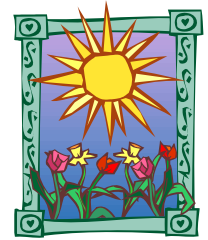




THE MILEPOST
Quarterly e-Newsletter of
Discovery Pioneers,
a chapter of Discovery Owners Association, Inc.
Second Quarter 2007



President's Message

by Roger Talich

Hello, Discovery Pioneers!

For those of you who missed the second annual "Return of the Snow Birds Rally," I can only express my sympathy. Ken and Cody Baker did an exceptional job in hosting the rally at Roswell, New Mexico. From my own observations, and from everything I heard from the other attendees, a better job could not have been done and the whole group thanks Ken and Cody for their efforts.

Roswell itself proved to be a very interesting little city to visit. While attending the UFO Museum, Nancy and I had the privilege of visiting with an elderly gentleman who was stationed at the air base in Roswell at the time of the so-called "Roswell incident." He showed us his name on the list of the servicemen who were stationed at Roswell at that time. He said he was a firefighter for the Air Force in



1947. He was actually on leave when the incident occurred and stated that when he returned (about a week later), he was told he was not to go near the hanger where the debris was being kept. When he asked what he was supposed to do if the hanger caught fire, the orders were to "let it burn."

As well as the everlasting mystery of the flying saucers, the ladies enjoyed the lavender farm and, of course, the shopping. Ken and Cody had us over to their farm one morning and cooked the group a terrific breakfast, and then sent everyone away with coffee mugs with a picture of an alien on them, as well as a sack of pecans. We enjoyed seeing the farm, as well as Ken's very interesting nutcracker collection. Everyone enjoyed the meals, the happy hours, and the swapping of stories.

The club seems to find interesting and different places to hold the rallies and I encourage each and every one of you to consider attending one of these rallies soon. I am certain you will not be disappointed.

Secretary's Report
Minutes of Chapter Meeting
Roswell, NM, April 27, 2007

by Marlene Elkins

President Roger Talich called the meeting of the Discovery Pioneers to order at 9:30 a.m. at Eastern New Mexico State Fairgrounds, Roswell, New Mexico. Nine member coaches were represented, which is enough for a quorum. There were no visitors to be introduced.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved as read, with two corrections: Bob and Ann Hixson will be co-hosts for the Cody, Wyoming rally, not Bob and Nina Soltwedel; the bank for our account will be in Longmont, Colorado, not Boulder.

Treasurer Bob Soltwedel reported a current balance of \$3,804.81 in the chapter account. He also reported that as of March 1, 2007 the Heritage Bank was merged with First Commercial Bank and the name changed. The Niwot branch was closed, and a new branch in Longmont opened. The report was accepted as submitted.

All present gave Ken and Cody Baker a hearty round of applause and heartfelt thanks for putting on a super rally here that has been "above and beyond."

There were no action items under Old Business.



Under New business, Nina Soltwedel proposed we discuss how we might maintain a membership-type relationship with former members who have purchased motor homes that are not Discovery models. Even though they are not eligible for voting/office membership status, the consensus was that we would like to continue having them at rallies and other social events where members gather. After discussion of several alternatives, Carl Ropp made a motion that former Discovery Pioneer members who no longer own a Discovery will be considered honorary members of Discovery Pioneers. Nina Soltwedel seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously. Honorary members will be included in distribution of newsletters, invitations to rallies, and any other information sent to Discovery Pioneers. They will be able to make voluntary contributions in lieu of dues to the Discovery Pioneer's treasury.

Neil Elkins presented the Rally Master's report. Carl and Betty Gordon will host a rally in Ouray, Colorado beginning June 15. Carl and Betty are work-campers at the KOA where the rally will be held. Neil asked for volunteers to help Carl and Betty with various hosting duties at the rally, so that they may take care of any work-camper duties that may take

precedence. Roger and Nancy Talich volunteered to help them. In July, Carl and Marge Ropp and Bob and Ann Hixson are co-hosting a rally in Cody, Wyoming. The "September" rally will be held the end of August in Creede, Colorado, co-hosted by Leo and Jackie Everitt and Bob and Nina Soltwedel. Neil reported that it has been difficult to get more members to a rally. Since there seems to be mostly the same few people attending rallies, Neil suggested that we may not need a Rally Master, but have group decisions are when/where to hold rallies. After some discussion, there was no resolution of this proposal at this meeting.

Nina Soltwedel reported on Membership and Newsletter. She submitted a bill for reimbursement for postage over the last two years. She sends newsletters and invitations primarily by e-mail, so postage is not a large expense. Nina plans to have the next newsletter ready within the next two weeks. She would like input on rallies, recruiting news members, etc, by the end of next week. Member dues are due July 1, 2007.

There was no report from the Nominating Committee.

Carl and Marge Ropp reported on the Cody Wyoming rally, July 8-14, 2007. They have reserved twelve spaces, but need to know no later than May 8 how many are actually planning to attend. They will need the rally fee of \$190 no later than May 26. The rally fee includes six nights at the RV park. Nina Soltwedel stated she will get an e-mail out to all members today announcing these deadlines. Marge reported that there are several things to see and do during the rally, including a rodeo every night, a museum that takes two days to really see, drives through the beautiful Tetons, antique shops as well as many other possible activities.

Nina Soltwedel reported that Leo Everitt has sent a great deal of information for the Creede, Colorado rally August. He says that the Repertory Theater there is as good as anything on Broadway. There will be more information sent out in July on this rally.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

Treasurer's Report

by Bob Soltwedel

The report below was delivered to the meeting in Roswell. Since that date, I have deposited \$60.00 representing dues from Fred and Penny Goodpaster, Terry and Sandy Ven Roy, and Al and Jan Price. I have paid "Mr. Ken" for the Goodpasters'



badges; the badges for the other new members have been ordered.

Balance 3-01-07	\$3,084.16
Income: Interest 3/31/07	_____ .65
Balance 3-31-07	\$3,084.81

If you have any questions about this report, please contact me at bob.soltwedel@gmail.com.

Rally Master's Report

by Neil Elkins

Well, those of you who didn't come to Roswell last month really missed out on a great event. Ken and Cody Baker really went out of their way to treat us to a really memorable week in UFO country! Thank you from all of us, Ken and Cody!



Next on the agenda will be our rally in Ouray, Colorado, hosted by Carl and Betty Gordon. As Rally Master, I really appreciate their volunteering to put together what I'm sure will be a great time for us in June. Unfortunately, Marlene and I have a family conflict that is taking us to Tennessee and we won't be able to see all of you there. I do hope that we will have a great turnout to this beautiful and inspiring area of Colorado. Please make a special effort to attend—I'm positive that you'll enjoy it!

In July, we'll see many of you in Cody, Wyoming, as Carl and Marge Ropp and Bob and Annie Hixson host us at the Ponderosa Campground. By now you've

received the email from Carl via Nina with all the details. We're really looking forward to that rally! Later in the summer, of course, Leo and Jackie Everitt and Bob and Nina Soltwedel will host us at the Mountain Views at RiversEdge RV Park in Creede August 23-26. Stay tuned for more details!

Now Comes the Important Stuff!

The Discovery Pioneers chapter needs a new Rally Master for the coming year! I know that many of you shy away from accepting *any* elective chapter office, largely because of the unknowns about what holding any particular office means as far as time and effort on your part.

As Rally Master, you would be responsible for arranging locations, dates, and hosts for the four chapter rallies (rallies typically held May, June, July, and September, although there have been exceptions depending upon availability of locations, hosts' preferences, etc.) during the "rally" season. This seems to be a big responsibility, but as is the case with most positions, it sounds tougher than it really

is. During my tenure, I usually came up with potential locations to hold rallies after discussions during chapter meetings. Someone is always there with suggestions on where to hold our next rally, and someone is always ready to step up to the challenge to host a rally (at least after a little cajoling and/or arm twisting!). But there's no need to worry! One of the nice things about belonging to the Discovery Pioneers chapter is that there is always someone who's willing to help with whatever needs to be done. And being Rally Master is no exception. Try it – you'll have a great time and will truly get to know your fellow Discovery Pioneers.

And whether or not you accept the official position of Rally Master, the chapter still needs your input for potential rally locations and activities. And most importantly, in order to continue to be a great chapter, the Discovery Pioneers needs you to host a rally! It would be great to have "new blood" so that we continue to grow and attract more members and rally-goers. After all, the charter members of the chapter won't be able to continue to carry the load forever – even though we're still quite active, we all get a year older every year. And, at least for myself, a little slower every year as well...

Happy Pioneering!

Nominating Committee Report

Two of the three members of the Nominating committee met at the April rally in Roswell New Mexico.

The slate for the July annual meeting is partially complete. Needing yet to be filled is the position of Rally Master, since our present Rally Master is no

longer eligible to hold office. We are hopeful that office will be filled at the June rally in Ouray Colorado, and a complete slate be ready for the July meeting in Cody, Wyoming.

*Jerry Wiechman
Carl Ropp
Bob Greenwell*

Membership Report *by Nina Soltwedel*

The Roswell rally is history, and the chapter meeting resulted in an exciting decision by the members. As you read in Marlene's minutes (page 1, column 2), for Discovery Pioneers members who no longer own a Discovery are now considered honorary members of our chapter.



For our reunion rally last year, Joyce Wiechman sent out notes to as many former members as she could find addresses for. Unfortunately, the response was very small; Jerry and Linda Molzahn were able to attend our Manitou Springs rally last July, and Leo and Jackie Everitt joined us for the Chama, New Mexico rally last September.

I will continue to send this electronic newsletter to as many former members as I have addresses for, in hopes that they may decide to join us at a future rally. If you happen to meet a former member, and they haven't heard from me, it's likely that I don't have their current email address. Ask them to drop me a note at nina.soltwedel@gmail.com and I'll add them to the distribution list.

Official Members

As of this writing, we have 24 member coaches. This number includes our newest members Fred and Penny Goodpaster, Terry and Sandy Ven Roy, and Al and Jan Price. I know we are all looking forward to having these good people join us at as many of our rallies as possible.

If you haven't been able to attend a Pioneers rally before, please plan to join us soon. We have a wonderful time. The food is always excellent – and we do our share of consuming the bounty! – and the fellowship is gratifying. It's been fun to take the time to mosey around the rally location area, and we've never been disappointed. This is a great country; this Rocky Mountain/desert west is something to behold. Join us...soon!

The New Year Approaches

Watch your email inboxes in early June; I'll be sending out individual dues reminders, and we don't want anyone to forget to pay their dues.

If you have any questions about your membership status, or about this newsletter, please contact me. Safe travels, and we'll see you in Ouray!

August Rally First Look *by Nina Soltwedel*

Ten spaces have been reserved at Mountain Views RV Park in Creede, for our August 23 (arrival)-August 26 (departure) rally. The per night fee is \$28 plus tax, and you can arrive one day early, if you choose.

Based upon feedback from the attendees at the

April rally in Roswell, we will scout out which plays will be performed during our stay, and arrange for tickets to one performance. However, we will need to pay for the tickets in advance.

Watch your email inboxes for more details as plans become firm. Your hosts, the Everitts and the Soltwedels, have some fun things in store for you!