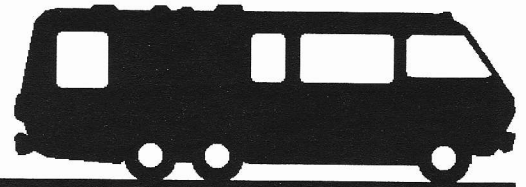
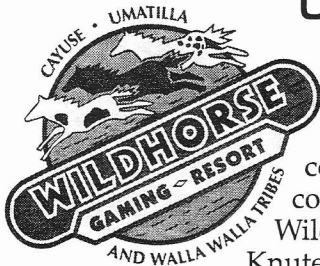


# GMC CASCADERS NEWS



August 1999



## Cascaders Enjoy Wild Highland Fling at Athena Rally

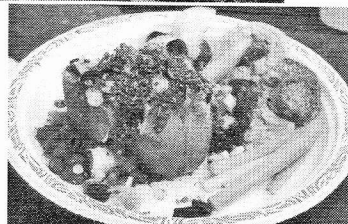
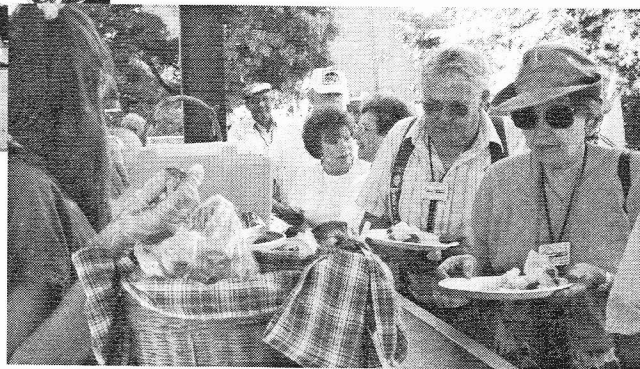
For over 80 Cascaders, our July rally brought a rich mixture of events and fun. In collaboration with the tiny community of Athena and the Wild Horse Casino and RV Park, Knute and Leona Blodger put together a string of surprises, fun and feasts.

Settled on the high, rolling wheat fields northeast of Pendleton, the 1000 citizens of Athena follow a Scottish theme for their annual celebration. Festivities include Scottish Highland dance competitions, a massing of bagpipe bands, sheep dog trials, Celtic music, a parade (left) and traditional Highland games.



The small town atmosphere invites

participation more than observation. Along those lines, we enthusiastically joined in on the garage sales, family heritage exploration at the clan tents and the community potato dinner (above center, and right). While Cascaders failed to enter the dance competition or dog trials (Go figure!), we *were* represented in the parade and the games! We really should get busy practicing the Highland fling and learning Celtic harp and bagpipes in



Photos this page by Hardin

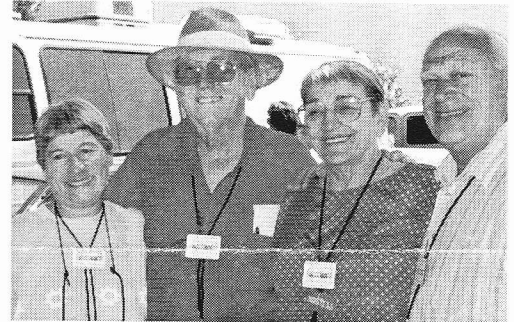
preparation for the next Athena rally!!! Any volunteers?

In remarkable contrast to the Athena celebrations, the Wild Horse RV park, 18 miles to the south, offered gambling, a Native American cultural center, casino dining and golf!

Once more, we thank an outstanding host team: Blodger, Hove, Ovens and Fleet. Leona and Knute made all the arrangements with the Wild Horse and Athena people.

What a job they did!

A thespian extravaganza on Thursday after



Lead hosts, Knute and Leona Blodger pause in the Athena park (above) with Terry and Ken Minshall.

the opening gathering brought together the talents (!?) of Walt Ovens, Carl Hove and Knute in a preview of the rally theme.

Knute played the "high tech" bagpipes, Walt and Carl carried on with a sword dance followed by a duel. The show must go on even if there is

Continued on next page...

### NEXT RALLY

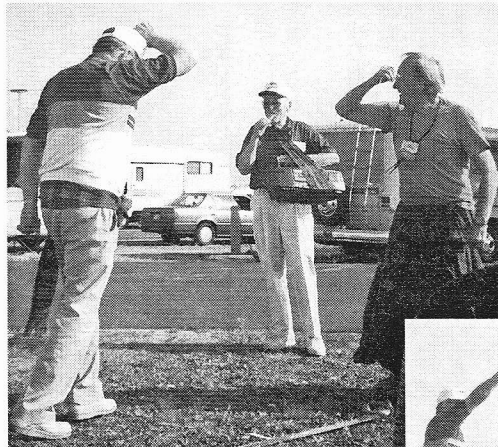
DATES	LOCATION	SITE	HOSTS
Sept 10-12	Kent, WA	South Seattle KOA	Cupples, Ragsdales, Gordons, Sutherlands

**MORE RALLIES... on back page**

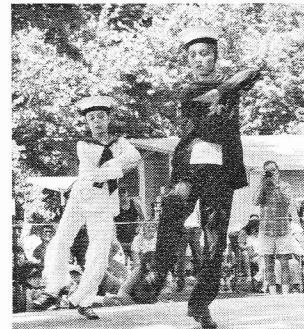
# GMC CASCADERS NEWS

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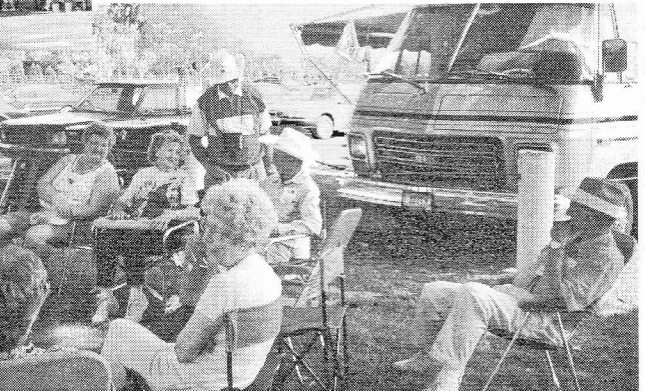
The GMC Cascader News is published six times annually. GMC motorhome owners from the following states and provinces are eligible to join GMC Cascaders: Alaska, Alberta, British Columbia, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington and Yukon Territory. Contact any officer for information.



Scottish plaid and a skirling bagpipe tape playing fooled most of us... till he stepped into view from behind his coach. With Leona at the mike and her faithful assistants doing the deliveries, soon we were all equipped with envelopes of tickets to the weekend's events and ready to take on the Caledonia games in the morning.



From our home base under the shade trees by Blodgers' coach, we watched the dance contests (above). The hornpipe was a special hit.



Photos this page by Hardin

only one sword (left & below); Walt did just fine with a steak knife. Carl's sword skill and skirt (make that kilt?) stole the show (left & below). Knute's tape player slung around his shoulder with a lovely sash of



Some displays were less public. Ken Minshall sneaked under the shade to snatch his favorite hors d'oeuvre (left).

Breakfasts at the Wild Horse motel started our days off. Caravans to Athena soon found us at the cool green city park where Blodger's coach served as home base for each day of the rally (below). Snacks and cooling punch provided a haven for flagging festival goers. The coach also served as temporary infirmary after Leona took a nasty fall down a steep bank banging up both knees and straining her neck.



# The Games

Photo by Hardin



Contrary to popular belief, the Highland fling seems to have more to do with the Scottish games than with dancing. Amateurs and professionals alike flung hay bundles over bars (left), 56 lb. weights over bars (far lower right), 56 lb weights over distances, stones over distances, and (below) cabers\* end-for-end for accuracy of direction! To top it off, the "ladies" flung a giant rolling pin at a ball on a post (upper and middle right). The ladies pictured here are our own Jan Lunn and Gloria Morris who distinguished themselves by tying for 4th place in the "pin" toss! Good going, ladies! \*peeled, shaped and weighed logs

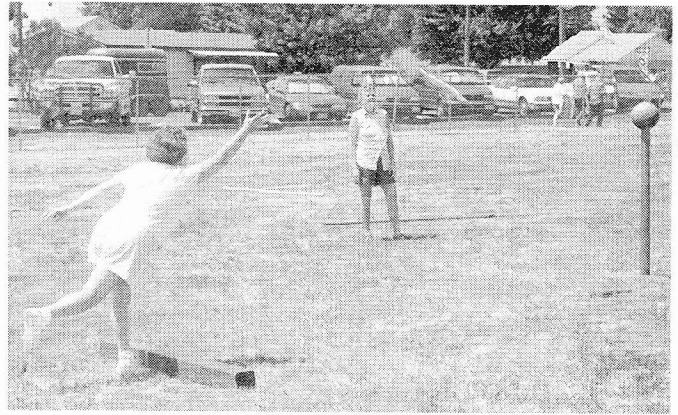


Photo by Ovens

Photo by Hardin



Some powerful contestants (left and right) wore kilts, tank tops or shirts with tartan sashes, knee socks and (surprise) modern athletic shoes. Their weight lifters' belts looked quite Scottish till they turned around and we could read "Gold's Gym" tooled into the back of their belts!

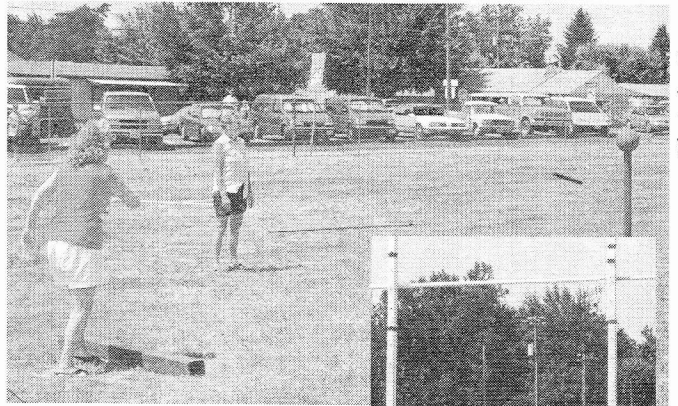


Photo by Ovens



Photo by Hardin

Wandering around Athena led us to the parade (right). Locals and visitors marched and rode all manner of beast and vehicle bearing everything from clan banners to bagpipes. *Continued next page...*

# The Parade

Photo by Hardin



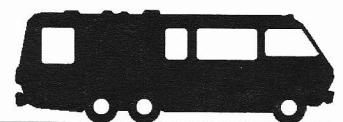
Contestants in the dancing (left) dressed according to their category of competition. The most advanced wore tartan as sashes or kilts.

Photo by Fleet



Photo by Hardin

Some Cascaders parked their coaches right on Main Street so as to view the parade in style, only to find it too warm inside for comfort (above). Riding in one of the Good Sams' float/trucks we found Loren and Becky Fleet (left) along with guest Virginia Larsen!



Cascaders drifted from the parade to the garage sales on their way back to the park, to the athletic field/stadium or to the concession stands which offered food and Scottish memorabilia.

*Arising from their "grandstand" seats in the shade beside the parade route (below), Cascaders try to decide what attraction should be next on the agenda.*

*Below, the Eberhard trio (from right to left), D.J., Barbara and D.J.'s mother, Fern, enjoyed the parade. It's nice to see parents taking responsibility for supervising their kids at a rally!*



Photos this page by Hardin

*Garage sales profited from some Cascaders. Some shoppers like Bill Hubler (lower right) managed to resist the high pressure sales tactics of the likes of Loren Fleet caught trying to peddle a coconut monkey head!*



### At the Stadium—Sheep Dog Trials

*Marvelous teamwork between dog and handler impressed us all (right).*

*Hot weather complicated the task for all parties including the sheep.*



### Concert under the stars—Raven

Raven, from Portland, OR, delivered Friday night's concert, an eclectic array of numbers, many with Celtic overtones. A reprise from last year's festival, they performed under better conditions than the previous year, when rain drove them indoors. Nevertheless, as the evening wore on, many of us found the heat of the day giving way to a breezy chill. Raven's informal dress and friendly conversations warmed us as much as possible (below).



Cascaders at the Athena rally included...  
 Hosts: Blodger, Hove, Ovens and Fleet  
 Attending: Gordon, Morris, Minshall, Boyd, Eberhardt, Davis [James], Swanson, Reed, MacKinnon, Barrie, Ragsdale, Thompson, Evans, Mast, Hubler, Paradis, Groth, Allen, Snow, Sutherland, Guizzetti, Ransom, Dana, Hardin, Wenzek, Titus, Dunlap, Gwynn, Larsen, Foote, Wilson [Ken], Westphal, Rowland, Seitz, Hamilton, Thiebert, Fuller, Kragt, Heuvel, Kyle.



## Tattoo

The Caledonian Games, Scottish Heritage Festival, concluded on Saturday night with a gathering of bagpipe bands from the northwest. Marching and displaying several novelty skills, the skirl of the pipes filled the warm evening air. Climax to the evening was a performance of the massed bands (lower right).

Photo by Hardin



*Colorful and LOUD, the four bands (right) put on a show that raises the hair on the backs of our necks. Four drum majors, massed drummers and pipers manage to march in step and keep the beat as if they had practiced together for hours.*



Photo by Ovens

*Drummers from the highly disciplined Boise, ID band, strut their stuff (above).*

*The Athena-Weston high school bagpipe band assures the continuation of a proud tradition (left). Their snowy haired teacher marches right along with them (front row).*

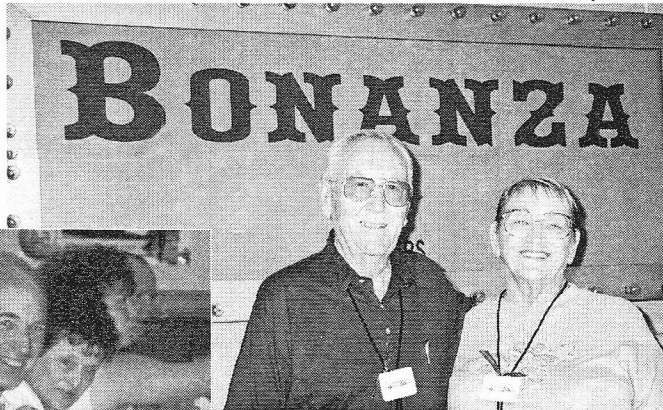


Photo by Hardin

## Sunday breakfast and Good-byes

President Terry Morris reminded us that the next rally includes our annual business meeting. Elections

Photo by Ovens



*Special thanks go to Knute and Leona Blodger (left) for calling our attention to this delightful festival. Thanks too to their fellow hosts. It was a bonanza for all .*

Photo by Hardin



*Hungry diners (above) settle for orange juice while awaiting their table's turn at the breakfast buffet.*

*make attending that session important for all. Breakfast at the Wild Horse Casino's Bingo Room sent us down the road toward home with the squeal of bagpipes ringing in our ears.*

*The casino's continental breakfast (right) had it all!*

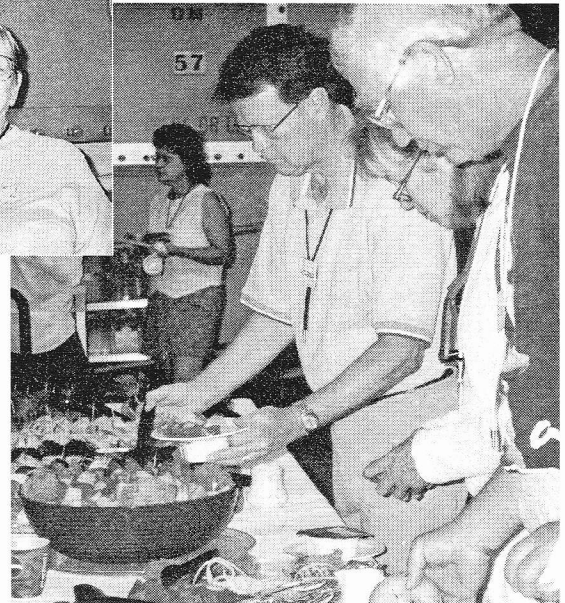
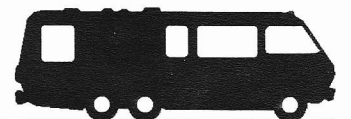


Photo by Hardin



## In Memoriam

On June third, Diny Spelt passed away, leaving a sense of loss among all who knew her. Ken and Jean Wilson and Denny and Fran Allen attended her memorial service in Saanichton, BC. Following Diny's wishes, the service was brief and filled with music. Ken reported that her family did a fine job of expressing their love and devotion to their Diny, wife and mother. Husband Jake sends a grateful thanks to all Cascaders for their cards and flowers.

Diny Dekkers was born in Ede, The Netherlands in the 1930's. She and Jake Spelt married in 1954 and immigrated to western Canada five days after their wedding. By 1962, they had found their way to British Columbia. Diny and Jake raised 4 children, and enjoyed spending time with their 9 grandchildren. We will miss her friendship, loyalty and support.

## ANOTHER SWEATSHIRT ORDER IS GOING IN!!!

Many of us have ordered and are wearing our Cascader sweatshirts. They're warm and cozy... a feature which was not fully appreciated at our Athena rally when temperatures were in the 90's or 100's. But we knew even then that fall and winter were coming!

The printer is ready to print a re-order. As soon as I've received 10 orders or more for GMC sweatshirts, I'll place the order.

- Shirts are ash gray in "quarter-zip" style! They are full-cut Jerzees.
- SEND ALL PAYMENT IN U.S. FUNDS.

Choose size from:

<input type="checkbox"/> Medium	Number of shirts ordered: _____	X	\$21.00 ea =	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Large	Number of shirts ordered: _____	X	\$21.00 ea =	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Extra Large	Number of shirts ordered: _____	X	\$21.00 ea =	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> XX Large	Number of shirts ordered: _____	X	\$23.00 ea =	_____

Total shirts ordered: \_\_\_\_\_ X shipping\* = \_\_\_\_\_

*\*Shipping—\$3 EACH shirt for U.S.; \$5 EACH shirt for Canada*

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \_\_\_\_\_

Jessie, please send my shirt(s) to:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State/Province \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Send form WITH check (US) or money order (Canada) to:

Jessie Rowland

1527 Castlerock

Wenatchee, WA 98801

*For more information, email Bill and Jessie Rowland at:  
jbrowland@nwi.net or phone: 509-662-7765*



A note from Tommy Thompson called our attention to the following story from the July/August Escapes RV Club magazine  
Permission to reprint the article came from the Escapes, Editor Jan Lasko

## PROPANE FIRE POSTMORTEM

From the TIPS FROM SKPs column by Hugh Duncan #37596

An attendant told how he was involved in an RV fire while filling the propane tank on our motor home. He was ready to start filling a tank and checked that the propane isolation valve to the motor home was shut.

When he opened the vent valve in preparation for filling the tank, the motor home exploded in flames.

Fumes from the vent had drifted into the back of the rig's refrigerator. Although the owner had carefully shut off propane to the rig, he had failed to shut off the electronic igniter for the refrigerator. The electronic igniter was dutifully trying to restart the refrigerator, but instead started a fire, which totaled the motor home.

It is not enough to shut off the propane. Be sure all electronic igniters are disabled.

## Curmudgeon Quips

"I wouldn't want to belong to any RV group that would have me as a member."

"Want to trace your family tree? Run for public office!"

"Nobody should wear a Greek fisherman's cap who doesn't meet two qualifications:

1. He is Greek. and
2. He is a fisherman."

"Health food makes me sick."

"Many a man in love with a dimple makes the mistake of marrying the whole girl."

"A government is the only known vessel that leaks from the top."

"A bore is a fellow who can change the subject back to his topic of conversation faster than you can change it back to yours"

Note: Copy for Curmudgeon Quips came from one of our newer members. Where does he get such a "positive outlook"?

## On the Road Again

26' GMC Glenbrook, 1975, w/455 cu in, new 18' awning, nearly new tires and batteries, micro-wave, two air conditioners. \$19,500 OBO. Ray Dapp, former GMC Cascader. (253) 838-3112

1977 GMC Kingsley—Original interior; 403 engine. Newer: 1996 gas/elec. refrigerator, insulated curtains, microwave. Excellent mechanical condition—headers, 3" exhaust system, 3.24 final drive, rebuilt steering. Asking \$17,500. Contact Bill Hardin—email: prisbill@proaxis.com or call 541-504-4723

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## Cascader Email Directory

Our GMC Cascader News Email Directory reports email addresses of newcomers to the internet and changes to existing addresses. Refer to your most recent membership roster for addresses current as of its publication date.

### NEW ADDRESSES!

Carl and Jean Gwynn .....  
May-Oct ..... cgwynn@televar.com  
Nov-Apr ..... cgwynn@netgenie.com  
Bob and Donna Hamilton... WdnBoatCnt@aol.com  
Ken and Jean Wilson ..... kcje@fidalgo.net

### CHANGES

Andy Bell ..... abell@home.com  
Doug and Elaine Cook ..... icook@axionet.com  
W.L. and Jessie Rowland ..... jbrowland@nwi.net

If you would like to add yourself to the list or make a change in your existing listing, send your information to:  
Pris Hardin, Editor ..... prisbill@proaxis.com  
and to:  
Cass Jones ..... timjones@hevanet.com

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### Accessing GMC "Sister" Clubs

Cascaders seeking information or communication with Western States or GMC Motorhomes International may use email and the web as follows:

Western States website ..... www.gmcws.org  
Western States email ..... :tweir@pacbell.net

GMC M Internat. website ..... www.gmcmi.com  
GMC M Internat. email ..... gmcmi@newnorth.net



## GMC Cascaders

Cass Jones, Secretary  
4191 SW Greenleaf Dr  
Portland, OR 97221

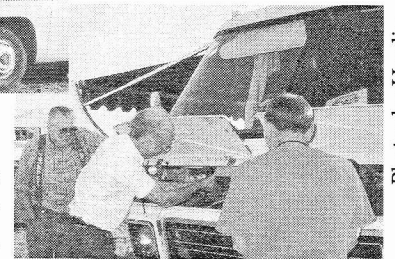
### "Getting There" Sagas

The Evans' coach troubles began at Hood River and were resolved in The Dalles following a frustrating overnight delay. The Sutherlands' story took on more serious proportions. Within 20 miles of home, their engine "blew up." After following their crippled coach back home, they packed their bags and drove their car to the rally. Now, *that's* loyalty! Bill Hubler added a coach story with a more positive note. He installed a different motor in his coach; the trip to the rally was the "maiden voyage" for his turbo diesel setup! Early reports are quite enthusiastic.



*Tech report: Innocent looking from the outside (left), Bill Hubler's turbo diesel lurks within!*

*Right: Denny Allen adjusts a balky air conditioning system.*



Photos by Hardin

### Rally Schedule 1999

DATES	LOCATION	SITE	HOSTS
Sept 10-12	Kent, WA	South Seattle KOA	Cupples, Ragsdales, Gordons, Sutherlands
Dec. 3-5	Cannon Beach, OR	Cannon Beach RV Park	

Watch future issues of the *GMC Cascaders News* for changes and additions to the above schedule. Make one of those changes YOURSELF... volunteer to host or serve as assistant. It's fun! Call Walt Ovens to sign up.

