

GMC WESTERN STATES NEWSLETTER



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It's Rally Time!

Have you prepared your coach for the Fall rally in Coos Bay? It's just around the corner. Register (see Reg form inside) and send a

check by August 15, then start packing and get rolling or you will miss out on a great experience.

There will be many great things to see and do. Several of our vendors - Banovich, Bounds, Bovee, Fisher, Kanomata, and Paterson - will be there for you to meet and exchange information with. They will also put on several tech seminars on how to maintain and improve your coach.

The GMC is a special vehicle that brings people together for fun and friendship. Everyone attending our rallies wants to have fun and be with friends. Well, this rally will give you that and more. The town of Coos Bay and the surrounding area is a great place to visit and enjoy. There is bird watching on the shore of the Bay or the ocean, dune

buggy riding, visiting the Culinary Academy or a great restaurant in town. There are also a lot of historical locations in the area.

The Mill Casino has been very helpful in providing us with excellent accommodations. The RV Park is ours to fill to capacity. The banquet/meeting room will be available for the entire time for our meals and seminars. The bus service from the park into town is great. All we need is YOU!

The next rally in the Spring 2017 will be in Pahrump, NV. The rally is in the first stages of planning; we will have more details when we get together in Coos Bay.

We do need a host for Fall 2017 Rally

We have scouted a rally location in Paso Robles, CA for the Fall Rally 2017. The area will be decked out in Fall colors and the weather should be great. Please, if you want to make your friends and fellow GMCers happy, volunteer your services. If you have never hosted a rally, we will find someone who has and who will be more than happy to help you.

See you in Coos Bay!

Nick Roenick
GMCWS President

Get Ready for the Fall Rally!

The excitement is starting to build for the Fall Western States Rally in North Bend (Coos Bay), Oregon at The Mill Casino, Hotel & RV Park October 10 – 14, 2016. Applications are coming in from Canada and all over the Western United States. There will be at least five different GMC Clubs represented at the Rally - GMC 49ers, GMC Cascaders, GMC Pacific Cruisers, GMC Mountaineers, and GMC Western States.

Technical Seminars - Special guest speakers Jim Bounds, Cooperative Motor Works, Orlando, Florida and Dick Paterson, Springfield Ignition, Coldwater, Ontario, Canada will be attending and giving technical seminars. You are not going to want to miss this rare chance to hear them, as well as other seminar tech and non-tech speakers!

The registration deadline is August 15, 2016. See the attached Registration Form. You can go to the GMC Western States website (www.gmcws.org) to review the Rally Agenda. You won't want to miss out on the fun and excitement, four catered breakfasts, BBQ dinner, BBQ luncheon, two catered dinners, evening auction, professional karaoke night and so much more.

For further information you can contact me by email at gary.bovee@gmcidiotsguide.com.

We hope to see you there.

Gary Bovee
GMCWS Technical Vice President

Note\$ from your Treas\$urer



Note from your President: The information below was inadvertently omitted from our last newsletter, but we want to ensure that our members are aware of the Treasurer's duties and the great job that Dave does for us.

Hello, GMCWS members. My job as your Treasurer is relatively straightforward, but is important and time-consuming at certain times of the year. I deposit the

dues (thank you for paying in a timely fashion), pay the club's expenses, and work with Rally Hosts on upcoming rallies, including sending deposits to RV parks for our rallies. I am looking forward to seeing you all at Coos Bay!

Dave de Graffenreid
GMCWS Treasurer

Notes from Your Secretary

GMCWS would like to warmly welcome the following members who joined our club in 2016. We look forward to meeting them (if we haven't already) and including them in our festivities and activities. Our new members and their locales are shown below.

- Carla Bolton, McKinleyville, CA
- & Michael Burtch, Santa Cruz, CA
- Ron Bueno, Denver, CO
- Jerry Burt, Fresno, CA
- Marianne Chick, Elk Grove, CA
- Gordy Lee, Cottonwood, AZ
- Faye Curtis, Kneeland, CA
- Penn & Susan Lenson, Temecula, CA
- Dave and Bev Liddell, Lynnwood, WA
- Tom & Mary Mishler, Cardiff, CA
- John & Judy O'Reilly, Tucson, AZ

If I forgot anybody, please let me know. It was an inadvertent omission, and I hang my head!

Newsletter Changes

It has become evident that we need to reduce printing costs for our annual roster and periodic newsletters to help us sustain an acceptable budgetary level. Therefore, we are decreasing the number of newslet-

ters annually, from 4 to 3, and will pursue other changes. If a member who currently receives a printed newsletter will agree to view the newsletters online only, please let me know - this will help reduce production costs.

Increased Rally Fees for non-GMCWS Members

If non-GMCWS members want to attend a GMCWS rally, it was agreed that they will pay an additional \$10 per coach, starting with their second rally.

Annual Dues Increase

At our general membership meeting President Roenick raised the issue of increasing our annual dues, from \$20 to \$25. We charge less than most, if not all, other GMC Motorhome clubs. Our income – mostly annual members' dues – do not cover our annual fixed expenses, hence we have seen a corresponding reduction in our bank account over the last several years. Several members wanted to raise the dues to \$30 effective January 2017. The attendees agreed to increase the dues to \$25, and to re-address the issue in a year if necessary.

See you in Coos Bay!

Donna Ventura
GMCWS Secretary



Spring 2016 Rally Reports

From Armand and Carol Minnie

Our Spring rally, hosted by Joanne and Phil Hernandez, was held at the Pechanga Casino Resort in Temecula. It was filled with good food, lots of fun, camaraderie and plenty of socializing. This rally was also a celebration of the 70's, and several members got into the spirit with some great 70's costumes at the Cinco de Mayo dinner on the final evening.

The non-tech seminars included a SmartPhone seminar by Armand Minnie and a stimulating book review of "The Perfume Collector" led by Eileen Staal. Jodell showed us how to make beautiful paper flowers for a wonderful no-wilt bouquet. And Carol showed us how to make beautiful gift bags from simple lunch bags, complete with coordinating gift tags and notecards. A great appetizer preparation session was led by Dave and Donna deGraffenreid in preparation for our Cinco de Mayo dinner.

On the technical side, Rob Mueller give a seminar on centering the steering box, and Jim Kanomata talked about fuel injection and the MSD Atomic system. Mark Elmer, our NAPA man, gave a very informative talk about automotive chemicals and sealers. Chuck Botts talked about the redesign of their 23-footer to accommodate their RV lifestyle. Gary Worobec visited with his hotrod pickup truck, and Martin

Carew showed off his '77 "23D", a conversion done about 12 years ago by Jim Bounds at the Coop in Florida.

All the meals were delicious - outstanding breakfasts and hearty dinners. The final dinner was a Cinco De Mayo special. With Dave and Donna's help, we prepared sangria, fresh guacamole, bean dip and mini-quesadillas as appetizers for the big Cinco de Mayo dinner. Ben Wright added his delicious margaritas, and a good time was had by all.

From Technical Vice President Gary Bovee

I want to thank all the folks who made technical presentations at the Pechanga Spring Rally – Chuck Botts, Mark Elmer, Jim Kanomata, Miguel Mendez, and Rob Mueller. Special thanks to Rob Mueller, who travelled a long way to give a seminar on "Centering the Steering Box". After his indoor slideshow presentation, he did a parking lot demo on a coach, with the mechanical assistance of Miguel Mendez. It proved to be an excellent demo because the coach's steering (intermediate shaft) at some point had been installed incorrectly. This gave the spectators a chance to see how it should be properly installed. Also, a special thanks to Jim Kanomata, who filled in for a couple of speakers!

Thanks to Joanne and Phil and all the volunteers for making this such a successful rally.



[Award for GMC at the Redondo Beach All GM Car Show](#)

by **Audree Rowe**

For a fun day take your coach to a car show. By offering to reimburse the entry fee for the coach, GMC Western States is encouraging members to show their coaches because the mostly “hands on” car show people are the ideal next generation of buyers for GMC motorhomes. Five members of Pacific Cruisers took their coaches to the Redondo Beach All GM car show on April 30th. They were Ed and Eileen Staal, Ralph and Annie Mundia, Dave and Arlene Cantrell, Dave and Donna deGraffenreid, and Jim and Audree Rowe. We set up an information table with literature about the supportability of the coaches and opened our doors. Jim spoke to several people who have been seriously looking for a GMC and were happy to get

the informational brochure and the cards with links to GMC sites showing coaches for sale.

Hundreds of people toured our coaches. We loved all the attention and the comments ranging from “I didn’t know they still made these things” to “I’ve always been curious about what they looked like inside and this is the first chance I ever had to see one.” The car show people loved having us. They said we were the hit of the show and something that distinguished their show from all the others. They’ve already invited us back for the next show. With our entries we each got a goodie bag filled with literature, product samples, a hat, a car show t-shirt, a coupon good for two free lunches at the adjacent Ruby’s Diner, and a raffle ticket for the giant array of prizes. Ed and Annie each won something in the drawing. Not a bad deal. And guess what? Dave and Arlene were awarded a trophy for their beautiful GMC.



GMCWS 2016 Fall Rally Tentative Schedule

The Mill Casino Hotel & RV Park, North Bend (Coos Bay), Oregon

October 10-14, 2016

Gary and Rebecca Bovee, Rally Hosts

Highlights of the Fall Rally include the following.

A detailed agenda can be found on the GMCWS website www.gmcws.org

Monday, October 10th

Do Alaska On Your Own, It's Easy by Sharon Work

Tuesday, October 11th

Ignition System - How it Works and Rebuild by Dick Paterson

Super Photo: How to Transform Your Photos Into Art by Dave de Graffenreid

Oiling System Top to Bottom by Dick Paterson

A Walk in RV History 1938-1965 by Dean Hansen

Let's Talk About Diesels and One Ton Front Ends by Jim Bounds

Play with Adult Coloring Books

How To Start and Run-In A Rebuilt Motor by Dick Paterson

Swap Meet

BBQ Dinner, Prepared by the GMC Cascaders

Wednesday, October 12th

Installing a Crossover Block Off Kit by Dick Paterson

How to Attach Your Sliders (New Designed Windows) by Jim Bounds

FiTech EFI Is "The Real Deal" by Jerry Work

Ladies' Coffee/Tea by the Bay

GMC Things to Keep an Eye On by Jim Kanomata

BBQ Lunch Prepared by the GMC Pacific Cruisers

Free Shore Acres State Park Excursion

Music Jam: Bring your instrument and come play some music

Thursday, October 13th

Fueling the Barbarian: Running Mr. Onan on Propane Instead of Ugly Alcohol Gas by Jerry Work

Ask the Experts: Jim Bounds, Jim Hupy, & Jim Kanomata, with Gary Bovee

Book Review: "Wild" by Cheryl Strayed, with the De Graffenreids

Air Conditioning: How It Works, How to Repair It by Jeff Fraisure

Lost Alex Birch Lecture by Greg Birch

Great Non-Technical Events Planned for Coos Bay

I hope you have all registered or are planning to register for the Coos Bay Rally in October. We have lots of fun activities planned that will be of special interest to the ladies. Here's what's in store for the "non-technical" offerings so far.

- Sharon Work will tell us why it's easy to "Do Alaska On Your Own".
- Dave de Graffenreid will present "How to Transform your Photos into Art"
- Dean Hansen will fill us in on the history of our RVs with "A Walk in RV History - 1938-1965".
- Adult Coloring - come see what the Adult Coloring Book craze is all about. If you've already tried it, come share your skills, and if you haven't, come see why it's so popular.
- A "Ladies' Coffee/Tea by the Bay" get-together. We'll get to know each other a little better while we munch and mingle, and maybe play a game or two.

- The Shore Acres State Park Excursion. You won't want to miss this. Shore Acres State Park is so beautiful. The views are amazing and the grounds and gardens of the estate are lush and beautiful. NOTE: You must sign up for this popular day trip in advance when you register. If you've already registered but did not sign up and would like to go, send Gary Bovee an email at gary.bovee@gmciidiotsguide.com
- Dave and Donna de Graffenreid will lead a book review of "Wild" by Cheryl Strayed.
- And finally, the "Lost Alex Birch Lecture" - some interesting history about our GMCs by Greg Birch, whose grandfather, Alex Birch, was tasked with supervising the shop where the GMC motorhomes were built.
- And if you manage to have extra time, take one of the Casino's free shuttles to the local destination of your choice, including some local thrift shops.

Sound like fun? It will be! See you there.

Carol Minnie
First Vice President

The GMC Western States Inc., a 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's 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 interests of GMC Motorhome owners, their families and friends.

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GMC Western States Newsletter

Designed by Cathy at Typeworks, Union City, CA • Printed by Golden Oaks Printing, Hayward, CA

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GMC Western States Fall Rally Registration Form

GMC Western States, GMC 49ers, GMC Cascaders, GMC Mountaineers and GMC Pacific Cruisers

October 10 to October 14, 2016
The Mill Casino Hotel and RV Park
3201 Tremont Ave., North Bend, Oregon
www.themillcasino.com Phone: (800) 953-4800

Gary and Rebecca Bovee, Rally Hosts
 gary.bovee@gmcidiotsguide.com (530) 200-6247, Cell

Rally Fees include:

- Four (4) catered breakfasts, two (2) catered dinners
- Tuesday night BBQ, Wednesday lunch BBQ
- Tech & Non-tech seminars, fun evening Auction, Shore Acres State Park excursion (w/shuttle),
- Karaoke night (Professional Karaoke DJ) and more.

Location details: The RV Park includes full hookups, water, 30/50 amp service, sewer, complimentary internet access, cable TV, convenience store, showers, on-site laundry fitness room, and access to the indoor pool and outdoor hot tubs at The Mill Casino Hotel (shuttle provided).

Deadline for Registration is August 15, 2016. Any cancellations after this date may not receive a full refund. Please return this form with check (US Funds) to be received no later than August 15, 2016 as follows:

Check Payable To: Gary Bovee
Address: 12495 Muller Avenue, Red Bluff, CA 96080 USA

Early weekend arrivals will need to make their own reservations for those dates to guarantee a RV site (800 - 953-4800, ext 1432). Reservation may be needed a minimum 120 days in advance of the Rally. Tell them you are staying for the GMC Western States Club Rally and ask for the group rate for guests. It is \$25.00 interior spaces and \$30.00 for bayside spaces.

Name(s): on Badges: _____
 as you wish them to appear on the name tags

Additional Person(s): _____

Address _____ City _____ St. _____ Zip _____

Coach Lic. # _____ St. _____ Tow Vehicle Lic. # _____ FMCA # _____

GMC 23 Footer GMC 26 Footer Other Please list coach length _____

Will you be staying at the RV Park on Saturday or Sunday before the Rally starts Yes No

Emergency Contact: _____ (_____) _____
 Area Code - telephone #

Email address for updates: _____ Phone # for contact: _____

Western States Member: Yes No First Rally Yes No Handicap Parking Needed Yes No

Vendor Yes No Vegetarian Dinner (s) Yes Special note: _____

Attending Free Shore Acre State Park Excursion (Transportation provided): Number attending: _____

		Amount Enclosed
Per couple with full hookups (WS Members)	\$385	_____
Additional person	\$139	_____
One person in a coach with full hookups	\$246	_____
Per Couple (no coach)	\$279	_____
One person (no coach)	\$139	_____
Non-Western States Member (Add \$10 per coach)	\$ 10	_____

Total amount enclosed _____

GMC Western States Newsletter

1301 Margery Avenue
San Leandro, CA 94578



From your FMCA Representative

Save your June copy of the FMCA magazine. Perhaps place it in your GMC. It has the catalog in the back that lists all participating FMCA businesses and is a good resource when you travel or plan a trip. If you are reading your magazine online, be sure to place this copy into a file on whatever electronic device you travel with so it's handy in case you need it.

Another important tip: let your family at home know your FMCA member number as well as the phone number of the Seven Corners insurance provider for the FMCAssist Medical Emergency and Travel Assistance Program. 877-202-4176. They might be the very ones to make contact with Seven Corners in case of an emergency and all coverage begins with that call.

Travel Well!

Sharon Work
FMCA Representative