



Motorhome TRAVELER



MAY 1977

A DREAM: THE GMC COURT OF FLAGS

"The things that the flag stands for were created by the experiences of a great people. Everything that it stands for was written by their lives. The flag is the embodiment, not of sentiment, but of history. It represents the experiences made by men and women . . . the experiences of those who do and live under that flag."

Woodrow Wilson
June 14, 1915

HISTORY MAKES A FLAG . . . according to our fondly remembered President and statesman, Woodrow Wilson. But, if GMC Club National Director, Mac McDonnell's dream comes true, soon our flags will be making some history of their own. Sparked by Sunshine Statesman Paul McCreary's presentation of a Florida State Flag during the new club's Tropical Repose Rally, the



ARIZONA
Representing:
GMC Saguaro
Jetset

FLORIDA
Representing:
GMC Sunshine
Statesmen



NEVADA
Representing:
GMC Saguaro
Jetset



dream of a GMC Court of Flags has since kindled nearer a reality.

The idea for a special court of flags, one to represent each club's home state, followed McDonnell's announcement that the flag presented to him by the Sunshine Statesmen would fly proudly over the next big GMC rally. And, since his announcement, two new state flags, those of Nevada and Arizona, have joined the GMC court of flags.

The first displaying of the GMC Court of Flags will be at the GMC Summer Festival Rally scheduled for

July 23-25. To insure that all GMC Clubs will be represented in the first GMC Court of Flags, each club is cordially invited to present a state flag (or flags if more than one state is covered). The flags should be a standard three feet by five feet so that the court will maintain a uniform appearance.

The proud GMC court of flags may be little more than a dream now but, with your help, flags will indeed make history . . . the kind of history that makes GMC'ers the trend-setters!



ANNOUNCING: PHOTO-CON III

Okay shutterbugs, here's your chance to share in all the photo-con fun, prizes and awards at the upcoming GMC Summer Festival Rally. To enter, simply send from one to five of your favorite fun-tivities slides or negatives (color) to Cliff Brackett care of the "Traveler" before July 1, 1977. You need not be present to win.

HER NEEDLE POINTS TO NEEDLEPOINT

Margaret Lappan of Alpena, Mich. has at least two loves: GMC motorhoming and needlepoint. The needlepoint pictured here is Margaret's gift to our National Directors, Mac and Gloria McDonnell.

For the McDonnell's Love Bug, Margaret punched over 27,000 holes . . . no one said that needlepoint is for the impatient! It takes Margaret about two hours to stitch 1½ inches. And, at that rate, she put more than 40 hours into this one needlepoint.

Continued on Page 2





“Thru the Windows” By Mac & Gloria McDonnell GMC Club National Directors (L-6006)

current? Are we certain the voltage is correct, and the polarity proper? Do we know how to fill the water tanks, or connect to the city water systems? How often do you dump the holding tanks?

I know for a fact that I would rather let the men do it, but don't you agree, we all should at least know how? If we don't know how now, we should at least try to learn!

With that thought in mind, and to have some fun, wouldn't this be something for the gals to organize at one of your chapter rallies? Have a contest to determine who can accomplish the procedures most rapidly. We might even consider having the chapter winners participate in a national contest with special prizes for the winners!

The owner's manual, which is found in each of the GMC Motorhomes, will give you complete instructions for operating all the systems. Do read it!

In the meantime, to paraphrase someone I know pretty well . . . “Drive 'em safely, happy GMCeeing, and we'll see you down the road . . . God bless.”

Gloria McDonnell
National Director

The captain has agreed that the co-pilot should be heard from at this point in time. With that thought in mind, our column for this issue is being directed more to the female side of motor coaching.

After all, we women *do* play a very important role around the motorhome. We're not only first mate, but co-pilot and crew, too! And we add our personal touches to the interior decor.

It has been my pleasure to visit many of the GMC owners coaches, and I am justly proud of the “GMC Gals'” ingenuity in personalizing the interiors. We understand all the aspects of the home portion of our motorhome, for it is our home away from home, but how many of us really know the systems that make our coach functional? How many of us really know how to hook up at a campground, park, or wherever we berth the coach at night? Do we know how to connect to the electrical

HER NEEDLE POINTS TO NEEDLEPOINT

Continued from Page 1



Margaret has had some rest since then, but not much. She teaches a needlepoint class to eight women every Monday morning in Alpena. And, in the past, she has taught needlepoint to Alpena's Senior Citizens and to interested members of her GMC Club Chapter, the GMC Great-Lakers, pictured on the left.

Because many of Margaret's needlepoints are made as gifts for friends and family, each is personalized . . . for instance, Mac & Gloria's needlepoint bears the inscription, “McDonnell's Love Bug.”

We don't know what Margaret will needlepoint for her first grandchild, expected in May, but we know it will, as always, be special. Say Margaret, how about inscribing it, “My Littlest Love Bug?”



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Maryann,

Thank you very much for sending us a copy of the movie “Come Home To America.” We showed it at our last rally and everyone enjoyed seeing parts of America they could relate to.

Some of our members would like to know if you have films on the actual use of the vehicle in camping situations or pictures that show the manufacture of our motorhomes?

All of the members of the GMC Owners Club ELEGANT CRUISERS express their thanks.

Sincerely,

Myron R. Stahl, President
GMC Elegant Cruisers

Editor's Note:

We're glad the Elegant Cruisers enjoyed the film “Come Home to America.” By the way, this film is one of six that are available free of charge to all of our GMC Club Chapters.

Included in this grouping are “Country Music Holiday,” the film of our first, all GMC Rally in Nashville, and the “Look . . . and the Feel . . . of the GMC Motorhome,” a film depicting the fine performance and handling characteristics of a GMC Motorhome. Please write to the “Traveler” for a complete list of 16mm films that are available. We would be happy to loan them to you for your next meeting!!

GMC *Motorhome*
TRAVELER

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Associate Editor: Nancy McCamy

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& Coach, 660 South Boulevard East,

Room 210, Pontiac, Mich. 48053.

Articles from readers are welcomed.

SERVICE TIPS

By Don Rooker
Supervisor
GMC Motorhome Service

Now that spring has finally arrived and you have your motorhome all shiny and ready to go on that first spring trip, it is time to get your motor generator ready for spring, too! If you want your motor generator to give you much better service



throughout the year, just follow these eight simple steps . . .

1. Remove all protective wrapping. Wipe the oil film off all exposed engine parts. Remove the plug from the exhaust outlet.
2. Visually inspect the unit for damage. Check to make sure that the governor and carburetor linkage is free.
3. Check oil for proper level and make sure it is the proper viscosity.
4. Remove spark plugs, then clean and either gap or replace them. Turn engine over several times with plugs removed.
5. Jumper terminal #9 to terminal #11 — this will activate the fuel pump and fill the carburetor bowl. Remove jumper wire before you attempt to start unit.
6. Remove all 110 volt load to motor generator and start unit. Initial start may be slow due to oil or rust inhibitor in cylinders. Excessive smoke may occur for the same reason.
7. Turn on your roof mount air conditioner and allow unit to run for one hour.
8. Unit is now ready to use.

WHAT'S A TWO'FER?

. . . For GMC rally-lovers, it's two fun-filled rallies, scheduled back-to-back.

To kick off FMCA's 14th National Convention in Syracuse, GMC has scheduled a "Pre-Convention Rally" for July 23-25, 1977 at the Verona Beach State Park, New York.

Native New Yorkers have long been enchanted with the special charm and beauty of Verona Beach, located on the eastern side of Oneida Lake (also home of the historic Oneida silver works). And here's every reason to believe that GMC ralliers from across the country will share their feelings. Indeed, whether you're a fisherman, swimmer, ballplayer, or history buff, you'll find what you want at "picture-book perfect" Verona Beach, an area that boasts a gently sloping shore and

lake bottom that provides a large wading area for children . . . and adults, too!

But the fun doesn't stop at ebb-tide! For GMC'ers who work up a hearty appetite swimming or wading, there's a delicious potluck dinner planned for one evening of the "Pre-Convention Rally." Other "Fun-tivities" include an "eye-opening" champagne breakfast, the GMC Photo-Con III competition, and a dinner dance plus special activities for those GMC "Little Buggers" and "Travel-N-Teens."

So for all you owners who want an opportunity to meet with your fellow GMC'ers before heading on to the FMCA Convention, fill out the registration blank below — it's your ticket to the first of two tremendous rallies!

But before you take off on your long awaited "spring fling," make sure that the rest of your motorhome is as ready as your motor generator. How? It's as easy as going through the "Pre-Travel Checklist" on pages 4 and 5.

GMC PRE-CONVENTION REGISTRATION *VERONA BEACH, STATE PARK, VERONA BEACH, N.Y. JULY 23-25, 1977

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 _____

CHILDREN (names & ages) _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE (____) _____

(_____ Person(s) 13 or older — \$20/each
_____ Children under 12 years — \$5/each)

\$ _____ MAIL TO:
\$ _____ GMC MOTORHOME OWNERS CLUB
_____ 660 South Boulevard East, Rm. 210
_____ Pontiac, Michigan 48053

I am enclosing a check for: (Total)

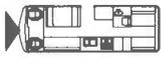
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*In cooperation with the Central New York State Parks & Recreation Commission

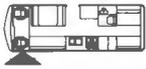


GETTING TO KNOW THE GMC MOTORHOME PRE-TRAVEL CHECKLIST

BEFORE YOU GO:



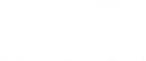
- Routinely check under-hood automotive components: oil level, coolant level, washer fluid, brake fluid level and battery.



- Check tire pressure. Be sure to check spare tire, too. Refer to your *Motorhome Operating Manual* for correct pressures.



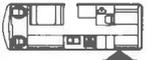
- Open fuel filler door. Add gasoline as required. Be sure your instrument panel fuel switch is on MAIN.



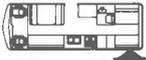
- Open utilities door. See that the power cord is plugged into the compartment receptacle.

- See that the external water connection is capped.

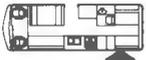
- Close utilities door securely.



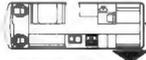
- To fill the onboard water supply tank: open compartment door, remove cap and fill the tank with a garden hose until water runs out. Recap and relock. You have 36 gallons of water on board, plus 6 gallons in the hot water tank.



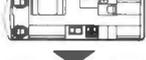
- Open the motor generator compartment door and check the generator engine oil level. If it reads FILL, consult your operating manual for correct oil; add as required.



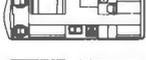
- See that the holding tank dump valve handle is pushed fully in and held in place by the two spring clips.



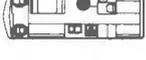
- See that the holding tank extension hose is in the rear bumper tube.



- Open the LPG tank compartment door. Turn off the main LPG valve and securely close the door.



- Enter the Motorhome. Use the inside push button to relock the door. Always lock when moving!

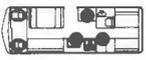


- Check the motor generator hour meter to see when it's time for routine maintenance.

- Use the monitor panel to check the living area systems: 1) LPG supply; 2) living area battery voltage (if it's below 11, it needs charging — and it recharges automatically when your Motorhome is driven, when the motor generator is run or when the exterior power cord is plugged in); 3) water supply; and 4) holding tank.

- If there is water in the supply tank, switch on the water pump (by the door). Run water through the kitchen and bathroom taps.

- Turn off the water pump for traveling.



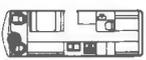
- Put away loose objects. Securely close cupboard doors and lock the refrigerator.

- Be sure the pilot light controls on the range and oven are turned off.

- Check the electrical compartment in the wardrobe to see that the two circuit breaker switches are ON and the electric hot water heater switch is OFF.

- Make sure there are spare fuses for the living area fuse block.

- To run your roof air conditioner while traveling, you must also operate your motor generator. Turn on your motor generator with the switch inside the door. Then turn on the air conditioning. If it does not start, reduce your electrical load and check the circuit breakers in the electrical compartment and then the circuit breaker on the motor generator. Reset any circuit breakers that have tripped and try again.



- Make sure your Electro-Level System travel switch is on AUTO. After proper ride height has been established, switch the travel switch to HOLD.

- The fuel tank switch should be pushed toward MAIN. (Both tanks are connected, but when the main goes dry there should still be 7 to 9 gallons remaining in the auxiliary tank.)

- The battery switch should be on NORMAL. If the engine battery is too low to start the vehicle, switch to BOOST, turn the ignition key and hold the battery switch on BOOST until the engine starts. It will rock back to NORMAL.

TO DRIVE:



- Adjust the driver seat and tilt steering wheel.
- Put transmission in PARK. Depress the accelerator fully; slowly release it and turn the key.
- Release the parking brake.
- Shift transmission into DRIVE.
- Move forward slowly, starting and stopping until you get the feel of the power brakes and steering.
- When you turn, turn wide and turn slowly.
- Drive carefully; do nothing hastily.

AT CAMPSITE:



- Put transmission into PARK. Set parking brake.
- To level the Motorhome, use your Electro-Level System. The LEFT REAR and RIGHT REAR switches will raise or lower respective sides of the vehicle. When you have reached the height you want, return these switches to the OFF position. The travel switch should be on HOLD.
- Turn on the main LPG valve in the LPG compartment.
- Hook up the exterior water supply to the connection in the utilities compartment.
- Plug in the power cord.
- Briefly run both cold and hot water.
- Turn on the hot water heater switch in the electrical compartment.
- Light the pilots on the range and oven. You must light *both* pilots.

TO DUMP HOLDING TANK:



- Wait until the holding tank is almost full.
- Make sure dump valve handle is pushed in fully (held by clips).
- Remove dust cap from end of tank dump tube under vehicle rear.
- Remove dump extension hose from rear bumper tube; attach it to dump tube by twisting it on.
- Place other end of extension hose in sewer outlet.
- Release dump handle holding clips.
- Pull dump handle fully open (away from vehicle).
- Flush empty tank with fresh water from toilet or taps.
- Close dump valve (push inward) and reclip.
- Remove and rinse dump extension hose.
- Replace dump extension hose in rear bumper tube and cap securely.

GMC Fun-tivities

GMC GREAT LAKERS

"Spring Kick-off Outing"

May 13-15

Groveland Oaks Country Park

Contact: Pete Zunitch
(313) 647-3924

GMC COUNTRY CLUB

"Roaring Good GMC Time"

June 24

Ramada Campgrounds
(East of Indianapolis)

Contact: Marvin Grossman
(614) 443-4601

GMC Forty Niners

"May Outing"

May 13 & 14

Yosemite Lakes Trailer Park
(Ten miles from Yosemite Park)

GMC SIX WHEELERS

"Turkey Run Rally"

May 20-22

Contact: Gene Kyle
(815) 398-8926

GMC TIDE-WATER CRABS

"Flying Rally"

June 3-5

Bealton, Virginia

"Summer Fun Rally"

July 8-10

Bel Air, Maryland

Contact: Fred Woodcock
(301) 926-6431

GMC PRE-CONVENTION RALLY

"Summer Festival"

July 23-25

Verona Beach State Park

(Near Syracuse, New York —

See page three for registration form)

FMCA 14th

NATIONAL CONVENTION

July 26-29

Syracuse, New York

GMC 3rd NATIONAL MOTORHOME OWNERS RALLY

"Anchors Away"

October, 1977

San Diego, California

FOOTNOTES

MEN, WOMEN, AND CHILDREN:

At long last, we're planning a special GMC Motorhome Owner's Cookbook. So, now is the time to send in your favorite motorhome recipes for publication in our "Gourmet Gazette!"

In addition to your favorite motorhome recipes, we are also looking for some helpful hints on shopping, storage, utensils, meal planning and, of course, clean up! Also, don't forget about the Owners using microwave ovens.

From hors d'oeuvres to dinners, snacks to brunch . . . your recipes and helpful hints are needed! We are anxiously awaiting your letters. Please write to:

"Cookbook"

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

YOUNGSTERS ONLY:

"Pop" Poppenheimer, National Supervisor for the GMC "Little Buggers and Travel-N-Teens" Clubs wants to hear from you! He would like you to help in planning your own special "Fun-tivities" for the upcoming Summer Festival Rally in New York.

To help "Pop", and to help your clubs get rolling, please send your "Fun-tivities" ideas and suggestions to:

"GMC Youth-tivities"

c/o "Pop" Poppenheimer
4439 Hudgins
Memphis, TN 38116

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

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