



## Newsletter Vol. 14. #3 May 2016

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We're the **Lone Star Voyagers Motorcycle Club**, a chartered club of the **American Voyager Association**, and are always looking for new members. The club was created focusing on Kawasaki Voyager owners but now has a great variety of motorcycles and 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 is!, there is!**), there's one on our web site at [LoneStarVoyagers.org](http://LoneStarVoyagers.org).

Our Secretary - Treasurer is Sandra Judge. Sandra's mailing address is 214490 E County Road 33, Mooreland, OK 73852-8959. Sandra can be reached by phone at, 580-273-1397. Please be sure that you make any checks as **payable to "Sandra Judge"** and **NOT** to **LSV** or **Lone Star Voyagers**.

We are a family-riding club with a widespread membership and 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. Normally we plan to host at least 2 camp-in weekends each year. We feature this sort of bimonthly newsletter where members may submit articles, & our web site is [LoneStarVoyagers.org](http://LoneStarVoyagers.org).

If you are interested you can contact our President, [David Lawson](mailto:David.Lawson@att.net) in Marlin, TX (254-803-3511), [Lawson-david@att.net](mailto:Lawson-david@att.net) or our Vice President, [Larry Lawson](mailto:Larry.Lawson@yahoo.com), in Paige, TX (512-253-6240) [LLaw148@yahoo.com](mailto:LLaw148@yahoo.com) or our Sec/Treas [Sandra Judge](mailto:Sandra.Judge@cneconnect.com), [jjudge@cneconnect.com](mailto:jjudge@cneconnect.com) (phone # above) in Mooreland, OK for more information. Hope you can join us.

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### From the Prez.

At our meeting Saturday night (**at HCT**), Several things were brought up 1)our charter, 2) changing our mission statement, 3) need for a safety officer, 4)changing to a 501(c)3, 5)Where/what we should donate our money to (mainly) dues paid, 6)whether we should reduce/increase our dues.7) Newsletter. Let me I hope shed some light on each of these.

1) Our charter.. We are a "chartered member" of the AVA. More correctly AVA recognizes us as part of the AVA, in that we have 5 dues-paying members of the AVA, our President is a dues paying member of the AVA, & that we have a newsletter bi-monthly. The president is to represent the club in matters concerning the AVA and a few other things. All this can be read on the AVA website under the (about us tab). I think up until recently we did have 5 members of the AVA. I don't know if we still do. At one time, R Baxter, D Lawson, S Donnell, J Judge, J Curren, L Lawson and E Hildreth. Please feel free to correct me as I may be wrong.

We were "chartered" by the AMA as a "Social Club". The cost for this "charter" was \$35.00 and we got nothing for it beside a piece of paper that stated "The Lone Star Voyagers was chartered as a "Social club". This was dropped in 2006 or 2008

So we are a private club, recognized by the AVA as a club that agrees to their by-laws. We have no charter.

2) Our mission statement. As it stands, our mission statement has been modified several times as needed. Our mission statement is modeled after the AVA mission statement and needs to be updated as theirs has. Currently it states "The club focuses on uniting Kawasaki Voyager owners throughout the state, promoting a family environment, but welcomes all makes and models of bikes". The LSV was originally started as such but has evolved into something more. I believe our primary focus is on riding, fellowship and fun regardless of what you ride. I think this change should be made due to the fact that only 7 of our members ride Voyagers, either XII or the 1700 Vulcan Voyager.

3) Safety Officer. In our mission statement it states only 3 officers are elected, Pres, VPres and Sec/Treas. All others are appointed as needed.

4) Changing/becoming a 501(c)3. We are a private club. Becoming a 501(c)3 would make us "legal" but would not afford us any more protection than we have now. We ride at our own risk. We, as a club plan rides that "at the time of planning are safe as long as you ride within your skills".

5) Where/what we should donate our money to (mainly) dues paid. I think this is something that should be discussed in the newsletter. Worthy causes (children's home, missions, Lions camps, etc) should be brought up, discussed, added to the agenda for the business meeting then voted on at the business meeting in the spring/fall.

6) Reduce/Increase dues. I do not believe we should reduce our dues. We are talking about \$7.50 or \$15.00 for a couple. That's maybe a tank full of gas for most of us. I think a better solution, is to designate where our dues need to go. Designate how much we need in our general fund, downed rider fund then the rest to donate to the causes we decide on. I would be in favor of raising dues to \$20 per couple if they were designated. Reducing our dues would cause our club to fold after a time.

7) Newsletter. I think our newsletter is one of the best things we have going. It connects the ones that cannot make HCT, VH and the lunch rides with the ones who did. Keeps us all updated and in touch.

Hope this helps. I am sure there are lots of questions.

David(DeepSea)

President LSV

254-405-4465

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### **Secretary/Treasurer Report:**

Treasurer's report: After HCT, this is how the money stands, we collected dues, sold shirts, etc, made a deposit of \$275.00. Sent a donation to the Texas Lions Camp for children, \$200. The amount for the down riders is 619.75, General fund is 933.02 making a total of 1552.77 in account.

Secretary report: After treasurer report, president DL asked about donating some of our money to worthy organizations. Several were talked about and discussed, a motion was made by Dave S. to donate 200.00 to the Texas Lions Camp, motion was seconded by Ed H.

The award for the dumbest happening was awarded to Jerry Montgomery for dropping bike and walking off. Dave S. was also nominated for going through water and making a wake, that got others wet.

Discussion was made about changing wording in our chapter to take out the name of Kawasaki and not to have any name or type motorcycle listed, but all types are welcome. Will have more on web site for people to see. and vote on.

VH will be hosted this year by David & Shelia Lawson and the Bagley's in or close to Paris, TX. It was decided that Sandra Judge would prepare an ice cream social for one of the nights.

DD made a motion to adjourn and Judy S. seconded, all were in favor. Meeting dismissed.

Will have more from treasurer on the ordering of caps and more tee shirts and long sleeve shirts in XXLg sizes.

Treasurer/Secretary

Sandra Judge

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### **THE SAFETY CORNER**

We're in the market for a new Safety Officer, as per the Prez' column. Got any ideas?

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## Ride Reports

### Spring Fun Run 2016

The SFR is always a challenge because of the weather. It has been hot and other times it has been below freezing. This year the weather didn't look bad. No rain was scheduled. I left home around 7:30 (as I am writing this a couple months after the event, I hope I have my facts correct) heading south to El Paso and then east on 180 thru Salt Flat. I normally stop at Salt Flat for a breakfast taco on these rides. Unfortunately, the place is closed. No surprise as when I have been there in the past I have been the only one there. So I continued on to 54 where I headed south to Van Horn. As I was hungry, I stopped at the gas station there for a quick snack. Then I continued on south on 90 just past Valentine where I took 166 east towards Fort Davis. Then thru Fort Davis and south to Alpine and the Lost Alaskan RV Park. I checked in and proceeded to my spot. A few people were there already and a couple bikes I didn't recognize. Dave's new BMW and Charlie's new Versys. I chatted a bit and then set up my tent and then chatted some more. We were getting hungry, so I decided to check out the location of La Casita restaurant. We had eaten there before, but had a hard time locating. After scouting a bit I found the restaurant which made it easier when leading the group to supper.

The next morning we met at Magoo's Place for breakfast and then headed west to Marfa and then south to Presidio. We weren't hungry yet, so we just stopped at the gas station for gas and some got snacks. Then we headed east on the River Road thru Lajitas to Terlingua. This is a nice twisty, up and down road following the Rio Grande along the border with Mexico. And of course we stopped at 'The Hill' for a break. Then we stopped at the gas station in Terlingua for some to gas and also get snacks. It was starting to warm by this time, so some took off extra layers of clothing. We then headed north on 118 and back to Alpine and camp. We got back early, so rested up and sat around talking for a while until supper time. We headed to Penny's Diner for supper and then back to the campground and hotel for the night. It was a bit breezy and starting to cool, so the sleeping bag felt good.

Saturday morning dawned cooler (actually it didn't dawn as it was overcast). As I was heading home after the ride, I got up a bit earlier and packed up for the ride home. It was cool and cloudy, but at least dry, so I wasn't putting away a wet tent. Again we met at Magoo's Place for breakfast and then headed out. I was looking forward to this ride as last year it was cloudy with drizzle and Steve missed the view from McDonald Observatory. We went north thru Fort Davis and on to the observatory again so Steve could see the nice view. It was much cooler this morning, so everyone was bundled up for the ride. And it was cloudy so the temps didn't warm much. It was hovering at the upper 30's and low 40's, but at least the road was dry. We went thru Fort Davis and on to the observatory. As we got closer it became apparent we wouldn't have a view again. We went up to the top again, just because and as we got near the top the vegetation was glistening from the moisture in the air freezing on the branches. After taking the complementary picture to show everyone enjoying the experience, we headed back down to temps above freezing. We kept heading north until the junction with 1832 where we turned left and headed back towards the south. By now the clouds were getting thinner and we even saw some direct sunlight occasionally. When we got to the turnoff to Valentine, I took that road and the rest headed back to Fort Davis and Alpine. I made it home about 4 that afternoon. I even took my electric vest off a bit before El Paso as the sun was out and it was warming.

It was a great time visiting with friends and riding the nice roads in the Alpine / Fort Davis area. It was a great group again this year. And Steve, don't give up on the view from the observatory. There is always next year. In all the years we have had the SFR and been up to the observatory, the only two times I remember not having that view are these last two times Steve was with us. Not that I think there is a correlation, just my observation.

Rodney R. Westphal

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## Spring Fun Run 2016

This was going to be the first trip with my new (to me) 2014 R1200GS. Although I had recently put a new clutch in the RT at about 108k miles which should have made it suitable for many more tens of thousands of miles, the price on the GS was too good to pass up and I had been intrigued by the much lighter weight of the GS over the RT. The previous owner has put about \$3000 in aftermarket accessories on it including two pair of LED lights. The GS has been called the Swiss army knife of motorcycles. It's an adventure touring bike and as such is a bit big and heavy for off road use but many owners do just that. It also has a reputation as a very comfortable long distance tourer that can handle the curves with the best of them.

I left about 6AM and got a chance to see how well the LED driving lights work. The RT has the best stock lighting of any vehicle I have ever owned but the GS's combination of LED headlights and the LED driving lights were simply amazing. The RT's lights were like a flashlight compared to these ([and the RT lights just may be slightly better than a Voyager 1200](#)). I still kept my speed down in case I encountered any deer which fortunately wasn't an issue.

I picked up the pace a bit when it got lighter near Fredericksburg and continued on to Junction where I stopped for gas, a potty break, and coffee with an egg McMuffin. After that, it was back on I10 to Sheffield where I headed south on TX349. This road has a lot of sweepers which start about ten miles south of Sheffield and continue almost all the way to US90 which I followed into Alpine. After checking into my motel room, I headed over to the campground where Chip, Charlie, and Bob were. Rod arrived a little bit later.

Friday morning, after a hearty breakfast, we headed west to Marfa and then south to Presidio. The ride from Alpine to Presidio was pleasant but this is where the ride really gets good. River Road (FM170) going to Study Butte is full of fantastic scenery and plenty of curves. From Study Butte we went north to Alpine.

Friday had been sunny with plenty of sunshine but Saturday started off with cold and drizzle. A lot of coffee was consumed at breakfast, after which, we headed for Fort Davis. The weather got colder and by the time we reached the McDonald Observatory, it had dropped to 27 degrees with mist and fog. After a stop at the visitor center, we headed back to Fort Davis going around the back side of Mt. Livermore and then back to Alpine. Later that afternoon, the weather finally turned sunny and pleasant. Some of the group decided to have barbeque for supper but I joined Paul and Jenny for a burger outside the motel.

Clear skies Saturday night gave way to dropping overnight temperatures. It was 31 degrees in Alpine when I left about 6:15AM. Fortunately, I had my electric vest with me. I was bundled in clothing so by the time I got started, I was beginning to overheat so it took a while to get the vest properly adjusted. The temperature dropped a couple of degrees before I reached Marathon and then began to climb a few degrees. I had been driving under the speed limit because of possible wildlife on/near the road. About 20 miles from Sanderson, the sun wasn't up yet but the sky was beginning to lighten. At this point, I saw a carcass along the side of the road and as I passed, I thought "that looks like an elk". I had seen pictures of elk that were claimed to be from west Texas so it seemed that an elk was a possibility. It was too big for a deer and too lanky for a cow. A few miles east, as I was pondering if it could be something else, I spotted a live elk just off the pavement outside of the brush line. I would hate to hit one of those! I stopped for gas and coffee in Sanderson and then headed north on US285. There is a very scenic area where the highway cuts through a high hill/mountain before you get to the turnoff for RM2400. RM2400 has a lot of nice sweepers on the way to TX349. I went north on 349 to Sheffield making a right on TX290 and over to I10. By now, the temperature was nearing 50 degrees. Going

west on I10, I exited at Junction to pick up US377 to go north to Mason. As I was waiting at the intersection of US377 and the frontage road, Steve Donnell was turning onto the eastbound frontage road.

From Mason, I went east on highway 29 until I hit US183 and went south to Austin. Between Mason and Llano, there were numerous nice stands of bluebonnets but fewer flowers as I went further east. I arrived home about 2PM.

Dave Schani

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### Lunch Rides

Since last newsletter we have had, according to the web site, 3 lunch rides. Orsak's in Fayetteville in March. April, it was Oscar's Store just East of Temple & then for May, Snow's BBQ in Lexington - which was canceled due to a lack of attendees. Though it may not be on the website yet, the next luncheon is Jun 11 at Southern Flyer Restaurant at the Brenham Airport. See the website for April 11, 2015 for info on this location.

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### Up and Coming:

The Enchanted Tour is scheduled for the first weekend in August, Thursday the 4th thru Sunday the 7th. As in the past (except for the last time) we will be basing out of the KOA Las Vegas campground. They have nice KOA Kabins and Tenting spots. We will have rides scheduled for Friday and Saturday. I haven't picked the rides specifically, but will most likely go thru Guadalupita and Angel Fire to the Enchanted Loop and then back down thru Taos back to the campground for the Friday ride. I would really like to take the loop around Santa Fe, Bernalillo, Cuba, Los Alamos for the Saturday ride, but that would be a rather long ride, probably about 350 miles. The road from Cuba thru Los Alamos to Chimayo and the back way to Las Vegas is really nice, but I fear it would be too long for some. It would be pretty much a long day's ride. Perhaps I could take a poll. Another option we have done in the past is to ride over to Roy. It isn't as exciting a ride, but it does have its moments. Mark this date on your calendar to make the ride. The weather should be beautiful that time of the year and the roads in northern New Mexico are great.

Rodney R. Westphal

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### LSV 2015 Calendar:

| <u>Date</u>     | <u>Event</u>   | <u>Place</u>            | <u>Hosts</u>          |
|-----------------|----------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Aug 4-7, 2016   | Enchanted Tour | Las Vegas, NM           | Rocket Rodney         |
| Octoberish 2016 | Voyage Home*   | Paris, TX or near there | R Bagleys & D Lawsons |

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

Officer elections are scheduled for VH, 2016

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### Richard's Ritings

Time to cowboy up & acknowledge that there are no Wrichard's wridings - just ritings. It sounds like we virtual riders missed a couple of good times by not attending SFR and HCT. If you ride and you haven't ridden the Enchanted Circle area which is the general destination for the upcoming Enchanted Tour, then you should go. Yes it's in August & riding across the Great West Texas Desert to get there is a chore. But once you're there...man that NM mountain air & coolness...

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New ( )  
Renewal ( )  
Solo ( )  
Two Up ( )

**2016<sub>rb</sub>**  
**Lone Star Voyagers**  
**Membership Application**

**Primary Driver**

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (M) (F)

Birthday: \_\_\_\_\_

Anniversary: \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary Drivers Address**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Street / P.O. Box)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(City / State / Zip)

(\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
(Home phone number)

(\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
(Cell phone number)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(e-Mail address)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Year / Make / Model of Motorcycle)

**For newsletter and internet announcements, may we publish:**

All information ( ); Name only ( ); Name / address / phone only ( );

Name / Address only ( ); Name / Addy / Ph / e-Mail only ( )

**Please indicate any assistance you would be able to give fellow LSV members:**

Pick-up truck ( ); Bike trailer ( ); Tools ( ); Tent area ( ); Tools ( ); Local info ( );

Send application & membership fee (\$7.50 each) to: Sandra Judge

**make check to Sandra**  
**not LSV**

LSV Treasurer  
214490 E County Road 33  
Mooreland, OK 73852-8959

I/We, the undersigned, agree not to hold the AVA- LSV, it's officers, agents, members or anyone connected with AVA-LSV functions responsible for any accidents, injury or personal loss before, during or after attending any get together, rally, activity or event.

Primary signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Secondary signature: \_\_\_\_\_