



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

Apr | May | Jun 2007

The process leading to the selection of new board members got me to thinking about why a person volunteers to become a board member of this organization or any other organization for that matter. I believe it comes down to two words "experience utilization". That's right. Each volunteer believes his or her experience will allow them to contribute to the well being of the organization, and believing that, they will work diligently to achieve success. My term of office is drawing to a close. For the past two years, I have had the opportunity to work with very experienced board members that have put their stamp on this organization in a way that has continued the view that the GMC Pacific Cruisers is THE premier GMC club.



With the announcement of the members who will make up the incoming board voted in at the rally in Paso Robles, this organization is again benefiting from people who will utilize their experience. They are strong people. They have more than sufficient experience in volunteer organizations. They have an interest in seeing our Club maintain the premier position of a GMC only organization. I have great faith in their abilities and you should too. Give them your support for the coming year by participating in rallies and working with them. As a GMC Pacific Cruiser, keep looking after each other even after the rally is over.

Thank you for supporting me over the last two years and thank you for the beautiful plaque and Stetson Hat, both are greatly appreciated. I am not leaving—just stepping aside.

Jim Rowe
June 2007



CONGRATULATIONS to Suzanne Covington!

She is now a Licensed Registered Architect. GMC PACIFIC CRUISERS are all proud of her accomplishments.

Inside:

Minutes • Poem | USS Midway Rally | Days of Wine Rally | Spotlight • In Memory | Shade Tree Mechanic | Rally Schedule 2007 • Jokes

2

3

4

5

6-7

8



MINUTES OF BUSINESS MEETING June 1, 2007

Business meeting called to order by President, Jim Rowe. Jim introduced guests, Claire Santilli, who is Ralph Mundia's sister and Greg Mattern who is the nephew of Bob Blenkinsop.

Rallymasters Lee and Suzanne Nelsen were thanked for a lovely and innovative rally.

Vice-president, Lee Nelsen presented Jim with a plaque that reads, Jim Rowe, President 2005-2007, GMC Pacific Cruisers, "He Put The Hammer Down For Us" which, of course, refers to the presidential gavel and Jim's car racing activities. Freddi Condos, former president, then presented Jim with a beautiful light grey Stetson hat as a thank you and memento of his term as president of GMC Pacific Cruisers.

Jim announced that Cindy Liebeck has resigned from her office as Treasurer. Cindy has accepted a position with a medical equipment firm and her job responsibilities, including overseas travel, have made it difficult to continue as Treasurer. Suzanne Covington has been appointed to fill the position and the change will be effective immediately.

Jim thanked the nominating committee and introduced its Chairman, Ed Staal. Ed presented the following slate of officers:

Lee Nelsen, President
Sharon Cerrina, Vice-president
Alice-Faye Brown, Secretary
Suzanne Covington, Treasurer
Chuck Garton, FMCA Representative
Ed Staal, FMCA Alternate

Ed called for nominations from the floor and none were forthcoming. A vote was held and the slate of officers for the 2007-2008 year was elected unanimously.

Old Business:

Jim stated that we need to promote our club if we want it to continue to grow and prosper. Two modes of promoting our group are via our Newsletter and our Website. After a discussion, a motion was made to accept paid advertising in the newsletter. The motion was rejected as it had been in the past. Jim then stated that a request has now come in to put paid advertising on the Website. Discussion of advantages and disadvantages for paid advertising or sponsorship ensued with several motions being proposed regarding the acceptance of advertising on the Website and what type. Finally a motion was passed that stated that we will accept display or banner ads on the website that are complementary to our GMC Motor Home Club, and that are pre-approved by the Board. Members will still be able to have free listings on the website.

New Business:

Lee Nelsen gave a heads-up for next year's rallies. Check the Website and Newsletter for places and dates. In addition to the regular rally schedule, Jim Peugh asked for a show of hands for people who would be interested in a GMC-PC rendezvous in the San Bernardino Mountains in August. Watch for more information on this event. Lillian Trubert announced that there will be a joint rally of GMC Western States and GMC International in Spring 2008 in Santa Rosa, CA. Since this is practically in our backyard, Lillian is proposing that there be a strong presence of GMC Pacific Cruisers in attendance and that we can meet somewhere nearby and arrive en masse to make our entrance as a Club. Watch for more publicity on this historic event.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

Audree Rowe, Secretary

Women of the West by Lillian Trubert

British Columbia

Let's celebrate those hail and hearty British Columbians. Those sassy gals pushed on to the farthest coast after crossing lakes, rivers, prairies and mountains, and they were rewarded with a land of fruit and toast.

Alberta

Those beautiful female Albertans were real pioneers. They tackled the vast expanses of relentless prairie and worked side by side with ambitious men. In fact the only difference is they were less hairy.

Saskatchewan

These Saskatchewanian pioneers took on the no frills life with endless prairies, hard work and harsh climate. But they can stand tall and true with pride well earned for they prevailed with wills stronger than kryptonite.

Washington

A big WOW to the wet and wacky women of Washington for nothing is too much for them to envision. From the sea islands to the prairies to the deserts, they added the spice, the life, the motivation.

to be continued in August newsletter

FLY OFF TO THE USS MIDWAY RALLY

Reported by **Ellen Gandola**

MARCH 16-18, 2007

This was another OUTSTANDING rally hosted by Gerry and Suzanne Covington, at the San Diego Metro KOA, Chula Vista, Ca. The rally was well attended by the beautiful GMC's.

Upon arrival and parking, there was time to meet and greet each other before the 5 o'clock "Happy Time" with a surprise Margarita Party hosted by Fin and Mary Beven. Thanks to the Beven's and Covington's we also had snacks and wine; what a lovely time we enjoyed. Dinner followed at 6 p.m. Volunteers served a delicious Mexican catered feast... Arlene Cantrell, Charlotte Hauge and Ms Ellie.

A dessert of cookies and hot chocolate w/whip cream topped off the meal.

On Saturday morning our continental breakfast included fresh fruit, rolls, yogurt and coffee. Midday, we boarded a double deck bus to San Diego to the famous Top Gun BBQ Restaurant for a superb lunch before our tour of the USS Midway Aircraft Carrier. What a Ship! It was a self guided audio device or personal tour if you walked with Gerry

Covington. Gerry served and flew many missions from the deck of the Midway during the Korean War. We walked a lot and didn't worry a lot about all the calories we consumed earlier. It was a terrific treat for all.

Back to the KOA at 3:30 p.m. and another 5 o'clock time of Happiness around the campfire and in the tent provided for our meals. We enjoyed pizza, salad and beverage for dinner. Audree Rowe introduced the newcomers, Eric Fischer, Dano Pretell, and Vicky Hampshire (guest of Bill Boyer). Jokers and Marbles, also LRC were the games of the evening. Shirley Shier, Jim Rowe, and Dave Cantrell were the winners of LRC.

A plentiful and delicious Mexican Breakfast was served on Sunday morning, before it was time for audios amigos again. A fun rally and a B I G round of applause and GIGANTIC hug to Gerry and Suzanne, who made it all possible.

Thanks also to all that provided assistance.

KEEP ON ROLLIN ... G M C PACIFIC CRUISERS!



ATTENDEES

Chuck & Bernie Aulgur
Fin & Mary Beven
Bob Blenkinsop & Guest
Ken & Judy Booth
Bill Boyer & Vicky Hampshire
Ed & Emma Burner

Dave & Arlene Cantrell
Bob Cook
Gerry and Suzanne Covington
(RALLY HOSTS)
Eric Fischer & Dano Pretell
Ray & Ellen Gandola
Chuck & Dorris Garton

Bill & Carol Grant
Hoss & Charlotte Hauge
Gary & Selma Lachman
Bob & Ruth Martin
Ralph & Annie Mundia
John & Ann Nelson
Jim Peugh & Alice-Faye Brown

Jim & Audree Rowe
Joe Rubio & Bernice Brady
Norm & Shirley Shier
Narod & Jessie Skiles
Brian & Joy Tripp
Robert Valpey
Bob & Phyllis Walters

DAYS OF WINE RALLY

MAY 31 – JUNE 3, 2007

PASO ROBLES WINE COUNTRY RV RESORT

Reported by **Ms Ellie Gandola**

SILENT VALLEY

The Central Coast Venue started on May 31st as an optional early arrival, especially for those going on the Wine Trolley Tour. Happy Hour at the usual time, BBQ your own Entrée' with sides and salad provided kicked off Thursday evening with the beginning of a frolicking good time.

John Nelson directed the Friday arrivals and insured all were tucked in. Those not attending the Wine Trolley Tour relaxed and visited with friends. Happy Hour brought us all together for a delicious dinner prepared by the Culinary Institute of Paso Robles. Thank you "Reverend" Fred Heidner for the inspirational renderings. Ralph and Annie Mundia brought his sister to the rally and she had a lovely time. Also welcomed again was the nephew of Bob Blenkinsop. We were so pleased to have Win and Jackie Porteous back to the fold. They also brought along a friend.

The evening was filled with games and prizes: such as a balloon extravaganza arranged by John and Ann Nelson; pool and ping pong. Bernice Brady-Audree Rowe-Ken Lierly were the B I G LCR winners.

A full-catered breakfast was provided by the Culinary Institute on Saturday morning. Our President, Jim Rowe, conducted a lively Business Meeting. He was presented with a plaque and a Stetson Cowboy Hat along with heartfelt THANK YOU for a job well done as our Leader for the past two years.

The Owner of Midlife Crisis Winery- Kevin Milton, presented a class entitled "Wine Appreciation 101". He enlightened us

on maintaining a new and growing venture and served Mimosa's.

Frank Condos was captured to give a seminar on the Aluminum Radiator. It was well received and many questions were raised. Jim Kanomata provided some information on parts.

A vendor fair and flea market was held in the Clubhouse. There were many treasures available.

Chef Ralph Mundia labored (with love) over hot charcoals preparing Tri-Tips for dinner. Of course he had able helpers and many volunteers provided the fixings and side dishes. We had a pig-out terrific dinner. Thank you RALPH! And others.

Sunday morning found us eating again. Fresh fruit, muffins, and beverage were the order of the day. There was even an apple peel spewing fun episode.

We managed to have so many games, so much fun, even though there was so little time.

Lee and Suzanne Nelsen, our hosts, a GIGANTIC THANKS. They have gone beyond the call of duty in providing many rallies in such a short span of time. However, they always make each one bigger and better. We all appreciate the expertise they bring to our Club. Also thanks to their assistants.



ATTENDEES:

Fin & Mary Bevin
Bob Blenkinsop (and Nephew)
Bernice Brady & Joe Rubio
Zay & Betty Brand
Dave & Arlene Cantrell
Pat & Sharon Cerrina
Frank and Freddi Condos

Bob Cook
Gerry & Suzanne Covington
Fred & Cynthia Davis
Bill and Lill Deal
Ray and Ellie Mae Gandola
Chuck & Dorris Garton
Betty Gaw & Marilyn Maxwell
Roy & Karin Gosen

Hoss & Charlotte Hauge
Reverend Fred and Patricia
Heidner
Guy Hickey
Ken & Judy Lierly
Miguel & Linda Mendez
Chef Ralph and Annie Mundia
Lee & Suzanne Nelsen

John & Ann Nelson
Jim Peugh & Alice Fay Brown
Jim & Audree Rowe
Dr. George and Alice Scott
Gene & Jessie Skiles
Ed & Eileen Staal
Marc & Lillian Trubert
Bob (Bucky) & Phyllis Walters

SPOTLIGHT ON NEW MEMBERS

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

Charlie/Jackie Jorgensen purchased their 1973 Sequoia in March '07. They live in Wildomar, California where Charlie is a Technician, and Jackie is a Housewife. They look forward to joining the club at a rally soon!

Dave/Mary Lou Young have had their 1976 Eleganza II since Aug'87. They are both retired and live in Mt. Baldy where Dave runs the weekday Mt. Baldy Ski School. Dave used to work at General Dynamics. Miguel (MGM-GMC) happened upon their coach when it broke down on the freeway and offered his assistance. Dave has rebuilt the engine and transmission twice so far, and he and Mary Lou have a lot of memories in their GMC.

Larry/Colleen Engelbrecht live in San Diego where Larry is a high school teacher and Colleen is a corporate trainer. They purchased their 1973 ex-Glacier in August'06. Larry and Colleen have been camping for years –starting in a tent and moving to a tent trailer when they had children. With four kids, they realized the limitations of their tent trailer and located the GMC they always wanted.

Robert/LaDeana Schultz purchased their 1978 Royale in June '05. They live in Irvine where Robert is an IT Manager, and LaDeana is an Industrial Eng.

Kerry/Leanne Tandy are retired and live in the Great State of Texas, Merkel to be exact. They purchased their 1978 Royale in 1999.

Dayton/Pam Taylor live in Temecula and purchased their 1977 Birchaven Nov.'06. Pam is an interior decorator, and Dayton restores and sells vintage trailers. Visit their web site, www.VintageTrailerCrazy.com, to see some of the work they've done on 1940 – 50's trailers.

Gene/Kathy Barrow purchased their 1976 Palm Beach in 2003. They are retired and live in Imperial Beach, California.

Chuck/Judy Scott purchased their 1977 26' Royale in Feb. 07. Chuck is a retired high school science teacher. Judy is a retired high school librarian. They live in Westminster, Ca.

HAPPY 53RD ANNIVERSARY TO JIM AND AUDREE ROWE

NEWSLETTER SCHEDULE FOR 2007

Publica. Dates	Aug 15	Dec 7
Info to Coordi.	Aug 1	Nov 12
To Publisher	Aug 8	Nov 19

OUR MEMBERSHIP COUNT IS

173



In Loving Memory

Jan McQuilliams (wife of Frank) passed away March 23, 2007. She celebrated a joyous life and loved socializing with fellow GMCers, especially playing Jokers and Marbles. She taught many interesting craft classes and was always willing to lend a hand whenever needed.

Several of her friends provided Frank with written tributes in remembrance of this lovely person. She will be missed, especially by her Frank, her husband of 27+ years. Muffin (her dog) has agreed to let Frank be her master.

We have also been advised that **Blaine Rusk** has passed away.



THE STORY OF A THIRD FACTORY FUEL TANK

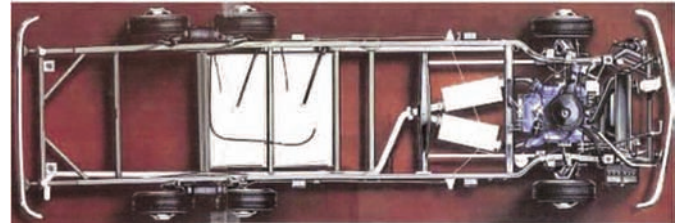
By **Chuck Garton**

This article does NOT apply to 23 Foot GMC's.

My first GMC Motor home was a 1974 26 foot Sequoia purchased on 2 November 1977.

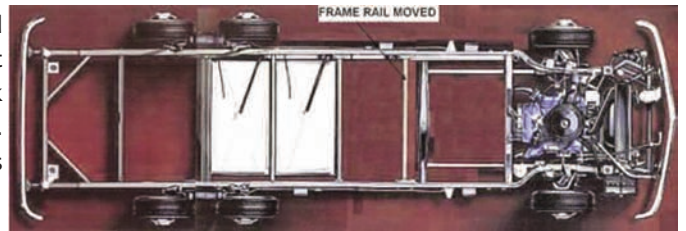
I did not find out about the GMC Clubs until the fall of 1991.

In 1973 the first Arab Oil Embargo took place. The second took place in 1979 and at the time, seemed endless. One could by gas on even or odd days determined by the last digit of the license plate, and frequently only 10 gallons at a time. convenient to disconnect the AC Power at the AC Circuit Breaker Panel (Main Circuit Breaker into off position).



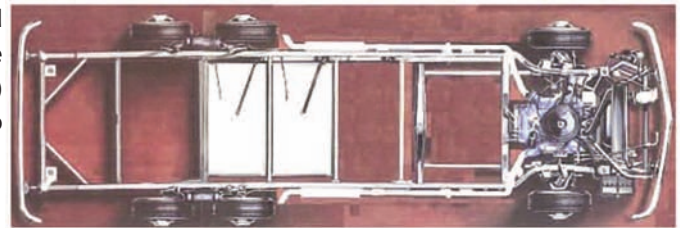
1

This got me thinking about additional fuel storage. Picture 1 is copied from a sales brochure. After measuring, I removed the exhaust system, and moved the bolted in frame rail for proper fuel tank spacing and ended up with Picture 2 and decided this could be done. Next, I crawled under the Coach and measured the real components and verified that it would work.



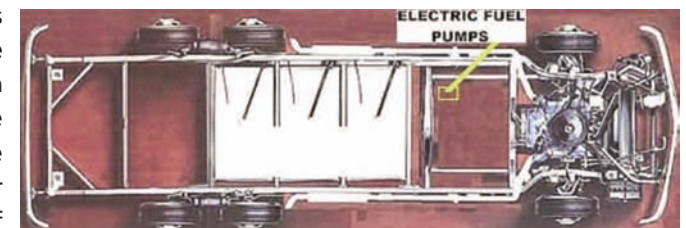
2

The exhaust system was showing its age, plus the fact that 1973 and 1974 coaches had bare plywood floors (no insulation between the floor and whatever was beneath, including the exhaust system) convinced me to replace it. New to Ridgecrest, CA was a repair shop with an exhaust pipe bender. The result is shown in picture 3.



3

During this time frame, I operated the coach with all the windows open and discovered exhaust would come in either open rear side window. After installing the dual exhaust system, no exhaust came in any open window. I was unaware of the exhaust flow through the intake manifold. The first symptom was a hole burned through the choke heat sensing tube in the intake manifold. Three months after replacing the tube, it burned through again. This time, I capped off the port and installed an electric choke, an elegant solution to a symptom, ignoring the real problem.



4

With the exhaust system working adequately, I proceeded with the third tank installation. Prior to installing the tank, I installed a "tee kit" (GM Part Number 723309) to fill the third tank. Next I installed the tank (picture 4). There is no difference when filling the tanks, except it takes more gas.

Getting the gas to the carburetor with no mechanical fuel pump, each tank has its own electric fuel pump. Selecting the fuel pump selects the tank and hooks the fuel gauge to that tank. I used three LED's to indicate which tank was in use (1 LED on = Tank 1 (rear), 2) LED's on = Tank 2 (middle) and 3 LED's on = Tank 3 (front).

On Sunday, 6 June 1993, disaster struck. While driving on the Naval



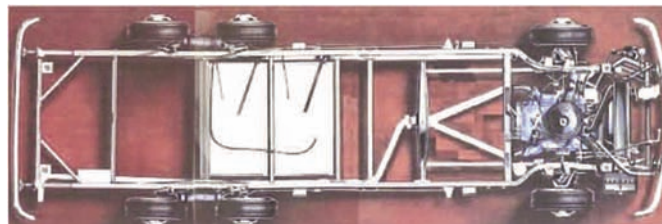
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6

Weapons Center China Lake in 105° heat at 6:00 PM, the coach caught on fire and burned completely (pictures 5 and 6). The fuel tanks were full and after the fire, they were intact but empty. There was no trace of the propane tank. Further investigation revealed a wet spot (Gasoline) aft of the left front wheel where the coach was parked just before the trip home. Evidently, after 15 years, the exhaust heat from the left header pipe had baked the fuel filler hose enough to cause a fuel leak. A local chemist had invented "Beerstone". This was supposed to be fireproof, and I had installed it in the engine compartment. The stuff worked, but the fire started in the wrong place (fires do that). It was intact laying on the remains of the engine.

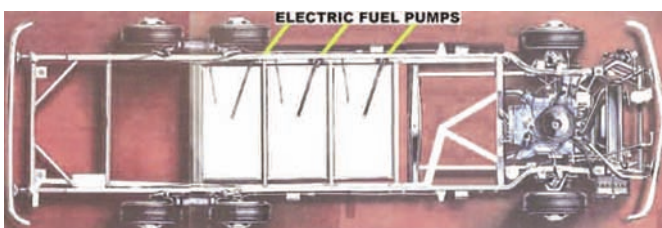
In August of 1993, I acquired an early 1977 Kingsley with a 455 engine. At that time, I decided against installing a third tank because of the dual exhaust system disaster. Then I heard Emory Stora's seminar at the Estes Park Western States Rally (September 2005). It had to do with engine breathing (both intake and exhaust) and he talked about a single rear muffler exhaust system with three inch tubing and mandrel bends that he had designed and Jim Kanomata was selling in kit form (picture 7).



He had an example of Emory's design at the rally. After the seminar, I talked with Jim and he agreed to alter the design (picture 8) and build it, also in kit form.



I moved the frame rail and installed the third tank, which is how the coach looks today (picture 9). The exhaust system is quieter than the previous system and the GMC moan is gone. I plan to add the heat shields between the exhaust pipes and fuel tanks (California coaches came this way) and insulate them. I also plan to add an insulated heat shield between the front fuel tank and the torsion bar anchor cross member to keep more exhaust heat out of the fuel tanks.



I did things differently this time. Pictures 10 and 11 show the use of steel fuel lines on top of the tanks. The tanks flex enough, so that I had to use two inches of rubber fuel line (100 PSI Fuel injection) on the supply and vent lines. The supply, vent and vapor control lines are soldered to the tank. I have found that running separate 3/8" vent lines to the top of the left front fender well and then combining them into the 1/2" stock vent (picture 12) allows faster and more complete filling.



I mounted the fuel pumps (again, one for each tank) outside of frame rails (picture 13). By mounting them this way, I was able to get each pump closer to its tank (electric fuel pumps are better pushers than pullers). Also on 100°+ days the area outside the frame rails is about 25° cooler than the fuel in the front tank.



Picture 14 shows the fuel tank temperature sensor installed. All three tanks have temperature sensors. When a fuel tank is selected to pump from, the temperature sensor for that tank is also selected. The hottest temperature observed was 148° F in August 2005 on I-15's sixteen-mile climb just north of Baker, CA on the way to Las Vegas.



to be continued in August newsletter



PACIFIC CRUISERS 2007 RALLY SCHEDULE



CLUB

SEPTEMBER 4-8, 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.

Continental breakfast will be provided Saturday, Sunday, and Monday. Dinners will be provided Friday and Saturday. Our renowned Chef Ralph will prepare the Saturday night BBQ tri-tip dinner.

Registration forms will be included in August Newsletter or see GMC Pacific Cruiser website (www.gmcp.org). Registrations are not due until September 21, 2007.

NOVEMBER 2-4, 2007

GMC PACIFIC CRUISERS

TUCALOTA SPRINGS RV RESORT

SAGE, CA.

HOSTS: DAVE & ARLENE CANTRELL

RAY & ELLEN GANDOLA

NEED HOSTS FOR DEC- 2007 - (PLEASE SEE SHARON CERRINA IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HOST A RALLY)

Grist for the Mill

As our teenage idols are getting older they are amending some of their original hit songs. Perhaps you remember.....

Herman's Hermits	<i>Mrs Brown, You've Got a Lovely Walker</i>
The Bee Gee's	<i>How Can You Mend a Broken Hip</i>
Bobby Darin	<i>Splash, Splash, I Was Havin' a Flash</i>
Ringo Starr	<i>I Get By with a Little Help from Depends</i>
Robert Flack	<i>The First Time I Ever Forgot Your Face</i>
Johnny Nash	<i>I Can't See Clearly Now</i>
Paul Simon	<i>Fifty Ways to Lose Your Liver</i>
Commodore	<i>Once, Twice, Three Times to the Bathroom</i>

Marvin Gaye	<i>I Heard It Through the Grapenuts</i>
Procol Harem	<i>A White Shade of Hair</i>
Leo Sayer	<i>You Make Me Feel Like Napping</i>
The Temptations	<i>Papa's Got a Kidney Stone</i>
ABBA	<i>Denture Queen</i>
Tony Orlando	<i>Nock 3 Times on the Ceiling If You Hear Me Fall</i>
Helen Reddy	<i>I Am Woman, Here Me Snore</i>
Willie Nelson	<i>On the Throne Again</i>
Leslie Gore	<i>It's My Procedure and I'll Cry If I Want To</i>

Submitted By: **Norm Shier**

GMC
PACIFIC CRUISERS
CLUB

NEWSLETTER

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GMC Pacific Pearls, Red Hat Society
OUR GORGEOUS LADIES IN LOVING COLOR