

I-OCTA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING, APRIL 25, 2009, HAGERMAN, IDAHO

1. **Call to Order:** 10:00 am by Doug Jenson, President (Idaho Falls) at the Snake River Grill Hagerman, Idaho. Doug asked everyone to introduce themselves; the 15 in attendance were: I-OCTA President, Doug Jenson (Idaho Falls); Lyle Lambert, Eastern VP (Pocatello); Jerry Eichhorst, Western VP & Web Master (Boise); Bill Wilson, Treasurer (Boise); Kay Coffman, Secretary (Boise); James McGill, Preservation Officer (Nampa); Board of Directors, Fred Dykes (Pocatello), Peg Cristobal, BOD & Historian (Filer), Dell Mangum (Blackfoot). Also: Patti McGill (Nampa), Carol Shobe (Meridian), Mary Alice Wilson (Boise), Worth Montgomery (Nampa), Suzi Pengilly (Boise) and Craig Holmquist (Whidbey Island, WA).

2. **Minutes of Previous Meeting:** Doug emailed the minutes to be read prior to the meeting. Motion by Jerry to accept the minutes as is, 2nd by Bill and carried.

3. **Reports:**

A. **Treasurer:** Bill provided copies of the treasurer's reports for April 25 and March 21, 2009, a copy of the receipt for the purchase of a duplex printer, and the membership list. Bill read the treasurer's report which shows a checking account balance of \$5,819.29 and CD balance of \$2,399.03. Bill also handed out the membership list showing 172 currently paid members with 39 new this fiscal year (indicated by an "N" after the due date), many of the new ones brought in by Jim, plus 12 Trail Dust only subscriptions (8 memberships expired since the last report; 3 of those 8 were new). Motion by Dell to accept the treasurer's report as is, 2nd by Lyle and carried. There was a discussion about financial institutions. Mary Alice made a motion to change I-OCTA's financial structure from Home Federal to Idaho Central Credit Union, 2nd by Peg, and carried; to be implemented by Bill.

B. **Website:** Jerry reported that the cost of the web site (www.idahoocta.org) has raised one dollar to \$12.95 per month.

C. **Preservation – City of Rocks sagebrush:** Jerry reported that Wallace Keck would like to remove sagebrush from the trail, but the consensus after discussion was that the ruts would be destroyed by removal of the sagebrush and erosion. Carsonite markers are on the trail route and the ruts are still visible, plus vegetation helps show the route also, so debrushing the trail is not appropriate at the City of Rocks. There was a discussion on marker colors and Suzi said she will check with the NPS to see if they have a policy on marker colors.

D. **MET Training:** Dell is in contact with Dave Welch and no training is set up at this time; although the OCTA web site has the MET manual. BLM is interested in training also. Jim brought back the maps and Meacham book from when he handled mapping.

E. **Dean Shaw & Marking:** Dell read an email from Dean Shaw, BLM, that describes their Trail mapping and Trail condition inventory project and that they seek I-OCTA's knowledge, experience and expertise.

4. Old Business:

A. Scenic Byways: Jerry passed out copies of the Main Oregon Trail Scenic Back Country Byway application that he will submit to the Idaho Department of Transportation on Monday for approval. There is a feature on PBS's *Outdoor Idaho* on the Byway. A tremendous amount of work is involved in developing a Byway and the application; there are other potential Byway's to be developed, which is a two-year process. Jerry also told that the Blacks Creek rest area, west end of the route, will add route information to the display cases that are already there. The center of the route, at Highway 20 where the Rattlesnake Station pull-out is, is proposed for a full map of the route; the location of the sign at the eastern end of the route at Glenn's Ferry will be determined later.

B. Trail Dust & New Printer: Bill bought a new printer, per BOD approval, for printing the hard-copies of the *Trail Dust* newsletter; Bill reported that it prints duplex (front and back) and prints very fast. It was stated that the recent *Trail Dust* was sent out by 500 emails (by Jerry) and 120 hard-copies (by Bill and Mary Alice) with RSVP's requested on who wants to continue getting hard-copies, with 35 replies received. The consensus is that *Trail Dust* is included with Chapter membership; *Trail Dust* only is \$10.00 per year and *Trail Dust* by email only is free. Information about upcoming meetings will be announced in the *Trail Dust* which will be published five times a year and posted on the web site, besides email and hard-copy distribution; hard-copies will be mailed upon request only, to reduce labor and cost.

C. Other Old Business: Jim asked that we reconsider offering college credits to teachers and students; Suzi stated that the new IHS Education Coordinator isn't interested in doing that. Jim also stated that Travis is working on Oregon-California Trail classroom material for schools.

5. New Business:

A. Appointments:

1. Webmaster: Jerry Eichhorn will continue as Webmaster for I-OCTA's web site.

2. Preservation Officer: Jim requested and was released from I-OCTA's Preservation Officer position and Dell Mangum has assumed the office. Jim received two CD's of filming at the Convention at Nampa and will mail them to Doug.

3. Historian: Peg Cristobal will continue as Historian. She received a letter from James Henderson who is documenting trail inscriptions; Jerry has a friend at the Twin Falls sugar factory and he will see if he can get access to the trail there.

4. Trail Dust Editor: Jim requested and was released from I-OCTA's *Trail Dust* Editor position and Amy Ballard has assumed the role.

B. Virtual Trails Project: Jerry will head up I-OCTA's contribution to National's Virtual Trails Project and will be assisted by Bill, Amy and Suzi.

C. Schedule:

1. June 20 – City of Rocks: Doug said that Stan Lloyd contacted him about a geology tour. Jerry will contact Wally Keck to lead a one-day tour of the trail, without the geology part, and then contact I-OCTA Officers about it.

2. July 18 – Lander Road: Doug will do a hike of the Wyoming side. Fred provided a handout.

3. August 19-22 – National Convention, Loveland CO: Five I-OCTA members indicated intention in attending the Convention

4. September – North Alternate: Jim said that Canyon County Historical Society is interested in doing a bus tour with Jerry, out of Hagerman. Jerry will get back to Jim with a date in September, either the 12th, 19th, or 27th. Jim will make arrangements for the bus and will pick up Jerry on the way. Jim is repeating all the convention tours, plus some other requested tours; he will let I-OCTA know about the tours to include them in the *Trail Dust*.

5. October 10 – Board & Membership Meetings, Jerome Public Library: The meeting will be at the Library or somewhere in Jerome. Jerry discussed indentifying volunteer opportunities in the different Chapters and notifying National to provide more publicity. Suzi announced her engagement to Craig Holmquist, NPS, Whidbey Island.

6. Closing the Meeting: At 12:08 pm, Jerry moved to adjourn, 2nd by Bill and carried with the meeting adjourned by Doug. Lunch was served in the room.

Following lunch, Suzi Pengilly gave an interesting presentation on a 1996 archeological excavation at Ft. Hall.