

DEAR FRIENDS,

THANKS FOR THE ENCOURAGEMENT, SAGE ADVICE, AND GOOD SUGGESTIONS YOU TOOK TIME TO SHARE WITH ME. SUCH ENTHUSIASM AND SUPPORT IS A SOURCE OF INSPIRATION!

WE HAD A VERY PRODUCTIVE MEETING AT MY DAUGHTER'S APARTMENT IN AUSTIN, TEXAS, OCCASSIONED BY JAY WILBUR'S XMAS VISIT TO HIS PARENTS, WHO LIVE NEAR AUSTIN. WE WERE ALSO JOINED BY FELLOW MEMBERS BOB KENISTON (LIKE ME, FROM HOUSTON), AND JOHN BURNS FROM JEFFERSON, TEXAS. WITH FOUR ARCH ENTHUSIASTS UNDER ONE ROOF, YOU CAN BET THAT SOCIETY BUSINESS WAS NOT THE ONLY TOPIC OF CONVERSATION.

THE MAIN PURPOSE OF THE MEETING WAS TO INITIATE THE INCORPORATION OF THE SOCIETY AS A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION. JAY DID A FINE JOB OF RESEARCHING THE PROCEDURE AND DRAFTING A SET OF BYLAWS. WE ENCOURAGED HIM TO PROCEED AND INCORPORATE THE SOCIETY IN THE STATE OF COLORADO AS THAT STATE DOES NOT IMPOSE AN ONEROUS FILING FEE AND MOREOVER HOSTS SEVERAL SOCIETY MEMBERS (INCLUDING JAY). WE ALL AGREED THAT THE BYLAWS DRAFTED BY JAY WERE SUITABLE FOR NOW BUT MIGHT BE AMENDED IN THE FUTURE. I AM ENCLOSING A COPY OF THEM FOR YOUR REVIEW.

WE NOW HAVE A NAME: THE NATURAL ARCH AND BRIDGE SOCIETY. NOT FANCY, BUT CLEARLY SIGNALING WHO WE ARE. ALL OF US, AND MOST OF YOU, PREFERRED A SERIOUS NAME LIKE THE ONE WE SELECTED. I HOPE YOU APPROVE.

BESIDES JAY AND MYSELF, THREE OTHER MEMBERS HAVE VOLUNTEERED TO SERVE AS THE FIRST DIRECTORS; TERRY CAIN (NB), ROBERT MOORE (AZ) AND JOE ROCKEY (IL). OUR THANKS TO THESE MEMBERS FOR AGREEING TO SHARE THE BURDEN AND GLORY FOR OVERSEEING THE INITIAL GROWTH OF OUR SOCIETY.

AS FOR DUES, WE ALL SPOKE AS ONE IN SUPPORT OF ESTABLISHING A NOMINAL MEMBERSHIP FEE OF \$1, MAINLY TO IDENTIFY THOSE WHO WISH TO MAINTAIN THEIR MEMBERSHIP. UNDOUBTEDLY SOME MAY WISH TO CONTRIBUTE MORE IN SUPPORT OF SPAN, AND JAY WOULD CERTAINLY APPRECIATE THAT. BUT, WE SHALL AWAIT INCORPORATION AND THE DECISION OF THE BOARD BEFORE ESTABLISHING DUES, AND A FUTURE ISSUE OF SPAN WILL ANNOUNCE THE DECISION.

THE FINAL ORDER OF BUSINESS WAS THE PLANNED FIRST MEETING AND FIELD TRIP. YOU WHO WROTE, AND THOSE OF US IN AUSTIN, ARGUED THAT WE SHOULD DEVOTE SEVERAL DAYS IN THE FIELD TO VISIT A NUMBER OF ARCHES, INCLUDING CLARA BERNHEIMER NB. I WILL PREPARE AN ARTICLE/QUESTIONNAIRE FOR THE APRIL NEWSLETTER TO PROVIDE MORE INFORMATION AND SOLICIT OPINIONS AND SUGGESTIONS.

HAPPY ARCH HUNTING, AND MAY ALL YOUR RAINBOWS TURN TO STONE!

SINCERELY YOURS,

Danny Horough

P.S. WRITE TO JAY WITH YOUR ARCH-HUNTING VACATION PLANS SO HE CAN PUBLISH THEM IN SPAN.