



# Discovery

# EXPRESS



Vol. 11, No. 4

Celebrating DOAI's 11th Anniversary Year

Fall 2009

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*We would accomplish many more things if we did not think of them as impossible.*

*- C. Malesherbez*

## ELECTIONS!

It's that time again, folks ... time for the biennial event when DOAI members choose those who will help lead our organization during the next two years.

And how you vote this year will be different! An article about the proposed change was included in the Spring 2009 edition, and in this issue the **how**, **when**, and **where** to vote is on **page 4**. Because we have been unable to find two candidates for each position, the voting process will allow you to vote for a write-in candidate of your choice. Just follow the simple directions.



Beginning on **page 11** you will find brief bios of each candidate, along with his or her photograph.

We extend **THANKS** to those DOAI members who have stepped forward to serve this great RV organization. ☀

## ESCAPE WINTER!

You know snow and cold is coming, and who wants to spend winter in the north? Make plans to drive down to sunny Florida in January for DOAI's annual southeast region rally, and thaw out!



**Camp Discovery**

January 31-February 5, 2010



**John Ricciardi** and his crew of Mason-Dixon Discoverys chapter members, including **Toni Calzone**, are preparing to welcome you to **CAMP DISCOVERY** January 31 through February 5,

2010, at Lazydays RallyPark, Seffner, Florida, in the land of sunshine, balmy days, starry nights, and strawberries!

Lots of information is on **page 22** (including an *important announcement about an RV driving course that is being offered*), and the registration form is on **page 23**. Take this opportunity to learn all about your rig. You'll be glad you did. ☀

Quarterly Publication of Discovery Owners Association, Inc.,

a non-profit organization by and for owners of Discovery® by Fleetwood® RV, Inc. motor homes.

**DISCOVERY - AN UNPRECEDENTED EXPERIENCE IN ADVENTURE**

## DOAI Membership Sponsors

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

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

*DOAI and Discovery dealers – sharing the spirit of friendship!*

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

## Southeast Region Rally Coming – Don't Miss This Added Attraction!



Dick Snyder loves Parkesdale!

One-time and frequent visitors to RallyPark alike flock to Parkesdale Farm Market in Plant City (a few miles east of RallyPark off I-4) for the most delicious strawberry shortcake ever. A visit to central Florida would not be complete unless one sits down at Parkesdale Farm Market to devour a huge, strawberry-laden, whipped-cream-covered shortcake. Yum!



The farm market's reputation is widespread; during the 2008 presidential campaign, both candidates visited Parkesdale Farm Market to their great enjoyment. Your visit will be as refreshing as the candidates', and your taste buds will give you a vote of thanks!



### FMA Rally in Gillette

**Bobby and Fay Williams** were among the 800+ people attending the FMA rally in Gillette, Wyoming, in late June. There were 53 Discoverys there, which was a great showing! Only the Revolution and Bounder

brands had more rigs in attendance.

Bobby and **Nina Soltwedel** share some of their photos with us.

Fleetwood's **Dawn Fann** was there (photo far left), as well

as **Amy Coleman** and the president of the new Fleetwood RV, Inc., **John Draheim** (photo left). The Cam-Plex in Gillette is a great place for a rally (photo top left), the campground areas are very nice with full hookups (photo lower right), and the large meeting area inside holds a lot of people and motor homes (photo top right).



**President's Message** . . . . . by Marshall Godwin

**H**ello, Discovery Owners! Since the last newsletter, the recreation vehicle division of Fleetwood has been purchased by AIP. The new wholly-owned subsidiary is Fleetwood RV. This sale allowed Fleetwood to emerge from Chapter 11 bankruptcy as a viable member of the RV industry. It is great to see the Fleetwood brand continue, and it is our hope Discovery motor homes will continue to be a major part of the Fleetwood product line for many years to come.



National Prez  
Marshall

Fleetwood made difficult budget decisions to increase their chances of success. They have reduced the annual grant to DOAI by half and will not provide technical support for our national rally. Fleetwood has provided great support to our association since its inception. In turn, our members, as proud owners of Discovery® by Fleetwood RV® motor homes, have been wonderful ambassadors of Fleetwood. We like our Discoverys and don't mind telling others.

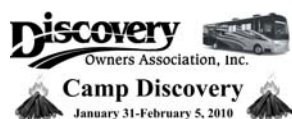
In anticipation of reduced Fleetwood support, the DOAI board of directors made adjustments to this year's budget to reduce costs. The board will continue to monitor the association's financial status to insure we remain a strong and sustainable organization.

**Heading on down the road**

As I write this, **Becky** and I are on the last leg of our Alaska trip. We have had a wonderful time this summer and now look forward to seeing friends at the national rally. **Bob, Nina** and many others have worked hard to plan a great Discovery gathering in Pueblo. Serving as key rally coordinators is a lot of work, but we have dedicated members who step forward and sacrifice time and energy to serve our association. Join me in thanking those who do so.

**Elections**

Although **Phil Yovino**, as nominating committee chairman, made a valiant effort, it looks like we just have one candidate for each office for this year's election. Even so, please take time to vote for national officers and region vice presidents. It just takes a few minutes and shows your interest in our association's leadership. In addition to the paper ballot, we are providing online voting this year.



**Camp Discovery**

I want to remind you again about **Camp Discovery**, a new rally concept for the next southeast region rally starting January 31, 2010, at Lazydays RallyPark. It is focused on seminar topics that provide in-depth technical information regarding all systems on

our Discoverys, as well as seminars that cover a range of RV topics for those less interested in technical information. The rally fee includes a training handbook and a CD of all seminars, as well as additional reference material. Be one of those who attend the first **Camp Discovery**.

**Toni Calzone**, as training director, is working hard to make this a great learning experience for those fortunate enough to attend. I will be giving a number of seminars, as will other members. Lazydays has agreed to provide seminars for systems such as furnace, hot water heater, refrigerator, and air conditioner system. Don't miss this rally.

**In closing**

One last thing about our Alaska trip – it seems we met up with DOAI members wherever we went: **Maurice and Joan Fairweather, Art and Beth Schmitt, Ray and Dorothy Koonce, Dan Jacoby and Donna Baker, and Larry and Mary Anne Weinberg**. What a great owners association! The common bond of owning the same model motor home really makes a difference in fostering instant friendships among our members.

If you are not actively participating at the local chapter level and attending our major rallies, you are missing out on a great part of DOAI membership ... making lasting friends.

Take care and God bless!



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*Discovery Express* is a quarterly publication (Winter, Spring, Summer, Fall). Deadline for copy is November 20, February 20, May 20, and August 20. Members are encouraged to send in articles, tips, questions, and/or comments.

Material for the newsletter may be sent via email or U.S. mail. Photos are welcome, and if sent via email, should be in either .jpg or .bmp format. Photos sent by U.S. mail will be scanned and returned to contributors. *All submissions will be acknowledged.* If acknowledgment is not received within a reasonable time, please call the editor.

**Newsletter Editor**

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

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

**Membership Director**

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

**DOAI Web Site**

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

**DOAI Yahoo! Group**

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

**Founder/President Emeritus**

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

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# Internet Voting Is Here! . . . . . by Bob Cook

Instead of completing and returning the paper ballot (included in this issue), you may cast your vote via the Internet. All that is required is that you have a valid email address on file in the DOAI member database. We will be using a free Internet voting service provided by *ballotbin.com*.

## If you vote via Internet

Internet voting is quick and easy. When the Internet voting opens at **12:01 EST October 1, 2009**, you will receive an email from *ballotbin.com* (if you don't find it in your inbox, check your junk folder). This email will contain a link that will take you to the DOAI ballot. Make your selections and cast your vote.

You can only click the link **once** since each member coach is only allowed one vote (same as the paper ballot). Procedures are in place to prevent voting both via the Internet and with a paper ballot. If someone submits both a paper ballot and Internet ballot, the Internet ballot will be counted and the paper

ballot will be discarded.

The Internet voting list will show email addresses that have voted (but not how each voted), and each email address will show the membership number tied to that address. This list will be transmitted to the chairman of the nominating committee, **Phil Yovino**, when the Internet voting closes at **11:59 p.m. EST November 15, 2009**, accompanied by a list of total votes per candidate.

## If you vote via paper ballot

If you choose to cast a paper ballot, you may send in your ballot at any time (you don't have to wait until October 1). The paper ballots must be received by Phil **no later than November 15**. The counting of paper ballots will begin on November 16.

The paper ballots **must** have your membership number **and** two-letter region designation on the upper left-hand corner of the mailing label portion of the ballot (if you neglect to put that information on the label, your ballot will not be counted and will be discarded). Before the paper ballot is opened for counting, a DOAI member (who will not be a counter) will check the membership number against the Internet voting list to make sure that member has not voted via the Internet. Then the membership number will be checked against the DOAI member database to make sure the voter is a dues-current member.

Once the legitimacy of the ballot is confirmed, the membership number is physically removed from the front of the ballot (the two-letter region designation is left on the label so the counters can make sure the vote for region vice president is for the correct region), and the ballot is given to the two people who will be counting the paper ballots.

## Bottom line

The counters of the paper ballots will not know who voted for which candidate, but they will be assured that only one vote per member coach is counted. This method, while a bit complicated, ensures your vote is private. ☀



Bin Title: **DOAI 2009 ELECTION - North Central Region**  
Contact: [webmaster@discoveryowners.com](mailto:webmaster@discoveryowners.com)  
Bin Closes On: 2009-11-15 at 23:59:00

Voting Instructions:  
1. Fill in answers/votes  
2. Click on "done".

Election Questions

▶ **President** (pick up to 1 of 2) (required)

Marshall Godwin  
 Write In:

▶ **Executive Vice President** (pick up to 1 of 2) (required)

John Baker  
 Write In:

▶ **Vice President of Development** (pick up to 1 of 2) (required)

Bob Soltwedel  
 Write In:

▶ **Secretary** (pick up to 1 of 2) (required)

MaryAnn Crowell  
 Write In:

▶ **Treasurer** (pick up to 1 of 2) (required)

Pete Palasota  
 Write In:

▶ **Vice Treasurer** (pick up to 1 of 2) (required)

David Blomstrom  
 Write In:

▶ **National Rally Master** (pick up to 1 of 2) (required)

Dick Snyder  
 Write In:

▶ **Vice President - North Central Region** (pick up to 1 of 2) (required)

Charles Richardson  
 Write In:

A sample of the Internet ballot. Your *ballotbin.com* ballot will include only the region vice president candidate(s) for your region.

**NOTE:** *ballotbin.com* does not sell nor spam your email address. They have been providing this service for several years, and they make their money from donations and advertisements.

# Membership Director's Report . . . . . by Portia Williams

Our membership numbers are remaining around the 1,450 number. We are seeing more member referrals in the last couple of months.

**Bob and Nina Soltwedel** now have their second free year by referring three more new members to DOAI. Congratulations, Bob and Nina!

We extend the hand of **WELCOME** to these new members and returnees:



Frank/Mary Gloria Alvarez, Kingman AZ  
 Dennis Ardo, Palm Desert CA  
 Bowen/Lana Banbury, Denver CO  
 JC/Mary Barton, McComb MS  
 Robert/Jeanne Benedict, Newport NC  
 Bill/Arlene Benson, Sedona AZ  
 Larry/Darlene Boswell, O'Fallon MO  
 Robert/Shirley Bryant, Taylor AZ  
 Byron/Martha Burkehart, Jamestown NC  
 David/Pam Carlile, Amboy WA  
 Edwin/Mae Carpenter, Buckhannon WV  
 Richard/Joan Cron, Clifton CO  
 William/Eunice Davis, Melbourne FL  
 Deborah Dozier/Carol Blair, Miami FL  
 Robert Dunshie/Mireille Tillea, Upatoi GA  
 Kathleen Flanagan, Fort Lauderdale FL  
 Joe/Kay Fountain, Panama City FL  
 Tony/Jennifer Garcia, Newhall CA  
 Michael/Jody Gardner, Newark OH  
 Jacob/Erika Garrett, West Plains MO  
 Thomas/Cile Gierhahn, Gainesville GA  
 Raymond/Penny Hall, Key West FL  
 Kent/Mary Lou Hazelwood, Stayton OR  
 Max/Jane Hooper, Birmingham IL

Benjamin/Paula House, Rusk TX  
 Calvin Howard, Layton UT  
 Jay Jackson, Portland OR  
 Johnny/Judy Kirby, Mount Vernon TX  
 Tim Laframboise, Cramerton NC  
 John/Debby Lott, Fresno CA  
 Bradley Mays, Mason OH  
 Terry/Debbie McCall, Sunrise FL  
 Barry/Jill McMillion, Mill Spring NC  
 Kurt/Iris Meyer, Highland CA  
 Ronnie/Niscah Moller, Keene TX  
 Robert/Barbara Moon, Punta Gorda FL  
 Michael/Sharon Murphy, New Lowell ON  
 John/Carol Perry, West Columbia SC  
 Bruce/Nancy Plumb, Galena MO  
 Rick/Teena Pulliam, Terrell TX  
 Phil/Teresa Raisin, Dalton GA  
 Harry/Marti Reed, Colorado Springs CO  
 Reid/Debbie Rucker, Livingston TX  
 Randall/Athena Russell, Brenham TX  
 Willie/Laura Sanders, Nursery TX  
 Joe/Debbie Sannutti, Baxley GA  
 Stephen Sayles/Susan Sullivan, Ocala FL  
 James/Judi Scott, Pueblo West CO  
 John/Frances Shealy, Mims FL

James Smith/Terri Boyce, Jamul CA  
 Scott Stauffer/Joyce Infante, Livermore CA  
 Fred/Mary Ann Steele, Redmond OR  
 Brian/Laura Stewart, Cocoa FL  
 Howard/Cathy Stewart, Wheeling WV  
 David/Cindy Strickland, Fairfield CA  
 Terry/Julie Thain, Amalga UT  
 Ronald/Tonda Thompson, Concord NC  
 Ray Thorpe/Barbara Szubert, Calgary AB  
 Robert/Joanne Turnage, Longwood FL  
 Roger Van Winkle/Cheryl Asher, Denison TX  
 Newt/Shelley Watson, Mineola TX  
 Michael/Kay Winslow, Spring Branch TX  
 Bill/Rose Zeiner, Livingston TX  
 Gwendolyn Zupans/Daniel St-Louis, Pensacola FL

**WELCOME BACK:**  
 Robert/Edee Ballew, Woody CA  
 David/Diane Eagle, Tillamook OR  
 Jim Holub, Marion IA  
 Sheri/Hamilton Iida, Lake Havasu City AZ  
 Ralph/Mary O'Neal, Kingstree SC  
 Larry/Maureen Record, Belmont NH  
 Chuck/Dot Smith, Crockett TX



# National Rally Master's Report . . . . . by Dick Snyder

This summer has been cool and wet here in Indiana and I like it. Everything is so green and the crops look very good. We installed a sprinkler system last year and used it a lot then, but have hardly used it this year. Of course, the summer season is not over.

We are pretty much staying around the house this summer, working on and modifying our new 40X. We will be heading west in September for the national in Pueblo. After Pueblo, we will visit our daughter and family in Boulder, Colorado, and then head down to the balloon festival in Albuquerque, New Mexico. After that we will spend some time in Texas and back to Indiana in November.

Every so often, as rally master, I receive information about RV and travel shows. A recent invitation is for the St. Louis *RV Vacation and Travel Show* set for January 14-17, 2010. It is being held at the America's Center, St. Louis, Missouri. If you are still in the north next January (before heading to Seffner) and looking for things to do around St. Louis, this might be a good one. If you need more information, let me know.

It's always hard to find the best location for a national DOAI rally. Our future region hosts (and sites where known or proposed) for national rallies are as follows:

- 2009 - Northwest - *Colorado State Fairgrounds, Pueblo CO*
- 2010 - Southeast - *River Plantation, Sevierville TN*
- 2011 - Northeast - *perhaps Hershey PA*
- 2012 - South Central
- 2013 - Southwest
- 2014 - Southeast
- 2015 - Northwest
- 2016 - North Central



If you have a favorite place that has full hookups and can accommodate 150 to 200 coaches, let me know.



**Merchandise Chairman Sez...**

**D**enim DOAI ball caps are coming back! That's right, many of you have asked for them and we will have them for sale with other DOAI merchandise at the national rally and the southeast region rally. Plan to stop by the DOAI merchandise sales area and find that just-right DOAI item to show your Discovery pride!

### Region Reports

#### South Central Region . . . . . by Joe Stewart

Things have been pretty quiet in the south central region although various chapters have had an occasional rally or two this summer. The big news, of course, is the heat wave (and the extreme drought) in central and south Texas. The last report I received indicated that San Antonio had experienced 36+ days of temperatures of 100 degrees or more. The dry spell of the past two+ years isn't helping either, as lakes and rivers in the area are drying up.



VP Joe

I've asked the presidents of the chapters in Louisiana and Texas to canvass their membership for recommendations for a possible regional DOAI rally in 2012 as we will be the host region for the national rally that year. I've received little response, though a couple of locations have been mentioned. Those of you who do not belong to a chapter are welcome to make your recommendations. In fact, I would like to hear from those of you living in the Oklahoma and Arkansas areas. So come on, people, let me hear from you. My email is [retafwx@aol.com](mailto:retafwx@aol.com).

Some news for you regarding **Tom Fields**, a former national DOAI officer who has Parkinson's disease: he is currently in an assisted living home. Recently, several members of the Texas chapters went to visit him on his birthday and, according to reports, he thoroughly enjoyed their visit. Additionally, I was told, he has made great improvement over the past several weeks.

**Justine** and I will be leaving our camp hosting job here in the Oregon Cascades soon and will work our way to the rally in Pueblo. Hopefully we will see you all there.

Finally, as you all know, this is election year and my term is up. I am on the ballot for another term; however, in the event I am not re-elected, I want to thank you all for the privilege of serving you for the last two years. ☀

#### Southeast Region . . . . . by Frank Cason

In 2010, the southeast region rally will be held in Seffner, Florida. The DOAI board has approved the concept for a different type of rally. It will be called **Camp Discovery** and is set for January 31-February 5. It will consist of four days of instruction on every aspect of the Discovery. A lot of effort is being expended to make this a worthwhile event. There is so much we can all learn about our Discoverys.



VP Frank

The Mason-Dixon Discoverys members will host the rally, with **John Ricciardi** serving as the rally master. Mark your calendar and make plans to attend yet another different southeast region rally.

The registration form is in this newsletter (page 23) along with very important information (page 22). Get those registrations in now. We are hoping for a great turnout. With this new concept, the rally is promised to bring knowledge to each attendee. ☀

#### Southwest Region . . . . . by John Bujnovsky

**Shirley** and I, with the **Valesquezes**, went to the Fleetwood rally in Gillette, Wyoming, in June. On the way, we stopped in Jackson, Wyoming, to visit the Grand Tetons and Yellowstone national park. We then went on to the rally and visited Devil's Tower national monument. We did bump into some Discovery friends during the rally.



VP John

Afterwards, we went to Rapid City, South Dakota, to visit Custer state park, Mount Rushmore, and the Badlands. It was nice to get away from the 115-degree weather here in Las Vegas. Even with the tough times that Fleetwood is having, it was an enjoyable rally and a lot of fun.

As far as the region, there are no changes to report. ☀

### Chapter Reports

#### Discovery Pioneers . . . . . by Chuck Brock

We have been quite busy this season with several rallies, and look forward to our future with high expectations of another successful year.



Prez Chuck

This year we had our second early spring rally with our snowbird friends who winter over in Arizona. We met in Green Valley, Arizona, where we had some excellent tours and great social events. We welcomed one new member at this event and hosted some of our friends as well. Since then, we have gained two more new members and we welcome them to our wonderful chapter.

We have had successful rallies in Las Cruces, New Mexico, at the FMA rally in Gillette, Wyoming, and will be supporting the national rally in Pueblo, Colorado. Look up our members supporting the national rally team and say hello. The

Pioneers salute all our members involved for their efforts in this event.

I thank the past officers for their support over the years and welcome the new officers who will be leading the chapter in the ensuing year.

Watch this publication for announcements of our early spring rally somewhere in southern Arizona, as well as our seasonal rally events. ☀

#### Desert Rats . . . . . by John Bujnovsky

We just returned from a beautiful week in Maui with our children and grandchildren. Since they haven't begun building the bridge from the mainland to the Hawaiian islands, we did not take the Big D with us.

We had our May rally at the Canyon RV Resort in Anaheim Hills, California. We only had two coaches at this



### Chapter Reports, continued

rally. The **Velasquezes**, along with **Shirley** and I, took mountain bikes. We drove to Newport Beach, parked the cars and rode our bikes up to the Huntington Beach pier for lunch. It was a beautiful day and the lunch on the beach was relaxing.

The second day, we drove again over to Newport Beach but rode our bikes out to Balboa island for lunch. Again, it was a beautiful day and a relaxing lunch.

We had our usual barbecues each night, bringing each other up to date on family life and fun life.

Our next rally will be Labor Day weekend at the Pechanga Indian Casino in Temecula, California. Again, we welcome anyone who might be in the area to join us for a visit to the wonderful wineries in that area. Update: our membership numbers 13.

Shirley and I will see everyone at the national rally in Pueblo, Colorado. We hope it is a great turnout and are looking forward to it. ☀



Prez John

### Quad State LATO . . . . . by Juanita Eddings

**O**ur chapter has been busy with a rally May 6-10 in Carthage, Missouri, and another rally July 1 at Canyon, Texas.

The Carthage rally got really exciting when a tornado came through about three miles from the park. The wind and rain was fierce, and one tree came up from the roots and landed across a coach just a few spaces from where our group was parked. That coach was really messed up. The wife was in the coach at the time but was not hurt.

In July, we met about 10 miles from Amarilla, Texas, and toured Pala Duro state park. We played numerous games of *Jokers and Marbles*. The men won more games than the women, and we have not heard the end of the teasing yet.

We toured some of Route 66 and found some really old stores to look through. We ate dinner in Amarilla where they offer to let you eat free if you eat a 72-ounce steak and the rest of the meal – baked potato, salad, roll, and three shrimp. As we arrived, two men actually finished the meal and did get the \$72.00 meal free. Frankly, the steak looked more like a roast than a steak.

The women enjoyed the Fourth of July dinner since the men went shopping and grilled steak, shrimp, and corn and even cleaned up the mess! That night we went to town and watched the fireworks. As usual, the time just flew by and we are looking forward to the chapter's November rally. ☀



Prez Gene

### Texas Disco Road Runners . . . . . by Jay Keneson

**A**nother quarter of the year has passed and south central Texas has experienced a summer of record! The temperature has been hotter for longer, with less rain, than documented in recorded history. This is not something to brag about, but has been a good reason for more than half of our

chapter to be elsewhere for the last three or four months. Their travel destinations have been from Alaska to Maine and northerly points between. Even with so many gone, we had a great rally in July in Riviera, Texas, on beautiful Baffin bay. The RV park had great sites, an outstanding rally hall, and is located beside a state park on the beach.

While there, we enjoyed an interesting **Prez Jay** tour of the world famous King ranch. Our guide provided an in-depth narration of the ranch's history and its contribution to the cattle industry. The ranch house is actually a mansion, providing five-star service to the King heirs and their guests. (No, we were not invited to stay.) The city of Kingsville offered wonderful museums, restaurants, and other sites to visit.

At present we are planning and preparing for our travels to national rally in Pueblo. At our last count, we had 15 coach owners planning on going. We hope to have several more decide to also attend; some just take more convincing than others. We hope to see all of you there.

Again, we invite all of you to join us at any of our local campouts. The next one we have planned is October 27-November 1 in Murchison, Texas. While there we will again visit the "largest flea market in the states." It provides the ideal opportunity to stock up on an infinite variety of Christmas gifts and other items.

All of you take care, be careful, and we hope to meet you along the road. ☀



Prez Jay

### Blue Ridge Discoverys . . . . . by Frank Cason

**T**his message comes to you from Mitchell, South Dakota. As we arrived at R&R campground, they had a marquee sign welcoming the Blue Ridge Discovery Group. What a surprise to all of us.

Blue Ridge Discoverys had a great turnout for the rally in Lewisburg, West Virginia. We say thanks to **Gail and Glenn** **Camp** for hosting the rally and for showing all of us what real West Virginia hospitality is all about.

Our October rally in Dillard, Georgia, is on track, and the hosts have their plans together. We have 25 spaces on hold; these spaces will fill up fast since it is in the fall of the year, so it will be first come, first served. Turning of the leaves in the north Georgia mountains is another reason to attend. The registration will be open until September 15, so if you have not done so, get those registrations in *now*. We need to fill these spaces to get the great rally price at the park.

Our next chapter rally will be in Bluff City, Tennessee, in June 2010. More information will be sent to chapter members as this rally is set up. It will be hosted by the officers of the chapter.

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



Prez Frank

# Discovery Modifications ..... by Dan Stoppenbach

Late last year, I installed a ceiling fan in our bedroom. We have a 1997 36RS; I realize that how I did it may be different for those of you with higher ceilings and/or newer models. And frankly, I just did my usual "hack and cut" to do what I wanted, but this time it actually worked!

I started with a cheap 42-inch ceiling hugger fan (how cheap? I



I put a thick coat of an adhesive (Liquid Nails®) on the aluminum where it would contact the foam duct. Placing the angle into the duct and pulling on the string at the same time positioned the angle to where I wanted it in the duct. Then I did the other one the same way.

**Hint #1:** Place the nozzle of the adhesive tube into the hole through the



Blades shortened by re-drilling and changing the screw locations

bought it NIB at a garage sale for \$2.00!). I modified the blades – shortened them by a few inches for a bit of insurance that I wouldn't walk into them (photo left).

I used the AC duct as the wire raceway. I removed the filter and bottom ductwork to gain

access to the duct itself. I cut a couple of 12-inch lengths of 1.5x3-inch aluminum angle from a commercial rain gutter extrusion. I drilled a 1/4-inch hole at a guesstimated place on the longer leg of the angles. The guesswork was not far to place it from the edge of the angle so the fan bracket would line up in the end.

ceiling and squeeze a liberal amount into the duct *instead of* dragging an adhesive mess through the duct as I did. I put some weight on each cord to hold them in contact with the foam duct and let the adhesive dry overnight. **Hint #2:** I could have used a couple of drill-pointed screws to hold them instead of waiting for the adhesive to dry.

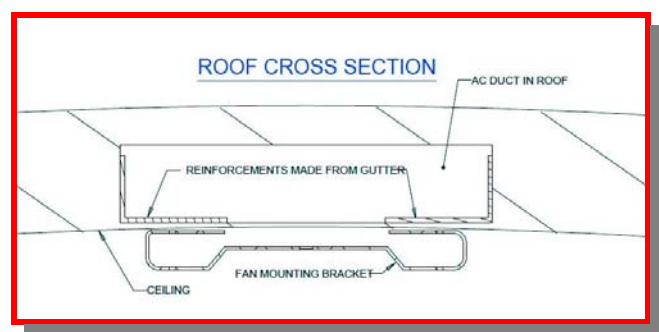


Heavy 10-gauge wire

The next day, I drilled a larger diameter hole to match the expanding toggle nut I placed into each hole and through the aluminum. I attached the fan bracket securely to the ceiling and drilled the wire hole through the center. I pushed a length of wire into the foam duct and out the AC ductwork.

access to the duct itself. I cut a couple of 12-inch lengths of 1.5x3-inch aluminum angle from a commercial rain gutter extrusion. I drilled a 1/4-inch hole at a guesstimated place on the longer leg of the angles. The guesswork was not far to place it from the edge of the angle so the fan bracket would line up in the end.

I then went to work on the electrical outlet inside the rear TV enclosure. I started to replace the single outlet with a duplex receptacle. **Hint #3:** Don't. Those are #10-gauge wires and they don't bend easily (photo above). I spliced on another outlet into the wiring after I repaired my mistake. I drilled a hole up through the enclosure to the foam duct. This allowed me to feed the wire through the duct and have it exit in the TV enclosure to my new receptacle.



Drawing of roof cross section

I located where I wanted the center of the fan mount on the ceiling. Using the fan mount bracket as a guide, I drilled two holes through the ceiling and into the AC duct. I then used a wire to push a string into each hole from the bottom until I could grab them from the AC outlet. Then I pushed a string through one of the angle reinforcements and tied a large knot on the inside of the angle legs. The drawing of the roof cross section (photo above) shows what I did.

After fishing the wire through the hole into the TV area and adding a male plug on the end, I reassembled the AC parts. I plugged it in and pulled the switch. Everything worked and no sparks! Another light between the two already installed over the bed was too much. I removed the light that came with the fan. I discovered that the lid off a peanut butter jar just slipped over the open area where the light was. A shot of white paint finished it.

Due to the fan being mounted in a small area, the blades could not gather enough air to provide the breeze that I desired. Placing the fan in reverse (pushing the air into the ceiling), however, works wonders. There is gentle air movement throughout the bedroom without the usual blast from being directly under a ceiling fan. Success!





## Rally Opportunities

Jump in and meet new friends and see new places via the chapter lifestyle. Other Discovery owners are waiting to welcome you! **Chapters: Are your rallies listed?** If not, please send information to the editor at [doaexpress@discoveryowners.com](mailto:doaexpress@discoveryowners.com).

### October 2009 –

- 1-4 Dixie Travelers, Nashville TN
- 1-4 Midwest Discoverers, Milford MI
- 2-4 Desert Rats, Big Bear Lake CA
- 21-25 Blue Ridge Discoverys, Dillard GA
- 23-27 Florida Disco Rolling Gators, Sorrento FL
- 27-11/1 Texas Disco Road Runners, Murchison TX

### November 2009 –

- 5-8 Quad State LATO, Texarkana AR
- 12-15 Mason-Dixon Discoverys, Williamsburg VA
- 19-21 Discovery Texans, Kerrville TX

### December 2009 –

- 30-1/2 Florida Disco Rolling Gators, Seffner FL

### January 2010 –

- 31-2/5 Southeast Region Rally, Seffner FL

### May 2010 –

- 1-7 Florida Disco Rolling Gators, Grassy Key FL

### September 2010 –

- 20-26 DOAI National Rally, Sevierville TN

### Looking Toward the Future –

- 2011 DOAI National Rally, Northeast Region
- 2012 DOAI National Rally, South Central Region
- 2013 DOAI National Rally, Southwest Region
- 2014 DOAI National Rally, Southeast Region
- 2015 DOAI National Rally, Northwest Region
- 2016 DOAI National Rally, North Central Region

## Repair of Day/Night Shades . . . . . by Dennis McCanna

Have you had the misfortune to have one of your day/night shades break? I guess that is a dumb question, as it seems like everyone has this issue, one shade after another – unless you are fortunate enough to have an RV manufacturer build your unit with better-made shades. After having most of mine break within a year and replacements breaking soon after installation, I thought it was time to do something different.

It seems there are two problems. One: the shade manufacturer claims a major problem is the way in which the shades are installed and adjusted by the RV manufacturers – *the shades are 'way too tight*. If you don't have issues yet, take the time to loosen each so they just stay up.

Two: The eyelets used and installed by the shade manufacturer are a crimped one-piece eyelet that is installed upside down. If you look closely at the picture, you can see the



rough edges of the eyelet as installed. If they would have installed the eyelets the other way around, the cord would bend around a large smooth radius surface.

After repairing my shades, I have never had another one break. A second benefit is they run up and down so easy, it is like they are greased. I hope this helps anyone with the problem. I know I found the shades quite frustrating until they were repaired properly.

**Do not** send them back to the factory to be re-strung – you are wasting your money. Invest \$10 in materials to repair your own and your problems are over. For detailed instructions on how to repair the shades, go to <http://www.discoveryowners.com/daynightshtades.asp> and click on photo; a PDF file will download which includes diagrams supplied by a shade manufacturer. ☺

## Helpful RV Contact Information

Allison Transmission, GM Corp. . . . .	800.252.5283	Kwikee Products . . . . .	800.736.9961
Atwood Mobile Products . . . . .	574.264.2131	Magnadyne . . . . .	800.638.3600
Caterpillar RV Engine Support . . . . .	877.777.3126	Michelin North America . . . . .	800.847.3435
Carefree of Colorado . . . . .	800.621.2617	Norcold, Inc. . . . .	800.543.1219
Carriage Carpets (Shaw Flooring) . . . . .	877.706.3054	Onan . . . . .	800.888.6626
CCI Controls . . . . .	800.521.5228	Power Gear . . . . .	800.334.4712
Cummins, Inc. . . . .	800.343.7357	Riverpark . . . . .	800.442.7717
Denso (call Fleetwood) . . . . .	800.322.8216	RV Dump Locations . . . . .	<a href="http://www.rvdumps.com">www.rvdumps.com</a>
Dometic Corporation . . . . .	800.544.4881	RVP (Coleman) . . . . .	316.832.4357
Fantastic Vent . . . . .	800.521.0298	RVP (Suburban) . . . . .	423.775.2131
Fleetwood RV . . . . .	800.322.8216	Splendide . . . . .	800.356.0766
Freightliner Chassis Corp . . . . .	800.385.4357	Thetford Corp. . . . .	800.521.3032
General Electric . . . . .	<a href="http://www.geappliances.com/geac/">www.geappliances.com/geac/</a>	Trojan Battery Company . . . . .	<a href="http://www.trojanbattery.com">www.trojanbattery.com</a>
Goodyear Tire & Rubber . . . . .	800.321.2136	Velvac . . . . .	800.783.8871
Intellitec . . . . .	800.251.2408	Winegard . . . . .	800.288.8094
Kidde Safety Products . . . . .	800.880.6788	Xantrex Technology . . . . .	800.670.0707

## DOAI Board of Directors

### President

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

### Executive Vice President

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

### Vice President of Development

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

### Secretary

Elsie Sikes, 240 Star Ln, Pipe Creek TX 78063-5147; 830.535.6532; 979.229.4588; [sikesel@gmail.com](mailto:sikesel@gmail.com)

### Treasurer Pro Tem

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

### National Rally Master

Dick Snyder, 411 Alexander Dr, Seymour IN 47274-8633; 812.522.4535; 812.521.0137; [rdsnyder4@gmail.com](mailto:rdsnyder4@gmail.com)

### Past President

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

### Region Vice Presidents:

**North Central** (IL, IN, IA, KS, MI, MN, MO, NE, ND, SD, WI, MB, NU, ON)  
Charlie Richardson, 3219 County Road 461, Poplar Bluff MO 63901-6126; 573.785.8703; 573.429.4884; [cer\\_ejr@yahoo.com](mailto:cer_ejr@yahoo.com)

**Northeast** (CT, ME, MA, NH, NJ, NY, OH, PA, RI, VT, NB, NL, NS, PE, QC)  
Steve Masterson, 3590 Round Bottom Rd PMB 272580, Cincinnati OH 45244-3026; 518.526.0054; [masterson100@yahoo.com](mailto:masterson100@yahoo.com)

**Northwest** (AK, CO, ID, MT, OR, UT, WA, WY, AB, BC, NT, SK, YT)  
Bob Soltwedel, 4736 Harwich St, Boulder CO 80301-4217; 303.530.0775; 303.513.8548; [bob.soltwedel@gmail.com](mailto:bob.soltwedel@gmail.com)

**South Central** (AR, LA, OK, TX)  
Joe Stewart, PO Box 9100-176, Bandera TX 78003; 830.535.6633; 830.460.0683; [retafx@aol.com](mailto:retafx@aol.com)

**Southeast** (AL, DE, FL, GA, KY, MD, MS, NC, SC, TN, VA, WV)  
Frank Cason, 1917 Stone Dam Rd, Chuckey TN 37641-4876; 423.639.4079; 423.552.5257; [cason.frank@gmail.com](mailto:cason.frank@gmail.com)

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

## DOAI Chapters and Presidents

### Arizona Discovery Owners (AZ)

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

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

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

### California Goodtimers (CA)

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

### Desert Rats (NV)

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

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

Chuck Brock, PO Box 578, Pequot Lakes MN 56472-0578; 218.330.4632; [bass640770@aol.com](mailto:bass640770@aol.com)

### Discovery Texans (TX)

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

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

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

### Florida Discovery Rolling Gators (FL)

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

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

Bobby Simpson, 129 Ivy Ct, New Tazewell TN 37825-5399; 423.626.8038; 765.860.3591; [simyb36@aol.com](mailto:simyb36@aol.com)

### Louisiana Mudbugs (LA)

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

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

John Ricciardi, 477 The Gardens Dr, Crossville TN 38555-0301; 252.619.7198; [jonall135@yahoo.com](mailto:jonall135@yahoo.com)

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

Peg Lavoie, 1423 US 127, Bryan OH 43506-9644; 419.636.4602; 419.633.4850; [peg@lavoies.com](mailto:peg@lavoies.com)

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

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

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

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

### Quad State LATO (AR, LA, OK, TX)

Gene Sawyer, 442 AN County Rd 325, Frankston TX 75763-6462; 903.520.1253; [gene@fesawyer.com](mailto:gene@fesawyer.com)

### Texas Disco Road Runners (TX)

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

## DOAI Committee Chairmen

### Webmaster

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

### Assistant Webmaster

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

### Merchandise Director

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

### Vice Treasurer

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

## Nominees for 2010-2011 DOAI National Board of Directors

The nominating committee contacted many DOAI members over the past few months. While getting two people to run for each position proved to be impossible, the committee is pleased to announce the following candidates for your consideration. These good people have stepped forward and said they would be honored to help lead DOAI over the next two years. We thank them for being willing to serve the membership in this way. The résumés below will introduce each candidate to you. Please read the material carefully before casting your vote.

Internet and paper voting instructions can be found on page 13. Please follow the guidelines carefully so your vote can be counted.

### President

#### Marshall Godwin

A native of Mobile, Alabama, Marshall and his wife, Becky, currently reside in King George, Virginia. He joined the U.S. Navy after high school in 1965. After serving in a technical field for 13 years, Marshall was accepted for an officer program. After getting a degree in business management, he was commissioned an ensign. Following another 15 years' service, Marshall retired as a lieutenant commander in 1993.



Following his retirement from the Navy, Marshall co-founded an information technology company that grew to over 500 employees before being sold in 2005, at which time he retired.

When not traveling, Marshall and Becky are active in their local church and enjoy spending time with family.

Marshall is the current president of DOAI, and also served as vice president of development. He is a founding member of Mason-Dixon Discoverys chapter, and he has served in a number of key coordinator roles for major DOAI rallies.

### Executive Vice President

#### John Baker

John is currently serving as executive vice president, as well as president of the Discovery Texans chapter. As EVP, John determined



the need and followed the path required to re-incorporate our association and revise our bylaws and standing rules to comply with Virginia statutes.

In his professional life, John retired from SBC, the corporate predecessor of the new AT&T, after managing various accounting and customer billing operations for 35 years. His last position

was associate director of finance operations, where he was responsible for developing and controlling the budgets for SBC's national payment processing operations. In retirement, he serves several leadership roles in his church and participates in a number of civic endeavors. John and Felesa have been married 43 years. Their daughter and son-in-law live two doors away, and have blessed the Bakers with five grandchildren. Their current "whole family project" is caring for John's critically ill 88-year-old mother.

### Vice President of Development

#### Bob Soltwedel

Bob and his wife, Nina, were born and raised in Richland Center, Wisconsin. Married in 1957, they have lived in Boulder, Colorado, for 35 years. They have two children and one grandchild.



Bob served in the U.S. Navy for four years, and thus began his electronics career. After the Navy, Bob got an associate degree in electronics at DeVry University in Chicago. He joined a small electronics firm in the northwest suburbs, focusing on research, development, and quality control. After several years there, Bob joined the staff of the cloud physics lab at the University of Chicago, designing the packaging for a space probe which eventually went to Venus.

When the man Bob worked for at the university formed his own start-up electronics firm in Boulder, Bob and his family made their move to Colorado. In 1998, with the roster numbering close to 300, the company was sold to a British holding company. Bob continued with the new company until his retirement in 2002, doing manufacturing engineering

and CE mark development and testing.

The sale of the company provided Bob with the funds to purchase his first RV. Bob says, "I picked the Fleetwood Discovery 36T as the best-bang-for-the-buck diesel pusher available in July 1998." In 2004 they sold their D to a good friend (who is now a DOAI member) and bought a 2005 39L.

Bob co-chaired the vendor committee for the 2001 DOAI national rally in Colorado, and has served four years as DOAI northwest region vice president. Bob is active in the Discovery Pioneers chapter, and is the chapter treasurer. Nina, Bob's wife, is DOAI newsletter editor.

### Secretary

#### MaryAnn Crowell

MaryAnn and her husband, Don, live in the small central Texas town of Westphalia. MaryAnn says, "We are so small that our post office is in the next town, Lott." The Crowells are originally from upstate New York, and they retired to Texas in 1999.



Shortly after arriving in Texas, the couple was asked to help form the Texas Disco Road Runners chapter of DOAI. MaryAnn served as vice president of the chapter for many years, and currently serves the chapter as newsletter editor. She has also been secretary for the local VFW auxiliary, and the altar society of their church, currently serving as president of the society.

MaryAnn also worked at the local school for a few years as secretary and computer teacher (to the staff). MaryAnn is keeper of the local town's historical society mailing list, as well as the local veterans' list. She designs the program for the community's Memorial Day



## Nominees, continued

salute, and created the posters and advertisement for most of their local events.

On the DOAI level, MaryAnn served as membership director from 2001 through 2004 before handing the reins over to DOAI's present membership director.

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### Treasurer

#### Pete Palasota

Pete is married to Martha, and they live in Texas. Pete graduated from Baylor University with a degree in business administration with a major in accounting. He is a CPA in Texas. He worked for a CPA firm in Waco for one year, doing tax and audit work. Then he joined a local business that was just getting started and served as comptroller. Pete was appointed the chief financial officer and the business grew to sales exceeding \$200 million. Pete retired in 1999 after 35 years with the company.

As an active RVer, Pete has served several RV organizations: treasurer for the Freightliner Chassis Owners Club for nearly five years; treasurer of DeMontmond Travelers for four years; currently treasurer of Discovery Texans, as well as treasurer of Discovery International FMCA. He and Martha purchased their Discovery in 1997 and have been members of DOAI almost since its beginning.




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### Vice Treasurer

#### David Blomstrom

David is a native Houstonian. After attending Reagan high school, David joined the U.S. Navy in June 1954, serving aboard two ships and receiving an honorable discharge in 1957. He then attended the University of Houston on the GI Bill, graduating with honors (BBA) in 1961.

David worked as a CPA both in public practice and later in private industry before forming his own CPA firm 1968. In December 1999 David



sold off a majority of his CPA practice and began "semi-retirement" (David says semi-retirement is "still working but not making much.") He still does tax work in and around his RV travels, cruises, and other tours (he loves to travel).

David owned three custom vans before buying a 26-foot travel trailer which he towed with one of the vans. This rig was sold during the gas lines of around 1980 or so. He bought his first motor home around 1998 – a Flair, which he enjoyed until one day his five-year-old grandson, standing in the aisle, said, "Papa, this motor home needs to be wider right here!" So, in 2005 David bought his 2004 Discovery 39B.

David attends all the rallies his schedule permits, and has attended the last five national rallies, as well as two of the southeast region rallies, including the 2009 gathering in Tennessee. He enjoys making new friends during these rallies, as well as the sometimes-new places he gets to visit. At times he is accompanied in his travels by his wife, Ginger, a PhD nursing professor at the University of Houston nursing school, and/or granddaughter DD, age 5.

David hopes to continue RVing as long as his physical and fiscal health holds out, and hopes to see DOAI continue to grow as more and more Discovery owners learn the benefits of membership.

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### National Rally Master

#### Dick Snyder

Dick is a native of Seymour, Indiana, and he and his wife, Brenda, still live there. Dick is a retired lineman after 30 years with Cinegy PSI. Brenda is a retired nurse. After Dick retired, he purchased an earthmover and developed 29 lots on their 14-acre farm. The Snyders have one child, and three grandchildren who live in Boulder. Their son died in 2006.

Their number one pastime is traveling and RVing. They also own a Cessna 172 airplane and always look forward to flying it to Oshkosh, Wisconsin, each summer for the annual fly-in.



Dick and Brenda have their second Discovery, a 2009 40X, and have been members of DOAI since April 1999. Since joining DOAI, they have met a lot of people and have made many new friends.

Dick served four years as vice president of the north central region. After **Jay Keneson** resigned in 2008, Dick was appointed national rally master.

Dick says, "My goal in the next two years will be to find the best locations for our future rallies. I will work with fellow board members and support the president for the good of DOAI. I will be available to help all DOAI members with any problems they may encounter."

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### North Central Region Vice President

#### Charlie Richardson

Charlie and his wife, Echo, have lived in Poplar Bluff, Missouri, for 27 years. They have two children and five grandchildren (soon to be six) and a Boston terrier traveling companion fittingly named Princess.

Charlie had his own business before his retirement in 2007. He was a member of Homeland Security and the Poplar Bluff volunteer fire department for many years, and was named volunteer of the year by the city. He and Echo were wed in 1976, and together they worked in the used car business for over 30 years, which branched out into finance, self-storage, and real estate. Charlie is listed in the *Who's Who of Businessmen in Washington, D.C.*

The Richardsons purchased their first Discovery in 2003, and followed with a second D in 2008. Charlie and Echo worked with many other region members to put on that great tenth anniversary national rally last year.

Currently serving as vice president of the north central region, Charlie has worked hard to keep region members informed of happenings in DOAI. He always votes to protect the club's vision.

*Continued on page 15...*



# Ballot Instructions for 2009 Election

1. Cut out this **entire** page on the dotted line.
2. **Vote for one person for each office.**
3. **Vote ONLY for your region's candidate for region vice president.** If you vote for more than one region vice president, no region vice president vote will be counted for your ballot.
4. Mark the boxes clearly.
5. If you vote for a write-in candidate, please **print** the name so there is no misunderstanding.
6. After voting, fold the ballot on the dotted lines (see reverse), with mailing label (reverse of this page) on the outside.
7. Tape "envelope" securely closed on ends and flap edge.
8. **IMPORTANT:** Place your membership number and two-letter region designation (see example below) in noted area on upper left-hand corner. Your membership number is shown on the mailing label of this newsletter and on your membership card. Your region is shown on page 10 of this issue.
9. **Only** dues-current members are eligible to vote. If your dues **are not current** on November 15, 2009, your vote **will not be counted.**
10. Affix first class postage and mail.
11. Your ballot, when received, will be checked against the current membership number/region list (no names on list, just numbers and region designations). If the number is current, the number section is **cut off** the ballot and kept by a DOAI member, who will not know how you voted.
12. The **unopened** ballot is given to two other DOAI members (non-candidates) for counting. They will not know who cast the ballots.
13. **Ballots received without a membership number and region designation in upper left-hand corner will not be counted, and will be discarded.**
14. **IF YOU VOTE ELECTRONICALLY, DO NOT USE THIS PAPER BALLOT.**

**Deadline to receive ballots is November 15, 2009. Ballots received after that date will not be counted. Mail your ballot soon!**

## BALLOT

### Executive Officers

↘ Write-in votes go here – print name and check box. ↙

President

**Marshall Godwin**  \_\_\_\_\_

Executive Vice President

**John Baker**  \_\_\_\_\_

Vice President of Development

**Bob Soltwedel**  \_\_\_\_\_

Secretary

**MaryAnn Crowell**  \_\_\_\_\_

Treasurer

**Pete Palasota**  \_\_\_\_\_

Vice Treasurer

**David Blomstrom**  \_\_\_\_\_

National Rally Master

**Dick Snyder**  \_\_\_\_\_

### Region Vice Presidents

▶▶ Vote ONLY for the candidate representing YOUR region ◀◀

North Central Region (NC)

**Charlie Richardson**  \_\_\_\_\_

Northeast Region (NE)

**Steve Masterson**  \_\_\_\_\_

Northwest Region (NW)

**Bob Williams**  \_\_\_\_\_

South Central Region (SC)

**Joe Stewart**  \_\_\_\_\_

Southeast Region (SE)

**John Ricciardi**  \_\_\_\_\_

Southwest Region (SW)

**John Bujnovsky**  \_\_\_\_\_

DOAI Membership No. & Two-Letter Region

222 NC

Example of upper left-hand box on front of "envelope"

**DOAI Membership No. & Two-Letter Region**

\_\_\_\_\_

Affix  
First  
Class  
Postage

PHILIP YOVINO, CHAIRMAN  
DOAI NOMINATING COMMITTEE  
214 FAIRFIELD ST  
SHOREACRES TX 77571-7155

## Nominees, continued

Charlie and Echo are active members in the Heartland Discoverys chapter; and his motto appears in each edition of the chapter newsletter: *Miles behind us and smiles ahead of us*. This is his way of looking at his retirement and travels with DOAI.

### Northeast Region Vice President Steve Masterson

Steve retired as the director of labor relations and training from the New York State comptroller, and has been full-timing since 2005. He has two children and three grandchildren. Steve and his partner, Kathy, have a beach house in Jupiter, Florida, where they winter. They spend most summers exploring the national parks west of the Mississippi and in Canada. Steve is a volunteer with the Martin county American Red Cross chapter in Florida, and is an active Disaster Services Human Resource (DSHR) member.

Steve has been a member DOAI and the Nor'easters chapter since 2003. He chaired the 2008 DOAI audit committee, which made suggestions to improve the organization's financial accounting process.

In 2008, Steve was appointed by the board fill the northeast region vice president seat which was vacated by the death of **John Zidek**.



### Northwest Region Vice President Bob Williams

Bob was born in southern Idaho and graduated from Utah State University at Logan, Utah. He and Portia married in 1964 and took an extended three-year honeymoon in Las Vegas, Nevada (Bob worked at the Nevada test site). They moved to Salt Lake City, Utah, for the remainder of Bob's career as a computer/systems programmer for an aerospace company. He retired in 1999.

Bob and Portia began RVing in the early 1970s with a pickup truck and camper that was used to pull motorcycles and boats. In the early 1990s, they purchased their first motor home (used). In early 1998 they moved up to a new Discovery 34Q, and in late 2008 they traded it for a 2009 40X.

Bob and Portia attended their first DOAI national rally in Indiana in September 1999, and have attended every national rally since. The couple has been involved with vendors and seminars at four rallies including the 2009 national in Pueblo. Bob's wife, Portia, serves DOAI as membership director.



### South Central Vice President Joe Stewart

Joe is a native of Missouri, but calls Texas home. Joe served 46 years in the U.S. Air Force, and served 20 years with the National Weather Service. Joe is a Viet Nam vet. He and Justine have been married 15 years.

Joe and Justine bought their first motor home (a Bounder)



in 1998, drove it a year, and then traded it in on their first Discovery in 1999. In 2005 they bought their present Discovery.

The Stewarts joined DOAI and the Discovery Texans "almost immediately" after buying the 1999 Discovery. They have enjoyed their relationship with the members they've met. Joe has served the chapter as wagon master.

Joe says, "We have chapters in Texas and Louisiana; I would like to see chapters in Arkansas and Oklahoma, as well as other chapters in west Texas and in the panhandle."

### Southeast Vice President John Ricciardi

John and Alice Ricciardi are originally from New Jersey where John was a police officer and Alice was an executive assistant for a crystal importing company. John retired after 26 years of service and they traveled around the country.

The Ricciardis began camping in a pop-up trailer and progressed to a travel trailer, fifth wheel, and their 2003 D is their second motor home.

John and Alice have attended every national rally since the 2004 rally in Sedalia, Missouri. They have attended as many of the southeast region rallies as possible.

John is currently serving as president of the Mason-Dixon Discoverys and will be rally master for the 2010 southeast region rally next January.



### Southwest Region Vice President John Bujnovsky

John and his wife of 49 years, Shirley, were born in Reading, Pennsylvania. They have two grown children and four grandchildren. John and Shirley are retired and live in Las Vegas, Nevada.

John and Shirley began RVing in 1969 with a pop-up tent trailer. In 1980, they bought their first motor home, and the 2004 Discovery is their fourth rig and, as John says, the best one yet (three of the four were Fleetwood products).

John says, "My goals as vice president of the southwest region are to continue recruiting new members to the DOAI, as well as new members to the chapters in the region. DOAI brings people together who own the same type of motor home, and there is always a lot to talk about."



Now that you have "met" the candidates, please take time to cast your ballot, either by utilizing the paper ballot contained within this issue, or (when you receive the email notice) by voting online at [ballotbin.com](http://ballotbin.com).



# One Man's Life

Part Two: A Chapter of Our Lives Has Closed ..... by Pete Shaffer

## BigD Fire Aftermath - Disposal

Are inanimate objects alive? Like your motor coach, is she alive? I am in the "yes" camp, but I would probably think my wife is in the "no" camp. My dad said that cars and boats are "shes" because we have to love them, care for them and even fix them all the time. Not sure what he actually meant by "fix them," but since Mom and Dad had six of us kids, I'm thinking he did not mean what we just did to our dog. I will leave that up to you to decide.

My coach, the BigD, was alive. I applied all of Dad's logic about these things and yes, she was alive. Let me explain. First a disclaimer. All references to "she" are about the coach, even though some comparisons could be drawn at times to my better half.

Now that the shock of losing my beloved coach to fire has passed, I pressed on to the mechanical part of any loss, getting rid of her remains. She was a big pile of black, smelly, leaking rubble, and she had to go. This should have been easy. It was not.

On April 6, I called the insurance company to report the loss and ask what I needed to do. They talked about appraising the vehicle, salvage and/or disposal. I asked if they could fast-track the disposal, since there were fluids (diesel, power steering, stabilizer jack and room slide hydraulic and maybe transmission and engine oils and antifreeze) leaking all over our side yard, and propane gas was leaking from one of the two tanks. The response I received showed me he had no idea what his company had insured. "What were you doing with propane in your car?" I explained it was a motor coach, or motor home and he said, "Oh" – you know that kind of "oh" you say when you don't have a clue, and probably under his breath was saying, "Why did I have to get this call?" Then he promised a speedy resolution and said something like "we will have it out of your way in a few days." *It took three weeks and a day.*

## And the fun begins...

The first towing/salvage company to call told me they would be here "tomorrow." I asked if they knew what they were picking up and he said, "We do this all the time, we know what we are doing, trust me." I said, "Fine. Just make sure your truck can handle 20,000 pounds."



Pete Shaffer

He was quiet for a few seconds and then said, "Okay, tell me what." I explained it was a 37-foot-long motor home and in her current location there was a steep 400-foot-long gravel driveway to ascend. He said he'd better drive out here first to look around before bringing his wrecker. Tomorrow never came for him. In fact, four tomorrows never came for him. On the fifth tomorrow, after yet another call to see where he was, I was told they were too busy and no longer interested in towing my "truck."

The insurance company sent out another towing/salvage company to do the deed. Another phone call and another explanation that this was a 20,000-pound 37-foot-long motor home (no one understands the "motor coach" title). He said, "No problem; we do this all the time and we know what we are doing, trust me. Kind of like a Greyhound bus right?" Don't you just hate it when someone refers to your coach as a bus?

Tomorrow came and went, and I called. "Tomorrow for sure," he said. I waited and, lo and behold, he was right. The next day someone drove up our driveway, got out and started to look around. With his hand over his mouth, he kept mumbling, "Omigod, omigod, omigod," over and over and over again. I asked what was wrong and he said, "This thing is huge! I thought it was going to be a large pickup truck. Omigod." After about a half hour of "omigods," he left, never to return.

The insurance company sent out the third towing/salvage company. Another call and another tomorrow. After three tomorrows, they showed up and left without even getting out of their truck, never to return. ❖❖❖



The BigD partway down the driveway



Truck pushing BigD onto trailer



BigD on trailer and being secured



BigD in body bag; truck trying to turn around



## One Man's Life, continued

The insurance company sent the fourth and final salvage company to remove the BigD. This time he came unannounced in a large tractor and 55-foot flatbed/trailer combination. The driver had to park at the bottom of our drive and walk up to the house. "I can't make the turn to get up your driveway," he said, waiting for me to offer some sort of solution to his problem.

About then, a blowing horn sounded, announcing he was blocking the road and the school bus couldn't get past.

"Where does this road come out?" he asked. I informed him it dead-ended in about a half mile and I didn't know any driveway big enough for him to turn around in. A four-letter word escaped and he started to walk back down. I jumped on my tractor and cut across the fields and went down the hill and got in front of him, then drove down Goose Creek road to find a wide spot for him to pull over to let the traffic pass. After he parked, I drove him back up the grass-covered hill with him screaming in my ear, "We can't make it up *that* hill in *this*, can we?" and another four-letter word escaped his mouth. (Okay, maybe I was showing off just a little, but isn't that what boys do?)

We live in a semi-rural area on a ridge top with a fantastic view. Payment for this view is a steep driveway that spirals around the hill on its way to the top. The BigD never had problems with the turn at the driveway entrance, nor the climb up to the top to her parking spot, but apparently large trucks do.

He looked things over and announced he was going to return to his garage some two hours away and talk it over with the boss. Some of the possibilities were to cut the coach up into three parts, load it onto three smaller trucks, or even fly a helicopter in to lift the coach out, or somehow drag her down the hill.

Four tomorrows later they returned with several men, the tractor trailer/flatbed and a medium-sized tow truck. Their plan was to put a tire on the side where both rear tires burned and exploded, mechanically release the rear brakes using a caging bolt, lift up the front end and tow her down the drive. Once at the bottom of the drive and on the county road, he planned to back the tow truck pushing BigD up and onto the trailer. All this was planned so school buses wouldn't be a problem. A solution to the problem of 20,000 pounds going downhill brakeless pushing the tow truck out of control was to simply lower the front end and let the frame drag.

All went well. Within two hours she was loaded onto the flatbed, and this is when things got real interesting. Remember

when I asked if you thought inanimate objects are alive? Well I swear, she was fighting her final removal with all she had. After all, she was mine for ten years, and we grew up together and I loved her, cared for her and constantly fixed her. Once on the trailer she must have realized she was about to lose the battle to stay home. She must have summoned some inner strength and called out to all the critters large and small to help.

I heard a yelp and another four-letter word and knew something was wrong with the flatbed driver. I ran over expecting to see blood, but was instead greeted with another four-letter word and pointing. "Big .... black ... with feathers, ran under the trailer from that wooded area to that one. Several of them." I replied he had just met our resident wild turkeys and not to worry. As I turned away we heard a loud snort, kind of like air gushing out of a tire, and then we saw movement. A big buck was no more than ten feet away, and scared the heebie-jeebies out of the driver. Another four-letter word.

Then we heard what can only be described as girls crying. Several of them, and they were close. Very close. All of a sudden, four goats emerged from the wooded area and started toward the wreck of the BigD. The driver, clearly out of his realm in the wooded countryside, looked stunned, and looked to me to tell him what to do. About then it started to rain. Another four-letter word and the driver started for the cab of the truck with the goats close behind. Something I didn't know was that goats don't like the rain. So they went to the only shelter they could find – under the trailer with the BigD on top. The four goats under the trailer refusing to leave ... car horns sounding, announcing someone wants to get by ... then more horns. It was like the races had just let out! The driver shrugged and pointed to the four goats, saying, "I'll squash them if I try and move this thing. What do I do?" A neighbor got out of her car and started to swear like a drunken sailor, throwing sticks and stones at the goats. They didn't move.

I did the only thing I could think of: I called the county sheriff. They sent a detective out to investigate and find out who owned the goats. As we were standing around talking, I mentioned that the goats were on the lam and were fugitives. "Why don't you put them into the back of your cruiser and take them downtown and 'grill' them?" I asked. My attempt at humor was met with the look like I was from outer space.

Finally a neighbor in a pickup brought some kind of feed over and enticed the goats to leave the sanctuary of the trailer to feast on sweet goat treats. The flatbed driver took this opportunity to drive away and be rid of this place. ❖❖❖



Last load of debris getting ready to go to the dump – 2200 pounds in all



One last look at the BigD in far happier times

One Man's Life, continued

The goats, seeing their dry shelter leaving, followed the truck as it drove off with the BigD on top. The last I saw of her, the four goats were trotting behind yelling, "Nooooooo, noooooooo, noooooooo" in little girl voices. (Those of you who have goats will know what I mean. The rest of you probably think I'm nuts, and you're probably right.)

With the BigD gone, I went back up the hill to clean up what remained. The driveway was scarred from dragging her down hill, a driveway pipe was damaged when she ran over the end and squashed it, and 2,100 pounds of burnt debris had to be gathered up and hauled off to the dump. I told you, the BigD fought her removal with everything she had left in her.

I'll never forget the fun times we had, and the Discovery rallies were highlights of our adventures. I'll never forget the people we met. A lot of them emailed me to say how sorry they were. Now I understand why her former owner cried as she watched her motor coach leave her yard for the last time when Sharon and I bought the BigD ten years ago. I cried, too.

BigD fire aftermath and some advice

Insurance is something all responsible people have to protect themselves and loved ones when catastrophic events occur in their lives. Everyone draws their own lines where they need and can afford insurance coverage. I have insurance on all of my vehicles and selected a deductible we could live with if anything should happen.

Motor coaches are an odd mix of vehicle and house. With my insurance company, they looked at the loss in two parts. One was the vehicle and it was handled by one division located in Murfreesboro, Tennessee, and the house portion or personal property contents was handled by the property division in Ohio. Since the fire occurred while the BigD was parked on our home property, the insurer allowed us to be reimbursed

under that policy. We had replacement coverage for contents and thought this was going to be easy. Did you know when you lose everything, the insurance company wants you to make a list of all items lost, its age and current value? Everything? How many spoons do you have in the kitchen drawer? Did you remember the tools you have? What about the silk flowers on the table? How many bath towels? Do you know all this? Our list was four pages long. Sharon and I composed the list by each of us making the list, then we compared notes. We walked around this house looking in all closets and drawers saying, "Did we have one of these in the BigD? Did you remember to put that window fan on the list?" What about the change everyone always keeps for newspapers? Frisbees for the dog, and tennis balls?

Some insurance companies ask you to take pictures of everything in the house and they store them for you. I recommend you take them up on the offer. It protects them as well as you.

A final note

In May we settled with the insurance company on the coach; around June 1, we received the check for the contents. ⚙

*Editor's Note: Pete's insurance advice is good. We should all heed them. Bob and I have our D, cars, and house insured by State Farm. Last year they had a special offer: we could download a free version of "Home Inventory," a software package that takes us through, step by step, everything we need to do to document our belongings in the home – and the RV! While we haven't finished the project yet, Pete and Sharon's experience has lit a fire under us (figuratively speaking, that is), and we're determined to "git 'er done" soon. I extend thanks to Pete for sharing his experiences with us and we wish the Shaffers well.*

Another Man's Life ..... by Ron Poloske



It began as any other traveling day on the road in our 2001 Discovery. That day, June 8, 2009, we were traveling I-84 in Connecticut. We had just driven through New York, over some very bad roads. Was that the root

I immediately pulled over to the far right. Cindy, Otis (the cat), and I clambered out of the rig. I hurried to the rear and managed to get the toad unhitched and backed up, out of harm's way.

We lost everything in the rear of the rig: laptops, cameras, clothes, etc. But we all made it out of the rig safely, and that's the important thing.

We have no plans at this time. I just hope no other DOAI member has to go through this. We give thanks for that alert motorist! ⚙

of the problem? Did a rock or a piece of concrete get kicked up and break an oil line? We may never know.

We stopped at a Connecticut rest area to have lunch. I did my usual walk-around and everything looked okay. We pulled out and drove on down the road. About 15 minutes later, a motorist pulled alongside, gestured wildly and hollered, "Fire!"



# RV Links ..... by Toni Calzone

## Lift Pumps

Check these sites to learn why the lift pumps fail:

- <http://www.bluechipdiesel.com/injectionpumpfailures.html>
- <http://www.thoroughbreddiesel.com/bosch/vp44-information.htm>
- <http://www.cumminsforum.com/forum/98-5-02-repairs-replacements/16046-wp-44-pump-lift-pump-failures-explained-article.html>

## Low Fuel Pressure Early Warning Sensor

For those who are interested in the VP44 5.9L low fuel pressure early warning sensor for Cummins 5.9L, go here:

[http://www.mwfi.com/VP44Pics/VP44\\_Warning\\_Install.htm](http://www.mwfi.com/VP44Pics/VP44_Warning_Install.htm)

And here's how to install the warning system:

<http://mwfi.com/dieselPage/10811303CumminsLowFuelPressureAlarm.pdf>

## Tires

RV tires have been discussed in various forums, but if you haven't had an opportunity to participate in those electronic venues, you might want to check out these Web sites:

- <http://rvvideos.blogspot.com/2008/07/your-new-car-or-rv-tires-could-kill-you.html>
- [http://www.rma.org/tire\\_safety/tire\\_maintenance\\_and\\_safety/tire\\_safety\\_brochure/rv\\_faqs.cfm](http://www.rma.org/tire_safety/tire_maintenance_and_safety/tire_safety_brochure/rv_faqs.cfm)
- [http://www.readytogorving.com/article.php/rv\\_tires](http://www.readytogorving.com/article.php/rv_tires)

An online article recently commented, "Your car or RV tires may be ticking time bombs, ready to explode even though they look brand new. Did you know that even when you buy brand new tires, they may be old and dangerous even though they have never been driven a single mile?" An ABC News report shows how widespread the practice is of selling old tires, and how you can determine the age of your own tires (there is a secret, hard-to-understand code on each one). The fact is, once a tire is six or seven years old, it is dangerous – no matter how much tread remains. In a second, its tread could peel right off the tire, sending your vehicle out of control. A trucker's tip for checking weathering and aging of tires is to run the palm of your hand around the outside of the tire. If your hand is black, it is time to look at replacing the tires and keeping a closer eye on them until you do. Checking that inside dual is as equally important. Put some time aside and review the links above. Besides reducing time on the road with tire failures, it may a life.



Asst. Webmaster Toni

## In closing

If any of the Web addresses in this article are on more than one line, be sure to include the complete address in order to get to the correct page. If you are reading the electronic edition online, you may want to cut and paste the URL. ☀

# News You Can Use ..... by Nina Soltwedel

## Take Your Health Records with You



Here's a product that might be helpful for those of us who hit the road ... I guess that's most of us, isn't it? This product could provide instant access to critically important medical information in times of need –

information that can dramatically improve care, save lives, and reduce healthcare costs (according to manufacturer).

The product is *My Med Stick*, a flash drive (with special software) which can be carried on a key chain (similar to 'regular' flash drives), or on a wrist bracelet, or necklace. It has been designed to allow one to input important medical and personal information ranging from blood type and prescriptions to insurance information. Once the information is loaded, it can be taken to one's medical professional for additional uploads consisting of EKGs, X-rays, MRIs, and other medical image files.

And, this is important, the information is **secure** thanks to encryption and password protection. However, in time of emergency, medical professionals can insert My Med Stick into any Windows™-based computer to review emergency medical files to provide the right level of care and treatment.

For more information about this product, call 877.646.5888 or visit <http://www.mymedstick.com>.

## RoadNotes.com

**Dave Cattelino** has added much more content to his RoadNotes Web site: <http://www.roadnotes.com>. His hard work can pay off if you check it out before you hit the road to your next destination. One recent update is to the list of Walmart stores that prohibit overnight parking. This in itself could save some miles and time. Check it out at [http://www.roadnotes.com/info/no\\_park\\_walmarts](http://www.roadnotes.com/info/no_park_walmarts). Information for each store includes the store type (Walmart or Walmart Supercenter), address, city, state, zip, phone number, and GPS coordinates. Information in this **free** ebook is frequently updated (usually every few weeks).

## Verizon Cell Phone Discount

**Walt and Jan "Can you hear me now?" Hare** shared an interesting tip: "Verizon offers a 15 percent discount on cell phone service if one of the owners was in the armed forces (anyone who has served in the U.S. military). Take your discharge papers (DD214) to a corporate Verizon store to get the discount set up. We've told several DOAI members about this, and they signed up, as we have. Verizon isn't advertising this, so we thought we'd pass it on."



Yep, we can hear you now, Walt and Jan! ☀

## Yahoo! Group Conversation

**A**s a service to all DOAI members, the following conversation has been taken from DOAI's Yahoo! Group. It has been abridged for space considerations; you can read the full context at <http://www.groups.yahoo.com/group/discoveryownersassociation>. If you are not already a member of the Yahoo! Group, you can register at that site, choose a username and password, and then the moderator will approve your joining. Jump in! There are many helpful conversations waiting for you.

### DuPont™ Corian® Care

**Chris Coats** posted this question: "Just noticed the back piece of Corian that covers the cooktop is bowed in the middle. I'm not sure if someone put it back in place while the range was still hot or what. Anyone have suggestions on what can be done to straighten it?"



*The miracles of science™*

slumped back to level. [Corian] is nothing but hard plastic."

**Chris** later responded: "I turned on the oven to 350° and let it heat up. I placed the warped Corian piece in the oven upside-down (it was the back piece) and then placed the front piece (also upside-down) in front of it, then placed a 25-pound weight on the back piece (overlapping onto the front piece) and let it set for 15 minutes. Then I turned the oven off and let it set until morning. The next morning, the piece was back to its original shape. **Hint:** I had the weight overlapping onto the front piece so the warped piece would only shape back to its original shape, fitting smoothly and evenly with the front piece."

**Linda Bethane** commented that "while we have been very careful in how we treat [Corian], we have these small scratches that seem to have come from just sliding a bottle or coffee pot

over the Corian. We have stopped sliding things, but have not been able to remove the scratches, even when we tried various Corian polishes."

**Nina Soltwedel** visited the DuPont Web site and found these guidelines regarding care of Corian:

- \* Use a trivet or pad for setting down hot pots and pans onto Corian surfaces
- \* Most Corian counters will chip or dent if they are hit with a heavy object, so try not to bang heavy pots or equipment on them.
- \* Do your chopping and dicing on a wooden or plastic chopping board, not the bare counter. Chopping boards prevent scratches and dents in the counter surface, which are unsightly and can harbor dangerous bacteria.
- \* Allow cookware to cool before placing them on the counter and into a Corian sink (most D's have Corian sinks).

Another visit to the DuPont Web site on Corian uncovered a section with detailed polishing instructions. To begin, go to [http://www2.dupont.com/Surfaces/en\\_US/assets/pdf/Care\\_and\\_Maintenance.pdf](http://www2.dupont.com/Surfaces/en_US/assets/pdf/Care_and_Maintenance.pdf) to download and read (or print out) a two-page care brochure. However, the most detailed instructions, including removing abrasions, is found in the general tips area at [http://www2.dupont.com/Surfaces/en\\_US/products/corian/corian\\_care.html](http://www2.dupont.com/Surfaces/en_US/products/corian/corian_care.html) Not only does that document tell one how to do it, it even explains what to use and where to purchase the supplies. ☀

## In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Please keep these members in your thoughts and prayers:

**Jan Price**, recovering from a second eye surgery.

**Jim and Laverne Fisher**. Jim is recovering from hip surgery, and Laverne has Parkinson's disease.

**Sarah Isaac**, whose husband, **James**, died last spring.

**Santa Capers**, diagnosed with breast cancer and undergoing radiation treatments.

**John Herbst**, upon the death of his wife, **Sharon**.

**Marsha Thomas**, whose husband, **Billy**, died in January.

**Liz Rideout**, fighting cancer, according to hubby, **Chic**.

**Betty Boggs**, whose husband, **Bill**, died in April.

**Diane Gerlach**, diagnosed with cancer.

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

## You Heard It Here...

**A**n online newsletter, *RVBusiness.com*, posted an item on August 21 about Fleetwood's turn-around after being bought by AIP. You can read the entire article at <http://www.rvbusiness.com/2009/08/aip-fleetwood-is-going-to-lead-the-recovery/>.

An excerpt: "The new owners expect staffing to reach about 600 workers [in Decatur, Indiana] by the end of the year, said **Paul Bamatter**, an AIP executive, in the first public

comment by an AIP executive since the courtship with Fleetwood Enterprises began in the spring. "Fleetwood is the best brand in the market," Bamatter told *RVBusiness.com*. "We invest in companies where we have the best management (and) work force. The RV industry is going to recover and Fleetwood is going to lead the recovery."

If you are interested, you can subscribe to a daily feed from *RVBusiness.com* at no charge. ☀

## Classified Advertising

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

### Discoverys For Sale

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

**2002 38P:** Low miles, mint condition. Raymon Martin; 513.777.7507; [fmartin@zoomtown.com](mailto:fmartin@zoomtown.com) **\$81,400**

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

**2004 39S:** 18,000m, excellent condition, original owner. Paul Martin; 860.928.1425; [crosscut93@sbcglobal.net](mailto:crosscut93@sbcglobal.net) **\$105,000**

**2005 39S:** 31,000m, new tires/batteries, always garaged. Jerry TeVrucht; 931.273.1117; [jbtevrucht@gmail.com](mailto:jbtevrucht@gmail.com) **\$114,400**

**2007 39V:** 15,000m, no pets, non-smokers, immaculate. Lee Fairchild; 804.714.6934; [leepamf@gmail.com](mailto:leepamf@gmail.com) **\$125,000** MUST SELL

**2008 40X:** 8,300m, garaged, Good Sam warranty. Frank Gerlach; 814.490.3334; [fishtales06@yahoo.com](mailto:fishtales06@yahoo.com) **\$149,500**

### Other RV Items For Sale

**Hub nut wrench:** Don Cullins; 9025 Robinhood Cir, Westerville OH 43082; [scdc432@sbcglobal.net](mailto:scdc432@sbcglobal.net) **\$14.95** + \$3 s/h

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

**Passenger side rear window:** 47<sup>5</sup>/<sub>16</sub>" wide by 34<sup>3</sup>/<sub>8</sub>" high; Paul Martin; 860.928.1425; [crosscut93@sbcglobal.net](mailto:crosscut93@sbcglobal.net) **\$400** + shpg OBO

**Rear wheel cover:** 2001 D, 47<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" wide, 31<sup>3</sup>/<sub>8</sub>" high. Robert Wilkins; 419.753.2502; [nkvet@nktelco.net](mailto:nkvet@nktelco.net) **\$300** + shpg

**Miller's Amazing Magic Table:** Exc. cond., can be end table, foot stool, coffee table, etc. Del Perry; [delperry@gmail.com](mailto:delperry@gmail.com) **\$225** + shpg

**Loveseat, couch, stove, bench seats:** From '98 D, excellent condition. Jimmy Williams; [jpw3840@westok.net](mailto:jpw3840@westok.net) **\$150-\$250**

## Be Wise – Winterize!

### Timely Winterization Prevents Costly Freeze Damage

For those who will be storing their RVs during the winter months, the time is approaching to winterize your RV's water system. Even if you plan to use the RV to snowbird this winter, you may need to winterize until your departure date or leave the system winterized until you travel far enough south to escape winter's grip.



### Why Winterize?

Winterizing is essential in climates with sub-freezing temperatures and advisable in warmer climates where the temperature can take sudden dips down to freeze territory. The natural expansion of water as it freezes can rupture water lines, fittings and tanks, causing damage to faucets and allowing water to seep into walls and floors once temperatures rise again. This escaping water can be quite

mischievous, inviting mold and mildew, discoloring surfaces and weakening structural elements. Worst of all, you may not even be aware that you have a leak, so the damage can be hidden for months or years until it becomes quite serious, requiring extensive – and expensive – repairs.

### DIY Project

Winterizing your RV isn't difficult, but it does take some time and must be done in the correct order to ensure no freezable water is left in the system to do damage. Here are the basic steps:

**Step 1:** Drain the freshwater tank and the water heater. Consider recycling the fresh water you drain to water plants, trees or grass in your yard by catching the run-off in a bucket.

**Step 2:** Use a blow out plug or hose with compressed air to remove as much residual water from the lines as possible. This may require a helper to open faucets inside the RV as you connect the air hose from a compressor to the city water connection. Remove the drain plug or anode rod from the water heater to empty it out faster. When using compressed air, remember to have at least one faucet or drain valve open at all times to prevent damage to lines and faucets.

**Step 3:** If your RV does not have a water heater bypass, now is the time to install one, so antifreeze won't fill the water heater tank. If your RV has a built-in filter system or an ice maker, you will also need to activate a bypass on those. Antifreeze will render a filter cartridge unusable and damage an ice maker.

**Step 4:** With bypass(es) in place, pump RV antifreeze – never automotive antifreeze – throughout the fresh water system until pink antifreeze runs from every faucet, the shower, the toilet when flushed, and the exterior shower, if so equipped.

**Step 5:** Empty black and grey water holding tanks at an approved dump station. Add a cup of antifreeze to the black water waste tank and the grey water waste tank plus a half cup of antifreeze to sink, tub, or shower drain p-traps and the toilet valve.



*Reprinted with permission of Camping World. Article was first published in Camping World's October 2008 eNewsletter.*

## DOAI Camp Discovery – SE Region 2010 Rally ..... by John Ricciardi

The Mason-Dixon chapter members are hard at work, getting ready for **Camp Discovery**, January 31-February 5, 2010, at Lazydays RallyPark in Seffner, Florida. The registration form is on the next page, and also online at <http://www.discoveryowners.com>. If you wish, you can sign up online, and then mail your check to the registrar.

**Toni Calzone** has been working overtime to make this rally the best southeast rally ever. She has been making arrangements with technicians, manufacturers, and suppliers to provide the equipment necessary for us to have hands-on seminars. These will be more effective than just sitting and listening how to do maintenance and repairs when they are necessary. What you learn will be important when you are in the middle of nowhere and there's no repair facility available.

While this rally may seem to be a bare-bones/no-entertainment rally, we have some surprises in store for you.

One important point that must be made about **Camp Discovery** is that we cannot make this rally happen unless **at least 85 coaches** are registered. This "magic number" must be reached by the cutoff deadline set by Lazydays RallyPark which is December 30, 2009. Truly, I am not concerned about reaching this number; I believe everyone is looking forward to having a great time and learning more about their Discovery motor home. ☀



Mason-Dixon  
Prez John

### ⇒ ⇒ Important Information ⇐ ⇐

- For complete details including contacts, requests for volunteers for the rally and seminars, updates, list of seminars, CDs, handouts, etc., go to <http://www.campdiscovery2010.blogspot.com>
- If you would like to spend more time at Lazydays RallyPark, the FMA eastern area rally takes place there January 26-31, 2010, preceding our rally. For details, go to <http://www.fleetwoodmotorhomeassoc.org>
- Lazydays will offer a **Driving Class** on February 2, 3, and 4, 2010. To register for this class, please call **Barney Alexander** (Lazydays' senior driving instructor) at 866.703.3076. Leave a message with your name, address, contact phone number, and state that you will be attending **DOAI Camp Discovery** January 31-February 5, and that you would like to register to drive either *February 2, 3, or 4*.

Barney has stated that he will be able to drive at least six DOAI members each day. He also noted that any person may attend the classroom portion of the class. The driving spots are by appointment only; if he has any cancellations, more will be able to drive.

Please call Barney as soon as possible to insure a space for you. When the class is full, additional registrants will be placed on a waiting list.

If you will be attending the FMA rally, then you may register to take the class during that time frame, but be sure to mention you are attending the FMA rally *as well as* the DOAI rally.

If you have any questions, please contact **Toni Calzone** at [antonia.calzone@verizon.net](mailto:antonia.calzone@verizon.net)

## If You've Not Been to Lazydays RallyPark Before...

...you have a real treat in store, in more ways than one! RallyPark is located in west central Florida, about ten miles east of downtown Tampa, **on I-4 at exit 10**. The park is just minutes from pristine beaches, world-famous theme parks, and other exciting area attractions in central Florida. The RallyPark offers a variety of amenities, including:

- ☺ Free breakfast and lunch in The Café, Monday-Saturday
  - ☺ Free high-speed Wi-Fi access
  - ☺ Free cable television
  - ☺ Free morning newspaper delivery
  - ☺ All sites have 50 amps and full hook-ups
- ☺ 12,000 sq. ft. air-conditioned RallyCenter (shown here)
  - ☺ Air-conditioned laundry facility
  - ☺ Screened and heated pool with Jacuzzi
  - ☺ On-site Flying J and Cracker Barrel
  - ☺ And so much more!



RallyPark's RallyCenter is a spacious place for meetings.



**DOAI 2010 Southeast Region Rally  
CAMP DISCOVERY**

Lazydays RallyPark, 6130 Lazydays Blvd., Seffner, Florida  
Arrive January 31 – Depart February 5  
<http://www.campdiscovery2010.blogspot.com>

**REGISTRATION FORM**

Please *PRINT* legibly or *TYPE* all information as you want it to appear on your name badge.  
Information will also be used to update the DOAI membership database.

Pilot's Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Co-Pilot's Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street \_\_\_\_\_ City, State, ZIP+4 Code \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_  
 Emergency Contact \_\_\_\_\_ Emergency Phone/s \_\_\_\_\_  
 DOAI # \_\_\_\_\_ DOAI Region Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_  
 Need handicap parking? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ First southeast region rally? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
 Are You? DOAI officer/chairman \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter officer \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter \_\_\_\_\_  
 Guest/s Name, City, State \_\_\_\_\_

**REGISTRATION:**

\$285.00 per coach with two adults (January 31-February 5) - includes 1 CD/1 Manual . . . . .	\$ _____
\$250.00 per coach with one adult (January 31-February 5) - includes 1 CD/1 Manual . . . . .	\$ _____
\$35.00 each additional person/child, same coach (January 31-February 5) × __ person/s = . . . . .	\$ _____
\$120.00 for two adults if staying off site (January 31-February 5) - includes 1 CD/1 Manual . . . . .	\$ _____
\$85.00 for one adult if staying off site (January 31-February 5) - includes 1 CD/1 Manual . . . . .	\$ _____
\$20.00 DOAI membership (if not already a DOAI member) . . . . .	\$ _____
<b>MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: DOAI Camp Discovery Check Enclosed/Total . . . . .</b>	<b>\$ _____</b>

*Want to arrive early or stay later? Contact Lazydays RallyPark at 800.350.6731*

← ← ← ← ← ← ← **SEE PAGE 22 FOR IMPORTANT INFORMATION.**

**MAIL CHECK AND REGISTRATION FORM TO:**  
 Helen Blackwell, Registrar, 4473 Hobby Horse Ct, Mechanicsville VA 23111-6434  
 Questions? Contact Helen at 804.356.9351 or [helenzblackwell@aol.com](mailto:helenzblackwell@aol.com)  
**REGISTRATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY DECEMBER 30, 2009**  
**Cancellation Policy:**  
Full refund for cancellation will be made up to **December 30, 2009.**  
 No CD/seminar manual will be mailed with full refund.  
**No Refunds** after December 30, 2009; however, CD/seminar manual will be mailed.  
 ⇒ ⇒ ⇒ **COPY FORM FOR YOUR RECORDS** ← ← ←  
 You will receive a confirmation of your registration via email.

Portia Williams, Membership Director  
P. O. Box 95  
St. George, UT 84771-0095

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

**ARE YOUR DUES DUE?**  
**Please renew now!**



## Discovery Owners Association, Inc. Membership Application

**Welcome** to the premier non-profit organization for owners of Discovery® by Fleetwood® motor homes. DOAI is an organization intended to foster social opportunities and information exchange among all members.

**Dues** are \$20 for the first year (includes one-time \$4 administrative fee); \$16 for one-year renewal; \$45 (\$49 new members) for three years; \$75 (\$79 new members) for five years.

**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:

**Portia Williams, Membership Director**  
**P. O. Box 95**  
**St. George, UT 84771-0095**

**Join/renew online at <http://www.discoveryowners.com>**

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse/Partner Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State/Province, ZIP+4 Code/Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

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

Discovery Year and Model \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

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