



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



MOTORHOME CLUB NEWSLETTER

JoAnne Hernandez, President
760-723-4575, whimseyrh@aol.com
Ed Staal, Vice President
310 374-7678, eestaal@msn.com
Fred Davis, Treasurer
805 525-1519, cynfred@verizon.net
Eileen Staal, Secretary
310-374-7678, eestaal@msn.com
Chuck Garton, FMCA National Director
760-375-5568, ceg777@earthlink.net
Ralph Mundia, Alternate National Director
714-777-3598
Lill Deal, Newsletter Publisher
858-270-3023, isoutput@pacbell.net
Sharon Cerrina, Newsletter Coordinator
562-694-6800, sharoncerrina@gmail.com

Dec 2010 | Jan | Feb 2011

FROM BEHIND THE WHEEL

A big GMC Pacific Cruiser Hello from your incoming President. For those of you who do not know me well, I would like to introduce myself. My name is Joanne Hernandez and my husband Phil and I have been members of the Club since 1998. Our coach is a 1977 Palm Beach and it is that oh so lovely shade of green. Many adventures have happened and many great memories have been made with that coach and most of them have been with you, the GMC Pacific Cruiser Club. For the past two years I have served as the Club Vice President and have gotten to know many of you wonderful folks as you plan our fun filled rallies.



I want to thank our outgoing President, Sharon Cerrina, for all her hard work and dedication over the last two years. She worked tirelessly to promote the GMC Pacific Cruisers and developed a great relationship with FMCA. She will definitely be a hard act to follow.

As your incoming President I have a simple philosophy. Life is an Adventure and "Life in a GMC" is really an Adventure. Our horizons are broadened and enriched by sharing travel and friendship with positive people. Every time we attend a rally we have the opportunity to meet new friends, connect again with old friends and learn something about our coaches. If someone raises a hood a crowd gathers and a problem is solved or a new gadget is investigated. In the clubhouse a new craft is learned and the jokers and marbles and dominos fly.

We are a unique group and it will be a privilege to serve as your President for the coming year. We are only required to hold two official meetings a year but there can certainly be more than two. If you have an issue you would like to discuss at a meeting let a member of the board or me know and we will do our best to accommodate a timely meeting. The coach door is always open and you have my ear.

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Quartzsite Rally Registration

Our Club is a smooth running machine. The by-laws are up to date. The website and newsletter are well run. New members are joining and current members are renewing. Rallies have been planned for the next several months. We do need to fill in May 2011 and we will be asking members to think of a spot they enjoy where they will host a rally. Your Vice President, Ed Staal, and I will help you organize it if we are needed. The road is calling; the coaches and the riders are restless. **So lets get on to our next adventure!**

Congratulations to our new Board:

President – Joanne Hernandez

Treasurer – Fred Davis

Vice-President – Ed Staal

FMCA National Director – Chuck Garton

Secretary – Eileen Staal

FMCA Alternate Director – Ralph Mundia



EILEEN STAAL BIO

Hi: My name is Eileen Staal. I am in my second year as the Secretary of GMC Pacific Cruisers. I am the 9th child in a family of 10. I arrived in Redondo Beach California in 1947 and I still live in Redondo Beach. I married the love of my life on February 12th, 1955. We are the parents of six (6) children. We have two (2) daughters and four (4) sons. Currently, and still counting we have twenty-six (26) grand-children and four (4) great-grand-children. We bought our 1977 Royale GMC on November 1, 1994. We immediately joined the Pacific Cruisers and have enjoyed many miles travelling in our Motorhome and attending many rallies with GMC Pacific Cruisers, GMC Western States and GMC International. I was Treasurer for 4 years and got to know many members through that office. I recommend being active in our Club. The more you attend rallies and become active, the more you enjoy owning a GMC.

ED STAAL BIO

In 1973 my two sons and I went to the Sportsmans Show in Los Angeles to check out the latest in camping, hiking and fishing. The boys spotted a GMC Motorhome parked among a variety of camping trailers. There were over 100 people in line waiting to see that GMC. Those kids were so excited they told me we had to buy one. It was the most gorgeous thing on wheels.

We bought our 1977 Royale in November 1994 after searching for a GMC for several months. We found this one and knew immediately we would buy it. I told Eileen, act nonchalant, like we are just looking. Ho ho ho, like we were hiding our enthusiasm. After a few moments of negotiation we settled on the price and closed the deal. It was 21 years later and too late for the kids to enjoy it.

After previously owning a Cortez motorhome we knew the value of belonging to a brand specific club and fortunately the previous owner had number pieces of GMC Pacific Cruisers news letters in the coach. We found Duane Simmons name and telephone in them and called him. He put us in touch with Jean Reeves and we were signed up.

Since then we have hosted several rallies and participated in club activities. We have caravanned with club members to distant rally's and traveled on our own cross country to the East Coast and to Washington State to visit family and grandchildren.



Submitted by: **Annie Mundia**



We all gathered at Newport Dunes on November 19, 2010 and everyone was happy to see one another again. After much greeting and hugging we ventured over to the club house for Dave's wonderful margaritas, 11/2 gallon mix to 11/2 gallon of tequila. ENJOYED by all. Fin Bevern showed then with his famous margaritas. During happy hour much to every one's surprise Duane Simmons and his wife Billie showed to help enjoy the hour and dinner. He has been very ill and everyone was glad to see him. A very delicious Mexican dinner was served, catered by Dave's neighbor from El Ranchito. The cookies for dessert were outstanding Chipndough, also from one of Dave's neighbors.

On Saturday morning back to the club house for a real breakfast of pancakes, eggs, sausage, juice and coffee made by our own GMC chiefs. After breakfast we had our business meeting by our new officers. Sharon Cerrina and Suzanne Covington were given orchids and a card, signed by all, for outgoing officers. Annie Mundia introduced our new members, Cass and Tim Jones. They came from Oregon and bought a home in San Clemente. They still have their home in Oregon.

Every one congratulated, Eric Fishcher for winning a rifle shooting medal in a meet in Switzerland.

We were also honored to have two guests, Randi Bills and Helen Huston. Shortly afterward Dave DeGraffenreid educated us on how to plant succulents. He made all the beautiful centerpieces and said they are going to be raffled off on Sunday.

Members were then treated to lunch of Chili and Clam Chowder with all the trimmings and sour dough bread.

We then gathered for a boat tour of the harbor. The clouds parted and let the sun shine for a very nice cruise around Newport harbor.

Dinner was Ralph Mundia's famous and delicious Tri-Tip, with baked potato and caesar salad. Yum-Yum. Dessert was ice-cream with all the trimmings.



Lee Nelsen and Suzanne Covington won the GMC Password game of charades.

How do you do rear bath?? Ask Martha and Erich Fisher.

Sunday started with a delicious breakfast of cereal, juice, fruit, coffee, toast and hard boiled egg. The succulents were raffled off and everyone said their goodbyes.

Dave and Donna DeGraffenreid put on one of our best rallies ever.

Thanks for the wonderful job.





Attendees:

DeGraffenreid, Dave & Donna
 Staal, Ed & Eileen
 Cantrell, David & Arlene
 Shier, Norm & Shirley
 Gandolla, Ray & Ellen
 Hobson, Al & Barbara
 Marana, John & Helen Huston
 Rubio, Joe & Bernice
 Cerrina, Pat & Sharon
 Tripp, Brian & Joy
 Gosen, Roy & Karin
 Beven, Fin

Hernandez, Phil & JoAnne
 Nelson, John & Ann
 Mundia, Ralph & Annie
 Nelsen, Lee & Suzanne
 Nerio, Ron & Helen
 Lachman, Gary & Selma
 Covington, Suzanne & Randy Bills
 Rowe, Jim & Audree
 Davis, Fred & Cynthia
 Gaw, Betty & Marilyn Maxwell
 Skiles, Narod & Jessie
 Bowden, Gerald & Willie

Lamey, Bob & Karen
 Cook, Bob
 Kaneabley, Charlie & Patricia
 McCurter, Danny & Barbara
 Hooton, Bob & Dorthy
 Fisher, Erich & Martha
 Hauge, Hoss & Charrlotte
 Trubert, Marc & Lillian
 Wood, Dave & Leone
 Jones, Tim & Cass
 Schultz, Gene & Bobbie



SALE OF A 1977 GMC BIRCHAVEN WITH A HAPPY ENDING

Submitted by: **Audree Rowe**

In 1977 Pacific Cruiser member, Marilyn Roland, bought herself a brand new GMC Birchaven motorhome and for the next thirty three years she enjoyed driving it on trips all over the United States. When she recently decided to sell it, it was hard to think of saying goodbye to the coach that had been a part of her life for so long and she really wanted it to go to someone who would appreciate it and keep it in our GMC family.

Here is the happy ending or maybe the new beginning part:

Her buyer is Greg Birch, grandson of Alex Birch who was a member of the GMC factory motorhome team way back when, and who, after he retired, designed and sold the Birch screen door that so many of us have on our coaches. Greg, who lives in Port Angeles, Washington, had been looking for a Birchaven. He found out about Marilyn's coach, flew down here and drove it home. Good luck to Greg. We'll look for him and the coach next time we go to Western States.



RED HAT SOCIETY

September 30, 2010 The Red Hat Pearls met at Annie Mundia's home for a very delightful luncheon. Her husband Ralph did Tri-Tip for us and served with it was various salads, lemonade and ice tea. Was followed by the families secret cookie recipe. Annie was a very gracious host and has a lovely home.

Next Red Hat Tea will be Feb. 3, 2011 at Porto's Bakery and Cafe in Downey, hosted by Dorothy Hooton.



Attendee's were: Queen Mum Sharon Cerrina, Dorothy Hooton, Arlene Cantrell, Jackie Clutter, Eileen Gandolla, Joe Lingrey and Annie Mundia. Fun was had by all.

FOR SALE CORNER

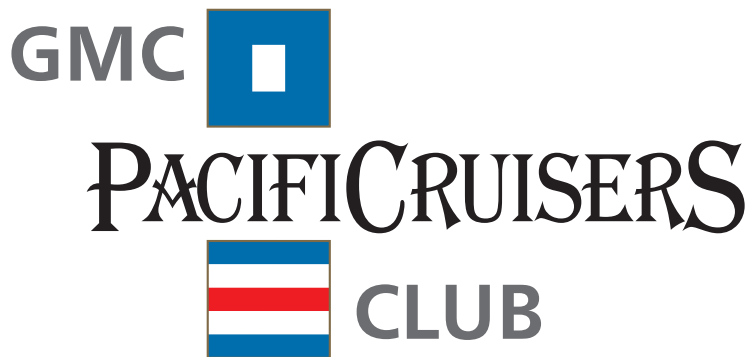
1978 GMC ROYALE 26 FT.

Twin 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; microwave; stove; TV antenna; custom paint (cream color with various shades of maroon striping); hitch; mileage approx. 124,000. Asking \$15,900.

Optional 1988 ½ Suzuki Samurai (soft top) with tow package on front and paint that matches the motor home; a/c; fabric upholstery in excellent condition; removable radio faceplate for theft security; mileage approx. 104,000. Asking \$3,900 or both for \$19,000. Call Marian, Temecula, CA, (951) 676-3287, or e-mail: bmporter1@verizon.Net .

(Selling due to death in family.) _____(0811)





2011 RALLY SCHEDULE

DECEMBER

HAPPY HOLIDAYS! SEE YOU IN 2011

JANUARY 16–25, 2011 (DATE PENDING)

GMC PACIFIC CRUISERS

RICE RANCH, QUARTSZITE, AZ

DRY CAMPING NO HOST RALLY ON BLM LAND

HOSTS: KEN AND JUDY BOOTH

REGISTRATION FORM AVAILABLE ON

GMPCPC WEBSITE

FEBRUARY 25–27, 2011

GMC PACIFIC CRUISERS

SKY VALLEY RESORT, NEAR CATHEDRAL CITY

HOSTS: NORM AND SHIRLEY SHIER

A FLYER WILL BE AVAILABLE SOON

MARCH 18–19, 2011

GMC PACIFIC CRUISERS

TEMECULA BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL,

TEMECULA, CA

HOSTS: PHIL AND JOANNE HERNANDEZ

A FLYER WILL BE AVAILABLE SOON

APRIL 27–MAY 1

WESTERN STATES

SAN LORENZO COUNTY PARK, KING CITY

HOSTS: PHIL AND JOANNE HERNANDEZ

MAY 2011

GMC PACIFIC CRUISERS

CHINO AIR SHOW RALLY

HOSTS: NAROD AND JESSIE SKILES

JUNE 10,11, 2011

GMC PACIFIC CRUISERS

BOULDER CREEK RV RESORT, LONE PINE

HOSTS: DAVE AND ARLENE CANTRELL AND

RAY AND ELLEN GANDOLA

GMC
PACIFICCRUISERS
CLUB

NEWSLETTER

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If you would like to
submit an article or item,
email

Sharon Cerrina
sharoncerrina@gmail.com

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



G M C



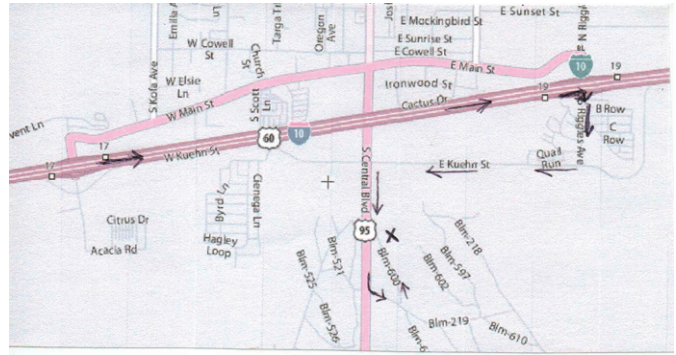
P A C I F I C



C R U I S E R S



C L U B



La Posa BLM LTVA, QUARTZSITE, AZ

January 16-25, 2011

Directions: From the West: Take Interstate-10 east to Exit 19, Quartzsite AZ, turn right coming off the freeway on Riggins Avenue. Proceed to Kuehn St. & turn right. Proceed to traffic signal at Hwy 95 (Central Blvd) & turn left. Proceed south on Hwy 95 (Central Blvd) approximately 2 miles to the first entrance to La Posa BLM on the left. Enter. Stop at the gate booth and pay your camping fees. Follow the GMCPD signs. We will hope to have an area to the left under the power lines.

This is a **DRY CAMPING NO-HOST** rally. You are on your own for food, drinks and other essentials. Come have fun, shop & relax. If you'd like, bring your dutch oven and/or grill to share in the fun of cooking for the group. If you'd like to prepare food for the group, we'll coordinate meals on site. Weather can be unpredictable. Usually we have good weather but prepare for wind, cold and/or rain. **4:00 PM DAILY HAPPY HOUR** is a chance to sit by the campfire and chat.

You can join us for any of the days listed.
BLM FEES ARE \$40 for up to 14 days PAYABLE AT THE ENTRY GATE
 GMCPD will charge a **\$10 per coach** fee on site to cover firewood, trash bags, etc.

Tyson Wells Sell-a-Rama is an unbelievable display on 2 miles of frontage that opens Jan 21 .
 The **Big-Tent RV Show** will be open Jan 22 thru Jan 30, 2011. Bring comfortable walking shoes.
 There are walk-up places to eat at both venues.

Rally NON-HOSTS: Ken & Judy Booth
Registration: No later than JAN 7

Since there are no fees due prior to arrival, you can e-mail or mail the following info to:

e-mail: hobo@citlink.net

Mail: 1037 Riverside Drive, Lake Havasu City, AZ 86404

Phone: 928 764-3378 Cell #'s: 928 699-1789 (Judy) 928 699-0913 (Ken)

Name(s) e-mail

Address City State Zip

Phone Cell Phone

Coach License # Tow License #

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