



COMINGS 'n GOINGS

Quarterly Publication of the GMC Heritage Cruisers

www.gmcheritagecruisers.com



2024



From the President

Greetings Cruisers,

This year weather-wise it's been an amazing summer and early fall for outdoor activities. We have had some awesome summer rallies this season and I hope you were able to attend some or all of them. Fall is now in the air and it will soon be time to service and winterize our trusty steeds and put them to bed for their long winter sleeps.

I'm happy to report that the club has some exciting new initiatives to announce around rallies going forward. You will find details on these later on in this newsletter. The idea here is to encourage members to plan and host a rally for the group by offering a financial incentive to potential rally masters to do so. There are still a couple of slots open for the 2025 season so I really hope these new initiatives

will prompt you to consider hosting a rally next year (or the year after). In closing, with what I felt was a very successful 2024 rally season now wrapped, I look forward to seeing you at the coachless rally coming up in Niagara Falls this winter season.

As always, I can be reached direct at lipsettgreg@gmail.com or at 416-200-5172. Reach out anytime. Cheers and see you soon!

Greg Lipsett - President



Rallies 2025

Hi Cruisers,

To update our 2025 Rally Schedule, I can confirm that we

now have three confirmed rallies for next year. John Peazel will host us again at Courtland, Bruce and Paula Hislop will have us at their place in Ingersoll in June, and Lorne and Jean Hawley will once again host us at their property just outside Belleville in July. At this point nothing has been planned for the Coachless Rally, which if it proceeds, will likely be held in March or April. So, we do need to fill August and September rally dates for the year. I know that some members have been considering the possibility of hosting a rally next year, so I would really like to hear from those who may be doing that, and perhaps at least pick which of the two months available you would prefer.

Cliff Pike, VP Wagon Master

**July Rally
18 -21 July
Belleville, Ontario**

by Nancy Hamilton

Lorne and Jean Hawley hosted the rally at their lovely home and property.

Due to a recent heavy rain, Thursday arrivals parked at the top of the hill and enjoyed the afternoon visiting under the

canopy. Everyone carpooled to the Belleville waterfront and had a delicious supper at the Boathouse Seafood Restaurant.

Friday was a relaxing day with more coaches gradually arriving. It was hot and sunny so we were able to all park down on the grass. A total of eight coaches arrived (six GMC's and two others) and over the weekend 21 members attended, if only for a few hours. Friday evening a potluck dinner was enjoyed. This was followed by an interesting slide presentation by Bobby Jo Morris, a local historian, about the history of Deseronto.



Their New Tow Car ??

Saturday a hearty breakfast was provided by the hosts and many members took a drive to Deseronto with a scenic stop at the Salmon

River Waterfalls. We enjoyed a delicious lunch at the O'Connor Tea House and saw some of the Terra cotta brick buildings the town is famous for. Some people also stopped at Karen Brown's Antique Market. Saturday supper, was a scrumptious shish kabob BBQ and salads. Afterwards we had a bonfire until the mosquitos chased us away.



Sunday we had a large, use up the left-overs breakfast, a short meeting and after all making it up the hill this year unassisted, we headed for home.

Many thanks Jean & Lorne for a wonderful rally !!

**August Rally
15 – 18 August
Kingston, Ontario**

by Nancy Hamilton

Jack and Pat Elzinga hosted the rally at their home, a beautiful property overlooking the Cataraqui River.



It was easy to see Jack and Pat had put their hearts and a lot of energy into creating a lovely spot for the rally.



Thursday arrivals (6 GMC's and 2"others") settled in on the hillside and enjoyed all you could eat chicken wings prepared by "chef" Jack. GMCHC members camping at the rally were the Elzinga's, the Lipsett's, the Pike's and their guests, the Busch's, Judy Farguson, the Byker's, the Buell's and Bob Hopper.



Friday morning, Jack and Pat provided a delicious omelet and fruit breakfast. It was a relaxing day, sitting at the waterfront, boating on the river and visiting. Three other members came for a day visit - Al Hamilton and Nancy Berry, Lorne and Jean Hawley and Robin Hadcock. Jack and his team treated us to a delicious fish and chip supper. In the evening, we were serenaded with a bagpipe performance by Donna Lipsett and then enjoyed a bonfire. Saturday, we awoke to cloudy skies and damp ground after a night of rain but this did not dampen our spirits. After a pancake and sausage breakfast, members participated in several activities. Some ladies went shopping and had lunch in Kingston, other members visited the Marine Museum and took a trolley tour of Kingston while others took a tour of Jack's shop. Supper was a mouth watering feast of roast moose, prime rib and venison stew all prepared by Jack and Pat. Sunday we all reluctantly packed everything up and headed home, taking with us memories of a wonderful rally weekend. Thank you, Jack and Pat.

September Rally 5 – 8 September Prince Edward County, Ontario

The September rally was organized and held at the Quinte Isle Campark campground by Greg & Donna Lipsett. It is a park full of facilities and kept well groomed. The meals were well done and enjoyed by all. Donna did a wonderful job preparing and organizing all our meals.



On Friday, 6 Sept some members attended the Picton Agricultural Fall Fair. There we were treated to displays including modern and vintage farming equipment including tractors and other equipment. Many animals and birds were represented, along with

various crafts and different foods. We had a first hand display of hand-spinning wool by a couple of very friendly local ladies. The midway rides were open for business also.



On Saturday a mini-bus took us on a tour of some local wineries, during which members were able to replenish their depleted wine holdings after sampling the available wares.

At dinner on Saturday, 7 Sept, a 50th Wedding Anniversary cake was presented to Nancy & Jim Hamilton. It was delicious. Following that wedding photos or photos of when members first met were passed around.

Thanks very much to Greg and Donna for a well organized and fun rally!



In Memorium

Jim Hadcock passed away last July just after attending the July rally with Robin. He & Robin were long time members of the GMC Heritage Cruisers and the GMC Motorhome International. Jim served as the HC Treasurer for a number of years.

Club Meeting Decisions

At an Executive meeting held during the September Rally two items were discussed by the committee and approved.

The first has to do with Rally Masters and their paying of rally costs. Starting in 2025, Rally Masters will no longer be required to pay rally fees for the rally they are organizing. Rally charges, mainly for food, are typically in the \$100 - \$150 range per couple. Going forward the Club will cover

these costs for all Rally Masters. Please note, this does not include camping fees and/or other special activity fees like a boat cruise, bus rental, activity admission fee, etc.

The second item relates to the \$10.00 fee per coach currently being charged to members attending rallies. This fee was designed to cover such things as printing, postage, and other incidentals related to organizing a rally. This is no longer required so going forward the Club will eliminate the requirement for Rally Masters to collect the \$10.00 fee for each coach attending a rally.

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 is the responsibility of the individual coach owner.



Membership Dues for 2025

That time of year has come once again. The Chapter dues for 2025 are \$20 Cdn or \$15 US payable by 1 January 2025. 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 to whom the cheque is to be made out to. It is different for US & Canadian funds.** If you have paid the 2025 dues then there should be no dues attachment 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.

Wearing of Club Name Tags

This is a reminder to please wear your name tag at a rally especially if there are new folks in attendance. It is helpful to both all members and guests.

Tech Article



by Bruce Hislop, VP Tech

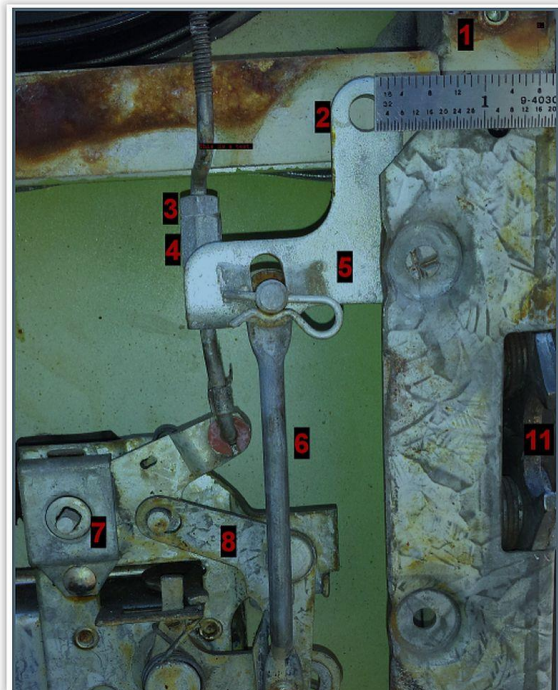
Door Handle and Latch Maintenance.

My outer door handle was getting loose and my door key lock was getting stiff, so I was starting to worry if one day I would not open (or close & lock) the door. We have only one door into our coaches so keeping it in good working order is very important. I decided I should look into my door issues before something happened.

First, even to get to your door mechanism, the door must be open!. You need to remove the lower panel of the door and likely some trim above as well. On the latch side you will see 4 large Phillips head bolts. Loosen only the two bolts near the outer side of the door and remove the two bolts on the inner side. Also remove the door locking button by unscrewing it. Next you will need to look around the panel for additional screws or Pop-Rivets holding the panel in place. Mine had a number of Pop-Rivets to drill out from a previous renovation.

When the panel is free, you need to pull it back slightly and remove a pin holding the inner handle release rod to the mechanism.

This photo (courtesy Ken Henderson) shows the latching mechanism on the back side of the outer door handle. Mine had dried grease and 45 years of dirt build up. Four small bolts hold the outer door handle to the door and a single rod connects it to the latch. After removing the outer handle I was able to remove the mechanism and then used brake cleaner to remove the old dried grease and dirt. My outer handle was worn where it attached to its shaft, so I welded it in place to the shaft.



I could then remove the latch mechanism by removing the last two Phillips head bolts and clean it the same way. I then used a spray type automotive grease designed for latches and hinges to re-lubricate the mechanisms. For the key cylinder I used a dry lubricant made for this purpose.

For an emergency door release, I measured the door for a point where I could drill a 3/8" hole to insert a screwdriver and release the latch to open the door. This hole can then be filled with plastic plug.

*For more detailed information I have posted it here:
<https://www.gmcmotorhome.org/resources/emergency-door-latch-release-instruction.87>*

*Ken Henderson also wrote an article on the latch and it's operation in the Winter 2020 issue of *GMC Vintage RVing magazine on page 13.*



Classified

For Sale – Two rebuild 425 transmissions. Contact Ernie Dankert at edankert@rochester.rr.com or 585-739-5024.

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



Winter 2025 Newsletter

Submissions for the Winter Edition of the "Comings 'n Goings" are due by 1 February to the Editor, Al Hamilton at akh@1000island.net.

Enclosures:

2025 Dues Reminder – Some members only