



**THE MILEPOST**  
 Quarterly eNewsletter of  
*Discovery Pioneers,*  
 a chapter of Discovery Owners Association, Inc.  
 First Quarter 2008



Nina Soltwedel, Editor

**President's Message**

*by Roger Talich*

There is a rally coming up in Benson in March. If everything goes as scheduled, we should have three more rallies during the summer months. There will be information regarding these rallies elsewhere in this newsletter or later on during the season.

When the discussion of a winter or spring rally was brought up late last summer, we advised that we would be in Florida at that time and unable to attend. We have been here since late October, and do not plan on returning to Colorado until the end of April or early May. We have enjoyed our side trips to France and the Panama Canal and are looking forward to our third Irish theme cruise in a few weeks.

It has been Chamber of Commerce weather again this season with two brief exceptions. Each of those exceptions were of a four-day duration, and we returned from our two side trips half way though what passes for cold weather down here. The weather has made motor home living nice, even if the coach has been stationary since we arrived.

Happy travels to you all, and with luck, we will see many of you this summer.

*- Roger*

**Treasurer's Report**

*by Bob Soltwedel*

|                         |                   |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| Balance 12-1-07         | \$3,179.18        |
| Income                  |                   |
| Dues (Klungseth, Brock) | 40.00             |
| Interest                | 1.33              |
| Subtotal                | <u>\$3,220.51</u> |
| Expense                 |                   |
| Badges                  | <u>\$ 21.00</u>   |
| Balance 12-31-07        | <u>\$3,199.51</u> |

Dues checks from Swain and Thompson were mailed to the bank on January 12, bringing the balance to \$3,219.51. The rally fund (which is **not** kept in a separate account) now totals \$160.58.

We no longer are being charged service fees by the bank, and our checking account accrues interest; the rate in December was .49 percent.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

*- Bob*

**Rally Masters' Report**

*by Joyce and Jerry Wiechman*

Now is the time to get your registration form and check sent to us for the March rally. Here's the information:



**When:** March 3-6, 2008

**Where:** Cochise Terrace Rv Resort, 1030 S. Barrel Cactus (I-10 and Hwy 90, Exit 302), south .09 mile to Barrel Cactus.

**How Much:** \$23 per night – 1 night's stay required to reserve spot.

**Sights to See:** Kartchner Caverns State Park, a Day in Tombstone, and possibly Chiricahua National Monument, Fort Huachuca Museum and Fort, and Historic Bisbee, the Queen of the Copper Mines.

The deadline for registrations is February 1, 2008 ... a date that is rapidly approaching. Send your information to Joyce soonest, along with at least one night's fee. The total fees for the rally are (in case you want to send a check for the whole thing now):

|                                         |                 |
|-----------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Camping (\$23 times 4 nights per coach) | \$ 92.00        |
| Kartchner Caverns (\$22.95 each)        | 45.90           |
| Catered Dinner (\$7.00 each)            | 14.00           |
| Rally Fee (per coach)                   | <u>10.00</u>    |
| Total                                   | <u>\$161.90</u> |

We're looking forward to see many of you at this fun rally. Send your check to us at 2608 S. Daisy St., Meza AZ 85209-6158.

See you soon!

*- Joyce and Jerry*

## Getting to Know You

### John and Jan Kovach

by Jan

John and I met at Amarillo AFB, Texas. We were both in the Air Force. We dated for nearly six weeks and then started our lifetime romance by getting married. We have been married 44 years.



I am originally from Milford, Michigan and John from Akron, Ohio. When John retired from the Air Force, we moved from Cocoa Beach, Florida to Colorado Springs. He and I began working at the USAF Academy and we both retired from civil service in 2003.

We've always enjoyed camping and moved from tents, tent pop-ups, a hard body trailer, and several class A's. We traveled all over Colorado and the western U.S. with a few side trips to Michigan, Ohio, Florida, and Texas before I decided we needed a coach with two slides. Thus started our search for the perfect motor home. John did a lot of very intensive research on diesel motor homes and decided on a Discovery; it had absolutely everything we wanted and needed in a motor home. I went on eBay and bid my heart out, but alas it was not to be – halfway through the bidding the owner decided not to sell and took it off the market. I was heart broken.

We planned a trip to go looking for one. We printed out the for sale ads we found on the Internet and started out to find our dream motor home. The planned travels would take us to Texas and some southern states. In Albuquerque, New Mexico, they said that Discoverys were very hard to find and that we should get on their list in case one showed up. When we got to Phoenix Arizona, the salesperson said they hardly ever got any trade-ins like we were looking for, and so we continued on to Quartzsite – we happened on the best place to look for something that you need – the bulletin board at the laundromat – there, in a newspaper, was the ad we had been searching for. We called and got no answer. We left messages – still no answer. Finally the guy called us

back. We drove back to Phoenix and looked at the Discovery – she was beautiful, and I wanted to buy it right that moment. We struck a deal and became the proud owners of our Discovery which we promptly named Suzzi. We came home from there with two motor homes, a Dutchman and a Discovery.

With me driving the Dutchman and John the Discovery, it seemed like a neverending trip back to Colorado. I was white-knuckled driving Route 40 through Albuquerque and then into a heavy January snowstorm in Colorado.

We immediately joined the Discovery Owners Association and the Discovery Pioneers. Everyone has been just wonderful. We like the feeling of belonging to something that is related to what we enjoy and meeting people who enjoy the same kinds of adventures. We always wanted to travel and RVing is the kind of lifestyle we had been working toward most of our lives.

We have two children, a son and a daughter, and they both live in Colorado Springs. We miss our six grandkids very much when we are on the road. Cell phones and our laptop keep us in touch.

We have traveled from the west coast to the east coast and north to Alaska and as far south as Key West. Our next planned adventure is to the east coast into Connecticut, New Hampshire and Massachusetts and the far eastern areas of the U.S., probably after the 2008 national rally in August.

Lastly, we were so happy when Terry and Sandy Ven Roy traded their SOB for a Discovery and became Pioneers. They have been our best friends for over 35 years. We are co-hosting the July Pioneers rally at the Royal Gorge, Colorado, and hope to see everyone there.



### Terry and Sandy Ven Roy

by Sandy

Terry was born and raised in Wyoming, Michigan. At the ripe old age of 17 he joined the Air Force and headed on his first tour to Italy. When he returned to the good ole USA, he was stationed at Travis AFB, California. I who was born in Yuba City, California and

an Air Force brat happened to be at Travis at the same time. Terry had become acquainted with my dad and he introduced us. We were married less than a year later, almost 43 years ago. Two children followed, as well as tours in Washington DC (the presidential wing), Oscoda, Michigan, Viet Nam, Thailand, Hawaii, Whitman, Missouri, and the Air Force Academy where Terry retired as a chief in 1986.



*Nefarious characters captured by camera in Alaska. Oh, wait, it's the Kovachs and the Ven Roys!*

Terry then went to work at the Academy in civil service and retired a second time in 2004. By then we had nine grandchildren, and now have two great-grandchildren to make life interesting. They are spread out in Minnesota and Arkansas, so travel has become a big part of our lives.

We met Jan and John Kovach while stationed in Michigan and have remained neighbors and best friends for over 30 years. When we retired we bought our first motor home a 1996 Dutch Star (gas) and headed to Alaska with the Kovachs for a big adventure. We had a ball and decided that that was the best way to travel. Jan and John bought their Discovery a few years ago and convinced us (and rightfully so) that that was the best one on the market and that if we wanted to belong to the best group going, we should get one, too. We got our 2001.5 about a year ago and attended our first national rally in Arizona in November. We had such a good time meeting all of you and we know that we made the right decision to join DOAI. We look forward to more rallies and meeting more of you.