



# COMINGS 'n GOINGS

*Quarterly Publication of the GMC Heritage Cruisers*

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

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**Spring 2005**

**[www.gmcheritagecruisers.com](http://www.gmcheritagecruisers.com)**

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## **From the President**

Hooray!! Spring is finally here. One of the first signs of our spring is the return of the snowbirds. It's 81 degrees F here today. You would think we were in Florida. It's time for our first rally of the year and I look forward to seeing all of you again. This first rally should be one of our best with the show Saturday night, and our location at Ontario Place, in the heart of Toronto.

We are compiling a notebook of all the Heritage Cruiser coaches and owners. At each of the rally's this year we will take a picture of you and your coach for this notebook. We plan to email these to our members which then may be printed on your own computer. Those members who do not want your coach picture and name in this book should notify any of the club officers. If you do not have an email address, and wish to get a copy of this booklet, notify any officer of the club and we will mail you a copy.

**Bob Morris**  
President

## **This 'n That**

Unfortunately, last fall Lena Longman's back surgery had to be postponed to this coming June. Good Luck with it, Lena. We know it will be a success.

## **Membership**

We have 93 members starting this rally season. We should have record numbers at the rallies. For those interested in demographics, the membership is spread out as follows: Ontario - 55 ; New York - 32; Quebec - 3; Florida - 1; Ohio - 1; and, Pennsylvania - 1.

## **Membership Application Form**

There is a copy of our latest Chapter application for you, with this newsletter, to give to anyone who would like to become a member. There are still some old copies in circulation with old addresses and phone numbers. Please destroy them and prevent some frustration for our new member.

Put this new green copy in your coach and go recruiting!!!!!!!!!!!!



## **Chapter Nominal Roll**

Please check your name, address, etc. for accuracy and pass any corrections to the Editor. (The membership list is included with copies of this newsletter to HC members only.)

### **Annual Financial Statement 2004**

The Annual Financial Statement for last year is enclosed.

### **2005 Rally Schedule from the VP Wagonmaster**

- 13-15 May – Ontario Place, Toronto -  
Carscaddens, Colliers,  
Patersons, Schons, &  
Olivers
- 17-19 June – Sackets Harbor, NY -  
Crutchers  
**Rallymasters would like input  
for activities from members  
at May rally.**
- 15-17 July – Le Roy, NY –  
Urbanskis & Farrells  
**Rallymasters need your return  
by 24 June. The registration  
and information sheet is  
enclosed.**
- 12-14 Aug – Scottish Games, Fergus, Ont  
Camping at Elora Gorge -  
Podmores, Patersons, & Hoods
- 2-5 Sept – Fiddlers Contest, Pembroke, Ont  
Gosses
- 14-16 Oct – October Fest, Kitchener, Ont  
**rallymaster needed**

## **May Rally Information**

The Rallymasters have sent an email with rally information and registration forms to all members who have an email address and have also mailed details to all members without email addresses. We would ask anyone who has not received the details and who is interested in attending to contact us as soon as possible at 416-231-0426. -- Roy & Joan Carscadden

### **Heritage Air Group Air Show 7-10 July 2005**

The theme of this year's HAG Air Show is based on the 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Battle of Britain. An information sheet is enclosed with all the details for the event that starts on Thursday, 7 July. **Contact Fred or Eunie Ely or John or Margaret Evans** for more details and to let them know you are going to attend. You can make it a combined trip with the rally in Le Roy the next weekend.

### **GMC Heritage Cruisers Cocktail Munchies & Potluck Goodies Book**

Here are two more excellent examples of recipes submitted for the Goodies Book.

#### **BEST BROWNIES**

Stir:  $\frac{3}{4}$  c. cocoa  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  tsp. baking soda  
 $\frac{1}{3}$  c. oil  
Add:  $\frac{1}{2}$  c. boiling water, stir until thick  
Add: 2 c. sugar  
2 eggs  
 $\frac{1}{3}$  c. oil beat until smooth  
Add: 1  $\frac{1}{3}$  c. flour  
1 tsp vanilla  
 $\frac{1}{4}$  tsp. salt  
Bake at 350 for 30-35 min in 9 x 13 greased pan. Do not over bake.

*Ginette Stuckey*

## COCONUT SHRIMP & CILANTRO TORTILLAS

¼ Cup Shredded Coconut  
¾ lb (370 g) Frozen or Fresh Shrimp  
(Cooked)  
2 Tablespoon Fresh Cilantro, Finely  
Chopped  
2 Teaspoon Fresh Ginger, Finely Grated  
2 Tablespoon Fresh Lime Juice  
2 Teaspoon Soya Sauce  
2 Teaspoons Hot Chili Sauce (e.g. A Touch  
of Thai Garlic Chili Pepper Sauce)  
Freshly Grated Pepper to Taste  
Tortilla Chips (Loblaws Tostitos Gold)  
In Dry Skillet, Toast Coconut Till Lightly  
Golden (transfer To Bowl)  
Add Rest of Ingredients, Chop Shrimp  
Coarsely & Add  
Put a Teaspoon of Mixture on a Tortilla Chip  
Just Before Serving

*Joan Carscadden*

## Do We need a Passport??

As a Chapter that has many members on both sides of the border and we make many crossings a year, we should be watching the details on the news from both federal governments concerning the discussion of changes to the need to use only passports as identification for border crossing. There have been indications of change, to Canadian passports, for better security. The US authorities announced that by 2008 only passports will be accepted as identification. That policy is being reviewed.

For now there appears to be no change. We should watch for change. When it comes and a lot of people require passports or new passports, the time required to apply and receive a new passport will be quite long.

When something firm is decided on either side of the border, we will include it in the newsletter.

## 6000 Mile Trip to the Body Shop

by Dan Stuckey – February 2005

I thought some of you in the Great White North might like to hear about our trip to Mexico. We are in La Penita de Jaltemba, Pacific coast of Mexico, about an hour north of Puerto Vallarta.

**Travelling:** Took our sweet time getting here and arrived January 30th --2682 miles and \$895 US for gas. Don & Eileen Casselman travelled with us. They had a few problems with their coach along the way--furnace fan in Indiana when they really needed it; alternator in Effingham, Illinois; and, a vapour lock in the Mexican heat and mountains. We put my spare electric pump on and they were OK the rest of the way. Our coach worked well except for an intermittent failure of the starter. We had it rebuilt here in the campground for \$22 US.

**Roads** are second class compared to ours, even the multi-lanes, and a little narrower with no shoulders usually. Toll roads are ferociously expensive. We used the "libre" roads most of the time. Village streets are usually collections of craters.

**Economics:** Most things are cheaper, although gas is about the same as at home. New glasses and new lens for my old ones were \$272 US. It's almost cheaper to eat out. Dental work like teeth cleaning is \$45 US.

**Climate:** There was a little rain when we first arrived--the first since October -- and sunny ever since. The ocean temperature is 80.5 F / 27 C. I measured it -- we're about 100 yards from an almost deserted beach.

**People:** Mexicans must be the friendliest people on the planet. They have embarrassed us with kindness many times. Their little kids and babies are drop dead gorgeous -- you want to take them all home. Mexico seems to be a third-world country trying to leapfrog into first world status.

Some gringo said, "I can't stand all this poverty, this messiness ". (It's true in the sense that there doesn't seem to be a national consciousness yet about keeping the countryside clean and neat. Come to think of it, we could use a little of that in Canada). Jim Mooney, whom many of you met at the Flamboro Rally and who has been down here several years, replied, "Well, look at their faces. They're smiling. You're the one with the frown". Jim, by the way, lost a motor in his GMC on the way down and had to have it rebuilt in Guadalajara. He says now he knows there is another way to remove a motor from a GMC besides the hoist frame that you see in the GMC Shop Manual. Six Mexicans and a pole work "real well". How in the world six guys could all stand up at the front of a coach, let alone lift a 455 out of the hole there is beyond me, but they did.

**The Body Shop:** Our coach went in to the body shop yesterday, (23rd of February). I'm willing to admit I'm nervous. If you saw the shop, you would be too; walls, roof over part of it, an old tarp over another part, and dirt floors. I would never have entrusted my coach to such a shop, if I hadn't seen the quality of the work coming out of it. Mind you, you all know that anything will be an improvement on our coach. The owner's name is Jesus (pronounced "Haysoos", so our GMC is in the "hands of Jesus") and he's very conscientious. He and his wife are sleeping in the shop during the 3 weeks it will be there just to make sure it's OK! We're renting a trailer in the campground while the work is being done.

Doug and Adeline Barber drove down from Mazatlan two weeks ago and stayed in a beautiful little hotel for most of a week in the town of La Penita. We had a lot of fun, as you can imagine. They liked it well enough that they're returning in another week or so. Today, 4 March, we just got back from Puerta Vallarta, - stayed with the Mooney's in their time share there, a brand new (as of

October) ultra luxury resort, the Grand Mayan. We needed a break from the strenuous relaxing, don't you know. Man, that's some place. The rich are different from the rest of us - they have more money.

Hope to see you all at the Rustbuster.

*Dan and Ginette*

Editor's Note: We're all looking forward to seeing the results of your paint job at the May rally.

## Classifieds

For Sale: Three-bike carrier, pole type, modified to fit over 2" tow bar. \$40.00 Cdn . Captain's chair with arms, on pedestal beige, \$25.00 Al Hamilton 613-659-3522

For Sale: Special Fred Hill aluminium step and an Onan circuit board. Both are in the coach at rallies. Free – coach roof box – needs some repair. Fred Hill - 613-543-2262

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

## Tips from Trips

At a Coach Storage session at a recent other-chapter rally, a small three-drawer box was suggested to keep the many little items that make their way into our coaches. Walmart stores sell them. They are made by Sterilite. They are 7"x7"x7" and we found them to be excellent for keeping the clutter to a minimum and to be able to find the little items easily. The cupboard over the bed is a perfect spot for at least one of them.

## **Tech Talk**

### **Throne Repairs**

*Most of our coaches came with the Aqua Magic GL or GH model toilets and they have lasted well over the years. There are two repair kits available to stop leaks and I have had to put both on the last two years.*

*The toilet has to be removed from the little room to put either kit in and a sealing ring is provided with each kit to be put on the bottom of the toilet to keep odours in the holding tank. First, was the peddle valve kit and the new ring was put on. The old ring was disintegrating and badly compressed – wasn't doing its "job"!! Recently, the vacuum break kit had to be installed. The two-year old sealing ring was hardened and compressed like the very old one taken out two years earlier – again not doing its "job".*

*Instead of putting the rubber-sealing ring on this time, I put a wax ring that is used under toilets in houses – they seem to last for years. They fit our toilets and I am quite sure will provide a longer and better seal – cost less than \$2.00.*

*I also replaced the very rigid plastic water supply line to the toilet with a 24" steel braided water line that is used on taps in kitchens and bathrooms. It is very flexible and therefore easier to connect to the toilet in the small spaces. The very flexible line removed all pressure where it was connected to the toilet and the water line.*

*Hope that was the last of removing the "throne" from the little room.*

### **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 Newsletter**

*Submissions for the Summer 2005 Edition of the "Comings 'n Goings" are due by 15 July 2005 to the Editor, Al Hamilton 613-659-3522 or [ahamilton@sympatico.ca](mailto:ahamilton@sympatico.ca).*