

SOITC MINUTES  
APRIL 8, 2015  
OASIS RV RESORT  
Las Vegas, Nevada

President Everett Ellwitz made various announcements. It is the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the club this year. He thanked Hand and Reneen Salmans for their efforts to bring together this rally in Las Vegas. He thanked Nita Wolfe for handling registration. He thanked the rally sponsors: DRV, MORyde, FCIS, Rolling Retreats, RVsforLess, Sunshine RV, and Wheels RV. He expressed thanks for the raffle gift donations also.

The pledge of allegiance for the US and the anthem for Canada were presented. The membership recognized the veterans among the club members. Everett asked that we remember those members who no longer remain with us with a moment of silence and to remember those who could not make the rally due to family or health issues. The announcement was made that Rick Binns is in the hospital for significant eye surgery today and members present could offer their support.

SOITC is a social club with 270 members currently. There are 77 units in the Eastern division, 82 in the North Central division, 77 in the South Central Division, and 34 in the Western division. The club membership has increased by 78 new members since 8/1/14. The membership has decreased by 138 members who have opted to leave the club for personal reasons. President Ellwitz cited communication as one of the issues needing improvement by the leadership of the club.

Membership information will be available on Friday for members present to verify and/or amend their personal information.

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Hank Salmans at 1:26 pm. President Everett Ellwitz was given the floor to run the meeting.

At the 2014 national meeting, one of the issues discussed is the website. A committee chaired by Tom Ryan was formed to look at

eastern division rally in Virginia in September with information on the website.

Paul McClellan, newly elected north central director, recognized Cheri Strohofer for her service as past north central director. There is a north central division rally in late August in Michigan. The Indiana state rally is being planned for early June in Angola IN after Memorial Day. Information for these rallies is/will be available on the club website. Mr. McClellan also reported on the rally that was held last year in Delaware OH, which included a visit to the Ohio State Patrol Academy and the National Quarterhorse Congress.

Steve Peterson, western regional director, thanked Hank Salmans for his past service to this division. Since the western region has been involved in planning and managing this current rally, the plans for a regional rally will be on the website as they are developed.

Linda Webb, speaking for Bill Crawford who was not able to be present, stated that the regional rally will be Oct. 13-18 in Branson MO at the ABC campground. Members should send checks to Linda Webb at this time if they are planning on attending. The region is looking for a site for the 2017 international rally.

## OLD BUSINESS

The needs of the website upgrading came up for member discussion and for the report on financial impact of this work. President Ellwitz reported that the work would cost between \$6500 and \$7500 and is asking to allow the committee to find a vendor and make the changes – not to exceed \$8000. There was a discussion of the need or lack thereof for a webmaster. Information was shared that if the upgrading can be done so that it is easier, the Vice President of the club could manage the website. There was a motion made and seconded for the committee to spend up to \$8000 for the website upgrade. This motion was approved by the club membership present.

There was also a discussion concerning an SOITC placard to be placed on the rear of a unit to that club members could identify each other if encountering other DRV units while traveling. Dave Averill

suggested ways to improve the website for use by the membership. Some of the things considered (due to expressed desires of the membership) were: update on the format of the site, upgrading of the software (for use with ipads, nooks, and tablets, etc.) upgrade of the bulletin board, members only pages, secure back up system, quarterly testing, provision of links to other information, information on location of members home base, show and tell videos, recipes, and information on the regional divisions.

President Ellwitz read the secretary's report from the 2014 meeting. A motion was made to accept said report and motion was seconded. The membership voted to accept it.

Dave Brown read the treasurer's report ( a copy also provided for members). Mr. Brown discussed the different ways that the report was formatted for member comprehension. There was a motion to accept the report and it was seconded. The membership voted to accept the report. Mr. Brown indicated that there were funds available to be used for improving the website and stated that that discussion would be handled under Old Business.

The next order of business was the election of secretary as the term of ken Zimmerman is coming to a close. President Ellwitz opened the floor for nominations. Jody Codwise was nominated for secretary and indicated her willingness to serve. There were no other nominations. A motion was made and seconded to place her in office and it was seconded. The motion was accepted by the membership present.

The meeting was tabled at 1;59 for regional meetings to occur. Meeting was reconvened at 2:28 pm. Regional Directors spoke about activities occurring within their regions.

Dale Averill, eastern regional director, talked about the plans for the 2016 rally in the northeast. Plans had been for the rally to be in October in York PA. However, other activities and concerns of members brought about a discussion of moving the rally back to June and the location to Gettysburg PA. Mr. Averill will investigate information for campground availability and dates in order to update the information on the SOITC website for member information. There

is also an indication from Mr. Averill that he might be able to give a quote for work to be done through him concerning badges. He was given the ok to make his presentation to the club. There was also a discussion made concerning the future of name badges and format/logo to be use. It was suggested that members could choose to use the ladder or sticker system currently available or to make a choice to use only a name badge, which indicates geographical information of the member.

President Ellwitz indicated that the club needs to look for a new moderator for the website to replace Tom Brockman, who informed the club that he is ready for his term to close.

A motion was made and seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 3:08 pm. The motion was accepted by vote of membership and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Jody Codwise  
Secretary SOITC