



Motorhome **TRAVELER**

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER, 1978



GM Ceers Make Grand National Rally Tops in Motorhoming Fun, Fellowship

"Well organized."

"Lovely reception."

"Fantastic entertainment. Great music."

"Food out of this world. Absolutely delicious."

"Just a good, good feeling throughout the Rally."

"Lots of good information in the seminars. Great service, too."

Dozens of comments like these, heard during Sunday-morning farewells and goodbyes, attest to huge success for the Grand National Rally of the GMC Motorhome Owners Association at Lake Lawn Lodge, Delavan, WI, Wednesday through Sunday, July 19-23.

Registrations showed 274 coaches — every one a GMC — and 729 adults and youngsters present for the Rally.

And they came in the rallying spirit!

For when an uninvited guest — Ol' Man Rain — made intermittent appearances in showers, downpours, and growling thunderstorms, the Grand National rolled happily on.

Some plans were shifted. Some arrangements changed. Some schedules modified. But everyone coped.

Here's a day-by-day review of some

highlights. You'll find others reported in stories and pictures elsewhere in this issue.

Wednesday's registration went smoothly. Arriving coaches and caravans were aided in parking by members of the Rolling Vagabonds. Next, a walk to the Lodge for GMC-MOA sign-in, handled by Gloria McDonnell, Vera Arnold, and Melody McDonnell, and then the Lake Lawn Lodge guest sign-in.

Gifts of cacti, courtesy of Jack and Betty Bayliss, marked the arriving member's "Welcome to Wisconsin" by the Rolling Vagabonds. For GMC Truck & Coach Division, Maryann Grausam and Nancy McCamy provided the welcome — presenting the traditional and well-laden good-will bag, passing out service directories and kites, and answering all those "just-got-here" questions.

Formalities on Wednesday evening were limited to welcoming and orientation remarks by "Mac" McDonnell. And a cocktail party rich in renewals of old friendships and the starts of new ones, preceded a dispersal for dinner.

Thursday, despite sporadic downpours and threats of more, Rally-goers enjoyed boating on Lake Geneva — really and truly enjoyed! True, everybody got wet.

But Gage Marine did a fabulous job in keeping spirits high and serving scrumptiously delicious foods while managing, somehow, to keep the boat jaunts reasonably close to schedule.

Friday saw the start of tennis and golf and other tournaments. Players sometime scrambled to get in a few holes or a few sets without being caught by showers, but the competitions moved with spirit and fun.

Service seminars drew lots of attendance, sparked much interest and many questions. GMC's Don Rooker fielded inquiries on GMC vehicle and systems operations and maintenance. Other experts presented tips and guidance on microwave cooking, care of indoor plants, and Thetford units.

Owners with any of a host of little fix-up needs found the on-site crew from Arrow Oldsmobile-GMC, Inc., of Milwaukee, competent and responsive.

Friday's luncheon, with good eating all-around, split three ways. For the men, a sandwich buffet at the Big Tent. For the youngsters, a spread of sandwiches and trimmings at the playground. For the ladies, a luncheon — with a menu surprise in the different, and delicious, apricot soup

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Presenting an impressive spectacle, a caravan of GMC motorhomes rolls onto the grounds of Lake Lawn Lodge, Delavan, WI, on opening day of the GMC-MOA Grand National Rally, in July. Total count of coaches at the Rally, all GMC units, was 274.

Get Some Air Photos?

Who's got one or more from-the-air photographs of the GMC-MOA Grand National Rally?

The TRAVELER has been told that, during our rally at Lake Lodge, some of our camera enthusiasts went aloft in a light plane to photograph the rally site.

If you did this, and succeeded in getting pictures you're willing to share, we'd love to see them! And, with your permission, we'll select one or two for use in a future issue and — in enlargement — to add to the GMC-MOA archives.

Let us hear from you. Please!

LETTERS



To The Editor



Four GMC Motorhomes clustered on the shore of Minnesota's Spectacle Lake live up to the "beautiful" designation given the sight by Kathy Lambert. (See "Letters to the Editor".)

Editor's note: Remember "Mac" McDonnell's recent column reporting the reactions and comments of his and Gloria's young English nieces when they first experienced travel in a GMC Motorhome? The column brought Mac a letter from Larry Fields, President of the GMC-MOA "Tidewater Crabs", with this little story:

Most of the time we take our country, our state and local facilities for granted. Also taken for granted is the freedom of travel we experience over more than three million square miles.

However, every once in a while something happens that brings into focus how much we really have.

A short while back I received a call from a neighbor who asked if he could bring some visiting friends over to see the "Us Bus" (our GMC unit). Of course the answer was yes, and soon we were entertaining a group of scientists from Czechoslovakia. They examined the coach from one end to the other, asked to see the shop manual if I had one.

As our conversation went along, we found out that one man's apartment was no larger than our coach. Another looking at our "small refrigerator" commented that it was bigger than the one he had in his apartment. Yet another comment was that such a vehicle would be impractical in their country because of fuel and boundary limitations.

The message comes thru loud and clear: Use it, enjoy it, but don't take it for granted.

Larry Fields, President
Tidewater Crabs

Dear Maryann:

Words can't say enough to thank you for the fun time we had at the GMC-MOA Grand National Rally. The activities and entertainment planned were superb. Our hats are off to Mac and Gloria for handling the rally in an A-1 manner in spite of "fighting the elements."

This rally gave us a chance to meet once again with our friends the "4 Staters." Unofficially we have named ourselves that since we hail from Massachusetts, Minnesota, Mis-

souri, and New York. After having met at previous GMC Rallies, we played host to the other "3 Staters" at our lake home on Spectacle Lake, one of the 10,000 lakes, at Cambridge, Minnesota.

We were able to entertain them with beautiful Minnesota weather (fun in the sun), boating, swimming, and sunbathing. A typical Minnesota supper was served on the patio with a steak fry, corn on the cob, potato salad, tossed salad, french bread, and of course a few libations. Since our friends had never been to the Great State of Minnesota, we were happy to be their hosts and show them just how great Minnesota really is.

Enclosed is a picture to show how we parked the four beautiful GMC Motorhomes at Lake Spectacle.

Thank you once again for another fine rally, and we are looking forward to the 2nd GMC-MOA Grand National.

Happy GMCee-ing,
Kathy Lambert
Custom Klassics
State of Minnesota

Stowaway? Tag-along? Or Just a Careless Cat?

When Bill and Nancy Renz (members of the "Gateway Motor Cruisers" Chapter of GMC-MOA) go traveling, it's a family affair — or else. Embarking on a recent getaway, however, Bill and Nancy thought they were GMCeeing alone as they breathed that country air and enjoyed the scenery.

But passing motorists, honking horns and waving frantic arms, kept intruding on their solitude. And, finally, the Renzs pulled off the road for a walk-around of their vehicle in search of the cause of the commotion.

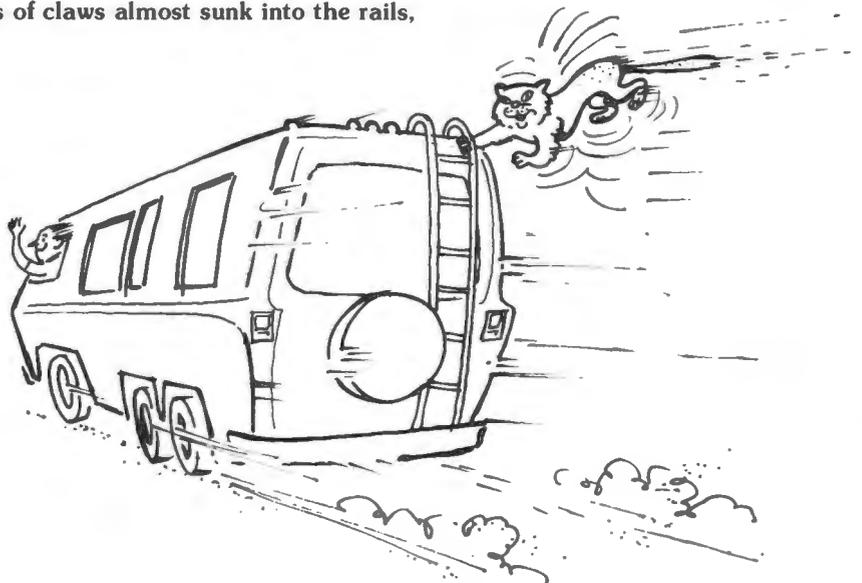
They found it: One cat, their own, clinging to the back ladder — instead of being where last seen by Bill and Nancy, back home!

Seems the feline had been snoozing on the roof, unnoticed, when the GMCeers rolled away from the driveway — to wake up only when they were making speed.

Then came miles at speeds up to 55, with the cat surely hanging on for dear life — and attracting the attention of other motorists as, clinging to that ladder, her form took on the look of a flag furled around a pole.

Bill and Nancy, after prying loose four sets of claws almost sunk into the rails,

soothed their stowaway's fur and brought the animal inside the vehicle. And there she stayed the entire weekend! Perhaps thinking she has only one more life left? Or embarrassed by sudden fame as "the cat that wouldn't say die"?



Camera Enthusiasts Do It Again — Make Trouble for Judges

The shutter-snappers in our GMC-MOA membership did it again with their entries for the GMC Grand National Photo-Fun Contest, making selection of the winners a truly tough job for everyone sharing in that task. No less than 78 photographs, each depicting an aspect of GMC motorhoming, were on display at Lake Lawn Lodge during the July rally.

From those 78, when everyone had had a look and a say, the winners were:

— Carl and Kathy Petersen, of Eugene, OR, first prize for "Just Fuelin' Around." The Petersens received a Kenco Deluxe projector table as their prize.

— Robin Halleran, Jericho, NY, second prize for "White on White — Winter." Her prize was an Electromatic slide viewer.

— Paul R. Lewis, Batavia, OH, third prize for "The Ultimate Quiet Time." A Continental camera case was his award.

— Mrs. Coleen King, Chillicothe, MO, fourth prize for "Retirement Ain't Too Bad." Mrs. King was presented a Sort 'n' File.

All photo enlargements and prizes for the Photo-Fun Contest were compliments of GMC Truck & Coach Division, General Motors.



First Prize: "Just Fuelin' Around"
Carl & Kathy Petersen, P.O. Box E
Eugene, OR 97402



Second Prize: "White on White — Winter"
Robin Halleran, Romega Farm
Cedar Swamp Road, Jericho, NY 11753



Third Prize: "The Ultimate Quiet Time"
Paul R. Lewis, 260 Wood
Batavia, OH 45103



Fourth Prize: "Retirement Ain't Too Bad"
Mrs. Coleen King, RR 1
Chillicothe, MO 64601

True or False: Thieves Don't Want Your GMC Motorhome

If you answered "True," think again.

Just weeks ago the TRAVELER heard otherwise from a former GMC motorhome owner — "former" because, he reported, his unit had been stolen a few days earlier! And, this Michigan resident added, he had later talked with two other former owners with similar experience.

Carelessness? The stolen unit, we were told, had disappeared from a locked storage area surrounded by a six-foot frame.

An informal opinion by police investigators tagged the theft as the work of professionals. In the same opinion, chances of recovery are slim.

Well — think about it. Your GMC motorhome is a big-ticket item, representing significant dollars. It will soon have

new status as a virtual collector's item.

Professional car-theft rings, stealing vehicles to order, can easily recoup the fees paid to "finder" and "booster." After that, a good-quality paint job, perhaps a change of interior upholstery and draperies, plus some alteration of vehicle numbers and a set of forged papers — and presto!, a marketable vehicle! At a nice profit, too.

Be warned. Protect your GMC motorhome with preliminary and back-up precautions.

For a starter: Never leave your unattended GMC unit with windows and doors unlocked. Certainly never, never leave the keys behind.

Also, weigh the degree of protection provided by your usual parking or storage

spot for your GMC motorhome. Be objective and realistic in judging how much difficulty, if any, a thief would have in making an undetected entry.

Further, consider theft alarms for possible installation on your unit. And also consider placing some secret identification markings in out-of-the-way places in and on the vehicle.

Where can you get advice on alarms and secret markings? Talk with your local law enforcement officials. And your insurance agent. They're both highly concerned over car thefts and can provide, or direct you to, sound counsel.

Is a GMC motorhome such a unique vehicle as to be theft-proof? Don't you believe it! Protect yours — now!

"Thru the Windows"



Mac & Gloria McDonnell
EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS
GMC MOTORHOME OWNERS
ASSOCIATION

SOME "FIRSTS" AS DREAMS COME TRUE

When the party is over and the guests have departed for home, you may find the host and hostess sitting in the silence of their abode, reflectively weighing the success or failure of their party.

The many kind letters of appreciation received from you who attended our GMC Motorhome Owners Association "Grand National Rally," in Wisconsin, rather suggests the party to have been a success.

We feel now is an apt moment for reflection. Recalling this most recent national rally, and the GMC-MOA rallies which preceded it, turns our thoughts to details of what has taken place in the world of motor-coaching since the inception of our GMC Motorhome owners "family." Particularly, our thoughts have been on the leadership role our GMC owners group has been taking.

As we re-cap a few of the milestones, we want each of you to know that any favorable image thus far earned by our GMC group is *because of you* — because you have supported the national office of GMC-MOA, because those members who belong to chapters have devoted great effort toward building their chapters, and thus in total you have built the Association's place in the sun. Both Gloria and I extend our heartfelt thanks and deep appreciation for your loyal support in making this owners association a "STAR of stars" in the recreational vehicle community.

Now for some reflections . . . and recollections of some "firsts."

Our window view begins in Miami, at an F.M.C.A. Rally in the winter of 1976. There, peering from the windows of a motorhome that was not a GMC, we witnessed 26 GMC owners coming together to express a wish to gain a GMC Owner identity. Their sole purpose was to herald, to all who would see, that these GMC owners were ready to place a new flag in the sky and to join hands in fellowship with other GMC owners.

You could not know at the time that the good folks at the General Motors GMC Truck & Coach Division had contracted our services toward honoring your request for a GMC club and identity. Nor could we tell you; it had to be a well-kept secret, for we were honoring contracts with another good company, and we always respect our commitments.

Still, it wasn't easy to remain silent — for we knew your feelings, and wanted very much to tell you how soon your desires would be coming true.

Yes, we peeked through the windows . . . and we saw you.

Then in Harlingen, Texas, March 1, 1976: 69 GMC motorhomes parked together for the first time, and the GMC banner flying for the FIRST time . . . to announce that GMC motorhome owners had joined hands in fellowship, and for good fun and camaraderie.

We watched strangers meeting strangers. We heard your laughter. We saw you all but dancing with delight in discovering that these folks, rather than strangers, were a host of new friends wanting to explore new horizons with you. We sensed the growing realization that now you belonged to a family, a family linked together by mutual interests in ownership of a GMC motorhome.

Some of you will remember that hour, that day, that March 1 of 1976, as the birth, the very beginning. For those GMC motorhome owners who have joined the family since, this is how it all began!

If you will permit us to remind you how greatly you have progressed, how expansively you have grown, look now at where we have come. When we renewed our fellowship in Wisconsin, our GMC Grand National Rally set new records for attendance for all GMC Motorhome rallies. The count was 274 GMC coaches and 729 GMCeers!

Along the way from Harlingen to Lake Lawn, we have shared many FIRSTS in the American motor-coaching experience. These FIRSTS, in which we as GMC owners adventured and paved the way, are now being shared with others of the nation's motorhome community.

Some of the most memorable include:

- GMC-MOA is the FIRST R-V group to have enjoyed a rally with the privilege of, literally, checking into a multi-star lodge/resort/hotel facility *as a guest of the lodge* — to partake of beautiful foods prepared by a staff of master chefs and to further enjoy all the privileges and pleasures offered by the property. (Of this, more comment later!)
- GMC-MOA has developed *and proved* what we are proud to call the FIRST truly portable electrical system specifically for rally-site use. This system can be transported to any site, whether in the mountains or on the plains or at the seashore, to add comfort to our rally surroundings.

Is the electrical system a proved success? Yes, and resoundingly so. For this

is the system that held up through the rain, wind, and varied temperatures at our Wisconsin rally. We kid you not, GMC-MOA members were part of setting a new standard in "rec vee," and showed that another "impossible" boundary had been crossed.

Oh it's true, a variety of makeshift electrical systems has been and is in use at rallies. But primarily due to inadequate engineering, those put-together systems score many failures. So wear this FIRST with much pride, as we all did at Lake Lawn, so that other motorhome clubs will learn about and share in our discovery.

- Thanks for another FIRST to our founding members, the Roland Kimbrells, and the Ham Sanders. Preparing to host a Chapter Rally of the GMC-MOA "Roving Clippers" club in May of 1976, they caused the city of Meridian, Mississippi, to provide electric power and to add a water service for the city park sites where the GMC motorhomes later gathered to participate in the fun-tivity. The Mayor of Meridian dedicated these R-V hookups in the name of the GMC Motorhome Owners Club, so they now stand as a living memorial shared by other R-V travelers who might pass that way.
- Early in 1977 we were the FIRST group to enjoy a party at the Luau Terrace of Sea World, Orlando, Florida. Sea World was opening, for the FIRST time, the doors of their spanking new facility — today a major tourist attraction — and yes, we opened their gates with a great party.
- Our National Rally in San Diego, California, gave us two FIRSTS. There was our dinner dance at the very famous Del Coronado Hotel, where kings and queens, princes and princesses from around the world had danced before us. Our FIRST still stands; no other motorhome group has been extended the invitation to hold a party in the grand Grand Ballroom of Del Coronado. Our other FIRST at San Diego was our permission to board, as an R-V group, the U.S. Navy's proud carrier "Kitty Hawk." This was thanks to the efforts of V. G. Lambert, Rear Admiral (Retired), Chapter Representative of the GMC-MOA "Forty-Niners" and the current Admiral of the GMC fun-ship. Together, then, we have attained any number of FIRSTS in motor-coaching. More important, we have given to other fellow motorcoach enthusiasts a better purpose in enjoying the pleasures of their vehicles. Our STAR is bright; our GMC-MOA flag flies most high; and by your warmth, we have touched the hearts of many. Last, but surely not least, among these experiences marked as FIRSTS for the GMC owners, comes our grateful thanks to all of you for your response to the situation we faced at Lake Lawn Lodge. Due to the

rains, a very serious problem could have arisen. Had each of you, in moving off-site, taken the "every man for himself" attitude, we could have seen serious damage to our motorhomes as well as destructive harm to private property.

Then your cooperation was requested. You responded with both understanding and outstanding organization to meet the problem. And before noon on Sunday, July 23 — without a single mishap — the rally site had been cleared.

Express compliments have been extended to you for your orderly manner of departure by the management and staff of Lake Lawn Lodge. And with pride, we of the GMC-MOA staff add that when the last of your departing GMCs had disappeared down the road, the property we had occupied showed not a single piece of refuse!

How very proud we are of you! Again: Thanks!

Where does this present a FIRST, you ask? GMC-MOA, the FIRST owners group in motor-coaching history to use a major resort hotel facility as a rally site, is invited to be the FIRST such group to return. Your housekeeping, among other traits, has led the management of Lake Lawn Lodge to invite us to do it again.

This news has traveled quickly. Other major resorts are now extending invitations to GMC-MOA to plan a rally event at their properties.

You can be proud of our contributions to the world of motor-coaching. We have come a long way in a very short time in GMC-MOA. Together we have placed a very bright STAR in the heavens to light the way for others.

OUR THANKS ARE DUE TO SO MANY for their support of a successful venture into the unknown in the planning and conduct of our Grand National Rally. With the capable assistance of the folks from GMC Merchandising, the outstanding performance of the GMC Service Division staff, the GMC Regional Offices, and the GMC-MOA staff — we did accomplish what we set out to do.

Behind the scenes were many others. Thus, our thanks to the GMC-MOA "Rolling Vagabonds" Chapter for their untiring assistance. And special thanks to their members Jack and Jessie Fagan who, with their son Pat, pulled us out of a problem that nature poured on us.

Others lent us helping hands in conducting our various contests, activities, programs, parking, and pleasures. But this column lacks enough space to provide proper acknowledgement to all who gave support. May I therefore express our deep gratitude and sincere thanks to each one, wherever you may be! Thank you!



Those GMC owners who do not belong to the GMC-MOA family miss much in the ownership of their GMC. We invite you to join the GMC-MOA Family, and the GMC fun-ship, by sending in your request for membership today.

In the meantime: "Drive 'em safely, happy GMCeeing, and — not for the first time, nor the last time — we shall be GMCeeing you down the road."

*Mac & Gloria McDonnell
Executive Directors*

Can You Find Yourself at the Rally?



ACT TODAY MAIL REQUESTS TO: GMC-MOA, INC.,
P.O. Box 2005
Scottsdale, AZ 85252

Yes, please include us as an "OFFICIAL MEMBER" to: THE GMC MOTORHOME OWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

Please send an application today:

NAME _____
First Last

ADDRESS _____
Street

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

I do understand dues for joining GMC-MOA, INC., will be \$25.00 per year, and a \$5.00 filing fee, which must be included in my application for membership in the GMC MOTORHOME OWNERS ASSOCIATION.

PLEASE NOTE: Do not send check or money order with this request for your membership. We will immediately mail you an application form upon receipt of your request.

SIGNED: _____

— accompanied by a super fashion show.

One of GMC-MOA's "best ever" evenings spun out of the Rampart Terrace reception on Friday — an excellent dinner, outstanding entertainment, and music by the Jerry Blake band for dancing into the small hours. Meantime, for the younger adults, a rock band provided the dance beat in a room of their own.

Chef Jerry made the Saturday luau, sponsored by GMC Truck & Coach Division, a veritable fantasia. Four days of ice carving had gone into the decorations. Special needs — fruits, for example, and banana leaves for preparation and serving of dolphin in banana leaves — had come by airlift from distant points.

And then the chef's own master touch was applied. The results? Boggling to the eye and mind, superb for the palate and appetite!

Carl Rehm, Assistant General Sales

Door Prizes Add Goodies For Lucky Rally-goers

Everyone who attends any GMC-MOA rally is a winner. All who attended the GMC-MOA Grand National Rally, at Delavan, WI, July 19-23, were big winners — carrying away armloads of "goodies" as souvenirs and mementoes of the event.

And in the super-winner class are those lucky Rally-goers who, in one or another of the door-prize drawings, were presented special goodies. Here's a list of major winners.

Grand Prize winner was Florence Pucci, GMC-MOA Member No. 1269, of Utica, IL. Florence won the Thermador microwave oven, donated by the firm of Thermador/Waste King.

Nancy Riley, Member No. YC-62, of Cohasset, ME, won a RoofPod for her family's GMC Motorhome. The pod was donated by Arrow Olds-GMC.

Robert Ahlborn, Member No. 1327, of Columbus, OH, was the lucky winner of a screen door for the Ahlborns' GMC motorhome. This prize was provided by Alex and Bea Birch.

Coleen King, Member No. PS-59, of Chillgicthe, MO, was the winner of a fiberglass custom tire cover. Stan Starr Enterprises donated this prize.

Patti Allen, Member No. SW-69, of Downer's Grove, IL, was winner of an Auto-Step for her family's GMC. This prize was donated by Mr. and Mrs. Clinton Long of the GMC-MOA "Great Lakers" Chapter.

And this comment from Executive Directors "Mac" and Gloria McDonnell: "We are happy to note that two of the five major door prizes were awarded to Junior GMceers in the 3-to-11 age group. Congratulations to Nancy Riley and Patti Allen. We are proud of you!"

Manager-Merchandising, GMC Truck & Coach Division, spoke briefly to the luau crowd. Rehm reviewed the Club's growth and progress from inception to the Grand National and, for the future, outlined the steps taken and planned by General Motors to assure continued availability of service facilities and repair parts for GMC motorhome owners.

Sunday forenoon began with our traditional hearty breakfast, church services, then departure preparations and the beginning of reluctant leave-takings in farewells and goodbyes. Until, one by one, doors were latched and engines turned so that more than 270 GMC motorhomes could begin the return to the roads.

Summary: A Grand National Rally made memorable by an ultra in location, by fun and excitement and variety in activities, by challenge in weather, by tremendous spirit and warm fellowship.

Wisconsin, 1978, enters the books as tops!

Companies Deserve Thanks For Support of GMC-MOA

Ever wonder where all those goodies and prizes handed out at GMC-MOA rallies come from? Many are gifts from companies — some directly related to the motorhome industry, some not.

Says M. J. "Mac" McDonnell, Executive Director of GMC-MOA:

"To these companies — and their capable staff members — for their support of our GMC Motorhome Owners Association, we acknowledge with gratitude their performance and their generosity extended in our prize program."

The list includes:

- GMC Truck & Coach Division, General Motors Corporation.
- Delco Division, General Motors Corporation.
- Alexander & Alexander of Michigan.
- Thetford Corporation.
- Onan Corporation.
- Thermador/Waste King Division, Norris Industries.
- Outdoor Resorts of Hilton Head.
- Andes Candies, Inc.
- Norcold, Inc.
- Wisconsin Dairy Association.
- Ajay's Enterprises, Inc.
- Westwood Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
- Schubach Jewelers of Phoenix.
- Milwaukee Greenhouse, Inc. (and GMC-MOA members Jack and Betty Bayliss).

Prize Winners Listed for Rally Sports Competitions

The rains came, but the games went on! And when the finals in all events were completed, some of our GMC Grand National Rally-goers had earned additional goodies to take home as souvenirs of Wisconsin, 1978.

Here's the list of our sports competitions, and the winners in each category of entries.

Men's Golf

Low gross score — Jack Waters, with a 76. Low net score — William J. Davidson, with a 58. Longest drive — Art Phillips. Closest to the pin — Gregg Boughton.

Women's Golf

(Editor's Note) Due to an error at the Pro Shop, the low gross prize was presented to Ann Schliefer for her score of 104. A recheck showed the best low gross was that of Doris Waters, of Alvin, Texas — a 102.

(But please, Ann, keep the prize — you did a great job! And Doris, you have been notified by phone that a set of golf clubs is on the way to you. Congratulations!)

Low gross score — Doris Waters, with a 102. Low net score — Dot Swift, a 62. Longest drive — Ann Schliefer. Closest to the pin — Thelma Lambert.

Horseshoe Tournament

This is an inter-club tournament, with GMC-MOA chapter entries competing. Thanks go to Bud Pearson, of the "Forty-Niners" Chapter, who flew to the Rally from California and did a great job as referee. The winners:

Junior Division — Winner, Greg Scharosch, Forty-Niners; second, Charlene Keller, Saguaro Jet Set.

Women's Singles — Winner, Charlene Scharosch, Forty-Niners; second Thelma Lambert, Forty-Niners.

Women's Doubles — Winners, Jannet Young and Charlene Scharosch, Forty-Niners; second, Beverly Correa and Thelma Lambert, Forty-Niners.

Men's Singles — Winner, Bud Pearson, Forty-Niners; second, Lowell Shannon, Midwest Travelers.

Men's Doubles — Winners, V. G. Lambert and Bud Pearson, Forty-Niners; second, Leo Rasmussen and H. Meyer, Midwest Travelers.

Tennis

Jim Talman, member of the GMC-MOA "Elegant Cruisers," has our thanks for a super job in supervising the exciting tennis tournament. Here are the results.

Mixed Doubles — Winners, Lenoir Fish and Bill Christian; finalists Charlotte Shapiro and Parker Wiggin.

Ladies' Singles — Winner, Charlotte Shapiro; finalist, Lenoir Fish.

Men's Singles — Winner, Jim Talman; finalist Bill Christian.

Who Do You See among Rally-goers?



Those Chapter Caravans Can Be Fun — To Watch Unfold or To Take Part In!

There's an extra reward of enjoyment for early arrival at the GMC-MOA rally.

It comes in watching the unfolding color and excitement in the one-after-another arrival of GMC-MOA Chapters entering the rally site with coaches in caravan, members in costume, and in enactment of a theme.

Probably the only greater fun reward is in being part of a chapter creating the excitement and happy pandemonium. For evidence of this, consider the fact that no less than nine GMC-MOA chapters made their entry to the Grand National Rally site, at Lake Lawn Lodge in Wisconsin, in caravan.

Those clubs were the GMC-MOA "Yankee Clippers," "Forty-Niners," "Saguaro Jet Set," "Traveling Texans," "Great Lakers," "Colonial Travelers," "Midwest Travelers," "Country Club," and "Rolling Vagabonds."

And what a beautiful sight they made as they rolled in from the east and the west, from border to border north to south! In costumed finery, with flags flying and colors exploding in all directions, each caravan heralded its approach with whistles blasting and trumpets blowing.

Naturally, loud applause from earlier arrivals and other spectators saluted each caravan entering the gates and rolling to its appointed parking spaces. And that parade of caravans will surely be remembered as a highlight of this GMC Grand National Rally.

The excitement and great fun of caravanning has prompted GMC-MOA to establish a competition in this activity. For this, chapters are invited to select a theme, don costumes fitting that theme, and stage their rally arrival in a style suitable to the theme.

Winner in the competition, to be held in connection with each year's principal rally, takes possession of the Butcher Award trophy. This trophy has been donated by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Butcher, GMC Motorhome owners of Cleveland, OH.

Selection of the winning chapter is by vote of all GMC-MOA members present at the rally. With the presentation, the trophy is engraved with the winning chapter's name — and is held by that chapter until the next year's competition, judging, and decision.

This year's finalists, when our members discussed and decided on the best combinations of theme, costume display, and entry, were the GMC-MOA "Yankee Clippers" and the GMC-MOA "Forty-Niners."

Each club, by its imaginative costuming and theme enactment, stirred enthusiastic support and earnest "politicking" among other members. Discussions, while friendly, were long and lengthy — with de-

bate running right up to the succession of votes on Saturday night. And then, by general acclamation, the nod went to the "Yankee Clippers."

But what a beautiful job both clubs did in demonstrating what fun a caravan entry can be!

The Forty-Niners, coming from California, took their theme from the gold rush days of 1849 touched off by the gold strike at Sutter's Mill. Dressed in garments recalling those prospector days, they arrived with their leading members afoot and in harness — drawing that first GMC motorhome while the rest followed in caravan.

With little imagination one could see those pioneer miners, those founders of the west, arriving in California with all their life's possessions in a creaking covered wagon! A beautiful job. An exciting entry.

From faraway New England came the hearty Yankee Clippers arrayed in all their colors. Dressed as clowns, with balloons flying and drums banging, they re-created the atmosphere of the American circus. This was in recognition of Delavan, Wisconsin, as the birthplace of "the greatest show on earth," the world-famous Barnum & Bailey Circus. The theme also recognized Delavan as the home of one of the world's few schools for circus clowns.

Caravanning? That's FUN — both to watch and to be part of.

And every GMC-MOA member had a chance to discover that all over again during those memorable caravan arrivals at Lake Lawn Lodge.

GMC-MOA "Forty-Niners" Crossing Two Nations in Chapter Caravan

What's more adventurous for a GMC-MOA Chapter than forming a caravan close to home and holding formation for a round-trip to a Grand National Rally? The GMC-MOA "Forty-Niners" can answer that.

They're in caravan, 14 motorhomes strong, on a route for which the Grand National in Wisconsin in July was just a long halt — albeit a most enjoyable one. For from their start in California, the Forty-Niners' easternmost destination is New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Canada.

Thence it will be westward, clear across Canada to Vancouver, before heading south for California. The complete ocean-to-ocean width of two nations! And no less than 42 nights on the road in the plans!

The TRAVELER is counting on Don Kuhn, President of the Forty-Niners, for a full report — with pictures, please — on this adventure in GMCee-ing.

Add These



to Your Rally Memories





GMC FUN-TIVITIES AFTER/WORD

Gateway Motor Cruisers Mark Chapter Birthday

The "Gateway Motor Cruisers" Chapter of GMC-MOA rallied for a gala birthday party at Twin Rivers Landing on the Ozarks' Black River near Lesterville, MO, the weekend of June 9-11.

Members enjoyed canoe float trips (no one capsized), swimming, hiking, fishing, shopping in the country store stocked with all sorts of country crafts, happy conversation, and just plain relaxing. By Saturday evening everyone was ready for the happy hour and hors d'oeuvres.

We played the part of spectators as master chefs Hank Struss and Joe Navin barbecued steaks furnished by the club. As that superb aroma floated heavenwards, each coach prepared their potluck. At the appointed hour, everyone was waiting for the famous word — "chow" — so we could all enjoy the fruits of the chefs' labor. There were so many tempting dishes there was no way anyone could remember all the dishes and specialities on the table.

Afterwards, we were called to attention by Hesper and Howard Gleason as they made the presentation of the club's birthday gift to president Charles Laws. It was a gavel horn on a pedestal, to be inherited by succeeding presidents. Then the sparkle candles were lit on the most fantastic birthday cake! Our hearty Gateway Motor Cruisers built a fire and under two billion (plus or minus a million) stars we sat around a campfire eating birthday cake and ice cream. It had been a very busy day and a happy birthday for the Gateway Motor Cruisers.

*Ann Evans
Secretary
Gateway Motor Cruisers*

Tidewater Crabs Rally At Delaware Farm

The E. H. Porters (Ed and Pokey) played host to fellow members of the GMC-MOA "Tidewater Crabs" Chapter for a June 16-18 rally at Fairfield Farm, the Porters' home near Greenville, DE. Here's how Larry Fields, Chapter President and "reluctant newsletter editor" reports the weekend:

"We must report that the rally at the Porters' was a resounding success. Although the weather didn't cooperate 100%, it was still a delight. The kids had a hay ride and went swimming on Sunday when the sun finally did show up. Many

GMC-MOA "Six Wheelers" Hold Second Spring Fling

The June 9-11 dates picked for a "Second Spring Fling" were a Friday, Saturday, and Sunday just meant to be for the "Six Wheelers" Chapter of GMC-MOA, and the weather smiled on us. We camped on the Rock River in Horicon, Wisconsin, at the Playful Goose Campground, with a park-like appearance amidst terrain of glacial origin. Friday night went quickly around the campfire.

Saturday morning was even more beautiful. An outdoor breakfast of juice, coffee, fruit, pancakes and sausage dominated the morning.

Right after lunch we went as a group on a boat tour of the Horicon Marsh wildlife preserve. It was too late in the season to see the wild geese, but we could easily identify Yellow Headed Blackbirds, Red Wing Blackbirds, Egrets, Great Blue and Black Crown Night Heron, Tree and Barn Swallows, Black and Common Tern, Mallard Ducks and an area where turtles nest.

The rest of the afternoon was spent flying kites, playing Jarts, trading information and maintenance tips and generally enjoying the area.

To the delight of young and old alike, after our usual "super" dinner, Saturday evening was spent gathered around the campfire watching movies — Flintstone cartoons and the Little Rascals — as well as slides of previous national rallies.

Sunday morning included a business meeting during which plans were made for attending the Grand National Rally at Lake Lawn in July.

*V. J. Miller
Secretary
Six Wheelers*

thanks to all for the luscious potluck goodies, and a special salute to Ed, Henry and Eric who really did an outstanding job on the chicken. Our co-hosts, Peg and Pat Patterson, must be remembered for taking care of the all-important donut run and all the other assistance they provided. And last but not least, of course, a super large thanks to our host and hostess, Ed and Pokey Porter, for letting us abide in their front yard and for all the hard work they did to get ready for the onslaught.

"Norm Dubner conducted a candlelight seminar on air compressor overhauls. It was an affair conducted with much personal feeling! However, Norman did say that the next seminar would be conducted in the woods . . . at midnight."

GMC SIX WHEELERS

September Rally
September 15-17

Contact: Hank Slade
204 S. Willow Run
De Kalb, IL 60115
(815) 756-4345

GMC TIDEWATER CRABS

Flying Rally
September 22-24
Bealton, VA

GMC TIDEWATER CRABS

Shoppers Rally
October 13-15
Bowmansville, PA

GMC TIDEWATER CRABS

Thanksgiving Rally
November 10-12
Westminister, MD

July in Nebraska

An invitation by two of their ambitious members called the GMC-MOA "Western Wheelers" to Lake McConaughy on the weekend of July 7-9.

Seven GMCs followed the call and, complete with a sailboat and four power boats, they gathered Friday night at the Lake View Camp. A perfect setting — grass, trees, sandy beaches and warm temperatures.

Good weather allowed everyone to pursue his favorite pastime — and the fishing wasn't bad either — all through Saturday. But only the natives really know what July has to offer in Nebraska and can forecast the unpredictability of the lake. Untouched by the constantly growing thunderheads on the horizon, the 17 Western Wheelers raised their voices to a campfire singsong (actually by flashlight, due to the wind) Saturday night. They ended on a happy and relaxed note when a club-sponsored breakfast was announced for the following morning.

Unaccustomed activity in the camp woke all early the next day. Almost instantly everyone realized that the overnight thunderstorms had not only brought heavy rains and winds and waves, but also tossed around the boats still in the water, causing considerable damage to some. One boat sunk, one severely damaged, two waterlogged — in short, the Western Wheelers "navy" was destroyed.

However, the hearty breakfast gave a good start to the following rescue mission, with the result that all boats were saved.

The July outing of the Western Wheelers will be remembered as the most relaxing, active, enjoyable — yet challenging as well as the most friendship-creating — weekend of them all.

*Helmut J. Richter
6042 S. Glencoe Way
Littleton, CO 80121*

GMC MOTORHOME CLUBS

Anyone seeking membership information on any of these clubs is urged to contact the President as listed. This Directory of GMC Motorhome Clubs will be published in The Traveler from time to time for your use and reference.

Club President


COUNTRY CLUB
 Marvin Grossman
 366 S. Standwood Rd.
 Columbus, OH 43209


COLONIAL TRAVELERS
 Donald Shaw
 10 Forest Drive
 Morris Plains, NJ 07950


CUSTOM CRUISERS
 D. Gustafson
 Rt. 3, Box 1280
 Leesburg, FL 32748


KLASSICS DIXIE
 Ben Grice
 P.O. Box 623
 Selma, AL 36701


ELEGANT CRUISERS
 Myron Stahl
 280 S. Beverly Rd.
 Beverly Hills, CA 90212


ENCHANTED TUMBLEWEEDS
 Bruce Leist
 3417½ Anderson, S.E.
 Albuquerque, NM 87106


FORTY NINERS
 V. G. Lambert
 58 Skyline Crest
 Monterey, CA 93940

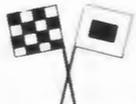

GATEWAY MOTOR CRUISERS
 Charles Laws
 108 Colorado Ave.
 Farmington, MO 63640


GREAT LAKERS
 Virgil Barbe
 843 Sheffield
 Madison Hts, MI 48071

Club President

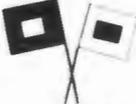

HERITAGE CRUISERS
 Kitty Beckstein
 101 Bentham Parkway
 Snyder, NY 14226


MIDWEST TRAVELERS
 Gary Friedman
 301 E. Locust
 Des Moines, Iowa 50309


NORTHERN STARS
 Thomas Hoepfner
 912 17th St. So.
 Moorehead, MN 56560


PACIFIC CRUISERS
 Abe Sandler
 6242 Lake Leven Dr.
 San Diego, CA 92119

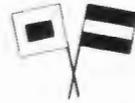

PLAINS TRAVELERS
 Ben & Barb Kennedy
 3600 N. Forest Park
 Oklahoma City, OK 73121


PRAIRIE SCHOONERS
 Arthur Mellott
 920 S. 110th St.
 Kansas City, Kansas 66111


ROLLING VAGABONDS
 Alice Styza
 18470 Chevy Chase
 Brookfield, WI 53005


ROVING CLIPPERS
 George McLaney
 Elizabeth Dr., Rt. #1
 Box 1950
 Elizabethtown, NC 28337

Club President


SAGUARO JETSET
 Lester Garling
 1847 E. Roma Ave.
 Phoenix, AZ 85016

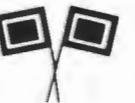

SIX WHEELERS
 Dick Pelton
 1730 Heather Dr.
 Aurora, IL 60506


SUNSHINE STATESMEN
 Jim Bailey
 4839 Riverbasin Dr. So.
 Jacksonville, FL 32207


TIDEWATER CRABS
 Larry Fields
 814 Diamond Drive
 Gaithersburg, MD 20760


TRAVELIN' TEXANS
 Robert Kennedy
 10409 Gulf Meadows
 Houston, TX 77075


WESTERN RESERVES
 Lou Gaeta
 1160 Summit Drive
 Mayfield Hts, OH 44124


WESTERN WHEELERS
 Robert Stringer
 Rist Canyon,
 Bellvue, CO 80512


YANKEE CLIPPERS
 Herb Bernard
 19 Hampshire Rd.
 Methuen, MA 01844

SERVICE TIPS

By Don Rooker
Supervisor
GMC Motorhome
Service



Motorhome owners asking whether the recommended motor fuel is compatible with the fuel recommendations for operation of the Onan generator. Here's the word.

Onan Fuel Recommendations

Most gasoline contains some lead additives (tetraethyl lead) which accumulate as deposits in engine combustion chambers.

Since generator sets operate at constant (governor-controlled) speeds, it is difficult for the engine to "blow out" these lead deposits through the exhaust ports — as is possible with engines operating at variable speeds. Thus, constant-speed engines may require more frequent removal of deposits and more maintenance.

For this reason, Onan recommends the use of low-lead and non-leaded gasoline for operating Onan-built generators. Onan has run several conclusive tests with leaded versus non-leaded gasoline on various governor-controlled engines. Findings indicate that using non-leaded gasoline helps reduce problems such as:

- Cylinder head deposits (low power)
- Sticking valves or burned valves
- Spark plug fouling
- Piston wear
- Ring wear and sticking
- Cylinder wall wear, etc.
- Poor oil control after ring fouling

For new Onan engines, the use of non-leaded gasoline is recommended from the start. On older engines, if you desire to change from leaded gasoline to non-leaded, the generator engine head must be taken off and all lead deposits removed from the engine. This is done by using a wire brush on a drill motor.

CAUTION: If lead deposits are not removed from the engine before switching from leaded to non-leaded gasoline, pre-ignition may occur causing severe damage to the engine.

NOTE: The information in this advisory on the use of lead-free or low-lead gasoline pertains to *Onan-built engines ONLY*.

GMC Truck & Coach Division recommends that owners of GMC Motorhome and Transmode units fuel their vehicle's engine with unleaded gasoline having a research octane rating of at least 91. Recently, our Technical Service people have received inquiries from several GMC



This is one of two GMC Transmode vehicles, 23-foot models, used by the Millburn Short Hills Volunteer First Aid Squad as intensive care ambulances. Squad members, operating in Short Hills, NJ, say: "These vehicles have proven to be the finest possible adaptations of the basic motorhome concept, custom built to be used as ambulances for intensive care."

GMC Motorhome
TRAVELER

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