



THE MILEPOST

Quarterly e-Newsletter of *Discovery Pioneers*,
a chapter of Discovery Owners Association, Inc.
Third Quarter 2006



President's Message

by Roger Talich

Greetings, Pioneers! Let this be a warning to all members of the Discovery Pioneers. Fail to attend a meeting and you could be elected an officer. At least that is what I learned when I arrived home on a recent Sunday after spending a couple of days in our beautiful Colorado mountains trying to escape from the dreadful heat wave that is now gripping this area. My memory, which isn't that great anymore, seems to recall a discussion of the possibility that I would consider serving and ... nothing more. Nonetheless, the message waiting for me on our answering machine advised me that at the Colorado Springs outing, I had been elected, "in absentia," chapter president.



President Roger

Realizing that all of our club members are busy, at first reluctantly, and now with some enthusiasm, I have decided to accept the post for the coming year. My wife, Nancy, and I are looking forward to this opportunity to get to know all of you better and hope that many of you will be at the Discovery Pioneers' next camp-out in Chama, New Mexico, and at the national rally in San Antonio, Texas.

I think you will all join me in thanking Joyce Wiechman and the other officers and committee members for a job well done during the last two years. Your excellent leadership will be remembered.

I thank you all for electing me, and I am honored to serve as your new president for the coming year.

Past President's Message

by Joyce Wiechman

We had an enjoyable time at Garden of the Gods RV Resort in Manitou Springs last weekend. The Kendricks and the Muckenthalers are thanked for their choice of parks at which to hold our July rally and annual meeting. The campground has been there many years, and the sites, while many, were much too small for big coaches and fifth wheels. Under new management the park is being upgraded with beautiful landscaping and creation of pull-through sites. Our group was assigned the first block of these new sites.



Past President Joyce

The rally hosts, and Jerry and I, arrived on Wednesday afternoon, and the rest of the group arrived Thursday. We enjoyed happy hour in the shade of the big trees and our coaches before car-

pooling to Flying W Ranch Thursday evening for a BBQ dinner and great country music and home-grown humor.

Friday morning our hosts treated us to a delicious Continental breakfast. At 9:30 the annual meeting was called to order. An important part of the meeting was election of officers and nominating committee members for the coming year: Roger Talich, president; Chuck Brock, vice president; Marlene Elkins, secretary; Bob Soltwedel, treasurer; and Neil Elkins, rally master. The nominating committee for 2006-07 is Jerry Wiechman, Bob Greenwell, and Carl Ropp.

This was my last meeting as your president. It has been a pleasure to serve. You are a great group to work with, which made my job easy. The two years went by quickly. As the old saying goes, "Time flies when you're having fun," and no one has more fun than the Pioneers!

Our afternoon was free to explore the area's many sites, such as the cog train to Pikes Peak, Seven Fall, Cheyenne Mountain Zoo, or shopping in the quaint communities. By evening, we had all returned to gather for happy hour before going across the street to Amanda's Fonda for a great Mexican meal. Afterward we all relaxed in our patio area for more conversation. Funny how this group never gets enough visiting!

Jerry and I had to excuse ourselves to get our coach ready for early departure on Saturday. We had a golf date on Monday that was over 800 miles away.

My sincere thanks to my fellow officers: Bob Greenwell, Marlene Elkins, Bob Soltwedel, Neil Elkins, the nominating committee, and to Nina Soltwedel for all the wonderful membership and newsletter work.

Please give the new officers all the great respect you have shown be the past two years. It's been a great ride!

Treasurer's Report

by Bob Soltwedel

Balance June 1, 2006 . . .	\$2,807.93
Income:	
6/30 interest	\$.57
Expense:	
June rally expense . . .	\$ 64.19
6/30 service charge12
Balance June 30, 2006 . . .	<u>\$2,744.19</u>



Treasurer Bob

July 13 update: Currently, July rally advances of \$375 for campground and \$195 for dining have been given to Jack Muckenthaler, totaling \$570. We also have paid one-half the train fare for the September rally in

Chama, New Mexico, totaling \$720. Dues have been deposited totaling \$40, and a September rally registration of \$130. The current checking account balance is \$2,194.19.

Membership Update

by *Nina Soltwedel*

A new chapter year has begun, and I am in the process of updating the chapter roster. However, since everyone has until August 1 to renew their membership before being dropped, I will hold off sending all of you the 2006-2007 roster until after that date.



Membership and Editor Nina

More dues have come in, and here's the list of paid-up members for this new chapter year. If your name isn't here, we miss you and hope you'll renew your membership.

Members Renewed 2006-2007

Ken & Cody Baker
Chuck & Vie Brock
Neil & Marlene Elkins
Carl & Betty Gordon
Bob & Sandy Greenwell
Bob & Annie Hixson
Dennis & Lollie Kendrick
John & Jan Kovach
Dean & Nancy Miller
Jack & Gayelene Muckenthaler
Ron & Lillian Munson
Carl & Marge Ropp
Richard & Mary Searle
Bob & Nina Soltwedel
Roger & Nancy Talich
Jerry & Joyce Wiechman

September Rally News

by *Nina Soltwedel*

This is it, folks...the July 25 deadline is right in front of us, and we're six people short of making the 20 people for the train ride.

We have eight registrations for the campground, and fourteen people for the train.

If you intend to go to the September rally in Chama, now is the time to let us know. We will be making the campground deposit on July 31 (\$20 per coach deposit), and if we fall below ten reservations, it's going to cost \$25.57 per coach per night, instead of the group rate of \$23 per coach per night.

And, as explained in the rally packet, if we don't make the 20 people for the train, Discovery Pioneers will be paying a 15 percent forfeiture fee per cancelled ticket ($\$72 \times 15\% = \10.80 per cancelled reservation).

Carl and Marge, along with Bob and I, have been planning several fun events (in addition to the awesome narrow-gauge train ride), and we are eager

that you all enjoy them with us.

Things to look forward to include "Breakfast in a Bag" on Wednesday morning, the all-day train excursion on Thursday, chapter meeting Friday morning, and more. Chama is a great hub for exploration in all four directions, and we've planned for time to play. Chama is close to Taos, a super tourist town loaded with interesting galleries, restaurants, and artists' gift shops. Just down the road from Chama is Los Ojos, home to Tierra Wools, a supplier to northern New Mexico weavers for 125 years. Tierra will be celebrating its anniversary on "our" weekend, with weavers in residence, free tours of the facility, and an excellent gift shop featuring hand woven goods.

The auto ride from Chama to Antonito is very scenic, and worth your while exploring. There are two excellent restaurants in downtown Antonito where you can enjoy a leisurely lunch or dinner. And don't forget to check out Cano's Castle in Antonito!

Nearby Antonito is Manassa, the birthplace of Jack Dempsey, the world-renown boxer. There's an interesting museum devoted to his life.

Please plan to come to this final rally of 2006! Getting together with all of you is a prime source of fun in owning a Discovery motor home. You, each of you, mean a great deal to us.

About Our Members

by *Nina Soltwedel*

In case you forgot, the September rally will be our first reunion rally. So far, we've only had one former member register – **Leo and Jackie Everitt** – but we hope more will be jumping in. **Linda and Jerry Molzahn** had hoped to be there, but found a date conflict. So, they joined us in Colorado Springs!

Dean and Nancy Miller have had their home in Nathrop, Colorado, on the market and as of this writing have a contingency contract (the new owners have to sell their current home first). So, things are still hanging fire with the Millers. They sold their original parcel of land in Boerne, Texas, which was ten miles out of town, and bought a new parcel which is closer ... three miles.

Paul and Dorothy Lambert just returned home from the 30-day shooting trip. They had a bad experience ... their refrigerator went belly-up and had to be replaced. However, as Paul says, with the mileage she had on her, they weren't surprised.

Neil and Marlene Elkins are currently in Alaska! They have been enjoying the trek so far. We heard from them July 17; they were in Dawson City, YT, and would be taking the ferry across the Yukon River on July 19 (today). They plan to see us in September.

That's about it for this issue, folks. Hope to see **you** in Chama in September!