

**GMC**

# Motorhome **TRAVELER**

SEPTEMBER 1976

## "POP" POPPENHEIMER — PIED PIPER OF CENTREVILLE

### "Pop" to Supervise GMC Teen and Youth Clubs

As the fable goes, there once was a Pied Piper of Hamlin who went about the city gathering youngsters right and left... No need to go any further because that's where the similarities between the Pied Piper of Hamlin and the Pied Piper of Centreville end.

"Pop" Poppenheimer, father of six grown children and an active member of the GMC Roving Clippers, has a strong belief regarding youngsters and motorhomining — they go together like butter and jelly.

How well "Pop" remembers the camping years with his own children and how they were always disappointed to have to leave a campground when they were just getting to know the other kids there. So, when "Pop" arrived at Centreville, his first project was to round up all of the



Pop Poppenheimer, honorary supervisor for the GMC "Little Buggers" and "Travel-n' Teens" Clubs.

GMC kids and break the ice immediately. And the kids really appreciated "Pop's" efforts. One GMC teen said: "I'm not really shy but without "Pop," I wouldn't have met half the kids I did — he really helped us all get acquainted."

Once the kids were well acquainted and having a great time together, "Pop" set about helping to organize the "Name the Clubs Contest" which ran quite smoothly due to his efforts.

So, the kids couldn't have been happier when he volunteered to supervise the GMC "Little Buggers" and "Travel-n' Teen" clubs.

Although it is too early to announce any specific plans for the teen and youth clubs, "Pop" has all of the ingredients for success in mind. "To begin with," he said, "the kids need a common meeting place at future rallies. There, they can take care of club business and organize their own activities. Also, we are going to begin a special Teen and Youth Club Column in the "Traveler." So, I'd like the youngsters to start sending their articles and suggestions in to the "Traveler" as soon as possible."

As you can see, "Pop" has plans, the kids have plans, and together they are surely bound for success and good times thanks to "Pop" Poppenheimer, the Pied Piper of Centreville.

## GMC MOTORHOME OWNERS PHOTO CONTEST

A national photo contest for GMC Motorhome Owners has been announced by Cliff Brackett, photography editor for the "GMC Motorhome Traveler." The contest is open to all GMC owners and GMC Motorhome Owners Club members and offers prizes as well as national recognition for winning entries.

The theme of the contest is "GMC Motorhomining — The Good Life" and, therefore, all entries should depict some phase of GMC Motorhomining. Some topic suggestions are: pictures of GMC participation at FMCA and other motorhome rallies, GMC Chapter Rallies, GMC Club Funfivities and Club officers, or a memorable vacation with your motorhome.

Final judging and prize awarding

will take place at the upcoming GMC Grand Ole Opry Rally in Nashville, Tennessee, October 21-24. So, it is suggested that entries be mailed as soon as possible.

To become eligible for photo contest prizes and recognition, simply choose ten to twelve color slides of GMC Chapter Rallies, club activities, etc., include a one-sentence caption for each, along with your name and address, and mail them to:

Mr. Cliff Brackett,  
Photography Editor  
c/o GMC Motorhome Owners Club  
660 South Boulevard East  
Pontiac, Michigan 48053

Note: All slides will be carefully duplicated and returned.

### ATTENTION KIDS!



The "Wabash Cannon Ball" is one of the many thrills at Nashville's famed Opryland.



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

**Dear Maryann:**

Following the FMCA GMC rally in Harlingen, Texas, we invited four Texas families (Bob & Normah Knight, John & Mary Scritchfield, Walter & Erna Beyer and Bud & Sue Wolf with their daughter Stacy) to join us in an overnight campout on Padre Island with their GMC Motorhomes before parting for home.

We arrived at the island late in the

## WHO'S WHO IN THE GMC MOTORHOME OWNERS CLUB

GMC Club Great Lakers (Great Lakes Region) F17547 — Virgil E. Barbe, Pres. L6006 — M.J. McDonnell, Nat'l. Dir. For membership information: (313) 588-1452

GMC Club Roving Clippers (Club at large) F17573 — Ed McElroy, Pres. & Nat'l. Dir. For membership information: (214) 893-5591

GMC Club Pacific Cruisers (Southern California) F20186 — Don Coupland, Pres. F17599 — Doyne Bradley, Nat'l. Dir. For membership information: (714) 862-0488

GMC Club Travelin Texans (Southeast Texas & Gulf Region) F20274 — Robert S. Kennedy, Pres. F17699 — Bart Menscher, Nat'l. Dir. For membership information: (713) 991-5960

GMC Club Tide-Water Crabs (Nation's Capitol Area) F21202 — Fred Woodcock, Pres. F17709 — John V. Weesner, Nat'l. Dir. For membership information: (301) 926-6431

GMC Club Plains Travelers (Oklahoma) F20333 — Mrs. Barbara Kennedy, Pres. F20300 — Truman Miller, Nat'l. Dir. For membership information: (405) 424-5311

**NOTE:** For information regarding the formation of a GMC Club Chapter in your area, please write to:

NATIONAL DIRECTORS OFFICE  
GMC Motorhome Owners Club  
660 South Boulevard East  
Pontiac, Michigan 48053

afternoon and positioned our motorhomes in a U-shaped pattern with the open end to the sea. We then made a campfire to cook our steaks. The sunset was beautiful. We had salad, coffee and made hobo pies while we sat around the campfire and talked about the wonderful time we were having on South Padre Island, Texas.

There, on the Gulf of Mexico, Normah Knight, a professional artist, gave an interesting demonstration of how she paints from inside her GMC Motorhome.

Sitting in the front passenger seat with her easel between the driver's seat and passenger seat, Normah gets a panoramic view of what she will paint and, at the same time, enjoys all the luxuries of home. Normah's husband, Bob, goes along with her when he is able to leave his work for a day or two. And incidentally, he sure brews a fine Texas cup of coffee.

Normah is a native Texan living in Harlingen and is an impressionistic

realist. She strives to present her impression of the many places she has visited and sketched. She has studied under Harry Anthony DeYoung, Peter Honstedt, Dean Cromwell, Frank J. Reilly, Richard Seyfert, Henry Gasser Frederic Taubes and other great teachers in this country and at the Julian Academie in Paris. Her paintings are found in many public and private collections and she has murals in several public buildings. She has won numerous awards and belongs to many art groups, including Artists and Craftsmen Associated and the American Artists Professional League. She is well known for her portrayal of Sunshine and for her Beautiful Skies. She is listed in "Who's Who In American Art," "Who's Who of American Women," "Texas Women of Distinction" and the "Dictionary of International Biographies."

As you can imagine, our stay on Padre Island was a most memorable one indeed. So, I wanted to let other owners know about the Island and Normah Knight, a most interesting and talented GMC Owner.

Sincerely,  
Alex & Bea Birch  
Clawson, Michigan



*Mrs. Normah Knight, professional artist & GMC owner, paints a seascape on Padre Island, Texas.*

**GMC** *Motorhome TRAVELER*

**Vol. 1, No. 6      September 1976**

*Editor: Maryann Grausam*

*Published monthly as a service to GMC Motorhome owners by GMC Truck & Coach, 660 South Boulevard East, Room 210, Pontiac, Mich. 48053.*

*Contributions from readers are welcomed.*

# DOIN'S FOR THE GRAND OLE OPRY RALLY

The schedule of events is all set, the pre-registrations are rolling in, and before long, GMC'ers from across the nation will be gathering in Nashville, Tennessee, for the "real thing." The Grand Ole Opry Rally will be GMC's first national rally and, promises to be a memorable occasion for all GMC owners.

The original pre-registration deadline for the Opryland rally was September 10; however, in consideration of owners who were vacationing when the rally was first announced, that deadline has been changed to September 27. Remember, reservations for this rally are by pre-registration only, due to the number of ticket commitments which must be made in advance.

All of the events listed in the following schedule are included in your admission fee. Don't delay, mail your pre-registration today and don't forget to bring your lawn chairs to Nashville. This will be the rally to enjoy all of the fun-tivities and meet fellow GMC Owners from all over the U.S.A. and Canada.

## OPRYLAND RALLY SCHEDULE

Campsite, in on October 21 and out on October 24.

Thursday, Oct. 21 —

6-7 p.m. — Champagne Party with hors d'oeuvres at the pool or under the big top, depending on weather;  
7 p.m. till — wiener roast and Live

Country Music by Lonnie Jones and the New Grass Express.

Friday, Oct. 22 —

7:30 a.m.-8:30 a.m. — Continental Breakfast;  
8:30 a.m.-5:15 p.m. — Music City Tour, including admission to the Country Music Hall of Fame and the Country Music Wax Museum;  
6:30 p.m.-12:00 a.m. — busses to Silver Wings Restaurant, for Hillbilly Buffet, dancing and prizes awarded for the best Country Western costumes. Dinner and dance music by Dick Dorney's Band.

Saturday, Oct. 23 —

8:00 a.m.-9:30 a.m. — Southern Style Continental Breakfast;  
9:30 a.m. — busses to Opryland, Opryland admission;  
3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. — Grand Ole Opry admissions;  
5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. — busses to KOA from Opry & Opryland;  
6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. — Chuck Wagon Supper;  
8:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m. — Live Country Music Sing Along.

Sunday, Oct. 24 —

6:45 a.m. — bus to Catholic Mass;  
7:30 a.m.-8:30 a.m. — bus to Rodeway Inn Restaurant for Country Breakfast;  
8:30 a.m.-9:00 a.m. — busses back to KOA;  
10:30 a.m. — Church Services;  
12:00 p.m. — Rally Closes.



Since Nashville is the home of the famed Grand Ole Opry House . . .

## NASHVILLE ATTRACTIOnS



. . . it's no wonder that so many country and western stars, like Dolly Parton, call Nashville home.

### GMC GRAND OLE OPRY RALLY PRE-REGISTRATION

NASHVILLE KOA KAMPGROUNDS — NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

OCTOBER 21, 22, 23, 24, 1976

Please complete the form and mail with check or money order made out to GMC Motorhome Owners Club. Your reservation will be confirmed.

GMC CLUB CHAPTER NAME (if any) \_\_\_\_\_

LAST NAME \_\_\_\_\_ HUSBAND \_\_\_\_\_ WIFE \_\_\_\_\_

STREET ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

FEE (Two Persons, one unit — \$135.00) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(One Person, one unit — \$ 85.00) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

SCHEDULE: ( extra persons 12 years or older — \$60.00) each \$ \_\_\_\_\_

( children 3 thru 11 years - \$45.00 each) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I am enclosing a check for: (Total) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Pre-registration must be received no later than September 27 in order to be confirmed.

MAIL TO  
GMC MOTORHOME OWNERS CLUB  
NATIONAL DIRECTORS OFFICE  
660 South Boulevard East, Rm. 210  
Pontiac, Michigan 48053



The GMC Yankee Clipper Club ready to depart from the V&P Recreational Vehicle Center in Methuen, Massachusetts, bound for their first safari.



And after a safe journey, they must have raised a few eyebrows as their 14 GMCS rolled into the Branch Brook Campground in West Campton, New Hampshire.

## GMC FAMILY ALBUM YANKEE CLIPPER SAFARI JUNE, 1976



Yankee Clippers: Frank Sledge, Ed & Shawn Campbell, Diane Bernard, Kevin, National Director Mac McDonnell and Jerry & Rita Pelletier, pause to admire a covered bridge at "The Flume."



In addition to "The Flume," area attractions included a genuine Cog Railway.



After the sightseeing, Jerry Pelletier, Mr. & Mrs. Gillis, Rita Pelletier, Arlene Gillis, and Gay Rogers enjoy a relaxing happy hour.



A wonderful Yankee Clipper Safari closes with a superb Sunday pancake breakfast served by National Directors Mac & Gloria McDonnell.

## THRU THE WINDOWS

Mac & Gloria McDonnell

L-6006

The "FMCA National Rally," at Centreville, Michigan, is now sweet history, and we would like to offer our many "Thanks" to all the GMC Motorhome Owners who attended the rally, for it was each of you who contributed to the success and enjoyment of the occasion. Also, a special thanks to those GMC Club Members who helped park our coaches, those who registered new arrivals, and to everyone who contributed toward the Fun-tivities for the benefit of all of us.

Speaking of thanks, how about a big hand for the GMC Service Representatives who worked round-the-clock teaching us more about our motorhomes.

"Through the Windows" at Centreville we saw the teamwork and comradery of all GMC people earn the highest regard and status for our Club. Now, it is time to turn our atten-



tion toward Nashville and our club's first national rally.

### GMC GRAND OLE OPRY RALLY

Several weeks ago, Gloria and I made a test run into Nashville so that we might judge the value of holding our GMC Club Rally within the scope of this area. We were amazed at the tremendous amount of interesting things to do and see in Nashville, especially the many historical attractions for you history buffs.

In Nashville you will find the world's only full-scale reproduction of the

famous ancient Greek Temple, the Parthenon, and the Antebellum Belle Meade Mansion, long famed as the "Queen of Tennessee's Plantations." There are also the historic Hermitage Properties, the home of President Andrew Jackson, and the gardens which were designed for General Jackson's wife Rachel in 1819, and remain today as beautiful examples of early American landscape art.

Of course, above all, Nashville is "Music City U.S.A." and you have to be there to feel the exciting pulse of this vibrant community expressing itself in the sounds and songs which are truly American.

The best part of our Opryland Rally is that it takes our gals out of the galley for the most part, and the admission includes campground fees, bus tours, meals, admittance to Opryland, transportation to and from places where the events will be held, and tickets to the performance of the Grand Ole Opry.

For the time of our lives, come to Nashville where we will play together, dine together, sing together, and have plenty of music for dancing and enjoying the sounds of "MUSIC CITY U.S.A."

Drive them safely, and see you all in Nashville.

Mac & Gloria McDonnell  
National Directors



Ron!

A warm "Traveler" welcome to Don Rooker, who is taking Ron's place as Supervisor of GMC Motorhome Service. Don will be continuing and expanding the "Service Tips" column as well as coordinating future motorhome service seminars.

Again, thanks Ron. We appreciated your assistance in helping us enjoy our GMC Motorhomes to the fullest.

### UPDATE: MOTORHOME DEALER DIRECTORY

The following dealership has been added to the 1976 GMC Motorhome Dealer Directory.

We suggest that you keep your directory in your motorhome just in case you require emergency service while traveling. The latest addition to your directory is:

Huling Buick Co.  
2200 W. 7th Ave.  
Eugene, Oregon  
TEL: (503) 686-2424

Congratulations to Ron Frizzell on his promotion to Superintendent of Inspection for GMC Truck Plants 1-3 & 5. We, at the "traveler," would like to thank Ron on behalf of all GMC Owners for his many helpful "Service Tips" columns, the time he has spent correcting owner's problems at past rallies, and special thanks for the fine motorhome service seminars he conducted for GMC Owners at Centreville. Good luck and best wishes

# GMC MOTORHOME FUN-TIVITIES SCHEDULE

## GMC "FRENCH AFFAIR"

(Organizational Rally)

October 15, 16, 17

Riverboat Travel Park  
6232 Chef Meuteur Highway  
New Orleans, Louisiana

RSVP To: Warren Reuther  
(504) 242-7795

**NOTE:** On the evening of Oct. 15,  
Superior Pontiac/GMC will host a  
dinner at one of New Orleans' finest  
French restaurants for those attending  
this organizational rally.

## GMC SIX WHEELERS

September 24, 25, 26  
Wisconsin Dells

Contact: Gene Kyle  
(813) 398-8926

## GMC TIDEWATER CRABS

September 24-26  
Assateague State Park  
Maryland

Contact: Henry Nash  
(703) 780-1570

## GMC YANKEE CLIPPERS

September 24, 25, 26

### "Finger Lakes Grape Fest"

Penn-Yan, New York

Contact: Herb Bernard  
(617) 686-9408

\* Note: The Yankee Clipper Rally  
scheduled for Sept. 10-12 at  
Boothbay, Maine was cancelled.

## GMC GRAND OLE OPRY RALLY

October 21-24

Nashville KOA

Nashville, Tennessee

## GMC CALIFORNIA WHING DING

November 5, 6, 7

Dodger Stadium  
Los Angeles, California

RSVP To:  
M. J. McDonnell  
P.O. Box 2005  
Scottsdale, Arizona 85251

## GMC ROVING CLIPPERS

("Pop" & Belle Poppenheimer's Place)

November 6-11

### "Deer Hunt Fiesta"

Hardy, Arkansas

Contact: "Pop" at (501) 966-3620

## WHAT'S DOWN THE ROAD

## GMC TROPICAL REPOSE

(GMC Motorhome Exclusive)

February 10, 11, 12, 1977

Florida Keys

## FMCA 2ND WINTER NATIONAL CONVENTION

March 4, 5, 6, 1977

Convention Center

Las Vegas, Nevada

## FMCA 14TH NATIONAL CONVENTION

August 2, 3, 4, 1977

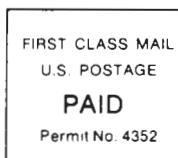
Syracuse, New York

## LET'S ORGANIZE A CLUB IN LOS ANGELES!

ALL GMC MOTORHOME OWNERS  
IN THE LOS ANGELES AREA AND  
SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES ARE  
REQUESTED TO ATTEND THIS  
RALLY:

DATE: NOVEMBER 5, 6, 7, 1976

SITE: DODGER STADIUM  
1000 ELYSIAN PARK DRIVE  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA



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

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED