

GMC WESTERN STATES NEWSLETTER



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So..How's Your Fun Filled Summer Progressing?

Are you thankful for the variety of temperatures (☺) being the spice of your life?, or not!

OK where are those thoughts you want to share with me about GMC International's invitation for having one of our 2016 rallies at their Convention somewhere on the west coast? Please call or email me your thoughts. Otherwise I'll just have to make an executive decision.

We all know that GMCWS host fantastic rallies twice a year. We are in dire need of volunteers to Host a rally in the near future. Our GMC's will travel to any Western State or Province. Rally Hosts are in CHARGE of selecting: the site, caterer; we also have designated Officers that will provide seminars and other activities for all. Assistance is available wherever needed. We simply need Hosts (leader/coordinator). Since we have over 200 members, some have volunteered on numerous occasions, sooo we need others to participate in keeping the momentum flourishing. Please telephone/email/message me if you are willing to join the team of Future Rally Hosts. WHOA~! is this a plead for assistance message or what?

On for more F U N stuff.....Our Fall Rally at Manteca has shaped up to be another High Rolling Extravaganza. Speaking of needing volunteer Rally Host...we have four guys that have joined forces to Knock our Socks Off with high tech seminars, crafts, games, delectable culinary creations, you name it. Manny, Nick, George and Davy de are pulling out all the stops. Moreover, the Club is subsidizing the Rally fee to maintain affordability for all. Rev up those GMC's and roll to M A N T E C A!

...Freddi

GMCWS 2014 Fall Roundup
4 Amigos GMCWS Rally
 With a little help from the Amigas
 Manteca, California
 October 1-6, 2014



Come join our GMC friends for five fun filled days at French Camp RV and Golf Resort

Highlights Of The Tentative Events:

Workouts:

Start your day with a Freddi workout

Enlightening Tech Seminars:

- Meet the Vendors and hear about their latest products
- How to Navigate the GMCWS Website
- GMC Alternative Engine
- Coach Weight & Ride Height
- Check your Electrical System
- Window Replacement or Refurbishment
- New Computing (iPod, iPad, Phones, Tablets)
- How to see 2000 GMC pictures
- Birds of a Feather, State-of-the-Art Topics like Quadra Bags, Wireless Air, Injection Systems, Self-Alignment and One Ton Front Ends
- MSD 2900 Atomic EFI system
- Painting your coach, what you should know and what I didn't
- GMC Belts System, Two Engines, Three Belts, Selection, Alignment and Tension
- Fire Safety
- Tips & Tricks to Keep Your Onan Running

Augie's Portuguese Gourmet Delights

- Augie's Cornish Game Hen Dinner
- Ice Cream Socials
- Augie's Breakfast Specials
- Delicious Pork Tenderloin Dinner
- Bread Pudding w/Bourbon Sauce by the Ladies
- Hor d'oeuvres Dinner
- Hollister Hills Tri Tip BBQ
- Gilroy Garlic Chicken Dinner

Crafts

- Jewelry Exchange
- Cooking Bread Pudding w/Bourbon Sauce
- Create a Childs Fleece Blanket for Charity
- Cork Craft Creations-bring glue guns
- Bird House Fun

Entertainment

- Happy Hour Margarita Buckets
- Social Hour Games
- Entertainment Magic
- Afternoon Wine Tasting
- Karaoke/Sing - along night
- Music and Dancing to The Deleons
- GMC Games, Bunco, Mexican Train, J&M
- White Elephant Exchange

Shopping for GMC Stuff

- Vendors
- Swap Meet

Book Club

- Michael Connelly's The Lincoln Lawyer
- Book Club by Lillian Trubert

Open House

What more can be done to a GMC?

What you should not forget to bring or do

- Golf Clubs
- Walking shoes
- Laptop, iPad, Tablet
- Sense of Humor
- 48"x60" color coordinated fleece material (for Children's Blankets)
- Swap Meet goods
- Money
- Dancing shoes
- Games
- Wrapped White Elephant Gift – bring one get one
- Appetite
- Lunches
- Costume Jewelry for exchange
- Glue guns for Cork Craft
- Read Lincoln Lawyer Book
- Dollar sale items



Book Club Update for October
 By Lillian Trubert

This year we will be reading a new type of genre for discussion when the Western States Book Club meets. In order to really burst out of our historical bent as of late, I was very thrilled when a GMC

man came up with the book we will be reading. I hope to see more men show up for our brilliant in depth analyses. This man will be revealed at the Book Club meeting. He is tall, dark and handsome, so all the ladies need to show up for the big reveal!

The book selected is The Lincoln Lawyer by Michael Connelly. It involves mystery, intrigue, morality and ethics. You can check it out on your computer as there are good revenues available. Also you might want to read about Michael Connelly. Wikipedia is a good source for that. This author is highly regarded.

I was able to buy a used "in good condition" book on the Internet (Amazon) for \$1.61 plus \$3.99 shipping. And I was shocked to see some of the copies were hundreds of dollars! What a deal I got. The \$3.99 is a deal too if you figure in your gas to go pick it up at a store. Your local library will let you reserve it if they don't have one on the shelf.

All who show up are welcome whether they have read the book or not. Perhaps you will be inspired to read the next book, and personal experience or opinion can always fit in to a discussion. I can promise you your brains will be stimulated.

If you have questions, feel free to give me a call or email: Lillian Trubert (559-683-0995) ltrubert@aol.com

GMC WESTERN STATES TECH CENTER

DRY CAMPING ANYONE?

By Nick Roenick



As GMC owners, we are blessed to spend our RV leisure time most anywhere, be it in a deluxe RV park with full hook-ups such as electricity, water, sewer and cable, or out in the wild “boondocking” with Mother Nature. Our coaches are designed for all occasions with a little change of connections or add ons.

Most of us spend our time with full hook-ups for convenience and enjoy the camaraderie of fellow RVers in a park. But the adventurers among us like to be in the woods and have their quiet time, or spend time on BLM land and pursue their hobbies, such as dune buggy racing.

Without facilities we can spend about three days before we run low on water, have a full black tank, and our batteries run low unless we use the Onan generator for some time.

The electric needs can be mitigated by the use of solar power panels and the use of LED lights, which need next to no power compared to the regular bulbs. There are good LED’s on the market now and the price is dropping all the time. If you purchase a few at a time and start with the most used fixtures in which to replace the old bulbs with LEDs, it will not hurt your pocket book as much. Solar panels are available at reasonable costs as well. Some coaches have them installed on the roof while others have them on top of the roof-pod due to lack of roof real estate. As for the “house batteries”, they are usually two six volt golf cart batteries (deep cycle) which will hold a good amount of electricity for an evening under the stars. You will have to use the Onan generator if you want to use your microwave or the A/C in the coach. The added bonus is that the Onan will also charge your batteries while running to power your 110V needs. A properly sized Xantrex (9245 or 9260) inverter will keep you charged.

The water tank in our coaches is limited by the installed size. Some are 30 or 40 gallons and have two fill options. One is the “city water connection” with its hose bib. It is recommended that you install a pressure regulator and a filter in line to minimize the chance of bursting the water lines with too much city water pressure. There are documented cases of serious damage from those leaks. The second fill is an open pipe which allows you to fill up without pressure to the tank. In either case you should buy a dedicated “white” potable water hose and use it exclusively for the fill of the water tank. Carry a second garden hose for all other uses. While boondocking you could add to the capacity of your water supply by bringing extra water for cooking and drinking or bringing large five gallon water jugs from home.

Which brings us to the least favorite subject, the disposal of this water - the black and grey tank if you are lucky to have one. These tanks’ capacity also varies by the upfitter, as 30 and 40 gallons are most used in the coaches. The addition of a macerator with a one-inch hose, makes the disposal a breeze. Connect the discharge hose to the sewer drain and switch on the macerator; within a couple of minutes you are done. If you use the “three inch” hose it can be a bit more challenging and time consuming. There is a “Blue Wagon” (a 15 gallon tank on wheels) available that can extend the capacity, but it needs to be properly disposed of as well. Draining grey or black water openly is a violation of the law in most locations.

With the aid of modern technology we can stay informed and entertained while boondocking. There are “Dish” satellite antennas for your TV, the Wi-Fi amplifiers to bring in your computer, and the 3G signal for your cell phone. The regional small parks, be they city, state, or federally owned, are nice places to stay and experience Mother Nature to the fullest without having to suffer the lack of conveniences.

It is not just the way we get there, looking good in our time machines, but how we spend our time when we arrive.

It is rally time again. Please mark your calendar, send in your registration money, and join us for the October 1-6 rally in Manteca, CA. Hosted by the “Four Amigos”, with a good time to be had by all. Lots of great food by Augie and Manny, tech seminars and activities for all. See you there!

The Resurrection Continues

Ah yes, this will be a short write-up that corresponds to the progress since the last note. Actually, there has been good progress on the exterior but I have decided to take it underground to keep the tri-color design and amateur painting secret until the grand unveiling at some future rally.

I have completed the priming and sanding...sanding...sanding... and color around the window openings to simplify masking. This prep work paid off thanks to our Club President Freddi, she recruited a crew from the nearby GMC 49er and Pacific Cruiser Rally in May. The guys installed the new style windows one afternoon before happy hour, or maybe happy hour had started... (why is that vent opening on top?).

A great big thanks to Joe “impact driver” Nehl, Dave “it doesn’t fit” deGraffenreid, Nick “hand me the grinder” Roenick, and Joe “I’ll just lean on it” Echols. My job; finding tools and loose screws (I had 4 of them). With all the help, the windows, roof vents, AC and lights are in. THANKS GUYS!

Next newsletter: full exterior disclosure, and the answer to why there is oil on the floor. There is no leaking in a Caddy 500!

Frank

Costume Jewelry Swap/Exchange

Do you have costume jewelry that you no longer wear or want? Jewelry that others would love to have? At the 4 Amigos Rally we are having a jewelry exchange that will be a lot of fun and will benefit a women's shelter charity. Bring your costume jewelry to the rally and you will receive a ticket for each piece; e.g., if you bring 10 pieces, you will get 10 tickets to use for selecting items from the entire collection. After we receive all "donations", everyone will line up and take one piece of jewelry in exchange for a ticket. When everyone has received one piece, we will start the line again and repeat the process, until all exchanges have been made. Any jewelry left over will be donated to a local women's shelter.

GMC WESTERN STATES RALLY SCHEDULE

Fall Rally – 2014: *4 Amigos Rally*
OCTOBER 1-6, 2014
 French Camp RV Resort, Manteca,
 California
 Hosts: Four Amigos
 DeGraffenreid
 Banovich
 Roenick
 Trovao

NEWSLETTER

PUBLICATION DATES

GMC WESTERN STATES

ISSUE	2015 1st	2015 2nd	2015 3rd
2014 4th			
PUBLICATION DATES			
Oct 31	Feb 20	May 29	Aug 14
INFO TO COORDINATOR			
Oct 17	Feb 6	May 15	Jul 31
TO PUBLISHER			
Oct 24	Feb 13	May 22	Aug 7

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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, Armand Minnie

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