

# Discovery Express



April 2017

Discovery Owners Association, Inc. - Established 1998 - [www.discoveryowners.com](http://www.discoveryowners.com)

Volume 19, Number 2

## Discovery Express continues the DOAI foray into the digital era

This all-digital issue of *Discovery Express* continues the DOAI foray into the digital era of our club's quarterly newsletter – with a lot of photos for this edition! Please have a look and don't forget about the Quarterly Question contest as you enjoy the issue.

All of the 'usual suspects' are present in the newsletter for this Spring Edition 2017, including Member Care, finance reports for the group, descriptions of upcoming rallies including dates and locations, as well as updates from various DOAI chapters.

In addition to and in conjunction with this newsletter, members are reminded of the vast amount of information and resources available through the group website at <http://www.discoveryowners.com> which includes not only hyperlinks to this (and past) newsletters, but also resources such as the Yahoo eGroup, Discovery Friends, and a bevy of links to manufacturers and vendors ready to help out with nearly any aspect of RV ownership. Bob Cook does a masterful job of keeping everything up to date, and members are encouraged to check it out if they haven't in awhile.

DOAI's Board of Directors welcomes you to the spring season (with summer 'hot' on its heels), and to the new era of Discovery Express. We extend our best wishes to each of you for an enjoyable year of RVing. ❖

### Quarterly Question Contest

**In a survey commissioned by a national travel firm, what cuisine was named as the favorite of most Americans?**

**Choices:** (a) Chinese (b) Italian (c) Thai (d) American

**Read through this issue of Discovery Express, find the answer, and send in your entry. Find the complete rules on page 20. Contest is open now and closes at 11:59p.m. May 15, 2017. Good luck!**

Results of the January Quarterly Question:

A drawing was held of all correct responses to the January question. Congratulations go out to Gary and Andrea Kerner, winners of a year's membership in DOAI. President Grant's first name was Hiram, and the answer was found on page 7, paragraph 5, line 3. Why, then, was Grant referred to as Ulysses S.? It was an error committed by the congressman who nominated Mr. Grant for West Point. Because young Grant had been using his middle name for some time, when the politician filled out the paperwork, he listed "Ulysses" as the first name, and for some unknown reason, mistakenly inserted "S" in the slot for a middle name. Grant chose to not try to change it. ❖

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Ron Wacker

## President's report

Spring has sprung and summer is here. It is Time to take our Discoverys out of winterization and hit the open road, and time to visit more of our beautiful sights across the USA that are on our bucket lists. This is a good time to do it while fuel prices are still low.

It was great seeing so many friends at the Southeast Region Rally at Lazydays. The rally was another fantastic event. The food and entertainment were really good as usual. The seminars by Marshall and Gary are so educational and helpful; this is especially true when you have an issue with your coach and you can use the notebook and your notes from Camp Discovery to assist in diagnostics.

I heard from a little birdie that next year's rally will be one for the books with lots of new things for the ladies and some new seminars. But you didn't hear it from me! Mum is the word.

We have the National Rally coming up in October in Shawnee, Oklahoma. This rally is being hosted by the South Central Chapters and should be great fun. They are working hard to make this rally special for us all, so please be sure to attend and enjoy the neat things they have in store for you.

John Scarbrough is our newsletter editor. John has sold his Discovery and will no longer be a member of our club. However, John has very graciously agreed to continue as editor of our newsletter. I appreciate his hard work and continued effort.

Next year will be DOAI's 20th anniversary. There are special plans being worked on to make both the National Rally and the Southeast Region Rally very special and exciting. There will be more information forthcoming.

Donna and I wish you a healthy and safe summer, and may you have some great travels with your D. Thank You. ❖



Nina Soltwedel

## Member Care report

Please keep these members in your thoughts and prayers:

\* **Debby Norman**, whose husband, John, died last June.

\* **Becky Reynolds**, whose husband, Buddy, died February 27, after battling a brain tumor.

\* **Mary Cook**, dealing with an undiagnosed condition which limits what she is able to do.

Please contact Member Care Coordinator Nina Soltwedel at [nina.soltwedel@gmail.com](mailto:nina.soltwedel@gmail.com), or call 303-570-2736, when a DOAI member is ill or hospitalized, or when someone in a DOAI member's family has died. ❖

If you aren't sure what region is associated with your membership, you can find this information on page 8. The Vice President for each region is listed as well as a two-letter designation of the region. ❖

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DOAI is not responsible for opinions or facts presented by contributors to this newsletter.

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## ARE YOUR DUES DUE?

Find your membership renewal date at  
[www.discoveryowners.com/login.asp](http://www.discoveryowners.com/login.asp)



MaryAnn Crowell

## National Rally Master's report

**2017 National Rally:** Are you ready to “Round Up The D’s One More Time?” Well, the South Central Chapters are busy getting ready for you. The Heart of Oklahoma Expo Center in Shawnee, OK will be our rally home From October 9–14 (depart Oct. 15th) 2017.

Monday, October 9th will be a busy day of arrival, parking and getting settled in. We will gather Monday evening for a Welcome party with food, wine, and beer furnished by DOAI.

**Oklahoma City Tour:** Tuesday 10/10/17. The day begins with a scheduled bus tour highlighting Oklahoma City, with several stops at interesting locations. This will be a full day (7:30 AM to approximately 5:00 PM) of museums, monuments, lunch, and other places of interest.

DOAI member Jerry Brown will be on the bus, giving us all some facts that can come only from someone who has lived in the Oklahoma area for years.

The National Memorial and Museum is the 1st museum of the day. If you’ve never been inside the Oklahoma City National Memorial and Museum (or if it has been years since your last visit), it’s definitely worth a stop. Last year the Memorial went through a \$10-million dollar renovation, upgrading the museum with state-of-the-art technology, hands-on exhibits, and new displays of artifacts. Detailed information on the investigation into the tragedy that occurred at the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building as well as the trails of evidence that were left behind all are part of the new enhancements. The Outdoor Symbolic Memorial at the site honors the victims, survivors, rescuers, and all who were changed forever on April 19, 1995. A 40-foot glass overlook also has been added to the museum, creating a seamless connection between the museum itself and the memorial outside.

Next, a stop at the Oklahoma City Land Run Monument is a must for some great photo shoots. There were 7 total land runs that took place in Oklahoma, beginning with the initial and most famous Land Run of April 22, 1889. Lunch will be on your own in the Bricktown area.

Later in the day at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum, visitors will be welcomed by a statue of Buffalo Bill Cody. The statue has been located at the museum since 1977 and serves as a tribute both to the West and to the man who embodied the spirit and tradition of the American West. Visitors are encouraged to take time to experience the history and artistic beauty of America’s story as it unfolded across the West.

Wednesday 10/11/17: The second day of the rally will include opportunities for golf and time to explore this historic area of the US. Did you know that there are five Native American tribes that call this area home? Oklahoma City has so much to see and do.

The Museum of Art is home to the world’s largest collection of Dale Chihuly’s collection of glass sculptures, and includes a 55-foot Memorial Tower located in the museum’s atrium.

The 13,000 square foot Crystal Bridge Tropical Conservatory at the Myriad Botanical Gardens is 224 feet long and 70 feet in diameter, creating an enormous tunnel-shaped building housing a great variety of desert and tropical plantings.

Water taxi rides are available along the Bricktown Canal, with a round trip of about 40 minutes.

Shawnee, OK, also has some great places to visit; Oklahoma’s only Egyptian mummy is located in the Mabee-Gerrer Museum of Art.

The Pottawatomie County Museum and Pottawatomie Nation Cultural Heritage Center include a collection of Potawatomi Lifeways exhibit.

For those of you who enjoy a little gaming, you can visit the Grand Casino Hotel & Resort . . . just don’t forget to come back.

Lastly, Shawnee, OK, lays claim to being the “water-garden capital of Oklahoma”, thanks to the Pond Pro Shop, selling pond equipment, pottery, plants, furniture and (of course) fish.

**More on the Rally:** Thursday, Friday and Saturday are busy with seminars and vendors, great food and some very different entertainment.

We already have some vendors for the ladies signed up and ready to sell their wares and a possible fashion show too. Sorry guys, but your invited vendors are just being a little slow in filling out the forms and getting them into me . . .but I know that we will have some just for you.

On Thursday night we hope to have a comedian to entertain everyone.

On Friday we will host ventriloquist Gary Owen and his newest little helper, Darci Farmer. Darci appeared last year on the TV show the ‘Little Big Shots’ with Steve Harvey.

The Flying High Tinker Band will entertain us on Saturday evening. This 20-piece band was formed in 1987 on  
(Continued on next page...)

## National Rally Master's report, continued

the Tinker Air Force Base. The all-volunteer group plays all type of music from military ceremonies to the big-band sounds from the 1920's through to more current tunes from the 1990's. I'm sure that they will give us an evening of great music and dancing.

For those who may need or enjoy a golf cart, they are allowed on the grounds. If you have your own and would like to bring it, please do that. Golf cart rentals may be arranged on-site through Charley's Golf Carts in Tecumseh, OK. Interested parties may call 405-273-7901 for more information or to arrange a rental.

SO. . . mark you calendars for a rally full of fun, great entertainment, food, vendors and seminars. The registration form is online on the DOAI website. We look forward to seeing you in Shawnee!

If anyone has any other questions about the rally, please contact me at macrowell979@gmail.com or (254) 644-6225. ❖



John Baker

## Past President's report

Spring has sprung again and it is time for our members who live up North (and who didn't escape to the South!) to flush the pink stuff, air up the tires, etc. to get the D purring again. As most know, we had virtually no winter in Houston, so be ready to swat mosquitoes when you come our way! As always, several areas of our country have had various weather woes but Spring seems to be good for everyone. The new life that comes forward from the earth is absolutely refreshing to the spirit.

We hope that you are enjoying the electronic format and presentation of the Discovery Express. It is extremely efficient, gets to you earlier, and allows you to have it with you wherever you are and on whatever gadget you use.

Both the National Rally at Bath, NY and Camp Discovery at Lazydays, FL are now in the rearview mirrors and we are looking toward the 2017 National Rally, which will be returning to centrally-located Shawnee, OK. The facilities there just might be the best we have ever used and major improvements have been made on the campsites. There are lots of added sites, 50-amp power, water, and sewer at every non-handicap site! Some new and different day trips are in the offing and the catering manager who served such scrumptious meals for us in 2011 is still there to provide great and delicious food!

Travel safely over the Spring and Summer and plan to visit Shawnee, OK in the Fall. ❖



Dick Tracy

## Treasurer's Report

Our Discovery Owners Association remains in excellent financial condition. While our dues receipts were down just under \$1,000.00, we realized an overall decrease in our expenses of over \$4,000 . . . including a nearly \$2,000.00 reduction in newsletter expense and reductions in several other categories. Our net rally receipts increased by about \$3,200.00. Once again, we showed our generosity with donations to charity from our National Rally raffles and 50/50 drawings of \$2,159.00, which represents an increase of \$330.00 over last year. Please see the financial statements on pages 21 and 22 for more information. ❖



John Baker

## "I Want To Serve"

These are the words we need to hear you say. Members are asked to please begin now thinking about answering the call. In the Fall of 2017 we will elect all twelve of our officers, and you could (make that "should") be one of them!

DOAI has a huge staff payroll: ZERO. That is because we always have qualified, dedicated volunteers willing to take up the mantle and manage all aspects of this tremendous organization. While several existing officers are eligible for re-election, some have hit their term limit. We need to fill every position, so please raise your hand and let me know you want to run. The only offices defined by geography are the six regional VPs; members are eligible for only the region in which you live. Email me at bakerjohn@swbell.net or call me at (281) 814-0004 and I will be happy to answer questions and pencil you in as a candidate. ❖



Nina Soltwedel

## Secretary's report

**M**eetings: A two-session board meeting was held at the southeast region rally in Seffner, Fla., in January. I thank MaryAnn Crowell for providing the minutes of the two sessions:

### Thursday, January 26

Present were Marshall Godwin, Dick Tracy, Gary Osburn, Ron Wacker, Kerry Pinkerton, Jeff Daly, Bev Kaiser, and MaryAnn Crowell. Discussion items included a proposed budget for the 2018 Camp Discovery budget, which will be hosted by the Mason-Dixon Discoverys chapter. The budget was unanimously approved. A preliminary discussion was held regarding the 2018 national rally, which will commemorate 20 years of our club. Marshall Godwin has been in contact with Fleetwood, and more discussion will be held.

### Friday, January 27

The same board members met again, and the subject for discussion was to confirm the budget for the 2019 Camp Discovery, hoping to get Lazydays' approval. It was voted unanimously to proceed with proposed rate and discuss it with Lazydays.

Complete minutes are on the DOAI website at [www.discoveryowners.com/BOD.pdf](http://www.discoveryowners.com/BOD.pdf).

### February 2-3 and March 3

A two-session electronic board meeting was held in order to approve the appointment by Ron Wacker of the following new board members (all appointed via majority vote): Marshall Godwin, appointed Executive Vice President, replacing Jay Keneson, who resigned due to selling his coach; Keith Lindholm, appointed to fill the now-vacated office of Vice President for Development, due to Marshall Godwin's new appointment; and Kerry Pinkerton, appointed to fill out the remaining term of Southeast Region Vice President, because of Bob Deal's resignation due to health reasons.

In addition, the Discovery Express Editor has sold his coach but has volunteered to continue as editor, and will become an outside vendor. Via a single-session electronic board meeting, the board approved the following sectional changes to the DOAI Standing Rules, which amend the job description of the editor, remove the editor from the list of non-voting board directors, and add a subparagraph to allow the editor access to the DOAI website:

#### **STANDING RULE #9 - Discovery Express Newsletter - Revised 2-3-17**

A. Discovery Express is the official DOAI newsletter which shall be published electronically quarterly.

1. An outside vendor shall be designated as newsletter editor to receive input articles and information from members, chapters, officers, and coordinators. The outside newsletter editor shall edit all inputs for transmittal to the outside publisher.

2. The newsletter shall be published in color by an outside vendor approved by the DOAI Board of Directors. It shall be emailed to all members, as well as to non-DOAI members who have supplied an article for the current issue. A copy shall also be emailed to the DOAI Webmaster for posting on the DOAI website.

#### **STANDING RULE #14 - Website Access - Revised 3-3-17**

A. Regular members, as defined by Bylaws Article III, subparagraph A-2, shall have access to all pages and features of the DOAI website at all times it is online.

1. An exception to this will be that the newsletter editor, an outside vendor, shall have access to all pages and features of the DOAI website as part of his/her responsibilities. All other restrictions of this Standing Rule shall apply.

#### **STANDING RULE #15 - Duties of Non-Voting Directors - Revised 2-3-17**

The Board of Directors of DOAI include the Membership Coordinator, Webmaster, Merchandise Coordinator and Historian. The DOAI President appoints the individuals to serve in these capacities with approval of the DOAI Board of Directors. There is no term limit.

The complete DOAI Standing Rules are available online at <http://www.discoveryowners.com/doiastandingrules.pdf>.





Kerry Pinkerton

## Re-introducing Discovery Friends

Traveling in our D's...what a wonderful feeling of freedom to go whenever and wherever we please. But, stuff happens. Sometimes we need help with a mechanical problem, sometimes we need info about a new area, sometimes we want to ask a question to someone who has the same or similar coach, and sometimes we just need...a friend.

Discovery Friends consists of three online spreadsheets (lists) and maps of DOAI members who have volunteered to help fellow D owners in some way. More on that later.

Some members have a great shop and the mechanical abilities to help with your problem, some have a space to share for overnight parking, some can provide valuable local information about where to stay or who can fix your coach (and who can't), some can help transport your family to a motel, some just welcome fellow D owner's visit. The Discovery Friends List is only accessible by fellow DOAI members by logging on to our private website, which requires your unique login and password. In addition, we do not want you to give your address; only a close city (does not have to be the city or town in which you actually live).

Discovery Friends is an "opt-in" list so you will not be on the list unless you decide and join. However, Discovery Friends will only be effective if large numbers of our members join the list. The problem is that, while we have about 100 members signed up to date, we need more (200-300 total) in order for the list to be effective. We want to be clear: by signing up for Discovery Friends, you are NOT COMMITTING yourself to anything. **YOU decide what you have to offer, and if you're not available when you get a call, just say so.**

The Discovery Friends spreadsheet is available sorted by NAME, STATE and YEAR. After logging onto the DOAI website, copy and paste any of the links below into your browser and it will open up a Google Sheets spreadsheet in a new tab in your browser:

[https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1tiHFZe7dRvjiZMQMufIM56ZSi5n5d65XVWZBYdfkT\\_s/edit#gid=0/](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1tiHFZe7dRvjiZMQMufIM56ZSi5n5d65XVWZBYdfkT_s/edit#gid=0/)  
[https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1tiHFZe7dRvjiZMQMufIM56ZSi5n5d65XVWZBYdfkT\\_s/edit#gid=422774290/](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1tiHFZe7dRvjiZMQMufIM56ZSi5n5d65XVWZBYdfkT_s/edit#gid=422774290/)

[https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1tiHFZe7dRvjiZMQMufIM56ZSi5n5d65XVWZBYdfkT\\_s/edit#gid=1345437477/](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1tiHFZe7dRvjiZMQMufIM56ZSi5n5d65XVWZBYdfkT_s/edit#gid=1345437477/)

There are links at the top of each spreadsheet to switch between NAME, STATE or YEAR sorts and also tabs at the bottom of the spreadsheets to switch between the three.

The NAME sort is just that, a list of information sorted alphabetically by last name. Handy for finding the contact info for that neat guy you met at the rally last year. We've made some screen shots of the various tools with the privacy stuff changed.

1	NAME SORT	STATE SORT	YEAR SORT	MAP			
2	FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	CITY	STATE (XX)	CONTACT INFO (EMAIL REQUIRED)	COACH YYYY & MODEL	FACILITIES/RESOURCES
3	Ward	Cleaver	TVTown	OK	<a href="mailto:ward_june@cleaver.com">ward_june@cleaver.com</a> ; (877) 456-1234	2006 38D	Not much experience, but willing to help in any way that I can.
4	Jane	Doe	Anytown	MI	<a href="mailto:jane@doe.com">jane@doe.com</a> ; (800) 987-6543	2001 38T	Generally handy - mechanical & electrical. Temporary parking.
5	John	Doe	Someplace	AZ	<a href="mailto:john@doe.com">john@doe.com</a> ; (800) 867-5309	2016 40E	RV parking with 50/30/20 amp, water, & sewer. 50 miles from nowhere.

The STATE sort is sorted alphabetically by state. Say you're planning a trip through Alabama and Tennessee; you can look up friends along the way and contact them for campground recommendations. They might even have a hookup you can use.

1	NAME SORT	STATE SORT	YEAR SORT	MAP			
2	FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	CITY	STATE (XX)	CONTACT INFO (EMAIL REQUIRED)	COACH YYYY & MODEL	FACILITIES/RESOURCES
3	John	Doe	Someplace	AZ	<a href="mailto:john@doe.com">john@doe.com</a> ; (800) 867-5309	2016 40E	RV parking with 50/30/20 amp, water, & sewer. 50 miles from nowhere.
4	Jane	Doe	Anytown	MI	<a href="mailto:jane@doe.com">jane@doe.com</a> ; (800) 987-6543	2001 38T	Generally handy - mechanical & electrical. Temporary parking.
5	Max	Headroom	Mycity	NY	<a href="mailto:max@headroom.com">max@headroom.com</a> ; (123) 123-1234	2008 39J	Have tools and test equipment; 40+ years refrigeration, A/C experience

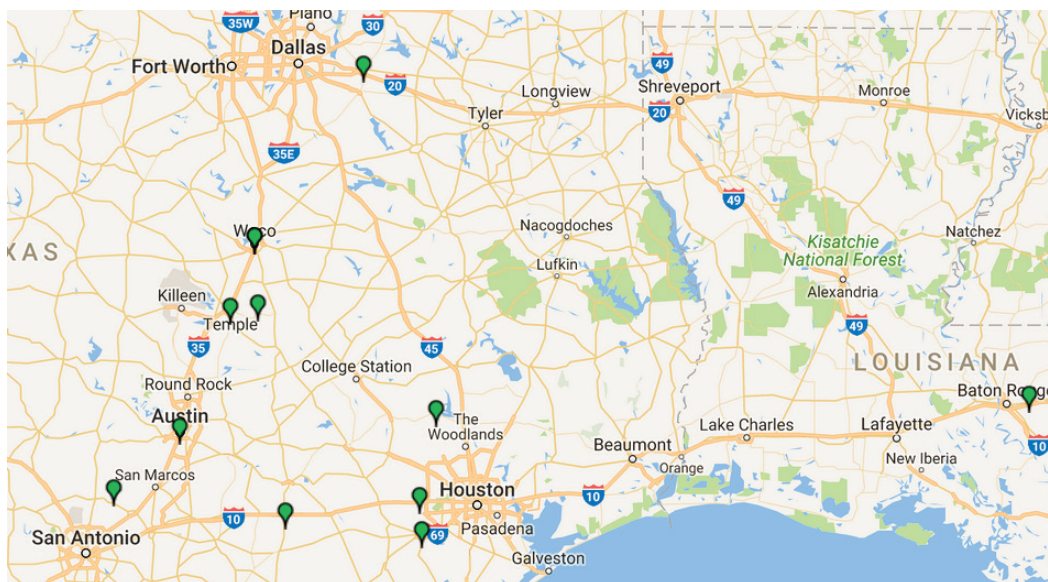
There is another reason for the STATE sort: breakdowns or mechanical issues. For example, you're on I65 Northbound out of Birmingham and you start to have a problem. You can look on the STATE sort and find Discovery Friends nearby. These folks can probably tell you RV shops that they know something about...good or bad; they might even know someone who can help or perhaps may be able to help you themselves. I've had mechanical problems twice while on the road, and it isn't fun to be alone. One time, a friend came and just waited with me while the wrecker came . . . but you may have small children or pets that need to be taken to a motel. A Discovery Friend might be able to help you out, or chase parts, or tools, or . . . whatever.

The MAP has a similar capability but in a graphic sense. You can look at the map and quickly see folks who may be near your route. For instance, I live in a small city called Harvest, Alabama. *(Continued on next page...)*

## Re-introducing Discovery Friends, continued

No one knows where it is just by name, but on the MAP, I show up just above Huntsville and about 10 miles from I65 and the Tennessee line.

The Discovery Friends Map is available [HERE \(www.mapalists.com/map/598469\)](http://www.mapalists.com/map/598469). Clicking this link opens up a Google Map showing the location of the Discovery Friend to the nearest town. The locations of Discovery Friends are shown on the map via a green pin. The exact location of the Discovery Friend is not shown on the map for security reasons. Clicking on the Friend Pin on the map brings up the name of the Discovery Friend. (If there is more than one Discovery Friend in that city, multiple pins will pop up and you can then click on each individual pin for each Friend's info.) You can zoom in and pan around easily. With this information, you can now use the Discovery Friends spreadsheet to determine the contact information and what resources may be available for assistance. This map is very handy when traveling, as most of us are not familiar with nearby towns in unfamiliar areas.



The final sort is COACH YEAR. The purpose of this sort is so that you can find someone with 'YOUR' coach and ask them questions that are specific to your year and model of coach. Our D's have several 'generations', but each year (and sometimes between years) things changed.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G
NAME SORT	STATE SORT	YEAR SORT	MAP			
FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	CITY	STATE (XX)	CONTACT INFO (EMAIL REQUIRED)	COACH YYYY & MODEL	FACILITIES/RESOURCES
Jane	Doe	Anytown	MI	<a href="mailto:jane@doe.com">jane@doe.com</a> ; (800) 987-6543	2001 38T	Generally handy - mechanical & electrical. Temporary parking.
Ward	Cleaver	TVTown	OK	<a href="mailto:ward_june@cleaver.com">ward_june@cleaver.com</a> ; (877) 456-1234	2006 38D	Not much experience, but willing to help in any way that I can.
Max	Headroom	Mycity	NY	<a href="mailto:max@headroom.com">max@headroom.com</a> ; (123) 123-1234	2008 39J	Have tools and test equipment; 40+ years refrigeration, A/C experience
John	Doe	Someplace	AZ	<a href="mailto:john@doe.com">john@doe.com</a> ; (800) 867-5309	2016 40E	RV parking with 50/30/20 amp, water, & sewer. 50 miles from nowhere.

Since Discovery Friends is in a spreadsheet file format, you can print or save the spreadsheet for use when you don't have an internet connection. At the left top of the spreadsheet, just below the Discovery Friends title, just click on File and then choose Save As (you will probably want to save as a spreadsheet or PDF) or choose Print. Just click "File" and then "Print" to print a copy of the spreadsheet or "File" and then "Save" (or "Download As") to save a copy to your computer.

Please use the Contact Information in the spreadsheet to contact the Discovery Friend. Most Discovery Friends have supplied a phone number in addition to their Email address.

NOTE: The map is only updated once a day from the spreadsheet, so if you add your entry to the spreadsheet it may take 24 hours to see your information on the map. Information you add to the spreadsheet, however, is available instantaneously. The Discovery Friends Map can also be saved or printed. While viewing the map, at the bottom of the page is a centered row of icons. The last two icons are the Save icon and the Print icon. If you click the Save icon, you can save the map to your computer; however, you will need the free Google Earth program to open this file on your computer. If you click the Print icon, you can print the map OR you can also save the map as a PDF. If

*(Continued on page 9...)*

## DOAI officers/chapters/committees/website

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#### South Central Region Vice President - SC (AR, LA, OK, TX)

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#### Southeast Region Vice President - SE

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#### Southwest Region Vice President - SW

(AZ, CA, HI, NV, NM)  
Position Vacant

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#### Louisiana Mudbugs (SC Region)

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#### Mason-Dixon Discoverys (SE Region)

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#### Ozarks Discovery (NC Region)

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#### Texas Discovery Road Runners (SC Region)

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Discovery Owners Association, Inc.,  
established in 1998 by and for owners  
of Discovery motor homes by  
Fleetwood RV, Inc., as a non-profit  
social organization.

## Are You Prepared For An Emergency With Your RV?

Check out Mark Polk's article on page 20 for a list of the top 3 emergency items all RV owners should have.



## Re-introducing Discovery Friends, continued

you save it as a PDF, clicking on it will open the map in your default PDF viewer program. Please note: in either case, you will lose the ability to click on the Map Pin to determine the name of the Discovery Friend. However, having this available without an Internet connection will still let you determine if there is a Discovery Friend near you.

Again - we don't need or want your address. All member information is behind the DOAI firewall so it will remain as private as possible. Yes, your phone number Italian and email is on the internet . . . but if anyone believes that bad guys can't find that information out in a few clicks, they are deluding themselves.

Want to become a Discovery Friend and add your name to the list? Just click [HERE](https://form.jotform.com/62668472682165) (<https://form.jotform.com/62668472682165>) to fill out a form and submit your information. After you fill out all your information, click the SUBMIT button. Your information will usually be added within one day.

We've been surprised at how many people don't 'do' the DOAI website. At the SE Regional Rally at Lazydays in Seffner, Florida last January, the majority of people we spoke with did not know how to log on and/or didn't know their DOAI number. We get it. Some folks just don't do the internet. (sometimes I wish that I didn't...I'd have so much more time ☺)

If you want to sign up but don't want to bother with trying to get into the site, you can send an email to me at [pinkertonk@yahoo.com](mailto:pinkertonk@yahoo.com) with the following information:

FIRST NAME

LAST NAME

NEAREST CITY

STATE

CONTACT INFO – Phone and Email (Required)

COACH YEAR AND MODEL ('03 39L for example)

RESOURCES: Tell me things that someone might need to know such as "Space for overnight parking", "can help with minor repairs", "stop by for a visit at my place or local Cracker Barrel", "help with local info", "emergency transportation", etc

We hope you'll become a Discovery Friend so you might someday help your friends in the DOAI community; we also hope you'll become a Discovery Friend so you'll be able to help yourself. ❖

### Praise For The January 2017 Rally

Dear All, Malise and I cannot express in words the wonderful time that we had at the Rally. We joined two RV Clubs while we were there. If you are a newbie to the Discovery Family, I suggest that you attend one of the Discovery Camps to learn more about your rig. Both Marshall and Gary did an outstanding job teaching, and the open roundtable owner's discussions helped all the newbies through the mine field that is owning an RV. There were so many folks who made the rally the SUCCESS that it was, that it probably isn't possible to thank everyone personally, as I'd probably forget someone.

Thank you, Thank you, Thank you, again !!!!!

Smooth Sailing down the Road,

Rick and Malise Delaune  
1999 Disco 37V  
2008 Sebring Hardtop Convertible  
(4 Up or 2 Down )

### More Than Just A Newsletter

Discover the many ways your membership pays off at [www.discoveryowners.com](http://www.discoveryowners.com), with links to:

Consolidated Rally Schedule  
Helpful Contacts for Discovery Owners  
Name Badge & Decal ordering information  
Classified sale ads for Discoverys &  
Discovery-related items  
Hints and Modifications  
Renewing your membership  
DOAI Membership Sponsors  
Application for DOAI Membership  
Forum and Bulletin Board  
National Rally news and registration form  
Regional Rally news and registration form  
Chapters and How to Join a Chapter  
Past issues of this newsletter  
**and so much more.**



Elaine Holley

## Membership Coordinator's report

Since our last issue of Discovery Express, please **“Welcome”** our new and reinstated members listed here. Please make them feel at home in DOAI, encourage them to get involved, and introduce them to our many chapters. It is still the best place to meet and make new friends. We continue to ask members to refer new members to DOAI. Remember, after three referrals, you will receive a one-year free membership. ❖

Donald/Delores Achin, Plainville MA  
 Nancy/Marc Albea, Katy TX  
 Mindy Andino, Lewisburg PA  
 Jeff/Kim Anstey, Glenwood IA  
 John/Sandy Arriola, Scotts Valley CA  
 Barbara Atchison, Brewster MN  
 Robert/Maria Bisceglia, Pittsburgh PA  
 Jonathan/Sue Ann Blincoe, Englewood FL  
 Lora Brinegar, Middletown OH  
 Angel Buxeda, Riverview FL  
 Richard/Susan Calvert, Coquille OR  
 Donald Carlson, Lanse PA  
 John/Meri Beth Chewuk, Chuluota FL  
 Mike/Ulli Craddock, Colorado Springs CO  
 Paul/Suellen Davis, West Monroe LA  
 David DePristo, Lithia FL  
 Robert/Carole DeRees, Tucson AZ  
 Richard/Karen Doyle, Troy IL  
 James/Bridget Durham, Hereford AZ  
 Raymond Duroy, Conroe TX  
 Phillip Eckert, Columbus GA  
 Harold Gardner Jr, Lakeland FL  
 Kenneth/Lisa George, Manahawkin NJ  
 Mark Gold, Ashland MA  
 Ned/Carol Hafner, Ponte Vedra FL

Barry/Kathleen Hansen, Santa Rosa CA  
 Dennis/Eleanor Haza, Manhattan KS  
 Tim/Pat Heard, Gueydan LA  
 John Hori, Katy TX  
 Kenneth/Neva Jardine, Salt Lake City UT  
 Lloyd/Judi Jerauld, Edinburg TX  
 Ron/Billie Johnson, Abernathy TX  
 Mike/Shannon Klei, Sunman IN  
 George Kumpf/Brian Blumhorst, Boerne TX  
 Jim/Charlene Lafond, Brentwood CA  
 Nick/Patti Lahni, Cincinnati OH  
 Doug/Theresa Lane, Sullivan IL  
 Robert Latka, Prospect KY  
 Cynthia Lohrke, Birmingham AL  
 Roger/Kathy Lynam, West Islip NY  
 James/Janet Lyons, Campbell NY  
 Sylvia/John Mclaughlin, Crestview FL  
 Karl/Tasha Mears, Denham Springs LA  
 Eric/Rebecca Middlebrook, Ormond Beach FL  
 Gregory Miller, Loxahatchee FL  
 Rich Moline, Cushing OK  
 Roy Nixon, Lutz FL  
 Bernard Odom, Roanoke Rapids NC  
 Ron Olsen, Colleyville TX  
 Jerry/Joyce Patten, Jacksonville FL

Randy/Karen Pelow, Palmdale CA  
 Randy Ramroop, Loganville GA  
 Paul/Marie Ricciardi, Perrysburg OH  
 William/Bonnie Rowan, College Station TX  
 Sean/Karen Ruckstool, Millsboro DE  
 Richard Schaeffer, Tucson AZ  
 Rick/Marlene Sharpe, Friendswood TX  
 Dave/Susan Shirley, Cropwell AL  
 Gary/Ivy Simpson, Killen AL  
 Craig/Susan Sincock, Fredericksburg VA  
 Joseph Skala, Parrish FL  
 Renell/Deborah Skeen, Chatham LA  
 Glen Smith, Petal MS  
 Frederick/Reba Snavelly, Joplin MO  
 Jake Speidel, Carmel CA  
 Robert/Doreen Stewart, Polk City FL  
 Dan/Sandy Swantek, Islamorada FL  
 Travis/Patty Terrell, Ceresco MI  
 Tom/Edna Van Wyk, Grand Rapids MI  
 Robert/Lori Villodas, Peekskill NY  
 Todd/Paula Willis, Center Point AL  
 William/Nancy Willits, Moyock NC  
 Reginald/Alfredia York Sr, Denver CO



Bob Cook

## DOAI EGroup Transitioning

From Your EGroup Transition Team

The DOAI eGroup, the email-based question/answer help system popular with many DOAI members, will be transitioning to a new provider in the near future. Currently, Yahoo Groups provides the underlying service for the eGroup and this will transition to Groups.io. An exact date is not yet available.

Approximately 15 DOAI eGroup members volunteered to test Groups.io and unanimously recommended the switch. Their recommendation was based on the superior user experience and additional features offered by Groups.io.

Both the web portal and the email actions themselves will be much easier to use, the search system is better and is easily accessible, the ability to mute topics limiting which emails you receive is available, plus the ability to create your own custom signature line signature line are just some of the improvements

The switch should be almost transparent to all users. Existing users will automatically be added to Groups.io with their email preferences. The only action necessary will be to create a password when you first log in.

Current eGroup members will be receiving more information about the transition via the Yahoo system until the transition is complete. The <http://www.discoveryowners.com/egroup.asp> web page also will be updated when the transition is complete, and will contain instructions for using and for joining the new eGroup. ❖

## Region and Chapter reports



Chapter prez  
Jim Sullivan

### Discovery California chapter

California Discovery started the year off with a get-together of 7 rigs and some guests on the Colorado River town of Ehrenburg, AZ for an informal rally. The location put us across the river from the Blythe Blue Grass Festival and a few miles west of the boomtown of Quartzsite. Normally, the weather is great - but this year we had rain and cold, which is normal for some of you but not for us! We had a great potluck and a great time at the Bluegrass Festival, nonetheless. We also had the opportunity to visit with a few of our other Discovery friends, Wally Wallington from Idaho and Paul and Doris Smith from the D'Zonas. The big entertainment was the Big Tent at Quartzsite where one can find everything one never knew you needed and buy it for less. While we were in Ehrenburg, we met a couple of Canadians, Robin and Jim Hadcock, who also own a Discovery. They joined us during our evening events and they decided to join our club. We are so glad to have them as our newest members! They also will be joining us on our Rolling Rally to the Albuquerque Balloon Festival, as I am sure that we will be making the trek again next year.

In February, we had 11 rigs join us at the Flying Flags RV Resort in Buellton, CA. We were able to secure a clubhouse for our stay which we put to great use. Susan (Sullivan) treated everyone with "Walking Tacos" on Friday evening, "Omelets in a Bag" Saturday morning, and Saturday dinner was at the Famous Hitching Post where they serve Santa Maria style barbeque at its finest. Some of us were taught a new card game called Mexican Train by Cheryl Stein. Saturday, Susan arranged to have a private tour of the Mendenhall Museum, which has an incredible collection of automobile and racing memorabilia that date back many years. Two of our members, Erik and Sandy Egresen, live in nearby Solvang, and they were kind enough to supply us with lots of firewood for our nightly campfires. Our Potluck on Sunday was incredible . . . everyone brought so much great food!



Anita Zantos, Frank and Fonda Petronzio touring Mendenhall's Museum in Buellton, CA

Last April 4-9, 2016, The Fleetwood Motorhome Association held the Tenth Annual Western Regional Rally. It was at Fortuna De Oro RV Resort in Yuma, AZ; this was the fifth year for the rally in Yuma. Two of our members hosted the rally, Bill and Linda Johnson. Discovery California uses this rally as another opportunity to get together, show our support, and volunteer to help out. This year, the rally lasted five nights with over 120 Fleetwood rigs present. Discovery California was well represented again this year. Along with a full house of vendors and seminars, some of the other activities include Card BINGO, a Pizza Party, Sundaes on Saturday and the new event, Golf Cart Rodeo.

Coming up in May, Mary Lou Phipps and Mike Ranzazzo will be hosting a Cinco de Mayo Rally at the Chula Vista RV Park and Resort from the 5th to the 7th, 2017. The park is just 100 feet away from the Pacific Ocean, and is nestled on San Diego Bay. Mike and Mary Lou are trying to get tickets for the Padres and Dodgers baseball game, which should be a lot of fun.

In October 2017, we are trying something a little different -- we are planning a "Rolling Rally." Traveling for 14 days, this trip starts in Laughlin, NV, and travels on to the Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta in Albuquerque, NM, ending up in Wickenburg, AZ. We currently have signed up 10 rigs for the rally. Each rig will need to make their own reservations for each RV park along the way. Susan and I will be meeting with the Albuquerque Balloon Festival officials to verify that we will be able to all park together. In the meantime, we have been checking out each RV park where we plan to stay; confirming that the parks are what the park websites say they are has been a challenging task. We hope to see as many of you as possible join us in this new "Rolling Rally." ❖



Chapter prez  
Melissa Plowman

### Texas Discovery Road Runners chapter

When we first started RVing, we were told to make sure that we had a screwdriver handy after a day of bumpy travel because there were things that were going to rattle loose. And they were right. Our RV is headed to the shop to fix our mirrors that don't want to stay in place no matter how much we've attempted to tighten them . . . but that beats the horn honking in place of the cruise control or windshield wipers switches. Yes...this, too, has happened. While driving. In the rain. But it's fixed and we are on the road again. Hopefully, you have been enjoying your RV, too.

The Regional rally at Lazydays in January was a blast. Lots to do with lots of friends to enjoy. The large rallies like the National rally that will be in Shawnee, OK—

## Region and Chapter reports, continued

pretty much my back yard, by the way—gives you opportunities like seminars and bigger events that you won't have at a local rally.

As this newsletter goes to print, the Road Runners will be on the way to Palo Duro Canyon—the second largest canyon in the country. We are joining up the Texans in May for a co-rally in Ingram, Texas. There are several in our group who have indicated they will be there. It should be a great time to get together in that part of the country.

Quote of the day (Author unknown): Fill your life with experiences not things. Have stories to tell not stuff to show. It is the interesting things we see together, the stories and shenanigans we share that make our trips the adventures of a lifetime. Laugh and Enjoy. Hope to see you down the road. ❖

### Discovery Texans chapter



Chapter prez  
Judy Jo Bruton

Discovery Texans started the New Year with an exceptional rally with 17 coaches January 11-14, 2017 at Lake Conroe/North Houston KOA in Montgomery, TX. We were gifted with outstanding weather, wonderful friends and great food served by our hosts Al & Karin DeHaas and Gwen & Leroy Churchill.

We enjoyed catching up with one another after the holidays, meeting our new attendees, doing some shopping and (of course) playing Jokers and Marbles.

Wednesday evening we dined at El Bosque Mexican Grill in Montgomery, TX.

Thursday was our pot luck meal with a lively game of Bunco following dinner.

On Thursday, the ladies “rallied” together to work on ideas for the upcoming National Rally. The Discovery Texans will be co-hosting with the Louisiana Mudbugs and the Texas Discovery Roadrunners to make this an outstanding National Rally.

Friday and Saturday's delicious meals (breakfast and dinner) were prepared by our gracious hosts, and on Friday we were surprised with a Margarita Happy Hour hosted by our thoughtful Rally Master and Treasurer, Don & Linda Griffith.

We welcomed four couples who joined us for their first rally: Barry & Lynn Chapman of Montgomery, TX; Tracy & Rosemary Gaulding of Hockley, TX; Bill & Kelly McCown of Katy, TX, and John and Ruth Pettijohn of Jersey Village, TX. A big thank you to all our wonderful members for another great rally full of camaraderie and friendship.

Our remaining rallies for the year are listed below: we plan our rallies for Wednesday through Saturday, departing on Sunday.

May 17-20, 2017 Johnson Creek RV Resort, Ingram, Texas

November 8-11, 2017 Coffee Creek RV Resort & Cabins, Santo, Texas.

Hope to see y'all in the near future. SAFE TRAVELS. ❖

### Blue Ridge Discoverys



Chapter prez  
Richard Money

Once again, the Southeast DOAI rally (Camp Discovery) is complete and it was such a success. I want to thank all the Blue Ridge Discoverys members, especially Frank Cason the rally master, for doing such a great job. All I heard the whole week was how well it was run. Our thanks to Lazydays, General RV and all the vendors for their support and contributions. The only hiccup that we found was that yours truly could not provide good weather for the golf tournament, but we survived and had fun, nonetheless.

The Blue Ridge Discoverys have added nine new members which makes our total membership now stand at 54. Our chapter has been so successful over the years, and I contribute that both to the membership and to our previous leadership.

Our next rally will be at the Outer Banks of North Carolina during the first week in April 2017. There is so much history there - such as the Wright Memorial, Jockey's Ridge, Oracoke Island, and numerous light houses. We think a great rally has been planned for all of you, and everyone in DOAI is welcome to join us. Please let any one of our members know that you are interested, and we can get you more information.

It's also time to mark your calendars and make reservations for the Alabama Rally, followed by our rolling rally to the National Rally in Shawnee, OK which is scheduled for early October 2017. We look forward to seeing everyone at the National Rally. Have a great spring! ❖

## Region and chapter reports, continued



Chapter prez  
Jerry Call

### Midwest Discoverers

Hello from sunny south Florida. Noreta and I have spent an enjoyable winter on Lake Okeechobee, FL in our big D. As you read this, we will back in Indiana getting ready for our 60th year of farming.

Midwest Discoverers had a great 2016! We had two rallies, from Boston, MA to Sault Ste Marie, MI. Both rallies were well attended, and a great time was had by all.

Up next, the Midwest Discoverers Club will be going to Philadelphia, PA for the Spring Rally 2017, which will be hosted by Rick & Carol Parton. The rally will take place near their home in the Greater Delaware and Brandywine Valleys of Pennsylvania, and will include two planned trips into the Historic City of Philadelphia. In addition, we will have our election of officers at the June rally, which is scheduled for June 11-18, 2017. We welcome all the new members to Midwest Discoverers and look forward to seeing them at future rallies.

The host campground for the June Rally is the KOA Philadelphia/West Chester in Coatesville, PA [www.koa.com/campgrounds/philadelphia](http://www.koa.com/campgrounds/philadelphia) and the campground owners Gary & Lori Levesque are looking

forward to meeting everyone. An initial reservation has been placed for 8 sites with water, electric and sewer; more will be available if needed. Please refer to the website map to see the following reserved sites numbers 29-31-33-42-43-44-45-55. The group discounted rate that we were given for the sites is \$61.00 a night.

The rally cost is \$155.00 per person, which includes: a welcome dinner of Philly Cheesesteaks and other Philly Specialties; trips to the Great Historic City of Philadelphia; a visit to world-famous Longwood Gardens (DuPont Family Estate [www.longwoodgardens.org](http://www.longwoodgardens.org); admission to the Hagley Museum [www.hagley.org](http://www.hagley.org); a trip to Valley Forge National Historic Park [www.nps.gov/vafo/index.htm](http://www.nps.gov/vafo/index.htm); (4) breakfasts, and a dinner including a club meeting at an Italian Restaurant in Kenneth Square. If you have any dietary needs, please let us know.

We are really hoping that you will come and enjoy all that Philadelphia has to offer. If you will be able to make the trip, please send us a check for the rally fee for each person and the first night campground deposit (which we have already paid). Please do not call the campground for a site number; I have to reserve the site for all rally attendees. ❖



Chapter prez  
Bob Stewart

### Noreaster Discoverys

Another great time was had at the Southeast Regional Rally! It's so great to see all our 'Discovery' friends, not to mention all the Noreaster Discoverys members present at the rally. It seems a little ironic that many Noreasters spend their winters in the south east . . .but being from western New York, I can certainly see why.

We'd like thank the Blue Ridge Discoverys for a job well done in hosting the Southeast Rally. We all had a fantastic time. I've attended Camp Discovery seminars by Marshall Godwin and Gary Osburn before, but still I always come away with new knowledge about my coach. Great job guys.

It was so good to see so many Noreasters at Lazydays, especially our chapter vice-president Jeff Daly. Glad to see your recovery from illness is going so well that you made it the rally. Rumor has it (hopefully not fake news!) that a few Noreaster members purchased new or newer Discovery motorhomes while attending the hospitality get together hosted by General RV. Please confirm . . . inquiring minds want to know - and hey "Congratulations."

We're looking forward to our rally in June with our hosts, the Midwest Discoverers. Rick and Carol Parton (also Noreasters) are working hard to make this a memorable rally in the historical Philadelphia area. Enjoy your Discovery travel, be safe and see you in Philly! ❖

## How To Keep The Campsites Next To You Vacant

When using a public campground, a tuba placed on your picnic table will keep the campsites on either side vacant. From Facebook.com/RVCamping.



## Region and Chapter reports, continued

### South Central Region



Region VP  
Gary Osburn

In January, Debby and I joined several other D owners from the South Central region (and lots more D owners from everywhere) at the Southeast Regional rally at Lazydays in Tampa, FL. We enjoyed both Camp Discovery and the Fleetwood Motorcoach Association rally. While there, we met with old friends, made some new ones, enjoyed the entertainment and the superb meals, went on a boat tour on Tampa Bay, and even made it over to Parkdale Farms TWICE for strawberries.

We were blessed to be accompanied on this awesome trip by our two youngest grandsons who attended the Camp Discovery seminars and helped me with some of them, including a workshop where some D owners made their own 50-amp electric pedestal testers. I should explain that these boys aren't small children; both are high school graduates (Yes, I'm older than you thought!), both have worked for me in my mobile RV repair business during summer breaks, and both are joining the military in the fall. Time marches on; I remember them both as babies (and they've both traveled with us before in our D), but having them with us on a trip like this likely won't happen again.

Right now, we're back home at Canyon Lake, TX, and looking forward to the National Rally in October in Shawnee, OK. But before that, a Texas Road Runners chapter rally at Palo Duro Canyon is scheduled for the end of March. Palo Duro is an unbelievably huge canyon, running for miles through the high plains of west Texas. It's actually hard to find, and nearly as inaccessible today as it was when the Comanche used it to avoid the US Cavalry. All Discovery owners are invited to join us in marveling at and learning the history of the canyon. There are even horseback trail rides available. ❖

### Southeast Region



Region VP  
Kerry Pinkerton

Mid-January in Discovery-land means the Southeast Regional DOAI rally at the Lazydays campground in Seffner, FL (just outside Tampa). Over 82 coaches from as far away as Oregon and Massachusetts made the trip. Of those, 26 were first time coaches and most ended up joining one of the regional clubs. This year the Blue Ridge Discoverys hosted a 'Beach Party' themed rally led by rally master Frank Cason. The 46+ members of Blue Ridge kept the tables decorated and things moving along. Dick Pryor and Bob Angus led the effort to put together what was said to be the best goodie bag ever. It even contained a voltmeter because Bob and Dick went by Harbor Freight nearly every day to get a free one just for the goodie bag.

The Lazydays staff kept us well fed and the entertainment was great...even if Blue Ridge team of Three Pinkertons and two Mikes did not repeat as Family Feud champions (Yes, I was on the losing team). I think the fix was in. The winning team's table got to eat first the next night.

The weather was great during the entire rally other than opening night when a storm hit just as folks were leaving the rally hall. The next day golf outing was really, really windy. There were lots of really innovative excuses! Rumor has it that the Parksdale strawberry farm had a record week!!!! Some folks found time to visit the Yuengling brewery.

General RV hosted the club for a showing of the 2017 Discoverys and lunch complete with door prizes. I believe that 4 new coaches were purchased, so it was a good day all around.

As in previous years, Marshall Godwin and Gary Osburn held Camp Discovery which discusses in detail various systems in our coaches, how they work, and how to fix common problems. Good stuff and it was, as always, very well attended. You learn something new every time! The owner's roundtable was attended by probably 90% of the rally attendees although attendance could have been aided by the fact that the free beer started right after it was over! Special thanks to Marshall and Gary for sharing their knowledge and skills.

Every night, we held a 50/50 raffle and the total we raised for the Fisher House was almost \$2,000. The Fisher House is a great charity that provides housing and support for the families of veterans undergoing medical treatment at the VA hospital. There was a huge donation of non-perishable food collected for the local food pantry as well.

Mark your calendars now for January 28 through February 2 for next year's Southeast Regional DOAI rally hosted by the Mason-Dixon Discoverys chapter.

Upcoming Southeast chapter rallies are: Blue Ridge - Hatteras Island NC April 2-8, Mason-Dixon - Ashland VA June 7 - 11, 2017, Florida Sunshiners - Orange City FL April 7-11. For information about attending one of these or any club rally, go the DOAI website and click on chapters. ❖

## Region and chapter reports, continued



Chapter prez  
Bruce Plumb

### Ozarks Discovery

**S**pring Rally. We have officially scheduled our first 2017 rally to be held at Whispering Woods RV Park behind Indigo Sky Casino in Wyandotte, OK, on May 19–22, 2017. Please note that this is a FRIDAY thru MONDAY, rather than our usual Thursday thru Sunday; the reason for the date change is their "2 for 1" prime rib buffet on Sunday evening. Most arrive after noon on Friday (you can come in earlier if you like, there will be plenty of room). We usually break camp Monday after breakfast, but you can stay as long as you like.

#### Location:

INDIGO SKY CASINO  
70220 East HWY 60  
Wyandotte, OK 74370

<http://indigoskycasino.com/>

(I think this might be the address for the business offices! The Casino is located on Hwy 60, less than a mile west of Seneca, MO.)

Check in upon arrival and pay your fees, which are \$15 per night. Just tell them you are with the Ozarks Discovery RV Club.

The RV Park at the Indigo Sky is called Whispering Woods (never knew this and I have stayed there many times!). Their website says "Quiet down and hear the whispering solitude around you at this beautiful RV Park. Whispering Woods features 44 spaces with a clubhouse, showers, on-site laundry, pool access and a covered picnic pavilion with outdoor fireplace area." <http://indigoskycasino.com/stay/whispering-woods-rv-park>

Tentative Attendees (that I have heard from): Keen, Plumb, Travis (bring guitar), Bennett, Boudreaux

#### Activities:

A highlight of Ozarks Chapter rallies is singing around the campfire with our very own Martin Travis and his guitar.

Some other things to do in the area: Eat, All the activities and attractions of NW Arkansas are not far away. Eat, For those who enjoy casinos, it is available 24/7, Eat.

We have a friend, Doug Hall, who is an artist [http://doughallfineart.com/index.php?id\\_cms=4&controller=cms](http://doughallfineart.com/index.php?id_cms=4&controller=cms). Bruce loves to host a visit to his log cabin studio, which is also his residence. He is a very humble but fascinating person. I think he has electricity now, but heats his cabin and domestic water with wood. His log cabin that he built is on acreage next to the Huckleberry Ridge State Forest close to Pineville, MO, about 30 mi from Indigo Sky. He also has a log cabin "store" where he displays his art and sells various pioneer and Native American items. His mother, Cubby, (even Doug calls her Cubby - her real name is Rebecca but few know this) is also a good friend, a great and humble person, and just as fascinating and accomplished as her son. She lives on 300 acres of very rural southwest MO real estate called "Trails End". In 2008, I built Doug his first indoor bathroom in his barn where he lived at the time (he used an out-house until then). At that time (Oct 2008!!) I suggested he should run for President of the United States. He is so down-to-earth that he would make a good one! He did not choose to run, however, and the rest is history. BTW, Doug has several pieces on display in the lobby of Indigo Sky!

Eat

Attend Doug Hall's black-powder rifle shoot on Sunday.

Eat

Visit Huckleberry Ridge State Forest

[http://www.stateparks.com/huckleberry\\_ridge\\_state\\_forest\\_in\\_missouri.html](http://www.stateparks.com/huckleberry_ridge_state_forest_in_missouri.html)

Eat

Go fishing or boating at the Grand Lake of the Cherokees (nearby) if someone wants to fish or bring a boat.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grand\\_Lake\\_o%27\\_the\\_Cherokees](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grand_Lake_o%27_the_Cherokees)

Eat

A drive thru Joplin, MO, to see the devastation and recovery after the Category 5 tornado a few years ago would be good to do. The 2011 Joplin tornado was a catastrophic EF5 multiple-vortex tornado that struck Joplin late in the afternoon of Sunday, May 22, 2011. It was part of a larger late-May tornado outbreak, and reached a maximum width of nearly 1 mile (1.6 km) during its path through the southern part of the city.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2011\\_Joplin\\_tornado](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2011_Joplin_tornado)

## Region and Chapter reports, continued

Proposed Meal Schedule (We can change it if we want wish . . . please make suggestions)

Friday Dinner - Mexican Food with the Plumb's (this is a tradition, but can easily be changed. Others please bring a side dish)

Saturday Breakfast & Lunch - On your own

Saturday Dinner - Potluck or eat out as a group

Sunday Breakfast & Lunch - On your own

Sunday Dinner - Prime Rib Buffet at the Shawanoe Restaurant Bar and Grill in the casino building. This is a nice buffet featuring prime rib and other entrees and the Plumb's have 2-for-1 coupons for everyone, so the cost for TWO is \$16 including drink (plus tax and tip).

Monday Breakfast - Group "send off" breakfast by Keen and ??? (We need someone to replace David Tillery). David and Beth sold their D and bought a SOB (Some Other Brand).

General Information

Also, we have 4 fine members who have not paid their 2017 dues: Jones, Ohrt, Welch, and Smith. You can mail a check for \$12 to Ricky Keen, Treasurer, No 8 Beaver Creek Loop, Roland, AR, 72135, made payable to Ozarks Discovery.

If you need more info, you can call or email Ricky Keen, Treasurer (501) 247-2124 or Bruce Plumb, President (417) 239-4544. ❖



Chapter prez  
Larry Hawkins

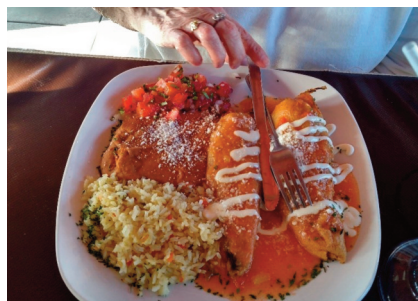
### D'Zonas chapter

The D'Zonas have gathered in the Southwest from our summer retreats. Our latest rally was in Puerto Penasco, Mexico; there were five rigs that attended and we met up with Bruce Plumb and his wife for a couple days.

Since a picture is worth a thousand words, I decided this would be the easiest way to report on our rally. Most of us met up at Oregon Pipe National Monument and spent the night. Cathy and I and our guests, Linda and Roy Kennedy (SOB), met up with Gary and Patty Velasquez and their guests Jerry Timberlake and Becky Guilliams (they signed up for the D'Zonas during the stay in Puerto Penasco) and Paul and Doris Smith. And away we go!



*We arrived early at the Reef RV Park and set up for the week. Unfortunately, we were two rows back from the beach, but we still had excellent access and some had beach views. All sites had full hook ups and the Wi-Fi service was decent.*



*Of course, food was on our list of must do's. These Chile Rellenos were tasty, as was all of the food. Most of the restaurants had water views or beach access; it was great to watch the shrimp and fishing boats coming and going. The locals were friendly and offered great service at all the shops and fish mongers around town.*



*Of course, we took time off to play. The sand dunes are great fun, as is the beach combing -- or just relaxing on the beach with a good book.*



Region and Chapter reports, continued



*Happy Campers*



*Shopping was a good past-time and sport for some.*



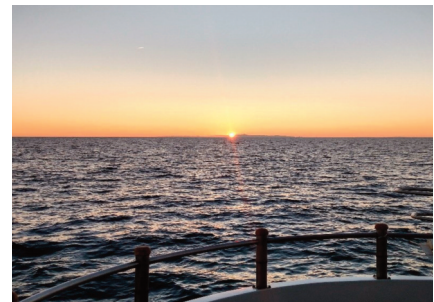
*A typical scene at a D'Zonas rally....*



*We did not go without our Happy Hours and our "No host, bring what ya got" cookouts. Lots of fresh shrimp, halibut from an Alaska trip, and plenty of everyone's favorite or special dishes. Unfortunately, it was a Red Tide during our stay, so no fresh oysters or clams to be found, but we managed and no one went hungry.*



*As a treat, we all went on the Sunset "Booze and Snack cruise." It was a nice evening and I am sure everyone enjoyed themselves. The weather was perfect and scenery was enjoyable; the dolphins were almost constant companions!*



*So, as we sail off into the sunset we wish you all well. Most everyone is returning next year, and you are invited.*

Upcoming

The D'Zonas have a rally scheduled for April 5th thru 10th, 2017 to the Sedona/Jerome area of Arizona. Please let me know if you plan to attend.

We are pleased to welcome Robert (Larry) & Cheryl Hawkins plus Jerry Timberlake & Becky Guilliams to our group.

The D'Zonas wish you all an enjoyable and safe summer..... ❖

**Recipe: Mint Chip Ice Cream Pie**

INGREDIENTS

1. 8 ounces chopped semisweet chocolate, melted
2. 4 cups crisped rice cereal (such as Rice Krispies)
3. 2 pints mint chocolate-chip ice cream, slightly softened

DIRECTIONS

1. In a large bowl, combine the chocolate and cereal until the cereal is completely coated. Transfer to a 9-inch springform pan. Press the mixture into the bottom and 1 inch up the sides of the pan. Freeze just until firm, 5 to 10 minutes.
2. Spread the ice cream in the prepared crust and freeze, covered, until firm, for at least 2 hours and up to 3 days.



### Region and Chapter reports, continued

#### Florida Discovery Sunshiners chapter



Chapter prez  
Mark Salomon



*The Florida Discovery Sunshiners have covered a lot of ground since our DOAI Beach Party @ Lazydays!*

*Starting with the FMCA Southeast Area Rally @ Lakeland Linder Airport where we took in the latest “toys and extras” for our Discovery’s. We also dined are way through the 4 day experience.*



*We just finished our “Cowboy & Cow-girl” March Rally @ M RV Resort in Moorehaven, Florida where we toured the farms and processing plant of the sugar industry.*



*The tour bus for Sugarland Tours*



*Inside the Sugarland Tours bus*



*And yes . . . some airboat action on Florida’s largest lake, Lake Okeechobee*



*And when in Southwest Florida, a must-see is the Arcadia Florida Championship Rodeo.....yee haa!!*



*Our heads where swimming with information and fun, but we took on more - visiting the Pioneer Roberts Ranch where we learned all about the Florida cattle industry and the times (and hardships) of Florida’s earliest cowboys.*



*We already have 4 of our 7 rallies for 2018 planned coming out of our “how to plan & host your next rally” seminar. With a little persuasion, we will be planned out for 2018!!!!*

### Region and Chapter reports, continued



*We were eating our way through the rally the entire time! We had three new members attend for a total of 12 coaches and a record amount of funds thanks to our host members Carolyn & Walter Furniss!*



*If this looks like too much fun, come join us by calling our President Mark Salomon 813-240-9338. Upcoming rallies are scheduled for Orange City/Daytona Beach and Grand Lake RV Resort in Citra, Florida. Happy Travels!!!*

## Winter Rally – Lazydays in Seffner, FL – January 2017



*(Above Left) - Jim and Kathy Pinkerton enjoying the band. The dance floor was too crowded so they danced in the aisle.*

*(Above Right) - Mike and Retha Hopkins enjoying the happy hour.*

*(Left) - Family Feud Game Night. One 5-person team from each club.*

## Quarterly Question Contest

Would YOU like to win a year's free membership in DOAI? You might, if you carefully read this issue in order to find the answer to the question (see front page for question). The answer is printed somewhere within these pages. Find the answer and submit the response. All correct responses will be placed in the Contest Hat from which one response will be drawn. The winner will receive a year's free membership in DOAI. The details follow:

1. A box on the front page will announce the question. The answer to each quarter's question will be a word or a year. It will not be highlighted in any way except that, if the answer is a proper noun, it will be capitalized. It will be contained somewhere within the newsletter.

2. Entries must contain the member's name and contact information, the answer, and the page where the answer is found and must quote the complete sentence in which the answer is contained. Email the response to [nina.soltwedel@gmail.com](mailto:nina.soltwedel@gmail.com), or snail mail to Nina Soltwedel, 4736 Harwich St., Boulder CO 80301-4217. Do not post answer on the DOAI eGroup.

3. All DOAI members are eligible to participate. A member is a coach, thus one entry per coach per quarter. A member is limited to one win each calendar year.

4. The contest will open the first day of the month of that issue and close the fifteenth day of the succeeding month of that quarter. Entries may not be submitted until the first day of a quarter, and must be received by Nina no later than 11:59pm the fifteenth day of the second month of a quarter.

5. One winning entry will be drawn from all correct entries.

6. The succeeding issue will name the previous quarter's winner and announce the new question.

7. The Board of Directors reserves the right to terminate the contest at any time.

If you have questions about the contest, contact Nina ([nina.soltwedel@gmail.com](mailto:nina.soltwedel@gmail.com)). ❖



## Top 3 Emergency Items for RV Owners



Mark Polk

We purchase RVs to travel the country and build lasting memories with family and friends. RVs are meant for rest, relaxation and fun, but what happens in the event of an emergency? When you travel to a different camping destination in your RV, on a regular basis, you need to be prepared for an emergency that can happen at anytime and anywhere. This list could certainly be longer, but I want to offer my top 3 RV emergency items for RV owners.

1. The first item on my list is a portable weather radio. In today's world of modern technology some folks think a smart phone with a weather app is all you need to stay informed of current weather updates. The problem with that thinking is we often travel through remote parts of the country in our RVs, where you don't always have a good cell phone signal. A good portable weather radio can operate on batteries or 120 volt AC power and will warn you of potential weather hazards in and around the area where you are camping. Don't forget some spare batteries.

2. Next on my list is a reputable RV Emergency Roadside Assistance Plan. There are lots of these plans available, so take time to research and select a plan that fits your particular needs. Look for a plan that is designed for RVs, and see what other folks have to say about a particular plan on some of the RV forums. When you break down in the middle of nowhere, during your vacation, you will be glad you invested in a good plan. The plan can pay for towing expenses, lodging while the RV is being repaired, fuel, getting in a locked RV or tow vehicle, and to repair a flat tire. Some RVs have tires that weigh in excess of 100 pounds and require special equipment to change the tire. It can be dangerous to change a tire on any RV, and with a roadside assistance plan you don't need to worry about it.

3. When you pack the RV for your next trip, make sure you include a basic road hazard kit. At a minimum, it should include a good set of jumper cables, a heavy duty flashlight, one or more reflective warning triangles, some basic hand tools, a fluorescent safety vest, a portable gas can and a good first aid kit, if you don't already have one in the RV. A few simple items can get you out of a jam and assist you in staying safe until help arrives.

© Reprinted with permission. RV expert Mark Polk owns RV Education 101, a North Carolina based company that produces and sells educational videos, DVDs and ebooks on how to use RVs. Mark has more than 30 years of experience in RV maintenance. He retired from the U.S. Army in 1996 as a chief warrant officer three, specializing in wheeled and track vehicle fleet maintenance operations. He and his wife, Dawn, started RV Education 101 in 1999. They travel with their two sons in a 35 foot Class A motor home. ❖

# DOAI Balance Sheet

**DISCOVERY OWNERS ASSOCIATION Inc.  
BALANCE SHEET  
December 31, 2016**

**CURRENT ASSETS**

PETTY CASH	550.00	
NATIONAL RALLY ACCOUNT	6,919.94	
CASH IN BANK-National Acct	29,895.44	
CASH IN BANK - Savings Acct	50,107.50	
PAYPAL ACCOUNT	1,027.44	
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>\$ 88,500.32</b>

**OTHER ASSETS**

MDSE INVENTORY	7,493.00	
ACCOUNT RECEIVABLE	-	
<b>TOTAL OTHER ASSETS</b>		<b>\$ 7,493.00</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b><u>\$ 95,993.32</u></b>

**LIABILITIES AND NET WORTH**

PREPAID MEMBERSHIPS		\$ 18,100.00
Advance rally Fees - SE rally		\$ 1,676.50
RESERVE FOR FUTURE CHAPTERS -NE		\$ 592.91
<b>NET WORTH</b>		
Beginning Bal	70,909.31	
Excess Receipts over Disb	\$ 5,918.62	
Change in Mdse Inventory	1,564.55	
Change in Prepaid Memberships	(937.00)	
Adjustment to Misc Expenses (1)	(155.07)	
Net Advance receipts for 2017 SE Rally	(1,676.50)	
<b>NET WORTH</b>		<b>\$ 75,623.91</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Worth</b>		<b><u>\$ 95,993.32</u></b>

**Note 1** Immaterial Adjustment to Misc Expenses for unlocated difference \$155.07

## DOAI Statement Of Receipts And Disbursements

**DISCOVERY OWNERS ASSOCIATION  
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS & DISBURSEMENTS  
JANUARY 1, 2016 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2016**

**RECEIPTS**

Dues Received - Cash & Paypal	18,981.28
<b>INTEREST INCOME</b>	
CD interest	224.11
Bank Acct interest	15.65
AMAZON SALES COMMISSIONS	387.94
<b>TOTAL ORDINARY RECEIPTS</b>	<b>\$ 19,608.98</b>

**EXPENSE DISBURSEMENTS**

NEWSLETTER	4,739.36
MEMBERSHIP EXPENSE	1,730.36
INSURANCE	2,462.11
ADVERTISING EXPENSE	220.80
MEMBER CARE	15.58
WEB SITE EXPENSE	485.00
RALLY FEE REIMBURSEMENTS	7,857.00
OFFICE SUPPLIES, POSTAGE, ETC.	36.36
DONATIONS OF 50/50 RAFFLES	2,158.50
PAYPAL CHARGES	553.39
OTHER EXPENSES (Note 1)	702.59
<b>TOTAL ORDINARY DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>\$ 20,961.05</b>

**OTHER RECEIPTS**

Rally Receipts over Disbursements - 2016 National, Bath, NY	4,630.36
50/50 Raffle Proceeds	2,158.50
Rally Receipts over Disbursements - 2016 SE Regional	938.71
Net PrePaid 2017 SE Rally Fees	1,676.50
Merchandise Sales Receipts	3,004.00
<b>TOTAL OTHER RECEIPTS</b>	<b>\$ 12,408.07</b>

**OTHER DISBURSEMENTS**

Merchandise Inventory Purchased	3,980.44
2015 SE Regional Rally Excess to FL Sunshiners	938.71
2017 Nat Rally deposit to Heart of Oklahoma Expo Center	350.00
2018 Nat Rally site review exp	23.30
<b>TOTAL OTHER DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>\$ 5,292.45</b>

<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS OVER DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>\$ 5,763.55</b>
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BEGINNING CASH BALANCE	82,736.77
ENDING CASH BALANCE	88,500.32
<b>CASH INCREASE (DECREASE)</b>	<b>\$ 5,763.55</b>

**Note 1** Immaterial Adjustment to Misc Expenses for unlocated difference \$155.07