

GMC

Motorhome TRAVELER

OCTOBER, 1978



Seen through the lens of Harley McDowell's 35-mm camera, here's the GMC-MOA "Grand National Rally" campsite at Lake Lawn Lodge, Delavan, WI, in July. To orient yourself, note the Lodge buildings at lower right and, partly hidden by trees, our GMC-MOA "Big Tent."

Here's a Sight Never Seen Before Our Grand National

Three months after the GMC Motorhome Owners Association's "Grand National Rally" at Lake Lawn Lodge, Delavan, WI, that event is still a prime topic for conversation wherever and whenever GMCeers gather. And, people being people, there's no agreement among those who attended as to what might have been the one, single, most-memorable or most-impressive fact or event or occurrence at the Grand National.

But listen to those who were there and it's apparent everyone's list of things to be long-remembered about Lake Lawn includes a sight never seen before those July days — the sight of some 270 GMC motorhomes brought together for a rally of GMC motorhome owners and their families!

If you were there, you experienced being

a part of this. And, moving around the campsite, you saw how it looked from a ground-level viewing.

Now, thanks to some of our GMC-MOA friends and Rally-goers, you can get an idea of how it looked from the air! In this issue, the TRAVELER prints some air views of the Grand National Rally. The few we have room for were selected — and the selection was a tough job! — from an array offered by several GMC-MOA members responding to our appeal for such photographs. We're grateful to all GMC-MOA members who sent us photos for consideration.

The over-all Rally view appearing on this page is from a 35-mm color negative shot by Harley McDowell, of Bismarck, ND. Other pictures of the Grand National are on page 5 of this issue.

Bill and Cindy Ruth Seek Forum for Ideas Exchange By GMC Motorhome Owners

Bill and Cindy Ruth, of Portuguese Bend, CA, can claim an unusual distinction among GMC Motorhome owners. The Ruths are among the rare few for whom a GMC Motorhome is a full-time dwelling.

How come the Ruths — who, in their own words, are "probably 30 years or so short of retirement" — live full-time in a motorhome? That's a story to ask for when you meet them at a Rally. Or to read in the July, 1978, issue of "Motorhome Life" magazine.

For this issue of the TRAVELER, the point is that Bill and Cindy have innovated a number of what they call "time savers, organizers, and convenience items" to make life in their home-on-wheels easier. They reason, too, that other GMC Motorhome owners are bound to have done

Continued on page 8

LETTERS



To The Editor

Dear Maryann:

Hi! Guess you have had time to recover from our wonderful Delavan, Wisconsin rally. Wasn't that a beautiful sight, all those GMCs parked together?

First of all, I want to thank everyone for voting for my picture to enable me to come out fourth-place in the photo contest. If we had the money I've spent on photography, we could retire!!! Also, thanks to Stan Starr for the lovely tire cover I won in the drawing.

By now I suppose you are busy planning the next Rally. A year ago when Bill and I decided to jump off the deep end and buy a GMC I think I was more afraid of the people

we would run into than about what the "banker" was going to say! I was afraid they would be a bunch of rich snobs that would look down on farmers.

Well, believe me, I couldn't have been more wrong! These GMC people are the greatest. Mac and Gloria seem like family; we are very fond of you and Nancy; and, besides the fun of meeting people at the rallies, it has been an educational experience to talk with those from different walks of life. All this, of course, in addition to sharing Motorhoming joys and problems.

Thanks again, Maryann, for all of your help. We — the Prairie Schooners and myself — really appreciate everything you and the entire GMC and GMC-MOA staffs have done for us.

Hope to see you all again soon!

*Mrs. Coleen King
Secretary, Prairie Schooners
Chillicothe, MO*

Dear Mac & Gloria:

A note to say thank you is not nearly enough to express the gratitude, nor can words completely convey the heartfelt appreciation you so richly deserve for your super-human accomplishment in organizing the grandest of GMC Grand National Rallies,

especially under the most adverse weather conditions.

The food, entertainment, and accommodations were superb.

On behalf of the Prairie Schooners Chapter of GMC-MOA, thanks for the memories. We all had a swell time, and are looking forward to the next one.

Best regards,

*Bob Copeland, President
GMC Prairie Schooners*

Dear Friends:

The rally at Delavan, Wisconsin is now history. However, the memories will stay with us a long time. Especially as we let our thoughts linger on the many pictures we were able to take. This brings me to the real reason for this letter.

A very special thanks to all, who behind the scenes have the task of "getting it all together." The picture contest is just one of the events that help to make a better rally.

Once again, your group, as always, did a super job. Many, many thanks to you at GMC.

The camera case I won is terrific.

Sincerely,

*Paul R. Lewis
Batavia, OH*

SERVICE TIPS



*By Don Rooker
Supervisor
GMC Motorhome
Service*

Here, in one-two-three order, are the steps designed to bring you effective assistance with the least delay.

Step One: Contact your local GMC Motorhome dealer, explain the problem or situation, and discuss it with him.

What if you're away from home, on the road, and you don't know the location of the closest GMC Motorhome dealer? Then make a toll-free call to 800-447-4700 (except if you're in Illinois, in which case you should dial 800-322-4400) and ask for GMC Operator Number 1. When you reach the Operator, you'll get the name and telephone number of the nearest GMC Motorhome Dealer or GMC Truck Dealer.

Step Two: Suppose you discuss the situation with a dealer but, for some reason, you don't get the assistance you feel is needed. You should call the nearest GMC Zone Service Office and talk with the Customer Service Manager. A map of the zones, and a listing of the Zone Service Offices — including the telephone numbers — appear with this article.

When you make this call, be ready to provide your name, address, and phone number — and the vehicle identification number (VIN), date of purchase, and mileage on your GMC Motorhome — along with an outline of your situation and your request.

Step Three: If you still need assistance after talking to a Zone Service Office, please call the GMC Consumer Relations Office. This office is in Pontiac, MI, and the phone number is 313-857-4547. When calling the Consumer Relations Office, have the same information available (name, address, and so on) as is needed when contacting the Zone Service Office.

GMC Consumer Relations will review your request and give it appropriate action.

GMC Truck & Coach Division greatly appreciates your purchase of one of the Division's products. And it is our sincere desire to assist you in any way possible to assure your complete satisfaction in your ownership of a GMC Motorhome.

GMC *Motorhome*
TRAVELER

October, 1978

Vol. 3, No. 6

Editor: Maryann Grausam

Associate Editor: Nancy McCamy

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Motorhome owners by GMC Truck
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Room 210, Pontiac, Mich. 48053.

Articles from readers are welcomed.



Map of Zone Territories and List of Zone Offices

In the following list, the names shown for Zone Offices correspond to those shown on the map of Zone Territories.

ATLANTA
5730 Glenridge Drive
P.O. Box 50267
Atlanta, GA 30302
455-5564
Area Code 404

BOSTON
45 Williams St.
Wellesley, MA 02181
235-6957
Area Code 617

CHARLOTTE
6000 Monroe Rd.
Suite 222A
Charlotte, NC 28212
568-8223
Area Code 704

CHICAGO
Commerce Plaza
2021 Spring Road
Oak Brook, IL 60521
654-6465
Area Code 312

CINCINNATI
4010 Executive Park Drive
Suite 320
Cincinnati, OH 45241
841-5856
Area Code 513

DALLAS
6007 Peeler Street
P.O. Box 35187
Airlawn Station
Dallas, TX 75235
688-5611
Area Code 214

DENVER
4715 Colorado Blvd.
Denver, CO 80216
320-5087
Area Code 303

DETROIT
Pontiac Place
140 South Saginaw
Pontiac, MI 48056
857-5223
Area Code 313

KANSAS CITY
1509 N.E. Parvin Rd.
Kansas City, MO 64116
281-6062
Area Code 913

LOS ANGELES
8155 Van Nuys Blvd.
Suite 1030 Panorama Towers
Panorama City, CA 91402
873-7554
Area Code 213

MEMPHIS
3495 Lamar Ave.
Box 18467
Holiday City Sta.
Memphis, TN 38118
346-5250
Area Code 901

MINNEAPOLIS
3001 Broadway N.E.
Minneapolis, MN 55413
378-3471
Area Code 612

NEW YORK
275 Old New Brunswick Rd.
Piscataway, NY 08854
246-5200
Area Code 201

OAKLAND
39465 Paseo Padre Parkway
P.O. Box 23510
Oakland, CA 94623
498-5222
Area Code 415

PITTSBURGH
Two Parkway Center
875 Greentree Rd.
Pittsburgh, PA 15220
928-5080
Area Code 412

PORTLAND
5355 S.W. Western Avenue
Beaverton, OR 97005
641-8333
Area Code 503

ST. LOUIS
Suite 320
Crestwood Executive Center
St. Louis, MO 63126
849-0990
Area Code 314

WASHINGTON
Suite 410 — Professional Building
1109 Spring St.
Silver Spring, MD 20910
537-5350
Area Code 202

Note: The State of Alaska is serviced by the Portland Zone.

"Thru the Windows"



Mac & Gloria McDonnell
EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS
GMC MOTORHOME OWNERS
ASSOCIATION

The "Loners"

We have had the pleasure of visiting a number of chapter rallies these past few weeks. At each function, we observed the members thoroughly enjoying their GMC Chapter Fun-tivities, all of which have been programmed by chapter members.

And it has brought a smile to our faces, and certainly a deep warmth to our hearts, to watch those members who, at the outset of organizing these chapters, proclaimed themselves so loudly as "Loners". Back then they admitted attending the organizational rally more out of curiosity than for any other purpose.

These so-called "Loners" are the folks we want to talk about in our column this month. Because, as you'll see, there are some very warm stories associated with those persons who made the brash announcement regarding their self-chosen status.

In fairness to everyone, no names will be mentioned, but every effort will be made to relate to the stories of a fulfillment that had not existed prior to the formation of the GMC-MOA National, and our chapters.

The profile of the GMC Motorhome Owner does suggest that all of us are "Loners". As individuals, most of us had our growth in a time frame where we had to work untold hours, and scrimp and save, to build for ourselves some foundation of financial assurance for the future years.

"The Loner" appeared at almost every GMC organizational rally. Almost always this was a person, or persons, who suggested they had purchased a GMC Motorhome to get away by themselves. They wanted to travel, camp, explore — but only by themselves, or with their immediate family, and certainly with no de-

sire to share any portion of their privacy with others.

To begin with, most of the "Loners" were won over by associating with other GMC Owners at the organizational rallies. Many, in comparing experiences of the motorhome functions, soon discovered that they were learning new approaches to happier operation of their vehicle. They were being taught little tricks from others as to how problems could be easily resolved, or how to add innovations to the motorhome which would multiply the pleasures of GMCeeing.

During one organizational meeting, it quickly became most apparent that only a few were willing to share the leadership responsibility as officers of the new chapter. Then one owner stood up, asked the question: "If no one wants to help form this chapter by volunteering to be an officer, then what are we doing here?" — and quickly added that he and his spouse were "Loners"!

Yes, you guessed it. That questioning "Loner" became the first president of the chapter and soon, with minimum hesitation, the chapter had filled all its offices, as well as selecting a chapter name which today ranks high in GMC Fun-tivity performances.

The person who stood up to put that question, the self-styled "Loner", has led the chapter into some of the most exciting rallies of record in motorcoaching. Those members have boated together, fished together, golfed together, prepared gourmet buffets together, dined and danced together in the beautiful places. More important, they have shared friendships that would not be easy to equal, according to the comments from the members. No one from this chapter would wish to consider owning their GMC Motorhome without the pleasures derived from sharing good times with other owners, and they owe it all to a "Loner" who stood to be heard.

Another couple professing to be "Loners" have traveled back and forth across the country — traveling Canada, caravanning into Mexico, and sharing many experiences with other GMC Owners and with various members of GMC-MOA.

These "Loners" are retired after business lives in which they had many business friends — a situation many, many of us can relate to immediately.

This couple purchased their GMC Motorhome with plans for travel to visit friends across the land whom they knew from their business days. But before too long in these travels, they found their interests had changed, for they were no longer a part of the business world of their past. Now their interests were based in travel, in places they had visited, or in experiences related to their GMC Motorhome. In this couple's own words, it

made for a very dull visit to drop in on old friends who could not relate to a motorhome.

What did this couple really need? They owned a GMC, were financially secure, free to travel, and clear of the problems of everyday business. But something was lacking, and they were aware of a need for an intangible something.

One Spring morning several years ago, while touring in Florida, these GMCeers found the intangible to be very tangible. They happened upon a group of people who held and shared the same interests they did — other GMC Motorhome Owners! Immediately new vistas opened to them in this meeting with others who treasured similar interests in GMCeeing, in extended travel to faraway places, and in exploring horizons of new adventures.

They found an even greater treasure. For their new friends offered understanding and warmth. Here were people who listened. Here were people with whom to recall life's experiences and to share the rewards of compassion for one another.

Are they still "Loners"? No, not in any manner! For the excitement they radiate in relating the many experiences they have shared with others, is a tangible not for sale in any market or store.

* * *

And now, still another story. Once upon a time, a couple departed the business treadmill and financial sanctuary of the Empire State, while yet in their late forties, to head West. There they hoped to find solace by removing themselves from the whirl of business affiliations, the crowds of people, the competitiveness, pettiness, and the rush of life itself.

Their dreams all came true. They achieved their desires: a swimming pool; membership in a golf club; days to enjoy golfing; time to sit in the sun. They slept late, and ate too much. Most of all, they had nothing to do with people, and just relaxed as "Loners".

Travel was a part of this couple's program, to visit with friends whom they had met in the business community. However, they also came to learn they were strangers among beloved friends, that time had changed some of the faces, many of the people, and almost all of the viewpoints which once had been the bond.

This being a story of motorcoaching and "Loners", a motorhome enters the picture. And now, as the "Loners" traveled by motorhome from coast to coast, border to border, still visiting those beautiful cronies of yesterday's career, they heard the same question repeated time after time: "What do you mean a camper, a trailer, or what's with a motorhome?"

The couple were proud to show their new vehicle. But they were lost in a world of no understanding, no compassion for motor-

coaching, because their friends were completely unable to relate to the total feelings experienced in motorcoaching.

So, one mid-summer afternoon, these two "Loners" and their motorhome curiously ventured into a site where other motorhome owners had gathered for a rally. They listened, they witnessed the owners at play, they viewed people helping people add improvements to their coaches, and others assisting in correcting minor problems which may have occurred at the rally.

The couple was most impressed to learn that there were people who had a genuine interest in motorcoaching, and who related quickly to all of the couple's own experiences with true excitement. The very intangible had now become tangible! These "Loners" followed the protocol of filling out a membership application, paying their proper dues to National, and in time chose chapter membership. But how quickly the scene changed for these "Loners", with their discovery of a whole group of "Loners" and, more importantly, discovery of an entire new route of happiness with "Loner Friends".

Their telephone now rings at home with news of a birth, sharing a birthday, an anniversary, a holiday experience, a vacation trip, a sadness shared with human understanding, an experience related to wholesome value, and above all a fellowship with a complete lack of commercial involvement.

The members of the GMC Motorhome Owners Association know exactly what it means *not* to be so proud of a title as "A Loner", for those people who still consider remaining loners have yet to discover — above all else — themselves!

Everyone has human values to share, which are of interest to others. Sharing these values can be rewarding to many people, bringing much joy, as well as adding untold happiness to many. And the sharing may also add new flavor to the lives of those who share, in the process of such sharing with others.

Letters by the dozens attest that many of our GMC Owners who once professed to being "Loners" have found additional GMCeeing pleasure in their ownership with new friends, new experiences, and above all, finding people just like YOU!

And by the way, just in passing — the couple who moved West from the Empire State, and who established themselves as the "Loner of Loners", that couple was yours truly, Mac and Gloria.

Until we see you: "Drive 'em safely, Happy GMCeeing, and we shall be prowling the highways to find other GMC Loners."

Mac & Gloria McDonnell
Executive Directors
GMC-MOA, Inc.



A low pass over the Rally site gave Harley McDowell this closer look at the encamped GMC Motorhomes.



The countryside, the lakefront, and those neatly-aligned GMC Motorhomes — have you tried to count them? — in another photo by Harley McDowell.



Mr. and Mrs. Joseph H. Feindt, Sr., of Pipersville, PA, shot this view of the Rally site — virtually the complete Lake Lawn Lodge installation to the left, our GMC-MOA campgrounds on the right.



Christmas in August

Our Christmas in August Rally at Frankenmuth RV Park was hosted by Bea and Al Birch, George and Alice Staub, and Shirley and Tillie Nestle — and was another of the really grand Rallies for the Club. We had 32 coaches in attendance and the decorations were something to see. In fact, we attracted quite a number of “strollers” wondering what was going on.

Bronner's Saturday morning was delightful, and the Soup Kettle (a first for our Great Lakers) was delicious. Saturday afternoon found many of us wandering around Frankenmuth just enjoying shopping and looking. Saturday night's potluck was a traditional feast with all the trimmings and carried over to our Sunday noon potluck lunch.

At the Saturday night business meeting, Honorary Life Memberships were presented to our Charter Members, Ann Zunitch and George and Alice Staub.

Many thanks are extended to our hosts

Tidewater Crabs Take Off For Rally With Wings

They called it “The Flying Rally,” and the GMC-MOA “Tidewater Crabs” Chapter scheduled it for the Belle Coil Farm, near Bealton, VA, on September 22-24. Henry Nash had the job of heading up the arrangements. And here's how Larry Fields, Chapter President, described it in the newsletter:

“Well, my stomach has just landed and we're on the way home from a *fantastic* weekend . . . Airplane rides and more airplane rides, then came the air show, then came the motorcycle rides, then came more . . . and more. Even the ‘wasn't supposed to be anything’ potluck turned out to be a super supper.

“There were eleven club coaches and two guest coaches, in all 50 fun-loving souls, at this rally. Some of the more nervy members of the club have some new terms in their vocabulary — such as ‘snap rolls’, ‘slow rolls’, and ‘spins’. . . . The air show put on by Bennett, a friend of Henry's, was ‘out of site’, breath-taking, and made you either very glad or very sad that your motorhome has wheels not wings!

“The plane that Bennett flew is called a ‘Pitts’ (which it definitely was not) Another friend, Don, came by in a Stearman, a two-seater open cockpit plane, that adds another dimension to flying, as some

for an outstanding Rally for us all. A very special thanks to “Santa Claus” for coming to hand out exchange gifts!

•••••

Our campout at the Four Seasons Family Campground at Grass Lake, MI — south of the I-94 stretch between Ann Arbor and Jackson — on the weekend of September 8-10, was headed by the Boeys, Reeds, and Schippers. It was an enjoyable weekend and, while it was cool in among the trees, there was swimming for the kids.

Saturday morning there was an interesting and informative tour of the Goodyear Tire plant. And the main activity of the afternoon seemed to be whetting the appetite to the aroma of a roasting pig!

Finally, evening came and we supped on roast pig, scalloped potatoes, and many home-grown vegetables and sumptuous desserts. Later, we all joined around the campfire and felt like one big family.

— Ann Schipper

of our members will agree.

“In all, *many*, MANY, thanks to Henry Nash, Bob Frutchey, and Doc Feriozi (the owner of the farm), and Bennett and Don and Fran Nash and family and all those who helped make a memorable weekend.”

1978-79 Officers Chosen By Great Lakers Chapter

Members of the GMC-MOA “Great Lakers” Chapter have chosen Ed Kurtz, Farmington, MI, to be their President for the 1978-79 year. Kurtz succeeds Virgil Barbe.

Other officers named by the Great Lakers are: First Vice President — Jerry Kamm; Second Vice President — Jim Lappan; Third Vice President — Emmett Dennis; Secretary — Raye Gamble, 26309 Penn, Inkster, MI 48141; Treasurer — James Kellerman; National Director — Virgil Barbe; Alternate Director — Clinton Long.

Harold Blencowe

Harold Blencowe of Livonia, MI, a long-time member of the GMC-MOA “Great Lakers” Chapter, died at his home some weeks ago. Blencowe was known to his motorcoaching friends by his CB handle, “Happy Hal.”

Our sympathy is extended to his wife, Rose, and his fellow Great Lakers.

GMC TIDEWATER CRABS

Thanksgiving Rally
November 10-12
Westminister, MD

GMC SAGUARO JETSET

Death Valley Rally
November 17-19
Death Valley, CA

GMC SAGAURO JETSET

Birthday Party
January 3, 1979
Casa Grande, AZ

New Officers Named By Prairie Schooners

New officers elected by the “Prairie Schooners” Chapter of GMC-MOA are headed by Robert J. “Bob” Copeland, Belton, MO, as Chapter President. Other officers are:

First Vice President — Clyde Hyde, Blue Springs, MO; Second Vice President — Willis “Mac” McQueary, Osawatomie, KS; Secretary — Coleen King, Chillicothe, MO; Treasurer — Naomi McCarty, Manhattan, KS; and National GMC-MOA Director — O. L. “Zed” Holland, Kansas City, MO.

Rolling Vagabonds Elect Officers for 1978-79

Peter Larson has been elected President of the GMC-MOA “Rolling Vagabonds” Chapter for the 1978-79 year. Other officers are:

First Vice President — Tom Gull; Second Vice President — Bill Bayliss; Secretary — Colleen Horner; Treasurer — Joyce McClellan; Chapter Representative — Karl Sanger; Alternate Representative — Jack Bayliss; Directors — Bruce Horner, Wayne McClellan, and Marshall Sayner.

Arthur Mellott Dead

Our sympathy is extended to the family of Arthur Mellott, who died suddenly in early September. Mr. and Mrs. Mellott were founding members of the GMC-MOA “Prairie Schooners” Chapter, and Art served as the chapter's first President.

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.

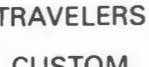
Club President 1993


COUNTRY CLUB

~~Marvin Grossman
366 S. Standwood Rd.
Columbus, OH 43209~~


COLONIAL


Clair Boatman ✓
655 Americus Dr.
Allentown, PA 18103


TRAVELERS

~~Dwight Gustafson
R.R. No. 1
Red Wing, MN 55066~~


KLASSICS

~~Ben Grice
P.O. Box 623
Selma, AL 36701~~


ROVERS

Myron Stahl ✓
280 S. Beverly Rd.
Beverly Hills, CA 90212


ELEGANT CRUISERS


ENCHANTED

~~Bruce Leist
3417 1/2 Anderson, S.E.
Albuquerque, NM 87106~~


TUMBLEWEEDS


FORTY NINERS

Donald R. Kuhn ✓
1744 Danielson Ct.
Carmichael, CA 95608


GATEWAY MOTOR CRUISERS

Charles Laws ✓
108 Colorado Ave.
Farmington, MO 63640

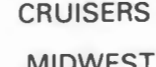

GREAT LAKERS

Ed Kurtz ✓
34262 Cass Ct.
Farmington, MI 48024

Club President


HERITAGE CRUISERS

Kitty Beckstein ✓
101 Bentham Parkway
Snyder, NY 14226


MIDWEST TRAVELERS

~~Merle Baker
7005 Washington St.
Des Moines, IA 50322~~


NORTHERN STARS

~~(Officers to be elected.)~~


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

~~Robert J. Copeland
503 Berry
Belton, MO 64012~~


ROLLING VAGABONDS

~~Peter Larson
P.O. Box 175
Waukesha, WI 53187~~

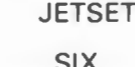

ROVING CLIPPERS

~~James Hill
Rt. 1, Box 17
Medina, TX 78055~~

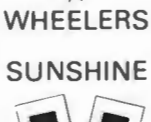
Club President


SAGUARO JETSET

William Keller ✓
5301 North 23rd St.
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

~~(Officers to be elected.)~~


WESTERN WHEELERS

~~Robert Stringer
Rist Canyon,
Bellvue, CO 80512~~


YANKEE CLIPPERS

Herb Bernard ✓
19 Hampshire Rd.
Methuen, MA 01844

Continued from page 1

pretty much the same.

Such owner-invented improvements, Bill notes in a letter, could benefit all GMC Motorhome owners "if only some forum existed for sharing these ideas." And he suggests that the TRAVELER devote some of its space to provide such a forum, inviting readers to contribute suitable materials.

What's suitable? Anything generally helpful to GMC Motorhome owners in adding to the convenience and pleasure of using their motorhomes. Some samples — selected from those provided by Bill and Cindy Ruth — follow.

Cold Shower?

When staying at an unfamiliar spot where the AC power hookup sports a four-pronged female receptacle for mating with your GMC male plug, don't be too alarmed to find no hot water in your tank. Chances are the shore power is not correctly wired. A quick remedy: Apply the AC adapter and use the standard AC outlet provided. (We've run into this at Salt Lake City and several other camp grounds in Western states.)

Mirror Extension

M-X is for Mirror Extension. When towing a boat, I couldn't see how well it was following or its distance from the curb when parking. So I bought some stainless steel bar stock the same diameter as the GMC mirror arm but 3-4 inches longer, tapped it and threaded it for the existing screws, bent it to the correct angle, and gave the mirror an extended mounting. If you prefer, you can do the same with regular bar steel — and then have it chrome-plated for looks.

Scoreboard?

"H" is for humor — in response to a neighbor's kidding. When the guy next door described our GMC as a "ground cruiser" and a nuisance and a danger in traffic among cars like his, we went along with the joke by providing a tally of "kills"



in the style of by-gone wars. Do we have to emphasize that the claims are entirely fictitious?

Trash Bin

X "T B" is for Trash Bin. Those GMC designers thought of everything except where to temporarily keep trash. Here's our solution to meet the need within space limitations, by mounting a bin on the door. This is convenient for the galley slave, yet it's out of the way whether the door's open or closed. A removable trash bag inside the bin makes it easy to empty. And there's no worry about spillage while on the road!

Note: Locate the Trash Bin a few inches above the floor of the entry. It will then be clear of the door mat you store in the entryway while you're on the move.

Quick Release Mount

"Q R" is for the Quick Release mounting on the Trash Bin. This is similar to the mounting bracket for the dining table, and



makes it easy to remove the Trash Bin during clean-up of the unit or when we're bringing bulky items aboard. A thin aluminum bar on the inside of the Trash Bin helps strengthen the plastic sides against the possibility of pulling the mounting screws through the plastic when the bin's full-weighted.

Another group of ideas provided by Bill and Cindy Ruth are planned for the next issue of the TRAVELER. Meanwhile, other GMC Motorhome owners are invited to contribute their ideas. Or comments on these.

Note, please, that printing of these or similar ideas in the "GMC Motorhome TRAVELER" does not constitute endorsement or approval by GMC Truck & Coach Division. The GMC Motorhome owner who makes such modifications to a GMC unit must accept full responsibility for his or her action.

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