

GMC WESTERN STATES NEWSLETTER

Promoting the Preservation of the Classic 1973-1978 GMC Motorhome

Fall 2018 Rally Information and Registration Form

GMC Western States Fall 2018 Rally October 4-9, 2018

Mount Hood Village RV Resort and Campground

65000 E. Highway 26,
Welches, Oregon 97067
877-570-2267

Mark your Calendar for October 4th-9th (Thursday - Tuesday) for the Fall 2018 GMCWS Fall Rally. The Rally will be held at the Mt. Hood Village RV Resort in Oregon.

You won't want to miss out on the excellent tech seminars and non-tech activities. There will be plenty of good food, good friends, good times for all, whether this is your first rally or you are a seasoned GMC veteran. "The Mountain Between Us" by Charles Martin will be the subject of the book review session. It's the story of two strangers who are stranded after a tragic plane crash on a remote, snow covered mountain.

President's Message...



Great spring and heading into summer.

Since the weather has been improving, I hope everyone got their coaches from out of the winter protection and are starting to use them. We, in the West, are a great deal better off than many of the East Coast owners. They have been blasted with some serious bad weather this spring. We have been to several rallies with our local clubs and gone to outings locally.

The Spring rally in Tucson was a great success, with members participating from the GMCMI and GMC clubs in the western states. We were

treated to great food and super tech sessions. The GMCWS-sponsored day was very well received by the GMCMI members. They had a blast at our "Happy Hour" and enjoyed a nice Western-style dinner.

My 2000-mile round trip went mostly uneventful, but others had no such luck. One engine went bad in Parker, AZ, and one transmission gave its all on the way to the rally. The most important thing to remember is to do the required maintenance. Both before and after the winter down time, it is essential to get it done. I have my wheels pulled and the bearings and brakes checked every January, followed by an oil and filter change and lube job. Any tires that are aged are replaced (I use the "two tires at a time, every other year" system), and the underside is inspected for loose parts. After that I feel that the coach is mechanically ready to go. I can then spend time on the cosmetics and upgrades. This routine has served me well for many years. Yes, it will not stop an unexpected failure of parts, but it gets me a better percentage of having an uneventful rally season.

We are preparing for the Fall rally in Mount Hood, OR and our rally masters Gary Berry and Deo and Manny Trovao are in full-steam-ahead mode with the concessionaires and vendors. Dave DeGraffenreid will handle the food side of the rally. He has great experience in that he has done many rallies. The rally information and registration form are in this Newsletter and on the website gmcws.org. It will be a wonderful event, and the scenery is spectacular. See you at Mt. Hood, October 4 thru 9, 2018.

Nick Roenick, GMCWS President





Fall 2018 Rally Information and Registration Form(continued)

...When they realize help is not coming, they embark on a perilous journey across the wilderness. It is an absorbing tale and a great read. So get the book and join the discussion.

Each space at the RV Park comes with full hook-ups, including 20/30/50 amp electrical, cable TV, Wi-Fi service, access to the RV Park's laundry and shower facilities, and a convenience store. Rally attendees will also have free access to the swimming pools and whirlpool/spa/hot tubs. Pets are welcome. There are only 5 cabins available for us, so be sure to get your registration form to Gary soon if you want one of them. Daily rate for a Deluxe cabin is ~\$83.



Secretary's Message...

We would like to warmly welcome the following individuals who joined GMCWS since our last newsletter. We look forward to meeting them (if we haven't already) and including them in our festivities and activities. Our

new members and their **roster information** are shown below. (If I forgot anybody, please let me know. It was an inadvertent omission, and I hang my head!)

Peter and Jeanne Faxon

1105 Itamo St
 Camarillo, CA 93012
 805-482-5636 805-377-5097
pjfax1@gmail.com

Carol Greenawalt

4001 W. Lambert Lane
 Tucson, AZ 85742
 520-345-1610
cgreenawalt@q.com

Michael & Drasann McDowell

5505 S. 372nd St
 Auburn, WA 98001
 253-737-0101 253-326-0436
macdaddys1954@gmail.com

John Phillips

2536 Tronero Way
 Rancho Cordova, CA 95670
 916-205-0550 916-205-6157
john.phillips0@gmail.com

Mark and Suenell Tordini

12019 Waverly Road
 Madera, CA 93636
 559-269-1740 559-645-5138
suenelltordini@att.net

Bernard Bartko

15 26213 Township Road 512
 Spruce Grove, AB T7Y 1C6
 780-903-9091
bbartko1@gmail.com



Fall 2018 Rally Information and Registration Form(continued)

If you want to stay an extra night(s) before or after the rally, please call the resort at 877-570-2267, tell them you're with GMC Western States, and make reservations directly with them to ensure you get our rally rate (~\$45/night)

We will send out more information on the agenda for this rally as it becomes available.

Thanks for your help in keeping this great organization thriving!



GMCWS General Membership Meeting

Lazy Days RV Park, Tucson, AZ April 10, 2018

President Nick Roenick called the meeting to order at 12 noon.

Roll Call of Officers present: Nick Roenick, Carol Minnie, George Beckman, Dave deGraffenreid and Donna Ventura. President Roenick also recognized Sandy Clark, our Newsletter Editor; Sharon Work, our FMCA Representative; and Armand Minnie, our Webmaster and a past President.

GMCMI President Stan Edwards was acknowledged for inviting GMCWS to their Spring 2018 rally, GMCMI's first one in the Western U.S. in 10 years. To recognize Stan's contributions to the GMCMI Community, President Roenick presented him with a GMCWS-logo belt buckle fabricated by GMCWS member Hoss Hauge. The buckle is #7 in a very limited edition that are being cast one at a time for special presentations.



Thanks to many GMCWS members who helped make this a successful joint rally, including Armand Minnie, GMCWS rally Host/Coordinator. The following members were instrumental in making the "Western States Monday" a huge success: Dave deGraffenreid, who coordinated our food; Manny Trovao and his crew of many for cooking the BBQ dinner;

Bobbie Schultz for coordinating the Margarita Party Happy Hour; Carol Minnie for the very fun Ladies Luncheon; George Beckman, our technical presentation roustabout (a tough job); Cal Terry, the go-to guy for the dinner; and Bill Kittredge, our ever-entertaining auctioneer. Bill's efforts helped us raise over \$700, which will offset some of the costs of the BBQ dinner.

J R Slaten and Alex Ferrara were acknowledged for their



participation in this rally and their hands-on assistance to our members with their technical issues.

Newcomers

Guests Daniel & Marjon Jacobs were introduced. They are visiting us once again from the Netherlands; it's always great to see them. Wayne and Gail Metz from Brentwood, Northern California, attended, along with their yellow and white Nash Metropolitan. Former member George Baxter also attended and rejoined the club

Newsletter Pictures...



- welcome back, George. It's always nice to see members whom we haven't seen in a while.

Fall 2017 Minutes

A motion was made to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the Fall 2017 Membership Meeting, as shown on the GMCWS website. The motion was seconded and accepted by the members present



Treasurer's Report

Per Dave de Graffenreid, GMCWS Treasurer, we continue to do well. Balance as of April 10, 2018 was \$19,861, before banking the funds made from this rally's auction and the check from FMCA (see **FMCA News** below). The dinner we provided during this rally cost approximately \$1100. A motion was made to accept the report as presented;



motion was seconded and passed by the attendees. Note: The Margaritas for the Western States Monday Margarita Party were provided by members Jim and Grace Kanomata since, per FMCA regulations, the club cannot provide alcohol at its rallies. Thanks to Jim and Grace for their generosity.



Ladies Luncheon



Election of Officers for 2019

The nominating committee consists of Armand Minnie and George Banovich. Positions open are the President, First VP and Technical VP. Current officers who have agreed to serve for another year are Dave de Graffenreid, Treasurer, and Donna Ventura, Secretary. We still need an Alternate FMCA Representative to back up Sharon Work. At the October meeting we will present nominations to the membership and elect officers for 2019.

New Business

GMCWS Shirts and caps were available throughout this rally. Attendees were reminded that they are still available from Donna Ventura until the end of the rally. President Roenick gave kudos to Phil Hernandez, who designed the logo.

Unfinished Business

GMCWS, and the other GMC MH clubs, are always looking for new members. One way we addressed this was the recent bylaw change that allows members to remain in the club even if they sell their GMC. The GMC MH community has significant exposure on Facebook, with 12 pages, plus GMC owners can access GMCNet on the internet for copious amounts of technical information.



FMCA News

In recognition of GMCWS' 30th anniversary, FMCA presented a certificate and a \$150 check to Carol Minnie at a recent FMCA



GMCWS Logo Shirts and Hats Available Now



We have a limited amount of embroidered LOGO shirts for sale. Ladies and men's "Gildan DryBlend" T shirts in black, teal and blue (\$15), Port Authority brand polo shirts in black, blue and teal (\$20) and white hats (\$15). Shipping is \$7.50 each or pick up in Tucson at the convention. Contact Donna Ventura or Nick Roenick for your order.

Tech Session Images



meeting. Carol then presented to President Roenick the certificate and the check.

Next FMCA Northwestern Area rally is in June 2018 at Coos Bay at the Mills Casino. The next National FMCA rally is in July in Gillette, Wyoming. Gerry and Sharon will be attending both rallies.

Sharon Work, our FMCA Director, noted that FMCA is no longer just for motorhome owners, since a recent vote that went to the entire membership resulted in allowing owners of tow-ables (e.g., trailers, fifth wheels) to be members of FMCA.

Gerry Work announced that he has been appointed the chair of the FMCA Review Council, which reviews inappropriate, unethical behavior or malfeasance by members or officers of FMCA chapters. Let Gerry know of any such issue; communications can be anonymous, if desired.

Fall 2018 Rally

The Fall rally will be held at Mt. Hood, Oregon. Dates are October 4-9. Gary Berry and Manny and Deo Trovao are the co-hosts. We expect many of our northern area members to attend and rekindle old friendships.

George Banovich moved to adjourn the meeting, and Carol Minnie seconded the motion. Meeting was adjourned at 12:28 pm.



Tech from GMCMI/ GMCWS Rally in Tucson by George Beckman

The GMCMI rally in Tucson, AZ, was enjoyed by many. Western States provided many Tech Sessions, and they were well received. Manny Trovao wowed

everyone with his talk on Transmission No-Nos and a second session showing step by step rebuilding of our transmission. JimK and Miguel Mendez gave folks an interesting look at some of the things they see when coaches come into their shops. (I think of the time we bought our current coach and took it to JimK's shop. All the guys gathered around to laugh at the bushings on my A-Arms. They had not seen any that were in worse shape. And the silly thing drove



Non-Tech Session Images



straight!) Randy Van Winkle stepped up when Jim Hupy was unable to attend. Randy and I entertained the crowd, showing them that you too can change your cam chain, even if you are as misinformed as we were. Jerry Work presented an excellent and well researched approach to buying and selling a GMC. Jerry leaves no stone unturned, bringing his years of experience in industry, and with GMCs, to bear. Rick Flanagan amazed the unwashed as he manipulated his CAD drawings of important GMC designs he has done for JimK, including Quad Bags, Three Point Seatbelt, and Reaction Arms. Hal St Clair and Blanca are to be congratulated, along with the entire team for an efficient weighing of coaches. Hal was prepared and coaches went through faster than I could type the information into the spreadsheet. Armand Minnie was on hand and was a big help in the initial planning



Tucson Non-tech Rally Report By Carol Minnie

GMCMI 2018 Spring Convention

April 6 - 12, 2018

GMCWS, GMC Pacific Cruisers

and members of several other western clubs combined forces to put on a great "Western GMC Clubs Day" at the GMCMI Convention. Our day started with a strawberry waffle and sausage breakfast served by members of our clubs. At noon, the ladies had a fun luncheon where they traveled back to the 70's for lots of peace and love. We had a

great turnout (75 ladies) and we all enjoyed the food, the music, the games, the door prizes and the camaraderie. I had a lot of fun hosting the event and was very grateful for all the help I received from the western clubs' ladies. Just groovy!

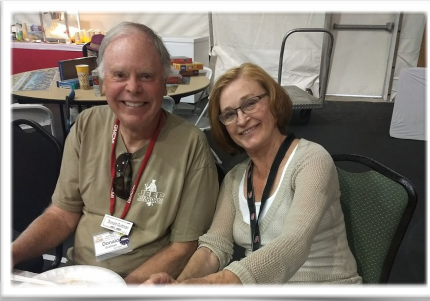




At cocktail time, the Pacific Cruisers hosted a meet and greet for all convention attendees. It was a big hit as we all met near the GMCWS host coach and shared lots of fun appetizers and our famous margarita bucket.



After that, Dave DeGraffenreid and Manny Travao did their magic, recruiting several members to cook and serve delicious burgers and dogs on a giant grill. Over 250 people dined on the goodies and everyone had a great time. And for anyone who still had room for dessert, we put on an ice cream social for all attendees with GMC club members as servers.



The grand finale was a lively auction hosted by GMCWS and led by Bill Kitteredge and Dave deGraffenreid. We had lots and lots of laughs and made some money for the club. Really fun!



Other than our special Western Clubs day, we contributed several other non-tech events. Kathy Stouffer made three really great and very well attended non-tech



sessions: Aerobics for the mind, Fall Prevention, and Using Newspapers for Genealogy. Bobbie Schultz conducted a Bookworms and their Diet session and reviewed the book "Circling the Sun" by Paula McLain. Participants shared titles of books they liked and recommended (Kim Weeks will put those on the GMCMI website).



Dave deGraffenreid hosted the GMC Couples Game and five couples showed us what they knew (or didn't know) about their GMC histories.

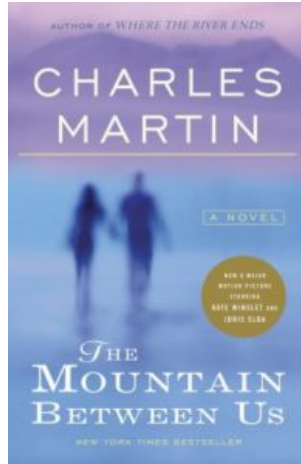
GMCMI also put on several non-tech sessions including a Strength and Balance class, a Cooking and Storing in a Vintage Vehicle class, a Geocache treasure hunt, a Ladies Get Acquainted session, a Quick and Easy cooking demo, a Seventies Dance Lesson (where we learned the Brooklyn Shuffle and then "tried" to perform at the Disco night dinner), a personal story of a daughter's visit to Omaha Beach, and the She-Shed where anyone could come play with crafts, socialize, and snack.





There was never a dull moment. It was a great week. Looking forward to our GMCWS rally at Mt. Hood in October. See you there!

Cheers,
Carol Minnie



Book Review at the 2018 Fall Rally

"The Mountain Between Us" by Charles Martin will be the subject of the book review session at the Fall 2018 rally at Welches, Oregon. It's the story of two strangers who are stranded after a tragic plane crash on a remote, snow-covered mountain. When they realize help is not coming, they embark on a perilous journey across the wilderness. It is an absorbing tale and a great read. So get the book and join the discussion. We'll see you at Mt. Hood.





To Submit an article or item for our Newsletter, email the Newsletter Coordinator, Sandy Clark soclark22@yahoo.com

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GMC Western States Fall 2018 Rally

October 4-9, 2018

Mount Hood Village RV Resort and Campground

65000 E. Highway 26, Welches, Oregon 97067 - 877-570-2267

RALLY HOSTS: Gary Berry and Deo & Manny Trovao

REG FORM AND CHECK DUE TO GARY BERRY BY AUGUST 1, 2018

Name(s) _____

Coach License Number _____ Tow Car License Number _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Email address for updates: _____

Emergency Contact – Name/No.: _____

Is this your first GMCWS Rally? Yes _____ No _____

Do you need Handicapped Parking? Yes _____ No _____

Are you a vendor? Yes _____ No _____

Rally Fees include RV site or cabin for 5 nights (no exceptions - see promo flyer). Full hook-ups (water, 30/50 amp, sewer, TV and WiFi), 5 breakfasts, 4 dinners, seminars.

Coach with 2 persons \$ 395.00 \$ _____

Coach with one person \$ 335.00 \$ _____

Each Guest in Coach \$ 110.00 \$ _____

Guest Name(s): _____

Two persons, no coach \$ 220.00 \$ _____

One person, no coach \$ 110.00 \$ _____

Cost per cabin, 2 persons \$ 615.00 \$ _____

Cost per cabin, one person \$ 525.00 \$ _____

(Deluxe Cabins are \$83/night)

Non-GMCWS Members add \$10.00 \$ 10 \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Please Make Check (US Funds) Payable to: **Gary Berry (not GMCWS)**

Mail by August 1, 2018 to: 170603 West 215 PR SW, Prosser, WA 99350

If you cancel before August 10, you will receive a full refund. For cancellations after August 10, we will try to do partial refunds after all expenses have been paid.



GMC Western States Newsletter

1301 Margery Avenue
San Leandro, CA 94578

GMC Western States Officers

Nick Roenick, Chapter President

510-326-5236, pickle4k@gmail.com

Dave de Graffenreid, Treasurer

949-642-6827, gmcdegraff@gmail.com

Carol Minnie, First Vice President

520-744-1775, carol@minniebiz.com

Sandy Clark, Newsletter Editor

801-718-4487, soclark22@yahoo.com

George Beckman, Technical Vice President

559-706-3485, gbeckman@graestone.org

Sharon Work FMCA National Director

541-592-5360, glwork@mac.com

Donna Ventura, Secretary

925-200-6227, donaveeee@gmail.com

FMCA Alternate National Director

Vacant