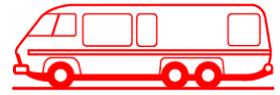


Classic Chatter



Bob Musgrove

President's Message

Wilderness Lakes RV Resort near Mathis, TX was a great place to have the GMC Classics summer rally. The park is located far enough from the road to assure that there is no noise from traffic; and the trees are actually large enough to shade the RV parking sites. What a pleasant and peaceful setting!! The recreation building was roomy, well kept, and cool which made for a comfortable early summer setting in which to meet, play cards, or to just sit and talk. The hosts, **Art & Carroll Owens, Jim & Betty Presley, Carolyn Tipton, and Karon Haynie** made it all happen. Thanks to each of you for doing a terrific job. There were 38 coaches present with about 86 members in attendance.

A very special group of attendees were the “**Classic Travelers**”:

**Karen Ruppel
Ruby Thoma
Quata Powers
Pat Summey
Ken Rose**

**Nancy Fulks
Carolyn Tipton
Ola Diet
Emmy Dunlap
Robert Tietje**

Each of these GMC Classic members has lost spouses. We were delighted they could join their GMC Classics friends.

Sporting events were organized, played, and enjoyed by participants and spectators alike. These events included chicken foot, washers, horseshoes, cards, dominoes, and dice games. **Jan Wersal** demonstrated how to make a multi-colored yarn scarf in a ladies craft session.

The White Elephant auction on Saturday night was a huge success with \$3,210 being raised. Add to that \$480 in donations and a total of \$3,690 was raised to buy a defibrillator and a commercial grade first aid kit for the club. **Corky McHaney** did a great job as the auctioneer for the event; and his girls, **Virgie McHaney, Debbie Massey, Georgene Farrill, Billie Young, Redonia Harper, and Joyce Murdock** added some fun and frolic to the cause.

Jim and Grace Kanomata, Applied GMC, donated a \$500 gift certificate to the White Elephant auction, demonstrating again that they are true supporters of the GMC community.

Our Wilderness Lakes RV Resort hosts, Jerry and Carolyn Edmondson, were great in providing the ‘normal’ service that might be expected at a rally. Additionally, they participated significantly in the auction by contributing several pounds of freshly smoked pork, numerous caps, and a one-week stay at the park. They also provided cash prizes totaling \$40 to the winners of the horseshoe and washer throwing contests.

We hope to see you at the next rally at Cedar Valley RV Park, Guthrie, OK. The dates are October 25th-28th. The theme for the rally will be the early 1900’s era; so bring your hats, boots, suspenders, bonnets, long dresses or any other apparel that suits you. This is Oklahoma’s Centennial year. Ya’ll come and help celebrate!!

RGM

The 2008 Nominating Committee was appointed in Mathis, TX. They are **Jan Wersal, Wayne Alumbaugh, and Bill Wortham**.

Nominees will be announced and officers will be elected at the Guthrie Rally in October. The new officers will be sworn in at the January Rally, which will be at Braunig Lake RV Resort south of San Antonio, TX.

NEXT RALLY

Dates: Oct. 25-28, 2007
Location: Guthrie, Oklahoma
Site: Cedar Valley RV Park
Hosts: Tulsa GMC Lunch Bunch

Reservations due Oct. 10, 2007

WINTER RALLY

Dates: January 24-26, 2008
Location: San Antonio, TX
Site: Braunig Lake RV Resort
Hosts: Larry & Linda Turner
Ed & Kandy Lilly

More information later

CLASSIC TRAVELERS

A new group has been formed in the GMC Classics. The group consist of members and former members who have lost a spouse. The members want to keep and continue the friendships that have developed over the years.

Thus far those who have been contacted are: **Phillip Atkisson, Faye Cartwright, Ola Dietz, Emmy Dunlap, Nancy Fulks, Quata Powers, Nell Richards, Martha Rogers, Ken Rose, Karen Ruppel, Pat Summey, Ruby Thoma, Bob Tietje, and Carolyn Tipton.**

This is a very exclusive group of our GMC family. There is a very high price to pay for admission.

Those attending the rally in Mathis, TX were: **Ola Dietz, Emmy Dunlap, Nancy Fulks, Quata Powers, Ken Rose, Karen Ruppel, Pat Summey, Ruby Thoma, Bob Tietje, and Carolyn Tipton.**

We are looking forward to seeing all of you at the next rally in Guthrie, OK October 25th thru 28th 2007.

If anyone knows of someone we need to contact, please let us know .

Emmy Dunlap
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Mathis Rally (Stanley's Report)

I am so glad to be back. I was having a rough time in the hill country when **Frances Reeves** called and said **Carroll & Art Qwens** wanted Chickenfoot to come to Mathis and I jumped at the chance.

This turned out to be one of the most exciting rallies! We know a lot of members have trouble with the July Rally for a variety of reasons (**IT'S HOT**). We had a total of 38 coaches and about 86 members attending. New members **Jerry and Lori Haire** came with **Gaye & Marvin Guelker** from Abilene, TX. They enjoyed the rally and are happy to be one of us now. Mathis is a great part of the country and some of made it to the beaches at Corpus Christi even though we had scattered showers. The RV park had the big game room where we could stay out of the rain and continue on with our card playing, puzzles, crafts, tech sessions, camaraderie. The owners of the park were an awesome couple. They were just like family. We had some sunshine so we had horse shoes and washers competitions. **Norman Treude** and **Bruce Farrill** won horseshoes. **Gaye and Marvin Guelker** hosted the washer contest and kept everyone honest. Some of these ladies are getting pretty good and giving the men some real competition. **Mattie Driskell** has an eye for that board and it was the first time for **Pat Summey** to play. They were tough, but alas-- two pros took 1st place; **Jerry Reeves** and **John Sharpe**. I keep saying sign up and play, "You'll be glad you did."

Four (4)exciting things happened at this rally. You know... like Dave Letterman's Top 10.

#4 **Billy** and **Debbie Massey** taught us a new game (Phiffle) that is played with dice. From 2 to as many as you want can play this game and ... depending on the players ... it can get wild to say the least.

#3 Chickenfoot with Stanley returned. This game is always so fast and furious....you really don't have time to blink. The winner was our new member **Karon Haynie** from Louisiana. She has visited numerous times with her friend **Carolyn Tipton**. She was in 7th heaven when she saw she had **won me**. She knew immediately I was a Celebrity Star! They are going to the GMCM I Rally in Iowa so I am hoping for pictures of me with important people and places that we can be shown in Guthrie.

#2 Special Guests — The Classic Travelers. Through the years some of our members have lost their spouses and no longer attend. Thanks to **Emmy Dunlap**, we had 10 of these members at the Mathis Rally. It was so good seeing them again. If you didn't make this exciting rally, then you missed a special time and could have spent time with these special people. Thanks to all of you and hope to see you at more rallies.

"Drum Roll Please" and the most exciting thing at this rally was ...

#1 **The Auction** This proves our members are the best. For you who do not know, not being spring chickens anymore, most of the members have agreed it would be smart and practical for the club to have a defibrillator to take to each Rally. They decided to have an auction at the Mathis rally to offset the cost of a defibrillator and get it sooner. Members donated and brought items to be auctioned. Some, who could not attend, sent a monetary donation. As the old saying goes "one mans junk is another mans treasure." and let me tell youBirds were a HOT commodity. Hold on to your hats....over \$3400.00 was raised. That's enough money for the defibrillator and an excellent First Aid Kit. Isn't this wonderful! Not only did the auction raise the money for the equipment, it became a fun night of entertainment. Of course with **Corky McHaney** as auctioneer and the members giving him a hard time, what else could it be? Everyone deserves a pat on the back for this one. The owner of the park made a couple of nice donations to auction.

Willard Murdock, who worked for the fire dept. as a paramedic, is getting the unit for us and will be arranging the instructions for us to know how to use it. Thanks Willard!

Now I can't wait till Guthrie. I have heard **Marilyn Musgrove** talk about the sights in the town, museums, live plays, trolley car rides etc. There's really a lot to see and if you like these things, you should come early or stay over after the Rally. Make sure you are there. You never know what you might miss. *Stanley*

REPORT ON OUR TRIP TO OREGON

By: **Corky McHaney, FMCA National Director**

Hello everyone. Just wanted to let you know we made it to and back from the FMCA Governing Board Meeting in Redmond, Oregon. Beautiful country, it is known as the high desert. The weather was perfect in the 50's and

60's in the morning and only got into the 80's during the day; it was really tough to take. Well on second thought we haven't had such bad weather, but rain, not complaining, here in Texas either.

We really hate to admit it but we took the cowards way out and took a "Love" flight with Southwest. One big mistake was the two-hour layover in Vegas. Thank goodness we already had our flight paid for. We flew into Portland, Oregon, spent the night, rented a car and drove to Redmond, however we stayed at Bend, Oregon, which is just 14 miles from Redmond. Good roads, but the speed limit was only 55 mph, something we are not use to. No I didn't get a ticket, because I had a reminder sitting in the front seat with me.

We arrived in Redmond the day before the scheduled meeting, scoped out the layout, only got lost once, however we were still on the fairgrounds. This fairgrounds had an outer circle and also an enter circle, but how you got to those different circles wasn't easy, but if you drive on a few sidewalks you can make it! We didn't have any of the credential but did run into Tony Innocenti, South Central VP, and asked him where could we get the needed credentials. Tony called over to one of the Rally officials; we explained that we needed the necessary paper work to be able to get into the fairgrounds for the meeting that was scheduled for the next morning. She took us to the convention office, gave us a car pass, which we used all week, name tags, and took our money. She then looked me straight in the eye and wanted to know how we got into the fairgrounds. I grinned and said I guess I have an honest face.

Now I guess we better get down to the reason we went to the FMCA National Convention in Redmond, Oregon. We went for the Governing Board Meeting that is held once every year for the transaction of business. The meeting was scheduled for Monday, August 13, 2007. We had to arrive at the meeting room to sign in and to get our voting credentials between 7:00 – 8:30 a.m.. The meeting was scheduled to begin at 9:00 a.m. They had coffee, tea, water, sweet rolls, and fruit available for us. The morning session was spent with introductions, house cleaning, reading of the minutes, and going over the days agenda. We then got down to all the committee reports and voting on the reports that must be approved. The big report was the approval of the annual budget for 2008. The budget was approved with a few changes. They are talking BIG money, the income and expenses are in the millions. Even with a drop in membership, loss in advertisements for the

magazine, and attendance at the conventions down, they project a net profit. We then recessed for lunch, which they provided: a turkey or ham sandwich, which wasn't bad this year, chips, potato salad, grapes, cookies, and a drink. Back from lunch we had to check in, then it was more committee reports. **Virgie** sat in the gallery. In the middle of the afternoon, they brought out cookies, coffee, drinks and water; I guess it was to try to keep the group awake. Virgie got up to go check out the spread, and to sample a cookie or two and get a cup of coffee, but she wasn't quick enough, the attendant setting up the refreshments caught her, all but slapped her hand to let her know it wasn't time to eat the cookies. Well she was a little late Virgie had already grabbed a few.

We finally got through with committee reports and it was time for the election of officers. The following were elected:

President:	Connie Pool
Senior VP:	Nelson K. Stubbs
Secretary:	Joanne Durbin
Treasurer:	Doug Key

In spite of the distance, there was a good turn out for the Governing Board. The meeting adjourned around 7 p.m.

Tuesday and Wednesday we visited the exhibits and realized the only bad thing about flying is there's no room to bring back any purchases.

Gas in Oregon was about the same price as it is here, and you don't have to pump it yourself. Can't say about the other states out west, because we just let Southwest Airlines worry about the gas prices.

The only sad thing about this whole trip was that we didn't have the Dunlap's along with us. It just is not the same!

East Texas Campout at the Heartland RV Park,
Huntsville, TX.



The **Classics Chatter** is published quarterly for the membership of the GMC Classics. The club is a chapter of the Family Motor Coach Association and primarily draws its membership from Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana, and Arkansas. Its purpose is to promote the preservation of the GMC Motorhome and to bring its owners together for their exclusive enjoyment and common interests.

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Tech Notes

by Fred Hudspeth, Technical Program Coordinator

Wilderness Lakes RV Resort
21-24 June 07

Mathis, TX

This record of the Tech Notes is presented as a service to GMC Classics members and guests. Accuracy is not guaranteed. Independent verification is urged.

Many thanks to **Bob Musgrove** for the following Tech Session. **Fred and Sharon** spent the summer in Alaska. Bob, you did a great job!

One Method of Repowering a GMC

Bud and Judy Allen bought their 1973 Canyonlands - 23' GMC about 3-1/2 years ago. They had Dyno Source, Inc. (which is owned by Jim Rosenberg) install a new GM 8100 (496 cu. in.) Vortec Engine in the coach about 1-1/2 years ago. Dyno Source, Inc. is located in Sequim, WA. Bud said that the decision to go with a complete new engine set up was, to a degree, because parts are harder to come by and replacement cores (heads, blocks, etc.) are getting more difficult to find for the original 455 and 403 engines. Also, the opportunity to transition to the newer technology of the more modern engine significantly influenced the decision.

Dyno Source prefers the Marine version of the GM 8100 Vortec Engine for installation in the GMC motorhome. This version has more horsepower and torque than the standard GM 8100 engine. The installation includes a new fuel-injected engine complete with all wiring, belts, and other engine accessories that would be part of an entire engine assembly. Of course, headers were included in the package. The Dyno Source website presents the GM 8100 Vortec Engine as a '200,000 MILE NO

MAINTENANCE MOTOR' (other than oil and filters).

Also, this 9.1:1 compression ratio engine runs very well on 87 octane fuel. Bud says that a steady 55 mph will reward him with 13-14 mpg. Of course, a higher speed will decrease gas mileage significantly.

The people at Dyno Source say that the original motorhome transmission is more than adequate to handle the extra horsepower and torque of the new engine. They did mount a transmission cooler c/w fan in front of one of the wheel wells. The original 3.07 final drive was utilized over the lower ratio aftermarket gears that are available. The new engine has plenty of torque; and the higher ratio original final drive helps to enhance gas mileage.

A distinct advantage of the installation of the GM 8100 Vortec Engine is that the fuel injection system can be serviced at any GM dealer, and at most repair shops in North America.

GM Futurliner Restoration Project

Jerry Barnes showed the video of the history and restoration of the 1953 GM Futurliner, which was the 10th of a total of 12 Futurliners built as part of the GM Parade of Progress. This GM project showcased emerging technology to millions of Americans from 1936 through 1956. This was a very interesting presentation to anyone who likes old vehicles.

Tech Notes

Round Table Discussion

Charles Wersal chaired a meeting that addressed topics fielded by attendees. Some of the topics discussed were:

Bogie Pins

It was noted that excessive wear on bogie pins could cause rapid tire wear. This tire wear was evident to the extreme on a coach that was present at the January 2006 Rally at Whispering Pines RV Park, Tyler, TX. A member had driven the coach from Louisiana to the rally and the trip had worn the right front bogie tire to the point that it was unsafe (in my opinion). In this situation, the wear was due to the bogie arm being badly bent; and some very capable members in attendance were able to straighten the arm. Because of the age of our coaches, most of them undoubtedly have some wear on the bogie assemblies, which also has a negative affect on handling. **Ken Rose** makes an Alignment Lock Set that holds the bogie assembly straight and true. I acquired one of these sets used; and, another member and I installed it on the coach. This addition has made a remarkable improvement in the tracking and handling of the coach when driving, especially, in crosswinds and in truck traffic.

Steering Wheel Play

Because of the age of our coaches and the mileage that is likely to be on most of them, there is probably not one particular part to which this wear can be traced. Rather, the collective wear on multiple steering components adds up to the complaint about the elusive 'steering wheel play'. The comments that were made by attendees of the round table discussion certainly seemed to support this probability. The remarks included the necessity for shock

absorbers, tie rod ends, A-frame bushings, and Steering Shock Absorber assembly being in good condition. Additionally, in my own experience, replacement of the steering gear box, idler arm assembly, steering relay assembly, and steering coupler aided in restoring the desired feel to the coach.

Engine Oil Additives

Charles mentioned that Dick Paterson has an article in the GMCMI Spring 2007 Newsletter about this subject. The name of the article is MOTOR OIL TODAY. Mr. Paterson is highly respected in the GMC community; and he is recognized as having a premier knowledge of this topic.

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