



# THE MILEPOST

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



## President's Message

*by Joyce Wiechman*

Greetings, Pioneers! I hope you brought the new year in in fine fashion and have all your resolutions well documented. We hit the new year running with the mini-rally held here at our home in Mesa on January 4. The group included: Chuck and Vie Brock, Neil and Marlene Elkins, Bob and Sandy Greenwell, Carl and Marge Ropp, Bob and Nina Soltwedel, and Jerry and me. We had a great time visiting, and a barrel of laughs. This may turn into an annual event, so keep your schedule open.



President Joyce

The framework has been laid and an invitation sent via email for the opening 2006 rally. It will be at Santa Fe Skies RV Resort in Santa Fe, NM May 4-7, 2006. If you did not receive your invitation, please let me know.

I thank Neil for his efforts in getting the rally dates and locations planned for the new year. The other rallies will be in Colorado, making them more centrally located for everyone. The days will fly by so quickly and before you know it we will be packing for Santa Fe and our summer activities.....but isn't it fun!

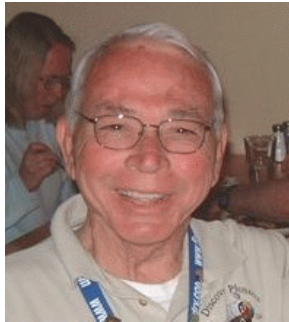
We were pleased to have Ross and Alice Peery stop in for a visit. The Peerys were longtime Pioneer members until they recently changed brands.

Enjoy the rest of your winter wherever you are, and I do hope one of those resolutions is to attend as many summer rallies as possible. God's blessings on your travels and I hope we see many of you in Santa Fe. ■

## Rallymaster's Report

*by Neil Elkins*

I hope that all of you are enjoying your winter, whether you're stuck in the cold somewhere, or enjoying some warm weather in your Discovery. Of course, some of us live in warmer climates, so don't have that as an excuse for enjoying an RV trip in our Discoverys! In any event, a few of us started our rally season early by enjoying Joyce and Jerry Wiechman's gracious hospitality in Mesa, AZ, in early January. This seems to be fast becoming a tradition!



Rallymaster Neil

We have an exciting summer lined up for all of us beginning in May. I have tried to schedule rallies in locations that will make it possible for all of our members to attend at least some of them without having to drive extraordinarily long distances. Now we need **you** to help the chapter Rallymaster, who will be elected at the July 2006 rally in Colorado Springs/Manitou Springs. We need to have your input and suggestions for rally sites and activities for 2007 so we can maximize members' attendance. Don and Nancy Gillam have already volunteered to host the June 2007 rally in South Dakota in the Black Hills. Let us know where you would like to go and what you would like to do for May, July and September.

As for the rest of this year, you have already

received the notice from Jerry and Joyce about the May rally in Santa Fe. I hope that you will make an effort to attend — you won't be sorry! The Santa Fe Skies RV Park is beautifully situated and has all the amenities needed to make our rally a success. Check them out at [www.santafeskiessrvpark.com/](http://www.santafeskiessrvpark.com/) and see for yourself. There are no nicer RV Park hosts than John and Karen Brown and their family. And the Blue Corn Café is a great place to sample northern New Mexico cuisine — definitely distinct from southern New Mexico and other southwestern Mexican cuisine — and they brew up some great beer as well! So, get your reservations and checks to Joyce and Jerry as soon as possible so you don't forget to go and have a good time!

Next on the schedule is a foray to southwestern Colorado, to the A&A Mesa Verde RV Park ([mesaverdecamping.com/](http://mesaverdecamping.com/)) located across US Highway 160 from Mesa Verde National Park between Mancos and Cortez, Colorado. Fifteen sites have been reserved for us for June 9, 10, and 11. We can increase that number if more people want to attend. There will be much more information provided later in the year. For now, just mark your calendars and plan to attend. Marlene and I will be hosting this rally and we plan to arrive on June 8 and leave on June 13, so if you want to come early and/or stay late, we'll be there and look forward to an extended visit with you. However, you will have to make your own arrangements for the early and/or late nights.

Jack and Gayelene Muckenthaler and Denny and

Lollie Kendrick are going to host our July rally at the Garden of the Gods Campground ([www.coloradocampground.com/](http://www.coloradocampground.com/)) between Colorado Springs and Manitou Springs, Colorado. This is an important rally, since it is the rally where we will hold our annual business meeting. I hope that all of you make a special effort to attend this rally. Jack and Denny have planned a great time for us, including a dinner at the Flying W Ranch. You will be receiving a formal notification for registration and payment for this great time, as well as more information on activities in the area. As you know, this is a beautiful part of Colorado with a lot of activities for us to enjoy. Please block out July 13, 14 and 15 (depart on July 16) so you can join the rest of your Pioneer friends at this important rally and business meeting. We need as many folks there as possible to take care of chapter business.

As you know, we don't have a rally in August, so our next scheduled outing will be in September. While no firm plans have been made (e.g., reservations,

etc.), I'm planning on arranging a rally in Antonito, Colorado, for September 15-17. An optional trip on the Cumbres-Toltec Narrow Gauge Railroad ([www.cumbrestoltec.com/](http://www.cumbrestoltec.com/)) will be available. This train provides an interesting view of the beautiful scenery of southern Colorado and northern New Mexico. Of course, much more information will be provided as time goes by. One thing I need is for someone to step up and volunteer to help with this September rally. If necessary, I will make the arrangements, but I need someone to oversee the process, since Marlene and I will be on our Alaska trip until early September. Please let me know if you will help with this one.

Marlene and I are really looking forward to seeing all of you in Santa Fe in May and in Mesa Verde in June. We will miss the July rally because, in addition to always looking forward to the Pioneers' rallies, we have long wanted to go to the Colorado Springs area for a visit. We'll just have to do it some other time.

Meanwhile, may God be with you as you travel. ■

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### Whatcha' Doin'?

*by Nina Soltwedel*

Your editor sent out an email in early January, asking everyone to let her know what you've been doing. So far, only Leo and Jackie have responded:

#### Leo and Jackie Everitt

"We took the D up to Charleston, SC, and parked in the driveway of a neighbor of our son (neighbor was gone for the weekend) and we used it as a base to enjoy Christmas with the kids.

"One week after the holidays ended, we went to a wedding of Jackie's cousin at NC State University in Raleigh, for four days of the Daly clan telling stories and drinking the town dry as only the Irish can. The hotel opened the bar early and closed it late when they saw what was coming down.

"Came home and Leo hired a physical trainer to get him into shape so he could go try out for one of those multi-million dollar pro football contracts. We're not sure whether this has any connection to the after-effects of the drinking, but it sure was coincidental timing: Leo lost one of his oldest friends the first week in January as well. One day his friend was working out on the track, next day he passed away from a blood clot in the little intestine.

"Makes it all the more obvious that one should make the most of every day that the Good Lord gives us. We'll leave here in two weeks, heading to the Southeast Region rally at Lazydays RallyPark, with a stopover along the way. We hope to see some of you there. Have a great new year!"

OK, that takes care of the Everitts, but what about

the rest of you? Well, I can tell you that Jack and Gayelene Muckenthaler are currently at Davis Moncthan AFC in Tucson, after having visited Yuma and Quartzsite. They leave for a time in New Zealand very soon. Bob and I had a brief get-together with them the day before they left The Foothills for the RV show in Quartzsite.

Bob and I drove up to Quartzsite the next day, and along the way we managed to chat with Linda Molzahn on the cell phone. She and Jerry were also in Quartzsite, but we didn't get a chance to see them. They were getting ready to do some four-wheeling in the Kofa Nature Preserve.

Ross and Alice Peery are currently in Yuma, and we've been with them several times. Coincidentally, right after we left Gold Canyon to come out here to Yuma, Ross and Alice arrived at Gold Canyon and were parked in our just-vacated space!

Carl and Marge Ropp are busy at Gold Canyon; Carl's been doing lots of great woodworking, and Marge has been doing basketry. You'll be in for a treat when you see the beautiful items she's been making.

Jerry and Joyce had a bit of a scare in mid-January; Jerry had chest pains one night, and the next day Joyce took him to the hospital. Jerry is now the proud owner of a stent as a result of a mild heart attack. Joyce says he's doing well, taking short walks, and gradually getting back in shape. Keep Jerry and Joyce in your prayers!

Bob and I will leave here February 26, returning to Gold Canyon for another two months. I hope we see all of you in Santa Fe! Have a wonderful time, and safe travels. ■

## Photos from Mini-Rally at Wiechmans' Home in Mesa



Joyce, Nina, Sandy, Bob G, Marlene



Chuck, Marge, Carl, Bob S, Marlene, Jerry, Neil, Nina, Sandy, Bob G



Vie, Chuck, Jerry, Marlene, Sandy, Bob G, Bob S, Nina, Carl, Joyce



Jerry, Bob G, Chuck, Sandy, Nina, Bob S, Joyce, Marlene, Neil, Marge, Carl, Vie



Back row, left to right: Jerry, Vie, Bob G, Chuck, Neil, Bob S  
Front row, left to right: Carl, Joyce, Sandy, Marge, Marlene, Nina