day or two or maybe even three or four days.

So unless you tell us what you would like to do, it's just natural we will fill up the year with what we like to do and this makes you unhappy because we aren't doing what you would like to do. The answer to your question is to get out of your easy chair, sit down at the keyboard and send Fritz a little note about what, where, & when you would like to do your thing, and he will do his best to make you eternally happy. I have found that happy members are the best members. So get up and get busy, Fritz is waiting.

We want to have another 5 to 10 day trip again this year, so you can also help on this one, too. A ride back to New Mexico to visit the Carlsbad Caverns has already been suggested and we have thought about doing this one in the last two weeks of August to give the guys with children a chance to go before the little darlings have to return to school. So again we need feedback from you.

Now for a little up date on me, I went in on Wednesday 12-20-06 and had an Epidural treatment, on Thursday I felt much better, most of the pain I had in my right leg is gone.

I do, however, still have some numbness from the knee cap down in the R/L and I still have some very low grade pain in my lower buttocks.

The Doctor said that it sometimes takes 2 to 7 days for me to get the full benefit from the Epidural. For those of you that don't know what that is, it's a procedure where they lay you on your stomach and stick needles into the nerves that are causing you the pain. It's an injection that causes the swelling to go down on the pinched nerve, hopefully enough to get it away from the bad disc. I must say that it has helped me considerably. I can have two more of these treatments before we have to worry about surgery.

My only problem with this is the fact that I am now having to wear a back brace to keep the disc from moving around on me, I can't bend over any farther then the brace will allow me to bend, I can't lift anything over 15 lbs and then it's just from my waist up to my shoulders.

Then to make matters worse, I fell about a week ago and tore up my rotator cuff surgery I had a couple of years ago. Now I have to go in and have this check out. Hopefully it's just bruised, but what ever it is; it hurts like hell. As I said before IT'S HELL GETTING OLD.

Right now all my plans for the future are on hold. I won't make any decisions on getting rid of anything until probably some time in

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February or March. I will keep you up dated from time to time. But as of right now I am grounded.

We will have our first meeting sometime this month, I have no idea where it will be, but it will be on the last Saturday of the month unless it falls on a holiday. Fritz will set this up and Jim will post it on the web site, and it may even be in this issue of the news letter since I'm writing this in December. Also, I want to thank all the '06 board members for their help in keeping us going. I want to thank the new board members for stepping up to the plate and keeping us from folding. I also want to thank Jim Tinlin, our web master, for doing such a superb job on our web site. This guy edits the news letter, puts it together and sends it out to me and the VP for distribution. I think he should be commended in the highest honor. THANK YOU JIM FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART.

Hope to see a lot of you at the January meeting. If the weather is fowl don't worry about it, just jump in the four wheeler and come on down. No one will make fun of you for being smart. See you in January. Cheers.

Uncle Ray

DUES DUE

By Ray Walls, NCVC President

Guess what??? Club dues are now due. Those of you that have not sent yours in please do so no later then March the first. Mail your dues to Wayne Bright, 2149 Gibson Ave., Clovis, Ca. 93611-0698. Dues are still \$10.00 for a single and \$15.00 for two in the same household.

NATIONAL PARKS TOUR: 4

By Ray Walls, NCVC President

Sept 18. Everyone was up and ready to leave by 8:00 am. We pulled out of Williams heading for the Hualapi Indian Reservation (pronounced as Walapi) over on the West rim of the canyon.

The traffic was very good, hardly any vehicles on the road but us. We were on old Route 66 and we rode about 45 minutes when we came into Seligman AZ. Here they have all the buildings dressed up just like back in the 40's & 50's, Heck all the buildings were from that era too. I can vaguely remember going through here back in the early 50's and I don't think anything has changed except for some of the cars are a little newer.

There were two or three tour buses stopped there to let the tourist spend some more of their life savings. We stopped just long enough to let Wayne & Roger take a couple of photos, then we were gone.

We were getting close to our turn off to the reservation and Al decided we should stop at the Grand Canyon Caverns and check on the road conditions out to the reservation and the distance from where we were. Some of us decided to top off our tanks since it's so far from point A to point B out in this country. While we were doing this Al made a couple of phone calls, and what he found out was the Arch wasn't open for business and the road was dirt and gravel from the Caverns to the reservation and it was about 65 miles.

We put our heads together and decided it wasn't worth the effort from this side of the canyon, since there was a road that was much shorter over on the West side, Al asked one of the ladies that worked at the Caverns why the Arch wasn't open for business yet; the answer he got was a little disturbing, she said they were having problems getting an Insurance company to cover them, so they couldn't open it up to the public. They did say we could come out and view the arch.

From there we decided to just head on into Kingman and check into our motel, have a cup of java and talk things over. We arrive at the motel about 12:30, got checked in and had our little conference. Some wanted to go on up to see what the road looked like from the Western side, so Al made another phone call and was told the road was the same as the south side except that it was only about 25 miles in; 50

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miles round trip. Some of us decided to go on up to Lake Mead and look around, since none of us had been up there in the past 40 years.



We took hwy 93 North out of Kingman up to Meadview which is just south of the lake about 3 miles. On our way up we stopped at the road going over to the reservation, Roger stopped and talked to a guy in a motor home that was contemplating making the trip or not. While we were there, there were two pickups and one car that came out of there. When they stopped at the stop sign you couldn't tell what color they were. That was enough to tell me I didn't want to ride my bike back in there, arch or no arch.



We decided to just ride on up to the lake and take a few photos and view the sights. This took all of about 45 minutes, then we headed back to the Motel. We took a different route back to Kingman, we hit a back road that was in very good shape (new mostly). There was no traffic at all, so we let the ole hammer down and went on back to town. It was getting on to about dinner time when we arrived back at the

Motel. It was decided that we should partake of the world famous Cracker Barrel for diner. We arrived there at about 5:30 pm. The food as always at a Cracker Barrel was delicious. From there we went back to our motel rooms and started making preparations for our last night together as a group.



Sept 19, This morning we all said our goodbye's to each other, for here is where we will split up. Al & Wendy, and Don Brubaker would head for Las Vegas, while Roger, Fred Andrew, Wayne Bright & myself would head out for Barstow. I think we got out of there around 9:00 am and headed West on old Route 66 again.

I can remember driving from Texas to California on Route 66 years & years ago, so after driving it again I was dumbfounded at how different things looked from what I could remember from years ago. It just blows my mind to think there were big trucks and thousands of automobiles traveling on that little narrow switch backed road. I will tell you this, if they drove back then the way they drive today, there would have been thousands of people killed on that road. I'm sure there were several hundred killed as it is.

I thought this would be the final chapter, so in the February issue of the news letter you will find chapter 5, the final chapter of a wonderful ride.



January 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 New Years Day	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 NCVC Club Meeting (Manteca, CA)
28	29	30	31			

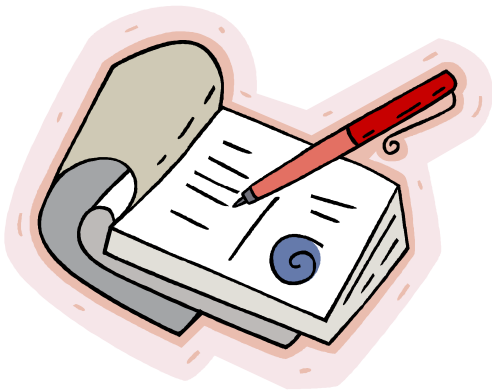
2007 Club Events Calendar

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

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	Don Medina
Secretary	Trish Blue
Treasurer	Wayne Bright
Activities Director	Fritz Wells
Tail gunner	Bob Joyner

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 _____ 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 Clovis, Ca. / 93611-0698