



Newsletter Vol. 7. #2 Mar-Apr 2009

We're the **Lone Star Voyagers Motorcycle Club**, a chartered 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 Sandra Judge will accept dues and applications at RR1 Box 162A, Mooreland, OK. 73852. (580)994-2411.

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. Our ride calendar is established at a business meeting that is held at a fall meeting. Normally we plan to host at least 2 camp-in weekends each year. We feature this bimonthly newsletter where members submit articles, & our web site is (LoneStarVoyagers.org).

If you are interested you can contact our President, **Richard Baxter**, in Liberty Hill (512-515-0133), richadntexas@dishmail.net, or our Vice President, John Herring, in Liberty, TX. (936-336-2840) voyagerjohn@gmail.com or our Sec/Tres **Sandra Judge**, jjudge@pldi.net for more information. Hope you can join us.

Richard's Ritings & Wridings

I'd like to remind you all that our parent organization, the American Voyager Association, has a bi-monthly magazine. It's the Voyager Voice and they (like John) are also looking for input from us. Whether you have a ride article, something that is Voyager specific or general motorcycle oriented, Charlotte Ash would like to consider your work for the magazine. Like in real life, article submission does not guarantee publication- probably depends on how much material she winds up with. They also like pictures that tell stories.

On a similar note, the AVA is preparing (very soon) to publish a booklet on Best/Favorite rides, if you'd like to contribute to that. That requires a turn by turn text, map, and or grid coordinates of your favorite ride. I have contributed to that effort. AVA also has, for its members a 100,000 mile patch to be acquired at your request & picture proof when you have reached 100k on your bikes odometer. The easiest way to do this is get a high mileage bike & ride it the last couple of thousand miles- like we think that MusicMan did. They also have available a Military Veterans patch to be provided to AVA members with DD-214 proof of service.

We had recent get together at Spring Fun Run with the Enchanted Voyagers Assn in Alpine. There should be a few ride reports in this issue on that event.

HCT is done & on the books. I'm gonna go out on a limb & say that it was a success. Thanks to the Fowlers & the Schanis. I'll talk more about HCT in another report. We had eleven new Vees at the HCT - nearly ran out of hats. We also kicked off the Grand Tour (courthouse run). We're now back up to 78 members as this is written, including Richard and Marylou Ortiz who joined while at the HCT. Along with lots of returning members, we have several new members. Since last newsletter, we have had join us Kevin & Gerri Bryan of Cypress, TX, and their 09 Yamaha, David Dunn of Houston, who's made a couple of our events previously & his 06 Yamaha, James and Jeanine Amecucci of San Antonio and their 03 Voyager, Ron & Venita Odom of Spring & their 06 Yamaha V Star, Bruce Fowler Jr. & his Yam cruiser, Dave & Sheila Lawson of Marlin & their 2000 Voyager.

Welcome to all these and to you returnees too.

- Richard SpeedBall Baxter

Secretary/Treasurer Report

By Sandra,

April 25, 2009

The Meeting of the LSV was called to order by President Richard Baxter. First order of business was to all sign a card for Brenda and family. She and John were missed very much at HCT this year.

All new officers for the years 2009 - 2010 were introduced to members.

Our hosts were introduced to everyone so they would know who had taken care of all arrangements for the weekend, Bruce and Jane Fowler and Dave and Judy Schani. They were congratulated on a job well done.

Newbies were introduced and hats were put on so all would know who they were. We had 11 show up.

Old Business: Rod gave report on SFR, 15 people showed up and 14 bikes, no rain but a lot of cold temperatures at night. Good food and good rides.

Our roster now shows we have 78 members in the LSV as April 25, 2009.

Brenda's gift for being secretary/treasurer was shown to everyone - candle holder/candle.

Barry's gift for being president - torque wrench.

New Business: Richard talked about the "Court House Tour" and explained rules and time frame on getting pictures. The object to be in picture with bike is a piece of white paper.

Ladies will be having their "motorcycle contest" at Voyage Home. No larger than 12 inches long.

Rick Londagin our safety officer spoke on U-turns for bike riding.

We have members from 9 different states, Texas, Arkansas, Kansas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Arizona, Nebraska, Indiana, and Ohio.

Voyage Home will be hosted this year in October by Russ and Gabi Bagley, & Ben Bagley in Paris, TX.

Forum was discussed, do we like it or not, do we change or not, do we keep and try to learn to use what we have?

Motion was made by Barry and amended by several others, that since the site is paid for until the end of the year to scope out other options for a forum and see if there is something that we might like better and if so bring to meeting in October for further discussion. Motion was seconded by Cindy Baxter. President called for a vote, motion passed.

Down Riders Fund was explained to everyone and articles were put on a table for sale to go into the fund. We collected \$45.00 from the table.

Treasurer Report:

As of April 25, 2009

In our General Fund:	\$676.11
Down Rider Fund:	<u>\$270.00</u>
Total in Bank:	\$946.11

The Safety Corner:

Recipe For A Safe Motorcycle Ride

Ask a group of women what the recipe is for baking a pie from scratch and you will probably get just as many different answers. Each will add something just a tad bit different than the others.

Ask a group of motorcyclists what the recipe is to have safe motorcycle ride and you will probably get just as many different answers. Each will add something just a tad bit different than the others.

We all want the same results in the end whether it is a blue ribbon pie or a ride that when we finish we drop the side stand & walk away from the bike.

And since the LSV is a group that loves their food, I thought I'd write about it. However, it was a brief & fleeting thought. So let's ponder some ingredients for a safe trip.

Besides the obvious gear (head to toe, out to finger tips) & a mechanically sound bike there are lots of other things needed to make this safe trip.

This is where we will differ some in our "recipes", but still our goals for the end result are the same. A trip plan is a must. It's best not to ride alone, but if you do, leave a planned route with someone. This plan should include an approximate time of your return. Included also should be a description of the bike with tag number.

Cell phones are good to have as long as there is a tower you can get a signal from and the battery is charged up.

Now, about our bikes, some are quiet, some make quite a bit of noise, some are full dress touring bikes, some are cruisers or sport/tourers. Some have lots of lights, some have a lot less. These ingredients help make up the recipe, but are not the main part. They are a very important element to this safe trip. Our bikes are as individual as we are. And as individuals, we each have our own limits. Know what they are and ride within your limits. The motorcycles we have can do by far more than what most of us can handle. If need be, make an investment in your riding future and success, enroll in a rider safety course.

Some riders have the philosophy that "loud pipes save lives". Some feel it's best to be seen & not heard.

Now you're thinking ok here we go... a sermon about noise. Bear with me, it's not.

We each do have our own personal preferences, which is part of the recipe.

Some feel it's best to be able to see that is more important than the other thoughts. All are correct to a degree, none are incorrect. But one is probably more correct than the rest or than any others not yet mentioned.

If a car or truck is in traffic, windows down, (maybe radio is playing with those mega-bass speakers), it's hard for the driver to determine where the loud noise is coming from because the sound is coming in the windows from a perpendicular angle to the sound producer.

Being seen should never be taken as a guarantee, even when you make eye contact with the other driver. Headlight modulators, extra driving lights add to your being seen, but still is no guarantee. You should always ride as though you are invisible to the other drivers.

Probably the most important ingredient we can add to our recipe is our vision; our ability to see what is going on in front of us, what is approaching from the sides & what is coming up behind us.

Being able to see will give you that extra element of defense that will allow you to react to a situation with the correct maneuvers necessary to avoid a wreck before it gets to the extreme. Watching the road 2 & 3 car lengths ahead will give you early warning of something wrong. Scanning

the side street intersections as you approach far enough in advance will give you time to react to that driver that looks right through you and never sees you.

What are some of the ingredients of being able to see? Well for starters, glasses are a must. Whether you wear prescription eyewear or not, you need to protect your eyes. You only have 2 of them, so protect them. Carry an extra pair in case 1 pair breaks.

Next, you need a clear, fog free mind.

Drugs, whether prescription or of the illegal kind, if they can or will affect your ability to safely operate your bike don't partake in them. It's an invitation for disaster.

Alcohol, well what's there to say here that hasn't been said before & before that, & before that? Wait until the ride is over for the day to enjoy a cold one.

You could very possibly wind up killing someone very close to you....like maybe yourself. Then where would you be...Never mind, you're dead, it doesn't matter where you are now. It now becomes a matter of where you will wind up.

Then there's the surviving family. What happens to them? Will they be able to afford to stay where they are or will they be forced to sell out & move? How will your children handle you not coming home any more? Will there be enough money to put food on the table, clothes on their backs, shoes on their feet, and a roof over their heads?

We truly love and enjoy riding our bikes. Do your part to make every trip a safe and successful trip. Until next time;

Fuel'em up, Rev'em up, and hit the open road

Rick Londagin

LSV Safety Officer

Ride Reports

Spring Fun Run

My version of getting to Spring Fun Run 2009

With an uneventful ride (except for a short, hard rain), I overnighted in San Angelo on Wednesday night and hooked up with the Cadran Clan on Thursday morning in Eldorado. I drove into town past the only restaurant I knew of & no bikes. So I rode the entire length of town north to south, then east, then back to the main stoplight & there they were (all this searching took about 5 minutes- Eldorado is a small town). We proceeded back to the north edge of town to JoJo's Cafe, where I'd originally guessed they'd be.

US190, along its entire length is a nice road- no traffic & not that many stop-lighted towns, especially that portion that is west of IH35. That's why the inspector travels it. It meanders at its east end beyond IH45 (US75) & that half is a little bit crooked & crazy. The wind was blowing right into our face. That wasn't so much of a problem until we merged onto IH10 & into an 80 mph speed limit. One of the bikes couldn't go 80 into that wind, so we did the best we could. On one 100 mile leg, I got 33 mpg (pulling a trailer) & on another, I got 35 mpg. I quit checking mileage after that.

After 70+ miles, finally off the interstate & then a little more SW bound, leaning a little sideways instead of right into the wind. We arrived at Alpine & the campground uneventfully. —Richard

At SFR Thursday-Friday my version

The Cadran Cabal & I got there I think about 4ish. Beautiful day except for the wind. The average humidity in Alpine runs about 8% and it was abnormally dry. We had chapped lips by sundown and chapped hands by mid-day Friday.

At the campground we joined or were joined by Rocket Rod, Steve Stein, Bob & Dorothy Schneider, Dave Elder, & James & Nola Curren. We pretended to have a campfire, drank a couple of adult beverages & were probably all in our beds by 9:30. John, the campground proprietor was a

very biker-friendly guy and made our stay as good as could be (considering the weather). Speakeasy John B., Pathfinder Dave, Chip & Dale - er, David Dunn, & John (not Paul, or George, or Ringo) Cadran all elected to motel it. We had 15 total in attendance.

I hadn't consulted with RR on what he had in mind for ride destinations but I had a couple of rides in my feeble mind that I thought would be apropos for this area. Turns out that RR had the same rides planned. Fri morn dawned pretty cold (or so I thought at the time). It got down close to freezing, so we waited until 8ish to ride out. We went the 27 miles to Marfa for breakfast & by after breakfast, it'd warmed up enough to ride. On down to Presidio so that we could ride the river road to Terlingua. Down in the river valley & at slower speeds due to the roller coaster road, it started to get warm. Lots of us came out of the winter jackets at our first rest stop/scenic overlook. Everybody stripped down a little bit by the time we left Terlingua after lunch. Lunch was a burger at Kathy's Kosmic Kowgirl Kafe. I've had better burgers but it fed me.

Now we're northbound out of Terlingua returning to Alpine & it's a warm Texas day. But about halfway home, the norther hit us in the face & it dropped 20 degrees in half that many minutes. I was riding drag & I came up on John B & Dennis on the side of the road getting dressed. I joined them & we finished the ride in minimal misery.

Richard

At SFR Sat-Sun my version

Friday evening, I chose to wait till later to eat the evening meal, Chip & Dave joined me, but I rode back to camp alone. When I returned to camp about dark, it was deserted. The temp had continued to drop & I at first suspected that everyone was in the bathroom where the heater was- but no. Then James came out of his really big motor coach & invited me in to join the rest of them toasting in his living room - nice.

We were getting weather reports that said it was going down to mid-20s that night- and it **did!** I was miserable. My smarter brother Dennis had gone to a hardware store & got a ceramic heater for his tent. I had to put the ready-to-perk coffee in the bathroom so that it wouldn't freeze. For sleeping, I had my fuzzy sweater wrapped around my feet, my big leather jacket over my feet & to my knees, and my summer mesh jacket from my knees to my waist. Woke up Sat morn to 26 degrees (I think).

Due to the temp & a shorter ride planned for Saturday, we didn't ride til about 9. We went to Ft Davis for breakfast, then north on Tx118 to the observatory & restaurant for pie & on northwesterly to loop back toward Ft Davis on Tx166. But we took a side trip on FM 505, to Valentine to see some middle-of-the-desert modern art. Valentine is a poor, run down, miserable little town (like many small towns in the non-growth half of the state - but Valentine is worse). However, on the outskirts of town, somebody took somebody else's money & built a storefront on the edge of US90 & named it "Prada of Marfa". It's got leather shoes & purses on display on shelves in the building. Weird - maybe not as weird as Stone Henge 2 or Cadilacs buried in the ground- but weird. I separated from the group here & went straight back to Alpine on US90, while the group retraced FM505 & finished the Tx 166 loop back to Alpine. They saw deer & cows in the road. I saw antelope in a field - the only living wildlife I saw the entire trip except for buzzards. I did see a dead badger in the road somewhere along the way.

Sat night, it only got down to 39 degrees - a veritable heat wave. We got up & went home. Several of us north/east bounders rode together to Ft Stockton for breakfast, then good bye.

Richard

Hill Country Tour My Trip to the 2009 Hill Country Tour

By Chuck Hoefflin

This is meant to be a brief account of my recent trip to Junction, TX for the LSV Hill Country Tour. This was my fourth trip to the annual event; the other three being Kerrville in '04, Mason in '06 and Blanco in '08. I was actually headed to the event one other time ('07, I believe) but had to abort the trip when I became sick in route.

The 1280 mile trip to Junction took two days; the first to Arkadelphia, AR. By the way, Arkadelphia just happens to be in a Dry County, which is not what I wanted to hear after 700 miles on the bike. Once in Junction, I found the campground and got my equipment set up for the weekend. Dave Schani arrived shortly after me and we shared a campsite for the evening.

As always, the Rally turned out to be a very good time for all. Huge kudos to those involved in planning the event! About half of the attendees were in the campground, the balance in one of the local motels. The events were well planned and executed, the weather stayed dry most of the time and the BBQ banquet on Saturday was excellent. Personally, I took the opportunity to visit a church in San Antonio on Friday and the Pacific War Museum in Fredericksburg on Saturday. Sunday morning we all packed up, said our goodbyes and headed out of town.

My original plan was to meet a local friend at a Beemer Rally in Northern GA the following weekend, so I headed east. Sunday and Monday evenings I camped in Toledo Bend State Park in Western LA, about 440 miles from Junction. The facilities at this SP are very nice. I would certainly recommend it to anyone traveling in area and wanting to camp. Sunday evening was really a gorgeous night. However, Monday was different. Heavy thunderstorms moved through the area in the middle of the night and dropped tons of rain. I've tent camped a lot in my life and this was possibly the hardest rain I've ever experienced, but I survived.

The original plan was to stay Wednesday evening with a cousin in Montgomery, AL, so I stopped Tuesday in Laurel, MS. It was a short day so I used the extra time, and some nice warm weather, to open up the camping gear and dry everything out. Wednesday, I completed the short distance to my cousin's home and spent the night with him and his wife.

About this time the weather forecasters were saying that severe storm fronts were moving into the Ohio River Valley and that they were going to stay there through much of the weekend. The storms were also expected to impact the Northern GA area where the Beemer Rally is to be held. I contacted my riding friend and we decided to abort the trip to GA. We have past experience of doing that particular rally in a weekend of continuous rain.

With that decision made, my last day was the return leg of the trip from Montgomery, AL – about 525 miles of I-65, heading due north.

In summary, the 2009 HCT was again a good experience and the Texas Hill Country is still one of my very favorite destinations. Overall, it was a good trip. The totals were 3331 miles at an average of 39.40 MPG. Last year's numbers on the same bike were 3700 miles in total at an average of 40.04 MPG. I faced a lot of high winds out of the south this year, which was probably the cause of the slightly lower fuel consumption numbers.

As far as next year, I'll have to wait and see what the future brings. I will certainly be watching the LSV website next Spring to see where it is going to be held. All for now. Ride safe out there.

HCT RIDE REPORT

By Catfish

We all had a wonderful time at this year HCT, we missed everyone that was not able to make it, but we did talk about all of ya'll.

Our ride group started out on Friday about 9:00 am with cloudy skies and moderate temperatures. Barry was our leader, I was the tail gunner and Rick Londagin was behind Barry because his radio was not working.

We left the Junction city park and headed for IH 10 where we were going to exit 83 and ride to Camp Wood, leaky and rock springs as I stated earlier Barry was our leader, so of course he missed his first exit and we went about 14 miles before we turned around and got back on track.

We were riding along on a wonderful ride, except for Barry having to dodge the Buzzards which seem to have it in for him, there were sometimes groups of 6 or more and seem to follow our group, but Barry was the one having the most trouble, of course he was the leader, but that didn't stop us that had a radio from picking on him about it.

We did catch a very light rain, but the roads never got wet.

We had our first stop in Camp Wood where we went to the Frio Motorcycle shop, we talked a while and went on our way to Leaky and the ride was wonderful as usual, but Barry continued to play with the Buzzards.

We then arrived at Leaky, fueled up, took a restroom break and continued on to Rocksprings, again a wonderful ride and again Barry was playing with the buzzards and 1 Turkey.

We arrived back in Junction and ate lunch and then returned to the campground to enjoy each others company and of course we picked on Barry (very hard) about missing the turn off and of course the buzzards.

On Saturday our group started out at the city park in Junction.

Barry started out the ride by going through town, missing our turn on purpose due to all the picking we did to him the previous day.

Barry's radio still was not working, so this time we had Hippi as 2nd man and Kenneth McGee was in the middle and I was the tail gunner.

We with radios decided early on that we would pick on Barry some more.

We went down 377 to Vander pool, we stopped at a low water crossing, where there just happened to be a dead Buzzard, so we tied it to the back of Barry's bike and took pictures, we then continued on to Vander pool where we stopped for fuel and shared some good conversation. Hippi let a small boy put on his helmet and sit on his bike, that little boy was all smiles, we then took a picture of him and told his grandma that we would e-mail it to her; I think that made their day. We then headed for Camp wood and shortly after we got back on the road it started raining and did so the whole way to camp wood, we had to travel 10 mph at times up & down all the twisted roads, since the pavement was wet,

We arrived at Camp wood safe & sound at Frio city bike shop, where we ate lunch and let it dry out a little before getting back on the road.

*****Please do not attempt what is stated in the paragraph below due to safety issues******

We left Camp wood and headed for Hwy 16 where we were to take it and go into Kerrville, we had decided to continue to play with Barry by letting him get ahead of us and we would get off the main road and hide from him until he passed us and we would get back on the road and wait, it was all in fun, **but we did not think about the possible safety factors which would include if Barry did not find us or not stop, he then would be on his own and have a possible issue where there would not be any of**

us to help or our group could have had an issue as well and if someone came to look for us we could have been on a different path than what Barry had planned,

We did do this and no one had an issue, except after thinking about it, **we should not have ever left our ride leader. (Never breakaway from your group, unless someone is aware that you are going to do so)**

It is very important that we always remember the possible safety issues that could arise from a seemingly harmless prank.

We arrived back in Junction and continued great conversation and great food with great people.

I would like to personally thank our host (Bruce & Jane Fowler and Dave & Judy Schani for putting on a great HCT and we look forward to the next LSV function.

Thanks again for a great time!!!

Catfish

HCT 09 Baxter's version

I was supposed to get there before the rest of the motellers so I could catch 'em and sign 'em in as they arrived. When I rode up on Thursday afternoon, they were already gathering around the shade tree picnic table. I never caught up.

Bruce & I had this great idea to have two registration locations to reduce the need for a \$5 day pass into the RV Park. It was overall, a bad idea. That'll go into the "Tips for hosting a ride weekend" document. On the plus side, the park manager rescinded the \$5 pass thing except for Sat night when we collected \$150 from 30 visiting bikers for her.

Beyond check-in glitches, it went pretty good. Bruce furnished everyone excellent maps of all rides, both guided & self-guided, that were planned. Several from "further out of town" got there early enough to make Thursday a ride day & did some good scouting on their own. Rainman, as usual won the long distance acknowledgement by racking up 3331 miles overall. Most of our folks were there by Thursday evening but they continued to meander in until as late as Friday arrival. We had about 50 in attendance but it wasn't the same 50 who'd pre-registered.

My first ride was the loong ride to Brackettville on Friday morning. Scheduled to leave at 7:30 a.m., Dave left with the first group at about 7:45 & our 2nd group left at almost 8, but we had plenty of time built in to the schedule. There was a little drizzle but not enough to even wear a rain jacket behind a Voyager windscreen. However, down the road a bit I put it on anyway because it was a little too cool for just a mesh jacket. It had, rained in advance of our ride and when we got into the 15 mph curves between Leakey & Camp Wood, it was kind of scary wet. I had my GPS programmed for this ride and the Garmin lady told me where to turn as she should have, but truth be known, I already knew the route pretty well, except for how far it is from Camp Wood on 55 to where you go west on 334. It seemed like that segment had been increased by about 10 miles since I was last there. Overall, considering it was nearly 240 miles round trip, it went rather uneventfully. No suicidal deer, but lots of buzzards doing their job on previously successful suicidal deer. Wildflowers were, to say the least, sparse, but lots of expected, breath-taking scenery.

Second day, I went with Viejo & his group northeast of Junction, into Mason for lunch & back. I'd been to those exotic tourist centers like London, Hext, Calf Creek, Katemcy & Fredonia, but I never took the route that Viejo did. I had never been to Fly Gap. I was lost till we got back to 29 & was surprised that we were east of Art (another touristy town). Lunch at Willow Creek Cafe was good as usual.

I'll say it, in case everyone else is nice & omits it - the door prizes Sat nite were as sparse as the wildflowers. Sorry about that. -Richard

2009 HCT: Perspective from a former Guru

I suppose y'all are tired of hearing from me but I thought I should comment about the 2009 HCT. Many times I had members ask me what was gonna happen when. I had to tell'em that I didn't know. While other years I was supposed to know and didn't, this year, I really wasn't suppose to know. The time Catfish, Hippi and the Ortiz's were sitting around the picnic table will be sooooo memorable to me.

First of all, great friends like Catfish & Hippi are very hard to find. Second, I really had nothing to do but enjoy the company of good friends. I can't imagine what Richard & Mary Lou thought of us. It had to be good because they ended up joining the LSV!! I thoroughly enjoyed the HCT.

The routes were so well planned that anyone could follow them (well almost anyone). The scenery was great. The participants were the best around. The food....awesome! I know what goes into a gathering like this. It seems so smooth to us but the Guru's are working hard for us. It's like a duck on water. Gliding on top with feet paddling like crazy underneath.

I wanna thank everyone: Richard/Cindy, Jim/Sandra, DS/Judy, Viejo/Granny, all the ride leaders and everyone else involved in making this a very good HCT.

Ya' know, I just might go to another one.

MusicMan

2009 HCT Bike Show

I'm really hoping that someone will take over the reigns of the 2010 bike show. This is the sixth year I have run it and it would be nice if someone would step up.

Anyway, I just know y'all are sittin' on the edge of your seats wonderin' who won what!! I counted 31 bikes in the campground and 23 entered the show. The categories were: 3 Voyager, 1 cruiser, 1 open and 1 touring. Each winner received a customized certificate, hand signed by the president and the sec/treas. Their name was engraved on that certificate with black magic marker. It was a beautiful award that I'm sure each participant will value for a long time to come.

OK here's the results:

Best in Class	"Open"	James Curren	1986 Voyager 1300 trike
Best in Class	"Cruiser"	Todd Hanzelker	2005 HD
Best in Class	"Touring"	Chip Slauter	2001 Honda GW
Best in Class	Voyager 1986 - 1994	Richard Baxter	1994
Best in Class	Voyager 1995 -2002	Allen "Hippi" Boethel	2002
Best in Class	Voyager 2003	Ken Ellison	2003

It was an exciting and tense event. Old rivalries surfaced but the talented judges did an outstanding job in picking the winners. Oh yeah, before I forget, there was one other 'special' category where a certificate was awarded:

Best in Class, "V-Twin, Air Cooled, Black, Sometimes Runs, Italian" Ray Holly 1998 MottoGuzzi

Ray was very surprised in getting this award because their were sooo many in his class. Actually I think he was in a class all by himself.....of course we all know that!!

Until next time when someone makes the mistake and asks me to write something.

MusicMan

PS : Ya' know, I'm not sure who was more surprised about the awards, Ray or Richard??

Up and Coming:

Our club president asked me to give you a short heads-up from Gary Mize about a pending ride-in at Lake Medina, which is between Bandera & San Antonio. The date has not been finalized yet but it will probably be after Sept 1, 2009, & Richard will get with Gary Mize and provide some more details

that will probably show up on our web site. We haven't had a little gathering is a long time. –rb

Lone Star Voyager Courthouse Grand Tour 2009 rules

The object is to take a picture of your motorcycle in front of county or parish courthouses whose county names start with the letters in the phrase "Lone Star Voyagers". That's a total of 16 different courthouses in 16 different counties including 2 each beginning with the letters O, E, S, A, & R. To encourage some travel, there will be point multipliers for pics that are greater distance from your home. If the courthouse is 0-100 miles away it's worth one point, 101-200 miles 2 points, 201-300 miles 3 points, 301-400 miles 4 points, & 401 miles or greater, 5 points. Shortest distance measured via mapping software. That makes a maximum possible score of 80 (that is 5x16). Although you don't **have** to be in the picture, in order to prove that you took the pic during the contest period, there must be visible in the picture your bike and a white sheet of paper (like the back of this instruction sheet or something like that). Make sure that the county & state names are legible in the picture- this may require that the pic be made in front of some sort of lawn sign at the courthouse instead of the actual front of the building, you'll need to be creative. In the case of the lawn sign, go ahead & submit a picture of the actual courthouse also- most of these buildings are beautiful. The contest starts April 23, the first day of the 2009 LSV Hill Country Tour in Junction, TX. and ends Sept 22, 2009, with prizes awarded at the LSV Voyage Home in October at Paris, TX. That gives you 5 months. By Sept 22, your pictures (either a picture CD, SD memory card, or prints) must have been received by the judges (that's me). **DO NOT** e-mail the pictures. When submitting your pics, try to include a couple of unique pictures of something that you saw on the trip- not necessarily a unique courthouse. These, for a slideshow during the awards ceremony at LSV Voyage Home in Paris, TX. in Oct 2009. You need not be present to win.

The entry fee is \$10. There will be an "I-took-part-in-it" certificate for all participants and cash prizes for the top 3 winners (\$25-\$20-\$15). The remainder of the entry money will be given to Salvation Army in Austin, TX. The distance points are only used as a tie-breaker. To be eligible to win, you must have all 16 pictures. A second tie-breaker will be earliest postmark date received by the judges. Please include with your pictures a document that lists name of the county (& state) and travel distance from your home for each of your pics. In questionable distance measurement, the judges will finally determine the distance (ie was it really 401 miles or just 400?)

Your \$10 entry fee as well as eventually, your pictures, need to go to:

Richard Baxter
LSV Grand Tour
256 Chaparral Dr
Liberty Hill, TX 78642

Along with your snail mail address, please include your email address so I can e-mail you a receipt for your entry. Your certificate will come later via snail mail. To get your pics back after the contest, please include a suitable SASE, or pick them up at Voyage Home in Paris in Oct.

Good luck & safe riding. richadntexas@dishmail.net 512/515-0133

Coast to Coast Trip

By Musicman,

While sitting around the picnic table in front of my tent at HCT this year, I happened to mention to Mr. Catfish that I was planning a cross country trip to celebrate over, that's OVER, 59 years of living. Well, that sparked some interest apparently.

Sometime in June of 2010, probably late in the month, a group of 4 or less (or 2 groups of 4 or less), will travel across the southern US from Texas to the east coast somewhere. The return trip to Texas will be, most probably, by way of California. We will travel about 6,500 miles in about 2 weeks. Plans now are to include the Natchez-Trace on the way to Virginia Beach, then to San Francisco back to Texas.

My preliminary plans are as follows (these are subject to change):

1. The trip will take place in June of 2010 and take about 2 weeks.
2. The group of 4 or less will travel first to the east coast, then the west, before returning to Texas.
3. If there are more than 4 interested, another group may form, with not more than 4 in that group, who will follow the same route as the first, leaving each day, not less than an hour behind the first group.
4. The group will travel a minimum of 350 miles, and not more than 500 miles, each day. Each person will develop a number of day rides (one for every 4th day) and lead that ride. I will coordinate the parts of the route for which each person is responsible.
5. We will camp whenever possible with the exception of the 5th day, when we will stay in a motel, for rest, safety, maintenance and washing clothes, etc.
6. As of today (4/27), there are two other persons accompanying me at this point. That would be Catfish and Dennis. Other persons wishing to join us, e-mail me.

When I know the rest of my 'crew', I'll let y'all know what's happening. This is gonna be FUN!!

Some other thoughts are cost. At 30mpg (conservative), 6500 miles will consume 216 gallons of gas. At \$3/gallon, that will cost **\$650**. Camping sites should run \$25/night (hopefully we can share to reduce cost), motels can be shared for about the same nightly rate per person (if 4 go). Lodging should cost in the neighborhood of **\$400/person** over the course of the 20 day trip. If we eat 3 meals /day (big breakfast, light lunch and big supper) we should be able to get by with \$20/day. At 20 days, that **\$400** to eat. It's gonna take **\$1500** to make the trip.

These figures are estimated high on purpose. I really would like to travel the Natchez-Trace which make Virginia Beach the logical east coast destination. Map quest took me to San Francisco, which is a nice west coast city. Everyone on the trip will have input as where and how to go. However, I will have to make the final decision on the route we take. It's just easier that way. I was planning on going myself and maybe have one other come along.....much easier to plan....or not plan.

LSV 2009 Calendar:

Date	Event	Place	Hosts
Jan 1, 2009	Blessing Of The Bikes	San Antonio	CMA
Mar 26-28	SFR (with EVA)	Alpine, TX	
Apr 23-25	*Hill Country Tour	Junction, TX	Fowler/Schani
July 14-16	AVA National Rally	Santa Fe, New Mexico	AVA
October 8-10 (??)	*Voyage Home	Paris, TX (area)	Bagley Clan
November ?	IMS	Houston	

*The asterisk denotes the 2 major camp-ins with business meetings. The dates for the VH should be announced in a latter newsletter and a confirmation of the dates for IMS (International Motorcycle Show) as well. We have around 20 members who have hosted a gathering. These people are ready willing and able to help with encouragement and advice for those of you thinking about hosting a gathering. The format, date and location are entirely up to the host. You can cook or cater or eat out. The members attending are also very good at helping with serving and cleaning up. Step forward in the next year to host a gathering!

Lone Star Voyager 2009 Grand Tour Entry Form

Name _____

Address _____

Town _____ State _____ Zip _____

email address _____

If your mailing address is a P.O. Box, please include a physical location (street address) for your home also. Thanks.

\$10 per entrant. amount enclosed \$ _____

return entry to:
Richard Baxter
256 Chaparral Dr
Liberty Hill, TX
512/515-0133