



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

Volume 38, Issue 3, July 2013

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



**Dick Balsley
President 2013
GMC Great Lakers**

Upcoming Rallies

**Mid-Summer Rally
July 18, 19 & 20
Springfield, OH**

**Turkey Two Rally
August 16, 17 & 18
Marshall, MI**

**Hot Air Balloon Rally
September 12, 13, 14 & 15
Midland, MI**

Richards Rants & Raves!...

EYE OPENER 101

Every so often we all get second chances, better offerings, almost happened, etc. Funny thing, most of the time we fail to look at, understand or accept the information that is being offered. I don't know how many people I have seen given the second chance at something, and go right back to the same old act that they did once before. Too bull headed, cheap, set in our ways, not me, or a cold day down below. I'm sure all of us can relate to some part of our life to these conditions. I read an article the other day on the late Steve Jobs. For those who don't know! He was the brain behind Apple computer, the I Pad and others. The person who took the helm after him tells the story that Steve could and would change his mind on almost anything at anytime. How could this man lead and do great things with this attitude. He learned later that it was a gift, not a burden. A mind so clear and open, if facts and figures were given, Steve would say you're correct, I've changed my mind.

While we were down in Indiana, I call it God's country; we went to Bremen, which is 20 miles south of Goshen. It was a special occasion, my 50th year class reunion, and talk about being hit upside the head, 50 years! More important, it was the largest chunk of my life, my working portion. You look around and tally up what you have done, seen, accomplished and taken pride of ownership too. Let's not forget family and friends along the way, very important. So what's left? Retirement active and non active, I'm the first to admit that there are a lot of whiskers in the club older than mine. Each has their own story, and life experiences. All have to be respected to the upmost. They are my friends. Look around, open your minds, do all the things you can, CHANGE YOUR MIND. I'm sure we all know that the sun comes up in the east and goes down in the west, WRONG. We only believe that because that's what we have been told all these years. We really know that we are turning, not the Sun going up and down. So what you think may not always be true. Think positive; believe in yourself, you can do it. See you at the next rally. When the sitting portion of life comes there will be no regents, and something to talk about.

Richard

richard.l.balsley@gmail.com

Summer Solstice Rally 2013

The June 2013 Great Lakers "Spring Solstice Rally", held at the South Bend / Elkhart KOA, located in Granger, IN, June 21 - 23, was attended by 29 coaches / 57 people. The weather was perfect and the tall pine trees provided lots of shade. Coach arrivals began Wednesday, June 19 and continued till Saturday, June 22. Bill and Judi Caldwell, who recently lost their coach to fire, joined the group for the day on Saturday. And a GMC coach from Quebec came into the campground on Friday, unaware of our rally, but stopped just because the campground owners are also GMC'ers. John Bell and Marie Kybecki are members of GMCMI and GMC Eastern States.

Craft sessions on Saturday provided instruction in magnetic bracelet making and in the art of origami.

Friday concluded with an appetizer "pitch-in" followed by a very entertaining barbershop quartet. And Saturday dinner was pulled pork, roasted on site by Ed Dohm, and several salads and sides doctored up by Phyllis Thornburg, all followed by 4 kinds of pie from the local Bob Evans restaurant. Great Job, Ed and Phyllis.

The mornings included the famous GMCGL Coffee & Rolls. Coffee and Rolls preceded Sunday morning send off as members said their goodbyes!

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 Dick**

Janet Wright underwent Parathyroid surgery on the 3rd of July. It will take 5 to 8 weeks for the remaining glands to take over. She has her good days along with the bad. We hope to be at the August rally in Turkeyville.

New Members and Changes (Add these to your directory)

Renewed Membership

Olmsted, Richard

4591 Leonard N.E.

Grand Rapids, MI 49525-3383

616 949-7622

GL011

Rally's attended 149

smoky933@netpenny.net

74 26' Sequoia

Member Since July 1987

Lost Club Membership Directory

There were a good number of GMC Great Lakers that attended the GMCMI rally in Dothan this spring. One of you left you membership directory at one of the meetings or seminars. It was turned into Lost & Found and I have it and can return it to you. Contact the Newsletter Publisher.

Remax Balloon Festival Rally

Midland, MI

September 12, 13, 14 & 15, 2013

John & Jan Wright and their committee want to invite you to attend the GMC Great Lakers September rally at Midland County Fairgrounds <http://www.midlandfair.com> in Midland, MI. The address for the fairground is 6905 Eastman Avenue, Midland, MI 48642 for you GPS users. The campground area is located just off the main balloon flight line. We will have power for every site and water is available about every 100 foot down thru the camping area. The dump station is right next to the Toilets and showers, which are fairly new and very close to our camping area. Because of the placement of the power outlet stations you should plan to bring extra power cables. The fairground is located just north of the US 10 and Eastman road exit across from the Mall. Look for the signs and the fairgrounds will be on your left. **We will only be using the Main entrance on Eastman Road.** See MAP next page.

You will be camping right at the 23th Annual Remax Balloon festival just over 100 yards from the balloon flight line. The balloons will fly depending on wind and weather, Thursday evening, Friday & Saturday morning and evening and Sunday morning. <http://www.remoxofmidland.com/balloonfest.cfm> There will be afterglows each evening at dusk. There are more than 60 balloons scheduled to appear that this year's event including a number of special balloons. They will also be live concerts each evening along with numerous food vendors. Car show and cruise on Saturday. Midland also has many interesting sites to visit during your stay and there are numerous restaurants to satisfy your hunger. Last years event drew more than 14000 people on Saturday with over 25000 for the weekend.

We will have the usual coffee, doughnuts and stuff in the morning. We will have catered meals on Friday and Saturday evenings. Please note that we will be eating at approximately 5 pm both days as not to interfere with the balloon festival activities.

The rally fee includes three nights of camping, plus two catered meals. Of course there are additional charges for extra persons in your coach. Additional camping for those arriving earlier in the week is \$17 per night. See entry form for cost breakdown. Please return the registration form by September 1 so that site reservations can be confirmed. Late entry's can be accommodated so don't miss out on this exciting rally.

The emergency phone number is 989-835-7901.

Committee Members – Ed & Judy Dohm, Dale & Bernice Frahm, Frank Griffin & Barb.

Mail Registration to:

John & Jan Wright
1196 E. Olson Rd.

Midland, MI 48640

Home: 989 839-0496

Email: powerjon@chartermi.net

Cell: 989 859-0715

Membership Meeting Minutes - Granger, IN June 22, 2013

Call to Order: President Dick Balsley called the June 2013 Membership Meeting to order at 7:00 PM

Minutes of the May 18, 2013 meeting were read. A correction in the Sunshine Jack report was noted - name Red Christofferson was changed to Red Hickman. The minutes were approved as corrected.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Teresa Little reported the financial status and the report was approved.

Old Business

2013 Rally Planning:

Dick Wilson said the July rally site is full sun, 30-amp electric is the only hook-up. The rally is at the same time as a steam thresher and antique power show. So far, 12 coaches are signed up to attend.

Tim Scannell described activities in the Marshall, MI area available for the August, Turkeyville rally. Dale Frahm volunteered to lead a group to the Gilmore Car Museum on Friday. Cost of the museum is about \$12.00.

Dale Frahm reported status of the September rally at Midland, MI, September 13 - 15, during the Midland Balloon Festival.

Ed Dohm said the GLAMA rally is in Goshen, IN beginning on September 15, overlapping with the Midland schedule, and running till September 22, which overlaps the beginning of the GMCMI rally in Branson, MO., which is September 20 - 26.

Frank Griffin said the October rally in Shipshewana would be held Monday through Wednesday, October 14 - 16, to make it compatible with the Shipshewana flea market, which is Tuesday and Wednesday. Frank said they are planning to include an Amish family style dinner.

2014 Rally Planning:

Jim White has been working on a rally site for the May rally, but he said the site is not going to work.

Scarlett's are looking for a site in the western Michigan fruit belt.

Lee Skalski asked if there is interest in a rally in the Henry Ford area. He said there is dry camping available at the Greenfield Village, or full hook-up camping at the Greenfield KOA, which is approximately 35 miles from the museum. Group interest was in the KOA campground.

Dick Balsley encouraged members to consider hosting a rally. He said there is no financial risk, as the club will cover any shortages in the rally expenses.

Club Trailer:

When details of the trailer are received from Dick Olmstead, we will continue with arrangements for the sealed bid auction for club members.

Non-Active Membership Category: Wording for a by-laws change is currently being prepared.

New Business

The hors d'oeuvres evening was well received and several people indicated they would like to see that practice continued.

A chili potluck was suggested for late in the year when the weather is cool.

A chapter flea market was discussed with strong interest shown. Judy Dohm suggested having our flea market at the October rally in Shipshewana.

Adjournment: Dale Frahm moved for adjournment of the meeting. Walt Halley seconded and the motion was approved. The June 2013 General Membership meeting of the Great Lakers Motorhome Club adjourned at 7:35 PM.

Joe and Karen Scheub won the gasoline reimbursement prize.

Stephen Thornburg
Secretary

Rally Schedules

GMC Great Lakers Motorhome Club 2013 Rally Schedule

Completed	37th Birthday Party Rally	Centerville, MI	Executive Comm.
Completed	Summer Solstice Rally	Granger IN	Thornburg's & Crew
July 18, 19 & 20	Mid-Summer Rally	Springfield, OH	Wilson & Crew
August 16, 17 & 18	Turkeyville Two Rally	Marshall, MI	Scarlett's & Crew
Sept. 12, 13, 14 & 15	Hot Air Balloon Rally	Midland, MI	Wright & Crew
Oct 14, 15, 16 & 17	Amish Fall Harvest Rally	Shipshewana, IN	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 2013 Rallies Of Interest!

Completed	Annual Vintage Campers Gathering	P.H. Hoffmaster State Park	Muskegon, MI
September 18 thru 22	FMCA GLAMARAMA 2013 Rally	Elkhart County 4H Fairgrounds	Elkhart, IN
September 20 thru 26	GMCM Fall Convention	Branson KOA	Branson, MO

<p style="text-align: center;">Treasurer Report GMC Great Lakers Motorhome Club Inc.</p> <p style="text-align: center; margin-top: 50px;">See Members only Section for Data.</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 269 683-2143 atlastaplace@sbcglobal.net</p> <p>Secretary: Steve Thornburg 574 291-4587 sthornbg@aol.com</p> <p>Treasurer: Teresa Little 740 502-9213 littlelessy@sbcglobal.net</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>FMCA Nat'l Director Bill Helmore 248 804-0370 wjhelmore@juno.com</td> <td>FMCA Alternate Director Jim White 440 840-5667 captjimwhite@gmail.com</td> </tr> </table> <p>Director At Large Forest Crow 260 367-2854 fpcrow@gmail.com</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>Sunshine Richard! Dick Olmsted 616 949-7622 smoky933@netpenny.net</td> <td>Newsletter Publisher John R. Wright 989 839-0496 Cell: 989 859-0715 powerjon@chartermi.net</td> </tr> </table>	FMCA Nat'l Director Bill Helmore 248 804-0370 wjhelmore@juno.com	FMCA Alternate Director Jim White 440 840-5667 captjimwhite@gmail.com	Sunshine Richard! Dick Olmsted 616 949-7622 smoky933@netpenny.net	Newsletter Publisher John R. Wright 989 839-0496 Cell: 989 859-0715 powerjon@chartermi.net
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<p>All address, phone numbers and E-mail Changes should Be sent to the club treasurer:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Teresa Little 1415 Hay Ave. Coshocton, OH 43812</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">FMC Assist Member Benefit Emergency Number 877 202-4176 Voluntary Membership Participation Plan See FMCA Current Magazine For Details or go online @fmca.com members area. 04/06/13</p>				

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 been totally revamped and you should go out and explore all its new features.**