

# Discovery Express



Volume 19, Number 1

Discovery Owners Association, Inc. - Established 1998 - www.discoveryowners.com

January 2017

## DOAI Board of Directors welcomes you to 2017

This issue of *Discovery Express* kicks off DOAI's 19th year, and says "hello" to a new era ... the digital era of our club's quarterly newsletter.

Back in January 2009, DOAI's membership was urged to sign up to read the newsletters online. They were assured that, once the digital copy was posted, they would receive an email notice. The first group to "go green" numbered about 50 coaches, and it has grown from there. In 2014, the digital readers no longer had to go to the DOAI website; the digital edition was attached to the email sent to each person on the "go green" list. When the October 2016 edition was published, more than 870 members out of a total membership of more than 1,260 had signed up for the digital version. It was in that edition that the digital-only newsletter announcement was made.

Digital *Discovery Express* will continue to be in color, and will contain all the officer, region, committee, and chapter reports as in the past, as well as information on the annual regional and national rallies. In addition, because the digital edition will be in pdf (portable document format), once you download it and open it with Adobe Reader, or any word processor software capable of doing so, you'll be able to make the print as large as you wish for the easiest reading. Not only that, if you use an electronic reader, or tablet, or cell phone with the capability of opening email, you can download it directly to your device and carry the newsletter with you wherever you go.

In order to reduce duplications, there are several features which have appeared in the print edition that will no longer be in the new digital version of *Discovery Express*. In this issue and onward, on page 2, you will find a list of those features that are online at [www.discoveryowners.com](http://www.discoveryowners.com). That DOAI homepage is just a cursor click away. The topics on the homepage are active links, making it easy for you to get the information you need.

DOAI's Board of Directors welcomes you to the new year, and to the new era of *Discovery Express*. We extend our best wishes to each of you for an enjoyable year of RVing. ❖

### Quarterly Question Contest

**We know who's buried in Grant's Tomb, but what was his first name?**

**Choices:** (a) Ulysses (b) Alfred (c) Hiram (d) Simpson

**Read through this issue of Discovery Express, find the answer, and send in your entry. Find the complete rules on page 9. Contest is open now and closes at 11:59p.m. February 15, 2017. Good luck!** We had just six entries from the October 2016 contest (answer: Manning). Congratulations to Norman and Brenda Millsaps, whose names were drawn from the Contest Hat. Their DOAI membership will be extended one year. In case you missed it, the answer was on page 8, in paragraph 8. A side note: with Tom Brady's win on December 4, 2016, that record is no longer held by Peyton Manning. To quote a variety of sources: "Records are made to be broken." ❖

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## DOAI - More Than Just A Newsletter

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Discovery Owners Association, Inc.  
 A non-profit organization by and for owners  
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Nina Soltwedel

## Member Care report

Please keep these members in your thoughts and prayers:

- \* **Gary Livingston**, underwent hand surgery September.
- \* **Peg Pequignot**, underwent several surgeries in September.
- \* **Charlene Howell**, is battling cancer, and her husband, Roy, died in October after his battle with cancer.
- \* **Joe Stewart**, whose wife, Justine, died in October.
- \* **John Kovach**, had a titanium total shoulder replacement in October. Recovering well and back driving the D.
- \* **Don Thuma**, whose wife, Patricia, died in March.

Please contact Member Care Coordinator Nina Soltwedel at [nina.soltwedel@gmail.com](mailto:nina.soltwedel@gmail.com), or call 303-570-2736, when a DOAI member is ill or hospitalized, or when someone in a DOAI member's family has died.



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John Scarbrough, Editor  
 2216 Pinon Street  
 Silver City NM 88061  
 575.650.4818  
[doaiexpress@discoveryowners.com](mailto:doaiexpress@discoveryowners.com)

Contact the DOAI Membership Coordinator as soon as any of your contact information changes; i.e., mailing address, telephone number, email address, Discovery year, etc.

Elaine Holley, Membership Coordinator  
 2317 Fran Cir  
 Clyde TX 79510-3441  
 Toll-free 888.594.6818  
[doaimembership@discoveryowners.com](mailto:doaimembership@discoveryowners.com)

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

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

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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)



Jay Keneson

## From the Executive Vice President

Another year is over, the Bath Rally is behind us, and we are gearing up for 2017 in Shawnee, OK. Those of you who missed the National Rally in Bath . . . you missed a great one! We had members from as far away as California and various places in-between. The weather was great, the location wonderful, and there were many things to do and see beyond describing. I think everyone had a great time, and many attendees remained longer just to take everything in.

Now on to Shawnee: if you have never been there, it is close to Oklahoma City and central to everyone. The facilities are outstanding, and there is a lot to see and do in the area. There are several great Indian Casinos in the area who would be very happy to relieve you of some of your money. We are planning tours, meals and entertainment, along with seminars to provide a fun-filled experience for all. Chapters and their members from the South Central Area are hard at work getting things ready for everyone. More information will be provided ongoing, but please start thinking and planning on getting together with old friends (and possibly some new ones) when the Ds go back to Shawnee! ❖



MaryAnn Crowell

## National Rally Master's report

If you missed the 2016 National Rally, maybe we will be back in the area again someday. We had a total of 54 coaches, with over three-quarters of them arriving early and/or staying late. I heard positive reports from so many of you about Corning Glass, the Gaffney District, the Curtis Museum and, of course, the NY State wineries. I am so glad that everyone had a great time! (pictures on page 12)

We also had some wonderful and informative seminars from our own DOAI members, thanks to Kerry Pinkerton, Ron Wacker, Don Crowell, Bruce Bruce, Rick Blaher and Al Welch. We are so lucky to have members who not only have the knowledge, but also are so willing to share.

Special thanks also are offered for the following folks: Mary Ann Weinberg for getting the new quilt going; Bob and Jeanne Stewart for heading up the golf group; Russ and Pat Baldwin for the 50/50; all the quilt ladies who sold tickets; parking by Jay Keneson, Bob Soltwedel and Don Crowell; and last (but not least) my right hand, Nina Soltwedel, for managing the registrar's functions. Nina was most ably assisted by Lorrie Keneson and Cindy Welch, as well.

We had a great response to our food pantry recipient "Milly's Pantry - So Children Won't Go Hungry." In a letter of thanks, it was shared that we collected 200-300 pounds of food, which was enough to feed nearly 150 children in Yates County for a weekend.

Our other charity for the rally was Wellness G.I.F.T.S., who received a check from DOAI for \$2,708.50. The grand total was the product of 1) our 50/50 ticket sales; 2) the golf group (who donated 100% of their prize money); 3) the sale of quilt tickets totaling \$1,170.00 (a great response!); and 4) individual and chapter donations. Congratulations to all of our winners: Diana Blaher, Brenda Millsaps, and Bruce Bruce (50/50), and Jeanne Stewart (quilt.) We received a letter of thanks from Wellness G.I.F.T.S., which shared ". . . we will be able to purchase much-needed adaptive play equipment. THANK YOU! You have made a real difference in the lives of kids and caregivers that we serve." I'm adding my own THANK YOU – what a wonderful organization DOAI is!

Just one more comment on the 2016 Bath rally: Thanks so much to everyone who helped, attended, and who won prizes. I love to see so many DOAI members having a good time!

Upcoming: the Blue Ridge Discoverys chapter is getting ready to host a great "Beach Party" later this month, and Camp Discovery is January 22-27 at Lazydays RV Campground in Seffner, FL. Camp Discovery is an informative rally not to be missed! Please see the registration form in this issue of the Discovery Express.

Our next National Rally will be in Shawnee, OK at the Heart of OK Expo Center. Please be sure to save the dates of October 9-14, 2017. The South Central Region chapters are hard at work to make the rally a great experience for all.

I hope to see everyone in Florida or Oklahoma in 2017. I know it's early, but if anyone has any great ideas for our 20th Anniversary in 2018, please let me know so we can add your thoughts to the planning for this grand party.

❖

If you aren't sure what region is associated with your membership, you can find this information on page 8. The Vice President for each region is listed as well as a two-letter designation of the region. ❖



Nina Soltwedel

## Secretary's report

DOAI board and membership meetings were held at the 2016 national rally in Bath, New York. Should you wish to read the entire official minutes, they are posted online at [www.discoveryowners.com/BOD.pdf](http://www.discoveryowners.com/BOD.pdf) (board meeting) and [www.discoveryowners.com/GM.pdf](http://www.discoveryowners.com/GM.pdf) (general meeting).

### Board Meeting

\* Discussion included investigating the possibility of supplying DOAI business cards to chapters, for members to use when soliciting new members, a rear placard for D coaches similar to that used by FMCA members, and possibly creating a video to recruit new members. President Wacker wants to re-publish the DOAI brochure first issued in 2004, with applicable updates, etc. Chapters are strongly encouraged to keep their rally schedules updated on the DOAI website, as this is another tool for new and potential members, as well as longtime participants. The idea for a monthly mass email to all members was discussed, as well as the need for a publicist/public relations person (volunteer).

\* Discussion of rallies, both current and upcoming national and regional. The southeast region rally in Seffner is on track, with final details being decided. The 2017 national rally will be in Shawnee, Okla., October 9-14. Further details will be reported in this issue of *Discovery Express*. A brief discussion was held on ideas for the 20th anniversary national rally in 2018.

### General Meeting

\* Board members reported on topics such as updated Standing Rules, donations at the rally for various charitable outreach efforts, status of upcoming southeast region rally, and announcement that the former Nor'easters chapter (now defunct) has been re-organized as Noreaster Discoverys and is in the process of being officially affirmed (see announcement elsewhere in this issue of *Discovery Express*).

\* Board meeting discussions shared with general membership. President Wacker announced that a survey is available for everyone to share their opinions on this national rally. He also announced the formation of an ad hoc committee, Discovery Exploration, to look at ways to improve national and regional rally attendance, to be chaired by Greg Rogers. Further announcements included the 2017 national rally will be hosted by the Discovery Texans and Texas Discovery Road Runners chapters. ❖



John Baker

## Past President's report

Winter time.....When some of our members put the pink stuff in their fresh water systems and hunker down. Others of us are fortunate in that we live South of Interstate 20 and can just keep on packing miles on the D. We also are fortunate that many from cold climes come to visit us instead of getting snowed in at home. That is the beauty of the RV lifestyle....each person uses their rig in the way that best fits the their lives.

Winter also is a time of wonderful holidays spent with friends, family and (dare I mention it?)... FOOD! Again, we use our rigs around holidays to fit our needs. In our case, Felesa and I only had to walk up the street two houses where our daughter prepared a king's feast for Thanksgiving. The Diesel for that trip was REALLY cheap! As I write this I am hoping for a repeat at Christmas. In any case, it will be family time for us with our family, including all 5 grandkids.

It is my hope that your Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Years and all between were filled with joy and generated wonderful memories.

January sees a great gathering of our folks at LazyDays in Seffner, FL, for Camp Discovery. This year it is hosted by the Blueridge Discoverys, and they really know how to put on a party! Marshall Godwin and Gary Osburn are the two most knowledgeable folks we have amongst us; they selflessly prepare and present loads of information specifically aimed at Discoverys during this rally, which is always a sell-out. If you are not attending this year, plan to be there next time. Believe me, you will be glad you did.

Wishing you safe travels. ❖

## Region and Chapter reports



Chapter prez  
Jim Sullivan

### Discovery California chapter

**G**reetings from your California Discovery friends! The holidays are already upon us and it's hard to believe that 2016 is coming to an end! We've had a great year as a Chapter with the addition of several new members and numerous fun rallies and outings. We have quite a rally schedule already in the works for 2017.

In September, Discovery California's Sugar Barge Rally on Bethel Island was hosted by Donna and Al Anderson. They had six rigs in attendance: Bill and Linda Johnson, Ed and Marie Watson, Dave and Joan McCoy, John and Debby Lott, Al and Donna Anderson and new member Don Burbach. The park/resort was very accommodating. We reserved a meeting room with a kitchen, and there is a restaurant/bar at the resort. Our group enjoyed the food and drinks throughout our stay. Friday evening was a Mexican-themed dinner hosted by Al and Donna. The menu included enchiladas, tamales, Spanish rice, refried beans, homemade salsa and guacamole with chips. Of course, there were margaritas!

On Saturday, Ed went catch-and-release fishing; Dave and Joan found a Walmart to their liking. Discovery California members Suzi and Felix Jones stopped by for the day. We had a potluck BBQ Saturday night, and after dinner we all sat around the campfire sharing stories of our travels and exchanging good information. All in all, the rally turned out very well. We were very pleased with the location and activities available.

January 17 – 23, 2017 - Looking ahead, we will start off the new year with the Quartzsite & Blythe Bluegrass Festival. We will be staying in Ehrenberg, AZ across the river from Blythe and 17 miles west of the Quartzsite Sports Vacation & RV Show. This is an open-ended get together. . . come when you want and leave when you want. We will be arriving January 17 and leaving January 23, and will be staying at Arizona Oasis RV Resort. We will try to connect-up with Wally Wallington and his crew in Blythe, and maybe have a potluck with Bob & Nina Soltwedel and Paul & Doris Smith down in Yuma during our stay. This is a time and place where Discovery owners tend to congregate.

February 24-26, 2017 - we will be hosting a rally at the Flying Flags RV Resort in Buellton, California. Buellton was the town made famous in the 2004 movie "Sideways" about Central California wine.

April 4-9, 2017 - Bill and Linda Johnson again will be hosting the FMA rally in Yuma, Arizona, in which Discovery California and D'Zonas chapters both participate. This year the rally will be extended by a day, and Randy and his crew from Fleetwood will be there to

make repairs. The Johnsons have even agreed to let Susan & I park the 100 plus rigs that show up; this allows us to keep the Discoverys parked close together so that we can get together around a campfire every night.

May 5-7, 2017 - Cinco de Mayo weekend; Mike & Mary Lou Phipps will be hosting a rally down on the Southern California Border at the Chula Vista RV Resort.

In October, we are trying something a little different . . . a "Rolling Rally". Traveling for 14 days, this trip will start in Laughlin, NV, traveling on to the Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta, and end up in Wickenburg, AZ. We currently have 7 rigs signed up. Each rig will make their own reservations for each RV Park.

Sadly, this past June we lost one of our members, John Norman from King City. His wife Debbie let us know that John passed away from cancer. Debbie says if someone is interested in their 2006 Discovery she will be putting it up for sale. ❖



Chapter prez  
Melissa Plowman

### Texas Discovery Road Runners chapter

**O**ur Big Bend rally started in the quaint mountain town of Alpine, TX. We enjoyed dinner at the historic Holland Hotel, and on another day, lunch at the original Reata restaurant. Our activities included presentations at the McDonald Observatory Visitor Center and the Museum of the Big Bend. We relaxed with our fun group of folks doing puzzles and watching Giant, an old western movie that was filmed in the Big Bend area.

On Thursday, we rolled to our home base, the Maverick RV Ranch in Lajitas, TX. Over the course of four days, we scratched the surface of this majestic land by visiting Big Bend National Park, Terlingua, Lajitas and Presidio. Special treats included breakfasts put on by Loret Ross with his famous Egg Nog Pancakes and Mary Ann & Don Crowell with their sausage, gravy & biscuits. Needless to say, we did not leave the rally hungry! The best part of the rally was welcoming new friends Kathaleen & Loret Ross, Rhoda & Noel Montgomery and SOB's (Some **O**ther **B**rand), Susie & Fred Gentry.

The Road Runners enjoy making new friends and cordially invite anyone who would like to join us in 2017 to these Texas rallies: Palo Duro Canyon, Ingram, San Angelo and yet-to-be-determined in Galveston and East Texas.

A reminder to winterize (if you must), but I can't wait see you all of you down the road in 2017. ❖

## Region and Chapter reports, continued

### Discovery Texans chapter



Chapter prez  
Judy Jo Bruton

We held our final rally for 2016 on November 9-12th, 2016 at Cowtown RV Park in Aledo, TX. The RV Park was full and we were grateful that they were able to fit us in on such short notice. Rain had damaged the recreation hall at our originally-scheduled RV park, and the hall could not be fixed in time for us. We had 12 coaches in attendance plus Jerry Brown camped nearby and joined us for the rally.

It was a great rally ... lots of good food and fellowship. Our hosts, Pete & Martha Palasota and Clayton & Bert Trent, as well as our rally master, Don Griffith, took great care of us once again! We enjoyed our hosts' breakfasts and dinners Friday and Saturday. Friday evening before dinner we enjoyed a sing-along with Jerry and Don playing his guitar.

In the last few months, we have added two new members to our chapter: Tracy & Rosemary Gauling and Michael & Cynthia Lusk. We look forward to meeting them in person soon. We were so pleased to meet and get to know our recent new members Michael & Peggy Bingham. **Welcome!!!**

During the rally while in the area, some attendees made a trip to Cabela's, and some of us visited Alex's Pizza & Pasta in Willow Park – excellent bread, plenty of food, and friendly service. The entire group went to dinner Wednesday at the Railhead Smokehouse BBQ in Willow Park. The food and service, again, were very good.

Although there were many places to go and visit in the Aledo/Weatherford/Hudson Oaks area, most of us just took it easy, played Jokers & Marbles, and got in a LOT of visiting ... one of our most relaxed rallies.

We also conducted chapter business during the rally. We held elections for positions for the next two years (2017-2018). The results are as follows: 1) Rally Master - Don Griffith; 2) Secretary - Susan Smith; and 3) Treasurer - Linda Griffith. Our Board had to appoint someone to finish the term of Vice President which was vacated by Linda Griffith (through EOY 2017); Gwen Churchill was appointed. Thanks to everyone for accepting the positions.

During your travels, check to see where we are "rallying" (<http://www.discoveryowners.com/dtexrally.htm>). If you find yourself in our area, please get our GUEST Rally Reservation Form from the DOAI website (<http://discoveryowners.com/DTEXGUEST.pdf>) and join us. Our next rally will be January 11-14 (departing 15th) at Lake Conroe/Houston North KOA, Montgomery, TX. Hope to see y'all in the near future. Safe travels everyone. ❖



Jerry Brown and Don Griffith leading a sing-along at Discovery Texans November Rally in Aledo, TX

### Mason-Dixons chapter



Chapter prez  
John Ricciardi

The Mason-Dixons were well represented at the DOAI National Rally in Bath, NY in September and we all had a good time at a great rally. Thanks to everyone involved in putting the rally together.

The Mason-Dixons just finalized updating our By-Laws and Standing Rules. I want to thank all of the officers for their input; it made the job so much easier and with a better outcome.

After our "Rally" at the SE Region Rally, we plan to have our second rally in Virginia, at the AMERICAMP RV RESORT in Ashland Virginia, May 7 – 11, 2017. If you are in the area (Richmond area), please join us. All of the information will be on the DOAI web site in the Mason-Dixon Discoverys chapter section.

Finally, this will be my last report. My term as President is over and it's time to hand over the reins to someone new. It has been a pleasure serving the Mason-Dixon Discoverys as President and an honor to represent them at the National and Regional DOAI rallies.

Safe travels to all. ❖

## Did you know?

Going forward, *Discovery Express* will be published in digital format only. If you have not listed a personal email address with DOAI, please contact Membership Coordinator Elaine Holley at the following email: [doaimembership@discoveryowners.com](mailto:doaimembership@discoveryowners.com).

## Region and chapter reports, continued



Chapter prez  
Jerry Call

### Midwest Discoverers

The Midwest Discoverers had a great year in 2016. We had two rallies, and both were well-attended and a great time was had by all. The spring rally was held in Michigan, and the fall rally was held in Massachusetts.

For the spring, Dick and Sylvia Holmes were the rally masters and they did a great job. The food was good and entertainment was great. We thank them for an outstanding job well-done.

At Mackinac MI, we ferried to Mackinaw Island for a fun day on the island; the next day we toured the Ice Breaker Mackinac ship and enjoyed dinner afterwards. Next, we formed a caravan to Sault St. Marie, MI, where we cruised the Soo Locks and had dinner on-board the ship. What a fun rally it was. . . thanks again to all members and attendees for all that you do.

For the fall, George and Beverly Kirk along with Fred and Peggy Raphael were the rally masters. Rally attendees had a spaghetti dinner at the welcome get-together the first day, and then were off to enjoy: a Cape Cod Canal Cruise, a Boston duck boat tour, a tour of the New Bedford Whaling Museum, and a visit to Battleship Cove. Fred Raphael was the chef-of-the-week and did an outstanding job. Both rallies were well-at-

tended, and a great time was had by all. Anyone who misses these rallies are missing a wonderful time.

The Midwest Discoverers has members in most of the states east of Indiana, and our rallies have been held in most of the Hiram states where our members reside. If you are looking for a good time we invite you to join our club.

Our upcoming rally for the Spring 2017 will be held in Philadelphia PA, arriving June 11 and departing June 18, 2017. Richard and Carol Parton will be the rally masters for the rally. More information on this rally is also available via the DOAI website. ❖



*Jerald Call and his wife Noretta; Bev and George Kirk; Dick and Sylvia Holmes; Loretta (no last name). All are enjoying lobster at the Kirk's camp site.*



Chapter prez  
Bob Stewart

### Noreaster Discoverys

The Noreaster Discoverys are in the final steps of becoming a DOAI chapter. All is well as we have our paperwork finished and approved. To date, there are 12 interested coaches joining up, the officers are set, and our bank account is being set up. Many thanks to the DOAI Board of Directors for their help and encouragement - especially Ron Wacker, Nina Soltwedel, Dick Tracy, and John Ricciardi of the Mason Dixon Discoverys.

We would also like to thank the Midwest Discoverers for inviting us to their June 2017 rally near Philadelphia - that will be great and we all are looking forward to it.

Thanks again to all that have helped us start up and we'll see you in January at the Southeast Region Rally. ❖

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## DOAI officers/chapters/committees/website

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### President

Ron Wacker, 4155 Grandchamp Cir.,  
Palm Harbor, FL 34685-1094;  
813.240.6552;  
discovery@rvfunhome.com

#### Executive Vice President

Jay Keneson, 404 Cypress Springs Dr,  
Spring Branch TX 78070-4640;  
830.885.6043; 210.827.1855;  
jayk@gvtc.com

#### Vice President for Development/Reg. Agent

Marshall Godwin, 8071 Windsor Dr,  
King George VA 22485-5210;  
540.663.3725; 540.379.6767;  
marshall@megodwin.com

#### Secretary/Member Care

Nina Soltwedel, 4736 Harwich St,  
Boulder CO 80301-4217; 303.530.0775;  
303.570.2736;  
doaisecretary@discoveryowners.com

#### Treasurer

Dick Tracy, 6 Cambridge Ct, Fleetwood  
PA 19522-1018; 610.207.2016;  
doaitreasurer@discoveryowners.com

#### National Rally Master/Historian

MaryAnn Crowell, 207 County Rd  
3000, Lott TX 76656-3828;  
254.584.2400; 254.644.6225;  
macrowell1979@gmail.com

#### Past President/Nominating

John Baker, 8419 Clover Leaf Dr,  
Richmond TX 77469-4867;  
281.341.7177; 281.814.0004;  
bakerjohn@swbell.net

#### North Central Region Vice President - NC (IL, IN, IA, KS, MI, MN, MO, NE, ND, SD, WI, MB, ON)

Bev Kaiser, 34801 Pheasant Rdg,  
Richmond MI 48062-1834;  
586.615.2263; bjk601@comcast.net

#### Northeast Region Vice President - NE

(CT, ME, MA, NH, NJ, NY, OH, PA,  
RI, VT, NB, NL, NS, PE, QC)  
Jeff Daly, 19 Glover Dr, Dix Hills NY  
11746-6517; 631.586.1327;  
516.241.3133; jrdaly48@optonline.net

#### Northwest Region Vice President- NW

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

#### South Central Region Vice President - SC (AR, LA, OK, TX)

Gary Osburn, 303 Silver Sage Dr, Del  
Rio TX 78840-2151; 830.899.3037;  
210.859.6185;  
garyanddebby@yahoo.com

#### Southeast Region Vice President - SE (AL, DE, FL, GA, KY, MD, MS, NC, SC, TN, VA, WV)

Bob Deal, 200 Baymount Dr, Statesville  
NC 28625-9547; 704.876.3218;  
704.682.0345; bdeal49@gmail.com

#### Southwest Region Vice President - SW (AZ, CA, HI, NV, NM)

Position Vacant

### CHAPTERS

#### Blue Ridge Discoverys (SE Region)

Charlie Harvell, 952 Laurel Springs Ln  
SW, Marietta GA 30064-3961;  
770.424.5439; 404.213.1639;  
charlesharvell@gmail.com

#### Discovery California (SW Region)

Jim Sullivan, 2238 Emerald Cir, Morro  
Bay CA 93442-1588; 408.623.4701;  
jsull5213@aol.com

#### Discovery Texans (SC Region)

Judy Jo Bruton, 7212 61st St, Lubbock  
TX 79407-8224; 361.537.8986;  
harry@bruton.com

#### D'Zonas (SW Region)

Larry Hawkins, 894 W Diamond Rim  
Dr, Casa Grande AZ 85122-7894;  
209.914.0751; tacksailors@yahoo.com

#### Florida Discovery Sunshiners (SE Region)

Fred Jecks, 840 N Atmore Cir, Deltona  
FL 32725-3341; 386.532.0762;  
386.801.1256; fred.jecks@gmail.com

#### Heartland Discoverys (NC Region)

Bev Kaiser, 34801 Pheasant Rdg,  
Richmond MI 48062-1834;  
586.615.2263; bjk601@comcast.net

#### Louisiana Mudbugs (SC Region)

Don Burgess, 144 Gunter Rd, Pineville  
LA 71360-9194; 318.449.3595;  
318.613.6819; donem642@att.net

#### Mason-Dixon Discoverys (SE Region)

John Ricciardi, 477 The Gardens Dr,  
Crossville TN 38555-0301;  
252-619-6485; 252.619.7198;  
john.l.ricciardi@gmail.com;  
jonall135@yahoo.com

#### Midwest Discoverers (NC Region)

Jerry Call, 6825 County Road 16,  
Butler IN 46721-9417; 260.868.2580;  
260.927.5397;  
jcallnorthpond@netzero.com

#### Noreaster Discoverys (NE)

Bob Stewart, 6948 Rte 60 S, Cassadaga  
NY 14718-8991; 716.679.8991;  
zetapig@netsync.net

#### Northwest Adventurers (NW Region)

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

#### Ozarks Discovery (NC Region)

Bruce Plumb, 4384 State Hwy Y,  
Galena MO 65656-4604;  
417.239.4544; 417.239.4502;  
bplumb@centurytel.net

#### Texas Discovery Road Runners (SC Region)

Melissa Plowman, 4911 Andria Dr, Wi-  
chita Falls TX 76302-  
3513; 940.761.4403;  
daamommy@aol.com

### COORDINATORS AND WEBSITE

#### Audit

Ricky Keen, 8 Beaver Creek Loop,  
Roland, AR 72135-9749; 501.247.2124;  
rkeen120@gmail.com

#### Founder/President Emeritus

Jim Devine, 10321 Jacob Ct, Fairhope  
AL 36532-4534; 970.209.4757;  
f195810@gmail.com

#### Membership Coordinator

Elaine Holley, 2317 Fran Cir, Clyde  
TX 79510-3441; toll-free  
888.594.6818;  
doaimembership@discoveryowners.com

#### Merchandise Coordinator

Jody Bruce, 25340 Plum St,  
Brooksville FL 34601-4716;  
813.744.0411; 813.629.0498;  
bruce7073@gmail.com

#### Newsletter Editor

John Scarbrough  
2216 Pinon Street  
Silver City NM 88061  
575.650.4818  
doaiexpress@discoveryowners.com

#### Webmaster

Bob Cook, 876 Higgins Ave, Deltona  
FL 32738-7971; 386.860.8274;  
webmaster@discoveryowners.com

#### Website

www.discoveryowners.com

## Quilt from Fall Rally in Bath NY

This picture of the 2016 DOAI quilt does not do the actual quilt justice. The quilt is absolutely gorgeous, and I feel very lucky and honored to have won this beautiful “work of art” at the National Rally in Bath, N.Y.

I personally tried to thank each of the women present at the rally, but wanted to publically thank everyone who designed, pieced, and created this one-of-a-kind masterpiece.

The women who participated are: Gwen Churchill, Barbara Eliassen, Linda Griffith, Freddie Perry, Pat Pequignot, Melissa Plowman, Lovetta Simpson, Doris Smith, Nina Soltwedel, Carol Sturm, and Joyce Tanner. The actual quilting was done by Patience Ford.

The design was created from a picture of the falls in the Watkins Glen State Park, and the very cool thing is that I am from New York; I have been to the park, and I know the specific area.

For now, the quilt is on our bed in our home, but if a

newer motorhome is in our future, a king-size bed will be a must and not an option.

Again, special thanks to these ladies. . . what a talented group! ❖

Jeanne Stewart



## Quarterly Question Contest

Would YOU like to win a year’s free membership in DOAI? You might, if you carefully read this issue in order to find the answer to the question (see front page for question). The answer is printed somewhere within these pages. Find the answer and submit the response. All correct responses will be placed in the Contest Hat from which one response will be drawn. The winner will receive a year’s free membership in DOAI. The details follow:



1. A box on the front page will announce the question. 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 must contain the member’s name and contact information, the answer, and the page where the answer is found and must quote the complete sentence in which the answer is contained. Email the response to [nina.soltwedel@gmail.com](mailto:nina.soltwedel@gmail.com), or snail mail to Nina Soltwedel, 4736 Harwich St., Boulder CO 80301-4217. Do not post answer on the DOAI eGroup.
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.
4. 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, and must be received by Nina no later than 11:59pm the fifteenth day of the second month of a quarter.
5. One winning entry will be drawn from all correct entries.
6. The succeeding issue will name the previous quarter’s winner and announce the new question.
7. The Board of Directors reserves the right to terminate the contest at any time.

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



Elaine Holley

## Membership Coordinator's report

Since our last issue of Discovery Express, please *“Welcome”* our new and reinstated members listed here. Please make them feel at home in DOAI, encourage them to get involved, and introduce them to our many chapters. It is still the best place to meet and make new friends. We continue to ask members to refer new members to DOAI. Remember, after three referrals, you will receive a one-year free membership. ❖

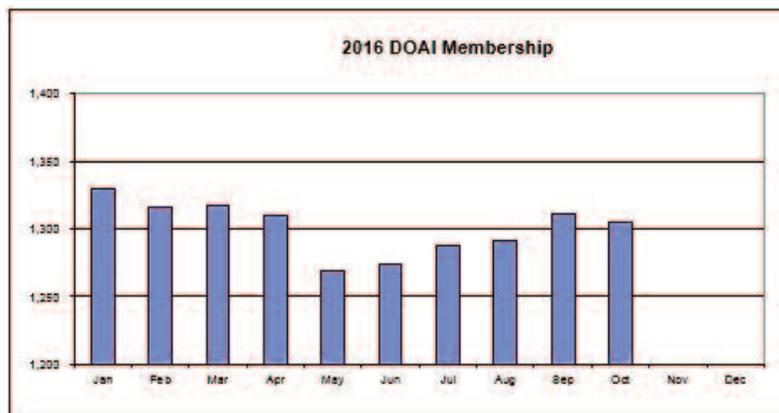
Gary Amsler & Laura Campbell, Lacaster SC	Tony & DiAnn Harlow, Eminence KY	Tim & Kathy Ridgley, Massillon OH
John & Diane Anderson, Monument CO	William & Juanell Harlow, Tampa FL	Dennis & Kristy Ritchie,
Robert & Betty Arnold, Norfolk VA	Roy & Yvonne Harmon, Temple TX	South Barrington IL
Thomas & Vicki Barker, League City TX	Mike & Annette Hart, Fuquay-Varina NC	Valexis Rodriguez, Houston TX
Elizabeth & Barney Bernstein, Raleigh NC	Paul & Molly Hileman, Jensen Beach FL	Rob & Monika Rondeel, Rimbey AB
Paul Blough, Belpre OH	Ronnie & Linda Huber, Cohutta GA	Danny & Mildred Sandvig, Bergheim TX
Ray & Brenda Boudreaux, Fayetteville AR	Chad Humphrey, Olathe CO	Mike & Judy Schroeder, Kearney NE
Ronald & Sherry Brown, Wichita KS	Arthur Glenn Isedore, Beaumont TX	Garry & Sharon Schultz, Spring Hill FL
Rick & Debbie Burke, Chino Hills CA	Karen Johns, Port Bolivar TX	Warren & Maryann Senski, Glendora NJ
Joel & Ronda Carson, Sapulpa OK	Ed & Kathy Kawczynski, Sylvania OH	Glenn & Joann Shelley, Elizabethtown PA
David & Liliane Christensen, Oviedo FL	Cyril & Judith Koch, West Covina CA	Ben & Katrina Shoemaker, Pleasant View TN
John & Doreen Colnaghi, Jacksonville FL	Christopher Krall, Las Vegas NV	Jed & Michelle Slama, Huntsville UT
Joe & Andrea Corder, Greenacres WA	Theresa & Ed Lavin, Saint Charles MO	Jeffrey & Michelle Sleight, Sykesville MD
Davide D'Angelo, Hamilton ON	David & Rachel Leby, Henderson NV	Glen Smith, Hollywood FL
Steve & Jill Davis, Deltaville VA	Michael Lee, Manassas VA	Tom & Valerie Smith, Meridian ID
Alan & Vicky DePalmer, Cedar Park TX	Denise Long, Gig Harbor WA	Donald Smith Jr, Winter Park FL
Barry & Tina Downey, Kingsland GA	Reggie & Alice Maxwell, San Marcos TX	Roger & Dawn Stephens, Brownsburg IN
Stephen Duff & Marilyn Galvin,	Robert & Jo Ann Miller, Crestview FL	Don & Lynda Stockton, Village Mills TX
Cincinnati OH	Paul & Alyssa Oettinger, Punta Gorda FL	Harold Orin Thompson, Spring TX
Michael & Charmaine Enns, Vernon BC	Robert & Barbara Ory, Fort Collins CO	Dean & Wendy Tobler, Harrison TN
Chris & Holly Fischer, Scottsdale AZ	David Pantley, Jupiter FL	Joop Van Egmond, Plano TX
Peter & Kristina Fischer, Lake Villa IL	Raymond & Pamela Parsons Jr,	Kirk & Lorrie Waddell, Saddlebrooke AZ
Harold Gardner Jr, Chipley FL	Summerfield FL	Hendrik & Mary Willems, Lawrence KS
Tracy & Rosemary Gaulding, Hockley TX	Roy Peacock, Ventura CA	Galen & Katy Winders, Oakdale CA
Michael & Mary Gray, Garfield AR	Sarah & Michael Phelps, Rancho Mirage CA	John & Dorobeth Windham, Monroe LA
Keith & Lisa Gross, Punta Gorda FL	Jerry & Theresa Pittman, Kingfisher OK	Jerry Woerdeman & Heidi McClure,
Michael & Deborah Guyer, Starke FL	Ken & Cathy Raider, San Antonio FL	Monument CO
Barry & Rhonda Hale, Canton GA	James & Diana Rainwater, Arcadia IN	Dick & Mary Wood, Georgetown TX
Woody & Brenda Hale, Pearland TX	Daniel Reinmann, Streator IL	

## News from Amazon.com

For the past several years, DOAI has participated in the Amazon Associate link program. Under the program, if a user clicked a link on the DOAI home page before ordering anything from Amazon and then continued to their shopping on Amazon, DOAI earned a small commission for the “referral.” Consumers paid the same price for their purchases (which remained anonymous) as they did without following the link. Since its inception, many members have participated and the commissions have helped to defray the costs of hosting the DOAI website. However, Amazon has discontinued the Associate Link program. As one result, the Amazon shopping link has been removed from the DOAI home page.

DOAI would like to extend a special thanks to all members who have used the Amazon link. Please note: If you have bookmarked the DOAI shopping link, please remove it from your bookmarks. ❖

## DOAI Membership Chart for 2016



Month	Membership	New Mbrs
Jan	1,330	22
Feb	1,316	15
Mar	1,317	24
Apr	1,310	20
May	1,269	23
Jun	1,274	29
Jul	1,288	34
Aug	1,291	30
Sep	1,311	38
Oct	1,305	23



Mark Polk

## How To Live With 30 Amps

One of the hardest things for RVers to get used to is how to live with 30 amps. People are accustomed to 100 or 200 + amp systems in their home. You don't need to be concerned with what you are using or how much you are using. . . everything just works.

Depending on the type of RV you have (or purchase), it will either have a 30 Amp or a 50 Amp electrical system. The majority of RV's are 30 Amp systems, so that is what we are going to discuss today. Campgrounds provide an external 120 volt electrical source to plug in to, and your RV has a heavy-duty power cord that is normally about 20 to 25 feet long. The plug on the end of the cord is a 30 Amp RV plug. When you plug into the proper campground electrical source it will supply 120 volts AC throughout your RV.

You need to have a 120 Volt AC power source if you are going to use the microwave, roof air conditioner, the refrigerator in the electric mode, the 120 volt electrical outlets, and any other 120 volt AC appliances and electronics. This is where things start to get different from the electrical system in your home. Just because we have all of these 120 volt AC appliances doesn't mean we can use them all at the same time. RVers need to learn how to live with 30 amps. It's not that difficult, and with some simple math formulas and a little practice you will catch on quick.

You can calculate what you are using in watts or in amps:

Amps x Volts = Watts

Watts divided by Volts = Amps

An RV with a 30 amp electrical system x 120 volts = 3,600 watts.

What this means is you don't want to exceed 30 amps, or 3,600 watts at any given time. If you try to use too much electricity or run too many appliances, the RV will let you know by tripping a breaker in the power distribution box (and hopefully no harm will be done).

To demonstrate how easy it would be to exceed 30 amps, let's say you are using the microwave (which draws about 10 amps), the coffee maker is brewing a pot of coffee (another 7 amps), and you turn the A/C on. Keep in mind that many RV appliances require more amps to start the appliance than they do to run the appliance. A roof air conditioner can draw 16 amps to start, but might only use 13 amps once it is running. So we were drawing 33 amps and risking damage to the air conditioner when the compressor initially engaged. This is just one example of why it is important to manage the electricity you are using in your RV. ❖

© Reprinted with permission. RV expert Mark Polk owns RV Education 101, a North Carolina based company that produces and sells educational videos, DVDs and ebooks on how to use RVs. Mark has more than 30 years of experience in RV maintenance. He retired from the U.S. Army in 1996 as a chief warrant officer three, specializing in wheeled and track vehicle fleet maintenance operations. He and his wife, Dawn, started RV Education 101 in 1999. They travel with their two sons in a 35 foot Class A motor home.



President Ron Wacker

## President's Message

Hi all, The holidays are behind us and the New Year is before us. I hope everyone had a great, healthy and happy 2016 and will have an even better 2017. The Southeast Region Rally is here and I want to invite everyone to come and enjoy the warm Florida weather and a fantastic rally. If you have never attended this rally you have no idea what you are missing. The food, entertainment and education is unbelievable. I hope to see you there.

This is our first all electronic newsletter. If this is your first time receiving it electronically you will be surprised with receiving it about a month sooner and containing more pictures and pages. Read and enjoy.

The national elections are behind us and we need to come together as a nation. Trump is our president and he needs to be given a chance and our support. Our elections have been going on for over 200 years and we are still here. Who knows - we may become great again. Wouldn't that be nice. I keep saying how lucky we are to be able to travel freely across our beautiful USA and enjoy the sites and friendly people. Of course, we can thank our wonderful veterans for our freedom. Thank you to all veterans as well as first responders, police officers, and fire fighters.

As you travel with your D's, if you see other Discovery owners be sure to say hi to them and let them know about DOAI if they aren't members. Remember if you get 3 new members you receive one free year dues.

I will close for now. Travel safe and best of health to you and your family. ❖

## Rally Photos



Jody had lots of neat stuff for sale



The Whole Gang at Bath



Food for Milly's Pantry



When is a D not a D? At the time of the rally, Jim and Robin Hadcock owned a 2003 D; however, when they got ready to leave for the rally, the transmission on the D was shot. Luckily, they still owned their 1977 GMC front-wheel drive coach (160,000 miles on her!), so they arrived in Bath in a "D" that was not a D.



Line dancing



Millsaps win 50-50 game - There was more than one 50/50 game, and the Millsaps were just one of the winners. Their luck held even after the rally: they won the Quarterly Question contest from October.



Rallygoers stating what they liked