



GMC CASCADERS NEWS

NOVEMBER 2006

Edited by Bill Guise and Produced by Bob Gummersall

WE HAVE A NEW FACE

Welcome to a new first edition of a new format for the GMC Cascader News. In the past, we have been blessed by having Pris Hardin, and more recently, Jim Bisakowski professionally publish our newsletter. Both the access to professional support and cost has caught up with the publication. This year, at the Vancouver rally, the club voted to move from a cost intensive newsletter model and join the digital age! Our club spends three quarters of our budget on the newsletter, rally fliers, postage and the WEB site. As we move towards the future, those costs, we hope, will disappear and new dues increased will not be needed, as the delivery of each will be done via digital email. This issue of the newsletter and several more will be delivered via snail mail and via email. In the near future only those who don't have email addresses will receive snail mail copies. We hope that all will see the advantages of using cyberspace to improve our clubs communication and lower our costs.

It is important that you advise our secretary/treasurer if you make changes to your email address. Simply tap the highlighted name of the newsletter (this is called a link) on the email you receive and by digital magic, the newsletter will appear! An exciting bonus to this approach is the color pictures, and you will have access to many new features in the email version. Our Canadian Cascaders will get their rally notices and newsletter 10 days earlier, at the same time as our American members.

At the Cannon Beach Christmas rally, and many rallies in 2007, we will be doing workshop presentations to assist members using computers and "live" people to assist members and answer any questions. As more people get familiar with the change, our dependence on the paper delivery will be less and less, thereby saving more and more.

The Cascader WEB, <http://cascaders.org> site will shut down January 30th 2007, and by then

its features will be blended into the newsletter access and another Cascader WEB site, looking very similar to what you see now. It will be provided at no charge to the club and digitally housed in the stables of the Northwest FMCA site. There are other features we will be adding, but for now, were starting slowly. Finally we welcome the support of Bob Gummersall, Senior Vice President of the Northwest FMCA, and a Cascader, who will graciously take over the electronic publication duties of the Cascader News. (See enclosed article) Help us embrace the future, as we move in directions previously impossible to achieve!

All comments and suggestions are welcome by email to Bob Gummersall.

DOMES TOPPLES AS CASCADERS PLAY

Cascaders nestled under the northwest side of Mt. St. Helens were busily involved in various crafts, games and technical sessions, as the latest dome thundered to life at 3:00PM Saturday October 21st and blew its plume 12,000 feet into the air! When Rod and Maurrie Price plan a rally we can expect spectacular events, and this one was full of energy and mini explosions! Thirty seven GMC Classics rolled into the rally resort with twenty seven deciding that the Lake Mayfield site looked too inviting to just stay three days so they arrived Thursday and enjoyed great weather, visiting with members and of course, that Thursday evening Cascader pot luck dinner! As we neared our I-5 exit and headed east towards Mossy Rock Washington we found delight along Highway 12, down rural roads and finally to our destination, Lake Mayfield Resort, a jewel nestled just north west of Mt. St. Helens. At this rally, Nancy Pellegrino was not walking the rows of neatly parked GMC's, announcing breakfast, she was resting, and a new sound filled the air to

announce the morning breakfast call as Elaine Fry hit the musical horns to set the signal that we breakfast was served. It's not often that we sit down to a catered breakfast which included pancakes, bacon and fresh juice to wash down those pills many of us take to start our day.

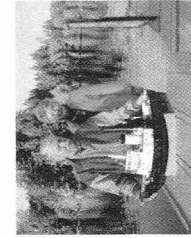
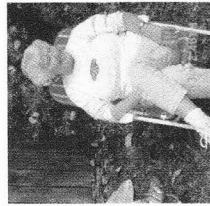
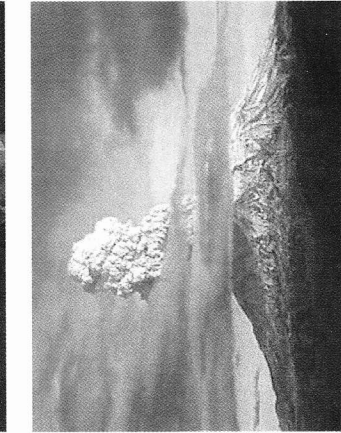
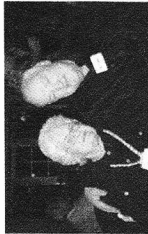
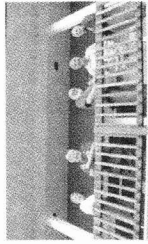
Our meeting and eating area was decorated with a Halloween theme with centerpieces flowing over with various treats. Maurrie Price was the busy Cascader who created the inviting and warm environment. Kim Carrol, owner of Perfect Pear Catering provided a series of "perfect" selections for a "perfect" dining experience.

It's been a while since we have experienced a rally chock full of as many activities as this one. Rod and Maurrie want to really express their gratitude to everyone that prepared and contributed so much to the co hosting, technical and crafts sessions that were enjoyed by all. Many eyes were opened as DJ Eberhart demonstrated how to remove a rear spindle with a custom mini press, and Bob Gummersall innovative new A/C & dash and awning demonstration.

These were featured technical sessions; however, the really active place was upstairs in the clubhouse, where various talented Cascaders were sharing their creativity and skills. I visited to take some pictures, the room was packed and I thought I was in some nightclub doing the bump and grind! Joanne Carter was showcasing a wide array of jewelry. Nancy Pellegrino had the crowd busy creating angels to decorate the Christmas season. I had no idea our Secretary Treasurer Barbie Eberhart not only crunches numbers but paints a mean stroke! Tote bags and liners hand made by Shirley Gabbard was another impressive talent displayed and available. Step aside Dan, we know what you can do with a GMC, but talent runs deep in your family and Carol Winchester displayed some of her talents by teaching a session on painting with water colors. Ruth Leitch took over a lakeside location for her assembly of a spectacular fall floral arrangement. The attendance at the sessions was active but some still found time to relax. Near new members Ernie & Linda Garcia from

Ellensburg, who ventured over White Pass with no problems, along with a bunch of others, surveyed all those beautiful GMC's from his viewpoint on the second row, checking over the fleet below. Dave and Joanne Carter brought their own toys to play with, and went to a nearby park to fly their model plane. Upon their return they parked their and launched their water toy, the "big tug". Some owners took advantage of Denny Allen's presence and got some repairs to their coaches completed. Ken and Jean Wilson, who blew some belts on the way down and still needed to install a new air conditioner belt decided instead to "just relax" and finish the job on their return home. We had visitors who joined us, Gary & Diana Berry, and Gary's brother Larry and wife Chris along with their young daughter Brealle. Good planning by our host Rod Price provided a space for their coach next to the resort playground! Last time I looked Gary & Larry were having a ball on the slide and little Brealle was watching!

Other new members were Randy & Janet Burns, and their daughter. Right now Randy is waiting on delivery of a new transmission, and then with the help of Terry Skinner, both a new motor and transmission will be installed. That late Saturday arrival of a classic GMC pulling an ugly trailer were visitors, from Puyallup, Duane & Carol Cornick who had the trailer full of engine cores and assorted parts from the Skinner larder, on their way to California to have a new Bounds engine installed by Jim Kanomata. Joe and Barbara Johansen from Kent WA joined the group and are in the process of becoming new Cascaders. Other new members attending were Ron and Shirley Gabbard, Chuck and Karen Scott, and the Stechman's John and Bernadette. Eva and Jordan Cruz were with us, but they are really not visitors, just old friends who we expect to see when Ed and Louise are with us. We hope all our visitors, new members and friends enjoyed the rally and encourage you to bring a GMC owner friend with you next time and join us again.



Ongoing Business - Web Site Report: Bill Guise says that there were 34,000 hits to the site last year. But technology has changed and there are more efficient ways to communicate so, he will close the site in January 30th. The information will be available under the new newsletter format, and a WEB site housed under FMCA Northwest.

Newsletter: Bill Guise thanked Helen Hove our treasurer for the past 6 years, and Jim Bisakowski, who donated his professional talents to publish the newsletter this past two years. Bill will be our editor for the newsletter, and Bob Gummersall will be our publisher. Send articles and photos to Bill. The next Newsletter will be sent both via e-mail and paper copy. The Newsletter, rally fliers, and WEB site information will be provided in a new format to be seen and explained in the next newsletter. If you do not have e-mail you can use the library or a friend. Classes will be available at rallies.

Western State Report: Denny and Fran Allen attended Mariposa Ca. 80 Coaches.

GMC International Report: George and Carol Baxter just returned from Barian Springs. There were 220 GMC's with such features as popouts. Very good rally. Rayne La. March 11-17, 2007 Amana Colonies, Iowa Sept. 16-22, 2007 There is a salary position open for a convention contract person. Contact FMCA for details, or check the Cascader WEB site or next newsletter.

FMCA Report: Ken Wilson, thanks members for the get well card. Bob Gummersall is the new Sr. VP for FMCA Northwest area. The Redmond National Convention will be Aug 5th 2007. Merchandise: Maurie Price has XXX Lg. Blue jackets, 28 red ball caps, 15 flags and 23 each partial zipper and full zipper sweatshirts. Elaine Fry has many parts, a L. blue jacket and a red hat for sale. Also a dark green dash cover. Ken Wilson, has vacuum pumps, and transducers. New Business Terry asked Bill Guise to remove the By Laws from the Web site. The Executive Committee is in the process of revising them and seeking FMCA approval.

Adjourned the meeting at 8:30. Motion: Terry Boyd Seconded: Carol Winchester. Passed.

Minutes submitted by: Barbie Eberhart

GMC INTERNATIONAL REQUESTS OUR HELP

Search for Successor to Emery Stora, GMCMI Convention Manager. When Emery Stora accepted the contract administrator role for GMCMI in October '03, he said he would be willing to serve in that capacity for approximately three years. He, however, has generously agreed to continue for another year but in a reduced capacity. Accordingly, the '06 Board of Directors has recruited Billy Massey of Brownwood, TX to perform the member and publications services portion of Emery's original contract, effective 1January '07. While Emery will continue to manage GMCMI's conventions for another year, he has requested the GMCMI Board to recruit a replacement for him as convention manager by the middle of 2007. That timing will allow the new convention manager to work with Emery on the Fall 2007 Convention at Amana Colonies, IA and assume the responsibility for future conventions effective 1January '08. The GMCMI Board has appointed a search committee. The members of that committee are George Baxter (206 940 2340), Don Brown (765-463-3815), Fred Hudspeth (903-509-2495), Dave Lenzi (810 653 3902) and Emery Stora (505-660-9507). They would welcome a phone call from anyone who may be qualified and interested in the role or perhaps could recommend such a candidate.

While management of GMCMI's conventions requires a broad array of executive skills, these deserve special consideration:

- a. Interpersonal skills - vital to retaining current members and recruiting new members. Serves as the "go-to" person at GMCMI conventions. Maintains effective working relationships with other GMC Motorhome clubs, vendors, Internet groups and FMCA to further the preservation and enjoyment of GMC Motorhome ownership.

b. Cooperation with GMCMI Board - it is vital that the contractor willingly cooperate with the GMCMI Board and faithfully execute Board decisions.

c. Convention program planning and execution - the technical and non-technical programs are magnets to attract convention registrants. Emery very effectively promotes convention attendance on the Internet using the planned program content as a means of generating interest. It is then vital that Emery's successor be able to visualize interesting program content and recruit qualified presenters.

d. computer literacy - highly preferred for producing convention documents and maintaining convention files.

The compensation for the convention manager role is \$17,500/year. That is half of Emery's current compensation. The other half will go to Billy Massey for the roles he will be performing. GMCMI's convention manager plans and manages two conventions each year and is a key player in the site selection process.

For the GMCMI Executive Search Committee -
By: Fred Hudspeth, President, GMC Motorhomes International

BIG "THANK YOU" IS IN ORDER: Jim Bisakowski

In early 2005, we asked "who is this guy", and now, more than ever we have an answer! This guy who is nestled on a lake just outside Victoria BC., is the docent who picked up the needs of the Cascaders and at no charge gave us a two year commitment to publish the Cascader News. Jim is well known in the publishing business, receiving awards for design, and is recognized across Canada for his outstanding production of handbooks, book publishing and desktop publishing. We are in your debt Jim, and I, will miss your cooperative and helpful hand as we move into a new approach for us in the digital publishing adventure. The best to you and Diane, and a sincere thank you from all Cascaders.

GONE, BUT NOT FORGOTTEN: Helen Hove

For those of who think the treasurer's role is a simple one, think again! For the past 6 years, Helen Hove has served the Cascader as our

Treasurer with distinction. It was all done by hand, no computers to assist, diligently entering those who paid, those who were late, writing the checks for rally events, postage, printing, and all the other tasks that make the club work for its members. Not willing to shrug any club responsibilities, Helen and Carl Hove also stepped up to the plate many times to host or co host rallies over these 6 years. They are involved participants in club activities, contributing energy and leadership, and with members like this, we can't go wrong. Thank you Helen Hove for a job completed with class, we will miss your role in direct board activities, but we know you are just footsteps away from involvement if it is needed. GMC Cascaders

WELCOME ON BOARD BOB GUMMERSALL

Bob Gummersall was born in Pocatello Idaho, and graduated from Idaho State with a BS in Physics. He was a member of the US Army in his early days and went on to work for Western Electric, General Electric, and IBM. He managed his own consulting company for several years after that. Bob retired in 1987 at the age of 53 to hit the road and see the United States with his wife Sylvia. The Gummersalls have lived on Mercer Island, WA since 1968. In 2000, they downsized from a Monaco Pusher and set about searching the nation for a GMC. He found his pot of gold on eBay, and set about to restore their 1976 Palm Beach, affectionately calling it the "refrigerator".

A visit to his coach will tell you the reason why! He is the Webmaster for several sites including FMCA Northwest Area, and manages the digital needs of over 30 motor home chapters. He is currently Senior Vice President for the NW Area of FMCA. You will see more of Bob as we initiate some workshops to provide support to our members who are entering the digital divide!

OTHERS IN THE NEWS

Subject: The Joy of Being Retired Working people frequently ask retired people what they do to make their days interesting. Well, for example, the other day

I went downtown and went into a store. I was only in there for about 5 minutes and when I came out there was a cop writing out a parking ticket. I went up to him and said, "Come on, man, how about giving a retired person a break?" He ignored me and continued writing the ticket. I called him a "Nazi." He glared at me and started writing another ticket for having worn tires. So I called him a "doughnut eating Gestapo." He finished the second ticket and put it on the windshield with the first. Then he started writing a third ticket. This went on for about 20 minutes. The more I abused him, the more tickets he wrote. Personally, I didn't care, I came downtown on the bus and the car that he was putting the tickets on had a bumper sticker that said "Hillary in '08." I try to have a little fun each day now that I'm retired. It's important to my health.

Submitted by Terry Skinner

HAPPENINGS FROM THE ISLANDERS TO THE NORTH

We had a very successful gathering at the Malahat Mountain Meadows RV Park. The weather was simply fantastic. The biggest problem was 15 amp breakers that would flip off and leave a coach or two without power. So there were a few folks that had no hot water. There were 7 coaches in attendance on the Friday night. One coach had to leave on Saturday leaving 6 to complete the gathering. The second problem was Kelly making a run for it and badly twisting Isabel's wrist with the leash. Luckily Isabel recovered nicely by the next morning.

We enjoyed a great pot-luck dinner on Friday evening. After dinner on Friday, Barry got the campfire going and we sat close enough to keep the cool September air at bay. Saturday morning some tantalizing "plastic bag omelet's" came out of the boiling water. We then just had to keep moving our chairs to remain in the sunshine. Saturday afternoon 8 of us drove to Jim and Diana's in Langford for drinks and some of Jim's salsa that was made completely from his garden (except the corn). Later, everyone went across the highway to the Malahat Mountain Inn for a very enjoyable

dinner. Even though we were split to two tables so that they could serve us better. After dinner, Saturday, we had another campfire; it was far easier to light with Norm's cedar kindling and dry 2X4s. Everyone had enough supper that Smor's did not happen. There were brandy and Cuban cigars for everyone! Ken, Isabel and Catherine provided some music for us all. Everyone must have enjoyed the "plastic bag omelets" on Saturday morning because they did a repeat performance on Sunday morning. Then all good things came to an end as everyone packed up their stuff for the trip home. Attendees were Ken and Isabel Lambert, Ted and Mary Wood, Barry Graham, Norm and Maggie Jestico, Lorne and Catherine Rosenblood, Gary and Betty Fleishauer, Denny and Fran Allen. Visitors included Jim and Diana Bisakowski, who joined us for dinner at the restaurant and the campfire afterwards. Dave Jarvis visited Saturday morning and joined us for dinner that evening. I want to thank everyone who took part in this get-together and hope we can get a few more of the Vancouver Island owners to join in GMC Islander happenings. I believe there are now 38 GMC's on Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands. And three of them are for sale, if you know anyone looking for one. There was not much interest in having another GMC Islander's gathering this year, and the general consensus seems to take in the GMC Cascaders Vancouver Island Rally next June as the next GMC Islanders get-together. I will keep everyone informed as to the progress in planning the June outing.

Denny Allen, Cub Reporter for the Cascader News!

Saturday evening started with the usual 5:00 social hour, followed by another catered event featuring chicken cordon blue, roast beef, and baked salmon. In classic order, the presentation and flavor were excellent, a compliment to the chef! Dinner was followed by a berry cobbler topped with whipped cream. Table pumpkins chock full of goodies went home with members and no treat fights broke out, except at one table where there was a fight over a Snicker bar!

Evening hours found members playing cards and that train game! Once more, on Sunday morning the horn blasted and a "left over" breakfast was served, however it was anything but left over as we dined on fresh toasted bagels, fruit bowls and a variety of cereals. Members could not find a glazed donut, just wholesome food. I wonder who influenced the breakfast menu? Members said their goodbyes, grabbed what was left of the cranberries supplied by Tony and Sandra Lammi, and packed a few more apples into their bags supplied by new members Joe and Barbara Johnson of Kent. WA

MINUTES: MOSSYROCK WA, October 19th-22nd, 2006

Call to order: Terry Morris, President, called the meeting to order at 7:25 on Oct 21, 2006 at Mayfield RV Park.

Rally Hosts\Helpers: Rod & Maurie Price. Rod thanked: Barbie and DJ Eberhart, Shirley Gabbard, Ruth Leitch, Jo Ann Boyd, Gloria Morris, Nancy Pellegrino, Dan & Carol Winchester and the caterers for their help.

Tech sessions were by DJ Eberhart, Bob Gummersall, thanks to both.

New Members: Joe & Barbara Johansen, John & Bernie Stechman, Randy and Janet Burns, Chuck & Karen Scott, Duane, and Ron & Shirley Gabbard.

Visitors: Gary and Larry Berry and their families. Duane & Carol Cornick guests of Terry and Diane Skinner. Eva & Jordan Cruz, friends, and guests of the Blaise's

Secretary/Treasurer Report: Barbie Eberhart
The Secretary, requested approval of the last four rally minutes as published.
The minutes were approved as published.
Money in Account \$8,318.43. Members 157.

1st Vice President Report: Larry Calhoun.
Reported by Terry Morris
Louise and Ed Blaise celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary as did Larry and Gaynor Calhoun. Al and Margaret Bovee had their 66th Anniversary. Cards will be sent to Tim and Cass Jones for the loss of his father. And get well to John Gruenewald. A note was read from Gene and Dixie Snow lamenting the fact that they will no longer be members due to age and infirmities as she states.

Wagonmaster Report: Rod Price
We need people with ideas and knowledge or suggestions to step forward. We have some beautiful coaches and need to share ideas.
The Tech sessions were great this rally. Please give feedback about what you would like to see or do at a rally.

I would like to see more interest, more participation. We need volunteers! There are many open dates in 2007. We are looking for an Oregon rally along Interstate 5 for the February rally. Got suggestions for a location? Volunteer!

Christmas Rally Dec. 1-2-3 Helen Hove stated we should turn in our forms and money not later than Nov. 15. Sooner is better. There is an indoor pool and hot tub. We will decorate our coaches and tour downtown with lights ablaze. Senior discount at Doogers on Thursday night for early arrivals. Mr. and Mrs. Santa will once again be there.

Denny Allen is planning the Rolling Rally for June 2007 on Vancouver Island. Naniamo heading north. Notices will be out in January. Coaches will have to pay \$100. each way on the ferry.