

COMINGS 'n GOINGS

Quarterly Publication of the GMC Heritage Cruisers

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

www.gmcheritagecruisers.com



2016



From the President

TZE LIFT OFF CHECK LIST

- | | |
|--|-------|
| Visible leaks. | Check |
| Smell test. | Check |
| Fluids and lubes. | Check |
| Fuel. | Check |
| Coolant. | Check |
| Road cushioning devices. | Check |
| Electrical storage unit. | Check |
| Propane. | Check |
| Tools and spares. | Check |
| Fridge to temp. | Check |
| Sustenance. | Check |
| Libations. | Check |
| Navigation systems. | Check |
| Insert unlocking device. | |
| Rotate confidently. | |
| Power to reactor. (a little BATMAN lingo) | |
| Turbines to speed. (ditto) | |
| Engage transporter. (TH425) | |
| BRAKE TEST !!! | |

LIFT OFF !!
BON VOYAGE

See you in COOKSTOWN !!

Yours truly,

Fran Urbanski



Rallies This Year

3 - 5 June - London, Ont -
Plunkett's Fleetwood Country Cruize In
Mary & John Peazel
Registration Form Attached

8 -10 July - Spencerport, NY -
Cindy & Ernie

Dankert



**Registration Form Attached - 17 June
booking deadline**

19 - 21 August - Tweed, Ont - Elvis Festival
Pat & Jack Elzinga
Registration Form Attached

30 Sep - 6 Oct - GMCMI Mansfield, Ohio
See Details Below

**GMCMI Fall Convention
30 Sept - 6 Oct**

The GMCMI Fall Convention, in Mansfield, Ohio, will be our September rally as well. Tentatively, a location to gather in the Buffalo area will be announced in the Summer newsletter. The day to gather will be one or two days before the Convention starts. We'll travel the distance Buffalo to Mansfield in one day. By arriving together it will make parking together easier for the convention staff. Anyone who wants to travel on their own should let the President or VP, Wagon Master know in case there is a Club gathering in Mansfield.

GMCMI Convention registration opens on 18 July. Indicate on your registration form that you are a member of the Heritage Cruisers, if you want to park in the club area. See their web site for more details.

John Peazel - Wagon Master

New Members

Steve & Karen Lill of Waterloo, Ontario joined us recently and plan to attend the first rally of 2016 at the Cookstown KOA. Welcome to you both.

FMCA National Convention

One of the two annual National Conventions is being held this summer not far from our area. From 6 to 9 August, the FMCA 94th Family Reunion and Showcase will be in West Springfield, Massachusetts. Details are on the website and in the FMCA magazine.

Club Defibrillator Purchase

The Executive is considering the purchase of a defibrillator for the Club. It is at the early stages of investigation. Any thoughts or suggestions anyone has are welcome.



Tech Talk

by Bruce Hislop, VP Tech

It's spring again, Woo Hoo! Time to get the GMC out of its hibernation!

Before heading out for the first trip of the season, it's time to check a few things before you find yourself in a pickle on the side of the road.

- Change and check the oil. I like to change the oil in the Fall when I put the Murray away for the season. That way it has fresh clean oil in its belly for the winter. If you didn't change yours, then start the season with fresh oil. Do the same for the generator as well.

Don't forget these as well:

1. Transmission
2. Radiator (check the over-flow jug and add anti-freeze/distilled water mix if needed)
3. Brake master cylinder
4. Power steering
5. Batteries (wet lead acid, usually only the house batteries are this type)
6. Windshield washer levels.

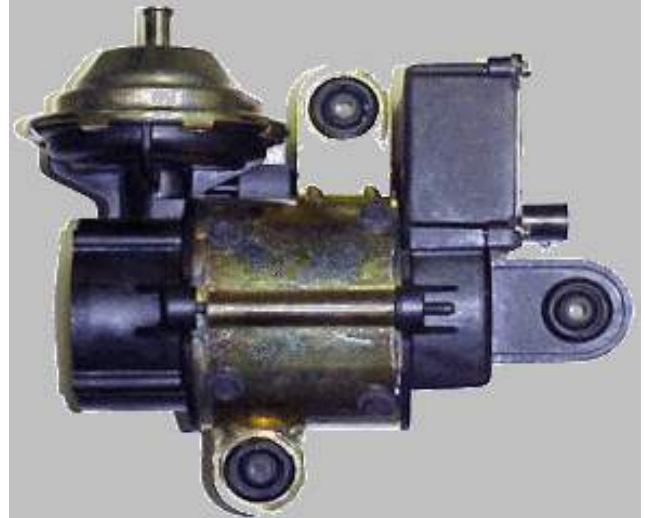
- Grease all points. Parts are getting harder to find so keeping all wear points well lubricated is important. I just read on GMCNet that Moog no longer makes the inner tie rod end. I use Valvoline hi-moly content grease because it doesn't separate like Mobile one seems to. When was the last time your wheel bearings were done... front & back?

- Check all hoses for integrity. Check for leaks, cracks and swollen hoses. When was the last time the fuel hoses were replaced? I replaced mine in 2010, but in 2014 the hose on the aux tank failed (only 4 years), so yes, the alcohol in the fuel affects the rubber hose. Use Barrier Hose for fuel lines. Also, have you ever changed the oil cooler lines? The hose components are replaceable and are cheap compared to the cost of rebuilding your engine.

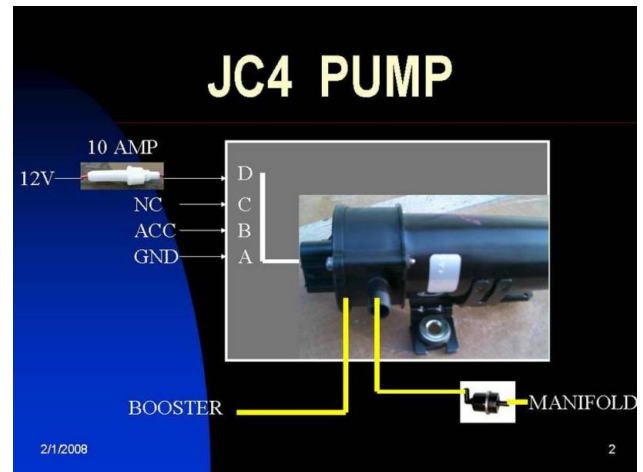
- Fuel Filters. These cost very little and are relatively easy to change.

- Power Brake Vacuum Pump. Before you start the engine, turn the key to the Run position and wait a couple seconds. You should hear your Power Brake Vacuum Pump start and run for a few seconds. It should detect the lack of vacuum, start and pump the power steering booster vacuum down to 18" or so of vacuum. If you don't hear it run, then troubleshoot the problem, otherwise, it won't be doing its job. If you don't have one of these, what's stopping

you?? If the engine stalls, you have about two pumps on the brakes before the power boost is gone. It wasn't standard on the GMC, but you can buy several types to retrofit.



AC Delco 215-119 Vacuum Pump
(difficult to find one now)



GM JC4 Vacuum Pump
(Available still)

When it detects low vacuum in the brake booster, it turns ON to provide the needed vacuum to the brake booster to allow you to stop safely. Check it out here: <http://gmcmotorhome.info/addens.html#pump>

- *Tire Pressure and age. Check the tire pressure when cold. The manufacturers publish recommended RV tire pressure on their websites for the weight your tires are carrying.*

- *RV tires rarely wear-out, they age out. Intermittent RV use is harder on tires than being driven regularly. The recommended replacement period is 5 to 7 years. I installed new Michelins in 2008, and in 2014 I had a blow-out on the way to the June Rally. I was lucky as most people have damage to the T skirts and fenders which cost more to repair than the replacement tire.*

- *Flush out the RV anti-freeze. Add some sanitizer and water to the fresh water tank, turn ON the water pump and run each of the faucets until the water runs clear. Then turn the bypass valves on the water heater to normal position and run a hot water faucet again to be sure the heater is full of water, otherwise you may burn-out the heater element.*

I've covered a few of the basic checks you should do. For a more complete listing check:

*Bill Massey's links site:
<http://www.bdub.net/GMCLinks.html>*

*Gary Bovee's GMC Idiot Guide:
<http://gmcidiotsguide.com>*

Here is another list to keep handy. (Author unknown)

Periodic checks and maintenance:

- *Change the oil and lubricate the chassis.*
- *Clean battery terminals, lubricate to keep them from corroding (lead acid batteries)*
- *Rotate the tires.*

- *Check your engine belts for looseness, cracks.*
- *Check your engine coolant hoses and the heater hoses.*
- *Look for leaks.*
- *Keep the engine compartment and generator compartment clean.*
- *Check your spare tire for weather cracking, check the pressure, and inflate as required.*
- *Check your suspension air bags, look for damage and weather cracks.*
- *Add the Holding Tank Chemical.*
- *Add Fresh Water System Freshener.*
- *Check the propane system for leaks*
- *Check the batteries in any smoke, CO, and propane detectors and their operation that you have.*
- *Check the storage areas for damage and loose tie downs.*
- *Check your roof pod storage mounting points and tie downs.*
- *Over all body for damage, panel fasteners for security when locked.*
- *Open the awning and clean out any debris and mildew.*

And don't forget the latest copy of the GMC Assist List (aka The Black List).

Have a great GMC summer season!

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 are the responsibility of the individual coach owner.

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

Chapter Membership & Nominal Roll

We have 57 members at the beginning of the rally season. Enclosed is our latest Membership List dated 1 May 2016.

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

Your Rally Photos

If you have rally photos that you would like to share, send them to Cliff Pike, the Club Historian, so they can be included in the archives, digital edition.



Classified

Free: Many copies of the 1990s and early 2000s magazine "GMC Motorhome Marketplace" including the Premier edition of 1992. Call Paul Lambke at 519-443-7543

For Sale: With the Brake Booster Vacuum Pumps mentioned in the Tech Talk article above, now is the time for me to sale the extras I have. Have one each NOS of the pumps. No mounting brackets. Call or email for details - Al Hamilton 613-659-3522 or akh@1000island.net



Submissions for the Summer 2016 Edition of the "Comings 'n Goings" are due by 4 July to the Editor, Al Hamilton at akh@1000island.net.

Enclosures:

2016 Membership List (Members Only)

June Rally Registration - 2 - 5 June

July Rally Registration - 8 - 10 July

August Rally Registration - 18 - 21 Aug