

Volume 1 Issue 2

March/April 1999

DISCOVERY OWNERS ASSOC. INC. GROWS TO 324 MEMBERS IN 40 STATES!

Valentine Rally held in Florida

Winter may have raged in some parts of the country, but in Seffner, Florida, Discovery owners basked in the warmth of new and renewed friendships.

Generously hosted by Lazy Days. 56 rigs attended the four day rally from February 8-11. Wagonmaster Doug Chetwin, assisted by Judy Marshall, planned the successful gathering, a first for several Discovery owners.

Assoc. President Jim Devine and his wife, Dorothy (Treasurer & Membership), enrolled 33 new members to the association.

Rver's Georgia and Ron Shane gave the park raves for the setting, a quiet campground "shaded by huge

oak trees." But not much chance of "lazy days" here, for the activities and seminars provided much to do.

ALWAYS MUCH TO LEARN

Discovery owners Jane and Glenn Bowen had "every intention of leaving on Wednesday, but decided the seminars were so interesting, we had to stay the extra day." Fleetwood rep Roger Hershy and Lazy Days own Steve Ruddy enlightened all, along with the Cummins/Onan rep Kevin Farrell. (Cont. on page 2)

"Hey, why does this newsletter look different from the last one?"

Our first issue was generously printed for us by Fleetwood, and didn't they give us a quality look? Now, even though our look will be frugal, our content aspires to bring you riches!



Discovery Owners rally! This photo taken at FMCA pre-rally, Perry Georgia

Winter FMCA Pre-Rally Huge Success

Fifty rigs enjoyed the first Discovery pre-rally for an FMCA national convention, and the consensus was that *this is the way to go!* Most arrived at the brand new Fair Harbor RV park in Perry, GA by Thursday March 18.

Just opened in January, the park provided a club house for our gatherings, full hook-ups and a gracious southern ambiance.

Hugs and introductions were exchanged, as old friendships were renewed and new ones begun.

(Cont. on page 2)

Special thanks to Lazy Days RV SuperCenter for underwriting this issue of Discovery Express!

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Rally In Florida (continued from page one)

In addition to a seminar on women driving motorhomes, by Snow Chamberland, Sprint provided information on their phone services.

Everyone seemed to enjoy the fashion show, featuring our own Helma Cameron, Judy Fournier, Patty Fretwell, Val Larkins, Anne McDonald, Suzanne Mundt, Georgia Shane and Audry Taylor.

ASSOCIATION MEETING

President Jim Devine's meeting reviewed the purpose of the Discovery Owners Assoc. Inc., now with 324 members from 40 states! The largest club for Discovery owners, we anticipate the formation of regional chapters.

It was felt we should have a web site, and that will be explored. Communication will also occur through our newsletter, slated to appear quarterly.

FOOD, FUN AND PRIZES

Dinner was skipped by many after the welcome social, generously provided by Fleetwood and Sprint. Our reputation for outstanding Pot Lucks is at no risk -- Ron and Georgia Shane claim it was prepared by the "world's greatest cooks."

Lazy Days generously provided an excellent farewell dinner, accompanied by the terrific music of Jim Hunt. Thanks also to Lazy Days for providing continental breakfasts and lunch each day.

HEARTY THANKS TO ALL

Lazy Days, we couldn't have done this without you! Tony Pate of Lazy Days, along with Geri Wos and Renee VanValkenburg helped make this a great rally.

Kudos to wagonmaster Doug Chetwin and Judy Marshall, for a wonderful job. Many thanks also to Betty and Peter Clemens, Patty and Phil Fretwell, Alice and Pete Pizzano and Georgia and Ron Shane, for helping.

(The editor thanks Georgia and Ron Shane, Jane and Glenn Bowen, and Jim and Dororthy Devine for the information on this rally.)

Financial Report for Florida Rally

Income* Registrations \$1680 Donation from Sprint 400 Fash. Show Commission 76 Total \$2156 Expenses* Welcome Party \$1673 Rally Activities 528 Music <u>175</u> Total \$2376

Balance Unfavorable \$220

*Lazy Days RV paid for the Farewell Dinner (\$1332)

FMCA Pre-Rally (continued from page one)

FEED US AND WE'RE HAPPY

Each morning coffee and donuts provided a jumpstart for the day.

An informal pizza get-together on Friday evening provided one of many chances to visit and exchange ideas.

Saturday evening, however, found us enjoying a feast of delicious southern cooking. Catered by the park owner's wife, the wonderful home-cooked meal was topped off with a tasty Georgia peach cobbler.

ASSOCIATION MEETING HELD

Saturday morning a meeting was held at which our by-laws were presented and passed.

A nominating committee was appointed, headed by Bill Smith, to select candidates for national offices (see article on page 3).

To better meet operating expenses, the membership approved an increase in dues to \$20 for the first year, and \$16 annually thereafter.

Volunteers were solicited to help at our September rally in Richmond, Indiana, with good response.

ABUNDANCE OF GOOD IDEAS

Get togethers were held to allow for plenty of ideasharing, many of which can be found in this issue. Everyone generously opened their coaches for others to see and photograph their handiwork.

NO RAIN ON OUR PARADE!

What a sight to see, as 48 Discoverys lined up on Sunday afternoon to traverse the easy two miles to the Perry National Fairgrounds, escorted by the State Police.

Kudos to Herb Petersen and his crew for organizing us so well.

Neatly parked in herringbone fashion, many of us commented that it was our easiest entry to an FMCA rally ever, and in a premium spot.

Financial Report for FMCA Pre-Rally

Expenses

Income Registrations \$3321

Sites, RV Park	\$1754	
Farewell Dinner	1200	
Pizza Party	245	
Morning Doughn	uts 62	
Soft Beverages	<u>50</u>	
Total	\$3311	

Total \$3321

Balance Favorable \$9

Discovery Express

³ FMCA RALLY ENJOYED BY ALL

If you've never attended an FMCA (Family Motor Coach Association) convention, perhaps you should consider it! Over 7,700 rigs attended the *Crossroads* of Georgia, FMCA's 24th Annual Winter International Convention held at the Georgia National Fairgrounds and Agricenter in Perry Georgia, March 23-25, 1999.

In other words, we added 14,000 people to a community of 11,000, receiving the warmest welcome possible.

Graced with mostly sunny skies, attendees enjoyed a wonderful facility, spotless and well groomed. An abundance of seminars offered a fine choice of opportunities, from the technical aspects of our rigs, to crafts and lifestyle enhancements.

Each evening, entertainment was available to all in the spacious Reaves Arena, and one could sit under the tent at the Coffee Hour Stage at any time during the day and catch a great act.

Those who ventured into town discovered many wonderful restaurants, as well as spectacular homes surrounded by the blazing colors of abundant spring blossoms.

ELECTIONS SLATED FOR LATER THIS YEAR

In accordance with our by-laws, the Nominating Committee will present a slate of officers in the June/July issue. The committee is chaired by Bill Smith, and includes Dale Brown and Dale Galentine.

Input is sought, and Bill Smith may be contacted at 6304 Far Hills Ave., Dayton, OH 45459, telephone (937)434-4486. Elections are planned for the fall, with new officers taking their positions January 1.

HAVE AN IDEA TO SHARE?

Cody Hargett has generously volunteered to collect ideas from our members related to improvements on their Discoverys, storage ideas, and general tips. Neither she, the editor nor contributors are responsible for the accuracy or viability of ideas.

To contact Cody, see the "Where to Send What" section in this paper.



President Jim Devine and wife Dorothy

A Message from the President

It's such a privilege to work with so many enthusiastic and talented people. Thanks for all you do to make this a vibrant and growing organization, and for making a dream come true.

We've gained three hundred members in three hundred days since our beginnings in '98. What a record! One thousand members by 2000?

If each member enrolls a new member this year, we'll be well on our way to that goal, an organization with amazing CLOUT.

HAD A PROBLEM WITH YOUR DISCOVERY?

Member J.B. Vaughan would like to know about problems you may have had with your Discovery (we know there are a few...)

J.B. will be creating a record of problems and issues to facilitate solutions through the sharing of ideas from our members and from Fleetwood.

Watch for his column in future issues.

Information needed, in addition to a specific description of the problem, is the coach you have, the date of manufacture, and what resolution, if any, was made.

To contact J.B., see the "Where to Send What" section in this paper.

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Where to Send What

Send all matters of general interest or for action by the President to:

Jim Devine 102 Rainbow Dr., Suite 242 Livingston, TX 77399 (970) 209-4757 jimd@one800.net

Send money, membership applications and renewals and other financial matters to the Treasurer:

Dorothy Devine (as above)

Send changes of address, membership inquiries and other non-financial matters to the Membership chair:

Dorothy Devine (as above)

Send tips and ideas for Discovery rigs to:

Cody Hargett 201 Rainbow Dr., Suite 11110 Livingston, TX 77399 codyharg@aol.com

Send problems experienced with your Discovery to:

J.B. Vaughan 303 California St., Clyde, TX 79510 (915) 893-2625 jblucy@swbell.net

Send newsletter articles, news, up-coming events to:

Lorrie Petersen 2370 W. Hwy. 89A, Suite 11-410 Sedona, AZ 86336 (520) 203-9038 blainelori@aol.com

Where to Get It

To Order Discovery Badges:

Badges "R" Us PO Box 2040 Roseburg, OR 97470 1-800-426-8395, 1-800-445-1732 C6213 badges \$4, hangers \$3, shipping \$1 up to 3

To Order Discovery Jackets and Hats:

Sasse Custom Design Embroidery PO Box 577 Quartzsite, AZ 85346 (520) 927-8866 sasse@redrivemet.com hats \$10, jackets \$28 (2xl to 5xl \$31) shipping \$6

DISCOVERY-ING GREAT IDEAS



STORE IT UNDER THE SOFA!

Dale and Cecile Gallentine, above, attached the frontal piece of the sofa to the floor with a piano hinge. A magnetic closure keeps it shut. Plastic containers on wheels are available at Lowes.

Ron Hyslop, below, built a pull out drawer under his sofa. Note that he also reused the frontal piece.



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DISCOVERY-ING GREAT IDEAS

Appliance storage woes? Hang a *Black and Decker Under the Counter Toaster* under the cabinet above the dinette. Also, rewire an outlet into the cabinet over the dinette -- an *Under the Counter Coffee Pot* fits perfectly in this cabinet.

To keep clothes hangers from sliding, cover the closet rod with pipe insulation.

Hang a small bag in your tow with blank forms to indicate which RV park your motorhome is in, and whom to contact in an emergency. Each time you park your coach, fill one out and place it in the front.

Don't know where to keep dirty clothes? Some ideas are a bucket in the closet, a hanging net bag, or a tall hamper kept in the shower when not in use. Some even keep them in the washing machine.

Techs recommend that you do not leave your inverter switch in the "on" position, especially when on shore power.

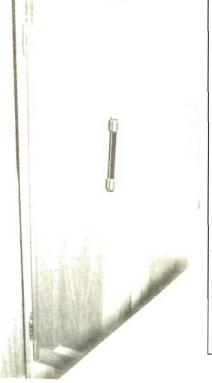
To organize items under the bed, and keep them clean, try the large flat Rubbermaid containers. Similar, and more flexible, are plastic zippered bags intended for under bed storage.

Utilize the bathroom ledge in the toilet area by cutting out the top, adding a hinge, and storing within. Or simply add a shelf or two above it for additional storage.

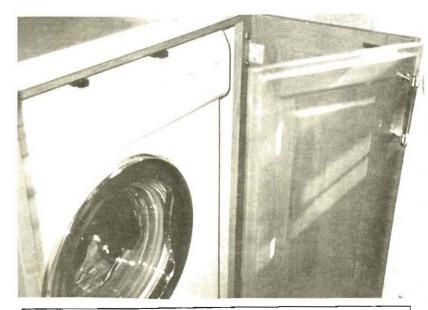
Store extra blankets and pillows in less space by placing in a plastic bags and pulling all the air out with a vacuum.



Make a storage area in the "triangle" of space between the shower and the bedroom door. Reverse the hinges so the door opens into the bedroom. Doors and paneling can be purchased from Fleetwood through your dealer. Or have it done at Dan Gamel RV, CA. Contact Mark Hyder, Service Dept., (530) 896-4720. Thanks to Jim and Carol Lahodry for this one.



For owners of the Discovery 34Q, make a storage cabinet out of the space under the pantry, at the end of the kitchen slide out. A Fleetwood overhead cabinet door, (available through your dealer) and hung vertically, works well. With a floor, side and back that can be removed, access to utilities is preserved. Thanks for this idea and picture to Ed Kennedy, who uses it as a liquor cabinet.



To ease access to the washer-dryer, remove the left hand door and attach with a piano hinge to the right hand door, creating a bi-fold door. This door folds back to the wall. This clever workmanship was done by Dale Gallentine.

A FEW MEMORIES CAPTURED AT THE FMCA PRE-RALLY

AT THE WHITE ELEPHANT GAME, CECILE GALLENTINE DISCOVERS SHE'S WON A TEE SHIRT, WHILE NATE GITTO AND CECILE'S HUSBAND DALE ENJOY THE FUN.

CAROLYN AND BILL LITTLE PONDER THEIR CHOICES. HELMA AND HAROLD COMRON, GLORIA WILCK, AND JIM AND CAROL LAHODNY ARE AMONG THE ONLOOKERS.

> HERB PETERSEN TENDS HIS FIRE, JOINED FOR SOME RELAXATION BY LORRIE PETERSEN (no relation), CAROLYN AND BILL LITTLE, AND ALBINO AND CHANA DO COUTO.

PRESIDENT JIM DEVINE PRESIDES OVER THE DISCOVERY OWNERS ASSOCIATION MEETING

DISCOVERY OWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

Welcome to an organization open to *all* owners of Discovery motorhomes by Fleetwood, intended to foster social opportunities and information exchange among members.

Dues are **\$20** for the first year, and **\$16** annually thereafter, due in the initial month joined. Make checks payable to <u>Discovery Owners Association, Inc.</u>

Mail to: Dorothy Devine, Membership, 102 Rainbow Dr. #242, Livingston, TX 77399

Last name	First	Spouse	
Street	City	State	Zip
Phone, home	Phone, cell	E-mail	
Discovery: Year Length	Slide? Yes No	Full time	Part time
Affiliations: FMCA#	Coast to Coast	Escapees Other	
Area(s) of Expertise			
Special Interests			

***********	********		SSE 6.7/- 7

HERB PETERSEN LINES UP FORTY EIGHT COACHES TO CARAVAN INTO THE FMCA CONVENTION, ESCORTED BY THE STATE POLICE





LINED UP IN A FINE LOCATION AT THE PERRY GA FAIRGROUNDS, THE ASSOCIATION PROUDLY DISPLAYS THE DISCOVERY BANNERS

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> DON'T MISS THE DISCOVERY NATIONAL FALL RALLY, RICHMOND, INDIANA SEPTEMBER 15-19, 1999