

roam.

The newsletter of the GMC Great Lokers

2023 february

How
50
looks!



50 years ahead of its time and still not caught up



Horseback riding at Four Seasons Riding Stables near Bellaire, Michigan in July 1973.

from the Editor



hroughout 2023, we will be celebrating the 50th anniversary of our GMC Motorhomes.

In 1973, at the age of 11, I attended my first classic car show. The Auburn-Cord-Duesenberg Festival began in 1971 in Auburn, Indiana. It was held on the DeKalb High School grounds in Auburn. My first visit, during that Labor Day weekend, was wet and soggy, but those classics sure did shine beneath canvas tents! My dad pointed out cars owned by Clark Gable, Marlene Dietrich, Mae West, and many other golden age actors and actresses. They were going to be auctioned off. This was before Tom Monaghan and Jay Leno popularized the auction and well before Barrett-Jackson and Mecum auto auctions. If you're familiar with the A-C-D Festival, you may know that the auction grew to a 168-acre Auburn Auction Park just north of Fort Wayne, along I-69 by the late 1980s.

Also happening in 1973:

- Chicago's Sears Tower was completed and held the title of world's tallest building until 1998
- The first American POWs were released from Vietnam and the last American soldier left Vietnam
- The Watergate Scandal continued
- The Godfather wins best picture at the 45th Academy Awards
- Secretariat wins the Triple Crown
- George Lucas' American Graffiti is released
- Billie Jean King defeats Bobby Riggs in The Battle of the Sexes tennis match
- President Richard Nixon resigns and Vice President Gerald Ford is sworn in as President

What were you doing in 1973?

Karen E. Breen, Editor

Hello Fellow Great Lakers!



1977 Palm Beach at the Blue Water Bridge, Point Edward, Ontario by Shawn Bryan of Sarnia, Ontario Canada on June 19, 2022.

By Jerry Newman, GMC Great Lakers President

Greetings fellow Great Lakers!

I hope your winter is as mild as mine is in Cincinnati. January has been mostly in the 40's but we have had several days near and above 60 degrees. Now that I have said that I may have put a hex on our good fortune and watch out February. Oh well, one thing we can't control is the weather.

One thing we can control is our club. Do you remember the saying, "The sum of the parts is greater than the whole"? The converse of this quote, "The whole is greater than the sum of the parts" is what I believe is true in the case of an organization. For an organization to be successful, it can't consist of individuals working independently and without cohesion. The overall goals must be the focus and individual goals should be secondary to the organization's goals.

Helen Keller said, "The world is moved along, not only by the mighty shoves of its heroes, but also by the aggregate of the tiny pushes of each honest worker."

The GMC Great Lakers Motorhome Club has survived nearly 50 years through the toughest of times. A few of the hurdles encountered: economic recessions, record

high gas prices, Covid restrictions towards group gatherings, FMCA affiliation departure, term limits bringing new faces to the Board, and a host of others. We have been tested and have still shown resilience to do what we love to do: have fun and enjoy these wonderful SMC (sheet molding compound)/aluminum home away from home vehicles, the GMC Motorhome.

Let's make 2023 the best it can be. No matter how small you think your contribution is, it is part of your club, and you should be proud of it. Your Executive Board is here to serve you in the best interest of the club. Your attendance at rallies is much appreciated and this year we have several members who have stepped up and are hosting.

I want to reiterate that everyone is welcomed and encouraged to have input into the club's direction. Send any board member an email or letter about your suggestion or concern for the good of the club. It will be shared at the next monthly board meeting and a reply will promptly be returned.

A little bit of business: Please notice

that the September rally, hosted by the Giannos at Algonac State Park, dates have changed. The new dates are September 14th-17th.

Also, we are also seeking volunteers for the Nominations Committee. Please send me an email or letter with your desire to serve.

It is with heavy heart that I must inform the group of the passing of longtime member and friend Bob Burkitt. Bob passed January 21st after suffering from multiple strokes. Please join me in the offering of prayers to Bob's family and friends. It was good to have seen Bob at the October Rally. Godspeed Bob.

Don't forget Valentine's Day (I like chocolate). Spring is right around the corner, the pitchers and catchers report to spring training camp in a couple of weeks. Above all, the May Birthday Rally is less than 100 days away!!

May the sun always shine on you and your family. Stay healthy, wealthy, and wise!

Jerry

GMC GREAT LAKERS BOARD OF DIRECTORS & CONTRIBUTORS

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gmcgreatlakers.org

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*What maintenance have you
been putting off? Repacking the
front wheel bearings*

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*What maintenance have you
been putting off? New tires*

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*What maintenance have you
been putting off? New tires*



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*What maintenance have you
been putting off? Torn steer-
ing shaft boot*

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*What maintenance have you been
putting off? A small leak in the
gray tank*

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*What maintenance have you been
putting off? New tires*



2023 Rally Season

MAY 11-14

Th-Sun

CAMP DEARBORN in MILFORD, MICHIGAN

1700 GENERAL MOTORS ROAD : 248.684.6000

CAMPDEARBORN.COM : 30 SITES SECURED

RESERVE AFTER MARCH 1

HOSTS: GMC GREAT LAKERS EXECUTIVE BOARD

JUNE 15-18

Th-Sun

HOCKING RIVER RV PARK in LOGAN, OHIO

30761 CHIEFTAN DRIVE : 740.331.4840

HOCKINGRIVERRV.PARK.COM : 7 SITES AVAIL

HOSTS: NANCY AND PETER DONAGHUE

JULY

TBD

AUGUST 17-20

Th-Sun

HARBORTOWN RV RESORT in MONROE, MICHIGAN

14931 LAPLAISANCE ROAD : 734.384.4700

HARBORTOWNRV.COM : 25 SITES

UNRESERVED SITES WILL BE RELEASED FEBRUARY 1 \$72 and \$77 per night

HOSTS: NEEDED

SEPTEMBER 14-17

Th-Sun

ALGONAC STATE PARK in MARINE CITY, MICHIGAN

8732 RIVER ROAD : 800.447.2757

MIDNRESERVATIONS.COM : CAN RESERVE 6 MONTHS IN ADVANCE

HOSTS: SHARON AND TOM GIANNOSA

OCTOBER 19-22

Th-Sun

CAMP TURKEYVILLE RV RESORT in MARSHALL, MICHIGAN

18935 15 1/2 MILE ROAD : 269.781.4293

CAMPTURKEYVILLE.COM : 25 SITES : \$55 per night

HOSTS: RENE AND RICHARD FOERSTER



GMC Pacific Cruisers Motorhome Club Rally at Newport Dunes Waterfront Resort in Newport Beach, California by Mike Kociela of San Diego on January 28, 2023. Mike is the owner of a 1977 Palm Beach, fourth from left, above.



February 2023 Treasurer's Report

By Steve Johnson

As expected, the final months of the year after the previous newsletter had only a few financial transactions. In summary:

Balance (10/31/2022 reported in November newsletter) ..	\$6,733.04
Expenses November and December 2022	-\$662.49
Revenue November and December 2022	\$50.00
Balance 12/31/2022	\$6,120.55

Great Laker members who are interested in more details about our club's finances through all of 2022, can review a file posted in the Financial Reports section of the Members' page of our website.

There is a summary by category showing how we earned our income and where we incurred our expenses throughout 2022. If you still need more information, please contact me at treasurer@gmcgreatlakers.org.



Membership Report

By Melissa Koenig

We would like to welcome the following new members who joined since October:

- Faye and Dan Smith from Mason, Ohio
- Randy Broadright from Bucyrus, Ohio
- Bobby and Donald Pontious from Mansfield, Ohio

Please remember to pay your dues for 2023 and contact me if you have any questions at membership@gmcgreatlakers.org.



Sunshine and Rainbows

By Deb Pryzbylek

A sympathy card was sent for **Bob Burkitt**.

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

2023 Rally Season

Thank you, hosts, for helping to make the coming rally season a bunch of well-anticipated events. We are updating the guidelines to make a hosting experience an even easier endeavor. Watch for the update on the website before our May rally.

If you are planning to attend either the June or August rallies, please make your reservations with each facility ASAP. Club Rally registration forms will be included in each upcoming newsletter.

We are looking forward to seeing many of you throughout the year!



Mila Lovelock of Lititz, Pennsylvania peeking through the family's 1975 Eleganza II, with the camp cat, at the Starlight Campground in Stevens, Pennsylvania on September 20, 2020.



Attention All GMC Great Lakers Veterans!

By Jerry Newman

Your Executive Board wants to recognize our Veterans' service to our country. We must never forget the sacrifices you and others unselfishly gave to preserve the freedoms we enjoy daily. May our thanks extend throughout the year, and Veterans Day is the reminder of each hero.

In recognition of this appreciation, each Veteran in attendance will be recognized at all meetings and gatherings associated with the GMC Great Lakers Motorhome Club. In addition to your recognition, the Executive Board voted unanimously to offer a one-time 25% discount per GL# on a 2023 rally fee of your choice (This excludes GMCM conventions). Per your instructions, the discount will be honored at the time of registration and will be inclusive of a spouse, if applicable.

Once again, we cannot adequately express our gratitude to our Veterans for their service. Every individual in this country owes each of you their respect and sincere thanks for a job well done! I'm proud to have you in the GMC Great Lakers Motorhome Club, and above all, to call you my friend.

GMC Great Lakers Motorhome Club, Inc.

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I'm turning
50!

