

# Discovery Express



January 2018

Discovery Owners Association, Inc. - Established 1998 - [www.discoveryowners.com](http://www.discoveryowners.com)

Volume 20, Number 1

## Are You Ready?

The holidays are memories, the hurrying and scurrying from shop to shop and party to party is over. Now everyone is ready to snuggle down for a long winter hibernation, right? That is what you think!

This year marks the 20th Anniversary of our very own Discovery Owners Association, Incorporated and we have some partying planned for us. Time to pat ourselves on the back and celebrate our efforts in promoting and informing folks of the wonderful RV lifestyle traditions we have created with our Discoverys.



The celebration kicks off with the Southeast Region Rally (Camp Discovery) in Florida, hosted by the Mason-Dixon Discoverys. At press time this rally was almost to capacity - see Marshall Godwin's article "What is Camp Discovery". Don't worry, many other rallies and events are being planned for the year in all chapters and regions. Where is this leading to? Why to September 10 to 15 and the 20th Anniversary National Homecoming rally in Goshen, Indiana the birthplace of our Ds, of course. For more rally schedules and information check out the Rally Master's and regional/chapter reports in this newsletter.

This issue celebrates the new year by welcoming new DOAI members, announcing new board members (see election results) and anticipating future events, but it also celebrates 2017 with news from the national rally and elections as well as regional and chapter activities. Happy New Year! Let's Roll! ❖

### Quarterly Question Contest

**What was the last name of the man who appeared in a cameo role in a well-known movie about the beginning of the space age that included his exploits, but he was played by someone else?**



**Cooper    Grissom    Yeager    Glenn**

**Read this issue carefully and find the answer; then read the rules on page 19 (important!). Submit your entry no later than 11:59p.m., February 15, 2018.**

The answer to October's question (What was the late, great B. B. King's first name?) is Riley. Congratulations to Frank and Corrine Miller. Their answer was pulled from the Contest Hat, and they have won a year's membership in DOAI. How did a fellow named Riley get the nickname "B. B."? In the 1950s, Riley had a string of blues hits. He was called "Blues Boy" in the business, and that evolved into his nickname. ❖

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Ron Wacker

## President's report

Join me in welcoming Kristy Green as our new Discovery Express newsletter editor. I want to personally thank Kristy for volunteering for the position. This is her first newsletter for us. Kristy, you have done a great job on the newsletter, and again thanks.

The verdict is in and the consensus is that the National rally was a great success and a lot of fun. The chapters put a lot of work into the rally, and I know everyone attending appreciated their hard work. I am so sorry Donna and I were not able to attend. Unfortunately we encountered several issues that prohibited us from attending. Come hell or high water we should make next year's national rally.

The holidays are over and 2017 is in the books. Donna and I had some great family get togethers for Thanksgiving and for Christmas with lots of food. It seems like Yeager our family always prepares way more food than we could ever eat in three meals, much less one meal. Hopefully your holidays were also very happy and enjoyable family events.

The "Start The Celebration" rally will be hosted by the Mason-Dixon Discovery chapter. We can look forward to this Southeast Region rally at Lazydays coming up in January. Since this is our 20th year anniversary there will be very special events and entertainment planned. Marshall Godwin and Gary Osburn will be presenting Camp Discovery again this year. Camp Discovery is a great group of technical seminars. I strongly recommend getting the notebook which includes copies of all the seminar slides.

I hope to see everyone at the Southeast Region rally in January, and until next time, safe travels to everyone and everyone stay safe. ❖



Nina Soltwedel

## Member Care report

The past few months could have been called "Operation Season." Linda Bethane had knee replacement surgery in September, followed by Pete Shaffer having the same procedure in October. Later that month, Nancy Ables' sister had emergency bypass surgery, making it necessary for the Ables to leave the national rally early. Immediately after they left, another DOAI

member had to leave to have emergency surgery. That person wishes to remain anonymous. In November, Dennis Green underwent hand surgery, and word is that he's healing well. In December, Ron Wacker underwent successful cataract surgery. "Get well/thinking of you" cards were sent to each one. A sympathy card was sent to Bob Williams, whose brother died suddenly in September.

Please keep all DOAI members in your thoughts and prayers, that everyone will have a joyous 2018 with no RV troubles, good health, and lots of happy miles and smiles. Be sure to let me know whenever you or a family member is ill, hospitalized, or if there's been a death in your family. I can be reached at [nina.soltwedel@gmail.com](mailto:nina.soltwedel@gmail.com). ❖

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

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## ARE YOUR DUES DUE?

Find your membership renewal date at

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



MaryAnn Crowell

## National Rally Master's report

Well, WOW!! 20 years of Discovery Owners Assoc., Inc. Who knew that in 1998 an idea by Jim & Dorothy Devine to form a club of the same model of Fleetwood motorhomes would still be in existence. But HERE WE ARE!!

With the SE Regional rally, Camp Discovery is kicking the celebration off. Rally Master Marshall Godwin and the Mason-Dixon's chapter have been working hard to get the celebration started. I hope you are registered to attend the 2018 Camp D @ Lazydays, Seffner, FL. I know I can't wait to see all of my Discovery Friends there.

Our National Homecoming Rally information is still coming together. But let's start with the when and where.

National Homecoming Rally  
2018 DOAI National Rally  
September 10 – 15, 2018 (depart 9/16)  
Early Days 9/7, 9/8 and 9/9  
Elkhart County 4-H Fairgrounds  
East Monroe St., 17746-D County Road 34  
Goshen, Indiana 46526

There is so much to see and do in the scenic Amish country. There are seven individual towns in this Heritage Trail area. They are all less than 30 miles (one way) from our campgrounds. To enjoy some of the area's places to see you may want to think of ordering or download PDF file of the 2018 Amish Country Heritage Trail Adventures [www.amishcountry.org](http://www.amishcountry.org) and start planning your time in the Goshen area.

One area that I would advise you see is the new RV/MH Hall of Fame Museum just 14 miles away and we are advising that you see this newest museum at your own speed. There are over 50 RV's showing the development of the industry from 1913 up to the present day. They also have a discount for those 60 +.

How about a Brown Bag tour, with 6 stops at authentic Amish shops? Not only can you shop, you will receive goodies for your brown bag, plus lunch at an Amish home. More on the stops in the next Express.

Plan on spending an evening at the Round Barn Theatre, "Happy Days The New Musical", will be playing on Wednesday 9/13 night, we will be getting group ticket seats. And this also allows our golfers on Wednesday morning to chase that little white ball around on one of the great courses in the area.

Our own Bev Kaiser will be in charge of this and will have more information to follow.

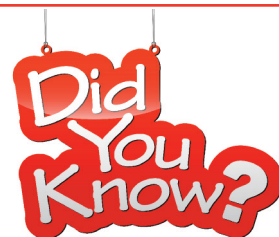
This will be a come in together and park together rally. With the spread of four different days to arrive (Fri 9/7 – Mon 9/10) Al Welch and his parking crew will be doing the parking again for us. Our meals will be chaired by Scott & Mellissa Plowman. They will be working with the Das Dutchman Essenhaus catering, to give us a welcome party, continental and hot breakfast buffet, plus our evening dinners. I can't wait to see what is on the menu.

This rally is coming together and there will be updates on the Web site and the Group (e mail). We hope to have a registration form out shortly after the holidays. But you have the dates and place, so mark those calendars, NOW!!



### Future National Rally Regions

2019	Southwest Region		
2020	Southeast Region		
2021	Northwest Region		
2022	North Central Region	2024	South Central Region
2023	Northeast Region	2025	Southwest Region





Judy Jo Bruton

## 2017 National Rally

Well, those that missed the National Rally missed a great time. There were seventy-two rigs that drove from Florida, New York, Oregon and Ontario as well as many other states to attend this rally. Twenty-four of these rigs were first timers.

We had great weather for our tour of Oklahoma City with our own Jerry Brown being the tour guide and sharing great history. The weather continued to be great for the golf scramble with over twenty-five participating. Great job Mike & Sandy Keliher.

The entertainment was exceptional each evening starting off with recording artist Jeff Griffith and his brother Don. Comedian Lee Adams really did have us laughing, and ventriloquist Gary Owen was amazing, his use of audience members added to the hilarity. "The Flying High Tinker Band" wrapped up the last night of the rally with great music appreciated by all ages and wonderful for those who like to dance.

The Ladies' Gathering was so much fun visiting together and making custom cards. The vendors and seminars were well attended and informative. Each vendor provided gifts and door prizes to all in attendance as well as providing items for the drawings and prizes throughout the rally.

Once again, Pete and Martha Palasota did a great job with the menu. The meals were exceptional and much appreciated by all.

Through our 50/50 drawing and donations "The Community Market of Pottawatomie County" food bank received \$2,181.50 and tons of dry goods and cans goods.

Many thanks to all my Committee Chairs, The Discovery Road Runners, The Louisiana Mudbugs and The Discovery Texans that made this 2017 DOAI National Rally a huge success. ❖



*A well attended vendors seminar*



*The Board at the General Meeting*



*A lovely group of jolly Discovery Texans*

*(Continued on next page...)*

2017 National Rally, continued



*A grand variety of vendors*



*Midwest Discoverys showed up*



*Ventriloquist Gary Owen taught us what it meant to fall to pieces*



*Louisiana Mudbugs one last time*



*Mason-Dixon Discoverys on hand*



*The whole gang at the national rally in Shawnee*



*No one went hungry*



*Northwest Adventurers made an appearance*



*Pat Tracy, one winner out of many*



*Sharing with others*



*Texas Discovery Road Runners made it*



*The gals enjoyed the Pampered Chef*



*First Timers had a great time*



*Jerry Brown found a dancing partner*



John Baker

## Past President's report

DOAI business and happenings have been REALLY busy in the past quarter. I'll mention several things briefly because other articles will go into more detail about most of them.

If you missed the national rally at Shawnee, you missed a GREAT one. National Rallymaster MaryAnn Crowell and Rallymaster Judy Jo Bruton planned everything and put all the pieces together just like a jigsaw puzzle. The Discovery Texans, Texas Discovery Road Runners, and Louisiana Mudbugs provided outstanding support to smoothly execute the plans. As always, others stepped into many areas to complete the supporting cast. A huge thanks to all who helped in so many ways to make this a huge success.

Board of Directors elections were just completed. I want to thank all who agreed to serve for an additional or new term. Brief bios of the Board members are available later in this issue. They will do a great job of directing our club for the next two years. TIME FOR A COMMERCIAL -- Begin now thinking about where YOU can serve when we have our NEXT election.

John Scarborough, who has served as Discovery Express Editor since Nina Soltwedel retired a year ago did the unspeakable and sold his D. Nevertheless, he volunteered to continue as Editor. Unfortunately, he had to step down due to professional commitment changes. We owe him a huge debt of gratitude.

At Shawnee, Kristy Green stepped up and volunteered to replace John as Editor. She has experience in publishing and will be a great asset to DOAI. You will meet her elsewhere in this, her First Edition! Thank you, Kristy. We look forward to enjoying many, many editions under your guidance.

Also at Shawnee, several Standing Rules were identified for revision. You can review those changes in this edition.

Then came Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's. I hope each of you had wonderful and safe Holidays.

2018 is the 20th anniversary of DOAI. We will begin to celebrate it with Camp Discovery at Seffner. Marshall Godwin and Gary Osburn among others are preparing to present many hours of seminars to teach us about our rigs. Those fellows are top-notch and freely share immense amounts of information and expertise with us; no other RV club has their own volunteer Corps of Professors! It is much different from a national rally but it also includes lots of fun, fellowship, and food.

The celebration will continue at the national rally in September. It will be at Goshen, Indiana near where our coaches were built. Lots of things are being planned, so don't miss it!

I look forward to seeing all of you down the road. ❖

## DOAI National Board Election Results

Final ballots are in. We owe our thanks to our members who agreed to serve as officers and directors for the next two years.

The Executive Board members are as follows:

President – Ron Wacker  
 Executive Vice President – Marshall Godwin  
 Past President – John Baker (ex officio)  
 Vice President for Development – Keith Lindholm  
 Secretary – Nina Soltwedel  
 Treasurer – Ricky Keen  
 National Rally Master – MaryAnn Crowell

Regional Vice Presidents are:

North Central – Bruce Plumb  
 Northeast – Jeff Daly  
 Northwest – Becky Hazen  
 South Central – Gary Osburn  
 Southeast – Kerry Pinkerton  
 Southwest – Jim Sullivan

Appointed (non voting) board members are as follows:

Merchandise Coordinator – Jody Bruce  
 Membership Coordinator – Elaine Holley  
 Newsletter Editor – Kristy Green





Marshall Goodwin

## What Is Camp Discovery?

Here is the background story on Camp Discovery for those who were not involved when it began.

I attended an early prototype of Camp Freightliner. In the following years, I thought more and more about developing technical seminars specific to our Discovery motor home, based on the Camp Freightliner model. I gave my first seminar at the 2005 National Rally in York, Pa., entitled “What Your Daddy Never Told You About 12 Volts.”

The idea continued to develop and at the 2009 SE Region Rally, we committed to do Camp Discovery the following year. The DOAI Board was concerned with liability, so we developed a disclaimer used before every presentation that emphasized this as an “owner-to-owner” information exchange, neither developed by nor approved by DOAI. That disclaimer is still used.

Toni Calzone did much of the work to produce the schedule and coordinate everything to execute a very successful Camp Discovery. I did five seminars; Toni did several, and we relied on the Lazydays training staff to do the others, mostly RV appliances and stuff like water heater, roof AC’s, refrigerator and furnace. It was difficult to rely on Lazydays. They did not develop their training schedule until just weeks prior to our rally. It was very hard to come up with the rally schedule and fit everything together with such short notice. All their seminars were held in the LD training room in the main sales building. So, folks were going back and forth between Rally Hall and the main building. Also, their seminars were good but generic because they had to apply to many RV makes and models.

After the first several years, Gary Osburn agreed to take over that portion of Camp Discovery which greatly improved the ability to plan the schedule and seminars, as well as take advantage of Gary’s vast experience as a Master RV tech to improve the quality of the seminars and overall value of Camp Discovery.

Much of the benefit of Camp Discovery is derived from the interaction with other Discovery owners, specifically those with the same model year coach. Also, much useful information is gathered from questions and comments during the seminars. We have been reluctant to provide notebooks to non-attendees because it is impossible to cover all information in the Power Point slides. The slides without the classroom portion have limited benefit.

The idea to professionally produce a DVD is not something we have considered. Cost is one issue. I have a son and grandson who are video producers. A rough estimate to produce a low-budget professional product is around \$15,000. Since Camp Discovery is not a DOAI-sponsored product, I don’t believe DOAI would be interested in funding the DVD. Gary also mentioned his concerns.

Your rally fee to attend the annual SE Region rally does not include any added cost for Camp Discovery. You pay for camping, catered meals, entertainment and a small amount of incidental cost related to planning and conducting the rally. You get Camp Discovery for free. There is an additional charge of \$17 for the Camp Discovery notebook if you want one. As a comparison, the cost to attend the two-day Camp Freightliner I training in 2018 is \$235 for a single person and \$285 for both pilot and co-pilot. The Camp Freightliner II course pairs you with a service tech during your 6-8 hour service appointment and costs \$149. You must first complete Camp Freightliner I. The five-day Spartan “Training Academy” cost is \$610 for one person and \$1,295 for two people for 2017. I’m not sure what it will be in 2018.

I wish every DOAI member could attend Camp Discovery. It is a unique and particularly useful benefit of membership in our great owners’ association. Perhaps we can come up with more creative ways to share this valuable asset. For now, try to attend the upcoming SE Rally. ❖

## Do You Winter In The Southwest?

If you spend time in America’s Southwest, and you’ll be within 200+ miles of Yuma later in January, this invitation is for you! Each year, Bob and Nina Soltwedel host a one-day “unofficial” DOAI gathering at their place in Yuma, Ariz. It’s the type of event where those who attend bring a dish to share, BYOB, chairs, and have a day of enjoying the warm desert sunshine, good food and drink, and the camaraderie that always happens when DOAI-ers gather. It’s unofficial because we encourage everyone to invite former DOAI members. We all enjoy catching up with folks we haven’t seen for a while, as well as making new friends. Want more information? Contact Nina at [nina.soltwedel@gmail.com](mailto:nina.soltwedel@gmail.com) and she’ll fill you in on all the details. A date has been set: Sunday, January 28, 11 a.m. We look forward to welcoming you to our winter home in the desert.

## Consolidated Rally Schedule

### January 2018

1/10-13 Discovery Texans, Bullard, Tex.  
 1/28-2/2 Southeast Region Rally, Seffner, Fla.  
 1/28-2/2 Blue Ridge Discoverys, Seffner, Fla.

### March 2018

3/21-24 Discovery Texans, Bandera, Tex.  
 3/28-4/2 Texas Discovery Road Runners, Galveston, Tex.

### April 2018

T/B/A Blue Ridge Discoverys, Savannah, Ga.

### May 2018

5/16-19 Discovery Texans, Corsicana, Tex.

September 2018 10-14 DOAI National Homecoming Rally, Goshen, Ind.

This list is subject to changes, additions and updates. Check the DOAI website for updates at: [www.discoveryowners.com/nextrally.htm](http://www.discoveryowners.com/nextrally.htm). ❖



## Calling All Gal Singers!

Do you like to sing? Are you willing to get together with other gals and sing a well-known song in front of DOAI rally attendees? If the answer is yes, you are invited to join the Discoveryettes – DOAI gals who have, over the years, gotten together to sing a song or two at the opening party of a national rally. Sadly, the last time the Discoveryettes performed was ‘way back in 2012 in Tucson, Ariz. The time has come for the group to make a come-back appearance!



In honor of DOAI’s 20th anniversary, we will sing the old tune, “Back Home Again in Indiana,” with lyrics written specially for Discovery owners. The Discoveryettes performed it at the 10th anniversary national rally, which was also held in Goshen, Ind., site of the 2018 national rally. It’ll be fun to sing it again, at the 20th anniversary celebration.

If you are intrigued and want more information, just send an email to [nina.soltwedel@gmail.com](mailto:nina.soltwedel@gmail.com). More information will be provided. There’s no obligation to join the group just by asking for details. The ultimate decision is yours. ❖

## New Addition To DOAI website

As a DOAI member, you may be curious about what DOAI officers are expected to do, what deadlines are in place, etc. If so, we have an answer for you, and it’s online.

The 2018 DOAI Calendar of Important Dates can be found at: [www.discoveryowners.com/DOAIImportantDates.pdf](http://www.discoveryowners.com/DOAIImportantDates.pdf).

The calendar was created to assist DOAI board members, coordinators, and chapters in knowing what is due and when, according to the DOAI Bylaws, Standing Rules, Discovery Express deadlines, and deadlines imposed by governmental and financial entities.

The calendar will be updated annually, or more often as changes occur (there’s already been at least one update). For example, the dates for regional and national rallies vary from year to year, as well as each odd-numbered year is an election year.

If you have questions or concerns about this calendar, please contact DOAI Secretary Nina Soltwedel ([doaisecretary@discoveryowners.com](mailto:doaisecretary@discoveryowners.com)). ❖



## 2018 DOAI Board/Coordinators/Chapters/Website

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## Welcome 2018 DOAI Board Members

Office	Candidate	Bio	Photo
President	Ron Wacker	Ron has lived most of his life in Florida, and began RVing with his family around 1960. In his professional life, he worked for a major computer firm for 22 years as a systems programmer and project manager. He started his own computer consulting company in 1999, and now is (for the most part) retired - albeit he dabbles with some websites and small networks. Ron and his wife Donna were among those who formed the Florida Discovery Sunshiners chapter in 2011, where Ron served as president for the first four years. During that same time, he was the key coordinator for three highly successful southeast region rallies at Lazydays in Tampa, FL.	
Vice President	Marshall Godwin	Marshall has served DOAI as vice president for development (2006-2007), as president (2008-2011), as past president (2012-2015), and was elected vice president for development for 2016-2017. He resigned that position later in 2016 to accept the appointment to his current office when then-executive vice president Jay Keneson sold his Discovery. He is now eligible to be elected to his first two-year term. Marshall and his wife, Becky, reside in King George, Va.	
Vice President for development	Keith Lindholm	Keith was appointed vice president for development in 2016 to fill out the unexpired term of Marshall Godwin, when Marshall accepted the appointment as executive vice president. Keith is now eligible to be elected to his first two-year term as vice president for development.	
Secretary	Nina Soltwedel	Nina and her hubby, Bob, bought their first Discovery in 1998, and joined DOAI the following year. They purchased their second Discovery, a 2005 39L, in 2004. Since joining DOAI, Nina has served in variety of capacities, among them Rally Registrar for seven national rallies (2001, 2004, 2009, 2012, 2014, 2016), and Editor/Publisher of Discovery Express for twelve years (January 2004 through July 2016). She and Bob were charter members and officers of Discovery Pioneers chapter (DOAI's first Chapter) as well as charter members of D'Zonas chapter. Currently, they are members of the Northwest Adventurers chapter. In 2016, Nina was appointed to fill out the term of DOAI Secretary, left vacant when then-Secretary Freddie Perry sold her Discovery.	




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Welcome 2018 DOAI Board Members, continued

<p>Treasurer</p>	<p>Ricky Keen</p>	<p>Ricky and his wife Debbie are full-timers and have been DOAI members since 2010. They are among the founding members of the Ozarks Discovery Chapter, serving as chapter treasurer and Ricky has chaired the DOAI Audit Committee since 2012.</p> <p>Ricky was a partner in a local CPA firm based out of Little Rock, Arkansas for 33 years before retiring in 2012. He and Debbie have been married for 49 years and have one son and daughter-in-law and three grandchildren. Ricky has served as his church's treasurer for 35 years and they are still active in their church when not traveling.</p>	
<p>National Rally Master</p>	<p>MaryAnn Crowell</p>	<p>MaryAnn and her husband Don live in Westphalia - a small central Texas town. They now have their second Discovery, which is a 2012 40X. They have been full-timers for the last five years, but still own (but rent out) their home in Texas.</p> <p>MaryAnn and Don are members of the Texas Discovery Roadrunners, where MaryAnn has served in the past as vice president and newsletter editor. When she is home, she is active in the altar society, the Westphalia Senior Citizens group, and the Westphalia Historical Society.</p> <p>MaryAnn and Don are also members of Good Sams, FMCA, FMA and FCOC; they try to get to as many of those rallies as possible. Since joining DOAI in 1999, MaryAnn served as DOAI membership director from (2001 – 2004), national secretary (2010-2013), and vice president of development (2014-2015). MaryAnn has also accepted the job of the first DOAI Historian.</p> <p>MaryAnn has developed a good list of vendors for us to use at future rallies as one result of being in charge of finding and working with various vendors for our national rallies. In January 2014 she was asked to help out the then-current National Rally Master by surveying possible sites for the 2015 National Rally in the North Central US. This experience then led to becoming Rally Master for our 2015 National Rally in Amana, IA and the 2016 National Rally at Bath, NY. She is currently working with the South Central region on the 2017 National Rally in Shawnee, OK, plus looking ahead to our 20 Year Celebration in 2018.</p> <p>MaryAnn &amp; Don have found the DOAI experience a rewarding venture, and she would like to continue to serve DOAI as the National Rally Master.</p>	



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Welcome 2018 DOAI Board Members, continued

<p>North Central Vice President</p>	<p>Bruce Plumb</p>	<p>Bruce grew up in Texas and Kansas, lived in small communities and loves rural America. He found his bride Nancy (better known in these circles as Mrs. Plumb) when he landed in Coldwater, KS in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade. He earned a degree in engineering and spent most of his career in Salinas, CA working for Dole Food Company as Director of Engineering. During his 25 year career at Dole, he designed vegetable harvesting and processing equipment and physical plants. He has also owned and operated several small businesses.</p> <p>Bruce and Nancy obtained their first motorcoach in 1988 and their Discovery in 2008. They camped often with their children, and for the past 12 years have been taking their grand kids on “See America Tours” for 2 weeks each summer. Bruce still works 8 months per year and Nancy and he travel the other 4 months.</p> <p>Their first national rally was in Shawnee, OK in 2011. In April 2012, they formed a new DOAI Chapter in Branson, MO; the Ozarks Discovery Chapter, where Bruce has served as president since inception. The chapter currently has 15 member families.</p>	
<p>Northeast Vice President</p>	<p>Jeff Daly</p>	<p>Jeff was born and raised in Queens, NY. He and his wife Karen have been married for 47 years and have 3 children as well as 8 grandchildren. A Vietnam veteran, Jeff retired in 2002 from Verizon after 35 years as a Communications Technician. Since that time, he has worked for 5 years as a contractor on various Federal communications systems. Jeff and Karen purchased a 2003 D 39S from a prior DOAI member, who recommended that he join DOAI. After contacts with Capt. Jack and Marshall Godwin regarding issues with the coach, he knew that becoming a DOAI member was the correct thing to do. Jeff and Karen have enjoyed the rallies and events, and anticipate future travels, adding that “We are newer to motorcoaching, but glad we're involved.”</p>	
<p>Northwest Vice President</p>	<p>Becky Hazen</p>	<p>Becky, an active member of Northwest Adventurers chapter, has been secretary/treasurer of the chapter for several years, and has attended national rallies over the past years.</p>	

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Welcome 2018 DOAI Board Members, continued

<p>South Central Vice President</p>	<p>Gary Osburn</p>	<p>Gary and his wife, Debby, began RVing in 1982 which they determined was the only motor home in the market that suited their needs. Gary and Debby were full-timers for five years and then decided to purchase a “stick” home. At the same time (2005), Gary decided to attend an RV tech school and became a certified master RV tech. Gary has provided excellent RV-related advice to many DOAI members via the eGroup and at rallies.</p>	
<p>Southeast Vice President</p>	<p>Kerry Pinkerton</p>	<p>Kerry Pinkerton and his patient wife Carolyn have been married for 46 years, and they have two sons and three grandchildren. Kerry has a BS and MS from the University of Alabama (but is an Auburn fan). An Army veteran, he worked as a TV reporter and banker before completing his degrees and moving into the computer arena in the mid 70’s. As a senior manager with Hewlett-Packard Consulting, Kerry traveled extensively in the US and abroad, leaving Carolyn to do much of the raising of their two sons. He retired from HP in 2001.</p> <p>Kerry and Carolyn built their current home outside of Huntsville, Alabama in 1985, doing 95% of the work themselves.</p> <p>While relatively new to their Discovery motorhome, Kerry has been a life-long ‘gear head’ and has restored many cars from the ground up. An interest in shaping sheet metal led to a retirement business building metal shaping tools called English Wheels. He also teaches metal shaping and does projects for other companies, including three large-scale art-architectural projects in Indiana.</p> <p>In addition to the never-ending project of their ’03 Discovery, Kerry is building from scratch an aluminum bodied Art Deco roadster and an art project named Monique. Other than singing in their church choir, Kerry is usually found in his shop, getting his hands dirty building, fixing, or breaking something.</p>	


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Discovery Owners Association, Inc. 20th Anniversary

This year marks the 20th Anniversary of our very own Discovery Owners Association, Incorporated and we have some partying planned for us. Time to pat ourselves on the back and celebrate our efforts in promoting and informing the wonderful RV lifestyle traditions we have created with our Discoverys.



Welcome 2018 DOAI Board Members, continued

<p>Southwest Vice President</p>	<p>Jim Sullivan</p>	<p>Jim joined DOAI in 2013 after trading in his 2008 Discovery for a new 2013 Discovery. He went to Camp Discovery in 2014, where John Baker encouraged Jim and his wife Susan to start up a new chapter in California.</p> <p>As a result, Jim and Susan are founding members of Discovery California. In January 2015, Jim was appointed President by Mike Scott who was then the DOAI Southwest Regional VP. Jim continues to serve in that role today with Susan as Secretary for Discovery California.</p> <p>Although Jim and Susan have only been RVing since 2010, they have traveled extensively throughout the US and Canada. Their original 2008 Discovery (which they bought right after Susan retired from teaching) only had 6500 miles on it. When they traded it in 2013, it had close to 75000 miles. Their current 2013 Discovery now has 92000 miles on the odometer.</p> <p>Jim took an early retirement from Hewlett Packard after almost 30 years with the company, and then started a manufacturing consulting company which evolved into part ownership in a third company that refurbishes personal computers. Jim then managed the company's manufacturing operation in Juarez, Mexico that employed over 400 workers. Although Jim is mostly retired currently, he is occasionally called upon to meet with customers and to consult over issues that arise within the company.</p>	
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**Audit Committee report**

To: DOAI Board of Directors

From: DOAI Audit Committee

Re: Review of Financial Records and Statements for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2016

Date: October 12, 2017

On behalf of the DOAI Audit Committee, this report is submitted to the Discovery Owners Association, Inc. Board of Directors. The financial records and statements of the Discovery Owners Association, Inc. for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2016 were examined. We tested receipts and disbursements, including supporting documentation for various transactions, reviewed bank statements, reconciliations and investment activity, and reviewed the policies and procedures followed by the accounting personnel.

We found no issues or discrepancies to bring to your attention.

Ricky Keen, Chairman  
DOAI Audit Committee



John Scarbrough

## Editor Scarborough resigns

It has been my pleasure to work as the editor for the Discovery Express for the past year. However, I have experienced a significant change in my workload with the University here (I'm not yet retired, no matter how much I may wish it...). My ability to devote time to the newsletter has decreased to the point that I just have to admit that I'm over-extended and can't do everything that I would like. Therefore, I must resign this position immediately.

Let me introduce to you Kristy Green, who will be taking on the duties of Discovery Express editor. I know you will enjoy getting to know her and she will do an absolutely terrific job. She is a retired Army veteran, married for over 43 years to Dennis (also an Army veteran), and mother of 4. She has traveled extensively and has a degree in communications and lots of experience in desktop publishing and web design. You can learn more of her background below.

I have very much enjoyed working with the wonderful people of DOAI and I have especially gotten a kick out of compiling some of the amazing stories and goings-on of the group. I want to thank you for allowing me to serve and wish everyone safe travels and a healthy and prosperous new year. ❖



Kristy Green

## Meet the new Editor

Kristy Green is a native of Arizona currently splitting residence between Greenville, North Carolina and Chandler, Arizona. She met her husband Dennis in high school and they joined the Army together, went to college together (she in communications and he in accounting), and they are the parents of 4 children. Their military blood runs through their childrens' veins....three of them are veterans!

Dennis is a CPA, so the Greens began acquiring home computers back in the '80s to use in their public accounting tax and bookkeeping business. Kristy soon began a desktop publishing business producing flyers, resumes, and newsletters for clients in her community. She later worked with outside publishers to produce alumni magazines, recruitment materials, and bound programs and began learning web development at the private school she worked for. Despite changes of employers and duties over the course of her career and volunteer work, Kristy continued to be the go to person when a newsletter or website needed to be created, revamped, and maintained.

The Greens purchased their Discovery, "Aunt Bea", almost 10 years ago and joined DOAI. Family and business prevented Aunt Bea from moving far afield for several years; aside from a weekend here and a week there she mostly rested on her pad. Discovery Express was their main connection to our RV world and Kristy says they learned lots of practical information from it.

Kristy said, "So after retiring this year, for the first time in our 10 years of membership we were finally able to attend the National Rally at Shawnee. When I learned that DOAI needed a newsletter editor, it just seemed to be a sign that I had something to offer here, it was the right time."

I am excited to introduce Kristy to you and look forward to this new day in the life of DOAI and the Discovery Express. I know you will enjoy the fruits of her labors in the Editor's chair. *Written by John Baker.* ❖

## DOAI – More Than "Just" A Newsletter

Discover the many ways in which your membership pays off. Click here: [www.discoveryowners.com](http://www.discoveryowners.com) and you'll be taken to the DOAI website. There you will find links to:

Consolidated Rally Schedule  
 Helpful Contacts for Discovery Owners  
 DOAI Name Badge and Decal ordering information  
 Classified sale ads for Discoverys and  
 Discovery-related items  
 Hints and Tips  
 Forum (eGroup) and Bulletin Board  
 How to join Discovery Friends

DOAI Membership Sponsors  
 DOAI Information/Invitation for Non-Members  
 Application for DOAI Membership  
 National Rally information and registration form  
 Regional Rally information and registration form  
 Chapters and Chapter Rally Schedule  
 Past issues of this newsletter  
 and so much more...



Nina Soltwedel

## Secretary's report

**A**t the 2017 national rally in Shawnee, Okla., the Board of Directors met, followed the next day by a meeting of the general membership.

### **Board of Directors meeting, Friday, October 13, 2:30 p.m.**

Present were John Baker, Nina Soltwedel, Dick Tracy, MaryAnn Crowell, Bev Kaiser, Bob Soltwedel, Gary Osburn, Kerry Pinkerton, Elaine Holley, and Jody Bruce, establishing a quorum. Guests attending were Ricky Keen, Becky Hazen, and Bruce Plumb, nominees for national office. In President Ron Wacker's absence, John Baker presided.

- \* Via written report, Ron Wacker reported on results of the survey taken at the 2016 national rally in Bath, N.Y. He suggested the current DOAI brochure be updated and made available online for members to download, print, and hand out to prospective members. Ron proposed offering members the opportunity to purchase a DOAI "license" plate, similar to FMCA. Further investigation will happen on this topic.
- \* John Baker gave an update on the search for a new editor for Discovery Express. A motion made and passed to create a Certificate of Appreciation for John Scarbrough, retiring editor.
- \* John Baker explained the DOAI election process and a brief discussion followed on ideas to simplify the process.
- \* Incoming Treasurer Ricky Keen advised the Louisiana Mudbugs had decided to disband, and this was their final gathering as an official DOAI chapter.
- \* Nina Soltwedel initiated discussion on DOAI's insurance coverage. She will create a "reminder" calendar for all officers and chapters to assist in everyone being aware of various deadlines.
- \* MaryAnn Crowell announced the defibrillator owned by DOAI has not been used since 2004 and is in dire need of upgrading. Motion made and passed to dispose of the unit and that it will not be replaced. She gave an update on current national rally, and shared plans for the 2018 National Homecoming Rally set for Goshen, Ind., in September. Discussion took place on possible sites for the 2019 national rally and the site for the 2020 national rally.
- \* Kerry Pinkerton discussed Discovery Friends. He plans to publicize the group at all rallies and submit an article for the newsletter.
- \* Elaine Holley reported September 30, 2017 DOAI membership as 1,302. This number included 27 new members for September.
- \* Jody Bruce gave an update on the DOAI merchandise inventory. She requested DOAI supply a handheld POS terminal which will enable her to accept credit cards. Motion made and passed to allow her to obtain the reader. Meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m. Complete minutes are posted at [www.discoveryowners.com/BOD.pdf](http://www.discoveryowners.com/BOD.pdf).

### **General Membership meeting, Saturday, October 14, 11:05 am.**

- \* John Baker announced a quorum was present. He introduced the current Board of Directors present.
- \* Dick Tracy recapped the past year's finances.
- \* Elaine Holley and Jody Bruce gave updates on their DOAI tasks.
- \* Dick Tracy gave update on status of 2018 Camp Discovery in Florida, with the Mason-Dixon Discoverys chapter as hosts.
- \* MaryAnn Crowell gave update on current national rally, shared dates and location for 2018 National Homecoming Rally. She asked for volunteers to handle various tasks for that rally, and more details would be in the January 2018 newsletter. She advised that the 2020 national rally will be in Sevierville, Tenn., but no location has yet been chosen for the 2019 national rally, scheduled to be in the Southwest Region. Ideas are welcomed!
- \* Nina Soltwedel invited all women who like to sing to participate in The Discoveryettes at the 2018 national rally. Details to follow in Discovery Express.
- \* John Baker introduced those candidates present for election and asked every coach to please vote.
- \* Kerry Pinkerton discussed Discovery Friends, encouraging DOAI members to join.
- \* John Baker announced group photos would be taken immediately upon adjournment. Meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m. Complete minutes are posted at [www.discoveryowners.com/GM.pdf](http://www.discoveryowners.com/GM.pdf).

### **Electronic Board meeting**

Because the new editor of Discovery Express, Kristy Green, is a DOAI member, three Standing Rules needed to be revised, restoring the original wording before the immediate past editor became an outside vendor. A second change was made to a Standing Rule to underscore DOAI's appreciation for the work performed by the members of the Board, and a third change clarifies the procedure for requesting reimbursement of expenses. All revisions are underlined in the following items. The Standing Rules are at: [www.discoveryowners.com/standingrules.pdf](http://www.discoveryowners.com/standingrules.pdf).

*(Continued on next page...)*



## Secretary's report, continued

### Standing Rule #1, Expense Reimbursements - Revised 12-10-2017

2. Fees for rallies and camping at which a Board meeting is held shall be reimbursed to voting and non-voting Board members.

5. All requests for reimbursement for approved expenses must be submitted for payment on the "Request for Reimbursement of Expenses" form (Exhibit 1-1), itemizing the purpose and costs of the expenditures, accompanied by the appropriate receipts. Requests are to be sent to the DOAI President for approval, who will forward the approved request to the DOAI Treasurer for reimbursement. Invoices for direct payment to vendor by DOAI should be sent directly to the DOAI Treasurer with approval of the DOAI President. Requests may be sent via USPS, or by attaching the appropriate information to an email to be sent to the DOAI President with copy, including attachments, to the DOAI Treasurer. Reimbursement and/or payment requests should be submitted in a timely manner.

### Standing Rule #9, Discovery Express Editor - Revised 12-10-2017

Discovery Express is the official DOAI newsletter which shall be published electronically quarterly.

1. The newsletter shall be published in color by an outside vendor approved by the DOAI Board of Directors. It shall be emailed to all members, as well as to non-DOAI members who have supplied an article for the current issue. A copy shall also be emailed to the DOAI Webmaster for posting on the DOAI website.

2. A Newsletter Editor shall be designated to receive input articles and information from members, chapters, officers, and coordinators. The Newsletter Editor shall edit all inputs for transmittal to the outside publisher.

### Standing Rule #15, Duties of Non-Voting Directors - Revised 12-10-2017

The Board of Directors of DOAI include the Membership Coordinator, Webmaster, Newsletter Editor and Merchandise Coordinator. The DOAI President appoints the individuals to serve in these capacities with approval of the DOAI Board of Directors. There is no term limit.

#### D. Newsletter Editor

The Newsletter Editor is responsible for editing the quarterly DOAI newsletter, Discovery Express. Editor works closely with Chapter Presidents, Officers and DOAI Directors, and individual members to ensure a quality publication. Editor transmits edited input to outside publishing vendor in accordance with established deadlines. Editor reports to the President. ❖



Dick Tracy

## Treasurer's report

As I finish my second and final term as DOAI Treasurer I want to thank all those who I have had the pleasure of working with to handle the financial needs for DOAI. My replacement is Ricky Keen who has very well qualified having served as auditor of our books and having a CPA background. I know he will do an excellent job and serve the needs of the organization with enthusiasm. ❖

## Congratulations On Our 20th Anniversary!

This year marks the 20th Anniversary of our very own Discovery Owners Association, Incorporated and we have some partying planned for us. Time to pat ourselves on the back and celebrate our efforts in promoting and informing the wonderful RV lifestyle traditions we have created with our Discoverys.





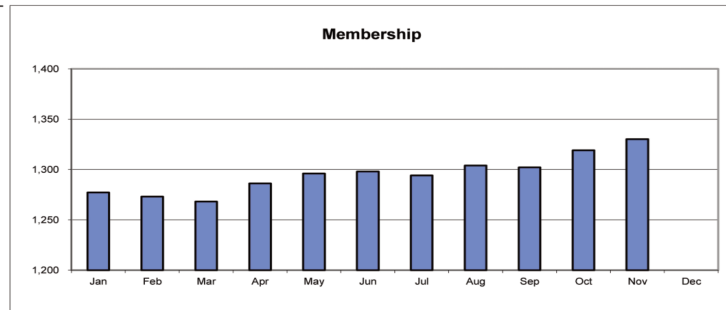
Elaine Holley

## Membership Coordinator's report

The chart below shows the status of our membership for the period January – November 2017. Please Welcome our new and reinstated members listed here since our last issue of Discovery Express. Remember, if you win the Discovery Express Quarterly Question Contest or have three referrals, you will receive a one-year free membership. Congratulations go out to John & Alice Ricciardi and Peter & Sharon Shaffer for their referrals. ❖

**DOAI MEMBERSHIP 2017**

2017 Month	Member-ship	New Mbrs
Jan	1,277	24
Feb	1,273	26
Mar	1,268	30
Apr	1,286	48
May	1,296	36
Jun	1,298	30
Jul	1,294	28
Aug	1,304	42
Sep	1,302	27
Oct	1,319	35
Nov	1,330	43
Dec		



Harold Alexander, Nashville TN  
 Alex/Julia Alfaras, Miami FL  
 Bryan/Terrie Ambrosio, Indialantic FL  
 Bob/Lori Archibald, Maricopa CA  
 Chuck/Lauren Arnold, Alexandria LA  
 Brian Awis, Cape Coral FL  
 Robert/Jill Bailey, Manning SC  
 Bill/Mary Baptista, Lake Havasu City AZ  
 Derek Bernett, Edwardsville IL  
 Ron Blaylock/Lynn Moore, Jay OK  
 Jeff/Julie Bradford, Boyne City MI  
 Dennis/Shelly Brown, Siloam Springs AR  
 Joe/Debbie Brown, Golden CO  
 Robert/Dosha Brown, Carlisle PA  
 Peter/Juanita Buchanan, Lebanon TN  
 David/Jeanette Calderon, Lake Forest Park WA  
 Tom/Linda Candreva, Cottonwood CA  
 Gregory/Julie Chaffee, Littleton CO  
 Dan/Rebekah Child, Canyon Country CA  
 Rodney/Kathe Claborn, Apache OK  
 Terry/Connie Constant, Hutchinson KS  
 Matt/Suzan Cullen, Murphys CA  
 Ken/Renee Diaz, Sonora CA  
 Disaster Response LLC, Missoula MT  
 Richard Douglass, Highland Village TX  
 Sonny/Jackie Edger, Davie FL  
 Gerald Flora, Rossville IN  
 William/Bonnie Flori, Hilltop Lakes TX  
 Michael/Carlene Fogle, Polk City FL  
 Al/Ann Forth, Rockton ON  
 Matthew Foster, Dayton OH  
 Randall/Pamela Garrett, Crestview FL  
 Carl/Andrea Goschie, Lake Havasu City AZ  
 Brian/Kelli Gray, Greenland NH  
 Pedro Guimaraes, Pismo Beach CA  
 Mark/Dawn Hamilton, Meraux LA

Scott Hawkersmith, Goodlettsville TN  
 John/Rita Heinricy, Clarkston MI  
 Judy Herring/Jamie Whitlow, Ponchatoula LA  
 Scot Hoffhous, Clovis CA  
 Kenny/Cynde Holloway, Oklahoma City OK  
 Tom/Cat Horsfall, Hollister CA  
 Bob Horvat, Pueblo CO  
 Craig/Susan Hultgren, Pecatonica IL  
 David/Ji H Kim, Kirkland WA  
 Adam Knutson, Hammond WI  
 Walter/Rosie Kolditz, Sugar City ID  
 Kenneth/Judith Kovats, Chardon OH  
 Hank/Barb Kunst, Sedgewick AB  
 Kevin/Lynne Kuzeff, Savannah GA  
 Jeff/Karen LaFave, Escanaba MI  
 Thomas Laizer III, Abita Springs LA  
 Daryl/Sarah Lawrence, Livingston TX  
 Doug Lee, Forney TX  
 Jimmy/Sherry Leshner, Hattiesburg MS  
 Rose Lines/Trevor Scheiding, Kent WA  
 Randy/April Lowman, Union Hall VA  
 Norval/Linda MacDonald, Head Of St Margarets Bay NS  
 Edward/Marla Martella, Gilbert AZ  
 Santiago/Evelyn Martin, Homestead FL  
 Jack McCutchen, Tulsa OK  
 Debbie/Jim McKinney, Montgomery TX  
 Archibald McMichael, Bryn Mawr PA  
 Gary Miehlike, Manistee MI  
 Frank/Corrine Miller, Fort Mill SC  
 Justin/Steve Miller, Buckeye AZ  
 Ty/Deb Montag, Grove City OH  
 Andy/Rhonda Monte, Beaver PA  
 Herbert/Florinda Muller, East Greenwich RI  
 Mike/Tricia Nace, Baltimore MD  
 Christopher Nassif/Natalie Niewerth, Woodland Hills CA

Mike/Kelly Ochsner, Cathedral City CA  
 Robert Orr/Nikki Taylor, White GA  
 James Osborne/Clare Lazenby, Val Caron ON  
 William/Shirley Parish, Lake Kiowa TX  
 Kurt/Trish Pastory, Mesa AZ  
 Eduardo Pavone, Orlando FL  
 Tony/Katrina Pope, Dexter GA  
 Danny Posey, Winnsboro LA  
 Mike/Terry Powers, Acworth GA  
 Fred/Peggy Raphael, Fairhaven MA  
 Dennis/Diana Reeb, Fairfield OH  
 Tony/Brenda Rentz, Waycross GA  
 Gregory/Anne Sanders, South Lyon MI  
 Jeff/Sandy Simmonds, Lake Havasu AZ  
 Gary Sinclair/Debra Miner, Ware MA  
 Rachael Smith, Seguin TX  
 Stephen/Vicki Snure, Wooster OH  
 Monica/Paul Spazak, Eastover NC  
 Fred Steele, Redmond OR  
 Harold Stoddard/Ann Wheeler, North Yarmouth ME  
 Carl /Christina Straubel, Roseville CA  
 Bradford/Anna Varner, Sioux Falls SD  
 Nicholas/Barbara Vuolo, Preston Hollow NY  
 John B/Nancy Warren II, Owensboro KY  
 Steven/Marcia Wells, Alledonia OH  
 Peter/Dorreen Welsh, The Villages FL  
 Bob/Betsy Whicker, Casa Grande AZ  
 Stanley/Margaret Whicker, Tucson AZ  
 Steven/Margo Whitaker, Bonaire GA  
 John/Claudia Willard, Wildomar CA  
 Ronnie/Belin Wills, Cypress TX  
 Jason/Julie Wolfe, Cleveland Heights OH  
 Jason Wolter, Palm Desert CA  
 Herbert/Anna Zilla, Lake Katrine NY

## Quarterly Question Contest Rules

Each issue of Discovery Express will feature a question on the front page, and the answer will appear somewhere within. Find the answer and submit the response. A drawing from all correct responses will be made, and the winner will receive a year's free membership in DOAI.

### Contest Details

1. The quarterly question will appear on the front page of Discovery Express. The answer to each quarter's question will be a word or a year. It will not be highlighted in any way except that, if the answer is a proper noun, it will be capitalized. It will be contained somewhere within the newsletter.



2. Entries are to be emailed to Nina Soltwedel ([nina.soltwedel@gmail.com](mailto:nina.soltwedel@gmail.com)) and must contain:

- a. The member's name and contact information
- b. The page number where the answer is found
- c. The complete sentence in which the answer is contained.

3. All DOAI members are eligible to participate. A member is a coach, thus one entry per coach per quarter. A member is limited to one win each calendar year.

5. The contest will open the first day of the month of that issue and close the fifteenth day of the succeeding month of that quarter. Entries may not be submitted until the first day of a quarter (January, April, July, October), and must be received by Nina no later than 11:59pm the fifteenth day of the second month of a quarter (February, May, August, November). Responses received before the opening date will be disqualified.

6. The receipt of an entry will be acknowledged via email. One winning entry will be drawn from all correct entries.

7. The succeeding issue will name the previous quarter's winner and announce the new question.

8. The DOAI Board of Directors reserves the right to terminate the contest at any time.

If you have any questions about the contest, please contact Nina ([nina.soltwedel@gmail.com](mailto:nina.soltwedel@gmail.com)). ❖

## Apple Cheddar Jalapeno Salad

A tangy and refreshing recipe from [Gratefullynourished.com](http://Gratefullynourished.com). Ingredients:

- 2 cups shredded apple, skin on (this was 1 large granny smith and 2 small rome beauties for me)
- 1/2 cup sharp cheddar cheese (preferably raw from grass-fed cows)
- Juice from 1 lime
- 1 tbsp plain whole milk yogurt
- 1/4 cup cilantro, chopped
- 1 jalapeno, seeds and stems removed, finely diced
- 1/8 tsp chili powder
- 1/4 tsp sea salt



Apple Cheddar Jalapeno Salad Nutrition
Serving Size: just over 1/2 cup Servings Per Recipe: 4
125 Calories
21 g Carbohydrates
3 g Fiber
--- Net Carbs
4 g Protein
5 g Fat
11 g Sugar

Directions: Use a large grater and shred apples and cheese into a bowl. Squeeze lime juice into the bowl. Add yogurt, chopped cilantro, diced jalapeno, chili powder, and sea salt. Stir to combine and serve. Article originally appeared on Gratefully Nourished (<http://www.gratefullynourished.com/>) November 7, 2013 at 10:49 PM, Copyright © 2011-2015, GratefullyNourished.com. All rights reserved. Reprinted with permission of Leah Rae Verde, author/creator/photographer/blogger. Gratefully Nourished is about food; whole foods, fresh foods, nutrient dense foods, delicious foods.

## Region and Chapter reports

### Discovery Texans chapter



Chapter prez  
Judy Jo Bruton

Talk about an October to remember.....the National Rally was wonderful! We were so honored to host this tremendous event with the Texas Discovery Road Runners and the Louisiana Mudbugs. After this superb event the Discovery Texans were promptly off to our next rally in Santo, Texas on November 8-11th. This November rally was our last rally for 2017, which was held at Coffee Creek RV Resort and Cabins. Our hosts, Bill and Elaine Holly and Jim and Kathy Pellow treated us to outstanding meals and fellowship.

Our rally hosts chose a very quaint and delicious BBQ restaurant for our arrival dinner, Natty Flat Smokehouse in Lipan, Texas. We arrived early to browse at a wonderful shop adjacent to the restaurant. Of course the BIG attraction was the “Star of Texas Rocker” which is in the Guinness Book of World Records, as the largest rocking chair in the world. The chair is 25 and a half feet tall and weighs 5672 pounds.

Sightseeing and shopping were just a few of the activities that our group enjoyed. Some ventured to Mineral Wells and discovered the rich history of the Baker Hotel. Stephenville had a beautiful town square with ample shops to delight anyone’s shopping experience. As always there were lively games of jokers and marbles and card bingo being played in the rally hall.

Since our last rally in May our membership has grown and we welcomed ten new coaches to our chapter.

Joel and Ronda Carson

John and Sylvia McLaughlin

Joe and Sandra Mire

Johnny and Shelley Johnson

Fred and Daphne

Loret and Kathaleen Ross

Rick and Maggie Steele

Ed and Madolyn Tomlin

Harold Stoddard & Ann Wheeler

Ricky and Debbie Keen

### WELCOME DISCOVERY TEXANS!

We also conducted chapter business by holding elections for two positions that will be held for 2018-2019. The results are: Judy Jo Bruton, President and Al Welch, Vice President.

Our next rally will be January 10-13 at Bushman’s RV Park in Bullard, Texas. If you are interested in joining our rally please fill out a guest form on the DOAI website or contact me or any member and we will be happy to help. Listed below is a rundown of our planned rallies:

2018:

Jan 10 -13 (Depart 14th)

Bushman’s RV Park, Bullard, Texas

Mar 21- 24 (Depart 25th)

Skyline Ranch RV Park, Bandera, Texas

May 16 – 19(Depart 20th)

American RV Park, Corsicana, Texas

Nov. 7- 10 (Depart 11th)

Coffee Creek RV and Resort, Santo, Texas

We plan our rallies for Wednesday through Saturday departing on Sunday. Hope to see y’all in the near future. Safe travels everyone. *Submitted by Susan Smith, Secretary.* ❖

## Look Who Just Turned 20!

Can you believe it? This year marks the 20th Anniversary! Drumroll please....



Region and chapter reports, continued



Chapter prez  
Jim Sullivan

Discovery California chapter

Our Discovery California had a 14-day Rolling Rally to the Albuquerque Balloon Festival. We picked up Discoverys along the route and when we arrived in Albuquerque, we were 13 strong. First started out in Laughlin, NV and drove to Oatman, a mining ghost town inhabited by wild donkeys. Next stop was Distant Drums RV Resort, south of Sedona. There we explored Indian petrography, visited the mining town of Jerome and had a potluck dinner.

Have you ever stood on the corner of Winslow, AZ? “Stood on the corner, such a fine sight to see. It’s a girl, my Lord, in a flatbed Ford, slowin’ down to take a look at us.” We had a great photo opportunity with the girl in the flatbed Ford. Then lunch at the beautiful restored La Posada Hotel. This was a stop that everyone thoroughly enjoyed. Spent the night in Milan, NM to gather up the folks from Ontario Province in Canada, Robin & Jim Hadcock, before driving into the festival grounds. Getting all 13 Discovery’s parked together was quite a challenge but we prevailed. We spent 3 nights dry camping. The first day everyone was up early to watch the morning launch at the park and then in the evening back to the park for the evening festivities. The second morning we had a front row seat watching from the motor homes. Beautiful, bright balloons flew right over our D’s. We set up the chairs and had the best view of the show.



Standing on the corner in Winslow, AZ



Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta 2017

After leaving Albuquerque, we drove off to Mesilla with a stop in Hatch to try the world famous Chili at Sparky’s for lunch. Hatch is the Napa Valley of Chili. But alas, Sparky’s was closed. Spent a couple of days Mesilla/Las Cruces area enjoying the charm of Old Town before heading off to the Wild West ghost town of Tombstone. The Tombstone stop was an adventure everyone still with us thoroughly enjoyed from the shootouts on the streets of Tombstone, chicken dinner at the Longhorn Restaurant, and the Bisbee cooper mine tours.



Happy Hour in Tombstone, AZ

The last stop on the Rolling Rally was Wickenburg, Az. We stayed at the Horspitality RV Park who were great hosts. They even provided the group with a pancake breakfast. The RV park caters to those traveling with horses but they didn’t mind that we didn’t bring any horses only a few dogs and a couple of cats. We had two dinners that were hosted by the local Elks, including an Oktoberfest dinner.



Enjoying Oktoberfest dinner at the Elks Lodge in Wickenburg

When we drove off after 14 days, we reflected on our many adventures. We started out with 11 D’s in Laughlin, had 13 D’s in Albuquerque, and on the last day in Wickenburg, we finished up with 3 of our original group.

(Continued on next page...)

## Region and chapter reports, continued

We all got along and our 2 new members, the Hadcocks and the Sanders, became so well integrated during our travels, we consider them Discovery California veterans.

### Turkey Time at the Vines

Early November we had a great rally of 14 Discoverys at the Vines RV Resort in beautiful Paso Robles. Paso Robles is the epicenter for the central coast wineries. At last count, there are over 340 wineries in the area. Thursday evening a few of the early arrivals had dinner in the quaint town of Templeton at McPhees. The rib eye was the most popular selection, although the pork chop was great. Friday started out with Paul and Cheryl Stein hosting a golf tournament at the Hunter Ranch Golf Course. During the evening, the RV Park hosted a well-attended wine tasting and Craft's Faire as our group got reacquainted.

The next day, many folks went out to the Estrella Warbirds Museum which is dedicated to the restoration and preservation of military aircraft, vehicles and memorabilia. Other attractions visited by members included the Woodland Auto Display housing a great selection of historic and racing autos, the Camp Roberts Museum, wine tasting venues, or shopping in Paso Robles.

The board was busy with last minute preparations for the Turkey feast and annual membership meeting. Everyone brought a side dish or appetizer while we provided a big turkey, a turkey breast, and a large ham. Afterwards, we had our annual membership meeting. Cheryl Stein agreed to take over the secretary role from Susan, freeing her up to focus on being the event coordinator. Anita Zantos gave a financial report, we are still solvent. Fonda gave a membership update and shared ideas on how to increase membership.

Sunday morning after another great breakfast, we headed over to the Eberle Winery for a special tour of their wine caves and a private tasting of their wines. What a great way to end our rally!

### Our Upcoming Rallies

A number of us will be joining Larry Hawkins and his D'Zonas for a rally down in Rocky Point/ Puerto Penasco, Mexico February 9th through the 16th. There will be about 15 rigs traveling to the northern shore of the Sea of Cortez.

April 5- 9, Felix and Suzie Jones will be hosting a rally, Desert Flowers & Golf, near Death Valley at the Longstreet Inn & Casino/RV Resort, in Amargosa Valley, Nevada. A golf tournament is planned and if we get some rain there should be lots of wild flowers in Death Valley.

May 31-June 3, the Santa Maria Elks will be hosting a Rodeo and Parade. We are making plans to dry camp for 4 days on the rodeo grounds. There will be a \$115 per person fee. The fee includes one general admission ticket to the rodeo performance of your choice, 2 continental breakfasts, 2 hot breakfasts, and 2 BBQ dinners. You know Santa Maria is famous for their BBQ. We need to match up one Elk member rig with one guest rig. We have several Elks in our group, and we hope we will have 12+ rigs attending the Rodeo.

In September, we are planning another Rolling Rally along the Oregon coast to Astoria. We are working on the details, so far it looks like another winner! ❖



Chapter prez  
Bruce Plumb

### Ozarks Discovery chapter

The Ozarks Discovery Chapter met in Branson, MO in November for their fall rally. Members in attendance were: Bruce and Nancy Plumb, Randy and Mary Cocklen, Jason and Marilyn Johansen, and Ricky and Debbie Keen. (Listed in order of the picture).

Two of our members who had intended to be at the rally were not able to make it at the last minute, Bill and Corinne Bennett blew their D's engine (for the second time in a month) so missed the rally. And Ray and Brenda Boudreau missed due to Ray's hip surgery being moved up. Prayers for both couples.

Even with a small group attending we had a lot of fun and good food. We went to see Clay Cooper's Veterans-Christmas show and at Silver Dollar City we enjoyed the Christmas lights and Christmas shows. 2018 Rallies are in the makings for Springfield, IL at the Double D RV Park May 3-6 and Springdale, AR October 18-21 for the War Eagle Craft Show. ❖



Region and chapter reports, continued



Chapter prez  
Melissa Plowman

Texas Discovery Road Runners chapter

Thanks to all the Discovery Owners who came to our neck of the woods—Shawnee, Oklahoma. We hope you made some new friends, learned a few things and had a great time. Save the date for the next national rally in Goshen, Indiana, September 10-14, 2018.

Our last rally of the year took place in San Angelo, Texas. San Angelo is an old, eclectic town in west Texas that offers a view of the past and a trendy view of the future. Carol and Barry Sturm graciously welcomed us to their fabulous abode where we learned a little about birding and gardening. Master gardener, Carol, has many plants that attract butterflies and a variety of birds. We settled in at the end of the evening for BBQ from famous Cooper’s BBQ and Grill and lots of pot luck goodies. Fort Concho National Historic Landmark has many activities to start the Christmas season. We enjoyed shopping, music, re-enactments and cannon firing over the weekend at the Fort. This area has many air turbine farms. One would think it would be because it is so windy, but we found out on our tour that it is not a lot, but “just the right amount” of wind that makes a good location for a wind farm. Our last tour was to the Mount Carmel Hermitage Monastery. We toured the buildings on the property, learned a little about this lifestyle, and made some purchases of honey, baked goods and the like the small congregation of hermits produce with their own hands.



We completed our end of the year chapter business with the election of new officers-President Kathaleen Ross, Vice President-Noel Montgomery, Secretary-Melissa Plowman and Treasurer-Scott Plowman.

Our next rally is scheduled in Galveston March 29-April 2, 2017 at the Galveston RV Resort. We hope to have dates set for three other rallies in East Texas, North Texas and South Texas soon. Wishing you safe travels! ❖



Chapter prez  
Wally Wallington

Northwest Adventurers chapter

Chapter President Wally Wallington and his wife, Annie, were in Germany at the time of the 2017 national rally. However, the chapter was ably represented by Lonnie Hodge and Becky Hazen, along with Bob and Nina Soltwedel. Four other couples from the Northwest Region showed interest in the chapter, and all of them joined at the rally: Helmut and Rose Kanoldt, Buena Vista, Colo.; Rick and Sheri Blackford, Swink, Colo.; David and Linda Hinds, Great Falls, Mont.; and Ronald and Joyce Tanner, Portland, Ore.

When she returned home, Becky, the chapter’s secretary, made a special emailing to all DOAI members residing in the Northwest Region (that’s eight U.S. states and five Canadian provinces).

As a result, in addition to the four couples who joined NWA at the rally, we are pleased to welcome the other new chapter members: Tom and Karen Evers, Fruitland, Idaho; Al and Pat Larrabee, Mountain Home, Idaho; John and Diane Anderson, Monument, Colo.; Steve and Lynette Bottom, Grand Junction, Colo.; Greg and Julie Chaffee, Littleton, Colo.; John and Jan Kovach, Colorado Springs, Colo.; Jerry Woerdeman and Heidi McClure, Monument, Colo.; and Joe and Diane Hoffman, Portland, Ore.

The chapter thanks Becky for her hard work, and further congratulates her upon being elected to her first term as DOAI’s Northwest Region Vice President. She will continue as our hard-working chapter secretary. Becky says, “If you have questions about Northwest Adventurers, or wish to become a member of our exciting chapter, send me an email at bhazen@bluelakesport.com.” Report submitted by Nina Soltwedel. ❖

### Region and chapter reports, continued

#### Noreaster Discoverys chapter



Chapter prez  
Bob Stewart

Here we are at the end of 2017. Where does the time go? I remember planning our trips in our Discovery for this year like it was yesterday. What a great time Jeanne and I had with all our DOAI friends. We started out at the southeast region rally at Lazydays in January, as many DOAI folks do. It was hosted for the first time by the Blue Ridge Discoverys. Great first time hosts, and you can't start off the year any better than with a lot more new knowledge about our coaches, meetings, seeing old friends and making new ones.

Next, we went to the Midwest Discoverys rally in Philadelphia. We Noreasters were invited guests at their rally. What a fantastic time was had by all in attendance. Never an idle moment, whew! What a great event put on by chairpersons, Rick and Carol Parton. That one will be remembered for a long time. I only wish we could have had a few more Noreasters there.

In September, we went to the Midwest Discoverys Fall rally in Michigan. Again, a fantastic time and more Discovery friends made. Thanks again to President Jerry Call for the invite. Congratulations, new president John Hooper.

After that, we wandered north to Grand Rapids to spend time with family. Then on to Indianapolis, IN; Cave City, Kentucky; Nashville Tenn; Little Rock, Ark; and finally Shawnee, Okla. for the national DOAI rally. Another great time put on by our friends in Texas and Oklahoma. Even we Noreasters got to be cowboys for a week.

We got home in time to enjoy a nice fall season without snow until now; even got to golf in November, not a usual occurrence. It's mid-December now and the lake effect snow doesn't seem to want to stop. You know what I mean if you saw the highlights of the Buffalo Bills vs Indiana Colts game last weekend. So now it's time to pack and plan for the coming year. Off to Florida, that's if we can get out of the driveway with all this darn snow.

I wish everyone Happy Holidays, Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year. See you in Florida! ❖

### .....TGIGW

#### Watch for Ice

By Kristy Green

