

**THE GMC**

# DIXIELANDER

**NEWSLETTER**

**SEPTEMBER 2002**

## *A Note from JR:*

Hi Guys,

The summer is almost over already. Where has it gone? Only one more chance to make a Dixielander rally for 2002.

The Dixieland Summer Rally at Gadsden, AL was a steamy success. The weather was warm but the facilities were coool! Ed, Carol, Paul and Korky put on a really big show. The campground is located on a bend in the river and the coaches being lined up along the bank was a beautiful sight. The air conditioned meeting hall and the kitchen facilities, where Carol, Korky, Carolyn, and friends performed their magic, were terrific. From grits and gravy, pancakes and sausage, to a southern cook-out with giant hamburgers and yard long hot dogs that were the makings for feast and friendship, Dixielander style. There was ample time for seminars, bull sessions, card games and a few minor mechanical problems to be solved.

The upcoming rally in Eufaula, AL is one not to miss. I am assured that the weather will be cooler and the campground is beautiful. I have to admit that this rally has been *precision engineered*. The food and live entertainment promise to be unforgettable. School's back in session, all the arrangements have been made, so come kickback and enjoy a well-deserved, relaxing weekend.

I'm about to run out of allotted space but I want to say how important it is to vote on any changes made in our club. There is a ballot attached to this newsletter that needs to be filled out and sent back as soon as possible. This vote concerns our membership and the rules pertaining to its

guidelines. Please consider the options carefully and please send your vote in so everyone can be heard.

Again, to those who couldn't make Gadsden, sorry. To those coming to Eufaula, Welcome.

Take care; Travel safely. See you there.....**JR**

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## *Next Year's Rallies:*

### *Dixielander Rallies for 2003*

**Spring:** Bean Station, TN at Al & Marty Samsel's, Host: Al & Marty Samsel and Ray & Trula Bingham **May 1st-4th**

**Summer:** Perry, GA at Twin Oaks Campground Host: Chuck & Sue Chambers, Joe & Allene Burdette, Jerry & Audrey Holloway, and Burt Black. **June or July**

**Fall:** Bowling Green, KY at Beech Bend Park Host: JR & Jeanne Slaten and Harry & Linda Terrill. **(Date not set)**  
(All Dates subject to change.)

Rally suggestions are needed for coming years. If you would like to host a Rally, or have a suggested location or any other ideas to enhance our gatherings next year, please contact Bill Hutchinson. We will help you with the administrative and arrangement details. (e-mail - hutch1318@mindspring.com)

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### **Technical Tips:**

#### **Have you considered a battery Combiner?**

Combiner -- A combiner is an electrical apparatus used to permit two battery (banks) to be charged "intelligently." The combiner relies on the fact that the voltage across a charging battery will rise as the battery charge increases. When the charging voltage is great enough, the combiner electrically connects both batteries in parallel to permit them both to become charged. When the batteries are not being charged the combiner electrically isolates the two banks. Using a combiner in place of the isolator that is original equipment in the GMC, permits the electrical isolation (keeps the engine battery from becoming discharged) when you use the coach 12V electrical AND allows both batteries to be charged when charging voltage is present. This can simplify the electrical system if you want to permit charging of the engine battery from the coach charger. This 50 amp combiner is available from Yandina Electronics for \$74.95; 1-877-355-2184; or www.yandina.com.

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### **Take Charge of JUNK MAIL**

Send a note to: DMA Mail Preference Service

P.O. Box 643  
Carmel, NY 10512

include your full name and ask them to remove your name from any mailing lists.

Likewise to reduce JUNK phone calls, send to:  
DMA Telephone preference Service  
P.O. Box 1559  
Carmel, NY 10512

**Courtesy of Joanne Telgen**

### **Treasurer's Report:**

Balance brought forward:	<b><u>\$5865.72</u></b>
Expenses:	
J.R. Slaten--stamps	\$20.40
Robert Staub--badges	\$15.60
First Baptist Church, Tyler, Tx.	\$25.00
( Donation for Mary Lou Henderson)	
Total	- \$61.00
Income:	
Dues and new members	\$66.50
Total income:	+\$66.50
Balance as of 8/28/2002	<b><u>\$5871.22</u></b>

Respectfully,  
**Chuck Chambers, Treasurer**

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### **Gadsden Rally Report:**

#### **Attendees:**

- 1) Lew & Rosemary Ayres, 2) Ray & Trula Bingham, 3) Burt Black, 4) Jim & Peggy Buchanan, 5) Joe & Allene Burdette, 6) Chuck & Sue Chambers, 7) Ron & Betty Davis, 8) Gene & Joan Dotson, 9) David & Joan Fain, 10) Earl Glover & Muriel Bradley, 11) Richard & Susan Harwell, 12) Herb & Joni Haught, 13) Jerry & Audrey Holloway, 14) Dan & Marie Hudson, 15) Don & Elaine Leslie, 16) Allen & Pat Martin, 17) Jim & Lou McDowell, 18) Paul & Korky Rice, 19) Al Samsel, 20) JR & Jeanne Slaten, 21) Ed & Carol Smith, 22) Dan & Ellen Springer, 23) Bill & Jo Telgin, 24) Harry & Linda Terrill, 25) Jim & Jane Watson, 26) Larry & Carolyn Wills.

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# ***EUFAULA LAKEPOINT RALLY***

**Eufaula, Alabama    October 17 - 19, 2002**

Everything's looking good for the Fall rally. Forty (47) members have already sent in their reservations, 4 for 15 Oct., 15 for 16 Oct., and 21 for 17 Oct. The treasury's paid for 50 so if you're not registered, do it today. As of now, we have only 3 reservations left open for the Lakepoint rally. The campground manager told me yesterday that we cannot make more reservations for Deer Court, where the 50 are. They do have plenty of room left in the next court over, which will be a 100-200 yard walk from Deer Court. We will reserve more spaces in the next court over and cancel the excess on 1 October. ***(For those who have not registered yet, see Sign-Up Form at end)***

Here's the schedule:

## **Thursday**

Arrival, Happy Hour & Soup Supper

### NOTE:

O-Z: + Bring snacks for Happy Hour

A-J + Bring desserts for supper

## **Friday**

Pancake breakfast, Sightseeing, Antebellum homes tour, etc, OYO for lunch, Happy Hour, Catered BBQ Supper, Bluegrass Band

### NOTE:

H-N +Bring snacks for Happy Hour

K-Z +Bring desserts for supper

## **Saturday**

Breakfast, Tech Session, BS, OYO for lunch, Swap Meet, Happy Hour, \$8.50 buffet at Lakepoint Lodge,

### NOTE:

A-G + Bring snacks for Happy Hour

## **Sunday**    Leftovers breakfast & So Longs

Lakepoint Resort State Park is located 7 miles north of Eufaula, AL on the east side of US

431. That's 40 miles south of Columbus, GA. on US 431.

Going north out of Eufaula, US 431 crosses an arm of Lake Walter George (Lake Eufaula to everyone in Alabama) with Lakepoint marina clearly visible to the east. The next road on the right is the park entrance, turn right. The park headquarters and parking lot are in the northeast corner of that entrance road and US 431. The campground road turns left immediately after the parking lot and circles back to the west, crossing over US 431.

Coming from the north on US 431, SR 165 intersects from the east 39 miles south of Columbus; about a mile farther south there's the bridge where the campground road crosses 431. Turn left into Lakepoint and proceed as above.

It's about 1-1/2 miles to the campground office (after turning into Lakepoint) where everyone must stop and register. They will be expecting you and we'll have a table set up there.

**Ken Henderson**

***(If you haven't registered yet, see form at end)***

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## ***The Workers:***

JR Slaten    President	Bill Hutchinson    First VP
Lew Ayres    Second Vice President	Korky Rice    Secretary
Chuck Chambers    Treasurer	Allen Martin    FMCA Nat Dir
Don Leslie    Alt. FMCA Nat Dir	Betty Davis    Ex Com
Ray Bingham    Ex Com	Caroline Wills    Ex Com
Flic Acosta    Nom Com	Pat Harris    Nom Com
Herb Haught    Nom Com	Gene Dotson    Audit Com
Marie Hudson    Audit Com	JoAnn Fain    Photographer
Ken O'Rourke    Newsletter Editor-in-training	

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Greenville, SC 29615

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## *Minutes from the Gadsden Summer Rally:*

### **River Country Campground, Gadsden, Alabama**

President J.R. Slaten called the meeting to order.

Lew Ayers gave the opening prayer.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read & Ed Smith moved & Jim Buchanan 2nd that they are approved as read.

Chuck Chambers, Treasurer, reported a balance of \$5,865.72 after expenditures of \$241.17 for the Mobile, Al. lunch, \$26.20 for new member badges & \$273.67 for the Newsletters and Rosters.

James Knight, Campground owner spoke briefly, thanking the club for their attendance. Ed Smith thanked Mr. Knight & his staff for the help & hospitality shown the club during the planning and the actual rally

President Slaten introduced New Members & First Timers Earl Glover & Muriel Bradley.

President Slaten made the following announcements: Ken O'Rourke volunteered, after the Bean Station Meeting, to be Newsletter editor. President Slaten recognized the fine job he did on the last Newsletter. Joan Fain, Club Photographer, brought the photo albums for anyone interested in seeing them.

Korky Rice has agreed to be Sunshine Lady. He asked that members keep her informed of any illness or special occasion that needs to be recognized by the club. He also asked that members

## *Lost Credit Cards:*

As everyone always advises, cancel your credit cards immediately, but the key is having the toll free numbers and your card numbers handy so you know whom to call. Keep those where you can find them easily. File a police report immediately in the jurisdiction where it was stolen, this proves to credit providers you were diligent and is a first step toward an investigation (if there ever is one).

But here's what is perhaps most important: Call the three national credit-reporting organizations immediately to place a fraud alert on your name and SSN#.

The numbers are:

Equifax 1-800 525-6285

Experian (formerly TRW) 1-800-301-7195

Trans Union 1-800-680-7289

Social Security Administration also has a fraud line at 1-800-269-0271

The alert means any company that checks your credit knows your information was stolen and they have to contact you by phone to authorize new credit.

If you loose your credit cards, do you have a convenient record of the numbers? Don't keep it in your wallet.

**Your Editor**

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## *Publisher's Information*

Any information you wish to have included in the next **Dixielanders** Newsletter? I'm particularly interested in human interest articles. Please send information to:

Ken O'Rourke  
519 Huntington Rd.

with e-mail furnish their addresses so that information could be furnished quickly.

The company making the club jackets is no longer going to be making them. The current inventory is still available & may be purchased through Allene Burdette. The price is \$73,50 plus shipping. Hats are still available through JR Slaten for \$7.00 & flags for \$27.00 through J. R. Slaten. Replacement badges for \$6.55 are available from Chuck Chambers.

As a point of interest to new members, President Slaten listed the names of the Charter Members who are still active in the club. Ray & Trula Bingham, Jim & Lou McDowell, Al & Marty Samsel, Bill & Jo Telgen & Roscoe & Shirley Trivett.

Gene Dotson reported that the audit committee had found the treasurer's records were in good order. President Slaten thanked the Audit Committee, Gene Dotson & Marie Hudson, for their time & effort.

President Slaten introduced nominees for the 2003 officers & elected positions.

President Bill Hutchinson, 1st Vice President, Lew Ayers, 2nd Vice President, Ken Henderson, Secretary, Jo Telgen, Treasurer Chuck Chambers, FMCA National Director, J.R. Slaten, FMCA Alt. National Director, Allen Martin, Executive Committee, Harry Terrill, Betty Davis & Larry Wills, Nominating Committee, Ken O'Rourke, Judy Acosta & Joni Haught. The nominations were elected by acclamation.

President Slaten reported on plans for the September International rally. The cookout, co-hosted with the Great Lakers will be Hamburgers & side dishes. In addition the GMC International will host two catered dinners.

The Dixielanders are scheduled to present a talent show at the International Rally. Marty Samsel is organizing this & asked for volunteers to contact

her.

Jo Telgen moved & Jeanne Slaten 2nd that the club purchase a tape recorder for use by the secretary.

Don Leslie read the proposed changes to Article III of the by-laws (Members) These changes will be printed in the next Newsletter and a mail-in ballot will be included . Susan Harwell asked why a mail in ballot instead of a vote at the October rally? This was explained as an effort to allow every member family to have an opportunity to vote, rather than just the ones attending a rally.

Chuck Chambers moved that the ballots be mailed to all members with a 2/3 majority to pass or fail. Jim Buchanan 2nd. The motion passed. 14 - 6

President Slaten thanked the hosts, Ed & Carol Smith & Paul & Korky Rice for the work they did on the rally & they in turn thanked al the people who so swiftly & willingly helped.

Ray Bingham moved & Jo Telgen 2nd that the meeting be adjourned. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 12:15 PM

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***New Members:*** (Add to your Roster)

:  
Dave and Jan Greenberg  
7838 Meadowlark Ln.  
Port St. Lucie, FL 34952-3136  
Phone (772) 873-4607  
F# 22009  
email: davegreenberg@juno.com  
janetgreenberg@juno.com

Thom and Patrice Hole and John (father)  
6525 Whitfield Rd.  
Fuquay, NC 27526  
Phone: (919) 552-4401  
F# 255089  
email: thomhole@netscape.net

John and Corkey Lewis  
3376 Plank Rd.  
Natural Bridge, VA 24578  
Phone: (540) 291-2067  
F# 310987

Cal and Donna Hodges  
101 Shadowpine Rd.  
Columbia, SC 29212  
Phone: (803) 781-2017  
F#299491  
email: CHodgesSC@aol.com

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## *The Famous Black List*

### ***GMC Motorhome Assist Listing***

In case you haven't heard of the "Black List", you need to be aware of it. The name "Black List" comes from the man who originally started it by the name of Roger Black. It is a listing of all those GMC owners willing to assist any other GMCer who might find themselves in trouble in unfamiliar territory. The list is only for those driving GMC TZE's, presumably because those on the listing only know and have special tools for the GMC's.

Most of the States in the US are covered and the Canadian Provinces. It also has a listing of all those that have the special tool for inserting new bearings.

The list is constantly being updated and is located on two web sites:

[www.henry-davis.com/GMC/GMCAssist.htm](http://www.henry-davis.com/GMC/GMCAssist.htm)  
[www.california.com/~eagle/blklst.html](http://www.california.com/~eagle/blklst.html)

I will have several copies at the Eufaula rally for those that would like them. It is a godsend when you are broken down in the

middle of nowhere (the only place it ever happens) and don't know where to go or who to call. Interestingly enough is the fact that Roger himself does not own a GMC but has always wanted one but has not yet found the right one.

If you haven't looked at the GMC Net yet, there are many ideas and much information available. That is, if you can wade through all the chaff that comes along. Go to:

[www.gmcmotorhome.com/maillinglist.html](http://www.gmcmotorhome.com/maillinglist.html)

**Your Editor**

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### **Things to Ponder:**

Birthdays are good for you; the more you have, the longer you live.

How long a minute is depends on what side of the bathroom door you're on.

Ever notice that the people who are late are often much jollier than the people who have to wait for them?

If ignorance is bliss, why aren't more people happy?

If Wal-Mart is lowering prices every day, how come nothing is free yet?

Some mistakes are too much fun to only make once.

Don't cry because it's over; smile because it happened.

A truly happy person is one who can enjoy the scenery on a detour.

Happiness comes through doors you didn't even know you left open.

