



Motorhome **TRAVELER**



FEBRUARY, 1977

FMCA'S WINTER CONVENTION & OUR BIRTHDAY PARTY

"The Las Vegas Fling"

The rally is scheduled for March 3, 4, 5, and 6, 1977. All the fun centers around the beautiful Las Vegas Convention Center and the nearby Las Vegas Hilton Hotel.

GMC owners attending the FMCA 2nd winter convention should first register at the Hacienda Camp Inn.

There's a pre-registration fee of \$15 per person. But children under 12 will be admitted free. And all rally-goers will receive a three-day pass to special seminars and exhibits.

Our National Directors, Mac and Gloria McDonnell, have reserved 200 parking spaces at the Hacienda Camp Inn. All GMC Motorhome Owners are invited to stay there for a special group rate of \$4.77 per night. This rate includes full hookup at the campsite and free shuttle busses to the Las Vegas Convention Center.

On Friday, March 4, 1977 from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m., GMC and FMCA will sponsor a "Welcome to Las Vegas" party. All convention-goers are invited



to attend the party, but a special invitation is extended to GMC Motorhome Owners and their families.

On Saturday, March 5, 1977 from 12 noon to 2 p.m., the GMC Motorhome Owners Club will host a gala luncheon and birthday party in Room C of the Hilton Hotel. Only GMC Motorhome Owners will be invited to attend this party. So, if you want a chance to swap favorite GMC stories and to meet GMC club members from across the country, you'll want to plan on attending.

The 15 GMC club chapters that

have been formed thus far will share in the birthday festivities. Each club will be represented by a special birthday cake, decorated with the club's insignia and a birthday candle.

We want *you* to join in the fun of cutting your cake by designating a club representative to be present at the ceremony. Please let us know as soon as possible who will represent your club!

By completing the pre-registration form found on page 3 of this issue and returning the form to FMCA, along with a check, your reservation will be confirmed, and you will be able to hook up with other GMC Motorhome Owners at the Hacienda Camp Inn.

We look forward to seeing many of you at what promises to be a glorious, fun-filled convention and birthday celebration. See you there!

EDITOR'S NOTE: Page 4 of this issue contains a detailed schedule of events for the "Las Vegas Fling." As you read the list, you'll note that there is something to interest everyone . . . from seminars and exhibits, to dinner shows, to service discussions. And best of all, there's a big celebration planned for our "family of families," the GMC Motorhome Owners Club. I'll be watching as you cut your cake!

GMC Club — Saguaro Jetset Organized December 11th at "Arizona Fiesta Grande Rally"

Thirty-eight GMC'ers traveled to Casa Grande, Arizona, the site for organizing another GMC Motorhome Owners Club (Saguaro Jetset) on December 11th. The new chapter voted Mr. Robert Fields, President; Mr. Lester Garling, 1st Vice President; Mr. Bill Keller, 2nd Vice President; Ms. Barbara Fields, Secretary; Ms. Jolene Maneth, Treasurer; and Mr. Mac McDonnell, National Director.

Plans were made to hold the first official meeting and rally in Tombstone, Arizona, the weekend of February 11-13. The Coury GMC dealership in Arizona graciously offered to host a weenie roast for the group on Saturday night. Details of the rally and a map will be sent to all new club members.

The "Traveler" welcomes Saguaro Jetset to its growing list of GMC Motorhome Owners Clubs. Have fun in Tombstone! And keep us posted on all your Fun-tivities.

Two Magnificent GMC Owners . . .

And Their Flying Machine

For some people, the excitement of air racing is only a dream. But for GMC Motorhome Owners Bill and Carole Lemire of Buena Park, California, air racing is a way of life — a life made easier by their 1973 GMC Canyon Lands.

"When we first started entering air races in 1969 and up to 1973, we used cars and trucks to haul our planes from race to race," says Bill Lemire, adding "but that was a very inconvenient and uncomfortable way to travel. You get tired of sitting in one place."

Since 1973, the Lemire's have used a trailer hitched to their motorhome for transporting their racing plane. "That's the only way to travel," says Bill Lemire. "Now we have total comfort and dependability."

The Lemire's are proud of their GMC motorhome and of their sleek Formula One racing plane, aptly named the "Proud Bird."

From 1971-74, Bill Lemire put more than 12,000 man hours into the design and construction of his small, yet quick, racing machine. And he spent many more hours in selecting a name for the plane.

Bill wanted a name that suggested the plane's "unique and classy design, its distinctive personality."



The Lemire's racing crew, assembling the Proud Bird, with motorhome and trailer in rear. The trailer, when complete, will have the same maroon, gold, and white color scheme as the motorhome and plane.

Background: Bill and Carole Lemire, standing in front of their GMC motorhome. Foreground: The Lemire's Formula One racing plane, named the Proud Bird. The motorhome and plane have the same color scheme.



Proud Bird was just such a name.

The Proud Bird is piloted by Fred Wofford of Tahoe City, California. As an overseas captain for Flying Tiger Airlines, Fred often moves from the cockpit of a mammoth 747 to the small interior of the Proud Bird, which is a little like "making a transition from the ridiculous to the sublime," Bill says.

Fred makes that transition with ease. Under his direction, the Proud Bird placed third in the 1974 Reno Air Races and first in the 1976 Mojave Air Races. This year, in Reno, the Proud Bird has the fastest qualifying time — 237 miles per hour — completed one heat, and then dropped out of the race on a technicality. But the Proud Bird is a "sure bet" to score another

win in the 1977 Mojave Air Races, Bill Lemire says.

When the Lemire's travel in June to Mojave, California, located 80 miles north of Los Angeles on Highway 14, they will, of course, use their GMC motorhome for transporting the Proud Bird.

"There are many GMC owners who travel to the races as spectators, but as far as I know, we are the only owners who participate in the races and who transport racing planes via six-wheelers," Bill says. He adds, however, that at least 10 other racing enthusiasts have expressed interest in combining motorhoming and air racing in a similar way. Perhaps Bill and Carole Lemire are starting another trend in motorhoming.

Trends are a Lemire trademark. Their motorhome stripes are custom-designed to match the maroon, gold, and white psychedelic stripes on their racing plane. And their trailer, though not yet completed, will also have the same color scheme. Even the crew wears the familiar Proud Bird pattern on their uniforms, made by Carole Lemire.

The Lemire's are customizing

Continued on page 4

We're not sure what "Cannon-Ball" Baker might say about how the Lemire's use their GMC motorhome to transport the "Proud Bird." But we think that he might say, "Why not?" After all, Baker once used a GMC truck to spirit the "Spirit of St. Louis" from New York to San Francisco.



Bing Crosby Golf Tourney Featured Two "GM-Tees" So To Speak!

Two GMC's, one a 26' Canyon Lands belonging to GMC Club 49'ers' President V. G. Lambert, and the other, a 29' Transmode on loan to the World Golf Hall of Fame (see caption at right), were a familiar sight to spectators at the recent Bing Crosby Golf Tournament in Monterey, California. The Tournament, held annually at the famous or infamous (depending upon your drives) Pebble Beach Golf Course, also featured top pros like Arnold Palmer teamed with equally famous amateurs like Gerald Ford.

The four-day tournament attracted over 100,000 spectators who watched professional golfer Tom Watson capture both the coveted title and the \$40,000 first prize.

The first of the "GM-Tees" at Pebble Beach was the 12th, where V. G.



Many visitors to the January 20-24 Bing Crosby Golf Tournament paid an enjoyable "18th-½ Tee" visit to the World Golf Hall of Fame's traveling museum (April-May "Traveler"). The museum on wheels is a 29' GMC Transmode currently touring the circuit of major tournaments.

Lambert's Canyon Lands Motorhome provided distinguished service as both a hospitality and emergency first aid facility. The 49'ers' Club President happily loaned his GMC Motorhome

to tournament officials upon a request he "could not refuse" from his own golf pro . . . Thanks, V. G., for a super job by a super President!

FMCA National Winter Convention Las Vegas Convention Center — March 4-6, 1977



Pre-Registration



Please complete this form and mail with check before February 20, 1977. Your reservation will be confirmed.

Member No. _____

Children

Age

Last Name _____ Husband _____ Wife _____

1. _____

Street Address _____

2. _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

3. _____

I would like information about the Mexico Piggyback Caravans which will depart before and after the convention.

4. _____

Guests (last name first)

I would like information about the Easter Caribbean Cruise.

1. _____

GMC Model _____

3. _____

Estimated Arrival Time _____

4. _____

Pre-Registration Fees

Member — \$15 per person _____
Non-member — \$20 per person _____

Mail To:
FMCA, Inc.
P.O. Box 44144
Cincinnati, Ohio 45244

Refer to your FMCA
Winter Convention
Brochure for optional
activities

Total amount enclosed: _____

Gate Registration Fee

Member — \$20 per person _____
Non-member — \$25 per person _____



Schedule of Events

Thursday, March 3, 1977

Arrival & registration

Friday, March 4, 1977

8 a.m.-10 a.m. Coffee & donuts, compliments of BlueBird

9 a.m.-5 p.m. GMC Motorhome Service Department*

10 a.m.-4 p.m. FMCA activities (exhibits, seminars, optional tours, golf, tennis, and other activities)

5 p.m.-6 p.m. "Welcome to Las Vegas" cocktail party (courtesy of GMC and FMCA) for all FMCA convention-goers

Saturday, March 5, 1977

8 a.m.-10 a.m. Coffee & donuts, compliments of BlueBird

9 a.m.-5 p.m. GMC Motorhome Service Department*

10 a.m.-4 p.m. FMCA activities (exhibits, seminars, optional tours, tennis, golf, and other activities)

12 noon-2 p.m. Luncheon in Room C of the Las Vegas Hilton (sponsored by GMC Truck & Coach) exclusively for GMC Motorhome Owners

5 p.m.-6 p.m. Optional cocktail party

7 p.m.-11 p.m. Optional Las Vegas Hilton dinner show (at owner's expense)

Sunday, March 6, 1977

8 a.m.-10 a.m. Coffee & donuts, compliments of BlueBird

9 a.m.-5 p.m. GMC Motorhome Service Department*

10 a.m.-4 p.m. FMCA activities (exhibits, seminars, optional tours, golf, tennis, and other activities)

5 p.m.-6 p.m. Farewell cocktail party (courtesy of Alexander &

Alexander, Vogue, and FMCA)

6 p.m.-? Optional closing banquet and dance (at owner's expense)

*Our GMC Motorhome Service Department will conduct the following activities on a daily basis:

- Service seminars (rear air suspension, 12-volt electrical system, and monitor systems).
- Roundtable discussions with owners on vehicle modifications.

Look for the GMC Headquarters tent (identified with signs and banners) at the Hacienda Camp Inn for the specific service schedule. Also, be sure to pick up an FMCA program guide when you register at the Convention Center. All GMC and FMCA activities will be listed in that program.

"FLYING MACHINES"

Continued

specialists. Bill Lemire used to make custom cars and racing cars. In 1956, he entered and won the NHRA Drag Races. And he has won many sweepstakes awards for his custom cars.

Now Bill has his own company, High Performance Aircraft, in Anaheim, California, which re-manufactures aircraft engines and parts. He also has a chrome-plating business.

With all that work, you might think that the Lemire's are too busy to enter air races, but you'd be wrong. Air racing is indeed a way of life for Bill and Carole Lemire. They are preparing right now for the 1977 Mojave Air Races. So if you happen to be travelling on Highway 14 in June, and you

spot a GMC motorhome and trailer with maroon, gold, and white stripes, be sure to say hello to two magnificent GMC owners and their flying machine.

UPDATE: MOTORHOME DEALER DIRECTORY

The following dealership should be added to your directory of GMC Motorhome service outlets:

Werner Motor Company
2981 East Singer Avenue
State Route 29
Springfield, Illinois 62703
(217) 525-1280

The following dealerships should be deleted from your directory of GMC Motorhome service outlets:

King Pontiac, Inc.
16200 South Frederick Avenue
Gaithersburg, Maryland 20760

Titus Cadillac-Oldsmobile, Inc.
2222 Paxton Street
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17111

Midwest Truck Sales & Service, Inc.
5301 Massachusetts Avenue
Indianapolis, Indiana 46218

GMC MOTORHOME PARTS BOOK

Who can order a GMC Motorhome Parts Book?

There are no restrictions on who can purchase GMC Motorhome Parts Publications. Orders will be accepted in any written form.

How do you order a GMC Parts Book?

- Motorhome Parts Books "77Z" may be ordered for \$9 per book.*

- Order should state book reference number "77Z."

- Mail order with check or money order to:

Division Printing Inc.
Department of GMC
1179 Sylvertis
Pontiac, Michigan 48054

- Make remittance payable to "Division Printing Inc."

- "C.O.D." and "charge" orders cannot be accepted.

*Price is subject to change without notice.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Maryann,

We have just returned from a 2,100-mile tour in your lovely *Glenbrook and before I am completely unpacked, I am writing to tell you about the comfort, compactness, and completeness of this marvelous "moveable mansion," as I dubbed it. I must also add how safe I always felt in it — even driving along the narrow, precipitous, 167 mile Highway 1 through Big Sur.

My son did the driving and, because of his background in aviation and automotive mechanics, he fully appreciated the engineering qualities of the *Glenbrook.

Perhaps I can best and most simply sum it up by my son's remark at the end of our trip. He said, "I hate to take it back." I answered, "I know."

And I thought that you, too, would like to know how we felt after a week of traveling and living in your wonderful *Glenbrook.

Very truly yours,
Mrs. Virginia Eddy
Portland, Oregon

GMC National Directors Mac & Gloria McDonnell (L-6006)

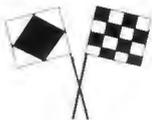
Have you been thinking of joining our "family of families," but you don't know if there is a chapter in your area? Here's a list of the 15 GMC Motorhome Owners Clubs formed thus far:



COUNTRY CLUB
(Southwest & Central Ohio). For membership information, contact Pres. Marvin Grossman: (614) 443-4601.



ELEGANT CRUISERS
(Los Angeles Area). For membership information, contact Pres. Myron Stahl: (213) 550-7104



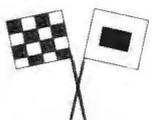
FORTY NINERS
(Northern California). For membership information, contact Pres. V.G. Lambert: (408) 372-1883.



**GATEWAY
MOTOR CRUISERS**
(St. Louis Area). For membership information, contact Pres. Roy Reitter: (314) 527-6825



GREAT LAKERS
(Great Lakes Region). For membership information, contact Pres. Virgil Barbe: (313) 588-1452



NORTHERN STARS
(North Dakota). For membership information, contact Pres. Thomas L. Hoepfner: (701) 282-5400



PACIFIC CRUISERS
(Southern California). For membership information, contact Pres. John Weesner: (714) 566-6460



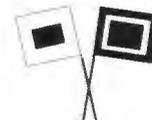
PLAINS TRAVELERS
(Oklahoma). For membership information, contact Pres. Barbara Kennedy: (405) 424-5311.



ROVING CLIPPERS
(Club at large). For membership information, contact Pres. Ed McElroy: (214) 893-1138



SAGUARO JETSET
(Arizona) For membership information, contact Pres. Robert Fields: (602) 943-6710



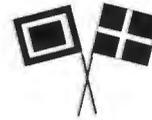
SIX WHEELERS
(Illinois). For membership information, contact Pres. George Burbach: (312) 639-2014



TIDEWATER CRABS
(Nation's Capitol Area). For membership information, contact Pres. Fred Woodcock: (301) 926-6431



TRAVELIN' TEXANS
(Southeast Texas & Gulf Region). For membership information, contact Pres. Robert Kennedy: (301) 926-6431



WESTERN RESERVE
(Northern Ohio). For membership information, contact Pres. Lou Gaeta: (216) 461-5610



YANKEE CLIPPERS
(Massachusetts) For membership information, contact Pres. Herb Bernard: (617) 686-9404

If we haven't formed a chapter in your area yet, we'll be there soon. We plan to hold more than 10 organizational rallies this year, so keep reading the "GMC Fun-tivities" section of your "Traveler."

In the meantime, drive 'em safely, happy GMCeeing, and see you down the road.

Mac & Gloria

GMC Motorhome
TRAVELER

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Associate Editor: Nancy McCamy
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Room 210, Pontiac, Mich. 48053.
Articles from readers are welcomed.

Hear Ye Right Here Ye

Meet Ye New Associate Editor

She doesn't wear a press pass, but she carries a pencil and paper wherever she goes. And she was taking pictures and writing stories at our big Orlando rally.

She's Ms. Nancy McCamy, the new Associate Editor of the "Traveler."

Nancy, a graduate of Western Michigan University, brings with her experience in Journalism, Mass Media Communications, and advertising.



Perhaps you've already met Nancy. She's been working closely with our "Traveler" Editor, Ms. Maryann Grausman, and with our GMC Motorhome Owners Club members. If she hasn't had a chance to meet you personally, why don't you drop her a line and tell her what you're doing with your GMC motorhome these days? Nancy wants this column to be the place where you spread the good news about yourself and your fellow GMC owners and club members. So write her a letter. And please, don't forget the photos! Address all correspondence to:

"ANNEX"
 GMC Motorhome Traveler
 660 South Boulevard East, Rm. 210
 Pontiac, Michigan 48053

GMC Fun-tivities

FMCA 2nd WINTER NATIONAL CONVENTION

March 3-6, 1977

Convention Center
 Las Vegas, Nevada

"SPRING FLING"

April 29th

GMC Country Club

"SPRING RALLY"

April 22-24

GMC Six Wheelers

Down the road . . .

FMCA 14th NATIONAL CONVENTION

July 26-29, 1977

Syracuse, New York

GMC 2nd NATIONAL MOTORHOME OWNERS RALLY

September or October, 1977

Watch for more details!

**GMC Truck & Coach Division
 General Motors Corporation
 660 South Boulevard East, Rm. 210
 Pontiac, Michigan 48053**

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

