

Discovery Express



Volume 14, Number 1

Quarterly Newsletter of Discovery Owners Association, Inc.

January 2012

Should auld acquaintance be forgot...

That's the first line of a song that is most likely sung by a majority of New Year's Eve revelers each year. "Auld Lang Syne" is an ancient Scots poem and the title, loosely translated, means "old long since." Other translations put it as meaning days of long ago, or days long past.

In this issue of *Discovery Express* we'll visit days of "short" past – a report of the 2011 national rally accompanied by some photos. We have also included a rundown of the election results, and there are several messages from incoming and outgoing officers – messages of thanks and appreciation to you, the membership of DOAI.

This issue also focuses on events to come; in particular, the 2012 national rally this coming October. Other events include the 2012 southeast region rally which happens later this month in Florida (see DOAI website for registration form), and a host of chapter rallies planned throughout the year.

I hope your plans include attending chapter rallies, along with the regional and national rallies. These gatherings are excellent ways to meet new friends and enjoy the camaraderie engendered by owning the same brand of vehicle, our beloved Discovery motor homes.



Newsletter editor
Nina Soltwedel

Other features in this issue...

Part six of **Mike Sokol's** helpful and potentially life-saving series on understanding and preventing RV electrical damage begins on **page 15**, this time focusing on voltage drop.

Del Perry's on-the-road adventure (postponed from last issue) begins on **page 18**, as does **Teri Dykman's** DOAI egroup posting about the new Flying J/Pilot discount procedure (also postponed from last issue). Another postponed article included this time is **John Maris'** helpful list of parts that might fail (see **page 7**).

Bob Angus took an interesting class at Spartan chassis, and he recounts his experiences (see **page 20**). We have two interesting Discovery modifications from **Jim Fox** and **Gordon Sims** (see **page 19**).

A plug for "going green"

If you are reading the hard copy of this quarterly newsletter, you might not realize that the electronic version can contain more helpful items or photos than the print version, due to being able to include more pages without additional cost. The electronic version is in full color **and** it is usually available four weeks before the print version can reach your mailbox.

Sound interesting? Willing to give it a try? You can always go back to the print version if you discover that the electronic version isn't for you. Send me an email or go online to www.discoveryowners.com and click on the link on the homepage.

In closing...

I pray your 2012 will be filled with good health, good times, good friends, good food, and good travels on good roads. **Happy New Year!** ❖

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President
John Baker

President's message

Have you ever been asked to do something and wondered if you were really qualified and able or if you had time to do it? Did you experience a myriad of other questions running through your mind? Well, I have. When approached to serve as your president, a hundred questions crossed my radar screen. I finally decided, "Why not?" I am honored that you trust me enough to ask me to do it and surely I can depend on your support to continue moving DOAI forward. Thank you for that trust and support.

I look forward to the next two years with the expectation that we will continue to be the absolutely best RV organization on the planet. The past few years have been really tough for the RV industry and for RV owners' organizations, but our membership has held steady. That is due to our members' friendliness and dedication and to our fantastic communications channels – *Discovery Express* and our website. Both of these are unparalleled in the world of RV groups. Kudos to **Nina** and **Bob** who keep our juices flowing through these tools.

I am sure you realize that as an effect of the difficult times our vendors have endured, we have become completely independent of their financial support. Your board of directors has done a spectacular job of positioning us to be financially stable and not dependent on monetary influxes from the vendors. Because of our good cash position, we will be able to pay our own way.

Having solid local chapters is one of our major strengths. Chapter participation engenders national activities. However, partially due to the economic events, we have lost a couple of local chapters over the past year. We must support our core chapters and continue to found new ones. I reported elsewhere that two new chapters are being formed currently. One of them is in Arizona and the other will likely be in the Ozarks region. Let's encourage and support new chapter foundation and the strengthening of current ones.

Thanks again for the honor of serving. I look forward to hearing from you and seeing you somewhere along the road across our wonderful nation. ❖



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If you wish to access the full-color newsletter electronically instead of receiving a hard copy, contact the editor for details.

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ARE YOUR DUES DUE?

Find your membership renewal date at

www.discoveryowners.com/members.asp

2012 national rally to be in Tucson, Arizona

The southwest region will be your host for the 2012 national rally, *Discovery of the Saguaros*. Many of you have been to Lazydays in central Florida for rallies which have been fantastic. As you may know, in early 2011, Lazydays purchased the former Beaudry's RV in Tucson, Ariz., which is now known as "Lazydays West." Hence, *Discovery of the Saguaros* in the beautiful and colorful state of Arizona at Lazydays in Tucson. Mark your calendar for October 8-14, 2012. Early arrival day will be October 7.

The former Beaudry's RV had the highest rating in facilities and recreation by Woodall's campground directories and offered first rate resort facilities and recreation. We can state positively that this is still true, and Lazydays has been doing extensive renovation and improvement at the site since their purchase.

Tucson has a wealth of sightseeing opportunities including the renowned Pima Air & Space museum, Saguaro national park, the Arizona/Sonora Desert museum, Kartchner Caverns, nearby Tombstone, and Kitts Peak, just to mention a few. Shopping and dining in Tucson and the surrounding communities are rare treats for visitors. There will be information regarding tours and more in the next edition of *Discovery Express*.

The current plan is for the registration fee to include three breakfasts, a welcome reception and three evening meals, live entertainment, various seminars and vendors. We are currently working on all these items and will have much more information as well as the registration form complete with cost and tours, in the April 2012 edition of this newsletter. Like the 2011 national rally, you will be able to register online. Stay tuned! ❖

Report submitted by John Bujnovsky



DOAI Top Geek
Bob Cook

Cook named Top Geek

Bob Cook, DOAI's webmaster, has been named "Top Geek," acknowledging his many technology-related contributions to the organization. Bob faithfully maintains the club's excellent website, which is no small job. His constant updating of various pages within the site keeps the information timely and valuable. The task consumes many hours of his time each week, and yet he is always gracious when responding to requests for help on all computer and Internet matters.

Plans were laid to surprise Bob with a certificate presentation at the recent national rally in Shawnee, Okla. Unfortunately, he was unable to attend due to medical issues. We just couldn't wait longer for another rally gathering to announce this new moniker for Bob, so we are doing it in this issue of the *Discovery Express*!

Bob also oversees the DOAI egroup, which has proven to be a very helpful benefit of membership in this great club. His wise oversight keeps the egroup on track (witness the many accolades posted there from those who have received advice and concrete help from other members).

Further, Bob is always willing to give seminars at national rallies to help all of us become safer surfers, more savvy users of our computers, and wiser decision makers when purchasing software. He often supplies informative articles for this newsletter, for which the editor is most appreciative.

Bob, you have the well-deserved and grateful thanks of everyone in DOAI for your many contributions. Long may you reign as our Top Geek! ❖

Report submitted by John Baker

In our thoughts and prayers

We extend our heartfelt sympathies to **Joyce Bednarczyk**, whose brother died in October, and to **Dannie McCarley**, whose husband, **Evan**, died this past fall.

Get well wishes go out to **Ben Lewis**, experiencing severe heart problems; **Vie Brock**, recovering from hip replacement surgery; **Sherry Klungseth**, recovered from cataract surgery; **Bob Williams**, recovered from hernia surgery; **Bob Cook**, recovering from two eye surgeries; **John Bujnovsky**, recovered from hernia surgery; **Garry Shirey**, recovering from a stroke; **Buddy Sykes**, struggling with lung cancer; **Don Caldwell**, dealing with complications from a fractured back procedure; and **Donna Eichenour**, slowly recovering from a stroke and aneurisms. Donna writes, *Thank you so much for your card of encouragement. We really appreciate your kind thoughts.*

Please let the editor know of any DOAI member needing thoughts and prayers and a card. Email her at doaixpress@discoveryowners.com. ❖





Nominating chair
Phil Yovino

2012-2013 election results

A total of 176 votes were cast, with 159 votes electronically, and 17 ballots mailed to my home in Texas. There was one write-in vote. I extend my thanks to those DOAI members who took the time to cast their ballots.

And now it is time for **Marshall Godwin** to become past president, and I can step down from the board. I thank the DOAI members for their support over the years.

Dorothy and I look forward to seeing you at the next national rally. ❖

Office and Electee	Electronic	Mail-In	Total
President			
John Baker	159	17	176
Executive Vice President			
John Curtis	159	17	176
Vice President for Development			
Bob Soltwedel	159	17	176
Secretary			
MaryAnn Crowell	159	17	176
Treasurer			
Pete Palasota	159	17	176
Vice Treasurer			
David Blomstrom	159	17	176
National Rally Master			
Joe Stewart	159	17	176

Region Vice Presidents

North Central			
Ivan Manley	17	-	17
Northeast			
Jack Romeyk	17	1	18
Northwest			
Bob Williams	12	3	15
South Central			
Jay Keneson	39	12	51
Ben Lewis (write-in)	-	1	1
Southeast			
John Ricciardi	48	-	48
Southwest			
John Bujnovsky	24	1	25

Paid classified ad

The Ultimate Hub Tool: This tool is used to remove Freightliner's chassis hub nuts on coaches with Alcoa rims. It saves the hubs from unforgiving channel locks and pipe wrenches, plus allows you to remove hubs for cleaning and polishing. The only molded hub tool that indicates the proper direction for removal of the hubs. Contact Frank Cason, 1917 Stone Dam Rd, Chuckey, TN 37641, 423-552-5257, cason.frank@gmail.com. \$13 incl. s/h. You can order on the Internet at cgi.ebay.com/ebaymotors/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=130560631655#ht_500wt_1182

Circle the D's in Shawnee rally report

Attendance at the recent national rally at Shawnee, Okla., was in line with recent years: 75-80 rigs, depending on the day with 17 of the rig owners attending their first national rally and at least two of them were brand new DOAI members!

The spirit was **huge!** As you would expect among the friendliest RV group in the world, over half the responses to our survey question concerning "the best aspect" included some reference to people, friendliness, and exchange of ideas. One of the main objectives of the planning team was to provide an atmosphere to encourage this. Thank you to all of the attendees for helping us succeed.

Food, entertainment, facilities, and tours made up about the same number of positive responses. We are pleased that "well organized" even made the list several times.

As you would also expect, we were well fed. **Pete Palasota** and his early risers provided us with continental breakfast every day. Most days closed with outstanding two-entree meals well prepared by the in-house catering staff. One hundred percent of the opinion survey respondents said dinners were great or very good.

Each of those dinners was followed by entertainment which varied from a ventriloquist to a guitarist and others in between. Ninety-seven percent rated entertainment as overall outstanding or very good.

Twenty golfers had the opportunity to chase the little dimpled ball on a pretty windy day, but they all made it back safely. Because of the wind, we suspect some shaved a few strokes off their scores en route back to the campground.

A busload of folks visited interesting sites in Shawnee. One of those sites was Roundhouse Overalls, where the world's largest pair of overalls is proudly displayed. At least a half dozen DOAI members would be required to fill them!

More than a busload took the opportunity to visit the Oklahoma City Memorial (awesomely inspiring) and the outstanding Cowboy and Western Culture museum.

As always, our members generously gave back to the community. Several of our ladies labored throughout the past year to make beautiful quilts for raffle. **Sandy Fields** made two wonderful Christmas tree skirts and **Nina Soltwedel** donated a wallhanging that was made by **Jan McIlvaine**. All those items were raffled or auctioned in memory of **Tom Fields** who served DOAI well for many years and was a friend to all who met him. The result was a donation of \$1,347.25 to the Armed Forces Foundation, which provides support to our service members and their families. And this special note was received from Sandy after she received word of the generous gift: *Thank you and the DOAI for all your sweet thoughts and words of such kindness. As you know, Tom and I loved our time spent with all of you. I will always think of you all as my extended family.*

Wait, there is more! Direct donations and the charity split of the 50/50 drawings were made to the Shawnee Rescue Mission food bank: \$775.50. Plus, our members donated almost 1,000 pounds of food products! On behalf of these deserving agencies, thank you for your generosity.

Continued on next page...

2011 national rally report, continued

Local chapters are extremely important to our association, and there is great news on this subject as well. At this rally, volunteers began to form, not one, but **two** new chapters! Stay tuned for details as this process continues.

This wraps up another national rally. Thanks to all who attended and to the myriad of volunteers who made it fun and successful! I look forward to seeing everyone at next year's national rally in Tucson and later this month at the southeast regional in (hopefully sunny) Florida. ❖

Report submitted by John Baker

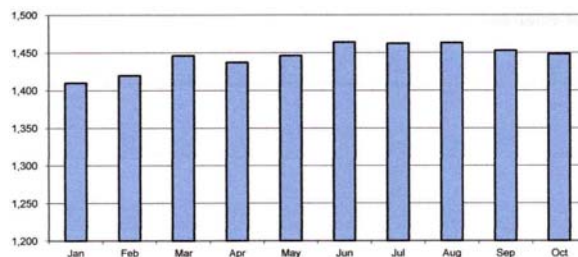


Membership dir.
Portia Williams

Report on membership to the membership

We are maintaining our membership numbers with the Internet being the main source of new members. We again encourage all members to get involved and contact a Fleetwood dealer in your area to become a DOAI membership sponsor. Please contact me if you are willing to do this; I have a packet available explaining the program.

The following is the list of new members since the last issue of *Discovery Express*. Please welcome them to DOAI and encourage them to join one of our many chapters where they can meet and make new friends. ❖



January-October 2011 Membership

Colin/Caroline Abbott, Newington ON
Frank/Linda Allard, Saint-Eustache QC
Scott/Karen Alves, Fairview Heights IL
Jerry Barnes, Krum TX
Wanda Berry, Tulsa OK
Randy/Sharon Blase, Hillsboro MO
Gord/Yvonne Bulger, Codette SK
Chuck/Jo Chapman, Lubbock TX
Jerry/Martha Cole, Hattiesburg MS
David Crouch/Louise Cain, Atoka OK
Michael/Maria Cunningham, Napa CA
Barbara Daniels, Rosenberg TX
Michael/Debbie Davis, St. Charles MO
Steve/Jill Davis, Deltaville VA
William/Sonya Davis, Livingston TX
Louis/Lucille Demers, Mont-Saint-Hilaire QC
Salvador Diaz, Tepatitlan de Morelos
Roxie/Wayne Dingman, Fullerton CA
Kenneth/Jo Donahoo, Yakima WA
Lawrence Ellis, Geneva FL
Ben Frieling, Electra TX
David/Lori Galer, Miffingburg PA

Michael/Lisa Gosselin, Ladera Ranch CA
Diane Gramigna, Lawrenceville GA
Gary/Cheryl Gratt, Tallahassee FL
Michael/Donna Greene, Lincoln AR
Jim/Robin Hadcock, Woodville ON
Rebecca Hazen/Lonnie Hodge, Twin Falls ID
Mary/Jack Hering, Corona CA
Kenneth Hill/Waynette Wallace, Krum TX
Chris/Kathy Hunt, Joplin MO
Robin/Kaye Hurst, Saint Francisville LA
Wayne/Jane Inch, Deep River ON
Jason Johansen/Marilyn Etzel,
West Des Moines IA
Leymoyn Johnson, Bradenton FL
Jerry Jones, Baton Rouge LA
Ken/Barb Kukulka, Wesley Chapel FL
Willie/Mary Lacy, Fresno TX
Rob/Melissa Laing, Moffat ON
Ray/Silvia Little, Lakeport CA
Gary/Sonia Livingston, The Woodlands TX
Tommy Maher, Bay Shore NY
Thomas/Elizabeth McDermott, Sanibel FL

Bryan/Patrice McGonigle, Lloydminster AB
Chuck/Carolyn Nadeau, Lott TX
Jim/Georgianne Perez, Pompano Beach FL
Victor/Jennie Poulin, Raymond NH
Adil/Asima Rahman, Springfield IL
Eric/Jennifer Reynolds, Wildwood MO
Patrick Riley, Magnolia TX
Rudy/Kristine Riojas, Kerrville TX
Mary/Ken Mee Schwarz, St. Petersburg FL
David/Jeanne Stack, Titusville FL
Bob/Jan Summers, Payson AZ
Glen Sutfin/Ramona Chandler, Windsor CA
Thomas/Lynn Sweningson, Merrifield MN
Jim Thorne, Golden CO
Wesley/Altha Toomay, Gravois Mills MO
Arthur Tuley, Peoria IL
Aurel/Yvonne Vezina, Edmonton AB
Stan/Jodi Watson, West Plains MO
Thomas/Martha Wilson, Muscle Shoals AL
Rodney/Debbie Winters, Jackson OH
Todd/Kimberly Wright, Prattville AL
Michael/Nan Yurasko, Las Vegas NV ❖

National rally master checks in



Nat'l rally master
Joe Stewart

My term as south central region vice president was a period of ups and downs, but overall, an enjoyable time. I met many new people from across this great country of ours and have become close friends with many them.

The region has two groups of individuals interested in forming a new chapter or two. That's one thing I wanted during my term, but, unfortunately it did not happen, although

I believe the region did increase its membership.

My goal as the newly-elected national rally master is to

continue the good work of my predecessor, **Dick Snyder**. In that respect, along with the approval of **John Baker**, executive vice president, I assumed this position early, enabling me to work with **John Bujnovsky**, southwest region vice president, who will also serve as rally master for the 2012 national rally to be held in Tucson, Ariz. I believe he has laid the groundwork for another outstanding rally.

My thoughts for the next two years are to determine where the rallies could be held that would attract more attendees from both coasts. With fuel costs being what they are, traveling long distances are having a negative effect.

Lastly, many thanks to those of you who voted. ❖



Secretary
MaryAnn Crowell

Minutes of DOAI meetings

Board of directors meeting

Meeting held October 21, 2011, Shawnee, Okla. Members present: **John Baker, Bob Soltwedel, MaryAnn Crowell, Pete Palasota, David Blomstrom, Bob Williams, Joe Stewart, John Ricciardi, Phil Yovino, and Jack Romeyk.** There being sufficient for a quorum, the meeting was continued.

Also present: **Nina Soltwedel, Portia Williams, and John Curtis.**

Executive Vice President Baker called the meeting to order and those present were introduced.

Pete Palasota, treasurer, gave the report of the financials; they were approved. Pete stated that we were doing well on our own without the support of Fleetwood; we are in the black.

MaryAnn Crowell, secretary, read the minutes of the previous meeting; they were approved as read.

Executive Vice President Baker asked that the minutes of the meeting be issued shortly after the meeting to all board members for their approval. Then a copy sent to Nina Soltwedel for the next issue of *Discovery Express*. He would like all electronic meetings to start and end with him, so that he can count the votes and give all of the board the results. The secretary will then print the results and file them with the voted-upon item.

Past President Phil has persons to run for all of the positions that are necessary for the next year, but the voting so far is very low. Discussed ways to improve the membership vote: several ideas were given, but as long as the voting is open and we are at a national rally, the ballots can be used at that rally to encourage members to vote. We will start at the current rally and have available at the general meeting, Saturday, October 22, paper ballots for those who wish to vote now.

Membership Director Portia Williams stated that the numbers are staying about the same, with complimentary members about a 10 percent of the response. These are the members that come from a list of new Discovery owners from Fleetwood. Dealerships need to be contacted by the region vice presidents; Portia has developed a packet for them to help the dealer to promote the club.

Northeast Vice President Jack Romeyk asked if all Fleetwood dealers know about the club. Phil and Nina both have a copy of an old letter that was sent out; Nina will send a copy to MaryAnn. John Baker and MaryAnn will work to revise the letter. MaryAnn will get a list of all of the Fleetwood dealers from their website and we will do a mailing to all of the current Fleetwood dealers.

Newsletter Editor Nina Soltwedel would like an announcement during the general meeting, encouraging all members to go green and get *Discovery Express* via the Internet. This saved us \$1,900 this past year alone. Suggestion made to add a line to the membership application form, asking for their email address, to receive the newsletter electronically.

The current national rally out years schedule was gone over, with 2012 southwest region and 2013 southeast region approved. The next years are currently listed as 2014 northwest region, 2015 north central region, and 2016 northeast region.

We will revisit this schedule at the next national rally.

Southeast Vice President John Ricciardi stated that he felt that the southeast region rally at Lazydays should be considered a national rally. With Lazydays doing a lot of the work and having a lot of the rally needs already there, this rally makes money. The region's rally last year made about \$3,000 profit. No decision on this topic.

Northeast Vice President Jack Romeyk asked what location would be best for the northeast. This brought up the training of the region vice president on how to run a rally. John Baker is currently working on that information. National rally plans should be reviewed by the national rally master and then to the executive vice president. We need to watch the fuel prices when considering a site to get the best attendance of membership.

The majority of active members are currently located in the south central, southeast, and north central regions, so they should help with the other national rallies. The region leads the rally but does not do the rally alone. The national rally master needs to step in and get them some help to cover some leadership roles in or out of that region. Vice President of Development Bob Soltwedel stated that food and entertainment need to be done within the hosting rally.

National rally needs to really be a national function!

2012 national rally will be at Lazydays in Tucson, Ariz., October 8-14. We have a preliminary budget and will be working with Southwest Vice President **John Bujnovsky** to get a final budget to the board soon for their vote.

Southeast Vice President John Ricciardi asked if it would be advisable to build into a rally budget a considerable supplement of funds for a region to get people to the rally. We all gave our position on that idea, and in the end John decided that it would not be advisable to make this into a motion at this time.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was approved. ❖

General meeting

Meeting held October 22, 2011, Shawnee, Okla. A quorum was deemed to be present. Executive Vice President Baker called the meeting to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all attendees.

Pete Palasota, treasurer, gave the report of the financials; they were approved. A question was asked about the large balance: Pete stated that we needed to be able to cover any losses and also that the current rally was not paid for yet.

MaryAnn Crowell, secretary, read the minutes of the previous meeting; they were approved as read.

Portia Williams said that the membership is staying about the same, between 1425-1450 members. The Internet and referrals are the leader in new members.

Nina Soltwedel stated that if you sign up for the *Discovery Express* on the Internet and go green, you would receive your newsletter four weeks earlier than by mail. We are also looking for more companies to advertise, and that DOAI members can place free ads for their items, unless they are

Continued on next page...

Minutes of meetings, continued

selling for a profit and then members still get an attractive rate for advertising.

Dick Tracy, merchandise director, stated that sales were a little slow, but doing okay.

A big “thank you” to Portia, Nina, and Dick for all that they do for the DOAI. Also to our vendors who will be open until 1:00 for last minute shopping.

Southeast Vice President John Riccardi spoke about the next 2012 southeast region rally, “Sunshine Celebration.” This region is the only one to hold a rally every year and our newest chapter, the Florida Discovery Sunshiners is hosting it. All of the planning is currently ongoing, with registration forms on the website or in the latest *Discovery Express*. The dates are January 29-February 3.

We need to have more members ready to set up a chapter; all it takes is five coaches, who enjoy doing the same things. We can give you examples of bylaws and standing rules and you adapt them to your group, as long as you follow the national bylaws and standing rules.

Our next national rally will be October 8-14 at Lazydays in Tucson, Ariz. More information will be on the website and in *Discovery Express*. Since there are just a few members in this area, chapters will be asked to give a helping hand. Members helping members – national rallies should be a national function!

Voting ballots are available for the current election cycle. We need you to vote even if there is only one person on the ballot; this shows your support for DOAI. Past President Phil Yovino gave the list of officers running for the current position and introduced those who were present.

South Central Vice President Joe Stewart thanked all who helped with the Shawnee rally.

Nina Soltwedel thanked Phil for all of the contributions that he has made during his years in various offices of DOAI. Phil responded that he was here because of all the people. Phil has served for 12 years on the board of DOAI and he enjoyed it all. We are the best!

Motion to adjourn the meeting was approved. ❖



John Maris

Do you have the part to make that repair?, part two

In the July 2011 issue of this newsletter (and online at the DOAI egroup) I requested members to provide a list of parts having had to be replaced so I could compile a list of the most common parts to carry. I only received 21 replies, so I am unable to come up with a list with any accuracy. However, I have been able to put together the

following:

Minimum items to carry

- ✓ Volt ohmmeter
- ✓ Tire pressure gauge
- ✓ Assorted screwdrivers
- ✓ Pliers and wire crimpers
- ✓ Socket wrenches - 3/8 drive plus open-end
- ✓ Hammer
- ✓ Duct tape
- ✓ Zip ties
- ✓ Electrical tape
- ✓ Assorted fuses
- ✓ Silicone spray
- ✓ Velcro
- ✓ Bungee cords
- ✓ Reflectors, should your unit become disabled.

Should-carry list

This list is for the person who can do a little work:

- ✓ One gallon of diesel
- ✓ Oil - 5 qts. size
- ✓ Fuel filter
- ✓ One gallon of anti-freeze
- ✓ One gallon of distilled water
- ✓ Some hydraulic fluid
- ✓ Replacement belts (new, or the ones that were replaced during last service)
- ✓ Hard start A/C capacitor

- ✓ Extra sewer hose
- ✓ Water filter
- ✓ Shear pins for the slide and jacks
- ✓ Water pressure gauge
- ✓ Water kit for the toilet
- ✓ Windshield wiper blade
- ✓ Cargo latch
- ✓ Slide out switches.

Possible failure list

These parts have gone out on many units, but without the volume required to be accurate, I give you this list as a possible failure:

- ✓ Power transfer switch
- ✓ Battery disconnects solenoid
- ✓ Alternator
- ✓ Water pump
- ✓ Water heater PC board
- ✓ Ice maker fill tube
- ✓ Ignition switch on 1999 models
- ✓ Auxiliary start relay
- ✓ Slide switches

Things to do

- ✓ Install Velcro on the plug that plugs into your monitor. The weight of the plug has caused the printed circuit board on the monitor to go out.
- ✓ Replace the LEDs in the exterior handle and in the toilet room handle. You can purchase the LEDs at Radio Shack or Fleetwood has a replacement.
- ✓ Extend the slobber tube (breather) so the oil will not get on the radiator.
- ✓ Protect the ECC module from water/moisture from the refrigerator.
- ✓ Install screens on the refrigerator, water heater and heater outlets so that mud daubers cannot build a nest. ❖

Yahoo! group conversation about oil changes

The following conversations have been taken from DOAI's Yahoo! egroup. You can read the full context at groups.yahoo.com/group/discoveryownersassociation. If you are not a member, you can register at that site, choose a username and password, and then the moderator will approve your joining. Jump in! There are many helpful conversations waiting for you.

John Waterloo posted this comment: "I am looking for other opinions. Only have about 3,000 miles on Cat-powered Discovery this season and have been thinking of letting oil change go for another year. I would not even think about it if it was gas, but being diesel, the oil change recommended at 10,000 and oil prices are high. Plus, I'm a little more lazy each year. Do you get an acid build up with diesel like gas?"



Larry Ward responded: "I have changed my Cummins engine every two years since 2004, always at around one-half the recommended 15,000 miles. I figure it will still outlast me. You can always do an oil test analysis for \$25. Check out this website: www.blackstone-labs.com/diesel-engine.php"

Butch Jones commented: "In fleet service, we had oil change intervals based upon time, mileage or engine hours. We also had some very low mileage vehicles that we would change oil based upon oil sampling recommendations. We sampled oil once a year. This is also in addition to changing oil. This can provide you with information that could prevent component failure.

"Engine oil that is heated and cooled repeatedly will create moisture and acidity in the oil pan. So, changing oil every year is a good idea. If you have ever had a boat, you will remember that most marine engine manufacturers recommend changing oil at the beginning and end of the season. They reason that oil that sits in the crankcase over the winter will warm and cool and there will be moisture contamination of the oil. Motor home engines that sit over the winter can have that same contamination."

Linda Bethane then asked: "Butch, if we plan to winter for five months and the motor home will be setting, is it better to have the yearly oil change before it sets for the five months or after? We have reasoned that we should change the oil after traveling for seven months so that all the dirty oil is out and it will be setting with clean oil. What are your thoughts?"

Butch replied: "I prefer to have fresh oil in the engine before letting it set for a while, such as over the winter. That way you will have gotten, as you said, the old dirty oil out and now have clean oil and a new filter/s. There is less chance of contamination over the winter with fresh oil.

Since motor homes are not driven nearly as much as most other trucks, I firmly believe in oil analysis as part of the preventive maintenance schedule. A once-a-year analysis will give you a good picture of what is going on inside the engine, transmission, power steering system, cooling system, rear axle or whatever system you sample. Over-the-road trucks put upwards of 100,000 to 150,000 miles or more a year and that is what the engine manufacturers are using for the 12,000+ mile oil change intervals. Also the larger the crankcase capacity, the greater the oil change interval."

Bruce Plumb joined in: "My Cat dealer shop foreman and I decided to change my engine oil every spring before the season that I use it most. Our reasoning is during the winter the warming and cooling cycles (while not being used), moisture collects in the pan and we want to drain that old oil and water before using it during the summer and fall months. Not convinced we are more right on this than you!

"As to oil sampling, I am a big believer. I used it faithfully in a fleet of agricultural machinery during my engineering career at Dole. Oil sampling can not only tell you about contamination, it can tell much about engine wear by looking at the microscopic metal particles in the oil which will tell you what parts are wearing (i.e., crankshaft journals are different material than cylinder walls). My Cat dealer sells sampling containers for about \$12 that include the container, postage, analysis, and reporting. They even keep the records in their computer and notify me if they see anything suspicious. I do this every oil change. I also sample my tranny and rear end when I change the fluid (in fact my tranny fluid sample container is on my desk right now needing to be mailed). Cheap insurance on a \$5,000 tranny and \$12,000 engine."

Butch responded one last time: "You have a point with changing the oil in the spring; however, the old potentially-contaminated oil is in the engine over the winter, and since you need to start the engine and run it to operating temperature, it's a catch-22. I sample all fluid systems yearly. It has saved more than one Mack engine and a couple of Allisons, from my experience." ❖



Executive VP
John Curtis

New executive vice president comments

To all DOAI members, thank you for allowing me to serve as the executive vice president in our association. Our first national rally was in Kennewick, Wash., and it was a grand introduction to a wonderful group of people. Since then, I have attended several national rallies and come away with the same appreciation. When **John Baker** asked me to run for this position, I felt it was a nice compliment. His shoes, as past executive vice president, will be hard to fill, but I will do my best to make a positive contribution to DOAI. I look forward to visiting with you at the southeast region rally in Florida. ❖

Rally opportunities

You are welcome (and encouraged) to attend any of these rallies! For details, contact chapter president (see next page).

January 2012 –

18-21 Discovery Texans, Tyler, Tex.

29/2-3 Southeast region rally, Seffner, Fla.

February 2012 –

T/B/A D’Zonas, Yuma, Ariz.

March 2012 –

17-20 D’Zonas, Eloy, Ariz.

28/4-1 Discovery Texans, Johnson City, Tex.

30/4-3 Florida Discovery Sunshiners, Seffner, Fla.

April 2012 –

18-22 Blue Ridge Discoverys, Myrtle Beach, S.C.

May 2012 –

4-6 Dixie Travelers, Tunica, Miss.

16-20 Discovery Texans, New Braunfels, Tex.

June 2012 –

21-25 Midwest Discoverers, Akron, Ohio

24-26 Heartland Discoverys, Shipshewana, Ind.

September 2012 –

T/B/A Midwest Discoverers, Ottawa, Ont.

19-23 Blue Ridge Discoverys, Waynesville, N.C.

October 2012 –

8-14 **National rally, *Discovery of the Saguaros*, Tucson, Ariz.**

T/B/A D’Zonas, Tucson, Ariz.

T/B/A Texas Disco Road Runners, Mission, Tex.

T/B/A Heartland Discoverys, location T/B/A

November 2012 –

2-4 Dixie Travelers, Gulf Shores, Miss

T/B/A Discovery Texans, Spring, Tex.

Looking down the road –

2013 DOAI national rally, Southeast region

2014 DOAI national rally, Northwest region

2015 DOAI national rally, North central region

2016 DOAI national rally, Northeast region

Helpful contacts for Discovery owners

Allison Transmission, GM Corp.	800.252.5283	Freightliner Custom Chassis Corp	800.385.4357
Atwood Mobile Products	800.825.4328	Fuel: cost calculator	www.fuelcostcalculator.com
Camping/travel/rest areas/reviews/tips websites:		Fuel: local U.S. gas prices	www.gasbuddy.com
.	www.aboutrving.com	General Electric	www.geappliances.com/geac/
.	www.accesscamping.com	Goodyear Tire & Rubber	800.321.2136
.	www.campingroadtrip.com	Intellitec	800.251.2408
.	www.findapark.mobi	Kidde Safety products	800.880.6788
.	www.interstaterestareas.com	Kwikke products	800.736.9961
.	www.roadnotes.com	Magnadyne	800.638.3600
.	www.rvdumps.com/dumpstations	MCD Innovations	www.mcdinnovations.com
.	www.rvparking.com	Michelin North America	800.847.3435
Caterpillar RV engine support	877.777.3126	Norcold, Inc.	800.543.1219
Carefree of Colorado	800.621.2617	Onan	800.888.6626
Carriage Carpets (Shaw Flooring)	877.706.3054	Power Gear	800.334.4712
CCI Controls	800.521.5228	Riverpark	800.442.7717
Cummins, Inc.	800.343.7357	RV Fog Dr.	501.278.3015
Denso (call Fleetwood)	800.322.8216	RVP (Coleman)	316.832.4357
Discovery parts:		RVP (Suburban)	423.775.2131
Fleetwood RV, Inc.	800.322.8216	RV technical help	www.rvtechtips.com
Sullivan RV Sales & Service	800.720.0484, Ext. 6	Spartan Chassis, Inc.	517.543.6400
Walt’s RV Supplies	909.823.0563	Splendide	800.356.0766
DOAI name badges:		Theftord Corp.	800.521.3032
The Signman	407.365.3722	Trojan Battery Co.	www.trojanbattery.com
Dometic Corp.	800.544.4881	Velvac	800.783.8871
Fan-Tastic Vent	800.521.0298	Winegard	800.288.8094
Fleetwood RV, Inc.	800.322.8216	Xantrex Technology	800.670.0707

Additions to this list are welcomed!

Send your suggestions to doaiexpress@discoveryowners.com

DOAI board of directors, chapters and presidents, founder/president emeritus, and committee chairmen

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Region reports



Region VP
John Bujnovsky

Southwest

We are delighted to welcome a brand new chapter in our region, the D'Zonas, bringing the total in the region to two. Since our other chapter is the Desert Rats (in neighboring Nevada), I am looking forward to having some joint rallies so we can all get to know each other and grow these two chapters.

The Desert Rats chapter now numbers 13 coaches and participation has grown during 2011. The Rats used to have only two or three coaches at rallies; now they are up to having five attend rallies.

On a side note, last summer Shirley and I toured the states of Illinois, Indiana and Kentucky working for Woodall's campground directories. By the way, in 2010, we did the same in Alaska, which was an awesome trip. Not a bit of trouble with the motor home in travelling more than 9,100 miles over a period of 15 weeks.



Southwest region DOAI

Being in Indiana for about seven weeks this past summer, we took the opportunity to set up an appointment with Fleetwood to have some work done on our coach. We contacted them about five weeks before and it worked out great. We had about 22 items for them to look at and fix on the coach part (no chassis work was done) and we were there for a period of five days.

We took a tour of the plant and were pleasantly surprised at the activity and the number of people working. We took the same tour in 2008 during the Goshen national rally when there was almost no one working. Anyway, we were treated very well during those five days and it was a real pleasure to have the Fleetwood people working on something they built. The technicians are very professional, as well as the rest of the staff. Sounds like a commercial for Fleetwood, but we would go back there in a minute to have work completed by them.

Shirley and I wish all of you the very best of everything in 2012. We are looking forward to seeing everyone at the *Discovery of the Saguaros* national rally in Tucson this coming October. More details in the April issue. ❖



Region VP
John Ricciardi

Southeast

Congratulate all the newly-elected DOAI board and chapter officers and best wishes to all of you.

The southeast region rally is being hosted by the Florida Discovery Sunshiners, a chapter that was formed at last year's southeast region rally. This is a tremendous feat for a chapter one year old. I feel that every member of DOAI should thank them for this undertaking.

Another accomplishment the Florida chapter should be

proud of is they were chartered with seven members and now have thirty! That is truly amazing.

The southeast chapters, Blue-Ridge Discoverys, Dixie Travelers, Florida Discovery Sunshiners and Mason-Dixon Discoverys, have several rallies planned for 2012 and are planning more. Please check the DOAI website for the rally dates and locations. If you are in the area, please join us for a great time.



Southeast region DOAI

I thank the south central region for putting on the 2011 national rally – one of the best national rallies ever. It was a great time. I also thank all the Mason-Dixons for the support I received as their president. I am very proud of the accomplishments the chapter has made, in particular the number of major rallies we were involved in. *Camp Discovery* was one of the biggest undertakings any chapter or region has attempted, and you did it. I congratulate the newly-elected Mason-Dixon officers. ❖



Region VP
Bob Williams

Northwest

The national rally in Shawnee is over and was a great success. A big thanks to all who worked on this rally. It is too bad that more members couldn't attend.

The end of 2011 meant it was time to prepare for our winter travels. We plan to travel to Yuma, Ariz., Blythe, Calif., and Quartzsite, Ariz., for most of December and January.



Northwest region DOAI

The Northwest Adventurers are again planning their chapter rally in Blythe for the annual Blythe Bluegrass Festival, January 20-22. If you are in the area, come and join us. ❖



Region VP
Jay Keneson

South Central

It was my pleasure to serve as president of the Texas Disco Road Runners prior to being elected south central region vice president. I wish the new chapter president and the rest of the officers only the best.



Continued on next page... South central region DOAI

Region reports, continued

Everyone brings something special to their time in office and their willingness to serve the chapter is what helps make our group what it is. This is the main reason why we get the turnouts that make our rallies so enjoyable. Thank you, all of our chapter members, for your support while I was your president. ❖



Region VP
Jack Romeyk

Northeast

Thank you for electing me vice president of the northeast region. I shall endeavor to represent the DOAI members to the best of my ability.

One of my goals is to resurrect the Nor' Easters chapter. I invite anyone interested in assisting to contact me. We can have a lot of good fellowship together as a chapter, and I am eager to get together with all of you.



Northeast region DOAI

Another goal is to begin collecting ideas for sites suitable for a national rally in our northeast region. We are scheduled to host the 2016 gathering. If you have suggestions, please get them to me. ❖

North Central



Region VP
Ivan Manley

I thank all those who voted for me in the recent election. I believe I can assist our organization and local chapters to promote the Discovery and the enjoyment we receive from it and fellow Discovery owners.

I look forward to working with our chapter members, organizing rallies, putting together road trips, and communicating and working with other chapters. There are so many great places to go and things to see.



North central region DOAI

I am looking forward to meeting more members and talking about the excellent campgrounds found, fine places to visit and enjoyable roads to travel on.

Thank you for giving me this opportunity. ❖

Editor's note: You may have noticed there are maps included with each region vice president's report this time. This is a visual reference for you ... you can see what region 'claims' you. The states and provinces are also listed for each region on page 10 of this newsletter. I hope this information aids you.

Chapter reports



Chapter prez
Robert Johnson

Dixie Travelers

The Dixie Travelers met at Hollywood Casino in Tunica, Miss., November 2-6 for their fall rally. New officers were elected: **Robert Johnson**, president; **Tommy Wilson**, vice president; **Leo Stonecipher**, treasurer, **Martha Wilson**, secretary; and **Dannie McCarley**, wagon master.

The spring rally will be at Hollywood Casino in Tunica the first weekend in May 2012; the fall rally will be in Gulf Shores, Miss., the first weekend in November 2012.

We send our condolences to Dannie McCarley on the loss of her husband, **Evan**. ❖

Report submitted by Martha Wilson



Chapter prez
Charlie Harvell

Blue Ridge Discoverys

The Blue Ridge Discoverys had eight coaches attend the national rally in Shawnee, Okla. All members said they enjoyed the food, entertainment, tours and seminars. After the rally, several of us left Shawnee to meet up with other BRD members in Branson, Mo., which was part of our caravan trip back to Dillard, Ga., for our

chapter fall rally.

We now have a membership of 60 coaches with the addition of our new members, **Robert and Mary Clark** of Greenville, S.C.

Our fall rally in Dillard, Ga., is considered our business meeting and was held Nov. 2-5, 2011. We had 26 coaches with three attending their first chapter rally. Our hosts were **John and Julie Barry**, **Eric and Joan Elya**, and **Ron and Anne Spearman**. We were treated to The Wizard of Oz performance at a playhouse in Franklin, N.C. We also visited a local winery and organic farm and had a potluck dinner on top of a mountain while being entertained by a local bluegrass band.



Frank Cason was recognized by the chapter for his service as the chapter's first president and was presented with a BRD jacket.

Continued on next page...

Chapter reports, continued

During our meeting, we made plans for our spring rally to be held in Myrtle Beach, S.C. April 18-22. We also made plans to have our fall rally in Waynesville, N.C. (near Asheville) September 19-23. During the fall rally, elections for new officers will be held.

Golf winners were **John Barry, Richard Money, Bill Fournier** and **Bill Humphrey**. **Bob Angus** and the Tennessee National Guard presented the golf awards. ❖



Chapter prez
Ron Wacker

Florida Discovery Sunshiners

Our September rally was held in Dunedin, Fla. Five coaches in attendance. Everyone enjoyed the sites in the area, and, of course, the excellent restaurants. Fellowship prospered and there were many great personal experiences shared along with hobbies and crafts and how we make our coaches work for us with problems and fixes. Everyone came away with something new and a good time was had by all.

Our November rally was held in Bushnell, Fla. Nine coaches attended. We started off Friday evening with a pizza party so no one had to cook after traveling for the day. It was great to catch up on things with old friends and meet new ones. Saturday we held our meeting and had elections: **Ron Wacker**, president; **Joe Fetro**, vice president; **Jody Bruce**, secretary/treasurer; and **James Dykes, Tom Katsuyama** and **Rich Dumont** as directors. After the meeting, we took a field trip to Leesburg for lunch and some quaint shopping..



Sunday we held a meeting on the upcoming DOAI regional rally January 29-February 3 at Lazydays. The rally preparations seem to be going well and this should be a great fun-filled rally. Monday we caravanned over to the Webster flea market and checked out all the fleas and sales, then met at a local restaurant for lunch.

Tuesday we all met for our “koffee klatsch” and muffins. Ate breakfast and then sadly had to bid each other fond farewell until January’s rally. Thanks for all the fun at our rallies and thank you for all the hard work on the upcoming DOAI regional rally. ❖

Desert Rats

We welcome our newest members, **Bill and Bette McFall**. We are looking forward to them continuing to participate

in our rallies. We now have 13 coaches in our chapter.

Four coaches attended our September rally in St. George, Utah. We held a discussion about the 2012 national rally to be held in the southwest region. The discussion was most informative and a lot of ideas were kicked around.

Our final rally for the year was in Death Valley, Calif., in November. We had five coaches attend and a little caravan of three coaches to drive over there. Most of us had not been there recently, so we did a lot of touring before our nightly get-togethers. We elected a new board (**Gary Velasquez**, president; **Ed Watson**, vice president; **Patti Velasquez**, secretary; **Marie Watson**, treasurer, and **John Bujnovsky**, rally master), and talked about the 2012 national rally in Tucson, Ariz. We also discussed our rallies for next year, but do not have any specific dates because we want to run this by the rest of our members so we can continue to have greater participation. ❖

Report submitted by John Bujnovsky



Chapter prez
Gary Velasquez

Discovery Pioneers

The Pioneers are still alive and kicking. We had five coaches at the Shawnee national rally. A good time was had by all. We are still very short in officer positions, so we are soliciting more members to jump on board and get involved.



Chapter prez
Terry Ven Roy

Many of the Pioneers will be in Arizona over the winter, and we plan a get-together sometime after the first of the year. We hope everyone is in good health and having fun. ❖

Mason-Dixon Discoverys



Chapter prez
Dick Tracy

As a newly elected chapter president, I want to let everyone know that I will strive to support and guide the Mason-Dixons to try and ensure a fun time for everyone at all of our rallies as well as at national and regional events. Taking over following **John Riccardi's** outstanding tenure will be a challenge. However, I know that with our new team of officers (**Marshall Mauck**, vice president; **Martha Hundly**, secretary; **Helen Blackwell**, treasurer; and **Bob Deal**, wagonmaster) and the active participation of all the Mason-Dixons, we will succeed in not only enjoying our RVing activities but in growing the chapter. We hope to set in place our 2012 chapter rally schedule during the upcoming southeast region rally and it will then be posted on the DOAI website. I am looking forward to seeing as many members as possible at that rally at Lazydays, January 29-February 3. Be sure to get your registration in soon if you have not already done so. We will be supporting the Florida Discovery Sunshiners chapter as this new chapter tackles hosting the regional for the first time. ❖

Continued on next page...

Chapter reports, continued

Texas Disco Road Runners



Chapter prez
Carol Sturm

The Disco Road Runners have had its usual successful rallies. We have picked up some new members and retired a few older ones. Our numbers have remained about the same and most still attend our rallies and all say they enjoy the campout together.

Our 2012 rally planning is just about finalized, with each being more exciting than the last. We try to get to different areas of the state so that everyone has one or two close to them.

We had great attendance at the national rally and were sorry that two of our members, who were planning to attend, had to drop out due to personal reasons.

In October, our chapter is planning a very special rally in south Texas in what we in Texas call "the valley." It will be held one week following the national rally in Tucson, Arizona. We have planned a great rally at a special RV resort in Mission, Texas, and we are still working on how we will get there. It might be a rolling rally from Arizona ... or something else ... or possibly we will just show up. At present we have 30 spaces reserved and plan on a first-come reservation to save you a space. We will have more information in the next *Discovery Express* in case you are interested.

Best wishes to all for a happy traveling New Year. ❖

Report submitted by Jay Keneson

D'Zonas



Chapter prez
Mike Scott

At the national rally in Shawnee in October, **Grant and Lois Johnson, Paul and Doris Smith, and Mike and Judy Scott** met to discuss interest in forming a new Discovery owners Arizona chapter. All were interested and Mike Scott offered to be the president, Paul Smith agreed to serve as vice president and Judy Scott will be secretary/treasurer. Discussion of the annual dues and who else would be interested in joining to make the five rigs to form a new chapter. **Bob and Nina Soltwedel and Larry and Cathy Hawkins** were not present, but were contacted later and were interested. Mike drafted a letter of formal request to form a new chapter.

On November 19, **John Baker**, executive vice president of DOAI, notified Mike that the board approved the new chapter and welcomed it as the 13th active chapter of DOAI.

Plans have been made to hold a rally in Yuma, Ariz., in February (location and date to be announced), as well as a rally immediately following the March FMA rally in Tucson. That rally will take place March 17-20 at Picacho state park in Eloy,

Ariz. We have a list of tentative rally locations throughout the state and will be setting dates at the March rally.

I invite any interested Arizonans to contact me for more information about joining this new chapter. We welcome your participation! ❖

Heartland Discoverys



Chapter prez
Bev Kaiser

The Heartland chapter held elections at the Branson, Mo., rally. **Bev Kaiser** was elected president, and **Elfers Marzahl** was elected vice president. We went to several shows and had a great time.

We are planning a rally in Shipshewana, Ind., June 24-26. More details will be coming at the southeast region rally in Seffner, Fla. We will head to the FMA rally in Elkhart, Ind., right after this one. We are also looking at one in October, information

to come later.

Hope everyone has a wonderful winter and hope to see everyone in Seffner. ❖

Louisiana Mudbugs



Chapter prez
Fred Reid

The Louisiana Mudbugs met for one of their two fall rallies at the Paragon Casino in Marksville, La., September 15-17. I thought the group wanted to meet there because of the good Cajun food in Avoyelles Parish, but since some of the group was hard to find at night, I think it was the gambling. Paragon Casino RV park is one of the better parks in the state as far as amenities are concerned and in close proximity to many excellent places to get

Cajun food. Eight coaches attended the rally.

The weather was great, and we all had a grand time. Events included Thursday night college football on **Jim Fox's** outdoor TV, checking out improvements several members have made to their Discoverys, visiting the casino, shopping, and lots of great food.

A major event was a group cell phone call to **Buddy Sykes**. He is battling lung cancer, and our thoughts go out to him and his wife, **Evelyn**. We also send our thoughts to **Don and Frankie Caldwell** as Don recovers from complications of a procedure done for a fractured back.

Our business meeting included a discussion about our responsibilities for the upcoming national rally. Elections were held for secretary and rally master. **Carolyn Barnes** was elected secretary, and **Howard Campbell** was elected rally master.

Sunday was the last day of the rally. We said farewell to all and looked forward to being together again in Shawnee. ❖

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Mike Sokol

No~Shock~Zone™

Understanding and preventing RV electrical damage, part six

Voltage drop

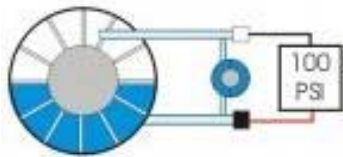
This series of articles is provided as a helpful educational assist in your RV travels, and is not intended to have you circumvent an electrician. The author and the HOW-TO Sound Workshops will not be held liable or responsible for any injury resulting from reader error or misuse of the information contained in these articles. If you feel you have a dangerous electrical condition in your RV or at a campground, make sure to contact a qualified, licensed electrician.

Rumors and innuendo

We've all heard about how hooking up an RV on too long or too skinny of an extension cord can force its appliances to run on 100 volts instead of the regular 120 volts, thereby burning out the motors or other components. While this may happen only rarely in your home, that's because the electric company works very hard to keep the voltage levels constant no matter how much current you're drawing. However, that may not be the case when you're using your own extension cord running from a campsite pedestal.

But before we get into the reality of what happens to electrical gear that's running on 100 volts rather than a full 120 volts, let's figure out why this voltage drop thing happens in the first place.

From the beginning



We're going to put together the concepts you've learned about voltage in Article 1 and amperage in Article 5 in this N~S~Z~RV series. If you've not read them already, then please start at

the beginning and spend an hour reading parts 1 through 5 (see www.noshockzone.org/category/rv-safety/ or back issues of *Discovery Express*). Consider this time an investment in your family's safety. Even if you know how to run a digital voltmeter, please re-read Part 2 on meters, since that's important to your understanding of how current draw causes voltage drop.

What's this voltage drop thing?



NoShockZone.org

If you look at the first illustration, you will see a pump on your left that can supply 120 PSI (pounds per square inch) of pressure, and two pipes heading to the right side. I've capped one pipe with a white stopper and the other with a black stopper so that no water can leak out. Because there's no water flow, the pressure within each pipe will be equal to the pressure of the pump. The bottom pipe, which is hooked to the 120 PSI output of the pump, will have 120 PSI all along its length, while the top pipe, which drains back into the pump, will have 0 PSI along its entire length. And you can imagine that it really doesn't matter if that pipe is large or small in diameter. The pressure within each pipe will be equal throughout its length. I've added a differential pressure gauge to the far right of the illustration that shows there's now 120 PSI difference between the two pipes, just like a voltmeter reads the voltage difference between its two probes. Note that no real work is being done; it's just an equalized pressure system. This is exactly what happens to an electrical outlet in your home or RV. There's electrical pressure (voltage) but no current flow (amperage) until you plug something into it.

Big pipes equal small pressure loss



Now let's make our pump do some work. I've added a small turbine to the right side of the drawing connecting the top pipe to the bottom pipe. The pressure of the water will cause a current to flow through that small turbine to power your blender making a frozen drink of your choice. But this isn't a perfect world, and because there are rough spots inside of those big pipes, they offer resistance to the flow. This shows up as a loss of pressure that's dependent on how long the pipes are and how many gallons per minute we expect them to carry. In this case we have really big pipes carrying the water to the little turbine, so the small amount of flow (current) required only causes a 1 PSI drop in pressure in each pipe. So when we put our pressure meter across the ends of the pipes at the caps, you'll see that instead of a full 120 PSI of pressure, we only have 118 PSI. That's an acceptable loss in this case since our little turbine is rated for pressures from 110 to 125 PSI and all is well.

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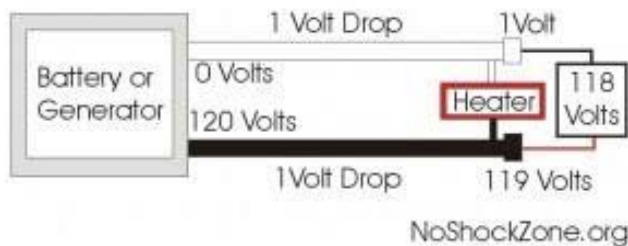
No~Shock~Zone, continued

Small pipes equal big pressure loss



Imagine, however, what would happen if your plumber went cheap and installed really small feeder pipes to your turbine. Your pump would still be creating 120 PSI of pressure, but the current flow would be restricted a lot by the too-small feeder pipes. Consequently, rather than losing just 1 PSI of pressure, you would now lose 10 PSI of pressure with the same current flow as before. Since the top of the turbine has 10 PSI of pressure holding it back, and the bottom of the turbine only has 110 PSI to begin with, there's only 100 PSI difference in pressure to drive the little turbine. Our turbine needs at least 110 PSI to operate properly, so now it's starved for pressure and won't spin fast enough to do its job. This same effect of pressure loss would occur with larger pipes over very long distances. Therefore, if we made our pipes in the first illustration ten times longer, that 1 PSI of pressure loss would then become 10 PSI of pressure loss.

Big wires

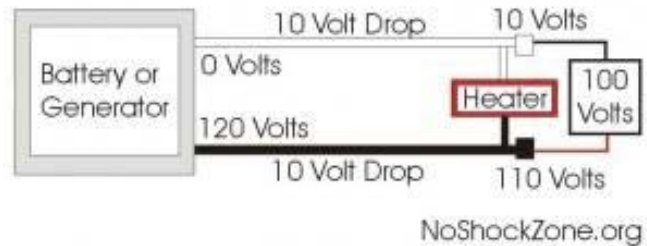


Now let's substitute a battery or generator for the pump, and an electric heating element in our coffee maker for the turbine. Our generator is hooked up to the outlet powering the coffee maker's resistive heating element with really big wires. And just as in the water example, there will be a certain amount of resistance to the current flow. This resistance to current (flow) is what causes voltage drops to occur. How much voltage drop is dependent on the type of metal inside the wire (typically copper, sometimes aluminum), the diameter of the wire (remember that 10-gauge wire is thicker than 14-gauge wire) and how long the run of wire happens to be (50 feet of wire will lose twice as much voltage as 25 feet of wire).

In our case we've run a sufficiently heavy wire from the generator to the outlet, so there's maybe only 1 volt of electrical voltage (pressure) lost on the way through the black wire. But since it has to return through the white wire, there's another 1 volt of loss on the return trip. That means the bottom

side of the heater in our diagram is getting 119 volts of electrical pressure while the top side is getting 1 volt of electrical pressure. Since meters and heaters only care about the difference in voltage applied across their inputs, we're providing 119 minus 1 which equals 118 volts. Since our little heater is rated for operation with voltages as low as 110 volts, we're still in good shape and your coffee will be done in time.

Small wires



But now we've cheated out and installed far too skinny of an extension cord from the generator to the heater outlet. And any time we try to pull a significant current flow (let's say, 10 amperes) down the skinny wire, there's a lot of resistance to that flow, causing us to lose electrical pressure (voltage) just as we lost water pressure when using the pump with too-small of connecting pipes. In our generator illustration above there's a 10-volt drop in the black wire and a matching 10-volt drop in the white feed. That leaves our heater with 110 volts on the bottom feed and 10 volts on the top feed. Again, our meter and heater element only care about the voltage differential applied to them, so it's only working with 100 volts.

Bad things

That should sound like a bad thing to you, and indeed it is. Two significant problems occur when you hook up your RV using a long or skinny (or both) extension cord. The first is that this "electrical friction" causing the voltage drop makes the wire itself heat up. And it can heat up to the point where it gets limp and catches on fire. The second problem is that your RV is only getting 100 volts of electrical voltage (pressure), when it really wants 120 volts. You can reverse think this and realize that voltage drops only occur when you're drawing significant amperage like an air conditioner or microwave. So while your electronic appliances such as a television may be operating properly with nothing else running in your RV, as soon as you turn on that roof air conditioner, you might see your television's electronics starve for voltage and shut down. That's certainly a problem if you're watching an "NCIS" marathon.

Truth or fiction: Low voltage kills appliances?

Well, low voltage affects only certain kinds of appliances and only under certain conditions. Resistive heaters like a coffee pot really don't care if you feed them 120 volts or 110 volts or even 100 volts. They'll just happily draw less current, which makes less wattage, which then takes longer to bring the water

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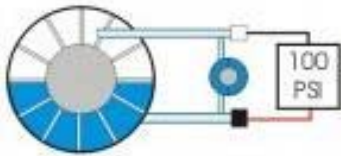
No~Shock~Zone, continued

to a boil. And certainly roof air conditioner compressors can refuse to start if you don't provide them with sufficient voltage and current. That motor has to push a piston against a lot of Freon gas pressure, and if you don't have enough push, it's going to stall. However, there is one type of electrical load that can be severely damaged by running off of too low a voltage, and that's an AC-DC motor with brushes like in a circular saw.

Advanced concept alert

Here's why: AC-DC motors put out a reversed voltage (called "back EMF" for electro magnetic field) when running at their designed voltages. That's because as these motors spin, they also act as generators feeding a reversed voltage back into their own electrical circuit. And that reverse voltage (pressure) is what holds back the current flowing through their brushes (the sparky things you see at the back of your drill). However, if you starve an AC-DC motor for voltage by using too small or too long an extension cord, they won't develop enough of this internal reverse voltage to limit the current flow through their own brushes. And that's why you see lots of sparks flying from your power tools when running them on too long and too skinny extension cords. Reducing the voltage on an AC-DC power tool motor actually increases its amperage draw. You'll kill the brushes in short order and ruin the motor in your hand drill or circular saw unless you maintain full voltage to the tools no matter what your amperage load happens to be. **Thick extension cords make for happy power tools.**

Back to basics



Also, of course, letting your voltage drop below 110 volts is bad for computers, sound systems and virtually everything else in your RV. And while it may not cause an actual meltdown in your

stereo, it will reduce the performance of virtually everything not fed with sufficient voltage. Just like trying to start your car's engine when the battery is nearly depleted will leave you

with a *grrrr, grrr, grrr* and no start, making your appliances run from too low of a voltage, which will sometimes make them shut down or not boot up properly.

Replay

Go ahead and re-read N~S~Z part 5 (October 2011 *Discovery Express*, page 20) on current flow and make sure you have a heavy enough extension cord for the job without getting a big voltage drop. If you're in doubt, go one size heavier (lower gauge number) for the wire size, especially if you're running more than 25 feet of total length. There's really no such thing as too thick an extension cord.

Quick tips

- Long extension cords need to be heavier to reduce voltage drop.
- Skinny extension cords have more voltage drop than thick extension cords.
- Overloaded extension cords can overheat and catch fire.
- Appliances generally don't operate at full performance below 100 volts.

Future shock

Part 7 of this series will cover how to calculate current draw from the various appliances in your RV. Stick around.


Feedback

After you've read this article, take a trip over to www.noshockzone.org and send us your comments and suggestions. We'd love to know how we're doing with this important project. ❖

© 2010, Mike Sokol. All rights reserved. Reprinted with permission. Mike is the chief instructor for the HOW-TO Sound Workshops (www.howtosound.com) and the HOW-TO Church Sound Workshops. He is also an electrical and professional sound expert with 40 years in the industry. Visit www.noshockzone.org for more electrical safety tips for both RVers and musicians. Contact him at mike@noshockzone.org.

Bits and pieces

Interesting information from here and there

✂ A free camping club! That's right, it's free – a club for everyone who enjoys visiting the best RV parks in America.  Members receive special courtesies and amenities when they check into a Best Parks affiliate, a quarterly newsletter with special offers, news about great destinations and attractions, and more. To join simply visit www.bestparksinamerica.com. Remember, it's **free**. No obligation except to enjoy RVing at top-notch parks. And they **will not** share your email address.

One of the premier parks in this chain is Cherry Hill RV resort in Maryland, near Washington, D.C. Several DOA members have stayed at this resort. It's extremely nice. ❖

✂ Disasters can happen, and if it happens while you are in your RV, whether on the road or camped, it can be even more upsetting ... especially if you happen to be affected by the fickleness of a horrid brush fire when you thought you were safe.

In early June 2011, a brush fire in Comfort, Tex., hop-scotched through an RV resort on I-10. By the time the flames were beaten back, seven RV owners could only sift through the remains of their rigs.

Helpful information about how to be as prepared as possible for such a calamity is contained in an article from the RV Bookstore, and can be read on your computer at rvtravel.com/RVusing/ready_for_rv_disaster_printer.shtml. ❖

Postings from the DOAI egroup

Teri Dykman writes: “Previously there has been discussion regarding the Flying J discount on diesel fuel. Since we have been on this trip, we have stopped at Flying J truck lanes and have received 9¢ per gallon discount, but it has to be done in their prescribed way.

“One of the clerks made a copy for me from their book of procedures as follows, and I carry that copy into the cashier with me when paying. It has helped with cashiers who aren’t up to snuff. Credit cards count as cash. You might want to print this off and keep it handy.

“**Note:** in Arizona, you must go inside first. This is because they don’t have a way of distinguishing between the commercial trucks and our private vehicles.”

Flying J procedures from their flyer

Flying J and Pilot locations accept the former Flying J RV cards, as well as the new orange FFA card:

► For processing at the truck diesel lanes – **very important and new:** The customer will need to swipe their FFA card at the pump. This will turn the pump on and allow them to fuel. After they have completed fueling, they will need to come inside to pay. This is the **only** way they will be able to receive their 3¢ discount. The discount will not be reflected on the receipt as such, but the price they paid will be 9¢ less than credit price.

► For processing if a customer enters the location to prepay for the RV islands or gas islands: When a customer wants to prepay at gas or RV islands and use their FFA card,



you will need to select the pump and prepay. Ask the customer the amount they wish to prepay and enter that amount. Once you select Total, the “Swipe Loyalty Card” screen will appear. Have the customer swipe their card at the credit terminal or you can swipe the card on the POS. Once the transaction is paid, the pump with authorize. The discount will be taken after fueling. If the customer paid with cash or check, they will need to come back inside to get their change (amount of discount). If they paid with credit, the transaction will complete with the discount price. Diesel discount 3¢ per gallon.

► For processing propane discounts: The customer will bring in a slip from the maintenance person with the type of propane and number of gallons. You will need to select the Propane button off the Function Panel. Select the type of propane, enter the amount and select “OK.” Once you select Total, the “Swipe Loyalty Card” screen will appear. Have the customer swipe their card at the credit terminal or you can swipe it at the POS. The discount will then be taken and the POS will request a new “Amount Due.” Propane discount 10¢ per gallon.

► There are no limits or gallon minimums on the card any longer in order to receive discounts.

► All cards will start the pump on the truck diesel lanes. There is no gallon or transaction minimum. ❖

Along the road

Things that happen to DOAI members as they travel

Del Perry posted this note on the egroup in January 2011: “We just arrived home to Sparks, Nev., after spending a week in Quartzsite, Ariz. However, the D is still in Las Vegas.

“Just south of Henderson, Nev., we made a left turn onto the on ramp from US 95 to US 93 and when the transmission shifted from second to third, we heard and felt an awful bang. I pulled to the side of the road and got out to check everything. I first thought the tow bar had broken, but everything checked out. Then I noticed a dark thing in the middle of the road that was about the size of a seven-inch diameter ball. I thought I had run over it. I picked it up to get it out of the road before someone else hit it. It appeared to be something mechanical because it had a spline and part of a U-joint attached to it. I took it back to the D and hoped it had not come from my motor home. When I looked up under the D, all I saw was destruction. The drive line was completely destroyed, along with the air dryer and rear brake lines. The D was not towable and we had to winch it on to a flatbed trailer to get it to Freightliner in Vegas.

“It turns out that I had had the Cummins shop in Sparks



replace a main seal on the engine in November 2010. To do this, Cummins had to remove the transmission and the driveline. What Freightliner in Vegas found that caused the U-joint to give way was that the tech at Cummins over-torqued the U-joint bolts. One bolt hole was stripped and the other bolt was sheared off. Freightliner sent photos of all the damage to Cummins and requested that company pay for the repairs. The bill will be \$4,000. Cummins has agreed to pay for the repairs. However, some of the parts are not in stock and no longer manufactured, so Freightliner is trying to find them. Luckily I was only 450 miles from home.

“We bought a Good Sam Extended Warranty when we bought the D in January 2007 which expires this month [January 2011]. When we called Good Sam, we discovered the warranty would run out in two days. We gave them notice of the driveline failure and they gave the okay to get it fixed.

“That night I was having a hard time sleeping because I was thinking about the drive shaft failing. I remembered that

Continued on next page...

Along the road, continued

warranty work last November, but I could not remember what Cummins had done. Then I remembered the engine seal replacement and that Cummins had had to remove the transmission and driveline. Until then I was counting on the extended warranty. When I remembered the Cummins work, I checked the paperwork; turned out the Cummins warranty was good for 90 days and we were almost at that limit, too.

“An interesting turn came when the service manager at Freightliner said he has a motor home and he had the same problem. He had had one of his new techs remove the transmission and driveline, and the service manager replaced the engine seal himself. Then he had the tech replace the transmission and driveline. The tech over-torqued the U-joint bolts and the driveline came apart on the highway and did even more damage to his motor home than we had. When that happened, he said, he fired the tech. (I believe this can happen in any shop.) Therefore, the service manager knew exactly what to look for after I told him my story. Cummins is making good on the repairs without even talking to me. I have to respect them for that. I cannot stress enough to save every part you can retrieve for failure analysis and to save your maintenance receipts.

“As far as the no-longer-available parts are concerned, one is the air dryer for my D. Cummins can’t get parts including the filter cartridge. They are, however, installing a new replacement air dryer they had in stock. The other no-longer-

available part is in the driveline assembly which includes a spline attached to one U-joint and a spline receiver with another U-joint. I am not sure if it is one of the spline assemblies, or if it is the whole driveline that is no longer in warehouses and is no longer being manufactured, or if it is the front or rear spline.

“As far as dealing with the whole thing: we all know how complicated our Ds are and how expensive parts and labor can be, but I never thought something like this could happen to me. We made sure we dealt with great companies like Cummins and Freightliner, but these things do happen. I feel like I had done everything correctly and there was nothing I could do to prevent it from happening. I am glad I had the Good Sam extended warranty and the Good Sam roadside assistance. Good Sam roadside assistance initially sent me a small tow truck, no matter how I tried to tell them exactly what equipment I had. However, the driver saw immediately what the situation was and ordered a flatbed trailer. He stayed with me until the flatbed arrived and helped the flatbed driver load the D. Good Sam saved me a lot of money and hassle.

“One more point: in the past there have been discussion whether the full mud flap was desirable or not. Well, in my case, the full mud flap deflected the drive shaft away from the motor home and away from the toad. Had I not had the full mud flap, it would have done some serious damage to the toad.” ❖

Discovery modifications

Wireless doorbell

Jim Fox shares this neat idea: “To improve our ability to hear people knocking on our coach door when the TV and/or ACs are running, we installed a wireless doorbell, GE model 19208, in our coach. Installation is very easy, and according to the directions, the bell and button can be as much as 150 feet apart. Determine a location for the exterior bell button. Double sticky tape is provided for attaching the bell button, but we added two screws to insure the button wouldn’t come off while driving down the road. Drill the two mounting holes and, following the instructions, install the backing plate for the bell button. Then snap on the exterior of the bell button. Installation of the doorbell base is also very easy. Using the template provided, drill two holes where you wish to place the base. We chose to install ours beside the bathroom door so we could hear the bell throughout the coach. The pictures show the base and button as they are installed. Total cost was about \$15, and installation time was about 15 minutes.” ❖



Matching cabinet color

Gordon Sims shares his fix when modifying a cabinet: “I was modifying the bathroom cabinet face so it would be easier to remove the washer/dryer for service in the future. I had cut it in two, about two inches below the two doors. I needed some simple trim that would cover the saw cut, but couldn’t find anything that matched the cabinet color.

“I took a small chunk of the D’s cabinet trim into The Home Depot and they scanned it in their computerized color match gizmo and mixed up one of the Glidden Tintable Testers with the custom color match. The cost was around two bucks. I bought a piece of raw wood trim (in this case, a 3/4" by 1/4" flat), cut it to size, glued and brad nailed it to the upper cabinet half. It’s set so it overlaps the lower cabinet once everything is in place. I filled the brad nail holes and painted it with the color match paint.

“Matches perfectly and you would never know the cabinet was modified. This trick would work for touching up any scratch marks on cabinets. I went with the eggshell finish and it looks about the same as the actual trim. In fact, it matches ‘way better than I thought it would! The photo on the right shows the inserted painted trim.” ❖





Merchandise dir.
Dick Tracy

Merchandise director's update on merchandise

First thanks to the great folks who were at the national rally in Shawnee who helped me in setting up and relocating the merchandise and to those who helped work the DOAI merchandise sales area. Your efforts are greatly appreciated.

During the Shawnee rally, I took notes from discussions with various DOAI members who were shopping. Based on many of those conversations, I made a list of new items I will be adding to the breadth of the merchandise offered when I set up shop at the 2012 southeast region rally later this month at Lazydays. We will have jackets, both fleece and windbreakers, new ladies' tops, a variety of sport shirts and, of course, chambray shirts for both men and women in short and long sleeves, as well as a selection of other merchandise. Looking forward to seeing you at Lazydays. ❖



DOAI member
Bob Angus

A chassis class worth taking

Last summer, I took the four-day training class offered by Spartan at the factory in Charlotte, Mich. The cost is a hefty \$725 for two people and includes the following:

- ✗ Catered breakfast for three days
- ✗ Catered lunch for three days
- ✗ Full-color training manual
- ✗ Flash drive pre-loaded with training materials which includes a complete wiring diagram for owner's coach
- ✗ Maintenance guide specific to owner's coach
- ✗ A unique Spartan gift (two nice Spartan folding camp chairs)
- ✗ Camping paid for four nights at the local fairgrounds two miles from the plant (50 amp electricity, with nearby dump and water)
- ✗ Discount on parts and service labor while attending the training. Attendees can schedule maintenance prior to arrival and the maintenance will be performed while attendee is in training session.
- ✗ Driver training with certificate provided (by mail)

There was an additional three-hour session one evening, followed by a pizza party. The session included a technician

who pulled our coach over one of the pits and went over all the components on the checklist with full explanations. I even got **Glenda** down in the pit to take pictures and the tech pointed out each component.

The driving course consisted of a half-day classroom presentation, and then several hours of actual driving training at the local high school parking lot. The next day the instructor took each driver out for a one-hour driving evaluation, and that course is the Hazard Perception Challenge.

The event ended with each participant receiving a goody bag and those two chairs. I highly recommend this course to Discovery owners with a Spartan chassis. If you are interested in more information, contact **Greg Rinehart** at Spartan at 517.543.6400,

extension 3122.

I recently learned that Spartan is moving their motor home chassis production facility to Wakarusa, Ind., to be closer to their end item customers. This is planned to happen by mid-year, according to an article I read on Spartan's website. The 2012 dates for this class are: May 7-11; June 11-15; July 9-13; August 6-10; and September 10-14. If you decide to take a class, please note the location may be in Indiana and not Michigan. ❖



Bob Angus in the pit with the Spartan technician



Past president
Marshall Godwin

Past president thanks members

My tenure as president has ended. I thank all our members, directors and board for all you have done to keep this the absolute best RV owners group in the world. I sincerely believe the association leadership will guide the group to new heights and that **John Baker** will be a much better president than I. You have every reason to expect DOAI to continue to improve and provide an even better owner experience for all Discovery owners.

As past president, I will remain a member of the board and look forward to seeing you at upcoming DOAI gatherings for many years.

Thank you – blessings – *Marshall* ❖

The DOAI photo album, part one

2011 national rally snapshots



It was a beautiful October afternoon when **Don Crowell** set up his photo equipment, gathered all of us together, and said, "Smile!" Don (far right front) was the official rally photographer and is responsible all the rally photos in this issue. Thanks, Don!



Hand-made items up for raffle and auction.



The parking committee was on the job. Were they having fun?



John was tickled to hand over the big bucks to the rep from the rescue mission.



Fleetwood's Chris Carter led two round-table discussions and received lots of feedback. We were pleased to have him with us.

DOAI free-to-members classified advertising

Discoverys FOR SALE

1997 36RS: Awnings, power lev. sys., new roof, always garaged. Barry McMillion; beajillmc@hotmail.com \$30,000

2000 37V: 80k mi, new house batteries, newer side-by-side refrig; no smoke/pets. Ray Beinlich; 847.525.3670 \$45,000 OBO

2002 38P: Low miles, mint condition, garaged. Ray Martin; 813.642.9248; franray1@verizon.net \$70,000

2002 37U: 54k mi, clean, with Roadmaster Blackhawk tow package. Sam Hatcher; 850.387.0105; samhatcher@cs.com \$65,000

2003 39L: 48k mi, new tires/batteries; full tile throughout. Sandy Fields; 830.632.9326; thomfiel@earthlink.net \$80,000 OBO

2003 38U: 47k mi, excel. cond., no smoke/pets. Tom Jones; 918.691.5339; tajfish@hotmail.com \$72,000

2004 39S: 43k mi, garaged, no pets/smoke, front bra. Max Beidler; 731.431.3126; maxbeidler@charter.net \$97,000

2004 39L: Fully maintained, new batts/alt., range/oven. Gary Kisling; 503.805.0268; gary@garykislingcpa.com \$89,900

2005 39S: 24k mi, new tires with 1.5k mi, sleeps eight. Virgil Newton; 509.223.4446; noot62@gmail.com \$89,500

2005 38U: 32k mi, renovated throughout, HD TVs. Dave Price; 850.591.4246; hoosierdaveprice@yahoo.com \$89,500

2005 39L: 55k mi, new tires/batts, no smoke/kids. Sue Garten; 847.366.8888; srgarten@netscape.net \$127,000

2006 39L: 26k mi, Sleep Number bed, Macerator, non-smokers. Paul Geist; 248.778.7673; pjgeist1@yahoo.com \$117,900

2006 39L: 25k mi, garage kept, W/D, full awnings. Randy Smith; 423.956.4249; dlhsmith@hotmail.com \$124,900

2006 39L: 14k mi, outside enter. center, four slides. Russ Bernado; 814.590.0756; grumpa@pennswoods.net \$124,900

2007 39L: 24k mi, outside enter. center, no smoke/kids. Richard Rehmer; 660.988.0299; barehmer@yahoo.com \$127,900 OBO

2008 40X: 19k mi, front kitchen, LCD-TV, many options. Gary Hayes; 605.321.0237; garyhys@yahoo.com \$155,000

2008 40X: 13k mi, always garaged, extra awnings. Paul Crutchfield; 727.492.8454; krutch2686@yahoo.com \$125,000

RV-related items FOR SALE

Rear wheel cover: 2001 D, 47¾" wide, 31⅞" high. Robert Wilkins; 419.753.2502; nkvet@nktelco.net \$250 + shpg

J lounge: 2002 38D, lt. grey, 72" long, near perfect condition. Harry Spencer; hws2lms@yahoo.com \$300

Stabilus gas spring lifters for 2006 inside cab over door, w/brackets, new. Ron Hines; ronhines@juno.com \$25 incl priority shpg.

RV lot: Lakeside in Florida w/unimproved coach house, beautiful grounds. Terry Snyder; 303.494.9040 \$105,000 OBO

RV-related items WANTED

Right hand (larger) refrigerator door, Dometic RM 7732 for 1998 D. Alex Keller; 218.525.1385; amk_lnk@q.com

DOAI thanks membership sponsors and advertisers

Membership sponsors

We thank motor home dealers for supporting DOAI by paying for a year's membership for each purchaser of a **new or used** Discovery motor home:

Hayes RV.	888.429.3778	www.hayesrv.com
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If you would like to join this elite group or have questions, details are available from DOAI Membership Director **Portia Williams** at doaimembership@discoveryowners.com or call 888.594.6818 (toll-free).

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The DOAI photo album, part two

More 2011 national rally snapshots



The first-timers got their flags; we enjoyed our many meals together; the vendors had lots of good stuff for us to buy; and that dummy really fell to pieces!



The mayor of Shawnee welcomed us; the food crew (led by Tito the chef on left) fed us royally; the campground was excellent; the big britches and a worker at the overalls factory illuminated our clothing choices; the folks were enthralled by the ranger's information at the memorial; we sold lots of good stuff; a large group learned how to line dance Indian style, and the women all raised their mugs in tribute to the photographer. It was a grand rally. If you weren't there, we missed you! Hope you can make the 2012 rally for more good times.



The DOAI photo album, part three

More rally photos



David Blomstrom, Jerry Brown, and Fred Reid were the high bidders on the auction. We thank them for their generous bids! The quilt winners were tickled with their beautiful winnings.



Bob Soltwedel turned 75, and Bobby Simpson won some big bucks.



The board met to consider important matters. It was a wonderful rally!

Discovery Owners Association, Inc. membership application

Welcome to the premier non-profit organization for owners of Discovery motor homes by Fleetwood RV, Inc. DOAI is an organization intended to foster social opportunities and information exchange among all members.

Dues are \$20 for the first year (includes one-time \$4 administrative fee); \$16 for one-year renewal; \$45 (\$49 new members) for three years; \$75 (\$79 new members) for five years.

PLEASE...PAYABLE IN U.S. FUNDS ONLY!

Questions? Call toll-free 888.594.6818

Mail the form below with your check payable to *Discovery Owners Association, Inc.* to:

Portia Williams, Membership Director
PO Box 95
St. George UT 84771-0095

Join/renew online at www.discoveryowners.com

Last Name _____ First _____ Spouse/Partner Name _____

Address _____

City, State/Prov., ZIP+4/Postal Code _____

Home Telephone _____ Cell Telephone _____

Email Address (*check box on right for electronic newsletter*) _____

Discovery Year/Model _____

Who recommended DOAI membership to you? _____

Check enclosed for \$ _____ representing (*check one*): One year Three years Five years