

Discovery Express



Volume 15, Number 2

Discovery Owners Association, Inc. — Established 1998 — www.discoveryowners.com

April 2013

“Spring” into another great travel season!

There are rallies “out there” this year – chapters are gathering – and the high point of the DOAI year is the national rally. This year it’ll take place October 8-12 at the Bethpage Camp-Resort in Urbanna, Va. Planning is in progress, and rally master **John Ricciardi** has submitted a list of fifty (yes, fifty!) places to visit within a fifty-mile radius of the campground. See **page 3** for details, and then start planning your sight-seeing adventure!

There is also information on **page 3** about handicap parking, renting of personal golf carts, and extra-early arrivals.

You can register now, either via U.S. mail (**page 23**) or online at www.discoveryowners.com. The southeast region looks forward to welcoming you in October, to help celebrate DOAI’s 15th anniversary.

A very important safety notice

Many of you have received a notice from Thetford/Norcold regarding recall notices on the Norcold refrigerators. A **new** recall notice has been published, and you are strongly urged to read the article on **pages 4-5** for details and illustrations. **This is vital to your RVing safety!**

DOAI challenge to chapters!

Dick Tracy, president of the Mason-Dixon Discoverys chapter, has issued a challenge to all DOAI chapters: which chapter will be the **first** chapter to have every member receive the newsletter electronically? Which will be the first to **Go Green?**



The gauntlet has been thrown, and the work has begun. **Bruce Plumb**, president of the Ozarks Discovery chapter, has been canvassing the members of that chapter. What about your chapter?

Which chapter will be the first? The second? The third? No prizes other than recognition in this newsletter. Each chapter, however, will feel satisfaction knowing that DOAI’s newsletter expenses will be reduced, and trees will be saved.

It’s very easy to sign up to receive your issue electronically. Just send an email to doaiexpress@discoveryowners.com, put “Go Green” in the subject line, and we’ll do the rest.

Safe traveling, and we’ll see you down the road. ❖

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President
John Baker

President report

Another outstanding Camp Discovery is behind us. **Marshall Godwin, Gary Osborn** and others did a terrific job with the technical seminars and the Florida Discovery Sunshiners were fantastic hosts, led by **Ron and Donna Wacker** and **Bruce and Jody Bruce**. Lazydays added its own seminars, including some terrific new ones on technology. The breakfast/lunch arrangement was different (and better) this year and the catered dinners were very tasty. Our folks very generously donated more than \$1,000 to charity!

As has become customary, we followed the FMA rally and many of us participated in both. **Randy Hendricks** and his Fleetwood team were on site for both rallies, so some of us were able to have two repair calls! This is a terrific service Fleetwood provides, with free labor and deeply discounted cost of parts.

Next up: National 2013 at the beautiful Bethpage Camp-Resort in Urbanna, Va. This is a beautiful part of our country in the fall. Rally master **John Ricciardi** and the Blue Ridge Discoverys chapter members are planning great things for us October 8-12. Register online today.

Election of officers is coming up in the fall. All of our positions are open and several of our officers must leave their positions due to term limits. If you are willing to serve, please let your region vice president (see list of region vice presidents on **page 10**) or **Marshall Godwin** know of your interest so they can get your name on the ballot. We are an all-volunteer organization, and we need YOU to take a turn at leadership.

You may recall that last quarter I asked for someone to step forward and become our historian. In the spirit of DOAI, **MaryAnn Crowell** has answered that call. Thank you, MaryAnn.

That appeal was so successful, I have another. If you are an attorney who would be willing to provide occasional advice (pro bono, of course), please let me know. We currently have no known legal issues, but should one arise, I really need to have someone I can call. I know someone will be willing to fill this need, so thank you in advance.

If you are lucky enough to not require winterizing your D, I hope you enjoyed using it during the winter as I did. If you had to tuck your D away, it is time to start digging it out and getting it ready for another terrific season. I hope to see you in Urbanna in the fall. ❖



Member care report

We express our sympathies and send get-well wishes to these DOAI members. Please keep them and their families in your thoughts and prayers:

Denvard Heasley, whose wife, **Ellen**, died in October from dementia with lewy bodies.

Cody Baker, whose husband, **Ken**, died in January after undergoing brain surgery for tumors.

Justine Stewart, whose sister died in December from cancer, and Justine is currently recovering from elbow surgery.

Jan McIlvaine, whose husband, **Mac**, died in December from complications of Alzheimer's. Mac and Jan were charter members of DOAI, and Mac served the organization as treasurer 2002-2005. Jan has recently been diagnosed with lymphoma and is undergoing chemotherapy.

Lee Barefoot, who is undergoing treatment for brain cancer.

Nancy Nelson, whose husband, **Tom**, died in December.

Evelyn Sykes, whose husband, **Buddy**, succumbed to cancer in February.

Carolyn Rogowsky, dealing with several medical issues.

Donna Reid, hospitalized with severe respiratory problems, possibly pneumonia.

Please send an email to Editor **Nina Soltwedel** when a member is ill or hospitalized, or a death has occurred in a member's family. ❖

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

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If you wish to receive the printed black-and-white version of this publication, instead of the electronic version, please email the editor.

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Contact the DOAI membership director as soon as any of your contact information changes; i.e., mailing address, telephone number, email address, Discovery year, etc.

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DOAI Website

www.discoveryowners.com

DOAI Yahoo! Group

www.groups.yahoo.com/group/discoveryownersassociation/

Access Back Issues

www.discoveryowners.com/newsletters.asp



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and used with permission



ARE YOUR DUES DUE?

Find your membership renewal date at

www.discoveryowners.com/login.asp

2013 national rally - places to go and things to see

For your sight-seeing pleasure, here are fifty points of interest located within a 50-mile radius of the national rally location in Urbanna, Va.

★ Williamsburg ★

Busch Gardens
Water Country USA
Colonial Williamsburg
Jamestown Settlement
Factory outlets
Pottery complex
Music theatre
Dinner theatre
Shopping/Restaurants

★ Yorktown ★

Revolutionary battlefield
Victory Center
Beaches/River cruises

★ Richmond ★

Science Museum
Kings Dominion
International Raceway
Virginia Museum of Arts
Children's Museum
Shopping/Restaurants

★ Petersburg ★

Civil War battlefield
Museums
Shopping mall

★ Hampton Roads ★

Maritime Museum
Virginia Living Museum
Fort Eustis
Dinner cruises

★ Norfolk ★

Naval Station
Tall Ship cruises
Nauticus, The National Maritime Center
Battleship Wisconsin
Chrysler Museum
Victory Rover Naval Base cruises

★ Virginia Beach ★

Atlantic Ocean
Beaches/Boardwalk
Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel
Virginia's Eastern Shore
Contemporary Art Center of Virginia
Ocean Breeze Waterpark
Marine Science Museum

★ Urbanna and Nearby ★

George Washington birthplace
Museums and historic sites
Plantations: Shirley, Stratford Hall, Sherwood Forest
Five 9- to 18-hole golf courses
Narrated river cruises
Parks and trails
Charter fishing
Three small-planes airports
Antique malls
Bowling
8-screen cinema

From the Mountains to the Ocean

Please note these important points about this year's national rally in Virginia. If you have any questions about any facet of the rally, please send an email to **Alice** or **John Ricciardi** at jonaL135@yahoo.com, or call 252.619.6485.



Handicap parking: Handicap parking is available, with full hook-ups, but it is a good distance from the main group parking.



Golf cart for your rally site: If you want your own personal transportation around the rally site area, you can rent a golf cart for \$45/day. The rally team will be renting at least one golf cart throughout the week, which may be all you will need.



Extra-early arrivals: As noted in the registration form, you can arrive up to **three days early** (October 5, 6, 7) at a cost of \$35.75/night, and those nights are to be paid to DOAI as part of the registration. Any reservations for arrivals **before October 5** are to be made **directly with Bethpage Camp-Resort** at a rate of \$39/night plus tax. The telephone number is 804.758.4349.



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Theftord Corp. issues new Norcold recall

It is important to implement this safety enhancement to prevent an unsafe elevation in the temperature of the cooling unit should the unit fail in operation. This enhancement seeks to minimize the risk of injury or death due to fire.

Norcold Inc. has decided to recall certain 1200, 1201, 1210 and 1211 model gas/electric refrigerators with serial numbers from 315525 to 13088811, non-consecutively. The refrigerator's model and serial number are located inside the fresh food compartment. These refrigerators may have cooling units with a cooling unit serial number between 700000 to 13085759. This is a **new** recall campaign to include all 1200, 1201, 1210 and 1211 models.

Even if your refrigerator was repaired as part of a previous recall, it is necessary to have it repaired again to minimize the risk of injury or death due to fire.

If you have one of these refrigerator models, use the following procedure:

1. Identify and write down the refrigerator model. If it is a Norcold 1200, 1201, 1210 and 1211 model, go to step 2.

2. Identify and write down the refrigerator serial number. If the serial number falls in the range of 315525 and 13088811, go to step 3.
3. Identify and write down the cooling unit serial number. If the serial number falls in the range of 700000 and 13085759, go to step 4.
4. Call your dealer immediately.

The installation of the High Temperature Sensor will be at no cost to you.

Owners of recalled refrigerators **should not** operate their refrigerator until it can be professionally repaired by your dealer or a Norcold authorized service center.

If you have one of the recalled refrigerators and you currently reside in the RV, you should immediately:

1. Set the refrigerator controls to "OFF".
2. Unplug the refrigerator through the service vent on the outside of the vehicle.
3. Contact your dealer, a Norcold authorized service center or Norcold's Recall Center at 800.767.9101 as soon as possible to get assistance.

If you have one of the recalled refrigerators and you do not currently reside in the RV, you should immediately:


1. Set the refrigerator controls to "OFF".
2. Unplug the refrigerator through the service vent on the outside of the vehicle.
3. Disconnect from shore power.
4. Contact your dealer, a Norcold authorized service center or Norcold's Recall Center at 800.767.9101 as soon as possible to get assistance.

Failure to follow these instructions can result in a fire causing injury or death.

Find a dealer at www.theftord.com/HOME/CUSTOMERSUPPORT/RecallCenters/tabid/918/Default.aspx

Norcold, Inc. cannot accept responsibility if you do not immediately arrange to take your refrigerator into a dealer/service center for repair. Moreover, you could be personally liable to third parties for property damage or bodily injuries resulting from your failure to have your refrigerator immediately repaired. **If you have any questions, please contact Norcold at 800.767.9101, Monday through Friday, 9am to 10pm EST.**


How to tell if your refrigerator has been recalled




Four-Door Models: 1200, 1201, 1210 and 1211
Serial Numbers:
315525 to 13088811.
Found in RVs made 1997-2010

1 Find the Refrigerator Model Number and Serial Number

All Norcold refrigerators have an identification panel on the inside, upper right. The model number will be listed on the panel.



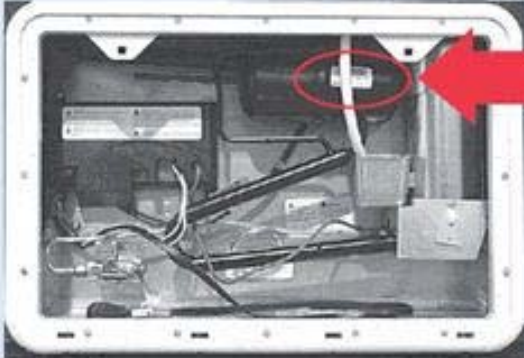


Two-Door Models:
N621 N641, N821, N841 & 1082
Found in RVs made 1999-2000

Norcold recall notice, continued

2 Find the cooling unit serial number.

Remove the refrigerator's intake vent cover on the exterior of the vehicle. The cooling unit's serial number is in plain sight on the unit's lower right as shown here.



Serial numbers subject to recall:

Two-Door Models:
N621, N641, N821, N841 & 1082
 Serial Numbers **1038000 to 1099000**

Four-Door Models:
1200, 1201, 1210 & 1211
 Serial Numbers **700000 to 13085759**

3 Take the next step.

If your refrigerator serial number and cooling unit serial number falls within the appropriate range:

1. **Call your dealer immediately**, or
2. Find a dealer near you and call immediately, or
3. Call 800.767.9101

Region reports



Region VP
 John Ricciardi

Southeast region

I congratulate the Florida Discovery Sunshiners for their successful Camp Discovery rally at Lazydays. I'm sure they are glad that it is over, but guess what? The southeast region now has to focus on the DOAI national rally October 8-12 at Bethpage Camp-Resort in Urbanna, Va.

The rally is well into the planning stages and much work has been completed and more has to be done. There are already registrations that have been submitted.

I have made arrangements with Bethpage Camp-Resort to get a list of early arrivals, and we will try to have you parked with your region/chapter area so you will not need to move once the rally begins.

The list of 50 points of interest (**page 3**) is also posted on the DOAI website. There are more than 50 points of interest in the area, of course, but I'm sure these 50 will keep you busy!

I hope all of you have a wonderful summer and look forward to seeing you in October. ❖



Region VP
 Bob Williams

Northwest region

The winter travels are over for us and it is time to plan for the summer and the rest of the year.

We were able to attend the Blythe bluegrass festival in January, which included a potluck lunch and social with members from the Northwest Adventurers chapter and the D'Zonas chapter.

After Blythe, some of us traveled over to Quartzsite and joined more DOAI members from Colorado. We had a couple of days to shop the "Big Tent" and other areas in Quartzsite and, as usual, there were lots of RVers in the area. ❖



Past prez
Marshall Godwin

2013 is an election year for DOAI

As the DOAI past president, I have only one official function: to chair the nomination committee for election of DOAI board members, which consists of national officers and region vice presidents. The current region vice presidents make up the remainder of the nomination committee.

All positions on the board are up for election every two years. Term limits prevent a person from serving more than two consecutive terms in the same office. Some of our current officers are eligible for a second term and the information I have to date indicates all those eligible have agreed to place their names on the ballot for reelection.

Although all positions are up for election, the following positions will not have an incumbent, and it is particularly important for the nomination committee to find qualified candidates willing to serve in these positions:

Vice President of Development

Secretary

Treasurer

Vice Treasurer

Northwest Region Vice President

Southeast Region Vice President

Southwest Region Vice President

We need your input to find candidates. If you are interested or know someone who would consider serving on the board, please contact me or your region vice president. Contact information is provided on **page 10**. You must live in the region in order to serve as the region vice president. In the case of members who live full time in their Discovery, this definition does not necessarily mean legal resident, but the area where they spend most of their time.

Here is the 2013 time line for elections:

August 15 - Slate of nominees submitted to board of directors for approval.

October *Discovery Express* - This edition will contain a hard copy of the ballot (for those who do not wish to vote electronically) and brief biography of each candidate.

October 15 - Electronic voting opened for members to cast ballots online.

November 20 - Final date to receive mailed ballots and final date for electronic voting.

In the past, we have had a single candidate for many positions and a very low percentage of our members who cast ballots. Most of you agree we have a great owners' association that provides real value to its members. It is essential for the future of our association to have folks like you step up and serve. Many board position duties require only a small amount of time. Please contact me if you have any questions. ❖



Exec vice prez
John Curtis

Executive vice president report

The first major rally of the new year, the southeast region rally was a success. The Florida Discovery Sunshiners, led by **Ron Wacker** and **Bruce Bruce**, put on another informative and fun-filled event at Lazydays. I thank **Larry Weinberg** for arranging the golf outing at Walden Lakes golf club. It was an opportunity to play with good ball strikers who had great vision (could spot my %\$# golf ball wherever it went). Team members were **Jim Davis**, **Les Whipple**, and **Halley "Doc" Simpson**.

As usual, the first timers' meeting was well attended. President **John Baker** welcomed them, gave them plenty of information, and encouraged them to become second and third timers. I met **Robert and Cheryl Behn** and encouraged them to join a local chapter. **Hank and Mary Ellen Desmaris** and **Les and Val Whipple**, first timers last year, returned to this year's rally. We had another great visit and look forward to more.

Again, the Fleetwood service team, headed by **Randy Hendricks**, was excellent. I believe the technicians serviced 59 of the 85 coaches present, handling two repairs for each coach. Now that's service! Thank you, Fleetwood!

The entertainment was well received, with many Discovery members participating on the two dance evenings. The winner of the 50/50 drawing donated the funds back to the charity selected by the Sunshiners, the American Legion. And

naturally, we as well as many others made a trip to Plant City to buy strawberries and other veggies. Some enjoyed strawberry shortcake, but I tried the strawberry milk shake.

In closing, I encourage all to attend the DOAI national rally at Bethpage Camp-Resort in Urbanna, Va. The registration form is online now and that is the best way to register. A Williamsburg tour, a golf tournament, and a fishing excursion – something of interest for all – are being offered. Sign up and have fun.

On a side note, I thank **Doc and Lovetta Simpson** for introducing us to the Shed. On our way to Lazydays, we stopped at an RV park in Ocean Springs, Miss., and had dinner at the Shed. It looks like a junk yard! A large sign on a wall requests more junk – your junk! But, the barbecue was excellent and the place is memorable.

Until next time, I look forward to seeing you down the road, hopefully in Virginia ... or maybe even at the Shed! ❖

Congratulations!

DOAI commercial member and advertiser **MCD Innovations** celebrates ten years in business this year. We extend congratulations and thank them for joining DOAI and advertising their product in our newsletter. We wish them many more years of success.



Treasurer
Pete Palasota

Treasurer report

January 1-December 31, 2012 financial statement

In 2012, both revenues and disbursements decreased. The fact that revenues continue to decrease is a concern, since disbursements are nearing a level that further decreases will be difficult. You can help by agreeing to receive your newsletter electronically. To add your name to a growing list, simply call or email our newsletter editor (see phone number and email address on page 2).

At this time, our club is in good financial condition and with your help, it will continue to be one of the best RV clubs in the country. Thank you for your support. ❖

Statement of Receipts and Disbursements

Receipts:

Dues	\$20,377.00
Advertising income	160.00
Interest income	357.52
Other income	<u>26.68</u>
Total	<u>\$20,921.20</u>

Expense Disbursements:

Newsletter	\$ 8,274.51
Membership expense	1,260.09
Insurance	2,508.63
Chapter support	1,000.00
Member care	18.62
Website expense	45.00
Rally fee reimbursements	3,145.70
Office supplies, postage, misc.	201.04
PayPal charges	478.94
Other expenses	<u>244.55</u>
Total ordinary disbursements	<u>\$17,177.08</u>
Ordinary receipts over ordinary disbursements	<u>\$ 3,744.12</u>

Other Receipts:

Rally receipts over rally disbursements (net of member rebates)	\$ 1,393.40
Monies from terminated chapter	<u>592.91</u>

Other Disbursements:

Merchandise disbursement over receipts ..	\$ 1,652.07
Rally advance	<u>500.00</u>
Total receipts over disbursements	<u>\$ 3,576.36</u>

Beginning cash balance 1-1-2012	\$71,542.75
Ending cash balance 12-31-2012	<u>\$75,119.11</u>
Cash increase	<u>\$ 3,576.36</u>



Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2012

Current Assets:

Petty cash	\$ 550.00
Cash in bank	50,173.80
Certificates of deposit	23,442.20
PayPal account	<u>453.11</u>
Total current assets	<u>\$75,119.11</u>

Other Assets:

Merchandise inventory	\$ 4,352.61
Rally advance	500.00
Total other assets	<u>\$ 4,852.61</u>
Total assets	<u>\$ 79,971.72</u>

Liabilities and Net Worth:

Prepaid memberships	\$15,240.00
Reserve for future chapters	592.91
Net worth	<u>64,138.81</u>
Total liabilities and net worth	<u>\$79,971.72</u>



Nat'l rally master
Joe Stewart

National rally master report

I think **John Ricciardi** has finalized everything for the 2013 national rally at Urbanna, Va. He was involved in the reworking of the rally at Lazydays, and the southeast region chapters have announced they will no longer sponsor it. There is some discussion that the national board become

more active in the area of national rallies. Hopefully, this will be resolved soon. One thing for sure – as a member, you may be asked to volunteer to assist at a national rally. Be ready!

Regarding the 2014 national rally, I've not had any report

from the northwest region on site possibilities. I do know that site investigations are being conducted.

The 2015 national rally belongs to the north central region. I've not heard of any comments from them, but it's not too early to start site selection or planning. ❖

Random travel thought

The only real voyage of DISCOVERY consists not in seeking new landscapes, but in having new eyes.

— Marcel Proust



Membership dir
Portia Williams

Membership director report

We welcome the following new DOAI members. We encourage our chapters to follow up in welcoming these new members where they can meet and make new friends.

As mentioned in previous issues of *Discovery Express*, please verify your subscribed email address is correct as shown when you first login to the DOAI website and in the membership section (INFO>MEMBERS). Dues reminder notices are emailed to you approximately one month before your dues are due. Postcards are mailed to those members who do not have email addresses. If you have any membership questions, please contact me (see phone and email address on page 2). ❖

Robert/Paula Andersen, Forest City NC
Chris Bieber, Wichita KS
Carl/Barbara Bogda, Taber AB
Bill/Linda Bracken, Greenville SC
Stephen/Michelle Brock, Fairmont WV
Brian/Lori Bunney, Colorado Springs CO
Bill Carey, Clovis NM
Kevin/Pam Carey, Palisade CO
John/Lorey Carpenter, Sahuarita AZ
Barry Chapman, Montgomery TX
Stephen/Terry Connors, Las Vegas NV
Russell/Carol Dool, Langley BC
Rick/Brandy Dupuis, Ormond Beach FL
Jim/Becky Elston, Ferndale WA
Henry Enriquez Jr., Abilene TX
Todd/Linda Flack, Davie FL
Michael/Carlene Fogle, Conway SC
Wayne Foulds, Sooke BC
James/Jackie Green, Cary NC
Rich/Eloise Harris, Villa Park CA
Houston Hawkins, Baker LA
Kevin Heitritter, Murrieta CA

Robert Hickey, Salem OH
Sharon/Rick Huster, Yelm WA
Atsushi/Yoshie Ito, Alpine NJ
Van Johnson, Grapevine TX
Robert Kaufman, Olmito TX
Michael/Sandra Keliher, Westfield ME
Gerald/Carolyn Kennedy, Pocatello ID
Ernest/Lisa Kietzman, Pensacola FL
Jamie/Sandra Kirk, Alta Loma CA
Udo/Gisela Koch, Forked River NJ
Harvey Kottal, Sacramento CA
Billy Layton/Yng Yng Lau-Layton, The Woodlands TX
Larry Mason, Livingston TX
Steve/Willa Maxwell, Milton FL
Dale/Kerri McLeod, Montgomery TX
Joseph/Tami McMillen, Chuluota FL
John/Sharon Messerian, Palm Coast FL
William/Patricia Mielke, Myrtle Beach SC
Art/Karri Montes, Henderson NV
Roger/Gloria Mory, Topton PA
Zane/Sue Murphy, Fork Union VA
Harry Norton, Canyon Lake TX

Keith/Terri O'Leary, Charlotte NC
Bobby/Nancy O'Neal, Gonzales TX
James/Tatiana Perrin, Smyrna GA
Mary/Joseph Pethia, Lake Worth FL
Dennis/Cheryl Pettit, Leavenworth WA
Kenneth Pisel, Hudson FL
Ron/Cindie Reynolds, Henderson NV
Jonathan Runyon, Olney IL
Mark Scarborough, Windsor Locks CT
George/Gail Siggins, Manteca CA
John/Joyce Silivanch, Toms River NJ
Dennis/Emily Slate, Pearland TX
Dustin/Michelle Snell, Shadow Hills CA
Charles Swank, Sebring FL
Bruce/Kathy Terkeltaub, Lancaster PA
Kristie/Tracy Thrower, Columbia SC
Speedy/Sandy Tostensen, Brunswick GA
David/Mary Watkins, Panama City FL
Robert/Judy White, La Marque TX
Arthur/Diane Whitney, Oldsmar FL
Kelly/Sherry Williamson, Lewiston MT
Tom/Stacy Zaharias, Crystal Lake IL

Quilts being created for 2013 national rally

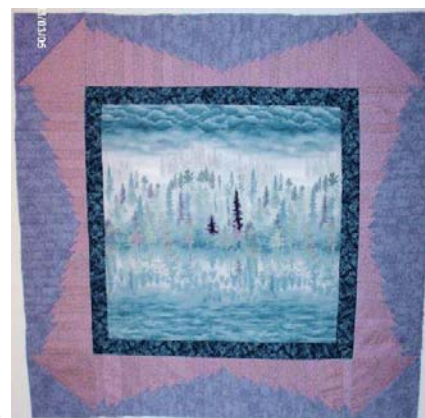
The quilts are underway! Immediately upon concluding the 2013 southeast region rally in Florida, the 2013 quilt group got to work. During the coming months, there will be ladies across the country choosing fabrics, cutting pieces, threading up the sewing machine, stitching away, and shipping their creations on to the next person – all in an effort to create two beautiful quilts for the 2013 national rally. One quilt will be king size, the other will be queen size.

This tradition began at the 2005 DOAI national rally in York, Pa., and since then there have been some exquisite quilts won by deserving DOAI members at national rallies. The funds raised through the efforts of the DOAI ladies have benefitted a variety of agencies that help others through training service dogs, sheltering victims of domestic violence, helping communities come back from catastrophic flooding, assisting our veterans, and lending a hand to disadvantaged children and families, to name a few.

The quilt themes this year reflect the location of the rally: one pays homage to the Blue Ridge mountains and the other features the Liberty Bell in recognition of the many American Revolution sites in the area. The beneficiaries of the event will be announced later this year.

Pictured here are the beginnings of each quilt, with centers created by former DOAI member **Donna Barker** (who has our everlasting gratitude for sharing her talent). Borders will be added over coming months. This tiny taste of the good to come may, we hope, whet your appetite and encourage you to buy some tickets for the event. A change this year: you do not have to be present to win a quilt!

If you have questions about the quilts, or their construction, or how the event will be conducted, please contact quilt coordinator **Mary Anne Weinberg** at maw9966@verizon.net. ❖



Rally opportunities

You are welcome (and encouraged) to attend any of these rallies! Contact chapter president (see **page 10**).

April 2013 –

- 3-7 D’Zonas, Yuma, Ariz.
- 3-7 Mason-Dixon Discoverys, St. Helena Isl., S.C.
- 10-15 Texas Discovery Road Runners, Marble Falls, Tex.
- 24-28 Blue Ridge Discoverys, Chattanooga, Tenn.
- T/B/A Florida Discovery Sunshiners, location T/B/A

May 2013 –

- 15-18 Discovery Texans, Kerrville, Tex.
- T/B/A Florida Discovery Sunshiners, location T/B/A

June 2013 –

- 6-10 Midwest Discoverers, Marshall, Mich.
- 14-17 Heartland Discoverys, Mount Rushmore, S.D.
- T/B/A Mason-Dixon Discoverys, location T/B/A

August 2013 –

- T/B/A Mason-Dixon Discoverys, location T/B/A

September 2013 –

- 3-8 Midwest Discoverers, Port Clinton, Ohio
- T/B/A Florida Discovery Sunshiners, location T/B/A
- T/B/A Texas Discovery Road Runners, Austin, Tex.

October 2013 –

- 8-12 **National rally, Urbanna, Va.**
- 8-12 Northwest Adventurers, Urbanna, Va.
- 16-? Blue Ridge Discoverys, Charleston, S.C.
- T/B/A Texas Discovery Road Runners, Rolling Rally
- T/B/A D’Zonas, Cottonwood, Ariz.

November 2013 –

- 13-16 Discovery Texans, Bandera, Tex.
- T/B/A Desert Rats and D’Zonas, location T/B/A
- T/B/A Florida Discovery Sunshiners, location T/B/A

December 2013 –

- T/B/A Florida Discovery Sunshiners, location T/B/A

Looking down the road –

- 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: local U.S. gas prices	www.gasbuddy.com
Camping/travel/rest areas/reviews/tips websites:		General Electric	www.geappliances.com/geac/
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.	www.campingroadtrip.com	Intellitec	800.251.2408
.	www.interstaterestareas.com	Kidde Safety products	800.880.6788
.	www.roadnotes.com	Kwikke products	800.736.9961
.	www.rvdumps.com/dumpstations	Magnadyne	800.638.3600
.	www.rvparking.com	MCD Innovations	www.mcdinnovations.com
Caterpillar RV engine support	877.777.3126	Michelin North America	800.847.3435
Carefree of Colorado	800.621.2617	Norcold, Inc.	800.543.1219
Carriage Carpets (Shaw Flooring)	877.706.3054	Onan	800.888.6626
CCI Controls	800.521.5228	Power Gear	800.334.4712
Cummins, Inc.	800.343.7357	Riverpark	800.442.7717
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:		Thetford 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

**For other member-recommended helpful contacts,
visit www.discoveryowners.com**

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Computer corner

Cloud computing

What is it? Cloud computing is a term for using an Internet service to store or process data instead of your personal computer.

Relatively recently, there has been an veritable firestorm of companies offering to store and/or sync your data or offering computing services such as word processing or spreadsheets. Let's explore how the average RVer can use these services, usually for free.

Free services are available (Google Drive, CloudOn) that allow you to run Office-type software in the cloud on your mobile device, or even your desktop – no need to buy expensive software. Most RVers probably don't need this service unless they need to open a document and don't have the proper software, so I will concentrate on cloud storage/sharing.

Mobile computing is transitioning to devices with small data storage and this storage is made up of memory chips called a Solid State Drive (SSD). The reason for this is speed (an SSD is **much** faster than a traditional spinning hard drive) and greatly reduced power and space requirements. The downside is that SSD's are expensive. Laptops with an SSD typically have only 90 GB or less storage for the user. This certainly is not much room for pictures, videos or programs. Tablets and cell phones have even less storage. Although you can easily add an external drive to a laptop, that is just another device to carry and eventually fail.

There are many services that provide free online data storage such as MS Skydrive (7 GB free), Box (up to 50 GB

free), Bitcasa (10 GB free), Dropbox (2 GB free), etc. There are also specialized services that will store your photos and videos such as Shutterfly, Picasa and Flickr. (I like Shutterfly because it does not resize my photos to a lower resolution.)

I use free online storage services for all my multimedia and documents. All of the service material for my D, and literally all of my paper documents, have been scanned and uploaded. Other than the obvious advantage of not needing local storage space, my documents are available on **any** computer, cell phone or tablet that I own or borrow. In addition, most services can be configured to keep files in sync, if I choose, on any of my devices.

Although there are many free services to choose from, I have criteria for determining which service/s I use. The service must be in it for the long haul (Skydrive, owned by Microsoft, is a good bet). It must be easily useable on Windows, Mac, iOS and Android. Ideally, all files should be encrypted/decrypted automatically and locally and not in the cloud. Bitcasa is the only one that meets this last requirement, but you can install FileCrypter or BoxCryptor for easy local file/folder encryption. Since the encryption is done locally, only you have the password to decrypt – just don't forget the password. Now, even if someone manages to hack into my online storage, they won't be able to see anything.

The downside of using these free services is that an Internet connection is required to retrieve your documents. However, WiFi or cellular access is available almost everywhere, so this is not a big concern. In an upcoming issue of this newsletter, I will discuss Evernote, which is a cloud-based service for saving (and retrieving) almost anything instantly. ❖



DOAI member
Dallas Stone

Praise for DOAI's Yahoo! egroup

A recent exchange of emails on the DOAI Aegroup, initiated by a request for help from **Dallas Stone**, resulted in a positive solution.

Dallas writes: "Thanks again to all. I keep telling people how great the DOAI is and how much I learn. I still read the majority of the emails on this site and have saved several. What is really neat is how fast people respond to Discovery owners' issues. It's almost like having your own personal technical service 24/7.

"We have met several people during RVing, and when I explain the DOAI egroup process, they are all jealous. Several have tried to find similar groups for their motor home models, to no avail. We are so happy that we lucked into owning a Discovery motor home, but more importantly, having the security knowing we have hundreds of people willing to help

with any Discovery issues. I have helped a couple of my friends with tips provided by DOAI that were generic and applicable to any motor home.

"For example, the discussions on using an external surge/power protection device was passed on to a friend who had already spent nearly \$1,000 fixing his coach power after running into a power problem at a small public RV site. He has since installed the surge/power protection device and it has saved his coach on two occasions.

"I have saved hundreds of emails and used several of them in resolving issues with our motor home (none of them major). Just the other day, we had a problem with the bedroom slide not retracting. I calmly looked at all the information I had saved and started working on the problem. I was not stressed, knowing I had this wealth of information and also by knowing the DOAI group could probably help me if the problem was not resolved. Thank you, everyone!" ❖

Volunteering – much more than a free campsite!



DOAI members
Rex and Peg Lavoie

When we planned our retirement after thirty-three years of owning our own photography business, we wanted to do more than sit in a rocking chair and watch the grass grow. We have always enjoyed camping, traveling and visiting state and national parks across the country and had talked many times with volunteers in parks along the way. The enthusiasm those volunteers shared with us for the parks they served and the value of the work they were doing made us want to learn more about the program. Those conversations motivated us to try it for ourselves when we were able to commit at least a few months a year to the program. After all, we knew we wanted to see more of the country and what better way than to get free camping along the way!



Follow a trail through magnificent growth.

Little did we know at the time just how **much more** volunteering in parks would be for us than a free campsite. We are starting our sixth year/season and we continue to add to our list of reasons to continue enjoying the volunteer program. So far, we have been involved in parks ranging from the Florida Keys to the Arizona desert, California Redwoods and the central coast of Oregon. Just to start off, it has proved to be a truly positive use of our retirement time. One fellow volunteer stated, “You can only play so much golf and drink so many margaritas; then what?”

As volunteers, we feel a sense of value and satisfaction in what we contribute to the park. The services we provide free up rangers and other paid staff to do the more technical or difficult duties that might go undone if we were not there to cover the desk, help with phones or answer simple visitor questions. We benefit from the variety of duties and experiences we have had in different parks. We get the opportunity to live in a place long enough to get a true feeling for the climate, geography and unique characteristics of the location.

It seems only natural to want to learn as much as possible about the history, culture and natural environment of any park we are involved with, and the staff has always shared their knowledge and expertise freely with us. We, in turn, gain a sense of belonging when we are able to learn and share information with park visitors and area residents.

What other program gives people a chance to literally live in state or national parks across the United States with unique access to areas not always available to the general public?

On the social side of life as a volunteer, we meet and get to know many other interesting volunteers, park staff, local residents and visitors as we go about our duties and responsibilities. Park life creates a unique community and forms many lasting friendships and relationships through the common bond of caring for the natural resources of “our” park.



National parks offer breath-taking panoramas.

It is no accident that we feel a sense of ownership and responsibility to each park we volunteer with and want to treat it as our own. We have maintained contact with both staff and volunteers and returning to a park a second time is very much like coming home.

A volunteer friend who enjoys working in parks as a campground host shared with us his enjoyment of talking and learning from the campers: “You meet so many interesting people with such diverse backgrounds. It never gets boring!”

One of the benefits we never really anticipated, but it has been a great plus for both of us, has been the active and healthy life style that is just naturally encouraged by hiking and exploring in our beautiful surroundings. We just plain feel better without actually dieting or a regular workout program. We just get out and do more because it’s there and it feels good!



Wildlife abounds, and one can see touching scenes like this.

Speaking of “feels good,” we never realized that so many people would just come up and say “thank you for volunteering!” Always the staff and managers, visitors, local residents and business people make us feel appreciated more than we ever expected. Sometimes we feel a little guilty to have a visitor see our Volunteer patch on our uniform and give us such a heartfelt “thank you” when really we are having such a great time doing what we are doing! Usually it ends up

Continued on next page...

Volunteering – much more than a free campsite, continued

starting a conversation about volunteering in the parks and how easy it is to get involved.

Not the least of the positive opportunities of volunteering is the chance we get to give back a little of our own expertise. Each park we have applied to work with has provided a space on the application to offer special expertise in our profession or hobbies that might be of interest to park visitors or possibly benefit the park itself. In our case, our hobby of astronomy and a lifetime of professional photography have opened several interesting and enjoyable doors, if we choose to pass through them. In every instance, park personnel have prefaced asking us if we would be interested in a photography-oriented project with some type of comment like “would you enjoy,” “if you would be interested,” or some other invitation to decline if a photographic project would be imposing on our professional skills or something that for some reason we are not interested in doing. In every case, we have jumped at the chance to lend a hand on something that used to be our work and now finally can be our hobby without the pressures and responsibilities. We have been able to teach through interpretive programs for both visitors and staff, record artifacts and archeological sites on park



Peg is a sharp shooter!

grounds, provide slide presentations to promote and encourage visitation to the parks, and even have been able to develop our own photo-walk tours to the upper ruins at Tonto national monument, northeast of Phoenix, Ariz., for amateur and professional photographers.

Peg is in the regular ranger rotation leading visitors on the three-mile guided tour of prehistoric dwellings at Tonto national monument.

Finally, the little things that volunteering has provided us with is a way to satisfy a lifelong curiosity about what it would be like to be a “park ranger,” without the responsibilities and requirements of the real job. You don’t always get to live out your childhood fantasies, but now we can!

So, all in all, volunteering involves a little work, many wonderful people, beautiful surroundings, feeling good and sharing a lot of good times.

For more information on volunteering in parks across our beautiful country, check out

the web site volunteer.gov and see where you can make a difference.

It truly is much more than a free campsite! ❖

All photos courtesy of Rex and Peg Lavoie

Feeding the RVer

As noted elsewhere in this issue, members of the Northwest Adventurers and D’Zonas chapters gathered in Blythe, Calif., in January for the bluegrass festival. Several delicious dishes were served at the potluck, and the gals generously share the recipes with all of us.

If you have a recipe you’d like to share with DOAI members, please email it to the editor (see page 2 for email address) and we’ll publish it in a future issue of this newsletter. *Bon appetit!* ❖

Sausage Cheese Balls (Judy Scott)

2 16-oz. pkgs. regular flavor Jimmy Dean® pork sausage
 1½ cups all-purpose baking mix
 ½ cup celery, finely chopped
 4 cups sharp Cheddar cheese, shredded
 2 tsp. black pepper
 ½ cup onion, finely chopped
 2 tsp. garlic, minced (optional)

Preheat oven to 375° F. Combine all ingredients in large mixing bowl; stir well. Form into 1" balls. Place on ungreased baking sheet; bake 18-20 minutes or until golden brown. Remove from oven; cool 5 minutes before removing from pan. Serve with cocktail forks or toothpicks.

Dump Cake (Freddie Perry)

1 can crushed pineapple
 1 can cherry pie filling
 1 box yellow cake mix
 1 cup coconut, shredded
 1 cup walnuts, chopped
 2 sticks (16 tbsp. or ½ lb.) butter, melted

Preheat oven to 350° F. Grease a 9"x13" pan. Layer ingredients in order listed. Bake for 60 minutes.



Corn Casserole (Neva Jardine)

2 eggs
 1 box Jiffy® cornbread mix
 1 can whole kernel corn
 1 can cream style corn
 1 small onion, chopped
 1 can green chili peppers
 1 stick (8 tbsp.) butter
 1 small carton sour cream
 2 cups grated Cheddar cheese

Preheat oven to 375° F. Mix eggs and cornbread mix; add both cans of corn including liquid and pour into a 9"x13" pan. Sauté onions and peppers in butter. Spread the sour cream and sautéed onions/peppers over the mixture. Cover evenly with the cheese. Bake for 45 minutes. Do not brown the cheese; it will get tough.

Chapter reports

Check out photos from region and chapter rallies in the DOAI photo album beginning on [page 16](#).



Chapter prez
Fred Reid

Louisiana Mudbugs

The Mudbugs had been hibernating for the winter months. Rallies have been a problem because of illness and recent deaths in the group. I am sad to report **Buddy Sykes** was laid to rest February 19 after an 18-month battle with lung cancer. A few months ago we lost **Mac McIlvaine** to the ravages of Alzheimer's. **Jan McIlvaine** was recently diagnosed with lymphoma and has begun chemotherapy. Our prayers go out to their

families. Other members of our group have had numerous medical problems.

We had our first rally of the year in February at Colfax RV park in Colfax, La. Colfax is a bit isolated in central Louisiana, but is one of the best RV parks for a rally. It is located on the shore of the Red river, which meanders from north Louisiana to the Gulf of Mexico. The Corps of Engineers has built a series of locks and dams on the river that makes it navigable to just above the Shreveport area. This has made the river a popular place for fishing tournaments. We will report on this rally in the July issue of *Discovery Express*. ❖



Chapter prez
Gary Velasquez

Desert Rats

The Desert Rats have yet to hold a rally for 2013. Winter is a busy travel time for our members. Many travel to the southeast, south and southwest while temperatures are accommodating.

Our first tentatively scheduled rally is for the Good Sam Samboree being held in March at the Nevada Treasure resort in Pahrump, Nev. The remainder of our rally schedule will be reported in the next newsletter.

The members of the Desert Rats Chapter extend their thanks to all the DOAI members who attended the DOAI national rally in Tucson, Ariz., this past October. This was our first attempt at organizing and staging a national rally and your attendance and participation definitely made it a success. We wish you all happy travels and good health from the Desert Rats. ❖



Chapter prez
Dick Tracy

Mason-Dixon Discoveries

We had a nice turn out of eleven coaches of Mason-Dixons at the 2013 southeast region rally where we participated in staffing the registration tables. **Pat Tracy** held a craft training session how to make wrapping bows from magazine covers. We added two new coaches to our chapter with the additions of **David and Diane Jorio** and **Zane and Sue Ann Murphy**.

We will have our first chapter rally for 2013 at Tuck in the Wood campground on Saint Helena Island, S.C., April 3-7 (early arrival April 2). Additional rallies are being scheduled for June and August. ❖



Chapter prez
Glenn Camp

Blue Ridge Discoveries

We had a super rally at Waynesville, N.C. in September, with 23 member coaches and one guest. This was a free rally (except camp fees) hosted by the officers. Some played golf, some went shopping and sight seeing and a special trip was made over the mountain to view elk do their thing during mating season.

The election of officers was held at this rally with yours truly elected president; **Pat Stanton**, vice president; **Ann Spearman**, secretary; **Bob Zumwalt**, treasurer; **Hank Haden**, assistant treasurer; and **Richard Money**, rally master. We have three new members since the Waynesville rally: **Fred and Margaret Baer**; **Bill and Linda Bracken**; and **Mike and Ann Lechlop**.

Winners of the golf tournament were **Frances Sullivan**, **Buddy Reynolds**, **Charles Harvell** and **Eric Elya**. **Bill Humphreys** did the presentation of the "Green Jacket" to **Frances Sullivan** for carrying her team to the big win.

At this writing, **Gail** and I are in Florida and attended both the FMA and DOAI rallies at Lazydays. Wow, it's so great to see all our friends once again. We added more new members to our chapter during the DOAI rally, bringing our total membership to 59. Those new members are **Joel and Sue Briles**, **John and Joann Chandler**, **Dick and Ellen Reynolds**, **Kenneth and Linda Amstead**, and **Bobby and Fay Williams**.

Our next chapter rally will be held at the Best Holiday Trav-L-Park in Chattanooga, Tenn., April 24-28 hosted by **Bob and Barbara Zumwalt**, **John and Julie Barry**, **Cliff and Maxine Phillips**, **Ron and Anne Spearman** and **Pat and Sue Stanton**. They have a great rally planned and there are lots of things to do in Chattanooga. Hope you can join us. ❖



Chapter prez
Mike Scott

D'Zonas

As reported last issue, we co-hosted the national rally in Tucson and had a great time doing it. We picked up a couple of new members during the rally, but lost a few during dues collection. We still have 11 rigs in the chapter with a lot of great people.

A few of us attended the bluegrass festival in Blythe, Calif. in January – what fun. Got together with other DOAI members for a potluck and listened to some world class music.

We held a February rally at Kartchner state park and it was a wonderful camp-out. **Judy and Mike Scott** had hot smashed potato soup ready for the arrivals Friday evening and several of us went on cavern tours Saturday. Saturday afternoon was spent visiting, playing ladder ball, and preparing for the potluck dinner. Judy and Mike hosted a biscuit and gravy breakfast to send everyone on their way home with full tummies. We all enjoyed each others company and are already looking forward to our next event, which will be April 3-7 in Yuma at the FMA rally. *Continued on next page...*

Chapter reports, continued

In October (date TBA) we will venture to the Cottonwood, Ariz., area. Finally, we are discussing a joint rally with the Desert Rats sometime in the fall. A lot going on for such a new chapter.

If anyone would like to attend any of our events, just let us know. We would love to have you. ❖

Texas Discovery Road Runners



Chapter prez
Carol Sturm

Our chapter has started the new year with a slight change of name. We are now the **Texas Discovery Road Runners** instead of Texas Disco Road Runners.

Our first rally of the year was in Lafayette, La., for Mardi Gras. The parades were colorful and we all enjoyed saying, "Throw me something, Mister!" A visit to Avery island and the McIlhaney Company provided us with samples and excellent Cajun food. We had a total of 11 member coaches with two guest coaches; we welcomed **Pat and Mo McClurg** to their first rally. We also enjoyed meeting potential new members **Don and Linda Griffith**.

The next gathering will be at Marble Falls, Tex., April 10-15. This is one of the most beautiful times of the year in Texas. Marble Falls is situated in the heart of hill country, so bluebonnets, indian blankets and many other wildflowers will be at their peak along the roadways. If you join us, you can ride the Bluebonnet Festival Flyer steam train from the station in Cedar Park, Tex., to Burnet, Tex., enjoy the festival in Burnet and return to Cedar Park later in the afternoon.

Our September rally will be in the Austin area, so consider joining us and learning about Texas history. ❖

Heartland Discoverys



Chapter prez
Bev Kaiser

At Lazydays, the Heartland Discoverys chapter met for a picnic at the **Simpson's**. Thanks, **Bobby and Wanda**, for putting on the picnic. Members enjoyed hot dogs and hamburgers and brought a dish to pass. There were seven coaches present. They discussed going to the FMCA rally June 19-22 in Gillette, Wyo., with a pre-rally in the area of Mount Rushmore, S.D., June 14-17. More information on this is coming. Anyone interested in joining us for this rally is welcome. If you are interested, please email **Bev Kaiser** at bjk601@comcast.net, and I will make sure you get information on this upcoming rally.

We welcome new members **Dick and Claudia Booth** to the Heartland Discoverys chapter. ❖

Discovery Texans

Our first rally for 2013 was held January 16-19 at Rayford Crossing RV resort, Spring, Tex. A guest couple joined us for this rally, and **Don and Linda Griffith** joined our chapter before the rally ended. Welcome!

Our group attended the guided tour of the National Museum of Funeral History. It was quite informative and a decent price for us seniors. The museum houses the country's largest collection of funeral service artifacts and exhibits.

This was one of our smallest get-togethers, but we had fun. As a group we went out for Mexican dinner the first night, and the next evening we enjoyed a potluck dinner. We enjoyed visiting, eating, and playing games. The guys won the toss baseball game ... this time. Our hosts, **Pete and Martha Palasota** and **Leroy and Gwen Churchill**, spoiled us with delicious meals Friday and Saturday. Thank you all.



Chapter prez
Claire Weber

Our next rally was at Miller Creek RV resort, Johnson City, Tex. in March and we will report on this rally in the next issue of this newsletter. Safe travels everyone. ❖

Report submitted by Elaine Holley

Ozarks Discovery



Chapter prez
Bruce Plumb

The Ozarks Discovery chapter was well represented at Camp Discovery, the southeast region rally hosted by the Florida Discovery Sunshiners chapter. It took place during the last week in January at Lazydays in Seffner, Fla. It was a fantastic rally with great seminars and food, food, food. The entertainment was great, too. **Ricky and Debbie Keen** were there, along with **Felesa and John Baker**. We met two new couples who had recently joined our chapter, **Martin and Beverly Travis** and **George and Mary Wedel**. While we were there, we met another couple, **Glenn and Janet Rice**, who decided to join our chapter. Overall, the rally was a huge success. ❖

Report submitted by Ricky Keen

Northwest Adventurers



Chapter prez
Wally Wallington

We held our annual winter rally at the Blythe, Calif., bluegrass festival January 13. In attendance were **Annie and Wally Wallington**, **Bob and Portia Williams**, and **Del and Freddie Perry**. Had the usual potluck dinner (too much good food) and eating out (yea, Sizzler!). We welcomed new chapter members **Bob and Nina Soltwedel**, **Chuck and Judy Osborn**, and **Ken and Neva Jardine** (returning to the fold). **Becky Hazen and Lonnie Hodge** were able to join us for one day. Guests were **Paul and Doris Smith** and **Mike and Judy Scott**. A great time was had by all. Then on to Quartzsite, Ariz. Next scheduled rally will be at DOAI national rally in October. ❖

DOAI photo album

Pictures from here and there, around DOAI-land. If you attend a chapter, region, or national rally and take snapshots, please email them to the newsletter editor for future publication. Thanks! ❖

Southeast rally snapshots



Blue Ridge Discoverys chapter had a good turnout, and ↓ ↓ ↓



... so did the Mason-Dixon Discoverys chapter, and ↓ ↓ ↓



Pat Tracy taught a bow-making class.



... of course, so did the Florida Discovery Sunshiners!



The dancing was fine!



Co-pilots roundtable discussion was extremely helpful.

Continued on next page...

DOAI photo album, continued



Discovery Texans Doc and Valetta Simpson, John and Judy Curtis, and Mary Ellen and Hank Desmaris had a great time in Florida.



Ozarks Discovery chapter was well represented at the rally.



Two more Mason-Dixon Discoverys snapshots at rally. → → →



People raved about the great seminars, ↑ ↑ ↑ and liked the magic show very much. ↓ ↓ ↓



Old Glory took deserved center stage.

Continued on next page...

DOAI photo album, continued

Snapshots from chapter rallies



D/Zonas chapter was small but a lot of fun.



Ozarks Discovery chapter, taken at their Mountain View, Ark., rally in August 2012.



Two snapshots from Discovery Texans rally in Montgomery, Tex., in November 2012. They fed the fish ↑ ↑ ↑ and toured a log cabin at the Fernland historical park. → → →



The Mason-Dixon Discoverys chapter enjoyed fellowship and good food during their gathering at the southeast region rally.



The Northwest Adventurers enjoyed a sunny potluck during the Blythe bluegrass festival ...

Thanks to everyone who submitted photos for this feature: John Curtis, Ron Wacker, Dick Tracy, Nina Soltwedel, Bob Williams, Bruce Plumb, Elaine Holley, and Judy Scott. Apologies to anyone we missed thanking!



... and then journeyed to Quartzsite for more fun.

Travel humor

Perhaps you've experienced this: you're traveling around the country, perhaps walking down a trail, or pulling into a parking lot, and there it is ... a sign that, on second glance, reveals its unintended humor. Here are a few examples for your enjoyment. If you have photos to share, please email them to the newsletter editor (doaiexpress@discoveryowners.com) and they will be published in a future edition of *Discovery Express*. You are also invited to submit a humorous caption for your photo! Unless otherwise noted, photos have been shared by CampsitePhotos.com (reprinted with permission). ❖



Well, duh! Photo by Becky Guilliams



As Nike says, just do it.
Photo by Nina Soltwedel



If you drive a Mustang, can you park here? It is thoughtful of them to supply a shovel to remove the horse "exhaust." You can just see the top of the handle in this photo.



I don't know about you, but the last thing I would ever want to do is molest an alligator. And I sure don't want to become alligator food. But then, if I did become alligator food, they couldn't fine me ... or even find me, for that matter ...



If the road ends and the docks are floating, you gotta stay on land, unless you drove your D into the water and have to fish it out...



So, if it's a primitive road with no signs, why is there a sign?



What caption could be funnier than this sign?



That's how trees and rocks get away from fire.



This reminds us of *The Godfather*: "Luca Brasi swims with the fishes." Would he get arrested?

Let this website help your trip planning

CampsitePhotos.com

Launched in 2009, CampsitePhotos.com features photos of each campsite in public and private campgrounds throughout the USA including state parks, national parks, BLM, national forest and other campgrounds (www.campsitephotos.com/campground-directory/). It's a great way to see what you're getting before and after you make a reservation. You'll also find additional information about each campground, including campground descriptions, amenities, directions, maps, reviews and more.

Eric Edwards, owner of CampsitePhotos.com, announces the kickoff of the 2013 camping season with another photo trip – visiting and taking photographs of each campsite at more than 100 campgrounds around the United States. See photos from the 2012 trip at www.campsitephotos.com/blog/campsite-photo-trip-summer-2012. The photos here are from the 2012 trip.

The 2013 trip, scheduled for mid-March through mid-October, will consist of **Greg Wood**, director of photography for CampsitePhotos.com, driving over 10,000 miles through nine states, including California, Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado, Nebraska, Iowa, South Dakota, Minnesota and Wyoming. He will personally camp at many of the campgrounds he visits, providing first-hand information and tips from the road to readers on the CampsitePhotos.com blog, through Facebook and on Twitter.

The six-month adventure will return photos of around 15,000 individual campsites for indexing on CampsitePhotos.com, where users can already browse over 85,000 campsites, all for free. “The site has developed into a valuable resource for campers and outdoor enthusiasts, helping them to make a more informed decision when making a reservation,” states Edwards. “As with previous photo trips, this one will add some very popular campgrounds to the site, including all of the campgrounds at Yellowstone national park. Our fans also really love following along on our little adventures.”

In 2012, CampsitePhotos.com added 295 campgrounds to its website, a major jump for the group after adding 163 in 2011. “Our goal is to find, photograph and index as many campgrounds in the United States as possible,” states Edwards. “We launched in 2009 with 20 campgrounds in just a few states, and after this year, we anticipate having more than 900 campgrounds in 42 states. We're very pleased at our progress and are certainly on the path toward reaching our goals.” ❖

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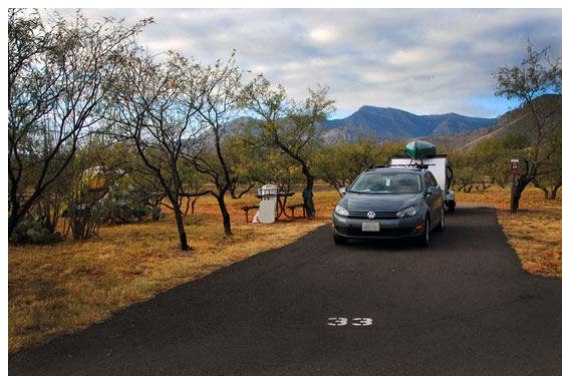
A campsite in northern Michigan



A campsite at Palmetto state park, Texas



A campsite at Blackwater state park, Florida

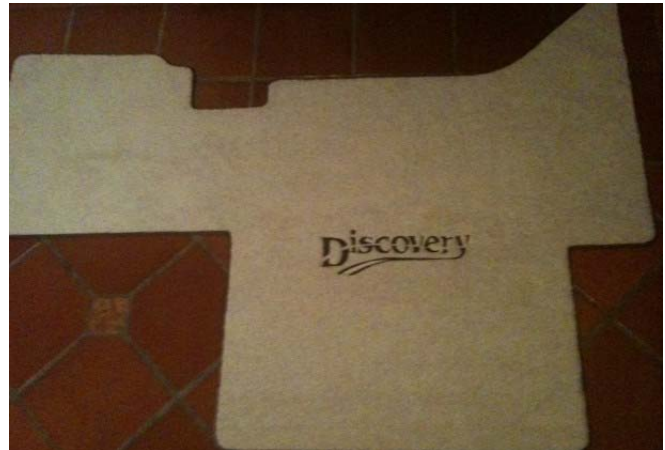


A campsite at Kartchner Caverns state park, Arizona

Yahoo! egroup conversations

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

Keith Lindholm posted this comment: "Today I got my Matworks custom mat I had made for my coach and it came out great. I provided the pattern and they traced it out and duplicated the drawing into their CADD system for a precision cut. (Note: I have no affiliation or financial interest with the company. I'm just a happy customer.) I am sharing the photo with DOAI members. There may be some who will want to do the same. You can find them on the Web: www.matworks.com."



Custom mat made for Keith's Discovery

Keith Lindholm also posted this comment: "I have finally found a quality portable oil drain reservoir that is perfect for motor homes. It is made of black polyethylene, measures 4.5" in height, and can handle 30 liters of oil (nearly 32 quarts). It has built-in casters for ease of movement, and the low profile makes it easy to get underneath the coach. It measures 23" wide by 33" long and takes up very little room for storage on edge.



#44605, Low-profile oil and fluid receiver \$69.95

"I saw a mobile RV service technician using one while servicing my neighbor's coach, and he gave me the URL where he found it: www.griotsbarage.com. I'm sure this item is available elsewhere, if you search the 'Net. This product, along with a Fumoto oil drain plug with hose barb connection should make future oil changes a nice, clean process."

Bill Stiles chimed in: "One thing I think all of us with Cat engines could use are the offset funnels to fill radiator overflow tanks and window washer tanks, plus other stuff. The funnels are on the same page as the oil drain tank. They are 7" long, and 3" across with a tapered 2" funnel.

"Another good website, although a little more specialized, is www.eastwood.com." ❖

Editor's note: Products mentioned in this article do not constitute a DOAI-sponsored endorsement, but are presented for informational purposes only.

#44794, Compact offset funnels, set of three \$14.99.

Color coded: use blue for coolant, red for power steering or transmission fluid, and gray for motor oil, if desired.



Planned for the July 2013 edition of Discovery Express ...

- ❁ Update on the progress of the 2013 quilts for the national rally (with photos).
- ❁ A detailed report from **Bob Parker** and **Donna Huffer** on the replacement of their Norcold refrigerator with a residential version (with photos).
- ❁ Tips for successful and safe RVing from **Mark Polk** (RV University) ... and more! See you then.

DOAI free-to-members classified advertising

Detailed information about these Discoverys for sale (including photos) may be found at www.discoveryowners.com/classifieds.htm

Discoverys FOR SALE

2000 37G: 38k mi, clean, no pets/smoke, fully equipped, W/D, one owner. Chic Rideout; 352.598.6248 \$31,000 OBO

2002 37U: 54k mi, clean, with Roadmaster Blackhawk tow package. Sam Hatcher; 850.387.0105; samhatcher@cs.com \$55,000

2002 38P: Low miles, mint condition, always garaged. Ray Martin; 513.777.7507; franraymartin@cinci.rr.com \$70,000

2002 38P: 53k mi, garaged, no smoke/kids/pets, perfect condition, new LCD TV in front. Jim Todd; 636.448.3372; abrasv@aol.com \$62,000

2004 39S: 43k mi, always garaged, no pets/smoke, excellent condition, front bra. Max Beidler; 731.431.3126; maxbeidler@charter.net \$89,999

2005 39L: 55k mi, new tires/batts, no smoke/kids, very good condition. Sue Garten; 847.366.8888; sgarten@netscape.net \$98,000

2005 39L: 47k mi, new tires/batts, no smoke/pets/kids, custom shades. Carrie Searle; 540.314.1745; msearler@gmail.com \$90,000

2006 39L: 34k mi, new front tires, custom shades, no smoke/pets, all maint. records. Sarah Wallace; 601.467.2933; wall4481@bellsouth.net \$90,000

2008 40X: 19k mi, front kitchen, LCD-TV, many options. Gary Hayes; 605.321.0237; garyhys@yahoo.com \$140,000

2008 40X: 28k mi, custom built for full-timing; optimal exterior storage; beautiful condition. Murray Hunter; 503.680.8315; huntermgs@msn.com \$139,500

2010 40X: 20k mi, W/D, ext. TV, ceramic tile floor, Ultra-Flex dinette, two recliners. Henk Dekker; 740.358.2242; henkdekker9@gmail.com \$155,000

2010 40X: 5k mi, 350hp Cummins, many upgrades, remainder of factory warranty. John Ward; 419.656.4929; cj2003vett@yahoo.com \$175,000

RV-related items FOR SALE

Rear wheel cover: 2001 D, 47¾" wide, 31¾" high. Robert Wilkins; 419.753.2502; nkvet@yahoo.com \$200 + shpg

Washer/Dryer: Bendix model WDS1043M, never used. Henry Casey; 863.644.8503; hcasey@juno.com \$400

Roadmaster braking system: Five years old, all parts included. Price plus shpg or pick up in Pennsylvania. Bill Stiles; 610.799.3978; pirate40@gmail.com \$700

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. It's 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&nk=Ultimate+Hub+Nut+Tool&saat=0

DOAI applauds membership sponsors

DOAI is grateful to these fine dealers for supporting our club by paying for a year's membership for each purchaser of a **new or used** Discovery motor home:

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

If you would like to join this elite group or have questions, details are available from DOAI Membership Director **Portia Williams**.

Call toll-free 888.594.6818

or send an email to

doaimembership@discoveryowners.com

Discovery Owners Association
and Discovery dealers ...



... a cooperative venture
with two-way benefits!



Florida Discovery Sunshiners chapter president Ron Wacker

Recap of 2013 southeast region rally – Camp Discovery

What a turnout and so much positive feedback from the attendees! There were many first-timers and they commented the rally was so enjoyable and informative that they will certainly attend next year's event.

The rally began with a first timers meeting, then a happy hour, followed by dinner and entertainment by The Dazzlers and they were great.

We enjoyed many technical seminars by **Marshall Godwin** and **Gary Osburn**. They were enjoyed by many, but especially the first timers and new Discovery owners. The ladies enjoyed jewelry making, a bow and box making craft, and the DOAI quilting meeting.

The 2013 Discovery coach display and the "What's new and upcoming for the Discovery coaches," presented by **Diane Holston** and **Jayne Fairley**, was a sneak peek of the future. An open bar and heavy hors d'oeuvres sponsored by Lazydays was a real treat.

Tuesday included a vendor fair, vendor presentations, and an ice cream social. **Jody Bruce** gave a pet safety presentation that was great. We all love our pets and want the best for them. Everyone outdid themselves with each dish at the covered dish dinner – very few leftovers. Mr. Magic (**Erick Olsen**) was marvelous entertainment for the evening!

Wednesday included more great Discovery seminars by **Marshall** and **Gary**, a pet parade, and the co-pilots' roundtable, "Tips for living in your RV," by our own **Jody Bruce** and **Donna Wacker**. An open bar again (very popular), with a catered dinner, followed by singing by **Van Davis** – great entertainment for the evening.

Thursday's "Today's technology for today's RV" was presented by **Tom Katsayama** – very technical and informative and helpful to us RVers. The pilots' roundtable, hosted by **Marshall Godwin**, was very popular (he is a wealth of knowledge). The last dinner of the rally was preceded yet again by an open bar, and the meal (roast beef) was excellent. Kim and The Kadillacs rocked the house – super entertainment.

The American Legion 'Veterans in Need' campaign was the charity of choice for the rally; the 50/50 games and donated gifts raffle totaled \$1,082 for that group. We thank the 50/50 winners for giving back their portions to the overall total.

The Friday morning coffee was great for saying our good-byes, and was followed by a final seminar, a first aid and CPR demonstration by the Hillborough county fire and rescue.

I thank everyone who helped with the rally – it would not have been a success without the help of each of you! We received many complimentary comments, and attendees really seemed to enjoy themselves. If you missed the rally, you missed out on a great time. ❖



Flip-Floppin' Through Florida

DOAI photo album, part two

A peek at some of the southeast region rally attendees



Donna and Ron Wacker



Carol and Bill Foster



Jorie and Mark Saloman



Joann and John Candler



Jody and Bruce Bruce



Tony and Ruthann Cantelmo



Mark Polk

RV Education 101

Every RV owner should have a basic understanding of weight terms. Do your research to avoid becoming a statistic in relation to overloaded RVs. Here are the basics you should know:

Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) – The maximum permissible weight of the vehicle when fully loaded for travel including the vehicle, cargo, liquids and fuel, passengers, and any towed vehicle tongue weight. Motor homes, tow vehicles, and trailers all have GVWR.

Unloaded Vehicle Weight or Dry Weight (UVW) – The actual weight of the trailer or truck as built at the factory. The UVW does not include passengers, cargo, fresh water, LP gas, or after-market accessories.

Cargo Carrying Capacity (CCC) – The maximum permissible weight of personal belongings that can be added. CCC is equal or less than GVWR minus UVW, full fresh water weight, and full LP gas weight.

Gross Axle Weight Rating (GAWR) – Every axle has a GAWR. It is the maximum allowable weight that the components (tires, wheels, brakes) of each axle are designed to support.

Gross Combined Weight Rating (GCWR) – The maximum permissible weight of the tow vehicle and trailer combined when both are fully loaded for travel. GCWR also applies to a motor home towing a vehicle or trailer behind it. GCWR minus GVWR represents the allowable weight for the towed vehicle. Note: The hitch receiver mounted on the towing vehicle must be rated for this amount of weight. If it is rated for less, that is the maximum amount you can tow.

Gross Vehicle Weight or Gross Trailer Weight (GVW), (GTW) – This is not a rating; this is the actual weight of the tow vehicle or trailer when they are fully loaded for travel. This includes the vehicle, cargo, liquids and fuel, passengers, and the towed vehicle's tongue weight.

Hitch Weight or Tongue Weight (TW) – The amount of weight pressing down on the vehicle's hitch or fifth wheel connection when the trailer is fully loaded for travel. ❖

© 2009 Reprinted with permission. *RV expert Mark Polk owns RV Education 101, a North Carolina-based company that produces and sells educational videos, DVDs and ebooks on how to use RVs. Mark has more than 30 years of experience in RV maintenance. He retired from the U.S. Army in 1996 as a chief warrant officer three, specializing in wheeled and track vehicle fleet maintenance operations. He and his wife, Dawn, started RV Education 101 in 1999. They travel with their two sons in a 35-foot class A motor home.*

Discovery Owners Association, Inc. membership application

Discovery Owners Association, Inc. is a premier non-profit organization intended 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 Director 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.** 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

From the Mountains to the Ocean



DOAI 2013 National Rally

From the Mountains to the Ocean

October 8 through 12, 2013 (Depart October 13)
 Bethpage Camp-Resort, Urbanna, Virginia
 Latitude 37.6489 — Longitude -76.5854

REGISTRATION FORM

Enter information as you want it to appear on your rally name badge

Pilot's Last Name _____ First Name _____
 Co-Pilot's Last Name _____ First Name _____
 Street _____ City, State/Prov., ZIP+4/Postal Code _____
 Home Phone _____ Cell Phone/s _____
 Email/s _____
 Emergency Contact/s _____ Emergency Phone/s _____
 DOAI # _____ DOAI Region _____ Chapter to be parked with _____
 Need handicap parking? (See note on page 3) Yes No First national rally? Yes No
 Guest/s Name, City, State _____

REGISTRATION:

\$350.00 per coach with two adults (October 8 through 12) \$ _____
 \$275.00 per coach with one adult (October 8 through 12) \$ _____
 \$75.00 each additional person/child (October 8 through 12) × ___ person/s = \$ _____
 \$35.75 pre-rally (up to three nights beginning October 5) × ___ night/s = \$ _____
 Arrival date _____
 \$20.00 DOAI membership (if not already a DOAI member) \$ _____
 \$45.00 per day golf cart for your rally site (See note on page 3)
 Start date _____ × ___ days = \$ _____

OPTIONAL TOUR , GOLF TOURNAMENT, EXCURSION:

Wednesday, October 9 – Williamsburg Tour (includes transportation) \$50.00 × ___ person/s = \$ _____
 Thursday, October 10 – Golf Tournament (includes golf cart) \$45.00 × ___ person/s = \$ _____
 Thursday, October 10 – Fishing Excursion (includes equipment) \$50.00 × ___ person/s = \$ _____

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: DOAI Total \$ _____

MAIL CHECK AND REGISTRATION FORM TO:

Alice Ricciardi, Registrar, 477 The Gardens Dr, Crossville TN 38555-0301

Questions? Contact Alice (252-619-7198) or John Ricciardi (252-619-6485); jonaL135@yahoo.com

REGISTRATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2013

Full refund cancellation may be made up to Sept. 7, 2013 – **AFTER SEPTEMBER 7 – NO REFUND**

→ → → KEEP A COPY FOR YOUR RECORDS ← ← ←

You will receive a confirmation of your registration via email.