

Discovery Express



Volume 17, Number 4

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October 2015



“Fall” Into This Issue and Make “Discoverys”!

As we approach the end of 2015, it is hoped that you will look back on DOAI’s 17th year with satisfaction. A significant project was completed (revamping the bylaws and standing rules), and there was a well-attended southeast region rally featuring *Camp Discovery*. As this newsletter is being published, another successful national rally is occurring or has just been concluded.

That being said (or written, as it were), inside this issue you will find important action we ask you to take: vote for officers to lead this fine organization for the next two years. If there’s only one candidate per office, why should you vote? It’s simple, really: your vote says “thank you” to the individuals who have volunteered to serve. They receive no pay, and they can spend many hours and/or travel many miles furthering the cause of DOAI.

Voting instructions (both paper and electronic) are on **page 3**; the bios of the candidates are on **pages 11-12**; the paper ballot is on **pages 13-14**.

Marshall Godwin, serving as chairman of the nominating committee, writes: “Although the ballot does not have more than one candidate for each office, I encourage each member to cast a ballot to show support for those who volunteer to serve our great association. All the things needed to sustain DOAI and provide superb benefits to you don’t just happen by chance. Members make a choice to serve and contribute their time and energy to be a positive influence to DOAI.

“As of press time, we do not have candidates for vice president of the northeast and southwest regions. Efforts to identify candidates will continue and, if found, members will be notified by email how to cast their vote for these positions.”



Wait! There’s more!

As with other editions of *Discovery Express*, this issue includes a variety of articles: updates from chapters, reports of officers, plus offerings from DOAI members and RVing experts. All this is put together for YOU, a DOAI member. It is our hope that you will find something within that is helpful and/or entertaining. ❖

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John Baker

President's report

This column is bittersweet because it is the last one I will be writing as president of DOAI. My second term will be expiring shortly after you read it. Soon, another member will take the reins and I wish him/her the very best. That person can count on outstanding support from the membership and board of directors as I have enjoyed.

During the past four years, we have experienced four great national rallies in four dispersed locations. In keeping with the concepts of our rallies, each is unique in content, presentation, and location ... mission accomplished!

There were four very different versions of Camp Discovery (CD) in beautiful, and sometimes sunny Florida. At each of them, **Marshall Godwin, Gary Osburn,** and others presented in-depth technical information that is priceless for our members because it is uniquely tailored to Discovery. There is something there for you, whether you are a seasoned veteran or a first-timer. As a "many timer," I always come away with some new or refreshed nuggets of information.

Last year, we did a major overhaul of our governing documents that was sorely needed. They are in great shape now to last us another fifteen years, as the originals did. By then, my coach will be thirty years old!

My time in this office has been extremely rewarding and filled with adventures. I thank you for allowing me this extreme privilege. I wish everyone fun and safe travels. I hope to see you at Lazydays in January 2016. ❖

Soltwedel and Williams retiring

by John Baker, President

Two of our members upon whom we depend heavily have decided it is time to retire from their volunteer DOAI positions. They both have served us conscientiously and extremely well for ten-plus years. I speak for the entire membership when I say we cannot thank them enough for their work on our behalf. Thankfully, we will not be saying goodbye to them as members, but we will certainly miss their service.

Since March 2005, **Portia Williams** has kept membership records complete and accurate, publishing regular reports to the board of directors and the membership. She has issued our official welcome to over 3,200 new members. That is over half of all new members in the history of DOAI! She carefully researches and treats every member's question with her personal touch. That dedication continues as she works to transition her duties to the next Membership Coordinator.

Nina Soltwedel has served as *Discovery Express* Newsletter Editor since January 2004, and will continue through mid-2016. That means she will have 50 editions under her belt! She keeps her ear to the ground for interesting article topics and encourages your officers and chapter presidents or reporters to submit information in time for publication. Then, she professionally edits that information and formats it all into our outstanding newsletter which is unparalleled in the RV industry. It is definitely one of DOAI's most important assets and that is due to Nina's dedication, creativity, and attention to detail.

The next "Editor-in-Chief" is still out there to be identified; hopefully it is **YOU**. We need to identify that person as soon as possible so the *Discovery Express* never misses an edition. If you have interest in writing, editing, and publishing, please contact Nina or me as soon as possible. We will be happy to answer your questions and make plans to transition this important function to you. I know you are out there; SPEAK UP! We need you.

Be sure to give both of these ladies a huge "thank-you hug" when you see them, or drop them a congratulatory email. They personify the volunteerism on which DOAI depends. We certainly are going to miss their talents and dedication to task. ❖

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

Discovery Express is a quarterly publication (January, April, July, October). Deadlines for copy are November 20, February 20, May 20, and August 20. Members are encouraged to submit articles, tips, questions, and/or comments. *All submissions will be acknowledged.* If acknowledgment is not received within a reasonable time, please call the Editor.

If you wish to receive the printed b/w version of this newsletter via USPS instead of this electronic version, email the Editor.

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ARE YOUR DUES DUE?

Find your membership renewal date at

www.discoveryowners.com/login.asp

It's election time and here are important instructions

Bios of candidates running for office are on **pages 11-12**. On **pages 13-14** you will find the mail-in paper ballot.

We encourage you, however, to vote electronically. All that is required is that you have a valid email address on file in the DOAI member database. We will be using a free Internet voting service provided by www.ballotbin.com.

If you vote via Internet

Please read these instructions carefully, as some changes have been made: Internet voting is quick and easy. When the Internet voting opens at **12:01 a.m. ET October 1, 2015**, you will receive **one** email from ballotbin.com (if you don't find it in your inbox, check your junk folder). This will be sent to your email address on file with DOAI (to check that address: from any DOAI webpage, click the Login tile on the left of your screen and log in; your email address that will be used will be displayed). This email will only be sent **once** to ensure the integrity of the Internet voting process, so if blocked by your ISP or your email client, it cannot be re-sent and you must use the paper ballot.

Internet voting is available to all members in good standing as of **September 15, 2015**. The email will contain a link that will take you to the DOAI ballot. Make your selections and cast your vote. You can only click the link **once** since each member coach is only allowed one vote (same as the paper ballot). Procedures are in place to prevent voting both via the Internet and with a paper ballot. If someone submits both a paper ballot and Internet ballot, the Internet ballot will be counted and the paper ballot will be discarded.

The Internet voting list will show email addresses that have voted (but not how each voted), and each email address will show the membership number tied to that address. This list will be transmitted to the chairman of the nominating committee, **Marshall Godwin**, when the Internet voting closes at **11:59 p.m. ET November 15, 2015**, accompanied by a list of total votes per candidate.

If you vote via paper ballot

If you choose to cast a paper ballot, you may send in your ballot at any time (you don't have to wait until October 1). The paper ballots must be received by Marshall **no later than November 15**. The counting of paper ballots will begin on November 16.

The paper ballots **must** have your membership number **and** two-letter region designation on the upper left-hand corner of the mailing label portion of the ballot (if you neglect to put that information on the label, your ballot will not be counted and will be discarded). Before the paper ballot is

A sample of the Internet ballot. Your ballotbin.com ballot will include only the region vice president candidate for your region.

opened for counting, a DOAI member (who will not be a counter) will check the membership number against the Internet voting list to make sure that member has not voted via the Internet. Then the membership number will be checked against the DOAI member database to make sure the voter is a dues-current member.

Once the legitimacy of the ballot is confirmed, the membership number is physically removed from the front of the ballot (the two-letter region designation is left on the label so the counters can make sure the vote for region vice president is for the correct region), and the ballot is given to the two people who will be counting the paper ballots.

The counters of the paper ballots will not know who voted for which candidate, but they will be assured that only one vote per member coach is counted. This method, while a bit complicated, ensures your vote is private.

Please vote!

Even though there is only one nominee for each position, please show your support by casting a ballot. It tells these volunteers that you appreciate the time they spend making our club the best RV club in the country! ❖

What's your region?

If you aren't sure what region is associated with your membership, you can find this information on **page 10**. Each region vice president is listed. Following his or her name is the two-letter designation of the region, as well as a list of each state and province (if applicable) within that region. ❖

Classified advertising

Detailed information about these sale items (**including photos**) can be found at www.discoveryowners.com/classifieds.htm. Sale ads for Discoverys and RV-related items are free to paid-up members of DOAI. For details, contact Editor at doaiexpress@discoveryowners.com or call 303.570.2736.

Discoverys **FOR SALE**

2001.5 38D: 59k mi, exc. cond., recently serviced, more. Dave Smith; 281.379.6337; davesmithrio@att.net **\$49,000 OBO**

2002 37U: 54k mi, clean, with Roadmaster Blackhawk tow package. Sam Hatcher; 850. 387.0105; samhatcher@cs.com **\$49,950**

2004 39J: 60k mi, 6 new tires/batts, clean. Ray Wittschen; 609.408.9320; vetdream@comcast.net **\$55,000**

2007 40X: New roof/radials; trans. maint. plan. Herman Jones; 703.909.3998; mail2charlottejones@yahoo.com **\$99,900**

2008 40X: Ext. warr., ext. enter. cntr, Brake Buddy. Eric McBride; 305.807.3358; eric@mcbridedesign.com **\$129,000 OBO**

2010 40X: 32k mi, no DEF req., new tires/batts, braking sys. Freddie Perry; 530.249.1842; fperry3@gmail.com **\$125,000**

2011 42C: 19k mi, tag axle, res. refrig., enter. cntr. w/kitchen. Jeff Eberlein; 513.404.4164; jecincy@fuse.net **\$169,900**

2014 40E: 79k mi, 3 slides, king bed, ext. enter. center, res. frig. Denny Keller; 214.683.1333; dennykeller60@yahoo.com **\$209,000**

RV-related items **FOR SALE**

Eagle 8000 tow bar, new/never used; see photos on DOAI site. Ed Kietzman; 704.572.1511; kkietzman@gmail.com . . . **\$500 + shpg.**

Hughes Autotransformer for 30-amp D's; never used. Leroy Churchill; 512-740-8411; lchurchill43@gmail.com . **\$180 + shpg.**

Loveseat from 2000 37V, tan leather, exc. cond., \$2700 new. Ed Kietzman; 704.572.1511; kkietzman@gmail.com . . . **\$250 + shpg.**

Shades, 2 windshields, 1 entry door, like new. John Didich; 419.281.2814; jdidich@frontier.com **\$350 + shpg. OBO**

Xantrex Freedom inverter/charger. Dlv'r nat'l rally or ship. **Bob Angus**; 931.624.3816; angusr@charter.net **\$500 + shpg.**



Membership sponsors

DOAI is grateful to these organizations for supporting our club by paying for a year's membership for each purchaser of a **new or used** Discovery motor home: Sponsorship details are available from DOAI Membership Coordinator **Portia Williams** at 888.594.6818 or doaimembership@discoveryowners.com.

- Lazydays** 800.500.5299
 www.lazydays.com
- PPL Motor Homes** 800.755.4775
 www.pplmotorhomes.com
- RV World** 800.762.7448
 www.rvworldyuma.com
- Tom Raper RVs** 800.727.3778
 www.tomraper.com

Shopping at amazon.com?



DOAI is a member of the Amazon Affiliate program. If you shop at amazon.com, click on this icon that you will find on

the DOAI homepage. DOAI will receive a small commission on your purchase. The price you pay will be the same, and you pay Amazon just as you always have. Your credit card's bonus points or cash-back status will not be affected. DOAI will not know what you purchased, and you can help defray DOAI's expenses associated with the club's website and this newsletter. Please bookmark the page after you click the link and use it every time you shop at amazon.com. ❖

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 www.ebay.com/sch/i.html?_trksid=p5197.m570.11313&_nkw=Ultimate+Hub+Nut+Tool+_sacat=0

Paid Ad



Portia Williams

Membership Coordinator's report

We are happy to welcome the following new members to DOAI. The new member list for this quarter has considerably more names since the last issue of the *Discovery Express*. WELCOME! Please join one or more of our chapters located around the United States. Congratulations to **Jack Romeyk, Teri Dykman, and Ron and Donna Wacker**. They have received one-year extensions to their memberships for referring three new DOAI members. We have several members who have two referrals – they need just one more to earn this same reward! ❖

Mark Allen, Bothell WA
Michelle Amaral, Dighton MA
Jerry/Carol Anderson, Gaylord MI
John/Marianne Ash, Sebring FL
Mike Benek/Amy Bowman, Camas WA
William/Carol Biddington, Uniontown PA
Bryan/Diane Bishop, Edmond OK
Buddy Blauth/Dixie Thompson, Lake Geneva FL
Mike/Vicki Boren, Brookport IL
Lee/Ann Buenzli, Eau Claire WI
Mike Campbell, Accokeek MD
Greg/Leah Carmean, Ruskin FL
John/Mim Carpenter, Bend OR
Karen Cencula/Kim Cashmore, Wauconda IL
James Cline, Sylacauga AL
Joseph Conway, Alpharetta GA
Linda Cooper, Highland UT
Tollie/Peggy Corder, Beaumont TX
Vince Coreil, Pottsville PA
Eric/Bonnie Craigmiles, Hallwood VA
Lydia Crook, Houston TX
Dave/Katherine Danko, Medina OH
Ken/Renee Diaz, Sonora CA
Manuel/Janet Diaz, Naples FL
Barry/Cathy Diehl, Streator IL
William/Gina Douglas, Bolton Landing NY
Vincent/Cheryle Falls, Kingston NH
Marc/Terry Fellis, West Vancouver BC
Barry/June Fisher, Nathalie VA
Jeannine Fontaine, Cleveland GA
David Foster/Jane Appel, Fort Pierce FL
Roy/Joan Fyfe, Mansfield TX

David/Lynda Haight, Blairsville GA
Blaine/Kristen Hanson, Port Orchard WA
John/Cathy Harrington, Lago Vista TX
Brian/Michelle Haw, Bloomfield Hills MI
Jane/Paul Hawkesworth, Clearmont FL
Mark/Kathy Helpingstine, Raymore MO
Robert/Linda Herfurth, South Deerfield MA
Sam/Nancy Hester, Kennesaw GA
David Hunstad, Alden MI
Roy/Debbie Izzo, Columbus OH
Donald/Janet Jackson, Winchester TN
John Jones, Enterprise AL
Clifford/Maureen Kameda, Stafford VA
Saul/Rose King, Florissant MO
Jamie/Sandra Kirk, Alta Loma CA
Bill/Martha Kuhn, Polk City FL
Nathan/Emily Lee, San Diego CA
Wayne Lemanski, Hollywood FL
Charles/Rhonda Lomonte, Beaumont TX
Cynthia/Michael Lusk, Pasadena TX
Alex MacCulloch/Gwen McSwain, Ashburn ON
Steve/Kit Marini, Morrisville PA
Neville Matthews, Smackover AR
Shawn/Kathy McBride, Goshen NY
Michael/Callie McCarthy, Auburn WA
Tim/Kathy McCarthy, Moosomin SK
Dennis/Linda McClain, Maud TX
Ryan McCready/Kim Thomas, Clermont FL
Bo/Robin Meyer, Sanger TX
Tom Mitchell, Port Matilda PA
David/Debbie Moss, Reno NV
Richard/Shirley Munoz, Louisburg KS

Steve/Beth Narr, Hartford WI
Gordon/Andrea Newlin, Logansport IN
Robert Orms, Glendale AZ
Ralph/Judy Peterson, Cincinnati OH
Michael/Mary Lou Phipps, San Marcos CA
Kerry/Carolyn Pinkerton, Harvest AL
Curtis/Susan Pittman, Abilene TX
Rockey/Jodi Plouff, Gladstone MI
Sandra Powell/Duane Wiste, Regina SK
Chris/Kelli Prader, Zionsville IN
Brennan/Dayna Says, Singer LA
John Scarbrough/Kevin Baughman, Las Cruces NM
Richard/Karla Shawler, Palmyra IN
John/Linda Sicley, Salinas CA
Gary Stearns, Green Cove Springs FL
Patrick Sumner, Gulf Breeze FL
Roy/Robin Taylor, Panama City FL
Brian Teubel, Princeville IL
Keith Tolar, Leoma TN
Stephen/Kellie Towers, Slidell LA
Ken/Rochelle Turner, Gainesville GA
Steve/Marilyne Tweit, Lake Tapps WA
Ernie Ukrainec, Thunder Bay ON
Steve Walker, Hudson FL
Robert/Kelly Watson, Palmetto FL
Nathan Welch, Silsbee TX
Peter/Donna Werda, Ashland NH
Russ Whitlock/Matt Wigglesworth, Johnson City TX
William/Patty Wilder, Lexington IL
Mark/Jenny Williamson, Seaford VA
Phillip/Adrienne Wilson, Monroe LA
Randy/Teri Wyrick, Woodbridge CA



John Curtis

Executive Vice President's report

This is my last report as executive vice president. The position provided a great experience. My main function was to assist the president, and my first job was to plan and manage the

Board-sponsored rally held at Lazydays two years ago. The whole process was very enjoyable and we had a great rally with good attendance.

I also chaired the Presidents' Council at the national rallies and reported back to the Board. This is a way to meet members and understand how other chapters function.

As of this writing (August), it is quite warm here in Texas and I hope you are enjoying cooler weather wherever you are. ❖

Caring for our DOAI family

Please keep these DOAI members in your thoughts and prayers:

Gary Bogart: Last April, Gary had bilateral knee replacement surgery on both knees. He is recovering nicely and undergoing physical therapy.

Bob Deal: Bob had major surgery in July and it was rough going for several weeks. He has now improved and has been transferred to the rehab floor of the hospital. Prognosis is good.

Wendy Bodham: Wendy has been ill since suffering a foot injury in June 2014. Doctors now believe she has ALS.

Jim Allen: In August, Jim had a kidney stone removed via two surgeries, and is recovering at home.

Pete Shaffer: In August, cutting a branch with a chainsaw, Pete fell from the tractor bucket and sustained a concussion, back and neck injuries. He is recovering at home.

Please remember to notify **Nina Soltwedel** (nina.soltwedel@gmail.com) when a member is ill, has had an accident, is hospitalized, or when a family member has died. ❖

Reports of chapters and regions



Chapter prez
Fred Jecks

Florida Discovery Sunshiners chapter

Most of the Florida chapter members take the summer to travel this great country of ours, making lots of new friends and meeting new Discovery owners along the way.

Our first rally after taking the summer off is at Daytona Carefree RV Resort in Port Orange, Fla., October 1-5. If you are in the area, please join us for the fun. We will continue the planning for the southeast region rally slated for January 24-30, 2016. The event's timing occurs during Tampa's annual celebration of the infamous Spanish pirate, José Gaspar, known as the "last of the Buccaneers." That means there will be more than the rally going on in the area, and you can spend a few extra days enjoying the "Gasparilla Pirate Fest."

This rally promises to be the best one yet, filled with seminars and events for the whole family. Most men really appreciate the technical seminars given by **Marshal Godwin** and **Gary Osburn** for the various systems on our coaches. Most women appreciate the seminars on jewelry-making and cooking, along with the flea market. Even the pets take part in a pet parade, making it a lot of fun for the whole family. Of course, free breakfasts and lunches are provided daily and all but two dinners are also included, along with entertainment almost every night.

If you have not registered yet and think you would like to attend, please see the registration form on **page 23** of this issue, as well as online at www.discoveryowners.com. Fill it out and send it in soon, then plan your "Ahoy, Discoverys!" voyage to Florida next January.



Chapter prez
Charlie Harvell

Blue Ridge Discoverys chapter

The Blue Ridge Discoverys chapter has made several changes to the chapter's Board of Directors: **Charlie Harvell**, a past president, has assumed the position of chapter president and **Richard Money** has assumed the position of vice president. Both men will serve in those positions until December 31, 2016.

Our fall rally will be held in Branson, Mo., the week before the DOAI rally in Iowa. Several of our members will be meeting up in Memphis, Tenn., for several days before going to Branson. While in Memphis, we look forward to some good BBQ and visiting Elvis Presley's mansion and museum.

Plans are in progress for our spring rally to be held at the River Vista Resort, Dillard, Ga., in April 2016.

Mason-Dixon Discoverys chapter

The Mason-Dixons have been busy. We have been re-organizing our tasks and improving our efficiency. We are growing and getting active members.

We have already arranged for our first rally for 2016 (other than the southeast region rally in January), to be held in May in Ashland, Va. I will put the info on the DOAI site for all

to see and perhaps we can attract some other DOAI members traveling in the area at that time. This area of Virginia is loaded with history and is within a short driving distance to Washington, D.C.

We are also finalizing plans for another summer/early fall rally.

As of this writing, I am at a Mason-Dixon rally in Lancaster, Pa., and we have 12 member coaches and one guest coach attending. Of those attending, two have joined this year and our newest member is active duty U.S. Navy. They surely seemed to feel relaxed and are enjoying themselves.

I thank all the DOAI members who have sent cards and notes and all the prayers for Mason-Dixon member and southeast vice president **Bob Deal**. **Elizabeth Deal** also thanks everyone for their support and prayers. It has meant a lot to her having this support.



Chapter prez
John Ricciardi

Desert Rats chapter



Chapter prez
Gary Velasquez

The Desert Rats emerged from hibernation this fall to join the California Discovery chapter for a co-rally at the Coast Village RV Resort in Pismo Beach, Calif., September 11-13. The Rats and California chapters now share members, as many Rat members are California residents. Hopefully, this will lead to future co-rallies between the two chapters.

The chapter may stage one more rally before the end of 2015; however, those plans remain tentative. We will be conducting elections this December, in hopes of continuing the chapter. With many of our members now joining the California chapter, and the remainder showing little or no interest in holding officer positions, the Desert Rats chapter may fail. At this printing, we are hoping to avert this event. We will know more by December. Either way, I'm sure most, if not all of the Rats will remain members of DOAI and possibly disperse to other chapters in the region. As outgoing president, I express my thanks to DOAI for its support of the Desert Rats chapter, and hope that the chapter will continue on. Happy travels to all, and we'll be seeing many of you on the road.

D'Zonas chapter



Chapter prez
Mike Scott

Summer is winding down and even though it is still hot here in the southwest, people are starting to venture out from their air conditioned homes. It won't be long before we start to see the flood of snowbirds flocking in from the north with lots of RVs on the road and overflowing campgrounds. Every time I see one, I want to load up and head out on a trip. For the D'Zonas, we will have to wait for November for our next outing. Hope to see some of you there. We'll be at Tombstone RV Park and Campground, November 6-8; \$35/night. Come and see the "town too tough to die." We plan a day trip to Bisbee for sightseeing.

Continued on next page...

Reports of chapters and regions, continued



Chapter prez
Bev Kaiser

Heartland Discoverys chapter

What a wonderful trip the Heartland group took to Shipshewana, Ind., May 31-June 3. Nine coaches attended, and **Dan and Carlyne Krauter** were our hosts. Each morning we enjoyed meeting for breakfast, made by Carlyne. The group went out to lunch or dinner each day. Some of us explored the flea market on Tuesday. We enjoyed sitting around and talking. Others worked on the Schmidt's coach's electrical problem and they were able to get a part that solved the problem. I thank **Jim Teske, Dan Krauter and Chuck Burton** for solving my hot water leak.

On Wednesday, seven coaches traveled to Decatur, Ind., for the FMA's 65th anniversary rally. We camped in the high school parking lot where all the activities were taking place. There were workshops, vendors, entertainment and food. The Heartland group had a wonderful time at this rally.

Our next outing was held in Amana Colonies, Iowa, at the DOAI national rally in September. I will report on that gathering in the next issue. In January, we will be meeting at the southeast region rally in Seffner, Fla., at noon on January 24 at the Kaiser site for a picnic.



Chapter prez
Don Burgess

Louisiana Mudbugs chapter

The Louisiana Mudbugs had their second rally of the year at the Corps of Engineers park at Lock and Dam #3 on the beautiful Red River.

The rally started on July 29 with the early arrival of **Fred Reid**, followed by **Don and Emily Burgess** and **Ricky and Debbie Keen**. The following day, **Keith and Carolyn Barnes**, and **Don and Frankie Caldwell** arrived, followed by **Howard and Beth Campbell**, and **Alfred and Betty Miller**. A friend, **Virginia Henderson**, also attended, as did **Joe and Sandra Mire**, whose coach was in the shop, so they stayed at a local motel.

Wednesday night, we ventured north to the little village of Clarence to partake of food at a local barbeque restaurant. Thursday evening found us at a local crossroads restaurant near the Colfax RV Park. The service was excellent for the number of us that inundated them all at once. Friday night we ventured into Pineville to dine and gave the restaurant forewarning by calling ahead to make reservations.

From reading the above paragraph, it appears that the Mudbugs spend all of our time eating at local restaurants, but Saturday night is reserved for the best. That is our potluck dinner, when the women have a chance to wow us with their favorite dishes. Don Burgess, having lived in the New Orleans area for years, prepared us an old New Orleans favorite of red beans and rice. This was not simply red beans and rice; it had sausage, ham, and a touch of seasoning that gave it the New Orleans flavor. If you are ever in New Orleans on Monday, this is customarily served on that day at most restaurants. Our guests for the dinner were **Lee and LaNell Breithaupt**, who lost their coach to fire a few years ago.

At the club meeting Saturday morning, it was decided to have the next rally the first weekend in November at Lincoln Parish Park in Ruston.

Sunday morning found the club members going their separate ways after detaching the umbilical cords from the park posts. All in all, it was a very successful rally with good food, good friends, and a lot of laughs.

Submitted by Fred Reid



Chapter prez
Jim Sullivan

Discovery California chapter

This past summer was a slow time for Discovery California, but we are going gangbusters this fall and winter.

In September, we had a fun-filled joint rally at Pismo Beach Coast Village with **Gary Velasquez** and his Desert Rats. Thirteen Ds showed up to enjoy a late summer weekend at the beach. Afterward, three Discovery California members made the long journey to the Amana Colonies and the DOAI national rally. On the way home from that rally, **Susan** and I stopped and enjoyed the Balloon Festival in Albuquerque, N. Mex.

From October 30-November 1, we will be off to Jackson Rancheria RV Park in Jackson, Calif., for a Halloween treat. Located in a beautiful, secluded forest setting, Jackson Rancheria RV Park is only minutes away from all the action at the casino, as well as the historic Mother Lode Gold Country. November 20-23, we will have a rally at the Palm Canyon RV Resort that allows guests easy access to Anza-Borrego State Park. We will be relaxing at the resort or exploring the unique wildlife, and taking in the breathtaking stargazing that Borrego Springs' dark sky community has to offer.

In January, a number of us will be heading to Quartzsite, Ariz., for a very informal gathering after a stop at the FMCA rally in Indio, Calif.



Chapter prez
Jim Pellow

Discovery Texans chapter

The Discovery Texans do not have rallies during the summer months. We resumed our schedule in September and the chapter voted to hold our September rally at the national rally in Iowa. Our last rally for the year will be at Canyon Trail RV Resort, San Marcos, Tex. If you will be in the area, you are welcome to join us. Contact our chapter treasurer, **Leroy Churchill**, at lchurchill43@gmail.com, or call 512.740.8411. You can also access the chapter's guest reservation form at <http://discoveryowners.com/DTXGUEST.pdf>.

Thomas and Betty Jean Baughn joined our chapter in July. We hope to meet and greet them, if not at the national rally in Iowa, then at a rally real soon. Welcome!

Submitted by Elaine Holley

Continued on next page...

Reports of chapters and regions, continued



Chapter prez
Doc Simpson

Texas Discovery Road Runners chapter

Our chapter held a rally in Amarillo, Tex., June 1-6 at the Amarillo RV Ranch. During the rally, we visited the Panhandle Plains Museum, one of the largest in the country. We also visited an antique RV museum, with many RVs and more motorcycles than I could count. On display is the motor coach used in the film, "RV."

One afternoon we toured Palo Duro canyon, and stayed to enjoy a dinner at the Texas Outdoor Musical there. On another day, we rode the limos to the Big Texan Steakhouse for lunch.

Some departed for home on Friday, others stayed to attend the Coors Cowboy Club Rodeo the next day. This was not a regular rodeo: every event was a contest between the cowboys from local ranches. The only event that resembled a regular rodeo was saddle bronc riding, but they could hold on with both hands. They also had what I call steer roping and wrestling. Two steers and five cowboys are in the arena; with two cowboys to a steer and one cowboy available to help where needed, each team had to get their steer down and hogtied to get their time.

Another event involved teams of five cowboys each, about 40 steers with numbers on their backs, a pickup truck and a stock trailer. Duplicate numbered steers were cut from the

group, herded down the arena, and behind the gate. The winning team had a young gal who cut the steers from the herd, and that group's time was 56 seconds. Most of the other times were two to five minutes.

The wild cow milking became interesting when one cow, not afraid of the horses, tried to attack every horse and would not leave the arena until they double-roped her and dragged her out.

Those who left the rally early missed the best part.

Southwest region



Region vice prez
Mike Scott

The D'Zonas, Desert Rats, and California Discovery chapters hope you all had a wonderful summer. Fall and winter in the southwest is the perfect time for getting out with our D's. The weather is just right and there are so many places to visit.

Each chapter holds rallies during this time of year and each invite other DOAI members to stop in if you are in the area. Just take a look at the calendar and see if one lines up with your plans.

Everyone is looking forward to the national this year and the southwest hopes to make a good showing at the rally. See you all there. Happy trails. ❖

Photos from chapter rallies



Louisiana Mudbugs at rally: Joe Mire, Fred Reid, Virginia Henderson, Sandra Mire, Alfred Miller, Betty Miller, Emily Burgess, Don Burgess, Don Caldwell, Frankie Caldwell, Howard Campbell, Beth Campbell, Ricky Keen, Debbie Keen, LeNell Breithaupt, Mudbugs' mascot Lauren, Keith Barnes, Carolyn Barnes



Mason-Dixon Discoverys at rally, alphabetically: Helen and Sonny Blackwell, Gail and Glenn Camp, Martha and Tom Hundley, Alice and Ron Kiebler, Jean and Richard Money, Gloria and Roger Mory, Debra and Jerry Pruyne, Alice and John Ricciardi, Lynette and Jack Sims, Darlene and Jack Torbert, Linda and Louis Zilinski



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Rally opportunities

We invite you to attend any of the following rallies. Contact chapter president for details (see **page 10**). See also the consolidated rally schedule at www.discoveryowners.com. It is updated periodically.

October 2015 –

- 1-5 Florida Discovery Sunshiners, Port Orange, Fla.
- 28-31 Discovery Texans, San Marcos, Tex.
- 29/11-2 Texas Discovery Road Runners, Canton, Tex.
- 30/11-1 Discovery California, Jackson Rancheria, Calif.

November 2015 –

- 6-8 Louisiana Mudbugs, Ruston, La.
- 6-8 D'Zonas, Tombstone, Ariz.
- 6-13 Florida Discovery Sunshiners, Fort Pierce, Fla.
- 20-23 Discovery California, Borrego Springs, Calif.
- T/B/A Desert Rats, T/B/A

December 2015 –

- 2-8 Florida Discovery Sunshiners, Seffner, Fla.
- 30/1-2 Florida Discovery Sunshiners, Seffner, Fla.

January 2016 –

- 24-29 Southeast Region rally, Seffner, Fla.
- 24 Heartland Discoverys, Seffner, Fla.
- T/B/A Discovery California, Quartzsite, Ariz.

February 2016 –

- 3-6 Discovery Texans, Tyler, Tex.

March 2016 –

- 30/4-2 Discovery Texans, Hempstead, Tex.

April 2016 –

- T/B/A Blue Ridge Discoverys, Dillard, Ga.

May 2016 –

- 18-21 Discovery Texans, Stonewall, Tex.
- T/B/A Mason-Dixon Discoverys, T/B/A

November 2016 –

- 9-12 Discovery Texans, San Marcos, Tex.

Helpful contacts for Discovery owners

Allison Transmission, GM Corp.	800.252.5283	Onan	800.888.6626
Atwood Mobile Products	800.825.4328	Power Gear	800.334.4712
Caterpillar RV engine support	877.777.3126	Riverpark	800.442.7717
Carefree of Colorado	800.621.2617	RV Doctor	www.rvdoctor.com
Carriage Carpets (Shaw Flooring)	877.706.3054	RV Education 101	www.rveducation101.com
CCI Controls	800.521.5228	RVP (Coleman)	316.832.4357
Cummins, Inc.	800.343.7357	RVP (Suburban)	423.775.2131
Denso (call Fleetwood)	800.322.8216	RV Tire Safety	www.rvtiresafety.com
Discovery parts:		Spartan Chassis	517.543.6400
Fleetwood RV, Inc.	800.322.8216	Splendide	800.356.0766
Sullivan RV Sales & Service	800.720.0484, Ext. 6	Thetford Corp.	800.521.3032
Walt's RV Surplus	909.421.1107	Trojan Battery Co.	www.trojanbattery.com
DOAI badges: The Sign Man	407.365.3722	Velvac	800.783.8871
Dometic Corp.	800.544.4881	Winegard	800.288.8094
Fan-Tastic Vent	800.521.0298	Xantrex Technology	800.670.0707
Fleetwood RV, Inc.	800.322.8216	Apps and websites:	
Freightliner Custom Chassis Corp	800.385.4357	www.accesscamping.com ✓ ✕ ✨	
General Electric	www.geappliances.com/geac/	www.campingroadtrip.com ✓ ✕	
Goodyear Tire & Rubber	800.321.2136	www.gasbuddy.com ✓ ✕ ◻ ✨	
Intellitec	800.251.2408	www.interstaterestareas.com - no app	
Kidde Safety products	800.880.6788	www.rvdumps.com/dumpstations - no app	
Kwikkee products	800.736.9961	www.rvparking.com ✓	
Magnadyne	800.638.3600	www.rvparky.com ✓ ✕	
Michelin North America	800.847.3435	www.truckertools.com ✓ ✕	
Norcold, Inc.	800.543.1219	www.usareststops.com ✓ ✕	

Apps for smartphones (free or paid): ✓ Apple; ✕ Android; ◻ Windows; ✨ Mobile Web; ✨ Blackberry
For other member-recommended helpful contacts/apps/websites, visit www.discoveryowners.com

DOAI officers/chapters/committees/website

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Mike Scott, 7725 N Cortaro Rd, Tucson AZ 85743-8826; 520.579.9931; jamdscott1@gmail.com

Florida Discovery Sunshiners (SE Region)

Fred Jecks, 840 N Atmore Cir, Deltona FL 32725-3341; 386.532.0762; 386.801.1256; fred.jecks@gmail.com

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Louisiana Mudbugs (SC Region)

Don Burgess, 144 Gunter Rd, Pineville LA 71360-9194; 318.449.3595; 318.613.6819; donem642@att.net

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Midwest Discoverers (NC Region)

Jerald Call, 6825 County Road 16, Butler IN 46721-9417; 260.868.2580; 260.927.5397; jcallnorthpond@netzero.com

Northwest Adventurers (NW Region)

Gilbert (Wally) Wallington, 1729 S Fairway Dr, Pocatello ID 83201-2311; 208.237.4655; gwallington@juno.com

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Bruce Plumb, 4384 State Hwy Y, Galena MO 65656-4604; 417.239.4544; 417.239.4502; bplumb@centurytel.net

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Website

www.discoveryowners.com

Nominees for the 2016-2017 DOAI board of directors

Marshall Godwin and his nominating team have contacted many DOAI members over the past few months. As of press time for this newsletter, we do not have candidates for the positions of vice president for the northeast and southwest regions. Efforts to identify candidates will continue and, if found, members will be notified by email how to cast their vote for these positions.



President Ron Wacker

Ron has lived most of his life in Florida, and began RVing with his family around 1960. In his professional life, he worked for a major computer firm for 22 years as a systems programmer and project manager. He started his own computer consulting company in 1999, and now is, for the most part, retired, albeit he dabbles with some websites and small networks.

Ron and his wife, Donna, were among those who formed the Florida Discovery Sunshiners chapter in 2011, and Ron served as president the first four years. During that same time, he was the key coordinator for three highly successful southeast region rallies at Lazydays.



Executive Vice President Jay Keneson

Jay retired in 1993 from the Army with over 30 years of active service. He and his wife, Lorrie, are members of the Texas Discovery Road Runners chapter.

Jay has served his chapter as rally master and president. He has served DOAI as national rally master (2006-2009), and as southeast region vice president (2012-2015). Jay also served as rally master for the DOAI 2006 national rally in San Antonio, Texas.



Vice President for Development Marshall Godwin

Marshall has served DOAI as vice president for development (2006-2007), and as president (2008-2011). He currently serves as immediate past president and chairman of the nominating committee (2012-2015). He was a founding member of the Mason-Dixon Discoverys. He has served in a number of key coordinator roles for major rallies and is one of the architects of Camp Discovery.

Retiring from the Navy in 1993 after achieving the rank of lieutenant commander, Marshall co-founded an information technology company that grew to over 500 employees before being sold in 2005. He retired from business at that time.

Marshall and his wife, Becky, reside in King George, Va. When not traveling, the Godwins are active in their local church and enjoy spending time with family.



Secretary Freddie Perry

Freddie has been a member of DOAI for eight years, and is an active member of the Northwest Adventurers chapter, where she has served as

secretary. She has served as national secretary since 2014.

Freddie worked for the Department of Defense at China Lake, Calif., for most of her career and served as an administrator where she would oversee budget, personnel, and facilities for the engineering sciences division. She retired from China Lake in 1998 and eventually landed in Sparks, Nev. An avid RVer for many years, she bought her first Discovery in 2007 and promptly joined DOAI. She has attended almost all national rallies since joining, and has thoroughly enjoyed making friends with other DOAIers along the way.

Freddie is standing for re-election as secretary.



Treasurer Dick Tracy

Dick and his wife, Pat, have been DOAI members since 2007, and Dick has served as national treasurer since 2014. He previously served as merchandise coordinator (2009-2013).

Dick is a retired Navy officer, having been a captain in the Supply Corps, which is the business and logistical area of the Navy. He served 11 years' active duty and 19 years in the Naval Reserve. Dick holds a bachelor's degree in business from the University of Idaho and a master's degree in business from Pepperdine University.

Dick and Pat are active members of the Mason-Dixon Discoverys. He has served in several chapter positions, including president and newsletter editor.

Dick is standing for re-election as treasurer.



National Rally Master MaryAnn Crowell

MaryAnn and her husband, Don, live in Westphalia, Texas. They are members of the Texas Discovery Road Runners. She has served the chapter as vice president and currently serves as newsletter editor.

Since joining DOAI in 1999, MaryAnn has served as DOAI membership director (2001-2004), national secretary (2010-2013), and vice president for development (2014-2015).

For several years, MaryAnn has been working with vendors at DOAI's national rallies, and has developed a good list of vendors for use at future rallies. In 2014, MaryAnn was asked to assist DOAI's current national rally master by checking out sites for the 2015 national rally in the north central region, and was later appointed rally master for that rally. She has since checked out some sites in the northeast region for the 2016 DOAI national rally.

In 2013, MaryAnn accepted the appointment as the first DOAI historian. She is compiling the history of this great club.

Continued on next page...

Nominees, continued



North Central Region Vice President Bev Kaiser

Bev was appointed north central region vice president in 2012, when the electee resigned. She was elected to the position in 2014.

Bev is a retired elementary school teacher. She is actively involved in community affairs, having been involved with many golf leagues during the summer months. She is currently serving as a director on the senior bowling council of Michigan.

Bev and her late husband, Larry, who died in December 2014, have two children and delight in their four grandchildren. Bev continues to drive the D on various trips with friends, and enjoys her Heartland Discoverys chapter friendships.

Bev is standing for re-election as north central region vice president.



Northwest Region Vice President Bob Soltwedel

Bob and his wife, Nina, joined DOAI in 1999 after purchasing their first Discovery in 1998. They were among the founding members of the Discovery Pioneers and D'Zonas chapters, and currently belong to D'Zonas and Northwest

Adventurers chapters. Bob served as treasurer for Discovery Pioneers for seven years.

Bob has served DOAI as northwest region vice president (2006-2009) and again since 2014. He served as vice president for development (2010-2013), and co-chaired the vendor committee for the 2001 and 2012 national rallies. He was the rally master for the 2009 national rally in Pueblo, Colo.

Bob is standing for re-election as northwest region vice president.



South Central Region Vice President Gary Osburn

Gary and his wife, Debby, began RVing in 1982 and their first Discovery was a 2001.5 ... which they determined was the only motor home on the market that suited their needs.

Gary and Debby were full-timers for five years and then decided to purchase a "stick" home. At the same time (2005), Gary decided to attend an RV tech school and became a certified master RV tech. In 2014, they sold the "stick" home and went back to full-timing. The 2001.5 D was traded for a newer model, but the Osburns say, "We'll never leave the brand ... we'll always have a Discovery!"

Gary's education was in chemistry, math, and physics, but his work history was as a federal law enforcement agent. Gary has provided excellent RV-related advice to many DOAI members via the eGroup and at rallies.



Southeast Region Vice President Bob Deal

Bob served in the military, and then worked in the paint and textile business. He retired in December 2001 after 26 years with F. Schumacher & Co.

Bob and his wife, Elizabeth, joined DOAI shortly after purchasing their Discovery in 2004. Active in the Mason-Dixon Discoverys chapter, Bob has served the chapter as rally master.

On the national level, serving as southeast region vice president since 2014, Bob is standing for re-election to that position. ❖

Please vote! It tells these good people that you appreciate their service to DOAI.



Nina Soltwedel

Need help? There's an app for that!

Have you ever found yourself out in the middle of nowhere, on a highway leading somewhere, and you need to find a rest area? Or a fuel stop? Or want to know how far it is to the next town, and the Garmin "Jane" keeps telling you to make a U-turn even though you're on an interstate with no off-ramp in sight? There is help ... there's an app for that!

I bet you're hearing that expression often these days, as more of we mature citizens migrate from our "dumb phones" to smartphones. Add in the proliferation of iPads and Kindle Fires, and there's literally a digital explosion going on. As RVers, we are in the middle of it.

I will confess: Bob and I didn't "get smart" about our cell phones until November 2013, even though we've always had the latest in TVs and computers. Ever since that fateful Thanksgiving Day, when he was in line at BestBuy in Yuma, Ariz., for over seven hours to get two free Galaxy smartphones (bless him!), I've been fascinated by the plethora of apps one can get for free (there are paid apps, of course) that allow me to waste all sorts of time investigating, playing, reading, and


such not. (Yes, we know those phones weren't really free. Nevertheless...)

If you've been reading this newsletter for a while, you may know there's a feature on page 9 of every issue that I hope you have found useful: "Helpful contacts for Discovery owners." The list includes the many vendors/manufacturers of items included in our Discoverys, as well as companies from which one can get spare parts, learn more about our RVs, find rest areas, buy club badges, etc. A fairly recent addition was a listing of apps you may want to check out. This issue adds two more apps: **Truckers Tools** and **USA Rest Stop Locator**. Each app in the newsletter list carries with it notations as to what operating systems can use it. There are likely many more apps that could prove helpful to us in our travels. You are invited to login and let me know your favorites.

Not all apps are free; some apps require you to allow access to your contacts and other information. *Caveat emptor*; read the fine print carefully, and read the reviews, too. In the end, however, the aim of apps is to make our lives and, with the ones in this newsletter especially, the journey easier.

Send me an email ... there's an app for that! ❖

Voting instructions for 2015 elections

1. Cut out this entire page on the dashed line.
2. Vote for one person for each office. If you vote for a write-in candidate, please **print** the name so there is no misunderstanding.
3. **Vote ONLY for your region's candidate for region vice president.** If you vote for more than one region vice president, no region vice president vote will be counted for your ballot.
4. Mark the boxes clearly. 
5. After voting, fold the ballot on the dotted lines (see reverse), with mailing label (reverse of this page) on the outside.
6. Tape "envelope" securely closed on ends and flap edge.
7. **IMPORTANT:** Place your membership number and two-letter region designation (see example below) in noted area on upper left-hand corner. Your membership number is shown on the mailing label of this newsletter and on your membership card. **Your region is shown on page 10 of this newsletter.**
8. Only dues-current members are eligible to vote. If your dues are not current on November 15, 2013, your vote will not be counted.
9. Affix first class postage and mail.
10. Your ballot, when received, will be checked against the current membership number/region list (no names on list, just numbers and region designations). If the number is current, the number section is cut off the ballot and kept by a DOAI member, who will not know how you voted.
11. The unopened ballot is given to two other DOAI members (non-candidates) for counting. They will not know who cast the ballots.
12. Ballots received without a membership number and region designation in upper left-hand corner will not be counted, and will be discarded.
13. **IF YOU VOTE ELECTRONICALLY, DO NOT USE THIS PAPER BALLOT.**

Deadline to receive ballots is November 15, 2015. Ballots received after that date will not be counted.

BALLOT

Executive Officers

▼ Write-in votes go here – print name and check box. ▼

President

Ron Wacker

Executive Vice President

Jay Keneson

Vice President for Development

Marshall Godwin

Secretary

Freddie Perry

Treasurer

Dick Tracy

National Rally Master

MaryAnn Crowell

Region Vice Presidents

▶▶ Vote ONLY for the candidate representing YOUR region ◀◀

North Central Region (NC)

Bev Kaiser

Northeast Region (NE)

Northwest Region (NW)

Bob Soltwedel

South Central Region (SC)

Gary Osburn

Southeast Region (SE)

Bob Deal

Southwest Region (SW)

DOAI Membership No. & Two-Letter Region

222 NC

Example of upper left-hand box on front of "envelope"

DOAI Membership No. & Two-Letter Region

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8071 WINDSOR DR
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Pete Shaffer

One man's life

"I licked it; it's mine!"

Those words were spoken almost every night at the dinner table when I was growing up. After all, there were eight of us, plus maybe one or two of my older sisters' dates, all sitting around the table. My dad would clap his hands really loud just once to get everyone's attention to say grace, and then, just as soon as he was finished and the food hit the table, my brothers and I would grab for the first piece of chicken, or the first slice of roast beef, or the first slab of fish that we could reach and we would lick it and proudly proclaim, "I've licked it; it's mine!" After all, what red-blooded boy would steal and eat another's food after it was licked, right? YUCK! If I didn't lick the food first, one of my brothers would surely steal the meat right off my dish and wolf it down, leaving me hungry. My parents couldn't afford seconds with that bunch.

This memory came flooding back to me one day this past July as we were leaving our campsite.

You see, we were at a national forest campground in Dillon, Colo., with a view to kill for and cool breezy nights. A small lake below us held sailboats just gliding along and the tall mountain peaks above the lake still had snow. Sharon, Nilla and I had just spent three glorious days hiking and generally enjoying what this country has to offer in beauty.

We had arrived at the campground on a Wednesday when very few people were there, and we were set to leave on Saturday when the weekend crowds arrive for their loud parties. The campground was booked to capacity for Saturday and Sunday nights. It was Friday evening when the first fellow camper came knocking and said, "I see you are leaving in the morning. Can I have your campsite when you leave?" Then another and another either stopped to ask the question or stooped to examine the departure date tag on the post to campsite #37.

We became concerned enough with the number of people looking at us that we contacted the camp host and explained to them that in the morning there could be a problem as we got ready to leave. I could imagine a half-dozen big young guys jostling each other to be the first one to claim our spot. I fully expected people to start piling their things on our spot during the night to be able to claim it in the morning.

The camp host came by later Friday night and stopped at each site and told the prospective squatters not to bother us, and they could not claim the spot until we

were completely out of our campsite in the morning. That seemed to cool their jets and the visits stopped.

We knew the top runners for our site. There was the couple right across from us with the big brown labradoodle (who seemed to be in love with our small white labradoodle), and the young family next to them with three small adorable kids and a large dog, all in a tent. Then there was the lone guy the next loop over. They had all claimed a campsite for Friday night in hopes of getting our primo spot on Saturday morning. The other suitors were further away from us, but circling like sharks looking for their next meal.

Saturday morning came, the sun rose, the snow-covered mountains were just coming into view, I had my first cup of coffee in hand and the campground was waking up. More and more people were walking past, looking at us as if to say, "Aren't you gone yet?" Oh, the vibes were out there, all right.

Right after breakfast, Sharon and I agreed it was time to skedaddle out of Dodge, as they say. Sharon started the Honda toad and drove it to the hookup area where we could hook it up to the BigD2, and I started the massive diesel engine that propels our home away from home from one great location to another.

I had just finished pulling out of the campsite when, in my rear view TV monitor, I saw a guy running down the street toward me in his skivvies (boxers, not briefs) with an armful of clothing, and a big black lab on a leash, waving like he was wanting me to stop or something. I thought maybe I had forgotten to unhook the 50 amp 120 volt electric cord and was about to jerk the electric wire like a high strung guitar string right before the sparks started to fly, or maybe the hydraulic stabilizing jacks were still down, gouging grooves in the gravel, or the Dish Network ground-mounted satellite dome was dragging behind me, pulling the satellites out of their orbit, or a thousand other possibilities.

I slammed on the air brakes and stopped. As I looked back, I could see him, out of breath, reach the picnic table, plop his clothing on the table, and hook his black lab's leash to a hook meant to hang food out of reach from raccoons and bears. He looked up at me idling at the end of the campsite entrance, and then he did the unthinkable thing: he **LICKED THE TABLE** and gave me a two-thumbs-up signal! He was not familiar to me at all and was not one of the people hounding us for the spot, but he was truly the dark horse winning the race by saying, "I licked it; it's mine!" ❖





Nina Soltwedel

Care and feeding of land yachts

Batten down the hatches, cast off the bow lines, anchors aweigh ... and don't forget to post!

From the beginnings of our country, hardy pioneers, seeking better lives, braved non-existent roads, a lack of any wayside amenities (except, perhaps, the occasional grove of trees under which to relax and rest), no printed maps, not to mention encountering perils such as raging rivers, wildfires, horse thieves, etc. I have often marveled at the bravery and drive our early ancestors possessed.

Our modern-day ventures across the country are driven by a desire to see new sights, meet new people, create new and lasting memories. We have GPS, cell phones, computers, frequent fueling places, rest areas, RV campgrounds, interstate highways, etc., to make our trek easy (relatively speaking).

Just as ships were readied for the long voyage across the Atlantic, and just as prairie schooners were readied for the long voyage across an unexplored continent to new places of possibility, we ready our Discoverys for land voyages ... some long and some not so long. Thankfully, we have many accoutrement in our Discoverys that make our journey easy: built-in generators, A/Cs, diesel engines, gas cooktops and ranges, washing machines, refrigerators and freezers ... the list goes on.

Readying for the trip, however, includes much more than getting clothing on board, stowing the foodstuffs, filling the water tank, etc. For us, “battening down the hatches” includes paying attention to everything outside the coach, as well as inside the coach, prior to and during the trip ... those exterior items that could conceivably come loose as we go down the road at 60 mph, or if we encounter peripatetic winds and storms while camping.

Recent conversations on the eGroup have focused on several exterior items – slides, slide toppers, etc. DOAI members and eGroup participants **Mel and Clara Price** had an “unbattened-down” experience recently, and Mel shares it with all of us:

“July 1 – Most of what each of us learn through life is our experience and becomes wisdom. Many of you have plenty of it! Being new to the D, I’m still gaining mine. Having had the flood on our first trip in our new-to-us D on the full-wall slide when retracting and breaking camp in the rain, I am now paying attention to that slide.

“Fast forward from March until now. Sound asleep from a full day of driving, I am awakened to what sounds like someone trying to rip something off my roof! I jump out of bed, throw on my shorts, and bolt out the door in Crocs and shorts alone, flashlight in hand, to discover no one is on my roof. And it is eerie outside – bad visibility in blowing dust.

“I grab my phone and look at the weather ... a line of storms approaching, but not severe, according to the weather

app. Nonetheless, my wife says the noise and violence is still occurring on the roof. I climb back in (remember my entry steps are broken) and sure enough, sounds like King Kong is ripping my full-length slide off the coach! I go back outside and wow! ... the wind is lifting the roller fabric up and down and unrolling it. Of course, the tension then tightens it again ... over and over in the wind.

I thought, ride it out? And I remember the flood ... and I say to Clara, “I have to get that slide in!” So, at one o’clock in the morning, I fire up the Cummins, accelerate the engine, and bring in the slide.

“Wisdom – you guys share it, and the rest of us listen and learn! The fabric on that topper was torn when we bought the coach in March and the dealer had it repaired. My guess is that it would have torn again had I left it extended. Thanks for sharing your experiences.”

There is a point to this article...

If you’ve been wondering what benefit you can realize by participating in DOAI’s eGroup, Mel and Clara’s “trial by wind” may intrigue you enough to give it a try. The couple learned much from their experience ... in fact, they learned more than what is related here. The continuing thread of this conversation includes more helpful advice from other DOAI members.

In response to a problem posed on the DOAI eGroup last June, new member **Chris Prader** received several responses and a lot of help. He posted: “Thanks! That was it. I feel a little dumb for not thinking of that, but quite smart for joining this forum. Best \$20 I ever spent!”

Brent Mahaffy, a longtime member of the group, was searching for the correct air filter. He posted his query, got responses, and then posted: “Thanks all for your input. I ordered the WIX filter via Amazon. This forum is the best.”

New member **Eric Craigmiles** also needed help. He posted his detailed situation, got lots of responses, and was able to make progress toward solving the problem. After following some of the suggestions, he posted: “I really am glad I found this place and I hope I’m able to help you out at some point. A big heartfelt thanks! I look forward to getting to know you all.”

Have you encountered a vexing problem with your D? Join the DOAI eGroup, then post the problem/question. I guarantee that you’ll get intelligent, helpful responses. Joining is easy; send an email to **Bob Cook**, DOAI webmaster, at webmaster@discoveryowners.com. He’ll send you an email; all you do is follow the easy instructions. And then, with the assistance of your fellow (and gal) DOAI members, you, too, can become expert in the care and feeding of your land yacht. ❖





Frank Cason

Water heater safety issue

In 2010, I had a 2007 Discovery 39L. Isabel and I were on our way home from Florida in March. At a campground in St. Mary, Ga., we woke up to smoke and a foul order in the bedroom. The smoke and odor were coming from the water heater. After further investigation, it was determined that the 120V circuit for the heater had shorted and started melting the plastic around the heater. The smell is what pulled me out of my sleep, as I had smelled plastic before as a technician. The heater was tuned off and we aired out the coach. Once arriving home, I pulled the water heater and it was probably 30 seconds from a blaze. I rewired the heater and all was well after that.

Earlier this year, **Bill and Anne Humphrey** had a short in their water heater. It was the same as my 2007: the wires had become loose and started to run and burn the wires. Bill was lucky in one respect: his circuit breaker tripped. My 2007 never tripped. Bill pulled his water heater out last week and everything was melted. He had to rewire, replace the relay and the heating element – his had gotten that hot before the circuit breaker tripped. Could have resulted in a fire.

So, when Bill advised me on his heater, I made it a point to remove the water heater in my 2010 D for peace of mind. Am I glad I did! The wires were already burnt. It was not a question **if** it would catch on fire – it was **when** it would ignite. Here are photos, documenting the situation and what I did.

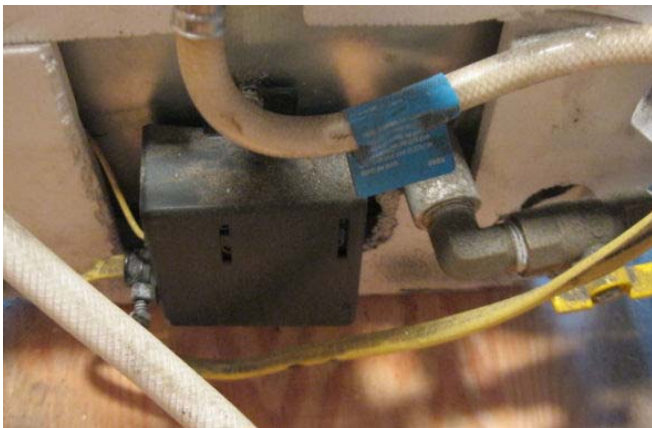


Photo 1: This is what the back of the heater looks like. The black box is where the wires are located, the relay and the heating element.



Photo 2: In this photo, you will notice the clump of wires, all taped together – hot, ground, and neutral. This is not the way to do it. I cut off the incoming 120V wire and rewired everything.



Photo 3: This is the ground wire which is supposed to be white; as you can see, even in this b/w photo, its color has drastically changed. Notice the dark burnt place on the cable. It got super hot.



Photo 4: The water heater out of the D on a ladder. You cannot tell the difference from the white wire and the black wire; even the solid copper wire is black.



Photo 5: A close-up view of the burnt wires.

In closing, I can report that everything has been replaced, and the heater is back in the coach. It is working well, and I am confident I will have good service and no fires. ❖



Bob Cook

Webmaster's report

Windows 10

You have probably heard that Microsoft has released a new version of Windows – Windows 10. The last version was Windows 8, so what happened to Windows 9? Only Microsoft knows the answer to that, but popular conjecture is that Microsoft wanted to distance themselves from the relatively unpopular Windows 8.

Microsoft really wants everyone to shift to Windows 10 – so much so, that it is a FREE upgrade for anyone with a valid license of Win 7/Win8. But, the real question is ... should you upgrade to it? I think, if you are on Win8, the answer is YES. If you are still on Windows 7, it is not quite as clear.

Win7 will be supported for five more years. By then, you will likely have a new computer. More importantly, you may have older hardware (check with your hardware vendor for Win10 drivers) or software that won't work on Win10. On the other hand, Win10 is much more secure than Win7 and has a bunch of new features..

OK, so you made the decision to switch to Win10 or you bought a new computer with Win10 pre-installed. How do you learn to use it? Here is a *Flipboard* magazine I created that has a bunch of articles. Just copy and paste into your browser: <https://flipboard.com/@bobcook415v/windows-10-45sd6qply> This is a "living" document, so articles will be added in the future. Flipboard is a great alternative to bookmarking sites as you just create "magazines" and add your articles to it.

An excellent option is *Lynda.com* – this is a commercial site with excellent, professional instructional videos about many topics. There is a Win10 course that assumes you are an absolute computer novice, and the course is organized into topics so you can skip what you don't want to view. There is a free trial which should be long enough for you to take several courses, but many public library systems have a program in place that gives you FREE access to Lynda.com – all you need is a library card. Check with your library; if they don't offer this yet, encourage them to get it.

While on the topic of libraries, many libraries also offer other digital services that are great benefits. My favorite is digital magazines. Using a simple app such as *Zinio for Libraries*, or just a web browser, I can access and keep – FOR FREE – my favorite magazines on my tablet, phone or laptop. In addition, I can check out digital copies of books or audio books. Although I haven't used it, I can also access movies. And, all of this is free with a library card. I still never physically go to the library, but now I use it all the time wherever I am! ❖

Editor's note: When I received this article from Bob Cook, I did as he suggested – I viewed his Flipboard magazine. I was amazed at the wealth of information he has provided us! His magazine includes much more than Win 10 how-tos, and I urge you to check it out. As one who has been a bit flummoxed by Win 10, I extend my heartfelt thanks to Bob for helping me find my way through the maze of what the new version of Windows has to offer.



DOAI badges are available and are a great way to show your support of the best RV club in the country! The color is "French blue" and the size is 3 inches wide by 1.25 inches high.

- Badge w/pin back (with or without two holes)* \$5.00
- Badge w/magnet back (with or without two holes)* \$6.75
- Bolo tie (specify black or white) \$3.50
- Job bar (for officers or chairmen) with rings \$3.50
- Shipping (up to two badges or two job bars) \$3.00

***Note:** When ordering, specify if you want two holes in bottom two corners for job bar(s). If you don't specify, the badge will come without corner holes. If you are ordering more than two badges or more than two job bars, call 407.365.3722 for shipping charge information (or email signman@signman.net).

To order:

- 1) Print order list; 2) write check for total amount of order; 3) print your name and your ship-to address. Send list, check, and your information to: *The Sign Man, PO Box 622143, Oviedo FL 32762-2143*. Allow two weeks from receipt of order to delivery of items.





Mark Polk

Hitch receiver weight ratings vs. tow vehicle weight ratings

There has always been confusion over hitch receiver ratings as it pertains to tow vehicle ratings. This confusion applies to both motor homes towing a dinghy and vehicles towing trailers. For example, when I was selling RVs many years ago, I had a customer who just bought a brand new truck and came to the dealership to purchase a travel trailer. He and his wife found the perfect trailer on the sales lot and wanted some pricing information. When I researched the truck's tow capacity, I informed them the truck was not rated to tow the weight of the trailer they selected. The customer told me that was impossible because the truck salesperson showed him a label that stated the truck could tow 10,000 pounds. He proceeded to take me out to the truck and pointed at the label on the hitch receiver that read 10,000 pounds. I explained the 10,000 pounds on the label identifies what the hitch receiver is rated at, but the truck itself was only rated to tow 6,000 pounds. It was a very expensive lesson on finding the RV you want to purchase before you purchase the tow vehicle.

On a separate occasion, I had a customer who wanted to tow a medium-size pickup behind a used motor home he planned to purchase. When I told him the truck weighed too much, he argued that the motor home could easily tow 5,000 pounds. I explained that the motor home might be rated to tow the weight of the truck, but the hitch receiver was only rated to tow 3,500 pounds. On some RVs, when frame rail extensions were added to extend the length of a chassis to accommodate the box size, it jeopardized the towing capacity. To solve the issue, RV manufacturers installed hitch receivers with a lower weight rating to limit the amount of weight the owner would tow behind the RV.

I think you get the point, but the confusion over hitch receiver ratings and tow ratings doesn't stop here. I have talked to many other people who translate the label on the hitch receiver to say if you use a weight distributing hitch, the vehicle can tow more weight.

For starters, hitch receivers are rated by class. What this means is some hitch receivers are designed for **light** duty towing applications and others are designed for **heavy** duty towing applications. Every component in a towing system has a weight rating, and the overall towing capacity is based on the weakest link in the towing chain. This applies to the tow

vehicle (engine, transmission, axle ratio, cooling system, brakes and tires) and the hitch components used (receiver, ball mount, hitch ball, safety chains and weight distributing hitch components). The hitch receiver and all other components in the towing chain should be rated to tow the maximum amount of weight the tow vehicle itself is rated to tow, but if the receiver is rated for a higher amount of weight, it **does not** increase the tow vehicle vehicle's maximum capacity.

Hitch receiver weight ratings are based on "maximum trailer weight" and "maximum tongue weight" for which the receiver is rated. Class I and II hitch receivers are designed for light duty applications and have a 1¼" receiver tube opening. Class III, IV and V hitch receivers are designed for heavy duty applications and have 2" receiver tube openings. Note: There are extra-heavy duty and commercial-duty hitch receivers too, with 2½" receiver tube openings designed for extra-heavy duty towing applications.

Class III, IV and V hitch receivers have two weight ratings; one if it is used as a Weight Carrying (WC) hitch, and another as a Weight Distributing (WD) hitch.

A WC hitch means all of the trailer's tongue weight is supported by the hitch itself, which accounts for the lower weight capacity at which the hitch receiver is rated. When you add WD distributing components (spring bars) to the equation, the trailer's tongue weight is distributed to the axles on the tow vehicle and axles on the trailer, resulting in a higher weight capacity for the hitch receiver itself.

Always keep in mind, however, this higher hitch receiver weight rating has nothing to do with what the vehicle is rated to tow. It simply means if you use a WD hitch, the hitch receiver is rated for more weight because all of the tongue weight is not resting on the hitch receiver itself. Another important point to keep in mind: the hitch receiver must be installed properly for the weight ratings to be accurate. ❖



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28 RV safe driving tips

1. Always wear your seat belt while operating your RV. Seat belts function primarily to keep you in the vehicle, even in the seat, if the vehicle leaves the highway or is involved in a collision.
2. Side-view mirrors should be adjusted so that you can just barely see the side of your RV. This reduces the size of your blind spot. Adjust the convex mirrors to include blind spots, keeping in mind that objects may appear farther away than they actually are. Rearview mirrors can have the same effect.
3. Use your headlights to make yourself more visible to oncoming traffic.
4. Back in, not out. When you pull out front-forward, you can see the traffic conditions and are not dependent upon another person. Also, most of the time it's easier to maneuver in tight places by backing in.
5. If you must back out, get out and look things over before doing so. Confirm that there are no overhangs, low branches, or anything sticking out of the ground that you might run over or that could damage the undercarriage of your RV. Many hazards are not visible from inside the vehicle.
6. Maintain a steady, consistent speed, close to the speed limit.
7. When turning corners, use the push-pull steering method. Place one hand at the twelve o'clock position and pull down while pushing up with the other hand.
8. If your right-hand wheels leave the roadway, do not jerk the steering wheel to try to bring the wheels back onto the roadway. Instead, remove your foot from the accelerator, apply pressure to the brake pedal in an effort to slow the vehicle, and keep your steering wheel in a straight-ahead position. Slow the vehicle enough to enter the roadway without swerving onto it.
9. If you see traffic building up behind you, the first thing you should do is place your vehicle to the far right of the lane you are traveling in to let the vehicles behind you clearly view traffic without pulling out into the lane of opposing traffic. Find a safe place to pull over and let the vehicles pass, even if you are traveling the speed limit or slightly above it.
10. If you must pass another vehicle on a two-lane road, consider how much time it will take to get around that vehicle. Rather than waiting for a clear area to pass and then accelerating to passing speed, drop back and start acceleration so you are already at passing speed when it is clear to pass.
11. When entering a freeway, use the first portion of the on-ramp to look back and find a gap in traffic to move into. Use the second portion of the on-ramp to build up speed so you can move into the gap at approximately the same speed that traffic is moving. Merging can be difficult with an RV. You must take into consideration your vehicle's additional weight and slower acceleration and ease onto expressways very carefully.
12. A solid white line on an entrance to a freeway is a traffic control line and should not be crossed.
13. When exiting a freeway, move into the far right lane half a mile to a mile before your exit. Doing this avoids your having to find a gap in traffic to move into at the last minute. Waiting usually means slowing down in the second or third lane, which makes the process of moving over more difficult.
14. When the white line markers that separate the lane you are in from the one next to you begin to appear more frequently (more than twice as many white lines), that means your lane is separating from the main highway. If this happens and you do not want to exit, signal and try to move over one lane as quickly as possible.
15. If you travel in the right lane on the freeway, do not attempt to slow down for traffic entering a freeway, unless required by law. Maintain a steady, consistent speed and allow entering motorists to adjust their speed to the speed of traffic. This prevents you from slowing down the traffic behind you and allows for an overall smoother flow of traffic. If the lane to your immediate left is clear, move into it temporarily to allow ramp traffic to enter the expressway uninhibited.
16. Be prepared for any possibility when you see a vehicle stopped by the roadside. Someone could open the door and get out; someone could suddenly come around from the other side to make a driver change; or the vehicle could suddenly pull out into traffic without warning. If possible, move to another lane until you have passed the stopped vehicle.
17. The most common complaint drivers have about other drivers is their failure to use turn signals. Turn signals are valuable for communicating your intentions to other drivers. If you don't signal, other drivers have no way of knowing what you are going to do.
18. Use your flashers whenever you are stopped near moving traffic or when you are in a lane of traffic proceeding slowly up a grade.
19. Whenever you see a condition ahead that may force you to make an unplanned stop, tap your brake pedal three or

Continued on next page...

28 RV safe driving tips, continued

four times to warn vehicles behind you that you may make a quick stop. Remember that following cars can't see around RVs because of their large size. Use your brake lights to communicate to traffic behind you.

20. Use your horn as a warning device when necessary. Honk two or three times before backing up if your vehicle is not equipped with a reverse beeper. A light tap can also be used to warn someone who doesn't see you, such as a pedestrian or cyclist. In dangerous situations, such as an impending head-on crash, you can use a constant pressure on the horn to warn other drivers.
21. Use your emergency flares to warn other motorists that you are broken down and parked on or near the highway surface.
22. Position your vehicle so that other drivers can easily see it and avoid traveling in others' blind spots. When you must travel through another operator's blind spot, do so as quickly as possible.
23. You should be able to recognize road signs by their shape and color.
24. To know what is going on ahead of you, look 15 to 20 seconds ahead. That way you'll have advanced warning if you need to take action.
25. Stay aware of what is going on behind you as well. Check your mirrors frequently.
26. If you are uncomfortable in heavy traffic and want to avoid traffic bunch-ups, one of the easiest ways to do this is to drop your speed to about two miles per hour less than the prevailing traffic speed. Once the bunch moves on, you may be able to resume your old speed and travel between bunches.
27. RVs are larger and heavier than autos and therefore take more time and distance to stop. Maintain at least a four- to six-second interval between your vehicle and other vehicles. You can determine this distance by observing the vehicle in front of you. When the rear bumper passes an object, such as a sign or mile marker, start counting. You should be able to count four seconds before your front bumper reaches the same marker.
28. Cover your brakes. When you approach a situation that makes you uneasy, place your foot over the brake pedal without actually touching it. This reduces reaction time if your hunch proves correct and you need to quickly apply the brakes. ❖

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Frank Cason

Inverter problems

This is just a heads-up on a problem I have had with my inverter. I believe two other DOAI members have had or are having the same problem. Perhaps some of you with the newer coaches may fit into this category. My suggestion is for you to take the time to check your inverters or have a competent technician check them out – probably an electrician. Here is what I discovered when I went into my inverters.

The photo on the right is of the inverter wires that I have removed from the inside of the converter. I have changed out three of six wire connectors from a red connector to a yellow. The yellow is for two #12 wires which are being connected. The red is for four #12 wires.

By using the larger red connector, it is really hard or just impossible to get a good connection. With this connector, the wires will work loose and begin rubbing, which will cause electrical sparks, which will lead to a fire...which I almost had. I have re-wired both of my inverters and you will notice that there is only one red connector. This connector connects all the ground wires together (four of them). I have used the yellow connector to connect the two #12 wires, plus taped them for safety. Others out there may have the same problem. You will only know if you have inverter problems or unless you do as I have done: open the inverter and check the wires. I had red connectors fall off the wires when I pulled them out of the inverter. ❖





Mark Polk

Top ten consumable items to always have in your RV

When you go camping in your RV, there are items that are essential, such as a drinking water hose and RV sewer hoses, and there are nice to have items, like a GPS designed for RVs and a portable BBQ grill.

In particular order, here are my top ten consumable items we keep in the RV:

- ① For starters, you need holding tank treatments to treat the black water holding tank after you empty it. There are dry and liquid type holding tank treatments available. I suggest products that are biodegradable and environmentally friendly. **Camping Tip:** After emptying the gray water holding tank, you can add some liquid dish soap down all the drains and run the water long enough to get the soap past the P trap and to cover the bottom of the tank. The dish soap and water will help control odors and assist in cleaning the tank.
- ② While we are on the subject of holding tanks, it's a good idea to stock up on toilet paper designed for use in RVs. This is one consumable item you don't want to leave home without. **Camping Tip:** To see if toilet paper is compatible with your RV waste-water system, put one sheet of the toilet paper in a glass of water. If it starts to break down and fall apart within a few seconds of being in the water, it is suitable for use in RVs.
- ③ Laundry soap and dish soap are must-have consumable items, too. Clothes are going to get dirty and need to be washed, especially if your camping trip is more than a weekend excursion. You can purchase these items at the campground store, but it is less expensive to purchase them where you normally shop and just keep them in the RV.
- ④ Next on my list is a well stocked cabinet of first aid supplies and over-the-counter medications. You never know when an accident will happen, or when somebody will get sick. If you are boondocking miles from the closest town or store, you'll be glad you have these consumable items along for the ride. If you or someone else is on prescription medication, make sure you have an ample supply for the duration of your trip, and don't forget the sunscreen. (Editor's note: for a list of first aid kit contents that includes these items and many more, see page 17, July 2015 *Discovery Express*.)
- ⑤ Next is hand sanitizer and three percent hydrogen peroxide solution in a spray bottle. I keep a bottle of hand sanitizer in the compartment where the sewer connection is made, so it's handy when I do my wastewater management chores. I keep a spray bottle of hydrogen peroxide in the same compartment, so I

can disinfect the hose bib prior to connecting my RV drinking hose to the water connection at the campground. Inside the RV, we keep hand sanitizer at each sink, and hydrogen peroxide for general cleaning and disinfecting in and around the RV.

- ⑥ Another consumable item I always have in the outside storage compartment is a supply of disposable gloves. They are inexpensive and can be used for all kinds of chores and routine maintenance on the RV.
- ⑦ In my tool storage compartment I keep a can of spray lubricant available. It should be a dry type lubricant, like graphite, that won't attract dust, dirt and other debris. I personally use Boeshield T9 spray lubricant for everything on the RV. It cleans, lubricates and protects whatever you use it on. **Camping Tip:** At least twice a year, spray inside all of the lock mechanisms on the RV. This will keep the locks operating properly and help prevent them from freezing during the cold winter months.
- ⑧ Next on my list is disposable tableware. This includes paper plates, napkins, cutlery, cups and tablecloths. You can use regular tableware on most occasions, but sometimes it's just easier to use disposable products.
- ⑨ I don't know about you, but I am a big fan of zip ties. I use zip ties for all kinds of things when we are on RV trips. They are fairly inexpensive and after they have served their purpose, you can discard them.
- ⑩ Last, but certainly not least, is good old duct tape. If zip ties won't solve the problem, duct tape usually will. I always keep a roll of duct tape in my tool storage compartment where it's easy to locate when I need it.

Well, there you have it: my top ten list of consumable items to always have in the RV. There are many other consumable products that could or should be on this list, like doggy clean-up bags if you travel with pets. Responsible pet owners always clean-up after their pets. You can use this list as a starting point and add to it to devise your own special RV checklist of consumable items to keep in your RV. And remember, when you dispose of consumable items, recycle whenever possible. ❖

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**Discovery Owners Association, Inc.
2016 Southeast Region Rally**



Ahoy, Discoverys!

**Lazydays RV Campground, Seffner, Florida (800.905.6627)
JANUARY 24-29; DEPART JANUARY 30**

**Complete both parts of this registration form.
Send Part 1 to Lazydays RV Campground/Part 2 to DOAI rally registrar**

**PART 1. CUT HERE AND MAIL THIS PORTION TO LAZYDAYS RV CAMPGROUND, OR CALL 800.905.6627
Discovery Owners Association Rally — January 24-29, 2016 (Depart January 30)**

Pilot Name: Last _____ First _____
Co-Pilot Name: Last _____ First _____
Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____
Email _____

Street/City/State/Zip+4 _____
Discovery Year _____ Model _____ Length _____ Handicap Parking? Yes _____ No _____
Arrival Date _____ Departure Date _____

Camping/Food/Entertainment Fee:
\$400.00 for coach with **two** people / \$338.36 for coach with **one** person \$ _____
_____ Number of additional nights → **Call Lazydays for rates** ← \$ _____
_____ Number of guests at **\$62.91 per guest** \$ _____

Total **Make check payable to LAZYDAYS RV CAMPGROUND** \$

Mail this form and your check to Lazydays RV Campground, 6210 County Road 579, Seffner FL 33584-3004.
Deadline to register with Lazydays RV Campground is December 27, 2015. *Lazydays RV Campground cancellation policy: Prior to 72 hours, no charge; 72 to 24 hours, one-day charge; less than 24 hours or no show, no refund.*

PART 2: CUT HERE AND MAIL THIS PORTION TO RALLY REGISTRAR FRED JECKS

Pilot Name: Last _____ First _____
Co-Pilot Name: Last _____ First _____
Phone _____ Cell _____ Email/s _____

Street/City/State/Zip+4 _____
DOAI # _____ Arrival Date _____ Departure Date _____

First major DOAI rally? Y___ N___ Nat'l officer? Y___ N___ Discovery Year _____ Model _____
Chapter Member Y___ N___ Chapter Name _____ Officer Position _____

Emergency Contact Name _____ Phone _____

Rally Fees: \$15.00 per coach for **two** people / \$7.50 for **one** person \$ _____
\$17.00 for notebook with printed copy of all technical seminars \$ _____
\$7.50 for each additional guest \$ _____

Guest Name/s and Address _____

Total **Make check payable to FLORIDA DISCOVERY SUNSHINERS** \$

Mail form and your check to Fred Jecks, 840 N Atmore Cir, Deltona FL 32725-3341. **Registration must be received by January 9, 2016.** After that date, contact Fred at 386.801.1256 or fred.jecks@gmail.com

- **If not already a DOAI member, contact Portia Williams at doaimembership@discoveryowners.com ←**
- **If you are a golfer, you will be able to sign up and pay upon arrival at Lazydays. ←**
- **Wear your pirate clothes to help celebrate Tampa's Gasparilla Fest! ←**

Discovery Owners Association, Inc.
PORTIA WILLIAMS, MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR
PO BOX 95
ST. GEORGE UT 84771-0095

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

ARE YOUR DUES DUE?

Please renew now!

Discovery Owners Association, Inc. Membership Application

Discovery Owners Association, Inc. is a non-profit organization, established to foster social opportunities and information exchange among all members.

Membership classifications:

Regular - a private individual owning a Discovery motor home. **Dues** (payable in U.S. funds only): **\$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.

Commercial - Discovery dealer, RV campground/resort, or an RV-related for-profit business. **Dues** (payable in U.S. funds only): **\$20** per year, or **\$75** for five years.

Questions? Call DOAI Membership Coordinator toll-free 888.594.6818

Mail the form below with your check payable to *Discovery Owners Association, Inc.* to: **Portia Williams, Membership Coordinator, PO Box 95, St. George UT 84771-0095.** You may also join/renew online at www.discoveryowners.com

Last Name _____ First _____ Spouse/Partner Name _____

Business Name, if joining as Commercial Member _____

Address _____

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

Home Telephone _____ Cell Telephone _____

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

Discovery Year/Model, if joining as Regular Member _____

Who recommended DOAI membership to you? _____

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