



Motorhome
TRAVELER



MAY/JUNE, 1978

Lake Lawn Lodge Offers GMCeers Unique Setting for Grand National



You've attended GMC-MOA rallies where the campsite was a commercial travel park? Or gathered with other motorhomers at a state or national park? Maybe taken part in a club rally based on someone's spacious, and available, parking lot?

Come this July, you're eligible for a unique experience in rally locations. That's because:

- The GMC Motorhome Owners Association holds its "Grand National Rally" at Lake Lawn Lodge, near Delavan, Wisconsin, from Wednesday, July 19, through Sunday, July 23.

- You own a GMC Motorhome — a unit with built-in systems to provide you the utmost in camp-anywhere flexibility.

Moreover, when you coast your GMC coach to a halt at its designated spot within the rally campsite on the shore of Delavan Lake, you'll be making history. The GMC-MOA Grand National Rally is the first motorhome encampment ever scheduled at this location.

Lake Lawn Lodge, you see, is a resort.

Indeed, Lake Lawn Lodge is among the absolute tops in resorts. It's one of the largest in the midwest — with "250 acres of glorified country air" and a two-mile lake front. And it is luxurious in every way.

For summer visitors, Lake Lawn Lodge offers a full range of warm-weather recreation activities. Golf, swimming, tennis, and horseback riding are prominent on the list.

If you visit Lake Lawn Lodge in winter, you could enjoy a program that includes snowmobiling, ice skating, and tobogganing.

At all seasons and in all weathers, the Lodge's indoor facilities await the visitor's pleasure. Among these facilities are two indoor swimming pools, health rooms, pool tables, and Ping Pong tables.

And if time should hang heavy on your



Stately and welcoming. That's the appearance of the extensive grounds with which Lake Lawn Lodge greets visitors — and which are available for your pleasure during our GMC-MOA Grand National Rally.



For our golfers, the Lodge's 18-hole course is sure to be an attraction. Clubhouse, showers and lockers are provided. And there's a PGA pro in attendance.



Looks enticing, doesn't it? For a perfect setting in which to relax on a quiet sunny afternoon.

hands, there are gift shops to browse in, and lounges for cocktails and dancing. There are also dining rooms and snack bars.

The multiple attractions — and Lake

Lawn Lodge's cuisine is well up on the list — have made the resort a favorite among generations of Chicago and Milwaukee residents. When the original hotel was

Continued on page 3

"Thru the Windows"



Mac & Gloria McDonnell
EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS
GMC MOTORHOME OWNERS
ASSOCIATION

GMCeeing With Motorhome Friends, Old and New

April was a most exciting month for us. It held a bit of nostalgia as we attended a number of chapter rallies across the country. It brought the special pleasure of helping organize a new chapter, the 66 Dixie Rovers in Birmingham, Alabama.

The excitement began with a visit to Plymouth, Wisconsin, where the GMC-MOA Rolling Vagabonds held their first chapter rally of the year. Spring had not fully arrived, but the surrounding landscape showed evidence suggesting that spring was near. The deep snows had departed, leaving tiny dancing streams to wend their way toward the mighty rivers. And, against the chill of that Saturday morning, the sun was bright and clear.

But the warmth of good friends, meeting for the express purpose of planning summer events, was all one needed to feel most comfortable. Gathered around a table filled with beautiful Wisconsin pastries provided by the ladies, we had a delightful chapter meeting. Plenty of hot coffee and hot chocolate added warmth to the occasion.

The lovely Alice Styza, President of the GMC-MOA Rolling Vagabonds Chapter, called the meeting to order — a meeting which was happy, filled with laughter and good fellowship. The chapter members unanimously agreed to lend their full support to GMC Motorhome Owners Association, and to help us all enjoy our visit to Wisconsin for the GMC "Grand National Rally" in July.

It was not an easy departure from Plymouth and the Rolling Vagabonds for either Gloria or me. But our schedule included a visit to King's Island Campgrounds, in Mason, Ohio, where the GMC-MOA Country Club and Great Lakers chapters were holding a joint rally on

the same weekend.

On arrival Saturday evening, we found 42 GMC Motorhomes — and more than 100 people — attending this well-planned rally of the two chapters. Yes, the weather still had a chill in the air, but once more the warmth of GMC-MOA fellowship brought total disregard for the cool night.

As we toured the campgrounds, we happened on a GMC-MOA member with an electrical problem. But he was not without help — for here were five other GMC owners helping to resolve the problem. Yes, that's what it's all about — to have fun together, to strive to lend a hand to one another when trouble knocks at the door, and to feel the warmth of knowing others care at all times.

Sunday morning found us in a room where, not too many months ago, we helped organize the GMC-MOA Country Club Chapter. Without question, there was a lump in our throats in recalling the memories this room held. On that special October day in 1976, just 17 months ago, the GMC Motorhome owners gathered in this room were mostly strangers to each other. They met to bring together a new chapter, and to elect chapter officers. And they set the flags flying with the birth of the GMC-MOA Country Club.

We were met at the door by Marvin Grossman, President of the GMC-MOA Country Club Chapter, and Virgil Barbe, President of the GMC-MOA Great Lakers Chapter — along with many members of each of the two groups — who warmly greeted us. Our morning meeting was a sit-down breakfast. Sitting around the tables were 110 members of the GMC Motorhome Owners family. None of them were strangers any longer!

For in the hours that have passed since the day the chapter was organized in that very room, all of us have developed some deep friendships. Most certainly, many hours of laughter and happiness have been

shared. Yes, along the way some sadness, but most importantly these wonderful people have shared their burdens together.

Our schedule beckoned us on to Wisconsin that Sunday night, to further prepare for the "Fun-Tivities" of the GMC Grand National Rally — and it is a rally we are very proud to offer our GMCeers.

Mid-week found us at the dealership, to meet for the first time our new "1978 Kingsley GMC Motorhome." She is a proud gal, and a beautiful coach. The same afternoon, we patted the airbags on the new doll, and set her down the road for Birmingham, Alabama, to attend the organizational rally of the very new chapter, GMC-MOA Dixie Rovers.

Once again strangers with a common interest in their GMC Motorhomes were gathered — 18 units strong — to join hands in formulating a GMC-MOA chapter. They weren't really strangers very long, because the Fun Division of McFarlane Cadillac kept the great table set with food and beverages morning, noon, and night.

Spring had arrived in Birmingham. Flowers were in bloom. Green leaves danced with the soft breeze. A few of the dogwood blossoms were still in evidence to provide the name of the rally — "The Dogwood Festival."

Saturday evening found the new GMC-MOA Dixie Rovers Chapter in full attendance at the very beautiful River Chase Country Club, enjoying good food and laughter with our two GMC club movies of the Nashville and San Diego national rallies. Fred Tobias, Zone Manager, delivered a reassuring note to everyone at the party, and Ken Holland, Zone Service Manager, was busy during the whole rally discussing questions about GMC service. (Ken was the handsome fellow who ran the movie projector so professionally.)

Sunday morning arrived all too soon. After a short meeting with the newly elected officers, with many beautiful

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: _____

memories clasped in our hearts and a loving pat for the new GMC Kingsley, we headed south and west for Pismo Beach, California. The new GMC performed beautifully. It took us 2,600-odd miles across the southern states, across Texas, into New Mexico, and always with the feeling: "Captain Bugg, I'm taking you home to Arizona." That she did, for we arrived home in time to dump our dirty laundry, load the suitcase, and head for California aboard the big jet bird!

Driving up the coast with the majestic Sierra Madre mountains to the east and the blue Pacific to the west, time passed quickly before we arrived at the campground in Pismo Beach — the clam capital of the West Coast. Fifty coaches were parked in the campground overlooking the Pacific waters. All bore one common feature — "those three letters, GMC" which mean much to all of us.

Here gathered were two other chapters — the GMC-MOA Elegant Cruisers and the GMC-MOA Forty Niners. President Myron Stahl of the Elegant Cruisers and President Don Kuhn of the Forty Niners, along with members from both chapters, greeted us and made us feel very much a part of the family. From the north they had arrived, and from the south of California, but united for a weekend of fun, clamming, singing, eating, discussions, horseshoe tossing, bingo, and just-you-name-it. These two chapters had it — but a real BIGGY!

Saturday evening was the time to serve the very famous Santa Maria bar-b-que prepared for 130 members of the family. We all witnessed the preparation of this succulent specialty and, as the beef cooked on the open hearth, it whetted every appetite to the highest degree. Yes, it was well worth waiting for!

SURPRISE! Who could be anything but totally surprised when a cake three feet-by-five feet, bearing a bunch of candles, was set at their feet with the announcement that it was Mac's birthday?

Challenged to blow out the candles, an attempt was made to cover them all with one big puff. And thanks to the little wind that happened at just the right moment, we made it — the wind and McDonnell! So let my wish come true! Let there be many more rallies, where we all will meet, where we will laugh, where we all will sing, as we share together many more happy hours of GMCeering!

In the quiet of our home, after these exciting days with so many of you, my bride Gloria reached out her hand and softly whispered: "Aren't we fortunate to have such a beautiful family?" God often places a tear in our eyes, to speak louder than words. And He did.

In the meantime "Drive 'em safely." Happy GMCeering, and we shall be GMCeering you at our Grand National Rally in beautiful Wisconsin.

Mac and Gloria McDonnell
Executive Directors

LETTERS



To The Editor

Dear Maryann Grausam, Nancy McCamy, Cliff Brackett, Don Rooker, Fran and Joe Vicini and Gloria and "Mac" McDonnell and all the others behind the scenes we didn't get to meet:

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! New Orleans was another marvelous GMC Rally. It couldn't have been better! Even though the weather was unusual for New Orleans this time of year (where wasn't it), everyone took it in their stride and had a fun time. The entertainment! Brunch at Brennan's, the barbequed chicken — everything was *Perfect!*

Maryann Grausam, Nancy McCamy and Fran Vicini were great scouts when some one of the GMCer's ran out of something like stockings — broken motorhome keys — you name it. Thank you!

Don Rooker did a tremendous job conducting a seminar each day regarding the mechanics of the GMC motorhome. He stood for hours in the cold (hope he had thermo undies on) answering questions without a break. What stamina! He has a world of information most helpful even to the feminine GMC members, although, I must admit at times, became highly technical. Thank you!

Fran and Joe Vicini are a must at a GMC rally. You'd think they barbequed all the chicken themselves the way they served it with so much enthusiasm and their beautiful personalities. Thank you!

Cliff Brackett: you do such an excellent job enlarging and mounting all our treasured snapshots. You make us all look and feel like professionals too. Thank you!

Gloria and "Mac" McDonnell, the real diplomats, trying to make everyone welcome and happy. Thank you!

Don and I appreciate all the effort and time involved planning such a week-end rally. You folks are real "Pros". On behalf of the New York State Heritage Cruisers chapter members attending the gala affair, Don and I wish to express our thank you.

Hope to see you all in Wisconsin! Even though GMC is no longer going to manufacture our beautiful motorhome, let us hope we can continue a National GMC Rally with our "exclusive collectors motorhomes" on a semi-annual basis.

Don and I look forward to the next rally. Just remember:

Happy GMCing,
Kitty Beckstein

Heritage Cruisers, New York State

Lodge Offers

Continued from page 1

built in the 1880s, visitors came by train and carriage. In more recent years, after the current Lodge set-up was developed in the 1940s and since it became a unit of Ramada Inns, Inc., in 1970 — most arrivals are by car. But it's not unusual for as many as 200 private aircraft to be flown in by weekend guests.

Why take all this space to tell you about the fancies and luxuries of Lake Lawn Lodge? Because when you register upon arrival at the GMC-MOA Grand National Rally, you will also be registering as a Lake Lawn Lodge guest!

All Rally participants, automatically, will be assigned account numbers for the Lodge. This will permit our members to enjoy all the facilities, to sign tabs for those which involve fees or charges, and clear their balances with one pre-departure payment.

Super-convenient!

But note carefully: Lake Lawn Lodge has no motorhome campground as such — and hence no hookups. For the Wednesday-to-Sunday duration of our Grand National, GMC-MOA members will be depending on the built-in systems of their coaches. So plan to arrive at the rally site with supply tanks full and all holding tanks empty!

One more word on arrivals: Camping accommodations at the Lodge become available for GMC-MOA members only at the opening of Rally registration on the morning of Wednesday, July 19. *There is no provision for early arrival.* So be sure to time your travel so that you arrive at Lake Lawn Lodge no earlier than 10 a.m. on Wednesday, July 19.

The Rally schedule in this issue of the TRAVELER is the preliminary version — with specifics still being added as the Rally team completes arrangements. Besides the activities listed, for example, bus runs are to be arranged for visits to nearby points of interest — such as the famous Playboy Resort & Country Club at Lake Geneva, antique shops, and other attractions.

Though more details are still to come, it's already evident that the 1978 GMC-MOA Grand National Rally has all the basic ingredients for a smashing success. So plan now to be at Lake Lawn Lodge in July!

And, since space will be limited, don't delay in getting your registration into the mail. That's the sure way to get all the information on the Rally as rapidly as it becomes available.

Watch for more Rally news in the next TRAVELER.

And see you in Wisconsin!

Super Relaxations for GMCCeers



When you feel like a quiet moment or two, the Indian Room will be ready to provide a relaxing atmosphere.



The Ram is just one of the Lodge's fully-appointed facilities offering a delicious cuisine and an enticing bar. So be assured, neither your appetite nor your thirst need go unsatisfied!



Recreation, both indoor and outdoor, is the strong suit at Lake Lawn Lodge. For in-the-water fun, the lakefront has a marina, a boat pier, a bathing pier; indoors, you'll have your choice of two superb swimming pools.



The Game Room at the Lodge features pool tables. But you're invited to try everything — including the Ping Pong and TV Rooms, inside, and bicycling, fishing, shuffleboard, horseshoes, and many more relaxers outside.



Here's the entrance sign, topped by Lake Lawn Lodge's "Bucky," to watch for as you approach the Grand National Rally site. In the background is the Lake Lawn Lodge Airport which, with a 4,400-foot paved runway and complete facilities, handles the Lodge's fly-in guests and visitors.

GMC Motorhome Owners Association Grand National Rally Lake Lawn Lodge, Delavan, Wisconsin — July 19-23, 1978

Complete this form and mail with check or money order made out to GMC Motorhome Owners Association, Inc. Be sure to note all terms and conditions of this reservation. Your reservation will be confirmed.

If GMC-MOA Member: Member Number _____ Chapter Name _____

Last Name _____ Husband _____ Wife _____

Children (names & ages) _____

Street Address _____ Phone (_____) _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Mail to: GMC Motorhome Owners Association, Inc.

P.O. Box 2005
Scottsdale, AZ 85252
Phone (602) 949-8266

Fees for Registration Received

	Through June 15	After June 15
Two persons, one unit	\$190.00	\$220.00
One person, one unit	110.00	125.00
Each extra person, 12 or older	90.00	97.50
Each child 3-11 (under 3, free)	40.00	45.00
Non-member of GMC-MOA, additional	25.00	25.00

I am enclosing total payment of \$ _____

Registration refunds: I understand that if this reservation is cancelled prior to July 1, 1978, GMC-MOA will retain 10% (ten percent) of the fee as a handling charge; that cancellation after July 1 and prior to July 10 will be subject to a handling fee of 25% (twenty-five percent) of the fee; and that any refund on a cancellation after July 10, 1978, or a failure to join the Rally, will be at the sole discretion of GMC-MOA, Inc.

GMC Motorhome Owners Grand National Rally Lake Lawn Lodge, 1978

Wednesday, July 19, 1978

Arrival and Registration
Welcome — Champagne reception
Evening snack
Entertainment
Free evening, dinner on your own

Thursday, July 20, 1978

Continental breakfast
Recreation tournaments
throughout the day
Service seminars in afternoon
Catered dinner during lake cruise

Friday, July 21, 1978

Continental breakfast
Three-way luncheon:
• For youngsters — in the playground area
• For the ladies — at the resort, with a fashion show
• For the men — sandwich buffet at the tent

Service seminars in afternoon
Dinner, preceded by cash bar,
followed by dancing

Saturday, July 22, 1978

Continental breakfast
Fun Day — your choice of pleasures!
Reception, Hawaiian luau, and
music for dancing sponsored by
GMC Truck & Coach Division

Sunday, July 23, 1978

Non-denominational worship service
Complete buffet breakfast
Departure



GUIDELINES SET ON RALLY FEE REFUNDS

GMC Motorhome owners making advance reservations for the Grand National Rally should note the policy relative to refunds in the event they cancel their reservations or fail to attend the Rally.

Under this policy GMC-MOA will retain, as a service charge, part of the reservation fee. The amount retained will depend on the date GMC-MOA receives notification of cancellation. Specifically:

1. If notice of a reservation cancellation is received on or before June 30, 1978, GMC-MOA will retain ten percent (10%) of the registration fee.

2. If notice is received after June 30 but no later than July 10, 1978, GMC-MOA will retain twenty-five percent (25%) of the registration fee.

3. If notice is received on or after July 10, 1978, or in the event of failure to join the Rally, refund of any portion of the registration fee will be at the sole discretion of GMC-MOA, Inc.

This policy may seem harsh. But remember: GMC-MOA must make firm contracts, involving guaranteed payments to suppliers, to assure Rally arrangements and services. These contracts and payments are based on projected attendance — primarily on advance registrations.

And if there are cancellations and "no shows," the Club is still committed to pay for what's been ordered even though the people aren't there to enjoy it!

GMC-MOA Members Enjoy Priority for Rally Participation

GMC-MOA activities, particularly those on the scale of the Grand National Rally, are primarily for the enjoyment of GMC-MOA members. A secondary purpose is to encourage membership in our organization.

That's why, for the Grand National in Wisconsin in July, GMC-MOA members are enjoying a priority and a definite preference in attendance arrangements. Specifically:

• While attendance is open to all owners of GMC Motorhomes, registration fees are lower for GMC-MOA members. The additional charge to non-members has been set at \$25.00 per coach. (And since that's exactly the amount of a year's dues, this could be a strong talking point for GMC-MOA Chapters in enrolling Rally-bound GMC owners who have yet to join up!)

• Rally participation is open only to motorhomers attending in GMC coaches. Our membership is based on ownership of a GMC unit. And a good number of members have expressed the feeling that sharing in GMC-MOA activities should be reserved for GMC-MOA members and GMC Motorhome owners as primary prospects for membership.

"Dixie Rovers" Chapter Formed in Alabama Is No. 25 for GMC-MOA

The "GMC Dixie Rovers Chapter," organized at Birmingham, Alabama, in late April, is the twenty-fifth on the roster of the GMC Motorhome Owners Association. Formation of the new group came during the "Dogwood Festival Rally" held April 21-23 under sponsorship of the Fun Division of Birmingham's McFarlane Cadillac.

GMC Motorhome owners were invited to the rally by Arnold McFarlane and Auggie Schmidt of the McFarlane dealership. And, reports Mac McDonnell, when 18 GMC Motorhomes rallied at the beautiful facilities of the McFarlane Fun Division, their crews "were hosted like kings and queens" by the dealership management and staff.

The organizational meeting was called to order by Executive Directors Mac and Gloria McDonnell as temporary chairmen for the gathered assembly. Voting was vigorous and enthusiastic. When the smoke cleared, the new chapter had elected the following officers:

President — Ben Grice, Selma; Chapter Representative — Joe Hammer, Birmingham; First Vice President — Russell A. Simpson, Huntsville; Second Vice President — Mrs. Robbie Smith, Dadenville; Secretary and Treasurer — Mrs. Dot Weaver, Talladega; Chapter Directors — Dwight Richardson, Arnell Blackwell, A.C. Adams, and Flo Young.

Newly-elected president, Ben Grice, then asked the assembly to select a name to identify the new chapter. Twenty-four names were placed on the blackboard and, after balloting five times, the chapter officially became the "DIXIE ROVERS."

The very sophisticated River Crest Country Club was the scene for a Saturday evening celebration of the Dixie Rovers formation, with a delightful cocktail and dinner party hosted by the folks from McFarlane's Fun Division. Fun and fellowship prevailed as all chapter members applauded their thanks to the dealership for their super GMC weekend.

President Ben Grice and his chapter officers closed the meeting with these parting words to everyone: "Let us not dally; we will rally in the month of May!"

Want To Organize A GMC-MOA Chapter?

If you're a GMC Motorhome owner, member of GMC-MOA or not, and you're interested in organizing a new chapter, GMC-MOA is ready to provide advice and assistance! Just phone or write to:

M. J. "Mac" McDonnell
Executive President
GMC-MOA, Inc.
P.O. Box 2005
Scottsdale, AZ 85252
Phone (602) 949-8266



GMC YANKEE CLIPPERS

Spring Get-Together
and
Gala Birthday Party
June 2-4
Sturbridge, MA
Contact: Rita & Jerry Pelletier
RFD #1
Danielson, CT 06239

GMC GATEWAY MOTOR CRUISERS

Chapter Rally
June 9-11
Twin Rivers Landing
Lesterville, MO
Contact: Charles Laws
108 Colorado Ave.
Farmington, MO 63640

GMC GREAT LAKERS

Chapter Rally
June 9-11
Cedar Springs
Sterling, MI
Contact: Jim Kellerman
Jerry Kamm

GMC SAGUARO JETSET

Chapter Rally
June 16-18
Canyon De Chelly
Chinle
Contact: Lindy Lindhoff
13641 Kaanapali Point
Sun City, AZ 85351
(602) 977-9849

GMC GREAT LAKERS

July 14-16
Pioneer Park
North Muskegon, Michigan
Contact: Virgil Barbe
843 Sheffield
Madison Hts., MI 48071

GMC-MOA

Grand National Rally
July 19-23
Lake Lawn Lodge
Delavan, WI
Contact: Mac McDonnell
P.O. Box 2005
Scottsdale, AZ 85252

GMC GREAT LAKERS

August 12-14
Frankenmuth RV Park
Frankenmuth, Michigan
Contact: Virgil Barbe
843 Sheffield
Madison Hts., MI 48071

GMC SAGUARO JETSET

Chapter Rally
September 15-17
Heber, AZ
Contact: Lauren Maloy
6250 E. Keim Dr.
Scottsdale, AZ 85253

**GMC FUN-TIVITIES
AFTER/WORD**

**Tidewater Crabs
Set Rally Records**

A record number of coaches (13), a record number of people (43), and — it would seem from the reports — a record load of fun marked the "Spring in Williamsburg" Rally of the GMC Tidewater Crabs on the April 14-16 weekend. Larry Fields, President, summed it up as: "Shopping, more of the same, campfire sitting, eating, and then do it all over again."

But he also comments: "Ya' just gotta see Williamsburg in the Spring!" indicating that the sightseeing had its moments. And, for all that shopping, the unusual offerings at Williamsburg also scored. Still, the most triumphant moment must have been when the entire rally headed out for dinner at Nick's — one of the area's favorite restaurants and one which rarely takes reservations — and the 43 Crabbers were led right past a long line of people waiting for tables to a set of tables reserved for the GMCers!

No wonder the club newsletter thanks Eric and Cherilyn Anderson "for the fine arrangements"!

GMC *Motorhome*
TRAVELER

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Associate Editor: Nancy McCamy

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Articles from readers are welcomed.

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Pontiac, Michigan 48053**

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