



Newsletter Vol. 8. #6 Nov-Dec 2011

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 214490 E. County Road 33 Mooreland, OK 73852-8959. Sandra can be reached by phone at, (580) 851-0202.

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 New President, [Brenda Herring](mailto:brendalsv@gmail.com), in Liberty (936-336-2840), brendalsv@gmail.com, or our Vice President, David Dunn, in Houston, TX. (281-622-0509) ddunn.tx@gmail.com or our Sec/Tres [Sandra Judge](mailto:jjudge@pldi.net), jjudge@pldi.net for more information. Hope you can join us.

From the Prez.

It's December and we are about to start a new year. I hope the new year will be as good as this year was. We had lots of fun and got in lots of riding. I hope to see you all next year.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

LSV President
Brenda Herring

Secretary/Treasurer Report:

Our balance as of November 7, 2011 is:

Down rider Fund	\$300.00
General Fund	\$548.21

Giving us a total of \$848.21 in our account.

Sandra Judge

The Safety Corner:

This would be a very good thing to be very good at! Just think how much money you would save by not having to replace the brake pads so often, not to mention with this technique you would be able to stop if you had failure of your brake system. Read and enjoy!!!! John

The Downshifting Sequence

The process of slowing a motorcycle to a complete stop is such an everyday occurrence that we rarely analyze it. We just do it. Roll off the throttle, downshift and apply brakes. Repeat as necessary. Stop. Most any clod can do it.

In fact stopping a motorcycle can be more challenging and satisfying when done the following way.

I call it the Downshifting Sequence. With a series of downshifts, the goal is stopping without using brakes - at all. It's brakeless braking. Most any clod can't do it!

Developing skill using the Downshifting Sequence is going to ramp up your overall sensitivity to being seamlessly smooth while operating your motorcycle. Be a taskmaster; practice until you are satisfied with your smoothness.

Start by getting your mind processing information far ahead of the motorcycle. The sooner you make your decision to stop, the better it is. You have more time and distance to get the job done.

Once you have determined to bring your motorcycle to a stop, immediately begin the downshifting sequence. So downshift, and simultaneously chop the throttle. Feel the engine drag down your speed. Judge your distance to the stopping point.

Downshift again. Simultaneously chop the throttle. Do you feel even more engine drag? Make sure as you downshift, especially into the lower gears, that these shifts are smooth. Remember the shift, the clutch pull, and throttle-roll are all done simultaneously.

Downshift again.

Leave ample distance for 2nd gear. This is the most effective slowing down gear from just north of 35-40 mph.

Work 2nd gear. You've got enough torque in 2nd gear that you can modulate the throttle. Roll on some throttle if you're slowing too quickly. Rolling on checks your rate of slow-down. 2nd is an abrupt gear, so smooth out the roll on/roll off.

This little exercise will make you better measure your rate of slow-down.

Within roughly 50 feet of the stop point, downshift into 1st gear, and gently release the clutch. Now, within yards of coming to a stop, pull in the clutch for the last time and coast to a complete stop. Viola! No brakes. A+

If you decide to use the brake within the final feet of stopping, simply make application so light that you experience zero abruptness when the wheels stop rolling. A-

If you're not perfect, no worries; you're like everybody else with plenty of opportunity ahead.

The Rider's Workshop, 4623 Saul Road
Kensington, MD 20895 USA

Until next time;

Ride smart to ride safe

Check out the Rider's Workshop on the Internet and on Facebook.

By John Herring for Rick

Working on Bikes And Other Things

I got the parts to install a BikeMP3 Player on our Yellow Wing. Now I just need to make the time to install them. I have the music files all loaded on the storage card. Next thing is to install on the Yellow Wing. Soon I will be able to get it done and then I will tell you all about it as soon as I do.

I wish all of you a Very Merry Christmas and a Safe and Happy New Year!!!!!!!!!!!!

John Herring

To all the LoneStar Voyagers,

Looking back on the past year, I am very grateful for all God has given me. I have met many good people that are now friends. I shared a vacation in Arkansas with my wife. We have never been to Arkansas but will go back. We are looking forward to Utah, even if I have to trailer my bike. I learned the value of a "cool vest". Sheila & I have learned that in Texas there are many many good/great places to eat & share stories with friends. Especially out of the way places. I have stood on top of Enchanted Rock & have been amazed that for over 1000 years, people have stood in the same place and been just as amazed. I have learned again that good friends & good food are more important than money, clothes, things, gadgets & all sorts of stuff. Thank you Lone Star Voyagers being. We have enjoyed riding with you. Even Barry. He is a really good sport. Barry, Hippi has a Special Rock just for you.....

Merry Christmas,

David & Sheila Lawson

Ride Reports

2011 Voyage Home (Continued)

VH2011 (because I didn't send this for last n.l.)

Well, I definitely did the right thing - leaving the mesh jacket & cool vest at home. Summer weather was not a factor. Everything about this gathering was at or above par except for the pavement. Some of the road surfaces were an embarrassment for me as a Texan, considering we had riders from 3 other states riding in the groups. But the curves! Nice! Also, quite a few new-to-me small towns. Iola, Bedias, Whitehall, Etc. In fact, Etc was one of the nicest stops. The only complaint that I had was when we ate Friday lunch at Richards, TX, I found a lime-green hair in my hamburger.

SugarBeet stayed at home this trip, but I still wimped out on the camping & moteled it. The motel was less than 75 yards from an active railroad track - a **VERY** active rr track. I learned after the 1st night to wear the soft squish-em earplugs. Thanks to Steve Stein for providing those. These events have come to be about the food as much as about the rides. As reported in previous ride reports, Chip has effectively made a bid to be the LSV chef. He gets my vote. The in-camp meals were great. Mama's Cafe in downtown Somerville seemed to be the top pick for in-town eating. Dell & I, as well as others ate breakfasts there. Orsack's for Saturday lunch was better than I'd expected - and I mean that in a good way. Sat night supper we went "out" - sort of, to "The Point", a restaurant within 1 mile of the campground - another good meal. During that meal, Madame Prez surprised me with a knife set as a thank you for my previous Prez efforts. - richard baxter, regular contributor

Lunch Rides

The November lunch ride – Praise Meat Market, La Grange, TX.

Brenda and I were not able to attend this lunch ride, (I had to work that Saturday) and I did not get any reports on it from anyone, so I can only assume that it was not very good or that it was great and they want to keep it a secret! I will let you figure it out or ask about it from those who made it there. John

Up and Coming:

2012 CMA Blessing of the Bikes

The Blessing will be held again at Javelina HD in Boerne, the Blessing will begin at 11am with doors opening at 10am. There will be 600 pins. So the first 600 will get pins (last year they ran out of the 500 pins they had!)

The plan is to leave New Braunfels around 9:00 and meet at the Valero on Hwy 46 around 3 miles east of 281 at 9:15, leaving at 9:25. We will then meet at the Valero on 46 about 7 miles east of Boerne at 9:55, leaving there at 10:05 arriving at the HD parking lot around 10:20. This is very similar to last year schedule. After the Blessing, the tradition is to ride north on Hwy 281 and....eat, of course....at the Shade Tree restaurant. It's about 1 mile south of Hwy 306 on 281.

The address of Javelina HD is: 290781 I-10W, Boerne, TX. Still having problems with the internet so I don't have the exit number but y'all can probably find it. If y'all are reading this in the NL, I guess I was able to get it to John!

This will be my 10th Blessing and probably my last, due to retirement plans (we'll see how that goes). So someone will have to take the reigns and copy these plans or come up with yer own! (haha) There are usually 10 or so LSVers and guests at the Blessing.

Hope to see ya' there!

MusicMan

I want to wish you all a;

Very Merry Christmas

and a

Safe and Happy New Year

Lunch Ride to City Market in Luling, TX	03/12/11
SFR in Terlingua, TX	03/24 thru 03/27/11
HCT in LLano, TX	04/28 thru 05/01/11
AVA International Rally, Lake De Gray, AR	07/11 thru 07/14/11
Voyage Home, Somerville, TX	10/27 thru 10/29/11

We Had a Great Time!

LSV 2012 Calendar:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Hosts</u>
Dec 2-4	IMS	Dallas	
Jan 1	Blessing of the Bikes	Javelina HD, Bourne, TX	CMA
April ??	* Hill Country Tour	Miller Creek RV Park, Johnson City, TX	The Judges
May 18/19	Palo Duro Canyon	Canyon, TX	EVA
July 9/12	AVA International Rally	Kanab, Utah	AVA
Oct. ??	* Voyage Home	Somewhere, TX	LSV

* These two events are our two ride-in weekends and include a business meeting.