

# NorCal Voyagers Newsletter

September 2009

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## 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...

**RALLY (9/11-9/13)**

Humboldt River Ranch Rendezvous, NV

**NCVC MEETING: MANTECA (9/26)**

## Next Month...

**EVENT: RALLY (10/2-10/4)**

Half Moon Bay Ride-In



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## Club Info and Activities

### PRESIDENT'S LETTER

By Don Medina, NCVV President

Everyone should be back from the Ray Walls Classic now. I hope to have someone write up an article with pictures. Al and Wendy Therle had to leave the Classic in Cider City UT when they received a call that Al's father was in the hospital. Since, Al's father has passed on.

At the next club meeting September 26, 2009, I would like to have all club members have their picture taken with their motorcycle. Having the club banner somewhere in the picture would be a good addition. Yes, wives and girlfriends could and should be included.

The Half Moon Bay camp-out is October 2 – 4, 2009

Late last month I rode up to Redmond, Oregon, where I met Duane Ash and Carroll Kelly who is the VP of the Cascade Voyagers.



We were there to scout out a location for the Western regional rally. The date will be the last week in August of 2010. This is to be a three day rally, Tuesday through Thursday. Every event that the national rally has we will have at the Western regional rally: bike games, bike show, guided rides, sunset ride, pre-rally potluck dinner and much more. The cost to the NorCal Voyagers Club is to provide volunteers for the bike show, paper plates and plastic utensils; real close to \$0. This will be a preregistered event. Because of the rental agreement with the fairgrounds, we will need a headcount pre rally.



The fairgrounds has an RV park onsite with a cost of \$15.00 per night for tent or motorcycle popup trailer, \$20.00 for RVs. All of the tent sites have water and electricity. At the September Club meeting I'll have more information.

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We have to vote on whether or not the NorCal Voyagers Club wants to be part of the western regional rally.

Ray Walls will be attending the meeting, good thing. He is bringing all of the NorCal Voyagers clothing he has in stock.

Everyone wear your NorCal shirts and hats to the next meeting!

## 2009 Events

### Fall:

Oct 2-4: NorCal Half Moon Bay Ride-In

### DECEMBER:

Dec 12: Annual Christmas Party at the Fresno Moose Lodge

## HELP: NCVV WEB SITE

We still need a replacement for the Web Site Administrator. If you have experience in this, please contact Don Medina.

## Half Moon Bay Campout October 2,3,4

Location: Half Moon Bay, Ca.

Address: Half Moon Bay State Beach  
95 Kelly Avenue  
Phone 650 726 8819  
[www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov)

Just a few weeks away, everyone should be rested. This is an overview of the weekend's activities.

Price of camping with trailer or tent is \$10.00 per person for the weekend. It is a flat \$10 per person whether you stay 1 night or 3. This \$10.00 per person for camping will be paid to the club because we have prepaid for the campsites.

You also have to buy a day pass each day for each motorcycle or car. If you arrive on Thursday and leave on Sunday, that's 3 days or \$30.00. The day pass fees will be paid to the Park Rangers. Please reread above.



On each campsite, we are allowed to park THREE (3) licensed vehicles (trailers). If you are pulling a TRAILER then you will

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have to purchase a day pass for the MOTORCYCLE. If you are using a tent then you will have to pay for a day pass for the MORTOCYCLE.



For those early birds we have the campsites reserved for Thursday night, we can have a BS session and a nice walk on the coast trail.



All the Rides will start at 9:00 am with a riders meeting a 8:45 am I have maps of SF for everyone.

For those that don't wish to go on rides there is plenty to do in Half Moon Bay all within walking distance of the campground.

Friday, Breakfast 7:00 to 8:30 am.  
The ride: We're going into San Francisco.  
The Route: north on hwy 1 through Pacifica, we go north on Skyline to the Great Highway, Cliff House, Legion of Honor, Presidio, and last is a walk on the Golden Gate Bridge to the midpoint. Then we will stop for lunch in North Beach. This will take 2 to 3 hrs, and then back to Half Moon Bay.

Dinner: Potluck at the campground.

Saturday, Breakfast 7:00 to 8:30 potluck  
The ride: South to Santa Cruz, with a coffee stop in the small village of Davenport at the Whaler Café. The ride down hwy 1 will have vistas of the Pacific Ocean and Monterey Bay. While at the Whaler Café we will be able to view the ocean and bask in the warm sunshine. Onward to Santa Cruz to hwy 9 through the towns of Felton and Ben Lomond up to Skyline Road, at the stop sign we make a left turn on hwy 35 Skyline Blvd. We'll stop at a vista point where we will see the San Francisco Bay. Onward to Alice's Restaurant for lunch and some motorcycle watching. After lunch we go west on hwy 84 to La Honda and San Gregorio. We'll turn right on Old Stage Road then back onto hwy 1 and Half Moon Bay, with maybe another coffee shop with some chatting

Dinner: Potluck or dinner on your own.

Sunday: Breakfast pick a time then we go home

Remember to dress in layers and bring warm clothing. It can be quite cool on the coast.

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## Santa Fe to Capulin

I wake up to warmth and sunshine this morning. After yesterday and last night it feels good to just have sunshine on my face. The warm sunshine feels good, even here in the Texas panhandle in the middle of July. I know the day will become hot as the sun climbs into the sky, but I really don't care.

Yesterday we were in Santa Fe NM. We had been at the AVA Rally, and Friday was departure day. After making breakfast for most of the campers, we headed north to Las Vegas NM.



While looking for a route east to Texas, I saw a small line on the map meaning there wasn't much traffic or many people living along this road. The map showed two towns along this route, but in this part of the country they probably won't have any services. The road was 108 miles with great vistas and very little traffic.



There were signs of life as we neared Tucumcari NM. There we got onto Interstate 40 for a hundred mile ride to Amarillo TX. This would be the longest hundred miles I have traveled in some time. About twenty miles east of Tucumcari NM, the clouds got black and we were heading directly into those black clouds. Without time to stop and take cover or get into rain gear, the rain and wind was upon us. This was the kind of rain that if we'd been in a car we would've had the windshield wipers on high! even extra high! trying to keep the windshield clear. The wind was gusting hard, just trying to keep the motorcycle upright and going straight was a challenge. Cars and trucks were moving to the side of the road to wait it out. The traffic in front of me kept slowing. I would look in my mirrors to make sure that Trisha, my wife and riding buddy, was there. When I would see that she was still there, I was so thankful that she was on her trike. This went on for the better part of an hour with speed in the 20s. We didn't travel far, but I did pray a whole lot. Visibility was so bad that I even lost sight of Trisha for a few moments when the rain and wind got some help from Mr. Hail. As we finally exited the east side of the storm we were both drenched. I pulled over in a picnic area and was jumping up and down I was so happy to be still in one

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piece. Everyone on the road that day drove like the experts that we are when we encounter these events. We stopped at a mini truck stop and met another trike rider. The three of us rode into Amarillo TX.



Today we are heading north on US 285 into Colorado then West on US 50 along the Arkansas River. We stayed at the Oasis RV Park because they advertised in the Voyager Voice. If you are ever near Amarillo TX do stop and stay at the Oasis RV Park. It is the Ritz of campgrounds and the price for our motorcycle popup trailer was only \$15.00 per night with bathrooms with shower, sink and toilet. They even had free washers and dryers. Since most campers were large motor homes the washers, they didn't get heavy use.



After packing the trailer and eating our on-the-go breakfast, we were off. Heading north on US 287 we were riding through rolling hills and farm land. It's early Saturday so the roads have light traffic, plus we're out in the country. After just a bit we're in Oklahoma, again more of the same rolling hills with very little traffic. I did spot a Dairy Queen along the road; yep we stopped and had one. Santa Fe does not have a Dairy Queen in the city limits that I found. When we get into Colorado the road is all new concrete with nice wide shoulders, very pleasant to ride on. As the day wears on it's getting much hotter; both Trisha and I began to tire. Trisha rides up next to me and I hear the radio on the trike blaring which means she is sleepy. I spot two large trees on the left side of the road. There's a tire trail under the trees and we stop and take a nap. I awake after a bit. While laying on the trailer, I listen to the light breeze rustle the leaves on the trees. I get down off of the trailer and see that Trisha has made herself comfortable on her trike. While taking a picture of Trisha asleep, she wakes up. We chat a few minutes and then we're off.



In Lamar we take US 50 west. Old Fort Bent is just outside of La Junta. We exit

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US 50 onto a small two lane road which takes us to the Fort. We're there just before closing, so all we do is look and wonder what life must have been like 150 years ago. Leaving La Junta we take Colo 10 to Walsenburg 73 miles on a narrow two lane road, no towns no traffic. This is when I love the Voyager 12 with the six gallon tank and 41 mpg while pulling the trailer. These long distances between small towns are no problem. As we near Walsenburg I see what looks like clouds on the horizon. I know that it has to be the Sangre De Cristo Range. The closer we get to Walsenburg, the color becomes more vivid. There are at least three different shades of green with a light haze, a few fluffy clouds, a bright sun behind the clouds and the haze forms wonderful sun rays. I watch this for a half hour, while letting my mind wander to a time beyond. The spell is broken as we enter Walsenburg, an old coal mining town with old houses and a downtown that's coming back to life. We exit Walsenburg heading west on Co 160 for La Veta Pass. We start gaining altitude as we leave town. Within twenty miles the temp has dropped to seventy degrees. We crest our first Colorado pass, continuing down the west side to Russell Colorado. This is the town where my dad was born. Only one building is left in town. I show Trisha where my dad would tell me where he was born in a cabin. On to the Fort Garland Blanca Cemetery to pay a visit to my paternal grandparents gravesite, I haven't been there is forty years. It isn't hard to find their gravesites for I remember the shape of the headstone. While there I visit the gravesites of my cousin and my aunt and uncle. The sun is sitting. We've both traveled one hundred seventy five miles on this tank! I'm trying to get to Alamosa CO, thirty more miles. Through Blanca Colorado, I look to where my Grandfather's house was. I see the big tree but the house is gone, darn change.

Behind where the house stood, we see Mount Blanca 14,364 ft tall. Usually it was snow covered all year, not this year. Arriving in Alamosa I stop and visit my sister-in-law, my late brother's wife Linda. It's just a short visit, and then off to find a motel.

This morning I am excited: I am taking Trisha to see my maternal great grandparent's homestead where my mother was born. We fuel the bike and trike, they each take five gallons. We leave Alamosa south on US 285 to the small village of Capulin Colorado. Just two miles west of town is the homestead. Both my grandfather and my mother were born here. The farm was sold fifteen years ago and now it sits empty. While standing there listening to the quiet, I take a deep breath of air. I smell and taste the sweetness of the cool mountain air. Remembering the summers I would get to visit the farm, I tell Trisha all the stories, pointing to the house where my mother was born. All of the houses I refer to were adobe brick. We travel back to Capulin and find the new cemetery where I find my grandfather's headstone. I reflect that this is only the second time I've come to visit.



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We head north on US 285 past Alamosa to the north end of the San Louis Valley. As we leave the San Louis Valley at 7,000 ft elevation, we gain altitude leaving the semi-arid valley below us. We stop at the summit of Poncha Pass. Here we meet a fellow motorcyclist heading home to Las Alamos NM.



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## August 2009

### 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 <b>MAY 23</b> – Meeting: Manteca	<b>JUN 6</b> – Coming Home Party for Uncle Ray
<b>JUL 14-16</b> – AVA Rally (Rally Tour departs July 10) <b>JUL 25</b> – Meeting: Manteca (11AM) 9 <sup>th</sup> Year	<b>AUG 23 to Sep 1</b> – 1 <sup>st</sup> Annual Ray Walls Classic Fall Tour – Canyon Lands	<b>SEP 11-13</b> – Humboldt River Ranch Rendezvous <b>SEP 26</b> – Meeting: Manteca (11AM)
<b>OCT 2-4</b> – NorCal Half Moon Bay Ride-In	<b>NOV 28</b> – Meeting: Manteca (11AM)	<b>DEC 12</b> – 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](mailto: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](mailto:president@norcalvoyagers.org)  
[vicepresident@norcalvoyagers.org](mailto:vicepresident@norcalvoyagers.org)  
[secretary@norcalvoyagers.org](mailto:secretary@norcalvoyagers.org)  
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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