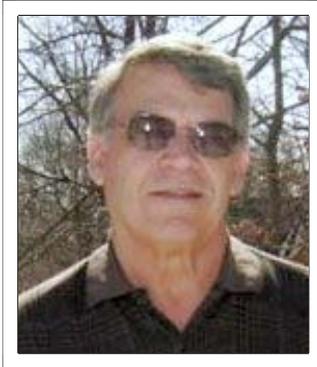
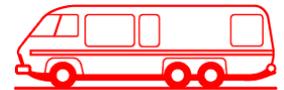


# CLASSIC CHATTER



*Bob Musgrove*

## President's Message

The GMC Classics Fall Rally at Guthrie, OK was a great way to end our "Rally Year". Guthrie was also a great place to celebrate the pioneer spirit that helped settle this whole region, including Oklahoma. A great number of us had fun with the dressing up and taking of the Pioneer Photos that played a significant part in the rally. The Friday night sing-along was a huge success, thanks in great part to the hard work of **Bernie and Renee Baldwin**. Renee's musical skills with the scrub board and thimble rivaled anything that I remember in recent years. The Chuck wagon dinner Saturday night came complete with a Chuck wagon (display only). Banjoist, Johnny Baier, rounded out the entertainment for the rally. Also hosting the rally were **Ken and Doree Broostin, Ron and Sharon Eimen, Jim and Betty Haynes, Monte and Helen Jestes, Bill and Darlene Rowland, and Marilyn Musgrove**. A sincere "Thank You" to each of the hosts for putting on a great rally!! These hosts are part of the **Tulsa Lunch Bunch** that was founded by **Glyn Trimble** in 1999. Glyn shared some of the history of this group with us at the rally.

There are at least two other unofficial groups of GMC owners that meet between the GMC Classics rallies to enjoy the camaraderie of ownership and to swap stories about these magnificent old coaches. The **North Texas Lunch Bunch** has been meeting in **Lewisville, TX** periodically for several years. **Charles Wersal** announces by email on the GMCnet when the next gathering will take place.

The newest addition to these lunch groups is the **Central Texas Lunch Bunch**. This gathering was recently announced by **Lanny and Billie Young**; and, the group plans to meet in **Marble Falls, TX**. In fact, the first meeting has already taken place; and it was very well attended.

Local gatherings such as these gain importance in maintaining the cohesion within the GMC community as gasoline prices rise and coaches and owners become more mature.

The Red Hat Tea was held at the Victorian Tea Room in Guthrie with the round trip being made by Trolley. **Emmy Dunlap** crowned **Georgene Farrill** as the new Queen Mother at the affair. Thank you, Emmy, for your dedication and service to the Red Hat Society.

The ladies craft session showed how to decorate the 'old fashion' picture frames that **Ken and Doree Broostin** hand-made from old barn wood. Of course, these picture frames were ideal to mount the Pioneer Photos that are mentioned above.

The year 2007 is coming to an end, as is my tenure as President of GMC Classics. I take this opportunity to thank the numerous members who gave input and advice as the year evolved and the various rallies took place. Also, thanks to my wife **Marilyn** for her organizational skills as well as for her support, advice, and critique. Lastly, I honor those members who have passed on during this year.

The New Year will bring new officers under the leadership of **Bill Wortham**, who will become our next GMC Classics President.

We are looking forward to seeing you at the next rally at Braunig Lake RV Resort, San Antonio, TX. The dates are January 24<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup>. Let's all meet in San Antonio for a true Fiesta!!!

RGM

## NEXT RALLY



**Dates:** Jan. 24-27, 2008  
**Location:** San Antonio, TX  
**Site:** Braunig Lake RV Resort

Reservations due Jan. 10, 2008

## SPRING RALLY

**Dates:** April 24-27, 2008  
**Location:** Tyler, TX  
**Site:** Whispering Pines RV Park

### Classics Dues

If you have not paid your **\$25.00** 2008 GMC Classics dues, please do so as soon as possible. The Rosters are to be handed out at the January Rally to the people in attendance and then mailed to the rest of the club.

### Portable Defibrillator Instruction

At the Winter Rally, Braunig Lake in San Antonio, we will have a program by **Laurie Fish**, the District Sales Manager with Southeastern Emergency Equipment. **Willard Murdock** will assist her. Laurie is so busy and the only time she could schedule with us is at **10 AM on Thursday January 24th, 2008**. She will be using a projector to show a DVD. This should make it easier for you to see and hear the program. Please plan on being there on Thursday to attend this **very important program**. We never know when this knowledge will be needed. Many thanks to Willard and Laurie for making this possible for our Classics!

### Sunshine Lady

"If you, or someone you know of in our GMC Classics family, are ill, facing surgery, or the loss of a loved one, please let our Sunshine Lady know about it. I can be reached at **billiey325@yahoo.com** or 325/388-6502 home, 512/567-6583 mobile. We want our GMC family to know they're not alone in the challenges they may face, and we want to come alongside them in loving support. Thank you in advance for your cooperation."

*Billie Young*

### Claremore Oklahoma Mini Rally

The Mini Rally at the Ballonfest in Claremore, Oklahoma was tremendous. It ballooned much larger than they had anticipated, but was a total success! For all of us from Texas who did attend, "Thank You to the **Tulsa Lunch Bunch**". They invited everyone on the Classics email list and 6 coaches from the **North Texas Lunch Bunch** showed up. It was a good time for all. There were 37 balloons with two days of flying contests and two nights of Glow. It was held at a race track on Indian land so we also had casinos. The town is the home of Will Rogers and has a large interesting museum and a big gun museum.

We really had a great time and enjoyed all the company. **Ken Broostin** brought a big Bar-b-que grill and everyone brought something to share. We even had pancakes for breakfast.

There are already talking about next year and I would recommend it to anyone. "Many thanks to the Tulsa Lunch Bunch!"

### Queen Bee's Bonnet

"I want to say Thank You for choosing me to be your Red Hat Queen Bee.

Looking forward to seeing everyone in San Antonio. **Please do NOT bring a gift to the January Rally** in San Antonio. We will have our regular tea, our enjoyment with each other, and some entertainment. I also want to let all thrifty shoppers know the **October Red Hat Tea will feature a Christmas Ornament Exchange**, so if you find something really Special in the clearances ...now is the time to get it.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year."

*Georgenne Farrill*



### Guthrie Rally *(Stanley's Report)*

120 Attended Guthrie Rally  
51 Red Hatters attended the Tea

GET TO THE RALLY seemed to be the theme at Guthrie. A lot of people came 2 or 3 days early...Lot of interesting things to do there...but I am referring to the breakdowns.

Two of our long time members, **Art and Carroll Owens** and **Al and Ann Brieger**, have just had complete motor engine overhauls. This was their first time to travel since the work was done. The Owens picked up their GMC in the Ft.Worth/Dallas area and went to Oklahoma City. All of a sudden things started happening...seemed a little low on oil. Educated decisions were made to "Get it to the Rally...Art had to make coffee, Carroll needed a card fix and besides, that is where their friends were waiting." The right decision was made. They enjoyed their week of fun and then, using a quart of oil every 20 miles, yes, you did read that right, they limped back to the Ft.Worth/Dallas area. Their mechanic came...plus **Willard Murdock, Jerry Reeves, and Charles Wersal** with some spare parts. Problem solved. They made it safely back to Aransas Pass and all is well.

**Al and Ann** had picked up their GMC and I was told they had only been about 70 miles when it started making sounds like it was "ALL OVER". Al pulled over and was assessing the situation when some members, who had been to town sight-seeing and downing Mango Smoothies, happened upon them. They were only about 5 miles from the Rally park. Again, educated decisions were made to "Get it to the Rally, have a good time, and wait for the mechanic to get there".

## Winter 2007

Warren and Berrie Mitchell had developed a power steering leak. So Warren spent 1/2 a day taking care of that problem, while Berrie, and some of the ladies, were checking out the town and things to do. **Georgene and Bruce Farrill** were minding their own business and trying to eat when the call came in..."There's water running out the back of your coach." Other than pulling out back booths and moving everything in the coach, the outcome was okay. Again, they were with friends. Now this is the GMC gremlins at work. I just know it! We all have them. Everything is going great and then for no reason, LOOK OUT.

Again another superb rally. Guthrie is a town with so much to do in the way of museums and historic places. The whole town is a historic site. Lots rode the trolley and got a good overview of what and where they wanted to visit. Did you hear how **Charlie Myers** got arrested by that BULLY cowboy sheriff? Charlie hit the ground and got a bloody elbow out of the ruckus. But just think Charlie, that sheriff was on the take for a dollar. He would arrest people and then charge \$2.00 to let them go. Some friend did this to you. (*hmmm, wonder who?*) Hope you are okay.

Again the Oklahoma bunch came up with a winner with the pictures taken in old fashioned costumes. I think we all had more fun dressing up and posing than actually getting the finished picture. **Renee Baldwin** had a great sing-a-long and went to a lot of work getting it setup on the screen. Only thing was I couldn't figure out if we couldn't sing...OR read. It was a lot of fun even if we didn't sound all that great. The banjo player was a great entertainer. His banjo playing was awesome and so versatile. He also gave us a lot of history on banjo music. Anyone who missed it sure missed a good show.

The ladies card games were the hottest in town. By the end of the rally there were four tables in that little club house and ladies standing at the ready if someone needed to take a break. We really missed **Janice Wersal**. She is always ready to play a couple of hands if someone needed a quick break. If you didn't go into that club room, *I am going to tell you a little secret*. It was full of pictures of James Garner back when he was young and good looking *and so were we*. He played golf here and you know he's a Big celebrity.

Speaking of golf, we were right on the course, really nice and there were a few games played by **Wayne Alumbaugh, Frank Jacob, Warren Mitchell, and Jim Grissom**. *I heard Wayne tried to hit a few squirrels in the trees!!!* Oh my! I am also sure I heard **Jim Davis** say he had tried to teach them everything he knows about golf, but thinks he will let them practice for awhile and check them out in the spring!

I'm gonna close for now. Can't wait to see all you folks in San Antonio. Hmmm. wonder if they'll have any Fiesta Chicks?

stanley chickenfoot   
"Eat more beef!"

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Following are members and their coaches at Guthrie who have not been previously featured as first-time attendees.



For **Mary and Joe Dawson**, the Mathis Rally in June was their first GMCC rally. They live at Wolf City, TX (near Greenville). Here they are with their '73 26' GMCMH, originally a Painted Desert, which they bought in May 2006.

\*\*\*\*\*



**Dorothy and Reg Phillips** were attending their first GMCC rally at Guthrie. They live at Grand Prairie, TX and bought their coach, a '77 Eleganza II, about four and a half years ago in Smithdale, MS. Here is **Reg** with their coach.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Marjorie and John Troy** were also attending a GMCC rally for the first time at Guthrie. They, however, left before I got around to visiting with first time attendees Saturday PM.

by Fred Hudspeth

**CLASSIFIED ADS**

1978 Royale - Center kitchen, New Alcoas and tires. Partially restored. New inverter to be installed. New Dometic refrigerator (still in crate). New cabinet top with new sink and fixtures. New microwave, tinted windows with blinds. Reupholstered couch. Floor ready for wood flooring (included). \$14,500. Contact **Emmy Dunlap** emmydunlap@sbcglobal.net

\*\*\*\*\*

Rebuilt Transmission, converter, and all gaskets for GMC Motorhome. Rebuilt by professional mechanic with excellent reputation. \$650. Contact **John Chappelle** in Whitney at 254-694-4473

\*\*\*\*\*

1977 Birchaven - 23', Mechanically good, New front end, Transmission, and Air Conditioning. \$9,800. **Jim Franklin** 254-729-2477 or 254-729-8282

\*\*\*\*\*

1976 Palm Beach - 26', Nice original coach, 55,000 miles. Alcoas, new tires. Original interior. Runs good. \$15,000 OBO. **Jim Franklin**, 254-729-2477 or 254-729-8282.

\*\*\*\*\*

1976 Palm Beach - 200,000 miles. This coach has never sat for long and has been in constant service. It has been kept in top shape by the same owners since 1980. Always kept enclosed under cover and is in excellent condition. New converter and batteries. It also has a brand new, low profile Penguin roof air, wheel flairs, Ragussa step, Alcoa wheels, ZipDee awning, and Fantastic fan. Everything works. Ready to go cross country and back. Other than carpet, interior is original and clean. A real bargain at the asking price of \$19,000. **Nancy Fulks** near San Antonio. nancyfulks@aol.com 830-612-3803.

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1994 Ford Escourt Station Wagon tow car with tow-bar. 33000 miles, 5 speed stick shift. \$2000.00 **Gordon Wright** in Dallas, 214-361-1988

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

**Cedar Valley RV Resort  
25-28 Oct 07**

**Guthrie, OK**

*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.*

**Ken Broostin** led off this rally's tech sessions with an informative presentation on detecting leaks in the body of the GMC Mh. Shown here is the motor/blower he used to pressurize the motorhome.



Ken used **Gaye and Marvin Guelker's '78 23' Birchaven** as the test bed. Here is the blower duct connected to the open sliding window/driver side:



While the blower pressurizes the motorhome to only a few inches water column, it does an effective job of disclosing leak locations. Marvin said he knew he had water invasion problems—but not that he had so many!!



Here are pictures some of the leaks that were found: Marvin said the last picture showed him where water is likely entering in soaking amounts on the passenger side of the motorhome. He had been trying to find where it was leaking but "had been looking in all the wrong places".

Thanks to Ken and his associates from the "Tulsa Lunch Bunch" for showing how effective this technique can be in locating leaks.

## Tech Notes

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Next up was **John Sharpe** with a presentation on adapting a Delphi Stepper Motor Cruise Control from a '90 Chevrolet pickup to his '78 Eleganza II Motorhome. John made this presentation first in September '07 to a technical audience at the GMC Motorhomes International Convention at Amana, Iowa. It drew a lot of interest there - and at Guthrie - because of the frustration many owners have with the OEM cruise control and aftermarket replacements. John at work:



Here are some pictures John uploaded to [www.gmcmhphotos.com/photos/showgallery.php?cat=4776](http://www.gmcmhphotos.com/photos/showgallery.php?cat=4776). They help explain some of the details of his presentation:

### Parts Needed for Basic Installation



### Parts for Enhancements



John positioned the cruise control module under the driver's seat floor on the upper step riser.

## Tech Notes



The vehicle speed sensor mounted at the OEM speedometer connection.

John said a bracket from '80s Olds 307CID engines will work but will have to be modified to allow the OEM air cleaner to fit properly.



John reports that he is very pleased with the performance and appearance of his retrofitted Delphi Stepper Motor Cruise Control.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Larry Turner** gave a most interesting two hour demonstration of plastic welding techniques. Larry had an incentive to learn to do plastic welding as he had many broken plastic parts on his '73 23' Glacier project. Here is the plastic welding tool he bought as part of a kit:



The kit also comes with a weld rod application chart showing which rods to use for the plastic to be welded.

Plastic welding is not unlike welding steel in that good penetration of the parent plastic must be achieved to have a weld of acceptable strength. Proper temperature control is required for this. A temperature controller comes with the kit. It permits selection of a heat range for the parent plastic and the rod to be used.



Many, if not most times, the weld will need to be reinforced. That is done with screen wire mesh that is melted into the parent plastic before completing the weld. If you look closely at the picture on the next page, you can see the mesh melted into the parent plastic on the demo piece.

## Tech Notes



Larry said the welding kit cost was about \$140. A bundle of rods (30 to a bundle) costs about \$12.50. A 4x8 plastic sheet that he used for welding in patches was \$41 ('was unable to find scrap plastic of sufficient size). The paint materials he used for the parts he repaired below was about \$30. The gauge panel cover was repaired on the underside, left end facing the driver.



Larry explained that cutting out a portion of the gauge panel cover flange at the left end will allow easy removal of the cover. Here is the finished cover:



And a finished side wall panel.

As you can see, Larry does good work!!

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On a personal note, I am yielding the technical coordination reigns for GMC Classics to Robert Musgrove, effective January 1, 2008 to concentrate on my role in GMC Motorhomes International. I have most enjoyed the last five years with you as the Classic's Technical Coordinator.

My special appreciation to those who so generously contributed their time and talent through the many technical presentations they made. I am passing on to Robert my "inventory" of prospective presenters (some of you do not even know you have been identified as a "prospective presenter"). I am sure he will appreciate your continued support of GMCC's technical program when he requests you to make a presentation.

I look forward to joining you as a member of the audience at future GMCC tech sessions.

*Fred Hudspeth*