



COMINGS 'n GOINGS

Quarterly Publication of the GMC Heritage Cruisers

www.gmcheritagecruisers.com



2025



From the President

Greetings Cruisers,

Summer is here and we're now in the heart of the camping season. I hope you have all had the opportunity to get out in your coaches to visit your favorite spots and perhaps to try some new locations as well.

As I write this, Donna and I are in the midst of our four-week Newfoundland adventure along with our intrepid fellow travelers: the Pikes, the Owens and the Hislops. We've had a grand time on "The Rock" so far. You'll be happy to know we've been busy spreading the GMC love wherever we go here. Highlights so far have included a boat tour of a fjord in

Gros Morne National Park, an old-fashioned lobster supper served at a church in Cow Head, NF, boondocking on a majestic private campsite perched high above the ocean in Twillingate, NF, as well as various backcountry day hikes with unmatched views of the oceanside and access to some gorgeous remote waterfalls.

In terms of Club news, I wanted to make sure everyone is aware of the new Facebook page now active for the GMC Heritage Cruisers. You can find it on Facebook under "Heritage Cruisers". It's a private site open only to members of the Club. Just find the site and make your request to the administrator to join. Your request will be approved shortly



thereafter. The purpose of the page is for members to share information with each other on anything Club or GMC-related. This new Facebook page is in addition to the club's website located at www.gmcheritagecruisers.com. I would personally like to thank Club member Mark St. Martin for setting up this Facebook page for us. In closing, I hope everyone is enjoying their summer and I'll see you at the next rally! As always, I can be reached direct at lipsettgreg@gmail.com or at 416-200-5172.

Cheers,

Greg Lipsett, President



Rallies 2025

Hello Cruisers,

With the June rally now over, next up is Lorne and Jean Hawley's rally at their property just outside Belleville. Always a good time there around the pond, with great food and interesting things to see and do. There is a rally sheet attached

to this newsletter so please let Lorne and Jean know soon if you plan to attend.

I am pleased to let you know that Ernie & Cynthia Dankert have planned an August rally, 6 – 10 August. This involves some camping onsite at the N.Y. Steam Engine Association "Pageant of Steam" which is located just a short distance from Ernie and Cindy's home, and he has secured a limited number of spots and they have been filled already. It may be a combination of dry camping at the show and retiring to Ernie's place afterward.

On September 19th to the 21st, Greg and Donna Lipsett will be hosting our September rally in Prince Edward County. A rally sheet is attached to this newsletter.

Mark St. Martin has set up a private Facebook group called Heritage Cruisers. You can search for "Heritage Cruisers" in groups on Facebook to find it and sign up to participate. It is a private members only group and not open to just anybody. This is a great way to stay in touch with other members, share experiences, make comments, and learn what our fellow members are up to.



Greg and Donna Lipsett, Ernie and Cindy Dankert, Trish and Phil Nau, Mark St Martin and Wendy Harry. Friday everyone enjoyed being back together, lots of visiting, a relaxing Happy Hour, and a delicious hamburger and sausage BBQ by the hosts, all in the beautiful outdoors as weather was on our side.



Thanks Mark. Great idea!

Cliff Pike, VP Wagon Master

**GMC Heritage Cruisers June
Rally
June 6-8, 2025 Ingersoll,
Ontario**

The rally was hosted by Bruce and Paula Hislop at their lovely home and property. Early arrivals on Thursday were Cliff and Penny Pike. The rest of the attendees arrived on Friday – Jim and Nancy Hamilton, Jim and Gudrun Owens,

Saturday day guests arrived – Bill and Lauren Phinney and Elko and Emily Byker. Because of tight parking, it was a “staycation” and all activities were held at the site. Bruce held a Super Tech Session in his large garage with lots of info about common problems, fusible links and air conditioning. Members appreciated his knowledge and went home with new information.



Paula did a presentation about furniture repair and refinishing in her workshop. Attendees then had the opportunity to paint or stain a chair to use as a plant holder and we got to take them home. It was a lot of fun. Saturday supper we ordered out for pizza and chicken wings. After supper we did a gift exchange. A bit of stealing occurred but everyone went home with a special item. After this there was social time around the fire pit and a rousing game of Mexican train which involved lots of laughter. Sunday morning we had our last meal together, a yummy breakfast once again provided by our hosts. Then it was clean up, pack up, and we all headed out. It was a sun filled, fun filled time.

In Memorium

Jean Price passed away on 7 June at the age of 76. She & Fred were members of the Heritage Cruisers for many years and the GMC

Motorhomes International and the GMC Great Lakers.

Election Year

This year is an Election Year when we choose our new Executive or reaffirm some of those who are serving. Our Nominating Committee will start their work soon to present us with this year's slate to be voted on later in the year, usually at the last rally of the year.

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.



Summer Tech Article

by Bruce Hislop, VP Tech

Paula and I, along with three other Heritage Cruisers couples, are on a month long trip to Newfoundland. For most of us there are very few long steep hills and descents in our usual travel area. Here in NL we had to navigate some fairly steep, long and winding hills on "The Rock". For those towing cars it was challenging.

Our OEM 3.07 ratio final drive was not optimum for flat land let alone climbing hills. There are aftermarket taller ratios available (3.42 and 3.70 being popular). These higher ratios allow the engine to rev higher and reduces the torque through the transmission. If you tow, changing to a higher ratio is a good idea even if you are on flat land. I recently changed to a 3.42 and find the coach now accelerates much quicker and takes the moderate hills with ease.

While I'm not an expert in mountain driving, here are some tips I've gleaned over the years.

When climbing a hill, once your speed slows down to 60km/hr

(40MPH) you should manually shift the transmission into Second (S) gear. This will allow the engine to rev up back into its power band (2600-2800RPM) to reduce lugging the engine. It will also reduce the load on the transmission and torque converter. Once you get down to 50km/hr (30MPH), then manually shift to first (L) gear.

For descending hills, the rule of thumb is to go down the hill in the same gear needed to climb it. This saves brakes from overheating and possibly boiling the brake fluid causing brake fade. Manny Travaro, the transmission guru, tends to disagree on this saying brake repairs are much cheaper than transmission repairs (he has a point). Definitely DO NOT ride the brakes down the hill. When needed, brake to reduce speed, then let off to allow the brakes to cool.

Switching to synthetic gear oil in your final drive has also proven to reduce friction and hence it's operating temperature.



Photo of the bay from our campsite in Twillingate, Newfoundland attached.



Classified

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

For Sale: One new GMC airbag.....Best Offer..... Dick Paterson dick@paterson-gmc.com

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



2025 Newsletter

Submissions for the Fall Edition of the "Comings 'n Goings" are due by 7 October to the Editor, Al Hamilton at akh@1000island.net.

Enclosures:

July Rally – 18-20 July
Belleville, Ont

August Rally – 6-10 Aug
Spencerport, NY

September Rally – 19-21 Sep
Carrying Place, Ont