

NorCal Voyagers Newsletter

March 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...

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

Next Month...

LAKE SANTA MARGARITA CAMPOUT – APRIL 1/2/3

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Some or all of the opinions expressed in this publication may not be those of the Northern California Voyagers Club, its' officers, sponsors, advertisers, or the newsletter staff.

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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.

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.

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Club Information/Business

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello NCVV members. I have just received this information from Dale Bird & Pam Wright. The soon to be MR. & MRS. Dale Bird.

Pam & Dale will be married at their home in the afternoon of June 5, 2004. They have expressed a desire to throw a whole bunch of money away on this club and it's members. Dale has a bunch of rooms blocked off with a discount at the Holiday Inn, in Morgan Hill Ca. That's just North of Gilroy or just South of San Jose, on Hiway 101.

Now for those of you that would like to receive an invitation to this big extravaganza, you must either E-mail Dale & Pam at pamila_w@yahoo.com or you can call them @ 408-779-6589. You will be sent an invitation which is the normal procedure for things like this.

The wedding will be at their home just west of Morgan Hill about 3 miles. The reception will be held at the Holiday Inn, That's where most of us will probably be staying that Saturday Night.

Dale has assured me that there will be no expense spared on this event. So let's all go spend his money and save ours for riding motorcycles. Dale said that some of you don't know him or Pam, but if you belong to the Nor Cal Voyagers, you must be all right, therefore you are all invited. I guess that's about all I can think of to get myself into trouble. But please don't drag your feet on this thing. getting invitations out and getting everything set up just right or as the bride wants it to be, is very hard work and very time consuming. So don't keep them wondering what you are going to do. Cheers.



Uncle Ray – President NorCal Voyagers

FEBRUARY 2004 MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was held on Saturday, February 21, 2004, in Modesto, California. There were twelve members present and two guests. The following members composed the meeting:

Ray Walls, President
Don Brubaker
Bob Webb, Vice-President
Melody Hite
Bill Owens
Jim Kramlich
Roger Allen
Richard Mack
Fred Andrew
Bryce Eicholz
Janice Davies
Rick Bowman

The meeting was called to order by President Ray Walls

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February Meeting (continued)

Treasury Report

The treasury report states that in our bank account as of this meeting is \$1,157.60

Old Business

Ray asked about the status of the club flyer. Bob Webb stated that he had forgotten all about it. He will begin working on it and should have it ready in approximately two months.

Ray discussed the filling of current vacancies on the Board of Directors and asked if anyone would be interested in taking over the position of Activities Director. He stated the job should be fairly easy to do since all of the 2004 events have already been planned. There were no volunteers for this position.

The status of the Club flags are not known at this time. The disk provided by the shirt company was corrupt and the company designing the flags was attempting to redo the colors to match the club logo. Ray requested the membership authorize the expenditure of \$100.00 to redo the disk if the current one could not be repaired. A vote was taken and the motion was passed.

The shirt vendor currently used by the club has failed to respond to calls and emails sent by Ray. The club has several shirts on order going back to October, 2003. Ray suggested we find a new vendor. The company that is doing the flags has offered the club a fairly good deal on shirts, if we get the disk to work properly. Ray suggested the club stop purchasing T-shirts and go to the Polo shirts. This proposal was agreed upon by the members present.

New Business

Ray wants to get the 2004 event schedule completed. The camp out and poker run for June has been cancelled. Dale and Pam's wedding has been added in its place. Ray had a camp out schedule at Huntington Lake in August. However, he feels we should try to move it to the coast where there would be more places to ride. Ray has asked Bob Joyner if he will look into getting reservations somewhere around San Simeon or farther north. In the interim, Huntington Lake will stay on the schedule for August. Roger Allen has suggested an overnight trip to the train museum in Portola. He has agreed to set the trip up. He thinks the cost will be around \$15.00 per person if we have enough membership to qualify for the discount price. This price will also let you run the train yourself for 15 – 30 minutes. When the ride is over, you receive a certificate stating you are a certified Train Engineer. We also have added the Blossom Trail ride in Fresno to the schedule for March 7th. This is a charity run put on by the GWTA. There will be a flyer posted on our web site giving you all the information about the ride.

The camp out for April has been changed to April 1, 2 & 3 (Thursday through Saturday). Bob Joyner will be our host for this one. He will have directions posted on the web site for those who desire to attend.

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February Meeting (continued)

Ray stated we have 38 members out of 68 that have paid their 2004 dues. Out of the 30 left, we have 5 that are non-paying members that live out of state. For the rest of those remaining, Ray has mailed them a letter asking for a response by March 1st, or they will be dropped from membership. We have gained 7 new members as of December 1, 2003.

Ray inquired as to how many members are planning on attending the AVA rally back East in July. There were only 3 members who expressed an interest in attending the rally.

Ray discussed moving the club meeting place south of Modesto to either Santa Nella or Los Banos. This would make the distance a little closer for those who live south of Modesto, like Bob Joyner and Jim Tinlin who travel over 400 miles round trip to attend a meeting. The meetings for the rest of 2004 will be held in conjunction with planned club events. Members will be informed later in the year as to where the new meeting site will be located.

Bob Webb held the drawing for the Club's 50/50. The pot was \$56.00. The winner was Bill Owens who donated his winning \$ back to the club treasury. Members in attendance also purchased approximately \$250.00 in club apparel.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. President Ray Walls adjourned the meeting at 1:40 p.m.

Ray Walls, President



GRAND TOUR 2004

The NorCal Voyagers Grand Tour 2004 kicked off January 1st. 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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Member Input and Info

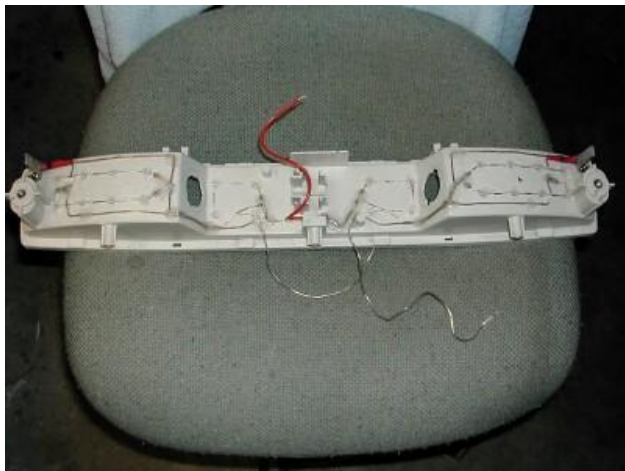
FRITZ WELLS

Fritz has been up to it again. What follows are some amazing pictures of an addition he made to his motorcycle.

Everyone knows that making sure you are seen on a motorcycle is one of the most defensive driving techniques you can have in your jacket.

What Fritz did is improve on that theory and really light up his Voyager by installing a number of LEDs (Light Emitting Diodes) on the back panels of his Voyager.

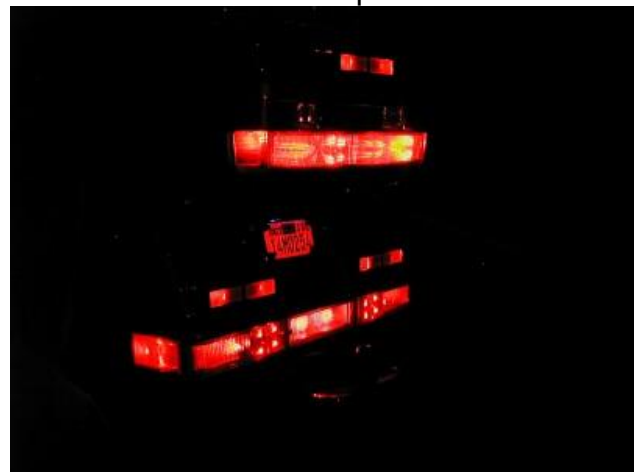
Take a look at what Fritz did:



Wiring and installation of LEDs



The finished product!



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

JIM TINLIN

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.

It's a quick way to stay in contact with your club membership, give it a try!

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The Last Page

And finally...

After reading the Cal/NevAri Newsletter, I thought that continuing with a 'Safety Tips' section on the newsletter would be a good idea.

Do you have a 'Safety Tip'? Send it along to me or anyone on the club board and we'll get it in next months newsletter.

Safety Tips

OLD MAN WINTER

Although we've got it pretty good out here on the west coast, some of us do find that we can't ride 12 months out of the year. So when the bad weather is upon us, we give the bike it's last bath of the season and clean it up real fine. Then we tenderly wrap it up (or maybe just park it in the corner and it gets wrapped up after a few weeks).

Then the weather turns nice again and we get that longing to hit the road and enjoy the outdoors on 2-wheels. Do you just uncover the bike, jump on it, and take a 300 mile ride? If you do, you may be missing some very important safety items that should not be left out of your pre-ride routine.

Looking at the Kawasaki Voyager Owners' Manual, I found the following tips:

- Check the electrolyte level in the battery and charge the battery, if necessary. If you removed the battery during storage, ensure the vent hose is not pinched at that it is kept away from the driving system and frame parts.
- Make sure the spark plugs are tight.
- Fill the tank with fuel.
- Check all the points listed in the Daily Safety Checks section, which include:

- Check the engine oil level between the 2 lines of the sight glass.
- Check the tire air pressure (cold).
- Check nuts, bolts, and fasteners on the steering and suspension components, axles, and all controls are properly tightened or fastened.
- Check the steering is smooth but not loose from lock to lock with no binding of control cables.
- Check for brake pad wear and no fluid leakage.
- Throttle grip play between 2-4 mm.
- No clutch fluid leakage.
- No coolant leakage and adequate level.
- No oil leakage from final gear case.
- All lights and horn work (including turn signals).
- Engine stop switch does shut off the engine.
- Make sure the side and center stands return to the full up positions by spring tension.

Using these tips can make sure your first ride of the season is a safe one. Enjoy!

Thanks to You!

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

Jim Tinlin (news@norcalvoyagers.org) – Editor

Ray Walls (president@norcalvoyagers.org) - President

Fritz Wells (themaskedrider@earthlink.net) – Member