



Discovery[®] *EXPRESS*

Vol. 11, No. 1

Celebrating DOAI's 11th Anniversary Year

Winter 2009

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Coming in Spring 2009: Articles on satellite Internet, road trip tips, Yahoo! group conversations, more!

Happy New Year!

This is the first issue of the new year, and what a year it will be. Are you in the southern climes where it is warm and sunny? Or are you spending the winter months in the north with your Discovery in storage? Wherever you may be, we send you our best wishes for a great year of RVing, greeting old friends and meeting new friends, and enjoying all the perks of DOAI membership. And here's a perk we hope you won't miss:

Southeast Region 2009 Rally

The registration deadline is upon us! Registrations **must** be received by the rally registrar by *January 30, 2009* ... and by the time you receive this newsletter, that deadline will be about two weeks away.



The committee has been working hard to plan a rally that will be entertaining, informative, delicious, and exciting. You'll have a great time as you **Discover The Smokies** this coming April. The rally park is a beautiful location, and the surrounding area offers more venues for entertainment and exploration than you can shake a stick at (OK, perhaps that's a bit over the top, but you get the idea).



There's a map on **page 4** of this issue which shows how to get to the rally park, along with other last minute information. For lots of other details, refer to the previous issue of this newsletter (Fall 2008), **pages 1 and 4**. If you can't put your hands on that issue, go to the DOAI Web site and download the PDF file (www.discoveryowners.com). The registration form is repeated in this issue (**page 22**). Y'all come!

Other News Bits

Check inside for an assortment of photos from the 2008 national rally (and did we have fun!), along with a report on the final tally for the silent auction. See **page 5** for a special letter from Paul Eskritt, president of the RV group at Fleetwood, to DOAI members.

You will also find the minutes from the board and general meetings at the national rally, an updated rally schedule, and information about **GOING GREEN**. Grab a cuppa, find a seat, get comfy, open the pages, and enjoy the ride! Oh, yes ... have a wonderful year! See you down the road.



Quarterly Publication of Discovery Owners Association, Inc.,
an organization by and for owners of Discovery[®] by Fleetwood[®] RV 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	www.ancirarv.com
Bankston Motor Homes, Inc., Huntsville AL	800.624.2899	www.bankstonmotorhomes.com
DeMontrond RV, Houston TX	800.392.1480	www.demontrondrv.com
Hayes RV, Longview TX	888.429.3778	www.hayesrv.com
Lazydays RV SuperCenter, Seffner FL	800.500.5299	www.lazydays.com
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River City RV, Sherwood AR	800.696.2125	www.rivercityrvs.com
Tom Raper RV, Richmond IN/Fairfield OH	800.727.3778	www.tomraper.com

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**

From the DOAI 2008 National Rally Photo Album

Photos shared by Dick Snyder, Charlie Richardson, Elsie Sikes, and Portia Williams



The Texans hosted a fun margarita party.



Arnie Thompson brought interesting stuff to turn campfires many colors.



Rod Kirk turned on the Aussie charm for a lovely Amish gal. Where was Pauline?



A composite photo of rally participants enjoying a great meal at an Amish farmhouse.



More revelers at the Texas "do."



Brenda and Dick Snyder enjoyed seeing how Amish buggies are made.



Dave Salyer, Dick Snyder, Daphne Anderson. Dave & Daphne entertained us royally and led Sunday's worship. A super-talented duo!



The food service was excellent.

President's Message by Marshall Godwin

Hello, Discovery Owners! My hope is that this letter finds all of you in good health and good spirits.

As I write this (late November), Becky and I are two-thirds through a month-long visit to Israel. We've been seeing the sights of the Holy Land and visiting friends. For the remainder of the trip we will do volunteer work in soup kitchens and food distribution centers.



Natl Pres Marshall

There is no place in the world like Israel, so I encourage you to visit if you have the opportunity. I know the evening news programs portray this as a dangerous part of the world, but Becky and I feel safer here than any other place we visit. Although I have not seen an RV in Israel, there is a small tent camping area at the YMCA in Bethlehem. You won't find it in *Woodall's*.

It seems the world economic news is all bad. For many, the steep decline in stock prices has significantly reduced the value of 401(k) and pension retirement funds. I do believe things will turn around, but it may take longer than we would like. If there is a bright spot, it is the cost of fuel; it doesn't take nearly as much money to fill up that 90-gallon tank as it did just a short time ago.

If your financial and health situations allow, I encourage you to continue to enjoy the great RV lifestyle. It is good for the mind, body, and soul to be out on the road, seeing new places and meeting new friends. Our DOAI major rallies and local chapter rallies are a wonderful way share this lifestyle with others who have the common bond of owning a Discovery by Fleetwood.

Read the articles and information in this issue and decide to attend both the Southeast region rally in April in the Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, area and the DOAI national rally in September in Pueblo, Colorado.



Becky and I plan to head to Alaska a few weeks after the Southeast rally, and attend the national rally on the way back home to Virginia. It will be our first Alaska trip and one that I have longed to do since we started RVing.

We are preparing to change the state in which DOAI is incorporated. The lawyer, the registered agent for DOAI in New Mexico, retired and apparently failed to forward correspondence from the state to our organization. Since there was no response, New Mexico terminated our charter. We are establishing procedures to ensure this cannot happen in the future. John Baker, executive vice president, has done a wonderful job researching state requirements. He has prepared the necessary documents to incorporate in Virginia. We will have a DOAI member designated as the registered agent. Virginia requirements are simple and we can easily make member-approved changes to our bylaws. This will eliminate the expense of dealing with a lawyer for these matters. There will need to be bylaw changes presented at the general business meeting in Pueblo.

Our treasurer, Micky Racer, added an income and expense statement in this newsletter as part of the financial statement. Previously, the report was just a balance sheet. The board of DOAI is committed to transparency in the decision-making process and full financial reporting. Board meetings are open to all members. Also, the next elections are less than one year away. If you want to serve in a leadership capacity at the national or regional level, now is the time to start gathering information.

One job of the immediate past president is to head the nominating committee. I know, in the coming months, you will be hearing much more from Phil Yovino about the upcoming elections.

The board has discussed the concept of a low-cost rally focused more on Discovery technical and RV lifestyle seminars. Except for the major manufacturers, seminars would be conducted primarily by fellow DOAI members. This "Camp Discovery" rally concept will be addressed during the next board meeting at the Southeast region rally.

I take this opportunity to thank our national, regional, and chapter officers and directors. You made a choice to become involved in this great organization and contribute your time and effort to serve the members. Thank you very much.

This is the time of the year when many of you have your Discovery in storage for the winter. On these cold days, just keep warm thoughts and a sunny outlook. It will soon be time to de-winterize and get back on the road.

I hope to see you at the 2009 Southeast rally. 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.

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Southeast Region 2009 Rally "Discover The Smokies"

Final Details by Frank Cason

Those of us in the Southeast region are sure looking forward to welcoming you at the 2009 rally at River Plantation RV Park in Sevierville, Tennessee in April.

Below is the map to help you get to the park, and here's how to interpret it:

On I-40, take Exit 407 and proceed east on Tennessee highway 66 approximately nine miles where you will have to make a right turn. As you go through the town of Sevierville, position your D in the left lane. There will be three lanes of traffic going east through town, and hanging in the center of each traffic light will be a mile marker. These markers tell you how far you are from Gatlinburg.

When you make your right turn (and this is the *only* way you can turn) this light will be mile marker 15.0. The next light will be mile marker 14.8. As soon as you pass this

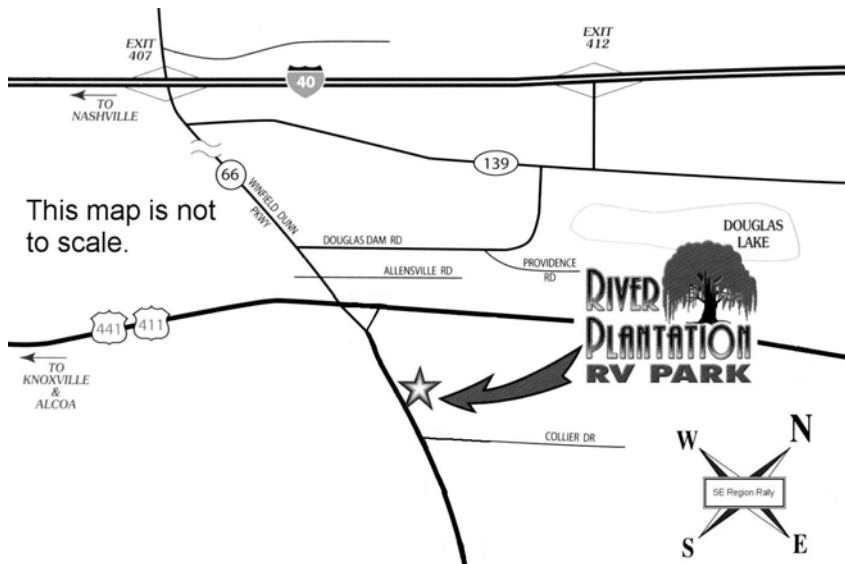
traffic light, you will be turning *left* at the *second* left turn (the first turn is for a helicopter ride, and you can do this later).

Signs will be posted at mile marker 15.0 and at the turn to the campground to assist you.

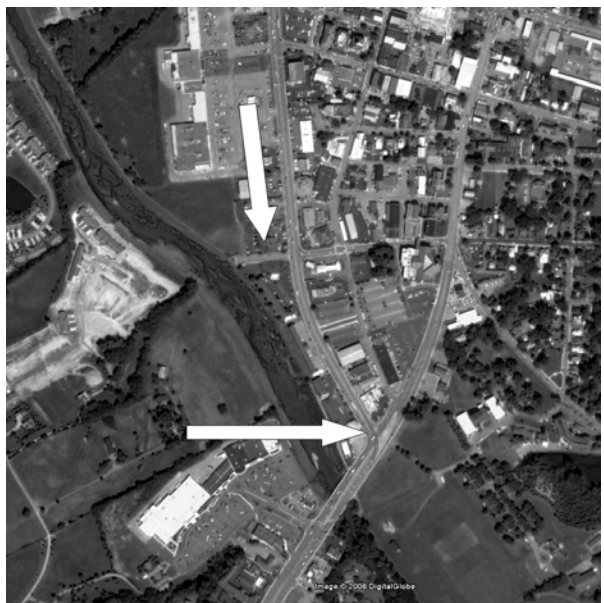
Once you arrive at the RV park, you will be greeted by the parking group, which will escort you to your site.

An Extra Perk

Leland Wagner, owner of Chilhowee RV Center in Alcoa, Tennessee, will be bringing new Discoverys to the rally. We appreciate his willingness to participate in our 2009 region rally. *



Google Earth view of Sevierville showing Hwy 66 through town to RV park. The down arrows indicate the road; the facing right arrows show turns (see other two photos).



Google Earth close-up showing the right turn onto Parkway.



Google Earth close-up showing left turn into the RV park.

An Open Letter to DOAI Members from Paul Eskritt, President - RV Group, Fleetwood Enterprises, Inc.

On August 13, 2008, Roland Jones, MSNBC publisher and editor of "The Driver's Seat," presented an article entitled "RV Industry in Lower Gear as Economy Falters" which was published online. DOAI editor Nina Soltwedel found the article interesting, and asked Dawn Fann, event marketing manager for Fleetwood, if the company would like to write a letter to DOAI members as a response to Mr. Jones' article. You can read the online article at www.msnbc.msn.com/id/258886538/. We thank Dawn Fann and Paul Eskritt for the following:

Dear Valued Fleetwood Owners:
Recent headlines about our economy have left many feeling uncertain about the future. This being said, I would like to take the opportunity to briefly list a few reasons why Fleetwood remains optimistic about the future of the RV industry.

The biggest reason for our optimism, of course, is you, the RV consumer. History has shown us again and again that when the market tightens in response to economic or fuel concerns, consumers still find a way to get out and enjoy the RV lifestyle. History has also shown us that when market conditions improve, they improve dramatically because of pent up consumer demand. Where there is a will, there is a way ... and RVers have always had the will.

Another reason for our optimism is that Fleetwood has control of its destiny. Like many businesses today, we've had to tighten our belts and make tough decisions in order to match the changing market. We will continue to do this to ensure that we remain a leader in the RV industry.

Our ongoing commitment to innovation is another reason for optimism. From the debut of the industry-first motor home with basement storage in 1985, to the launch of full-wall-slide technology in 2004, to the introduction of Power Bridge Chassis™ this [past] summer, Fleetwood has brought new and lasting technology innovations to the RV industry for more than 50 years.

Fleetwood will continue to attend many of the major RV rallies around the country throughout this calendar year. These rallies provide us an opportunity to remain connected with

folks like you who live and enjoy the RV lifestyle. The input provided by current Fleetwood owners and non-owners alike is an invaluable tool in our product planning and development process.

I would also like to take this opportunity to announce our first-ever Fleetwood Motor Home Association (FMA) "Wind Your Way to Wyoming" national rally which will be held in Gillette, Wyoming, June 27-29, 2009.

This event is an incredible opportunity for us to thank you for being part of the Fleetwood family, gather your feedback on our products and services, provide you with any necessary warranty service and technical support, and to introduce you to the latest motor home innovations and floor plans. In addition, we will be hosting informative seminars, providing entertainment the whole family can enjoy, and we will be showcasing our major suppliers and the products they provide. For more information about this exciting event, please visit www.fleetwoodrv.com/mhevent.

In closing, no one can reliably predict when the current economic challenges will turn around and bring back fiscal growth and financial certainty. However, at Fleetwood, we fully believe in the positive spirit of you, the RV enthusiast, and in your desire and willingness to enjoy the RV lifestyle. We thank you for your ongoing loyalty and support, your dedication to your club and to each other, and your enthusiastic commitment to living the American dream.

Sincerely,



Founder's Forum

Last Wish Comes True by Jim Devine

Dorothy's last wish – to help a service dog agency – came true on the final night of our national rally, thanks to Nina (who made Dorothy's last wish a crusade) and members of DOAI who donated items to be auctioned off during the rally. I want to express my gratitude to each of you who made all this possible.

To fulfill Dorothy's request, I thought there would be a donation to a non-profit agency by a few friends and me. When word spread of Dorothy's death and her wish, Nina called and said she wanted to hold a silent auction at the rally to raise money for the charity. And it just snowballed! It is an extension of all the love and support shown to us by so many. Needless to say, "Dorothy Day" and the auction were rousing successes. A check for \$4,412 was given to 4 Paws for Ability, Inc., in her memory.

Some of you may not know that during our first-ever DOAI

national rally (in 1999), Dorothy's birthday was celebrated. We got her up on the stage and everyone sang "Happy Birthday" to her.

September 12, 2008, was Founders' Day at the tenth anniversary rally, and again was Dorothy's birthday. Everyone sang "Happy Birthday" to Dorothy and to Gail Camp.



Founder Jim

I will never forget that moment nor that night as long as I live. And I know Dorothy heard you.

The people who came up to me and talked about how they felt about Dorothy was one of the best things about the rally. I owe each of you a great debt of gratitude. This was such a grand tribute to Dorothy and her legacy as founder of a wonderful organization that helps so many people. *

Welcome, New Members



Please extend the hand of welcome when you meet these new DOAI members:

Erland/Valerie Anderson, Tucson AZ
 Mike/Diane Belsky, Huntington Beach CA
 Jeff Benjamin, Laguna Hills CA
 John/Brenda Brown, Cremona AB
 Jon/Lynn Bruce, Langley BC
 Rob Carrafiello, Orlando FL
 Larry Carstensen/Charlene Williams,
 Livingston TX
 Scott/Julie Ceaglske, Cedar Falls IA
 Brandon/Julie Chapman, Washington IN
 James/Ruth Covino, Tewksbury MA
 Raymond/Anne Curtis, Quakertown PA
 Joe/Kathy DeSilva, Lindenwold NJ
 Antonio/Faye DiMaggio, North Quincy MA
 Ted/Brenda Dole, Medford OR
 Paul/Krist Dupre, Melbourne FL
 Rea/Joy Edenfield, St. Petersburg FL
 Brian Egbert, Botkins OH
 Richard Ellis /Letty Cortelyou, Lakeland FL
 William/Diane Emerick, Plymouth IN
 Marvin/Dorothea Engelsdorfer, Belleville IL
 Dale Ferber, Calgary AB
 Bill/Betty Ann Fournier, Mt. Pleasant SC
 John/Teresa Franklin, Louisville KY
 Tom/Joy Getler, Moran WY
 Earl Gilbert, Livingston TX
 Karen/Stan Grabow, Calgary AB
 Dominique/Debbie Gravel, Constance Bay ON
 Robert/Elnora Grenet, San Antonio TX
 Howard/Brenda Hafner, Red Oak TX
 Brian/April Hammack, Ottumwa IA
 Donald/Linda Hargest, Belleville ON
 Les Hatton, Beaumont TX

Brian/Michelle Haw, Bloomfield Hills MI
 Franklin/Annie Hawkins, Cincinnati OH
 Carl/Jan Henderson, Palm Coast FL
 James/Gail Houghton, Port Charlotte FL
 Douglas/Kay Jacobsen, Ridgefield WA
 Leon/Donna James, Altus OK
 Tom/Adrian Jones, Tulsa OK
 Thomas/Mary Anne Kennedy, Livingston TX
 Bob/Lisa Kerslake, Mill Creek WA
 Eric/Sue Lamb, Fredonia NY
 Michael/Diana Lee, Arlington WA
 Bob/Cindy Mackie, Cookeville TN
 Sal/Gloria Mannino, Rockledge FL
 Ken/Julia Masiongale, Muncie IN
 Paul/Delores McClain, High Springs FL
 Travis McDougall, Kingsley MI
 Lewis/MaryAnn McLean, Maxton NC
 John/Lynda McMillan, Wagram NC
 Roy/Jane McMullen, Camp Hill PA
 Kevin Melly, Morristown NJ
 Fred/Jane Merlo, Jupiter FL
 Shane/Kim Miller, Tampa FL
 Don Newell, Chesapeake VA
 Tim Nuro, Beaverton OR
 Norm/Nancy Olson, Huntington Beach CA
 Michael/Collene O'Neill, Nauvoo IL
 Andrew/Rebecca Palamar, Oviedo FL
 Joe/Karen Pape, Crystal River FL
 Robert Parnell, Felton DE
 James/Donna Parrott, Saint Charles MO
 Terry/Pamela Perrine, Pasco WA
 Harold/Marilyn Phelan, Granbury TX
 Jerry/Judy Phillips, Slidell LA

Rikk/Fran Price, Wesley Chapel FL
 Scott/Marla Pridemore, Lafayette IN
 Robert/Pam Procell, Fallon NV
 James Rosso, Wellsburg WV
 Wendy Ryan, Knoxville TN
 Dennis/Jean Sager, Stanwood WA
 Steven Salkeld, Noblesville IN
 Lawrence/Marjorie Scharnell, Boulder City NV
 Eric/Marie Scherger, Macklin SK
 Joe/Kris Schnupp, Gorham ME
 Ben/Roxanne Schrick, Broussard LA
 Ron/Carol Sehlstrom, Bashaw AB
 Dave/June Sharpe, Redmond WA
 Jerry/Ruth Shearer, Monroe NC
 Claude/Bonnie Shumaker, Livingston TX
 Roger/Doris Smith, Pawnee IL
 Donald/Sue Smith, Yakima WA
 Donald/Cheri Smith, Helendale CA
 Gene/Judy Smith, Durham NC
 Ron/Cathy Tarwater, Okemah OK
 James/Linda Teske, Edwardsburg MI
 Ted/Peggy Thevenet, North Fort Myers FL
 Bill/Ann Thomason, Bend OR
 Dennis/Gayle Vally, Cincinnati OH
 Doug/Swanee VanSingel, Hudsonville MI
 Jerry/Cindy Ward, Santa Teresa NM
 Kevin/Diane Warnke, LaPorte IN
 Gerald/Karrie Warrell, Kathleen GA
 James/Janet Wheeler, Greenfield IN
 Sherrill/Wanda White, Vici OK
 Jill Winebrenner, Columbia City IN
 Jeffrey/Connie Wokutch, Butler PA
 John/Pam Wright, Shrewsbury PA

Thoughts and Prayers



Please keep these good people in your thoughts and prayers...

...**Marshall and Louise Mauck**, whose son, **Butch**, suffered a burst brain aneurysm and was in a coma in March 2008. He is recuperating (with lots of help from his folks), but the road ahead will be long and hard. Also, **Louise** had minor surgery in early November and is recuperating well.

...**Mas and Betty Konatsu**, whose son had his home and veterinarian business destroyed when hurricane Ike hit Galveston Island in September.

...**Nina Soltwedel**, whose eldest sister died in September.

...**Grover Anderson**, recovering from foot surgery in September.

...**Echo Richardson**, recovering from neck surgery in November. She faces about three months' therapy.

...**Sherry Klungseth**, recovering from foot and eye surgery in October, and whose mother died in October.

...**Shirley Gilliland**, whose husband, **Paul**, died in late August.

...**Dave Berry**, whose health problems have made it necessary to sell his Discovery.

...**Frank Sawyer**, recovering from back surgery in October.

...**Hank Smith**, whose dad died in late September.

...**Howard Campbell**, whose wife, **Mary**, died in November.

...**Phil Yovino**, who had a small cancerous spot removed from his bladder. Prognosis is good.

...**Peg Lavoie**, whose father died in October.

...**Homer Davis**, struggling with severe health issues.

...**Jim and Linda Cox**, whose severe health issues have made it necessary to sell their Discovery.

...**Don Braun**, whose health issues have made it necessary to sell his Discovery.

Please let our newsletter editor, Nina Soltwedel, know of any member needing a care card or sympathy card. She doesn't hear about every incident, and feels badly when she finds out (sometimes months later) of a member who could use our prayers. (And she'd rather hear the same thing from two or three people, than not hear at all.)

Just send an email to Nina at doaiexpress@discoveryowners.com and she'll do the rest. Thanks!



Treasurer's Report

Balance Sheet and Statement of Income and Expense as of 10/30/08 by Micky Racer

Balance Sheet

Assets

Checking	\$15,174
Money Market	2,374
PayPal	1,600
1-Year CD	10,826
2-Year CD	10,807
3-Year CD	<u>10,764</u>
Total Bank Accounts	<u>\$51,545</u>

Other Assets

Clothing Inventory	\$ 2,794
Membership Revolving Fund	<u>550</u>
Total Other Assets	<u>\$ 3,344</u>

Total Assets \$54,889

Liabilities

Prepaid Membership	\$13,000
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Total Liabilities \$13,000

Net Worth \$41,889

Note to Balance Sheet: Since previous report, all bills for 2008 national rally have been paid. The one-year CD is earmarked to cover any future rally losses. The two-year CD has been earmarked to cover future satellite expenses and defibrillator expenditures.

Quarter Income and Expenses

Income

Advertising	\$ 725
Donations/Grants	50
National rally income	21,786
Interest income	468
Membership dues	<u>4,630</u>
Total Income	<u>\$ 27,659</u>



Treasurer Micky

Expenses

Advertising	\$ 55
Board expenses	3,728
Clothing operating expenses	21
Clothing purchases	1,204
2009 national rally	1,000
2008 national rally	45,399
Membership expenses	674
Newsletter printing	3,255
Newsletter mailing	870
Office expenses	150
PayPal expenses	<u>31</u>
Total Expenses	<u>\$ 56,387</u>

Net Loss \$ (28,728)

Note to Quarter Income and Expenses: Gross income for the 2008 national rally was \$36,697 with \$2,161 in corporate support still outstanding (and not included in gross income). Rally expenses were \$37,770 and the books show a net loss at this time of \$1,073. When outstanding corporate support is received, a net income of \$1,088 will be recorded. DOAI clothing sales at the rally generated \$400. The overall loss is due to the fact that the expenses for the 2008 national rally were paid during the quarter ending October 30, 2008, and the monies came in during previous time periods. *

Executive Vice President's Report

Rally Huzzahs and Let's Go Green by John Baker

Huzzahs

I simply must say a great big "well done!" to rally master Dick Snyder and the Heartland Discoverys for the outstanding rally at Goshen. They worked hard and tirelessly to assure everyone had a great time. The venue was relaxing and well kept, entertainment was varied and fun, and the food was "to die for." They had an excellent lineup of side tours for us, including the Fleetwood factory where our rigs were built. Of course, the Fleetwood techs did a super job of providing free repair services on our rigs.

If you haven't already done so, start planning now to attend next year's rally in Pueblo, Colorado. Dick and the Northwest Region folks are already hard at work preparing for us to visit them and have another great time.

Going Green

I encourage you to join me by going green and electronic. Elsewhere in this newsletter, Nina has written about some of

the advantages of signing up to access our outstanding *Discovery Express* electronically instead of by snail mail. You will see it at least two weeks earlier. You will get it wherever you are without waiting for snail mail to catch up with you. You will save a tree. You will save our association \$7 per year. If half of us were to elect this option, we would save the DOAI almost \$5,000 per year! Just think what good food, entertainment, etc., we could have at future rallies!



Exec VP John

Simply contact Portia at doaimembership@discoveryowners.com and ask her to remove you from the newsletter mailings. If you find later that you don't like it, she will happily change you back. If I were a betting man, I'd lay odds you will love it! *

Rally Opportunities

The following listing of chapter rallies does not give the RV park, but does list the town. Please see the chapter presidents' listing on the next page, and call that individual for more information on any of that chapter's planned rallies. 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 (see page 3 for address).**

January 2009 –

- 5-9 Texas Disco Road Runners, Waco TX
- 15-17 Discovery Texans, Schulenburg TX

March 2009 –

- 2-6 Discovery Pioneers, Green Valley AZ
- 2-6 Texas Disco Road Runners, Odessa TX
- 19-21 Discovery Texans, Fredericksburg TX
- 19-22 Quad State LATO, Sherman TX

April 2009 –

- 20-26 **Southeast Region Rally, Discover The Smokies, River Plantation RV Park, Sevierville TN**

May 2009 –

- 4-8 Texas Disco Road Runners, Dublin TX
- 5-7 Quad State LATO, Carthage MO
- 14-16 Discovery Texans, Spring TX
- 16-21 Midwest Discoverers, northeastern IN

June 2009 –

- T/B/A Blue Ridge Discoverys, Lewisburg WV

July 2009 –

- 2-5 Quad State LATO, Sallisaw OK
- 6-10 Texas Disco Road Runners, Rivera TX

September 2009 –

- T/B/A Blue Ridge Discoverys, Morganton NC
- 18-23 **DOAI National Rally, Discoverys in the Rockies, Colorado State Fairgrounds, Pueblo CO**

October 2009 –

- 27-11/1 Texas Disco Road Runners, Murchison TX

November 2009 –

- 5-8 Quad State LATO, Texarkana AR
- 19-21 Discovery Texans, Kerrville TX


Looking Toward the Future

- 2010 **DOAI National Rally, Southeast Region**
- 2011 **DOAI National Rally, Northeast Region**
- 2012 **DOAI National Rally, South Central Region**
- 2013 **DOAI National Rally, Southwest Region**
- 2014 **DOAI National Rally, North Central Region**
- 2015 **DOAI National Rally, Northwest Region**

"Inside Mount Windshield Shades."

RV Quick Shades

- No Ladders
- No Drilling



RV Quick Shades mount on the inside of your windshield with UV treated suction cups offering daytime privacy while allowing you to see out. **RV Quick Shades** also reduce the heat build up inside your coach and block up to 80% of the damaging UV rays. 5 sizes and four colors are available. Made in the U.S.A.

Priced from \$69.99 per set - Our other products include: Side window kits, Mirror Covers, Wiper Covers, Driving Visors and our new "Pana-Shade Kit" for one piece windshields.

Please visit our web site at www.rvquickshades.com
or call 435-649-5865

Helpful RV Contact Information

Allison Transmission, GM Corp.	800.252.5283	Kwikke 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	www.rvdumps.com
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	www.geappliances.com/geac/	Trojan Battery Company	www.trojanbattery.com
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

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Secretary's Report, continued

Northeast region vice president. From recommendations of the audit committee report, the board appointed Pete Palasota as vice treasurer.

The board endorses a complete financial report including income and expenses to be published in the newsletter and on the DOAI Web site.

Marshall requested a volunteer to head the audit committee which shall be held annually at the Southeast region rally. The committee will consist of three members with rotating terms, the chairman serving the first term of three years.

Marshall announced that PayPal will be utilized through an old PayPal account of his and the Escapees RVers' Good Neighbor Policy was approved and endorsed by DOAI board.

New Business: Marshall announced Dick Tracy will take over to handle DOAI merchandise to replace Betty and Mas Konatsu.

John Baker gave a presidents' report of eleven chapters represented where discussions were held about how each handle their chapters. They agree the biggest problem is to get people involved in activities.

Frank Cason introduced his team and reported on the Southeast region rally pending for April 18-26, 2009 in Sevierville, Tennessee.

Bob Soltwedel reported on the 2009 national rally in Pueblo, Colorado, scheduled for September 18-24.

Dick Snyder requested ideas for rally locations be given to him; a couple were suggested from the audience.

Portia Williams reported membership at 1,495 members at present and reminded members to refer new members to receive their membership renewal paid; one free year for three referrals. She also told members the largest source of new members is from the DOAI Web site.

Nina Soltwedel gave a newsletter report and reminded members of deadlines.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. ❁

National Rally Master's Report

Life Is What Happens While You Make Other Plans by Dick Snyder

This was the first year for me as a rally master for a national rally, and while in the planning stages for the 2008 national rally, I was appointed national rally master. I have certainly learned a lot in the last year and especially after the experience of this year's rally in Goshen.

I thank the Heartland Discoverys, the host chapter, for all their hard work preparing for this event; our *Discovery Express* editor who worked hard on the silent auction items which created a lot of interest; and especially our president for helping with the scheduling and announcing each evening's events. There were many times I called on him prior to the rally for advice. Also there were many other members from DOAI who filled in when needed.

This was the first year to have a weeklong rally and everyone seemed to like the extra days. With the high cost of fuel, we thought, "Why not stay in one place a little longer before we have to fill that tank again with fuel?"

As always, the Fleetwood team went above and beyond to repair or fix any problems we had with our coaches. I think it's worth the fuel to get to the rally to have problems taken care of with no charge, and we don't even have to take the coach into a repair shop. Here is a quote from one of my emails: "The Fleetwood repair guys renewed my faith in the Fleetwood organization. They fixed some things we've had issues with for years."

The facilities at the Elkhart County 4-H Fairgrounds were excellent with plenty of separate rooms in rally hall for the different events for the week. Also, the staff in the fairgrounds office were very accommodating and helped in any way they could.



The Heartlanders tried some new Nat'l Rally Master things at this year's rally, such as no tickets Dick for meals, pick up your prize at registration, and get up for your food when the line is not too long. The wi-fi worked good at the fairgrounds and almost everyone had email. I sent emails each day to the members which included prior day's happenings and any late changes to the schedule. It seemed like most members appreciated that information.

I received one email saying, "After visiting other rallies (FCRV, FMCA, Good Sam) this summer, the DOAI rally was the best." When we hear this, it makes it all worthwhile.

Our next gathering is the region rally in Sevierville, Tennessee, next April, and our annual national rally is in Pueblo, Colorado, in September. Start planning now to attend these sure-to-be-fun rallies. ❁



A Few More Huzzahs by Nina Soltwedel

The 2008 national rally saw many people volunteering in so many ways. As an attendee and not a member of the Heartland Discoverys, I was not a witness to all the preparation that went on prior to the rally. What I can tell you, however, is that I was mightily impressed with Wanda Simpson's display of through-the-years photos; with Rod Kirk and Pauline Allen taking on the 50/50 responsibilities; with the quality of the

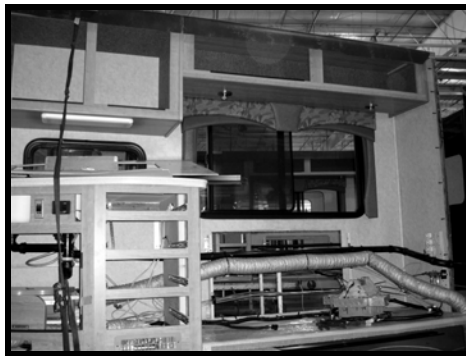
items in the goodie bags (especially the hand made dish cloths); with the choice of caterers and the magnificently entertaining tours; with the super entertainment; with Teri Dykman and Gayle Shirey assisting in the wrap-up of the silent auction; and so many good people. You all well deserve the "huzzahs!" and "hoorahs!" that came your way. Thanks for everything! ❁

From the DOAI 2008 National Rally Photo Album

Photos shared by Rex Lavoie, Charlie Richardson, John Ricciardi, and Bobby Williams



Rex Lavoie and his trusty camera recorded an historic moment ... the gathering of DOAI members to celebrate ten years. This is one-half (and a bit more) of the photo. See next page for the other half (and a bit more). Can you find you?



Many took a tour of the Discovery factory in Decatur. Here's a view of a 40X in process...you're looking at the soon-to-be galley and sofa area.



Others took a tour of Amish back country. This is one of the shops everyone enjoyed visiting.



We had two birthday cakes to celebrate DOAI.



The clock tower at the fairgrounds kept all of us on time. This was a great location for a rally!



In Amish country, McDonald's will have cars and buggies. The horses were well cared for - no junk food for them!



The silent auction tables were loaded with lots of great stuff to bid on.

Back Home Again in Indiana
Sung to tune of "Indiana"

Verse
 We have always been wand'ers,
 o'er land in our RV,
 Yet a moonbeam on the water
 casts a spell, you see.
 A vision fair we see,
 we're just so glad to be:

Chorus
 Back home again in Indiana,
 where our Discovery was born
 Out on the plains one day, not
 far away,
 On a bright and sunny morn.
 And now we're here to have a
 party as we celebrate ten
 years.
 When we think about the rally here
 in Goshen,
 Then we'll think of our Indiana
 home.



More Photos!



The evening gatherings with good food, good conversation, and good entertainment made the rally super!



Clever centerpieces!



The Discoveryettes sang some songs.



Dave & Daphne



And we ate more, visited more, and enjoyed tremendous fellowship.



Each morning we had delicious breakfasts including custom-made omelets!



A barbershop quartet were in close harmony.



Two more views of the Elkhart County 4-H Fairgrounds: a portion of the campground area, and some of the buildings.



Shipshewana's Davis Mercantile drew tour-goers.

Region Reports

Northwest Region by Bob Soltwedel

Yes, it's that time of year already! It seems that we just had our great 2008 national rally. But it's time to encourage people to volunteer to head the committees that are needed to put on our wonderful national gatherings. These volunteers are a major reason our national rallies are special, so please consider stepping up and saying, "Yes!"



NW VP Bob

The 2009 DOAI national rally will be held in Pueblo, Colorado, at the Colorado State Fairgrounds, September 18-24. So far, we have the following people who have agreed to serve: Bob Soltwedel (Discovery Pioneers), rally master and treasurer; Jan Kovach (Discovery Pioneers), registrar; Nina Soltwedel (Discovery Pioneers), tours/entertainment; and Marshall Godwin (Mason-Dixon Discoverys), emcee.

We have openings for heads of the following committees: parking, vendors, food, welcome party, seminars, crafts, golf, prizes, goodie bags, and charity. If you have any desire to volunteer for one of these positions, or wish information about the jobs, please contact me at 303.513.8548 or bob.soltwedel@gmail.com. *

Southeast Region by Frank Cason

The Southeast region had a great turn out at the national rally in Goshen. I believe we had somewhere around 25 coaches that made the journey. Our thanks to the Heartland Discoverys for an outstanding rally. Now it is time for us to concentrate on the 2009 Southeast region rally.



SE VP Frank

Hopefully, by the time this is read, we will have 100+ registered. I would really like it to be over 125. If you've been holding on to your registration form, now is the time to get it in the mail. The cutoff for registration is January 30. We would like to receive your registration prior to that date. A great rally is planned, the Blue Ridge Discoverys are going all out to insure we all have a great Discover The Smokies experience.

In 2010, the Southeast will be hosting the national rally. We are looking for a RV park that can provide the quality of service that we desire. If anyone knows of a place that can handle 100 to 150 coaches, please let me or Dick Snyder know the location. *

North Central Region by Charlie Richardson

Our region is quiet at this time, as it is cold in most of our region.

Our last gathering was at Goshen. We all had a wonderful time and thank the Heartlanders for such a great rally.

We are looking forward to spring and meeting old and new friends in the Smoky mountains next April. Fuel prices are down and hopefully will stay that way and lots of



NC VP Charlie

folks will be able to come to the Southeast rally. Looking forward to a large turnout and another great rally. *

Southwest Region by John Bujnovsky

The Desert Rats chapter is healthy and I have had a fun year, with their four rallies for 2008.



SW VP John

I spoke with Homer Davis, president of the California Goodtimers, and am sorry to report that he has been seriously ill during the past nine months. He is weak and is unable to drive his motor home. He takes one day at a time and doesn't know when he will be able to get back on the road. Due to his illness, he has resigned as president of the California Goodtimers. He will be forwarding all of the records to me so that I can sort through everything and make contact with the members.

Russ Hinkle, president of the Arizona Discovery Owners, has also resigned due to relocation to Arkansas. He will continue his membership with the Arizona chapter. Congratulations to Wanda May, who is the new president.

I have made several contacts with DOAI members in New Mexico. I have been unable to enlist five members to start a chapter, but will keep working on it. There are only 12 DOAI members in the state, but we will continue to work to see if we can start a New Mexico chapter. *

South Central Region by Joe Stewart

The Goshen rally was excellent, and we thoroughly enjoyed the informative seminars.



SC VP Joe

On our way back to Pipe Creek, we stayed in a park in Abita Springs where we met Claude and Bonnie Shumaker. I was looking over the park one morning and spotted what I thought was a Discovery. Not being sure, I walked over and it was. Knocked on the door and when Claude answered, I asked him if they were DOAI members. The answer was no, however, he had heard about it. I discussed the organization with him and later took him some copies of our newsletter, along with the brochure. I'd told him of some changes we had made to our D, so he and Bonnie came over to see them.

The morning they left, they stopped by and Claude told me he had signed up with DOAI for five years by computer. They have a Texas address but they also have a place in Sebring, Florida. After leaving Abita Springs, we attended a Louisiana Mudbugs rally in Henderson, Louisiana. Justine and I had a most enjoyable visit with them. They welcomed us as old friends and taught us quite a bit about the Cajun influence and food.

Finally, after seven months on the road, we have returned to Pipe Creek, Texas, our home off the road. Now we have to start getting the D ready for our holiday trips to Arkansas and Arizona, in addition to attending a rally (or two or three). It never ends when you're having fun. *

Chapter Reports

Arizona Discovery Owners by Michelle Schuck

The Arizona Discovery Owners have new officers for 2009: Wanda May, president; Ed Cozens, vice president; Valerie Anderson, secretary; Max Grigg, re-elected treasurer; and Art Boligo, a new board member.



Pres Wanda

Our chapter fall rally was at Tombstone, Arizona, November 6-9. Nine coaches attended the event and everyone welcomed new members Valerie and Andy Alexander from Tucson. Club members were treated to a tour of Fort Huachuca on Friday. A Mexican lunch in Sierra Vista followed the tour.



Arizona Discovery Owners enjoyed the waffle breakfast.

That evening we attended a business meeting at the RV park and then caravanned to Tombstone for dinner at the century-old Longhorn restaurant. Following dinner, a tearful goodbye was said to the current chapter president Russ Hinkle and his wife, Linda. Thanks, Russ, for your fine leadership and all the good times.

Saturday was a free day and like the desert rats we are, everyone scattered in all directions for the day. The evening was spent back at the park where everyone enjoyed the traditional grilled steak dinner.

The following morning, Ed and Geri Cozens hosted their famous homemade waffle and sausage breakfast. It has become a staple at our rallies and everyone looks forward to the great food and fellowship we share on our last day. As with every get-together, some linger another day or two while others have to pack up and return to our real lives. The consensus was that it was another great rally and the members are excited about upcoming trips like our annual Christmas rally to be held in Phoenix on December 6. *

Desert Rats by John Bujnovsky

Everything is well with the Desert Rats chapter here in Nevada. We continue to have ten members. We have not yet had our board meeting to determine the dates for our four rallies in 2009, so will have to give you an update in the Spring 2009 newsletter.



Pres John

The Desert Rats wish everyone very happy, safe and healthy New Year. *

Blue Ridge Discoverys by Frank Cason

The officers for 2009 and 2010 are: Frank Cason, president; Bill Humphrey, vice president; Anne Humphrey, secretary; Buddy Reynolds, treasurer; and Walt Hare, wagonmaster. A special thanks to our nomination committee: Charlie Harvell,

Paul Hart, and John Smith. Also thanks to the outgoing secretary, Libba Gruba, and the outgoing wagonmaster, Ron Murphy.



Pres Frank

We had a great turn out at the Charleston rally. Thirty coaches had planned on attending, but two had to cancel for personal reasons. The remaining 28 coaches (56 members) had a super time being together. Our hosts, Jerry and Josefa Smoak, Paul and Cecily Hart, Harry and Sunny Mills, and



Those Blue Ridge members really know how to eat good!

Dale and Mary Nanny, provided us with several good meals and did a fantastic job on setting up the rally. Thanks for a job well done.

Hope to see most of you at the Southeast region rally in Sevierville. *

Dixie Travelers by Peggy Misenheimer

The Dixie Travelers held their fall meeting at River Country Campground in Gadsden, Alabama, November 6-9. What a great campground, with a total of 12 coaches parked along the Coosa river. Everyone enjoyed the trees showing off their beautiful fall colors.



Pres Ted

On Thursday, all enjoyed a welcome dinner of hot dogs and all the trimmings hosted by the Misenheimers, Salters, and the Stanleys, after which a business meeting was held to elect officers for 2009. They are: Ted Misenheimer, president; Jim Duncan, vice president; Evan McCarley, treasurer; Peggy Misenheimer, secretary; and Dannie McCarley, wagon master.

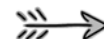
On Friday, some members socialized while others went shopping. Later in the day, all caravanned over to Top o' the River restaurant to enjoy an outstanding dinner. On Saturday, everyone did their own thing, after which the hosts prepared a delicious spaghetti dinner complete with salad and desserts.

After dinner, a special meeting was called to discuss the upcoming DOAI Southeast region rally to be held in April 2009 in Sevierville, Tennessee. All were encouraged to attend. Our spring chapter rally will be held at a designated time during the region rally.

Many thanks to Kenneth Stanley for an outstanding job as president for the past two years. *

Heartland Discoverys by Bobby Simpson

I thank and compliment all members and friends of the Heartland Discoverys for their teamwork and the success we shared during the 2008 national rally. It was fun and exciting. Dick Snyder is already getting together a group for the Raper rally in August 2009. Keith and Anne Jerome are also working on a campout get-together, so keep checking the rally sched-



Chapter Reports, continued

ule. Our club is constantly and consistently growing. Dan and Christine Gathman, Ken and Carleen Merritt, and Jim and Linda Teske joined our group at the national rally.

We are all very excited about the 2009 Southeast region rally and hope to see everyone there.



✱ Pres Bobby

Louisiana Mudbugs by Jan McIlvaine

The Louisiana Mudbug chapter finished its rally year with a bang at Cajun Palms RV Park in Henderson, Louisiana, on October 17-18 with ten member coaches and two guest coaches present. We were thrilled to have Jim Devine and his sidekick, Dub Harbin, with us after such a long time. Also, we welcomed Joe and Justine Stewart, our region vice president.



Pres Anthony

Our hosts, Anne and Johnnie Gros, Shirley and Wayne Farnsworth, had catered barbecue with all the trimmings and we thoroughly enjoyed our evening meal. Our Friday dinner was spent at Crawfish Town Restaurant. Breakfasts were extra special and our potluck was a holiday-style meal of Cajun fried turkey, baked ham and all the trimmings including dirty rice, hot-boudin, pork sausage, salads, candied yams and lots of desserts.

Our officers for the next two years are: Anthony Verdin president; Fred Reid, vice president; Keith Barnes, treasurer; Jan McIlvaine, secretary; and Buddy Sykes has agreed to act as rally master in the interim until Howard Campbell is ready to resume the duty. Carolyn Barnes will continue as sunshine gal.

We mourn the passing of member Mary Campbell in November from pancreatic cancer. She is survived by her husband, Howard.

We plan to start the camping season with a rally in Vidalia, Louisiana, followed by one in Morgan City, Louisiana, and as is usual, we love company. ✱

Quad State LATO by Juanita Eddings

Frank and Gene Sawyer, our Quad State LATO leaders, attended the national rally in September. While Frank was driving, he had leg and back pain that got worse, not better, so when the rally was over they headed back to Texas at a quick pace, instead of the leisurely sightseeing pace they had planned. Frank had back surgery in October in Dallas, and is well on his way to being his old self again.



Pres Gene

In the next issue I will tell you about the rolling rally we had the second week in November. We met in Marshall, Texas, and made our way across Louisiana and Alabama, eating seafood all the way!

Our chapter is small, but we have a great time when we meet. We would welcome you! ✱

Mason-Dixon Discoverys by John Ricciardi

Our chapter had a good showing at the DOAI national rally in Indiana. All who attended had wonderful time. We added new members, Frank and Diane Gerlach, to our great club. We held a campfire gathering at the rally and we were honored to have DOAI founder, Jim Devine, attend.



Pres John

The Mason-Dixons will be very active this year; we have six rallies in the planning stages. We will post the dates on the DOAI Web site as soon as they are finalized. We will be actively looking for a location for the 2010 Southeast region rally. If you have suggestions, let us know. ✱

Midwest Discoverers by Peg Lavoie

The Midwest Discoverers going to the National Discovery rally in Goshen met at Hoffman Lake Camp in Warsaw, Indiana, for a fall rally September 4-7. Members from Indiana, Ohio, Florida, Michigan, New York and Canada attended. The relaxing days were spent catching up with member travels, enjoying several potluck meals and some spirited games of corn hole. On Sunday morning members caravanned to Goshen to attend the national DOAI rally.



Pres Peg

Thanks to the efforts of Jerald Call and John Wimer, the Midwest chapter is pleased to welcome three new members: Bev and Larry Kaiser, Robert and Joann Wilkins; and Frank and Diane Gerlach.



Midwest Discoverers had a grand gathering, and the campfire was a treat.

We are planning our next rally for May 16-21 in northeast Indiana.

Jerald and Noretta Call will be hosting this rally. They have a number of fun things planned. For more information, contact them at jcallnorthpond@netzero.net or by mail at 6825 Co Rd 16, Butler IN 46721. ✱

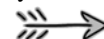
Texas Disco Road Runners by Jay Keneson

A total of 13 of our RVs made the trip to our national rally; nine of these convoyed from Texas and four more arrived from various parts of the country. It was a well planned rally and thoroughly enjoyed by all. We send a really big thank you to our hosts, the Heartland Discoverys chapter.



Pres Jay

Our last rally was in the Mason, Texas area, located south of town on the banks of the Llano river. We were very pleased with the RV park. Also, the well-equipped rally room provided a perfect setting for our meeting, social events, potluck meals and spirited game playing. Doc Simpson, assistant rally master,



Chapter Reports, concluded

did a great job setting up the event, as well as preparing and serving our breakfasts and a deep fried pork dinner. Here we spent our five days, visiting two nearby frontier forts, historic buildings and courthouses, museums, antique shops, and some great restaurants.

At this meeting we welcomed a number of new members: Marilyn and Harold Phelan, Kathy and Dudley Henderson, Shirleen and Hank Smith (also members of the Discovery Tex-

ans), and Susan and Mel Kimbrell (members for a while, but this was their first rally).

We continue to add to our chapter membership and invite any and all Discovery owners to come and check us out. We know that we have a fun chapter, all our members bring their special skills and talents to the mix and, just like the new members, help us to have great rallies and enjoyable times together.

Our next rally is planned for early January in Waco, Texas, so stop by and visit if you are in the area. *

Merchandise Coordinator's Report by Dick Tracy

As the newly appointed merchandise coordinator, I am pleased to take over such a well run and well documented area. I give my thanks to Mas and Betty Konatsu for the tremendous job they did obtaining the DOAI clothing items and making them available to everyone at national and regional rallies. Sales at the national rally totaled more than \$1,950. Additionally, Mas and Betty kept excellent records that will greatly ease my transition into the coordinator's position.

I will strive to ensure that a broad selection of items and sizes are available at the upcoming Southeast region rally in

April, and at the 2009 national rally in September in Pueblo, Colorado, as well as future rallies.

To assist in making sure we have the items our members want, I ask for two or three members to volunteer to assist in sharing ideas and recommendations on items to be stocked. This would only entail being available to participate and contribute in email discussions. If you are willing to assist, please email me at dtracy@ptd.net. *



Coordinator Dick

Newsletter Matters by Nina Soltwedel

A recent issue of *Costco Connection*, described as "a lifestyle magazine for Costco members," featured an article on a very hot topic – going green. More and more lately I hear of people who decided to install solar panels on their homes, purchase energy efficient major appliances, and do more recycling than in the past. Good! Anything we can do to help the environment is a positive thing ... right?



One of the things my family has done is to get and pay bills electronically. And for at least 30 years we've used canvas shopping bags for groceries. We've also changed as many of the light bulbs inside and outside the house as possible to the energy saving type, especially since those new lights can now be purchased in a three-way format, as well as bright white.

So, what can DOAI do to go green? Here's an idea: opt to receive this newsletter electronically instead of via the U.S. Postal Service. For starters, this could save some trees.

Not everyone will want to do this, I know. However, the cost savings in being able to receive an electronic newsletter is considerable, plus you don't have to pay to have the newsletter forwarded when you're not at home

base. Therefore, I hope many of you will be willing to give it a try. How?

First, send an email to DOAI's membership director, Portia Williams, telling her you want to opt out of getting the newsletter via postal delivery. Portia manages the mailing list for the newsletter, and she'll be glad to remove your name from that list. After giving this a try, if you decide you'd rather have that hard copy delivered to you, just let her know and your name will go back on the list she emails to me each quarter.

Second, go to www.adobe.com and download a free program called Adobe Reader. When each issue of *Discovery Express* is sent to the printer, a copy is also emailed to Bob Cook, DOAI's webmaster, so it can be added to the other issues available online. These issues are PDF documents (Portable Document Format), which can be 'read' by Adobe Reader. You'll be able to read the issue online, and you can download it to your computer and print it out if you choose.

Besides saving trees, there are other benefits to electronic newsletters. One is that if a significant number of members opt for the electronic version, we could reduce the number of copies printed per issue. For example, if 300 members opt out, it could reduce the annual printing

cost for the newsletter by approximately \$1,200 (this is a rough estimate and doesn't include postage).

Another benefit is that you would receive your issue before the hard copy reaches other members' mailboxes. Each issue of *Discovery Express* is posted on the DOAI Web site on the first day of the first month of each quarter (January 1, March 1, June 1, October 1) unless the regular deadline is changed. Those opting out of the hard copy would receive an email when the latest issue is posted.

If you decide to try the electronic method, let Portia know as soon as possible (see her email address in the sidebar on page 3).

Have You Gone Green?

If you practice 'green' when you go RVing, would you share your techniques/experiences with the rest of us? You could have discovered a great way to lessen our footprint on this old world of ours that others would find interesting and worth a try.

Send your ideas and suggestions to me as soon as possible, and who knows ... you could find yourself famous! OK, maybe not famous, but appreciated by those who will try out your tips and tricks.

Please ... let me hear from you! *

Good for You!



Have you had occasion to interact with a dealer or service technician that resulted in a good or even excellent experience? If so, this is the place to tell everyone about it. Here are two recent experiences:

Carl and Teri Dykman wrote: “The shear pin broke in the wardrobe slide on our 1999 37V while on a recent extended trip. This was discovered in western Pennsylvania as we attempted to pull in the side. As a ‘fix’ we lodged a piece of wood between the slide and outer wall to keep the slide from opening as we went down the highway.

“Once we reached eastern Pennsylvania, we were given a name to contact, and they told us it would be two weeks before they could even look at it! So we called Fleetwood in Decatur, Indiana, and were given several names to call along the route we were going to be taking.

“On the first call, Beckley’s Camping Center in Thurmont, Maryland, Sherry Moore in the service department took our name and phone number and promised to check with her crew and call us back. Long story short: we were able to get in that same day and in about 2½ hours were on our way down the highway, and their charge was very reasonable. Their philosophy is that people on the move don’t want to spend days sitting at a repair facility.

“We highly recommend Beckley’s Camping Center, 11109 Angleberger Road, Thurmont, MD 21788, 12 miles north of Frederick and six miles south of Thurmont, on Highway 15, which is just east of I-81; telephone 301.898.3300.”

Claire Weber wrote: “In Goshen, Indiana, during the national rally, the pins that hold the car hitch to the RV went missing from the front of my car. I have since learned to not leave them there.

“I looked up towing and RV supplies on one of the maps which were handed out at the rally. I called one, Dan’s Service Center, 111 Alt Drive, Elkhart, IN; telephone 800.354.4824, and explained my problem. Dan said to come in the next day and he would make sure that I could get back to Texas. He was true to his word: he robbed the pins from a new package so that I could make the trip back home. He got right on the phone to his distributor in Houston to get them replaced.

“Dan’s Service Center is indeed a good neighbor.” ❄



Discovery Owners Association, Inc. Membership Application

Welcome to the premier organization for owners of Discovery® by Fleetwood® motor homes. DOAI is an organization intended to foster social opportunities and information exchange among 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, or \$75 (\$79 new members) for five years.

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

You can join/renew online at 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 _____ E-Mail Address _____

Who recommended DOAI membership to you? _____

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

4 Paws for Ability Wins Big at National Rally

Silent Auction and 50/50 Game Created Bounty by Nina Soltwedel

The silent auction at the 2008 national rally is history, but what a history! Because of the generosity of donors, supporters, bidders, and raffle participants, a grand total of \$4,412 was raised for 4 Paws for Ability, Inc. in memory of Dorothy Devine.

In the last newsletter we included a list of donors; more people stepped up to the plate at the rally. In addition to those generous individuals listed the Fall 2008 issue, we are pleased to recognize the following DOAI member donors:

Curt and Doris Attebury

Christmas quilt kit, value \$20

Gus and Wanda Beall

Two hand-crocheted (by Wanda) baby blanket/sweater/booties sets, total value \$70

Toni Calzone

Motion-operated porch security light, value \$100

Don and MaryAnn Crowell

Handmade (by Don) cedar box, value \$65

Virgil and Donna Diver

Vintage model airplane, large collapsible garbage can, and large framed photo of Vancouver, total value \$80

Dave and Diane Drinkwater

Two hand-constructed (by Dave) rear-of-coach clothes dryers, value \$70

Bill and Anne Humphrey

Handmade (by Anne) quilt, value \$50

Ken and Neva Jardine

Two handmade (by Ken) small apricot wood bowls, total value \$40

Keith and Anne Jerome

Handmade (by Anne) basket, value \$35

Rod Kirk and Pauline Allen

An RVing book, a handmade necklace, and two Aussie t-shirt/tote bag sets, total value \$65

Alan Richie

Certificate for greens fees at Black Squirrel Golf Club, value \$60

Bobby and Wanda Simpson

Woman's jumper and shirt, and two mystery gifts, one for a man and one for a woman, total value \$62

Arnie and Betty Thompson

All-wool throw from Amana Woolen Mills, value \$20

The proceeds from the silent auction totaled \$4,051 which included Jim Devine's generous matching funds of \$1,000. The 50/50 game took in \$721; Keith Jerome won \$360 in the drawing, and \$361 was added to the auction total to bring the final amount given to 4 Paws a wonderful \$4,412. Many thanks go out to all the donors, bidders, and ticket buyers for getting into the spirit of the event. It was downright exciting!

Correcting an Oversight

One of the donors listed in the Fall 2008 issue, Shelia Simpson, donated a copy of her book, *Traveler's Guide for Emergency*

Alerts. When I wrote about her donation, I neglected to include her email address, as I did for other non-DOAI donors.

My apologies to Shelia. If you wish to learn more about this helpful book, you can contact her at *emergencyalerts@gmail.com*. The book retails for \$24.95, but is just \$20 plus \$2.50 shipping and handling for Good Sam and FMCA members.

Other Donors

Kerry and Kim Goshert, doing business as K&K Soy Products in Mentone, Indiana, were vendors at the rally, selling an assortment of their handmade soy candles and room fresheners. They donated a teddy bear freshener and a soy candle to the auction, with a total value of \$22. Check out their Web site at *www.kksoyproducts.com*. They do mail order and also have a fund raising program for schools and non-profits.

Don and Mary Layton (Don is Dorothy Devine's son) also participated in the auction. Mary is an expert crocheter and donated five elaborate decorative boxes filled with an assortment of crocheted items including pot holders, doilies, johnny paper caps, etc., and two crocheted (by Mary and a friend) lap robes in decorative boxes, total value \$235.

Marie, Emma, and Bubbles

At the closing dinner Saturday evening, everyone was quite taken by Emma and her dog, Bubbles, who (along with mom, Marie) were honored guests. Emma is a beautiful child, and Bubbles is quite the debonair dog. Marie gave a short talk after the check presentation, and there weren't many dry eyes in the house.

Karen Shirk, executive director and founder of 4 Paws for Ability, wrote: "Thank you for your generous donation of \$4,412 toward the training and placement of service dogs with people who have disabilities! Please know that the families that receive these dogs value your contribution. By donating to 4 Paws you are making a dream come true."



Marie, Bubbles, and sweet Emma at rally. Photo by Frank Cason.

A Footnote: Last February, the DOAI board, on behalf of the entire membership, donated \$250 in Dorothy's memory to Veteran's K-9 Corps (*www.vetdogs.org*). ❄

Classified Advertising

DOAI members are given **FREE** Discovery-related classified advertising in this newsletter (limited to three lines per item) and online at www.discoveryowners.com (full description and may include photos).

PAID classified advertising is available for 50¢ per word, minimum \$10.00 per issue, no limit to lines of copy. For guidelines and limitations, contact newsletter editor at doaiexpress@discoveryowners.com

Discoverys For Sale

2002 38P: Low miles, mint condition. Raymon Martin; 813.642.9248; franray1@verizon.net \$85,900

2003 39L: 36,000m; great condition; non-smokers; all options plus. Bill Simek; 573.372.6087; billsimek@aol.com \$89,999

2004 39S: 11,500m, excellent condition, original owner. Paul Martin; 860.928.1425; crosscut93@sbcglobal.net \$115,000

2005 39L: 10,535m, ext. warranty. Would consider trade to smaller D. Bill Arquette; 858.748.2775; capt.bill@cox.net \$124,900

2005 39S: 27,000m, all manuals. Jerry TeVrucht; 931.455.6345; 931.273.1117; jbtevrucht@gmail.com \$119,900

2005 39S: 45,000m, ext. warr. Purchase or lease or short-term rent. Rick Edelen; 605.415.5764; raeski64@hotmail.com \$124,900

2007 39S: 7,600m, all upgrades, exc. cond. Sue Little, 208.863.5748; myrumbledee04@hotmail.com \$179,000 OBO

2007 39S: 6,300m, exc. cond., no pets, no smoke, garaged. Micki Hinds; 409.460.0558; 409.728.6206; holly@gt.rr.com \$169,900

2007 39V: 15,000m, no pets, non-smokers, immaculate. Lee Fairchild; 804.714.6934; fairchsl@yahoo.com \$159,500 OBO

2008 39R: Full-wall slide plus two slides on opposite side; 15,000m. Skip Russell; 318.548.5050 \$149,500

Hub nut tool: Frank Cason, 1917 Stone Dam Rd, Chuckey TN 37641; 423.552.5257; fcason@comcast.net \$10 + \$2.50 s/h

Passenger side rear window: 47⁵/₁₆" wide by 34³/₈" high; Paul Martin; 860.928.1425; crosscut93@sbcglobal.net \$450 + shpg

Rear wheel cover: 2001 D, 47³/₄" wide, 31³/₈" high. Robert Wilkins; 419.753.2502; nkvet@nktelco.net \$300 + shpg

Folding coffee table: oak, excellent cond., adj. height, with casters. Terry Ven Roy; 719.598.9238; tvenroy@msn.com \$100

Items Wanted

Rearview mirror: 1999 D, either side will work. Bill Vine; 504.343.2157; billy37@hotmail.com

RV cover: 2001.5 D. Terry Ven Roy; 719.598.9238; tvenroy@msn.com

Other Items For Sale

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

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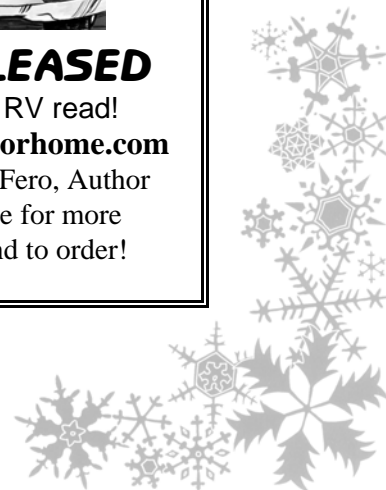
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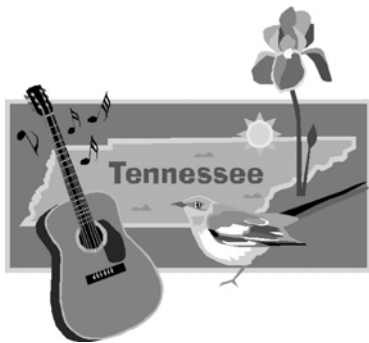


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2009 SOUTHEAST REGION RALLY
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April 20-26, 2009
River Plantation RV Park
1004 Parkway, Sevierville, Tennessee

REGISTRATION FORM

*Please PRINT legibly or TYPE all information
as you want it to appear on your name badge*

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 _____ Local Chapter _____
 Need handicap parking? Yes _____ No _____ First Southeast Region Rally? Yes _____ No _____
 Are You? DOAI Officer/Chairman _____ Chapter Officer _____
 Guest/s Name, City, State _____

REGISTRATION:

\$347.00 per coach with two adults (April 20-26)	\$ _____
\$276.00 per coach with one adult (April 20-26)	\$ _____
\$71.00 each additional person/child (April 20-26) x _____ person/s =	\$ _____
\$28.00 early arrival Sunday, April 19	\$ _____
\$20.00 DOAI membership (if not already a DOAI member)	\$ _____

OPTIONAL TOUR AND OTHER EVENTS:

Tour 1: Tuesday am, April 21 - Bush Bean Factory Tour	\$12.00 x _____ person/s =	\$ _____
Tour 2: Tuesday pm, April 21 - Bush Bean Factory Tour	\$12.00 x _____ person/s =	\$ _____
Golf Tournament: Wednesday, April 22	\$40.00 x _____ person/s =	\$ _____
Country Tonite: Thursday, April 23	\$13.75 x _____ person/s =	\$ _____
Red Hat Tea: Saturday, April 25	\$1.00 x _____ person/s =	\$ _____

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: *Discovery Owners Assn., Inc.* **Check Enclosed/Total** \$

MAIL CHECK AND REGISTRATION FORM TO:

Buddy Reynolds, Registrar
 205 Morgan Ct., Greer, SC 29650-2828
 Home 864.268.2052 – Cell 864.979.9202
2blreynolds@bellsouth.net

REGISTRATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY JANUARY 30, 2009

Cancellation may be made up to January 30, 2009 – **AFTER JANUARY 30, 2009 – NO REFUND**

→ → → COPY FORM FOR YOUR RECORDS ← ← ←

You will receive a confirmation of your registration via email

Still More from the DOAI 2008 National Rally Photo Album

Photos shared by Bobby Williams, John Ricciardi, Frank Cason, Dick Snyder, and *amishcountry.org*



Two views of the beautiful Amish countryside and neat farms.



Have you ever tried to herd earthworms? Rex Lavoie may have felt he was doing that as he was working to get us ready for the big group shot.



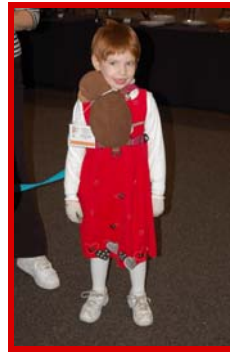
Two views from the Fleetwood plant in Decatur.



Fay Williams was the high bidder on Dorothy's scooter which Jim donated to the silent auction.



Gus Beall did some serious browsing during the silent auction.



And here's beautiful little Emma!



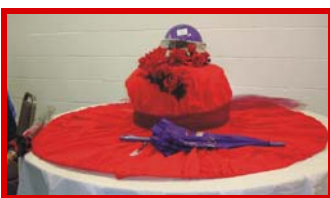
Chapters held gatherings during the rally. Shown here are Blue Ridge Discoverys (top) and Mason Dixon Discoverys.



The audience cheered when Tina Turner took the stage. Oh, wait, that's not Tina! That's her "look-alike" – one of the members of New Odyssey. But "she" sure could shimmy!



President Marshall presented Jim with a special certificate honoring Jim and Dorothy as founders of DOAI. That's Dorothy's son, Don, in the blue shirt.



The Red Hatters had a fun gathering.



The Yoder farm where we had a delicious in-home meal. The children were delightful, and they helped!



Give thanks for the fullness
Of days spent together,
The friends that we pray
Will be with us forever,
The feelings we've shared,
The food and good fun,
With faith that God's blessings
Have only begun.

Discovery Owners Association, Inc.

Portia Williams, Membership Director
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