



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.gmcp.org](http://www.gmcp.org)



## MOTORHOME CLUB NEWSLETTER

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Mar 2011 | Apr | May

# FROM BEHIND THE WHEEL

**A**s some of you know, Phil and I live in a very rural area in North San Diego County. Red Tail Hawks circle overhead, coyotes serenade and the stars are brilliant at night. A few years back, we bought our cottage on 4 ½ acres because it had "potential". After three long years of renovation, dealing with power outages and water well problems I told Phil that it would be a long time before anyone would catch me camping or motor homing as we had been doing that full time right here at home. We sold our motor home, a SOB, and vacationed in hotels.



Gradually I forgot all the hard times. Phil and I went to a rally with Ed and Eileen Staal at the Chula Vista RV Resort and had a marvelous time with all the members of the Pacific Cruisers. Two weeks later we were the proud owners of our GMC and the rest is history.

Time flies when you are having fun and are in good company. I have had the pleasure of being your GMC Pacific Cruiser President for several months now and have discovered that it is true, our Club members are the greatest company and we have lots of fun and time is flying by!

To this date, we have over 100 members. Some of our long time members, the Brands, Kerrs, Marilyn Roland and the Lingreys, have sold their coaches and we will miss them. Other members have passed away, among them Bucky Walters, Frank Sullivan, Jerry Covington and Gordon Miller. We all have memories of the good times we have had together.

Time moves on, new members have joined and are welcomed; among them are the Bowdens, two sets of Jones's, the Kanenbleys, the Kirkhuffs, the McCurters, the Kolonics and the Olivas'. We hope to see you at many rallies.

*continued*

<b>Inside:</b>				
For Sale Corner	Quartzite Rally	Red Hat Society	Sky Valley Rally	Rally Schedule
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**Insert:** Bluegrass Festival Registration

## Highlights of meetings held this year:

**In November, at the Newport Beach Rally** hosted by Dave and Donna deGraffenreid, there were more volunteers than there were jobs to fill. The rain only brought out good humor and umbrellas. A very lively and informative meeting was held with a focus on our budget and the cost of producing and mailing our quarterly newsletter. At this time the club is bringing in \$15.00 in yearly dues per member but we are spending over \$20.00 yearly per member just on the newsletter. It is clear that we are eating into the Club reserves and at this rate the Club will be out of reserves in three years. Many options were discussed. The major option is to have the newsletter sent by e-mail to our members and to have it available on the GMCPC.org website. If a member has no Internet access the newsletter could be mailed at a cost yearly to those members of between \$10.00 and \$15.00. Your Board is researching ways to bring down the cost of the newsletter. One of the simplest is to fold the newsletter in half for mailing and use a smaller envelope instead of inserting it in a manila envelope. This would bring down the cost of mailing from over \$1.00 each to about 50cents. The most significant savings will come from members with Internet access receiving the newsletter via e-mail. This would eliminate the printing and mailing of over eighty newsletters. We understand that this will take some getting used to but it may have to be done. Your suggestions are welcome; we can solve this problem and continue getting all our club news.

**In February, at the Sky Valley Rally** hosted by Norm and Shirley Shier and attended by 26 coaches, the Club had a very productive meeting again relating to expenses.

### Newsletter:

It was decided that the upcoming newsletter (this one) would still be mailed to those who requested hard copies. The major change is that we will only have the set-up done at our current printer. The printing will be done at a local office supply store and your Newsletter Editor, Sharon Cerrina; will mail it in a smaller size envelope. This will cut our cost but the biggest cost cutter will be when members opt to receive the newsletter via e-mail. You need Adobe to download it but that is a free program and most computers have it already. Please consider this option seriously and only choose to receive the newsletter by mail if it is absolutely necessary. If you currently receive the newsletter by mail you can change that option by e-mailing Sharon at [sharoncerrina@gmail.com](mailto:sharoncerrina@gmail.com).

### Dues Increase:

At the Sky Valley meeting it was voted unanimously by over 50 members to increase the yearly dues from \$15.00 to \$25.00 beginning in October of next year. New members fee will increase from \$25.00 to \$35.00; which will include one year of membership and the cost of two badges. This letter is to advise you of an upcoming increase in dues as per our by-laws. Membership dues have not increased since 1999 but expenses certainly have. This small increase will enable our Club to rebuild our reserves and to continue to enjoy all the benefits of this great group. Our members make this a great Club. Thank you for all that you do.

Joanne

## FOR SALE CORNER



### 1978 GMC ROYALE 26 FT.

Twin side beds; rear bath & closet; two roof A/Cs; roof storage pod; awning; Onan generator; three new batteries; new 7.0 cubic foot refrigerator; new radiator core & heater hoses; CB; built-in blender on counter; microwave; stove, TV antenna, hitch; mileage approx. 124,000. REDUCED ASKING PRICE: \$12,000, or make offer. Call Marian, Temecula, CA, (951) 676-3287, or e-mail: [bmporter1@verizon.net](mailto:bmporter1@verizon.net) for more pictures. (Selling due to death in family.) \_\_\_\_\_(0811)

# QUARTZSITE RALLY

JANUARY 16-25, 2011

*Sunny Arizona was "tourist" perfect for the Quartzsite Rally.*

*No rain – Little wind – Just beautiful sunshine.*

Bob Lamey set up his dutch-oven kitchen and proceeded to cook great meals. His chili, ribs, soups, breads & cakes were as superb as usual. More ribs, chili, chicken and stew were supplied by the Hanlon's, Wykles, Fischer's, Choffat's, Sim's and Condo's. Snacks, side dishes and desserts just appeared from everywhere and everybody. A favorite was the marshmallow roasts thanks to Hoss Hauge. His new roasting sticks and washtub fire pit worked perfect.

Ken Booth's little generator worked great for lighting the camp, watching the movie and cutting firewood. Ken brought a trailer full of firewood and Mike Hughes brought lots of stumps for toasty campfire evenings.

We all laughed thru the movie "RV" screened by Doug Norton. We could easily relate to the numerous mishaps exaggerated by Robin Williams. Thanks Nortons!!

The Big Tent RV Show held all the "can't live without" and "just gotta have" RV products and enticed us with places to visit. Tyson Wells and the street booths provided lots of shopping or just plain entertainment for everyone.

We got acquainted with more GMCer's as our attendees were from all over. Some stayed a day, some a few days and some the whole ten days and more. We had Pacific Cruisers, 49er's, Cascaders, Greater Midwest Classics and even two coaches from Phoenix that had never been to a rally or classic GMC event before. Several GMCer's not camping with us stopped to say "Hello". They were old friends from other rallies and newbie's wanting to know about our clubs. We enjoyed them all.





**Attendees:**

- Gary & Diana Berry and Tony & Laverne
- Ken & Judy Booth
- Don & Mary Ann Cardamon
- Chris & Christina Choffat
- Frank & Freddi Condos
- Steve & Nancy Ferguson
- Erich & Martha Fischer
- Tom & Pat Hanlon
- Phil & Joanne Hernandez
- Hoss Hauge
- Mike & Christine Hughes
- Bob & Karen Lamey
- John Marana & Helen Hughes
- Dan & Barbara McCurter
- Doug & Irene Norton
- Larry Schaeffer
- Alan & Janet Sims
- Larry & Lucy Weidner
- Jack & Helen Wykle
- Kirk & Eloise Yeager



# RED HAT SOCIETY



The Red Hat Pacific Pearls met February 3, 2011 at Porto's Bakery and Cafe. Food was good and the company even better.

Attending are: Queen MUM Sharon Cerrina, Bernice Brady, Emma Burner, Arlene Cantrell, Jacky Clutter, Ellen Gandola, Greta Hayward, Dorthy Hooton, Jo Lingrey, Beverly Lopez, Annie Mundia, Pat O'Betz, Luann Parker, Jean Reeves, Audree Row, Eileen Staal, Norma Sullivan and JoAnn Edmison.

“Necessity is the mother of invention”, and this rally created the need for innovation and changes, one after another by our rally masters. They met the challenges head on and we were only aware of the finished product. This was a very successful & fun rally.



First their scheduled tent in our parking area was cancelled due to the projected high winds. One GMC owner quoted the radio as saying that the overnight high winds were between 35 to 40 knots. Heavy rains and unusually cold weather were also forecast, but luckily, the heavy rain only happened during the night. The daytime was windy and cold for us southern Californians, with a few light showers here and there. For some of us, the high winds rocking our coaches was a new experience, but for the Martins who live aboard their 42 foot sailing yacht in San Diego Bay, they said it was like being at home, rocking and rolling during the night.

Canceling of the tent meant that Norm and Shirley had to arrange to share some of the clubhouse rooms, dodging normal prescheduled events in specific rooms. The main clubhouse, with the many hot spring mineral spas was 1/4 mile away, so some walked and some rode to the clubhouse. We moved about to different rooms to accomplish our rally. We helped set up tables and chairs, then we took them down, moved to another room, where we set up tables and chairs and took them down again. The Friday night show was canceled so we played games or shared our travel and RV living experiences.

Thursday afternoon started with an orientation meeting followed by a “Happy Hour” where people could meet and talk to old friends and meet some new members. Norm spent some time explaining the weekend plans and how they had changed. Then on to a catered meal of 1/4 pound all beef hot dog, with all the toppings and macaroni salad. We were invited to join in the Sky Valley Bingo and Cribbage games. Mary and I spent the evening until room closure

playing “Jokers and Marbles”.

Friday morning, after our catered breakfast we held our club meeting. The nominating committee for next year’s officers presented their slate, extending our existing officers for another year. One discussion that went on for some time was about how to reduce the Club Newsletter cost since we have 17 members who do not have internet connection so theirs must be mailed as B&W copies. The idea of folding the letter, attaching a stamp, and not putting it in an expensive envelope was one cost reduction that was agreed upon. The existing newsletter can be downloaded over the internet and printed in color on a members own color printer. After much discussion, it was agreed upon to ask the members to vote on increasing membership cost by \$10, which would also apply to new membership sign ups being increased by \$10. The progressively increasing printing and mailing cost of the Newsletter is depleting our reserves. Door prizes were passed out before the meeting was adjourned.



Starting in the morning until happy hour were the normal club’s activities, including two games of Jokers and Marbles.

Friday’s catered meal was Hero Caterer’s award-winning BBQ’d boneless pork ribs and chicken hind quarter combo, BBQ’d beans, potato salad, dinner roll and desert. The caterer filled the plates so full that most members used aluminum foil to wrap up their left overs. Those who wanted to could order vegetarian pizza.

After dinner, some told stories of how they come to get a GMC Motorhome. After that, the games started for the evening.

We started Saturday morning with another catered breakfast. Another big delicious breakfast. Then it was back to games, talking, and going to the weekend “Sky Valley Garage Sales” where some real buys were made.



Saturday's catered meal of Italian herb coated skinless chicken breast with salad, loaded mashed potatoes, and dinner roll. Again, more than most could finish. More to be wrapped up in the aluminum foil for the refrigerator.

After dinner, we help move the chairs for the evening concert. We were asked to sit in our reserved seats right up front, a half hour before the show started to enable any of our reserved empty seats to be taken. Four seats were empty because two rigs had left early. These were filled with Sky Valley residents.

The "Knox Brothers" Gospel songs show was sold out, with more than 200 seats filling the room. This was a repeat performance from last year, and they are a very popular here at Sky Valley.



The Knox are really six brothers with 21 years separating them from the oldest to the youngest. Like the leader said, we all have the same mother and father which is not the same for most groups. Four of the brothers played their instruments as well as sing with the group. Each brother took a turn at playing a solo. The instruments were: Steel Guitar, Bass Guitar, Percussion, and Keyboard. They are very professional, experienced musicians who obviously have been doing this for a long time. During one of the breaks,

the leader asked how many attendees were from Canada. About 1/3 of the group raised their hands and the Knox Brothers led the group in singing "Oh Canada".

After the show there were several different CD's to be bought, and many were buying. One album was "40 years/40 songs". A very pleasant and enjoyable evening was had by people who enjoy Gospel music.

When we woke up on Sunday morning, the surrounding mountains were covered with snow and it was all white down to within about 300 feet of us. We got heavy rain throughout the night. It was 20 degrees colder than usual during this weekend along with much higher winds than normal. We all buttoned up and pressed on. Few of our members tried the hot spring spas or swimming pool, but Sky Valley residents used the facilities in the cold windy weather.

Sunday morning there was a continental breakfast before we left for home.

We had 24 rigs, with two guest rigs from Arizona. Thank you Norm and Shirley Shier for a good time and innovating your way around the unusually cold and windy weather.

#### Attendees:

Loren and Virginia Bates  
 Mary and Chuck Botts  
 Dave and Arlene Cantrell  
 Pat and Sharon Cerrina  
 Bob CookSuzanne Covington and  
 Randy Bills  
 Fred and Cynthia Davis  
 Dave and Donna de Graffenreid  
 Ray and Ellen Gandola  
 Chuck and Doris Garton  
 Howard and Elaine Ginn  
 Phil and Joanne Hernandez  
 Al and Barbara Hobson  
 Bob and Dorothy Hooten  
 Gordy Lee  
 Bob and Ruth Martin  
 Helen and Rowley Miller  
 Ralph and Annie Mundia  
 Jim and Audrey Rowe  
 Joe Rubio and Bernice Brady  
 Narod and Jessie Skiles  
 Ed and Eileen Staal  
 Marc and Lillian Trubert  
 Jack and Helen Wykle  
 Norm and Shirley Shier, Rallymasters





# PACIFIC CRUISERS



## 2011 RALLY SCHEDULE

### MARCH 18-19, 2011

GMC PACIFIC CRUISERS  
TEMECULA BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL,  
TEMECULA, CA  
HOSTS: PHIL AND JOANNE HERNANDEZ

### APRIL 27-MAY 1

WESTERN STATES  
SAN LORENZO COUNTY PARK, KING CITY  
HOSTS: PHIL AND JOANNE HERNANDEZ

### JUNE 10,11, 2011

GMC PACIFIC CRUISERS  
BOULDER CREEK RV RESORT, LONE PINE  
HOSTS: DAVE AND ARLENE CANTRELL AND  
RAY AND ELLEN GANDOLA

### FALL 2011

EMERALD DESERT RV RESORT  
PALM DESERT, CALIF  
OCTOBER 1-5  
HOST: DAVE AND DONNA DEGRAFFENREID  
AND  
CO-HOST: PAT AND SHARON CERRINA

**PLEASE SEE ANY OFFICER IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HOST A RALLY IN 2011**

**GMC**  
**PACIFIC CRUISERS**  
CLUB

### NEWSLETTER

DESIGNED AND  
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If you would like to  
submit an article or item,  
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G M C



P A C I F I C



C R U I S E R S



C L U B





**THE GMC PACIFIC CRUISERS WILL BE  
“FIDDLIN AROUND AGAIN” AT THE  
11<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL TEMECULA BLUEGRASS  
FESTIVAL**

**ON MARCH 18,19 & 20, 2011**

Hosted by Phil and Joanne Hernandez 760-723-4575

**Directions:** From the I/15 in Temecula exit Hwy. 79 South. Go west one block to Old Town Front Street. Turn right on Front Street to just before Santiago Street. We will camp in the same site as last year. On the left just to the south of Santiago Street.

**JOIN IN THE FUN!** This will be a dry camp weekend in a dirt lot but that will just get you in the mood for some great bluegrass musicians who perform FREE on the street corners and at stages set up at various locations in Old Town Temecula. This years musicians include Sligo Rags, Lonesome Otis, Silverado Bluegrass and many others. If you play a fiddle or other bluegrass instrument you can jam with groups on the corners. We will be within walking distance of all the action. An indoor Saturday night concert is available but no ticket price is available as of 02/09/11.

We only have 23 sites available so registration will be first come, first served and then we will start a waiting list to fill in for cancellations. Arrive anytime after 11am Friday, leave late Sunday afternoon. There is no clubhouse available but we will be able to provide a continental breakfast Saturday and Sunday and a repeat of last years menu. Pizza and salad on Friday and great Mexican food on Saturday. You can treat yourselves to one of the great local restaurants in Old Town or fend for yourselves in your coach for other meals. Check out the website at Old Town Temecula Bluegrass Festival for local restaurants and more information on the festival.

Registrations must be received by March 14, 2011. Any cancellations after that date may not receive a full refund. Fill out and mail registration below with your check payable to:

**Joanne Hernandez, 40751 De Luz Murrieta Rd., Fallbrook, CA 92028**

Cut and mail-----

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Coach License # \_\_\_\_\_ Tow car License # \_\_\_\_\_  
Handicap parking not available this time First Rally: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Coach with 2 persons: \$85.00 \_\_\_\_\_ Includes Fri., Sat. Camp spot  
Coach with 1 person: \$65.00 \_\_\_\_\_ Includes Fri., Sat. Camp spot  
Each additional guest: \$25.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
Total \_\_\_\_\_

Interested in Concert Tickets?? How Many? \_\_\_\_\_ We will let you know the price ASAP