



## New year – new Fleetwood – new look



Cutting the ribbon at the Decatur plant. L to R: John Draheim, Fleetwood president and COO; Mitch Daniels, governor of Indiana; John Schultz, mayor of Decatur; and Chuck Wilkinson, Fleetwood CEO.

Happy New Year! Looking at 2009, we had many opportunities for fellowship together: chapter campouts, a great region rally in Tennessee, and a super national rally in Colorado. Greeting old friends and making new ones was icing on the cake.

Fleetwood recreational vehicle division was saved through the courts' decision to approve American Investment Partners' purchase. Many Discovery owners (as well as previously-furloughed workers) applauded when the newly-appointed leaders cut the ribbon in Decatur at the plant's re-opening. The 2010 models are coming off the line, and

we have at least one member with a 2010 D.

Given that in early 2009 Fleetwood Enterprises was in bankruptcy, and 2010 sports a new, streamlined Fleetwood RV, Inc., we say, "Life is good for **Discovery**." It is, therefore, fitting that we present you with a new look for our newsletter, as well as new "dating." We hope you approve. ❁

## Southeast region rally on the horizon

If you are reading this newsletter online, *there is still time* to get your registration in for the southeast region rally, **Camp Discovery**, in Seffner, Florida. The January 31-February 5 rally has a deadline for registrations date of December 30, 2009. A copy of the registration form is online at [www.discoveryowners.com/CampDiscRegForm.pdf](http://www.discoveryowners.com/CampDiscRegForm.pdf).

**John Ricciardi**, rally master for the regional rally, has an article on **page 15** and you can read the rally's blog at [www.campdiscovery2010.blogspot.com](http://www.campdiscovery2010.blogspot.com). ❁

## 2010 national rally plans progressing

This seems to be the "Year of the Southeast Region." Not only are region members working on the region rally, they are also going to host the 2010 national rally, **Autumn in the Smokies**, September 20-26, at River Plantation RV Park, Sevierville, Tennessee.



**Frank Cason**, rally master for the national rally, has an article on **page 11**. The registration form will be online at [www.discoveryowners.com](http://www.discoveryowners.com) in January 2010. Elsewhere in this issue are photos meant to entice you to head to Tennessee for another super national rally. ❁

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## DOAI membership sponsors

We extend thanks to these Discovery dealers who support DOAI by paying for a year's membership for each person who purchases a **new or used** Discovery motor home.

Ancira Motorhomes, Inc., Boerne TX	800.299.1199	<a href="http://www.ancirarv.com">www.ancirarv.com</a>
Blaine Jensen RV, Kaysville UT	888.652.9944	<a href="http://www.blainejensenrv.com">www.blainejensenrv.com</a>
Hayes RV, Longview TX	888.429.3778	<a href="http://www.hayesrv.com">www.hayesrv.com</a>
Lazydays® RV Center, Seffner FL	800.500.5299	<a href="http://www.lazydays.com">www.lazydays.com</a>
PPL Motor Homes, Houston TX	800.755.4775	<a href="http://www.pplmotorhomes.com">www.pplmotorhomes.com</a>
Tom Johnson Camping Center, Concord NC	888.450.1440	<a href="http://www.tomjohnsoncamping.com">www.tomjohnsoncamping.com</a>
Tom Johnson Camping Center, Marion NC	800.225.7802	<a href="http://www.tomjohnsoncamping.com">www.tomjohnsoncamping.com</a>
Tom Raper RV, Richmond IN/Fairfield OH	800.727.3778	<a href="http://www.tomraper.com">www.tomraper.com</a>

**If you would like to join this elite group, or have questions,  
please contact DOAI Membership Director Portia Williams at 888.594.6818**

## 2009 national rally photos



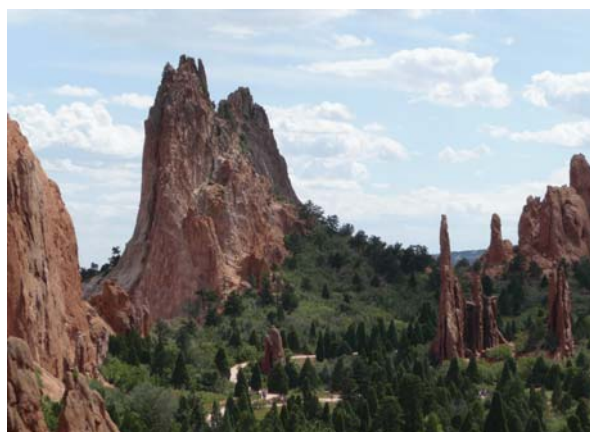
Tuesday breakfast, with lots of good food and fellowship, getting everyone ready for another great day at the rally.



Did this group really walk up 224 steps at Seven Falls...or did they take the elevator? Shown are Pat Gravel, Peggy and Richard Gwillam, Dick and Brenda Snyder, and Charlie and Echo Richardson.



The Heartlanders hosted a gathering, welcoming former DOAI members (and founders of Discovery Pioneers) Ed and Olive Kennedy (seated). Also shown Phil Yovino, Nina Soltwedel, Jim Devine, and Bob Soltwedel.



Garden of the Gods is truly an awesome park.

Thanks are extended to those who contributed photographs from the national rally that you will see throughout this issue: **Dick Snyder, Richard and Peggy Gwillam, Claire Weber, Sarah Hallum, and Hank and Shirleen Smith.** ❄️

## President's message

Fellow Discovery Owners:

The DOAI election is over and the proposed slate of officers and region vice presidents were selected for a two-year term. Electronic voting resulted in greater participation, but we still have a small percentage of members who choose to vote.

I recently attended a Mason-Dixon chapter rally in Williamsburg, Virginia. The rally hosts did a great job to plan and conduct the rally. It was a very enjoyable time. I was reminded of the importance of local chapter membership. Your local chapter is the place to foster and grow close friendships. If you have not joined a local chapter, please consider doing so. To belong to DOAI but not a local chapter is somewhat like taking bag lunches on a cruise ship. You are missing a big part of the experience.

We are in that time of the year when many of our members put their Discoverys in hibernation for the winter. If that's your case, it's a good time to make plans for spring camping trips. Although we live in an area that sees hard freezes several times each winter, we try to use our D each month, so we don't often winterize.

This winter we plan a Florida trip to attend the **Camp Discovery** rally at Lazydays® RV Campground (*note name change from RallyPark*) from January 31-February 5. This rally will focus on seminars and hands-on training sessions for pilots and co-pilots. It is a departure from previous rallies in both the number and depth of seminars. The concept is to provide our members with a greater understanding of the systems and equipment that make up our home on wheels. It just makes sense for us to be more knowledgeable of our motor homes. I hope to see a large number of you there. Don't miss this unique and fun learning experience.

We have had a number of great national rallies and the Pueblo gathering added to that list. It takes a real team effort to put on a major rally. We are fortunate to have so many in our association willing to serve and give their time, energy, and talent to make these rallies a great experience for all. Our next national rally will be in the southeast region, at Sevierville, Tennessee, September 2010. Mark your calendars now.

Speaking of those who serve, I want to again thank key members of the association who work day in and day out to make this an exceptional owners organization: Newsletter Editor, **Nina Soltwedel**; Webmasters, **Bob Cook** and **Toni Calzone**; Membership Director, **Portia Williams**; and Merchandise Directors, **Dick** and **Pat Tracy**. You are the best! Thank you.

This has been a milestone year for our Discovery. We made the Alaska trip and the odometer rolled past the 100,000 mile mark. In that number of miles, there have been bumps in the road, but they all make up the RVing lifestyle. All of us are very fortunate to be able to enjoy this lifestyle. Take care and God bless! ❄️



National president  
Marshall Godwin



This winter we plan a Florida trip to attend the **Camp Discovery** rally at Lazydays® RV Campground (*note name change from RallyPark*) from January 31-February 5. This rally will focus on seminars and hands-on training sessions for pilots and co-pilots. It is a departure from previous rallies in both the number and depth of seminars. The concept is to provide our members with a greater understanding of the systems and equipment that make up our home on wheels. It just makes sense for us to be more knowledgeable of our motor homes. I hope to see a large number of you there. Don't miss this unique and fun learning experience.

## Merchandise director's report

Thanks to everyone who purchased DOAI merchandise at the Pueblo rally. Approximately \$2,200 in gross sales is, in my estimation, pretty good.

The DOAI merchandise store will be open during Camp Discovery and will feature some new items, as well as continuing to provide the basic DOAI items offered at prior rallies. I am working on identifying the new items and preparing reorders to restock basic items, including those great tote bags.

I never did get any response to my earlier request for helping in identifying and selecting merchandise. If you have ideas to share on what we might sell, please contact me. ❄️



Merchandise  
Director Dick Tracy

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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.

### Newsletter Editor

Nina Soltwedel

4736 Harwich St.

Boulder CO 80301-4217

303.530.0775; 303.570.2736

[doaiexpress@discoveryowners.com](mailto:doaiexpress@discoveryowners.com)

Contact DOAI membership director as soon as you change your address. Newsletters are costly to mail, and DOAI pays double when a newsletter is returned. If you wish to access the newsletter electronically instead of receiving a hard copy, contact the membership director for details.

### Membership Director

Portia Williams

P. O. Box 95

St. George UT 84771-0095

Toll-free 888.594.6818

[doaimembership@discoveryowners.com](mailto:doaimembership@discoveryowners.com)

### DOAI Web Site

[www.discoveryowners.com](http://www.discoveryowners.com)

### DOAI Yahoo! Group

[groups.yahoo.com/group/discoveryownersassociation/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/discoveryownersassociation/)

### Access Back Issues

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## 2010-2011 board election results

Thanks to everyone who took part in the important election process. As you can see, the electronic voting was a success; there were only seven mail-in ballots and 164 ballots cast via the Internet. The “spoiled” ballots were those which were write-in votes, but no names were inserted in the write-in areas.

I had my wife, **Dorothy**, witness the opening and counting of the seven paper ballots. The results are as follows, with the electees’ names in bold print:

<b>President</b>	
<b>Marshall Godwin</b> .....	170
Marshall Fields .....	1
<b>Executive Vice President</b>	
<b>John Baker</b> .....	170
Bill Katterhenry .....	1
<b>Vice President for Development</b>	
<b>Bob Soltwedel</b> .....	170
<i>Spoiled ballot</i> .....	1
<b>Secretary</b>	
<b>MaryAnn Crowell</b> .....	170
<i>Spoiled ballot</i> .....	1
<b>Treasurer</b>	
<b>Pete Palasota</b> .....	171

<b>Vice Treasurer</b>		
<b>David Blomstrom</b> .....	169	
<i>Spoiled ballots</i> .....	2	
<b>National Rally Master</b>		
<b>Dick Snyder</b> .....	171	<b>Past President</b>
<b>North Central Region Vice President</b>		<b>Phil Yovino</b>
<b>Charlie Richardson</b> .....	9	
<b>Northeast Region Vice President</b>		
<b>Steve Masterson</b> .....	8	
<b>Northwest Region Vice President</b>		
<b>Bob Williams</b> .....	18	
<b>South Central Region Vice President</b>		
<b>Joe Stewart</b> .....	46	
<b>Southeast Region Vice President</b>		
<b>John Ricciardi</b> .....	60	
<b>Southwest Region Vice President</b>		
<b>John Bujnovsky</b> .....	29	

I thank Webmaster **Bob Cook** for setting up the Internet voting process on behalf of DOAI members. ❄

## Calling all quilters!

I thought it would be fun to create a round robin quilt that we could raffle off at the 2010 national rally, to benefit a local women’s shelter. I am willing to make the center square and donate the fabric. The theme of the quilt will echo the theme of the national rally: *Autumn in the Smokies*.



For those of you not familiar with a round robin, this is how it works: You start with a center block, then the fabric and the block are sent to the next person on the list who adds a four-inch to six-inch border of her choosing. Then it is sent to the next person on the list to add another border. The last person on the list sends it back to me for finishing. Of course, if we have a long-arm quilter in the group willing to do

By Donna Barker

the quilting, that would be great. Each border can be pieced and/or appliquéd. If you need to add fabric for your border, please feel free to add to the ‘stash’.

I know there are a lot of talented people out there, and I am sure that the whole will be much more beautiful than the individual borders! If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me by phone or email or snail mail: **Donna Barker**, 3902 Broomsedge Ln, Valrico FL 33596-6477; 813.654.2473 (home); 813.817.6673 (cell); [lithialady@verizon.net](mailto:lithialady@verizon.net).

I will be at the southeast region rally at Lazydays® RV Campground in January. I hope to have the center square finished by then so that we can meet and get organized. Hope to see you there! ❄



## Congratulations!

**Don and MaryAnn Crowell** have earned a year’s free membership because they got three D owners to join DOAI. When you meet D owners who aren’t DOAI members, tell them about this great group of RVers, give them a membership form, and ask them to note that you recommended them for membership. Get three, and you’ve made it! ❄

## Secretary's report

### Synopsis of meetings

#### Board meeting – September 22, 2009

Board members present: **Marshall Godwin, Phil Yovino, Elsie Sikes, Pete Palasota, Charlie Richardson, Dick Snyder, Frank Cason, Bob Soltwedel, Steve Masterson, Joe Stewart, John Bujnovsky.** Guests present: **David Blomstrom, Portia Williams, Nina Soltwedel, Bob Cook, John Ricciardi.**

- ✎ President called meeting to order; Pledge of Allegiance recited; President commended Bob and Nina Soltwedel and crew for an outstanding national rally.
- ✎ Minutes of previous meeting read and approved.
- ✎ Financial report read and approved.
- ✎ John Ricciardi gave status report on 2010 southeast region rally.
- ✎ Frank Cason gave report on 2010 national rally, and proposed budget was approved. Per coach price will be \$405 with 85 coaches needed to break even. Dates of September 18-26 approved.
- ✎ Steve Masterson reported on possible sites for 2011 national rally.
- ✎ Portia Williams reported on membership status; Phil Yovino related ideas for increasing participation in chapters.
- ✎ Marshall Godwin presented changes to standing rules, reimbursement of region and national rally fees may be made for newsletter editor, membership director, webmaster, assistant webmaster; and national rallies fees only may be made for board members. Approved.
- ✎ Budget discussion included idea to urge members to **“Go Green.”** Marshall proposed DOAI give one year free membership to purchasers of new and used Discoverys who are not covered by dealer sponsorship program, said membership to include only the electronic edition of the newsletter, not the hard copy. Approved.

- ✎ Discussion about Bob Cook's decision to remain as webmaster for the time being; reimbursement of Internet access cost for **Toni Calzone** as assistant webmaster; repair of DataStorm on webmaster's coach. All actions approved.
- ✎ Nina Soltwedel summarized advertising rates in newsletter. Motion made and approved that members engaged in commercial enterprises may advertise at reduced ad rates.
- ✎ Motion to purchase American flag was not approved.



Past Secretary

Elsie Sikes

#### General meeting – September 23, 2009

- ✎ President called meeting to order; Pledge of Allegiance recited; President commended Bob and Nina Soltwedel and crew for an outstanding national rally.
- ✎ Minutes of previous meeting read and approved.
- ✎ Financial report read and approved.
- ✎ Membership report given.
- ✎ Report on chapter presidents meeting given, and ten chapters represented at rally recognized.
- ✎ Pete Palasota was introduced as treasurer, replacing Micky Racer.
- ✎ President led discussion of proposed bylaw changes. Changes approved by voice vote of membership.
- ✎ Budget considerations announced; electronic edition of newsletter encouraged to keep costs down.
- ✎ Volunteers requested to serve on audit committee and upcoming southeast region rally and national rally.

If you have questions about these minutes, or wish to read the full version, please contact Secretary **MaryAnn Crowell**. ❄

## National rally master's report

I don't know about you, but I think the *Discoverys in the Rockies* DOAI national rally in Pueblo, Colorado, was a great success. Brenda and I had a wonderful time.



Balanced Rock

The tours were well planned. Even though we had driven up Pikes Peak on a Goldwing motorcycle about 20 years ago, riding up the mountain in the cog railway was a new experience. We didn't even know there was a place called Seven Falls, and we have now seen it and know what it means. It was something to see the cadets marching at the Air Force Academy, and we have never seen a more beautiful church as the chapel there. Of

course, Balanced Rock in Garden of the Gods is always an interesting sight to see.

When the actual business part of the rally began on Monday, there was never much free time with all the seminars, chapter gatherings, and, of course, the breakfasts and dinners and entertainment each day. Also, meeting new Discovery owners and catching up with old friends kept us busy. I believe **Bob and Nina Soltwedel** and the folks in the northwest region chapters, along with all the volunteers, held a very successful rally and should be thanked and congratulated for their hard work. Anytime a rally can be enjoyable and come in under budget, it is considered very successful. If you missed this rally, you missed a good one.

Hope to see you at Lazydays® in January. ❄



National Rally Master Dick Snyder

## Chapter news

### Dixie Travelers

During the spring and summer months, several of our members took various trips. We are happy to report that **Kenneth Stanley** is improving after returning home from the hospital due to a serious problem with his arm during his travels.

Our spring rally was held during the southeast region rally in Sevierville, Tennessee, with 12 members present. Plans for the fall rally were discussed. It was decided to hold the rally at the KOA Campground in Nashville, Tennessee. Hosts were **Joe and Marlene Parker, Robert and Joyce Johnson, and Hilda and Roy Moore**. What a great time we had visiting the beautiful Opry Land hotel, Opry Mills shopping mall and The Hermitage, home of Andrew Jackson.

Our annual spring rally will be held in Vidalia, Louisiana, at River View RV Park, April 1-3, 2010. Site fee is \$34.08 per night including tax. Make your own reservations by calling the campground at 866.336.1402, stating you are with Dixie Travelers. **Jean and Bill McCloud** will be hosts, assisted by **George and Jean Salter, and Bert and John Belcher**. Tours of Natchez, Mississippi, will be available for all those interested.

President **Ted Misenheimer** encourages all members to attend the **Camp Discovery** at LazyDays Rally Park in Florida in January. ❄️

### Midwest Discoverers

We held our fall rally at Camp Dearborn, Milford, Michigan Oct 1-5. Although the weather wasn't the best, hosts **Virgil and Donna Diver** did a great job. Thursday evening's get together featured a chili supper and lots of goodies. **Jerry and Noreta Call** played Santa, giving everyone a sweet treat. The one and only campfire was attended by most of the members.

Saturday, everyone spent an enjoyable and educational day at the Henry Ford museum or attending a local RV show. The evening ended with dinner at the Milford Family restaurant, followed by the traditional group photo and business meeting.



Officers were elected; **Jerry Call** was elected president, and **Cindy Merkt** was elected secretary/treasurer. She was our first secretary and has been a great help with the club since we

By Peggy Meisenheimer



Prez Ted

By Peg Lavoie



Prez Jerry

started. A big THANK YOU to all the outgoing officers: **Sam Calder, Dick Holmes and Steve Clark**.

Although the weather was cool and rainy, everyone spent their days touring the area and catching up with other members.

Monday saw several members stay for a round of golf as the weather cleared. The rest of the group headed for home or other points of interest with plans to meet again at the rally in Seffner in January.

The Divers have agreed to host a spring rally in western Pennsylvania. More details will follow after the first of the year.

I've enjoyed my time as chapter president. This is a great group and we always have a good time with lots of laughs and lots of good eating. See you down the road. ❄️

### Blue Ridge Discoverys

We made it to the national rally, and met up with four other Blue Ridge Discoverys coaches. We all had a great time.

After the national, we continued to roll our Ds across New Mexico, Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and arrived in Dillard, Georgia, October 19. What a great trip we all had, with great friends.

The Dillard rally was a great success, with a final count of 33 coaches – what a turnout! All the attendees seemed to have had a great time. The food was good, the roundtable discussion were superb and the fellowship was at its highest level. The leaves were at the peak of color; there is nothing as beautiful as the turning of the foliage each fall. The nights were cool, but enjoyable, as we sat around the huge fireplace. Thanks to the host (the **McGills; McPhees; Grubas and Barnabeis**) for making the rally a great success.

A bit of Blue Ridge Discoverys trivia: We had our first chapter rally in August 2007 with 18 coaches. Since

**Marian Davis** at the Dillard campground that rally, we

have not had a chapter rally with less than 20 coaches. Blue Ridge Discoverys is awesome! Let's keep it going.

Our next chapter rally will be in Bluff City, Tennessee. As soon as the committee has the registration form ready, it will be sent to all chapter members. We have 25 spaces on hold for this one also, so let's fill them and maybe get more.

We have another rolling rally being set up by **Walt Hare** and **Fred Barnabei** for the July and August time frame. In October, we will do something different: we will have an 11-



By Frank Cason



Prez Frank



### Chapter news, continued

day rally in two different locations. More will be published on this later in the year. The dates and locations of all our chapter rallies have been put on the DOAI Web site.

The chapter is 71-coaches strong. We are having great participation at the rallies, and it appears the rally attendees are having a super time. For chapter members to really get to know other members and to enjoy their DOAI and chapter membership, they must attend the chapter rallies.

Thanks for all the support I have received from the chapter officers and members. Let's continue to improve our chapter and have fun. See you at the next rally. ❄️

#### Louisiana Mudbugs

By Jan McIlvaine

We held our last rally of the year October 23-25 at the Nakatosh campground in Natchitoches, Louisiana. Natchitoches is a charming old quaint town with many little shops and a wonderful brick main street with horse-and-buggy ride opportunities. The street runs along the Red river, showing tourists a marvelous view of this historic town. Natchitoches is the oldest settlement in the parcel of land that was the Louisiana Purchase, which was later divided up onto 15 states and greatly enlarged the land mass of the USA. It is also a college town and many of the shops are geared toward students. This town is known for their meat pies and is the home of a very famous restaurant called Lasyone's Meat Pie Restaurant, toward which many gravitated for lunch. It was a beautiful, crispy fall weekend and was thoroughly enjoyed by all.



Prez Anthony

Our weekend was one of great company, great food, great games, and great sightseeing. We planned our 2010 rally schedule, and will have campouts in all four sections of the state. In January, the Mudbugs will ride again – this time to the Cajun part of our state. We will be at Poche's Campground in Breaux Bridge, Louisiana. Please keep us in mind if you are ever in this area. We love company! ❄️

#### Mason-Dixon Discoverys

By John Ricciardi

We have been very busy preparing for the southeast region rally at Lazydays® RV Campground in Florida, as well as having our own rally in Williamsburg, Virginia, in November. All who attended had a great time. Thanks to **Debbie and Robert Fowlkes** for their hard work. We are also starting to gather locations for our 2010 rallies. This list will be on the DOAI Web site in the near future



Prez John

I thank every one of the Mason-Dixons who has helped with **Camp Discovery** (I'm afraid to mention names because I'm sure I'll forget someone). A lot of hard work has gone into **Camp Discovery** and I'm sure it's going to be a huge success.

The Mason-Dixons are looking forward to seeing everyone at **Camp Discovery**, and we also wish everyone a happy and safe holiday season. ❄️

#### Quad State-LATO

By Juanita Eddings

We had such a great time with our rolling rally in November 2008, we decided to do it again in 2009. We extended the time to almost two weeks, and traveled through three states: Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama. Our goal was to eat some of the best seafood the area has to offer, and we did!



The women worked a few puzzles, Prez Gene shopped, and went sightseeing. The men looked for a good pawnshop, while the women looked for used book stores. Relaxing and having fun were the main items on the agenda for this trip.

Sadly, however, we must make this announcement: At the November rally business meeting, the group voted to disband the chapter due to lack of participation by members. The original group of officers has continued in their jobs and now, after three years, they no longer wish to keep up these duties.

Those of us who have attended the rallies have had a wonderful time and have made new friends. **Gene and Frank Sawyer** have worked hard, but it is difficult to get much participation when the chapter is spread out over four states.

We are hoping to see you as our Discoverys still travel down the roadways. ❄️

#### Heartland Discoverys

By Bobby Simpson

I am excited about the upcoming year. **Wanda** and I just got back from Dillard, Georgia, and are headed to Florida. We hope to see everyone real soon.



Prez Bobby

The Heartlanders have already started planning for some great rallies in 2010.

Our officers are in place and have already helped members line up some educational, toe-tapping, beautiful places to visit

The Heartland representatives who were lucky enough to attend the national rally at Pueblo gave it an A+++ rating.

We remind everyone that they are always welcome at a Heartland rally. ❄️

#### Discovery Pioneers

By Chuck Brock

We had a very successful rally year with members going to some very interesting areas of the country. Elsewhere in this edition you can see what many of the Pioneers were doing for the DOAI national rally.



Prez Chuck

Our winter rally that we hold somewhere in Arizona or New Mexico seems to be the best one with the greatest participation. So, we are planning to have our winter rally in Yuma, Arizona, in March to kick off the 2010 season. The spring rally is in the planning stages for Silver City, New Mexico, around the end of April. The rest of the season has yet to be determined, but plans are being worked up.

A few mini-rallies were held in 2009 which were more



## Chapter news, continued

spontaneous and *ad hoc*. A “mini-rally” in this context is two to three members meeting up and caravanning together. An example of this was the trip made to Roswell and Las Cruces, New Mexico, where we met up with other members who lived in the area. We shared a wonderful time with them. Just another example of how great it is to be a Discovery owner and to be able to share good times with great people. ❄

### Florida Discovery Rolling Gators

By Bill Katterhenry

To get away from Florida's summer heat and humidity, **Sam and Sandy Childs** and **Joe and Judy Fournier** spent the month of August at Grandfather Mountain near Boone, North Carolina, where it is normally cool. **Tom and Judy Ebbert** came over from New Tazewell, Tennessee, for the rally. **Bill and Marti Katterhenry** visited for a day from Loudon, Tennessee. Much good food from various sources was enjoyed by all. We understand some quilting and blueberry picking occurred also.



Prez Bill

In late October, the Childses and Katterhenrys met at Stagecoach RV Park in St. Augustine to spend a couple days visiting with Joe and Judy Fournier, who wined and dined us at their home. Fourniers also introduced us to the Creekside Restaurant for another great meal. The lobster was so good, we thought we were in Maine.

**Roger and Jean McClelland** sponsored a great rally at their resident park, Wekiva Falls RV Resort at Sorrento, Florida. The rally was attended by the Childses, **Lee and Sheila Eck, Dan Jacoby and Donna Barker**, and the Katterhenrys. The group enjoyed a boat ride on the Wekiva river, and we did some alligator watching. We had to make sure the trash was disposed of by 8pm, as the dumpster gate was closed and locked to keep the resident black bear out during the night. We never saw the bear, but did see bear tracks. Roger and Jean did an outstanding job of keeping us well fed by finding great food at various area restaurants.

Looking forward to see many of you at **Camp Discovery** the end of January. ❄

*Continued on page 11...*

## Membership director's report

As of the end of October 2009, DOAI's membership was 1,419 compared to 1,491 at the end of October 2008. We received an additional 23 new members through mid-November.

We have received new members from the following dealers in 2009: Ancira Motorhomes, Bankston Motor Homes, Blaine Jensen RV, Hayes RV, Lazydays® RV Center, Inc., PPL Motor Homes, Tom Johnson Camping Center, and Tom Raper RV. Other sources are our brochure, ads, and this newsletter. Our most fruitful source is the Internet, especially since we now have the capability to join and renew online.

We have 32 member referrals! Just a reminder: we have 10 members who have two new member referrals; only one more needed for each and they will earn a free one year's DOAI membership!

We welcome these new members who joined since the last issue of this newsletter. Please extend the hand of welcome when you meet them:

Mac/Dianna Almond, Austin TX  
 Mike Anderson, Shreveport LA  
 Rob/Alicia Koval Arner, FPO APO  
 Cynthia Aylor, Union KY  
 Alan/Kathleen Baker, Hampton NH  
 Jim/Shirley Barrett, Rockport TX  
 Jack/Jan Barrier, Morganton NC  
 Carr/Cheryl Beavers, Fordland MO  
 Dan/Bonnie Beck, Pensacola FL  
 Bill/Claudia Biel, Austin TX  
 James/Betty Biggert, Columbiaville MI  
 Hartley/Sheila Brown, Massena NY  
 Rick/Eileen Brown, San Antonio TX  
 Pat/Linda Cahill, Alpharetta GA  
 Bill/Judi Canavan, Mukilteo WA  
 Clifford/Britt Chamblee, Cypress TX  
 Randy/Janet Collins, Spokane WA  
 Toni/Ray Courtier, Panacea FL  
 Billy Curtin, West Islip NY  
 Jerry/Mary Anne Donald, Elmira OR  
 James/Carole Dunn, Scottsdale AZ  
 Doug/Audrey Eller, Kannapolis NC  
 Bill/Chrissy Evans, Charleston WV  
 Kent Everhart, Ada OH  
 John/Kay Farmer, Clearwater KS

Stanley/Lisa Fenton, Addis LA  
 Steve/Debbie Ford, Hollis NH  
 Larry/Charlene Foster, Braselton GA  
 Jim Freeman, Tallahassee FL  
 Bob/Marian Giordano, Silverthorne CO  
 John/Evlin Griffin, Dixon CA  
 David/Jan Heitsman, Sumas WA  
 Arthur/Nancy Hill, Sandusky OH  
 Noah/Bonnie Hinton, Orange Park FL  
 Frank Jensen, Westwold BC  
 Jay Jones, Tulsa OK  
 Kevin/Julie Kanyuck, Largo FL  
 Peter/Renee Kelly, Parkland FL  
 Brad Keshlear, Atlanta GA  
 Bill/Tresa Kirton, Tomball TX  
 Bob/Donna Lambert, Connelys Springs NC  
 Tim/Pamela Latham, Aurora IL  
 Dennis/Marylee Libro, Winnemucca NV  
 Michael/Susan Reed Mayfield, Austin TX  
 Patrick/Melissa Meehan, Scottsdale AZ  
 Timothy/Christine Moore, Saint Leonard MD  
 Joseph/Susan Ness, Bayfield WI  
 Virgil/Terri Newton, Loomis WA  
 Sal/Carmina Patalano, Nashua NH

Mark/Liza Pickett, Albany GA  
 Scott/Melissa Plowman, Wichita Falls TX  
 Geary/Nancy Prugh, Casper WY  
 William Reichert, Beecher IL  
 John/Candy Rodal, Lovettsville VA  
 Carl/Cheryl Rosner, Bay Shore NY  
 Randy/Becky Scheibelhut, San Antonio TX  
 Chuck/Jean Schroder, Seneca SC  
 Henry/Wanda Sester, Hamilton OH  
 Darren Smart, Missoula MT  
 Wilfred Smith, Monroe LA  
 Rick/Debbie Stremmel, Millersville PA  
 Clinton/Jane Taber, Largo FL  
 Tyson/Barbara Taylor, Fort Deposit AL  
 Larry/Judy Thorneycroft, New Albany IN  
 Keith/Carol Tiffany, Elkhorn WI  
 Jerry/Becky Guilliams Timberlake, Fresno CA  
 Raymond/Donna Turner, St Petersburg FL  
 Earl/Mary Vanlandingham, Whitney TX  
 Sarah Wallace, Brandon MS  
 Lennie/Wendy Williams, Melbourne FL  
 Ken/Diane Williamson, Olathe KS  
 Rex/Jerry Wooten, Dimmitt TX  
 Dennis/Lori Yeo, Roseburg OR  
 Tom/Frankie Zwirblia, Goldsboro NC



Membership Director Portia Williams





## Rally opportunities

Jump in and meet new friends and see new places via the chapter lifestyle. Other Discovery owners are waiting to welcome you!

### January 2010 –

21-23 Discovery Texans, Mason TX  
**31-2/5 Southeast region rally - Camp Discovery, Seffner FL**

### March 2010 –

T/B/A Discovery Pioneers, Yuma AZ  
 18-20 Discovery Texans, Waco TX

### April 2010 –

1-3 Dixie Travelers, Vidalia LA  
 T/B/A Discovery Pioneers, T/B/A

### May 2010 –

1-7 Florida Disco Rolling Gators, Grassy Key FL  
 21-23 Discovery Texans, Bandera TX

### June 2010 –

7-13 Blue Ridge Discoverys, Bluff City TN

### July 2010 –

1-15 Blue Ridge Discoverys, MN/WI/MI rolling rally

### September 2010 –

**20-26 DOAI national rally - Autumn in the Smokies, Sevierville TN**

### October 2010 –

14-19 Blue Ridge Discoverys, Marion NC  
 19-24 Blue Ridge Discoverys, Dillard GA

### November 2010 –

11-13 Discovery Texans, Hempstead TX

### Looking To the Future –

**2011 DOAI national rally, Northeast region**  
**2012 DOAI national rally, South central region**  
**2013 DOAI national rally, Southwest region**  
**2014 DOAI national rally, Southeast region**  
**2015 DOAI national rally, Northwest region**  
**2016 DOAI national rally, North central region**

*Consolidated rally schedule also on DOAI Web site*



## Helpful contacts for Discovery owners

Allison Transmission, GM Corp. ....	800.252.5283	Intellitec .....	800.251.2408
Atwood Mobile Products .....	574.264.2131	Interstate Rest Areas .....	<a href="http://www.interstaterestareas.com">www.interstaterestareas.com</a>
Camping/Traveling in the U.S. ....	<a href="http://www.roadnotes.com">www.roadnotes.com</a>	Kidde Safety Products .....	800.880.6788
Camping on Public Lands .	<a href="http://www.americaspUBLICLANDS.com">www.americaspUBLICLANDS.com</a>	Kwikke Products .....	800.736.9961
Caterpillar RV Engine Support .....	877.777.3126	Magnadyne .....	800.638.3600
Carefree of Colorado .....	800.621.2617	Michelin North America .....	800.847.3435
Carriage Carpets (Shaw Flooring) .....	877.706.3054	Norcold, Inc. ....	800.543.1219
CCI Controls .....	800.521.5228	Onan .....	800.888.6626
Cummins, Inc. ....	800.343.7357	Power Gear .....	800.334.4712
Denso (call Fleetwood) .....	800.322.8216	Riverpark .....	800.442.7717
Discovery Badges: The Sign Man .....	407.365.3722	RV Dump Locations . . .	<a href="http://www.rvdumps.com/dumpstations">www.rvdumps.com/dumpstations</a>
Discovery Parts:		RVP (Coleman) .....	316.832.4357
Sullivan RV Sales & Service .....	800.720.0484	RVP (Suburban) .....	423.775.2131
Walt's RV Supplies .....	909.823.0563	Spartan Chassis, Inc. ....	517.543.6400
Dometic Corp. ....	800.544.4881	Splendide .....	800.356.0766
Fantastic Vent .....	800.521.0298	Thetford Corp. ....	800.521.3032
Fleetwood RV, Inc. ....	800.322.8216	Trojan Battery Co. ....	<a href="http://www.trojanbattery.com">www.trojanbattery.com</a>
Freightliner Custom Chassis Corp .....	800.385.4357	Velvac .....	800.783.8871
General Electric .....	<a href="http://www.geappliances.com/geac/">www.geappliances.com/geac/</a>	Winegard .....	800.288.8094
Goodyear Tire & Rubber .....	800.321.2136	Xantrex Technology .....	800.670.0707

**Additions to this list are welcomed!**

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

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### President

Marshall Godwin, 8071 Windsor Dr, King George VA 22485-5210; 540.663.3725; 540.379.6767; [marshall@megodwin.com](mailto:marshall@megodwin.com)

#### Executive vice president

John Baker, 8419 Clover Leaf Dr, Rosenberg TX 77469-4867; 281.341.7177; 281.814.0004; [bakerjohn@swbell.net](mailto:bakerjohn@swbell.net)

#### Vice president for development

Bob Soltwedel, 4736 Harwich St, Boulder CO 80301-4217; 303.530.0775; 303.513.8548; [bob.soltwedel@gmail.com](mailto:bob.soltwedel@gmail.com)

#### Secretary

MaryAnn Crowell, 207 County Rd 3000, Lott TX 76656-3828; 254.584.2400; 254.644.6225; [relxn1@aol.com](mailto:relxn1@aol.com)

#### Treasurer

Pete Palasota, 8106 Knottingham Dr, Waco TX 76712-3406; 254.772.3791; 254.722.2653; [petenmarthapal@aol.com](mailto:petenmarthapal@aol.com)

#### Vice treasurer

David Blomstrom, 7503 Foster Creek Dr, Richmond TX 77469-9766; 281.341.6962; 713.907.5022; [davidblomstrom@aol.com](mailto:davidblomstrom@aol.com)

#### National rally master

Dick Snyder, 411 Alexander Dr, Seymour IN 47274-8633; 812.522.4535; 812.521.0137; [rdnyder4@gmail.com](mailto:rdnyder4@gmail.com)

#### Past president

Phil Yovino, 214 Fairfield St, Shoreacres TX 77571-7155; 281.867.1809; 713.203.3114; [pdyo@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pdyo@sbcglobal.net)

#### North central region vice president (IL, IN, IA, KS, MI, MN, MO, NE, ND, SD, WI, MB, NU, ON)

Charlie Richardson, 3219 County Road 461, Poplar Bluff MO 63901-6126; 573.785.8703; 573.429.4884; [cer\\_ejr@yahoo.com](mailto:cer_ejr@yahoo.com)

#### Northeast region vice president (CT, ME, MA, NH, NJ, NY, OH, PA, RI, VT, NB, NL, NS, PE, QC)

Steve Masterson, 3590 Round Bottom Rd PMB 272580, Cincinnati OH 45244-3026; 518.526.0054; [masterson100@yahoo.com](mailto:masterson100@yahoo.com)

#### Northwest region vice president (AK, CO, ID, MT, OR, UT, WA, WY, AB, BC, NT, SK, YT)

Bob Williams, 1103 W Eclipse Dr, Saint George UT 84770-8027; 435.652.9842; 801.971.6012; [rgwilliams@sisna.com](mailto:rgwilliams@sisna.com)

#### South central region vice president (AR, LA, OK, TX)

Joe Stewart, PO Box 9100-176, Bandera TX 78003-9100; 830.535.6633; 830.460.0683; [retafwx@aol.com](mailto:retafwx@aol.com)

#### Southeast region vice president (AL, DE, FL, GA, KY, MD, MS, NC, SC, TN, VA, WV)

John Ricciardi, 477 The Gardens Dr, Crossville TN 38555-0301; 931.707.9831; 252.619.7198; [jonal135@yahoo.com](mailto:jonal135@yahoo.com)

#### Southwest region vice president (AZ, CA, HI, NV, NM)

John Bujnovsky, 8129 Bay Colony St, Las Vegas NV 89131-6707; 702.360.9718; 702.528.2877; [johnshirley1@embarqmail.com](mailto:johnshirley1@embarqmail.com)

### CHAPTER PRESIDENTS

#### Arizona Discovery Owners (AZ)

Wanda May, 5545 N 83rd Ave, Glendale AZ 85303-5001; 602.872.1306; [may4774301@aol.com](mailto:may4774301@aol.com)

#### Blue Ridge Discoverys (GA, NC, SC, TN)

Frank Cason, 1917 Stone Dam Rd, Chuckey TN 37641-4876; 423.639.4079; 423.552.5257; [cason.frank@gmail.com](mailto:cason.frank@gmail.com)

#### California Goodtimers (CA)

John Bujnovsky, 8129 Bay Colony St, Las Vegas NV 89131-6708; 702.360.9718; 702.528.2877; [johnshirley1@embarqmail.com](mailto:johnshirley1@embarqmail.com)

#### Desert Rats (NV)

John Bujnovsky, 8129 Bay Colony St, Las Vegas NV 89131-6707; 702.360.9718; 702.528.2877; [johnshirley1@embarqmail.com](mailto:johnshirley1@embarqmail.com)

#### Discovery Pioneers (AZ, CO, KS, NM, UT, WY)

Chuck Brock, 759 S Arrowwood Way, Mesa AZ 85208-6311; 218.330.4632; [bass640770@aol.com](mailto:bass640770@aol.com)

#### Discovery Texans (TX)

John Baker, 8419 Clover Leaf Dr, Richmond TX 77469-4867; 281.341.7177; [bakerjohn@swbell.net](mailto:bakerjohn@swbell.net)

#### Dixie Travelers (AL, MS, GA, FL)

Ted Misenheimer, 5160 Rockford Ln, Stockbridge GA 30281-5239; 770.507.1615; 770.827.4601; [tedm66@bellsouth.net](mailto:tedm66@bellsouth.net)

#### Florida Discovery Rolling Gators (FL)

Bill Katterhenry, 10319 Waterbird Way, Bradenton FL 34209-3029; 865.408.9103; 941.504.1662; [w.katterhenry@hotmail.com](mailto:w.katterhenry@hotmail.com)

#### Heartland Discoverys (IL, IN, IA, KS, MI, MN, MO, NE, ND, SD, WI)

Bobby Simpson, 129 Ivy Ct, New Tazewell TN 37825-5399; 423.626.8038; 765.860.3591; [simy36@aol.com](mailto:simy36@aol.com)

#### Louisiana Mudbugs (LA)

Anthony Verdin, 2100 Suwannee Dr, Marrero LA 70072-4822; 504.341.7673; 504.416.5348; [anverdin@aol.com](mailto:anverdin@aol.com)

#### Mason-Dixon Discoverys (DE, MD, NJ, NC, PA, VA, WV)

John Ricciardi, 477 The Gardens Dr, Crossville TN 38555-0301; 252.619.7198; [jonal135@yahoo.com](mailto:jonal135@yahoo.com)

#### Midwest Discoverers (IN, KY, MI, OH, PA)

Jerry Call, 6825 County Road 16, Butler IN 46721-9417; 260.868.2580; 269.927.5397; [jcallnorthpond@netzero.net](mailto:jcallnorthpond@netzero.net)

#### Nor'easters (CT, ME, MA, NH, NJ, NY, OH, PA, RI, VT, NB, NL, QC, ON)

Dorie Baker, Cypress Woods RV Resort Lot B-99, 5551 Luckett Rd, Fort Myers FL 33905-5509; 717.487.8879; [dorieann@aol.com](mailto:dorieann@aol.com)

#### Northwest Adventurers (AK, ID, OR, MT, WA, AB, BC, NT, SK, YT)

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

#### Texas Disco Road Runners (TX)

Jay Keneson, 404 Cypress Springs Dr, Spring Branch TX 78070-4640; 830.885.6043; 210.827.1855; [jayk@gvtc.com](mailto:jayk@gvtc.com)

### COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN AND FOUNDER

#### Founder/president emeritus

Jim Devine, 102 Rainbow Dr #242, Livingston TX 77399-1002; 970.209.4757; [f195810@gmail.com](mailto:f195810@gmail.com)

#### Membership director

Portia Williams, P O Box 95, Saint George UT 84771-0095; toll-free 888.594.6818; [doaimembership@discoveryowners.com](mailto:doaimembership@discoveryowners.com)

#### Merchandise director

Dick Tracy, 6 Cambridge Ct, Fleetwood PA 19522-1018; 610.944.9675; 610.207.2016; [dtracy@ptd.net](mailto:dtracy@ptd.net)

#### Newsletter editor

Nina Soltwedel, 4736 Harwich St, Boulder CO 80301-4217; 303.530.0775; 303.570.2736; [doaexpress@discoveryowners.com](mailto:doaexpress@discoveryowners.com)

#### Webmaster

Bob Cook, 876 Higgins Ave, Deltona FL 32738-7971; 386.860.8274; [webmaster@discoveryowners.com](mailto:webmaster@discoveryowners.com)

#### Assistant webmaster

Toni Calzone, 118 Monroe Dr, Apt 404, Rockville MD 28050-2549; 301.424.3118; 240.422.9189; [antonia.calzone@verizon.net](mailto:antonia.calzone@verizon.net)

## Chapter news, continued

### Desert Rats

By John Bujnovsky

Our chapter gained two members at the national rally in Pueblo: welcome **Bill and Linda Johnson**, and **Jerry Timberlake and Becky Gwilliams**.

Our chapter now has 14 coaches; adding two more members was well worth the trip to Pueblo. For those of you who were unable to attend, you missed a great rally.

We have not yet had our election meeting or the board meeting to set up the rallies for next year. We wish everyone a happy new year. ❄️



Prez John

### Discovery Texans

By Shirleen Smith

The Discovery Texans have been busy this fall, traveling and enjoying every minute. At the national rally in Pueblo we numbered about 40 members, with three new members joining us! . In addition to events at the rally, many enjoyed touring Pueblo and the surrounding area.

We were saddened by the passing of **John Baker's** mother during the rally. Additionally, **Leroy Churchill** developed an ulcerated colon at the rally. Some club members helped out by caravanning



Prez John

back to Texas with **Gwen Churchill**, while Leroy took the "easy way out" and flew home.

A number of us started toward the rally several days in advance in order to take in such historic sites as Sand Creek Massacre national historic site, Bent's Old Fort, and the Koshare Indian museum and kiva. After the rally, many of us continued touring Colorado, Utah, Arizona, and New Mexico. Traveling through national parks such as Arches, Canyonlands, Bryce, Zion, and Grand Canyon in the fall is a really special trip.

The chapter has just completed a rally in Kerrville at the Guadalupe River RV Resort. In addition to taking in local events, we enjoyed playing dummy Hosts at the Kerrville rally: Hank and bridge and Shirleen Smith, Harry and Judy Jo Bruton. participating in a



pancake toss where prizes were awarded. The club will be taking a break for the holidays, but will be getting together January 21-23 in Mason, Texas, at the Llano River RV Park, where I'm sure a good time will be had by all! If you're in the area, contact us to attend our rally. ❄️

*Continued on page 18...*

## Southeast region plans 2010 national rally



The southeast region will be your host for the 2010 national rally, *Autumn in the Smokies*. The rally will be held at River Plantation RV Park, Sevierville, Tennessee, September 20-26. Early arrival day will be September 19.

The lovely park offers the perfect blend of southern hospitality, first-rate facilities, and services to provide the very best of RV resort life.

Here are a few enticements to help you decide to load up your Discovery next Fall and head to Tennessee. Look for the registration form on the DOAI Web site in January 2010 and in the Spring 2010 issue of this newsletter.

### Enjoy the best of the Smokies

Entertainment and shopping abound. The Great Smoky Mountain national park is the most visited national park in the country, beating even Yellowstone and Grand Canyon.

Straddling the border between North Carolina and Tennessee, the park offers a world-renowned natural landscape with endless forests, an awe-inspiring diversity of plants and animal life, and the quiet beauty of the ancient mountains towering above.

From the largest Tanger outlet mall in Tennessee to world class entertainment, your choices are unlimited. With Dollywood just down the road in Pigeon Forge, and Ripley's 1.4-million-gallon aquarium in Gatlinburg, there is something for everyone. Other activities to enjoy include:

- ❄️ Golf
- ❄️ Mountain hiking
- ❄️ Tennessee Museum of Aviation
- ❄️ Forbidden Caverns
- ❄️ Floyd Garrett's Muscle Car Museum
- ❄️ Cade's Cove
- ❄️ Flea Traders Paradise Flea Market

The current planning is for the registration fee to include a welcome party, two continental breakfasts, three evening meals, live entertainment, various seminars, and vendor presentations.

Watch for more rally information (and the registration form) in the April 2010 edition of the newsletter. We are in the process of locking down the entertainment. Our plans are to try to use entertainers from the local area. Local shows are being investigated for one or two nights of off-site entertainment. ❄️



Rally Master  
Frank Cason

## 2009 national rally photos



The Spurlock band on Monday evening, and the Sierra Gold band on Wednesday evening entertained us with good listening and dancing music.



Jim Devine cut the rug just about every dance. He wore **Lorrie Keneson** out! Gals were lining up to have a twirl with Jim.



Some of the Texas gals took **Gwen Churchill's** advice and worked out at Curves so all the good food they had at the Texas cookout Sunday night didn't go to "waist." The rain came down, and then a double rainbow appeared to create a lovely ending to a fun evening.



The ladies donned their purple clothing and red hats for a fun time at the Red Hat Tea. The Pueblo Southern Star Sweet Adelines, led by **Carol Eberhart**, entertained. Door prizes were awarded, and everyone had a grand time.



## Sunshine, clouds, rain, rainbows!



Rally logo turned into a large banner by Sheree Neale.

The eleventh anniversary celebration of DOAI, a.k.a. the 2009 DOAI national rally, was a success. A total of 97 coaches journeyed to Pueblo, with 190 people enjoying the seminars, great food, super entertainment, and excellent fellowship.

It is said that it takes a village to raise a child. To put on a national rally takes a dedicated “village” of volunteers, and we had great village! At the risk of missing anyone, we salute the following for their hard work: **Bob and Nina Soltwedel, Jan and John Kovach, Terry and Sandy Ven Roy, Jerry and Joyce Wiechman, Wally and Annie Wallington, Bob and Portia Williams, Betty Thompson, Al Price, Dick and Sarah Hallam, Ken and Neva Jardine, Marshall Godwin, Bob and Mary Cook, Micky Racer, Judy Jo Bruton, Pat Tracy, MaryAnn Crowell, Dawn Mastrorilli, Lorrie Keneson,**



**Sylvia Swain, Teri Dykman, Wanda Beall, Betty Bailey, and Echo Richardson,** plus all those good people who helped move tables and chairs, run errands, and so much more. We thank the **Discovery Texans, Discovery Pioneers, Texas Disco Road Runners,** and **Northwest Adventurers** chapters, and handled the food chores with **Shepherd of the Hills** grace, charm and dedication.

**Lutheran Church** in Boulder, for allowing us to use their coffeemakers during the rally.

We arranged for a number of service people to assist rally attendees: carpet cleaners, honey wagons, rig washers, and propane suppliers.

More assistance was provided by the Greater Pueblo Chamber of Commerce, the City-County of Pueblo Health Department, the CSU Extension Service, and many of the Colorado State Fairgrounds staff members.

The first three days' weather was excellent; the last three days' weather could have been better; it rained and was chilly, but the exquisite double rainbow one evening was a real treat.

Those who took the tours to sights around Colorado Springs reported they had a good time, and that they were impressed with the excellent drivers/guides supplied by Gray Line of Colorado Springs.

The rally had its share of mishaps to attendees: **John and Shirley Bujnovsky** had the misfortune to be involved in an auto accident in Colorado Springs, necessitating overnight stays in the hospital; **Leroy Churchill** spent several days in a

local hospital as a result of a bleeding colon ulcer; **Justine Stewart** fell in a grocery store and dislocated her shoulder; and **Jack Romeyk** was laid low by what we think may have been the flu. The altitude may have contributed to several not feeling well after Saturday's tour to the top of 14,000-foot Pike's Peak; fortunately, by Monday they were feeling much better.

We were pleased that **Dave Loubier**, Line #1 product manager (Discovery) at the Fleetwood plant in Decatur, Indiana, was able to spend a day with us. He hosted a pilots' feedback session on Tuesday morning, and did the same for the co-pilots on Tuesday afternoon.

The charitable events were very successful. The food drive for **Care and Share of Southern Colorado** resulted in 278 pounds of canned and non-perishable food; the 50/50 game resulted in a donation of \$504 to the **YWCA of Pueblo Family Crisis Shelter.**

**Margaret Reiber**

sent a letter on September 24: “I was absolutely overwhelmed last evening by the generous donation you presented to the YWCA Family Crisis Shelter. The generosity of your group is truly amazing. The money you collected is especially needed during these economic times. When the mothers come to the shelter with absolutely nothing but their children in tow and the scars from the physical and emotional abuse, it helps to ease their stress when we can fill their needs.

“With a 40 percent increase in families coming to our shelter this year, the need for our services is greater than ever. Thanks to the many kind hearts from the Discovery Owners Association that gave so freely, we will be able to care for these families.

“Our special thanks to Bob and Nina for organizing and working to make this such a huge success, and to those who helped with ticket sales and donations. We are very, very grateful. God bless you all!”

**John Dase** sent an email on September 23: “It was a pleasure meeting you. Thank you so much for your food drive contribution. Total pounds were 278!”

Thanks, DOAI members, for coming to Colorado! The kind remarks by so many of you have warmed our hearts. ❄️

By Bob and Nina Soltwedel



Shirley and John Bujnovsky, being welcomed back to the rally after their accident.

Shirley and John Bujnovsky, being welcomed back to the rally after their accident.



Dave Loubier, admiring Dick's tool set-up in the Snyder's 40X.

## Computer corner

### Windows 7 and Microsoft Streets & Trips 2010

#### Windows 7

Now that Windows 7 (Win7) is officially on sale, a lot of folks are asking about it. After living with various test versions of Win7 for the last nine months, and now the final version for almost two months, I can say that I am impressed with it.



Windows 7 introduces real advances in the taskbar and desktop and the ability to quickly view and launch the program or document you want. It removes a lot of screen clutter, constant security warnings and balloon pop-ups. And it runs well on systems where Vista was sluggish.

However, some of the antiquated code of Windows is still in Win7, so it is likely we will continue to be plagued with some of the same problems that plagued previous Windows versions – mainly malware and crashes.

I usually recommend the purchase of a new computer with Win7 already installed, rather than upgrading an existing computer to Win7. The least expensive upgrade – Win7 Home Premium – will set you back \$120. New computers in the \$500 range are more powerful than most people need, and are also more powerful than recent \$1,000 models. Buying a new computer with Win7 pre-installed also eliminates the hassle of your having to do the Win7 upgrade. However, before replacing your old computer, make sure your legacy hardware and software are compatible with Win7. Vista users generally won't have compatibility issues.

#### Microsoft Streets & Trips 2010

Straight off, MS S&T 2010 has replaced Delorme Street Atlas as my favorite mapping program. I had always preferred prior versions of MS S&T for its superior maps and routing. However, the big problem was its failure to selectively display Points of Interest (POI) overlays.

As a D owner, I find it very handy to know exactly where my member campgrounds, fuel/dump/boondock locations,

favorite stores, etc., are located when I am planning a trip. None of the GPS map programs have this data, and it is really handy to know where these things are at a glance of your computer screen. That is why I had used Delorme for years for trip route planning – it was easy to download the Point of Interest file I wanted from our DOAI Web site ([www.discoveryowners.com/cginfo.htm](http://www.discoveryowners.com/cginfo.htm))

and import into almost any map program. Other map programs could import these files also, but they did not have a way to selectively view POI overlays. The result was an unviewable mess if more than a couple POI overlays were being displayed at the same time.

However, MS S&T 2010 changes all that – you can now easily turn on or off individual POI overlays. But, it gets better: there are more than 200 POI map overlays that you can download and import from the DOAI Web site. Obviously, if you wanted more than just a few POI overlays, this would take a lot of time and effort. However, you just have to download **one** file for MS S&T 2010 and you will have **all** of the POI map overlays! Just right-click the ones you want to display (or delete the ones you will never use).

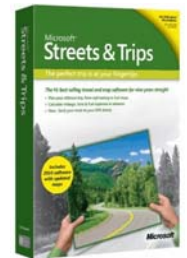
Further, when POI updates are available, you can either download the update you want, or download updated file that includes all the POI overlays.

There is one shortcoming, however, that I hope will be addressed in the 2011 version: the inability to sort Pushpin sets alphabetically.

If you have an existing Delorme GPS receiver, you can use it with S&T 2010 – no need to buy another GPS receiver. You can find MS S&T for \$40 (or less on sale). For this price, there is no reason not to have it. ❄



Webmaster Bob Cook



By the time you read this, the DOAI Web site will have been migrated to a new hosted server at Atlantus' data center located in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. If you notice any broken links, please drop an email to [webmaster@discoveryowners.com](mailto:webmaster@discoveryowners.com).

And, thanks to Fleetwood RV, Inc. for continuing its support of our Web site. ❄



## Feeding the RVer



Apples are available year 'round, but apple cobblers and apple crisps taste especially good when cold weather sets in. This nifty concoction might be a good addition to your recipe collection:



### Mountain Dew Apple Cobbler

- 2 Granny Smith apples, peeled. Each apple cut into 8 sections each
- 2 cans Pillsbury® Crescent Rolls, unrolled, separated, and cut each triangle in half to equal 16 triangles
- ½ cup butter
- 1½ cups granulated sugar
- 1½ cups Mountain Dew® (12 oz.)

- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
  - ½ cup chopped nuts
- Heat oven to 350° F. Wrap each apple slice in triangle of crescent roll dough. Place in a lightly greased baking dish. Melt butter and mix with sugar; spread over apples, then pour Mountain Dew® on top. **Do not stir.** Sprinkle with cinnamon and chopped nuts. Bake uncovered for approximately 45 minutes. Serve warm with ice cream or whipped cream. ❄

## Region news

### South central region

**J**ustine and I are back home in Texas. We attended a Discovery Texans rally in Kerrville, with 21 Discoverys in attendance. One of the park employees owns a D, and we did our best to convince him to join DOAI and the Texans.

On our way back from Oregon, we attended the national rally in Pueblo. We really enjoyed it; at least, we did until Justine fell and dislocated her shoulder and we left a day early. We have since learned that her falling, along with other symptoms, has caused normal pressure hydrocephalus (NPH). In all probability, a shunt will be installed in her brain to ease the fluid pressure.

I was sorry to learn that Quad State-LATO chapter has voted to disband. I plan to contact the members and invite them to join one of the Texas chapters or the Louisiana chapter; all three are very active. I'm sure the three chapter presidents will do the same.

As this region will be hosting the 2012 national rally, we have already begun planning the when, where, and how of it. I intend to get together the three chapter presidents and coordinate all the planning and decisions. Our aim is to make it an outstanding rally.

One last thought: I everyone for their thoughts and suggestions over the past two years. It has been a pleasure to serve as your region vice president, and I thank you for re-electing me to the position. ❄

### Southeast region

**T**his is my first article as the DOAI southeast region vice president and I hope I can live up to the confidence you have placed in me to do this job. I thank **Frank Cason** for his leadership for the past two+ years.

The first function for me is **Camp Discovery** January 31-February 5 at Lazydays® RV Campground (*note name changed from Rally Park*), Seffner, Florida, to be hosted by the Mason-Dixon Discoverys chapter, of which I am president. **Camp Discovery** is a unique type of rally for DOAI, because the seminars are geared to be hands-on learning experiences for all attending.

We have been able to incorporate some DOAI members' requests for specific seminars, as well as having Lazydays® RV Center, Inc. technicians conducting some hands-on classes. In addition, some of our own DOAI members will share their special knowledge of our Discoverys.

Although everyone is invited to attend each seminar, many of the seminars will be geared to either the pilot or the co-pilot. We are trying to have something for everyone.

We have not yet heard if Fleetwood will have any technicians there, but we believe they will not be. However, we hope, if you need a minor repair or adjustment, you will learn how to make the repair or adjustment at **Camp Discovery**. If you know you need a part to complete a repair and you know

By Joe Stewart



VP Joe

the part and its number, you can order it from Lazydays® and pick it up while attending the rally. Just order the part at least 30 days prior to your arrival.

Hope to see you at **Camp Discovery** and I wish safe travels to all. ❄

### North central region

By Charlie Richardson

**S**ix motor homes from Heartland Discoverys chapter traveled the distance to attend the fantastic rally in Pueblo, Colorado. It was hosted by the northwest region members, and they did an excellent job. From the fantastic tours to the great food and entertainment, everything was top notch.

Several couples from the north central region will be attending the **Camp Discovery** rally in Seffner, Florida. Although I cannot attend, I know there will be excellent training classes from which everyone can learn. Best wishes to those who are able to attend.

The votes are in and I thank everyone for allowing me to be the vice president for the north central region for the next two years. I will do my best to protect the interests of DOAI and its members.

Wishing all safe travels in your touring of this great country. ❄

### Southwest region

By John Bujnovsky

**F**or those of you who were unable to attend the national rally in Pueblo, it is my opinion that it was one of the best. The buffets were excellent, and the music was outstanding. The weather wasn't the best, but just being with the nice people who belong to the DOAI made up for the rainy days.

**Shirley** and I had a wonderful time, even though it was interrupted by a pretty serious accident we had at the beginning of the rally. We thank all of those who came up to us to express their concerns when we got out of the hospital and got back to the rally. We both appreciated all of your comments and concerns, even though we did not know many of you. We would much rather have had a different introduction to all of you. ❄

### Northwest region

By Bob Williams

**T**hanks to all who voted in the recent elections. I plan to serve and represent the members of the northwest region to the best of my ability.

The northwest region just completed hosting a successful national rally in Pueblo, Colorado. A big thanks should go to all who helped. A special thanks to **Bob and Nina Soltwedel** for their hard work in making the rally a success.

We will be unable to attend the January rally in Florida, but hope to see everybody in September at the national rally in Tennessee. ❄

By John Ricciardi



VP John



VP Charlie



VP John



VP Bob

## PRVCA show report

September 15-20, I attended the 2009 Pennsylvania RV & Camping Association show in Hershey, Pennsylvania. We had a gathering of classmates from our online RV tech school with our lead instructor, **Gary Bunzer**, the RV Doctor, through Northampton community college in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. The school had a booth the annual event. It was good to be able to see the gang, which included two of the graduates. It was great to have meetings with these folks and enjoy the annual hotdog dinner. This tradition, from what I understand, developed from some of the “dog” questions Gary presents on his exam. Last year, he presented us with an exam we termed the “hard hat,” so we presented him with a hard hat. The show itself moved along pretty well. Gary, as the RV Doctor, has a number of seminars in his repertoire.

Forest River was the largest exhibitor, followed by Winnebago, and then Tiffin. Fleetwood was not present. A number of units did sell for the exhibitors present. The inside vendors reported good sales. Some even had to bring in more products due to early sell-outs. Freightliner, Spartan, Workhorse, Cummins all had staff on hand. Cummins was repre-

By Toni Calzone

sented by Coach Care Power Systems of Harrisburg, and they brought their techs out daily to meet the public. The largest attendance day was Saturday; all the lots were full. ❄️



L to R: Dick Smith (student), Toni Calzone (student), Gregory Curran (student), David Rozelle (just graduated), Gary Bunzer (the RV Doctor and instructor for Northampton community college), and Ken Crack (graduate and certified RVIA tech).

## In our thoughts and prayers



Please keep these members in your thoughts and prayers:

**Vie Brock**, recovering from knee surgery, and facing more thumb surgery this coming spring.

**Garry Shirey**, well on his way to complete recovery from having a new stimulator implanted near his hip; he's looking forward to increased (and pain-free) mobility.

**Peggy Hoppin**, mourning the death of her husband, **William. John and Shirley Bujnovsky**, gradually improving from their Colorado Springs auto accident injuries during the national rally.

**Roger Smith**, who lost his wife, **Doris**, to cancer in August.

**John Baker**, whose mother died in September.



G.A. Schaefer

**Mary Sue Schaefer**, whose husband, **G.A.**, died in September from complications of myasthenia gravis. G.A. was the “face” of the 50/50 game at many DOAI national and regional rallies.

**Leroy Churchill**, recovering from a ulcerated colon.

**Justine Stewart**, undergoing medical tests after suffering a fall at the national rally.

**Anne Fletcher**, recovering from open heart surgery in late November for heart valve replacement.

Please let our newsletter editor, **Nina Soltwedel**, know of any member needing a care card of sympathy card. Send an email to Nina at [doaiexpress@discoveryowners.com](mailto:doaiexpress@discoveryowners.com) ❄️

## Camp Discovery News

Get all the latest information about the upcoming southeast region rally in Florida. Mosey on over to [www.campdiscovery2010.blogspot.com](http://www.campdiscovery2010.blogspot.com)

There you'll find tips with links, and even random videos may be accessed on the lower right side of the blog.

## Sam Snowbird Sez...



“Br-r-r-r...it's cold! I'm heading for Florida and that DOAI rally, **Camp Discovery!** I need to warm up!”



## 2009 national rally photos



Left: The food line at the welcome party. Center: Hard-working Discovery Pioneers members **Libby and J.B. Pruett, Jan Kovach, Terry and Sandy Ven Roy**. Right: More Discovery Pioneers, **Joyce and Jerry Wiechman**. Jan was the rally registrar; the Ven Roys were in charge of parking, ably assisted by the Wiechmans and Pruett. Joyce also accompanied the Discoveryettes.



Chapter gatherings were on the agenda. Left photo: Heartland Discoverys; center photo: Blue Ridge Discoverys; right photo, Discovery Texans.



Left photo: **Dick Hallum** worked hard selling 50/50 tickets, and here he sells tickets to **David Blomstrom**. Center: YWCA Family Crisis Shelter director **Margaret Reiber** accepts the 50/50 donation check; **Robert Martin** was the 50/50 DOAI winner. Right: The Discoveryettes entertained Tuesday evening, and they are still looking for that highway!



Local and out-of-town tours taken by rally attendees included (left) the Rosemount Museum in Pueblo, a period-perfect example of mid-Victorian splendor; the Manitou Cliff Dwellings (center) in Colorado Springs; and (right) a open bus/carrriage tour of the Riverwalk in Old Pueblo, along the Arkansas river (enjoyed by the **Snyders, Marzahls, Richardsons, and Merritts**). ❄️

## Chapter news, concluded

### Arizona Discovery Owners

On November 5, eight coaches gathered at the Lake Pleasant Regional Park, northwest of Phoenix. We camped in the Desert Tortoise Group Campground for three days of fun and fellowship. The **Munzers** were our rally masters, and check-in and parking went smoothly. Hearty *hors d'oeuvres* were shared during an extended happy hour, giving everyone a chance to get acquainted (or reacquainted) and caught up on our adventures.

A guided tour of the Waddell Dam was scheduled for Thursday, and most of the attendees were involved. We had

By Art Boglio



Prez Wanda

guides and had the opportunity to see just about everything! For those who are not familiar, the dam is used to store water in Lake Pleasant in the winter, and supply water for the Central Arizona Project (CAP) in the summer. There are eight units which can pump water from the canal into the lake during the winter, while four of the units become generators when the water is released from the lake in the summer.

On Saturday, **Wanda May** called the annual meeting to order. There was a short business meeting. Arrangements for a Christmas dinner at Cork and Cleaver, and a New Year's rally in Apache Junction at the Arizona Opry were reviewed. Wanda told us that **John Bujnovsky**, southwest region vice president, had planned to join us for our annual meeting, but his Discovery had some problems, so he could not attend. ❄

## RV safety

### Security systems for the Discovery

I recommend a good security system that covers fire, burglar, and panic hardware. Most folks who might break into a motor home are non-professionals, and if an alarm goes off, they know that the occupants are aware of a break-in, plus the potential burglars don't now who else might have heard the alarm.

If you have had a good system installed by a professional, and are supplied with stickers with the company name and phone number on it, the miscreants know it is a professional system, and that's a good deterrent in itself. You can even go so far as hook it to a cell phone back-up, however, you would have to change your location programming each time you move to a new spot.

Motor homes will burn very quickly, and one smoke detector is not enough. There should be one in the bedroom, and one in the area of the washer/dryer (if it is not open to a room that has a smoke detector).

If you have a fire in the bedroom, i.e., the TV, space heater, etc., you could be overcome by smoke before the smoke detector in the living room is activated. We lose a high percentage of all our senses when we go to sleep (like sense of smell), and I think I never get all mine back when I wake up!

With a panic button, you can manually turn on the system if you are concerned about activity outside, to hopefully let the would-be bad folks know you are aware of them.

A good system should include all portal sensors. Mine also has sensors on the basement compartment doors, smoke detectors, panic buttons, glass break detectors, carbon monoxide detectors, and if you don't have one, internal and external sirens/speakers. Mine has voice also, so if an alarm sounds, I know if it's fire or burglar or what sensor was activated.

So, what would this cost you? What's your life worth, plus that of your spouse? I estimate a system as described would approach \$2,000 or more. That's what I paid for an electric awning I could have done without.

There's also peace of mind with this system. I sleep so much better, and it's like insurance I hope I never need.

One more tip: keeping your car keys handy at all time is a great deterrent. Hitting the "alarm" button to activate your car's alarm should work from anywhere with the coach, and could possibly scare off any would-be intruders. ❄



DOAI member  
Glenn Camp

## Carbon monoxide poisoning in RV – a deadly possibility

The onboard generator makes your RV fully self-contained. It allows you access to 120 volts when there is no shore power available, but keep in mind that carbon monoxide is deadly! You should always inspect the exhaust system on the generator set before using it.

Do not operate a generator with a damaged exhaust system. Make sure the exhaust is directed away from the camping area if you're using a portable generator.

Observe campground etiquette. Do not run your generator during quiet hours.

**Never run your generator when you are sleeping!** Even with a carbon monoxide detector, you cannot see, taste, or smell carbon monoxide. Test the carbon monoxide detector every time you use the RV. Know what the symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning are:

- ❄ Dizziness
- ❄ Vomiting
- ❄ Nausea
- ❄ Muscular twitching
- ❄ Intense headache
- ❄ Throbbing in the temples
- ❄ Weakness and sleepiness
- ❄ Inability to think coherently

If you or anyone else experiences any of these symptoms, get to fresh air immediately. If the symptoms persist, seek medical attention. Shut down the generator and do not operate it until it has been inspected and repaired by a professional.

Plan all of your RV trips, travel safe and smart, and enjoy your RV experiences. ❄

**Mark Polk** is a veteran RV technician, and the producer of a popular series of DVDs and books about RVs and the RV lifestyle. Article reprinted with permission.

By Mark Polk

## Helpful hints from co-pilots' seminars

**A**t national rallies, co-pilots enjoy helpful feedback/sharing sessions. These hints were compiled from the last two years' rallies. We extend thanks to everyone who contributed their ideas and product tips. We also extend thanks to **Judy Jo Bruton** and **Elaine Holley** who served as the scribes for the two sessions.

### Cooking and food preparation

- ☛ For more even baking and browning in RV oven, place four six-inch unglazed tiles in the bottom of the oven for more even baking and browning.
  - ☛ A pizza stone also works to redistribute the heat.
- ☛ A great space-saving idea is using collapsible colanders and collapsible mixing bowls. They take up much less space than the hard-sided items.
- ☛ Microwave/reheat bread products: Place bread in microwave and cover with a paper towel (it could be a muffin, pancakes or even pizza). Fill a microwave-friendly cup with about ½ cup water. Heat on a medium setting for two minutes.
  - ☛ For crisp leftover pizza, place in nonstick or cast iron skillet; convection on medium-low until pizza is warm.
- ☛ Deviled eggs/dressed eggs: Halve eggs crosswise. Carefully scoop yolks out into a Ziploc® or similar plastic bag. Add other ingredients, zip and knead by hand to mix ingredients. Squeeze to one corner of bag, snip off a small corner of bag, pipe into egg whites. Refrigerate once they are prepared.
- ☛ Extending frosting: Put purchased frosting in bowl, beat with electric mixer for a few minutes. Frosting volume will double, making it easy to frost more cupcakes, or cover that large cake better.

### Food storage and cupboard organization

- ☛ Mealy bugs: Placing a bay leaf or two in sugar, flour, rice, etc. will help prevent bugs (to keep bay leaf from "flavoring" the flour, tape it to the inside of the container lid). Also place a few on the pantry shelves. Keep food stored in a cool place or freeze if possible.
  - ☛ Mealy bugs in flour can be

prevented by freezing bag of flour for about seven to ten days before opening and placing contents in canister.

- ☛ Green bags for vegetables and fruits can be purchased at Dollar General stores.
  - ☛ Hefty® recently came out with its version of veggie/fruit bags; and their version has a zipper lock.
- ☛ *Thermal Taxi* is a great bowl for RVers. It's insulated and has a stainless steel lining like Thermos® bottles.
  - ☛ To keep something hot, warm bowl with hot water, then dry. Place cooked item inside and put on lid. It will keep food steaming hot for several hours and involves no electricity. It's ideal for a buffet – no cords to watch. The principle is the same for cold items; just fill with cold water.
- ☛ Ziploc® has come out with smaller vacuum bags (quart and gallon), and starter pack includes a plastic vacuum pump. This is a great replacement for the large electric Food Saver™ appliance that takes up precious cabinet space in the RV. This smaller non-electric food saver method is perfect for small food purchases in the RV. The bags keep their seal and are reusable. They are freezer-proof and boil-proof.
  - ☛ **Late news:** Reynolds® had a small vac system, but it has been discontinued by the manufacturer.
- ☛ Organization: Use baskets in cupboards over the couch, under kitchen counter, etc. Take into the house, load, and carry to coach. Can also use for refrigerator.
  - ☛ Use small expandable curtain rods to hold back items in cupboards.
  - ☛ Square, plastic, four-gallon cat food containers are good for holding liquids in containers in

the house when storing the RV for the winter. Containers come with handle, making it easy to carry back and forth.

### Pest control and elimination

- ☛ To get rid of gnats, mix three to four drops of detergent and three tablespoons of cider vinegar or wine.
  - ☛ Listerine® works very well for warding off gnats and mosquitoes: Pour a little on a napkin and pat it on exposed skin. Pour into a spray bottle and spritz generously around seat at a picnic, the perimeter of deck or patio to ward off mosquitoes and other pests.
    - ☛ Rub dryer sheets on exposed skin, then put it in pocket or sock. Works for fruit flies as well.
- ☛ Speaking of fruit flies: Pour about one inch apple cider vinegar or balsamic vinegar in a glass (some report that white vinegar works even better). Add a couple of drops of dishwashing detergent or automatic dishwasher rinse agent to the vinegar; swirl to dissolve and mix. Place glass in infested area overnight.
- ☛ Flies: A plastic bag filled with water and hung will repel flies from the area. Supposedly the fly can see its reflection in the bag and does not like it.
- ☛ Miller moths: Place small dish containing water into which has been mixed a few drops of dish detergent next to an electric candle. Leave candle on overnight. Moths, attracted to the light, will eventually land in the dish and drown; the viscosity of the mixture does not allow the moth to escape.
- ☛ Mice: Mothballs are a good deterrent (but stinky). Consider using in the outside electric cabinet. Peanut but-



## Helpful hints, continued

butter is one of the most successful baits for mice (it lasts longer than cheese or other baits). Other baits include gumdrops, sunflower and related seeds, cherry pits and bread and butter.

- ☞ Cherry cough drops have proven to attract mice to the trap. →

## Cleaning and maintenance

- ☞ Got holding tank odor? One of these “recipes” may solve the problem:

- ☞ Pour 1 cup ammonia, 1 cup Pine Sol®, 1 cup fabric softener, and ½ box baking soda (8 ounces) into a gallon jug. Fill with water and mix well. Use two cups for a 50-gallon holding tank.

- ☞ Equal amounts of Arm & Hammer® Super Washing Soda and 20 Mule Team® Borax. Mix together; use one cup for a 50-gallon holding tank.

Ⓢ *Do not use baking soda nor soda with detergent in it. Super Washing Soda is not recommended for use on no-wax floors and aluminum surfaces as it may cause discoloration. Do not use on fiber glass sinks, tubs or tile. Do not use Super Washing Soda for blocked drains. As with any other household cleaning product, the use of rubber gloves is highly recommended when using Super Washing Soda.*

- ☞ Mr Clean® Magic Eraser™ cleans so many things
- ☞ Joy® dishwashing liquid is good for cleaning the shower.
  - ☞ Cheap shampoo also works.
- ☞ One-half liquid laundry detergent without bleach and one-half ammonia mixed in a spray bottle works for cleaning spots.
- ☞ Put plastic bowl covers with elastic over smoke alarm when using toaster or cooking.
- ☞ Clean microwave with glass of water with lemon slices and bring to boil.
- ☞ Put stick-on felt tips or clear plastic bumps on sink covers so they won't scratch the counter.
- ☞ If you want to stick something down, use floral putty or industrial strength Velcro® for hanging pictures on walls
  - ☞ Floral putty may melt out in high

heat. Use products like Clear Museum Gel, or Putty, or Wax, or Rock-N-Roll Motion-Proof Putty™. Each has a specific recommended application. 3M™ Removable Interlocking Fasteners with Command Adhesive are excellent for adhering and hanging items.

- ☞ Rejuvenate™ works well on cabinets.
- ☞ Spic 'N Span® (powder form only) contains a cleaning agent called trisodium phosphate that's a real hard hitter on soap scum and grime. Dissolve some in water and apply to the walls and sprinkle the powder on the floor of the shower. Let the walls soak for 15 minutes and use a nylon scrubbie or other approved scrub pad for fiber glass on the walls. Scrub the floor with an approved nylon scrub brush. That gets into the wells of the non-skid surface where the grime settles. Rinse thoroughly. If you have calcium deposits, use an approved product like CLR® or Lime-Away® to break down what Spic 'N Span will not take care of.
- ☞ Turtle Wax® works great in the shower and can use with a squeegee. Use it every couple of months after a thorough cleaning. This keeps the pores of the fiber glass sealed and shiny.
- ☞ Removing hard water stains from fiber glass:
  - ☞ Use pure white (not cider) vinegar: Fill a clean spray bottle with pure vinegar. Spray the vinegar freely over the sink or bath tub and wait for a few minutes. If stains are stubborn, spray more vinegar and wait a while longer. Wipe away with a clean cloth to reveal the shine.
- ☞ Washing curtains: make sure there is no stiffener or cardboard in header. Wash in cold water, gentle, low spin, dry draped flat.
- ☞ Use Tilex® Bathroom Mold Cleaner on headliner for ceiling stains.
- ☞ Windshield bug cleaner: use Bounce® dryer sheet. Use wet microfiber cloths for windows, mirrors, and bugs on rig, too.
- ☞ Corian™ care: See *Discovery Express*, Vol. 11, No. 4, Fall 2009, page 20, for details and link to DuPont® Web site for in-depth

brochure.

- ☞ Foggy windshield: Wipe down with blackboard eraser or use microfiber cloth.
- ☞ Bad smell in defrosted freezer? Use Windex; it helps clean the plastic.
- ☞ Refrigerator smells? Two or three charcoal briquettes are great for absorbing odors, or try fresh coffee grounds.
- ☞ Prevent musty smell build-up during RV storage: Spread a few clothes dryer anti-static sheets around inside, in cupboards, under seats, in closet, etc., when you close the RV up. These will help keep the air smelling fresh.
- ☞ Water build up in back of freezer: Valve has too much water or pressure or tube may be too long.
- ☞ Air conditioner: Dometic says to use high or low settings instead of automatic setting.

## Laundry and storage

- ☞ Use a turkey baster to add softener to dispenser in washer. Use a second baster to add liquid detergent.
  - ☞ Can also use an empty small dish liquid bottle or two.
  - ☞ Purex® Complete 3-kn-1™ Laundry sheets contain detergent, softener, and anti-static all in one and may be safe for Splendide washers.
  - ☞ **Caution:** Read Splendide manual thoroughly for what products may void the warranty.
- ☞ Shout® Color Catcher® in-wash sheets are designed to work like a sponge, absorbing and trapping loose dyes in the wash so the dyes can't be redeposited on other clothes.
  - ☞ Adding salt water or white vinegar can help keep colors from bleeding.
- ☞ Wrinkles: Take out, fluff, put in dryer ball, then start dry cycle.
  - ☞ White tennis balls also work well.
- ☞ Static cling prevention: A safety pin in an inner seam before drying will keep things from clinging.
- ☞ Clothing storage: If on a multi-season road trip, pack next season's clothing in vacuum clothing bags. When the next season arrives, pull →

## Classified Advertising

For classified and display advertising guidelines and rates, contact editor at [doaiexpress@discoveryowners.com](mailto:doaiexpress@discoveryowners.com)

### Discoverys For Sale

**1997 36R:** 11,000m on Jasper engine rebuild, excellent cond., all manuals. Joe Robb; [jrobb@zemar.com](mailto:jrobb@zemar.com) **\$30,000 FIRM**

**1999 36T:** 72,000m, great condition, tire allowance. David Chestnut; 407.647.7337; [dchestnut54@earthlink.net](mailto:dchestnut54@earthlink.net) **\$45,000**

**2000 37G:** 25,000m, very good condition, more. Ron Busenbark; 734.479.0321; [ronbusenbark@gmail.com](mailto:ronbusenbark@gmail.com) **\$73,000**

**2001 37V:** 63,000m, new tires+spare, new batteries, manuals, garaged. Soc Lorant; 318.861.2524 **\$65,000 OBO**

**2002 38P:** Low miles, mint condition. Raymon Martin; 813.642.9248; [franray1@verzion.net](mailto:franray1@verzion.net) **\$81,400**

**2003 39L:** 48,000m, new tires/batteries; full tile throughout. Tom Fields; 830-632-9326; [thomfiel@earthlink.net](mailto:thomfiel@earthlink.net) **\$95,000**

### Other RV Items For Sale

**Rear wheel cover:** 2001 D, 47¾" wide, 31½" high. Robert Wilkins; 419.753.2502; [nkvet@nktelco.net](mailto:nkvet@nktelco.net) **\$300** + shpg

**Cooktop/oven:** From '98 D, excellent condition. Jimmy Williams; [jpw3840@westok.net](mailto:jpw3840@westok.net) **\$250**

**Armrests:** Two pairs, clay color, non-adjustable. Jack Harootunian; 417.881.7126; [jharootunian@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jharootunian@sbcglobal.net) **\$25** + shpg

### Other RV Items Wanted

**Full RV cover:** Waterproof, ADCO or similar, for 39L for winter. Please email details to [ray@lesspapernow.com](mailto:ray@lesspapernow.com)

### Paid Classified Advertising

**Hub nut tool:** Frank Cason, 1917 Stone Dam Rd, Chuckey TN 37641; 423.552.5257; [cason.frank@gmail.com](mailto:cason.frank@gmail.com) **\$10 + \$2.50** s/h

## Helpful hints, concluded

out the packed/vacuum-sealed clothing for wearing, and pack away the other. This method allows one to bring along quite a bit of clothing without consuming a lot of extra space.

- ☛ Coleman® Space Saver bags work well, and some roll rather than needing a vacuum to seal.
- ☛ Ziploc® Big Bags have a double zipper seal, and are great for storing clothing, bedding, holiday decorations, sports equipment, and more.
- ☛ Roll clothes rather than fold.
- ☛ Fold and store t-shirts on edge so each can be seen at a glance, like a filing cabinet.

### Miscellaneous

- ☛ Chopping sheets under the slides help prevent slide marks.
- ☛ To help block out heat, use blackout material and hook to curtains or RV reflector screens.
- ☛ Check for curtain replacements at Walt's RV in California. Can check online, but cannot order online. See *Discovery Express*, Spring 2008, page 18 for details on how to contact Walt's RV.
- ☛ Printed labels: Print a sheet of peel and stick address labels that include such information as name, address, phone numbers (home and cell), make, model, year and license numbers for motor home, dinghy, truck, trailer, etc. Include membership numbers (DOAI, Good Sam, FMCA and/or other discount memberships). Campground staffs appreciate the printed labels, rather than listening or trying to read handwriting. The labels speed up the registration process.
- ☛ Clock: Atomic clock by Accurite can be found in Walmart® stores (clock section). ❄

## Comments from our members



**Frank Cason:** The two plus years I've served as the southeast region vice president have really been an experience for me. Thanks to everyone who provided assistance and constructive criticism: you helped to make my job easier. It is hoped you will assist and provide input to **John Ricciardi**, the new southeast region vice president.

**John Baker:** Felesa and I thank you for remembering us as we cared for Mom during her illness and since her death. The members of DOAI are not just RVers; they are family, and family members support each other in prayer and deed.



**Bob Bednarick:** I thank all the members over the years who told how they started their generator when the alternator failed on their Discovery. I had the same thing happen recently, and thanks to the DOAI Yahoo! eGroup and past posts, I knew what to do. I started my generator and had 12 volts to get me to my destination and back. It allowed me to take it to my dealer and get the alternator replaced.

**Bob Soltwedel:** Thank you for electing me to the position of vice president for development. I will endeavor to do the best job possible as liaison between DOAI and Discovery's major manufacturers. I also thank **Phil Yovino** for giving me the benefit of his experience in this position. ❄



## Yahoo! group conversation about surge protectors

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

If you are not currently an owner of a reliable surge protector, perhaps these comments will convince you of the wisdom of obtaining one.

**Chris Coats** wrote: "I have a 2006 39S with 50 amp service, and want to install a hard-wired surge protection/voltage protection device. Can anyone recommend one they are currently using and are pleased with?"

**Several DOAI members** strongly recommended the protectors made and sold by Progressive Industries. One member in particular stated that on several occasions his unit caught over- and under-voltage conditions and it protected his coach. He said he wouldn't leave home without it; the others agreed.

**Carl Dykman** then wrote: "I always check the power connection at the pedestal before I plug in. At a service facility in Minnesota, the meter showed all was well – two yellow lights. But when I hooked up to shore power, the remote indicator of the surge protector showed that there was an error. Referring to the note, I saw that there was an open ground, yet my test meter showed OK. The surge protector would not allow the D to connect to a faulty power source. The next time I attempted to hook up to shore power at an RV park, all was well. I have never run across a situation like that before.

"Absent a surge protector, I could well have hooked up to an ungrounded circuit; a potentially hazardous condition. How can the meter show a ground and the surge protector show that there is no ground? Anyway, the surge protector did just what it was supposed to do – **protect**. If you don't have one, get one."

**Marshall Mauck** responded: "Your plug-in tester that has the two yellow lights (better known as 'snake eyes') does not need much of a contact for them to come on. The tester only tells you that you do or do not have a reverse polarity, and can also detect an open line. When you plug the motor home in, the surge protector detects a drop in voltage, either on the line side or the load side. Therefore, it will not let power through, protecting your equipment."

**Chris** put another question to the group: "The set-up asks if the A/C compressor has a built-in time delay. Do you have it set for 15 or 136 second delay?"

**Anthony Verdin** said: "I couldn't find how to make it change to 136 seconds, so I left mine on as it came to me. I have a habit of turning off my A/C, water heater, and any other big items prior to unplugging, so when I power up, they are off and don't come on until I turn them back on. If I am on generator power, I do the same, so I feel safe having it only on 15 seconds."

**Jerry Ward** posted: "I have been in the electrical industry 33 years and counting as a system controller. I deal from the supply/delivery side of the energy business. What you need the adjustment for is, say, in the middle of the night the feeder that supplies the power to the campground has a fault on the line. The feeder will open (lights go off), then reclose. This is a normal function as most faults on the electric system are transient in nature. That is, after the breaker in the substation opens, the fault clears, be it a tree on the line or an animal that committed suicide on a power line. Then the breaker at the sub will reclose (up to three times) to see if the fault is cleared. In some cases, it will simply burn the problem that is on the line. It is for this reason that you are told to always stay in your car if you hit a power line and it is down.

"True enough, after the feeder finally locks out, someone like me will attempt to close the line yet again from my computer at work, thus another three shots to the system. This is looking like a long ramble to finally get to my point: If this happens while you are sleeping and the power goes off while the A/C is on, the power will then return while the A/C compressor still has an extremely high pressure – that is, high gas (Freon) pressure. This high pressure causes an amount of amps required to overcome said pressure to be in the damaging range. This will hold true for many other loads as well, commonly known in the industry as 'cold load pickup' – usually in the range of ten times the normal running amps.

"I would err on the safe side; I would find out how to get that setting on the 136 mark. It is, after all, the very reason you purchased the device – to save your electrical system on the D."

**Anthony** reacted: "That is an absolutely terrific and logical point that I would not have thought of had you not brought it to my, and perhaps others', attention."

**Marshall** added: "Jerry, I followed you all the way to the end. I can say, 'been there and done that.' Your explanation also explains why a time delay should be on a home A/C, whether it is built into the thermostat or a remote unit at the compressor. Time delays are very cheap, compared to a new compressor. Think about all of the appliances that are trying to start at the same time when the power is restored or just flickering."

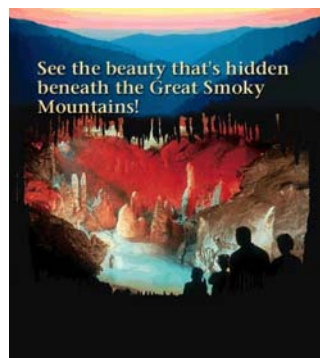
**Jerry** closed: "For the record I recently joined this group and I have found this forum invaluable with items I had absolutely no knowledge about – specifically air dryer filter change out, flooring (laminated) changes, air lanyards that are supposed to be pulled, hydraulic oil hammers in the leveling jacks in the middle of the night (I had this one recently) – the list goes on and on. This is truly a vast amount of knowledge here and due only to the participation of the members. For that I thank you. Also I have only had my RV for about a year and a half. I look forward to more productive conversations. ❄️"

## Photos to lure you to the 2010 national rally



Cades Cove was once known as “Kate’s Cove” after an Indian chief’s wife. The Cove drew the Cherokee Nation back again and again by its abundant wildlife and good hunting. Later, Cades Cove’s wildlife drew European descent frontiersmen to make it their home. They and their offspring cleared the fertile valley floor and built farms to sustain them. The pioneers’ families lived in Cades Cove for many generations before the cove became part of The Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Today, Cades Cove is still as full of wildlife as before but draws, not hunters, but millions of Smokies’ visitors.

Forbidden Caverns, located in Sevierville, is one of America’s most spectacular caverns. Hundreds of years ago, Forbidden Caverns was known to the Eastern Woodland Indians who roamed east Tennessee’s forests and mountains in search of good hunting grounds. The cave was used as a shelter in the winter and the cave river provided a constant supply of water. Scientists believe the source of the water to be an underground lake located beneath English Mountain, now famous for its spring water. Flint or chert is found here in limited quantities and was used to create arrowheads, knives and scrapers.



## 2009 national rally photos

Top left: **Steve Masterson, Carl and Betty Bailey**, and we don’t know the other couple. If you know who they are, please let us know. Top right: **Peggy Gwillam, Dick Snyder, Portia and Bob Williams** (Portia and Bob took care of vendors, seminars, and door prizes and lots more). Bottom left: a scene from the co-pilots seminar. Bottom right: **Ken and Neva Jardine** (Ken was in charge of golf, and Neva did the lovely decorations), **Sylvia Swain**, and **Betty and Anton Schmitt**.



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Who recommended DOAI membership to you? \_\_\_\_\_

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