



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

2016



**From the
President**

It's sad to say but the party's over for this year. What a great run of five rallies we've had! Thanks and a tip of the hat to all hosts and helpers. The finale in Mansfield was outstanding. New tech sessions, seminars and socials were unexpected and welcomed. Kim Weeks and her staff did a bang-up job coordinating and presenting. It wasn't your average rally / convention! The weather also cooperated.

The temps and leaves are falling so put your steed to bed carefully for next year. Hope to see y'all at the COACHLESS coming up in February.

'Til we meet again, your prez, Fran



Rallies 2017

3-5 February - 14th Annual Coachless Rally
Niagara Falls, Ontario
Podmores & Urbanskis
Registration & Information Attached

May - Courtland, Ontario
John & Mary Peazel

19-21 June - Sauble Beach, Ontario
John & Lou Ann Podmore

July - open

mid-August - tentatively - Chautauqua Lake
Area, Western New York
Fran & Lois Urbanski

15 - 17 September - Cherry Valley, Ontario
Nancy Berry & Al Hamilton



Rallies So Far

.August - Tweed, Ontario - We had a great turn out for the Elvis Festival hosted by Jack & Pat Elzinga. We had two delicious breakfasts as usual. We were well located to see all the activities and we enjoyed all Tweed had to offer.



September- GMCMI, Mansfield, Ohio - Our September rally was the GMCMI convention in Ohio. It was a great success with lots of activities, great food, and excellent camp sites and facilities.

A stop on route for those interested was arranged by Fran & Lois Urbanski including a great dinner at their home. It was greatly appreciated by all.



A new feature this year was a "Chili Cook-Off". Paula & Bruce Hislop entered the competition, as well as our newest members, Emily & Eelko Byker. Paula & Bruce took the prize for best table decor.



We had our own Get-Together with pizza and wings night.



First-Timers at the ice cream social.



Jean Price & Fred Perkins made a good showing again this time in the Pine Wood Derby races.



From the Wagon Master

Well, another great rally season is coming to an end. We closed out the year at the GMCMI convention in Mansfield, Ohio with 160 coaches attending. The week started out on the damp side but the weather improved with each passing day. The Site boasted great buildings for our meetings and seminars. The catered meals were excellent and plentiful with a Murder Mystery to wash down the Bar-B-Que Chicken and Ribs on the final night. We even managed to get a new set of

windshields installed on our coach. This was our first GMCMI convention and look forward to going back next year.

Sadly our thoughts must turn to winterizing our coaches and parking them safely away from the elements. Those of us who are not travelling down south still have the Coachless rally in Niagara Falls to look forward to. There is no better way to shake off that icy grip than party with your friends. This will be our ninth straight year and we wouldn't dream of missing it.

We are still looking for rallies for July and August so don't be shy. They're really no big deal and it's even easier if you co host with a veteran. We have a well equipped club trailer with dining shelter and many of our members show up the day before to give you a hand even though they only want one more day of rallying with their friends. If you have any questions or ideas about rallies, give me a call. Our club works because we all do.

John Peazel - Wagon Master

New Members

David Davidson & Barb Roth of Toronto joined us in September. We met David at Mansfield and look forward to seeing you both at rallies next year.

Eelko & Emily Byker of Port Colborne, Ontario, joined the club in Mansfield. Welcome to you both.

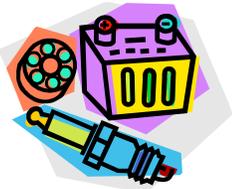


Membership Dues for 2017

That time of year has come once again. The Chapter dues for 2017 are payable by 1 January 2017. Earlier is better !!!

Complete the dues enclosure and mail it with your dues in either US or Canadian funds to our Treasurer, Nancy Berry. **Check carefully who the cheque is to be made out to. It is different for US & Canadian funds. The cost of dues is \$12.00.** If you have paid the 2017 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.



Tech Talk

Replacing the Turn Signal Switch

by Bruce Hislop



My turn signal lever has always been a bit loose, but it always worked.. until recently. I could signal left, but going right the turn signal switch would not latch, and sometimes it would not trigger the signal lights while holding it. It was time to look into how to replace this switch.

The turn signal switch in the GMC was used for years on many models of the GM cars and light trucks, so they are readily available at auto parts stores. I chose the TW8 switch from Standard Products (Blue Streak). This switch comes with the wiring to control side turn lights and costs less than the switch without that feature!

Procedure:

- Straighten the tilt on the steering column;
- Remove the horn button and pull the steering wheel using a puller;
- There may be a plastic cap over the wheel lock ring. Use a screw-drive in the slots around the edge of the cap to remove;
- To remove the steering wheel lock ring, a special tool is needed to press the ring downward;
- Check with the auto parts store, they may have these tools available for loan;
- Once the ring is pressed, pry out the snap lock ring with a screw-driver and remove the ring;
- The steering wheel lock ring is keyed so it only will reinstall in one position;
- Remove the plastic horn contact disk.



Ready to Remove

You can now remove the switch. Three screws hold the switch in place and one screw holds the lever to the switch. You also need to remove the 4-way flasher knob on the side of the column. The problem with my old switch was the plastic around the lever was cracked so the switch would not move to the right.

The wiring goes down inside the column to the bottom of the column. Depending on the year of your coach, you may need to remove part of the dash under the column to access the connector. To remove the old wiring, unplug the connector at the bottom of the column and cut the switch connector off at the bottom. Then tape a wire or heavy string to the old wiring harness to use as a fish tape for the new switch wiring. Pull out the old wiring out the top of the column.

Pulling the new wiring with the attached plug is a bit of a pain. Tape the wires and the fish string along the side of the connector, making the bundle as slim as possible. It took me several tries to get the new wiring down the column.

Be careful positioning the wires under the switch so they do not get pinched and fasten the switch down with the 3 mounting screws. Install the turn signal lever and 4-way flasher knob. Plug in the connector at the base of the column and test the new switch. My 4-way switch was binding on the wiring, so it is good to test it before you re-assemble the column.

Reassemble the column in the reverse order from above. You will need the lock ring tool again to press the locking ring down and install the retaining clip.

I replaced my switch while at the GMCM rally in Mansfield, Ohio and unfortunately did not take any photos. Fortunately, there are two great tech documents on the

steering column with lots of photos at the GMC Eastern States web site

http://www.gmceast.com/technical/Sowers_Steering_Column_Upgrade_Repair.pdf

http://www.gmceast.com/technical/Sharpe_Replace-Upper-Steering-Columnn.pdf

In either document, getting to the turn signal switch is shown with the first few pages.

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.

Rally Photos

If you have rally photos that you would like to share, send them to Cliff Pike, the Club Historian, so they can be included in the archives, digital edition. Cliff took hundreds of photos this rally season and you can see them at:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/133356126@N03/albums>



Classified

Free: Many copies of the 1990s and early 2000s magazine "GMC Motorhome

Marketplace" including the Premier edition of 1992. Call Paul Lambke at 519-443-7543

For Sale: *Steel and rubber radiator fan shroud and an original three-foot tall GMC jack. Call or email for price and pickup. Doug Barber at 613-523-6238.*

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



2017 Newsletter

Submissions for the Winter 2017 Edition of the "Comings 'n Goings" are due by 15 February to the Editor, Al Hamilton at akh@1000island.net.

Enclosures:

Coachless Rally Registration -

2017 Dues Notice - Some Members Only

Note to Associate Members Only