

roam.

the newsletter of the GMC Great Lakers

2022 may

It's **Rally Time!**



*Read All About the
46th GMC Great Lakers Birthday Rally!*



from the Editor

Each issue, I like to ask our Board a general question about GMC ownership and hope that you enjoy reading and comparing the unique responses with your own.

Those whom I've befriended in the few short years I've owned my GMC know my story: My dad was a car guy, always delighting in the year-over-year model changes and pointing them out to me, seemingly the only one interested and fascinated by his trivial knowledge of car design.

I was 11 years old when the GMC began production but my entire family of four (at the time) was smitten and captivated each time we would see a GMC on the road. I vividly recall my parents, 35 and 40 at the time, talking about "retiring to travel the USA in a GMC Motorhome" as their dream. Even growing up in South Bend, Indiana during the 1970s—in the shadow of Coachmen Industries—it was a complete novelty to see one.

Of course, my parents thought I was crazy when I said I wanted to buy one, given the vehicle's age by the 2010s. None the less, the thought of ownership never left me and the Internet made the search more attainable.

I know you have a unique story. Let's hear all about it!

Karen
Karen E. Breen, Editor

Hello Fellow GMC Great Lakers Members!

I'm writing this article looking at beautiful Lake Huron in my GMC on a sunny 70-degree day with just the right amount of a cool breeze. Not to steal any of Nancy's thunder, but the Lighthouse County Park campground is beautiful! We had a smaller than usual turnout, but the enthusiasm among the members is strong. Great conversation and fun was had by all.

Rallies are the life blood of this organization. It is the prime network to get questions answered and to experience firsthand, modifications others found useful. You can also pick up tricks of the trade in maintaining and repairing your coach which will not only save you time and money but could also give you the proper techniques to install components in a correct and safe manner.

Plan on making it to some or all the rallies. Whether sharing or receiving information your participation is welcome. As I said in the past and will continue to stress, this club exists for the members and is dependent upon the members to continue the preservation of the TZE motorhomes while having fun doing it.

Two new programs were added at the May membership meeting:

1. We now have a drop box that will be at each rally and is to be used by the members to address issues, wants, needs, comments, etc., that will be reviewed by the board and reported on at the next membership meeting under the heading of "For the Good of the Club." These can be made anonymously or signed, and will be addressed ASAP.
2. I created the Presidential Award of Honor, determined

by the president and presented twice each year. This award will recognize that special member who has gone above and beyond sharing their time and knowledge to further the GMC Motorhome experience. I welcome input from the membership. Please send me a note at any time or place your nomination in the drop box during a rally.

At this month's board meeting, an issue came up which I would like to get input from the membership. Although the board can make changes to the Standing Rules without a membership vote, I feel the board should seek membership opinion on this very important issue. Standing Rules, Article 6, Item B states that "No officer shall serve for more than three (3) consecutive one (1) year terms in any given office." The board is questioning the validity of this rule as it also encompasses the recently designated officers of newsletter editor, webmaster, and membership director.

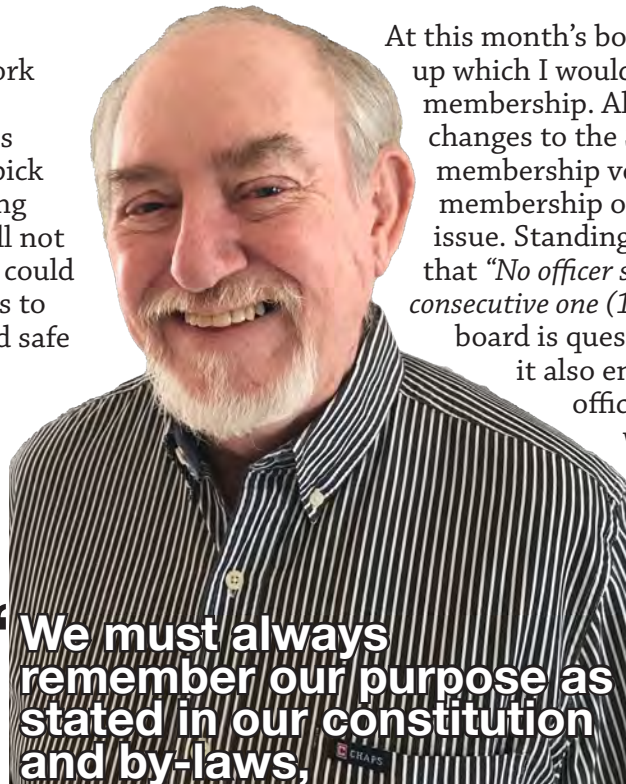
With annual elections held for all positions, why is there a need for term limitations? The membership decides who will be, or not be, officers each year. For example, the newsletter editor position was held for multiple years, exceeding three consecutive years. In retrospect, the webmaster and the membership chair has also exceeded the limit.

So, the question to everyone is: *Should we remove the term limitation for all offices?* After thinking about this important

change, please drop me a note letting me know how you stand and I will report back.

I hope you are having a great day, if not, change it!

Jerry Newman, President



'This club exists to promote social, recreational, and informational exchange activities that provide for the enjoyment and pleasurable use of 1973 to 1978 GMC Motorhomes.'

GMC GREAT LAKERS BOARD OF DIRECTORS & CONTRIBUTORS

Volume 47 : Issue 2.1
gmcgreatlakers.org

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Owned a GMC: "His," 22 years

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Owned a GMC: 5 years

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Owned a GMC: 9 years



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Owned a GMC: 11 years



Becky Johnson, Past President
Milford, Michigan 248.343.7636
beckystevej@aol.com

Owned a GMC: "Hers," 5 years

46th GMC Great Lakers Birthday Rally

By Jerry Newman, Club President

16 Coaches + 30 Members and Guests = 46th Birthday Rally Success

The 46th Birthday Rally at the Lighthouse County Park on Lake Huron in Port Hope, Michigan was a great success no matter how you do the math. The park was beautiful, coupled with near-perfect weather. Upon arrival, every coach was gifted a custom-made tote bag commemorating the event and stuffed with maps, local information, schedule of events, meeting agenda, and a “who’s here” guide.

The Rally began Thursday with a great assortment of hors d’oeuvres displayed on picnic tables overlooking the lake with the lighthouse at the end of the row of GMCs. It was a sight to behold!

On Friday morning, Joe Gillen brought delicious fritters from his favorite bakery from back home. Thanks Joe! What a great way to start the day. The day was open and most of the members spent time catching up with each other and exploring the beautiful grounds. The membership meeting began at 4:30 and was followed by a fantastic dinner of smoked pulled pork, mac and cheese, southern style rice, pinto-type beans, green beans, slaw, and more. And that was topped off with the 46th GMC Great Lakers chocolate birthday cake, in addition to two more birthday cakes from the Foesters, celebrating Rene’s birthday. We finished the night with a bonfire, cocktails, and world-solving discussions.

Saturday everyone enjoyed the beautiful morning with donuts from a bakery in a nearby town named Bad Axe (say that three times really quick!). We had time to explore the area and enjoy the weather. Around 6 p.m. it rained a bit, but we were already inside at our destination, about 15 minutes away, for our sit-down dinner. Lewisville Smokehouse was a nice surprise with good food, friendly waitresses, and a room in which we could all sit together. As a bonus, there was a husband and wife playing acoustic music that was right in our group’s wheelhouse.

We enjoyed donuts and coffee on Sunday morning. It was also a time to say our goodbyes. Some left early, others slept in, and some took advantage of another beautiful day and stayed until mid-day before packing up and heading to their next stop. For many, it was home, and for some it was on to the next adventure.

Everyone had a great time, and it was the perfect start to the rally season.

Let’s keep the momentum going and join our distinguished host and current GMCMI President Dolph Santorine and First Lady Laura, on June 23rd – 26th at Atwood Lake Park in Mineral City, Ohio. To get the ball rolling, reserve your campsite with the campground and complete the registration form in this newsletter.

Photo: Lighthouse County Park - Port Hope, Michigan by Becky Johnson, May 13, 2022

Rally²⁰²² Season!

APRIL 22-28 (FRI-THURS)

GMCM I SPRING CONVENTION in PATTERSON, LOUISIANA

Registration closes April 1st

Info: <https://www.gmcmi.com/2022s-convention-info/>

MAY 12-15 (THURS-SUN)

LIGHTHOUSE COUNTY PARK in PORT HOPE, MICHIGAN

7320 Lighthouse Road : 888.265.2583 : Sites 102-122

Hosted by The GMC Great Lakers Board : Refer to flyer in this newsletter for details

JUNE 23-26 (THURS-SUN)

ATWOOD LAKE PARK in MINERAL CITY, OHIO

9500 Lakeview Road NE : 330.343.6780 : 30 sites held until 4/23

Hosted by Dolph and Laura Santorine

JULY *Hosts Needed*****

AUGUST 11-14 (THURS-SUN)

PLAIN CITY PASTIME PARK in PLAIN CITY, OHIO

Hosted by Dan and Dee Ann King

SEPTEMBER 11-18 (SUN-SUN)

ALGONAC STATE PARK in MARINE CITY, MICHIGAN

Annual "Do Nothing Rally"

SEPTEMBER 26 - OCTOBER 2 (MON-SUN)

GMCM I FALL RALLY in LEBANON, TENNESSEE

Info: <https://www.gmcmi.com/upcoming-events/>

OCTOBER 2-5 (SUN-WEDS)

CAMP CEDAR in MASON, OHIO

\$44/night rate

If you will be attending the GMCM I Fall Convention, this is a great stop five hours from Lebanon, Tennessee

Hosted by Jerry and Bea Newman

2022 JUNE



GMC Great Lakers Rally

Atwood Lake Park - Mineral City, Ohio

Thursday, June 23 - Sunday, June 26

9500 Lakeview Road NE, Mineral City, Ohio 44656

330.343.6780 | 30 sites

Hosted by Dolph and Laura Santorine

Please book your campsite directly with the park

<https://atwoodpark.mwcd.org/camping>

Activities

Thursday: Arrival - Pot Luck/Hors d'Oeuvres

Friday: Breakfast, Carpool to "[Age of Steam Roundhouse](#)" for 10am tour, 1pm lunch at [Dutch Valley Restaurant](#) in Sugarcreek, Ohio, Dinner on Own

Saturday: Breakfast, 9am "Dave Lenzi GMC Motorhome Brake Seminar," **Track1:** [Historic Zoar Village](#)
Track2: [Auman Museum of Radio and Television](#),
Dinner at [Atwood Lighthouse Bistro](#) (self-pay)

Sunday: Breakfast, Depart

Please complete the registration form and send it with your payment to:

Nancy Donaghue

GMC Great Lakers VP

6550 High Pine Drive

Davisburg, MI 48350-2969

Questions: Nancy 248.933.0546 | vice_president@gmcgreatlakers.org

or Dolph 304-219-3100 | dolph@dolphsantorine.com

[Registration Form](#)



BOOK NOW!



GMC Great Lakers June 2022 Rally

Atwood Lake Park ~ Mineral City, Ohio

Thursday, June 23 through Sunday, June 26, 2022

9400 Lakeview Road NE, Mineral City, Ohio 44656

330.343.6780 | <https://atwoodpark.mwcd.org/camping> | 30 sites

Hosted by Dolph and Laura Santorine

Registration Deadline: Extended

Book your campsite directly with the park

Rally Registration Form

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Member1 Name

Member2 Name

Member1 Email

Member2 Email

Member1 Phone

Mobile Home

Member2 Phone

Mobile Home

Children Attending

Children's Ages (U12 gratis)

Guest1 Name

Guest2 Name

Emergency Contact Information

RALLY INFORMATION

New Member Attending First Rally? Yes No

Arrival Date

Departure Date

Site Number

Rally Fees

One Member Only (no guests over age 12)

\$ 20

Totals

Up to Two Members (including children U12)

\$ 40

Each Additional Guest/Children 12+

Number x

\$

\$

Prepaid Tours or Events

Number x

\$

\$

Number x

\$

\$

Make Checks Payable to: GMC Great Lakers Motorhome Club, Inc.

Total Rally Fees \$

Mail To: Nancy Donaghue, GMC Great Lakers VP, 6550 High Pine Drive, Davisburg, MI 48350-2969

Waiver: I/we hereby waive, release, and discharge any and all claims for damage, personal injury, death or property damage which I/we may have, or which may hereafter accrue to me/us, as a result of participation in this rally. This release is intended to discharge in advance the GMC Great Lakers Motorhome Club, its officers, Rally hosts, volunteers, and agents from any and all liability arising out of or connected in any way with my/our participation in activities at this club rally even though that liability may arise out of negligence or carelessness on the part of those parties. It is understood that activities such as the ones I/we may participate in may involve an element of risk and danger of accidents. In knowing those risks, I/we hereby assume those risks. It is further agreed that this waiver, release, and assumption of risk is to be binding on my heirs and assigns. I/we agree to indemnify and to hold harmless, the GMC Great Lakers Motorhome Club, its officers, Rally hosts, volunteers and agents from any loss, liability, damage cost, or expense which they may incur as the result of my/our death or any injury or property damage that I/we may sustain while participating in any activity at this Rally. It is my express intent that this Waiver of Liability and Hold Harmless Agreement shall bind the members of my family and spouse (if any) as well as any guests, including children that accompany me/us. By signing this release, I acknowledge and represent that I/we have read the above waiver of liability and hold harmless agreement, understand it, and sign it voluntarily.

Required: Member/s Signature and Date



Membership Report

By Melissa Koenig

We currently have 96 members! We would like to welcome the following new members:

- Mike and Margaret Stillman from Lakeville, Minnesota
- Larry Loveless and Jamie Willis from Flint, Michigan
- Lawrence and Hildegard Rebholz from Milwaukee, Wisconsin
- Jim and Linda Collins from Dayton, Ohio



May 2022 Treasurer's Report

By Steve Johnson

Treasurer report for May 2022 newsletter	
Balance 1/31/2022 reported in February newsletter	\$5,505.41
Expenses February thru April 2022	-\$12.00
Revenue February thru April 2022	\$970.00
Balance 4/30/2022	\$6,463.41

Support the 1973 GMC Canyon Lands Restoration: Buy a Brick!

By Becky Johnson

In the February 2022 GMC Great Lakers club newsletter, there was an article about the ongoing restoration efforts of the second 1973 GMC Motorhome sold to the public. This 1973 GMC Canyon Lands will be part of the Pontiac Transportation Museum's permanent collection of vehicles designed and/or produced in Pontiac, Michigan. The GMC Great Lakers club has agreed to participate in this restoration by asking our own club members to provide much needed original 1973 parts, hands-on expertise, and other donations critical to this restoration. Another way to support this cause by the Pontiac Transportation museum is to purchase a custom paver brick, which will be part of a special engraved paver entryway to the Museum.

At the end of 2021, the Great Lakers Board approved the purchase an engraved 8 inch by 8 inch paver brick representing our club. A rendering of our club brick is shown below. In addition to a club sponsored paver brick, I'd like to encourage each of our members to also support the Pontiac Transportation Museum by purchasing an individual personal paver brick that can be included with the Great Lakers paver in an array of pavers representing our club. Paver bricks are available in 8 inch by 8 inch, as well as 4 inch by 8 inch. Purchasing a paver brick is a good way to support the efforts of the Pontiac Transportation Museum as well as your part in the GMC Motorhome community.

For more information about the Pontiac Transportation Museum's fundraising efforts visit their website at www.pontiactransportationmuseum.org. The Pontiac Transportation Museum is a nonprofit 501c(3) organization. For a direct link to purchasing your own individual brick follow the link as follows: <https://www.pontiactransportationmuseum.org/become-a-part-of-our-community/engraved-pavers/>

Nominations Committee Members Sought

The GMC Great Lakers is looking for three individuals to participate on the Nominations Committee. Please contact a [board member](#) if interested.

Thank you for your help!



Sunshine and Rainbows

By Deb Pryzbylek

A get well card was sent to Walt Halley.

Please send information to me at sunshine@gmcgreatlakers.org.

May 13, 2022

Membership Meeting Minutes

Submitted by Bea Newman, Past Secretary

Board approved, pending Membership approval at next meeting

Call to Order at 4:30 pm by President Jerry Newman

Intro of Board, New Members, and Guests

- *Board* – Nancy Donaghue - VP; Steve Johnson – Treasurer; Melissa Koenig – Membership Director; Becky Johnson – past President (absent were Jim Wibby – Secretary, Rob Matras – Webmaster and Karen Breen – Newsletter Editor)
- *New Members* - Larry and Hildegard Rebholz from Milwaukee
- *Guest* - Frank Portelli from Lyndon, Michigan

Contributors and Special Committees

- *Historian* – Bill Helmore, Charter Member and past President from 2010-2013. Bill has attended 340 rallies.
- *Sunshine* – Deb Pryzbylek was not present but will send a card on behalf of the Club to any member who is ill, had surgery, or just needs a friendly hello. Please contact her of any updates. Prayers and thoughts were asked for the Hickman family with the passing of Beth Hickman. A donation will be made in her honor. Prayers and Healing thoughts also were asked for John Shotwell, John Pryzbylek, and Joe Baumbarger who are under the weather or healing. Best wishes of a better tomorrow to all.
- *Nominations Committee* – Three members are needed to serve. Primary duty is to locate and submit candidates for the October elections. If you would like to help, please contact a Board member.

Membership Director

- Melissa Koenig reports that we currently have 96 members

Newsletter Editing Director

- Karen Breen was not available, but everyone agreed on the great job she did on the first newsletter this year. Jerry gave a thank you to Karen for the graphics used to make the tote bags given out at this rally. If you have any comments or an article for the newsletter, please contact a Board member.

Webmaster

- Rob Matras was not available. LARA (Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs) documents were filed, and taxes filed. Info will be updated on our website in next couple days.

Secretary

- Jim Wibby was not available. Bea Newman was kind enough to take minutes in Jim's absence.

Treasurer

- Steve Johnson reported a balance of \$6,463.41 as of the end of April 2022

Vice President Nancy Donaghue reported

- June 23-26 Rally at Atwood Park in Mineral City, Ohio. Dolph will host, more details coming soon.
- July HOST IS NEEDED! Please consider a few days at a park near you. Nancy and the Board will be happy to help.
- August 11-14 Rally will be in Plain City, Ohio, Dan King is host. More details coming.
- September 12-18 is a "do nothing" rally at Algonac. This means no host and no Club activities.
- September 26-October 2, GMCMI Convention will serve as the September GMC Great Lakers Rally. It will be hosted by the GMCMI Board.
- Jerry and Bea will host a rally October 2-5 just north of Cincinnati at a brand-new campground next to Kings Island called Camp Cedar. Mention you are with the GMC Great Lakers Club and your rate will be \$44.10/night. This is also the final Rally for 2022 and election results will be announced. If you will be attending the September Rally at the GMCMI convention, this is a great place to stop before continuing north. Lebanon, Tennessee is a five-hour drive to the Camp Cedar Campground on I-71 North.

For the Good of the Club

- *Pontiac Transportation Museum* – Jeff Rider reported the 2nd GMC motorhome sold to the public is in the museum now. It needs a lot of work – like everything. Donations and volunteers are welcome. Goal is to have it completed by the 50th anniversary in 2023 and to use the coach in parades. Jeff is our Club point person. Donations can be earmarked for this project.
- *Pontiac Transportation Museum Brick* – Becky Johnson reported our Club has purchased a paver brick as part of the fundraising campaign for the above mentioned. Personal bricks are available for those wishing to help. You can earmark your donation for the GMC project.
- *For the Good of the Club Box* - Jerry will now have a suggestion/idea box at all meetings for anyone to drop a note of ideas or suggestions. The Board will discuss every note and share with the group. Notes can be anonymous.
- *Presidential Award of Honor* – Jerry explained this new award that will be given in June and October. This award is for members who have contributed above and beyond to our club and to the preservation of the GMC MH. Nominations are welcome and the final decision will be made by the current President.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:20 pm.

Great Lakers August 2022 Rally

Plain City Pasttime Park ~ Plain City, Ohio

Thursday, August 11 - Sunday, August 14, 2022

370 N. Chillicothe Street, Plain City, Ohio 43064

614.873.3527 x108 | <http://www.plain-city.com/campground>

Hosted by Dan and Dee Ann King

Registration Deadline: Monday, August 1, 2022

Book your campsite directly with the park

Additional information and Registration Form forthcoming



History of the Great Lakers "GL Numbers"

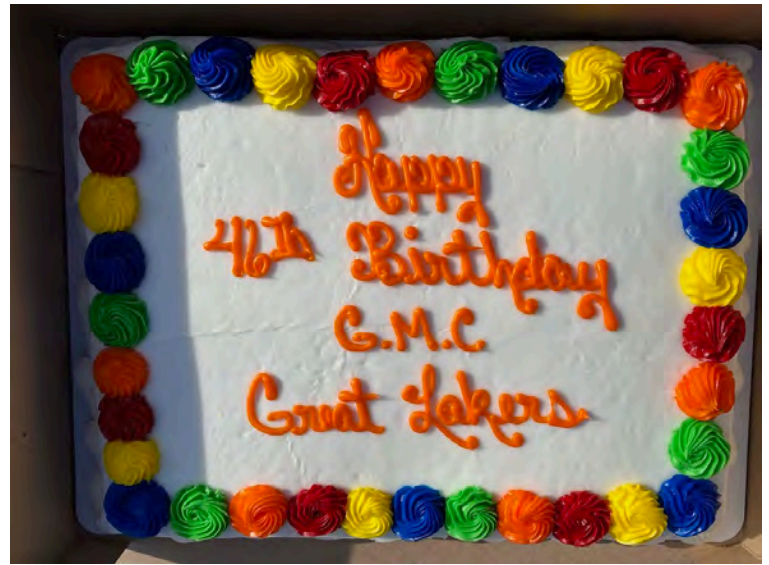
By Bill Helmore, Club Historian

In 1977, the GMC Motorhome Owners Association, which was sponsored by the GMC Truck and Coach division of General Motors, issued a plate for each member of each GMC Motorhome club.

Great Lakers members were issued a plate with a number that began with GL. Members of the GMC Sunshine Statesmen chapter, received a plate beginning with SS, etc. Additionally, the first 50 (1-50) plates were set aside for each chapter's president.

My original GL number was GL69. When I became president my GL number was changed to GL015c. The c denotes that I am a charter member. A suffix on a member's GL number of "a" designates that member as an associate member.

In the past, we have had members with a suffix "l" which designated them as a lifetime member. A suffix of "h" for an honorary member was also used. Those classifications have since been discontinued.



Celebrating 46 years!

GMC Great Lakers Motorhome Club, Inc.

Newsletter Editor
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1976-2022