



News

January 2012



Message from the President

Greetings fellow Cascaders,

This new year of 2012 has an excellent variety in store for those attending the rallies scheduled. We have Valentines, Mai fest, Pacific Ocean at Camp Kiwanda, White Rock BC, A TransCanada tour going from Pacific to Atlantic Oceans following White Rock and our Christmas Rally for everyone's pleasure.

The previous year was filled with many great rallies, camaraderie and festive get togethers with a kaleidoscope of themes and venues. The number of first time attendees was encouraging, as well as seeing familiar faces.

The face of the executive committee is gradually changing, we have a new treasurer, Wayne Wright, and have a new candidate for secretary, Pat Davison, who will be voted on at the Valentines Rally in February.

I wish to take this time to say a very heartfelt "Thank You" to Mary Gurtler for your 3 years of service, and to Jackie Jones, for those hectic renewal periods the past 3 years. Both of you made my job very easy the previous 18 months and I know you both will enjoy the upcoming rallies with a sigh of relief at being able to JUST be an attendee. We also owe a big thank you to Jeff and Paul for being such good sports as well.

We have maintained an average of 130 or so member coaches, and see new faces joining as old ones depart. We have received a packet of 5 memberships (FMCA A Dozen Does It) to FMCA for new members joining this year, so if you meet someone in a GMC NOT a member, encourage them to join. The coaches are close to entering their 4th decade of service and still going strong.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible this coming year and that you ALL enjoy good Health, good Roads, Running Coaches and Great Cascading.

Ron Smith

Central Oregon Rolling Rally

What a great rally – filled with perfect weather, gorgeous scenery, local history, geology and paleontology, museums, yummy pot-lucks, and river cavorting.

We met in Condon, OR at the Gilliam County Fairgrounds RV Park on Tuesday September 6, 2011. Hosts Will and Janis Pow-



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ers assigned sites and we all met at the huge gazebo for a great happy hour of Peach Fuzzes and our first potluck dinner. New members Tom & Marilyn Suarez from Joseph, OR were introduced. The beautiful sunset ushered in cooler air for a lovely evening of visiting.

On Wednesday morning after breakfast, Gilliam County volunteers gave us a tour of pioneer buildings located right on the fairgrounds:



a school, pioneer home, barn and museum all filled with furniture and items typical of the mid-1800's. The coaches then departed for the 20-mile drive to Fossil, where we all dug out rocks, cracked them open and uncovered fossils. We then headed for the Donnelly BLM Park 22 miles down the road and parked right on the John Day River. The hot weather

had most everyone playing in the water for the balance of the afternoon. Everyone gathered under the side-by-side awnings for happy hour and a potluck dinner. A lovely moon-rise over the mountains rounded out a delightful day.


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Thursday morning we headed south 38 miles to the Thomas Condon Paleontology Center to see how the professionals dig for fossils. We watched a movie, toured the exhibits and attended a lecture by a visiting scholar learning about the significance of the

area and how discoveries are made. Fossils in the area date over 50 million years. Some of us also walked across the highway to the James Cant Ranch to learn about early sheep farming.

To complete the trip to the town of John Day, we drove the remaining 40 miles through beautiful rock formations and scenic canyons. We camped at the Grant County RV Park, situated on the John Day River. Activities in John Day included attending the quilt show, visiting the model train building and exploring the Kam Wah Chung Museum. During the gold rush days John Day had a population of 2,000 Chinese workers. We gathered chairs and tables for our happy hours and potlucks, fighting off the yellow jackets with vigor. Will Powers gave a presentation on Propane Gas and Your GMC after Friday night dinner.



after Friday night dinner.



On Saturday morning we gathered at The Grubsteak Restaurant for a group breakfast to say our good-byes. Everyone agreed that the trip was just the right pace, just the right mix of fascinating scenery and history, and just the right balance of activities and visiting. A huge thank you to Will and Janis for this rally – now we want you to lead us through Oregon’s Steen Mountains!

Submitted by Sharon Cummins

Those in attendance:

Jeff Fraisure & Mary Gurtler	Bill & Betty Hubler	Tom & Marilyn Suarez
Damon Freeman	Paul & Jackie Jones	Noble Warrant & Sharon Cummins
Ted Freemire	Terry & Gloria Morris	Wayne & Sandy Wright
Bill & Pris Hardin	Ron & Pattie Smith	Will & Janis Powers

GMC CASCADERS RALLY MINUTES

LOCATION: JOHN DAY, OREGON

September 9, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 1900 by President, Ron Smith.

Presidents Message: Ron gave a special thank you to Will and Janis Powers for hosting the rally. Everyone overwhelmingly agreed that they had a great time. Ron stated that if you ever were going to host a rally, this was the way to do it. We had 12 coaches traveling the rolling rally. Don and Mary Gibson, unfortunately, broke down on the way to the rally. Sorry we missed you.

Hosts / Helpers: Will and Janis Powers did a wonderful job of hosting the rally. Everyone pitched in with the potlucks and the planned activities, which made for a great time.

New Members/First Rally: Ron announced first time rally member attendees, Tom and Marilyn Suarez. We welcome you to our club. Also long time members, Bill and Pris Harden were here. Welcome back.

Secretary Report: Jackie Jones requested approval of the previous minutes from the Brooks, OR, July 2011, as published. The minutes were approved: 1st motion – Terry Morris, 2nd motion – Noble Warrant. All minutes taken at the rallies are posted on the website, generally within a month of the rally. I hope everyone does read them. We presently have 134 memberships. Membership renewals were sent out a week ago. Also, you have the option of a one year or two year renewal. This was decided due to the Canadian funds and U.S. bank account transaction issues. Please return your renewal forms back as soon as possible.

Treasurer Report: Mary Gurtler reported that we have \$7531.05 in the treasury account, with zero out in deposits. Wayne Wright has volunteered to take over the position of Treasurer from Mary. The transition and election will take place in February 2012 at the Valentine's Rally. Thank you Mary for the great job you have done.

First Vice President Report: (Historian) Tony Wright was not present. A get-well card was sent to Frank Taber who had back surgery.

Second Vice President Report: (Wagon Master) Sharon Cummins requested that individuals return the rally critique sheets that she has handed out. She has gathered many comments and ideas and has instituted positive changes at rallies based on your input. Sharon spoke in length about the many rallies planned for 2012. She also spoke of some ideas and tentative plans for 2013. Sharon has done a great job in formulating and planning our rallies. 2012 looks like a great rally year. Please check the website for group gatherings that come up for anyone to attend. For further updates and information on club gatherings and upcoming rallies please check the website.

Webmaster Report: Tony Wright does a great job in updating the website. Please make sure to check the website often for news and updates. <http://www.gmc-cascaders.com/>.

Western States: No representative present. The fall rally will be in Palm Desert, CA., Emerald Desert RV Resort. It will be held October 1st through October 5th, 2011. Please check the website for further rally information.

GMC International: No representative present. Please check the GMC International website for more information.

FMCA: No representative was present. For information and updates please check their website: <http://www.fmca.com/>.

OLD BUSINESS:

We are looking for someone to fill the vacancy of club Secretary. Jackie is finishing up her fourth membership renewal event. She would like to see someone interested in taking over the position after the first of the year. If you have any questions or need more information about what the po-

sition entails, please contact Jackie.

Ron passed around a hand out, "Wine for Dummies". The hand-out came out of the Wine Rally. If you would like a copy contact Ron.

Lynne Wilson is doing a great job in selling club gear. More Cascader gear will be available at the Christmas Rally. You may also check the website for updated items.

NEW BUSINESS:

It was suggested to change the cycle of officer voting to after the first of the calendar year. This will be discussed further at the December rally.

Ron Smith adjourned the meeting at 1930.

1st motion: Paul Jones

2nd motion: Tom Suarez

Minutes submitted by: Jaclyn Jones ~ Secretary

MEETING ATTENDEES:

Jeff Fraisure & Mary Gurtler	Bill & Betty Hubler	Ron & Pattie Smith
Damon Freeman	Paul & Jackie Jones	Tom & Marilyn Suarez
Ted Freemire	Terry & Gloria Morris	Noble Warrant & Sharon Cummins
Bill & Pris Harden	Will & Janis Powers	Wayne & Sandy Wright

Christmas Rally

The brisk clear weather set the perfect stage for the Christmas rally held in Ferndale, WA December 1-4, 2011. Hosts Virginia & Lawrie Paradis, Vera & John Gruenewald and Fran Allen had great food, fun entertainment, and festive decorations lined up for us to start the Christmas season in style. As the coaches rolled in and set out their own lights, it added to the mood for a lovely weekend.

Thursday night's Happy Hour led into another delicious GMC Cascaders potluck. Games and lots of visiting followed. We had no new members in attendance but welcomed our guests Louise Cumming (Michael's mother) and Judy Counterline (Jim Hupy's friend).

Friday started off with a tech session led by Jim Hupy. He demonstrated special equipment designed for use in aligning the wheels of our coaches. The ladies' made appetizer trays from wine bottles that Virginia Paradis had melted in her kiln. By adding raffia trim and a small knife, we had adorable cheese plates. Then members were free to visit the surrounding areas for the many activities in Whatcom County: antique stores, quilt stores, museums, a casino, Christmas bazaars. Everyone met back at the clubhouse at 5 p.m. for Happy Hour, followed by a great spaghetti dinner. Once the dishes were cleared, it was time to welcome the arrival of Santa (Terry Morris) and Mrs. Santa (Vera Gruenewald). They called out names for the gift exchange and everyone had fun choosing which package to open.

On Saturday after the lovely breakfast of coffee cake and cheese strata, the day was again free to explore the local sights. As dusk arrived, the judges of the coach-decorating contest made their rounds. Happy Hour started at 5 p.m. with hot buttered rum drinks, hosted by Tony Wright and Lynne Wilson. Each place at the tables was set with a “cracker,” a decorative party favor widely used in Great Britain at Christmas.



Everyone had fun popping them open, playing with the toy, reading aloud the joke and donning the tissue-paper crown. Then the beautiful turkeys that Lawrie Paradis had been barbecuing all afternoon arrived and we enjoyed a full turkey dinner. To add even more to the festive evening, the *Honey Bees*, a women’s singing group with the sound of the Andrew Sisters, entertained with a Christmas show.



Sunday’s continental breakfast was followed by everyone swarming the beautiful handmade Christmas placemats to choose which one to take as a souvenir of the rally – there were enough to go around.



The business meeting started at 9 a.m. When President Ron Smith gave his usual plea for someone to take over the secretarial job from Jackie Jones, a Christmas miracle happened! Patricia Davison of Boston Bar, B.C. volunteered!!! She and Jackie are now busy working out a few wrinkles that her living in Canada creates. Thanks Pat!



The results of the decorating contest were announced and beautiful handmade prizes given: The Gibson’s won best outside decorations and the Fraisure’s won for best inside.

After the room was cleaned and all leftover food had been dispersed, it was once again time to wish everyone a wonderful holiday season and depart for home. Big thanks to the hosts for a great rally. Submitted by Sharon Cummins



Those attending the rally:

Allen, Fran	Gibson, Don & Mary	Paradis, Lawrie & Virginia
Baxter, George & Carol	Gruenewald, John & Vera	Seykora, Gordon & Lucie
Birch, Greg & Rainy	Guise, Bill & Peggy	Smith, Ron
Cumming, Michael & Louise	Hubler, Bill & Betty	Taber, Frank & Diane
Davison, Kim & Patricia	Hupy, Jim & Judy Counter- mine	Walker, Ken & Susan Bell
Donovan, Tom & Sally	Jacobson, Dwayne & Sharon	Warrant, Noble & Sharon Cummins
Fraisure, Jeff & Mary Gurtler	Jones, Paul & Jackie	Wright, Tony & Lynne Wilson
Freemire, Ted & Jackie	Lammi, Tony & Sandy	
Gabbard, Ronnie & Shirley	Morris, Terry & Gloria	

GMC CASCADERS RALLY MINUTES

LOCATION: FERNDALE, WA.

December 03, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 0900 by President Ron Smith.

Presidents Message: Ron thanked everyone for their attendance at this most festive and fun rally. Everyone applauded and thanked the rally hosts for a wonderful time. The weather was cold but it did not stop the several Canadians that made it to the rally. Thank you to everyone who made it to this rally.

Hosts / Helpers: We would like to extend our appreciation and thanks to our rally hosts, Virginia and Lawrie Paradis, Fran Allen and Vera and John Gruenewald. They all did an exceptional job in putting this rally together and a lot of hard work. The turkey and food they prepared was exceptional and the hand-crafted gifts they donated for the coach decorating were beautiful.

New Members/First Rally/Guests: Ron welcomed guest Judy Countermine to our rally, a friend of Jim Hupy.

Secretary Report: Jackie Jones requested approval of the previous minutes from the Condon, OR. rally, September 2010, as published. The minutes were approved: 1st motion – Sally Donovan, 2nd motion – Mary Gibson. We presently have 131 memberships. Jackie reported on the progress of the membership renewals. We have presently 13 members that have not renewed as yet and have until December 15th to do so. We have had seven drop membership due to various reasons or hardships. Our membership numbers tend to be consistent over the years. The rosters for members will be sent out in January.

Treasurer Report: Mary Gurtler reported that we have \$9387.39 in the treasury account, with \$300.00 out in deposits. We have a deferred income of \$600.00 for 2013 dues paid for members opting for a two year membership.

First Vice President Report: (Historian) Tony Wright reported on numerous cards he sent out to

members. Get-well wishes were sent out to Virginia Paradis, Ernie Garcia, Frank Taber, Isola Olsen, Loreen Fleet, Del Preston and Rod Price. A sympathy card was sent to the family of Ken Wilson. Tony requested to be contacted with any information and addresses concerning any member's illnesses, injuries, surgeries, etc.

Second Vice President Report: (Wagon Master) Sharon Cummins stated she appreciates the critiques she receives back from the rallies and does incorporate some of the suggestions she receives. Sharon discussed upcoming rallies for 2012. Dwayne Jacobsen discussed his Sea to Sea rally being held in August, traveling through Canada. The trip will have several legs where individuals from different parts of the country can join up or depart. He requested that you contact him soon if you are interested. Sharon also discussed a possible rally in Port Townsend in the fall of 2012 and the Christmas rally in 2012 if anyone is interested in hosting. Rallies in the works for 2013 include a rally for Graffiti weekend in July in Roseburg Oregon. That will work into a rolling rally through Southern Oregon that Jerry and Sharon Works will host. Please check the website for further updates and information on upcoming rallies.

Webmaster Report: Tony Wright stated he recently updated the website due to software changes. Please check the website often for news and updates. <http://www.gmc-cascaders.com>

Western States: Jim Hupy gave a report for D.J. Eberhart. Jim talked about the fall rally that was held in Palm Desert, CA. The next Western States rally is at Casa De Fruita, in Holister CA., in April of 2012.

GMC International: Carol Baxter talked about the fall rally that was held in Goshen Indiana. She stated that there were 160 coaches present and 30% of them were first timers and the weather was good. The spring 2012 rally will be in Shawnee, Oklahoma. The fall rally in 2012 will be Amana Colonies, Amana Iowa. Carol suggested that the rolling rally that Dwayne Jacobson is organizing, traveling through Canada; that some might be interested in dropping down to attend this rally. Dwayne stated he would look into it as he plans his itinerary.

FMCA: No representative was present. Jackie Jones made copies of an FMCA handbook that discussed the liability and role FMCA plays in our rallies, member benefits and coverage they provide. Board members were given copies of the handbook and a copy is available for members to look at. Any further questions please contact Ron Smith. Also you may look at the FMCA magazine or at the website to print out your benefits card. Their website is: <http://www.fmca.com/>.

OLD BUSINESS:

A letter was sent to the club from past members, Warren and Nora Steinman, who will not be able to continue their membership due to health issues. It was a very nice and complimentary letter.

NEW BUSINESS:

A motion was brought up to change the Standing Rules concerning officer elections. The motion brought up was to hold the officer elections at the December rally instead of the fall rally. Tony Wright brought up the discussion that the fall rally is not held in a consistent month and is not a rally that is generally highly attended. The Christmas rally is historically and consistently held the first weekend in December and is well attended. It was also noted that membership renewals take place in the middle of the nominating and election process and it can be a bit overwhelming for a new officer to take their respective positions during this time. The nominations will be held at the fall rally, the elections will take place at the Christmas rally and the new officers will take their respective position the 1st of January.

The motion was brought up to the members. 1st motion: Shirley Gabbard 2nd motion: Patricia Davison. All was in favor and the motion was carried. This change will be reflected in the Standing Rules that are on the website.

A motion was brought up to change the board sanctioned rally stipend from \$200 to \$300. Mary Gurtler discussed how our rally monies have been used and the initial objective of the rally stipend was to reduce rally costs to members. It was also brought up that rallies are now more often 3 days instead of 2 days and can be more costly. Sharon Cummins stated that members prefer to come to the rallies that are 3 days in length and no one is obligated to come to the 3 days of the rally unless they want to. We also have the revenue in our Treasury account that does need to be spent down. The motion was brought up to the members. 1st motion: Ted Freemire 2nd motion: Kim Davison. All was in favor and the motion was carried. This change will be reflected in the Standing Rules on the website.

The time is here for our annual officer elections. The position open is for club Secretary and Treasurer. It was announced that Wayne Wright has agreed to take the position of Treasurer. The position of Secretary is open with one individual considering the position.

A motion was brought up to elect the following officers:

President:	Ron Smith
1 st Vice President, Historian:	Tony Wright
Secretary:	Jackie Jones
Treasurer:	Wayne Wright
2 nd Vice President, Wagon Master:	Sharon Cummins
Webmaster:	Tony Wright

D.J. Eberhart -- Western State representative
George Baxter -- GMC International representative
Jerry Work - FMCA representative

1st motion: Carol Baxter
2nd motion: Kim Davison.

The membership approved the nominations for officers and club positions. Thank you, Mary Gurtler, for serving as our Treasurer. You did a wonderful job during your tenure, keeping our books in order and dedication in preserving the club values. Thank you to Wayne Wright for accepting the nomination.

Congratulations to all our new and current officers on a job well done.

Ron Smith adjourned the meeting at 1000.

1st motion: Peggy Guise
2nd motion: Fran Allen

Minutes submitted by: Jaclyn Jones ~ Secretary

MEETING ATTENDEES:

Fran Allen	Ronnie & Shirley Gabbard	Tony & Sandy Lammi
George & Carol Baxter	Donald & Mary Gibson	Lawrie & Virginia Paradis
Michael & Louise Cummings (guest)	Bill & Peggy Guise	Ron Smith
Kim & Patricia Davison	John & Vera Gruenewald	Frank & Diane Taber
Tom & Sally Donovan	Jim Hupy & Judy Countermine (guest)	Ken Walker & Susan Bell
Ted & Jackie Freemire	Dwayne & Sharon Jacobson	Noble Warrant & Sharon Cummins
Jeff Fraisure & Mary Gurtler	Paul & Jackie Jones	Tony Wright & Lynne Wilson



Wine glasses with GMC Cas-

Information on all of the GMC Cascaders gear is available on the website: <http://www.gmc-cascaders.com/Gear/default.html> .



Wine bags with GMC Cascaders logo.

Jeff Eichen has made our very first Calendar! [GMC Cascaders Calendar 2012](#) .We have only 35 copies left. So please Send Jeff Eichen a ✓ or Paypal him. Jeff Eichen, 1335 Cherry St., Port Townsend WA. 98368, 360-385-5825

FMCA Membership

Two issues around FMCA membership have come up several times this year. The first is why we have to be members of FMCA before we can belong to GMC Cascaders; a few people have even dropped membership because of it. The second is our policy that only members may register for rallies through the rally host; this was the confusing issue at the Mayfield Lake rally where we actively invited non-members to attend. For purposes of this article, I am purposely ignoring the individual benefits that FMCA membership offers and only covering the reasons our club has this requirement. GMC Cascaders is a sub-organization under FMCA. With this structure, FMCA carries the insurance that covers us for all our club liability issues – property damage caused by us at rallies, medical expenses for occurrences at rallies, liquor usage liability, the bond for the handling of money, officer liability and breach of duty issues, publisher’s liability, libel, slander, plagiarism, copyright infringement for the newsletter and website.

When we present ourselves as a “group,” these are real issues. If we were not under FMCA, we would have to maintain such an insurance policy ourselves. We maintain a one-visit-per-guest policy so that new GMC motorhome owners can experience a rally before joining, but with full knowledge that in visitor status they are not covered by the FMCA umbrella.

So the bottom line is, your dues to FMCA together with your dues to GMC Cascaders should be viewed as a **bargain** – if we had to purchase our own liability insurance, our dues would be much higher.

Each board member has a booklet entitled *FMCA Risk Management Guide* if you would like further information.

Submitted by Sharon Cummins

Upcoming Rallies

The Valentines rally will be in Lacey, WA at Washington Land Yacht Harbor, the private park owned by Airstream members. The clubhouse is huge, we will have a valentines card exchange, our annual couples photos, a chocoholic dessert night, the Bluegrass music group of Dennis Schosboek and Dave & Rosalee Secord to entertain, Wayne & Sandy Wright will teach us all a round dance. Bring your sweetheart and come out for some fun. February 9-12, 2012 . Call Sharon Cummins with questions (360) 446-2319. The signup form is available on the website: http://www.gmc-cascaders.com/Rally_Schedule/Signups/ValentinesRally2012.pdf

In May we meet in Leavenworth at the Icicle River RV Park to enjoy Maifest, a German festival to celebrate spring. There will be a beer tasting contest, a German meal at a local restaurant, a beautiful Leavenworth festival to enjoy. Please bring a tow vehicle if possible. How can you pass up Leavenworth !?! May 10-13, 2012. Call Mary Gurtler with questions (360) 692-5639.

Rally Event Calendar

Date (s)	Location	Rally Master
February 9-12,2012	Valentines Rally, Washington Land Yacht Harbor, Lacey, WA	Sharon Cummins, Noble Warrant, Wayne & Sandy Wright, Ronnie & Shirley Gabbard
May 10-13, 2012	Maifest, Icicle RV park, Leavenworth, WA	Mary Gurtler & Jeff Fraisure
June 7-10, 2012	Cape Kiwanda RV Resort, Pacific City, OR	Paul Hoge & Sandy Brooks
August 2-6, 2012	White Rock, BC Canada, Dry camping on 10 acres.	Dwayne & Sharon Jacobson
Start August 6, 2012	Sea to Sea Canada Rolling Rally	Dwayne & Sharon Jacobson

Photos

Many thanks to the folks that sent in their rally photos. Did you know more photos from the rallies are available on the website? If you have rally photos you would like to share send them to webmaster@gmc-cascaders.com , and they will be made available on the website. http://www.gmc-cascaders.com/rally_photos.htm

GMC Motorhomes and Parts for sale can be found on the GMC Cascaders website: http://www.gmc-cascaders.com/for_sale.htm
