

GMC Great Lakers Motorhome Club, Inc.



NEWSLETTER



America's Oldest Regional GMC Club

Volume 45

Issue 4

August 2020



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

In a normal Great Lakers camping season, we'd be talking about the great times we had at the last rally. And we'd be getting ready for the next rally. But 2020 is turning out to not be normal for the Great Lakers club or anyone across the country. How about we talk about some of the favorite Great Lakers rallies from the past years? One of my most memorable rallies was held in August 2017 when the Great Lakers held a joint rally with the GMC Eastern States club in Paducah, Kentucky for the Solar Eclipse. Members participated in a wine tasting at the Purple Toad Winery. A caravan of GMC motorhomes drove into downtown Paducah, near the famous mural floodwalls as well. Some of the ladies spent time in the many quilt shops that Paducah has to offer. And of course, we all looked up in the sky to witness the total Solar Eclipse. That's a rally I will never forget.

Do you have a favorite rally memory or a favorite campground? Vice President, Nancy Donaghue is already working on the club rally

schedule for 2021. She will plan to reschedule the cancelled 2020 rallies with the same campgrounds and weekends for 2021. Hopefully we can repeat what we would have had this year for May, August, September and October. But we still need rally locations for June and July. Nancy and I have both been looking over Great Lakers rally locations over the past 40+ years to get ideas on future club rally locations. What are your favorite rally locations? Finding a campground that will set aside 25 to 30 campsites for club members to reserve, and that has a covered pavilion or recreation room for the group to use is half the work in setting up a Great Lakers rally. Tell us your thoughts. Contact Nancy (call, text, or email her) so we can get a few more rallies scheduled in 2021 soon as possible. We'd like to have a 2021 Rally Schedule in place by the end of this year.

Lastly, I hope all of you are staying healthy and safe in these uncertain times. We don't know how long we will be impacted by the continuation of the COVID-19 virus. Continue to be vigilant so that we can get together once again in 2021!

Becky





Mark your calendars now for the 2020 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 6 – 9 | Birthday Rally | Camp Dearborn 1700 General Motors Rd. Milford, Michigan 48380 Tel: 248.684.6000 | CANCELED |
| June 17 – 20 | GLAMA Rally | Allegan County Fairground 150 Allegan Co. Fair Drive Allegan, Michigan 49010 Tel: 269.673.6501 | CANCELED |
| July | TO BE DETERMINED | | CANCELED |
| August 20 – 23 | | Addison Oaks County Park 1480 West Romeo Road Leonard, Michigan 48367 Tel: 248.693.2432 | CANCELED |
| September 13 – 20 | | Algonac State Park 8732 River Road Marine City, Michigan 48039 Tel: 810.765.5605 | Do Nothing Rally NOT A GMC GREAT LAKER HOSTED RALLY |
| October 15 – 18 | | Camp Turkeyville RV Resort 18935 15 ½ Mile Road Marshall, Michigan 49068 Tel: 269.781.4293 | NOT A GMC GREAT LAKER HOSTED RALLY |

| | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| GMCMCI Conventions | | |
| April 16 – 22, 2021 | Cajun Crazy Celebration | Patterson Area Civic Center Patterson, Louisiana |
| September 18 – 24, 2020 | CANCELED | Central States Fairgrounds Rapid City, South Dakota |

BOARD MEMBER TERMS EXTENDED

In the last newsletter, a ballot was included to vote on whether to keep the 2020 Great Lakers officers and board members the same for 2021. Jerry Newman, from the Nominating Committee, reports that a total of 13 ballots were submitted. There were 11 votes in favor of extending the term of all current club Board members for one more year, and 2 votes against. So the Great Lakers Board will remain the same for 2021.

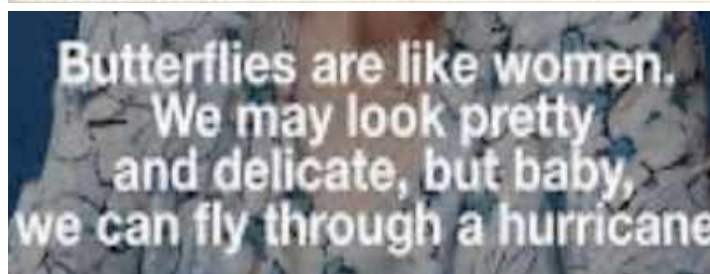
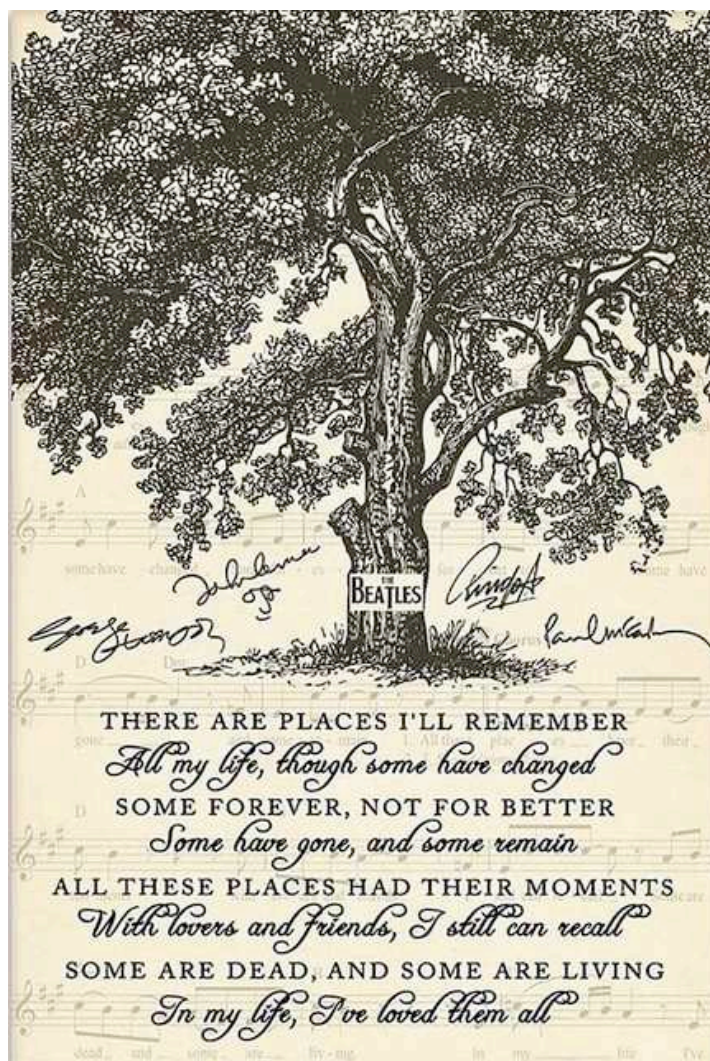
OCTOBER CAMPING OPPORTUNITY (NOT A RALLY!)

For those of you who would like to take out your GMC motorhome and camp with other Great Lakers members, the Great Lakers have arranged to keep the group sites at Camp Turkeyville from our original October rally this year. We have 25 campsites set aside for anyone who would like to go to Camp Turkeyville near Marshall, MI. The campsites are arranged for check-in on Thursday October 15, 2020 and departure on Sunday October 18, 2020. The special group rate is \$45 per night (the regular rate is \$52 per night). This campground has full hook ups, a pool, and other nice amenities. See www.campturkeyville.com for directions and more information. The campsites set aside for the Great Lakers will be held for members to reserve until September 15, 2020. The campground cancellation policy is as follows: cancellations 8 days ahead or more result in a \$10 fee; cancellations made less 7 days or less ahead result in the loss of one night's fee. Call 269-781-4293 to make your reservation. Speak to Angela if you have any questions about the group campsites reserved. Remember, this is NOT a Great Lakers hosted rally - there will be no group activities scheduled.

Becky

A big hello and a hug to all our Great Laker friends. We sure do miss seeing you all and enjoying the adventures, good food and laughter we are used to having with you. Here's hoping each one of you is good as well as your family. Maybe some of you have been getting out in your coach and enjoying the safe fresh air and beautiful scenery. Our Ohio River place has saved our sanity this year, we are grateful for that. Enjoy what you can safely my friends. Till we meet again,

Jerry & Bea Newman, 76 Eleganza II from
Cincinnati



GMC GREAT LAKERS HISTORY – Part 7

1982 A Year of Special Events

A surprising number of the Great Lakers members turned out for what has become an annual affair, the Sixth Annual Great Lakers Birthday rally party was held at the Holiday Inn Holidome in Jackson, Michigan on the 15th to 17th of January. Much fun, fellowship and a great time for all was in store for all those attending. The officers for this year were installed at the business meeting, were; Virgil Barbe, President; Bob Stoub, Vice President; Bill Helmore, Treasurer; Shirley Davis, Secretary; Ron Kirkland, National Director and Norm Anderson, Alternate National Director.

The Club's annual spring kick off rally took place at Groveland Oaks County Park in Holly, Michigan the weekend of May 14th to 16th. This was a weekend for catching up with all of the happenings of old friends. A potluck for Saturday night, coffee and rolls for Saturday morning and as usual Sunday morning pancake breakfast were the only activities planned.

Nineteen family members attended the June rally at Sterling State Park in Monroe, Michigan. This rally featured a spaghetti dinner complete with salads, desserts and wine. Many of the members participated in a bocce ball or golf tournament for which prizes were awarded.

Fifteen (15) coaches departed the State Park on Sunday morning June 13th for the trip to Knoxville, Tennessee and the World's Fair. Two (2) coaches joined the caravan in route, bringing the count to seventeen (17) Great Lakers. Sunday night the group stopped at the KOA south of Lexington, Kentucky. Monday morning the group headed for Knoxville and Fireside Campground, our headquarters for the fair.

The fifth annual "fun in the sun" midsummer rally was held July 9th to 11th at Pioneer Park in Muskegon, Michigan. Twenty-six (26) Great Lakers took in the beach, golfed, just gabbed, swapped sea stories or just relaxed. Bingo prizes were won by many of the members and Chuck Bradsher won the door prize of a musical horn. A little quiz was conducted on just how much knowledge the membership had of their coaches and was great fun.

About nineteen (19) Great Lakers attended the FMCA Summer Convention on the campus of Notre Dame University in South Bend, Indiana. The facilities were super, the seminars, commercial displays and evening entertainment were in air-conditioned buildings. It was at this gathering that many GMC Motorhome owners gathered to form the "GMC Motorhomes International Club."

Twenty-two (22) coaches showed up at Ulrich's RV Park in Charlevoix, Michigan for the August rally. Some showed up at the rally site on Wednesday, others on Thursday with the balance on Friday. Most all taking in the rally went into town to the Art Fair, which was real nice but just a little on the expensive side. As an additional feature of this rally, the board of directors had decided that the rally in Charlevoix would be a free-be, so all those members who came found out that they had the option of getting their check back or could apply it towards the next rally.

Thirty-three (33) coaches turned out for the September rally at the KOA in Saugatuck, Michigan. The dinner at the Embassy Restaurant in downtown Saugatuck was an all you can eat chicken dinner with coleslaw and French fries. The Embassy is a quaint old-fashioned bar/restaurant and is quite unique. After dinner the group took a boat ride on an old-fashioned paddle wheel vessel on the scenic Kalamazoo River and out into Lake Michigan.

Twenty-seven (27) Great Lakers attended the season's grand finale rally at the Doctor's Club near Alpena, Michigan the weekend of October 8th to 10th. A hay wagon was provided for the group to tour some of the 700 acres of woods to view deer, wild turkeys and other wildlife that abound in the area. The pig roast was delicious and would have been more than ample, but the hosts added wiener roasts, a cocktail bar, draft beer, hot hors d'oeuvres, ice cream, etc. After the pig roast most of the group spent the evening in the main lodge building around the roaring fire place enjoying a sing along and were entertained by the Birch's with their kitchen band.

Submitted by Bill Helmore

CAMP RULES

Wake up Smiling
Share your Coffee
Hang up your Towel
Turn off your Phone
Keep Sand Outside
Go for a Walk
Visit the Camp Store
Collect firewood
Laugh a lot
Soak up the Sun
Eat Outside
Sing Camp songs
Get warm by the fire
Be Grateful for this day
and Good Friends!

A Note from John Wright

This is to inform you and the membership that Janet was diagnosed with breast cancer recently. She has been undergoing a number of tests to determine what level she is at. She started chemo the day before yesterday (August 12) and seems to have not had any bad side effects as of yet. She wanted everyone to know that she is determined to beat it.

John

My response to John follows:

John,

Our thoughts and prayers are with you, Janet, and your family throughout the treatment period and beyond. Our best wishes for a speedy and complete recovery. With your permission, I can inform all the club members by publishing your email in the GMC Great Lakers newsletter, later this month.

John





For Sale: 2014 Chevrolet Malibu LT 2.

It is ready to be your economical daily driver plus to be towed by your GMC motorhome. In like new condition with complete Roadmaster towing equipment plus Brake Pro system. It is one owner with 54,000 driven miles and 3,000 towed miles. It has a summit white exterior with extra cost cocoa fashion leather interior and heated seats. Serviced by a Chevrolet dealer. Must see to appreciate its outstanding condition. \$13,500. Reason for selling: wife no longer is driving and I have two other vehicles I can tow behind our GMC motorhome.

**CONTACT: BOB SOVIS AT
810.629.7790**



Financial Report

July 31, 2020

| | | |
|-------------------|----|----------|
| Starting Balance: | \$ | 9,711.27 |
| Revenue: | \$ | 0.00 |
| Expenses: | \$ | 525.73 |
| Ending Balance: | \$ | 9,185.54 |



ODDS AND ENDS

Be careful when you follow the masses,
sometimes the M is silent.

~

You come from dust, you will return to dust.
That's why I don't dust. It could be someone I
know.

~

My horse's name is Mayo; Mayo neighs.

~

Adam and Eve: first ones to ignore Apple
terms and conditions.

~

I always wanted to be a Gregorian monk, but I
never got the chants.

~

In ancient times cats were worshipped as
gods; they have not forgotten.

~

In wine there is wisdom; in beer there is
strength; in water there is bacteria; you decide.

~

A cheese factory exploded in France; da Brie
is everywhere.

~

Light travels faster than sound. That's why
some people appear bright until you hear them
speak.

~

When everything is coming your way, you're in
the wrong lane.

AGE is merely the
number
of years
the WORLD
HAS BEEN
enjoying
YOU



Whatchu' Looking at, Blue Footed Booby?

I like European food so I decided to Russia
over there because I was Hungary. After
Czech'ing the menu I ordered Turkey. When I
was Finnished I told the waiter "Spain good but
there is Norway I could eat another bite".

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 must be current in their Great Laker dues. Club dues are 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.



Get well cards have been sent to these individuals:

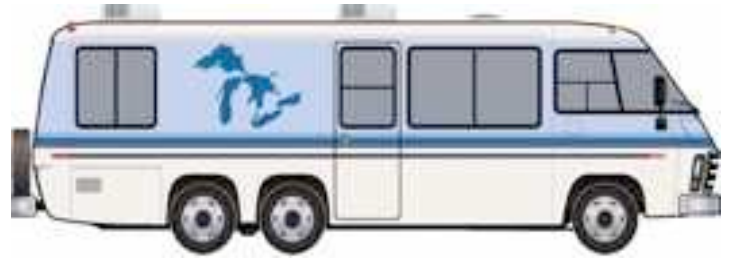
Joe Scheub John Shotwell
Jeanne Slaten Mary Colie
Janet Wright

Sympathy Card Sent to:

Family of Bob and Connie Oliver

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



2020 Club Officers and Staff

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Britt Palmer's modified 1977 GMC Kingsley motorhome powered by a 600 hp Chevy 502 Ram jet fuel injected engine with power transferred through a TH425 transmission. Ran 120.8 mph in 2013 at Bonneville Salt Flats.



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