

# NorCal Voyagers Newsletter

November 2008

---



## 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...

**CAMPOUT/PICNIC (November 7-9)**  
Basalt Campsite / San Luis Reservoir

**MEETING (November 29)**  
Election of Officers - Manteca

## Next Month...

**CHRISTMAS PARTY (December 13)**  
Fresno Moose Lodge



---

*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

November 2008

## Club Info and Activities

### VP REPORT

By Don Medina, NCVC Vice-President

As you are reading this you should be getting ready for our last campout of the year, at Basalt Campground in the San Louis Reservoir State Recreation Area Nov. 7 - 9.

I hope everyone is praying for Ray. As just the other day Betty called and told me that Ray had gone back into surgery to switch his colostomy to the other side of his body and that this will be permanent. So Ray is back in ICU, Betty said that we can go visit Ray, he won't be speaking back because Ray is under heavy medication.

I have no information on Wayne Bright, other than his surgery was good, the feeling in his legs is returning and he is relearning his balance. Sandra Bright had a birthday on the 18th, happy birthday Sandra.

Lee House also went in to the hospital for surgery last month.

NorCal Voyagers are having a tough go the last two months. Let's pray for those in our club that are having problems. But, let us not forget that we have to ride for those of us that are dealing with challenges and they can't ride anymore or for just a while. We had a wonderful one day ride on Sat. Oct 25. The day was warm, and you can read more about in the newsletter. The 28th of Oct a group of us are riding down to see Ray and Wayne in Fresno. This is going to be fun because even though it is not a on the calendar, it feels like a Club ride. Please send me some suggestions for the holiday party or let me know if you can help. We did have one suggestion to

either have the party catered or just buy KFC. It's going to be a great party, but I do need some help pulling it off.

Two things coming up are Club meeting the end of the month and the International Motorcycle Show in San Mateo Dec 19-21.



### RIDING TO SEE RAY WALLS

By Don Medina, NCVC Vice-President

The fog is thick this morning; I'm leaving with Trisha. She's off to work and I'm riding to visit Ray in Fresno. First I'm riding to Manteca to meet up with the others, I need gas but the price is HMB is \$3.59. I know it has to be cheaper somewhere. When I got on the Voyager the trip meter read 217 miles. How far can I ride before running out of gas? I filled the tank in San Jose on Monday a week and a day ago. Since then I've done the Watsonville ride and now I'm off to Manteca. When I get to Livermore the meter reads 267 miles. I can't see any prices for gas and my red light has not come on. On to Tracy we go because I know they have cheap gas. Today I'm staying at a steady 65 mph. 280 on the meter and no fuel warning light. I'm on Interstate 205 and I can see Tracy. Finally I get to the Shell station and the price is \$2.79. The meter reads 282.6 and the tank takes 5.964 gallons. That was close, now to Perko's.

# NorCal Voyagers Newsletter

November 2008

---

When I ride into the parking lot I see John DeMuri is already there. I walk in to see John sitting at the counter drinking a cup of coffee. I sit next to him and order up a cup. We chat for a half hour. When no one shows, we head out. The temp has come up since I first started in HMB. We head south to Fresno at a steady 65 mph. This might be slow to some but today I just want to enjoy the ride and think about why I'm riding: to see Ray. Before you know it, we're in Fresno. We exit on Hernden as directed by Betty. The Hernden exit isn't really Hernden but Golden State. I ride past the first intersection not realizing it was Hernden. On I go until the street comes to a T. I stop at the light and look up to see that I'm not on Hernden. So, we took the scenic route to St Agnes Medical Center. When we got to St Agnes the guard showed us where to park, which happened to be right in front of the front doors.

As John and I were preparing to go into the hospital I checked my phone and there was a message from Wayne. I returned the call and Wayne told me he would be right over so that he could visit with us. As John and I walked to Ray's ICU room, there sit Betty and Lee House. We said hi and so on, Betty shows us what we have to wear to go into Ray's room, which is a gown and thin rubber gloves. When we are ready to leave we're told to remove the gloves, wash our hands in the sink in Ray's room, and when we walk out side the room to remove the gown and clean our hands with hand cleaning gel. Betty tells us just to talk to Ray that he will be able to hear us talking. Fred Andrews walks up and says hi. John and I walk in and it's weird to just see Ray laying there. He looks good but he has all these wires and tubes hooked up to him. I start talking to Ray and when I stop John starts talking. Between the two of us we catch Ray up with what is going on in the

club, and after that we start on what is going on in the world. As John and I talk to Ray, I can see Rays mouth open and close and some eye movement. When the topic is something of interest is when Ray does the mouth and eye movement. Fred gets dressed in his gown and gloves and walks in. He had been out in the hallway talking to Betty and Lee. Once Fred is seated, we all start talking about the 15 day ride. I look over to Ray and I can see his mouth open and close, so I know he's listening. The nurses come in and tell us that they have to roll Ray over, and this takes three nurses. I don't think Ray liked this, just the way Ray was moving his mouth. As soon as the nurses left, we picked up where we left off, even got to talking and telling Ray about the new 1700 Voyager. Ray's mouth wasn't moving much then, but when I began talking about the Christmas party he perked up. After an hour we left Ray's room, removed the gloves, washed our hands, walked out of the room removed the gowns, wash our hands again, then headed up to the visiting room for ICU. Wayne was there in a wheel chair the hospital let him use, and also Larry, an old buddy from the Golden State Riders. All six of us sat there talking sharing stories about old rides with Ray and past motorcycles we've all had. The new Voyager came up and Larry said he liked it, Wayne doesn't care for it, and John and I like it. Not bad, 3 out of 4 or 75 percent like the new V twin.

It was good to see Wayne up and about. He was telling us the that the incision in his back was to be 4 inch's and ended up being 8 inch's long. He is still using a walker. The best part is that he is able to get around. Wayne asked if we could take his bike out and give it a hard ride since it hasn't been ridden in over two months. We told him sorry but it was getting late and it

# NorCal Voyagers Newsletter

November 2008

was time for us to head home. Next time we're in town we would do it.

I spoke to Lee about his surgery; he said that every thing was going real good and that in a few weeks he would be returning to work. I forgot to ask Lee if he was able to ride; next time I'll ask.

It was after 2 pm when we walked out of the hospital to the motorcycles. As we rode off I heard this loud Harley behind us and it was Fred. Fred rode with us over to fuel up and then to Starbucks for coffee. Gas in Fresno was \$2.69 per gal of Reg. At Starbucks I asked for a strong double espresso; what I got was a quadruple shot. All three of us sat with our coffee, while talking about Ray, Wayne and Lee and how this has been a tough two months. Because of this, we are all looking forward to a great Christmas party.

With Fred leading the way on to the freeway its' was like being kid again, Fred opened up the Harley and let the pipes bark. I didn't think much of this until I shifted into 4th gear and looked down at my Speedo to see the needle climbing to 80 mph. I slowed right down. What a sucker! John stayed back and came up to us when we had slowed way down, so he didn't have to break any laws. I left John at the hwy 152 and 99 junction. I wanted to stop by and see if the Basalt Campground was open and if they were finished remodeling the showers. It is and they have.

After that, the last 100 miles were quite uneventful. They have finished the overpass for eastbound lanes of 152 where it meets 156. Traffic now flows smooth at the junction. All in all, the day was a big success. I got to ride my Voyager close to 400 miles, got to visit with friends, it was still warm in late October and best of all it

seems like our club founder and president is going to be alright.

## 2008 Events

### NOV:

BASALT SP. CAMP OUT 7-8-9.  
MEETING ON 29th, ELECTIONS OF OFFICERS

### DEC:

CLUB CHRISTMAS PARTY @ FRESNO  
MOOSE LODGE ON THE 13<sup>th</sup>



## RIDE TO WATSONVILLE

Don Medina, NCVC Vice-President

When I awoke it was still dark, but with the promise of a warm day for a motorcycle ride, it's hard not to be excited. As Trisha and I headed south on hwy 1 to Watsonville, the sun was up, not a cloud in the sky and few cars on the road. But with a clear sky come cool mornings and after just a few miles I turn on the heated grips.

When heading south on hwy 1 the Pacific is on your right side, and what a view! With few cars on the road that leaves more time to look over at the ocean, like 2 seconds at

# NorCal Voyagers Newsletter

November 2008

---

a time. The waves are well formed. The face of the wave has the classic curl, the top is the spray, and then they curl and then collapse onto itself. By the time we got to Santa Cruz the temperature had gone up to 60, and when we got to Norma's Restaurant in Watsonville it was even warmer. As Trisha and I were parking, here comes Rodger Allen. While we were BSing with Rodger, Dale and Pam Bird rode up. Walking in to breakfast, Dale tells us that the face shields he ordered are in. Dale heads over to the dealership while Pam, Trisha, Rodger and I go in for breakfast. After Dale returns, we finish breakfast and head out.

This is only the 2nd one-day ride I have done with the club and I'm going to try something different. We all ride 80 plus miles to most Nor Cal events, then why do you want to ride another 300 miles. I decided to make this a moderate ride.

The great thing about our club is the diversity of the motorcycles we ride. Today Rodger is riding his red and white Valkyrie with the six cylinder engine lots of chrome, Dale and Pam BMW 1200LT pure touring bike engine covered, Trisha with the hot rod Goldwing trike, me with the Kawasaki Voyager. We ride north to Santa Cruz. The day has warmed up with temp in the low 70s. When we get to Santa Cruz they have a lane closed for repaving and that means we sit in traffic. This gives me a chance to check the cooling fan on my Voyager, as it blew a fuse and I replaced it yesterday. It passes the test. While sitting in traffic I hear the fan come on and the engine temp stays nice and cool.

Leaving the traffic and Santa Cruz behind, we head toward Davenport. We're looking for Davenport Landing Rd, once there we turn left and ride down to Davenport

Landing. To my surprise they're having a kayak surfing contest and there are cars parked on either side of the road, so this stop was a bust today. But if you ever ride north of Davenport look for Davenport Landing Rd, because when you get there you will not be disappointed. Next Swanton Creek Rd, an old two lane road that runs parallel to hwy 1 which runs back into the farm country. While enjoying views that were coming on either side of the road we just took our time with speeds of 20 to 25 mph. The road winds and then climbs over a mountain then drops back down to hwy 1. After getting back onto Hwy 1 we head north past the mud cliffs that tower 200 ft above the hwy. There is no fog and Monterey Bay is on the right – WOW! We travel a few more miles north to Pigeon Point Lighthouse. The lighthouse was built in 1870, and on Nov 15, 2008 the Pidgeon Point Historic Society will be celebrating the lighthouses' 138th birthday.

I parked my bike and walked over to Dale's bike and I saw something on the BMW that I have only read about, that would be the hydraulic/electric center stand. As he pushed the center stand button on the handle bar, the center stand came down and locked itself into place, all while Dale sat on the bike. As we walked up the walkway to see the lighthouse there are short paths where you're able to wander the grounds and small museum with artifacts and photos. After a bit, we walked over to visit the gift store and had a short chat with the docent. The best was yet to come as the docent led us out to a walkway that took us to the point. Here you see where the Pacific enters the Monterey Bay with the blue sky, warm weather and seals jumping out in the bay among the rocks.

We leave heading north to Arata's Farm. First you get to ride hwy 1 which is flat, then

# NorCal Voyagers Newsletter

November 2008

---

the rolling hills begin and just like that we're at Arata's Farm. There are cars parked on the hwy and the parking lot is full. We're lucky to find a spot where all four motorcycles can park. It's free to walk into the Castle. There are numerous attractions but they all cost money, except the sword fight with knights in full armor.

After a bit, it was time to ride. We took Lobitos Creek Rd to Tunitas Creek Rd which takes us up to Skyline. Tunitas Creek Rd is a paved goat trail as per Roger Allen. Then down to the famous Alice's Restaurant. With temps in the low 80s everyone is out. Both the parking lot at Alice's and the lot across the street were full of motorcycles. At Alice's you can find anything you want in motorcycles with sport bikes, cruisers, touring and motard. When we entered Alice's there was a table waiting for us. While we ate a good lunch, Rodger brought the couple at the table next to us into the conversation. After an hour for lunch we were ready to leave. This is where we all parted. Trisha and I headed down hwy 84 west, while Rodger, Dale and Pam headed down hwy 84 east. 84 east is

a tight winding road with spectacular views. Just remember to ride at your own pace when on a road like this and you really can have a great time.

We all had a great time. The pace was very moderate which I hope to be able to keep on future rides. With the price of gas coming down maybe we can do some cold weather rides, just no snow and rain. Pam good luck on your future trike.



# NorCal Voyagers Newsletter

November 2008



## November 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7 CAMPOUT: Basalt	8 CAMPOUT: Basalt
9 CAMPOUT: Basalt	10	11 Veterans' Day	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27 Thanksgiving Day	28	29 MEETING: Manteca
30						

### 2008 Club Events Calendar

<b>JAN 26</b> – Meeting: Manteca	<b>FEB</b> – VACANT	<b>MAR 13/15/16</b> – Campout: McConnell <b>MAR 29</b> – Meeting: Manteca
<b>APR 5</b> – One Day Ride: Modesto <b>APR 11/12/13</b> – Campout: McConnell	<b>MAY 16/17/18</b> – Campout: Brannan Island <b>MAY 31</b> – Meeting: Manteca	<b>JUN 13/14/15</b> – Campout: Brannan Island
<b>JUL 8/9/10</b> – AVA Rally <b>JUL 18/19/20</b> – Campout: Vets Pk Monterey <b>JUL 26</b> – Meeting: Manteca	<b>AUG ???</b> – One Day Ride, TBD <b>AUG 23 to SEP 6</b> – 2008 Tour	<b>AUG 23 to SEP 6</b> – 2008 Tour <b>SEP 19/20/21</b> – Campout: Turlock Lake <b>SEP 27</b> – Meeting: Manteca
<b>OCT (CANCELLED)</b> – Campout: McConnell <b>OCT 25</b> – One Day Ride: Castroville	<b>NOV 7/8/9</b> – Campout: Basalt State Park <b>NOV 29</b> – Meeting: Manteca	<b>DEC 13</b> – NCVV Christmas Party: Fresno Moose Lodge

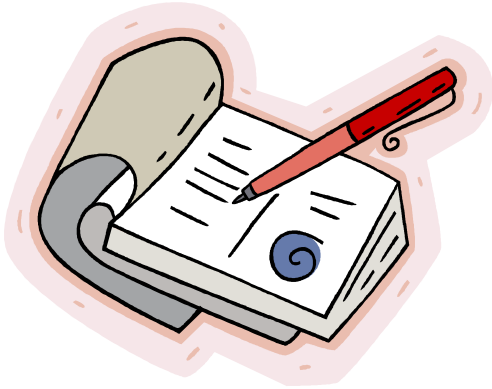
# NorCal Voyagers Newsletter

November 2008

## 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
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