



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

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



**Dale Frahm  
President 2017  
GMC Great Lakers**

**Upcoming Rallies 2017**

**Southern Hospitality Rally  
October 3 thru 6  
Winton Woods Hamilton  
County Park  
Cincinnati, OH**

## Dales Wails!

Howdy Folks!

Well we are still in Elkhart at the International Convention. As a lot of you are here too, you can attest to the great food and the great camaraderie. The seminars were interesting and informative. Now if we can get home! My New puppy has pulled a lot of the wires from under the dash loose. The good news is we have picked up several New members. We had one afternoon of torrential rain. But no real damage done.

Now on a more personal note, last fall I wrote about having to put my good friend Buster down. This Fall we have a new puppy named Buddy. He is relieving some of the pain of losing Buster. God took Buster to heaven and brought us Buddy to take his place.

Happy Trails

*Dale* [beefrahm@yahoo.com](mailto:beefrahm@yahoo.com)

# The Solar Eclipse Rally



The joint rally of the GMC Eastern States and GMC Great Lakers was held at the Fern Lake Campground, Paducah, KY August 18-22. Thirty two coaches registered for the rally but mechanical, family and personal problems reduced the number of participating coaches to 25.

Tom Whitton, a local GMC owner and member of GMCES, did an admirable job in promoting the rally with the local television station, The Paducah Sun newspaper, visitors bureau, police department and campground.

Friday evening began with a pizza and salad dinner hosted by Kris and Larry Whisler of the GMCES. The Great Lakers provided the coffee and continental breakfasts throughout the rally and the Eastern States provided several informal lunches and a chili and pasta dinner.

Saturday morning, the local television station reporter and cameraman arrived, filmed several coaches, interviewed the presidents of both clubs and various club members. Fowler Black, Director of the Paducah Visitors Bureau, made a presentation to the group about the history of Paducah, it's connection to William Clark, of Lewis and Clark fame, the significance of the mural flood wall and it's artwork and notable attractions including the National Quilt Museum. Twenty blocks of the city's downtown have been designated as a historic district and listed on the National Register of Historic Places. A motorcade of seven coaches proceeded downtown and spent several hours visiting the city. The local television station led their nightly news broadcast with the segment filmed at the campground.

Sunday began with a tech session led by Bob Stone on the Hydro-Boost Brake System followed by a visit by a reporter from The Paducah Sun, beer tasting, shopping excursions and a group dinner.

Monday began with a newspaper article on our rally published in the newspaper, a flea market of GMC parts and paraphernalia followed by the main event—the solar eclipse and distribution of the Eclipse T-shirts designed by Kris Whisler. Viewing glasses were available for the participants and several folks brought welding helmets or welding lens to view the moon passing in front of the sun. Totality lasted for two minutes twenty-one seconds, viewable with the naked eye. Quite a spectacular event! In case you missed this one, the next total eclipse in our area will take place on April 8, 2024, with 3 minutes 51 seconds of totality in Cleveland, Ohio!

## September 2017 Rally Summary

The Great Lakers' September Rally was held at the Elkhart Campground, Elkhart, Indiana in conjunction with the 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Convention of GMCMI. A total of 154 GMC coaches participated in the Fall Convention, September 15-21, 2017 and included thirty-one first timers. The convention included over twenty-three hours of technical seminars, fifteen hours of non-technical seminars, three ice cream socials, a Craft and Flea Market and participation by numerous GMC vendors.

Alex Ferrara was awarded the GMCMI Guardian Spirit Award for his unselfish commitment to improve the steering of GMC coaches for owners. As the convention ended, Alex has worked on the steering mechanism of 169 coaches since he began the program.

The Pineblock Derby was delayed one day due to an electronic malfunction but the problem was later identified, repaired and race completed with Laurie Burton's car the overall winner!

The Great Lakers Get Together was held on Monday, September 18<sup>th</sup> that began with a catered dinner served to the 89 members and guests followed by a business meeting. FMCA has reviewed our revised Constitution and Bylaws and found them to be compliant with the requirements of FMCA.

An anonymous 2017 Great Lakers Rally Survey was handed out to the members at the rally. The purpose of the 20 question survey was to obtain input from the membership about our current rally format, what's working well, what needs improvement, rally costs, preferred rally length, etc. If you did not attend the rally, the survey can be printed from the Great Lakers website and mailed to Becky Johnson. Becky will compile the results of the survey and the data will be published in the GL newsletter.

The Nominating Committee presented the following slate of officers for the 2018 Executive Board:

President: Becky Johnson	Vice President: Sara Halley
Secretary: Bea Newman	Treasurer: John Shotwell
FMCA National Director: Merle Carpenter	FMCA Alternate Director: Marv Miller
Director At Large: Margi Baumbarger	

We are looking for someone to volunteer as the Great Lakers Sunshine Person for 2018. If interested, please contact Dale Frahm.

The last Great Lakers rally of 2017 will be held on October 3-6 at Winton Woods (Hamilton County Parks), Cincinnati, Ohio hosted by Jerry and Bea Newman.

Tentative 2018 Rally Schedule:		Location
May Birthday Rally	Executive Board	TBD
June 6-10	GLAMMA	
July	TBD	TBD
August	Rick and Theresa Little	TBD
September	TBD	TBD
October	TBD	TBD

Looking for Rally Hosts for 2018. If you want to host a rally in 2018 and not sure you can do it alone, don't hesitate to contact John Pryzbylek. I am willing to walk you through the process and answer any questions you might have!

**GMC Great Lakers Motorhome Club, Inc.**  
**Membership Meeting Minutes**  
**Elkhart Campground- Elkhart, IN September 18, 2017**

After a delicious dinner for 89 people sponsored by the GMCGL Club, President Dale F. called the September meeting to order at 6:55 PM at the GMCMR Rally.

Kara K. moved that the Secretary's report be accepted as printed in the newsletter.

Nina Lee H. moved that the Treasurer's report be accepted as printed in the newsletter.

Dale F. addressed the Survey and asked that everyone fill it out and return as soon as possible.

Consideration of a 12" X 18" flag for the GMCGL motorhomes was discussed. They would be white with embroidery (done by Marv M. daughter). About 20 people expressed an interest.

The upcoming Cincinnati rally in Winton Woods Campground on October 3 – 7 was explained by Jerry and Bea N. It will run from Tuesday to Friday morning. Cost is \$250.

Two rallies are planned for the 2018 season. One will be in August...hosted by the Little's. The other will be co-hosted with the Eastern States by the Michel's. Jan S. suggested that we might attend the GLAMA rally at Allegan County Fairgrounds in Michigan as one of our rallies. Dale F. suggested that we might want to consider going to 4 rallies for a season and he encouraged people to sign up to host.

Marv M. informed that group about a "Cruise In" at The Dutch Essenhaus in Middlebury, IN on September 21st, after the GMCMR rally. It would be on Thursday from 4 to 8 PM. It would be dry camping at the Essenhaus or with the option to camp in Shipshewana campgrounds after it finishes. A 10% dining discount would be given to participants.

Steve T. read the slate of officers for 2018.

President- Becky Johnson

Vice President- Sara Halley

Secretary- Bea Newman

Treasurer- John Shotwell

National Director FMCA- Merle Carpenter

Assistant National Director FMCA- Marv Miller

Director at Large- Margi Baumbarger

Dale F. asked for nominations from the floor. Bill H. moved to close the nominations.

J R Slaten. asked if our Birthday Rally could be moved forward one week or backward one week so there would be no conflict with the Bean Station rally. It will be considered. Mary C. suggested that the Birthday Rally could be held in conjunction with the Bean Station rally. There was a discussion of the "pros" and "cons".

Dale F. announced that a new Sunshine Lady would be needed for the 2018 camping year. A volunteer would be appreciated.

At 7:23 PM, Dale F. adjourned the meeting.

Following the meeting, a certificate was awarded to Tom and Nina Lee Hampton for 25 years membership in the GMCGL Club. Congratulations!!

## **Post GMCMI Car Show & Cruise In at Middlebury, IN**

12 coaches attended the Thursday Car show at the Das Dutchman **Essenhaus Inn** and Conference Center located in Middlebury IN. The coaches in attendance consisted of Dale and Bee Frahm, Marv and Sally Miller, Jerry and Bea Neuman, Jim White and Marilyn Smith, Merle and Joann Carpenter, Walt and Sara Halley, Steve and Becky Johnson, Phil and Tricia Nau and several others whose names I can't remember (sorry about that)! We ate a late lunch/buffet at the restaurant and the food was great and the pie was wonderful. We showed off our coaches and several car owners toured through them. There were a lot of beautiful cars there even though it was really hot. Several of the ladies toured the shops and the bakery. Several coaches spent the night there and enjoyed a breakfast at the restaurant before heading home. Special thanks to Marv Miller who organized everything.

## **Lunch Bunch Updates for Fall & Winter**

### **Re-Activation of the Angola Lunch Bunch**

With the close of the 2017 rally season, it is time to resume our monthly gathering of our Great Lakers Angola Lunch Bunch. We will meet at the Angola, IN Ruby Tuesday restaurant at 11:30 AM (EST) on the second Tuesday of each month from November through April.

**Those dates are Nov 14, Dec 12, Jan 9, Feb 13, Mar 13, and Apr 17**

May begins the new rally season and we will have to decide collectively if the lunch schedule will continue. All GMC Great Lakers are welcome. Please confirm your attendance plans with Phyllis or Steve Thornburg at least two days in advance so we can give the restaurant a "head count".

We look forward to seeing you at Ruby Tuesday 's. Phyllis and Steve Thornburg

### **SEMNO GMC Lunch Bunch – 4 Week Warning**

Southeast Michigan and Northwest Ohio GMC Lunch Bunch.

21 October 2017 1:00 PM

At: All American Buffet

13753 Eureka Road in the Southgate Shopping Center

Southgate, MI 48195

This is a Non-Member, Non-Chapter, Non-FMCA event. Non-Owners are also welcome; you don't even have to own one. Hope to see you there. The next will be the November 18. Matt Colie

### **GMC BlueWater Lunch Bunch**

Members should look in there email for meeting notice.

## **FMCA Update – Important Member Vote: Proposed Changes to FMCA's Articles of Incorporation and Constitution**

FMCA proposes to change its articles of incorporation and constitution to change the words "motor coach or motor home" to "recreation vehicle". A complete explanation can be found in the September FMCA magazine on pages 46 thru 50.

The ballot must be printed and mailed in to be counted. This is extremely important to the direction of the FMCA.

## **Sunshine and Clouds**

The weather has been good and no storm warning have been received.

**The Picture on the next page shows club members enjoying the eclipse!  
Pictures to be uploaded to the club website shortly**



# GMC Great Lakers Motorhome Club 2017 Rally Schedule

<b>Completed</b>	Back To The Past Birthday Bash!	Granger, IN	Executive Comm.
<b>Completed</b>	Great Outdoors Rally	Fayette, OH	Pryzbylek's
<b>Completed</b>	Summer Fun Rally	Ionia, MI	Stehlik's & Carpenter's
<b>Completed</b>	Solar Eclipse Rally	Paducah, KY	GMCES/GMCGL
<b>Completed</b>	GMCMI Fall Convention-35 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary	Elkhart, IN	GMCMI
<b>October 3 thru 6</b>	Southern Hospitality	Cincinnati, OH	Newman's

## 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) To be updated when new bylaws are enacted.

## Other 2017/2018 Rallies Of Interest!

<b>Completed</b>	FMCA 96 <sup>th</sup> International Convention	Indiana State Fairgrounds	Indianapolis, IN
<b>April 6 thru 12, 2018</b>	GMCMI Spring Convention	Tucson Lazy Days KOA	Tucson, AZ

<p style="text-align: center;">Treasurer Report GMC Great Lakers Motorhome Club Inc. August 31, 2017</p> <p style="text-align: center;">See report in the "Members Only Area"</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Respectfully Submitted John Shotwell, Treasurer</p>	<p>GMC GreatLakers is published for its member's 4 to 6 times per season. The newsletter will be published electronically and sent to your email address. Those of you that do not have an email address will receive your newsletter by mail. Should you not receive your newsletter please contact the membership director. All rally information, For Sale Ads, articles and any misc. information for the newsletter, both printed and electronic and for posting on the website should be sent to the Newsletter Editor/Publisher for publication.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Club Officers 2017</b></p> <p><b>President:</b> Dale Frahm 989 652-6616 Cell: 989 284-2853 <a href="mailto:beefrahm@yahoo.com">beefrahm@yahoo.com</a></p> <p><b>Vice President:</b> John Pryzbylek 419 490-3835 <a href="mailto:jmpryzl@gmail.com">jmpryzl@gmail.com</a></p> <p><b>Secretary:</b> Phyllis Thornburg 574 291-9188 <a href="mailto:pdthornbg@aol.com">pdthornbg@aol.com</a></p> <p><b>Treasurer:</b> John Shotwell 419 267-5140 <a href="mailto:jshot@rtceexpress.net">jshot@rtceexpress.net</a></p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td><b>FMCA Nat'l Director</b> Merle Carpenter 616-560-3369 <a href="mailto:carmejo@aol.com">carmejo@aol.com</a></td> <td><b>FMCA Alternate Director</b> Marv Miller 574 266-9300 <a href="mailto:mmiller@elkhartssi.com">mmiller@elkhartssi.com</a></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Director At Large</b> Margie Baumbarger 419 832-5103</td> <td><b>Membership Director</b> Becky Johnson 248 343-7636 <a href="mailto:beckystevej@aol.com">beckystevej@aol.com</a></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Sunshine Person</b> Bee Frahm 989 284-2853 <a href="mailto:beefrahm@yahoo.com">beefrahm@yahoo.com</a></td> <td><b>Newsletter/Publisher/Web Admin.</b> John R. Wright 989 839-0496 Cell: 989 859-0715 <a href="mailto:powerjon@chartermi.net">powerjon@chartermi.net</a></td> </tr> </table> <p><b>Historian:</b> Bill Helmore 248 375-1777 <a href="mailto:wjhelmore@juno.com">wjhelmore@juno.com</a></p> <p><b>Assistant Webmaster:</b> Steve Johnson 248 378-3177 <a href="mailto:steve.johnson0616@gmail.com">steve.johnson0616@gmail.com</a></p>	<b>FMCA Nat'l Director</b> Merle Carpenter 616-560-3369 <a href="mailto:carmejo@aol.com">carmejo@aol.com</a>	<b>FMCA Alternate Director</b> Marv Miller 574 266-9300 <a href="mailto:mmiller@elkhartssi.com">mmiller@elkhartssi.com</a>	<b>Director At Large</b> Margie Baumbarger 419 832-5103	<b>Membership Director</b> Becky Johnson 248 343-7636 <a href="mailto:beckystevej@aol.com">beckystevej@aol.com</a>	<b>Sunshine Person</b> Bee Frahm 989 284-2853 <a href="mailto:beefrahm@yahoo.com">beefrahm@yahoo.com</a>	<b>Newsletter/Publisher/Web Admin.</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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**FMCA Assist Member Benefit**  
Emergency Number 877 202-4176  
Included with your FMCA Membership  
See FMCA Current Magazine For Details or go online  
[@fmca.com](http://fmca.com) member's area. 11/08/2016

**All address, phone numbers and E-mail Changes should Be sent to the Membership Director:**  
**Becky Johnson**  
**681 Milford Farms Court**  
**Milford, MI 48381**

### 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: 269 591-1244 or Email at:

[atlastaplace@sbcglobal.net](mailto:atlastaplace@sbcglobal.net)

**Great Lakers Website** The web site is located at: [www.gmcgreatlakers.org](http://www.gmcgreatlakers.org) As of July 1, 2017 the website now has a common username and password. To access the member's only area you need to enter the user name and password and they case sensitive. Enter them exactly as shown on the email that you have received. If you have lost the email and information on the common username & password contact the assistant webmaster at [steve.johnson0616@gmail.com](mailto:steve.johnson0616@gmail.com)

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