



Newsletter Vol. 5. #5 Sep-Oct 2007

We're the **Lone Star Voyagers Motorcycle Club**, a charter club of the **American Voyager Association**, and are looking for new members. The club focuses on Kawasaki Voyager owners but welcomes all makes and models of bikes. Dues are only \$7.50 / year for one up riding or \$15 / year for two and are due in January. For an application, if there's not one at the back of this newsletter, there's one on our web site at LoneStarVoyagers.org. Our Secretary - Treasurer Brenda Herring will accept dues and applications at 325 C.R. 130 Liberty, TX 77575, (936/336-2840).

We are a family riding club with activities scheduled nearly every month. We are also a fun club with no attendance or participation requirements. You are not required to be an AVA member. We are headquartered in Liberty, TX. Our ride calendar is established at a business meeting that is held at a fall meeting, **coming up this month- see the calendar & articles**. Normally we plan to host at least 2 camp-in weekends each year. We feature this bimonthly newsletter where articles are submitted by members, & a web site (LoneStarVoyagers.org). If you are interested you can contact **Barry Baker**, in New Braunfels (830) 627-3926), barrybaker24@sbcglobal.net, **Richard Baxter**, in Liberty Hill (512-515-0133), ribaxter@peoplepc.com, or **Brenda**, brendalsv@gmail.com for more information. Hope you can join us. **(additions in this color are by the newsletter editor)**

From the Desk of the Prez.....

A lot has happened since the last newsletter and we are **winding down the year**. The SCI/CO is history and we are looking forward to the last gathering of the year (Voyage Home) as well as the Int'l Motorcycle Show in Houston (or Ft Worth). Then, guess what, we start looking ahead to our 5th year. Wow, is that exciting! (For more information on the Voyage Home [Oct 18, 19, 20] contact Roger Bagley@ 903 - 938 - 9679)

There were 17 attendees at the **SCI/CO**. They came on 11 bikes and one van. RR has put good representation of activities on the photo page of the LSV web site. Take a look and see what ya' missed. There will be another one next year with different destinations. We might not eat as much next year in an attempt to do something different!

Speaking of next year, the **business meeting** at Voyage Home will include the approval of the 2008 calendar. Your officers had a short meeting at SCI/CO and have an incomplete proposal. We need your help. Dates, hosts, routes, eateries and more are needed to complete next year's activities and gatherings. Members are encouraged to attend the VH for 2 reasons: we need your input on the calendar and it's the last gathering of the year.

We are especially looking for **hosts for the HCT and VH** of 2008. These are our 2 most important gatherings of the year. For the HCT, I believe DS, our road captain, will develop routes and I'll handle the business meeting and prizes. That means we actually only need a coordinator to find a campground/hotel and handle the meals. Don't be afraid of the meals. No meals need to be prepared. We ate out all meals at SCI/CO and that is possible for the HCT and VH as well. The coordinator has control over events and does some organization.

No meals have to be prepared and I already have an idea for that.

I'm looking for **pictures from LSV gatherings** to include in the slide show for our 5th anniversary bash at the 2008 HCT. If you have a favorite picture or two you would like to share with the world, send it to me and I will include it. Be sure to include when and where the picture was taken. (& who's in the pic).

I would also like to **issue a challenge** to all members to attend the AVA National Rally next year in Bowling Green (Kentucky) in July. I think it's time to let all of the AVA know just what the LSV is all about by having the most attendees from one chapter. I've never been to Kentucky, through it, yes. It's supposed to be beautiful with great scenery and lots of history. I know it's early to plan for some of us, but there are those that need that much time because of work. Be sure to put it on your calendar to attend. Do you think we can get more than 20 of us there? So far there are 7 accepting this challenge.

There is **one new member** to report since last newsletter. However, I have it from good resources that a couple NewV's will show up after Oct 1st. The new member is **Harvey Darnell** from Walker, LA. He rides a 2001 Voyager and is a retired police officer who now moonlights in a security detail. I hope Harvey can make it to the VH to accept his "award". This application brings our membership to 82 strong and healthy members. (**Harvey joined after Oct 1, so he is also our first member signed up for calendar '08**).

Our shirt vendor **can not get the shirt** any more so we are looking for a new vendor. Our club shirts are excellent, high quality and unique. If any one knows of a good vendor that can provide a high quality shirt for us, contact an officer.

The news on the possibility of a **new Voyager** is out. It *IS* coming, just not now. I was hoping, as were a lot of people that Duane would see the unveiling of a new bike but it wasn't meant to be. Ma Kaw does promise one is coming soon. My crystal ball says it will happen in July at the AVA National Rally. We all need to be there to have the largest contingent at the rally. Start making your preparations to attend with us. So far I count 7 LSVers going to BGK.

I'm about out of stuff. (Yeah, I know your all sad)

MusicMan
LSV Prez

Voyage Home update

Plans are in full swing for The Voyage Home Rally scheduled for October 18th thru the 20th at Caddo Lake State Park. From I-20, get off at exit 617 Hwy 59 North to Hwy 43 go right towards Karnack, TX about 20 miles. Follow the signs. Plans include Good Food, Long and Short Rides some of the roads have been chosen "Best Roads To Ride" By The Texas Ride Association. Early Thursday morning arrivals will tour a Antique Hardware Store. A trip to Marshall Pottery is planned with discount coupons. Lots of door prizes and goodie bags. After the business meeting, we will have the judging for the ladies Motorcycles. (Toys) don't forget to bring yours. I don't want to give all the details away.

Questions ? bagro@hughes.net

Roger Bagley

Treasury Report thru Sep 07

Beginning Balance	815.71
Income	00.00
Expenses	55.95

Ending Balance 759.76

See you at Voyage Home. There is lots of fun to be had

Brenda Herring, LSV Sect/Treas.

Ladies Corner

Have you looked around lately at all the different bikes that are available these days? The variety is astounding, and the best part (at least from the perspective of someone trying to encourage more women to ride) is that many of them have extremely low seat heights. The problem for me personally, however, is that the majority of the new bikes are either all in the cruiser style which requires you to have your feet kicked out way in front of you or a sportbike that has you leaned over the tank with your heels right up against your backside. My body just don't bend that way anymore, at least not for very long. I enjoy riding the sportbikes, but we do a lot of long distance riding and there is no way I could stand being wadded up like that for more than a very short ride. So, let me give you a little background on me so you will understand the dilemma I have been facing in the last couple of years trying to find a new bike for myself.

I started out riding dirt bikes behind my brother when I was about 7 years old. By the time I was 10, I was riding my own and a few years later I was riding in cross country enduro races on my trusty Kawasaki KX80 and then later on a KX125. I didn't start riding street bikes on my own until I was 21 (in 1987) and my husband, at the time, traded an old Monte Carlo for a '77 Kawasaki LTD1000. Since he already had a couple of street bikes, the LTD ended up being mine. Needless to say, I was in for some serious culture shock going from my little dirt bike to this huge street bike. Fortunately at 5'8", my legs were long enough to comfortably flat-foot the bike once we dropped the suspension down a touch, but the weight and balance were so completely different it was like learning to ride all over again. One thing the LTD did have in common with my dirt bikes was the sit-up riding position, which puts your feet directly under you. This was good since I found myself reacting like I was still on a dirt bike whenever I came across a major bump in the road (standing up on the pegs and using my legs to absorb the shock, this tends to freak your passengers out pretty badly, by the way; my youngest son was convinced I was getting off the bike without him while we were still moving). Twenty years have passed by now, and the old LTD is still my daily driver. I have ridden many bikes over the years, but none felt as natural to me as did my LTD. The problem is, even though I have done a lot of restoration work on it, the age is really starting to show. So I have kinda half-heartedly been looking around for a new bike for the last couple of years (even that much made me feel extremely disloyal to my LTD, like I was cheating on it or something). I just could not find any new bikes that had the sit-up riding style I like except for the big touring rigs like the Voyager or the Goldwing. Don't get me wrong, I love riding my husband's Voyager and our buddy's Wing, but not as a permanent mount. I had just about given up on a new bike and resigned myself to a continuing fight with my LTD to get it to work properly.

Then one day, completely by accident (isn't that the way these things always happen?!), I found myself looking at a Yamaha V-Max at the local dealership. I was actually in there to get some parts for Brian's Voyager and was just looking around some, killing time. A friend of mine had a V-Max back many years ago, but I had never ridden it. I just knew that he raced it at the local drag strip and it always left a big grin on his face. To make a long story short, my husband twisted my arm and made me take it out for a test ride. I was in love!! Now I understand the reason behind the grin! It was designed as a "muscle bike" like my LTD and has unbelievable amounts of torque and power. It also has this handy little feature called the V-Boost. It kicks in at 6000 rpm and you better be hanging on when it happens! There is

some serious “go” that hits you. The Max was a 2004, but it only had 912 miles on it. The only thing I could figure is that someone who wasn't familiar with the bike had the stuffin' scared out of them when the boost kicked in and got rid of the bike shortly after they got it. The best thing about it is that the riding posture is very similar to my LTD and so it felt like coming home right from the beginning. Finally I had found a new bike that I could live with. Now I just had to find a way to break the news to my LTD!!

While I was looking around at the dealer's floor that fateful day, I also came across a '94 Honda Nighthawk 250. It was a beautiful little bike with only a couple of small dings and about 14,000 miles on it. This would be perfect for my 19-year-old daughter, Teka, who just got her bike license a few months ago. She is about 5' 2" and so would have no trouble handling this bike. When all was said and done, we went home with two new babies to add to our stable. Now we have four bikes in the garage, which doesn't leave much room for the cars!

My 18-year-old son, Adam, also just got his bike license a few months ago and has been looking around for a bike. The problem is that he is 6'5" and about 280 pounds. He tried riding the little Hawk, but the suspension just couldn't handle it. No way am I going to let him on the Max or Brian's Voyager until he has a lot more experience under his belt. He has decided he wants my LTD. I'm not sure I'm ready to pass it on permanently, but at least he should be able to handle riding it until he finds one of his own. The LTD is not stock, I used to drag race back when I was much younger and dumber, but at least it has a very smooth power band all the way to redline, no sneaky surprises like the Max. He will have to wait a little while though; I have the head off the LTD getting a valve job done on it. Patience is not his strong suit, but he will just have to manage for a little while! That just leaves my youngest son, 17-year-old Devon, without a bike. He's light enough that he can ride the Hawk just fine, but he feels it should be Teka's for the most part. He hasn't got his license yet, but he has passed the basic rider's course and so can get it when he's ready.

Once we got the new bikes home, it was time to add them to our insurance policy. We have had our two bikes insured with Dairyland for years so it never occurred to me that there would be a problem adding these two. Guess what, there is a maximum limit of 3 bikes per insurance policy. I had run into this with my car insurance policy before. With Brian and I and three teenagers still at home that gives us 5 cars to insure. I have had to split my car insurance up because they will only put a maximum of 4 cars per policy. I have to put 3 cars on one policy and 2 on another. Now I was going to have to do the same thing with the bikes! Geesh! I had been paying about \$520 for full coverage on both my LTD and Brian's Voyager for a yearlong policy with just the two of us as riders. So now I was going to have to have a separate policy for the Max and the Hawk and then add Teka and Adam as riders. Dairyland gave me a quote of almost \$1000 for the two bikes! Gulp! Needless to say, I started doing some heavy-duty thinking trying to find a better way to do this. I decided to take the LTD off the insurance until the engine work was completed and it was running again, that would help the sticker shock somewhat. That meant that Adam would not need to be on the policy yet since the only bike he would be riding wasn't yet running. More progress, but having Teka on the policy was causing a BIG jump in the cost. This was even with her having the rider course and only able to ride the Hawk and it having only liability on it. Finally after much searching, I got a quote from GEICO I could live with (thanks to Duane and the AVA!). With full coverage on the Voyager and the Max, liability only on the Hawk, and three riders, they would give me a price of \$685 for the year. Once the LTD gets back on the road, I'll have to do some re-arranging, but I figure I'll cross that bridge when I come to it! Finally we're ready to ride! Look out world here we come!

LSV 2007 Calendar

Oct. 18-21	*Voyage Home	The Bagleys	Marshall, TX area
Nov.	International Bike Show		Houston/Dallas
Dec.	Open		
Jan 1, 2008	Blessing Of The Bikes		San Antonio

*This is one of 2 camp-in/ride-ins that include our two business meetings each year.

Liberty Cookout

Could not figure what to write about the cookout. It was they came, we talked, we ate, we talked, they left. We had a good time, good food, good friends. No rain this time. That was the story.

Brenda

Richard's Ritings & Wridings

I've been having rear wheel problems & haven't ridden much lately. With new rear wheel bearings, I'm gonna give it a shot at VH.

Voyage Home Hurry & make a reservation - there's a copy on this newsletter if you're getting a hard copy, otherwise get it off the website. Either way, let Roger know that you are coming. It's being held near Jefferson, TX at the Caddo Lake State Park. The town location for the park is Karnack, TX. All this is right on the Louisiana border, 25 miles south of the Ar-La-Tx tristate point, but still in Texas. The motel of choice is the Budget Inn of Jefferson- on US59, at the south end of Jefferson. \$45 for a queen, \$47 for two double beds. The campground is the state park. My tent site is \$12 per night, but they have other arrangements & prices. For reservations, call 512-389-8900 (that's in Austin). For info only, call 800-792-1112

See you in Jefferson/Karnack/Caddo Lake State Park
-Richard Speedball Baxter

SCI/CO Report

(in case you've forgotten, that is short for Summer Camp-In/Cookout)

It was a great time camping on the river. A total of 18 attended! There were 4 tents, 1 RV and 1 coffin. Others either rode in from home or stayed at a motel. A new friendship was started with new AVA member Dennis Cadran, from Coppers Cove, who will probably join the LSV in October. He rides a '03 which he has had since May. It only had around 5k on the clock when he purchased it.....what a deal! Anyway.....

The early arrivals went to Mamacitas for a Mexican style supper the first night. The meal was delicious and RR was surprised with a birthday song (not his birthday, and, I wonder who did that?) and a sombrero to wear at the table. Look at the pictures on the photo page of the web site.

We returned to the campground to settle in and tell lies about those that weren't there. I believe Speedballs name was mentioned (he came later) and also Stan/Helen, Rick/Rene (who we've never met...but that didn't stop us) and Brian /Laura plus a whole lot more. You really need to attend these gatherings to "protect" yourself! Lights out came around 11pm.

Breakfast on Friday was light. Tacos at Rudy's. Deb Coning suggested this after the Skillet closed when they heard we were coming (haha). The tacos were delicious. We then rode River Road to Sattler for a potty break. We rode another 20 minutes (we didn't want too long

of rides in between stops because of RR!) to get to Devils Backbone (via 306 & 32). When we got to the look-out, it was closed. We went another mile up Hwy 32 to an abandoned business' parking lot and got almost as good of view.

We backtracked west on 32 to highway 281 with Chip on the lead (remember, my speedo was out?) We headed south on 281 to about 1 mile south of 306 to the Shade Tree Grill and Saloon. It's a biker bar with indoor or outdoor eating. The food was great and in about an hour we were on our way again.

I was gonna take'em down Rebecca Creek road but there was construction at the time so we rode 281 south to 311, west on 311 to 46, 46 to Heuco Springs Road, north on Heuco Springs Road to River Road arriving back at the campground around 2pm. We like to eat, so at 5:00 we rode to Janie's Table for supper. One thing about Gruene and New Braunfels, there are a lot of great places to eat. We then returned to the campground to tell more lies about those that weren't there.

Saturday's ride was the best of the weekend. We headed down I-35, caught I-17 for about a mile and then turned into the streets of downtown San Antonio. We parked in a pay lot and walked to the most solemn place in Texas: the Alamo.

Much history has been retained and found. It's a humbling experience no matter how many times you see it. We saw relics and heard the 'story' of the fall of the Alamo from an historian of the Alamo education department. The first shot of the war was fired in Gonzales when Santa Ana's brother arrested Texacans and confiscated their firearms. I'll let you discover the rest of the story by going to the Alamo yourself.

After finding Dennis, we went across the street to the River Walk. There are shops, restaurants and bars lining the river. Every food imaginable is available. Since we stayed so long at the Alamo, we had to cut short our stay on the River Walk because our final destination was so important.

We wandered through the streets of downtown until we got to I-10, then headed west to Heubner and made our way to the home of John and Cindy Ward. John and Cindy were in the driveway when we arrived (rather loudly with horns a blaring). We chatted outside for a while when Richard, Cindy, Mike and Chere' pulled up in Richards Van. We went inside, talked some more and then ordered pizza (you know we just had to eat!). After about a 3 hour visit, we left for the campground.

For those that don't know, John had an allergic reaction to medication administered after a rather easy operation and is now confined to a wheel chair unable to communicate. John & Cindy are lifetime members of the EVA and LSV. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

Upon returning to the campground, Sandi, Jimbo & Suzie and a couple others were....hungry! So, we headed into Gruene to the Gristmill for some awesome food. Unfortunately, there was a 70 minute wait. We changed our plans and went to the Adobe Verde Restaurant for some great Mexican food. No hat at this place for RR, not only wasn't it his birthday, he also wasn't hungry and left for home after the officers meeting. (He had to get home to sell his 1300.)

Those in attendance were: Barry/Sandi, John/Brenda, Richard/Cindy, Mike/Chere', Jimbo/Suzie, Hippie/Karen, RR, DS, Catfish, Dennis, Chip and Debbie. All are LSV members except for Debbie and Dennis. It was great to have them with us.

Watch the calendar for next years SCI/CO.
