



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

Volume 39, Issue 2, Early June 2014

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



**Dick Balsley
President 2014
GMC Great Lakers**

Upcoming Rallies

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

**Greenfield Village & Ford
Museum Rally
July 17, 18 & 19
Belleville, MI**

**September Rally Date Change
Now 1 week Later**

Richards Rants & Raves!...

SO MUCH TIME SO LITTLE TO DO

I'm retired

Maybe I have that backward; it's so much to do, so little time. I sure know that is true with the coach, so much to do, so little time. For some reason I seem to be fascinated with this situation. The very idea of thinking about it may be part of the problem. Using my time to do nothing. There does seem to be other factors involved. I obviously don't work as fast; take more breaks and conjure up reasons to stop or waste time. I do seem to lose my tools or parts when they are where I put them as not to lose them. I once thought that my tools were getting old and worn. It certainly takes more time to use antiquated tools. But being honest, I keep buying tools. Could it be that I waste time with set up and these fancy new things; you know, 15 minutes to set up the table saw when 5 with a handsaw would have done it. I sure don't use all my time. Remember when you worked all day? Came home and ate, then worked on your projects on second shift. No second shift now, there is always tomorrow. Scheduling must come in someplace. In younger days a doctor's appointment was an hour out of the day. Today an appointment is a planned full day. Like Tuesday, I have a doctor visit. Projects certainly are more complicated. In yester year, sleep, eat and keep a roof over your head were the main ones. Today, so many places to put your time, the computer and internet must eat an hour a day. Maybe better overall planning would help. Maybe this is all a figment of my imagination. Remember, a truly happy person is one who can enjoy the scenery on a detour. Looking forward to seeing more of you at Potato Creek Rally!

Richard

richard.l.balsley@gmail.com



The Henry Ford Rally July 17, 18 & 19

Rally host Lee & Lil Skalski along with co-hosts Tim & Thora Scannell, Walt & Marlene Scarlett and Dick & Jan Serreyn invite you to attend the July Henry Ford Rally. We will be staying at the Wayne County Fairgrounds & RV Park, 10871 Quirk Road, Belleville, Mi 48111. Any additional night camping should be made directly with the Wayne County Fairgrounds & RV Park. Telephone 734 697-7002

The rally fees include 3 nights camping, Thursday, Friday and Saturday and leaving Sunday Morning and 4 morning breakfasts. The menus are as follows: Thursday - Continental Breakfast (Assorted Pastries), Friday - Hot Catered Breakfast, Saturday - Hot Catered Breakfast and Sunday - Continental Breakfast (Assorted Pastries).

The activity building #4 (The Abbott building) is for our exclusive use and it is located on the far side of our camping area. The sites that have been set-aside for our group have water & electric (20 & 30 amp). All sites will be available on a first come first served basis.

Directions: From I-94 exit 190, head north on Belleville Rd. approx. 250 feet to the north service drive, turn west (left), and go approx. 1 mile to Quirk Rd. then go north (right) and go approx 0.5 to the campground.

The Greenfield Village, IMAX Theater, Factory Tour and the Museum are collectively known as “the Henry Ford”. This is the closes campground to “The Henry Ford” which is 20 miles away, therefore, we will need cars and drivers to ferry people to and fro. To get to “The Henry Ford” head east on i-94 to exit 206, turn left on Oakwood Road, travel 2 miles to the entrance of “The Henry Ford” on the right. They are open between 9:30 AM – 5:00 PM.

PURCHASE ALL TICKETS AT “THE HENRY FORD” TICKET COUNTER

| Attractions | Ticket Cost | | | Average time per |
|-----------------------|-------------|---------------|----------------|------------------|
| | Adults | Seniors (62+) | Kids (5 to 12) | |
| 1. Greenfield Village | \$24.00 | \$22.00 | \$17.50 | 5 to 6 hours |
| 2. The Museum | \$18.00 | \$16.00 | \$13.50 | 2 to 3 hours |
| 3. Rouge Factory Tour | \$15.00 | \$14.00 | \$11.00 | 2 to 3 hours |
| 4. IMAX Theater | \$10.00 | \$9.00 | \$8.50 | Varies |

Buy One Get One Half Price - The half price discount for the **BOGOHP** is on the least expensive attraction selected. The Rouge Factory tour bus leaves “The Henry Ford” every 20 minutes and the tour takes approx. 2 to 3 hours. The last bus leaves the factory at 5:00 PM.

An **All Day Pass** is available for the Greenfield Village only, at \$14.00 per person. It includes, the train, horse carriage, model a bus, Model T car and carrousel. Unused Village, factory Tour and museum tickets can be used anytime and any date. The IMAX theater tickets, however, are date and time specific. Wheel chairs, strollers (\$4.00 each) and a limited number of motorized scooters (\$20.00) are available.

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

2014 Birthday Rally in Wauseon, Ohio

The first rally of the season and the 38th year of the club's existence were celebrated at Sunny's Campground. The cool temperatures resulted in the first campfires of the season, a live performance from the Stir Crazy Band in the South shelter Saturday night and an impromptu stand up comedy routine from a wandering comedian to the club members gathered around the campfire enjoying the music, talking GMC's and getting caught up on all that had transpired since we last met in 2013. The local patrons of Sunny's Campground, primarily a seasonal campground, were very curious and inquisitive of the GMC motorhome weekend invasion of their facility as judged by the number of gawkers, photographs taken and stream of visitors to our campsites. It's possible we may have recruited a new member just by being there. Time will tell!

The rally began with the early arrival of a dozen coaches Thursday followed by all the participants on site and nestled in the campsites of their choice by Friday night. Friday's continental breakfast started the official rally activities and with an open day. Members roamed about to see the "new and improved" coach modifications, improvements and even paint jobs completed during the winter months and gathered in small groups to discuss whatever small groups of GMC owners typically discuss! Friday's dinner consisted of a chicken and rib BBQ fest with all the fixings followed by the traditional birthday party cake and ice cream. The cake decoration depicted the club's website themed coach with a Happy Birthday message. The participants helped themselves to the leftovers and, most likely, enjoyed them at a later time.

Saturday started with the threat of rain but fortunately, at most, a drop or two of rain fell in scattered areas around us. Following the continental breakfast, several members took the opportunity to share items of interest with the members including the value of flea market purchases to fill a particular void on a storage shelf, sites of interest for those considering attending GMCMI's Fall convention in Wisconsin, club wardrobe apparel available for purchase, and on a serious safety concern, the need to periodically inspect the house battery electrical cable in the engine compartment for signs of wear and tear on the sheath. The club's business meeting was then called to order. Highlights from the business meeting included the Nominating Committee's ongoing search for members to serve on the Executive Committee and the need for members to insure their contact information is correct in the club's membership directory. A drawing was held and one fortunate individual was reimbursed by the club for his fuel cost to and from the rally. Maybe we should call it "The Lucky Dog Award"! The meeting was adjourned and the crowd scattered to visit friends and/or family nearby or other local attractions. Saturday night's dinner, an Italian pasta buffet was another gourmet extravaganza. Despite being encouraged to bring their appetites, the amount of available food exceeded the consumption capacity of those present and leftovers were again taken back to the campsites. Later that evening the band began to play but I did not observe any of the GMC'ers cutting the rug!

Sunday morning began with clear, sunny skies and warming temperatures – a beautiful spring day and good day to travel. Following the continental breakfast, the members lingered a bit longer, many hugs and hand shakes exchanged, thank yours spoken and a short time later the unmistakable rumble of GMC engines springing to life for the journey home.

By the numbers: 27 coaches
 51 members attended;
 2 first rally Great Lakers members

P.S. And the first time Rally Master survived – thanks for attending

GMC Great Lakers Motorhome Club, Inc.
Membership Meeting Minutes

Wauseon, OH May 17, 2014

Call to Order: President Dick Balsley called the MAY 2014 Membership Meeting to order at 9:35 AM
Minutes of the October 16, 2013 meeting were read and approved with dates for the July 2014 rally corrected from 15-17 to 17-19.

Treasurer's Report: See Members Only Area

Old Business:

2014 Rally Planning – Ed Dohm said the rally plans are as follows:

June 8-10 will be held at Potato Creek State Park, south of South Bend, IN. Phyllis and Steve Thornburg will host. This rally will be followed immediately by the GLAMA rally in Goshen, IN beginning on June 11 and running till the 17th.

July 17-19 will be at the Wayne County Fairground in Bellville, MI. Lee and Lil Skalski will host. Lee said major attractions in the area include the Henry Ford Museum, Greenfield Village and a tour of the Ford F-150 assembly line.

August 30 - 31 will be at Selfridge Air Force Base, Harrison, MI, approximately 30 miles North of Detroit. The dates coincide with an air show. The on-base camp ground is small with only 30 full hook-up sites. Additional sites will be available but may be dry camping. There will be no towed vehicles allowed on the airbase and rally attendees will not be permitted to leave and re-enter the base until after the air show.

September 19 - 21 will be in South Haven, MI. The rally will be hosted by Walt and Marlene Scarlett. Marlene asked if the group would rather have the rally the next weekend, September 19-21 as that would put the timing closer to the GMCMI Fall Rally. Based on group comments, she will try to move the rally dates. Ron Bolser talked about some special sites to visit while in Wisconsin for the GMCMI Fall Rally. He mentioned the House on the Rock, the Circus World Museum, the International Crane Sanctuary and the Chippawa Falls Oktoberfest.

October 16 - 18 will be at Turkeyville in Marshall, MI. The rally will be hosted by Dick and Jan Serreyn. Ed said the July and October 2015 rallies are also tentatively planned. July will be in Midland, MI, hosted by Frahms and will be concurrent with a major car show. October will be in OH and will be hosted by Bob and Barbara Swartz.

FMCA – Bill Helmore said he will contact FMCA to get an understanding of the situation with GMC parking at the GLAMARAMA in Goshen in June. Pat Lintner, Sr. Vice President of the Great Lakes Area MotorCoach Association said at our October 2013 meeting that the GMC coaches are recognized as having relatively small holding tanks, so the GMC coaches will be guaranteed full hook-up sites with 30 amp electric, and if the GMCs are registered together, they will be parked together. However, Great Lakers making reservations are being told there are no special arrangements for the GMC group.

Dick Balsley said Jane Roush, President of GLAMA will visit our June rally Membership Meeting to answer questions about the GLAMARAMA situation.

Club Logo Cloths – Judy Dohm reported the sweatshirts ordered at the September rally have been mailed or delivered to the purchasers. She was able to display some finished sweatshirts and tee shirts. Cost of the tee shirts is \$8 for S to XL and \$12 for 2XL and up. Cost of the sweatshirts is \$13 for S to XL and \$15 for 2XL and up.

Nominating Committee – Frank Griffin said the nominating committee is looking for nominees for the offices of President and Vice President. The Director positions and the Secretary position will remain as is and Becky Johnson has volunteered to take on the position of club Treasurer.

New Business:

First time rally attendees Dan and Janis Kalell were introduced. Long time member Don Brown was acknowledged and introduced to many of the newer members.

Sunshine Dick:

Bill Helmore reported that Bob Drewes had recently passed away and that a card was being circulated for Jan Serreyn who is recovering from surgery.

Adjournment: Dale Frahm moved for adjournment of the meeting. Lee Skalski seconded the motion. Motion approved.

The May 2014 General Membership meeting of the Great Lakers Motorhome Club adjourned at 10:35 AM.

The fuel reimbursement drawing was won by Don Brown.

Stephen Thornburg
Secretary

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

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. 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 – Passed away May 3, 2014 after a short battle with cancer.

Jan Serreyn – Is recovering from surgery

Birthday Rally Pictures



New Members, Renewals and Changes (Add these to your directory)

Renewed Membership

Bonfoey, Steven & Rebecca
4620 W. Heatherwood Dr.
Peoria, IL 61615-2321
Cell Phone: 309 339-2843
F375627
GL821
Rally's Attended 5
bonfoeys@sbcglobal.net
76 26' Eleganza II
Member Since July 2007

New Membership

Kalell, Dan & Janis Karam
4561 Vicksburg Dr.
Sylvania, OH 43560-3213
419 410-2408
F400321
GL913
Rally's Attended 0
dkalell.dk@gmail.com
77 26' Palm Beach
Member Since April 2014

Address Change

Little, Tresa
1415 Hay Ave
Coshocton, OH 43812-1420

Carpenter, Merle & JoAnn
O-12804 Windemere Dr. N.W.
Grand Rapids, MI 49534-1020

Email Change

Ropp, Dale & Jane
daleropp1@gmail.com

GMC Great Lakers Motorhome Club Proposed 2014 Rally Schedule

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

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|--|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| Completed | 38th Birthday Party Rally | Wauseon, OH | Pryzbylek & Executive Comm. |
| June 8, 9 & 10 | Back to Nature Rally | South Bend, IN | Thornburg's & Crew |
| July 17, 18 & 19 | Greenfield Village & Ford Museum Rally | Belleville, MI | Skalski's & Crew |
| August 30 & 31 | Selfridge Air Show | Mt. Clemens MI | Gromper & Crew |
| Sept 19, 20 & 21 | Lake Michigan Shores Fruit Rally | South Haven, MI | Scarlett's & Crew |
| Oct 10, 11 & 12 | 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!

| | | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| June 11 thru 15 | FMCA GLAMARAMA Rally | Elkhart County 4H Fairgrounds | Goshen, IN |
| Sept 26 thru Oct 2 | GMCMI Fall Convention | Northern Wisconsin Fairgrounds | Chippewa Falls, WI |
| March 27 thru April 2, 2015 | GMCMI Spring Convention | Patterson Area Civic Center | Patterson, LA |

| | | | |
|--|--|---|--|
| <p>Treasurer Report GMC Great Lakers Motorhome Club Inc. May 21, 2014</p> <p>See Treasurer Report in Members only section</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 2014</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 littletesy@sbcglobal.net</p> | | |
| <p>All address, phone numbers and E-mail Changes should Be sent to the club treasurer: Teresa Little 1415 Hay Ave. Coshocton, OH 43812</p> | <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p>FMCA Nat'l Director Bill Helmore 248 804-0370 wjhelmore@juno.com</p> <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> </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p>FMCA Alternate Director Jim White 440 840-5667 captjimwhite@gmail.com</p> <p>Newsletter Publisher John R. Wright 989 839-0496 Cell: 989 859-0715 powerjon@chartermi.net</p> </td> </tr> </table> | <p>FMCA Nat'l Director Bill Helmore 248 804-0370 wjhelmore@juno.com</p> <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>FMCA Alternate Director Jim White 440 840-5667 captjimwhite@gmail.com</p> <p>Newsletter Publisher John R. Wright 989 839-0496 Cell: 989 859-0715 powerjon@chartermi.net</p> |
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| <p>Club Jackets & Shirt Information Fleece Vest –Maroon Sizes XS to 5X = \$38.00 Jacket – Maroon Sizes up to 5X = \$50.00 Sizes over XX are \$2.00 to \$5.00 Additional Sweat Shirt w/U.P. & L.P. on Front SM – XL = \$13.00 2X – Up = \$15.00 T – Shirt (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: atlastaplace@sbcglobal.net</p> | <p>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> | | |

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.

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GMC GreatLakers Newsletter
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