

# NorCal Voyagers Newsletter

May 2009



## 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

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: GROUP RIDE (5/8-10)**  
2 Day ride to Susanville

**NCVC MEETING: MANTECA (5/23)**  
Perko's Restaurant (1703 E. Yosemite Ave)

## Next Month...

**EVENT: NONE SCHEDULED (TBD)**  
No Scheduled Events in June



*NorCal Voyagers Newsletter* is developed for the Northern California Voyagers Club and is freely distributed as a benefit of membership.

The *NorCal Voyagers Newsletter* is not a policy or formal arm of the Northern California Voyagers Club, but rather an informational source for it's' members.

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

The *NorCal Voyagers Newsletter* reserves the right to edit or correct any mistakes within information submitted for publication.

The *NorCal Voyagers Newsletter* is not responsible for the accuracy of content printed within these pages.

Any questions concerning content or information contained in the *NorCal Voyagers Newsletter* can be submitted to [editor@norcalvoyagers.org](mailto:editor@norcalvoyagers.org) for review.

The words "Voyager" and "Kawasaki" are registered trademarks of the Kawasaki Corporation and are used for reference purposes only.

# NorCal Voyagers Newsletter

May 2009

## Club Info and Activities

### PRESIDENT'S LETTER

By Don Medina, NCVC President

By now you have your reservations made for the Susanville ride, and your bike is ready to ride. The next club meeting is May 23 – note that it has been moved up a week time: 12:00 pm meeting. In the newsletter, you will find more information on the NorCal Voyagers ride to the AVA rally in Santa Fe NM. The big news is the Club-sponsored RIDE IN the first weekend of October, in Half Moon Bay. The weekend after Labor Day weekend I have made reservations at the Humboldt River Ranch Resort for 2 or 3 days of R&R, This is only if there is no ride within the previous two weeks.

The Club had a campout at the Basalt Campground at the San Luis Reservoir. Warm days and great camping was had by all.

Great news is that Uncle Ray is having a coming home party on Saturday June 6. All the celebrating will be at the Moose lodge in Fresno. Here is the email from Ray Walls:

Hello NCVC members & friends. We are going to have a welcome home party for Uncle Ray. It will be held at the Fresno Moose Lodge on 6 June. The food is free, but you will have to buy your drinks if you want any. The festivities will start about 1:00pm. There will also be some home made ice cream served (free).

If you are interested in attending this function, please contact me (Uncle Ray) by the 20th of May. I need a head count for the food & ice cream.

Beer at the lodge is \$2.50 a bottle, Draft is cheaper, mixed drinks start at \$3.00. There will be plenty of food for all.

Hope to see a lot of you come down & enjoy the party.

Cheers: Uncle Ray



### AVA RALLY – SANTA FE, NM

By Don Medina, NCVC President

For the ride to the Santa Fe Rally, we will meet in Barstow on Friday night July 10, 2009. We leave the next morning with a destination of Prescott AZ. Then our next day's destination will be Gallop NM. On Monday we have a short ride to Santa Fe NM and the AVA rally.

Every day we will ride 370 to 400 miles, with highlights each day. On Saturday we will ride over 100 miles on old Route 66, including Seligman and a great ice cream shop. Sunday's ride goes over the little dragon and into Sedona. We will stop for an hour or so at the Meteor Crater National Landmark, ride through the Petrified Forest National Park, and end the day at the El Rancho Motel and Hotel in Gallup NM. On Monday we just ride into Santa Fe and get ready for the pre-rally dinner.

# NorCal Voyagers Newsletter

May 2009

These are the Motels and Hotels:

**Barstow:** Days Inn  
1590 Coolwater Lane 877-477 -8004  
Code# HBC 1004  
Rates \$58.00 to \$65.00

**Prescott:** Best Value Inn  
Contact Rose  
1105 E Sheldon St. 928-776-1282  
Rates 2 people \$76.99, 4 Adults \$91.49

**Gallup:** El Rancho Motel & Hotel  
Contact Judy  
1000 E Hwy 66 505-863-9311  
Rates 2 People \$86.00, 4 Adults \$98.00

Call ASAP as the summer season is coming and these Motels, Hotels will fill quickly.

Some have asked about the return trip. I'm not sure about others, but Trisha and I will be riding into Texas then up into South Eastern Colorado. Then we'll ride South Central Colorado and on Sunday July 19 be in Denver with a rest day on Monday July 20. Then I plan on riding four 11,000 ft plus mountain passes. We will return to California on July 25, 2009.

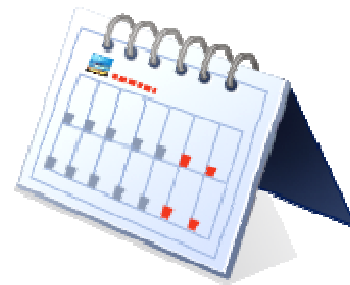
## 2009 Events

**MAY:**  
May 8-10: 2-day ride to Susanville, meet in Corning Ca. on Friday

**JULY:**  
July 10-?: AVA Rally Tour, meet in Barstow

**SUMMER:**  
Late Aug or early Sep: Canyonlands Tour

**DECEMBER:**  
Date/Loc TBD: Annual Christmas Party



## AVA Rally: Part 3

By Don Medina, NCVV President

07-11-09

After a late night visiting with friends, we got a slow start. By mid-morning we were on our way north to Owensboro then onto hwy 231 north into Indiana and Abe Lincoln's boyhood home. For me this was quite a treat. As a young one I would always listen to my teachers tells the class about places like this that they had visited, and today I would be there. After this we were on I 64 heading west and I needed a double espresso. I now know that there's a private coffee shop in Arlington IL. Trisha follows me and in we go. We order and drink our small drinks with a big pop. Then I look out and see that the sun and the bright day are gone. We both hurry getting on our bikes, because there are black clouds to the south of us, not just dark clouds but black clouds. I tell Trisha we have to ride hard. We get on the Interstate and I'm looking over to those clouds; they're getting closer with lighting. What I didn't know was that Trisha was listening to the weather station on the radio. They tell everyone to get to cover, off of the road, beware of golf-ball sized hail and treacherous wind and rain. I have ridden in weather like this before and I'm thinking that it is just going to rain cats and dogs, so I keep going. Soon the rain comes I stop under an overpass so we both

# NorCal Voyagers Newsletter

May 2009

can get into the Frog Toggs we got the year before at the AVA rally, and then we're off. I slow to 50 mph and Trisha is right behind me, no fuss. We go through St. Louis and we stop about half way to Kansas City. As we are unpacking and settled in the room we start talking about the rain. Trisha asked me why we didn't stop, and she tells me about what the radio was broadcasting. My answer was that I knew she could ride in weather like that and I like riding in nasty weather because everyone gets off the roadway. She also did a great job of riding, which make me realize that she has become an expert rider on her trike.

07-12&13-09

Just more rain and I got to walk two miles back to a motel. In Colby KS we went sightseeing and I broke one the Trisha's golden rules, I tried to back seat drive. This meant that I was promptly ejected from the back of the Trike. I had been told to always carry money and a cell phone, or keep my mouth shut. Well, the next day I was quiet. We arrived in Denver and it was good to see my mother. She was feeling and looking much better.



07-14-09

Today is a good day because we will be riding three 11,000 ft plus passes. We start riding past the Coors Plant in Golden CO, then up US 6 through six tunnels with a clear creek right beside us, then over Loveland pass where there was still snow. Then on to Fremont pass just outside of Leadville CO, elevation 10,200 ft. 30 miles southwest is Independence pass at 12,000 ft plus. This is a must ride, then you drop down to Aspen CO where the temp is always in the high 70s. We make a short stop for another double espresso and we're off again. A short ride later we're in Rifle CO on a nice back road to US 40. We stop for the night in Heber City UT after a much longer day than we had wanted.



07-15&16-09

This morning I got up to a flat tire. Both Trisha and I carry complete tire repair kits on our bikes in case this happens. The flat tire only cost us a delay of an hour then we were on the road. The ride down into Salt Lake City UT on Interstate 70 is a wonderful ride with all the sweeping turns and down grade.

# NorCal Voyagers Newsletter

May 2009

The next day we ride into Fallen NV, to Carson City NV then on CA 88 to CA 49 we we're on our way to Monterey for the Moto GP races. The club was having a campout but we had reservations at the RV Park in Marina, so I didn't get to see any of the club members. Wow, what a way to start my retirement - we were gone most of the month of July, we traveled 7,700 miles, and both the Trike and Voyager pulling a Trailer got 40 to 42 mpg. With the price of gas \$4.00 plus I am very happy to have been able to take this retirement trip.

## BASALT CAMPOUT

By Don Medina, NCVC President

My first campout of the year and Trisha and I are ready to get out of town. I left 2 hours later then I wanted because of work. Once Trisha and I met, we headed south on the freeway in the middle of rush hour, no problem because we we're off to go camping.



We arrived at the campground just as Bill Owens, his daughter Lynn and Monte were heading out to dinner. We had to set the camper up. Wayne Bright was there just lounging. Trisha and I quickly set up the camper and got over to where Wayne was

lounging. The other three were soon back and we began to BS. It got late and cool, so we all turned in. The next morning as we all meet, the coffee pot at Bill Owens campsite was serving up fresh cups of coffee. After a few cups I can feel that I need breakfast. After eating Trisha, Wayne and I head to Los Banos to pick up a few things for the picnic. When we got back to the campgrounds we found club members were beginning to arrive.



I like having these campout picnics. Everyone steps up to pitch in with prepping, cooking, clean up, etc. Wayne, with some assistance from Darlene, did just that with the steaks and chicken, they were the best!



# NorCal Voyagers Newsletter

May 2009

There were twelve members attending: Bill Owens, Lynn (Bill's daughter), Wayne and Sandra Bright, George and Darlene Mack, Dale and Pam Bird, Roger and Shirley Allen, Trisha Blue and Don Medina. By 1:00 pm the temperature was in the high 70s and by 2:00 pm everyone was there. The coals were started (thank you Darlene) and before long there was that wonderful smell in the air –grilling steaks and chicken. With all of the other side dishes there was plenty of food for everyone. Before long it was time to warp up the picnic since some had a bit of a drive home. A big thanks to Sandra Bright who brought the steaks. There were some great conversations going on including future campouts, two-day rides, and the AVA trip in July complete with a Southwestern USA map highlighted with the route we're traveling. Everyone had input on what to do which was a lot of fun. The one thing I haven't spoken about is that Lynn makes a mean cup of coffee and she does not let the pot get empty for long. I drank coffee all day and into the night and when it came time to sleep, let's just say that it was hard. So Lynn, you did your dad proud this whole weekend.



Sunday morning was even warmer than Saturday and everyone was up early. Again Lynn had the coffee ready early, and then we had a potluck breakfast together and then everyone was off. Monte was heading to LA, Wayne to Fresno, Bill and Lynn to Sacramento and Trisha and I to Half Moon Bay. Trisha and I know that on warm days like this you can't go Hwy 92 because of all of the tourists. So we went San Juan, Watsonville, Santa Cruz, just cruising at 50 mph on all the highways. It took us longer, but the temp was 93 in Santa Cruz, riding along the coast with the warm air hitting me in the face, a blue ocean on the left side and the coastal mountains on the right, a good looking wife on her own trike behind me. Wow life on this day was grand! Hope to see you all on the next ride.



# NorCal Voyagers Newsletter

May 2009



## May 2009

| Sun   | Mon                | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri                            | Sat                               |
|---|--------------------|-----|-----|-----|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
|   |                    |     |     |     | 1                              | 2                                 |
| 3   | 4                  | 5   | 6   | 7   | 8<br>EVENT: Ride to Susanville | 9<br>EVENT: Ride to Susanville    |
| 10<br>Mother's Day<br>EVENT: Ride to Susanville | 11                 | 12  | 13  | 14  | 15                             | 16                                |
| 17  | 18                 | 19  | 20  | 21  | 22                             | 23<br>MEETING: Perko's in Manteca |
| 24  | 25<br>Memorial Day | 26  | 27  | 28  | 29                             | 30                                |
| 31  |                    |     |     |     |                                |                                   |

### 2009 Club Events Calendar

|  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <b>JAN 31</b> – Meeting: Manteca (11AM)  | <b>FEB</b> – VACANT   | <b>MAR 28</b> – Meeting: Manteca (11AM) |
| <b>APR 17/18/19</b> – Camping: Basalt  | <b>MAY 8/9/10</b> – Susanville Ride<br><b>MAY 23</b> – Meeting: Manteca | <b>JUN</b> – VACANT                     |
| <b>JUL 10-13</b> – AVA Rally<br><b>JUL 25</b> – Meeting: Manteca (11AM) 9 <sup>th</sup> Year | <b>AUG</b> – 2009 Tour  | <b>SEP 26</b> – Meeting: Manteca (11AM) |
| <b>OCT</b> – VACANT  | <b>NOV 28</b> – Meeting: Manteca (11AM)                                 | <b>DEC ???</b> – NCVC Christmas Party   |

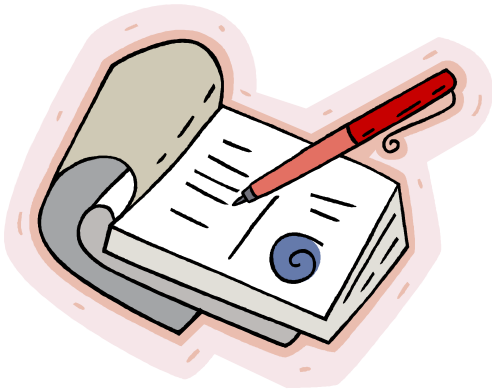
# NorCal Voyagers Newsletter

May 2009

## 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           | Don Medina       |
| Vice-President      | Ray Walls        |
| Secretary           | Trish Blue       |
| Treasurer           | Wayne Bright     |
| Sergeant at Arms    | Dennis Ellingson |
| Activities Director | VACANT           |
| Webmaster/          | Jim Tinlin       |
| Newsletter Editor   |                  |

If you have any questions about the club or 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