



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

Volume 39, Issue 1 April 2014

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



**Dick Balsley**

(Dick's Cadillac ID Picture 1963)

**President 2014**

**GMC Great Lakers**

(Dick Looks like this at the  
Beginning of each rally season)

**Upcoming Rallies**

**Birthday Rally**  
**May 16, 17 & 18**  
**Wauseon, OH**

**Back To Nature Rally**  
**June 8, 9 & 10**  
**South Bend, IN**

*Richards Rants & Raves!...*

**THE SPRING MONSTER AWAKEN**  
**Or**  
**THANK GOD it's SPRING**

A big hello to all those wonderful GMC people out there. I'm sure all of you are just chomping at the bit to get them on the road. This time of year always brings a love hate relationship. I sure love winter on its way out, but hate the entire task that needs to be done. This winter has to have been one of the worst in many years. I will admit that Lynn and I spent the winter in Florida and never once saw the temperature go below 32 degrees. It was just plan beautiful with seventies and eighties being the norm. If you were one of those who stayed in the Great Lakes, I'm sorry. It looked like a @#\$\$%^&@#\$\$ winter to me. With that said, it's all up or maybe downhill with list of spring chores. Spring awakens many things in life. Ah yes, the grass, the flowers, young men's fancy, yard clean up, boat bottoms, lawn mower tune-up (it you can get it to run) and my favorite, digging out the coach. It's interesting how we all approach this task, not like something bad, but it's more like a spiritual thing. Installing her battery, checking her tires for air, and just holding the steering wheel. It's kind of like changing your first diaper, well maybe not that wonderful. How about just holding hands with your better half many moons ago. You just kind of get all fuzzy inside with the feeling.

Oh where is my can of wax; See you at the first rally!!

*Richard*

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



## 38th Anniversary Birthday Rally

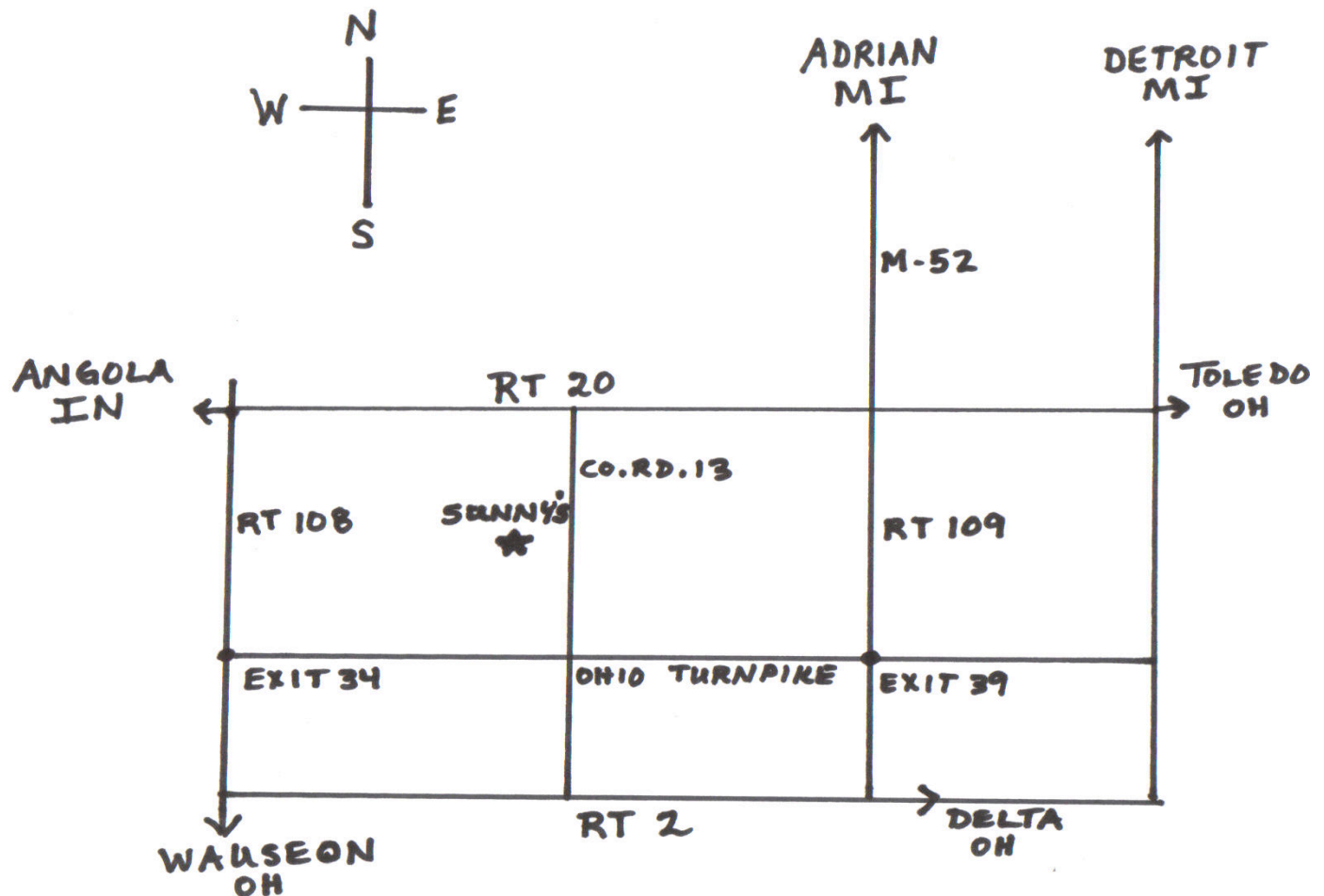
May 16, 17 & 18

This year the Rally will be held at Sunny's Campground in Wauseon, OH. [www.sunnyscampground.com](http://www.sunnyscampground.com)  
The campground is located about 33 miles West of Toledo on Alt. 20 west. This is a state of the art resort campground, which features large sites, WiFi, a private lake and many other amenities. We will also be close to Sauder Village and the Museums nearby.

The hosts for this rally are the 2014 Club Officers and John Pryzbylek. The club wishes to thank John for taking the lead and doing all the tireless work getting the campground and caterers lined up for this rally. We extend an invitation to each member of the GMC Great Lakers to join us as we celebrate our 38<sup>th</sup> Anniversary as a Chapter of FMCA. The rally fee will include two nights camping, Friday and Saturday evening catered dinners as well as Saturday and Sunday catered breakfast. We will have birthday cake and ice cream Friday after the catered meal.

The Campground is located on County Rd 13 one mile south of Rte.20. Exit 13 on 475 south and go about 33 miles west to CR 13. Exit 34 on the Ohio Turnpike and go south.

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



# JUNE 8, 9 & 10 2014 “BACK TO NATURE” RALLY – POTATO CREEK STATE PARK - NORTH LIBERTY, IN

Start your planning now for the June 2014 “Back to Nature” rally.

Campsite reservations for extra nights need to be made as early as possible. The park is extremely popular with summertime campers and the reservations fill quickly. **NOTE:** Reservation cancellations prior to June 1, 2014 are subject to an \$8.00 cancellation fee; reservations cancelled after June 1, 2014 are subject to forfeiture of one night’s fee.

The park does contain several cabins that can be rented if you are unable to bring your GMC.

Our rally dates are arrival on Sunday, June 8, with departure on Wednesday, June 11, in time for the 40 mile drive to Goshen, IN for the GLAMARAMA 2014, FMCA rally. We have reserved a block of 30 sites for Sunday arrival and Wednesday departure. For reservations for additional dates call 1-866-622-6749, or go to [www.CAMP.IN.gov](http://www.CAMP.IN.gov)

The camping fee for Wednesday night is \$20.33; for Thursday, Friday and Saturday the fee is \$27.82 per night. There is a park entry fee that is to be paid at arrival - \$5.00 for IN residents and \$7.00 for out-of-state residents. That fee also covers a “toad” or second vehicle and a hangtag is issued to allow the extra vehicle to exit and reenter the park for the duration of the stay.

Hook-ups are electricity only. There are water fill and dumping stations. Restroom and showers are located nearby.

“Toad” parking is permitted on your campsite. Each campsite has a picnic table and fire ring. Firewood can be purchased at the park. Firewood can be carried into the park, but no wood is to be brought in from out of state and any IN native wood has to be bark-free. Construction lumber is allowable.

The park contains several miles of hiking trails and bicycle trails, including some mountain bike trails for those who might be interested. So, air up your tires, oil your chains and tie your bikes on the back of your rig. If you don’t wish to bring your own bicycles, the park does offer rental bikes.

Wooster Lake, which is contained in the park, offers swimming, boating and fishing and a beautiful sandy beach for walking and sun bathing. The park has rental rowboats and canoes. For IN residents born before April 1942, fishing is free. Or if you are 65 or older, an annual fishing license is \$3.00. For non-IN residents, a one-day fishing license is \$9.00.

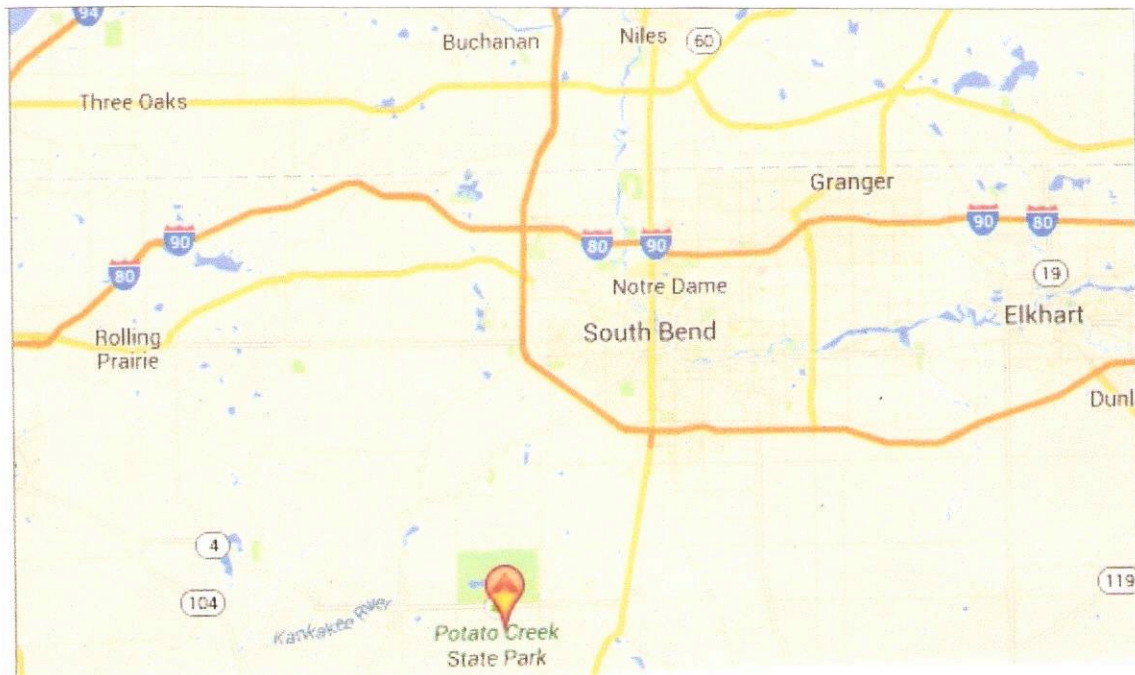
Among the many species of wildlife living in the park, there is at least one nesting family of bald eagles and a nesting family of osprey.

Breakfasts (including one catered) are furnished for all camping days. A cookout (meat furnished) potluck will be held Sunday evening. Another catered meal will be on Monday evening with entertainment following.

**NOTE:** For those early arrivals who might be interested, the local chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society will be presenting their annual show on Saturday evening, June 7. The venue is a South Bend High School auditorium approximately 21 miles from our camping area.

Rally Fee’s and Contact information are on the **Pink RSVP** Form.

**Getting There: GPS Info.** (Latitude, Longitude): 41.53576, -86.36087 41°32'9"N, 86°21'39"W  
FROM THE NORTH: U.S. 31 SOUTH TO SR 4, WEST TO PARK ENTRANCE. FROM THE SOUTH: U.S. 31 NORTH TO SR 4, WEST TO PARK ENTRANCE. FROM THE EAST: USE EITHER U.S. 6 OR U.S. 30 WEST TO U.S. 31. NORTH TO SR 4 WEST TO PARK ENTRANCE. FROM THE WEST: I-80/90 EAST TO EXIT 72. TAKE 31/20 BYPASS SOUTH. SOUTH ON U.S. 31 TO SR 4. WEST TO PARK ENTRANCE.  
**Address:** 25601 State Road, North Liberty, IN 46554



## Glamarama 2014

The 2014 GLAMARAMA rally will be held June 11 – 15, 2014 at the Elkhart County 4 – H Fairgrounds in Goshen, Indiana. This rally will start right after the Great Lakers rally in South Bend.

A registration form for GLAMARAMA can be found on page 87 of the March, 2014 copy of FMC Magazine, or you can go to the FMCA website or call FMCA on at (800) 543-3622 to register.

I encourage you to consider this rally in your camping plans this year. I am registered for this event. If you wish to join me sign up for 30-amp hookup and let me know of your plans so that I can inform the parking committee of our desire to park to gather as a chapter. My contact information is: William Helmore 2865 Hillendale Rochester Hills, MI 48309 phone: 248-375-1777, email: [wjhelmore@juno.com](mailto:wjhelmore@juno.com)

### Helping Make GLAMARAMA a Success

You too can be a part of making GLAMARAMA 2014 a success by volunteering a few hours of your time. You can pick your team, or just volunteer to fill in where needed. Most volunteers find that helping make the rally a great success is both interesting and fun. The teams, and what they do, are: Shuttles, Parking, Registration, Seminars, Food, Publications, FMCA Merchandise Store, Security, First Aid, 50-50 Drawings, Tables and Chairs Set Up.

You can volunteer by marking the volunteer block in the lower right corner on your GLAMARAMA registration form or send your name and F-number to Shirley Fraley, the volunteer coordinator, at [sfraley@vfx.net](mailto:sfraley@vfx.net). Either way, if you have a team preference, include it. If you don't, Shirley will send your name on to the team that needs volunteers the most.

## Sunshine & Clouds

**Bea Birch** – Passed away on January 30, 2014 in Kalamazoo, MI at the age of 92. Bea & Alex were long time members of this club and were GMC pioneers in the design and building of the GMC coaches.

**Gary Kosier** – Has been in and out of the hospital with complications from his radiation therapy.

**Bob Drews** – Has been under going treatment for cancer this winter. I received an email from him in March and he is doing chemo this past few months. He says winter in SD has really been cold, coldest in his 77 years.

# GMC Great Lakers Motorhome Club Proposed 2014 Rally Schedule

**Please note that rally dates are subject to change until April newsletter**

<b>May 16, 17 &amp; 18</b>	38th Birthday Party Rally	Wauseon, OH	Pryzbylek & Executive Comm.
<b>June 8, 9 &amp; 10</b>	Back to Nature Rally	South Bend, IN	Thornburg's & Crew
<b>July 17, 18 &amp; 19</b>	Greenfield Village & Ford Museum Rally	Belleville, MI	Skalski's & Crew
<b>August 30 &amp; 31</b>	Selfridge Air Show	Mt. Clemens MI	Gromper & Crew
<b>Sept 12, 13 &amp; 14</b>	Lake Michigan Shores Fruit Rally	South Haven, MI	Scarlett's & Crew
<b>Oct 10, 11 &amp; 12</b>	Turkeyville in the Straw Rally	Shipshewana, IN	Serrey'n's & 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 2014 Rallies Of Interest!

<b>June 11 thru 15</b>	FMCA GLAMARAMA Rally	Elkhart Country 4H Fairgrounds	Goshen, IN
<b>Sept 26 thru Oct 2</b>	GMCM Fall Convention	Northern Wisconsin Fairgrounds	Chippewa Falls, WI

<p style="text-align: center;">Treasurer Report GMC Great Lakers Motorhome Club Inc.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">See Treasurer Report in Members only section on the website</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;"><b>Club Officers 2014</b></p> <p><b>President:</b> Dick Balsley 586 781-9552 Cell: 586 615-4266 <a href="mailto:richard.l.balsley@gmail.com">richard.l.balsley@gmail.com</a></p> <p><b>Vice President:</b> Ed Dohm 269 683-2143 <a href="mailto:atlastaplace@sbcglobal.net">atlastaplace@sbcglobal.net</a></p> <p><b>Secretary:</b> Steve Thornburg 574 291-4587 <a href="mailto:sthornbg@aol.com">sthornbg@aol.com</a></p> <p><b>Treasurer:</b> Teresa Little 740 502-9213 <a href="mailto:littletesy@sbcglobal.net">littletesy@sbcglobal.net</a></p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td><b>FMCA Nat'l Director</b> Bill Helmore 248 804-0370 <a href="mailto:wjhelmore@juno.com">wjhelmore@juno.com</a></td> <td><b>FMCA Alternate Director</b> Jim White 440 840-5667 <a href="mailto:captjimwhite@gmail.com">captjimwhite@gmail.com</a></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Director At Large</b> Forest Crow 260 367-2854 <a href="mailto:fpcrow@gmail.com">fpcrow@gmail.com</a></td> <td><b>Newsletter Publisher</b> John R. Wright 989 839-0496 Cell: 989 859-0715 <a href="mailto:powerjon@chartermi.net">powerjon@chartermi.net</a></td> </tr> </table>	<b>FMCA Nat'l Director</b> Bill Helmore 248 804-0370 <a href="mailto:wjhelmore@juno.com">wjhelmore@juno.com</a>	<b>FMCA Alternate Director</b> Jim White 440 840-5667 <a href="mailto:captjimwhite@gmail.com">captjimwhite@gmail.com</a>	<b>Director At Large</b> Forest Crow 260 367-2854 <a href="mailto:fpcrow@gmail.com">fpcrow@gmail.com</a>	<b>Newsletter Publisher</b> John R. Wright 989 839-0496 Cell: 989 859-0715 <a href="mailto:powerjon@chartermi.net">powerjon@chartermi.net</a>
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<p><b>All address, phone numbers and E-mail Changes should Be sent to the club treasurer:</b> <b>Teresa Little</b> <b>1415 Hay Ave.</b> <b>Coshocton, OH 43812</b></p> <p><b>Club Jackets &amp; Shirt Information</b> <b>Fleece Vest –Maroon</b> Sizes XS to 5X = \$38.00 <b>Jacket – Maroon</b> Sizes up to 5X = \$50.00 Sizes over XX are \$2.00 to \$5.00 Additional <b>Sweat Shirt</b> w/U.P. &amp; L.P. on Front SM – XL = \$13.00 2X – Up = \$15.00 <b>T – Shirt</b> (Same Logo as Sweat Shirt) SM – XL = \$8.00 2X – Up = \$10.00 Sweat Shirts and T-Shirts available in any color ?Questions? Call Judy: 269 683-2145 or Email at: <a href="mailto:atlastaplace@sbcglobal.net">atlastaplace@sbcglobal.net</a></p>	<p><b>FMC Assist Member Benefit</b> <b>Emergency Number 877 202-4176</b> <b>Voluntary Membership Participation Plan</b> <b>See FMCA Current Magazine For Details or go online @fmca.com members area. 04/06/13</b></p>				

**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.

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