

**THE MILEPOST**  
**Quarterly Newsletter of *Discovery Pioneers*,**  
**a chapter of Discovery Owners Association, Inc.**  
**Third Quarter 2004**

**Hello, Discovery Pioneers!**

This is the first installment of what will be our newsletter from now on. It should prove to be easier to put an e-newsletter together than the former method, and you will certainly get your news more quickly. For those few members who do not have e-mail, an hard copy of this edition will be sent to them via the US Post Office.

Joyce Wiechman, our new president, asked if I (Nina Soltwedel) would be willing to take on the newsletter chore, and since it'll be so easy, I said yes.

However, each quarter's edition will only be as informative as you, the members, make it. I am grateful that several of you have kept me up to date as far as your address changes, new e-mail addresses, new Discovery models, etc., are concerned. Keep it up! If you have news items to share in the months to come, please e-mail them to me.

Because we are beginning a new chapter year, it would be normal to expect an up-to-date roster to accompany this issue. However, because so many of you have not paid your 2004-2005 dues of \$10, I am delaying the production of the current roster, in hopes that you will send your dues money in right away. My hubby, Bob, is the chapter treasurer, and he plans to contact each of those members who have not yet sent in their 2004-2005 dues.

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**Branson Rally On!**

According to the list of participants sent out by Ray Easter, those Discovery Pioneers going to Branson for the chapter rally are Don and Nancy Gillam, Bob and Sandy Greenwell, Ken and Libbie Hamacher, Carl and Marge Ropp, Dick and Brenda Snyder, Bob and Nina Soltwedel, Leo and Jackie Everitt, Jon and Mary Youngquist, and Jerry and Joyce Wiechman. Joyce has set up a fun caravan schedule for us: We will meet at the High Plains Campground (exit #70 of I70) in Oakley, Kansas on Monday, September 27. We will leave there the next morning, and stay the night in Wichita. On Wednesday we will arrive in Branson for a three-day extravaganza of shows, food, shows, shopping, shows and more food! If you don't have a current caravan schedule, let Joyce know, and she'll e-mail you a copy.

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**Sedalia Rally After Branson**

As rally registrar for the national DOAI 2004 rally in Sedalia, I hope all of you plan to attend. If you've received the summer issue of *Discovery Express*, the newsmagazine of DOAI, you know we have a "ton" of fun and informative events planned. I've been lurking around my mailbox, hoping to find **your** registration among the envelopes in each day's delivery. We'll have a great time.

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**Fort Collins Was Fun!**

We had a great time at Heron Lake RV Park in Fort Collins for our July chapter rally. Those attending were Carl and Marge Ropp, Bob and Nina Soltwedel, Bob and Annie Hixson, Dean and Nancy Miller, Jim and Donna Hiss, Ross and Alice Peery, Neil and Marlene Elkins, Roger and Nancy Talich, and Jerry and Joyce Wiechman. We welcomed guests Doug and Marty Marion (new D owners and new DOAI members), and Gary and Patti Stratford (longtime DOAI members and fulltimers).

Among the fun events was touring the New Belgium Brewery. The facilities are amazing, quite beautiful, and extremely environmentally conscious. New Belgium uses less water per barrel of beer than any other brewery in the country. The State of Colorado has cited New Belgium as being one of our top notch facilities caring for our environment. (And their beer is good, too!)



Nina and Bob Soltwedel, and Marge Ropp tasting beer at New Belgium Brewery, Fort Collins

The full details of the chapter meeting follow in the minutes taken by Donna Hiss. If you weren't there, we missed you! We hope to see you at a chapter rally in 2005, for sure.

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### **Minutes of July 10, 2004 Meeting**

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M. at the Heron Lake RV Park in Ft. Collins, CO by President Bob Hixson. Bob introduced new members Roger and Nancy Talich from Littleton, CO, and announced that there were nine member coaches in attendance, which is a quorum and business can take place.

Minutes of the June rally in Grand Junction were read by Ann Hixson and approved. Treasurer Bob Soltwedel reported a current balance of \$2,783.96, the report was filed for audit. Rally Master Carl Ropp asked for volunteers to find locations and host the June and July 2005 rallies.

Nina Soltwedel gave an update of the National Rally in Sedalia, MO October 5-9 2004, and encouraged everyone to get their reservations in as soon as possible.

Joyce Wiechman updated the plans for the pre-rally in Branson, MO, and invited those who wish to caravan to meet in Oakley, KS.

Neil Elkins listed a number of fun things that he is looking into for the May 2005 rally in Moab, Utah. RV parks won't take reservations until after January, so a park has not been selected.

President Hixson thanked everyone for all of hard work that the members and officers have done this past year.

Jerry Wiechman, nominating committee chair, announced that the slate of officers presented at the June rally has changed. Linda Molzahn has declined to be Secretary, and Marlene Elkins has agreed to run. Since there were no nominations from the floor, a motion was made by Nina Soltwedel, seconded by Neil Elkins, that the slate be elected by acclamation. The motion passed. Neil Elkins installed the new officers: President Joyce Wiechman, Vice President Bob Greenwell, Secretary Marlene Elkins, Treasurer Bob Soltwedel, Nominating Committee Jerry Wiechman, Carl Ropp, and Bob Hixson .

The meeting was then turned over to the new president, who thanked the past officers. The meeting was adjourned at 10:20 A.M.

Donna Hiss, Secretary

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### **Greetings from Kansas and Your New President**

Summer has arrived in Kansas...we're 'enjoying' some 100-degree temperatures. We are not complaining much, however; we had a delightful July with much-needed rain, so the summer crops are looking good.

We have also enjoyed two very entertaining rallies. In June, we traveled over the hump to Grand Junction, Colorado, where Jerry and Linda Molzahn showed us a great time. July took us back to Colorado, where the Hixsons and Ropps combined forces to treat us to some interesting as well as entertaining programs. We made our home at Heron Lake RV Park and enjoyed their nice facilities.

When we bade you good-bye at Fort Collins, Jerry and I made our way northeast to Minnesota where we co-hosted our annual Sunland Village East summer reunion golf game. This group is from our winter home in Mesa, Arizona. We played at Detroit Lakes and had 24 golfers. We made our way back to Kansas the last week in July.

Our next trip will be to Branson, Missouri, September 29-October 3 as a pre-rally to the DOAI rally being held in Sedalia, Missouri, October 5-9. Jerry and I are serving as wagonmasters for this rally, and have coordinated a caravan that will begin in Oakley, Kansas. We plan to meet the evening of September 27 at High Plains RV Park, exit 70 on I-70. The following morning we will head our caravan of D's toward Branson.

The date of this chapter rally was changed at our meeting in Kennewick, Washington last October, when we learned that the DOAI had set its rally in Sedalia. This way, it would allow more of the Pioneers to attend both the chapter rally as well as the national rally. At this writing we have nine member coaches and two guests who will join us at the ABC Campground in Branson.

We plan to have a bunch of fun attending shows, but there will be a business meeting as well



2004-2005 Officers: Marlene Elkins, Jerry Wiechman, Joyce Wiechman, Bob Hixson, Carl Ropp, Bob Soltwedel. Missing: Bob Greenwell

while the Pioneers are at ABC.

I take this opportunity to thank the retiring officers for their dedication to the organization. You all will be a hard act to follow, but we will do our best. Thanks, too, to Bob Greenwell, Bob Soltwedel, Marlene Elkins, and Don and Nancy Gillam, for serving as officers with me for the coming year.

Your president, Joyce Wiechman

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**Member Care**

We continue to keep Alice Peery in our thoughts and prayers. Alice has had her second chemotherapy treatment and still feels quite well, however she must watch what she eats...the chemicals make some foods not as palatable as before, nor as digestible. Alice and Ross won't be able to make it to Branson and Sedalia, but they will be able to take some short trips this fall. Take it easy, Alice, and know that you are cared for by all of us!

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**In Closing**

It was fun to meet Roger and Nancy Talich at the July rally, just as it was fun to meet Ken and Cody Baker at the June rally. Both couples enjoyed the rally they attended, and we hope to see them often in 2005. We are thinking of possibly planning a chapter rally in Santa Fe...does that interest anyone? And we jokingly told Ken and Cody that we'd like to come down to Roswell, New Mexico (where they live), so we can meet some aliens and possibly see some UFOs...sounds like fun, doesn't it?

I am sure that Don and Nancy Gillam, our new chapter rally masters, would love to hear from any one of us who would like to learn more about being a rally host. It's fun, it's very rewarding, and they will give you lots of information to assist you.

Watch for a newsletter update in a month or so. And please...**send in your \$10 dues** if you haven't already done so (make check payable to Robert Soltwedel, and send to 4736 Harwich St., Boulder, CO 80301-4217). If you have questions or concerns about your membership status, please contact Bob Soltwedel at [soltwedel45@hotmail.com](mailto:soltwedel45@hotmail.com)

If you have any questions or concerns about **Discovery Pioneers**, please contact our president, Joyce Wiechman, at [joycew30@aol.com](mailto:joycew30@aol.com)

If you have any questions or concerns about **DOAI and/or the Sedalia rally**, please contact the rally registrar, Nina Soltwedel, at [soltwedel45@hotmail.com](mailto:soltwedel45@hotmail.com) or call tollfree 888-786-2962.

'Til next time, may your roads always be smooth, and your camping sites wide and level!  
Your editor, Nina Soltwedel

P.S. Here's a funny bumper sticker for ya:

**If you can read this... I've lost my tow!**