



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

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Jan | Feb | March

FROM BEHIND THE WHEEL

It is hard to believe that a new year has begun. 2012 will be another banner year for the GMC Pacific Cruisers. Chuck and Dorris Garton and Ken and Judy Booth ordered great weather for the fun filled days at Quartzsite. See the rally report in this issue for all the details.

At Quartzsite, a nominating committee was appointed. It consists of Freddi Condos, Dorthy Hooton and Arlene Cantrell. These three dynamos went to work and determined who among the GMC Pacific Cruisers would be willing to volunteer to be Officers for the coming year. They contacted these proposed officers to get their approval and the committee can now give out their names.

The Slate of Officers proposed by the Nominating Committee is:

President: Ralph Mundia
Vice President: Lillian Trubert
Secretary: Judy Booth
Treasurer: Fin Bevan
FMCA Rep. Chuck Garton
FMCA Alt. Rep. Phil Hernandez



If you would like to present another name, first verify that the person you propose is willing to volunteer to be an officer. It would be helpful to contact one of the Nominating Committee in advance of the Temecula meeting.

The Nominating Committee will present their proposed slate of officers at our meeting in March at the Temecula Bluegrass Rally for consideration as well as call for nominations from the floor. Voting on the proposed officers will then take place. Installation will take place at our next meeting and the new officers will assume their duties in September.

If you have not already signed up for the Bluegrass Festival in Temecula with our hosts Jim and Audree Rowe and Suzanne Covington look for the flyer in this issue or on the gmcpc.org website. A walk through Old Town listening to the musicians is a real treat plus on Saturday morning you can shop for tasty snacks and fresh foods at the Farmers Market.

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FROM BEHIND THE WHEEL

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A big thank you goes out to all of you who have renewed your membership. Some of our members have sold their coaches and they will be missed but we are gathering in new members. Keep up the good work of promoting our Club to people who show such interest in our "Classics". It seems that every time we are filling up at a gas station at least one person comes over and talks to us about how they have always admired the GMC Motor home. It is always good to tell them about our website and all the information that is there with quick links available to other sites with useful information about our GMC's.

Speaking of our website, congratulations are in order for our Webmaster, Jim Peugh. Western Motor Home Association has honored Jim with an award for "Best Use of Technology in Communications." Jim has done an outstanding job over the years presenting newsletters, schedules and all the information we need in an easy format and he is truly appreciated by all members. Congratulations Jim!

See you all in Temecula.

BIRCHAVEN ADVENTURE

Our long time member, Marilyn Roland, sold her coach last year. Marilyn bought the coach new. She told us she drove it right out of the dealer's showroom and hit the road with it. It was always her baby and she traveled all over the country in her 23' Birchaven GMC. So when she decided it was time to sell, she wanted it to go to a good home; to someone who would appreciate it and enjoy it the way she had and she found that person. Her coach was bought by Dr. Greg Birch, the grandson of Alec Birch, one of the original GMC designers and for whom the Birchaven coach was named. Greg saw her coach advertised on the GMC website, looked at pictures, liked what he saw and flew down from his home in Washington State to see it. He liked it, concluded the deal, jumped in and drove it home. Recently Marilyn sent him a surprise gift of the Hess model GMC that she had painted to match her "big" coach. In his thank-you Greg told her about his recent adventure with the coach and sent some great pictures. He and his wife took the little 23' GMC up into their local mountains and were caught in a serious snowstorm. Greg said he could only drive at 15 mph, but the GMC kept going when vehicles all around him were stopped. That's our GMC!



QUARTZITE RALLY

JANUARY 25 - FEBRUARY 1, 2012

Reported By: Freddi Condos

Lend an ear all who missed this fabulous Rally. It was a good gathering of the GMC Pacific Cruiser Clan, including a visit from Teresa and Jim from Minnesota. Of course we shopped, sat, and chatted to our hearts delight. Beautiful sunny days were abound as were the cold nights, that were warmed by our fire pit, manned by none other than our own Hoss. The list below gives you an idea of the delectable cuisine we savored (and left the Rally several pounds heavier):

Beverages included: Wine galore, Kenny Booth's Margaritas and Freddi's Apple Berry Tinies (the second two had a tendency to knock your socks off).

I'm almost speechless to describe the outstanding appetizers and Entrees we were treated to. Each day unfolded yet another creation, such as being happy with:

Humus, honey pretzels, deviled eggs, cream cheese on crackers
With spicy red peppers topped with smoked salmon, carrots, fruits, variety of chips and dips, celery stuffed w/cream cheese topped with Croatia figs preserves, pistachios (regular and hot ones), cheese and crackers.....

But wait there's more.....the Entrees..

Green and Fruit Salads with homemade dressings;
Potato Casserole, Sauerkraut with loads of Pork chunks
Lamey's top of the mark Chili and Beer Bread (to die for)
Pasta w/Sausage; Eggplant Parmesan
Chicken Noodle Soup (homemade, of course)
Daily: Variety of Bean Pots with lots of ham and other meats
Smacking good Beef Stew with cast iron skillet Corn Bread
Family Secret recipe Meatloaf with Pecans....oh soooo good

Oh my, what about those Desserts....mostly homemade..

But who had room for more, after Beverages, Appetizers, Entrees..
We little piggies did...

Lemon Cake with fruit center;
Weight Watchers Chocolate Cake...right!
Helen's special Lemon Cake with Lemony frosting
Cookies....Brownies with and w/o Nuts
Ginger Loaf Bread...yum..yum
More chocoholic Chocolate Cake
Mamas Lemon Meringue Pie
Dutch Oven Cherry / Pineapple Cobbler OOOH....OOOH ..YUM!
Honey butter glazed Almond Popcorn sprinkled with fresh Shelled Walnuts



Did we dine like pampered Kings and Queens or what? Oops almost forgot the fire toasted bread stuffed with marshmallows and chocolate. Yea, some did do the smores thing.

Think you all get the idea that we had luscious food. Do believe we enjoyed an overwhelming abundance of food, more than ever before at our Quartzsite extravaganza.

We all appreciate and are grateful for the care and commitment that Chuck and Dorris display annually in being our Rally Host. We are also pleased that the attendees provided scrumptious gourmet food and sock it to me beverages. Of course, the Booths continue to provide plenty of wood for our warmth and the Lamey's continue overflowing the Dutch Ovens with the good stuff. THANKS TO ALL!



ATTENDEES:

Chuck & Dorris Garton – Rally Host
Ken & Judy Booth
Bill Boyer (and friend Suzanne)
Dave & Arlene Cantrell
Pat & Sharon Cerrina
Frank and Freddi Condos
Suzanne Covington (and friend Randi)
Fred & Cynthia Davis
Hoss Hague
Al & Barbara Hobson
Bob & Dorthy Hooton
Danny & Barbara McCurter
Ralph & Annie Mundia
Jim & Audree Rowe
John & Kathy Ruff
Dave & Leone Wood
Jerry & Sharon Work
Jack & Helen Wykle



RECYCLE YOUR OLD CONVERTER

By **Jim Rowe**

If you are a back yard or shade tree mechanic like I am, you always need a 12 volt source for component testing. Last year I installed a new converter in my coach that would charge my batteries and take care of the batteries when the vehicle is stored. I removed the original converter, all 25 pounds of it and put it on the shelf thinking I would make use of it someday. Recently the 12 volt car battery I used for my 12 volt test source finally gave up and died. Now I could make use of my old converter.

It was great afternoon project and you can do the same thing. I installed a shelf under the workbench for the old converter. I opened up the 110volt attachment point and wired in a 6 foot long three wire pig tail. I put a grounded male plug on one end and used wire nuts to attach the black and white leads coming out of the converter to the pig tail. Also I used the green ground wire by connecting it to the converter case with a self-drilling screw. I bought alligator clips for the 12 volt leads, about 6 feet each of black and red wire. Next step was to attach the black wire to the ground lug built into the converter and the red wire to any of the 12 volt fused connections. Then plug in the 110 volt line and use the alligator clips to attach to a 12 volt bulb. WOW! What a genius you are. You now have a 12 volt source for all of your local testing needs. It is portable does not need distilled water and it is very safe. If the alligator clips touch each other when the 110volt is plugged in all you lose is a fuse. That's a lot better than welding the clips together if a battery had been used.





**THE GMC PACIFIC CRUISERS WILL BE
“FIDDLIN AROUND” AGAIN AT THE
12th ANNUAL TEMECULA BLUEGRASS
FESTIVAL**

ON MARCH 16, 17 & 18, 2012

Hosted by Suzanne Covington (909) 305-1434

and

Jim & Audree Rowe (909) 599-2820

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 year’s performers are sure to include some of your favorites. If you play a fiddle or other bluegrass instrument, bring them so 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 yet. Last year’s price was \$15.00.

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 any time 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 year’s 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 10, 2012. Any cancellations after that date may not receive a full refund. Fill out and mail registration below with your check payable to:

Audree Rowe 1353 N. Shirlmar Ave, San Dimas, CA 91773

Cut and mail-----

Name _____ **Phone #** _____

Address _____ **City** _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

E-mail address _____

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**

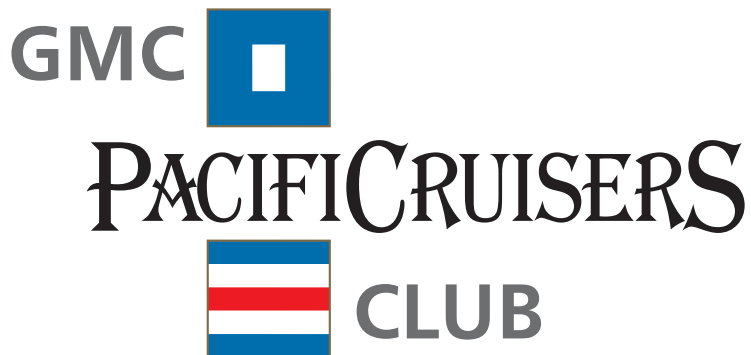
Coach with 1 person: \$65.00 _____ **Includes Fri., Sat. Camp spot**

Each additional guest: \$25.00 _____

_____ **Total**

Interested in Concert Tickets?? How Many? _____

We will let you know the price ASAP



2012 RALLY SCHEDULE

MARCH 17-19, 2012

TEMECULA BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL, TEMECULA, CA
HOSTED BY JIM AND AUDREE ROWE AND
SUZANNE COVINGTON

APRIL 24-28, 2012

WESTERN STATES
CASA DE FRUITA, CA
HOSTED BY MANNY AND DEO TRAVAO
AND CO HOST DAVE AND DONNA DEGRAFFENREID

PLEASE SEE ANY OFFICER IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HOST A RALLY IN 2012

GMC
PACIFICCRUISERS
CLUB

NEWSLETTER

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