

NorCal Voyagers Newsletter

October 2009



NCVC Newsletter

You have something you want to see in the NorCal Voyagers Newsletter??? 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

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...

(10/2-10/4)

Half Moon Bay Ride-In

Next Month...

NCVC MEETING: **NEW DATE**

Fresno, Fri 12/11/09 8 pm

See President's message for details

EVENT: (12/12)

Christmas Party, Fresno Moose Lodge



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Club Info and Activities

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

By Don Medina, NCVV President

Good news is that Ron Akins is our new webmaster; Ron will be taking over the duties from Jim Tinlin. Jim has been the NorCal Voyagers web and newsletter editor for as long I've been a club member. I would like to give Jim a very large thank you. Ron we wish to welcome you as a club member and webmaster.



This month's newsletter contains two new contributors: Lisa Nichols and Roger Allen. Lisa's article is her first to be in print. Roger Allen is a long-time club member; he planned this year's Ray Walls Fall Classic. His article about last year's Classic is posted on the NorCal Voyagers' website. In this newsletter, you'll read part 1 of the 2009 Ray Wall Fall Classic.

After the last meeting we went to Manteca City Library Park and had a photo shoot. I would like to have all NorCal members

have their picture on the NorCal Voyagers Club website with a short bio.



For the November Club meeting, both Trisha & I will be on vacation. This meeting is when we elect 2010 club officers. I would like to move this meeting to Fresno on the Friday evening December 11 from 8:00 to 10:00 pm. This would be the Friday night before our Christmas party at the Fresno Moose Lodge. The lounge at the Piccadilly Inn has agreed to let NorCal Voyagers hold our meeting there. The start time for the Christmas party Saturday is 1:00 pm. For lodging we have a block of rooms at the Piccadilly Inn Airport, phone #559-251-6956, rate \$89.00 per night plus tax. Just tell the Piccadilly that you're with the NorCal Voyagers Club when reserving a room. The cutoff date is November 21, 2009. There are 15 rooms blocked off for the club.

Saturday, October 24th, there will be a club ride to San Jose Cycle Gear for their parking lot sale. We are meeting at 9:00 am in Morgan Hill. Call Don for meeting location if you can make it. There will be some good deals.

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2009 Events

DECEMBER:

New Club meeting date: Friday, Dec 11

Dec 12: Annual Christmas Party at the Fresno Moose Lodge

2010 Events

We welcome ideas for rides, campouts, overnight trips. We will be working on the 2010 calendar at the Nov meeting

Highlights Half Moon Bay Campout October 2,3,4



Trisha, Ernie, Don, Lisa, Shirley & Marvin



Santa Cruz Boardwalk ride



Lisa Trisha Shirley Don & Ernie at Skyline vista



Shirley Lisa & Ernie enjoy breakfast



Ron Aikin ready to head out

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Ernie & Lisa and their beautiful 1700

HELLO RIDERS, THIS ARTICLE MAINLY
CONSISTS OF SUNDAY IN THE WEE HOURS.

A TELL TO TELL, OF ONE OF OUR OWN.

“PROTECTOR OF THE NIGHT”

WIND WITH A FORCE THAT COULD NOT BE FOUGHT, THE OCEAN WAVES THAT SPOKE TO US WITH SOUNDS, WHICH SANG US TO SLEEP. THE MOON'S LIGHT SO BRIGHT, YOU COULD SEE EVERYTHING IN SIGHT. A SLUMBER WE COULD NOT FIGHT. OUR DREAMS CALLED TO US, IT WAS TIME TO SLEEP, SLEEP THIS COLD NIGHT.

AS OUR KNIGHTS AND MAIDENS SLEPT, ONE WAS AWAKENED, BY NATURE'S CALL, BE IT FATE OR TO PROTECT OUR BELONGINGS OR SAVE US ALL. AS LADY SHIRLEY SLEPT IN PEACE, SIR MARVIN WALKED THE GROUNDS. WHILE SIR RON DANCED IN HIS DREAMS AND SIR ERNIE AND LADY LEE SLEPT WARM AND TIGHTT! SIR MARVIN IN HIS BLACK ARMOR, AND SOCKS OF SILENCE, HIS SWORD OF LIGHT, KNIGHT MARVIN WITH A KEEN EYE, SAW TROUBLE ROAMING IN THE NIGHT. THREE VARIMITS ROAM THE GROUNDS, SEAKING TREASURES, THEY MAY FIND.

IN HIS SOCKS OF SILENCE, CAREFULLY HUNTING THOSE WHO SHOULD NOT BE NEAR, CLOSER AND CLOSER HE APPROCHED THE VARIMITS, THERE WERE THREE. WITH HIS SWORD OF LIGHT, HE LITE UP THEIR FACES WITH LIGHT, LIKE RODENTS THEY SCATTERED FROM THE LIGHT. ONE THOUGHT SIR MARVIN BEDDED DOWN, BUT HE WAS WRONG.

SIR MARVIN WITH A KEEN EYE SAW ONE WHERE SIR MONTY AND SIR DON WITH LADY TRISH BEDDED DOWN. SIR MARVIN PRESSED HIS SWORD OF LIGHT TO THE THEIF'S BACK AND TOLD THE THEIF TO LAY TO THE GROUND. KNIGHT MARVIN CALLED TO SIR DON, CALL TO OUR ARMY, AND CALL THEM TO ARMS. THE THEIF, A VERY YOUNG LAD, SPOKE TO SIR MARVIN, "PLEASE DO ME NO

HARM." WITH HIS SWORD OF LIGHT, PRESSED HARDER STILL,
SIR MARVIN SPOKE "STAY DOWN, STAY DOWN."

THE SOLIDERS CAME, SPOKE THE YOUNG LAD'S NAME, AND IN MINUTES, THE OTHER SOLDERS APPREHENDED, ANOTHER. NEEDLESS TO SAY ALL THREE WERE TAKEN AWAY.

NOT ONLY IS SIR MARVIN SO BRAVE, BUT A KINDNESS FILLS HIS HEART,
FOR HE FEEDS THOSE WHO HAVE FLIGHT.



Sir Marvin enjoying breakfast after a brave night defending our campsite

Ray Walls Classic

Fall Tour - 2009

Utah Canyon lands & Grand Canyon

Aug 21 to Sep 2 - 12 Days

We meet in Fallon, Nevada on Friday 8/21. This will confirm who will be going on the ride,... Many plan to go,... but it's never clear until the day of the ride who will actually show up. We all arrive about the same time... 5 PM,... and plan to meet in Heidi's Cafe attached to the Super 8 Casino at 7 PM for dinner,... As we sat down to dinner, Al & Wendy arrive,... They plan to tour Zion & Brice with us and then home.

There are 9 of us,... We lost two along the way,.. and gained 1 then there were 8.

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Roger Allen & Valkyrie, Jim Kramlich & Triumph Rocket 3, Jeff Komoto & Harley, Fred Andrew / Jackie Weir & Harley with trailer, John De Muri / Michele Smith & Kawasaki Voyager, Al / Wendy Thearle & car / Diane Komoto & Harley-Arrives later

8 AM - Sat 8/22 - Fallon Nv to Ely Nv - 257 miles

Some have breakfast in the cafe,... and some a breakfast bar or cereal in the complementary breakfast room. As we leave Fallon we pass by the mud flats where many have spelled their names or love notes, with rocks in the mud. We then pass by the Sand Dunes off in the distance,... It has been determined that this sand has blown here from Walker Lake to the South by Hawthorne. We then pass by middle gate, and off to the left there is a very big Cottonwood Tree that is covered with shoes hanging from all it's branches,... We stop for a look,... The story is that a couple on their way to Reno to be married,.. stopped here,.. got in an argument,... and the gal was going to walk home,... The guy threw her shoes up in the tree to stop her,... Thus we have the beginning of the Shoe Tree.



We continue on to Austin,.. not much here,.. We gas up,.. and head for Eureka,.. We have the road to ourselves,.. Not much traffic. We have lunch in Eureka,.. Then on to Ely,.. We arrive early, The Bristlecone Motel has large rooms, very nice & clean. I check out the train schedule,.. It's Saturday and they only have a Dinner & Wine special at 6:30 PM that is 2 hrs long,.. It's \$48 per person,.. you can keep the wine glass,.. No one is interested,.. Jim & I go down to the train station, I get postcards with trains to send the grandson,.. buy a shirt with a train that says "Grandpa & I love Trains".. Jim visits with the Engineer of the Wine Train,.. Lots

of train talk going on. Now it's dinner at the Prospector Motel where Al & Wendy are staying.



8 AM - Sun 8/23 - Ely Nv to Springdale Ut - 258 Miles

It has rained all night,.. It is supposed to clear by afternoon,.. We head out with rain gear on,.. Some forgot to gas up last night,.. We stop, Then off to Springdale,

We head south at Majors Junction, and follow Hwy 93 down thru the Great Basin to Pioche & Panaca. The Train Engineer had told Jim & I about the old Cemetery in Pioche, It had some interesting tombstones,.. Mark Twain had spent some time here and said it was the most dangerous mining town he had ever visited. You could be shot dead over the smallest incident.

We stop at a rest stop just outside Pioche,.. No rest rooms,.. by now the rain has pretty much cleared up,.. Lots of clouds keeping things pretty cool,.. We head on into Pioche,.. I stop by to see a young woman I served

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with in Church several years ago... she now has 3 children, and lives here with her husband who is from Australia,... They're not home,... must be at church,... Their big dog would like to bite me,... good he is chained up. We consider eating at the town cafe,... No one is hungry... we look for the old cemetery,... looks like a lot of walking,... we head on for Panaca,.. gas... and maybe a snack.



Now it's on to Springdale,.. We stop outside St. George to view the Mountain Meadow Memorial,.. Al & Wendy say they had just saw a movie about this called Sep 11,... It's interesting that this had occurred on the same date as the New York incident. As we arrive in St. George I plan to ride down thru Snow Canyon,... Well,.. they want \$5 per vehicle to enter,... I can see many are anxious to get something to eat,... we bypass snow canyon and on into St. George,.. We stop at Pancho & Lefty's Mexican Restaurant,.. This is where they have the famous "Fried Ice Cream".... We all have some after dinner. We're right across the street from the Abby Inn where we plan to stay at the end of the ride,... Just as we finish our "Fried Ice Cream" Al receives a call on his cell phone telling him his father has just had a stroke and is on his way to the hospital,... Al & Wendy head back for Sacramento,... planning to drive all night,... We all wish him the best, and hope all goes well.

We continue on toward Springdale,.. We pass thru Hurricane, and La Verkin,.. There is a switchback road up to Springdale,... Jeff & I are leading,.. I notice there is no one behind us,.. I stop,.. take some photos of the big rain clouds,..



a couple of guys in a truck stop to tell us that the bike with a side car has lost one of it's wheels,... We head back and find that Fred has lost the right wheel and axle off his trailer,... The bike & trailer is off the edge of the road on the curve,.. with everyone out in the sagebrush looking for the wheel & axle.

Fred sends me back into town to see if I can get a 5/8" threaded bar stock about 6 to 8 inches long,.. with 4 nuts so he can jury rig the spare wheel on to the trailer,... I ride thru La Verkin and on into Hurricane,... It's past 6 PM,.. sunday evening,... there are no stores open,... I stop at a chevron station and tell the girls inside I need a Highway Patrol Officer,.. This gets lots of attention. Officer Westerman arrives,... I tell him of the broken wheel, and see if he can get a tow truck to take away the trailer,... Then we could fix it on monday,... after several calls he finally gets a tow driver at home,... I head back to meet him on the road to the switchbacks,... There was Jeff waiting for me,... He tells me a contractor came by,.. they loaded the trailer in his truck,.. and he took it up to the motel in Springdale,.. We wait for the Tow driver,.. explain to him what happened,.. offer to pay for his time,... He needs no pay,.. and offers to help get the trailer fixed on monday, He has a fellow working for him who builds trailers.

When we finally arrive at the motel in Springdale,.. Fred tells us Two boys on ATV's found the tire,.. way over the hill from where everyone was looking,... The contractor, Pres Ted Dutton of T&D Construction & Cabinets, Inc. had taken away the axle & tire and was welding and fixing it as we spoke,... It would be ready to install back on the trailer in the morning, Unbelievable. There was no delay in the trip at all and the axle was

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stronger than before. Fred said he was going to beef up the other axle in the same way when he got home. As I checked in,.. Jim was there looking like he had been in a fight,... with dried blood on his face,... He had fallen over some sagebrush while looking for the wheel, and his glasses had cut his nose.



While looking for the axle & tire, Jeff's wife Diane arrived on her red Harley,... She had been attending the "Women on Wheels" Conference in Colorado and was meeting up with us in Springdale,.. She happened upon the group looking for the wheel as she was on her way to Springdale,.. She had traveled over 600 miles this day to meet up with us. She stopped to help,.. and her bike fell over on the soft shoulder



Monday 8/24 - morning we have breakfast in the Bumbleberry Motel Cafe,.. then catch the shuttle to Zion just outside the cafe. We spend the day in Zion Canyon,.. Take lots of pictures,.. and it's off, and on the shuttle as we tour the canyon,.. We see Angels Landing

way up on top,.. and the narrow ridge you have to cross to get to it,.. The Park Rangers have installed cables along here to hold onto as you traverse this narrow section,.. Several people have fallen from the ridge,.. 2,000 ft drop,.. takes a while to find the body,.. As Jim & I get on at the last stop to head back, I ask an elderly couple, he with a cane,.. and she with a walker,.. how the view was from Angels Landing,.. they laugh and say no way,.. in fact they tell us a Park Ranger fell from the ridge not too long ago,.. Others told us it's a good 3 to 5 hour hike up and back from Angels Landing, and you should be in good physical condition to attempt it. Michele Smith is already planning a trip next year to hike up there, also to go up thru the narrows, where you are up to your waist in water as you pass between the rock walls. You can rent vented shoes & walking sticks in Springdale for the trip.

As we leave the park Jim & I watch the Imax movie "Treasure of the Gods" & The 3D Movie "Wild Ocean",,.. As we are getting out of the movies,.. the rest of the group is just arriving for the "Treasure of the Gods" movie,.. We wait for them and then shop at the souvenir shop next door,.. John makes some comments about me getting a commission from the items that are bought,.. Who knew how true this would prove to be.

9 AM - Tue 8/25 - Springdale Ut to Escalante Ut - 161 miles

We pass thru the entrance to Zion and ride up the twisty road to the tunnel,.. We stop at some viewpoints for photos,.. Then its thru the tunnel and more twisty roads thru the park,.. we pass by an area where only a couple of cars can park,.. There are about 8 Bighorn sheep standing on some rocks just off the road,.. some of us see them,.. some don't. Again we stop for more photos,.. then a rest room break as we exit the park,..

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Then it's off to Brice NP. Again we pretty much have the road all to ourselves,... We arrive at Brice to find a large group of High School students also touring the park,... We enter the park and find that the lower portion is closed due to repaving,... the upper section where we are is also freshly covered with slippery tar,... We are careful as we head for the lookouts along the rim of Brice Canyon. The rocks and whodoos are bright orange/red,.. very pretty, We take pictures and stop at

several of the scenic views. We have a nice buffet lunch in Ruby's Inn Cafe.

We then head up the Grand Staircase to Escalante,... We stop at the overlook at Bolder,.. snap some photos,.. and then climb up to the Devils Backbone,... The road winds it's way up the mesa till were on a narrow section with canyon on both sides,.. then it levels out as we continue on to Escalante. Several years ago the wife worried for weeks about this section, after I told her about it,.. then we were actually here,... She said it wasn't scary at all,... and she had done all that worrying for nothing,.. But I Digress,...

We arrive in Escalante,.. spend some time visiting,,, and then it's dinner at the attached motel restaurant, The ice cream mixer is broken,.. so no milkshakes tonight.

Tune in next month for the exciting conclusion to the Ray Walls Classic.

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August 2009

2009 Club Events Calendar

JAN 31 – Meeting: Manteca (11AM)	FEB – VACANT	MAR 28 – Meeting: Manteca (11AM)
APR 17/18/19 – Camping: Basalt	MAY 8/9/10 – Susanville Ride MAY 23 – Meeting: Manteca	JUN 6 – Coming Home Party for Uncle Ray
JUL 14-16 – AVA Rally (Rally Tour departs July 10) JUL 25 – Meeting: Manteca (11AM) 9 th Year	AUG 23 to Sep 1 – 1 st Annual Ray Walls Classic Fall Tour – Canyon Lands	SEP 11-13 – Humboldt River Ranch Rendezvous SEP 26 – Meeting: Manteca (11AM)
OCT 2-4 – NorCal Half Moon Bay Ride-In	NOV 28 – <i>changed to Dec 11 in Fresno</i>	DEC 11 - 8:00 PM Meeting Fresno Picadilly Inn DEC 12 – NCVC Christmas Party Fresno Moose Lodge

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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



NORCAL VOYAGERS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Activities Director	Dale Bird
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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
vicepresident@norcalvoyagers.org
secretary@norcalvoyagers.org
treasurer@norcalvoyagers.org
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