



AMERICAN VOYAGER ASSOCIATION, INC.
14211 NW 18 Manor, Pembroke Pines, FL 33028
(954) 252-1082 | E-mail avainc@amervoyassoc.org
Website: <http://www.amervoyassoc.org/>

The American Voyager Association (AVA) Chapters are groups of members and associates in various communities that have joined together to pursue the enjoyment of riding, exchanging ideas and information, and camaraderie, in participation with the AVA.

The chapter shall have at least five (5) active AVA members and will function as a social unit. The chapter roster of at least five members must be maintained in order for the chapter to be recognized during the year from date of recognition. Chapter President must be an AVA member in good standing during his tenure in office. Business activity of the chapter shall be held to a minimum.

Each chapter shall have one member act as advisor and liaison with the AVA home office and will carry the title, Chapter President. The chapter president may delegate various duties to chapter members in order to accomplish goals, activities and functions. If the chapter president becomes ineffective in performing his/her duty, he/she may be removed from the position by a signed petition of the majority of the chapter members. An internal election shall be held to select a new president.

If an individual chapter member cannot maintain the policies and goals of the chapter, he/she may be asked to leave the chapter through a signed petition of the majority of the chapter members. The member will not lose any benefits or status in the American Voyager Association as a result of this action. This same policy, concerning benefits or status in the AVA, is in force if and when a chapter member chooses to leave the chapter on a voluntary basis.

The chapter may wish to hold special meetings in public or private places, but such meetings shall be open to all AVA members. The meeting must not be secret in nature and shall conform to the Constitution of the AVA.

The chapter may attempt to establish activities that will promote the chapter, the AVA, and motorcycling in general, i.e.; poker runs, bike shows, trade meets, etc., thus working with civic leaders and local business organizations. Chapters may wish to coordinate with other chapters in conducting such activities. Funds necessary to conduct local business must be developed through local initiative.

Application for chapter hood can be made by filing the included form with the home office of the American Voyager Association.

The Chapter President may purchase a name tag representing his title as Chapter President (available through the AVA). The President will be responsible (but may delegate the actual construction and distribution to another chapter member, or hold elections) for developing at least a bi-monthly report which should contain chapter activities, listing of new recruits, a calendar of events, and other items of interest to the chapter members. This report, usually in the form of a chapter newsletter, will form the basis for information to appear in the international publication of the AVA, the "Voyagers' Voice", and is to be sent to the current AVA publication editors.

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AVA CHAPTERHOOD APPLICATION

DATE: _____ YOUR AVA MEMBERSHIP NUMBER _____

APPLICANT _____

First Middle Int. Last

MAILING ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE (____) _____ FAX (____) _____ E-MAIL _____

INDIVIDUAL AVA MEMBERS

NAME _____ AVA# _____

NAME _____ AVA# _____

NAME _____ AVA# _____

NAME _____ AVA# _____

NAME _____ AVA# _____

NAME _____ AVA# _____

Attach additional member list if required

PLEASE LIST YOUR REASONS FOR WANTING TO START AN AVA CHAPTER

Please mail this application to:

Chapters, American Voyager Association, Inc.
14211 NW 18 Manor
Pembroke Pines, FL 33028

MAKING THE MOST OF YOUR CHAPTER

☆All chapters or clubs, even the International Organization must grow in order to stay solvent. The truth is, older members may drop out while some others may become disinterested in participating. New members are needed in order to maintain a vibrant and energetic organization. New ideas for activities are appreciated and usually come from newer members or at least members that have an interest in doing something different.

☆Growth probably means a sharing of leadership responsibilities. If the work load is spread among members the chances of burn out are diminished.

☆More members also mean a bigger group to share in the fun of being organized.

GROWTH IS NOT AUTOMATIC

☆Business cards are relatively inexpensive, and with today's computer technology, even more so. Members should carry their own or the generic card supplied each AVA member upon renewal, or on the website. A space is provided for the member's name, phone, or email address. The cards can be handed out when meeting other riders. Club or chapter information such as meeting time and dates, may be mentioned on the card.

☆Get support from the local dealers. Visit the local dealers and invite them to attend your meetings. Let them know they are important to the chapter. The dealer may be willing to display a poster, distribute business cards, and inform you of a new Voyager owner, help you organize a general maintenance work day at his facility, one in which he offers advice and minimal assistance while you do the work on your Voyager. He may also be willing to give the chapter members a discount (usually in percentage) for parts, accessories, service, or any or all of them. In return, you could offer to publish a free ad in your newsletters, offer the dealer free membership, or other items or services to benefit the dealer or both of you.

☆Set up a mall show. Most malls are usually looking for organizations to display in a section of the mall. Invite other clubs to participate. Have a judging by viewers and make awards (you may be able to get local businesses to sponsor the show trophies or awards). Tie everything in with a charity and you can't miss. Lots of folks will be interested in seeing your display and maybe become interested in your chapter or in owning a Voyager. Let the mall advertise, but don't forget your own public service announcements through the local newspapers, radio, or possibly TV spots. That is usually a free service under Community Activities.

☆Get involved in community projects. Since everyone is from the general area or sometimes region, the community projects may work best if they are moved around different communities. Plan to participate in various parades. Sign up for an Adopt-A-Highway litter pickup. Participate in a MSF auto windshield cleaning day program. Participate in a toy run for charity.

☆Assist in riding instruction. Contact the Motorcycle Safety Foundation to determine if your club can offer assistance for a beginner or advanced riding course. Contact Elizabeth Weaver, Motorcycle Safety Foundation, 2 Jenner Street, Suite 150, Irvine, CA 92718-3812. The MSF can direct you to organizations that are involved in safety instruction in your area.

☆Conduct a bicycle safety course and inspection. Contact the local police department for information concerning such a program. If a program is already in existence, offer to help.

☆Offer an immediate bonus for joining. Inform your prospective members what they will receive for joining. Offer the second year free for the first year's membership, or a free club patch, etc. It may not be necessary to collect any dues, just collect donations during meeting or have other fund raising events instead of dues such as a food stand at the local festivals or celebrations.

☆Hold member–recruitment drives. Make a contest of it, with awards for those bringing in the most people. As mentioned before, maybe your local dealer or any number of dealers in your area or region may be willing to help out by providing names and addresses of Voyager or other bike owners, or, maybe distributing sheets, pamphlets, or membership applications to any Voyager buyers they sell to. Use your imagination.

REMEMBER: Pass all the ideas through your chapter leadership and finally the chapter members. If the chapter is not behind the idea, it has little chance of succeeding.

Most of the above information (with some editing particular to the AVA) was published previously by the American Motorcyclist Association, 13515 Yarmouth Dr., Pickerington, Ohio 43147 Phone: 614-856-1900



American Voyager Association