

Discovery Express



Volume 19, Number 3

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July 2017

Discovery Express continues the DOAI foray into the digital era

Hello everyone, and welcome to the summer season!

The all-electronic version of the DOAI Express Newsletter continues this month, with the inclusion of several different Rally opportunities for our members. Please have a look at the offerings posted and consider joining your fellow Discovery owners at one (or two!) of the rallies. It's not too early to begin planning for Camp Discovery in 2018, as well.



Members again are reminded of the resources and information available through the group website at <http://www.discoveryowners.com> as well as the new message board at <http://groups.io> and even Classified Ads.

The message board continues to be a very active space, with lots of sharing of information concerning Discovery ownership, repairs, upkeep, and maintenance – all delivered with healthy doses of humor.

The DOAI board of directors hopes that everyone enjoys this summer issue as well as safe travels and good health throughout the season. ❖

Quarterly Question Contest



Because we celebrate America's independence in July, the question for this issue of Discovery Express is: What country gave America the Statue of Liberty?

Choices: (a) England (b) France (c) Spain (d) Italy

Read through this issue of Discovery Express, find the answer, and send in your entry. Find the complete rules on page 7. Contest is open now and closes at 11:59 p.m. August 15, 2017. Good luck!

Results of the April Quarterly Question:

Congratulations go out to James and Karin Dykes, winners of a year's membership in DOAI. Their names were selected from all the correct responses to the Quarterly Question in the April 2017 edition. In a survey, most Americans chose **Italian** food as their favorite. ❖

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Ron Wacker

President's report

Summer is here and fuel prices are still low so it is the perfect time to hop into the ole Discovery and check out this great country of ours. Each state has its own beauty and fascinations. If you haven't been to all the states you are missing out. Just a few of the more obvious sites worth seeing are: Grand Canyon, Arches National Park, Mount Rushmore, The Redwoods, New Orleans, Avery Island home of Tabasco Sauce, Empire State Building, Bourbon Trail, Presidential Libraries, The White House, Smithsonian Museums, Fresh New England lobster, Key West, Atlanta, Elvis's home, Arlington Cemetery, Ford Museum, Blue Ridge Parkway, Pikes Peak, Corvette Museum, San Antonio, Ft. Worth Long Horn cattle drive, Dallas Cowboys stadium, Smokey Mountains, Bush Baked Bean factory tour, and on and on. I think you get my point.

These and many more are magnificent and well worth the time and fuel to see, so don't wait for next year. . . do it now because you never know what tomorrow will bring. Most likely higher fuel prices.

Donna and I will be spending much of our summer in the North Carolina Mountains enjoying the cool weather and fabulous scenery.

While you are out and about be sure to attend the DOAI National Rally at The Heart of Oklahoma Expo Center in Shawnee, OK. This will be our rally home from October 9–14 (depart Oct. 15th) 2017. The South Central Chapters are putting a lot of hard work into this rally for all of us, and it will be a great rally. Please be sure to attend.

This is probably a little strange but I would like to try an experiment. I would like for (1) to see how many people read our fantastic newsletter and further read my message, and (2) how many people can follow instructions. Here is the experiment: I would like you to send me an email to discovery@rvfun-home.com with the subject line **“DOAI National Rally”**. In the email, I would like you to let me know if you are going to the National Rally and if so, a note about why you are going and what your expectations are. If you are not going to the rally please state that in the email, and (if you would) a note about why not. Please be honest with your notes. I am hoping to learn more about our members and what they like and dislike. An interesting statistic is that we only seem to draw about 5% of our members to major/national rallies. I would like to improve that percentage, and hopefully your notes will help. I will be waiting for your email, so please don't let me down. Thank you as always. ❖



Nina Soltwedel

Member Care report

Please keep these members in your thoughts and prayers:

* **Felesa Baker**, who had two back surgeries in March, and is slowly recovering.

* **Ivy Simpson**, who is dealing with degenerative scoliosis and surgery cannot help her.

* **Jim Weatherford**, who suffered a

burst appendix in April and is healing well.

* **Gerald Kennedy**, whose wife, Carolyn, died in April from pancreatic cancer.

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

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

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ARE YOUR DUES DUE?

Find your membership renewal date at

www.discoveryowners.com/login.asp



MaryAnn Crowell

National Rally Master's report

Are you one of the Discovery's that has already registered for the National Rally? If not, "Round Up The D's One More Time" is in full planning mode. Arrangements are being led by Rally Master Judy Jo Bruton, and she is doing a great job of keeping track of all things rally. All coaches will receive welcome gifts and many of you will win door prizes too.

We have had a few questions asked:

Can we arrive early? There is NO early arrival for our rally, and we follow a State of Oklahoma Good Sam's rally, and they have reserved all 500 RV parking spaces. **Does the Expo Center take reservations?** No they do not. You could just arrive with the hope that they have a space for you; the cost is \$25.00 per night. There is no guarantee that during the Good Sam rally there will be an available site for you. I suggest that you either register for the Good Sam rally or look for other RV parks in the area. I looked to see how many there were in the area and came up with the name of seven different campgrounds. *(Editor's Note: The directions to the Expo Center are on page 5. We placed them on a separate page in the newsletter, in case you want to print them and bring them with you.)*

With that said, on Monday October 9th, our parking and registration teams will be ready to bring you in, get you registered and parked - in plenty of time for the Welcome Party that evening. The 1st Timers Meeting will be just before the welcome party, so you will not miss a thing. We will send a copy of the schedule via e mail as we get closer to rally time.

In our last issue, we listed the events for Tuesday October 10th, including our bus tour to Oklahoma City. On Wednesday October 11th, the Golf Scramble will be at the Jimmy Austin Golf Course in Seminole, OK. The golf course is great for golfers of any skill; it will offer challenges, test accuracy with the fairways, water hazards, and sand traps - all while providing a picturesque backdrop. Mike Keliher is checking on lunch and carts for all. For those of you who do not golf, there are lots of things to do in this beautiful area of Oklahoma.

In addition, we have some new events that you may want to take advantage of. Two of our vendors will be ready to give owners a helping hand with some of their RV problems. Starting Tuesday October 10th, All Pro Water-Flow and RV Satellite & Entertainment Solutions will be on site and ready to assist. Both have provided a little write up and offered their phone numbers below. Owners will need to call and make an appointment with them to take advantage of these two days. . . please don't forget to tell them it's during the Discovery Rally.

- All Pro Water-Flow: 719-237-7239 www.allprowaterflow.com

All Pro Water-Flow is the only professional hydro-jet holding tank cleaning service in the U.S. Since 2003 we have been solving hold tank and water heater problems for millions of RVer's across the country and Canada. We will be offering rally specials for the mobile service to your site. We solve all holding tank problems as quoted by "The RV Doctor" Gary Bunzer. Save \$25.00 more for EARLY BIRD sign-up! Don't miss master plumber Preston Hall's "Holding Tanks Maintenance" seminar and learn the "New Way" of chemical-free RVing. Crap removal should not be this much fun!

- RV Satellite & Equipment Solutions: 619-571-3392 www.HDTV4RV.com

Do you struggle to understand how to operate the TV and entertainment systems in your RV? This seminar, presented by Geoff Matthews of RV Satellite & Entertainment Solutions, will help you better understand the equipment and services available to the RVer. You will get the facts and pitfalls from a full-time RVer who uses the equipment and understands the RV world. The seminar is set up in a way that helps the RVer understand today's technology and realize that there is a solution to fit your needs. They specialize in Winegard Satellites and equipment for DirecTV and Dish Network. Geoff will be available to go to your RV and help with your individual problems; you just need to make that appointment.

In addition to our early vendors, we have some great seminars and vendors for all things RV:

- Sky Med Medical Transport will provide lunch on Thursday 10/12, but you will need to sign up at the registration table. They will be giving a short seminar while you are enjoying your meal.
- E & G Enterprise will be selling Roadmate DVR Dashcam & accessories.
- RV LED Lites will be offering motion lighting, fluorescent & LED bulbs, and replacement products.
- RV101byFred will be selling electrical test kits, adapters, heating elements, an RV Owners Guide book and much more.

National Rally Master's report, continued

- Healthmate International will be selling pain relief and muscle stimulators to help with all those aches and pains.
- Travel Clothing & Apparel carries a complete line of wash and wear travel clothes for men and women - plus hats, caps, belts, scarves & jewelry.
- Amazing Crystal Glass Nail File will be selling glass nail files, buffers, cuticle oil, and lotion.
- We can't forget our own DOAI Merchandise booth, run by Jody Bruce. Jody offers Discovery merchandise that comes in many colors & sizes that fit all of your membership needs.

That's just a start of the vendors & seminars that will be on site during the National Rally.

A wonderful charity has been chosen for the 50/50 dollars and foods pantry donations. This year it's one organization that covers so many of the community needs that we decided that they were worthy of our dollars and donations. The Community Market of Pottawatomie County decided that a community market, a food pantry, would be the cornerstone of their mission, which is to feed the community and provide connection within that same community to enable lasting change in the lives of their neighbors. No one should worry about running out of food before the end of the month or having to choose between taking a needed medication, paying rent, or purchasing food. When you give to the Community Market of Pottawatomie County, you can be sure that your donation is going directly to meet the needs of hungry men, women and children in our community.

3P's is the heading for the Ladies Gathering. You will have a chance to work with pots, plants and paint during our time together. Even if you do not want the final results of your creation, it will go to good use France as a small decoration in a nursing home. Of course, there will also be some snacks, and drinks, door prizes and a great social time for all ladies. This is just for us! Your cost is the usual \$3.00 to be paid as you enter, but please sign up at registration so we know how to plan appropriately.

The next page has a map and directions to the Expo Center; these are the best and approved approaches to the rally, so please use this information.

In closing let me remind you that the registration form is on our web site at www.discoveryowners.com. Just download and print a copy, fill it out, and mail to our registrar Sandy Keliher.

Please call or e mail me with your questions, and ideas:

Phone: 254-644-6225 E-mail: macrowell979@gmail.com

MaryAnn Crowell

National Rally Master ❖



John Baker

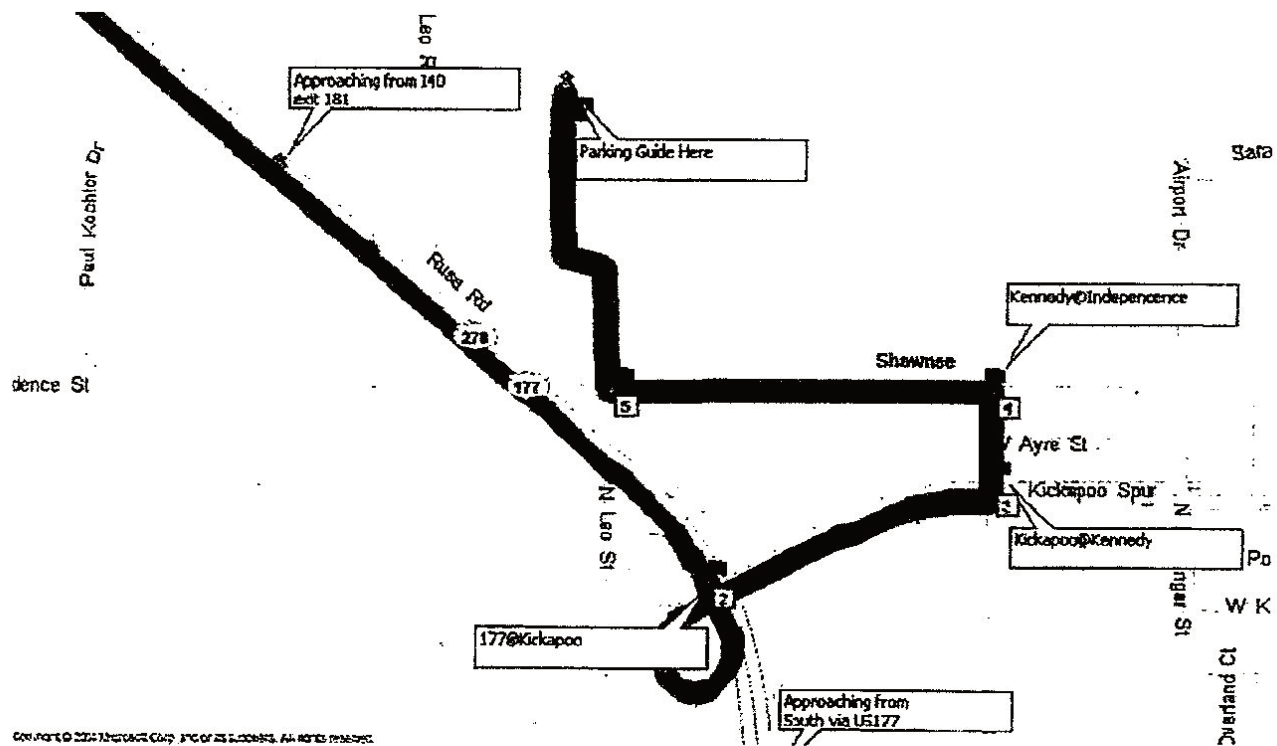
Past President's report

This will be the last issue of Discovery Express before we gather again in Shawnee, Oklahoma for the 2017 National Rally. National Rallymaster Mary Ann Crowell and Rallymaster Judy Bruton have been busily arranging details for us. They have a group of support volunteers to implement the plans for everything to run as smoothly as your D does right after an oil change. From parking arrangements, to great tours, to outstanding food, varied entertainment and just plain fun.....it is all there waiting for you. If you haven't registered yet, do it today.

Also, at the national rally we will begin electing our leadership for the next two years. All officers are up for election; some have reached term limits and others will ask you to re-elect them. We always need good candidates and YOU could be one of them. Let me know if you are interested in seeking a post. Serving as an officer is really fulfilling and rewarding work....and it is not very time consuming. In the last edition, I asked you to contact me for questions, to volunteer, etc. I keep checking my email to determine if the notification "ding" works. . . and it does, but it has been eerily silent. Come on, ring my chimes. Email me at BakerJohn@SWBell.net or call 281.814.0004.

As you travel this summer and into the fall season, be sure to look for the little-known surprises that abound across our beautiful nation. There are hidden treasures in every state and county. . . don't pass them by! Please plan to include Shawnee, Oklahoma in October. Travel safely. ❖

Directions to the Expo Center for the Oklahoma City Rally



Eastbound or Westbound on Interstate 40

- Exit 181 – Turn south onto US-177 and travel 4.3 miles.
- Exit right onto Kickapoo Spur. GPS N35.34 W96.94

Southbound on US 177

- From intersection with Interstate 40, travel 4.3 miles.
- Exit right onto Kickapoo Spur. GPS N35.34 W96.94

Northbound on US 177

- Exit right onto Kickapoo Spur. GPS N35.34 W96.94

All Approaches: After exiting US 177 on Kickapoo Spur

- Proceed one block to first traffic signal and **turn left** onto Kennedy Ave.
- Proceed two blocks to end of street and **turn left** onto Independence
- Follow signs and guides to Rally

Helpful Tip

Although many of you probably have GPS, we all know how technology can fail us right at the moment we most need it. Consider printing this page with the directions to the rally, so that you have a backup!



Bob Cook

Big Changes Coming To TV Broadcasting (and Cell Phones)

I must be a millennial at heart . . . like them, I watch online video much more on my iPhone or iPad than I do on my TV. As one result of these preferences, there has been an explosion in mobile data demand that is expected to continue to increase dramatically. Further demand is anticipated as cars that communicate with each other and traffic control via wireless become available in the next few years. The biggest problem associated with the rapidly expanding demand is that currently there is not enough frequency spectrum available to meet our mobile data/cell phone needs, let alone allow future anticipated expansion.

In the USA, the Federal Communications Company (FCC), a federal agency, is charged with the responsibility of allocating the precious and finite available radio spectrum to satisfy the needs of the country - be it military, broadcasting, cell phone, WIFI. . . everything.

About 11 years ago, analog television was transitioned to digital and this transition freed up some radio spectrum that was then allocated primarily to public safety and cellular operators. However, times have continued to change and consumer demand has continued to expand; now even more additional spectrum is needed to meet current and future cell phone demand.

To meet this demand, the FCC has determined that the current spectrum used for TV broadcasts can be reduced, freeing up approximately 84 MHz for reallocation. Since there is only a finite amount of spectrum available, however, this means that existing TV stations must be “squeezed” into the remaining approximately 288 MHz of spectrum.

This repack effort will take place over the next three years and it will be a major effort as almost 1,000 TV stations will be affected. Some stations will change to a new channel (frequency), but some stations will have to go off the air completely, while still others will be allowed to rent a “virtual” channel on an existing station. In almost all cases, the coverage areas will be different or changed. (Television stations are allocated a 6 MHz spectrum to broadcast their digital signals, which in the US equates to a 19.4 Mbit/sec data stream. Broadcasters can use this stream to provide 2-6 different virtual channels. You see this on your TV set as channels such as 28.1, 28.2, 28.3, 28.4. Generally speaking, splitting up the data stream into several virtual channels results in reduced video quality/resolution, but the use of statistical multiplexing greatly mitigates this loss of quality.)

The size and complexity of this project is greatly increased because additional floor/cooling space for a new transmitter also will be required, along with new transmitting antennas which may affect tower wind loading. Also, add in the fact that many TV towers also have co-located FM stations and antennas and the floor space/tower issues multiply.

ATSC (Advanced Television System Committee) 3 - Remember when we had the digital TV conversion back in 2009? You likely needed a converter box (or a new TV) to receive the new digital tv signal. The big benefit for consumers was much higher resolution tv . . . if you had a new digital TV. In addition to widescreen, we also got a TV picture that was 3-6 times better than analog. ATSC 3 improves on our present digital television in several important ways. First, the resolution is 4x better. . . but the improved resolution is probably the least important part. Screen color gamut (the ability to accurately depict colors correctly) is vastly improved and on par with movie theaters. ATSC also implements high dynamic range video which greatly increases the ability to display light and dark scene details. Both of these factors will bring about a dramatic improvement in picture quality. Also, immersive audio formats (which far surpass surround sound fidelity) will be available. ATSC 3 will offer other benefits, but these are the most important ones that are confirmed as of this date.

Why do I bring this up in the FCC Repack discussion? Because some stations may elect to take the opportunity to convert to ATSC 3 simultaneously when they make all of the changes necessary to meet the FCC Repack mandate. The conversion to ATSC 3 will not be nearly as smooth as the ATSC 1 conversion was back in 2009. With the ATSC 1 (digital) conversion, there were spare channels available for TV stations to broadcast both the old analog format and the new digital format. That is NOT the case now. You can see the incentive for at least some stations to make the jump directly to ATSC 3 with the mandatory frequency repack changes.

How Does All This Affect Us?

Starting as soon as November 2018, some TV stations may disappear entirely or may become a virtual channel on another station. As the latter happens, some of the virtual channels that have been airing “specialty” TV channels may also disappear. Coverage areas could be affected, meaning that you may not be able to receive some stations that you used to receive and watch in the past. Any stations that elect to change to ATSC 3 will require the consumer to purchase an ATSC 3 adapter (there are no plans for the free adapters like we had back in 2009) or a

(Continued on next page...)

Big Changes Coming, continued

new TV with ATSC 3 tuners built-in. Since Korea is committed to broadcasting ATSC 3 in 2018, we will likely see new TVs soon from Korean manufacturers such as LG and Samsung that meet this standard.)

For those receiving local television signals via cable or satellite, the only change you may see is that perhaps a local channel is not available if it has ceased broadcasting. Everything else, including any ATSC conversions by the TV stations, will be transparent and not affect you. You will not need a new tv or a ATSC adapter.

For those of us that rely on over-the-air TV reception in our D's, the impact will be different. You may not be able to get some stations in remote areas due to coverage changes, and you may have to rescan for digital signals, and you will need a ATSC 3 adapter for your old TV if/when TV stations convert to the new ATSC standard. At least this won't be a surprise, however, because TV stations must start making daily announcements at least 30 days prior to making any changes in coverage, channels or technology (such as ATSC 3).

OK, so we have all these changes to television, what about that spectrum that was freed up for cell phones? Ever since cell phones were first conceived almost 45 years ago, every new generation of cell phones have progressed mostly in their ability to handle data at faster speeds. The current standard is called 4G LTE, so it should come as no surprise that the next generation will be called 5G. Although standards are not finalized, the main goals are to handle many more "customers" (regular cell phones, cars, traffic management, amongst others) at speeds at least an order of magnitude faster than today. This could be a real boon for us RV'ers, although 5G will require new phones to take advantage of the new technology, which is expected to be rolled out in earnest starting in 2019. If you have purchased a cell phone range extender, that will need to be replaced as well, as it will not work with 5G either. 4G LTE will likely still be available, however, until at least 2023, so there will most likely not be a requirement to replace an older cell phone until then. Depending on your needs, you may want to time your cell phone purchase to coincide with 5G availability of your cell phone provider to take advantage of the new technology. ❖

Quarterly Question Contest

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

1. A box on the front page will announce the question. The answer to each quarter's question will be a word or a year. It will not be highlighted in any way except that, if the answer is a proper noun, it will be capitalized. It will be contained somewhere within the newsletter.
 2. Entries must contain the member's name and contact information, the answer, and the page where the answer is found and must quote the complete sentence in which the answer is contained. Email the response to nina.soltwedel@gmail.com, or snail mail to Nina Soltwedel, 4736 Harwich St., Boulder CO 80301-4217. Do not post answer on the DOAI eGroup.
 3. All DOAI members are eligible to participate. A member is a coach, thus one entry per coach per quarter. A member is limited to one win each calendar year.
 4. The contest will open the first day of the month of that issue and close the fifteenth day of the succeeding month of that quarter. Entries may not be submitted until the first day of a quarter, and must be received by Nina no later than 11:59pm the fifteenth day of the second month of a quarter.
 5. One winning entry will be drawn from all correct entries.
 6. The succeeding issue will name the previous quarter's winner and announce the new question.
 7. The Board of Directors reserves the right to terminate the contest at any time.
- If you have questions about the contest, contact Nina (nina.soltwedel@gmail.com). ❖



Need A New TV Antenna?

Check out Mark Polk's article on page 15 for detailed instructions on upgrading your RV's antenna.

DOAI officers/chapters/committees/website

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

Protect Your Noodle With A Noodle

Simply take a pool noodle and cut it on one edge then cut it to length to fit the edges of your pop-out and they should slide right on then right off for removal when necessary.





Gary Osburn

Keeping That Emergency Exit Window Open

I hope everyone has tried their Emergency Exit window. We all need to know that it will open should we (badly) need it to! Someday a Discovery may catch fire with somebody inside and we need to be ready to do what we can to save ourselves.

Oftentimes, there are reports after the fact that the rubber seal between the window and coach has the window stuck closed and must be pried open. Since this could be a real problem in an emergency, to decrease the risk of a stuck window and as a part of routine maintenance, open the window carefully (please) and then apply some baby powder to the seal to keep it from sticking again.

For those with frameless windows (available beginning in 2015 if I've been informed correctly), please be extra cautious here and do not open the window more than just a crack, as it does not easily go back in place. The following instructions apply to pre-2015 standard windows; owners with frameless windows cannot use what I describe here to help keep the window open.

For most of us (post-2015 coaches), here's a simple solution to keep the window open when you need it most. I know that a stick or plastic pipe of proper length will hold the window open. . . but if it's bumped, it will fall to the ground and the window will close on you as you try to climb out and down.

All that's needed is a 2-foot piece of flat 3/4" aluminum stock, a barrel nut and bolt, and two small sheet metal screws with flat heads. The tools required are a drill, a hacksaw, a file and a phillips-head screwdriver.



Aluminum flat stock



Barrel bolt and nut

Cut the aluminum stock in to two 9 1/2" long pieces to make the arms. The barrel bolt is placed 1/2" from the ends as a pivot between the two but it's not centered; it's placed in the center of the bottom half:

Barrel bolt goes in bottom half of the arms



The back arm is notched back 1" and the front is split with the hacksaw, filed down a bit and bent to make contact with the notch. The exact angle of contact isn't important ... it just has to open more than 180 degrees and it will stay open.

The other ends of the arms are attached one to the wall frame of the window and one to the window frame itself with the sheet metal screws. (There is enough clearance for the screw heads.) These are centered and about 1/2" in from each end. They don't need to be too tight; secure them just enough so that they don't fall out and you don't need to worry about them loosening up with use. Other than testing, they'll only get used once.

The arm at the wall-frame end needs to be rounded somewhat so that it will rotate. I positioned it about 6" up from the bottom of the frame.

To get the other end properly positioned, hold the window so that it is barely open and mark where the hole touches the window-frame; repeat the positioning and test a few times to make sure it stays open. Total cost of the project was less the \$15.00 ❖



Keep A Water Bottle Handy

Don't wait until you're thirsty - by the time you actually feel thirsty, you've probably already lost a significant amount of water. Make your water more interesting - add herbs and fresh fruit (citrus and berries are popular choices) to water to boost the flavor intrigue. Also, consider drinking more fresh fruit and vegetable juices.



Elaine Holley

Membership Coordinator's report

Please extend a hand of welcome to these new and reinstated members who have joined DOAI since our last newsletter. This report is as of May 31, 2017 and our DOAI membership rolls increased when these good people joined our club. We look forward to meeting them face to face at upcoming rallies, be it DOAI National, Regional, or Chapter rallies, FMCA, Good Sam to name a few. WOW, so many possibilities.

Two reminders to our members: (1) If you have changed your email address and not sure if you let us know, please confirm your subscribed email address is correct as shown when you first login to the DOAI website. If it is not correct, please send me an email at

doaimembership@discoveryowners.com. Please remember that email is our major means of communication and is required in order to receive our Discovery Express newsletter each quarter.

(2) Also, we continue to encourage all our members to share information about DOAI in your travels. For every three referrals, members will receive one year of free membership. The same goes for winners of the Quarterly Question Contest. Congratulations go out, again, to Peter & Sharon Shaffer (alias: BigD & BigD9) for their referrals.



Morley/Joan Baker, Vacaville CA
 David/Sue Bank, Livingston TX
 David/Patty Beaman, Springfield NE
 Richard/Leigh Beaty, Tucson AZ
 Dennis Bigham, Amarillo TX
 Tom/Judy Black, Queen Creek AZ
 John/Barbara Bourassa, Mesa CO
 Ronald/Nancy Bourgeois, Northville MI
 Christopher/Carrie Brannon, Allen TX
 Randy Buller, Sulphur LA
 Vincel Carlisle, Midland TX
 Andrew/Dinah Charles, Titusville FL
 Thomas/Coleen Clementson, Niceville FL
 Mark/Ann Cole, Coolidge AZ
 Randy/Janet Collins, Spokane WA
 Ross/Zona Cranmer, Lake Havasu City AZ
 Richard/Joan Cron, Clifton CO
 Lloyd/Co Croom, Hemet CA
 Scott/Shannon Cross, Newport Beach CA
 Tyler Davis, Greenland NH
 Chuck/Tammy Denchfield, Atascadero CA
 Johnny/Cindy Duffey, Cedar Hill TX
 Rick Ecker, Wellington FL
 Dale Ficek, Eugene OR
 David/Beverly Ford, Peoria AZ
 Corey Forsberg, Auburn WA
 Todd/Renee Frailey, Monroe GA
 Stephen Frederick, Richmond Hill GA
 Craig/Lorena Funicello, Luray VA
 Douglas/Terry Gibbs, Molena GA
 Rod/Ada Gleghorn, Hilliard OH
 Theodore/Lenoir Graham, Manassas VA
 Walter/Sandy Gregg, Bethel Park PA
 Jan Haas, Pasadena TX
 Hubert/Clara Hagan, Taylorsville KY
 Greg/Minnie Hall, Knoxville TN
 James Hammond, Barnes WI
 Cedrick Harris, Upper Marlboro MD

James Harris, Grapevine TX
 John/Carolann Hartmangruber, Middleburg FL
 Ynelle Hatcher, Houston TX
 Ed Hawkins, Upland CA
 Cynthia/Jeff Hevel, Afton WI
 Joseph Hickey, Westerly RI
 Marian Horgan, Naples FL
 Michael Hummel, West Monroe LA
 Gerry/Christine Hurst, Topanga CA
 Stephen Johnson, Lenoir NC
 William Johnston, Roseburg OR
 Doug Jordan/Julie Kamer, Waterloo IA
 Barbara/Kurt Kennedy, Chesapeake VA
 Chris/Monica King, Edmond OK
 Mitchell/Jane Kirkwood, Noblesville IN
 Gary/Nancy Klemmer, Lakeport MI
 Jason Kottman, Trinidad TX
 Vincent La Paglia, Casa Grande AZ
 Joseph/Teresa Leavens, Centereach NY
 Wes Leavitt, Spring Creek NV
 David Lizotte, Fort Valley GA
 John/Becky Loftin, Deridder LA
 Ron/Jo Ann Lowe, Kingsport TN
 Kenneth Lupinacci, Baxter TN
 Michael/Pearl Marshall, Acton CA
 Ernesto/Karla Martinez, Farr West UT
 Bryant/Christine Melton, Port St Lucie FL
 Bill/Patricia Meneely, Bellmore NY
 Richard/Debbie Miller, New Smyrna Beach FL
 B Richard/Patricia Monroe, Apopka FL
 Joe Morrow, Claude TX
 Donald/Christine Muskopf, Columbia IL
 Eugene/Olivia Nelson, Fortson GA
 David/Brenda Neumeier, Kerrobert SK
 Sam/Julia Nicholas, Ballwin MO
 Ted/Fran Norin, Palm Coast FL
 Derrick Oden, Cibolo TX
 Billy/Cindy Ohl, Pensacola FL

Wayne/Carol Parma, Box Elder SD
 Matthew/Peggy Plauched, Pierre Part LA
 Melvin/Rebecca Pless, Houston TX
 Walter Rafolski, Brunswick GA
 Daniel/Kimber Ribble, Wichita KS
 Patrick/Linda Riley, Crestview FL
 Steve/Judy Riley, Oklahoma City OK
 James/Grace Robinson, Millsboro DE
 Justin Rudolph, Athens AL
 Dean/Libby Scarbrough, Gulfport MS
 Chuck/Jill Scheffner, Palmyra WI
 Bill/Michele Schuck, Litchfield Pk AZ
 Kevin Sensat, Bridge City TX
 Terry/Pam Shoemaker, Livingston TX
 John/Bergetta Smith, Herriman UT
 James/Jan Snyder, Jacksonville FL
 Martin/Julie Sohlberg, Emery SD
 Bradley/Marji Spencer, Albany OR
 Paul/Sandy Sphar, Healdsburg CA
 Randy/Marsha Stark, Shelley ID
 Richard/Margaret Steele, Garland TX
 Bruce/Audra Stewart, Madison SD
 Gene/Brenda Stewart, Hobbs NM
 Greg/Kate Stoller, Beaverton OR
 Charles/Carol Suggs, Altus OK
 David/Susan Teich, Crestview FL
 Ed/Madolyn Tomlin, Lake Kiowa TX
 Lenny/Shelley Veary, Lake Havasu City AZ
 Oscar Wallace, Hammond LA
 John Watkinson, Reading, Berkshire UK
 Jim/Lynn Weatherford, Orange Park FL
 Shirley Webb/Ken Berry, Aurora CO
 Leonard/Kimberly Wetz, Milford OH
 Yancey/Nancy Wilson, Calhoun GA
 Gary/Lynn Woolery, Lakewood NM
 David/Debra Wright, Modesto CA
 Randy/Teri Wyrick, Woodbridge CA
 Greg/Mary Yapple, Crestview FL

Region and Chapter reports



Chapter prez
Jim Sullivan

Discovery California chapter

Greetings from Discovery California! I am writing this newsletter from the dismal Pacific Northwest which is still rainy and gloomy in the middle of June, while back in California the forecast is for lots of very hot weather for the next few weeks. This winter we have had rain during 2 of our last 3 rallies. While Susan and I are up in

the Pacific Northwest visiting some of our grandkids, we will be scouting out potential RV Parks and sites for a potential rolling rally in 2018 - depending as to just how well our rolling rally does when we head off to Albuquerque for the Balloon Fiesta in October.

The plan for the Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta Rolling Rally has surprised us with the reception from our club. We now have 11 rigs signed up. We will be starting from Laughlin, NV traveling for 14 days, on to the Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta, and ending up in Wickenburg, AZ. We will have stops in Sedona, Las Cruces, and in the old west town of Tombstone, AZ. We are not sure how the rolling rally is going to work out, but we thought that we would give it a try. Mike Scott, the former Southwest Regional VP came up with this concept a while back; we thought we would give it an opportunity and if it works, we may plan one for 2018 up to Astoria.

In May we had a great rally during Cinco de Mayo down in San Diego. The rally was hosted by Mike and Mary Lou Phipps and their very good friend Cindy Stephens. Mike and Jen Randazzo hosted a Mexican Dinner that turned out stupendously.

A side note, as everyone enjoyed the visit to Old Town, the great lunch at Old Town Mexican Café, and the Dodger and Padre's game; I was relegated to the motor home. Just a few weeks earlier I had my right knee replaced so I was not an active participant. In fact, Susan drove the D roughly 400 miles to San Diego and 400 miles back. I had to sit back with my leg elevated looking out the window in the back.

The rally had lots of rain but it didn't stop everyone from having a good time and asking when is the next rally so they can get together again. That being said, we got together with the board and decided that we would host a "Turkey Time at the Vines" in Paso Robles November 10-12, 2017. Our current plans are to host a turkey dinner with the fixin's while we hold our annual membership meeting. Paso Robles is one of California's

premier wine growing regions and we have been working on having a tour of one of the wine caves. We are still working on the itinerary and we will have more information soon. ❖



Chapter prez
Melissa Plowman

Texas Discovery Road Runners chapter

Our May 17-22 rally was held in conjunction with the Discovery Texans at the Johnson Creek RV Resort in Ingram, Texas. This RV park is well laid out in a beautiful area with a very nice club house and various other meeting areas around the park.

The Texans had the rally planned with a couple of breakfasts and some dinners, including a salad pot luck. Like the Road Runners, the Texans like to play games, and a group of ladies got together the first night. Spare time is spent on your own. Ingram, located in Texas Hill Country, has a plethora of fun things to do.

We met with the Texans at their general rally where they discussed plans for the national rally in Shawnee, scheduled for October 9-14, 2017. I hope each and every one has turned in their registration, as this rally is packed with goodies and fun. October is a perfect time to visit this part of the country. The Road Runners and I will be putting on the ladies' event . . . painted cactus/succulent pots. This ladies' event is not on our registration, so an email to me let me know you are "IN" would be very helpful when I begin to order the supplies. My email is daamommy@aol.com.

Save the Dates:

Shawnee National Rally – October 9-14, 2017

San Angelo Rally – December 1-5, 2017. This rally occurs during Fort Concho days and will be a great opportunity to do some Christmas shopping. We will send out more information after the Shawnee National Rally.

Galveston – March 28-April 2, 2018.

The Road Runners would love to have you join us for our rallies. If you need membership information, please email Lovetta Simpson at lovettasim@aol.com. Safe travels! ❖

A Cool, Sweet Treat To Help With The Summer Heat

Pineapple Pistachio Marshmallow Salad. *Ingredients:* 1 large can crushed pineapple, 1 small box instant pistachio pudding mix, 2 cups small marshmallows, 1 container Cool Whip, 1 cup chopped nuts (optional). *Preparation Instructions:* Drain pineapple juice into bowl. Mix pudding mix with juice. Add remaining ingredients. Mix well & store in refrigerator.

Region and chapter reports, continued



Chapter prez
Bob Stewart

Noreaster Discoverys

Greetings to all from the North East! Jeanne and I just got back home from the south (Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, and Tennessee). It was a great winter and we had so much fun visiting friends, relatives and of course spending time with our DOAI family. Our “D” ran perfectly throughout our travels except for losing the dome of the satellite dish. That small incident I can live with; anyone have an extra one? I am having a difficult time locating a new cover.

For those of us who aren’t retired or don’t travel south for the winter, it’s time to get the “pink stuff” out of our systems and get those “D’s” back on the road. Isn’t great to find out you don’t have any leaks after a long, cold winter storage?

In the month of June the Noreaster Discoverys will be attending our first rally with our hosts the Midwest Discoverys in Philadelphia, PA. This looks like a good time with lots of activities and excursions. Many thanks to the Midwest folks for having us. . . especially Rick and Carol Parton for all the work they’ve done to put this together. Reservations were due in by May 1st, 2017, but if you have any questions about the rally you can contact Rick Parton (610-299-4862). Safe travels everyone and see you in Philly! ❖



Chapter prez
Bruce Plumb

Ozarks Discovery

Rally - May 2017

The Indigo Sky Casino near Seneca, MO has a very nice RV Park called Whispering Woods RV Park and it is only \$15 per night for full hookups. So . . . seemed like a great spot for a rally. AND IT WAS!

Saturday was a lazy day which ended with our traditional grand potluck of Mexican food and smoked meat.

On Sunday afternoon we drove to Neosho, MO to meet and visit with Doug Hall (artist and much more) and his mother Cubby, both friends of Bruce and Nancy Plumb. Doug is an accomplished artist who has spent his life studying the history and culture of the native peoples of the Eastern Woodlands and has won many awards for his paintings of their everyday lives. He has a Log Cabin Gallery with his art on display (check out this link for more information: <http://doughallfineart.com/index.php>). A few short steps out of the back door of the cabin is like a step back in time: there is a pasture where we attended their Sunday afternoon black powder shoot that has been going on for the past 29 years. The shoot is held every Sunday at 3:00 PM, 52 weeks per year, cold or warm, rain or shine. For those enthusiasts looking for a little more excitement, Doug offered the opportunity to anyone who wanted to try their hand at shooting using his prize 50 CA rifle. The public is welcomed to stop in "On Any Sunday" (borrowed this from a classic motorcycle movie!).

Sunday evening we all enjoyed the "2 for the price of 1" prime rib buffet at the casino.

Everyone really enjoyed this location at Indigo Sky; the RV park is very well maintained, posts no restrictive rules, has beautiful settings, and is not crowded.



May Rally attendees -
Left to Right: Martin & Beverly Travis, Bruce & Nancy Plumb, Bill & Connie Bennett, and Jason & Marilyn Johansen.

(continued on next page)

Region and Chapter reports, continued

2017 Rally Schedule

We have planned our next rally for Treasure Lake in Branson for November 3-6, 2017. We plan to arrive on Friday in time to see the Clay Cooper Show on the Branson Strip at 7:30 PM. As personal friends of the Coopers, the Plumb family has arranged for tickets at a special rate of \$12.00 each (which is a big discount from the regular price of \$38.00). Then on Sunday evening, we will go to Silver Dollar City for the Christmas productions, Charles Dickens "A Christmas Carol" and "It's a Wonderful Life". Also, the Silver Dollar City theme park is known world-wide as one of the premier Christmas spots with its 4 million lights. If you are not a member of the Ozarks Chapter but will be in the Midwest in November, for \$2 you CAN be a member and join us for a great rally! ❖



Chapter prez
Judy Jo Bruton

Discovery Texans chapter

As our rallies are winding down, we look back and are so appreciative of the wonderful times together and memories shared. Our last rally for 2017 will be November 8–11 (departing 12th) when we head to Coffee Creek RV Resort and Cabins in Santo, Texas. We are so pleased when guests choose to join our rallies, so if in the area, join us. We will happily send you a guest registration upon your request.

We are looking forward to the National Rally in Shawnee, Oklahoma October 9-14th, and have been busily working as co-hosts to make this a spectacular event for our fellow DOAI members. Please make plans to attend.

March Rally

We held our March rally in Athens, Texas at the Texan RV Park. As usual it was a great rally with lots of good food and fellowship. Our hosts Don & Linda Griffith, Norman & Brenda Millsaps, and the Rally Master took great care of us once again! Our breakfasts and dinners were wonderful and we thank them so much for providing great food. We were delighted to have in attendance two guests. . . Ms. Ruby Hocking and Ms. Carol Lauhoff. On Friday we had a concert given by our FAMOUS rally musicians, Don Griffith and Jerry Brown.

Wednesday night we went as a group to the Jalapeno Tree Restaurant in Athens. The food was delicious and service was prompt with pleasant wait staff. We enjoyed shopping, playing Jokers and Marbles and Mexican Train, plus a whole lot of visiting.

May Rally

In May, we journeyed to Johnson Creek RV Resort in Ingram, Texas in the beautiful hill country. This park was so nice! We all had large concrete pads with ample distance between coaches. The park setting was beautiful with lots of pecan trees and even deer! Our hosts for this excursion were Harry & Judy Jo Bruton and Michael and Peggy Bingham, who provided wonderful meals for breakfast and dinner. They chose a very tasty restaurant, La Fours in Kerrville, TX, where we dined Wednesday night. Thursday was our salad pot luck dinner.

The rally halls at Johnson Creek were spacious and offered the added bonus of theatre seating in one of the meeting halls. So (not letting this opportunity go to waste) our gracious rally master Don Griffith and his brother Jeff along with our guest Doc Simpson held a concert for our group. Country, gospel, and a sing-along echoed through the room. We are so blessed to have such great talent in our membership.

Our chapter is fortunate to have received four new members as well; Joining us at this rally were: Scott & Melissa Plowman of Wichita Falls, TX; Terry & Pam Shoemaker of Livingston, TX; and Jim & Brenda Allen of Kingsland, TX. Doc & Lovetta Simpson also joined us as guests from our sister chapter Discovery Roadrunners of San Antonio, TX, and we are looking forward to meeting Rick & Marlene Sharpe of Friendswood, TX at an upcoming rally. Welcome!!! During your travels, check to see where we are "rallying", and if you find yourself in our area, please get our GUEST. There is a Rally Reservation form on the DOAI website at the following link: <http://discoveryowners.com/DTEXGUEST.pdf>

Wow, I'm Really Enjoying The 100^o Weather!

Said no one ever.



Region and Chapter reports, continued

Upcoming Rally locations and dates:

2017

Nov 8 – 11 (depart 12th) Coffee Creek RV Resort & Cabins, Santo, TX

2018

Jan 10 – 13	(depart 14th)	Bushman's RV Park, Bullard, TX.	(\$30.00)
Mar 21 – 24	(depart 25st)	Skyline Ranch RV Park, Bandera, TX	(\$30.00)
May 16 – 19	(depart 20th)	American RV Park, Corsicana, TX	(\$28.50)
Nov TBD			

Our rallies are planned for Wednesday through Saturday, departing on Sunday. Hope to see ya'll in the near future. Safe travels everyone, and SEE YOU AT THE NATIONAL IN OKLAHOMA. ❖

Southeast Region Rally 2018



Executive Vice Prez
Marshall Godwin

“Start the Celebration” 2018 Southeast Region Rally

The next Southeast Region Rally marks the official start of the celebration of DOAI's 20th anniversary year.

The Mason-Dixon Chapter will host this anniversary year rally at Lazydays RV Campground in Seffner, FL., Jan 28th - Feb 2nd, 2018 (departing Feb 3rd). At a recent chapter gathering the final key coordinator roles were established and plans are on track to make this a memorable celebration of DOAI's 20-year history.

The rally incorporates the 8th consecutive presentation of “Camp Discovery”. Camp Discovery seminars are being reorganized and expanded. Four presenters will conduct over 18 hours of training directly related to our Discovery motor homes. This is exceptional training, especially helpful to 1st time rally attendees, but also very useful to veteran Discovery owners. It is likely the knowledge gained through Camp Discovery will completely offset rally costs over a short period based on issues that you can take care of yourself rather than paying for service. There is no other place where you get this type of RV training specific to one brand of motor home.

In addition to Camp Discovery, this rally has everything you could want from a major rally . . . catered meals, entertainment, golf outing, vendors, pet parade, crafts, projects, non-technical seminars, ice cream social, and the chance to see the new 2018 Discoverys.

This year we have “Geeks on Tour” joining us. Jim and Chris will conduct daily, fun filled sessions to help us better understand our smart phones, computers, and other technology to enhance our RV experience. They will also set up a help desk so you can address specific issues. This will be your chance to finally determine “What Does This Button Do?”

Entertainment will be headed by “New Odyssey”, out of the Chicago area. This group performed for DOAI 10 years ago and I'm confident when I say most members agree they are the most entertaining group we have ever had. This is not a typical cover band; they are three great musicians who play 30 instruments. Their music skills and skits are a combination that is sure to provide a wonderful evening of entertainment.

DOAI is contributing fifty dollars per coach to help keep rally costs down. We also are receiving funds from other organizations to allow us to upgrade food and entertainment. If you have never attended the SE Rally, or have not attended in a long time, this is the year to make a special effort to be there. It is unlikely we will ever again be able to conduct a similar rally at this price.

Lazydays has set aside 120 sites for DOAI during the rally time period, and half of those sites have already been reserved. If you think you might attend, please make your reservation NOW! The rally registration form can be found on our DOAI website in the Next Rally section. You need to either call in or send the top portion of the rally registration form to Lazydays. The bottom portion should be mailed to our Rally Registrar, Pat Tracy.

Let's have a sold-out rally. With Florida sunshine, fresh strawberries and a gaggle of Discovery owners, what is keeping you from being there? ❖

Upgrade your RV Antenna with a HD Digital RV Antenna



Mark Polk

Last year I started having problems with our old bat wing style TV antenna on the RV, so I decided to replace it with a digital RV antenna. After some research on the topic I decided to go with the Rayzar Z1 HD digital RV antenna by Winegard. There were several reasons I selected this antenna. It is low profile, lightweight and it picks up free HD channels wherever you travel. Another reason I selected this antenna is because it can replace the existing antenna with minimal effort.



You can purchase the Rayzar z1 as a complete unit or as the antenna head with adapter. It would be easier and less expensive to go with the antenna head that retrofits directly to the existing antenna, but as I mentioned earlier our antenna has seen better days so I opted to go with the complete unit.

Caution: Exercise caution when you are working on the RV roof, a fall can result in serious injury or worse. If you are not comfortable working on the RV roof have the work done by a qualified RV service facility.



The first step was to remove the old antenna. I use a plastic scraping tool to remove the old sealant and access the mounting screws. Whenever you remove old sealant from a rubber roof be extremely careful not to tear the rubber roofing. Remove all of the sealant and the mounting screws, but do not attempt to remove the antenna before you remove the antenna handle on the inside of the RV.

Go inside the RV and remove the old antenna handle. Remove the Allen screw from the handle using the correct size Allen wrench. After the handle is removed the entire assembly can be removed from the ceiling.



Go back on the roof to remove the old antenna. Disconnect the coax cable and carefully separate the antenna from the roof. In most cases there will be putty tape under the antenna base. I use the plastic scraping tool to work around the base releasing the old sealant. Try not to tear the roofing material. After the antenna is removed clean any remaining sealant that was under the antenna base. As a final step I like to clean the roof surface with some denatured alcohol on a rag. Do not pour the alcohol directly on the roof surface.

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

More Than Just A Newsletter

Discover the many ways your membership pays off at www.discoveryowners.com, with links to:

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