



COMINGS 'n GOINGS

Quarterly Publication of the GMC Heritage Cruisers

Covering Parts of Ontario, New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, & West Virginia

www.gmcheritagecruisers.com



Fall 2013



From the President

As I prepare to hand over the reins to Fran Urbanski, I began to reflect on the thoughts I had of "What a big job this is going to be", when Barb Oliver elected to pass on to me, the job of President. I couldn't have been more wrong.

The assistance and support I have received from all members has been most uplifting. I can't help from heaping praise on Al Hamilton for his insight and depth of knowledge, and his unwavering willingness to help. The board members have also been most willing and eager to keep the club moving forward AND making it fun for all.

As a final note, you must be reminded that 2014 will be the 25th anniversary of the **GMC Heritage Cruisers**. Please plan early to join with your fellow members at the May Rustbuster Rally at 50 Point Conservation

Area near Grimsby, Ontario, 9-11 May for an exciting and fun filled celebration. Please

pass the word to past and present members, and let me know if you have any ideas for things to add.

Have a wonderful Christmas season, and Judy and I look forward to seeing you all next year, beginning with the Coachless Rally in Niagara Falls.

Bob Paterson

The Last 2013 Rallies

In July the Club was hosted near Grand Bend, Ontario by Andy & Helen Spriet at a rally that certainly had lots of variety – from the grazing party at their cottage, to the popular drag races.





In September, Paula & Bruce Hislop invited us all to their area see and experience this year's International Plowing Match at Mitchell, Ontario. They found a beautiful little campground attached to a golf course near St Mary's. It was a busy four days at the Plowing Match, playing golf, and sightseeing.



When August came along, Jack & Pat Elzinga had us gather in Tweed, Ontario at the annual Elvis Tribute and Competition. We had nine GMCs in the parade through town – the GMCs led !! There was great food and front row seats at the weekend of music and competitions.



Wagon Master Report

The past season was a good one for rallies with a variety of locations and events. On behalf of the membership, especially those who were able to attend, I want to give a big 'thank you' to all the wonderful hosts (and 'helpers') for their great efforts for us all. Everyone who has hosted and some have many times, know how much work there is to hosting an HC event – and they are all successful in their own way!

Our May Rustbuster was at Grand Island NY where Lois and Fran Urbanski hosted. In June, we were at Bingemans in Kitchener with Linda and Frank Foldy; next in July at Grand Bend with Helen and Andy Spriet; August at Tweed with Pat and Jack Elzinga; and September in St. Marys with Paula and Bruce Hislop. Y'r all super folks – thanks one more time!

We had a tour of the Buffalo waterway; toured the Roadtrec factory in Kitchener; saw auto time trials and races in Grand Bend; were entertained by a stage full of Elvis Presley types in Tweed; and took in the International Plowing Match at St Marys. Best of all, of course, was the usual great camaraderie that we always enjoy at our rallies.

A Special Thank You

I'd like to say a special thank you to outgoing President Bob Paterson who has served HC in many capacities and continues to do so - the most important being the person responsible for the creation and building, maintenance, storage, and delivery to rallies of our infamous Heritage Cruiser Trailer. We rely on Bob, summer after summer, for our special Trailer! It is wonderfully put together and is the backbone of the majority of our successful rallies.



2014 Rallies

Now on to the 2014 season- we don't have final dates for all the months as yet, but it appears we have a full slate from May to September - so hope you plan to attend some next year (or all as three HC couples did this summer!). We have two mid-week events as this is the only time these places are available. And finally, you will note the September rally is 'un-hosted' much like the ones we have had in Erin (if you have a September location for consideration or would like to host the one in Cookstown – either would be grand)!

31 Jan- 2 Feb – Niagara Falls, Ontario
John & Lou Ann Podmore, Fran & Lois
Urbanski -**Details are attached**

9-11 May – 50 Point Conservation Area -
Grimsby, Ontario - Dick and Lena Longman

17-19 June – Sauble Beach, Ontario –
John & Lou Ann Podmore

22-24 July – Parry Sound, Ontario –
Judy & Bob Paterson

21-24 August – Lockport, NY – Pia &
Dennis Lepard (rally not finalized)

18-21 September – Toronto North KOA,
Cookstown, Ontario – (unhosted thus far)

And finally, a special thanks to my wife Daphne who supports me (she actually came up with ideas for two of our rally locations this past summer!) in my continuing to be your Wagon Master for another year.

Have a great winter –stay healthy – hope many of you can get make it to the winter rally...we will be south hopefully.....

Bruce Hood
VP Wagon Master

2014-15 Executive Committee

This year was an election year in the Club and four positions were filled by new people. The slate of Officers for the next two years is as follows:

*President – Fran Urbanski
VP Wagon Master – Bruce Hood
VP Technical - Bruce Hislop
Secretary – John Peazel
Treasurer – Nancy Berry*

Chairman of the Nominating Committee - vacant

*National Director – John Evans
Alternate National Director – Dick Longman*

*Web Master – Bruce Hislop
Non-Tech Coordinator – Linda Foldy
Historian – Cliff Pike*

Newsletter & Membership – Al Hamilton

The five that are stepping down have served the Club for many years and deserve your appreciation and thanks for all they've done.

John Podmore has been our Alternate National Director for four years and represented us when called on to do so to FMCA.

Lou Ann Podmore coordinated the Club activities in craft making and other events.

Dick Longman has been the Chairman of the Nominating Committee for many, many years and has spent a lot of time and effort finding members willing to stand for election and serve the Club.

Judy Paterson was our first and only historian which means she held the post for 14 years !!! She was the custodian of our FMCA charter and other documents that had to be kept safe.

Bob Paterson has been president for over five years, acting for a while and then completing two elected terms. We, under his direction, continued to have great times, refine our procedures, organize the Club property, bought new tent tops, and acquired the trailer.

Again, thanks to you all for your part in keeping the Club alive and interesting.

Message from the President Elect

Hi Everyone!

Lois and I just finished a 10 week cross country trip in our GMC, including Route 66, camping in Oklahoma with our daughter's family, a side trip to Hawaii (without the coach), and finishing with the Lincoln Highway. We missed several rallies, but were thinking of you as we camped our way across 6500 miles. I hear I was elected president while we were gone. I am honored and hope you will feel free to contact me with your ideas and concerns, especially your ideas. We can work together to make 2014 a great year! Looking forward to seeing you at our winter rally or ASAP.

Fran Urbanski



Membership Dues for 2014

That time of year has come once again. The Chapter dues for 2014 are payable by 1 January 2014. Earlier is better !!!

Complete the dues enclosure and mail it with your dues in either US or Canadian funds to our Treasurer, Nancy Berry. **The cost of dues is \$20.00.** If you have paid the 2014 dues then there should be no dues enclosure with your newsletter.

On 1 May anyone who has not paid is dropped from the membership and the mailing lists and will miss a newsletter or rally information.

Chapter Rally Equipment

It has been over three years since we started using the trailer to move all the Club equipment and tents from rally to rally. It has kept us from loading everything in one or two coaches, unloading again between rallies, or storage and saved wear and tear on the inside of the coaches.

So far it has worked well. Coordinating the trailer and its contents falls to the Wagon Master, so when you need some or all of the tents and equipment let him know.

Helping move the trailer from place to place should be a shared task. Please tow it, when you can, to take the burden off a few. It requires a 1 7/8" ball and the standard, flat four wire light connection.

Club Caps and Clothing

Anyone who is interested in a Club cap, T shirt, hoodie, sweatshirt, or jacket should contact Fran & Lois Urbanski. State your colour preferences and size. As soon as they have 12 orders of one colour an order can be placed



Classified

For Sale: Brake Buddy Classic, new \$1,200.00, for \$600.00 - Blue Ox Acclaim Tow Bar, new \$660.00 for \$300.00. - John Podmore at 519-823-3332 or jpodmore@cogeco.ca



For Sale: 1977 GMC, many upgrades over the years, including paint at Topeka Graphics, refrigerator, furnace, microwave/convection oven, awnings, Alcoa wheels, 3.70 final drive, new four-bag system, recarpeted and reupholstered, \$16,000 - Richard Palmer – 315-252-8593

For Sale: Cupboard doors & front seats from a 1976 Palm Beach. Any reasonable offer - Cyril Gosse – 613-735-4367

For Sale: GMC Motorhome Fleet Reduction Sale



1976 23 ft Crestmont Rear Bath 455 CID engine, 3.70 final drive, switch pitch transmission, 4 wheel disk brakes, full set of awnings \$7500.00



1977 26 ft Palm Beach, 455 CID engine, 3.70 final drive, switch pitch transmission, 6 wheel disk brakes, 4 bag rear suspension Alcoa wheels, Michelin tires \$13,500.00

Both coaches are well maintained and have been used regularly for extended travel to the southern US and western Canada. Contact Paul Lambke 519-443-7543

Listing of GMC-related items for sale is available to HC members and will only appear for two issues unless otherwise arranged.



TechTalk

Winterizing

by Bruce Hislop, VP Tech

It's that time of the year again to winterize the GMC, unless you are lucky enough to take your coach south for the winter.

This is how I do it. First, pick up jugs of RV plumbing antifreeze. I get the two of the US gallon (9.46l) size so I don't run short. Be sure it is labeled as safe for drinking water plumbing, engine antifreeze is TOXIC!

Two things that make this procedure much easier if you don't have them already. First is a antifreeze pump valve (Camco #36543). It allows you to pump the antifreeze directly from the jug into the water lines. Second item is a hot water heater bypass (Camco #35983) which you to add antifreeze to the waterlines without having to fill the hot water tank.

-Drain fresh water tank

-If you have a plumbed water filter, set it to bypass the filter and remove the filter element.

-Drain hot water tank

-Turn the hot water tank bypass valves to Bypass position.

-Switch the pump valve to the antifreeze line, put the hose into the antifreeze jug and turn ON the water pump to add antifreeze to water lines.

-Start at bathroom sink (Hot & cold), shower, toilet, then do kitchen sink (Hot & Cold). Run until pink antifreeze runs then close.

-Turn OFF the pump and cap the end of

the hose to prevent leaks.

-pour some RV antifreeze down the sinks and shower to displace water in the traps

-Drain black and Grey water. Since I have a macerator, once I have drained the black tank, I pour the balance of the jug of RV antifreeze down into to black tank. Then I run the macerator for a few seconds again to be sure I have antifreeze in the macerator.

-Open the drain on the air suspension tank to let any water out.

-Check engine antifreeze for freezing point

-This is also a good time to change the antifreeze if its due.

-I like to change the engine oil at this time so that old acidic oil is not sitting in the engine all winter.

-Unroll the awning and let it dry out thoroughly to prevent mold before rolling it up.

-I like to take the weight of the wheels so I don't have a flat spot in the tires next spring. For the rear, first I raise the rear and put my stands under the bogie mount. Then I release all the air from the air bags.

LED Light Strips

Bob & Judy Paterson discovered a very useful LED light strip at Home Depot and installed it on the inside cupboard door of over the galley sink. There are single or double packages for various applications.

It's moveable, so bright, warm light is over the sink area, in the cupboard or the fridge and on the floor, depending on the strips position. The power cord has a 120 volt converter on it or it can be removed and the strip wired into the coach 12 volt system, as seen here.



Double Strip Installation

Liability Disclaimer

The GMC Heritage Cruisers, its officers, and the Editor are not responsible for the accuracy of advice and/or technical notes published in the "Comings 'n Goings". Adjustments or installations made to coaches on the basis of information presented in this publication are the responsibility of the individual coach owner.



**Happy
Halloween**

Hope everyone has a fun and scary Halloween !!!!



2014 Newsletter

Submissions for the Winter 2014 Edition of the "Comings 'n Goings" are due by 15

February to the Editor, Al Hamilton at akh@1000island.net.

Enclosures:

2014 Coachless Rally Registration

2014 Dues Reminder (Some members only)