

GMC Great Lakers Motorhome Club, Inc.



NEWSLETTER



America's Oldest Regional GMC Club

Volume 44 Issue 1 February 2019



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

According to Groundhog Punxsutawney Phil, we should see an early spring this year! That is great news for our Great Lakers members needing to get some work done on their coaches before the rally season begins. Some of you may have left the Midwest for warmer weather this winter, while other members have been bundled up battling sub-zero temperatures. By the time you get this newsletter, I should be back home in Michigan after spending a month in Portland, Oregon helping my aunt recuperate and rehabilitate from a hip replacement. Wouldn't you know it snowed while I was in Portland!

While spending time with my aunt, I helped her go through some old family photos. My aunt found a 1977 travel diary where 9 of my family members drove from metro Detroit across the U.S. in a 1973 GMC Canyonlands Motorhome! The group included 2 aunts and uncles, my grandmother, a teenage cousin and her boyfriend, and 2 young toddlers. They did not tow a car and they all slept in the motorhome – in some creative arrangements my uncle put together!

From the travel diary, I learned that this trip began in early August 1977 and lasted about 5 weeks.

They stopped at least 5 National Parks along the way. Their route took them through the Dakotas (Mt. Rushmore and the Badlands); Yellowstone National Park and Jackson Hole (Wyoming); Montana; Glacier National Park, Banff National Park, Lake Louise, and Athabasca Glacier (in eastern British Columbia Canada); Vancouver and Victoria Island (in western British Columbia Canada); Olympic National Park and Seattle (in Washington); and San Francisco and Yosemite National Park (in California). My grandmother kept a written diary, recording each day's activities, detailed descriptions of scenery along the way, the meals they prepared in the GMC, and even some camping prices. She shared some funny stories about their sleeping arrangements and even a funny story about going through U.S. Customs upon returning from Canada. Some truckers on the CB radio on the highway called the GMC the 'Yellow Traveler' and wanted to know what kind of equipment the GMC had! They had some issues with the radiator during the trip. Even a relatively new coach is not immune to problems.

Here are a couple of photos (page 2) of my uncle and aunt's 1973 GMC Canyonlands taken in Yosemite National Park in 1980 or 1981. This is the same group of family members, just a few years later. My uncle (the balding dark hair guy!) and aunt (in the red jacket eventually sold the 1973 and later bought a used 1977 GMC Palm Beach from Cinnabar. They were Great Lakers members while they owed their GMCs, although I'm not sure if they attended rallies. They continue to own various motorhomes and travel across country today!

So as you can see, the GMC Motorhome runs in my family!

Becky





Mark your calendars now for the 2019 GMC Great Lakers Motorhome Club Rallies. Consider hosting a rally at your favorite local campground - you will get plenty of help. It's your party – do whatever makes you happy!

May 13 – 17	Birthday Rally	Dutch Treat Campground 10300 Gordon Street Zeeland, MI 49464 Tel: 616.772.4303	Executive Board
June 10 – 14	Joint Rally with The Six Wheelers	Shipshewana Campground South 1105 S Van Buren St. (SR 5) Shipshewana, Indiana 46565 Tel: 260.768.4669 Campsites being held for the rally are: 124-136; 111-116; 97-102 and 72-76. Make your reservations early directly with the campground. Tell them you are with the GMC Great Lakers club.	Marv & Sally Miller
July 24 - 28		Plain City Pastime Park 344 N Chillicothe Street Plain City, OH 43064 Tel: 614.873.3527 Ext: 108	Sara & Walt Halley
August 22 - 25	Tin Can Tourists also hosting a rally	Groveland Oaks County Park 14555 Dixie Highway Holly, Michigan 48442 Tel: 248.634.9811	Nancy & Peter Donaghue
September		TO BE DETERMINED	NEED A HOST
October 4 - 10		GMCCI Fall Convention Richland County Fairgrounds Mansfield, Ohio	GMCCI

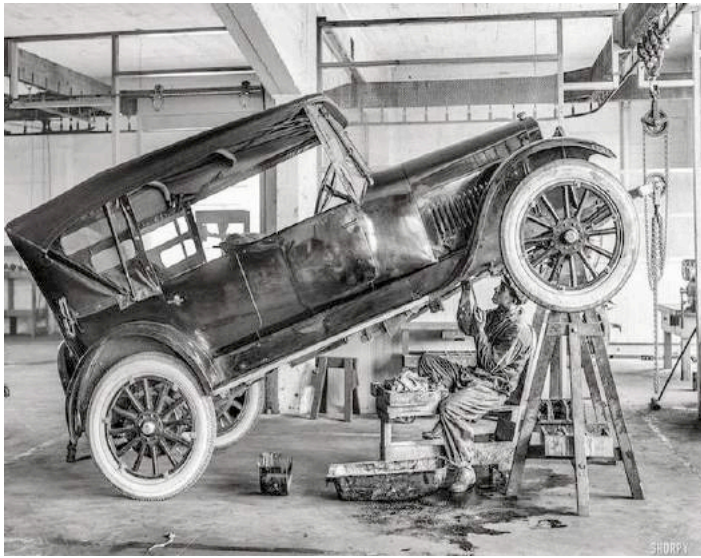
GMCCI Conventions		
March 22 – 28, 2019	Tallahassee Treasures	North Florida Fairgrounds Tallahassee, FL
October 4 – 10, 2019	Celebrating GMC Flyers	Richland County Fairgrounds Mansfield, Ohio

A blonde goes into a coffee shop and notices there is a "peel and win" sticker on her coffee cup. So she peels it off and starts screaming, "I've won a motorhome! I've won a motorhome!" The waitress says, "That's impossible. The biggest prize is a free lunch." But the blonde keeps on screaming "I've won a motorhome! I've won a motorhome!" Finally, the manager comes over and says, "Ma'am, I'm sorry but you're mistaken. You couldn't have possibly won a motorhome because we didn't have that as a prize." The blonde says, "No, it's not a mistake. I've won a motorhome!" And she hands the ticket to the manager and HE reads "WINABAGEL"

THE WINTER OF 2018 - 2019



BACK IN THE DAY...



MEANWHILE IN MICHIGAN...



Road Travel Tidbits

Submitted by Anonymous

We have traveled together in our GMC coaches from coast to coast. The scenery has been spectacular and Yellowstone is awesome, and the **WOW** experiences are just wonderful, even though one member walked into a bank robbery. Maybe the sheriff, Henry Plummer, was involved. We have talked to a lot of unique people, such as a person who managed money for two billionaires.

You look back and think that meeting these people from various aspects and ways of life has changed our opinions of people. Mark Twain said it best, "Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry and narrow mindedness." It broadens the mind.

So let's travel in our beautiful GMC coaches. Do your maintenance and you can go from coast to coast. It is a wonderful trip.

Club membership has been very positive for all members, but we must all contribute. Teamwork does wonders. Marketing needs to be done in any organization, so you, as a marketing manager for the GMC motorhomes and your GMC club affiliations should proudly convey the positive aspects of the GMC coach and club membership.

Wear your badge proudly.

TZE Notes

Submitted by John Wright

Disclaimer: The information presented in TZE Notes is intended to be used solely as a way to communicate thoughts, ideas, opinions and procedures from and to members and there is not implied or attempt to replace supersede the recommendations from General Motors or any other component maker.

The windshield washer thru-body hose fitting is available at your local Volvo Truck parts counter. It is listed as Part No. 308-1168

If you are interested, there are number of very good oil filter test video's on YouTube, watch these!
<https://youtu.be/VzCqjZglMBk>
and
<https://youtu.be/iTNJLEV8CG8>
From these you can determine which filter(s) that you would use!

Ball Joint Boot Replacement

It has been reported that an upper and lower Ball Joint Boot replacement is available from Rock Auto that will work for our upper and lower ball joints.

Go to rockauto.com and order their Part No. 1017777 cost is \$1.88

Dual Oil Filter Mount

NAPA offers a Dual Filter Mount for those who want to upgrade to a pair of oil filters after the factory filter assembly. It is

NAPA Part No. FIL 4093 priced at \$71.88

It accepts Duel ¾-16 filters (2 required) such as Napa Gold, Wix, Hastings and others. Has dual ½-14 inlet and outlet ports and includes 2 plugs. Filters require a bypass relief valve.

Would increase oil capacity by 1 qt plus.

Thanks to Bill Helmore for providing the following list of past members of the GMC Great Lakers Motorhome Club Executive Board from 1976 – 2019. This list also includes the members that served as newsletter and membership directory editors.

YEAR	President	1 st Vice President	2 nd Vice President	3 rd Vice President	Secretary	Treasurer	National Director	Alt. National Director	Director at Large	Newsletter Editor	Directory Editor
1976	Virgil Barbe	Bob Beyer			Ann Schipper	L.L. "Mac" McKenzie	Mac McDonnell			Sally Barbe	
1977	Virgil Barbe	Bob Beyer	William Helmore		Ann Schipper	L.L. "Mac" McKenzie	Pete Zunitich			Sally Barbe	
1978	Virgil Barbe	Harold Davis	Jim Lappan	Mike Boey	Ann Schipper	L.L. "Mac" McKenzie	Edward Kurtz			Sally Barbe	
1979	Edward Kurtz	Jerry Kamm	Jim Lappan	Emmett Dennis	Rea Gamble	Jim Kellerman	Virgil Barbe	Clint Long		Ray Gamble	
1980	Virgil Barbe	Emmett Dennis			Pinky Staub	Jim Kellerman	Ron Kirkland			The Staubs	
1981	Virgil Barbe	Dennis Esper	Bob Staub		Shirley Davis	William Helmore	Ron Kirkland			Harold Davis	Harold Davis
1982	Virgil Barbe	Bob Staub	Bob Staub		Shirley Davis	William Helmore	Norm Anderson			Harold Davis	Harold Davis
1983	Tom Tryon	Bob Staub			Shirley Davis	William Helmore	Ron Kirkland	Norm Anderson		Harold Davis	Harold Davis
1984	Tom Tryon	Bob Staub	Joe Majorana		Tillie Nestle	Virgil Barbe	Ron Kirkland	Norm Anderson		Harold Davis	Harold Davis
1985	Tom Tryon	Alex Birch	Joe Majorana		Tillie Nestle	Wilma Spaeth	Norm Anderson	Pat Samson		Harold Davis	Harold Davis
1986	Alex Birch	Ivan Johnson	Jim Gompers		Tillie Nestle	Wilma Spaeth	Jack Hoaglin	Bill Gamble		Harold Davis	Harold Davis
1987	Virgil Barbe	Dan Ryan	Bob Sovis		Jean Gronendkye	Wilma Spaeth	Jack Hoaglin	Bob Miller		The Staubs	Harold Davis
1988	Ivan Johnson	Tillie Nestle			Jean Gronendkye	Jean Gronendkye	Jack Hoaglin	Bob Miller		Lee Skalski	Lee Skalski
1989	Ivan Johnson	Tillie Nestle			Jean Gronendkye	Jean Gronendkye	Jack Hoaglin	Bob Benham		Lee Skalski	Lee Skalski
1990	Ivan Johnson	Bill Howard			Marilyn Roberts	Nancy Kondel	Jack Hoaglin	Jim Gribble		Lee Skalski	Lee Skalski
1991	Bill Howard	Mary Ann Pyne			Marilyn Roberts	Nancy Kondel	Jack Hoaglin	Jim Gribble		Lee Skalski	Lee Skalski
1992	Bill Howard	Mary Ann Pyne			Marilyn Roberts	Nancy Kondel	Ivan Johnson	Jim Gribble		Lee Skalski	Lee Skalski
1993	Bill Howard	Mary Ann Pyne			Lee Skalski	Dick Olmsted	Ivan Johnson	Jim Gribble		William Helmore	Ivan Johnson
1994	Don Bolles	Don Leffler			Lee Skalski	Dick Olmsted	Ivan Johnson	Jim Gribble		William Helmore	Ivan Johnson
1995	Don Bolles	Don Leffler			Lee Skalski	Dick Olmsted	Richard Obermiller	Jim Gribble		William Helmore	Don Leffler
1996	Don Bolles	Don Leffler			M. Jack Krieg	George McLeod	Richard Obermiller	Jim Gribble		William Helmore	Don Leffler
1997	Dick Olmsted	Worth Harman			M. Jack Krieg	George McLeod	Richard Obermiller	Jim Gribble		Dottie Harman	Don Leffler
1998	Dick Olmsted	Worth Harman			M. Jack Krieg	George McLeod	Richard Obermiller	Jim Gribble		Dottie Harman	Don Leffler
1999	Dick Olmsted	Worth Harman			Peg Giem	Marilyn Clarke	Dan Raven	Sue Milleson		Dottie Harman	Don Leffler
2000	George McLeod	Don Bolles			Peg Giem	Marilyn Clarke	Dan Raven	Sue Milleson		John Wright	William Helmore
2001	George McLeod	Don Bolles			Arlene Walton	Marge Guske	Dan Ryan	M. Jack Krieg		John Wright	William Helmore
2002	George McLeod	Don Bolles			Arlene Walton	Marge Guske	Dan Ryan	M. Jack Krieg		John Wright	William Helmore
2003	John Harvey	Bill Schwartz			Arlene Walton	Marge Guske	Dan Ryan	Ray Eskau		John Wright	William Helmore
2004	John Harvey	Bill Schwartz			Bev Green	Mariene Scarlett	Dan Ryan	Ray Eskau		John Wright	William Helmore
2005	John Harvey	Bill Schwartz			Dian Fisher	Mariene Scarlett	Dan Ryan	Ray Eskau		John Wright	William Helmore
2006	Franklin Griffin	Lee Skalski			Dian Fisher	Mariene Scarlett	Dan Ryan	Ray Eskau		John Wright	William Helmore
2007	Franklin Griffin	Lee Skalski			Dian Fisher	Richard Wilson	Dan Ryan	Ray Eskau		John Wright	William Helmore
2008	Franklin Griffin	Lee Skalski			William Helmore	Richard Wilson	Dan Ryan	Ray Eskau		John Wright	William Helmore
2009	William Helmore	Tom Dixon			Sandra March	Richard Wilson	Dan Ryan	Ray Eskau		John Wright	William Helmore
2010	William Helmore	Tom Dixon			Sandra March	Jim White	Dan Ryan	Ray Eskau		John Wright	William Helmore
2011	William Helmore	Tom Dixon			Berniece Frahm	Jim White	Dan Ryan	Ray Eskau		John Wright	William Helmore
2012	Richard Balsley	Edward Dohm			Steve Thornburg	Teresa Little	William Helmore	Jim White	Forest Crow	John Wright	William Helmore
2013	Richard Balsley	Edward Dohm			Steve Thornburg	Teresa Little	William Helmore	Jim White	Forest Crow	John Wright	William Helmore
2014	Richard Balsley	Edward Dohm			Steve Thornburg	Teresa Little	William Helmore	Jim White	Forest Crow	John Wright	William Helmore
2015	Dale Frahm	Frank Griffin			Judy Dohm	Becky Johnson	William Helmore	Jim White	Forest Crow	John Wright	William Helmore
2016	Dale Frahm	Frank Griffin			Judy Dohm	Becky Johnson	William Helmore	Jim White	Forest Crow	John Wright	William Helmore
2017	Dale Frahm	John Pryzbylsek			Phyllis Thornburg	John Shotwell	Merle Carpenter	Marv Miller	Margi Baumbarger	John Wright	Becky Johnson
2018	Becky Johnson	Sara Hailey			Bea Newman	John Shotwell	Merle Carpenter	Marv Miller	Margi Baumbarger	John Pryzbylsek	Steve Johnson
2019	Becky Johnson	Sara Hailey			Bea Newman	John Shotwell	Merle Carpenter	Marv Miller	Margi Baumbarger	John Pryzbylsek	Steve Johnson

	<h2 style="color: green;">Financial Report</h2> <h3 style="color: green;">February 2019</h3>
Starting Balance:	\$ 12,575.82
Revenue:	\$ 735.00
Expenses:	\$ 406.13
Ending Balance:	\$ 12,904.69

FMCA National Director's Message

The recent membership vote regarding revising the FMCA Constitution passed with a vote of 407 for, and 17 against. The vote to amend Article X passed with 516 for, and 5 against. This vote was needed to change the FMCA Bylaws and Constitution as approved by the Governing Board.

There are two major FMCA conventions this year. The first in Perry, Georgia begins on March 13, 2019 and runs through March 16. It would be a great to attend after the winter we've had. Perry is a city of about 17,000 people and has an interesting historic downtown with The Dogwood Festival, public fishing, and walking/driving trails. The second is in Minot, North Dakota from August 14 through 17, 2019. This is the 100th International Convention & RV Expo and will be special. Minot has a rich history, and even has the nickname of "Little Chicago." They have several golf courses, an Air Museum, Railway Museum, and the one that I find odd is, The Square Lake Sewage Lagoon promoted by Minot, as a must see. I'll report on this in September.



Get well cards have been sent to these individuals:

Judy Dohm	John Stehlik
Mary Lenzi	

Sympathy cards have been sent to the families of:

Dale Ropp	Dick McCoy
Bill Helmore (for Charlie's passing)	

When contacting **The Sunshine & Rainbows** person to inform her of any current or former member that is ill, has lost a loved one, or otherwise needs encouragement, it would be most helpful to provide the appropriate mailing address. This would facilitate the mailing of a greeting card especially to former members of the club as well as the current snowbird members who prefer to spend the winter months outside of the GMC Great Lakers Motorhome Club geographical boundaries.

FMCA offers two options for staying connected when you are on the road. The first, from Sprint, "**Tech Connect Plus**", allows video chat and sharing your RV adventures with no data limits via 3G - 4G LTE. You stay connected on the road and much more with no annual contract for \$49.99 a month and a one-time device rental fee of \$39.99. The second, from Verizon, "**Connect on the Go**" costs \$49.99 per month (plus applicable taxes and fees). It requires a two-year contract, which includes a jet pack, for a one time charge of \$0.01, 25GB of high-speed data per month, 4G LTE and unlimited monthly service. The jet pack is a small device that is your own personnel hot spot. Visit the FMCA website for more information on these mobile Internet offers.

Merle Carpenter

Deb Pryzbylek



NEWS & UPDATES

FMCAssist is emergency medical evacuation coverage available to members worldwide as long as you are more than 100 miles from home. You can be traveling in an RV, car, plane, ship, or motorcycle to be eligible for this benefit. If you are a full-time RVer, you are always considered 100 miles from home. Some exclusions and limitation amounts pertain to this benefit.

FMCAssist coverage is provided by Seven Corners and is underwritten by Lloyd's of London.

What do you need to do to enroll in this program? Absolutely nothing! As long as you are an active FMCA member and your FMCA dues are current, you have coverage.

All of these benefits **must be arranged** by Seven Corners in order to be covered. If you have a medical emergency, dial 9-1-1; consult with a physician; then, call Seven Corners at (877) 202-4176, in advance if you need to use these services. The collect (worldwide) number is (317) 582-2619.



MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

Please be sure to contact Steve Johnson, Membership Chair, with any changes or additions to your address, telephone and eMail accounts.

All members of the GMC Great Lakers chapter of FMCA must be current in both their FMCA and Great Laker dues. Chapter dues are due and payable January 1. Members are considered delinquent when their dues payment has not been received by March 1. See Article III – Members, Section 4 of the Chapter Bylaws for additional information.



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