



Newsletter August, 2008

From the President

Here it is time for another newsletter already. I will be doing it this time because Stan is still having computer problems. This has been a busy summer for some of us. WhiskeyDoc went to Rolling Thunder in DC over Memorial weekend. The pictures are on our web page. Don and Karen McMorris took an extended couple month vacation which included a cruise and the AVA rally in Bowling Green. They just got back home a few days ago just in time for our rains from Hurricane Dolly which washed out their road. Hopefully they will be getting things back to normal soon. Jim & Sandra Judge attended the AVA rally and it was nice seeing them also. Unfortunately they had a mishap on the way home. They were rear ended while going thru Springfield, MO. They are home and recovering. They could still use our prayers. I made the AVA rally and had a good time there. That story is elsewhere in this newsletter. I also made it to the MotoGP races in Laguna Seca, CA. That story is also here. Pictures from these trips are on the Enchanted Voyagers web page also. I would like to reiterate if you have any pictures from a trip and would like, send them to me and I will put them on our web site so others can see what a beautiful country we have and get ideas on things to see.

Now for upcoming events. We have the Enchanted Tour coming on Friday and Saturday the 15th and 16th of this month. The itinerary, lodging and registration form is on our web page. We have 12 registered which includes the Judges. Jim & Sandra unfortunately won't be able to make it. They have been thru a lot. They will be missed, but they are on the road to recovery. We have one person coming from California and a couple from Arizona. It would be nice to get more Arizona people involved since we are close to them and they don't have a local Voyager club. You don't even need a Voyager to attend our event, or even be a member as we have several people attending who are not members. We will have a Concours 14, a BMW and a Gold Wing in attendance besides the Voyagers.

The registration form is included as the last page of this newsletter. You can still get it in.

This will also be a time to be able to elect new officers and select the location for our Enchanted Tour for next year. You might want to be thinking about these things before then. We can also talk about the AVA rally in Santa Fe. This will be our chance to show off our beautiful state and plan some good rides for the rally.

We also have our quarterly lunch coming up on Saturday September 13th at noon at Pie Town. That will be a rather long ride for some of us, but it will be cooler by then, so should be good. It is also a pretty ride going west from Socorro on 60 heading past Magdalena and the VLA. I am thinking about leaving Friday after work and spending the night at Datil Well National Recreation Area. It is a nice campground.

AVA Rally Bowling Green, KY

I left for the rally Saturday evening with wheels rolling at 6:00. This must have been important as I was missing the NASCAR race. It was doubly bad as my driver came in second. Back to the trip. I rode several hours and made it into Texas for the first night. Had a pleasant night there with clear skies and dry weather. The next day I made it into Arkansas and the humidity. The first of many nights in the humidity. I had to put up the tent this night as the mosquitoes were bad. The ground was soft with nice grass, but I just laid there sweating, but I did get a good nights sleep. Made it to Bowling Green the next day a little after noon. Ran into a little rain coming out of Nashville which did cool it down a little bit.

The Enchanted Voyagers and Lone Star Voyagers groups were mostly there so I set up camp by them. Don and Karen McMorris were already there and Jim & Sandra Judge got in a little later. I set up the tent and missed going to the Corvette museum, but did go to the pavilion for supper.

The first day of the rally dawned wet. We had a thunder storm starting around 2 in the morning, but we all managed to stay dry. The rain was done, but everything was wet with dew. I went up to the pavilion and helped with registration. Partly to help and partly to be in air conditioned comfort. The Enchanted Voyagers/Lone Star Voyagers group went on a ride. I finished working around noon and took off for a ride. Headed north and east and turned whenever I saw an interesting route. After riding for a few hours I plugged in the GPS to head me back to the campground. It was a very nice ride over winding roads thru small towns. Lots of corn there.

When I got back to the campground I went up to the pavilion for the chrome show and voted for the bikes of choice. That night we had supper provided by the AVA the first night and it was very good. Then we retired to the campground and sat around talking.

The next morning it rained during the AM hours so we didn't get any riding in. It finally cleared up around noon so I went with another fellow from Kansas to the Shaker museum. It was very interesting. We got back in time for the bike games and I got there in time to see Barry and Nancy Kinser doing the bike games. Some pictures of that are on the web page. That evening we went out to supper at Bob Evans. Barry even talked Dennis into buying him dessert. Then it was back to the campground for more socializing.

Thursday morning was better weather. I went to the chapter presidents breakfast which was at the hotel. It was a good time there. Then went to the Lost River cave. That was a nice tour. We took a boat ride in the cave and it was nice and cool there.

That evening we had the closing banquet and door prizes. It was a very good supper again with chicken. I didn't win anything at the door prizes though. They announced the location for next year to be at Santa Fe. That will be an excellent location with lots of places to ride. We will have to get together and come up with some rides for the rally to show off our state.

One other positive note is the ROC club had a representative Sue Slate at the rally. It showed their commitment to helping us. She was riding a Versys and even helped with some of the rides. She made herself available for any questions we might have.

I head out early Friday morning with wheels rolling about 5:30. I pulled out from the campground just behind Barry & Richard. They headed one way and I another way out of the campground. I took some back roads thru Kentucky, Tennessee and Arkansas before getting on the freeway at Little Rock. It was a little cloudy, so that made it not so hot. Part way between Little Rock and Texarkana I came up on Barry and Richard. We pulled into the next rest stop and talked a little bit and took a break. Then I followed them for a while until they pulled off for gas. I kept going and rode a little bit past Texarkana before finally getting off the freeway. By then the clouds were gone and it was getting hot and humid again. I made it just past Wichita Falls and stopped at a rest stop. I only wanted to go another 20 miles so I would have only 400 miles for the next day, but I looked at my trip meter and had gone 942 miles. As I haven't had a 1,000 mile day on this bike I decided to do that and ride another hour. I made 1,018 miles to be sure I was over the magic number. I was surprised as I had not planned on doing this, but it was not that long a day.

That night I spent in finally dry and cool weather with a nice clear sky to look up at. I didn't set up my tent that night. Then I got up and wheels were rolling by 6:30. I made it home a few minutes after noon. As I got a call about this Thursday, I cleaned up and went to church for a funeral for a lady I had known for some time. Not a pleasant thing to come home to.

All in all this was another great time and it was nice to see many people I had not seen for a year.

RR

Laguna Seca MotoGP races, CA

I came home from work, ate a light supper and packed the bike for the trip. Wheels were rolling at 5:05 on July 16th. The weather was a little warm, but still OK for the ride. My goal for the ride out was to go thru Death Valley, so I had to take a northerly route from home. I rode up to Socorro for gas and headed west on 60 thru Pie Town (the location of our quarterly lunch in September). I made it a ways past Quemado and started seeing some deer so decided it was time to stop for the night. I was following some rain, but the ground wasn't very wet but it did cool thing a little.

Got rolling early the next morning and made it to Heber for breakfast at a little café I have been stopping at for several years when I take this route. Continued on past Pine, Came Verde and Prescott. Took 96 west out of Prescott. It was getting pretty warm by then, but this was a nice road. Very desolate, but it just followed the terrain up and down and around. A very pleasant ride but I wouldn't want to break down there as there is no cell phone coverage or any service for about 50 miles. I then turned north on 93 up to I40 for about 20 miles to Kingman. I took a nap for half an hour in a city park there as I was ahead of schedule and tired.

Then I headed up 93 to Boulder Dam and Las Vegas. There is a security check before the dam and they do not allow rented vehicles, u-haul type vehicles or any other 'undesirables' to cross the dam. They have to take alternate routes. When crossing the dam I could see where they were building a bridge past the dam. You will still be able to see it from the bridge. As I was riding thru Las Vegas (actually kind of skirting the downtown area) I saw a Famous Daves BBQ which demanded a u-turn. It was very good.

I then continued on past Pahrump where I turned into Death Valley. It was just getting dark by then. I gassed up in Pahrump as it would be a while before I could again. I had been thru there August 4, 2001 on the way back from Hollister. I went to Corbin there to have a seat made for my 93 Voyager. Took a picture under the sign at the visitors center stating I was 190' below sea level. I needed to do that on the C14 now. It was after midnight that time, so the temp was down to a cool 98°. This time it was just after 10 so it wasn't as cool, but still, it was down to 106. I continued on to Ridgecrest where I spent the night. It was after midnight by then and I got on the road by 5:30 the next morning. I went past Lake Isabella to Bakersfield. This is a VERY twisty road up and over a pass. Very scenic. Then worked my way over to 101 which I took to Salinas and the race track. I got there a little after 1 and was able to see some practice. ROK was there with a hospitality tent and special parking. A very nice set-up. I was getting ready to find a place to set up camp when I saw Don Medina and Trisha Blue (fellow AVAers). They invited me to share their camp site for my share of the cost. It was very nice with a good shower. Thanks Don and Trisha! Had a good nights sleep and we headed back to the race track for the days events. We had a good view of part of the track from the ROK stands and there were lots of vendors and things to see there. The bike manufactures had set-ups there also. Watched more practice and time trials and a couple races Saturday. Then Saturday night we went to a very good Mexican restaurant in Salinas. Then we went down to Cannery Row to see all the bikes. This was a very good show with lots of interesting bikes to look at. Lots of custom paint jobs and chrome and light shows. Then it was time to turn in.

Got up early Sunday and rolled up my bedroll and headed for the track. The motorcycles had a special entrance to avoid the auto traffic. We moved right along right up to the gate and then to the ROK parking. It was getting crowded by now. They had more practice and races. ROK provided drinks and a lunch both days along with monitors to watch the Speed TV feed. I didn't watch much of that as there was too much else to see. The MotoGP race was at 4 and was a good race.

After that it was time to head back. It was a good weekend, but went by fast. I had to make time home, so went freeway all the way to Phoenix. I made it almost to Arizona that night and had another short night. It was a warm ride Monday morning and I made Phoenix about noon. There I took off on 60 thru Superior, Globe and Safford. I made Silver City a little after 4, but had to take a nap there in the city park as I was getting tired and didn't need an accident. I made it home a little after 8 to my loving wife and a shower and bed.

This was a great weekend. ROK has done an excellent thing with this. They have been doing this for many years.

RR

Financial statement

According to Brenda our treasurer we have \$120 in our account. We had spent \$550 in May for 22 shirts at a cost of \$25 each. Since we didn't have enough in the treasury to cover it I put in \$300 to cover the cost. As the shirts are sold I will keep the first \$300 and the remainder will go back into the treasury. We are selling the shirts at cost. So far we have sold 5 shirts and one patch for a total of \$130. That brings the balance owed me to \$170 which makes our balance [\$50].

Rod Westphal

Shirts

We have new shirts with the same Enchanted Voyagers logo on the front and a design on the back like the patch WhiskeyDoc designed. The shirts are gray and we have sizes from medium to XXXL. I will be bringing some to the Enchanted Tour for sale. The cost is \$25 each. We also have 2 of the old design shirts in black with the Enchanted Voyagers logo on front and back. They are both large. The cost for these is \$15. if you would like one of these, please let me know.

Rod Westphal

Enchanted Voyagers

Enchanted Tour August 14-17, 2008

The Enchanted Voyagers annual Enchanted Tour will be held August 14-17, 2008. It will be centered at Silver City, NM. All are welcome to this ride. There is a \$4 registration fee for this event to pay for beverages and snacks at the campground. All meals will be on a pay as you go basis.

The official campground is the Silver City RV Park. It is in Silver City at 1304 N. Bennett St. Reservations can be made by calling (575) 538-2239. They do not accept credit cards, cash only.

The official motel is The Copper Manor located on the main road coming in from the east.

Please RSVP by August 1st, 2008 so the appropriate plans may be made. You may fill out this form and email / snail mail it to Rodney Westphal, 940 James St, Alamogordo, New Mexico 88310-7557

Pilot Name: _____

Co-Pilot Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Number of people attending: _____

Approximate Miles to Event: _____

Will attend Chuckwagon Supper: Yes No

Email address for confirmation:

Will be staying at: Campground Motel

If at Campground - Will have Hook-ups Tent

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

Primary Signature: _____

Co-Pilot Signature: _____