

# GMC WESTERN STATES NEWSLETTER



## Inside

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- 1 President's Message
- 2 VP and Secretary's Reports
- 3 Tech Center
- 4 Rally Schedule

## HERE COMES THE PRES...

### **Wishing All a SAFE, HEALTHY, and JOYOUS 2015!**

Did you notice the beautifully designed new logo our Newsletter is Sporting? Many thanks to Byron Songer of Orlando, Florida. Byron is a member of GMC Eastern States, one of our sister Clubs. He so graciously gave approval for our use of his professional design. THANK YOU BYRON!

Our Spring Rally is shaping up to be another worthwhile event for our GMC community at Emerald Desert RV Resort. Our Rally Hosts Davy and Donna De are promising to knock our socks off with a delectable cuisine, salivating beverages, games galore, informative seminars for all, just plain ole letting the good times roll. They have also put the S U R V I V O R antics at bay....we'll see.

A Nominating Committee will be selected at our General Membership Meeting. The Committee will be charged with getting a slate of volunteers desiring to fill some vacating Officer positions, i. e. President for sure. Soooo if you are interested or know someone that would be willing to serve, be ready to help make the Committee's job easier.

We are also desperately looking for someone to assume the Wagon Master position. Yours truly is just worn out and would like to step down. This position is primarily responsible for securing Rally Host for our Spring and Fall Rallies. Consider this my plea to be replaced as Wagon Master by October 1, 2015....p r e t t y p l e a s e!

Do hope you plan to attend our Spring Rally in Palm Desert. It certainly will be another opportunity to spend several days with Good Friends.

HAPPY GMCing...

**Freddi C.**



## First VP's Report

The Spring 2015 Emerald Desert Rally is coming soon and we are making plans. Upon arrival, our first project will be Dave de Graffenreid guiding us in making centerpieces for the tables. Our planned craft projects, so far, include making outdoor candle lights and doing an origami project. Lillian Trubert will be doing a book review of "Life of Pi" by Yann Martel. If you would like to have a book exchange, please bring your books. There will be planned activities, game time, bunko, jokers & marbles and more. If you have other craft ideas or would like to do a seminar on health, beauty, fashion or any other subject please contact me.

I look forward to seeing you at Emerald Desert April 11-16, 2015.

*Jodell Banovich*



## Secretary's Report

GMCWS now has 248 members, up from 217 in March 2014. This includes new members and several who have rejoined in the last few months. Welcome, One and All!

Every December the GMCWS Secretary submits required paperwork to FMCA to certify our club for the next calendar year. I am happy to announce that our chapter has indeed been certified for 2015. I will be contacting a few of our members to remind them to join FMCA, if they haven't already. You may recall that membership in FMCA is required for membership in GMCWS. In addition to providing insurance coverage for our events, there are other benefits in being an FMCA member. Check out their website for more information [www.fmca.com](http://www.fmca.com)

In verifying our roster with the FMCA roster, I noticed that the personal information of many of our members as shown on the FMCA website is out of date. Only members can update their information (if I could do this for you, I would). Therefore, please log on to their website and verify its accuracy and, if necessary, correct your information. It would also be a good idea to review your information in the latest GMCWS roster and, if necessary, log on to the GMCWS website [www.gmcws.org](http://www.gmcws.org) and do any updating as needed. Let me know if you need assistance.

You will also note that the Parts and Accessories and Service and Repair sections in the newest roster have been expanded to help you in the preservation of your GMC Motorhome.

Thanks to our members for making our 2015 Membership Renewal Drive a success. It's never too late to renew your membership, if you haven't done so already.

*Donna Ventura, Secretary*



Long-time member Jack Wykle has gone into Hospice care.  
Our hearts go out to Helen.

# GMC WESTERN STATES TECH CENTER



## Tech VP's Report Spring Rally 2015

I decided at the end of January to rip out and replace the ceiling panels, build valences, and install new blinds in our Royale before the April Rally.

Needless to say I feel like I'm up to my elbows in alligators and busier than a one armed paper hanger in a pile of quicksand as I write this newsletter article. Keep your fingers crossed that I can get her all done on time before the Rally rolls around as life just seems to keep putting other priorities in my way. I will have some fresh technical experiences to share with everyone about my adventures of working on our GMC under a strict deadline. I think I am starting to sweat bullets already!

Well folks, Spring is right around the corner and that means it will soon be time to head to Palm Desert for the Western State's (WS) 2015 Spring Rally. For those of you that have not been there go to <https://www.emeraldsdesert.com/>. Be sure to check out the amenities and photos of this 5 Star resort. All I can say is "WOW"!

So, we better all get busy making sure our coaches are ready to hit the road once again. The important thing is to give yourself plenty of time to get all the maintenance things done so you can have a safe, worry-free trip. Don't forget to check those tire code dates. We don't want to hear about any blowouts on this trip. Be safe folks.

The Spring Rally will have a good line up of technical and non-technical seminars I'm sure you won't want to miss. Here is a partial list:

### Technical Seminars:

Vapor Lock, theories and facts - Armand Minnie  
Installing the Atomic EFI Kit on my 23' GMC - Gene Fisher  
Rebuilding the Olds 455 Engine - Steve Ferguson  
Improved MPG with HHO System - Chuck Botts  
Towing - Safety, features, auxiliary brakes, etc. - Blue Ox Representative

There has been lots of discussion in the last few years about vapor lock, what causes it and how it can be solved. Armand's informative seminar on this topic should bring some lively discussion.

At the last couple of WS Rallies Miguel Mendes has given seminars about the MSD Atomic EFI 2900 Kit. The last time I talked to him he had installed 36 of these Kits on GMC motorhomes and had 4 more scheduled. This is a pretty impressive number.

Gene Fisher told me he purchased the Model 2900 Kit from Applied GMC. I'm an old school carburetor guy and have not had any experience with fuel injection. Being the techie that I am, I jumped at the chance to go help him install the Kit. I wanted to experience first hand what it was like to install the Kit and see how the coach performed afterwards. Well, I'm not going to steal any of Gene Fisher's thunder, so you're going to have to come to the Spring Rally to hear the rest of the story.

I have read about or talked to quite a few who have experienced GMC rebuilt engine failures in the past few years. I know there are a lot of GMCers out there who would enjoy listening to Steve Ferguson talk about the steps he took to rebuild his 455 motor. For any of you who don't know Steve, he is a very detailed person. He has had lots of experience rebuilding engines over the years. So you won't want to miss Steve's detailed slideshow while he gives some great hints how he rebuild his 455.

Chuck Botts captured our attention a couple years ago at the Casa De Fruta WS Spring Rally giving a seminar about the HHO System he installed on his coach to try and improve fuel economy. At that time he didn't have very many miles on the coach since the installation. Now, two years and many miles later he wants to share what he has experienced and learned.

A Blue Ox Representative will give a seminar on towing - safety, features, auxiliary brakes, etc. Blue Ox is known internationally for its quality towing products, from tow bars and baseplates to steering controls systems, supplementary brakes, and everything in between. This should be an informative seminar with a rep ready to answer your questions.

### Non-Technical Seminars:

How to Find GMC Info on the Net - Armand Minnie  
Pads, Pods, Phones and Tablets - Gene Fisher

GMCers can spend lots of time searching the super highway (Internet) for GMC information. Come listen to Armand tell us how he can save you lots of time searching on the net.

Gene will share some of his knowledge of Pads, Pods, Phones and Tablets to help keep folks in tune with the ever changing pace of the electronic world.

Last, but not least there will also be an "Ask the Experts" session where you will be able to get answers to your GMC questions.

So mark your calendar for April 11-16 and attend the next WS Rally at Emerald Desert RV Resort, Palm Desert, CA. Good friends, great food and a fun time for all. Drive safe. See you there.

*Gary Bovee*

## GMC WESTERN STATES RALLY SCHEDULE

### Spring Rally - 2015

April 11-16, 2015

Emerald Desert Rv Resort  
Palm Desert, CA

Hosts:

Dave & Donna De Graffenreid

### Fall Rally - 2015

September 17-21, 2015

State Fair Grounds  
Pueblo, Colorado

Hosts: Condo's And Trovao's

### Fall Rally - 2016

New Mexico - Pending

## NEWSLETTER

### PUBLICATION DATES

#### GMC WESTERN STATES

##### ISSUE

2015 2nd	2015 3rd	2015 4th	2016 1st
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##### PUBLICATION DATES

May 29	Aug 14	Oct 30	Feb 19
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##### INFO TO COORDINATOR

May 15	Jul 31	Oct 16	Feb 5
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##### TO PUBLISHER

May 22	Aug 7	Oct 23	Feb 12
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The GMC Western States Inc, chapter of the Family Motor Coach Association, is comprised of GMC Motorhome owners from all fifty states and the three southwestern provinces of Canada. The Chapter purpose is to promote the preservation of the GMC Motorhome with a technical program of professional seminars and published information and to further the mutual association, membership, enjoyment and common interest of GMC Motorhome owners, their families and friends. Web site: [www.gmcws.org](http://www.gmcws.org), Armand Minnie

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