

GMC WESTERN STATES NEWSLETTER



Inside

- 1 President's Message
- 2 Pueblo Rally Pictures
- 5 For Sale
- 6 Secretary's Report
- 7 Tech Center
- 8 Officers

Final President's Message and Pueblo Rally Report:

How can I adequately express my pleasure in serving as GMC Western States F I R S T Lady President, ...it was FABULOUS... THANK YOU FOR THE SUPPORT.

How about that Pueblo Experience Rally? From my perspective we were successful in gathering over seven different GMC Clubs and approximately 15 First Timers that graced the Rally. The Registration Desk was expertly handled by Carol James and Mary Botts (Chuck also). Mary and Carol were even parked so they could greet late/early arrivals...these two ladies were my Rock! The Rally started with the Pledge of Allegiance and National Anthem, both resounding as was the Invocation led by Les Watson. Sunday morning had George Beckman at the Keyboard, Les leading a heart-warming Devotion and the attendees performed a beautiful rendition of Amazing Grace.



Classic Catering provided delectable meals and excellent service. Of course, Attitude Adjustment times were memorable occasions, specifically appearance of Madam Sharon and her Ladies looking delightfully beautiful. Could those Ladies struct...way to go Donna de, Bobbie S., Eileen E., Bobbie B., Mary A., Billie G., Annie M., and me. Those Western Bartenders also appeared handsomely adorned in their western attire and served up flavorful beverages...Nick R., Dave C., George B., Billy M., Jim R., and Frank C.

Our Volunteer Servers never missed a beat...when the food arrived, they were immediately at their assigned post...food hit the plates and attendees in record time. Way to go George/Ruth B., Jan B. Bill/Bobbie B., Jack/Cecelia C., Donald/Billie G., Bill/Betty H., Carol James (my absolute Right Hand in all duties), Todd L., and Hal/Blanca St.C.,

Our Seminars were well attended. Carol Minnie conducted the Scrappy Greeting Cards session which resulted in some of the most beautiful greeting cards that rivals Hallmark. Donna de, Carol M., and Mary Colie (former dance instructor), taught a line dance class. The ladies proficiently performed the last night of the Rally. There was also a Ladies Gab Fest that insightfully discussed various pet peeves. Curiously, most shared some of the same frustrations, although solutions

were offered. Jodell exhibited her usual expertise in encouraging the development of tastefully designed Christmas ornaments and painted pumpkins. The ladies created items worthy of receiving top dollar in any boutique.

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continued from page 1

Gary Bovee did an excellent job in scheduling top notch seminars for the Men (see Technical Report herein). However, I must mention that Manny T. did an outstanding job of arriving at the Rally after overcoming a major breakdown along the way that delayed his arrival by 2 days. Nevertheless, others successfully and willingly filled in until he arrived with Deo and Dad Francisco. He immediately conducted his Tranny Seminar. Interesting though the Michalko Family won the rebuilt tranny only to pass it on to the Banovich Family (after their tranny failed on their way home). Manny, of course, immediately shipped a replacement to the Michalko Family.

Thanks to Carol Minnie for graciously stepping in to take the Minutes of the membership meeting.

Our financial records were due for review. Who but John Sharp, a retired Teacher and Accountant, spent a few hours reviewing our records and found all in order. Our trusted Treasurer, Davy de, stars again.

G M C ers are simply the BEST! One of the many reasons I am overjoyed to have served as President of this Stellar Club. I was also blessed with an OUTSTANDING support group...the Board consisting of Jodell, Gary, Donna, Davy, Dorris, and Gene... our Webmaster, Armand and our Newsletter Coordinator, Judy. Many thanks to one and all for your professionalism and being terrific TEAM players...you made me look good. Also serving in my capacity as Wagon Master no one ever refused to step up, when requested, to Host one of our many rallies. Although I say farewell from both of these positions, I am respectfully grateful for the opportunity and honor to have served you. Also thank you for the generous gift certificate, what a pleasant surprise (Mr. Nick is on his game).

I take exceedingly great pleasure in passing the gavel on to Mr. Rudiger "Nick" Roenick, our newly elected President. Along with Carol Minnie as our First Vice President, Gary Bovee – Technical Vice President, Donna Ventura – Secretary, and Davy de Graffenreid – Treasurer, Dorris Garton and Gene Dotson – FMCA Director and Alternate Director.

CIAO! Freddi



1st VP Report

Well, we had a great time at the GMC Western States Rally in Pueblo, CO. The weather was great and I think everyone had a great time. The women painted pumpkins and we also made Christmas Lollipop ornaments.

Carol Minnie did a class on how to make gift cards. Everyone enjoyed that and made some great items. Did a little line dancing and had a great gab session. I've enjoyed my position the last two years trying to be creative and think of things for the women to do. Carol Minnie is taking my position and I'm sure she will do a great job.

Jodell Banovich









GMC....FOR SALE

Your ads are welcome and will run for one year.

Please inform us if your items are sold before the ad runs out. Contact: Judy Booth hobo@citlink.net

- Olds 403 Mondello Engine 600 miles
From 1978 GMC Royale, Price is 50% of
what I recently paid.

403 Engine:..... \$4930.

Engine Specs available on request.

Following items for 403 GMC.

- Distributor-curved by D.Patterson \$120
- New carburetor-curved \$400
- New Alternator w/double pulley..... \$65
- New Alternator tension adjuster..... \$35
- Alternator protection cable \$13
- New Starter..... \$25
- Power steering unit..... \$60
- Thorley Headers \$299
- Total Asking Price..... \$5947

Free shipping within USA or pick up at Mondello, Paso Robles with a discount of \$600.

Contact: Peter D. Huber - 510 569-1118

a1huber@prodigy.net

Oakland, CA..... 0816



SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Minutes of the Fall 2016 Fall Meeting are shown below, submitted by Carol Minnie, Acting Secretary. Many thanks to Carol for a job well done!

Membership Drive for 2016

Towards the end of the year we will begin our 2016 Membership Drive. You may want to get a head start on paying your 2016 dues by the end of this year. The Holidays can sometimes make us forget about this, and our bylaws state that only members who have paid in time can be included in the 2016 roster.

You may recall that membership in FMCA is required for membership in GMCWS. In addition to providing insurance coverage for our events, there are many other benefits in being an FMCA member. Check out their website for more information www.fmca.com

Publication of Membership Roster

Work on publication of the 2016 roster will be begin after the first of the year. In doing the annual roster verification with the FMCA earlier this year, I noticed that the personal information of many of our members as shown on both the FMCA and the GMCWS websites is out of date. Only members can update their information on the FMCA website (if I could do this for you, I would). Therefore, please log on to their website www.fmca.org 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 and do any updating as needed. Let me know if you need assistance. If you would like to send me an email with your updated information, I would be happy to make the updates to the GMCWS roster for you.

Just a reminder that the Parts and Accessories and Service and Repair sections in our roster have been expanded to help you in the preservation of your GMC Motorhome.

Donna Ventura, Secretary

**GMC Western States Membership Meeting
Pueblo, CO September 20, 2015**

President Freddi Condos called the meeting to order at 10 a.m. A motion to dispense with the reading of the Spring 2015 minutes (which are available on the website) was made by Jim Rowe and seconded by George Beckman.

There was no Secretary's Report, since Secretary Donna Ventura was unable to attend the meeting.

Treasurer's report. Dave de Graffenreid, Club Treasurer, gave the Treasurer's report which will be kept on file. Dave de Graffenreid arranged for an audit of the club's finances by CPA John Sharpe. All affairs are in order.

Our FMCA representative, Dorris Garton, was unable to attend due to illness so there was no FMCA report.

+ Old Business: None

+ New Business:

Outgoing President Freddi Condos recognized the many volunteers and presenters who helped with the rally. Jodell Banovich, outgoing First VP, was recognized, as was Billy Massey for all his webmaster duties in the past. This was the first time Billy was able to attend a GMCWS Rally. Carol James, a first time attendee, was acknowledged for all her help. Bill Bramlett thanked all those who helped get the AV equipment ready for Manny's presentation.

Ruth Beckman noted that she enjoyed the devotional service that was held Sunday morning and asked that such a program be considered as an addition to future rally schedules.

Richard Smith, the Mountainaire's wagon master, announced that there would be a caravan to the Rapid City GMCMI rally that begins next week. All who want to participate were invited to stay after the meeting to hear all about it.

Freddi noted that Gary Bovee and Frank Condos were interviewed by the Wall Street Journal. The club, and this rally,

received some good press when an article about GMC motor homes was published in a recent Wall Street Journal issue.

+ New Members:

President Condos introduced and welcomed Paul and Mardy Array from Canyon Lake, TX to the club.

Carol James introduced her son, Brad, who will hopefully become a new GMCWS member now that he has taken over Carol and Gordie's GMC.

+ Officer elections:

The Nominating Committee (George Banovich, Phil Hernandez and Ed Staal) proposed two new officers:

Nick Roenick as President and Carol Minnie as First Vice President. The nominations were approved with a motion by John Sharpe and seconded by J.R. Slaten. Donna Ventura will continue as Secretary, Gary Bovee as Technical VP and Dave de Graffenreid Treasurer.

Nick Roenick thanked Freddi and Jodell for their service and presented each of them with a gift card on behalf of the club.

+ Future Rallies:

The Spring 2016 Rally will be hosted by Phil and Joanne Hernandez and will be held at the Pachanga Casino in Temecula, CA. Final dates to be announced.

Dates and location for the Fall 2016 Rally will be announced. It had been scheduled for Oct. 2-6 in Chama, New Mexico, but the Williamsons are not able to host as planned. Final dates and location to be announced.

Ruth Beckman moved to adjourn the meeting and Larry Coldren seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 10:35 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

**Carol Minnie
Acting GMCWS Secretary**

GMC WESTERN STATES TECH CENTER



Tech VP's Report

Gary Bovee

Well another fine GMC Western States Rally has come and gone. If you missed out on the Pueblo Experience, you missed out

on some GOOD tech seminars, especially seeing Manny Trovao disassemble and rebuild a GMC's THM425 transmission.

This is where, as your Western States Tech VP, I want to especially thank those GMCers who rushed to my aid when asked to fill in a few unexpected vacant seminar spots. They were Paul Array, George Beckman, Gene Fisher, Ken Henderson, Kerry Pinkerton and Randy Van Winkle.

Friday's first tech sessions started off with a "How To Keep Your Onan Running" by Gary Bovee. At every rally there are always folks asking what to do to get or keep their Onan's running. One thing that can be very helpful is to download copies of Duane Simmons "GMC Onan Power Drawer Electrical Trouble Shooting Demo" and "Onan Control Board Operation" to keep in your coach for when needed. Links to both documents along with other good Onan information is available at www.gmcidiotsguide.com, Chapter 5 – Trouble Shooting the Onan.

George Beckman stepped up to the plate on short notice and put together a slideshow – "Onan On Propane". He showed how simple it is to convert your Onan to propane. This session was especially good for those folks who have or are thinking about switching over to diesel power. No matter what, running the Onan on propane should increase the life span of these old engines. If you have ever seen the inside of an engine that has been powered by propane it looks so clean you could eat off of it!

Frank Condos did his scheduled seminar on "What Would You Have Done". Frank showed many slides of "before and after" pictures of his 1973 GMC that he is restoring. There was good interaction with the audience on how folks approached repairing their GMCs.

Kerry Pinkerton gave two back to back slideshow presentations one on "Rebuilding Your Cockpit Windows" and the other "Repairing the Shower Diverter". He again provided good handouts for both seminars as well as passing around a disassembled shower diverter so everyone could see exactly what he was talking about.

New GMC Western States member Paul Array gave a slideshow presentation on "Emergency Brake for Manny Brakes". His detailed slideshow presentation was very informative and allowed him to explain exactly how his emergency brake system works.

Kerry Pinkerton held another seminar Friday afternoon entitled "Line Voltage Thermostat for Your Heat Strip". He explained how this would be the best \$20 you will ever spend.

His handout explained how those of us with coaches who have an A/C heat strip with only an on/off switch can install a line voltage thermostat. This will allow the heat strip to be thermostatically controlled rather than using an on/off switch.

Ken Henderson gave a seminar titled "What Do You Want to Know". He showed a long list of indexed email topics on the screen from the GMCnet. The audience could then choose whatever topic and ask questions. It was a good interactive session!

On Saturday Randy Van Winkle presented "Winker's Water Pump Control". He explained how he had installed the system in his coach and how handy it is to have multiple water pump switch locations to be able to turn the pump on or off. He says his wife is much happier now!

Gene Fisher followed with "Onan Maintenance 'PM' (Preventive Maintenance)". One of the important maintenance items he stressed was how the Onan's K1 relay needs to be rewired on all original solenoids so that they will not fail.

Gene Fisher and Billy Massey on short notice gave a seminar on "GMC & the Internet".

There are multiple ways to get GMC info – GMCnet, GMC Motorhome Photo Archive, FaceBook – Classic GMC Motorhomes, GMC Motorhome MarketPlace and the list goes on and on.

On Saturday afternoon Manny held his first seminar (tranny disassembly). He had not slept in 48 hours prior to his seminar. So a BIG thanks to Manny for having the fortitude to stick in there and make it to the Rally without rest and still keep his seminar commitments.

This seminar was the highlight everyone one of us gearheads was waiting to see. It was a very interaction seminar with Manny answering the audiences many transmission questions. Then on Sunday we got to watch him rebuild the tranny and again had a great interactive session.

That night after dinner there was a drawing and Manny's rebuilt transmission was given away to new Western State members George and Nancy Michalko. Hats off to Manny for his great transmission seminars and donating the tranny!

Most seminar tech information is available at http://gmcws.org/blog/?page_id=2127.

Special thanks to Armand Minnie who filmed and projected Manny's seminars on the club's big screen. Also, special thanks to Doug Norton who helped Armand pick up the club's new projector and got it setup in time to show Manny's seminars!

Don't miss out! Start planning now to attend another fun-filled action-packed GMC Western States Rally next spring at the Pechanga Casino & Resort, Temecula, California. Until then, drive safe and happy travels.

Gary Bovee

GMC WESTERN STATES RALLY SCHEDULE

SPRING RALLY - 2016

May 2 – 5, 2016

Pechanga Casino & RV Park

Temecula, California

Hosts: Phil & Joanne Hernandez

FALL RALLY – 2016

October 2 - 6, 2016

End of the Rails Rendezvous

Rio Chama RV Park

Chama, New Mexico

NEED HOST

NEWSLETTER PUBLICATION DATES GMC WESTERN STATES

ISSUE			
2016 1st	2016 2nd	2016 3rd	2016 4th

PUBLICATION DATES			
Feb 19	Jun 1	Aug 19	Nov 4

INFO TO COORDINATOR			
Feb 5	May 20	Aug 5	Oct 21

TO PUBLISHER			
Feb 12	May 27	Aug 12	Oct 28

To submit an article or item for the Newsletter,
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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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