

STEERING COMMITTEE MINUTES



The RIA Steering Committee was a small gathering at Ross Kosten's on Sunday, May 13. Ross was the Head Steerer. Also present were Carl Bickel, Ginger Story, Valerie Summer, Bill Sutkus, and Doug Welch.

In the absence of the treasurer, there was no financial report. We had no reason not to assume that we should still have \$300 or so in the bank. It was decided to have the next steering committee meeting at the treasurer's present place of residence.

Valerie Summer will contact John and Liz Scarlett about making arrangements for the June general meeting.

For this newsletter, it was decided to have members respond to a question about cooperative work groups (labor exchange). We went through the membership list and each person present agreed to contact certain members and put the question to them.

We also discussed some kind of follow-up to David Katz's article in the last newsletter about his body's encounter with his tractor's power take-off mechanism. Not that we were hoping to have someone match that feat, but we were thinking of an article on what to do in case of an accident (particularly, too, since more of us are working together in work groups) or maybe some sort of first aid or CPR class. Anybody interested?

Is everybody in a work group who wants to be? Hopefully no one feels left out. Please contact any of the folks at this steering committee meeting if you wish to become involved. Keep in mind that the present work group arrangements are not the only ways of organizing it. If you have another idea, let forth with it.

There was much discussion of making ourselves known to local real estate agents, Cooperative Extension folks, chambers of commerce, etc. so that new homesteaders to the area can be made aware of the RIA (see separate article in this issue). In discussing what we might have to offer to new homesteaders, we talked again of expanding (updating) our new membership directory. Any ideas about that?

We talked about the film series and about the book discussions. Both activities are open to suggestions, wide participation, etc. Re: either event, contact Valerie Summer.

The next steering committee meeting is scheduled for Sunday, August 12, 7:30 P.M. at Tom and Jane Plastino's, who will be responsible for steering the meeting. Once again, there are no specially selected steering committee members. The committee is made up of whoever comes and everyone is welcome. Approximately a week before the meeting, we will use the telephone tree to notify everyone. Has the telephone tree been working satisfactorily? The initiator of the phone tree should probably check with folks at the end of the line to see if the message has been passed along.

-- Bill Sutkus