

NorCal Voyagers Newsletter

July 2004



Your Club Newsletter

You have something you want to see in the NorCal Voyagers Newsletter??? Well, 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 IN MONTEREY – JULY 2-5

Enjoy Independence Day Weekend at the park. We'll be camping there all weekend.

PORTOLA TRAIN MUSEUM – JULY 16-17

Want to be the engineer of your own train? Then come stay with us at the Lariat Lodge in Quincy, California and we'll ride the rails the following day in Portola. Come on up and enjoy the weekend with the club!



Next Month...

CAMPOUT AT VETERAN'S MEMORIAL PARK – AUG 20-23

Join the club with a nice weekend campout in Monterey.

{See the Web Site for details}

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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 NCVV Members & Friends. Our June event was Dale & Pam's wedding. There were only 8 members in attendance; this was counting Dale & Pam. The wedding ceremony was very nice and pretty touching. We got to see OLE Dale get all chocked up, and we saw a few tears from Pam. They were both looking good. After the ceremony was over. We all went back over to the Hilton Hotel where we stayed that night. Dale spared no expense on this one. Don, Bryce, and my self were going to eat all of his food and drink all of his beer. We didn't even put a dent in it. Although we did get our share. They had a DJ who played all types of music and we danced for what seemed like about an hour. But it was really about 4 hours. A great time was had by all. I didn't get any pictures that were real good. But I do have a couple that may be worth posting.

Now a reminder on our July event, we are going to Quincy on the 17th, spend the night at the Lariat Motel, have dinner at Janice's steak house. We all need to be at the motel by 6:00PM on the 17th. Our reservations for dinner are at 6:30 PM. Sunday morning we will get up early and depart Quincy no later than 8:00AM. For Portola! About an hours ride. We will decide where and what time we want to have breakfast during dinner on Saturday.

We have the train reserved from 10:00AM until 2:00 PM on Sunday. We now at this time have 19 people signed up to go. We can always use more. The more we have the more camaraderie we will have. Plus there will be a few people there that have never met each other. So now is a good

time to come out and get acquainted with some of those you have never met.

The August event has been changed. I had us scheduled for a camp out at Huntington Lake. But after dwelling on it for a few weeks, I decided that Monterey Vets Park would be better. It gives us access to a lot more places to ride and places to visit. Plus they have showers and flush toilets there. And most of all it's a lot cooler than Fresno, The dates have also been changed, we will be camping on the 27th through the 29th. For those that can make it I will be going over on the 26th if you want to come over early. I would like to have someone with a Golden Access card or a Golden Age card come along with me so we can have two sites at half price. Anyone out there that has one of these and can go on the 26th please let me know.

I also want to remind everyone about the 7-day ride in September, the 10th through the 17th. I will send out another copy of the itinerary so you will have phone numbers and names for the motels. I asked for those that were going with us to let me know. So far I have had two people call me. So what we will do now since no one wants to talk to me is meet at the motel in Weaverville and we will go with who ever shows up, regardless of the number of riders.

I guess Don & Doris are the only ones from the NCVV that are going to the AVA rally in July. Hopefully Doris will win another trailer or something shinny for Don's bike. This about does it for this time. So keep the rubber side down & the plastic in the air.

Sincerely, Uncle Ray
President NorCal Voyagers

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MOTORCYCLE SAFETY

Beware of White, and Yellow lines on the road. If you like to white line or split lanes, you've experienced bike-jiggle (my name for it) that sometimes makes you wonder where the bike is really going and who's in control. Bike-jiggle really gets your attention when there is a little moisture on the painted lines. Sometimes it almost like riding a slip and slide.... Watch out for those lines... They can bounce you around. If you have not yet experienced this great adventure, here's what you do and don't do...

DO:

- Let the bike roam around as it wants, and apply a little pressure either to the right or left handle bar (in the direction away from the line)
- Maintain your speed (In most cases this is always the best thing to do, or you can also very, very slowly back-off the throttle but by the time you have reduced your speed the event will have already passed, well unless you've done something stupid)

DON'T

- Do not use your brakes
- Do not back-off the throttle real fast (if possible maintain you speed)
- Do not make any rapid handle bar movements (depending on how fast you're going, this may cause you to loose control and then bad things will happen)

Speaking of painted things, STOP, YIELD, CAR POOL LANE, SCHOOL and other road markings like diamonds and arrows can also put you down or give you one hell of a surprise... Again, moisture is the main trouble on this one...and like the solid lines above, most have been painted several times and are raised up any where from a

1/64 to almost 1/4 of an inch from the road surface, so guess what happens when you don't hit them square. Even on dry roads these painted areas can be a hazard for motorcycle riders... So watch your speed, braking and when ever possible, hit them square on... Don't need any unplanned suspensions...

Don't always trust your eyes... Just because you don't see water on the road doesn't mean it's not wet. Not to long ago, I came up on a corner that had some sprinklers going on a near by grass area. I eyeballed the road, looked dry, the sprinklers were pointed away from the road and were at least 10 feet from the road, so I proceeded to slow down for the turn and leaned the bike to the right and started into the corner around 25 MPH.... Oooops, the bike all of a sudden wanted to get out from underneath me.... Both wheels skipped a little to the left... Luck was with me and I managed to keep the bike up and made the corner with out damaging myself or the bike. So what happened.... WIND is what happened..... The wind was blowing right to left and managed to put a light mist onto the road... Yes, I felt the wind and a very fine mist on my face just as the bike started to go out from under me... Too late to do anything except hang on and point the bike down the road... The point, if you see water anywhere in the area, don't assume the road is dry just because it looks like it. This is especially true in a turn / corner, be ready for the unexpected... Chances are there a thin film on the road way and unless you hit it straight up and straight on, you might be in for another road-way surprises....

*Dan 'Dirtydan' Schmalz, Huntington Beach, CA
Member, Southern California Shadow Riders*

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MODS, ADD-ONS, & CHOME

Thought I'd add an article on modifications we make to our motorcycles. Seems like very few of us leave our motorcycle in its stock condition. We are always adding something here and there. Everything from a simple piece of chrome to complete re-designs of the sound system.

This month, Fritz Wells shows us how to clean up the front forks. This is a daunting task and will take a bit of time, but from the photos you will see it is an incredible improvement over the standard 'rough look':



It's a hell of a lot of work. You need to have your own polishing wheel and at least a 1hp motor. There's a heck of a lot of sanding with different grits of paper and then abrasive cloth.

Before you even start sanding, you need to use paint remover to remove the clear coat. After you finish polishing them, you need to use lacquer thinner and a soft cotton towel to remove all the polish. Then you need to clear coat them again.

The clear coat I used is called 'Nyalic'. Eastwood products used to sell it but they changed brands because it cost them too much money for them to make any profit. I think K-mart sells it. Eastwood has a different brand that they say works pretty good. I had a new can stored away for a few years. It was still good.

Note: if you try to polish them without stripping them first, the buffing wheel will burn the aluminum.



O Yes, one more thing, they need to be completely taken apart and cleaned before you start.

NEED ACCESSORIES / PARTS?

Carl Leo has a contact that can still get most of the accessories for the Voyager. These are the accessories that 'Vista Kawasaki' used to carry. He doesn't know how long these accessories are going to last, so first come first serve. I told Carl I wanted to get this info to all of you in the club first before its posted on the AVA or Wyz sites. So if you want any of these accessories, dig deep into those pockets because it may be the last chance you get.

- Go to the web page <http://www.kawasakivista.com>
- Click on Touring & Cruiser Accessories
- Click on either Voyager XII #1 or #2
- Get the part numbers of the items you want
- Email Carl Leo with you order at cg1520@aol.com

Fritz Wells, member NorCal Voyagers

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The Last Page

And finally...

We now have the new Brochures that you can pass out to bike riders you happen to meet up with. Plus you can always leave a few at the Kawasaki dealerships in your area.

Please send e-mail to Ray Walls (CWALLS64@aol.com), telling how many you would like to receive and they will get out to you ASAP. Or he can E-mail the original to you and you can have as many printed up as you want. We are folding them into thirds. The right side folds in right to left. And the left side folds in left to right over the right side. This way when you open it up, the first thing you see is HOW TO CONTACT US.

Now if any of you have any suggestions on how to make these brochures better. Please feel free to contact Ray and give your suggestion. If the board likes it and approves it, then we will implement the upgrade ASAP.

You can also obtain the brochure file from the NorCal Voyagers Web site by using the following link:

www.norcalvoyagers.org/brochure.pdf



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 Clovis, Ca. / 93611-0698