



# Discovery EXPRESS

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Summer 2004

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### IMPORTANT NOTICE!

The DEADLINE for the next newsletter (Fall 2004) will be Wednesday, September 1, 2004 NO EXCEPTIONS.

The editor needs time to prepare the Fall issue before leaving for the National Rally in Sedalia. THANK YOU for your cooperation!

## SHOW ME THE OZARKS

### National Rally, State Fairgrounds, Sedalia, Missouri – October 5-9, 2004



Four nights' camping in wide, grassy spots

Full hookups – 30 amp service

Fleetwood, Freightliner, Dometic, Caterpillar will be there!

Bridgestone, Michelin, Goodyear tires available!

Seminars – Workshops – Good Food – Fellowship

Craft and White Elephant Sale – Book Exchange

Red Hats – Discoveryettes – All-Male Fashion Revue – Golf

Don't miss any of the good times in store for YOU!

### Vendor/Manufacturer Participation:

*Fleetwood* will participate with emergency factory service

*Fleetwood Product Planning* will conduct a women-only feedback session and a general feedback session

*Freightliner's* Ron Anders will be there

*Dometic's* Ralph and Sylvia Quail will be there, providing limited emergency service and a seminar (see page 4)

*Caterpillar* will participate and work with a local dealer to provide minor service

*Jim's Tire Service* in Sedalia has put together a tire package just for DOAI members, including mounting, alignment and balancing (see page 3)

We're continuing to work on getting more vendors and manufacturers to attend (check DOAI website for updates)

### Seminars and Workshops:

*Sedalia Fire Department* will give a hands-on fire extinguisher training session

*Red Cross* will give CPR and AED workshops (see page 3)

*Mary Donnell-Brown* will give a line dancing workshop (see page 3)

*Bob Cook* will lead a GPS/mapping workshop

*Nina Soltwedel* will lead a crazy patchwork workshop (see page 4)

*Pilots' and Co-Pilots' Roundtables* are scheduled – bring your questions, hints, suggestions and be ready for great discussions

*Leo Everitt* will lead a seminar: "WiFi and Internet Access from an RV" (see page 4)

*Dave Lane* will present his informative microwave/convection oven seminar

### Entertainment:

*Golf* will be on the agenda! Pack your clubs, let us know you're going to participate, correct that slice and practice those putts (see page 4)

*Mary Frances Herndon* will entertain us at the welcome party (see page 4)

*The Cole Camp Gesangverein* will be featured at the closing dinner. Don't know what "Gesangverein" means? See page 3

*Continued on page 2...*

Quarterly Publication of Discovery Owners Association, Inc.,  
an organization by and for owners of Fleetwood RV Discovery Motor Homes

**About This Newsletter**

**Discovery EXPRESS** is published four times annually. **The deadline** for copy is the 20th of the last month in each quarter: March 20, June 20, September 20 and December 20. The editor can occasionally accommodate later submissions if notice is given ahead of time.

**Member addresses and telephone numbers** published in this newsletter are for members' personal use only. They are not to be used by or for other organizations, nor for special interest, business, commercial, educational, philanthropic, or political purposes.

**Toll-free numbers** for officers and chairmen are to be used only for DOAI business, and then wisely, since it is costly for DOAI to provide the numbers.

**Every member** is considered a reporter and as such, is encouraged to send in articles, hints and tips, and even questions and/or comments in the form of *Letters to the Editor* (we'll make every effort to get the answers).

**Material** for the newsletter may be sent via e-mail or via U.S. Post Office. Photos are welcome, and if sent via e-mail should be in either .jpg or .bmp format. "Regular" photos sent by snail-mail will be scanned and returned to contributors.

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**Please notify us when your address changes!** Address changes should be sent to DOAIMembership Director. Newsletters cost 75¢ to mail; every returned newsletter costs us 83¢, and another 83¢ to mail it to the new address...a total of \$2.41.

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

**DOAI eGroup**

[www.groups.yahoo.com](http://www.groups.yahoo.com)

**Entertainment, continued...**

*Crafts, white elephants, and goodies galore* will be available (see page 5)  
*The Discoveryettes* will sing a few songs (see below)  
*DOAI All Male Revue and Miss DOAI Contest* – you gotta read below!  
*Red Hat Society* will hold a special gathering (see page 3)

**And more...**

*Sedalia* is a lovely town in a lovely state. Sightseeing opportunities abound in the immediate area, including historical sites and great museums  
*Biking and hiking* can be enjoyed along the Katy Trail  
*Potluck dinner* on Wednesday evening; bring your tastiest dish and the recipe to share with the newsletter!  
*Extra surprise treats* are in store for every person who attends the rally, so...

**FILL OUT THE REGISTRATION FORM ON PAGE 23...****WRITE YOUR CHECK...****SEND BOTH TO THE RALLY REGISTRAR...****AND THEN****PREPARE THE D, CHECK THE MAP,  
AND HEAD FOR SEDALIA, MISSOURI  
THIS OCTOBER.****YOU'LL BE GLAD YOU DID!****Calling All Girl Singers!**

**O**K, we aren't "girls," but if you sing, and you're female, then we need you!

Sylvia Swain, our fearless Discoveryettes leader, is looking for voices to entertain on Wednesday evening of the national rally.

Sylvia has been picking out a few rib-tickling songs, getting the oh-so-important Discovery- and RV-related words



put together. She would like to send out the information to you **before the rally** so you can memorize them. That means time at the rally can be spent on learning hand and body movements to accompany the songs. We'll also decide on how color-coordinated we want to be.

Therefore, if you think you'd like to make some music with other women at the rally (or know someone who may enjoy singing with us), and have a good time in the process, **now is the time** to contact Sylvia. She'll be waiting by her computer to hear from you ([eagle747@earthlink.net](mailto:eagle747@earthlink.net)). ❖

**Calling All Male Models!**

**H**ey, guys...ever thought you'd be asked to put on a dress, stockings and heels, and show off your strutting talent? Perhaps not, but we want **you** to participate in the **second** (that's right, second!) All Male Fashion Revue, and for the *first time anywhere*, the Miss DOAI contest!

That's right ... we want all the DOAI men to go shopping this summer, find yourself a frock or gown or whatever "suits" your personality, then bring it to the rally. Don't forget those necessary undergarments and the padding to go with them.

And you might want to find a wig, too, unless you want to let your hair grow for an especially natural "do."

We'll have gals available to help you with make-up, walking in heels, and other womanly arts.

Jackie Quinn is coordinating this mad affair, and needs to hear from you if you think you might want to participate ([qjacdell@aol.com](mailto:qjacdell@aol.com)). It's all in good fun ... just ask those brave fellows who did it first at the national rally in Rayne, Louisiana a few years ago.

Oh, yes, Miss DOAI. The audience will choose the most attractive and appealing of you to be our very first Miss DOAI, complete with crown and bouquet. And we'll publish photos ... or not, if you insist! ❖

**Jim's Tire Service Has Tires!**

**Y**ou need tires? We got tires! And here's the deal: DOAI members who wish to purchase tires, or schedule balancing or alignment, should contact Jim's Tire Service **direct** prior to the rally to order tires or service. The individuals to ask for are either Kraig Crystal or Jerry King at 660.826.1663. The prices they've set for us are:

**Bridgestone Tires**

245/75R22.5	R250	14 Ply	.....	\$250.59
265/75R22.5	R250	14 Ply	.....	299.12
275/70R22.5	R294	16 Ply	.....	462.37

**Michelin Tires**

235/80R22.5	XZE	14 Ply	.....	\$281.32
235/80R22.5	XR V	14 Ply	.....	257.27
255/80R22.5	XZE	14 Ply	.....	328.74
255/80R22.5	XR V	14 Ply	.....	307.19
275/70R22.5	XZA1	16 Ply	.....	345.95
275/70R22.5	XZA1	18 Ply	.....	338.82

**Goodyear Tires**

245/75R22.5	G158	14 Ply	.....	\$297.65
265/75R22.5	G159	14 Ply	.....	362.92
275/70R22.5	G670	16 Ply	.....	393.27

Mounting	.....	\$15.00 ea.
Balancing	.....	\$17.50 ea.
Equal Balance	.....	\$17.50 ea.

*this is the sand balance that some folks like*

Front Axle Alignment	.....	\$69.96
2-Axle Alignment	.....	\$120.95

*shims extra*

Play Detector	.....	\$20.00
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*simulates braking, turning, acceleration forces and checks for worn suspension parts*

Check Total Axle Alignment	.....	\$70.00
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*all axles are aligned to the frame*

All prices are subject to a sales tax rate of 0.5225. All work except balancing and alignment will be done at the fair-grounds. ❖

**Cole Camp Gesangverein**

**A** highlight of Friday night's closing dinner will be the appearance of the Cole Camp Gesangverein, a German choir from Cole Camp, Missouri ... a delightful small town just south of Sedalia (if you get a chance, visit Cole Camp!)

Neil Heimsoth is the manager of the choir and shared this information with us: Back around 1990, Neil asked about eight men to sing for a German club Christmas party. They all enjoyed it so much, they invited a few more men and introduced them to German party songs. Gradually the group sang more difficult music, and now they sing some of the classics, as well as religious in addition to the party songs.

In 1992, they found enough women who were interested to form a ladies' chorus. When both groups sing together, it's called a *Gemischter Chor*. There are 24 women in the *Damenchor* (women's choir), and 18 men in the *Männerchor* (men's choir).

Since that beginning in 1990, the group has given over 170 performances to great delight of their many audiences. For our rally they will probably focus on Oktoberfest party or drinking songs.

Oh, yes, *Gesangverein*? It means "Singing Club" or "Singers Club"! ❖

**Red Hat Society**

**L**adies, when you load up that Discovery to head to Sedalia, be sure to pack your purple dress and red hat (lavender dress and pink hat if you're younger than 50!), and stick in your teacup and a dollar bill.

Gayle Shirey and her crew are making final plans. The Sedalia Red Hat chapter has been invited to join us for a fun event. ❖

**CPR and AED Classes Scheduled**

**T**he Pettis County Chapter, American Red Cross will present two adult CPR and AED classes at seminar.

The first class is scheduled for Monday, October 4, 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. This class will be primarily for members of the DOAI board, but any others who arrive for the rally on Sunday are welcome to participate in this class.

The second class is scheduled for Wednesday, October 6, 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. All interested members are invited to participate in the class.

As noted elsewhere in this issue, DOAI now owns a defibrillator (AED), which will be available at all national rallies. If individuals from chapters take the class to become proficient in administering the defibrillator, the unit can be made available for regional and chapter rallies. Full details on this program will be made available later. ❖

**Line Dancing Class**

**M**ary Donnell-Brown of Cole Camp will be our line dance instructor for a two-hour class for singles and couples on one of the rally afternoons.

Mary has been teaching dancing since 1987, and her focus is on country and western dance. Mary says, "We'll start simple with the electric slide and work up from there."



Mary suggests you wear comfortable shoes, preferably with leather soles, since that kind slides more easily and will be gentler on your knees. However, any comfortable shoes will work. ❖

### Welcome Party Highlights

**A**s we gather at the official start of the rally on Tuesday, which we call the “welcome party,” we will be treated to good food and good entertainment.

Harvey and Marion Becker have been working with the rally caterer, Little Big Horn Cattle Company, located in Sedalia, and the caterers have come up with some mouth-watering menus for the welcome party, as well as the closing meal on Friday.

We will enjoy a buffet which will include hickory smoked brisket, turkey breast, ham and pulled pork. There will be green beans, potato salad, cole slaw, baked beans and BBQ sauce as well, topped off with French bread, and chocolate chip cookies. Yum!

To top off the evening, we are delighted to have Mary Frances Herndon in residence. Mary Frances is a master of the

omnichord, autoharp and dulcimer, and is a member of Whistlers’ Hall of Fame. She won the international championship in whistling two years in a row, and teaches whistling in North Carolina. Mary Frances will sing and whistle, and we bet you’ll be clapping up a storm! ❖

### Golf Is on the Agenda!

**L**eaders Bob Neal and Ken Jardine are hard at work ironing out (get the pun?) the details, but we can tell you this:

- ❖ Bring your clubs
- ❖ Sign up and pay at check-in at Sedalia
- ❖ There will be a tournament and prizes will be awarded!



### Seminars and Workshops for Everyone

- ✓ **Fleetwood** will be in attendance at the rally to provide emergency factory service.
- ✓ **Fleetwood Product Planning** will also be there and will lead two feedback sessions – one for women only and the other for general feedback.
- ✓ **Dometic** will lead a seminar on operation and maintenance of Dometic refrigerators and air conditioners, and will lead a Q&A on A&E awnings afterward
- ✓ **Caterpillar, Freightliner and Fleetwood** will offer a joint seminar.
- ✓ **Leo Everitt** will lead a seminar entitled, *Internet Wireless Access from an RV*. The scope of the presentation is limited to use of a laptop or desktop computer from an RV at a campground. Due to time constraints, it does not cover other alternatives such as PDA’s, cell phones, etc. The content is fairly broad in order to provide more understanding of wireless technology instead of just the “how to set up” an Internet wireless connection. This seminar will be of interest to those who are using wireless and those thinking about jumping into computers and wireless. Leo will begin with some basic wireless and computer definitions, progress to hardware descriptions, a typical campground installation, security concerns (and how to deal with them), and then the “how to set up” using *Windows® 98SE*, *Windows® 2000* or *Windows® XP*. A short discussion of the existing providers of wireless Internet access and their rates will be covered, and the course ends with Leo’s thoughts on the best course of action for RV’ers. The presentation will take one hour, plus a half-hour at the end for questions.
- ✓ **Nina Soltwedel** will give a workshop on crazy patchwork, in which a heart or circular pendant or ornament, or decoration for a **Red Hat** is created. Participants will be supplied with a variety of silk fabrics, a multitude of colors of cotton floss, fabric on which the patches will be stitched, and a variety of seed beads, sequins, brass charms, buttons, laces and ribbons to decorate the patches the way women in Victorian times did. An instruction book will also accompany all these goodies. *If you are interested in participating*, please bring the following:

- ☆ Sewing/cutting scissors
- ☆ 6" embroidery hoop (not really vital, but it may be easier to use than stitching “in hand”)
- ☆ 8" square sturdy cardboard for pendant/ornament (from back of pad of paper is ideal)
- ☆ 8" square light weight cardboard for pendant/ornament (from a shirt package, for example)
- ☆ Sewing needles of various sizes (for sewing thread and embroidery floss)
- ☆ Straight pins (about 20)
- ☆ \$5.00 to pay for all supplies and instruction book

Please contact Nina with any questions ([soltwedel45@hotmail.com](mailto:soltwedel45@hotmail.com) or 888.786.2962). Sign up and pay when you check in at Sedalia. Class will last two hours.



In addition to the foregoing details, we have plans for other seminars and classes, DOAI business meetings, chapter business meetings, and more (we don’t want to give away the entire schedule just yet!). Suffice to say, we are working hard to provide an exciting, rewarding, fulfilling rally ... one you’ll talk about for months to come. If you have questions about any of the foregoing, or anything else about the rally, please contact the following (these are tollfree numbers):

- ☎ Rally planning, rally site: Jim Devine (888.594.6819)
- ☎ Rally vendors: Tom Fields (877.238.6955)
- ☎ Rally registration: Nina Lee Soltwedel (888.786.2962)
- ☎ Rally parking: Garry Shirey (877.245.9654)

**REGISTER NOW!** ❖

### Wait! There's More Rally News!

- ❁ **Loveall RV**, out of Columbia, Missouri, will bring new Discoverys to the rally. Loveall is about 75 miles from Sedalia, and is a full-line Fleetwood dealer.
- ❁ **Friday Closing Meal** will feature fried chicken, hickory smoked ribs, cheddar potato casserole, buttered corn, green beans, cole slaw, with sliced French bread, and a cake for dessert. Yum!
- ❁ **Craft/White Elephant Sale** will take place Thursday afternoon, featuring lots of wonderful items to tempt your pocketbook. Some of the things to be available are:
  - ❁ Hand-painted and hand-decorated gourds
  - ❁ Rock paintings
  - ❁ Embroidery and needlepoint kits, supplies, books
  - ❁ Steering-wheel table for Discovery with topper
  - ❁ Heart 1KW inverter
  - ❁ GPS receiver and Boondock software

- ❁ Hand-crafted fabric holiday balls
  - ❁ A/C Fan Bypass Controller
  - ❁ And **anything** you bring to sell
- Tables will be provided to all sellers at no charge. Sellers will be responsible for set-up, making change, and take-down. Sign up when you check in at the rally, and we'll promote your offerings on the bulletin board. Questions? Contact the rally registrar, Nina Soltwedel.
- ❁ **Book Exchange** will have a special spot. Bring all those books you read on your many trips, and take one for every one you leave. What a great way to read something new, and let others read new stuff as well!
  - ❁ **Chapter Information** will be available on a special table. Here's the opportunity for chapter promotions, to provide membership forms, and answer questions. Chapters' members are urged to take turns manning the table. Sign up when you check in at Rally Central. ❖

### DOAI Members to Have a Defibrillator by Phil Yovino

The board of directors have voted to purchase an Automated External Defibrillator for cardiac emergencies. We're in hopes to have the AED available at the national rally in Sedalia, MO.

Our plan is to have our members trained to perform CPR, and trained on the use of the ZOLL Defibrillator. Many of our members are already qualified to perform CPR, but we need as many as possible to be available at our rallies just in case we have an emergency.

We were told by EMS that if a cardiac emergency occurs, chances of survival are 65 percent better if there is a defibrillator available. We're asking all our members to take advantage of this wonderful life-saving training. Sedalia's local Red Cross chapter members will be available for the training.

The ZOLL is user-friendly and simple instruction makes it easy to operate by everyone. It's a great feeling to know that we have this option available. Thanks to all DOAI members for making this possible. ❖



### Founders' Forum

by Jim & Dorothy Devine

In the last issue we wrote about how and when our club was started. The first Discovery owners to send in their application (and they are still members!) were George and Nicolette Janek. By the way, their member number is 8.

We held our first rally in Perris, California November 2-5, 1998. Looking back to this first rally, I discovered (just a play on words) that 50 percent of the entire membership signed up for the rally, and 56 Discoverys attended the rally. At that time we had about 120 members. A rally fee of \$5 each was charged, and we held the rally at a Coast-to-Coast park. We were concerned about the cost of the rally – our total cost \$26.00!

This was a magical rally. We set an attendance record that still stands; half of all members attended the rally.

We had members from 13 states. Fleetwood service came out for two days. Freightliner's rep had a seminar that was 90 minutes long, and then met with members outside on the patio for about three hours. One of our members arrived at the rally with the Fleetwood prototype-1996 Discovery. I guess it was really ahead of its time – it had a Caterpillar engine in it. We had two Discoverys with mid-entry doors at the rally. How rare is that!

Fleetwood's director of marketing came out and spent time with us, and asked and answered a lot of questions for all of us. Another unusual thing about this rally: members brought door prizes Why? Because we asked them to! In our rally confirmation letter, we asked members to go to their selling dealer or any RV-related businesses and ask them to donate prizes. We got a ton of prizes!

Remember I said this was a magical rally? This, to me, was the biggest magic trick of the rally: One of the attending members was a French Canadian chef who was wintering in southern California. I am not sure exactly how we got him to volunteer to cook for us. He was familiar with the area and went out to a local meat market and got great prime ribs for our farewell dinner. He not only was a trained-in-France chef, but a magician as well – he cooked prime ribs, baked potatoes ... in fact, everything ... **on one stove**. Everyone but one got a hot prime rib dinner – the other member had a different entree due to medical reasons. That really made that chef a magician! We had another unusual event at this rally – an all-dessert potluck. At our potluck the night before, no one brought a dessert. Thus, the next night it was an all-dessert potluck. I wish we would revive the all-dessert potluck!

It will always be special to us ... it was our first Discovery rally. ❖



### Sunshine Corner

Do you know of someone within DOAI who needs our thoughts and prayers? Please contact the editor so we can mention them in the next issue of *Discovery Express*. For this quarterly issue, we send kind thoughts and prayers to these good people:

**Bob Cook**, who is hopefully recovering his eyesight through careful medical management

**Alice Peery**, undergoing six months of chemotherapy following cancer surgery

**Karen Lemmons and family**, as they

mourn the death of husband and father, Ray Lemmons

**Geri Miller and family**, as they mourn the death of husband, father and grandfather, Ron Miller

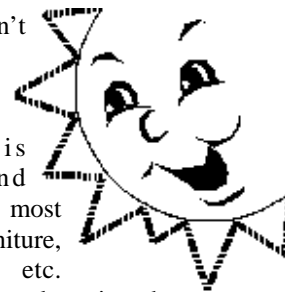
**Bob Hixson, Ed Koch, and Gene Patterson**, as they recover from surgeries

**Betty Dierlam**, as she undergoes many tests for a serious medical condition

**Ray and Phyllis Easter**, who learned, while in the middle of a trip through Alaska, that a leak had sprung on the second floor of their Tennessee home,

and it wasn't discovered for three days. The interior is ruined and they've lost most of their furniture, electronics, etc.

They considered cutting the trip short and returning home (considered it for about two minutes, that is) and then decided that it's only 'bricks and sticks' and can be repaired. What a great attitude! ❖



### Member News Notes

Shirley Gilliland can run! The photo here shows Shirley running the North Trails Half Marathon (13.1 miles) in Dallas last May 16. As her proud hubby, Paul, wrote, "[Shirley] had originally signed up for [this race] with the *Team in Training* of the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. She was to raise \$1,500 in order to qualify; generous contributions of our families and friends...totaled \$6,742.70. Anything over \$4,000 qualified her to go to Anchorage, Alaska for the Mayor's Midnight Sun Marathon on June 19. Shirley ran the North Trails on her own (not under the *Team in Training* sponsorship) as a training run and finished in 2:48:57 for a first-place finish in her age group (70-74). We will fly to Anchorage on June 17; she will run on June 19 (a whole marathon - 26.2 miles); we will return June 21. Our daughter, an OB-GYN in Springfield, Missouri, will run the marathon as well. She can't let her mother get ahead of her!"



DOAI salutes Shirley for proving that just because we are "of a certain age," does not necessarily mean that we are unable to accomplish great goals! Congratulations, Shirley!

Harvey Becker shared an interesting story from his childhood at the South Central Region rally in Texas in May: When he was a lad in Waukesha, Wisconsin, he had an experience that later was recounted in the pages of *Classics Illustrated*, a paperback booklet similar to a comic book, that featured "stories by the world's greatest authors."

It was winter in Wisconsin, and little Harvey, aged 8, was skiing near his father's tavern. Three Great Danes, owned by a neighbor, were roaming nearby, but Harvey was unafraid; he knew whose dogs they were. Suddenly and without warning, the three dogs jumped on Harvey, knocking him down, and began to viciously bite his arms and legs over and over.

With Harvey screaming for help, a little bulldog chained up

nearby tugged and tugged until the chain broke. The little dog, with a deep growl, set upon the massive dogs, biting each in turn. This distracted the dogs from Harvey; they then set upon this brave little pooch...three 130-pound dogs against one weighing just 20 pounds. The odds were against the bulldog, but the ensuing brouhaha finally alerted people inside the tavern. They hurried to help Harvey, rushing him to the hospital, but it was too late for the little dog. Torn to shreds, he gave his life for the young lad.

To this day, Harvey has the scars from that encounter, and a copy of that old booklet (Issue #50 and highly collectible!) with his story inside...a memento of an experience that proves once again that dogs can be like people...while some are craven, most are brave and stout-hearted, sacrificing themselves to save others. ❖

### In Memoriam – Ramie (Ray) Lemmons

by Karen Lemmons

Ray grew up in Evansville, Indiana and lived there until about 1957, when he and his family moved to the Phoenix area. He and I met there in 1975, and married a few months later. Between us we had six children – we each had a girl and two boys. We moved to Vancouver, Washington in 1980. Ray had his own business there, doing electrical substation welding.

We both retired in 1997, selling our home and hitting the road in a fifth wheel. A few years later, we decided to get a motor home. Ray did his homework, coming to the conclusion that nothing less than a Discovery diesel pusher would do. He truly loved driving it, and we visited every state in the continental U.S.A. It gives me a lot of comfort to know that he was happily getting the motor home ready for a Discovery rally in Tucson when he had his accident.

Ray was a devoted son and brother, a compassionate and caring father to all our children, and most of all, my adoring husband of 29 years. We all miss him more than we can possibly say. ❖



Ramie Lemmons, DOAI  
Southwest Region VP

**Chapter News**

**Texas Disco Road Runners**

It seems that after working so hard on the Bluebonnet Bash rally, our members decided to take off and do their own thing. We have members either in or on their way to Europe, Alaska, the east and west coasts, and places in between. Our next rally will be in Oklahoma City, September 28-October 2. From there we will caravan to the national rally in Sedalia.

Our chapter is beginning its third year of participation in the Adopt a Highway program. We have two miles of Highway 965 out of Fredericksburg to keep clean. We get together, pick up trash one day, and then enjoy other activities in the area. The last time we did this, we enjoyed an outdoor play, "Once Upon a Mattress," at the Smith Ritch Theatre in Ingram.

We hope to schedule one or more mini-rallies prior to our September rally. We plan to have them posted on the DOAI website as soon as scheduled. If you are going to be in our area this summer, call one of our members for information on rallies.

by Garry Shirey



Mas Konatsu, Bob Copeland, Betty Konatsu, Garry Shirey, Jay Keneson, Lorrie Keneson, Gayle Shirey. Photo by Ray Koonce.

**Louisiana Mudbugs**

by Anne Gros

The Mudbugs co-hosted the Bluebonnet Bash in April, along with the Discovery Texans and the Texas Disco Road Runners. Several first timers were in attendance, and all enjoyed the camaraderie with other DOAI members.

Along with the informative seminars, new motor homes on display from DeMontrond, and great food, we enjoyed super local entertainment. The Mudbug Red Hats were all decked out at the tea and style show, and ice cream was served by the chapter during the ice cream social hour. Frank and Karen Natal participated and placed in the golf tournament. A 50/50 game was held on the last night, with half the proceeds going to the local Montgomery volunteer fire department, and the other half won by Mudbugs Keith and Carolyn Barnes.



Front row: Dee Haffner, Deezy Williams, Anita Scott. Row 2: Carolyn Barnes, Jan McIlvaine, Evelyn Sykes, Anne Gros. Row 3: Keith Barnes, Bert Haffner, Mac McIlvaine, Sam Williams, Buddy Sykes, Bob Scott.

In May, E. J. and Carol Brujier hosted a rally at Casino Magic in Bay St. Louis, MS. We welcomed new members S. J. and Debby Hamladen from Lafayette. It was a weekend of shopping, beach going (in between showers) and a wonderful fish fry on Saturday night.

Future rallies are planned for Lake D'Arbonne State Park, Farmerville, LA, September 24-26; national rally in Sedalia, October 5-9; and Nakatosh RV Park, Natchitoches, LA, November 5-7. We invite all Discovery owners to attend any of our rallies. If you are interested, please contact President Carolyn Barnes or Vice President Johnny Gros for information. Have a great summer!

**Arizona Discovery Owners**

by Barb Klusman

While attending the national rally in Kennewick last fall, I asked how many DOAI members were living in Arizona, and I proposed we form an Arizona chapter. The response from national was enthusiastically positive, so Don and I put the wheels in motion. We got feedback from Arizona DOAI members, and set an organizational meeting in Tucson, March 26-28. Seven coaches and 15 people attended. A cocktail party began the weekend, and it was amazing how 15 total strangers became instant friends. The power of a Discovery motor home! The following morning, the group was treated to an elaborate breakfast hosted by Dale and Darlene Behie and their guests, Jack and Donna Wiley. Great chefs!



Our meeting followed and we agreed on our chapter name, our dues, the next rally, and elected temporary officers. That evening the group attended a dinner show featuring the Sons of the Pioneers and a delightful meal.

Since the Tucson rally we have gained an additional seven members. The chapter was made "official" at the Bluebonnet Bash in Texas. Bud and Joan Munzer will be the coordinators for our first rally set for November 5-8 in the Las Vegas, NV area. We will tour the Nevada Nuclear Test Site as one of our activities.

Our current officers are: Barb Klusman, president (480.585.5599); Bud Munzer, vice president (480.948.1079); Art Boglio, secretary (602.617.1019); Maritta Lipsit, treasurer (623.544.8699); Rockie Eisenman, membership chairman (928.759.2020); and Wanda May, rally master (623.872.1306). If you live in Arizona and own a Discovery motor home, we'd be happy to have you join our chapter. For additional information, contact one of the officers.

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**Nor'easters**

by Dorie Baker

Eighteen coaches gathered at Codorus State Park near Hanover, PA for our spring rally. Dick and Joan Hopper, and Bob and Marian Giordano hosted the campout. The Eisenhower farm, the battlefield at Gettysburg, and a private tour of a museum of antique horse-drawn carriages and wagons were several of the places visited by the group. In addition, a

Continued on page 8...

**Nor'easters, continued**

contingency checked out the fairgrounds in York, the site of the 2005 National DOAI Rally.

Starting with a get-together for dessert the first night, breakfast every morning, happy hours each afternoon, potlucks and cookouts, eating and socializing were definitely a major part of the rally weekend. However,



Front row: Helen Colussy, Louise Mauck, Marian Giordano, Roy Nuzzola, Lalea Nuzzolo. Back row: Joan Hopper, John Baker. Photo by Dorie Baker.

we did manage to find time for a short business meeting and to continue with the plans for the 2005 national rally.

Our next campout is planned for September 15-19, Strawberry Park RV Park, Norwich, CT. For information about the rally, contact John Baker (717.854.5232). ❖

**Midwest Discoverers**

by Cindy Merkt

We started 2004 off right with our spring rally at Amishville USA, Berne, IN. We had 19 coaches in attendance, missing



Midwest Discoverers at the Fleetwood factory. Look at those gorgeous new rigs!

one while they were awaiting their brand new 2005 from the factory. There was plenty to do. The Fleetwood factory tour on Friday morning was great. If you ever get the chance to take the tour, do it. The rest of the weekend was spent at a huge city yard sale, visiting museums, Amish tours, etc. The weather did not cooperate too much, but we managed to hold off the thunderstorms until Saturday. The winds got a little gusty, but we all managed to hold tightly to everything. Our hosts, Peg and Rex Lavoie and Nancy and Lenny Gaylord, did a fabulous job putting this rally together.

Barb and Ed Koch and Cindy and Ron Merkt will host our next rally October 11-15 at Little Farm on the River, Rising Sun, IN. We are planning a trip to the Grand Victoria Casino with dinner, a visit to the harp factory, and much more. Everyone on their way home from the Sedalia rally can stop in for some fun and relaxation. We will have the registration on the DOAI website later this month. If you would like more

information, contact Cindy and Ron at [rsm23170@yahoo.com](mailto:rsm23170@yahoo.com) or contact Barb at 20263 Alpine Dr., Lawrenceburg, IN 47025-8858.

All of us from the Midwest Discoverers would like to thank and commend Nina Lee Soltwedel on an excellent job she is doing on the newsletter. Thank you, Nina, for taking on that tough job. [Editor's note: My face is red, but Cindy insisted that had to be included. Thanks, Midwest Discoverers!] ❖

**Florida Discovery Rolling Gators**

by Bill Brewer

Although I wasn't told this before my recent trip to an RV rally now called "The Bivouac," there are some basic measures you have to take and skills you should have in order to really enjoy this annual event in Florida's Keys. I say this, hoping that more Rolling Gators and other DOAI'ers will want to participate next year, if they know it is quite possible to be totally prepared for the arduous task before them; i.e., staying busy having fun for a full week in the Florida Keys with no prior planning whatsoever.

The first and by far the most important measure to take is ... show up! That's about it for the measures ... just show up.

It also helps if you have been RV'ing long enough to know the next step in the preparation process, and that is, bring lots and lots of *stuff*: golf clubs that you only use once, fishing gear that you don't use at all, lots of sun screen, and of course, a big hat. Oh, and you have to have your own margarita glasses (for bait bucket margaritas), and be sure to bring your own Noodle. Noodles are an important part of the favorite afternoon agenda at the bivouac; floating around in the wonderful Gulf waters with a glass of our favorite beverage in hand, ready to dispense life stories and advice in equal measure to all and sundry.

Most dedicated RV'ers already have the basic skills required, including sitting in the shade reading a good book, or keeping an eye on the far horizon to see if our resident sail-boarder (Tom) is returning from his daily sail up to Fort Myers and back.

But you soon realize that in order to really feel like a *conch* (longtime Keys resident), you have to master 'the walk.' 'The walk' is designed to achieve that fine line between going fast enough to get you where you're going, and not going so fast that you arrive with all your clothes sweated through. This deliberate pace also prevents you from sporting a hairdo of the wet, bedraggled sort. Once you have mastered 'the walk,' it becomes apparent to all that you are no rookie at the Keys experience. You walk at a slow, almost processional pace, sometimes with a drink in hand, but always with a pensive, introspective look on your face as though you can't make up your mind if you have to go to the bathroom or not.

Remember: although it is important to be prepared, *nothing* can quite prepare you for the feelings of peace and well-being that come over you while listening to the cooing of the pigeons, the breeze rustling through the many palm trees, and the gentle slap of the Gulf waters against the sea wall behind your coach. And it may take you quite by surprise to find that the old adage, "Friends are where you find them," is indeed true.

*Continued on page 9...*



**Florida Rolling Gators, continued**

All in all, it's pretty certain that if you show up, you can have a wonderful time at the bivouac. Even rookies like Patti and me enjoyed a successful week of seeing the sights and relaxing ... that is, after we bought our Noodles and mastered 'the walk.' See you there next year, May 2-8, 2005!

Florida Rolling Gators members attending were Bill and Patti Brewer, David and Blanche Chestnut, Tom and Judy Ebbert, Tony and Maureen Muscarella, Gene and Lois Patterson, Jeff and Carolyn Rogowsky, Bill and Marcy Ryan, and Ron and Georgia Shane. Our rally schedule is:

August 6-13, Grandfather Mountain, Boone, NC, limited to 15 sites. Contact hosts Lois and Gene Patterson (239.282.5857; cell 239.281.9937; [pgene464@aol.com](mailto:pgene464@aol.com)).

November 11-14, Riverside RV Resort, Port Charlotte, FL. Contact hosts Bill and Marcy Ryan (941.627.5363; cell 941.769.4659; [oneprimetime82@hotmail.com](mailto:oneprimetime82@hotmail.com)).

December 30, 2004-January ?, 2005, The Great Outdoors, Titusville, FL. Contact hosts David and Blanche Chestnut (407.647.7337; cell 407.247.4596; [dchestnut54@earthlink.net](mailto:dchestnut54@earthlink.net)).

January 28-February 1, South Central Regional Rally, Rally Park, Seffner, FL. Hosts are Florida Rolling Gators chapter members.

March 11-14, Tropical Palms, Kissimmee, FL. Contact hosts Avrum and Norma Tennenbaum (561.844.5581; cell 561.312.9647; [annfirtree@aol.com](mailto:annfirtree@aol.com)).

May 2-8, Jolly Roger RV Park, Grassy Key (mile marker 59 in Florida Keys). Full hookups, cable TV and AC. Call 800.995.1525, have your credit card ready and tell them you are with The Bivouac. For further information contact Ron and Georgia Shane (386.467.3017; cell 321.258.5196). ❖

**Dixie Travelers**

by Bobby Williams

We had a good turnout and a really nice rally at the Southwind RV Park in Foley, AL. The weather was great. Presently there are 32 members in the chapter, and 26 turned out for the rally. It was really good spending time with everyone and to see all the local support. Just a few of the fun things we did were a big finger-food supper, a good business meeting, and just plain ole good time spent talking. We thank all of you who brought and prepared food for the meal. It was nice to have Jim and Dorothy Devine join us as new members of our chapter, as they are the founders of DOAI in 1998. We are proud to have them as a part of our chapter. Howard and Audrey Taylor, as rally masters, put together the site for our local meeting, and we thank them for their time and energy. I thank everyone for their time, effort and caring to ensure the rally was a success and fun for everyone.

Sam Whitaker worked very hard for the past three years as president of Dixie Travelers, and we proudly presented him with a nice gift which concluded our rally. We take this time to thank Sam and Ginny for all their time and devotion. Both of you will be sorely missed.

Our next meeting will be October 28-31 at River Country, Gadsden, AL. We are planning on a chili supper one evening, and Boston butt and chicken with all the trimmings another night. There will be a pancake breakfast on one of the mornings. We look forward to seeing all of you there to join in the fun.

We have selected a logo for our chapter t-shirt and shirts will be available for you at the River Country campground.❖

**Discovery Pioneers**

by Nina Lee Soltwedel

Eleven coaches gathered at the RV Ranch, Palisade, CO for a wonderful weekend of fellowship. Linda and Jerry Molzahn were our gracious hosts, and ordered exceptional weather for the event; Mother Nature obliged.

Attending were Bob & Annie Hixson, Carl & Marge Ropp, Bob & Nina Soltwedel, Jerry & Linda Molzahn, Neil & Marlene Elkins, Ross & Alice Peery, Don & Nancy Gillam, Bob & Sandy Greenwell, Dean & Nancy Miller, Jerry & Joyce Wiechman, and new members Ken & Cody Baker from



Front row: Linda Molzahn, Carl and Marge Ropp, Joyce Wiechman, Sandy Greenwell, Cody Baker, Nancy Miller, Annie Hixson. Back row: Marlene and Neil Elkins, Don and Nancy Gillam, Bob Greenwell, Jerry Wiechman, Ken Baker, Bob Hixson, Dean Miller.

Roswell, NM. We had fun kidding Ken and Cody about UFOs.

As we inspected the well-stocked goodie bag each coach received, Linda led a fun ice-breaker event during our pre-meal gathering on Friday: in turn, each couple shared when, how and where they first met. This generated a lot of laughter as we all looked back on that special moment when we met our future mates.

The weekend included a wine tasting tour led by Linda (Colorado produces excellent wines) followed by lunch at the Palisade Café (we felt we had been transported to Mayberry, NC, and proceeded to adopt the names of the characters in that long-lived Andy Griffith TV show), cruising the jazz and art festival in downtown Grand Junction, touring the Colorado National Monument as well as the Grand Mesa National Scenic Byway, and going to a very funny presentation of "Arsenic and Old Lace" at the Metro Dinner Theatre.

Jerry and Linda treated us to a scrumptious chuckwagon dinner Friday night, and everyone brought their favorite dessert. Craig Hawks, owner of Centennial RV, the local Fleetwood Discovery dealer, cooked breakfast for all of us Saturday morning, and provided door prizes as well.

A slate of nominees was presented, to be elected at the annual meeting in July, at the Heron Lake RV Campground, Fort Collins, CO: Joyce Wiechman, president; Bob Greenwell, vice president; Linda Molzahn, secretary; Bob Soltwedel, treasurer; and Don & Nancy Gillam, rally masters. 2005 Nominating Committee nominees are Jerry Wiechman, Carl Ropp and Bob Hixson.

*Continued on page 10...*

**Discovery Pioneers, continued**

Neil and Marlene Elkins volunteered to host the May 2005 chapter rally in Moab, Utah. Projected date is May 13-15, 2005.

Besides the July rally in Fort Collins (July 9-11), members will caravan to Branson, MO in September for the chapter rally preceding the DOAI national rally in Sedalia.

DOAI members interested in joining Discovery Pioneers can contact the Membership Chairman, Nina Soltwedel ([soltwedel45@hotmail.com](mailto:soltwedel45@hotmail.com)) for more information. ❖

**Mason-Dixon Discoverys** *by Becky Godwin*

On a dreary, rain-soaked day in Winchester, VA, the newest DOAI chapter was born.

Discovery owners from around the middle Atlantic area gathered at Candy Hill Campground to determine if there was sufficient interest to start a local DOAI chapter. The idea originated at the Southeast Region rally at Lazydays in January 2004. Richard (Dick) Smith was opining as to the need for a chapter in his neck of the woods. No sooner had the words left his mouth than he found himself challenged by Jim Devine, DOAI founder, and Phil Yovino, DOAI president, to put words into action.

When back in Maryland, Dick sent out letters to DOAI members in neighboring states to see who was interested in attending a meeting to discuss chapter formation. He received approximately 20 positive responses. Not all who answered were able to attend the initial meeting, but those who did enthusiastically tackled the business at hand. Jim and Dorothy Devine were present to provide support and guidance where needed.

It seemed only natural that the person whose idea it was to conceive a chapter should be its first president. It was unanimous! – Dick Smith was elected president. Other officers elected were Marshall Godwin, vice president; Ron Kiebler, wagon master; Arlene Richie, treasurer; and Becky Godwin, secretary.

The Mason-Dixon Discoverys serve as a local chapter for DOAI members in New Jersey, Delaware, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, and North Carolina. Contact Becky Godwin ([bgodwin@3n.net](mailto:bgodwin@3n.net) - 804.224.4206), if you would like to receive a membership application.

National and regional rallies are great fun, but you really get a chance to know other Discovery owners at local chapter gatherings. Join the Mason-Dixon Discoverys for our next chapter rally, tentatively scheduled for Thousand Trails, Hershey, PA, August 20-22. To sign up, get in touch with Dick Smith ([poppop4171@msn.com](mailto:poppop4171@msn.com) – 410.937.2759) or Ron Kiebler ([rkieb@alltel.net](mailto:rkieb@alltel.net) – 724.448.4778). ❖

**Heartland Discoverys** *by Elfers Marzahl*

Greetings from Heartland Discoverys chapter! This new chapter covers the states within the North Central Region of DOAI. Our fledgling chapter was hatched at the Midwest Discoverers' rally in Berne, IN. An exciting future is in store.

Chapter officers are: Elfers Marzahl, president; Bobby Simpson, vice president; Brenda Snyder, secretary; Larry Crisp, treasurer; and Debbie Finger, campout coordinator.

Ten new members and their co-pilots have signed on. We are hoping for many more. Anyone interested can contact me at 262.763.6741; or cell 262.716.4736; or [elfers@pngusa.net](mailto:elfers@pngusa.net). You can also contact any of our officers.

We look forward to gathering together at the national rally in Sedalia. See you there! ❖



Charter members of Heartland Discoverys chapter.

**Chapter Presidents Photo Gallery**



Barb Klusman, Arizona Discovery Owners



Bob Hixson, Discovery Pioneers



Tom Fields, Discovery Texans



Bobby Williams, Dixie Travelers



Ron Shane, Florida Rolling Gators



Elfers Marzahl, Heartland Discoverys



Carolyn Barnes, Louisiana Mudbugs



Dick Smith, Mason-Dixon Discoverys



Ray Easter, Mid-South Roadrunners



John Wimer, Midwest Discoverers



Bob Giordano, Nor'easters



Jerry Woods, Northwest Adventurers



Garry Shirey, Texas Disco Road Runners

**Missing:**  
Richard Gwillam, California Good Timers

## Orange Blossom Romp

by Pete Pizzano

When the Sunshine Strawberry Shindig was winding to a close, Bob and Kerry, two DOAI members, came to my coach and asked, "Pete, how can you and the Gators top this year's rally?" Well, I recently took another step in the direction of surpassing previous DOAI Lazydays rallies: we have contracted and will have Liza Minnelli, Tom Jones, Barbra Streisand, Neil Diamond, Sonny & Cher, and the king of rock and roll, to name a few of the outstanding personalities impersonated by the Las Vegas Revue. Ruby Tuesday and Keith Coleman have mesmerized audiences throughout the nation with their unique brand of showmanship.

Our second evening of entertainment is a "feel-good" musical experience with the Hot Lips Variety Show. Get those tired knees lubricated, and those hands powered for some good old fashioned hand clapping, foot stomping music that will have you singing along and remembering what it was like to have fun. Charly Raymond and Michele James have a large repertoire of music mixed with a touch of comedy.

Oh, yes, I agree that fuel prices are high, you have a busy lifestyle, and you don't buy green bananas, but you've **got** to plan to come to the Lazydays winter rally and enjoy this top-notch Broadway-quality entertainment. Add to that, eye-appealing and tummy-pleasing dinners, and throw in the camaraderie you can only get by meeting DOAI members, and we've got a combination that's hard to beat. So start saving your pennies ... adjust your lifestyle ... buy those green bananas, and join us at the **Orange Blossom Romp at Lazydays RallyPark, Seffner, Florida January 28-February 1, 2005.**

### Planning Is the Key

Alice and I have already made several trips to RallyPark to make arrangements for the rally. The park is scheduled years in advance, so we are very fortunate to have the park reserved through 2006 with dates concluding one day prior to the FMCA regional rally at Brooksville, FL.

It is a challenge to make each year's rally more attractive than the previous one. With RallyPark's cooperation, we know we can, and we will! We have an additional activity to tempt you for 2005: a casino has recently opened a short distance from the park. The good folks at RallyPark are making arrangements with the casino for DOAI rally attendees to travel

to the casino in buses for a fee of \$15.00. This fee includes the bus to and from the casino, a dinner, and \$5 in gambling chips. For the high rollers among us, start saving nickels instead of pennies, and come home with dimes! For those who choose to not gamble, the dinner and the entertainment at the casino is worth the \$15. Sign-ups for the casino activity will be available at time of registration.

### Keeping Prices Reasonable

The price of the rally is reasonable. The five-day, four-night camping fee is the same as the last rally – \$104.74 – and the \$35.00 rally fee for DOAI is a real bargain.

To avoid confusion and speed up the registration process, we ask that you use the rally registration form (see page 22 in this issue). It's a two-part form: one part is to be sent to RallyPark with a \$104.74 check; the second part is to be sent to Edna Pendergrass, rally registrar, along with your check for \$35.00. Be sure to make the registration check payable to **Discovery**

### Owners Assn., Inc.

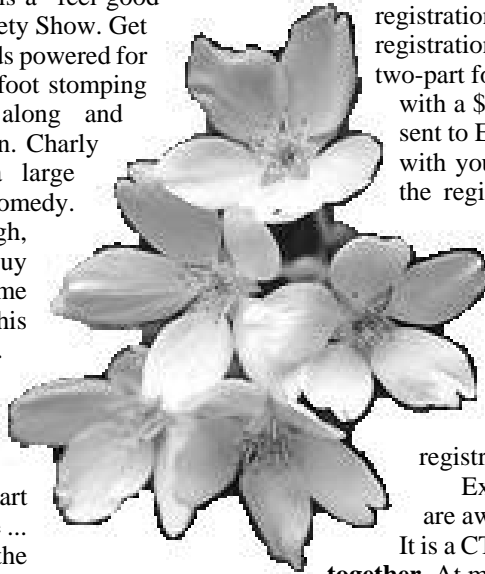
The RallyPark has asked that we all register via U. S. mail. This recently-adopted RallyPark policy will help them keep the telephone lines open and will ensure they get all the pertinent information in writing regarding your reservation/registration.

Experienced RV'ers who attend rallies are aware that rally sites are rarely assigned. It is a CTPT situation – **come together to park together.** At my request, RallyPark has agreed to not assign sites. Site numbers will be given when you arrive.

The Florida Rolling Gators have reserved a limited number of sites for the rally. It is our **strong** suggestion you mail in your two registration forms **early** to guarantee a site. Last January, we had to return registrations, for we had reached our limit.

Many RV'ers do not vacate their sites until the last minute. This adds to the confusion when DOAI members arrive prior to registration time. It is the park's request that you do not arrive prior to the scheduled check-in time of 1:00 p.m.

We Gators promise another rally you'll talk about on your travels. So, "pack up your troubles in your old kit pack" and join us at Lazydays for the *Orange Blossom Romp*, and we'll all "smile, smile, smile!" ❖



## Who Ya Gonna Contact?

### ACTION ITEMS OR GENERAL INTEREST

Phil Yovino, DOAI President  
6307 Francis Marion Dr  
Houston, TX 77091-2703  
pdyo@pdq.net – 877.246.4271

### DOAI WEBSITE

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

### FLEETWOOD CUSTOMER SERVICE

800.322.8216

### FREIGHTLINER CUSTOMER SERVICE

800.385.4357

### DOAI NAME BADGES

Mr. Ken Badges 'n Signs  
2505 Clintonville Rd  
Harrisville, PA 16038-4109  
mrkenbadges@aol.com  
800.398.8307

Fax 814.786.0106

Badges \$5.50, hangers \$3.00, shipping and handling \$1/badge.



**Schedule of Rallies****JULY 2004 –**

9-11 Discovery Pioneers, Heron Lake RV Park, Fort Collins, CO

**AUGUST 2004 –**

6-13 Florida Discovery Rolling Gators, Grandfather Mountain, Boone, NC

20-22 Maxon-Dixon Discoverys, Thousand Trails, Hershey, PA

**SEPTEMBER 2004 –**

15-19 Nor'easters, Strawberry Park RV Park, Norwich, CT

24-26 Louisiana Mudbugs, Lake D'Arbonne State Park, Farmerville, LA

27-29 Discovery Texans, Tres Rios, Glen Rose, TX

29-Oct. 3 Texas Disco Road Runners, Rockwell RV Park, Oklahoma City, OK

29-Oct. 3 Discovery Pioneers, America's Best Campground, Branson, MO

29-Oct. 3 Mid-South Roadrunners, America's Best Campground, Branson, MO

**OCTOBER 2004 –**

5-9 **National Rally, Show Me the Ozarks, Missouri State Fairgrounds, Sedalia, MO**

11-15 Midwest Discoverers, Little Farm on the River, Rising Sun, IN

28-31 Texas Disco Road Runners, Canton First Monday Trade Days, Canton, TX

28-31 Dixie Travelers, River Country, Gadsden, AL

**NOVEMBER 2004 –**

5-7 Louisiana Mudbugs, Nakatosh RV Park, Natchitoches, LA

5-8 Arizona Discovery Owners, Las Vegas, NV area

11-14 Florida Rolling Gators, Riverside RV Resort, Port Charlotte, FL

18-20 Discovery Texans, Skyline Ranch, Bandera, TX

**DECEMBER 2004 –**

2-4 Texas Disco Road Runners, Brenham, TX

30-Jan. ? Florida Rolling Gators, The Great Outdoors, Titusville, FL

**JANUARY 2005 –**

28-Feb. 1 **Southeast Regional Rally, Orange Blossom Romp, Lazydays RallyPark, Seffner, FL**

**MARCH 2005 –**

11-14 Florida Rolling Gators, Tropical Palms, Kissimmee, FL

**MAY 2005 –**

2-8 Florida Rolling Gators, Jolly Roger RV Park, Grassy Key, FL

13-15 Discovery Pioneers, Moab, UT

**AUGUST 2005 –**

9-13 **National Rally, Dutch Treat, Fairgrounds, York, PA** ❖

**President's Message**

by Phil Yovino

**H**ello again to all DOAI members! I'm a very proud person right now ... proud to be a member of DOAI, proud to drive across this wonderful country of ours and enjoy the freedom we have. We have been rewarded with the ownership of our coaches, to go places of our choosing and enjoy our fellow Americans and Canadians.

We have the liberty of holding rallies at different places without the fear of rejection, and to hold meetings and discuss our differences. I'm writing this on Memorial Day, so I'm really proud today.

I'm also very proud to talk about our members, the people who make things happen. And saddened by the loss of others. We lost a good person in Ramie Lemmons, when he died preparing his

coach for the first rally of the new chapter, Arizona Discovery Owners. Ray was our Southwestern Region VP and this was his first chapter. Ramie will surely be missed but not forgotten. The new Arizona chapter has 14 charter members, and the officers are listed in the **Chapter News** section of this issue. All the DOAI officers thank you chapter officers for filling the ranks.

And now we have another new chapter, the organization of which took a lot of determination. Dick Snyder, North Central Region VP, met with ten DOAI members in May and formed Heartland Discoverys. This chapter has ten charter members, and the officers are listed in **Chapter News**. Thank you, gals and guys, for filling the important officer positions. It was just a few months ago at Lazydays that Dick was concerned about his prospects of putting a chapter together and said he wouldn't stop until it was done. That's determination! Thank you, Dick.

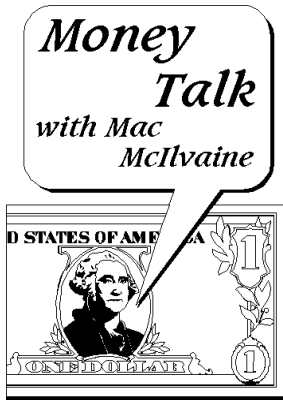
I can't stop now when we're on a roll. Would you believe, just days later on June 6 our 14th DOAI chapter was formed? Yes, the Mason-Dixon Discoverys with seven charter members. Richard Smith, the president, called a meeting in Virginia, with members

coming from Maryland, Delaware, Virginia, West Virginia, and North Carolina. Again, at Lazydays, Richard told Jim Devine and me that there was a need for a mid-Atlantic chapter and that when he returned home he intended to work on it. Well, work he did and the results are another DOAI chapter. The officers are listed in **Chapter News**.

We congratulate all those who have stepped forward to hold an office and the members who stand with them. I can say from my experience, you will receive many rewards for putting these chapters together.

As we travel across our country there are many chapters holding rallies that we can attend and share the fun times with other DOAI members, sharing ideas, experiences and offering a helping hand. With all six regions having chapters, we now have Discovery ambassadors across the USA. So, keep a copy of your *Discovery Express* handy, and when en route, you might offer another Discovery owner an invitation to become a DOAI member.

Thank you, each of you, for being loyal members. Have safe and fun travels this summer. We'll see you in Sedalia! ❖



**DOAI Cash Balances**

When I first assumed the duties of treasurer in 2002, I heard questions about the amount of cash in the bank accounts. Your board listened, and since then, actions by your board have reduced the balance in the

general cash account (this is the account we write checks on; we have a money market account for our cash reserves) from an average of \$31,777 in 2002 to \$19,564 in 2003 – a reduction of 38 percent. This was done with increased spending to support rallies in different parts of the country, and for the new chapters which have been forming at a rapid rate.

Since 2003, our working cash balance has leveled off at \$15,500. I believe this is an acceptable level. Keep in mind that we make all deposits by mail. During a rally, bills are being paid for camping, entertainers, caterers and others. These checks most likely will be cashed immediately while some of the income is still en route to the bank.

DOAI's money market account has a \$31,000 balance. I believe this is a

reasonable reserve amount.

For what contingencies are we holding these funds? We carry liability insurance that covers rallies, etc. The big unknown, however, is the rallies. The rally master must estimate how many will attend and plan expenditures accordingly. Occasionally, unanticipated events can significantly change the expected cash flows. For example, if an event such as 9/11 or violent weather occur, rally participation may be significantly reduced, and the rally may be unable to cover the fixed costs. If we rent a hall for 400 people and only 200 attend, we still have to pay for the 400-seat hall.

If anyone has questions about the club's financial structure, please ask me and I will do my best to answer your question. ❖

**Meet the Board**

**President**

Phil Yovino  
6307 Francis Marion Dr  
Houston TX 77091-2703  
877.246.4271  
pdyo@pdq.net



**Vice President/Development**

Don Fuller  
2613 Aland St  
Lancaster CA  
93536-5827  
877.246.4516  
wdfuller@aol.com



**Northwest Region**

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Belonging to DOAI has encouraged us to travel. Seminars, service and technical assistance at the national rallies – what a good deal!  
–Portia Williams

## Region News

**North Central Region** by Dick Snyder  
We finally did it. The North Central Region has a chapter. The name is Heartland Discoverys. What a name and what a great group of people.

The Midwest Discoverers allowed me to invite members from our region to their rally in Berne, IN. It was their first rally and they did a great job including a tour through the Fleetwood factory in Decatur. I know Brenda and I had a great time, even with all the rain and the storm right in the middle of forming a DOAI chapter. I thank all of you for your support in forming this chapter. It has been a long time coming.

My goal when I was elected North Central Vice President in January was to form a chapter before the national rally in October. Thanks to everyone's help, we can now come to the national DOAI rally in Sedalia and represent our region with a chapter, Heartland Discoverys.

The elected officers are listed in **Chapter News**. Additional members are: Curt and Doris Atteberry, John and Dorie Baker, Steve and Shirley Clarke, Dave and Diane Drinkwater, Lenny and Nancy Gaylord. The ten couples we have today is a start and as we grow, we will find that it will be very easy compared to the first formation meeting.

If anyone would like to join the Heartland Discoverys, contact any of our members or me at [rdsnyder@insightbb.com](mailto:rdsnyder@insightbb.com).

**Northeast Region** by John Baker  
The Northeast Region has had a very busy spring. The Nor'easters had 17 coaches at their spring rally at Codorus State Park near Hanover, PA. This rally was hosted by Joan and Dick Hopper, and Marian and Bob Giordano.

The Midwest Discoverers held their spring rally at Amishville, IN. The 19 coaches were hosted by Rex and Peg Lavoie, and Nancy and Lenny Gaylord. A highlight of that rally for me, was touring the Fleetwood factory at Decatur. I was very pleased to note the many improvements since my last tour in 2000. Several things stood out: the new \$6.5 million paint facility and the techniques used to apply the finish, and the thoughts and efforts being put into the production of the components.

I watched one woman working on a seat cover, and she rejected several pieces of fabric because she felt the pattern didn't match well enough. This demonstrates to me that she really cares about doing a good job. The third, and most important in

my mind, is the deployment of personnel from the warranty division to the manufacturing division. Fleetwood management decided to reduce the number of technicians at the warranty facility, and place them in the production facility, where Fleetwood hopes that, with the technicians' leadership and attitude, a better coach will be produced. I felt, as I watched the manufacturing process, that the quality of the 2005 Discovery coaches is better than my 2000. As a final gesture of good will, several of the plant employees came to our rally and prepared dinner for us.

I have been thrilled with the willingness of both Northeast chapters to assist with the preparations for the 2005 national rally in York, PA. ❖

**Southwest Region** by Phil Yovino  
The board of directors of DOAI have voted unanimously to appoint Gerald Embry as the Southwest Region Vice President, filling out the remaining term of the late Ray Lemmons. Ray was on a two-step ladder, cleaning his windshield in preparation for a new chapter rally in Tucson, when he fell, hitting his head. He died three days later.

Gerald was an early member of DOAI ... with a membership number of 90 ... and ran for this office in earlier years. He was an officer in the Victor Valley Rolling Wheels RV Club, serving as rally master, vice president and president from 1994 through 2002. Gerald was also president of the Discovery Club of California for 2001-2002.

Gerald and his wife, Julia, are looking forward to being involved and working with DOAI, and are excited to be leading the region. Gerald will have two strong chapters to help – California Good Timers and Arizona Discovery Owners. Congratulations, Gerald, from all the Discovery family. ❖

**Southeast Region** by Jim Devine  
Dorothy and I attended the formation rally of the Mason-Dixon Discoverys and we had a great time. I was impressed with the desire of its members to form a chapter in that area. One member, Arlene Richie, left home at 5:30 a.m. and drove four hours just to take part in forming the chapter. After lunch she and her friend had to drive the four hours back home. I would call that dedication!

If you live in the mid-Atlantic area, I urge you to attend their very first rally August 20-22 (see *Rallies Schedule*, page 12). And check out their article on page

10.

We also attended the Dixie Travelers rally, just 15 miles from our home. This rally proved that an impromptu schedule makes for a lot of fun. Someone would mention a good restaurant and we would just all get together and take off! One time we were to bring some finger food to the clubhouse and just visit with each other – we had great time and a great meal. Members said they got to really know each other better and they had a wonderful time!

We attended the Florida Rolling Gators rally in Kissimmee, FL, hosted by Avrum and Norma Tennenbaum. They did a great job hosting the rally. The rally gave us the opportunity to spend some time face to face with the attending members and get to know them better.

Attending chapter rallies has reinforced my belief that joining a chapter and attending chapter rallies is one of the best ways for members to meet each other, receive and pass along tips and ideas among themselves and enhance their enjoyment of the RV experience. ❖

**South Central Region** by Garry Shirey  
I say thank you all for attending the South Central Bluebonnet Bash in Montgomery, Texas at the beautiful Havens Landing RV Resort. A good time was in store for all to have.



*Red Hat Wannabes at Montgomery: Jackie Quinn, Phil Yovino, Ken Hawk, Don Crowell.*

As for the weather, it was nice for the most part – a little rain one day just to make the flowers grow. But true to the old Texas saying, "Wait and the weather will change," it did. There were 88 rigs at the rally, and we had 14 vendors and several very supportive individuals and companies. The entertainment was good and a lot of folks danced their hearts out. Janie White was there with her truck full of ladies' clothing. How she got that many clothes in that small truck is something short of magical. The ladies found some great bargains and had a good time.

The rain kept the Senior Olympics players inside, but it didn't stop them from having a great day at a variety of games.

*Continued on page 15...*

**South Central Region, continued...**

DeMontrond RV brought out five new coaches for us the dream over. I didn't hear if anyone bought a coach while at the rally, but many members took one or even two walk-throughs. Our president was presented a check from Ancira RV to help out with the rally expenses. Thank you go to both dealers. Anyone looking to buy a new coach, be sure to check out either of these dealers for a great deal. Freightliner and DeMontrond provided delicious meals and *muy grande* margaritas were made and served up by a DeMontrond representative (sorry,

but his name escapes me). If you weren't there, you missed a great time.

Ahhh, the Red Hat Society. The ladies enjoyed a style show presented by Janie White with our own beautiful models. A few of the "fellows" tried to crash the party and got caught. They posed as photographers wearing phony wigs and red hats. I must say they did cut a striking quartet.

Like all good things, it came to an end all too soon. There were some tearful good-byes and promises made to keep in touch and see each other at the national rally in Sedalia, MO. ❖

**Bluebonnet Bash Photo Album**



Some of the REAL Red Hats at Montgomery: MaryAnn Crowell, Shirley Gilliland, Lorrie Keneson, Gayle Shirey, Mystery Woman, Teri Dykman, Debbie Osborne, Roxie Jacobs. Will the Mystery Woman please sign in? The car behind the gals is Teri's, adorned with a huge red hat created by Gayle Shirey. It must be seen to be believed!



A group of intrepid travelers toured the George H. W. Bush Museum and Library.



Lonnie and Clara Johnson cut the rug in fine style!



Carolyn and Keith Barnes flash the green stuff won from 50/50 game.



Teri Dykman presented check to Chris Peel, Devin Craig and Rusty Griffith (receiving check), members of the Montgomery VFD. The check represented half the proceeds from the 50/50 game.



Everyone was at the rally...and this is a photo of everyone! Well, everyone except our photographer, Don Crowell. Can you find you?

## Making Memories

by Donna Flanders

Let's face it ... we're all getting older. There are times when we can't remember what we had for lunch yesterday, let alone remember the name of the campground we stayed at two years ago on our way to some destination. Ever thought about keeping a travel journal? I find a journal to be very helpful and fun.

When we started on our first cross country trip with family members aboard, my sister-in-law suggested I keep a journal. So I took a notebook and started my first journal back in 1998. I keep a journal for every trip that involves new places. The benefits of a journal are many. A journal is:

- ✿ Fun to write
- ✿ Fun to reread
- ✿ A reference for future trips
- ✿ A source for e-mail information
- ✿ A reminder of what day it is as you are writing

I try to write in my journal every day, otherwise I forget important things. The best time for me is in the morning. Even then, I sometimes forget things we did yesterday. When we are doing a lot of traveling, I write as soon as we get on the highway. My navigator responsibilities usually get a break for a while. A typical entry might look like this:

*4/30 - Left Flagstaff. Started downhill, and downhill and downhill. We were going to exit onto 93 north and cross over at the Hoover Dam, but since 9/11, we are restricted, so we had to detour. We got onto I-15 north. You can see a long, long way on the highway. We watch the highway disappear into the mountain range ahead and wonder how the road goes through. There is a river called Virgin River that cuts a gorge through the mountains that you can't see until you enter it. It was so WOW. Glad we were going uphill. Rolled into the Zion NP area about 6:00 pm. Wanted to get into the Quail Creek State Park, but the entrance was SO steep, we dared not. Ended up at the Zion West RV Park in Leeds (exit 22 off I-15). Right off the highway. Narrow sites.*

When I make an entry, I try to keep in mind things that will be important when I reread the journal. Two years from now, we may be on the same route looking for a campground for the night. I include:

- ✿ Things we really enjoyed

- ✿ Things we didn't enjoy so we don't recommend them to someone else (like you)
- ✿ Campground descriptions – enough to jog my memory
  - ✿ Name, city, state, highway and exit number
  - ✿ Was it nice?
- ✿ Make note of any specific sites that we would prefer
  - ✿ Gas station information
  - ✿ Name, city, state, highway and exit number
  - ✿ Was it easy for a big motor home?
  - ✿ Did it have easy access?
  - ✿ Route information
  - ✿ Did the route work out well?
  - ✿ Was there anything confusing?

I use a computer when we travel and my journal is written in a word processing program. We also have a digital camera and this allows me to add pictures to the journal. Of course, documents with many pictures take up much more storage space on the hard disk drive and are slower to move through because the computer must display the pictures. But the pictures add a lot to the story.



Donna and Harvey, with dog Brandy, in Alaska 2002.

You can use sections of the journal for sending e-mail from your computer. When we were on our 2002 Alaska trip, we sent regular e-mail to a long list of friends and family. Many of them responded, saying they felt like they were on the trip with us. Some followed us with maps. We became a geography lesson for others.

So the next time you head out on a new adventure, try keeping a journal. It doesn't have to be perfect or pretty. Think of it as a reference tool. Have fun with it. ❖

*Donna and Harvey Flanders have been camping for over 20 years, the past five years in a Fleetwood Bounder motor home. After a five-month trip from New Hampshire to Alaska, Donna began her RV vacation planning business, which includes an itinerary with sunny and rainy day activities, trip routing, campground list based on your RV size and hook-up preferences and more. For details on Donna's service, go to [www.rvvacationplanner.com](http://www.rvvacationplanner.com).*

## Helpful Hints and Tips

**Texas Leads the Way:** Texas is the first state to offer free WiFi access at rest stops. Four rest stops in that great state (along US Highway 287 in Donley and Hardeman counties) are in service now, and more are planned. The Texas Dept. of Transportation (Tx-DOT) is accepting bids to install WiFi hotspots at the state's 84 rest areas and 12 travel information centers. *Shared with us by Bob Cook and Leo Everitt*

**Backing Up Information:** If you either travel extensively or are full-timers, the following is recommended:

1. A computer or typewritten list of drivers' licenses, bank accounts, passwords, credit card numbers with contact numbers., etc., **that you keep off site from your RV.** Keep this at a relative's or friend's house.
2. Keep back-ups of your computer's hard drive and software **off site** from your D ... same as above.

For items #1 and #2, make sure that you can get to these things quickly if needed.

3. Don't keep **anything** in your D that you can't easily replace or live without! ❖

*Shared with us by Bob Cook, whose D recently caught fire. Luckily, it was at the service center at the time, and the fire was quickly extinguished. He and Mary did this suggested procedure and strongly urges all of us to do the same.*



**What If...** by Bob Johnston

The scene: *Fred and Marjorie (the names have been changed to protect the perps) are driving down the highway in their 36-foot diesel pusher motor home they purchased new two years ago. Fred does all of the driving and Marjorie, the co-pilot, does a fantastic job reading road maps and making sure they are on the right roadway. They have just left a motor home rally one day early to head home because Fred is feeling ill. He is sure that it is something he ate the day before. Marjorie is looking out over the countryside, admiring the scenery. She notices that they are suddenly going faster and looks over at Fred. His eyes are closed and his head is resting against his chest. He is unconscious! Marjorie jumps out of her seat and grabs the steering wheel. While she can drive a car, she hasn't even so much as sat in the driver's seat of their motor home. She looks at all of the controls and doesn't know what to do.*



Could this scenario happen to you? Unfortunately, numerous accidents across the country are due to the operator's medical condition. If it did occur, would the co-pilot/passenger in your coach know what to do? This could be compounded even more if there is moderate traffic on the highway or oncoming intersections. Marjorie has to make some immediate decisions and act quickly.

If possible, all passenger/co-pilots should have some time behind the wheel. This will help familiarize them with the location of all controls and be extremely beneficial if, heaven forbid, the driver should suddenly become incapacitated. Passenger/co-pilots should attend a driving course if one is available. In the meantime, the passenger/co-pilot should begin learning some basics on how to operate the motor home by starting it up, moving short distances, turning and stopping. This can be done on large paved areas such as unused parking lots. The passenger should especially experience how the motor home turns and how it brakes.

The more familiarity, the better. The passenger/co-pilot should know the location of, and how to operate, the brakes, transmission gear selector, exhaust brake, parking brake, and emergency flashers.

Drivers and passengers should rehearse what to do in an emergency. The cartoon character Snoopy once remarked that "ten minutes before the party is not the time to learn how to dance." Practicing driver takeover techniques should be done prior to starting a trip or during any other time the motor home is parked. Knowing what to do along with repetitive exercises can build confidence necessary to overcome panic if an emergency occurs. The driver will also have confidence that the passenger knows what to do and be more likely to relinquish control. It is not recommended that rehearsals be practiced while the vehicle is moving down the road other than discussing what to do.

- **Remember your objective.** Take control of the vehicle, move it to a safe location, then assist the incapacitated driver.
- **Do not turn the ignition off.** This will cause loss of power steering and power brakes.
- **Take control of the steering wheel while removing the disabled driver's hands from the wheel.**
- **Move the driver's foot away from the accelerator.**
- **Bring the vehicle to a safe stop by applying pressure to the brake pedal.** This may have to be accomplished by braking with the right hand while steering with the left. (Consider activating the exhaust brake if the motor home is equipped with one. However, this will slow the motor home more rapidly, so hang on tightly to the steering wheel and brace yourself to the dashboard.)
- **Move the motor home to a safe area out of the lane of traffic.**
- **Once stopped, apply the emergency brake and put the gear**

**selector in neutral.**

- **Activate the emergency flashers.**
- **Provide assistance to the incapacitated driver.**

While these are only generic recommendations, actual circumstances may require different responses. The most important action is to prevent such a situation from occurring in the first place. **Drivers should not drive the motor home if they are overly tired or feeling ill to the point they cannot safely operate the vehicle.** If the driver begins to feel strange or ill while going down the road, immediately move to a safe area. If the passenger realizes that the driver does not seem alert or is driving unusual, ask him if he is OK and do not hesitate to have the driver pull over if you feel your safety is in jeopardy.

Take frequent breaks from driving. Pull into safe areas and walk around the vehicle. This will help with blood circulation and take your mind off of driving for a while. It would also be a good time to check the motor home and tow vehicle for anything out of the ordinary.

Some male drivers are hesitant to let the wife drive the coach, even though many women drive motor homes and, in some cases, better than their male partner. (This is difficult for me to realize though, because my name is Bob Almighty and I do all of the driving!) Splitting up the driving on long trips can make the excursion much more relaxing for both parties. Had Marjorie been able to drive, she would have been behind the wheel the day Fred was feeling ill. ❖

*Bob Johnston and his motor-home-driving wife, Francine, live in Pinehurst, TX. They drive a 2000 36T. Bob is a retired law enforcement officer from California and has seen more than his share of accidents involving recreational vehicles which were the result of excessive speed and/or poor maintenance.*

**Don't Forget DOAI's New Dues Structure!** One year's renewal \$16; three years' renewal \$45; five years' renewal \$75.

**The Great Paper Color Debate Ends**

**A**s you can see from this issue, the readers have spoken, and the overwhelming votes were for white paper. Thanks for the feedback! ❖

## Sale Page for Members

This feature is available to any DOAI member, free of charge. Simply send the information to the editor, preferably via e-mail. Include full information, and send a photo, too!

**For Sale:** OEM passenger seat for a Discovery, with pedestal, tan leather, moves forward and back, and tilts. Has arm rests. In excellent condition. A new one like this costs \$800. We'll sell it for the **best offer**. We will bring it to Branson/Sedalia to save delivery charges if paid in advance. Contact Don Gillam, 1018 Mockingbird Dr, Scottsbluff, NE 69361-4923; 308.632.4803; [dngillam@charter.net](mailto:dngillam@charter.net)

**For Sale:** 1999 Discovery 36T Well maintained with all the options; 27,000 miles; one owner; no smoke/no pets. Includes generator, convection/microwave oven, washer/dryer, side-by-side refrigerator w/ice maker, two AC units, back-up camera, awning, new spare tire, car towing unit, cloth and leather couches, plum and beige interior. \$88,000 or best offer. For more information, contact Geraldine Miller at 586.264.7440 or [ronaldwmiller51@aol.com](mailto:ronaldwmiller51@aol.com).



**For Sale:** 2000 Discovery, 275 hp Cummins diesel, 18,000 miles, 7.5 Onan diesel generator, two TVs, CD, cassette, Corian countertops, leather upholstery, washer/dryer combo, kitchen slide-out. Nice! Contact Don Winstead, PO Box 1022, West Bank Access Rd., Columbus, MS 39701-1022, or call 662.312.0178.



**For Sale:** Hughes Autoformer, 30 amp model, like new condition. Used less than one year, purchased new. Two years left on three-year warranty. Protect your Discovery from low park voltages ... this is what you need! Check out the website for full information – [www.autoformers.com](http://www.autoformers.com). \$300 including shipping. Call Jeff at 904.237.2741 or [jckbenny@bellsouth.net](mailto:jckbenny@bellsouth.net).

**For Sale:** Two dinette chairs from a 2003 Discovery 38U, like new, in excellent condition, Rainforest color scheme (only one is shown; both are identical). \$75 for the pair plus shipping, or can be picked up at owner's location in the Columbus, OH area. Send questions to [mzpat@adelphia.net](mailto:mzpat@adelphia.net) and ask about the table/chairs from a Revolution, too.



## Editor's Ramblings

by Nina Lee Soltwedel

It's been an interesting three months since I last "talked" with you via these pages. We've taken delivery of our 2005 Discovery, attended a wowser of a region rally in Texas, a great chapter rally in Grand Junction, Colorado, and heard from many of you with ideas and tips that we'll be passing on to you in the issues to come.

### Mystery Couple Identified

Marlene and Glen Thomas were the lucky ones who won that motorbike at the Southeast Region rally. I thank Marlene for getting in touch with me.

There's a mystery woman in this issue; she's shown with the other Red Hat ladies from the South Central rally. If you know who she is, please let me know (see photo page 15).

### A Great Free Place to Stay

On our way home from Montgomery, we stopped overnight in Dumas, Texas. We had been told about Dumas ... in the northwest corner of the Texas Panhandle ... a town that offers RV'ers a free spot to overnight – Texhoma Park off First Street (US Hwy 87).

The park is fairly easy to get into, the

parking area is paved, clean, and there were several other RVs there when we arrived (kinda like a mini-rally). Electric hookups are available, and there's a dump site and a place to fill up with water. A freewill offering box is available. The only drawback is that the railway is right next door; but if you love trains like I do, they won't bother you much. It's not like they run all night long.

All in all, it's a nice place, and the town has several museums and galleries to visit if you stay a day or so.

### Give a Newsletter, Then Replace It

I hope you're "talking up" DOAI when you meet other D owners who are not yet DOAI members. Giving them your latest issue of *Discovery Express* is a great PR tool. But, yeah, I hear you ... if you give away your newsletter, then you don't have it any more.

Well, not exactly. If you have Internet access, you can download and print out a copy any time you wish. The newsletters are on the DOAI website as soon as they are published each quarter.

Go to the DOAI website and click on "News". At the News page, scroll down to "DOAI Newsletters". Click on that and a list of available newsletters

appears. Scroll down to the bottom of the list, and there's the latest issue. It'll be a .pdf file, which means you will need to have Adobe Reader on your computer.

And that's easy: Adobe Reader is a free program. All you have to do is go to [www.adobe.com](http://www.adobe.com) and click on the little yellow box on the left that says "Get Adobe Reader". Follow the download instructions.

### More Interesting Websites

I love surfing the Internet, and was given a tip I checked out recently. The CompuServe RV Forum is loaded with information on a variety of subjects. You'll need to register, and all that means is choosing a screen name and a password.

Once you're registered, you can access the site to your heart's content. Give it a look-see: [forums.compuserve.com/vlforums/default.asp?SRV=RV](http://forums.compuserve.com/vlforums/default.asp?SRV=RV)

### Got Hidden Storage Tips?

A member wonders where we hide the precious cargo ... he has a hefty-sized telescope, and it takes up a whole bay. Do you wish to share how you store the less-usual things RV'ers carry along?

'Til next time, smooth roads! ❖

## Repairing Unbonded Front Body Mounts

by Don Carroll

Recently I discovered that the pair of body mounts attaching the lower section of the front cap of my 2000 Discovery had come loose from the fiberglass. The mounts, located just inboard of the fog lights, were attached by resin adhesive between the fiberglass and the steel mount plates, and the adhesive bond had parted from the steel. I suspect that the failure occurred soon after I bought the D, as this type of adhesive attachment has low tolerance to the type of service encountered in this motor home application. Here is my solution:

### Location

Either side of front body panel, inboard of fog lights. Pieces that were bonded to fiberglass are thin plates of steel, about 1"x6", which have two 10 – 32 studs projecting from them. These studs go through angle brackets bolted to the ends of a small channel cross member which is bolted to extensions forward from the chassis frame.

### Preparation

It can be noted that there is room to sit upright behind the mount location on each side, as on a mechanic's creeper, if one is careful to not bump into the chassis. Mark the pieces so that they can be reassembled as they were removed. Unbolt and remove the above five pieces. Note where washers are located on the bolts. The cross member is removed to gain access to the work locations.

Hold each studded plate up to and in contact with the body at the exact locations where they were originally bonded. When the locations are determined (the feel of the fit between the plates and the fiberglass is useful here), mark where the corners of the plates fall on the fiberglass – this is so that you can fasten them back and the parts will bolt together.

Utilize a dust mask and enclosed goggles while performing sanding on fiberglass. Using a power sander (like an automotive body disc sander), remove the remaining resin adhesive from the surface of the fiberglass. Sand actively enough to scuff into the original fiberglass material in order to achieve a strong bond with the repair material. Be sure to maintain the marks to locate the plates. Remove surface dust.

Clamp the studded steel plates and sand both sides of them for preparation for adhesive bonding. Make sure that bright metal is exposed by the sanding over the total area. Keep the sanded surfaces very clean. Wrap masking tape around the studs to keep them clean.

### Fixturing the Metal Plates

Obtain some two-part epoxy putty. Do this step with each plate. Mix enough epoxy to cover the back side of the plate (the side which will be in contact with the body) to a thickness of about 1/16". Apply the putty to the plate, distributing it over the surface, and press the plate and putty tightly to the fiberglass at the correct location. The putty will support the plate. Lacquer thinner is a solvent for epoxy cleanup. Allow the putty to harden. With a knife, trim any excess putty from around the edges of the plate. See Figure 1.

### Applying the New Fiberglass

Obtain a fiberglass auto body repair kit, as is available at Autozone, containing fiberglass mat, polyester resin, and resin hardener. Also get some nitrile rubber gloves for protection of hands. Precut pieces of fiberglass mat to size so that they will go above, below, and between the studs. They should extend about 1" beyond the edges of the plate onto the body material. Completed application will be three thicknesses of mat applied to the plates. Work on only one plate at a time. The resin will set up within several minutes, so you must work briskly. Mix the resin and hardener according to the instructions with the kit. Using a cheap 1" paint brush, apply a coat of resin to the area to be laminated. Apply one piece of mat to each of the three locations of the plate. Brush on enough resin to saturate the mat. With the brush, work any air out of the mat. Do the same with each of the six pieces of mat on each plate. Acetone is a solvent for polyester cleanup. See Figure 2.



Figure 1



Figure 2

### Reassembly

During initial assembly, leave fasteners slightly loose to help the parts get positioned. Attach the angle brackets to the plates. Mount the cross member. Connect the angle brackets between the plates and the cross member. Make any adjustments necessary. Tighten all fasteners in the same order as above. ❖

*Don and Stella Carroll live in Tennessee, and travel often in their Discovery. They've been RV'ing for about ten years. Don suggests all D owners inspect the body mounts on their coaches. Don may be reached at seecarrollsgo@aol.com.*

## Feeding the RV'er

Janet Sexton, Shawnee, KS, shares this recipe. She says it's very good and quick:

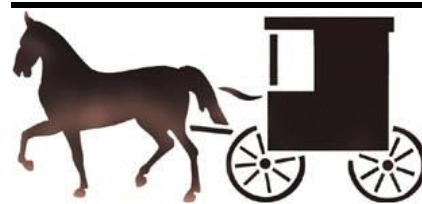
### Beef Stew

Brown one pound of stew meat. Add one can Campbell's tomato soup, one can Campbell's French onion soup, one tablespoon Worcestershire sauce, and one can of Veg-All large cut vegetables. Cook about ten minutes.

The following recipe has been a favorite in my family for years. I got it out of a church cookbook:

### Merle's Hot Dish

Brown one pound ground beef over medium heat, drain off excess fat. Pour into a casserole dish and add one large diced onion, three diced stalks celery, one diced green bell pepper, one can Campbell's chicken noodle soup, one soup can water, and one-half cup rice. Mix well, cover and bake 350° for 60 minutes; uncover and bake another 30 minutes. Serves 6-8 people, and **does not** taste like beef – tastes like chicken! ❖



Plan now to attend Dutch Treat,  
the DOAI 2005 National Rally,  
York, PA, August 9-13, 2005.  
Welkommen!

## Discovery Modifications

This is the second installment of modifications DOAI members have made to their rigs. This time we feature several that Peter and Sharon Shaffer have devised; some were inspired by the photos and instructions on the DOAI website. If you have questions about the modifications, please contact Pete at [ps-shaffer@earthlink.net](mailto:ps-shaffer@earthlink.net).

**Modification #1:** This is a photo of the Shaffers' toilet paper storage compartment. This idea, from the DOAI website, adds to the existing heating duct/electrical wire/water pipe enclosure to provide a place to store toilet paper and laundry soap and softener.

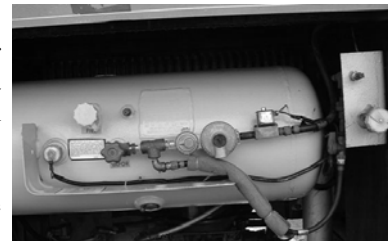


**Modification #2:** This is the sofa drawer Pete constructed. The instructions for this may be found on the DOAI website.

**Modification #3:** This is a close-up view of a hitch pin holder Pete crafted to hold the pins, lock and safety cable hook. He says it's nice to have a place to store these things when the Shaffers are not using them.



**Modification #4:** On the older Discovery coaches, the generator is powered by propane. There is a propane tank for the generator, and a separate tank for the stove, hot water heater and furnaces. The idea shown here, again from the DOAI website, allows Pete to join the two tanks together. He can use propane from either tank, or both tanks to operate the furnace, hot water heater and stove.



**Modification #5:** And yet another idea from the DOAI website is this nifty flatware drawer that rolls out from under the table. Pete says he had a hard time sizing the drawer so it would hold all of the pieces of flatware and yet not interfere with leg room. He didn't want his knees to hit the drawer. He bought and returned several drawers and ended up with a narrow, long drawer and cut out a section for the table leg. He also modified the drawer slides so the drawer will stay closed while the rig is moving, yet be easy to open when stopped.

**Modification #6:** This shows the Shaffers' coffee maker attached to a board. There is an elastic band that holds the glass pot in place when traveling. Everything is secure and rattle free, and the Shaffers can even make coffee while going down the road. When stopped, the coffee maker doesn't block their view like the hanging pot the previous D owners installed. ❖



## Important Notice

Due to the National Rally and a pre-rally event the editor will be attending in late September 2004, the DEADLINE for the Fall 2004 issue will be September 1 – *no exceptions*.  
Thank you for your cooperation.

### Welcome, New Members!

Josef Arbus, Delray Beach FL  
Richard & Paula Barrett, Poland OH  
Don & Diana Barron, Farmersville LA  
Brice & Julie Beatty, Boones Mill VA  
Jayson Berger, Hoover AL  
Lynn & Kathleen Bliven, New Hampton NY  
David & Ginger Blomstrom, Richmond TX  
Jim & Kay Bodamer, Diamondhead MS  
Richard & Ann Brandhurst, Metairie LA  
Randolph Brann, Warsaw VA  
Gary & Connie Brenden, Menifee CA  
James Brinkley, Crockett VA  
James Broghammer, Marion IA  
Steven Burch, Clearwater FL  
David & Anna Marie Burchett, Glendale AZ  
Bruce Burgo, Taunton MA  
Mike & Pat Canney, Atkinson NH  
Will Carlton, Orange Beach AL  
Jo Ann Carnahan, Seminole FL  
Jody Carruthers, Granbury TX  
Lester Chester, Tallahassee FL  
Tammy Clark, Cudjoe Key FL  
Bruce & Lori Cotton, Creedmore NC  
Jay & Laura Crandell, Maple Ridge BC  
Daniel Cullmer, New Milford CT  
Paul Cust, Pensacola FL  
David David, Dunnellon FL  
Greg & Marsha Davis, Worthington OH  
Sandy & Susan Dells, Lake Havasu City AZ  
Virgil & Donna Diver, Blissfield MI  
Joe & Reta Dowling, Harriston ON  
James & Lori Dusky, Virginia Beach VA  
Robert Ecret, Carneys Point NJ  
Norman Fennell & Peggy Baker, Livingston TX  
William & Beverly Fiske, Oriental NC  
Karl Flaming, Eagle River AK  
James & Virginia Forthman, Decatur AL  
Michael Freeman, North Ruskin FL  
Gordon & Donna George, Port Neches TX  
Donald Gilmer & Edna Dukes, McDonough GA  
Jerry & Betty Glaze, Newton MS  
Larry & Charlene Graver, Lehighton PA  
David & Lana Greer, Dallas TX  
Hank & Gwen Greer, Lubbock TX  
James & Dot Gwaltney, Portsmouth VA  
Richard & Peggy Gwillam, Shadow Hills CA  
Virgil Hale, Homestead FL  
Ray & Dianna Hall, Livingston TX  
Jerry & Sue Hampton, Mesa AZ  
Joe & Jackie Handel, Spring TX  
Bill & Meg Harmon, The Villages FL  
Paul & Carol Haubner, Falmouth KY

Dean & Geraldine Heinzl, Wild Rose WI  
SJ & Debby Hemleben, Lafayette LA  
Robert & Margaret Hess, Okmulgee OK  
Guido & Stella Hibdon, Gravois Mills MO  
Edward Hill, Jonesboro GA  
Thomas & Marie Hilton, Whiting NJ  
Bill & Tenie Hogan, Hendersonville TN  
Simon & Emily Holdsworth, Pleasant Hill CA  
Michael Holland, Cincinnati OH  
Greg & Sue Holmgren, Palmetto FL  
David Humphrey, Scottsville KY  
Howard Hurst, McAllen TX  
John & Kim Irwin, Fenton MI  
Kenneth James, Clermont FL  
Gary & Lily Jewell, Cleveland TN  
Stephen Johnson, Kansas City MO  
Ronald Kemper, St. Marks FL  
Kay Kessler, North Port FL  
Stanley Kurczynski, Placidia FL  
Jack & Linda Lahrman, Lafayette IN  
Greg & Sophie Lane, Mobile AL  
Alan Latz, McHenry IL  
James Leone, Toms River NJ  
Jim & Jane Linville, Surprise AZ  
Richard & Kandi Lohneis, Beaver WA  
Gerald & Faye Loyd, Abita Springs LA  
Kenneth Magown, Brandenton FL  
Joseph Maturro, Altamonte Springs FL  
John & Joy McCutchan, Huntsville AL  
David & Joyce Mercer, Foster City CA  
Corrie Merritt, Pembroke MA  
Michael & Melissa Murphy, Sharpsburg GA  
Mark Nicholas, Tarpon Springs FL  
Matthew Nicholas, Kemah TX  
RC & Nancy Niles, Las Vegas NV  
Sheldon & Diane Nitenson, Wolfeboro NH  
Tim & Ava Paul, Arcadia FL  
Arthur & Nadine Pelch, Anacortes WA  
Truman & Jo Ann Petzoldt, Oak Ridge MO  
Charles Philbrook, Woodstock NH  
Robert Ploettner, Springfield NH  
Ronald & Cindy Poloske, Hooksett NH  
Felix Powell, Hillsboro IL  
Carlos Quevedo, Kirtland NM  
Fred & Margaret Raphael, Fairhaven VA  
Marty & Dona Rauscher, Junction City CA  
Frederick Reed, Jacksonville FL  
Ted Reichle, Chuluota FL  
John & Alice Ricciardi, Moyock NC  
Sherrill & Barbara Roberts, Bryceville FL  
Ray & Karen Rogers, Waynesboro VA  
Bill & Karen Ross, Tucson AZ  
Harry & Susan Salit, Pasadena CA

Glenn & Virginia Sapp, Shreveport LA  
Dean Saunders, Lakeland FL  
Raymond & Loretta Schafer, Pittsburgh PA  
Nolan & Carmen Schaubert, Zephyrhills FL  
Richard & Joan Schoenweiss, Enterprise FL  
Ricky Schum, Palmetto FL  
James & Mary Ann Sedam, Livingston TX  
Larry & Joyce Shields, Collinsville IL  
Johnnie & Rebecca Simpson, Seffner FL  
John Sluder, Dandridge TN  
Robert & Robin Smith, Pensacola FL  
Todd & Terre Smith, Baton Rouge LA  
Jessie Soileau, Gonzales LA  
Cleveland & Velna Sorrells, Athens GA  
Walter & Eloise Spears, Magnolia TX  
Robert & Carolyn Staup, Myrtle Creek OR  
Robert & Carol Stengel, Antioch IL  
Glenn & Marian Storey, Pearland TX  
Carlos & Christina Straubel, Rapid City SD  
Carlos Sutton, Dade City FL  
Jeffrey Szabo, Weston FL  
Charlie & Barb Thunell, Sioux Falls SD  
Robert Turnage, Longwood FL  
Don & Jan Vanderheiden, Broken Bow NE  
Wayne & Brenda Voss, Oran MO  
Larry Watson, Charleston SC  
Thomas Wells, Hixon TN  
Richard & Carol Whitesell, Barrington IL  
Jeffrey Wokutch, Pittsburgh PA  
Charles Woody, Danville IN  
Rick & Charlene Wray, Utica OH ❖

### Co-Pilots' Hints

In the last issue, I asked for hints from co-pilots that make their travels a bit easier. Sharon Whitaker wrote: "One of the very best pieces of equipment we have is one of the vacuum-type food storage systems (Seal-A-Meal). When grocery shopping, it is almost impossible to find meat or seafood in packages small enough for two, so we purchase the larger quantities, divide them into appropriate sizes and freeze them. In addition to eliminating freezer burn, once the air is removed, items such as hamburger can be flattened, making them take up less space in the refrigerator. It also works great for leftovers." Thanks, Sharon! ❖

Southeast Regional Rally – Orange Blossom Romp of 2005

Lazydays RallyPark, Seffner, Florida – January 28-February 1, 2005

Paved platforms and grassy sites – full hook-ups including cable TV

Sites not pre-assigned – to park together, you must arrive together



- \* Vendor displays and seminars
\* On-the-road driving instruction
\* New coaches
\* Games – bingo, Mexican train, card games
\* Hot tub, tennis, swimming, shuffleboard
\* Entertainment!
\* Free computer hook-ups
\* Camping World, Flying J, Cracker Barrel on site
\* Theme parks and historical sites nearby

- \* Two dinners and welcome party
\* Breakfast and lunch compliments of Lazydays (Monday through Saturday)
\* January 30 will be set aside as Fun Day, with: Red Hat Society Flea Market – Bring your white elephants, books, arts and crafts and baked goods Craft classes

Cut on dotted line, save this portion for your records.

Send rally fees (and form) to Registrar; send parking fees (and form) to Lazydays RallyPark.

Rally Fees: \$35.00 per coach (two people in coach)
\$24.00 per single (one person in coach)
\$24.00 per guest in your coach

Mail to: Edna Pendergrass, Registrar
3261 Maple Hammock Dr.
Sarasota FL 34235-6636
941.355.8720 or 888.793.4793 tollfree
epender2@aol.com

Make check payable to: Discovery Owners Assn., Inc. (or just D.O.A.I.)

No refunds after January 10, 2005

Form with fields for Last Name, First Name, Co-Pilot, Street, City, State, ZIP+4 Code, DOAI #, Home Telephone, Cell Phone, Discovery Year/Model/Length, E-mail Address, Guest(s) Name, City, State, Emergency Contact Name, Emergency Telephone, Need handicap parking?, Is this your first regional rally?

Parking Site fees for DOAI rally:
\$104.74 (Jan. 28-Feb. 1, 2005 – 4 nights)
\$30.23 per day, extra days

Mail to: Lazydays RallyPark
6120 County Rd 579
Seffner FL 33584-2968
800.905.6627

Make check payable to: Lazydays RallyPark

Mail to Lazydays as soon as possible

Form with fields for Last Name, First Name, Co-Pilot, Street, City, State, ZIP+4 Code, DOAI #, Home Telephone, Cell Phone, Discovery Year/Model/Length, E-mail Address, Arrival Date, Departure Date, Number of Days, Check Enclosed: Check Number, Bank, Charge: MasterCard, Visa, Card #, Expiration Date

Check in at 1:00 p.m. Check out at 11:00 a.m. NO assigned sites.

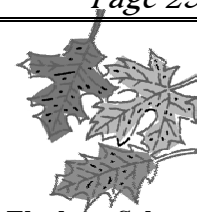
National DOAI Rally 2004 – Show Me the Ozarks

Missouri State Fairgrounds, Sedalia, Missouri
October 5-9, 2004 (Four nights' camping)

Wide, grassy sites – 30 amp service – full hook-ups

You may arrive up to two nights early for \$13/night (as early as October 3)

- Vendor Displays – Fleetwood Sessions – Seminars – Workshops – Parade of Homes – Craft/White Elephant Sale
Great Food – Fellowship – Super Entertainment – CPR and AED Classes – Line Dancing Class
All Male Fashion Revue and “Miss DOAI” Contest – The Discoveryettes – Golf – Fun!



NO REGISTRATIONS AFTER MONDAY, SEPT. 20 – NO REFUNDS AFTER SEPT. 20 – NO SHOW, NO REFUND

Make check payable to:
Discovery Owners Association, Inc.

Mail check and registration form to:
Nina Soltwedel, Registrar
DOAI National Rally 2004
4736 Harwich Street
Boulder, CO 80301-4217

Fill out form below completely
and attach check.

No assigned sites. If you want to park together, you must arrive together.
QUESTIONS? Call Nina (888.786.2962) or send e-mail (soltwedel45@hotmail.com)



National DOAI Rally 2004 – Show Me the Ozarks

REGISTRATION FORM

Please PRINT or TYPE all information – Give first names as you want them on the name tags.

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Co-Pilot \_\_\_\_\_
Street \_\_\_\_\_ City, State, ZIP+4 Code \_\_\_\_\_
DOAI # \_\_\_\_\_ Home Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_
Discovery Year/Model/Length \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_
Guest(s) Name, City, State \_\_\_\_\_
Emergency Contact \_\_\_\_\_ Emergency Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Check all applicable:

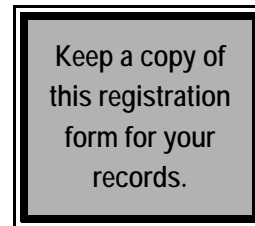
- Need handicap parking DOAI officer Vendor First national rally

Costs:

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Rows include \$125 per coach with two adults, \$83 per coach with one adult, \$42 each additional adult per coach, and \$13 per night early arrival.

\*Maximum two nights – Oct. 3 and 4

Check Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Yes, I/we will help:

- Parking Seminars Golf Helper Workshop Helper
Registration Door Prizes Entertainment Vendor Helper
Reporter 50/50 Game Meal Helper Merchandise Sales
Photographer Clean-up Crew First Aid Where Needed

Yes, I/we would like to participate in: (Check all that apply – this helps rally committee plan space use)

- Male Fashion Revue Golf Parade of Homes Craft/White Elephant Sale Red Hat Social
Book Exchange Line Dancing Class Crazy Patchwork Class CPR/AED Class

DISCOVERY OWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC. MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Welcome to an organization open to all owners of Discovery motor homes by Fleetwood RV. DOAI is an organization intended to foster social opportunities and information exchange among members.

Dues are \$20.00 for the first year\*; \$16.00 for one year renewal; \$45.00 for three years, or \$75.00 for five years. \*New members pay an additional \$4.00 one-time administrative fee.

PLEASE...PAYABLE IN U.S. FUNDS ONLY!
Questions? Call 888.594.6818

Mail the form below with your check payable to Discovery Owners Association, Inc. to:
MaryAnn Crowell, Membership Director
207 County Road 3000
Lott, TX 76656-3828

Pilot Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First \_\_\_\_\_ Co-Pilot \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, ZIP+4 Code \_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Discovery Year \_\_\_\_\_ Length and Model \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Is this your first RV? \_\_\_\_Yes \_\_\_\_ No Are you a full-time or part-time RV'er? \_\_\_\_\_

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

Discovery Owners Association, Inc.
MaryAnn Crowell, Membership Director
207 County Road 3000
Lott, TX 76656-3828

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