



Volume 41 Issue 4 October

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A big shout out to all my fellow HTC members, and I hope this newsletter finds you all well. We had a great annual rally at the Hart Ranch in South Dakota. What a great job Mark and Karen Neurohr did in organizing and hosting the rally as our wagon masters with the help of Evelyn Albertson and Bonnie Pearson. It was our 41st annual rally and business meeting, and those of you who missed it, surely missed a great rally.

The opening ceremony started at 1PM on Sept. 3rd at the Hart Ranch and was followed all week long with the wheelchair races, horse races hosted by Mike and Kelly Hodge, the silent auction hosted by Evelyn Albertson, Chinese auction hosted by Genevieve White, and Oktoberfest with a great band, and beer garden. The club funded a Saturday night meal of pot roast for everyone, and the Hart Ranch paid for a great band for dancing. Sharon Bonney and I cut a mean rug, and everyone cleared the dance floor for us. I don't think they wanted to get run over by us.

We did get some club business accomplished, so it wasn't all fun and games. The Saturday Executive Board meeting took place at 10:30 AM in a real nice conference room that the Hart Ranch let us use at no cost to the club. We proposed a couple of bylaw changes, and as per our bylaws, every member will have an opportunity to vote on the changes. So watch for your ballot electronically or paper ballot. Each member will have one vote, and for the bylaw change to pass, it requires a 2/3 yes vote from all votes received back to the vice president. All votes must be postmarked in 30 days if electronic or within 40 days if a paper ballot. Return all ballots to the vice president, Sharon Bonney, who will tally the results and notify the president, and the results will be published in our newsletter. If you don't have a copy of our bylaws, they are on our website, or you can request a hard copy from me.

At the regular business meeting on Saturday at 1PM, there was a discussion about raising the dues. A motion was made by Dan Spotts to raise the annual dues to \$10 for continuing members, and \$15 for new members. The motion received a second, and the motion passed unanimously. Among other business were two changes in the east when CH Miller and Merle Young resigned as directors, and Steve Slattery and Bill Gratzke were nominated and elected by the membership.

The Hart Ranch is a beautiful venue of 195 acres about 20 minutes southwest of Rapid City with 400 RV sites and 80 cabins. A couple of the cabins were accessible, not really ADA compliant, but they are working on that. Carroll, Jenni and I stayed in one of the newer cabins and it was very nice. We wanted to stay at the ranch to avoid that 20 minute drive in the morning and again at night. We did not have room service or a cleaning lady, but we all must make sacrifices I guess ha ha.

I want to thank Evelyn Albertson for stepping up as our minute taker in both the executive board meeting and the general business meeting. Our elected secretary, Jane Crawford, as some of you know fell out of her wheelchair and broke her leg, so she and Ed could not make the trip to the rally. So thank you Evelyn. I want also to thank Ed Pearson and Brad Bartz for helping with the photography. I am hoping Brad could put a few photos in this issue of the newsletter until I can get the photos to Teresa for future issues.

We had 37 members at the rally with 26 members staying in RVs, 11 members staying in cabins, and representing 13 states. Those members attending the rally were: Mark & Karen Neurohr, Roland, Carroll, and Jenni Winters, Don & Sharon Bonney, Brad and Teresa Bartz, Ed and Bonnie Pearson, Merle Young, Evelyn Albertson, Genevieve White, Mike and Kelly Hodge, Ron and Toxey McClain, Mike and Carlin Drew, Bill and Barbara Gratzke, Clark Bostwick, Carol Durocher, Rick Robinson, Jessie and Will Robinson. We welcomed 10 new members that were attending a rally for the first time: Foy Baker, Steve and Bonnie Slattery, Dan and Loretta Spotts, Doris Bell, Virginia Peters and her driver Jonathon, and members signing up at the rally, Jack and Joanne Lindhorst, (Will's mom and dad.)

Thanks to everyone for attending because if it were not for you, there would be no Handicapped Travel Club. A big thank you to all of you guys that helped to make this a great rally. See all of you next September in New York at the Turning Stone RV Park and thanks to Ron and Toxey McClain for stepping up to be our wagon masters next year. I will close for now so Teresa Bartz doesn't say I wrote too much. Be good to yourselves and be good to each other. Roland

Mark and Karen Neurohr 2014 wagon master and co-master Evelyn Albertson and Bonnie Pearson

The 2014 rally was held at Hart Ranch in Rapid City South Dakota. We had 37 people attending with 6 new members and for 2 members this was their first rally. It is always nice to see old friends and meet new ones.

Club president Roland Winters opened the rally which started Wednesday, September 3rd. Bill Gratz led us in the pledge of allegiance, Bonnie Pearson led us in the national anthem and Mike Hodge led us in the invocation. A silent auction was started by Karen Neurohr and Foy Baker. Genevieve White was in charge of the Chinese auction. We then had a flag ceremony. After the opening ceremony we had pizza delivered. I think everyone was hungry after the drive to South Dakota because the pizzas disappeared in no time.

For the first time, Bonnie Pearson distributed a sheet of paper with a number of songs for everyone to follow and led a sing-a-long. That was fun and a success. Sounds like Bonnie has a job at the future rallies.

The poker run started, led by Jennifer Winters. Evelyn Albertson sold the Chinese auction tickets, and Bill Gratz sold the 50-50 tickets.

Thursday was a free day for everyone to see the sights or just relax. Friday was a great day starting with the wheelchair races, which was run by Mike Drew. Sharon Bonnie won the women's and guess who won the men's-Clark Bostwick. We are coming for you next year so you better watch out. Next was the horse race led by Kelly Hodge. Kelly and Mike Hodge started the horse race a few years ago and it has been a big hit at all the rallies since. We all laugh and have so much fun. After the horse racing came bingo, with Jennifer Winters calling the numbers. There were four winners. Congratulations to Genevieve White, Bonnie Pearson, Loretta Spotts and Kelly Hodge winning the blackout. Friday evening at seven o'clock Hart Ranch provided music for everyone in the campground. It was enjoyed by all with good music and dancing. Saturday we had our annual board meeting, followed by our annual business meeting. The Chinese and silent auction ended. The 50-50 winner was announced- congratulations to Loretta Spotts. The poker run winner was announced by Merle Young and congratulations to Mike Drew.

Ron McClain announced he would be our next wagon master and the 2015 rally. At five o'clock we had our catered pot roast dinner courtesy of HTC.

To finish out the evening we all enjoyed polka music and dancing. There was a beer tent for tasting German beer and some wine all provided by Hart Ranch.

I need to thank Evelyn Albertson and Bonnie Pearson for helping me put together this rally, oh yea, and my wife Karen for her help and putting up with me through all of this. Also to Bill Gratzke for leading us in the pledge of allegiance and for selling the 50-50 tickets.

To Bonnie Pearson for leading us in the national anthem and sing along.

To Mike Hodge for the invocation. For Mike and Kelly for the horse racing.

For Karen Neurohr who did the silent auction and Foy Baker who helped Karen.

To Genevieve White for doing the Chinese auction.

To Evelyn Albertson for making coffee and so many other things she did.

For Ron McClain, Brad Bartz and Bonnie Pearson for going for the doughnuts.

To Mike Drew for helping with the wheelchair races.

To Jennifer Winters for leading the bingo.

To Merle Young and Jennifer Winters for the poker run.

And to anyone else I may have missed who may have helped, and especially for all that came to make this rally a success.

Hart Ranch is fantastic place and their staff was very accommodating in all our needs. The best part was that all members were able to stay at Hart Ranch in RV sites or accessible cabins. The Chuck Wagon restaurant catered an excellent pot roast meal at the pavilion we were using. A special thank you to Bobbie and all staff at Hart Ranch for making this rally go as smooth as it did.

Thank you all, love to all

Mark and Karen Neurohr



Motorized chairs are allowed
but this is a bit much...

Mini- Rally

July 9, 10, 11, and leave on the 12, 2015

Potluck on July 10, 2015



Contact Teresa Bartz or Don Bonney with questions. Make your own reservations. The rally will be held at Seven Feathers in Oregon. It 99 miles over the California border.

Web site is sevenfeathers.com I have 5 slots reversed. I can add more. Make your reservations early.

2015 Rally

I would like to tell you about the reason we changed the site from Monson, Mass to The Villages at Turning Stone RV Park in Verona, New York. Toxey and I had to take our time getting home from Rapid City because ours was being "remodeled". We were on I-90 and were passing by the 2nd choice for our next rally. We had never visited it so we stopped. It looked like a much better spot than we had thought. The main reason was much better accessibility. The roads are paved and all areas are wheelchair accessible. It also has some of the pluses of Monson including our own reserved loop with a fire ring in the center of the loop. Sites are tree lined and has the feel and look of State Park or Corp of Engineer park. We think you are going to like it. Toxey even guarantees it! We hope to have as much fun as we did at Hart Ranch.

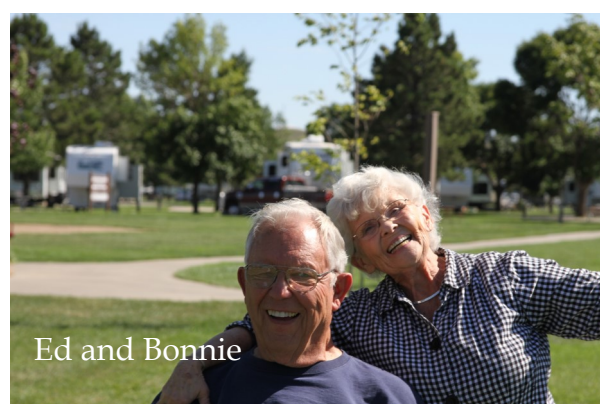
September 14-18, 2015 (Monday thru Friday at turningstone.com/hotels/the-villages-rv Ron McClain

The bylaws vote was come to a head. Vote one member per ballot.

Send ballots to Sharon Bonney

New Members

1887	Benoit	Peter	826 St Roch	New Orleans	LA	70117
1888	Bell	Doris	PO Box 1244	Paonia	CO	81428-1244
1889	Lindhorst	Jack & Joann	1627 2nd St	Kirkland	WA	98033





Ron and Toxey



Mike and Kelly



Dan and Loretta



Doris Bell and Rick Robinson



Don and Sharon



Bill and Barbara



Evelyn Albertson and Merle Young



Brad and Teresa



Virginia and driver Jonathon



Will and Jesse

Mad Max, your ride is here

The KiraVan has cockpit built for a plane, souped-up surveillance.

By WILLIAM D'URSO
STAFF WRITER



COURTESY OF KIRAVAN

The KiraVan doesn't need traditional shocks.

For 20 years, Bran Ferren has imagined his ideal off-road vehicle.

It would need Kevlar tires, a beast of a six-cylinder turbo diesel engine and a rugged on-highway gross weight of 51,700 pounds.

Now, Ferren, 61, says that vehicle is 80 percent complete at his Glendale company, Applied Minds. In six months, he hopes to begin test driving it.

Behold, the KiraVan.

The name comes from his daughter, Kira. Her birth five years ago gave the former Disney Imagineer the push he needed to start designing a vehicle his family could safely travel in, and the inspiration for its name.

"We don't have a customer. We're our own customer for it," Ferren said. "We make the investment in research and development to get it to the point of demonstration where customers can understand and appreciate the value."

The KiraVan has a dizzying array of features:

- A custom-built, computer-controlled nitrogen over-oil suspension system, which does away with conventional springs and shock absorbers.

- A cockpit that looks like it belongs in a passenger airliner. It has eleven display screens (six are touch-sensitive).

- A souped-up surveillance system. Equipped with high definition video cameras, microwave and laser radars and ultrasonic range-finders, the KiraVan is designed to operate in remote and austere conditions.

The KiraVan will climb at 45 degrees angle and travel

for three weeks, or 2,000 miles, without a pit stop.

And, of course, it has a full bathroom, a kitchen and sleeping space for three adults.

Top speed, Ferren said, will be 70 mph. He says it will get 12 miles to the gallon.

Ferren said the van wasn't necessarily designed for sale, though he'd be happy to build a giant custom vehicle for anyone willing to pay. The company already has a proven track record with clients like Northrop Grumman Corp., Lockheed Martin and General Motors.

Ferren is unsure how much he has spent on the KiraVan so far. But he's not too worried about the cost.

"This is a research project, and that research project yields a bunch of technologies that we can license to automotive and technology companies that can help them build their product," he said. "We're not marketing it to anyone. What we market as a company is the ability to invent and design things."

Car makers worldwide have benefited from increased sales in armored and bullet-proof vehicles. That niche market has grown to \$4.4 billion in annual sales, Bloomberg reported in May.

"It's almost like a Mercedes Unimog all-terrain truck got together with an Airstream trailer and the KiraVan was the love child that came out," said Mark Takahashi, the automotive editor for Edmunds.com.

Missing from individual picture:s

Foy Baker

Genevieve White

Steve and Bonnie Slattery

Jack and Joanne Lindhorst

Article dropped off by Sue

Largest Mobility Dealer In The Southwest

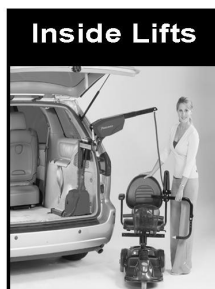
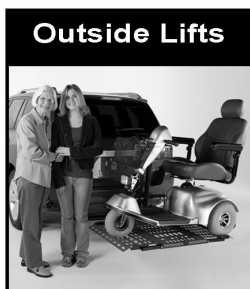
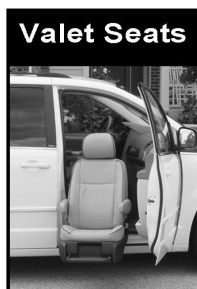


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Lunch Bunch



The Mesa Lunch Bunch Chapter had their once a month get together and while it was a small group we all enjoyed a good meal and great company at the Iron Works in Glendale. This is one of our favorite places to eat because of the great people there. They give us our private room. We were all saddened because it was our first get together since Dottie's death. We still reserved Dottie and Larry a seat at our table. Come and have lunch with us when you are in the area.

Roland Winter

Teresa and Brad Bartz

19827 NE 189 St

Woodinville, WA 98077

