



The GMC Pacific Cruisers Chapter of the Family Motor Coach Association, Inc. (FMCA), is a group of GMC motorhome owners from Southern California since 1976. Visit our website: www.gmcpc.org



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HERE COMES THE PRES **Jul | Aug | Sep 2007**

What do you say for a last hurrah? Over time, I have used this column to describe the activities of the club and to thank people who have made it all happen, but this time I want to talk about what the last two years in office have meant to me. It has been a real pleasure meeting new members, and embracing the return of members that have not attended rallies for a while. When talking to a new member, you can listen to their comments about an event and how it met their expectations when they joined GMC Pacific Cruisers. It is their experience and participation that will get us to new rally sites, new games, new tours, etc. It is the lifeblood of every organization. It is how organizations change over the course of years to benefit the needs of the membership. Long time members have developed personal relationships with each other that stand the test of time. New people have to be welcomed and given the opportunity to do the same. At each rally I look for the friends I have developed over the years, and try to get to know someone new. It is sometimes difficult for others, not in an organization such as ours, to understand how rewarding it is to see each of these GMC friends at a rally site. The camaraderie is hard to beat and many of the friendships are strong and lasting. I thank all of the members of GMC Pacific Cruisers for giving me the chance to do just what I have described. And in closing, I promise that I will never tell a new member with an original coach that he/she will need 59 upgrades to put their coach in top condition. Well, I won't tell them until they have been to two or three rallies. Friends first, coaches second. See you on the road my friend.



Jim Rowe

- CONGRATULATIONS to our new officers:**
- President – Lee Nelsen**
 - Vice President – Sharon Cerrina**
 - Secretary – Alice-Fay Brown**
 - Treasurer – Suzanne Covington**
 - FMCA National Director – Chuck Garton**
 - FMCA Alternate National Director – Ed Staal**

Thank you for stepping up to the plate to serve one of the premiere GMC Clubs. These Officers will begin their post on October 1, 2007.

Inside:

Poem • Red Hat Society Raffle • In Memory Rally Registrations Shade Tree Mechanic Spotlight Rally Schedule 2007
2 3 4-5 6-7 7 8

Oregon

Those onward, onward Oregonettes followed their fate
To the end of the trail with their hard working men.
The men were outshone by their feminine mates,
Who birthed, cooked and crafted while Mister took
a rest – amen!

California

Those capricious golden girls of California
Came in their calicos looking for something specific.
Instead they threw caution to the wind and reveled
in the sun,
Learning to surf the curls of the calm Pacific.

Idaho

What happened here was an idealistic squadron
of skierettes
Shushed down the icy slopes into innocent Idaho
And rounded up those lonesome cowboys
And taught them how to plant tatters and make
a ton of dough.

Utah

Those uppity and pious ladies of Utah
Were no nonsense utilitarians and faithful followers.
They dreamed their dream and gave their all
And accomplished their goal without becoming hollerers,

Nevada

Those nifty Nevadans didn't need to plant.
They took a chance on fickle romance,
And off they went to prospect and ranch
Or to the casinos for a naked dance.

Arizona

They came from yonder to the sleeping land of Arizona,
A land of the Wild West with challenges of every kind –
Lawlessness, emptiness, loneliness and thoughtlessness,
But these Amazon women triumphed over what they left
behind.

Montana

The Big Sky Country of Montana swallowed up
men and cattle.
The women came to fulfill their murky destiny.
They brought babies and laughter, order and ideas,
And today Montana is prettier than many.

Wyoming

Those wonderful women of untamed Wyoming
Had flowing hair and willowy waists.
They could wallop a weasel and wolf down whiskey
While whipping a snapper with winsome grace.

Colorado

The colorful mountains of Colorado couldn't keep them out.
Those Calamity Janes battled snow, wind, bear and wolf.
An outpost of civilization has been erected there
By the sheer determination of women who wanted a roof.

New Mexico

A land of enchantment and enchanting belles –
The sacred grounds of New Mexico became their homeland.
They gave their endless energy to a tranquil desert
And brought another layer of spirit to that eternal sand.

Conclusion

Today we live a life of more predictability and choices.
We can stand on our own and pursue our interests –
Free to follow our own stars and yet raise a family.
But owe a debt to our grandmothers who gave their bests.



RED HAT SOCIETY LUNCH

Ladies – Save the Date – Thursday, October 4, 2007

11 a.m. – Lunch (\$15.85 inclusive)

Polly's Bakery Café, 18132 Imperial Hwy. Yorba Linda, CA

12:30 p.m. – On to nearby President Richard Nixon Library & Museum (\$7.00)

RSVP to Dorthy Hooton (562) 928-4100

This group gets together for fun and friendship and is open to any GMC Pacific Cruiser Woman. We are Red Hatters and enjoy appearing together in our red hats and purple outfits—but don't let the lack of a red hat stop you. **Come on out and join us!**



RAFFLE OF FINAL DRIVE

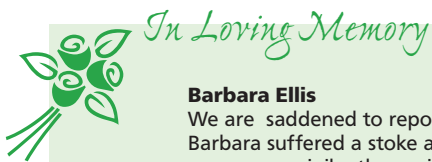
Jim Kanomata, Owner of Applied GMC in Fremont, Ca has donated a final drive to be used in a raffle with 100% of the proceeds to benefit the GMCnet. Jim will ship a final drive to the winner of the raffle. The winner has their choice of a: 3:55:1, a 3:70:1 or a 4:10:1 gear ratio. This prize is valued in the range of \$1395.00 to \$1795.00 (plus the free shipping). The Speedometer Correction Gear is also included.

Tickets are \$5.00 each or 5 for \$20.00. Purchase \$100.00 worth of tickets and receive ONE free. Winning ticket will be drawn at GMC Western States rally (Sept 4-9) in Benson, Arizona. The day of the drawing will be announced on the GMCnet.

Tickets may be purchased from:

Steve Ferguson
4077 S. Wenro Drive
Sierra Vista, AZ 85650

Please include your name and email address on a note with the Check.



Barbara Ellis

We are saddened to report that Barbara Ellis passed away. Barbara suffered a stroke and did not recover, even though many were vigilantly praying for her. Barbara was a lovely person, always of gentle spirit and pleasing to spend time with. Her husband Russ would love to hear from you.

Contributions in memory of Barbara can be made to the Cancer Society.

Katie Langille

Katie passed away on June 28th. Services were held at St. Andrews Presbyterian Church in Newport Beach, Ca. Katie and her husband Don (also deceased), were long time GMCers until their health began to fail several years ago. Most of us will remember Katie for her fun filled demeanor. Katie was a lovely person and she certainly will be missed.

Thank You

for the thoughtful cards and words regarding the recent passing of my mother. Nancy and I appreciate your kindness.

Steve and Nancy Ferguson



Farley, our former shop dog and constant companion died on June 22, 07. He had a stroke on the 21st and was in good shape until then. He slowed down considerably. He was between 14 and 15 years old. This picture of Farley and Bob was taken last Fall. His last GMC Rally was in Silent Vally.

We'll miss you Farley!



Rollin' on the River '07 Rally

Please join us **OCTOBER 12-15 2007 @ La Paz Co Park**, Parker, AZ to relax by the Colorado River. **Golfing*, boating, fishing, bicycling, walking, casino fun, good food & good friends can all be enjoyed.**
Go to **gmcp.org** for pictures and more information on the rally or Car Show at Lake Havasu City Oct 17-21.

Directions: Off **Arizona Hwy 95** between Parker and Lake Havasu at the **151-1/2 mile marker**, follow the **La Paz Co Park signs** west one block, then north 1/4 mile to **La Paz Co Park** on the left beside the river.



Friday Oct 12

1:00 - 5:00pm
5:00 - 6:00pm
6:00 - 7:00pm
7:00 - ???

Check in and **Registration.**
BYOB Happy Hour
Dinner provided at the Pavilion
Socializing with friends – old & new.

Saturday Oct 13

8:00 - 9:00am
9:00 - 5:00pm

5:00 - 6:00pm
6:00 - 7:00pm
7:00 - ???

Continental Breakfast (coffee/tea, juice, cereal, muffins & fruit)
Enjoy the Arizona sun and Colorado River. We will have boats for rides on the river and transportation to the golf course* & casino.
BYOB Happy Hour
Ralph Mundia's Tri-tip at the Pavilion.
Games & socializing

Sunday Oct 14

8:00 - 9:00am
9:00 - 5:00pm

5:00 - 6:00pm
6:00 - 7:00pm
7:00 - ???

Continental Breakfast
Free Time...another day to catch up on what you missed yesterday—boating, golfing*, walking, biking, etc.
BYOB Happy Hour
Potluck **or** Go Out **or** Fix your own... it's up to you.
Socializing, stargazing, strolling along the river....have a good time!

Monday Oct 15

8:00 - 9:00am
9:00 - 11:00am

Continental Breakfast
Say Good-bye and check out

***Golfers** must make their own reservations. Go to gmcp.org or call Judy Booth for information.

Rally Masters: Ken & Judy Booth hobo@citlink.net (928) 764-3378
Registration: Send check & application to: **Judy Booth 1037 Riverside Dr., Lake Havasu City, AZ 86404.**
Applications must be received by **Sept 21, 2007** Space is limited. No cancellation refund after Sept 21. To stay **extra nights** before or after the rally, call Judy Booth. **Pets** ok. Let us know if you have a boat & want to bring it. **Note:** It is necessary to piggy-back our electric so **please bring an extension cord.** Water and dump station are within the Park.

.....Cut & Mail
Make check payable to **Judy Booth** & mail to: 1037 Riverside Dr, Lake Havasu City, AZ 86404

NAME(S): _____ e-mail _____

Address: _____ Coach w/two person \$130.00 \$ _____

City: _____ ST ZIP _____ Coach w/one person \$105.00 \$ _____

Phone #: _____ Each Extra Guest (Name: _____) \$ 35.00 \$ _____

Coach Lic #/ST _____ Handicap? _____ Total Payment Enclosed \$ _____

GMC PACIFIC CRUISERS CLUB
Turkey Trot to Tocalota Springs

November 2, 3, 4, 2007

951-760-0604

41601 Benton Rd.

Sage, CA 92544

Directions: I-15 toward San Diego; Exit Rancho Calif. Rd. Turn Left onto Rancho Ca. Rd (7.9 mi); Right onto Glen oaks Road (2 mi); Left onto Mesa Rd (2.8); Mesa Rd becomes E. Benton Rd. (3.1 mi) to Tocalota Springs.

Tentative Schedule

Fri. 12:00 noon Check – In
 5:00 p.m. Happy Hour (BYOB)
 6:00 p.m. Catered Dinner (Lemon Herb Chicken & Tri Tip)
 7:15 p.m. Business Meeting (Then Games – LRC & Texas Hold'em
 Mexican Train Dominoes, Jokers & Marbles)

Sat. 8:30 a.m. Deluxe Breakfast
 10:00 a.m. Women's Craft (on your own i.e. visit, go into Temecula, play games)
 5:00 p.m. Happy Hour (BYOB)
 6:00 p.m. Catered Dinner (Turkey with all the trimmings)
 7:15 p.m. Games – LRC & Texas Hold'em Mexican Train
 Dominoes, Jokers & Marbles

Sun. 8:30 a.m. Deluxe Breakfast and **Good-byes till next time!**

Rally Hosts: Ellen & Ray Gandola Cell 714-336-2803 Home 714-527-1341
 Arlene & Dave Cantrell Home 626-964-2471

Checks Payable to: Ellen Gandola 6055 San Remo Way Buena Park Ca 90620

Registration Application **MUST** be received by Oct. 1st Cancellations after this date MAY NOT receive a full refund.

Cut and mail: *****

Name(s) _____ Tel: _____ First Rally: Yes ___ No ___

Address: _____ Coach with Two persons \$155.00 \$ _____

City: _____ Coach with One person \$118.75 \$ _____

Guest Name(s) _____ Each additional Guest \$ 64.75 \$ _____

Total Amount enclosed: \$ _____

Coach Lic.# _____ / _____ Tow Car License #. _____ Disabled Parking Yes ___ No ___



THE STORY OF A THIRD FACTORY FUEL TANK, cont.

By Chuck Garton

(Sections 1-14 shown in Newsletter dated June, 2007)

Prior to the third fuel tank installation, I was using a Westach duel fuel gauge (picture 15). Prior to the duel fuel gauge installation, I was using a single fuel gauge (picture 16). After the third fuel tank installation, I re-installed the single fuel gauge, so that each fuel tank now has its own gauge.



15



16

Last summer, during a trip to the east coast, I experienced vapor lock problems when forced to idle on 100°+ days for more than three minutes. When I returned home, I abandoned the stock steel fuel line that ran inside the frame around the engine and ran a new steel line outside the frame. When I finished this task, it was 105° in Ridgecrest and I drove to a large empty black asphalt parking lot and idled for thirty minutes with no vapor lock problems.

INSTALLING THE TEMPERATURE SENSORS

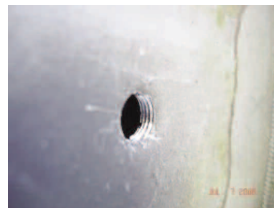
After marking the sensor location, drive a round punch (picture 17) in just far enough to start a 1/8" pipe tap (picture 18) and thread the hole (picture 19).



17



18



19



20

Coat the sensor with some properly mixed JB Weld, screw the sensor into the tank and tighten securely (picture 20). Let it set for 24 hours before adding gasoline.

The muffler (Picture 21) and tail pipe (Picture 22) installation shows the muffler shield, which is between the frame and body.



21



22

AIR BAG FAILURES

By **Bob Sternfels**

The GMC project started 40 years ago with first production in 1973. GM had contracted with Firestone Tire Company to fabricate the air bags because they had the technology and were producing air bags for other applications.

The same air bag is still in limited production with adequate demand. This may give us a clue that air bags are exploding or leaking to a greater degree than is generally realized.

Air bag construction is similar to a tire where layers of chemical rubber is laid between webbing, placed in a mold and vulcanized (per my discussion with a retired Goodyear Plant Manager). A Chemical Engineer shed new light on what may be occurring with the air bag. He doubts that it has been upgraded because it's not cost effective. Note: Ozone and UV in our atmosphere may cause failures of the GMC air bags. However, don't rule out the dirt that collects on the edges of the aluminum cones which acts like sandpaper on the ends of the bags.

It is a good guess that the formula of the rubbery compounds for air bags has not kept pace with the changes in our atmosphere, ozone along with lower pollutants that increase sunlight and UV factors. Manufacturers are well aware that chemical rubber ages and this governs their replacement policy. Many need no adjustments after 4 years even if tread wear is low. Tire companies do add preservatives in an attempt to offset the effects of sunlight/ozone. After time all preservatives dissipate.

One of my bags blew up on my GMC while it was parked. A custom made plastic sleeve was installed on the new bag covering it end to end and still allowing for it's normal movement. Upon inspecting a previously installed air bag with a sleeve, it appeared in perfect condition with no signs of deterioration. No silicone was used that's a big NO! Being a petroleum product it would interact with the chemical rubber of the air bag.

Another bag was installed a year ago without protection and the outer rubber layer shows signs of deterioration. Rock roughness on the bags was not evident due to the Ragusa Rock Protection Shields, externally mounted on either end.

A few plastic sleeves are available for \$14.50 (including postage). You may contact me at: (949) 497-3534 – 395 Pine Crest Dr., Laguna Beach, Ca.92651.

“NOTE”

By **Frank Condos**

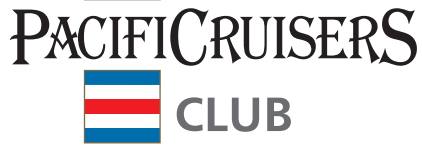
There are competent technical individuals who will disagree with the conclusions that the rubber technology is stuck in the 70's. Originally, air bags did not have an outer rubber coat. This was added after there were complaints regarding the looks. The strength and air retention is in the fabric layers.

These bags are only made when there is sufficient orders from suppliers to justify setting up the essentially hand laid-up process. It is questionable that the process includes mixing ancient rubber compounds rather than current compounds in air bags used for trucks and buses or for isolating heavy equipment. There is anecdotal evidence of spontaneous bag failure while setting and for bags lasting over 15 years, even in the Southern California atmosphere. Regardless of the rubber compounding, any protection from heat and solar effects is a good thing.

SPOTLIGHT ON NEW MEMBERS

Welcome! - To our new members and we hope to see you at upcoming rallies.

Chuck and Judy Scott of Westminster, Ca. Chuck is a retired Science High School Teacher and Judy is a retired High School Librarian. The Scott's have a 1977 Royale, 26' that was purchased February, 2007 with 50,267 miles.



2007 RALLY SCHEDULE

SEPTEMBER 4-9, 2007

GMC WESTERN STATES
COCHISE TERRACE RV RESORT – (NEAR BENSON, AZ)
HOSTS: STEVE AND NANCY FERGUSON

OCTOBER 12-15, 2007

GMC PACIFIC CRUISERS
PARKER, CA.
HOSTS: KEN AND JUDY BOOTH
Join us for the most beautiful month of the year on the Colorado River at Parker. Relax on the River, golf, bike, walk paths, fish, whatever your pleasure. Electrical hook-ups are available for 32 coaches, 4 water faucets are available so fill your tank before arriving; dump station on site, small restrooms with showers.

NOVEMBER 2-4, 2007

GMC PACIFIC CRUISERS
TUCALOTA SPRINGS RV RESORT
SAGE, CA.
HOSTS: DAVE & ARLENE CANTRELL
RAY & ELLEN GANDOLA

NEED HOSTS FOR 2008 - (PLEASE SEE SHARON CERRINA IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HOST A RALLY)

CORRECTION TO MINUTES OF BUSINESS MEETING HELD June 1, 2007

It has been brought to our attention that Cindy Liebeck did not resign from her office as treasurer due to new job responsibilities and overseas travel.



NEWSLETTER

DESIGNED AND PRINTED BY
IDEAL SERVICES, San Diego, CA.

If you would like to submit an article or item, email Freddi:
frettyc@sti.net

NEWSLETTER SCHEDULE FOR 2007

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