



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

Volume 39, Issue 4, August 2014

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



**Dick Balsley
President 2014
GMC Great Lakers**

Upcoming Rallies

**Lake Michigan Shores Fruit
Rally
September 19, 20 & 21
South Haven, MI**

**Turkey in the Stray Rally
Oct 10, 11 & 12
Marshall, MI**

Richards Rants & Raves!...

Glue

I've been accused of not calling a spade a spade, but a GD shovel; I like truth, it simple to deal with, as the story never changes. This is one of the chactristics that make the Great Lakers a wonderful organization. I'd like to think that we all tell it like it is.

So why am I talking about glue? Call it stickum, bonding, togetherness, magnetism or what every. Why would a group of unrelated, unlike people wish to get together six times a year with their thirty-year-old pieces of iron that they have to keep fixing all the time? Mom used to say: "misery Loves Company". Is that the glue? I sure hope not. I'd like to think that it's the joy and pride of owning a GMC. We like being with our friends who have that same pride as we have in our coach. Good honest happy people trying to have fun and enjoy their GMC. Enjoy! Something that leaks sleeps hard, too cold or hot, one butt kitchen, and living is like a game of twister. This glue must be better than Gorillas glue!

We are not the richest club in the world. We're not the biggest. Our coaches may not be the biggest and luxurious that there is, but, certainly the most loved and cared for. So what am I really trying to say here? What is the glue that holds us together?

It's the love of our coaches and the respect of our friends who share that same joy. It's looking forward to getting together and sharing time that is so precious to all of us. My only regret is that more people do not offer their presence. It's like a family that just doesn't get together like they should.

Why is it with all these things; we are having problems finding people to serve? I have to admit, I had reservation about taking on the president job, even more for three years. I guess no one likes to make a commitment if they don't have to. People, friends, you have to if you wish to keep this club. No one is asking for pain, money, or making a laughing stock out of any one. I have found quite the opposite, people help, respect and look up to you. Gentlemen, I've had more ladies talk to me now than ever before. No one is even asking for a three-year commitment, try one. This last three years have been one of the more rewarding experiences I have had. Try it you'll like it; I just tell it like it is.

That's my political correctness and I'm sticking to it.

God bless and see you at the next rally

Richard

richard.l.balsley@gmail.com



Lake Michigan Shores Fruit Rally

South Haven, MI

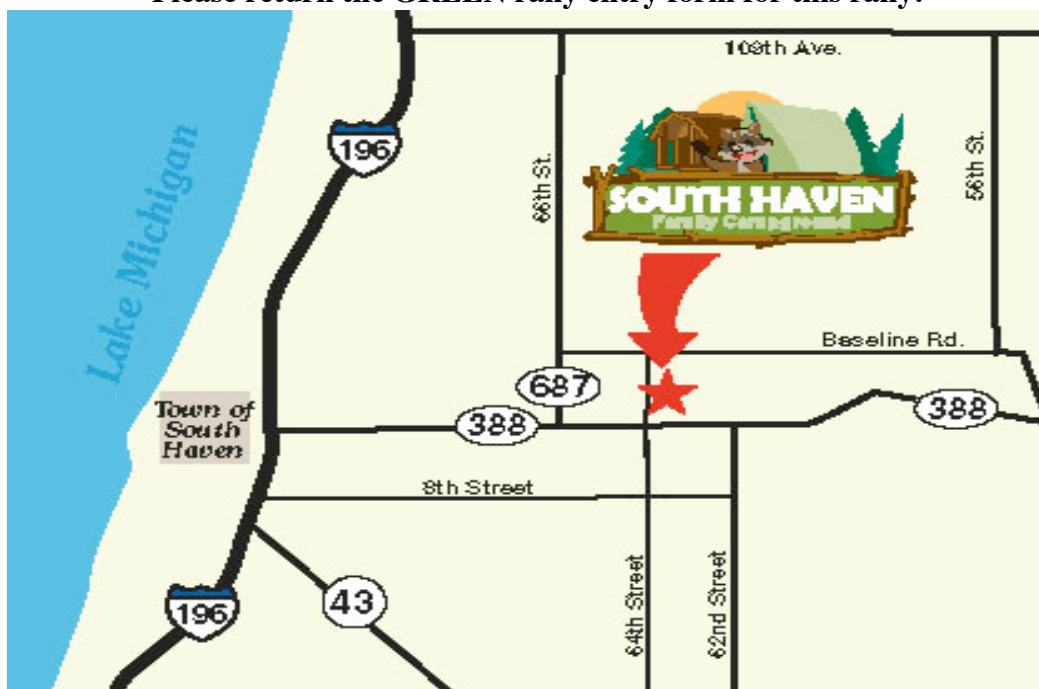
September 19, 20 & 21

Rally host Walt & Marlene Scarlett along with co-hosts Tim & Thora Scannell, Lee & Lil Skalski invite you to attend the September rally in South Haven, Mi. We will be staying at the South Haven Jellystone Park, 03403 64th Street, South Haven, MI 49090. <http://www.southhavenjellystone.com> The rally fees include 2 nights camping, Friday & Saturday leaving Sunday morning. Any additional nights should be made directly with the park, call 269 637-6153. Camping Cabins are available and you can make reservations by calling the camp direct. Mornings will feature a continental style breakfast and oatmeal each day. For Friday evening we will be having our “Famous Hobo Soup” at 5:30 PM. Bring your favorite can of soup (No Cream Soups Please) to add to the pot and a salad or dessert to share at 5:30 PM. Saturday evening dinner will be out as a group.

There are many activities in the area, which you can attend, see and do. There are several farm markets, wineries and craft studios and of course Lake Michigan to visit. For those of you that enjoy biking can get on the KalHaven Trail that goes from South Haven to Kalamazoo.

Those of you going to the GMCMI convention have a choice of routes. You can go south on I-96 to I-94 and south around the lake. You can go north on I-96 to US-131 to M-55 to US-127 to I-75 and over the bridge and take US-2 to Wisconsin. You can go north on I-96 to US-31 to Ludington and take the ferry across to Manitowoc, Wisconsin. <http://www.ssbadger.com> The fare for 2 seniors, RV, Car and security fee will be approximately \$350 one way and it leaves at 8:30 each day. If you want to use the ferry and reduce driving time, call the Ludington Car Ferry @231 845-5555 and they are located at 701 Maritime Dr., Ludington, MI.

Please return the GREEN rally entry form for this rally!





Turkeyville USA Rally - Marshall, MI October 10, 11 & 12, 2014

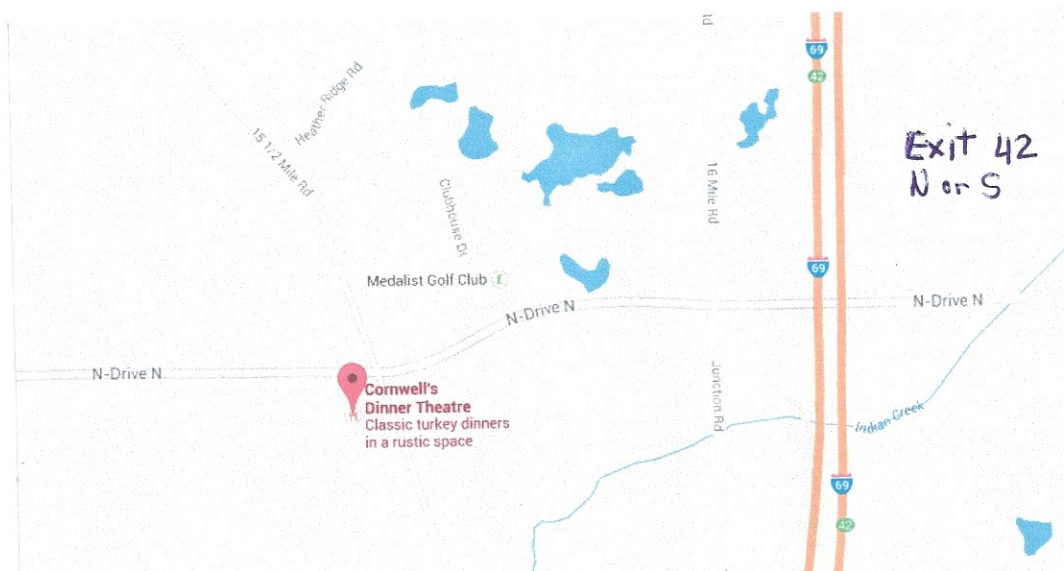
Dick & Janet Serreyn and their committee want to invite you to attend the GMC Great Lakers October rally at Cornwell's Camp Turkeyville RV Resort <http://www.turkeyville.com/> in Marshall MI. The address for the campground is 18935 15 1/2 Mile Rd, Marshall, and MI 48068 for you GPS users. All sites are Full Hook Up with sewer with 20/30/50 amp power. All sites are level with no grass on pads or roads.

Turkeyville is no longer a turkey farm, but a great 5 Star campground with an excellent restaurant, ice cream parlor, a bakery, a craft store, flea market and antique store along with a year-round dinner theater. We will be doing a Broadway style Dinner Theater on Friday Evening @ 5:30. Dinner will be of course buffet style Turkey dinner with a variety of "Good Eats". The live theater production of "Ring Of Fire-The Johnny Cash Story" will follow dinner. The musical theater production is from the iconic songbook of Johnny Cash and comes with unique musical about love and faith, struggle and success, rowdiness and redemption, and home and family. More than two dozen classic hits—including "I Walk The Line," "A Boy Named Sue," "Folsom Prison Blues," and the title tune—performed by a multi-talented cast, paint a musical portrait of The Man in Black that promises to be a foot-stompin', crowd-pleasin' salute to a uniquely American legend! Though he is never impersonated, Johnny Cash's remarkable life story is told through his music, climaxing in a concert that will both move and exhilarate!

Area attractions include **The Firesetters Casino**, historic Marshall, MI with unique shops and good restaurants and Battle Creek and Kalamazoo with great malls to visit and the Gilmore Car Museum. Please return the registration form by **Sept 15, 2014** so that site reservations can be confirmed. Late entry's can be accommodated so don't miss out on this exciting rally. **See map for directions.**

Rally Fees are listed on the entry form. Dinner Theater can be optional.

Please return the "Orange" entry form to Rally Host



GMC Great Lakers Motorhome Club, Inc.
Membership Meeting Minutes
Belleville, MI July 18, 2014

Call to Order: President Dick Balsley called the JULY 2014 Membership Meeting to order at 7:30 PM
Minutes of the June 10, 2014 meeting were read and approved.

Treasurer's Report: There was no Treasurer's Report presented.

Old Business:

2014 Rally Planning

D. Balsley reviewed the "Do Nothing" rally to be held at Algonac State Park on August 18 and 19 with departure on the 20th. He said as part of the do nothing theme, we will not hold a business meeting at the August rally. J. Wright stressed the fact that all attendees must make their own reservations through the Michigan DNR.

September rally will be in South Haven, MI on the 19th and 20th with departure on the 21st. The rally will be hosted by Walt and Marlene Scarlett. The rally dates allow a five day window for travel from our rally in South Haven to Chippewa Falls, WI, for the GMCM Fall Rally.

October 16 - 18 will be at Turkeyville in Marshall, MI. The rally will be hosted by Dick and Jan Serreyn. **FMCA** – B. Helmore reported on the GLAMARAMA rally which was attended by 5 Great Lakers coaches. Bill made note of how well we were treated by the GLAMA hosts and staff and how apparent it is that they do want our club to return to participation in the FMCA Great Lakes rallies. Although we were parked in an area without sewers, we were told we could be escorted to the dump sites anytime we needed. We were all escorted to dump about mid-rally.

The 2015 GLAMARAMA is scheduled for the Goshen fairground beginning June 7th and we have been assured our same parking area will be held for us if we get our reservations in by the designated deadline. That area has room for up to 15 coaches.

FMCA is looking at Indianapolis as a potential rally site for 2016. If a rally is held there, there will not be a 2016 GLAMARAMA. If the Indianapolis rally does not happen, the GLAMARAMA will likely be held in Lima, OH.

New Business: There was no New Business presented.

Sunshine Report:

Dick Serreyn had knee surgery today, July 17. Also, Frank Griffin had a knee replaced and is doing well.

Membership Outreach:

D. Balsley said we have club members that fall by the wayside and we as a club don't know why. He asked for opinions of whether we should contact those members to express our interest and find out why they have become inactive, or if we should respect their privacy and wait for them to contact the club. Lou Barton suggested we should send a card after some appropriate time to say "we miss you". Nina Hampton suggested we should make contact after a year. Jan Bolser volunteered to send cards if she is told when and to whom.

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

The June 2014 General Membership meeting of the Great Lakers Motorhome Club adjourned at 8:00 PM.

The fuel reimbursement drawing was won by Gary and Karen Kosier.

Stephen Thornburg
Secretary

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

New Address

Nau, Philip & Patricia

114 Askin Street, Apt. 1

London, Ont. Canada N6C 1E6

No Home Phone

Sunshine & Clouds:

Judy Dohm had an accident at home causing an injury to her arm and bruised her hip. She is on the road to recovery and doing much better.

Janet Wright had surgery on her right shoulder to repair damage that have occurred over the years. She is doing well and will start rehab on the shoulder in a few weeks.

Dick Serreyn had knee surgery in Mid July.

Frank Griffin had a knee replaced and is doing well.

2014 GLAMA Report

FMC Assist now a member benefit!

This message was received from Jane Roush, President, GLAMA on August 16, 2014. It contains information about important items that were voted upon at the FMCA Governing Board Meeting held Wednesday, August 13th at Redmond, WA. The third item is most important as the board voted to move FMC Assist back to a benefit to all FMCA members as part of our dues to FMCA, similar to the old MEDEX program.

The main 3 issues voted on during the meeting:

- 1) The Immediate Past President will remain on the Executive Board. (There was a proposed change to a P&P to remove this person.)
- 2) The Executive Board members will now be allowed to decide their own means of transportation to the national conventions and the meetings held at Cincinnati. The current P&P stated that each EB member had to travel by the least cost effective method. (The difference between traveling by RV versus flight, hotel, rental car was very little.)

The same P&P also now states that the EB members will be reimbursed twice the current IRS rate for mileage. (Please note that the EB members have elected not to use twice the current IRS rate since this would mean we would only be able to travel half the distance before our budget would be depleted)

3) Third important item was FMC Assist. After a great presentation by Ned Boston giving complete details and much discussion the vote was taken and FMC Assist has been added as a benefit to all FMCA members. The Governing Board voted that for payment of this benefit we would use investment funds. This will go into effect 10/1/2014. Watch the October magazine for additional information.

Greenfield Village & Henry Ford Rally

Wayne County Fairgrounds & RV Park

July 17 thru 20

Rally Host Lee & Lil Skalski along with Co-Host Tim & Thora Scannell, & Walt & Marlene Scarlett welcomed 26 coaches including one first timer to Wayne County Fairgrounds & RV park. The park is a real find with good facilities and decent buildings.

With the exception of Thursday, each day started with a catered breakfast to get you going and an ice social in the evening to end your busy day. There are many sites and attractions in the Dearborn area. Most took advantage of visiting Greenfield Village; The Henry Ford Museum including the Imax Theater and most also visited the Ford Truck assembly plant. Except for some nighttime light rains the weather was passable with cool evenings.

The town of Ypsilanti has a storied history of building planes at Willow Run and cars such as Nash and the Corvair and the 425 transmissions used in our coaches. There is a great museum in downtown Ypsilanti with a great collection of Nash and Corvairs and other automotive stuff.



For more pictures of the July rally and the surrounding sites go to the club website.

The rally host waiting to serve breakfast.

Greenfield Village



GMC Great Lakers Motorhome Club 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.
Completed	Back to Nature Rally	South Bend, IN	Thornburg's & Crew
Completed	Greenfield Village & Ford Museum Rally	Belleville, MI	Skalski's & Crew
Completed	Do Nothing Rally	Algonac, MI	The 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	Marshall, MI	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 & 2015 Rallies Of Interest!

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
Starting June 7, 2015	GLAMARAMA 2015	Elkhart Country 4H Fairgrounds	Goshen, IN

<p style="text-align: center;">Treasurer Report GMC Great Lakers Motorhome Club Inc.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">See 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> <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> <tr> <td>Director At Large Forest Crow 260 367-2854 fpcrow@gmail.com</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	Director At Large Forest Crow 260 367-2854 fpcrow@gmail.com	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: Teresa Little 1415 Hay Ave. Coshocton, OH 43812</p> <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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