

GMC Great Lakers Motorhome Club, Inc.



NEWSLETTER



America's Oldest Regional GMC Club

Volume 44 Issue 3 June 2019



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Finally our 2019 Great Lakers rally season has started! It sure feels good to get the GMC out and get together with old and new friends, especially if you didn't do any traveling in your GMC earlier this spring. The weather in Michigan has been a little slow in keeping up with the calendar and much too wet, but I can't complain about the green grass and blooming flowers everywhere. I do wish it would stop raining and dry out enough so we can get our access driveway finished for our new pole barn. The rain stopped long enough in May so that we were able to have our concrete poured but that's about it. The local news reported that in metro Detroit it's rained well over 20 days in the month of May alone. Hopefully by the time we are back from the June rally in Shipshewana, we can put our GMCs into the barn.

With the start of the 2019 rally season, we are bringing back a couple of your favorite rally give-aways! Yes, we are bringing back our drawings for a free future rally and rally gas reimbursement. So, how can you win one of these drawings? There's only one way to be eligible to win, and that is simply to attend one of the Great Lakers rallies this year. Any current Great Lakers club member who attends a Great Lakers rally will have their

name put in for one of these drawings – and that's six chances in this year's rally season. You'll either win a coupon for free rally fees for a future rally (this year or next year), or you'll be reimbursed for your round trip fuel costs. The fuel reimbursement is calculated based on Google Maps indicated round trip mileage from your home address to the campground, an average estimated fuel economy of 8 miles per gallon (yes, I know some of you might get better fuel economy and some of you might get worse fuel economy, but we're using the same overall average for everyone), and whatever the current gas station price is at the time of the rally. The only catch is that a Great Lakers member can only win each drawing once during this rally season, and you have to be present to win. Pretty easy! You just attend a club rally and you may be one of the lucky winners! Our lucky winners from the May rally were John and Rita Stehlik (free rally fees) and Deb and John Pryzbylek (gas reimbursement). Congratulations!

Now that we are at the start of our Great Lakers rally season, I'd like your help in assembly a list of rally sites for our 2020 rally schedule. Where did the Great Lakers club have a rally where everyone loved the campground and location but we haven't held a rally there in awhile? What are your favorite campgrounds? Give me your ideas - you can email me your favorites or let me know when you see me at a rally. Let's see if we can go back to some of these favorite places for our 2020 rally schedule.

In the meantime, make sure you have all of the 2019 Great Lakers rallies on your calendar this summer. I hope to see you in Shipshewana!

Becky

Great Lakers Birthday Rally Recap, May 13 – 17, 2019 in Holland, Michigan



The Great Lakers had a great start to the 2019 rally season with our club's 43rd Birthday Rally held this year at the Dutch Treat Campground in Zeeland, Michigan. Zeeland is a small town near the famous town of Holland, Michigan. While our rally was held immediately after the conclusion of the annual Tulip Festival in Holland, we were able to enjoy all the beautiful tulip displays around town.

This year was the 90th Anniversary of the Tulip Festival in Holland. Each fall close to 1,000,000 tulips arrive from the Netherlands and are planted at Windmill Island Gardens, along the sidewalks in downtown, in the local parks, and along the street streets in the residential neighborhoods in Holland, Michigan. This year's weather cooperated nicely and we were able to see rows and rows of beautiful tulips everywhere. Many of the Great Lakers took time during the week to tour the De Zwaan ("the Swan" or "Graceful Bird") Windmill at Windmill Island gardens. De Zwaan Windmill is

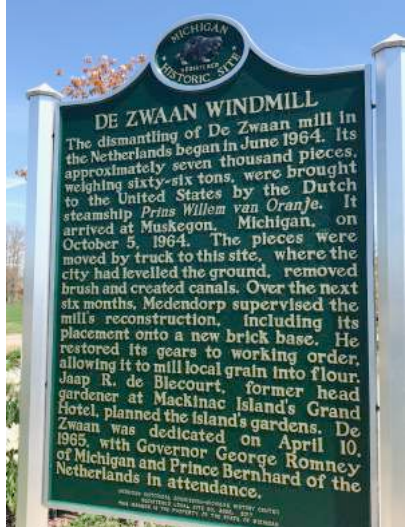
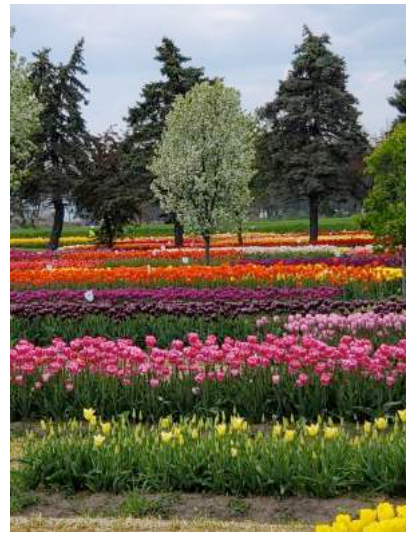
America's only authentic, working Dutch windmill. The windmill was brought to America from the town of Vinkel from the province of Noord Brabant in the Netherlands to the city of Holland, Michigan. It was the last Dutch windmill to leave the Netherlands. It arrived in Holland, Michigan in October 1964 and took 6 months to reconstruct. The windmill grinds oat and corn flour when the winds permit. It was quite a treat to tour the different levels inside the windmill to learn about all its working components.

The Executive Board members hosted the Birthday rally. There was the usual coffee, fruit and pastries each morning of the rally, along with a catered hot breakfast, and a catered barbecue on our last night with birthday cake and ice cream for dessert! Many thanks to Joe Gillen who provided some of the yummy rally pastries! Rally meals and activities took place at the recreation building at the Dutch Treat Campground. Becky Johnson gave her GMC Motorhome presentation to rally participants that she gave earlier in May at Macomb County College, along with display boards and additional GMC videos. It was really nice to have a heated building with tables, chairs, and plenty of space all to ourselves. Each Great Lakers member who attended the May rally received a complimentary rally T-shirt. (There are a few leftover rally T-shirts so look for some future rally give aways!)

There were 46 participants registered for the rally with 20 coaches plus Tom Dixon's Casita camper. We had a few members who had to cancel, so we ended up with 42 participants and 18 coaches at the rally. Several Great Lakers members were first timers were at the May rally – John Calhoun and Becky Curless from Nashville, Indiana; Joe Gillen who came with his friend Frank from Livonia, Michigan, Dan and Gail DePrekel from Jenison, Michigan; and Doug and Natalie LaVerdiere from Rockford, Michigan. We hope you enjoyed your first club rally and are happy you are part of our club!

Many thanks to Sara Halley for setting up the rally location, and Becky Johnson and Bea Newman for organizing the rally food.

Submitted by Becky Johnson



MAY 2019 BIRTHDAY RALLY, ZEELAND, MI. Thanks to Bea Newman and Ron Bolser for the photos.



What: It's Summer Rally
When: July 24 – 28, 2019

Where: Plain City Pastime Park
344 N. Chillicothe Street
Plain City, OH 43064
Tel: 614.873.3527 Ext. 108
Linda Granger

Rally Hosts: The Halleys, The Hamptons, and The Wilsons
Tel: 614.873.8577 (Sara Halley)

Contact Linda Granger, the Park Supervisor to make your own camping reservation and payment of \$25 per night (senior rate). Be sure to tell her you are with the GMC Great Lakers Motorhome Club. Camping reservations must be made by July 10, 2019.

Details:

Wednesday: Check-in by 3:00 PM. We will carpool at 5:00 PM to Weeks' Barn on Plain City-Middleburg Road for an all you can eat perch and chicken tenders dinner. Bring your own adult beverages. It will be a fun fellowship and relaxing evening.

Thursday, Saturday, Sunday: 7:30 – 9:00 AM Continental Breakfast.

Thursday: Free time. 3:00 PM Plain City Auction (check out AuctionZip.com for sale items).
4:00 PM Farmer's Market at the square – fruit, vegetables, crafts and a local food truck.

Friday: 7:30 – 8:45 AM Continental breakfast. 9:00 AM line up to carpool for the optional Phoenix Baseball Bat Factory tour, a 1 hour tour, \$10.00 fee and you get a complimentary bat. 11:30 AM pizza lunch at the park.
3:00 PM Plain City Auction. Dinner – on your own – Asian Buffet (Marysville) or Crazy Burrito at 1002 Coleman Crossing, next to Meijer's.

Saturday: 9:15 – 10:15 AM Business Meeting. Free time. 5:30 PM Carpool line up to the First Methodist Church, 207 S. Court Street, Marysville for a spaghetti dinner hosted by Scout Troop 101.

5:00 – 11:00 PM Rock the Clock, Uptown Plain City at the square, band and dancing.

Sunday: Depart by 1:00 PM. Safe travels!

REGISTRATION DUE July 10, 2019 WITH CHECKS PAYABLE TO: GMC GREAT LAKERS MOTORHOME CLUB, INC. MAIL THIS COMPLETED FORM WITH YOUR RALLY FEE CHECK TO:

SARA HALLEY
14100 TAYLOR ROAD
PLAIN CITY, OH 43064

Name: _____ Tel. No.: _____

Rally Fee: _____ One Person / Motorhome \$30.00 _____ Two People / Motorhome \$55.00

_____ Additional Person / Motorhome \$30.00 Name: _____

_____ **Handicap Parking Required**

_____ **Number of attendees for the Wednesday evening perch and chicken tenders dinner**

_____ **Number of attendees for the optional Phoenix Baseball Bat Factory tour (\$10.00 admission per person)**

_____ **Number of attendees for the Saturday evening Scout Troop 101 spaghetti dinner**

Is this the first GMC Great Lakers rally you have attended? Yes No

Are you a new member of the GMC Great Lakers? Yes No

Comments:

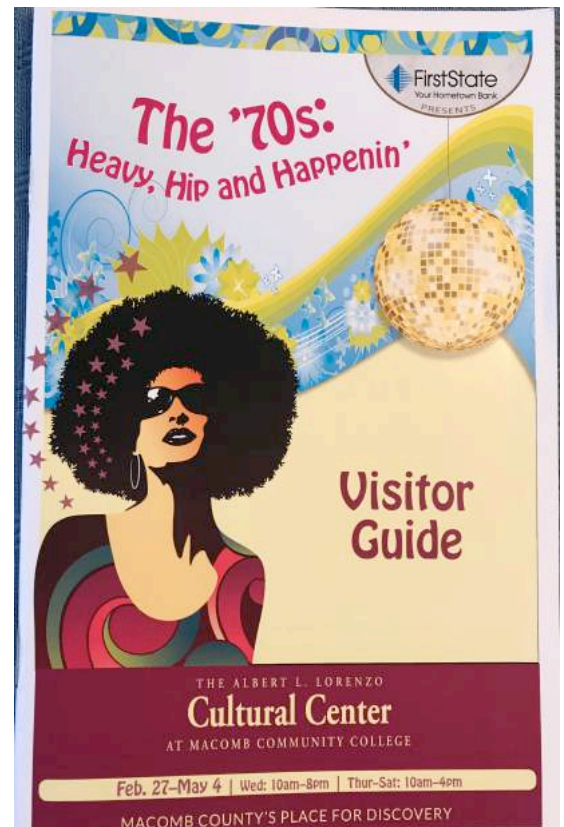
Report on GMC Presentation at Macomb County Community College – May 3, 2019

As reported in the April 2019 GMC Great Lakers newsletter, our club was invited by Macomb County Community College in Clinton Twp., Michigan to participate in their annual cultural program at the college. This year's program theme was "The 70's". Great Lakers President, Becky Johnson gave a 45 minute PowerPoint presentation that highlighted the background of the GMC Motorhome. Using historical photographs and edited clips of dealer videos from the 1970s, the presentation briefly explained – What is a GMC motorhome? Why did GM build it? How did GM build it? Where was it built? What happened to the GMC motorhome? The presentation concluded with a history of the GMC Great Lakers club. In addition to the presentation, there were three GMC motorhomes on hand in the parking lot for an open house for anyone who wanted to tour them. Bill Helmore brought his 1978 Palm Beach (in restored original like condition), Steve and Becky Johnson had their 1977 Eleganza II (restored with some modernized updates), and Greg and Karen Breen-Bondi brought their 1978 Buskirk Royale (as restored by Buskirk).

Approximately 114 people attended the GMC presentation, which included several Great Lakers members, some former GMC assembly plant workers, and a former GMC Motorhome Engineer, Karl Gross. Audience members were excited to learn a little more about the GMC motorhome and asked many questions both during and after the presentation. Numerous audience members stayed after and toured the GMCs in the parking lot as well. Macomb College deserves many thanks for inviting our club to participate in this year's cultural program, and for the well-organized displays.

We are looking forward to giving the GMC presentation again in the future.

Becky Johnson



GMC Great Lakers Membership Meeting May 17, 2019 Zeeland, Michigan

President, Becky Johnson, called meeting to order at 7:12 PM

Minutes from October 2018 were approved as published in the newsletter, moved by Bill Helmore, seconded by Marlene Scarlett.

Treasurers Report: per John Shotwell, Becky reported a 2018 year end balance of \$12,575.82. The addition of membership dues, and rally fees minus rally costs resulted in a current balance \$13,398.92. Treasurer report approved by Marlene and seconded by Jerry Newman.

Voting for the 2020 GMC Great Lakers Executive Board positions will take place in the fall of 2019 with the election results announced at the October rally. Sara Halley, Vice President, will not seek reelection and John Shotwell is ineligible to continue on as Treasurer since he has held the position for three consecutive years. The nominating committee members for 2019 are: John Pryzbylek, Jerry Newman, and Jeff Rider.

2019 rally schedule: June 10 - 14 in Shipshewana, hosted by Marv and Sally Miller, registration due by May 27. July 24 - 28 in Plain City, Ohio, hosted by the Halleys, Hamptons and Wilsons. August 22 - 25 at Groveland Oaks in Holly, Michigan, hosted by Nancy and Peter Donaghue. Includes an optional tour of Meadow Brook Hall (mini Biltmore). Group campsite includes electric and only two water hydrants. Details forthcoming in GL newsletter. September 8 - 15 Do Nothing Rally at Algonac State Park in Michigan. Make your own reservations for as few or as many days as you'd like. October's rally will be at the GMCMI convention in Mansfield Ohio, October 4 -10. Members were asked to think about campgrounds for 2020 rallies and send their suggestions to Becky.

Membership chair, Steve Johnson, reported February 2018 club membership was 109. December 2018 was 120. February 2019 membership reported at 100 plus 6 new members. Of the 131 dues renewal notices sent out, 3 no longer have a GMC coach, some had medical issues and some will renew later. There were 22 with no response and 10 have an expired FMCA membership.

New members present: Dan and Gail DePrekel from Michigan with a '75 Eleganza II, John Calhoun and Becky Curless from Indiana with a '76 Eleganza, and Doug and Natalie Laverdiere from Michigan with a '76 Eleganza II.

John and Deb Pryzbylek's name was pulled to win mileage cost to this rally and John and Rita Stehlik won a free rally.

Thanks to Becky for designing the T-shirts.

John Pryzbylek, GL newsletter editor, solicited input from members for recipes, stories, technical tips, items for sale / free for the taking and pictures are all welcome in the newsletter.

Steve Johnson, GL Webmaster, also asked for information to be added to our website and for sale ads are welcome.

Jerry Newman moved and Deb Pryzbylek seconded to adjourn meeting at 7:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Bea Newman, Secretary

2019 Nominating Committee

Each spring one important part of club business is to form a nominating committee to prepare the ballot for the fall election of club board members for the following year. This year's nominating committee members are Jerry Newman, John Pryzbylek, and Jeff Rider.

Each of the officers (president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer) is eligible to serve for three consecutive years in a given position, if re-elected. While the FMC national and alternate national directors and director-at-large can be re-elected each year, without limitation. Additional information on duties of each club board member can be found in the Standing Rules document on the club website "Members Only" section.

Per our By-Laws, the role of the nominating committee is to identify candidates for the fall election of the club board member positions president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, FMCA national director, alternate FMCA national director, and director-at-large for the next calendar year. Any interested club member can submit their name for any position to a committee member. The nominating committee makes sure the member is eligible and qualified to serve in the position and obtains a member's commitment to fulfill the duties of the office should they be voted into the position by the club membership. Our current club officers, Becky Johnson, President and Bea Newman, Secretary are eligible to serve in their current positions for one more year. Sara Halley is stepping down as Vice President effective December 31, 2019 and we will need a new Vice President for 2020. John Shotwell has completed three consecutive one-year terms as club Treasurer, and is ineligible to continue as club Treasurer in 2020 so; we will need a new, qualified club Treasurer.

Election ballots are sent out in late August/early September to all eligible club members, and results are mailed or emailed to the nominating committee. Election results are announced at the October rally each year.

If you have any interest or know of someone who is qualified for a 2020 board position, please contact one of the nominating committee members.

Becky Johnson

favorite RECIPES

Raspberry Cream Pie

This pie is awesome, it leaves people begging for more!

Crust

2 cups graham cracker crumbs
1/4 cup maple syrup
6 tablespoons unsalted butter, melted

Raspberry topping

1 1/3 cup sugar
6 tablespoons cornstarch
1/8 teaspoon salt
2 cups water
6 to 7 tablespoons maple syrup
1 pint fresh raspberries

Cream Cheese Filling

4 oz cream cheese
1/2 cup powdered sugar
8 oz whipped cream, Cool Whip or
make some from heavy cream

For the Crust

Preheat the oven to 375 F. Mix together the maple syrup and melted butter, add the graham cracker crumbs and mix. Press into a deep-dish 9" pie pan. Bake crust for 6 minutes. Set aside to cool.

Raspberry Topping

Mix together sugar, cornstarch, and salt in a medium saucepan. Add 1/2 cup water and whisk until smooth. Add the remaining water, maple syrup and raspberries. Cook over a medium heat until thickened. Stir constantly, be patient it takes a while. Bring the mixture just to a boil but don't let it boil. If using frozen raspberries reduce water by 1/2 cup. Set aside to cool.

Cream Cheese Filling

With a food processor or hand mixer, beat together cream cheese, powdered sugar and whipped topping until combined and smooth. Spread over the cooled graham cracker crust. Then spoon the cooled raspberry topping over the cream cheese filling. Place the pie in the fridge to cool and set, about 2 hrs. Serve as is or add whipped topping to it.

Submitted by JoAnn Carpenter



What: Back In Time Rally
When: August 22 – 25, 2019

Where: Groveland Oaks County Park
14555 Dixie Highway
Holly, MI 48442
Tel: 248.634.9811

Rally Hosts: Peter and Nancy Donaghue
Tel: 248.933.0546 (Nancy)

Our group camping area is #1 at the park with individual electrical service and only two water hydrants. The group campsite will accommodate up to 20 coaches and there is a pavilion, with electric, for our use. The Tin Can Tourists are also hosting a rally during the “Back in Time“ weekend with several events including DJ dances and an oldies band. The camping fee for Thursday, Friday and Saturday is \$85.00 (add \$6.00 if you are not a senior). Contact Nancy Donaghue to reserve a campsite for the rally.

Details:

Thursday: Check-in time has some flexibility, officially 3:00 PM. Happy Hour begins at 6:00 PM. **BRING AN APPETIZER TO SHARE**

Friday, Saturday, Sunday: 7:30 – 9:00 AM Continental Breakfast (coffee, donuts, muffins and fruit)

Friday: 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM Optional Meadow Brook Hall tour and lunch (on your own). A carpool will leave the campground at 10:00 AM. Meadow Brook Hall, a Tudor revival style mansion built between 1926 and 1929 by Matilda Dodge Wilson (the widow of auto pioneer John Francis Dodge) and her second husband, lumber broker Alfred G. Wilson. In 2012, it was named a National Historic Landmark. Group tour admission fee: \$10.00 per person.

Saturday: Explore the campground/small towns in the area: Clarkston, Fenton and Holly. Catered Dinner: 6:00 PM

Sunday: Depart by 1:00 PM. Safe travels!

Total cost for three nights of camping (senior rate) plus rally fee: 1 person coach \$125.00; 2 person coach \$165.00 (excluding optional Meadow Brook Hall tour fee).

REGISTRATION DUE AUGUST 1, 2019 WITH CHECKS PAYABLE TO: GMC GREAT LAKERS MOTORHOME CLUB, INC. MAIL THIS COMPLETED FORM WITH YOUR CAMPING AND RALLY FEE CHECK TO:

NANCY DONAGHUE
6550 HIGH PINE DRIVE
DAVISBURG, MICHIGAN 48350

Name: _____ Tel. No.: _____

Rally Fee: _____ One Person / Motorhome \$40.00 _____ Two People / Motorhome \$80.00

_____ Additional Person / Motorhome \$40.00 Name: _____

_____ **Handicap Parking Required**

_____ **Number of attendees for the optional Meadow Brook Hall tour (\$10.00 admission per person)**

Is this the first GMC Great Lakers rally you have attended? Yes No

Are you a new member of the GMC Great Lakers? Yes No

Comments:



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	Halleys, Hamptons, Wilsons
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 9 – 15		Algonac State Park 8732 River Road Marine City, Michigan 48039 Tel: 810.765.5605 On line reservations http://www.midnrreservations.com	Do Nothing Rally
October 4 - 10		GMCMC Fall Convention Richland County Fairgrounds Mansfield, Ohio	GMCMC

GMCMC Conventions		
October 4 – 10, 2019	Celebrating GMC Flyers	Richland County Fairgrounds Mansfield, Ohio

	Financial Report
	May 2019
Starting Balance:	\$ 12,764.69
Revenue:	\$ 1,385.00
Expenses:	\$ 1,505.73
Ending Balance:	\$ 12,643.96



Get well cards have been sent to these individuals:

Judy Dohm	Lil Skalski
Bee Frahm	Joe Scheub

A sympathy card was sent to the family of:

Rita Stehlik on the passing of her brother

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.

Deb Pryzbylek

ODDS AND ENDS

Common sense is a flower that does not grow in everyone's garden!

Did you know "DIET" stands for "Did I Eat That?"

SENIORS TEXTING CODE

- ATD** – At The Doctors
- BFF** – Best Friend Fell
- BTW** – Bring The Wheelchair
- BYOT** – Bring Your Own Teeth
- FWIW** – Forgot Where I Was
- GGPBL** – Gotta Go Pacemaker Battery Low
- GHA** – Got Heartburn Again
- IMHO** – Is My Hearing Aid On
- LMDO** – Laughing My Dentures Out
- OMMR** – On My Message Recliner
- OMSG** – Oh My! Sorry, Gas
- TTYL** – Talk To You Louder
- ROFLACGU** – Rolling On The Floor Laughing And Can't Get Up

1963 Ronald McDonald





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.



2018 Club Officers and Staff

President

Becky Johnson

Telephone: 248.343.7636

Email: president@gmcgreatlakers.org

Vice President

Sara Halley

Telephone: 614.873.8577

Email: vice_president@gmcgreatlakers.org

Secretary

Bea Newman

Telephone: 513.919.2026

Email: secretary@gmcgreatlakers.org

Treasurer

John Shotwell

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Email: treasurer@gmcgreatlakers.org

FMCA National Director

Merle Carpenter

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Email: fmca_director@gmcgreatlakers.org

FMCA Alternate Director

Marv Miller

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Email: alt_fmca_dir@gmcgreatlakers.org

Director at Large

Margi Baumbarger

Telephone: 419.832.5103

Email: dir_at_large@gmcgreatlakers.org

Sunshine and Rainbows

Debra Pryzbylek

Telephone: 419.825.5259

Email: sunshine@gmcgreatlakers.org

Membership Chair and Webmaster

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Email: webmaster@gmcgreatlakers.org

Club Historian

Bill Helmore

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Email: historian@gmcgreatlakers.org

Newsletter Editor

John Pryzbylek

Telephone: 419.490.3835

Email: newsletter@gmcgreatlakers.org



A rare 1947 Labatt Brewing Company Streamliner, one of amazing trucks ever built. Its horn doesn't just toot, it plays "How dry I am."



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