



*The Newsletter of  
the GMC Great  
Lakers  
Motorhome Club,  
Inc.*

Volume 37, Issue 1 April 2012

America's Oldest and Largest  
Regional GMC Club for Preservation  
of the GMC Motorhome!



**Dick Balsley**  
(Dick's Cadillac ID Picture 1963)  
**President 2012**  
**GMC Great Lakers**

**Upcoming Rallies**

**Birthday Rally**  
**May 18, 19 & 20**  
**Bowling Green, OH**

**Michigan Antique &  
Collectables Rally**  
**June 1, 2 & 3**  
**Midland, MI**

## Richards Rants & Raves!...

Winter is gone. Checking up on Detroit, spring is here, the grass is green and some of the flowers are up!

Lynn and I have spent a healthy winter in our Florida home. We both stayed well but then there is Lexi. She tore the ligament in her knee. She had to have surgery and we spent much of the winter taking care of her.

I am writing this from Germany. Am on holiday with my sister. The camping season is really starting to roll here. My but the units are small! Our GMC's are small in the US but they would be giants over here. One thing seems to be true, they are all having fun!

So it is time to dig out the coaches, make your repairs, do your maintenance, some wax, and a little elbow grease. I know they will all look great!

I sure can't promise that this will be the best season anyone ever had, but are going to mix it up some. I'd like some laughs and good memories. We've got some great rallies planned in some new places.

I have one request, everyone talk to your friends and bring them out to the rallies!

Thanks in advance for coming  
See you at the Birthday Rally

*Richard*

[richard.l.balsley@gmail.com](mailto:richard.l.balsley@gmail.com)

# Sunshine & Clouds

**Dorothy Olmsted** age 77 passed away on Sunday, November 6, 2011. Dorothy along with husband Dick had been a member since July of 1987 and had attended 147 rallies and hosted a number of rallies over the years. Dorothy and Dick attended the Dulcimer Festival each year in Ewart MI and had several rallies at the festival. Dorothy's kind soul will be missed by all.

**Val Buskirk** also passed away in the early part of November. Val and Clarence were members of the Great Lakers and they operated a repair shop for the GMC motorhome in Sandusky until Clarence passed.

**Ester Gompers** passed away on February 24, 2012. Ester and Jim have been members since 1981 and had attended 70 rallies.

**Ray Alden & Bill George** past GMCGL members passed away this past winter.

## New Members and Changes (Add these to your directory)

### New or Renewed Members

**CAMPBELL**, Duncan & Maura  
124 Merriweather Road  
Grose Pt. Farms, MI 48236-3623  
(313) 886-2111  
F300891  
GL686  
1  
[campbell@mappingsolutions.com](mailto:campbell@mappingsolutions.com)  
Fax: (313) 432-0228  
Cell phone: (517) 719-4391  
'77 26' Palm Beach  
Member since: Sep., 2001

**JANES/LANG**, Steven/Judith  
108 Twyn Rivers Drive  
Pickering, Ont. CN L1V 1E2  
(905)509-1760  
F420991  
GL879  
0  
[judith.lang@uhn.on.ca](mailto:judith.lang@uhn.on.ca)  
Cell phone: (416) 989-8789  
'76 26' Palm Beach  
Member since: Mar., 2011

**RAYMOND**, Mandie & Joel  
9779 Ortonville Rd.  
Clarkston, MI 48348-1933  
(248) 241-6461  
F42468  
GL890  
0  
[tillie1001@comcast.net](mailto:tillie1001@comcast.net)  
'78 26' Royal  
Member since Mar., 2012

### Address Changes

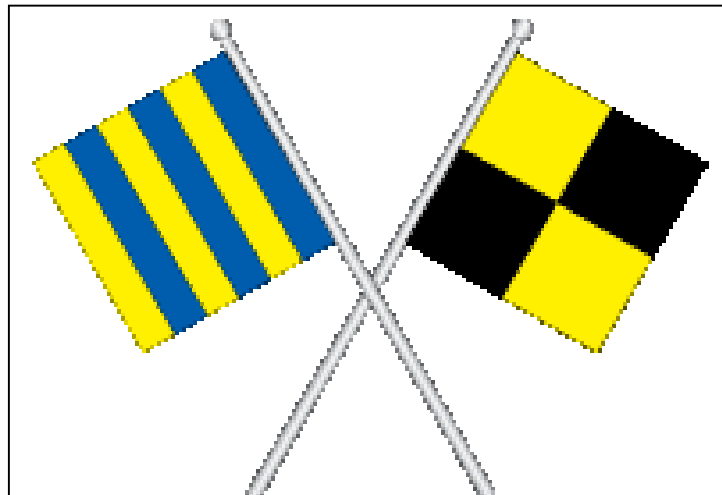
**HOMRICH**, Jean  
174A Flicker St.  
Rochester Hills, MI 48309-4606

**STEINER**, Wes & Margaret  
1113 Spring Brooks Drive  
Goshen, IN 46528-5059  
(574) 533-0987  
[wsteiner468@gmail.com](mailto:wsteiner468@gmail.com)

### Email Changes

**HOHS**, Robert & Susan  
[duable55@roadrunner.com](mailto:duable55@roadrunner.com)

**ROCKAFELLOW**, Max & Jeanne  
[maxrock@choicetel.net](mailto:maxrock@choicetel.net)  
[jrockrock@choicetel.net](mailto:jrockrock@choicetel.net)





## **36th Anniversary Birthday Rally**

### **May 18, 19 & 20**

This year the Rally will be held at the Wood County Fairgrounds in Bowling Green Ohio. Friday Night will feature a catered meal by Sam B's and Saturday after cake and ice cream will feature a live band so you can put on your dancing shoes or just listen to old standards.

The hosts for this rally are the 2012 Club Officers. We extend an invitation to each member of the GMC Great Lakers to join us as we celebrate our 36<sup>th</sup> Anniversary as oldest GMC club in the US. The rally fee includes two nights camping, Friday and Saturday evenings. A catered dinner on Friday as well as Friday, Saturday and Sunday coffee, donuts and stuff.

The Campground is located at 13800 West Poe Road, Bowling Green, OH. The fairground is located off I75 at Exit 181. From exit 181 go west on Ohio 64, 64 will turn somewhat north, proceed to W Poe Rd, turn RT, fairgrounds on left. GPS Coordinates: N41 23.18, W083 40.03

Rally Fee's and Contact information are on the **YELLOW RSVP** Form.

## **Michigan Antique & Collectables Rally**

**June 1, 2 & 3**

Hosted by: Bill Helmore, Dale & Bea Frahm, John & Janet Wright

Come join your fellow GMC Great Lakers at the Michigan Antique & Collectible Festival to be held at the Midland County Fairgrounds the weekend of June 1 - 3, 2012. This event is one of the largest antique & collectible events to be held in the Midwest.

The Festival will include antique show and sale, home decor & eclectic furniture, coin & sports memorabilia, huge classic car show with DJ, auto parts swap meet & 4-sale lot.

It is recommended that you arrive on Thursday May 31, as it may be quite busy with the vendors coming in to set up for the weekend.

Water and 30 amps electric are available. You may need a long cord.

Your rally fee includes two (2) nights camping, wristbands for three (3) days admittance to the festival, two (2) catered meals and continental breakfasts.

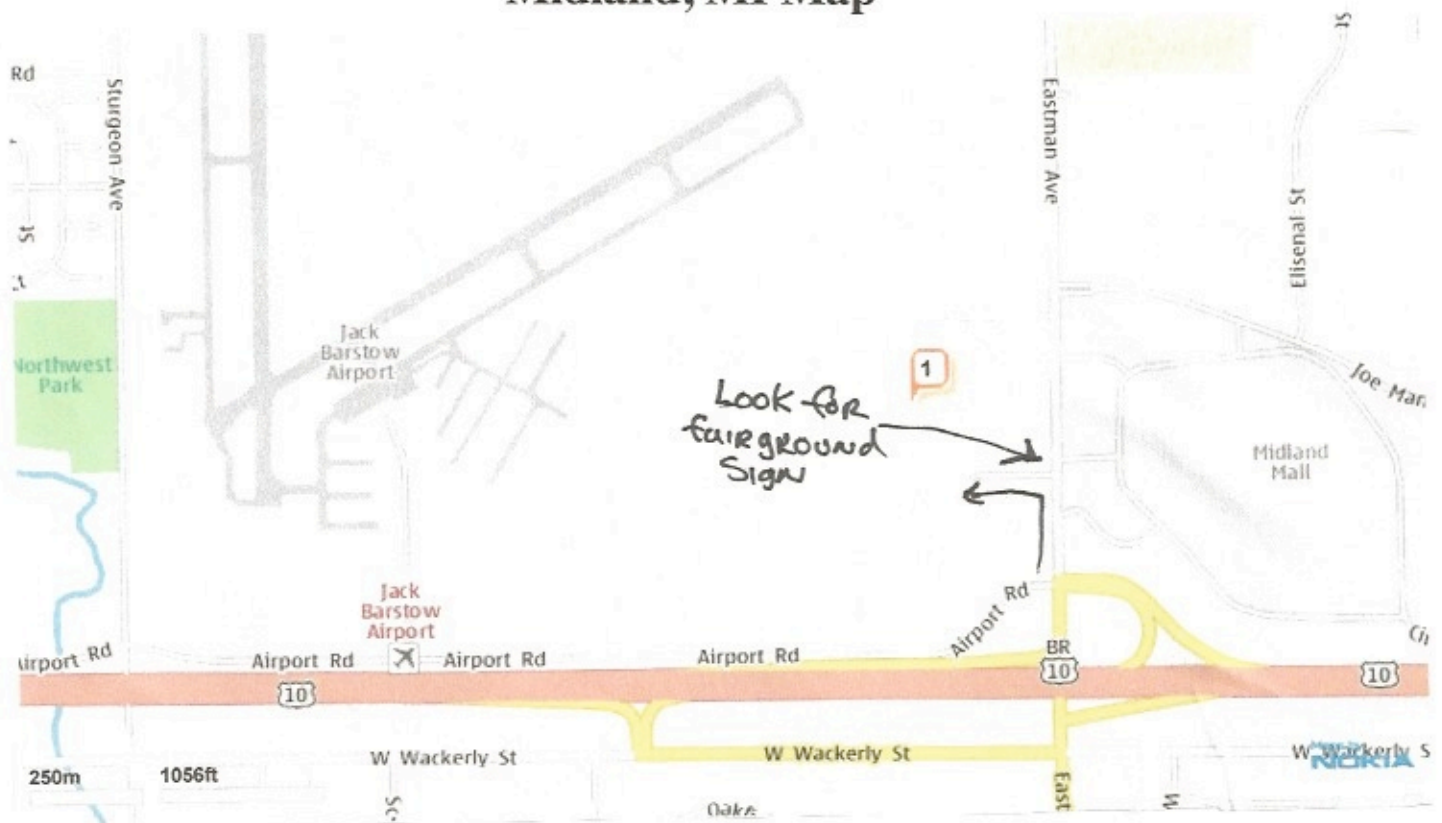
Directions: Exit US10 at the Eastman road exit. The fairgrounds are located north of the freeway. The entrance will be on your right as you pass the traffic light.

Rally Fee's and Contact information are on the **Green RSVP** Form.

## Bowling Green, OH Map



## Midland, MI Map



# Rally Schedules

## GMC Great Lakers Motorhome Club 2012 Rally Schedule

May 18, 19 & 20	36th Birthday Party Rally	Bowling Green, OH	Executive Comm.
June 1, 2 & 3	MI Antique & Collectible Rally	Midland, MI	Helmores & Crew
July 26, 27 & 28	Turkeyville USA Rally	Marshall, MI	Scannell & Crew
August 27 thru 30	FMCA Convention Pending	Indianapolis, IN	Pending
Sept. 17, 18 & 19	Pending Rally	Elkhart, IN	Swartzendruber
October 2012	OPEN		

## **Rally Refund Policy**

If you have paid your fees for a rally that you had planned to attend but decide to cancel you must call the rally host a minimum of 7 days before the rally's listed start date. Any cancellations after the cutoff date will be prorated for non-refundable fees. (Rev. 8/2003)

## **Other 2012 Rallies Of Interest in Our Area!**

May 24 thru 28	G.L.A.S.S. Rally	Berrien Springs Youth Fair	Berrien Springs, MI
Sept 22 thru 28	GMCM Fall Rally	Amana Colonies	Iowa

Treasurer Report  
GMC Great Lakers Motorhome Club Inc.  
March 31, 2012

See Members Only Area!

GMC GreatLakers is published for its member's 5 to 6 times per season. Should you not receive your newsletter please contact the publisher.

### **Club Officers**

**President:** Dick Balsley  
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[richard.l.balsley@gmail.com](mailto:richard.l.balsley@gmail.com)

**Vice President:** Ed Dohm  
269 683-2146  
[atlastaplace@sbcglobal.net](mailto:atlastaplace@sbcglobal.net)

**Secretary:** Bee Frahm  
989 652-6616  
[beefrahm@yahoo.com](mailto:beefrahm@yahoo.com)

**Treasurer:** Jim White  
440 331-7787  
[captjimwhite@gmail.com](mailto:captjimwhite@gmail.com)

**FMCA Nat'l Director**  
Dan Ryan  
419-874-3345  
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**FMCA Alternate Director**  
Ray Eskau  
989 856-4724

**Director At Large**  
Forest Crow 260 367-2854  
[fpcrow@gmail.com](mailto:fpcrow@gmail.com)

**Sunshine Richard!**  
Dick Olmsted  
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**Newsletter Publisher**  
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989 839-0496 Cell: 989 859-0715  
[powerjon@chartermi.net](mailto:powerjon@chartermi.net)

All address, phone numbers and E-mail Changes should  
Be sent to the club treasurer:

Jim White  
21730 Clifford Dr.  
Fairview Park OH, 44126

**FMCA Assist Member Benefit**  
**Emergency Number 877 202-4176**  
**Contract Holder: FMCA**  
**Policy#: CL-1001-EX**

10/30/11

## Club Jackets

Ed & Judy Dohm are the suppliers for the new style Club Jackets. The color scheme is cranberry and gray. Call them at 269 683-2146 or see them at the club rallies to place your order.

**Great Lakers Website** The web site is located at: [www.gmcgreatlakers.org](http://www.gmcgreatlakers.org) To access the member's only area you need to enter your "GL000" number. The "GL" is in capitals letters. You then must enter your "last" name in lower case. Your GL number is listed in the membership directory under your FMCA number. **The Website is under going a complete revamp at this time to give it a new look and better navigation to be finished about 5/15/12.**