

GMC Great Lakers Motorhome Club, Inc.



NEWSLETTER



America's Oldest Regional GMC Club

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October 2020



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

How can it be that summer is over and fall is well underway? The changing colors of the trees, shorter days, and chilly nights tell us that winter will soon be here. While we were not able to have any official Great Lakers club rallies this year, around 11 Great Lakers and their coaches camped during the 'Do Nothing' dates at Algonac State Park in Algonac, Michigan. A few other club members even visited Algonac for the day. This month at Camp Turkeyville in Marshall, Michigan, we also had 11 Great Lakers camping, along with several visiting club members. With overnight low temperatures around 31 degrees at Camp Turkeyville, everyone had either their coach furnace running, their electric space heater on, or both working hard to keep the inside temperatures comfortable overnight! The Blue Water RVers Club was also at Camp Turkeyville. Some members of their group were overheard saying that they wanted to be sure to get a picture of the "vintage" GMC motorhomes camping so they could include it in their next club newsletter! Whether the GMCs are camping as a group or individually,

wherever a GMC motorhome is parked it always gets noticed.

Along with camping in Algonac and at Camp Turkeyville, I know many of our members were able to get out in their GMCs for some family camping, day trips, or just eating take-out meals in the GMC. Were you able to get out in your GMC motorhome this summer? Instead of our traditional rally photos that we normally share on our club website, this year we'd like to post photos of you using your GMC this summer. Email your photos to Steve Johnson at webmaster@gmccgreatlakers.org.

The Great Lakers will be planning to have rallies in 2021, as long as the local health authorities will allow group gatherings and campgrounds are open for the 2021 rally season. We may have to modify our typical rally routines to follow safe protocols. For updates and further details about the 2021 rally schedule, continue to check the club website at www.gmccgreatlakers.org.

I hope you continue to remain healthy and safe.

Becky





Mark your calendars now for the 2021 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 – 16, 2021

Camp Dearborn
1700 General Motors Rd.
Milford, Michigan 48380
Tel: 248.684.6000

Birthday Rally

June 3 – 6, 2021

Elkhart County 4H Fairgrounds
17746 County Rd. 34
Goshen, Indiana 46528
Tel: 574.533.3247

July 2021

TO BE DETERMINED

August 26 – 29, 2021

Groveland Oaks County Park
14555 Dixie Highway
Holly, Michigan 48442
Tel: 248.634.981

September 12 – 19, 2021

Algonac State Park
8732 River Road
Marine City, Michigan 48039
Tel: 810.765.5605

Do Nothing Rally

October 14 – 17, 2021

Sauder Village Campground
22611 OH-2
Archbold, Ohio 43502
Tel: 800.590.9755

GMCCI 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

GMC GREAT LAKERS HISTORY – Part 8

The Rallies Grow in Size

The Midway Motor Lodge in Lansing, Michigan was the site of the Club's seventh annual birthday party held the weekend of January 14th – 16th. The Saturday evening dinner featured London broil with all the trimmings. At the business meeting the new officers were installed. They are: Tom Tryon, President; Bob Staub, Vice President; Shirley Nestle, Second Vice President; Bill Helmore, Treasurer; Shirley Davis, Secretary; Ron Kirkland, National Director and Norm Anderson, Alternate National Director. Tom Tryon presented Outgoing President Virgil Barbe a plaque to thank him for all years of service he has given the Club.

The 1983 season got off to a running start the weekend of May 13th – 15th at Fitchburg Wilderness Park in Stockbridge, Michigan with twenty-five (25) Great Lakers showing up. The hosts made homemade bean soup, which was served for lunch on Saturday with fresh baked bread. The evening meal was a barbecue chicken dinner with the Club members filling in with vegetables, salads and deserts.

The GLASS rally was held at the county fairgrounds in Centerville, Michigan over the Memorial Day weekend. The Great Lakers once again were parked together and held a rally within a rally. They played bocce ball, cards and just gabbed as well as taking in the events of the GLASS rally.

The weekend of June 10th – 12th found the Club returning to Cedar Springs Campground in Sterling, Michigan. Twenty-seven (27) coaches attended this rally. The Saturday lunch the hosts prepared would have sufficed for the Saturday night feast. Most all of the Club members who came to this rally took in the canoe trip down the Rifle River.

The sixth annual "Fun in The Sun" "shore Thing" midsummer rally took place at Pioneer Park in Muskegon, Michigan the weekend of July 8th -10th. This rally had most had most of everything, from Dan Ryan's inflatable boat to Pinky Staub's electric organ. The hosts provided a hot dog lunch on Saturday, made arrangements for golf at the municipal golf course and a few surprises for all. Virginia Anderson made up some kits to make a "folded star" wall hanger and helped the ladies get started.

In an attempt to raise money for the Club's Treasury, a raffle was held in which a spare tire cover was the prize. Tickets were sold for \$5.00 each and the drawing held at the August rally. The Club made about \$20.00 on this one.

Bethlehem, Pennsylvania hosted the FMCA Summer Convention on July 26th. The Club formed a caravan to the Convention with five (5) coaches gathering at the Monroe County KOA on Friday. Saturday morning three (3) more coaches joined the caravan at a rest stop on the Ohio Turnpike. The Rustic Acres Campgrounds in Clarion, Pennsylvania was the site of the Saturday night stop and two (2) more coaches joined the caravan. The folks at this campground were celebrating Christmas in July. On Sunday it was off to the Hazleton that is at exit #39 on I-80. The Great Lakers parked with the GMC International chapter of FMCA and were a part of some 200+ GMCs. The GMCs were parked on a hill in a far corner of the complex, but a shuttle service made getting around easy.

Timber Wolf Campground Flint, Michigan was the gathering point for the Great Lakers in August. This rally was planned around the Huckleberry Railroad and Crossroads Village complex at the Genesee Recreation Area. Thirty-one (31) Great Lakers participated and contributed to the Saturday evening feast, which was followed by a clogging exhibition by the Anderson's dance group. A new member, the Bakers won the drawing for the tire cover, this was also their first rally. Larry Troy and his son spent most of Saturday afternoon balancing some 100+ tires.

On the weekend of September 8th – 11th thirty-one (31) Great Lakers returned to West Wind KOA in Saugatuck, Michigan. An impromptu potluck supper on Friday evening was great and something different. A mini craft show and display on Saturday morning, a paddle wheel boat ride on the Kalamazoo River Saturday afternoon and the dinner at the Embassy Restaurant Saturday evening made for a pretty full weekend.

During this year, 1983, the club had experienced the largest turn out per rally than any previous year. The club has averaged about ten (10) more coaches per rally.

Valley Plaza at Midland, Michigan was the site of the club's season finale the weekend of October 14th – 16th. Twenty (20) Great Lakers turned out for a weekend of shopping, golfing, bowling, going to a nearby car show or to a movie. For the windup Saturday night feast, a dress up / sit down dinner was held in a private dining room at the Ramada Inn restaurant.

Submitted by Bill Helmore



LET'S TALK TURKEY

The first Thanksgiving was held in the autumn of 1621 and included 50 pilgrims and 90 Wampanoog Indians and lasted three days.



Historians believe no turkey was served and the menu consisted of venison, ducks, geese, oysters, lobster, eel and fish. They probably ate pumpkins and cranberries, but not as pies or relish. The meals were eaten with spoons and knives. Forks were introduced to the pilgrims 10 years later and weren't a popular utensil until the 18th century.

Prolific writer and noted magazine editor Sarah Josepha Hale, the woman who actually wrote the classic song "Mary Had a Little Lamb" campaigned for a national Thanksgiving holiday in the United States for 17 years during the 19th century, eventually winning President Abraham Lincoln's support in 1863, at the height of the Civil War. In a proclamation entreating all Americans to ask God to "commend his tender care all those who have become widows, orphans, mourners or sufferers in the lamentable civil strife" and to heal the wounds of the nation." He scheduled Thanksgiving for the final Thursday in November and it was celebrated on that day every year until 1939, when Franklin D. Roosevelt moved the holiday up a week in an attempt to spur retail sales during the Great Depression. Roosevelt's plan known derisively as Franksgiving was met with passionate opposition. In 1941 Congress officially made the Thanksgiving holiday the fourth Thursday in November. In Canada, Parliament established a national Thanksgiving Day in 1879.

Ben Franklin thought in 1784 the turkey would be a better choice as the national bird because the eagle was a "bird of bad moral character" due to its nature as a scavenger. The turkey, Franklin felt, was a more suitable symbol for the U.S. for two

	Financial Report
	Sept 30, 2020
Starting Balance:	\$ 9,185.54
Revenue:	\$ 100.00
Expenses:	\$ 65.36
Ending Balance:	\$ 9,220.18

reasons. The first was that Franklin liked that it was a bird found only in the Americas and Franklin considered the turkey "a bird of courage" that "would not hesitate to attack a grenadier of the British guards who should presume to invade his farm yard with a red coat on."

TURKEY TRIVIA

Turkeys are native to North America and wild turkeys can be found in every U.S. state except Alaska.

7 million wild turkeys roamed the U.S. in 2017.

242 million meat turkeys were raised in the U.S. in 2017.

Wild turkeys are omnivorous and eat seeds, insects, frogs and lizards.

Americans eat 46 million turkeys each Thanksgiving, 22 million on Christmas and 19 million on Easter.

Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin's first meal in space after walking on the moon was foil packets with roasted turkey.

The heaviest turkey on record according to the *Guinness Book of Records* weighs 86 pounds.

The average turkey for Thanksgiving weighs 15 pounds.

Female turkeys (called hens) do not gobble. Only male turkeys gobble.

Wild turkeys can run 20 miles per hour when scared.

Despite their large girth and weight, wild turkeys roost overnight in trees.

Wild turkeys can fly at up to 60 miles per hour. In 2012, the average American ate 16 pounds of turkey.

How did Kentucky Wild Turkey Bourbon get its name? In 1940 Thomas McCarthy, a hunter and distillery executive brought a private supply of bourbon along with him on an annual wild turkey hunt with his friends. The following year the good old boys requested more of the same bourbon referring to it as "Wild Turkey". Mr. McCarthy later honored his friends by turning the nickname into a legendary brand of Kentucky bourbon.



Veterans Day is a time to honor American veterans of all wars. Each year we set aside this special day to remember those who have served in our armed forces. From those brave service members who fought and died in the trenches of World War I, to those who are fighting on the ground, at sea, and in the air today, we owe them our deepest respect and gratitude.

Veterans Day originally began after World War I as Armistice Day. World War I, known as "The Great War," officially ended on June 28, 1919, when the Treaty of Versailles was signed outside of Versailles, France. However, the fighting had actually stopped seven months earlier with an armistice between the Allied nations and Germany. The armistice - a cessation of hostilities - went into effect on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month ... 11 a.m., Nov. 11, 1918.

The following year, in 1919, President Wilson proclaimed Nov. 11 as the first commemoration of Armistice Day. He stated: "To us in America, the reflections of Armistice Day will be filled with solemn pride in the heroism of those who died in the country's service and with gratitude for the victory, both because of the thing from which it has freed us and because of the opportunity it has given America to show her sympathy with peace and justice in the councils of the nations ...". Armistice Day was originally observed in the United States with parades, public meetings and a brief suspension of business beginning at 11 a.m.

However, in 1938, Congress approved Armistice Day as a federal holiday and dedicated it to the cause of world peace. In 1954, after World War II and the Korean War, in response to urging by veterans' service organizations, Congress replaced the word Armistice with Veterans to commemorate a day to honor veterans of all wars. This is an important day to recognize and remember the sacrifices of our veterans and their families to keep our country safe. From World War I to the recent campaigns in Iraq, Afghanistan and Syria, our veterans have an experience to share and we should take the time to listen and remember. Their important stories are interwoven into the fabric that shapes our country and strengthens the bond between our families and our citizens.

We proudly salute our warfighters who made a commitment to uphold the constitution and defend our nation from all enemies. I ask that you join me in paying tribute to generations of veterans on this Veterans Day.

Thank you for your service.

Your fellow Airman,

LKL

LEE K. LEVY II

Lieutenant General, USAF

The preceding article was a Veterans Day message from Lt. Gen. Lee Levy III, Air Force Sustainment Center commander at Robins Air Force Base, Ga.



ODDS AND ENDS

If life gives you melons, you're dyslexic.

~

Bread is like the sun; it rises in the yeast and sets in the waist.

~

If two vegetarians argue is it still considered a beef?

~

What do you get when you mix alcohol and literature? Tequila mockingbird

~

I renamed my iPod The Titanic, so when I plug it in, it says "The Titanic is syncing."

~

Need an ark? I Noah guy

~

What do you call an empty parrot cage? A Polygon

~

This girl said she recognized me from the vegetarian club, but I'd never met herbivore.

~

What do you call a dinosaur with an extensive vocabulary? A thesaurus

~

When you get a bladder infection, urine trouble.



Cheddar Corn Casserole

Serves 12

3 cups shredded Cheddar cheese about 12 oz.

2 Tbsp. all purpose flour

½ tsp. black pepper

¾ cup milk

4 oz. cream cheese, softened

2/3 cup sliced green onions, divided

1 tsp. hot sauce

4 cans 15 oz. each whole kernel corn, well drained

Optional Toppings:

1 ½ cups croutons or crackers, finely crushed (about ¾ cup)

4 strips bacon, cooked and crumbled

½ cup diced red bell pepper

DIRECTIONS

1. Preheat oven to 350° F. Toss together Cheddar cheese, flour and pepper in a medium bowl; set aside.
2. Stir together milk, cream cheese, 1/3 cup green onions and hot sauce in a 9 x 13 inch baking dish. Add corn and shredded cheese mixture; stir well to blend evenly. Cover and bake 30 minutes.
3. Uncover and sprinkle with remaining 1/3 cup green onions and optional toppings, as desired. Bake 5 minutes longer.

VARIATIONS

Prepare recipe as directed, except:

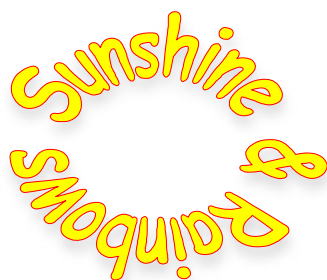
For Cheddar, Corn and Ham Casserole add 2 cups leftover chopped cooked ham with corn in Step 2.

For Cheddar Corn Casserole for 6, reduce all ingredients by half and bake in an 8 x 8 inch baking dish.

Membership and Dues

Since COVID-19 wiped out our 2020 GMC Great Lakers camping season, the board decided that 2020 members would be automatically paid up for 2021. Consequently, you will not need to send any money for a 2021 renewal, but I would like to hear from everyone to confirm that his or her 2020 directory information is still correct and complete. Did you move? Open a new email address? Get a cell phone or drop your landline phone? Buy a place in Florida to use for the winter? I will be sending out a communication to all current members in December to solicit your responses. Watch for it so I can have the best information for our 2021 directory. Thanks.

Steve Johnson
Membership Chairman



Get well cards have been sent to these individuals:

FOR THE TIME BEING IT SEEMS WE'RE ALL DOING WELL



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