

# NorCal Voyagers Newsletter

October 2005



## Your Club 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

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...

**EVENT 10/14 – 16**

Campout – Basalt Campgrounds

**CLUB MEETING 10/29**

Monthly Meeting in Los Banos



## Next Month...

**EVENT (NONE SCHEDULED)**

None Scheduled

**CLUB MEETING 11/26**

Monthly Meeting in Los Banos

*{See the Web Site for details}*

**NorCal Voyagers Newsletter** is developed for the membership of 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 this publication 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 [news@norcalvoyagers.org](mailto:news@norcalvoyagers.org) for review.

# NorCal Voyagers Newsletter

October 2005

## Club Info and Activities

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello NCVC members. It is with a heavy heart that I sit down to do this letter.

On Sunday the 25<sup>th</sup>, Betty & I lost her 90 year old father to a heart attack. This old guy played tennis every Saturday morning come rain or shine; he played with guys half his age and usually wore them out. This last Saturday morning he was playing tennis; when he started getting a severe pain in his chest and back of the neck. He drove himself home and complained because mom called their daughters. They drove him to the hospital emergency room, they ran 5 EKG's on him before he passed away on Sunday and none of them ever showed he was or had; had a heart attack. He died with the girls & mom sitting in the room with him. He was a very sweet man and was loved by everyone that ever knew him. We all wish him Gods Speed to his new home.

Now for club business, as most of you know; I asked everyone last month to vote on the motion we had on the table for changing our meetings from monthly to quarterly, we have 57 members in the club and we finally got a whole sum of 6 votes. All but 2 of them were for the quarterly meetings. Hell we got more at the meeting than we did on the poll. Therefore since most of the votes were for quarterly meetings; starting in 2006, we will meet in Los Banos in March, June, Sept & December. I will bring out the dates of the meetings in the Jan or Feb news letter. I said I would, but your new president will do that, that is if we can find one. Regardless you will be informed. We also decided to

shift our meeting places around so we can taste the food from other places.

We had a nice camp out up in Corning with Dennis Ellingson & his lovely wife Jacquelyn, I guess I should also mention that their daughter also helped keep things rolling along at a nice steady pace. We camped in an olive orchard right next to his house. Our front porch was a very large Sycamore tree, I can tell you now there were some very tall tails told under that old tree. Dennis & Myron ( a friend ) entertained us with some picking & grinning and a little bit of singing. OLE Dennis really surprised us all; he can really sing, in fact he has a record out. His wife was going to give us all a copy, but since none of us have a 45 rpm record player; we turned her down. Now I find out I have a friend here in Fresburg that can change it over to a CD, so now I will accept her offer.

We also had a very nice ride over to Chester on hwy 36, than we went south through the feather river canyon, when we got just north of Oroville, we hung a right and headed for Chico; in Chico we stretched our legs and took a little break. After the break we mounted up and headed north on hwy 99, at South Ave we took a left straight into Corning. We arrived just in time for dinner; the ladies had us a wonderful meal set up and ready to eat. There were only 8 people that camped, but from the amount of food they had prepared, you would have thought there were 15 or 20 of us. We didn't eat it all; but we gave it a damn good try. The food was delicious. I want to thank Dennis & Jacquelyn again and again for showing us so much love and appreciation, and also for allowing us to

# NorCal Voyagers Newsletter

October 2005

camp at their ranch. Boy I hope they have all the beer cans cleaned up by now.

Our next meeting will be at the Woolgrowers on October 29, at 12:00pm. And we have a camp out coming up October 13 through 16 or longer if you want to stay longer, remember they have showers there at the Basalt camp grounds, and bring your fishing gear, they have some nice fish in the lake. I won't guarantee you they will be biting, but I know they are there. This is the San Luis reservoir about 9 miles west of Los Banos, it's on the south side of hwy 152.

*Cheers; Uncle Ray.*

## SEPTEMBER MEETING

The meeting was called to order by president Ray Walls @ 12:51 pm, members present, Fritz Wells, Don Rochester, Don Brubaker, Brian Coldicott, Don & Trisha Medina, Dennis Ellingson, Ray Walls. Don & Trish brought a friend (Meighan Mc William). She was greeted by all hands.

Ray read the minutes from the July meeting, since we didn't have one in August. Ray also read the financial report for August, we have a total of \$1,676.13 in the bank.

Ray asked the activities director if he had anything to report. He said he had nothing.

Ray asked if there was any old business anyone wanted to discuss. There was none.

Ray asked if there was any new business anyone wanted to bring up. Don Brubaker asked about the status of the quarterly meetings we were exploring. Ray said he wanted to do a proxy vote at this meeting

to just get a feel of how everyone at this meeting felt about having the quarterly meetings, the vote was unanimous for the quarterly meetings.

Ray said he had already asked Jim Tinlin to set up a voting booth on our web site. Jim set up a very nice one with several choices other than just the quarterly choice.

Ray asked if anyone had anything they would like to bring up for discussion, no one had anything. Ray closed the meeting @ 1:15pm.

Submitted; by Ray Walls



## NO MORE VOYAGER???

Hello NCVC members & friends. I'm sure that most of you have heard by now that Kawasaki has decided to scrap the Voyager program. Kawasaki Heavy Industries (the bosses) decided it wasn't cost effective to build a new touring bike. Therefore they will continue to devote all their resources into the cruisers & crotch rockets. We are working on getting an e-mail address for KHI and clog their system with e-mails bitching about our voyagers, and demanding they continue on with the Voyager program. If and when I get this information I will pass it on to you. Sorry guys; I know a lot of you were looking forward to picking up a new one soon. But I guess it just wasn't meant to be. Cheers.

# NorCal Voyagers Newsletter

October 2005

UNCLE RAY

## THANKS!

Hello all. Jacque and I had a ball hosting the "camp out" at our place last weekend. We want to thank all who attended. With all the preparation, cooking, ride up the mt. and down the Feather river canyon, and on Sunday, the trip to the Tehama fair, we slept good Sunday night. If anyone wants, we would love to do it again next year-or even sooner if enough interest is there. I even enjoyed the bantering with "Brew". Looking after the fact, I think we're too much alike as neither he nor I would give an inch, but it was in fun (right Don).

Also, because of the weekend, Jacque and I have decided to get one of the tent campers for the bike just for the club campouts. So, if anyone knows of one for sale, please let me know. It has to be cheap, as the news is out that I'm cheap, I was told. "I think I'm frugal", but no one would buy that.

Thanks again,  
Dennis & Jacque Ellingson



## KHI SUSPENDS NEW VOYAGER DEVELOPMENT

(Posted at the AVA Website)

Duane Ash, the AVA Board Chairman and liaison to Kawasaki Motors USA has recently returned from the Kawasaki Dealer meeting in Orlando, Florida. Duane and the rest of the AVA Board of Directors are extremely disappointed to report that Kawasaki Heavy Industries (KHI), the parent corporation to Kawasaki Motors USA, has suspended the development of the new Kawasaki Voyager for an undetermined period of time.

Everything was a "GO" and Kawasaki USA was working on the project until just the past few months. KHI in Japan demanded that if they (Kawasaki USA) did produce a new Voyager, Kawasaki USA Corp had to "guarantee" that there would be a certain number sold to be able to pay for the multi-million dollar cost of development for the new bike. When Kawasaki USA told KHI that they thought that was an unrealistic number to "guarantee", KHI put a stop to the entire project. KHI seems to be putting all their development now into the racing program, high performance sport bikes, and the cruisers. For example, they just came out with a new ZX1400 and a new Vulcan 900 classic as well as a few variations using the Vulcan 2000cc engine, and they have re-energized their racing program.

Kawasaki Motors USA still feels very strongly about the development of a new tourer to keep up with the competition and apologized for all of the embarrassment they have caused Duane and the AVA. However, at this point, KHI headquarters in Japan has thrown a definite roadblock into further Voyager development. Even if development would resume at this point, it

# NorCal Voyagers Newsletter

October 2005

---

is very likely that it would be another 3 years before a new Voyager would be able to appear.

Duane has told Kawasaki USA that he is extremely disappointed in the way that this situation has developed, and it should have never unfolded in this manner. Duane was 99% sure that there was going to be a new Voyager, and felt that Kawasaki Motors USA should have at least informed him of possible difficulties before yesterday, September 16<sup>th</sup>, when he was told all of this for the first time. As the last information that Duane had been given which was in November, he was told the new model was approximately 18 months to 24 months max down the road. Kawasaki's USA person in charge of development in the street bike division is going to put together some more research and get all the facts to the Duane of what has happened these last few months.

Duane, as well as the rest of the Board of Directors of the AVA are extremely disappointed and regret to inform you of this very unfortunate situation, but wanted to get this information out as soon as possible. We would like to re-iterate that KHI has put the stop to this project and that Kawasaki Motors USA truly wants a new touring bike, but as of a few months ago, their hands have been tied.

Duane has stated at this time that "this hurts me more than any of you can ever imagine, I know I did everything I could do. As of right now, I do not know what to do or what to say. I feel as if I have let everybody down."

The AVA Board of Directors and I sincerely believe that although it was the Voyager that brought all of us together, it is the *people* who make the AVA. We hope we do not lose any of our incredible friends because of this development. The AVA will release any possible further information on

this situation should it become available to us. In the meantime, rest assured the AVA is here to support the present Voyager riders out there as well as any other brand riders that would like to join our AVA family. Hopefully, in the future, a new Voyager may be reconsidered once again.

Duane Ash – AVA Chairman  
Charlotte Ash, Bill and Bernadette Overton,  
Bob and Jean Decker, Gary Schill

# NorCal Voyagers Newsletter

October 2005



## October 2005

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14 EVENT – Basalt Campgrounds	15 EVENT – Basalt Campgrounds
16 EVENT – Basalt Campgrounds	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 / 30	24 / 31	25	26	27	28	29 MEETING – Los Banos

### 2005 Events Calendar

JAN – Death Valley Campout	FEB – <b>VACANT</b>	MAR – Basalt Campgrounds
APR – Corbin Seat Factory Tour	MAY – Cruise Clear Lake Queen	JUN – Cedar Grove/Fresno
JUL – AVA Rally Durango, CO	AUG – Washburn Campgrounds	SEP – Corning Ranch Campout
OCT – Basalt Campgrounds	NOV – <b>VACANT</b>	DEC – Christmas Party

# NorCal Voyagers Newsletter

October 2005

## OTHER MOTORCYCLE STUFF

*As the web site janitor and newsletter editor, I sometimes get 'interesting' solicitations from other motorcycle related organizations. The following information is not sponsored by the NorCal Voyagers but is provided for your interest, please check with them for details.*

## REMEMBER THE RIDERS

Remember the Riders, an ongoing safety initiative, uses shirts and the internet to build motorcycle awareness. With their no-nonsense message, "A local motorcyclist was killed this week...", Remember the Riders shirts call immediate attention to motorcycle fatalities at the time when doing so can have the greatest impact on the public. Shirts are short-sleeve, 100% cotton with durable silk-screened messages on back and distinctive saddle and backward-boot logo on front. Sizes small through 3XL. \$14.95. Check them out at [remembertheriders.com](http://remembertheriders.com).

In addition to offering a selection of edgy, in-your-face message shirts, Remember the Riders uses internet technology to help raise motorcycle awareness; they post a list of fatalities and send free email

notifications of local motorcycle deaths to anyone who requests them via their website.



*We maintain a bunch of motorcycle related web links on our web site. Just go to:*

[www.norcalvoyagers.org](http://www.norcalvoyagers.org)

*and click on the 'Web Links' button on the left side of the screen. This will take you to a menu that lists a number of general groupings for web links. The one above is listed in the 'Clothing' section.*

*Feel free to pass along links that you feel would be helpful to other club members.*

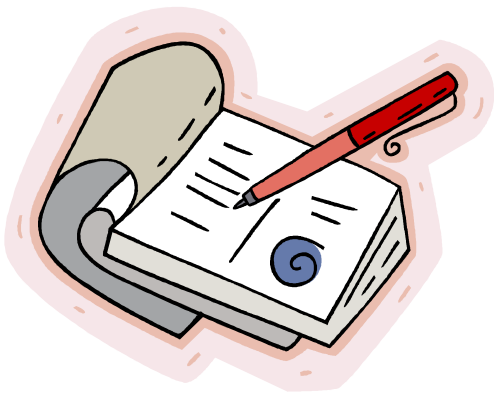
# NorCal Voyagers Newsletter

October 2005

## 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	Dale Bird
Secretary	Bob Joyner
Treasurer	Wayne Bright
Activities Director	Don Brubaker
Referee	VACANT

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](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