



Newsletter Vol. 14. #4 JunJul 2016

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's one on our web site at 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.

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 or our Vice President, [Larry Lawson](mailto:Larry.Lawson@yahoo.com), in Paige, TX (512-253-6240) LLaw148@yahoo.com or our Sec/Treas [Sandra Judge](mailto:Sandra.Judge@cneconnect.com), jjudge@cneconnect.com (phone # above) in Mooreland, OK for more information. Hope you can join us.

From the Prez.

From the president.

We are in the process of planning VH. Our plans were to have VH around Paris, TX or in that area. Either I just haven't made or found the time to contact the Bagleys. We are getting serious about VH now. With work and all the crazy things happening in my business and Sheila starting a new venture, its' been busy to say the least. Some of the options we have are having it in a location we have been at before. Paris is one, Caddo lakes is another area mentioned and Glen Rose is another. We will be making a decision soon so we can get things going so be a little patient. If you have a preference, please email me.

On another subject, I need your input on what needs to be on our agenda for VH. If we are going to donate to a charity, I think they should be brought in our newsletter and put on our agenda for discussion. Sandra would be willing to give up Treasurer. She has a pretty full plate now and for the next year or so. Things are happening in her family that requires her attention so if you can help, step up.

Our mission statement needs/is going to be modified to more reflect who we are. We are no longer just for Kawasaki Voyagers, haven't been for a long time. It's time we changed. I have heard, "maybe it's time we just folded our tent and went quietly into the night". I don't want that to happen. I happen to like, appreciate value and need every one of our members. We have 40+ bikes and better than 60+ members. Yes, I have crossed swords with some but I still need everyone. I may only get to see you once or twice a year but I still need that. I learn something every time we get together. But since it was requested, it will be put on the agenda for VH.

On a lighter note, most of you know, I inherited a 1988 Goldwing. I did learn, NOT to take it to the local Kaw dealer and do the work myself. I am in the process of replacing all the vacuum lines and hopefully have it running before the riding season is over.

Next lunch run is to Alamo Springs in August so make plans to be there. If you are not there, you will

be talked about and maybe be volunteered for something...just saying

DeepSea

Secretary/Treasurer Report:

Don't have anything new, bank balance is the same as before. The amount for the down riders is \$619.75, General fund is \$933.02 making a total of \$1,552.77 in account. Jim did ride with the veterans from Ontario CA to Washington DC in May. He had a really good time visiting VA hospitals along the way, and visited Arlington and watched the laying of the wreath. I am working on the ice cream social for VH, will have more on that closer to October. If it is cold, we may have to go to hot chocolate and smores.

Sandra

THE SAFETY CORNER

We're still in the market for a new Safety Officer. Got any ideas?

Ride Reports

Dave submitted this HCT ride report in a timely fashion but SOMEONE forgot to include it in the last newsletter.

HCT 2016 I left home about 10AM after a half day of work telecommuting. A thunderstorm was working its way through the area and local radar showed that if I waited another hour or so that the storm would be through the area. Since the hourly forecast for Austin and Camp Wood showed a high probability of rain for the rest of the day and it looked like I could skirt around the worst of the storm, I decided I might as well get going. Traffic out of Austin was heavier than I expected and I hit a few patches of moderate to heavy rain but as I got west of Dripping Springs the weather started to clear. By the time I stopped for gas in Fredericksburg there was abundant sunshine.

Obviously, the earlier forecast was wrong but that was good news. I had originally planned to take the easiest, most direct route to Camp Wood but now I could revise my route to include roads that were more fun and more scenic. I took TX16 down to Kerrville, skirted Kerrville on the loop around the east side and then followed RR173, RR2828, TX16, and RR337 to Camp Wood.

When I arrived at the campground, DD's group, Bob Bass and his friend Darrell, Pat and Rocky, and the Arizona contingent were already there. That evening Bob treated everyone to burgers and hot dogs.

Friday, after breakfast at the Lawson cabin, we rode a figure eight route that included all three sisters & some other nice motorcycle roads that included all or part of TX16, RR470, RR187, and RR1050. We stopped for lunch at the Mill Creek Cafe where Rod patched a leaky tire (patching a leaky tire in Leakey). That evening we had hot dogs and burgers at the Lawson cabin.

Saturday, after again having breakfast at the Lawson cabin, we headed out for the day's ride. Our route would let us avoid the weekend crowd on the three sisters while still enjoying some great motorcycle roads. Thanks to Ed Hildreth, who had ridden it Thursday, we knew that there would be a water crossing on RR334. Ed had assured me that it was only a couple of inches deep. When we reached the water crossing, I didn't stop to walk it first as I would usually do for one this long. Instead, I just slowed down and pulled the clutch in expecting to coast through it. About two thirds of the way through the bike

slowed considerably as water sprayed over my windshield. At that point, I felt the best course of action was to add power to maintain my momentum. We continued on to Bracketville where we turned north on RR674 which I consider to be on par with the sisters. We stopped briefly at an overlook above the west fork of the Nueces River for a break and to enjoy the scenery. Afterwards, we continued north to Rocksprings and headed back to Camp Wood on TX55 enjoying the scenic views and high speed sweepers. That evening we ate at Harley's where we also had our club meeting.

Sunday morning, I waited for some semblance of daylight before heading home to Austin with a short stop in Fredericksburg.

Schani

Dave

COG Rally 2016

Helen, Georgia

When I heard last year where the AVA and COG rallies for 2016 were scheduled it caused me to ponder a bit. The AVA rally being in Wisconsin would be good as I was born and raised there so it would be good to visit again. However the COG rally was the week before my Grandson Weston's birthday, June 28th and Huffman, Texas where he lives could be on the way home from Helen. I ultimately decided on the COG rally as northern Georgia has some excellent roads for the C14.

I left after work Friday heading east. I had planned the route before leaving and uploaded to my GPS. As I was riding into Arkansas, I saw signs about Talimena State Park. And pretty soon I was riding up over a pass and on some nice winding roads. I realized I was on the road Bob Bass had been talking about. It was a nice section of road. I rode past Hot Springs and went a bit south of Memphis. The second night out I spent in Arkansas just before getting into Mississippi. I tried sleeping without the tent, but after being bugged by mosquitos for about 15 minutes I set up the tent just to be able to sleep without feeding them critters. I guess I was pretty tired because I slept later than planned. I finally started out about 9 Sunday morning and as I was running late, I decided to take a more direct route to Helen. I got to the campground around 7 and proceeded to set up the tent and then hit the showers to get cleaned up after a couple days of riding. It was pleasantly cool and less humid than the humidity of Arkansas and Mississippi.

Monday morning dawned cool and pleasant as I rode into rally central to get signed in. I spent the next several days enjoying the roads around the area. Rode to Brasstown Bald one day, the highest spot in Georgia. Supposed to be able to see quite a distance from there, however when I got to the parking lot it was in the clouds. Still a VERY good ride up there and the ride back to Helen was just as good. Another day I rode the 'Chicken Strip Eraser' route suggested by the rally planners. And it was indeed another great road. Quite a bit of the road I spent more time leaning to one side or the other than sitting straight up. Tuesday afternoon I went to a seminar on ECU flashing. It was an excellent talk. I ended up getting my ECU flashed that evening and it is a vastly different riding experience. The low end and mid-range torque changes are amazing. I thought the C14 had plenty of power before, but this really changed the 'riding area' of the power band.

Thursday evening banquet featured Dave Despain. It was a very good presentation. We then found out the COG national for 2017 will be in Lake of the Ozarks, Missouri. I have ridden thru that area, but never stopped to look around there. It shouldn't be much of a ride from Hutto. And it isn't the same week as the AVA rally, so it would be possible to attend both. Will have to see.

Friday morning I packed up and headed south to Pooler, GA to visit my son and daughter-in-law. Got there around 2 and got situated for a couple days. We went to dirt track racing that evening and then Saturday went jet skiing and then to the Fort Pulaski National Monument. We got there just in time to hear a couple of cannon firings. It was a very interesting place.

Sunday early afternoon I headed west making my way to Huffman, TX and another daughter and son-in-law and grandson. I wore my Klim outfit on my travels and was beginning to wonder about the wisdom of that choice. However after riding an hour or so I realized it was a smart choice as I rode thru

about half an hour of very hard rain and then rain off and on the rest of the day. By the time I stopped for the night it had stopped raining for a couple hours and things were dry. Again that night I set up the tent as I was back in Louisiana and the mosquitos were bad again. And boy was it HUMID! I did sleep better than expected though. Made Huffman just before noon Monday. Had another great couple days and helped Weston celebrate his first birthday Tuesday.

I did leave just after noon then heading for Hutto to spend the evening there. Again rode thru rain most of the way which helped to keep things cooler. Made Hutto just before 6, just in time for supper with family there. Enjoyed the evening with kids there and spent the night in my house before leaving for home Wednesday morning. The ride home was uneventful and warm again going thru west Texas. And as usual, going up over the range thru Cloudcroft felt good, temp down to 58 before going down to the Tularosa basin and upper 90's temp.

I made it home just after 4 Wednesday afternoon. Had a great time the past week and a half, but sure was nice to see Cindy again.

Rodney Westphal

AVA 2016 Rally, Hurley Wisconsin

I left from work Thursday about 1:30pm. I had originally planned to leave early Friday morning but I needed to be in Oshkosh by early afternoon Saturday, so with 1300 miles to get there, I decided it would be better to get some miles in Thursday. I was going to spend Friday night in Oshkosh at my brother-in-law's house and visit with the little great nephew that feels more like a grandson to Judy and me. He and his mother lived with us for three and a half months before our niece moved back to Wisconsin to stay with her parents. I took the interstate up to Waco and although I was making good time, I was glad to get off and on to something else. I was still making good time until I got to Corsicana where a malfunctioning railroad crossing gate and light delayed traffic an extended period. By the time we got moving again, I was really feeling the effects of the hot weather which had been tolerable while I was moving. I made it to Sulphur Springs without any other incidents and spent the night there.

I headed out early Friday morning. This was going to be a long day with lots of interstate - Texarkana, Little Rock, and West Memphis became one big blur. At Perryville, MO, I got off the interstate for a while, crossing the Mississippi to the little town of Chester IL, where I picked up IL4. Although route 4 went through many little towns, it eliminated going through ST. Louis and cut off enough distance that it wasn't a big detour. Eventually, I hooked back up with I55 and followed that to Springfield where I spent the night. By then, I had covered about 700 miles and only had another six hours to Oshkosh.

Saturday, I walked out to the bike about 5:45 am and was surprised how far up the sun was. I had forgotten how much earlier sunrise was here during the summer. It was also surprisingly cool. I had to stop shortly after I started to put a liner in my jacket as I was getting very chilled in the low 60s temperature. This route was all interstate until I got near Madison where I was able to take a nice secondary highway around hills and through scenic farmland. Judy had planned to make an extended trip to Wisconsin to visit her relatives after I returned from the rally but her dad had another mini-stroke a few days previously so she ended up flying out a couple of days before I left. Her dad's place was a short detour along the way so I stopped and visited with her and her dad for a while before driving the last few miles to Oshkosh. I left for Hurley about 11:30 am Sunday and got in about 4:30 pm. Most of the ride was on major highways but I did take a slight detour between Merrill and Tomahawk to ride WI107 which winds along the Wisconsin River.

Monday, Steven Donnell myself, and two others we had met at the motel, took one of the self-guided rides. I was a little disappointed with this ride. Although there were plenty of trees, this was primarily on straight, flat roads. I knew there was better than that in the area. That night, we went to a park on the shore of Lake Superior for the barbeque supper available as an "early bird" option. It was certainly different from what I've encountered elsewhere. It appeared to be pulled pork but someone commented that it was nothing like southern barbeque. I

stated that it was nothing like Texas barbeque and somebody else said it was nothing like Ohio barbeque. Maybe it's unique to northern Wisconsin and upper Michigan.

Tuesday, the same four riders took a ride that I had gotten from motorcycleroads.com. We had curves, a tree canopy, and wound past small lakes and streams. I really preferred this to the previous day's ride. That evening, we had the welcome dinner where I met up with Ed and Norbel Hildreth.

Wednesday, Steve and the other two guys decided to go looking for waterfalls which are numerous in the area. I decided to ride to Copper Harbor, a small community at the tip of the Keweenaw Peninsula on the shores of Lake Superior. Heading north on US 45, I encountered a nice set of big hills. US45 took me to US41 and Houghton MI. Houghton was a much bigger urban area than I expected but once I got out of town, the road really improved. Much of the remaining ride to Copper Harbor was on a curvy tree canopied road. Copper Harbor is located on a beautiful piece of lakeshore with clear blue water and pink gravel beaches. I looked around a bit and then headed west on MI26 with gorgeous views of lakeshore with islands, red rocks and more pink gravel beach. MI26 eventually loops back south and east to US41 which I took back to Houghton. My Michigan map showed US41 following the shore of Keweenaw Bay so I continued south on 41 rather than go back to 45 which I had come up on. Unfortunately, the bay was out of site for most of the way and the few miles I could view the bay did not make up for all the additional urban driving I had to do. MI28, US2, and US51 took me back to Hurley.

Thursday, the four of us joined up again for a ride that took us to Ashfield, Bayfield and Red Cliff along Lake Superior and through some nice curvy forest roads. That night, we had the farewell banquet. During awards, I was surprised to receive the long distance solo rider award as I was sure that Steven was further away. When I mentioned that to Don Medina, he said they go by MapQuest and the 1385 miles it showed was the furthest for a solo rider. I'm still not convinced but my Oshkosh detour had added over a hundred miles so maybe I actually rode further than Steven did.

Friday, I headed out with Oshkosh as my initial destination to spend the night and visit once more with my great nephew. My first destination was Crandon where I took WI55 and headed south. A couple of sources had indicated that this was a pretty good motorcycle road. I would tend to agree as the scenery is generally good and there are plenty of curves. For part of the way, the highway parallels the Wolf River with several views of the river. This far north, the river still has the characteristics of a north woods stream. Although there had been an occasional farm along 55, it was mostly woodland. Between Shawno and Clintonville, the countryside rapidly changed to farms with red dairy barns scattered around. The rest of the way to Oshkosh was mostly four lane highway.

Saturday, I backtracked on the route I had come up from Springfield on. It had been 65 degrees when I left Oshkosh but by the time I reached Springfield round 11:00, it was 90 degrees and climbing. This time, I stayed with I55 to St. Louis and used the I255 bypass to skirt the city but that still involved a lot of city interstate. After returning to I55, I took that south until I got to US67. Much of 67 is a four lane divided highway but it carries much less traffic than I55 and at least the Missouri part, is hilly and much more scenic than I55. I followed 67 to Little Rock to I30 and stopped for the night in Benton with right at 800 miles for the day.

Sunday, I took I30 east to Sulphur Springs where I headed south on TX19. Since I only had about 500 miles to do, I stayed with 19 until I got to Palestine where I picked up US79 and avoided the interstate until I got to Hutto where I took the toll road most of the remaining way. When I got home, my trip meter showed just a few tenths of a mile short of 4000 miles for the whole trip. -Pathfinder

Lunch Rides

Next, Alamo Springs Cafe, 107 Alamo Road Fredericksburg, TX on August 13.

Then Pie

In The Sky in Conroe on Sept 10.

Then Double D

Restaurant in Comfort, TX on Oct. 8 - unless that happens to be the weekend for Voyage Home then the lunch ride will take a back seat.

These things are on the 2nd Saturday of the month

and usually kind of alternate between Central TX west and Central TX east. Go to our website to get a clickable link for map info on most of these lunch locales. BTW, Alamo Sprgs is southeast of F'burg & SW of Luckenbach on Alamo Rd just off Old Fredericksburg Rd - which is also named Old San Antonio Rd. to the north and Old #9 to the south. The Alamo Rd intersection is at the Old Tunnel State Park. - Ya can't miss it!

Up and Coming:

Enchanted Tour

The Enchanted Tour this year will be taking place August 4-7 and will be based out of the KOA south of Las Vegas. The KOA is just off of US84 about 9 miles south of Las Vegas on I25. US84 goes only south, so after taking the exit from I25, turn left to go over the overpass and take the first road to the right which will be just a few hundred feet past the overpass. The KOA will be less than a mile on this road on the right side of the road. I will be getting there probably close to 6 Thursday evening as that is my last day of work. I may be able to take off early, but won't know until then.

The Friday ride will head north thru Las Vegas on NM518 to Sapello where we will turn left onto NM94 for the scenic ride to Mora for breakfast. Then we continue north on NM434 past Guadalupita and Angel Fire to the Enchanted Loop, US64. We will take the loop counterclockwise and stop at Red Rio for lunch. Then we will continue on US64 to Taos where we will get off the Enchanted Loop and take NM518 south past Sipapu and back to Las Vegas and then back to the campground.

Saturday we will again head north pm NM518 thru Las Vegas where we will stop for breakfast at Charlie's Bakery and Café (Spic & Span). Then continue north to La Cueva where we will take NM442 to Ocate. There we will get on NM120 heading Southeast thru Wagon Mound and on to Roy where we will hopefully enjoy lunch in that metropolis. Then we will continue southwest on NM39 to NM419 and NM104 back to Las Vegas and the campground. That pretty much sums up the weekend. They do have supper at the campground available or we can go to town to eat. There is also a good Mexican restaurant in Ribera.

Sunday morning I will be breaking camp and heading to Hutto to enjoy my retirement.

Email me to let me know you will be coming. The web site has the phone number for reservations. They have KOA Kabins available. Remember to bring your own bedding and such as the Kabins just provide a bed and mattress. They also have tenting available.

Looking forward to seeing yall there. And ride safe.

Rodney R. Westphal

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	B Bagley & D Lawsons

* designated events are our two ride-in weekends and include a business meeting. Officer elections are scheduled for VH, 2016

Richard's Ritings

There hasn't been much response to the prez' call in last newsletter for input from membership on what to do with club money (suggestions for charities eg) and whether we should consider becoming a non-profit organization - 501(c)3. Here's [one](#) response that I received, the writer shall remain

anonymous for now.

As far as 'what to do' with the money, why not let it build to a certain, predetermined level, THEN consider the 501C3? [as you know, I am always full of ideas and that other stuff]

I really don't think anyone wants the 'hassle' of doing the paperwork on it [unless someone who knows what they are talking about, says the group HAS to go that way.]

Beyond that, you might notice that I've included the next few lunch ride dates instead of doing a historical report of past rides. That's, in case you forget to look at the lunch schedule on the web site.
