

Classic Chatter

GMC Classics



Fred Hudspeth

The Prez

The Classics rally at the Oak Creek RV Park, Weatherford, TX, 21- 24 June'12 was a resounding success.

First, **Debbie Massey** and **Penny Buenger** introduced an alternative means of managing Classics rallies. They served as rally coordinators in place of traditional hosts. They stated things that needed to be done and advertised for people to “own” them. There was an enthusiastic response of willing “owners” for all things that needed to be done. They emphasized a philosophy of “keeping it simple” but had a goal of providing the same level of enjoyment as the traditional “hosted” rallies. Judging by comments by those present at the rally and afterwards on the GMCClassicsNet, it appears they were successful on all counts. This “hostless” concept is one that will be kept in reserve for those occasions when no one wishes to host a rally in the traditional way.

Second, wagonmasters **Jerry Reeves** and **Boyd Mooney** were commended widely for their selection of the Oak Creek RV Park at Weatherford. The scenic appeal of the park, the level concrete sites and excellent club room with its unforgettable Texas-sized overhead fan were all top-tier. Ask some of those present about the park owners’ very appropriate name for the fan.

Sharon and **Frank Jacob** have volunteered to manage the fall Classics Rally at the Whispering Pines RV Resort north of Tyler, 25-28 October’12. Let them know of your willingness to help at sharonajacob@aol.com. **Bill** and **Ann Marie Carter** have stepped up to work with the wagonmasters to secure a location and manage the winter Classics rally. The time and location of that rally is listed in “Future Rallies”. They likewise will welcome offers of support for the things

that will need to be done at that rally. Contact them at bacarter@suddenlink.net .

As many of you know, the equipment trailer has an accumulation of items that are no longer used. At the Weatherford Executive Committee Meeting, Wagonmasters **Jerry Reeves** and **Boyd Mooney** recommended identification and removal of those items. **Redonia Harper**, **Billie Young** and I agreed to work with Jerry and Boyd to get this done at Whispering Pines. As all of the equipment in the trailer is collectively owned by GMC Classics members, individual members attending the Whispering Pines Rally will have the opportunity to buy surplus items of interest during the swap meet time with proceeds accruing to the Classics treasury.

Continuing thanks to **Janie** and **Dennis Johnston** for their stewardship of the defibrillation equipment. They planned to become certified to teach CPR and the application of the equipment during July. Janie, a practicing registered nurse, and Dennis, a retired wildlife enforcement officer, both have experience in this field. Some Classics members attended a certification class at the combined Classics/GMCMI convention at Shawnee, OK. With some of them volunteering to work with Janie and Dennis, Classics members should be in good hands in the event of an emergency requiring CPR and/or defibrillation. At the Weatherford rally, Janie and Dennis placed the equipment in the clubroom where it would be readily accessible if needed. It is important that the location of the equipment be noted “by whoever has the microphone” during welcoming remarks. Please do not allow this to be overlooked.

Elsewhere in this newsletter, there are proposed changes to the GMC Classics Standing Rules. Please review the document (changes are in *bold/italic*) and be prepared to vote on it at the business meeting at Whispering Pines.

The Whispering Pines RV and Cabin Resort has long been a favorite location for our GMC Classics rallies. www.whisperingpinesrvresort.com/ The earliest rally I find in my records is 23-26 October’03 with later rallies 19-23 January’06 and 24-27 April ’08. The owners boast that the resort “is located on 47 acres of the most beautiful pine, oak, dogwood and sweetgum trees of East Texas.”

“Look forward to seeing you there.”

Fred Hudspeth

Future Rallies

NEXT RALLY:

Make your own RV reservations.

Dates: October 25-28, 2012
Location Whispering Pines
 Tyler, TX

Please see Registration Form included or on the internet: www.gmcclassics.com

WINTER RALLY 2013

Dates: January 24-27, 2013
Location La Hacienda RV Resort
 Austin, TX



Sunshine Report

Dear GMC Family,

It's been a long hot summer with lots of changes in our lives. Many of our members have gone through health issues, temporary loss of family members and friends, problems with GMCs, surgeries regarding ourselves or loved ones, and just everyday challenges. Yet in all of these things, there is a common thread... we're in this together, and stand united... hand in hand, heart to heart. This is truly a "family" in word and deed.

The "official" correspondence between May 6 - Sept. 11 is as follows:

Cards Mailed, 14;
ECards Sent, 10;
Emails Received, 74;
Emails Sent, 82 for a Total of 180.

If you have been sick, hospitalized, suffered a loss, or needed a word of encouragement and did not hear from me, it was because I did not know about it. Thanks to all for keeping me informed so I can better serve you, which is my true joy and delight.

Hope to see y'all at the Oct. Rally in Tyler. Please travel safely, keep healthy, and continue to love one another as the Lord taught us. Hugs and prayers to all. Phil. 1: 3-11 Amp. (esp. v. 7a.)

Billie Young
 Sunshine Lady



Weatherford Rally Review

By Penny Buenger

About fifty members of our club attended a rally at the Oak Creek RV Park in Weatherford, June 21 - 24, 2012. We had twenty-three coaches and three hotel rooms. Roxanne and her crew from the park were more than gracious accommodating us. Our Wagon Masters, **Jerry Reeves** and **Boyd Mooney** found us a great place to gather - many thanks!

Our president, Fred Hudspeth, kept us informed and in order Thursday and Friday night and did a great job as always.

We welcomed new members, **Carey** and **Sheila Bryan**, but **Kay H. Zupke** was not able to make his first rally with us as he had coach problems before he even got out of town. Imagine - trouble with a GMC!

Tom Landis, thanks for the Tech Session - Improve Cooling of Dash A/C. I think a lot of us benefited from that one.

Thank goodness **Charles Wersal** and **Boyd Mooney** (and others) kept the coffee pot brewing. Many of our members like to gather early in the morning for a hot cup, food and fellowship.

The Wednesday potluck supper was a delicious buffet! We had so much food on the tables that we had another get together Thursday for lunch. Many thanks to all the cooks and folks who brought assorted dishes for all to enjoy. No one ever said this club would get together and go hungry!

Gay Guelker, **Redonia Harper**, and **Francis Reeves** baked a huge bunch of muffins that we enjoyed during our rally.

Judy and **Tom Landis** and **Dennis Johnson** got up early Saturday and served a great pancake breakfast. We really enjoyed this and we appreciate their work.

Jo Ann Johnson, **Debbie Massey** and **Penny Buenger** had a lot of fun scooping up ice cream floats after the Tortilla Toss. They also had several helpers who pitched in and got everyone served in a very quickly.

Thanks to **Charlotte Alumbaugh** for finding our caterer. We enjoyed terrific food and one of the perks of a rally is you don't have to cook supper!

Billie Young provided a thoughtful devotional before supper on Saturday and we appreciate her sharing it with us.

And we can't forget the folks who organized our games:

The Marriage Game -- **Debbie Massey**
Tortilla Toss -- **Janie** and **Dennis Johnson**. *Most of us didn't know what it was, but signed up anyway and had a blast!*
Chicken Foot -- **Janice Wersal**
Washers -- **Charles Wersal**
Bingo -- **Jaye** and **Richard Hodges**
Awards -- **Charles Wersal**

Kudos to all for friendly competition and lots of fun.

Sadly, at this rally our Sunshine Lady, **Billie Young**, had ten cards of various greetings as we have members who are experiencing difficult times. We signed them with thoughts and prayers and will keep these folks in our hearts.

The Weatherford Rally at Oak Creek RV Park was a great success! We thank each and every one of you who attended - without you, it wouldn't have been as much fun! Everyone was quick to pitch in and lend a hand.

Even though there were many heat-related coach problems, folks relaxed indoors under the Big A** Fan or outside under the nice shade trees. Oak Creek was one of the best parks we've used and Roxanne and her crew continuously asked what they could do to make it even better. They even bought and installed water misters on the patio Friday!

This Host-less Rally was a new concept for our club. Acting as your coordinators was rewarding as you all volunteered to help with everything. We appreciate the wonderful comments and positive feedback, and look forward to doing this at more rallies.

Many thanks again and be sure to recommend Oak Creek to others!

Debbie and Billy Massey
Penny and Leon Buenger

Chocolate-Covered Cherry Cake

Cake by **Charlotte Alumbaugh** at the Weatherford rally. Thanks Charlotte!

1 box Devil's food cake mix (18.25 oz)
1 can Cherry pie filling (21 oz)
2 Large Eggs
1 Teaspoon Pure almond extract

Place cake mix, cherry pie filling, eggs and almond extract in large mixing bowl. Blend with mixer for 1 minute. Stop mixer and scrape down sides of bowl. Increase mixer speed and beat 2 more minutes.

Place in 13 x 9 baking pan lightly greased. Place on center rack in preheated 350 degree oven. Bake 30 to 335 minutes. Cool cake and add glaze to warm cake.

Chocolate Glaze

1 cup Sugar
1/3 cup Butter
1/3 cup Whole milk
1 Pkg. (6 oz 1 cup) Semi -sweet chocolate chips

Place sugar, butter and milk in a sauce pan over medium-low heat and cook, stirring constantly until mixture comes to a boil. Boil for 1 minute stirring constantly. Remove from heat and stir in chocolate chips. When the chips have melted and the glaze is smooth, pour it over the warm cake so it covers the entire surface. The glaze will be thin but will firm up. Sprinkle chopped pecans on top if you so desire.

Everyone who ate it at the rally seemed to have enjoyed it. It was a very moist, delicious cake.

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.

2012 Officers:

President Fred Hudspeth

Tyler, TX
903-509-2495 E-Mail: fbhtxak@sbcglobal.net

Vice President Georgene Farrill

Richland Hills, TX
817-284-9815 E-Mail: farrillink@sbcglobal.net

Secretary Jay Hodges

Brownwood, TX
325-217-2717 E-Mail: rjhodgs@gmail.com

Treasurer Redonia Harper

Gladewater, TX
903-845-5181 E-Mail: redonia.h@gmail.com

Wagon Master Jerry Reeves

Cedar Hill, TX
972-291-4418 E-Mail: gmc1508@sbcglobal.net

Assistant Wagon Master Boyd Mooney

Weatherford, TX
817-341-1363 E-Mail: gmc77tm@yahoo.com

FMCA Representatives:

National Director Corky McHaney

Medina, TX
830-589-2431 E-Mail: jvmchaney@78055.com

Alternate National Director James Harper

Gladewater, TX
713-201-3317 E-Mail: redonia.h@gmail.com

Appointed:

Technical Seminar Coordinator Bill Carter

San Angelo, TX
325-942-1839 E-Mail: starlink@suddenlink.net

Administrator/Webmaster Billy Massey

Brownwood, TX
325-784-5861 E-Mail: bdub@gmcclassics.com

Sunshine Lady Billie Young

Kingsland, TX
325-423-4523 E-Mail: billiey325@yahoo.com

Classic Lady Jackie Isenhour

Schertz, TX
210-393-5461 E-Mail: jisenhour@satx.rr.com

Newsletter Editor Debbie Massey

Brownwood, TX
325-784-5861 E-Mail: editor@gmcclassics.com

Website: www.gmcclassics.com

Bill Carter
Technical Seminar Coordinator

GMC *Classics*

Tech Notes

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.

I was pleasantly surprised when **Billy Massey** informed me that **Tom Landis** would be willing to lead a Tech Session on the subject of in-dash air conditioners at the Oak Creek Rally.

The surprise, on my part, was that I hadn't considered that many of our members are multifaceted and not just one-trick pony's. Tom, as you will remember, led a session last year on "electrical trouble shooting" at the New Braunfels Rally.

I believe all of us have felt that our in-dash air conditioners could stand a lot of improvement. However, no one is anxious to take on the apparent chore of having to dig into that, hard-to-get-to unit, maybe, even having to remove the grill to access the unit.

Tom's success, in my view, was two-fold. He didn't remove the grill, not even the radiator bottle. He removed only the panel directly behind the bottle and slightly above, and he didn't tackle under the dash, inside. Still making major improvements. After removal of the panel and checking for any debris in the cavities, he installed two 12 volt DC biscuit fans. He first secured the damper that puts the unit in the re-circulating mode. (keeping outside air from coming in.) Then he mounted one of the fans in the intake cavity with two sheet metal screws, followed by the fastening of the other fan with tie wraps to the condenser coils. Tom stated that if he were to do it again, he would mount two fans side-by-side at this location to further increase the air flow. He powered these fans by connecting to the same wire that operates the regular AC fan. The fans, to coin a phrase, all suck. The intake fan pulling air from the inside of the coach and the fan or fans at the condenser. Pulling air across the condenser, and out through the ductwork. (Fans available from Granger part #2R2H9) This improved the efficiency of the unit considerably.

He stated that these air conditioning units are very robust and are the equivalent of a ton and a half or 18,000 BTU. He also blocked the outside air intake. Further confirming that it is, now recirculating only, winter or summer.

The next step reminded us that the AC unit is located in one of the hottest spots under the hood, scant inches above the radiator. So he proceeded to put half-inch foam board on every exposed portion of the unit that he could, especially the bottom. He used insulated aluminum foil in areas that were too tight to use the thicker foam board.

Finally, he suggested if you haven't already replaced the vacuum heater valve, you should replace it with a manual one. If that vacuum valve is not working properly, you've got the AC "fighting the heater" and the AC "will lose."

Not to diminish the work done on this job, but it is done without a major expenditure (fans about \$30.00 each ... so maybe \$90.00).

Summarizing, much improved airflow and a big reduction in the effect of under the hood heat. I'd say a pretty good accomplishment. Tom's video shots and the actual use of a '76 GMC unit made for a very informative session! Thanks Tom!

See you next time...

Bill Carter