



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

Volume 37, Issue 3 August 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

RV Capital Rally
Sept 17, 18 & 19
Elkhart, IN

Fall Leaves Rally
Oct 18, 19 & 20
Stanwood, MI

• **Richards Rants & Raves!...**

Can you believe it? Half the summer is gone already, half the rallies, and half the time with our friends in the GMC family. This is somewhat like the old, half full half empty glass, which side are you on, half full or half empty? As an engineer we look at the situation and explain the glass is obviously over designed for capacity. The message here is a lot bigger and more important than a glass of refreshment.

The Mayonnaise Jar

When things in your life seem almost too much to handle,

When 24 hours in a day is not enough; remember the mayonnaise jar and 2 cups of coffee.

A professor stood before his philosophy class and had some items in front of him.

When the class began, wordlessly, he picked up a very large and empty mayonnaise jar

And start to fill it with golf balls.

He then asked the students if the jar was full. They agreed that it was.

The professor then picked up a box of pebbles and poured it into the jar. He shook the jar lightly.

The pebbles rolled into the open areas between the golf balls.

He then asked the students again if the jar was full. They agreed it was.

The professor next picked up a box of sand and poured it into the jar. Of course, the sand filled up everything else

He asked once more if the jar was full. The students responded with an unanimous 'yes.'

The professor then produced two cups of coffee from under the table and poured the entire contents into the jar, effectively filling the empty space between the sand.

The students laughed. 'Now,' said the professor, as the laughter subsided,

'I want you to recognize that this jar represents your life.

The golf balls are the important things - God, family,

Children, health, friends, GMC's and favorite passions, things that if everything else was lost and only they remained, your life would still be full.

The pebbles are the things that matter like your job, house, and car.

The sand is everything else -- The small stuff.

'If you put the sand into the jar first,' he continued, there is no room for the pebbles or the golf balls.

The same goes for life. If you spend all your time and energy on the small stuff,

You will never have room for the things that are important to you.

So... Pay attention to the things that are critical to your happiness.

Play with your children. Take time to get medical checkups.

Take your partner out to dinner, go to GMC rallies,

There will always be time to clean the house and fix the dripping tap.

'Take care of the golf balls first -- The things that really matter.

Set your priorities. The rest is just sand. One of the students raised her hand

And inquired what the coffee represented. The professor smiled.

'I'm glad you asked'. It just goes to show you that no matter how full your life may seem,

There's always room for a couple of cups of coffee with a friend.'

Richard

Turkeyville USA Rally

Well I ain't no turkey but a darn good time was had by all at Turkeyville. We had over 40 coaches gobbling away. I can't say the weather started out great but it was only a heavy mist as we would say on the sailboat, it never rains. Saturday and Sunday were just beautiful, couldn't ask for better. Turkeyville for those who missed the rally is a restaurant/ theater/RV park and of course a gift shop, located about 4 miles north of Marshall Michigan. The RV Park is new with full hook ups, 50-amp service, TV and WiFi. I must admit that the trees need to grow a few inches but I'm sure they will.

We had a wonderful turkey dinner followed by a stage play on Friday night. The food was great, the stage play was Route 66, started out a little slow but picked up speed, no pun intended, and was a good laugh by the finish. Breakfast, coffee and rolls, was done by our campground every morning. On Sunday they provided a cooked pancake and turkey sausage breakfast for the whole park. It was a nice slow pace, and interesting to see everyone relaxed back for breakfast and not roaring out the gate for home at first light.

We had a nice meeting; three sets of new comers were welcomed to their first rally. I gave free gas money once more; a set of new comers won the drawing. I do have to mention that we had 4 coaches come to the rally without mates, what a fantastic thing. If you're alone out there don't let it stop you from coming to your GMC family. The first lady or should I say my better half Lynn put on a class for the ladies to make lanyards for our badges. They were made from eight pieces of cord and pony beads, I know that we had better than 5400 beads we were working with before she got them all packed up. I saw some of the women sporting their new lanyards at breakfast on Sunday morning.

I did some questioning and received without asking many positive comments on the rally. We are still looking for a rally in August of next year and 4 rallies are open in 2014. Turkeyville looks to be fairly easy, as the meals, breakfast, entertainment, and parking are all handled by our campground.

Richard

Sunshine & Clouds

If you have any information on club members that are under the weather or have other issues please contact the club officers so we can notify the rest of the club.

Sunshine Jack

Mike Barton is scheduled for hip replacement surgery on the 5th of August

Jim March is in Florida being treated for congestive heart failure.

Bill Morrow is recovering from back surgery and is still in Florida.

Jan Osstyn passed away July 28, 2012 after a long battle with cancer.

Jerry Waker passed away Friday June 15, 2012

John Wright is recovering from prostate surgery.

!

2013 NOMINATING COMMITTEE FORMED

The 2013 nominating committee for officers of the GMC Great Lakers Motorhome Club, Inc. has been elected. They are: Tim Scannell, Dick McCoy and Dave Lenzi. You may contact any one of them with your nominee or to nominate your self. All nominees must indicate their clear acceptance to serve if elected.

RV Capital Rally

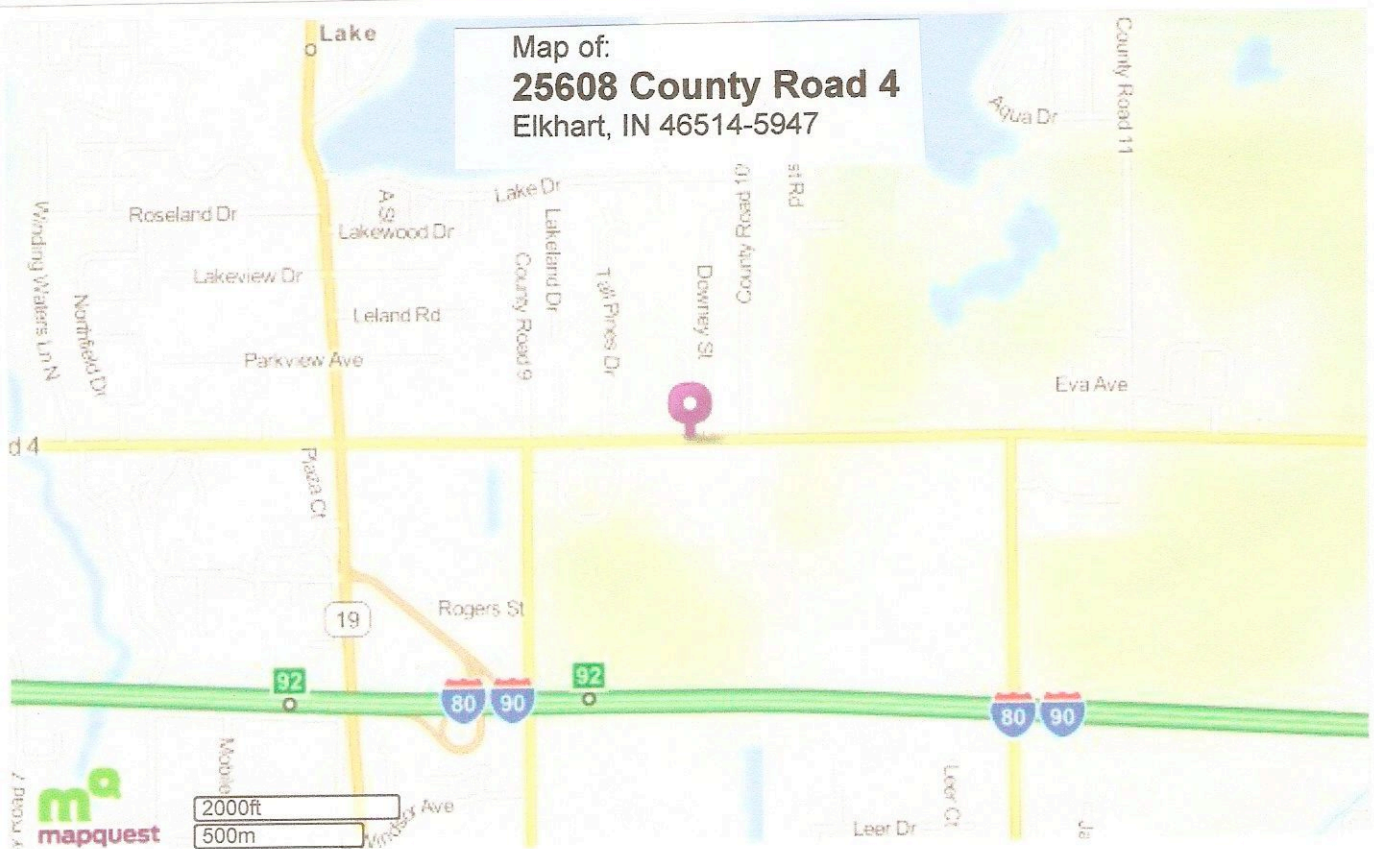
The September rally will be at Elkhart Campgrounds, Elkhart, Indiana. It will be on Monday and Tuesday, September 17 & 18, with departure on Wednesday the 19th. These days were chosen so those who wish to go to the GMCMI Convention at Amana could leave from Elkhart and go to Amana. We plan to go to the RV Museum on Monday morning as a group so we can get the group rate, and if there is enough interest, we will tour the Phoenix Cruiser factory (a quality manufacturer of B Class motorhomes) Tuesday morning. Both are very near the campgrounds. Monday afternoon, Erv Troyer will have an hour or so seminar on roof top A/C's and furnaces. There is nothing scheduled afterwards, so it can go as long as you have questions. Of course, the RV Surplus stores are ever present in the area for the bargain hunters. A guide to the "men's malls" will be in your welcome packet along with some area info. Come hungry because we are going to have two great evening meals Monday and Tuesday, with a "real breakfast" Wednesday morning to see you Conventioneers off in style and some protein in your tummy{:>)

Come on out Y'all and help us with the celebration of new members. Happening at the September rally in Elkhart, IN. All 16 new members from the past year are invited for a special celebration. Come one, come all - new or established, young or old and get to know each other.

The rally price includes two nights camping, continental breakfasts and evening meals Monday and Tuesday with cake and ice cream dessert Monday, and an egg and sausage breakfast Wednesday. Price to the museum is not included. If you wish to come early or stay later, you can make those arrangements with the campground (574) 264-2914. Price will be the discounted price of \$30 for extra days. All sites have full hook-ups.

PLEASE have your reservations in by **September 9th**. We need to have a final headcount in by then for the meals, and we will report only the number we have by then. There may be a penalty for cancellations after that, but I think they will work with us on that.

Please indicate on the **GREEN** rally entry form if you interested in touring the RV Museum or the RV Factory so tours can be set up in advance.



Fall Leaves Rally – Stanwood, MI

October 18, 19 & 20

Frank Griffin and Barb and their committee welcome the GMC Great Lakers to the “Fall Leaves Rally” at Stanwood, MI

River Ridge Resort is located at 2265 Eight Mile Road, Stanwood, MI 49346 and the phone number is 877 287-4837 and their website is: <http://www.riverridgervresort.com/>

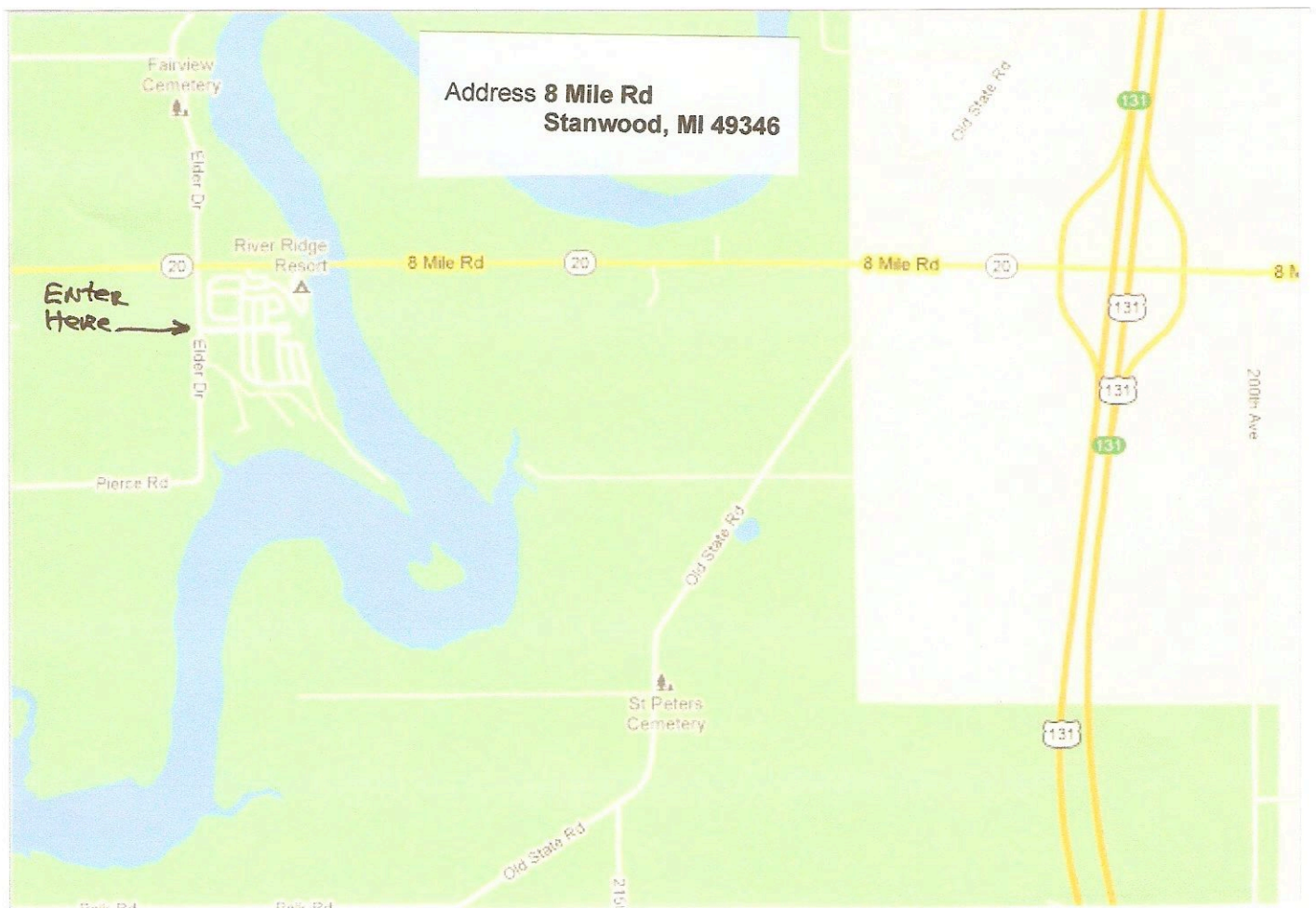
It is a Luxury RV Resort on the spectacular all-sports backwater of the Hardy Dam. All sites are located on concrete pads and have full hookup including cable TV. They will be assigned on a first come, first serve basis and if you need handicap parking be sure to mark your entry form as such. Any additional days camping should be made directly with the campground. This campground is relatively new and has a modern heated clubhouse for our activities.

The rally fees include 3 nights camping, Thursday thru Saturday and also includes 3 continental breakfasts. Donuts and Muffins along with coffee and juice Friday thru Sunday. The highlight of the weekend will be 2 home cooked meals prepared by Chef Franklin on Friday and Saturday evenings. I have seen the menu's and Frank can cook!

Early arrivals are more than welcome! Reservation must be received by Oct. 1, 2012.

Directions: Approximately 40 minutes north of Grand Rapids, MI. U.S. 131 North to Exit 131, then turn west and 2 miles to campground and turn left onto **Elder Rd** and go to the RV entrance. **DO NOT** use the first 2 turnoffs into the recreation areas, as you cannot enter the RV campground from those entrances!

Return **Orange** form for this rally.



Business Meeting Minutes from the July Rally

GMC GREAT LAKERS MOTORHOME CLUB INC, REGULAR MEETING, TURKEYVILLE, MI
July 28,2012

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 AM by president Balsley.

The secretary's report was read and approved with one correction. The bylaws will be voted on at the July meeting not September.

The Treasurers report was read and approved. Balance 12,898.00.

Old Business: Art. 1 of the bylaws will now read we are a non-profit organization. Art 2 Their will be 2 Alternates and a Director at Large as required by Michigan Law. Upon dissolution of our local club any Leftover monies will be donated to a charity of the clubs choice. A motion to accept these changes was made by Dale Frahm/seconded by Matthew Colie.

President Balsley will represent the club at the FMCA rally at Indianapolis, IN.

Our September rally will be in Elkhart, IN at the old KOA campground Sept 17,18,19 with the GMC International following at the Amana Colonies in Amana, Iowa September 23-28th. The October Rally will be at Stanwood, MI the 18,19,20th.

Tentative rally Schedule for 2013

May Lazy j in Ohio

June LaGrange, IN

July OPEN

August OPEN

September Balloon Festival Midland, MI

October Apple Fest Niles, MI

No dates or locations as yet

The Spring International will be Dothon, Alabama

New Business: Report from Dave Lenzi: We are in need of a new Secretary and a new Treasure.

Sunshine report: Jim Waker passed away in June; Jim March had back Surgery in Florida, Jan Osstyn Is at home with Hospice, And John Wright is doing well after surgery, and Lynn Balsley had 3 stints in her heart and is doing well. Barb Worth a past member has relocated to Virginia Red or Beth Hickman has her address.

The new members were introduced: Joe and Tom Althoff Marg and George Baumbarger of Grand Rapids, Ohio, Russ and Linda Mehlenbacher from Rochester Hills, MI and Sara and Megan the Dixons granddaughters.

Jerry and Jennie Andreski were the lucky winners to have their name drawn and will receive a check to cover the cost of their gas to and from the rally.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by George McLeod and seconded By Matthew Colie.
Meeting adjourned at 9:45 AM Respectfully Submitted Bernice Frahm Secretary

New Members and Changes (Add these to your directory)

New Membership

Althoff, Tom & Jo
12555 S. River Road
Grand Rapids, OH 43522
419 832-7173
F427582
GL894
0

tomathoff@aol.com

77 26' Kingsley
Member Since July 2012

New Membership

Baubarger, George(Joe)& Margaret
12911 Box Road
Grand Rapids, OH 43522
419 832-1503
F427511
GL895
0

77 26' Palm Beach
Member Since July 2012

Renewed Membership

Partridge, Tony & Barbara
9 Stoneridge Drive
Logansport, IN 46947
574 722-3871 Fax 574 735-2272
F95816
GL697
3

tdpartridge@comcast.net

77 26' Palm Beach
Member Since Feb 2003

New Membership

Purkiss, Leland & Edith
855 Carolina
Marysville, MI 48040
810 364-6936
F388808
GL893
0

purk_e@yahoo.com

76 26' Palm Beach
Member Since July 2012

Email Change

Anderson, Norm & Virginia

n-anderson43@yahoo.com

Harman, Worth & Dottie

dotworth@frontier.com

Hartzler, Max

o2it@att.net

Little, Rick & Teresa

ltlrck@yahoo.com

Bessler, Tom & Carolyn

cbessler42@gmail.com

Hart, Don & Anne

hartna2@gmail.com annehart44@gmail.com

Kulish, Donald & Shirley

dfkulish@yahoo.com

Mehlenbacher, Russell & Linda

russmehl@juno.com

Olmsted, Richard

richardolmsted@yahoo.com

Peazel, John & Mary

steel_eyes@hotmail.com

Rockafellow, Max & Jeanne

maxrock@choicetele.net jrockrock@choicetele.net

Ruby, Carl & Carol

Carolr2u@comcast.net

Smith, Donald & Christine

donchris_1617@yahoo.com

Thornburg, Steve & Phyllis

pdthornbg@aol.com

New Phone Number

Stuckey, Dan & Ginette
226 785-9130

For Sale on Website

The "For Sale" section on the website is now active and to have your items listed in the for sale section you should send your ads to me either by email to powerjon@chartermi.net or by snail mail. This will also be your notice for the for sale ads in the last newsletter of the year. If you wish pictures in your add on the website you must keep the size down to 480 X 320 pixels.

Your GMC Great Lakers MHC Website!

Fellow club members, be aware that your club website is online at www.gmcgreatlakers.org It is loaded with information on club activities future, present and past. You should check the website for current updates on rallies, current newsletter online, the new GMCing section and For Sale. The Members Only (located under the Organization tab) area has been updated and can also be accessed under the "Log In" tab. To log in to the "member only area" please read the "Logging In" paragraph 2 in "Members Only" area under "Organization" tab or look in your newsletter at the bottom of the rally schedule page. We welcome your comments and suggestions. You can contact me John Wright your newsletter publisher and assistant Webmaster or use the comment section in the "Log In" tab area.

Rally Schedules

GMC Great Lakers Motorhome Club 2012 Rally Schedule

Completed	36th Birthday Party Rally	Bowling Green, OH	Executive Comm.
Completed	MI Antique & Collectible Rally	Midland, MI	Helmore & Crew
Completed	Turkeyville USA Rally	Marshall, MI	Scannell & Crew
August 27 thru 30	FMCA Convention	Indianapolis, IN	No Club Sponsored Rally
Sept. 17, 18 & 19	RV Capital Rally	Elkhart, IN	Swartzendruber & Crew
October 18, 19 & 20	Fall Leaves Rally	Stanwood, MI	Griffin & Crew

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 2012/2013 Rallies Of Interest!

Sept 22 thru 28 2012	GMCMI Fall Convention	Amana Colonies	Amana, IA
March 22 thru 27 2013	GMCMI Spring Convention	Nat. Peanut Festival Fairgrounds	Dothan, AL

<p>Treasurer Report GMC Great Lakers Motorhome Club Inc. July 31, 2012</p> <p>See members only area on website for complete information.</p>	<p>GMC GreatLakers is published for its member's 4 to 6 times per season. Should you not receive your newsletter please contact the publisher.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Club Officers</p> <p>President: Dick Balsley 586 781-9552 Cell: 586 615-4266 richard.l.balsley@gmail.com</p> <p>Vice President: Ed Dohm 269 683-2146 atlastaplace@sbcglobal.net</p> <p>Secretary: Bee Frahm 989 652-6616 beefrahm@yahoo.com</p> <p>Treasurer: Jim White 440 331-7787 captjimwhite@gmail.com</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>FMCA Nat'l Director Dan Ryan 419-874-3345 patandanryan@bex.net</td> <td>FMCA Alternate Director Ray Eskau 989 856-4724</td> </tr> </table> <p>Director At Large Forest Crow 260 367-2854 fpcrow@gmail.com</p> <p>Sunshine Richard! Dick Olmsted 616 949-7622 smoky933@netpenny.net</p> <p>Newsletter Publisher John R. Wright 989 839-0496 Cell: 989 859-0715 powerjon@chartermi.net</p>	FMCA Nat'l Director Dan Ryan 419-874-3345 patandanryan@bex.net	FMCA Alternate Director Ray Eskau 989 856-4724
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<p>All address, phone numbers and E-mail Changes should Be sent to the club treasurer: Jim White 21730 Clifford Dr. Fairview Park OH, 44126</p>	<p>FMCA Assist Member Benefit Emergency Number 877 202-4176 Contract Holder: FMCA Policy#: CL-1001-EX</p>		

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 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 has completed its revamp and you should go out and explore all its new features.**

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GMC GreatLakers Newsletter
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