

“Roaming Dixie Together”

# GMC Dixielander

December 2006

## *Movers and Shakers*

- President John Nicholls
- Vice-President Jim Walters
- Secretary Flic Acosta
- Treasurer Chuck Chambers
- FMCA Nat. Dir. Don Leslie
- Alternate Alan Martin
- Executive Committee
  - Harry Terrell
  - Alma O'Rourke
  - Dan Springer
- Nominating Committee
  - Marie Hudson
  - Carolyn Wills
  - Don Walloch
- Alternate Betty Davis
- Audit Committee
  - Gene Dotson
  - Marie Hudson
- GMCMI East Rep JR Slaten
- GMCMI South Rep Alex Sirum
- Photographers Ike & Jan Grove, Jr.
- Sunshine Lady Judy Acosta
- Membership Chm. John Nicholls
- Equipment Mgr. / Storekeeper John Richardson
- WebMaster Ken Henderson
- Newsletter Editor Tom Phipps

## Dixielander

Notes from the President: Thanks for allowing me to serve your club for another term. With the capabilities of the other officers and the executive committee my job is mostly fun. Not being especially technically competent it pleases me to be able to give a little back. This is a great club made great by its membership.

The good news for our historical committee ( A. Burdette, J. Telgen, A. Samsel, J. McDowell) is that J.R. and others have already compiled the information. Now all we have to do is determine how we want to publish it.

Thanks again to Don and Sandra Walloch for their able representation of our club at the FMCA meeting in Charlotte.

The Rowdy Bunch hosted rally at Chumuckla (see report later) was enjoyed by all as was the no host rally at Wales West. I can now tell you from personal experience that setting the ride height on a badly out of kilter coach makes a great deal of difference in control and feel. I can also underscore why Alex says the work is not a flat fee job (took us several hours).

My hero, Bill Bramlett, and his best girl Bobbie stopped over with us on the way to Chumuckla. What a delightful pair. Thanks Bill for your giving of yourself.

John Nichols, President

Notes from the Editor: First, thanks for the nice notes several of you sent me on the first newsletter that I did. One of the things that I have done is create an e-mail address that anyone in the club can send messages to the editor. Please use “[dixielandereditor@yahoo.com](mailto:dixielandereditor@yahoo.com)”. Use to send your information of general interest, items of interest to the general club membership, etc. I am also adding a page that could be recipes, simple stuff for in the coach. I also want to add a page devoted to improvements to the coach that are useful, simple and fast. I have done an example of what I think maybe interesting.

If you have a “Smiley” on your address label, you have paid your dues for 2007. Otherwise, Mail your \$10 to:

Chuck Chambers, 2379 High Falls Road, Jackson, GA 30233

Make checks payable to: GMC Dixielanders

Minutes of the General Business meeting October 14, 2006 Farmer's Opry, Chumuckla, FL

President John Nicholls called the meeting to order at 0930.  
The invocation was given by Lew Ayres, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Secretaries Report:

In the absence of the secretary, the minutes for the Seiverville Rally were read by Jo Telgen. One correction was made; the cost for early arrivals and those staying late would be \$34.99 plus 12% tax instead of \$24.99 as stated (This correction referred to the Lazy Day Rally). John Richardson made a motion to accept the minutes as amended and the motion was seconded by Bill Bramlett.

Treasurer Chuck Chambers presented the treasurer's report: The starting balance was \$5879.09. After income of \$240 and expenditures of #372.17, the ending balance was \$5746.92. A motion to accept the report was made by Ken Henderson and seconded by Ron Davis. The report was filed to audit.

Vice-President's Report::

Vice-President Jim Walters reported on Upcoming rallies:

The next rally is scheduled for January 15,16 and 17, 2007 and will be held at Lazy Days. See page 6 about this one.

Our Spring Rally at Bean Station will be held on May 3-5, 2007 and will be hosted by the Samsels, Bingham, Slatens and assorted volunteers. Marty Samsel requested that attendees bring and wear their "Kentucky Derby Hats."

The location of the summer rally was voted on by the membership present and the preference was for Murphy, N.C. instead of the Lake Burton, GA. Area. The hosts for that rally will be the Walters and the Chambers.

A Fall rally is tentatively being planned for the Holiday Travel Park at Chattanooga, TN. Nothing solid yet.

Sunshine Report:

The Sunshine Lady was not in attendance. Cards were circulated for Judy Acosta's mother and Ken O'Rourke. Lew Ayres and Jeanette Tyner were welcomed back after illnesses. Frank Jenkins was looking mighty good and he was all over the place.

National Director FMCA:

Don Leslie reported that FMCA discussed removing the position of Alternate delegate but the motion was voted down. A member from the Dixielanders is encouraged to attend FMCA meetings.



### Nominating Committee:

John Dotson read the names of the duly elected officers for 2007: John Nicholls, President; Jim Walters, Vice-President; Secretary, Flic Acosta; Treasurer, Chuck Chambers. The nominating committee members are Linda Terrill, chairperson; Jerry Hasch, Ted Stinnett and Joan Dotson as alternate. The executive committee members are Jerry Holloway, Gene Welch and Harry Terrill. National Director is Don Leslie and Alternate Director is Don Walloch. Auditors are Marie Hudson and Gene Dotson.

A Motion to accept the names as presented was made by Ken Henderson, seconded by Ron Davis and passed by acclamation.

### Newsletter Editor:

Tom Phipps requested that members send items to put into the newsletter. He suggested recipes, mechanical or other types of hints. Anything that could be of interest to the other members is welcome. Tom also noted that he would try to do one page in color. (editor's note: Due to high cost, color will not be done.)

### New Business:

Toni and Fred Veenschoten were introduced and welcomed as new members. They, in turn, invited all of the membership attending to stop at Wales West RV Park after leaving this rally.

A fashion show is in the works for the GMCMI Rayne, LA rally. Marty Samsel encouraged all the ladies to shop at Goodwill or thrift shops. The clothing can be tacky, humorous, old or new.

J.R. Slaten spoke briefly about GMC International and noted that the next rally will be held at Rayne, LA., on March 11– 17, 2007.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Sue Chambers and seconded by Jeanne Slater. The Meeting adjourned at 1030  
Joanne Telgen, Acting Secretary.

### Treasurer's Report (As of 10/12/2006)      Chuck Chambers, Treasurer

|  |               |           |
|--|---------------|-----------|
| Balance Brought Forward (07/24/2006)         | \$5879.09     |           |
| Income:                                      |               |           |
| Dues:  | <u>240.00</u> |           |
| Balance:                                     | \$6119.09     |           |
| Expenditures:                                |               |           |
| Marty Samsel – Rally Hosts and Camping Fees  | 77.00         |           |
| Trula Bingham – Rally Hosts and Camping Fees | 77.00         |           |
| American Cancer Society – Jack Brown         | 25.00         |           |
| John Nicholls – Dixielander Business Cards   | 63.80         |           |
| Tom Phipps – Newsletter Costs                | <u>129.37</u> |           |
| Total Expenditures:                          | \$372.17      |           |
| Ending Balance:                              |               | \$5746.92 |

## CHUMUCKLA, FLORIDA FALL RALLY

The Fall Dixielander Rally was held the the Farmer's Opry near Chumuckla, Florida on 12 – 15 October, 2006 Sixty-four Dixielanders enjoyed delicious meals, country western music, crafts, seminars, games cards and fellowship in the quiet country setting among the cotton and peanut fields of Northwest Florida.

After a potluck dinner on Thursday evening, Dennis Ray and his able assistant, Brenda, entertained all with a presentation on the "Evolution of the Toaster and the Art of Toasting Bread". The program featured the Ray's extensive collection of antique electric toasters.

Following a home-cooked southern meal on Friday evening, prepared by Opry owner Sandy Wyatt and his staff, a Dixielander group picture was taken. The evening's entertainment was provided by the Sawmill Band and special guests on stage at the Farmers' Opry House. To the delight of all, pianist Brenda Ray played a Scott Joplin rag. (The group picture may be viewed at [www.farmersopry.com](http://www.farmersopry.com). Click on pictures, and then click on October 13 - 14).

On Saturday afternoon, Betty Davis taught a craft entitled "Boutique Tissue Gift Wrap". Ron Davis presented a seminar titled: "Ethanol and Your GMC". To help defray the rally costs, chances were sold on a painting donated by Seascape Artist Joni Haught who produced the painting especially for the rally. John Nichols won the drawing for the painting. The management for the Championship Bull Riding Competition held Saturday afternoon on the Opry grounds donated two tickets to the bull riding competition to be raffled. Dan Springer and Bill Telgen won the two tickets. Another home-cooked southern meal was enjoyed by all, followed by another evening of music by the Sawmill Band and another ragtime favorite by Brenda Ray.

Hosts were: Ron and Betty Davis, Herb and Joni Haught, Dennis and Brenda Ray, Lew and Rosemary Ayres, and Richard and Susan Harwell. All indications were that it was a most enjoyable rally and that a good time was had by all.

Submitted by Ron Davis

## CORNBREAD CAKE

4 Eggs  
1 Cup oil  
1 Cup Sugar  
1 Cup Brown Sugar  
1 1/2 Cups of self-rising Flour  
1 Teaspoon Vanilla  
1 Cup Chopped Pecans

Mix all ingredients. Bake in 350 degree oven for 30 minutes or until done.

- Submitted by Renee' of Farmers' Opry House. This was served at the Friday night dinner.

### Mini Rally report from Wales West.

I want to thank everyone who came to the mini rally following the Chumuchla gathering. 14 coaches were there all together for the 3-day event. The rain made it miserable for part of the time but that soon ended and the sun came out and all was well with the world.

Several of us stopped on the way down to get food and we had a covered dish supper the first night. The next night we went to a local seafood restaurant and had a good home cooked meal. The trains were running Sunday when we arrived and Tuesday night there was a Bluegrass concert in the community building. I heard nothing but good comments about the location and the fun that everyone had.

The owner, Ken Zadnichek, allowed us to use his pit where we set the ride height on two coaches and did some repairs on a third. If you haven't set your ride height then you should put it on your schedule of things to do. It can make a big difference in how your coach drives not to mention tire wear.

I hope that we can do this again sometime and I look forward to meeting more of the Dixilanders. This is a wonderful group and my wife, Toni, and I felt welcome from the first day we were there.

Thanks,  
Fred Veenschoten  
Pensacola, Fl.

#### BACON – TOMATO CUPS

8 slices of Bacon, fried and crumbled  
1 Medium Tomato, Chopped  
1/2 small onion, Chopped  
1 Teaspoon Basil  
1/3 Cup of Shredded Swiss Cheese  
1/2 cup of Mayonnaise  
2 Cans of Hungry Jack Flaky Biscuits

Combine first 6 ingredients. Separate biscuits into two layers. Press into mini muffin pans. Fill with Teaspoon of mixture. Bake at 375 degrees for 12 minutes

-submitted by Betty Davis

Late Breaking News : Bob is home. Bob was released from the hospital Oct 10, about 6 pm. He spent 15 days in the hospital. We were told that it would be 4 –5 days, but there were complications.

- Marty Sanders (Hurrah!! - editor)

Ken O'Rourke sent a great report on his and Alma's trip floating down the Danube river visiting Hungary, Serbia, Croatia, Bulgaria and Romania. His health is good, operating of the principle of "no news is good news." (Sounds like a great "show and tell" for a future rally. - editor)

# LAZY DAYS RALLY

January 15 - 17, 2007

The GMC Dixielanders have reserved 30 sites at the Lazy Days Rally Park for the period January 15, 16, and 17th, 2007. These dates coincide with the GMC Alumni who will also be there.

This is a no-host rally since the Rally Park provides breakfast and a catered dinner, and entertainment.

Reservations must be made prior to December 15th, 2006, by calling the Lazy Days Rally Park and 1-800-905-6627 or 817-246-4777. When making reservations, please identify yourself as a "GMC Dixielander."

This will put you in with the group.

The cost of the three day rally is \$239 per coach, plus Florida taxes of 12%. Early or late days will be \$34.99 plus tax per night. Check in time is 1 PM or later.

Lazy Days Rally Park is located at 6210 County Road 579, Seffner, FL. Lazy Days is located near the intersection of I-75 and I-4, near Tampa, FL. Those traveling south on I-75 need to turn eastbound on I-4, at County Road 579. County Road 579 is approximately 1 mile east of the intersection of I-75 and I-4. Proceed Northbound on CR 579 and Lazy Days is on the left just north of the Interstate.

The reserved sites that are not taken will be returned to the park on 15 December, so if you are going and want to be with the GMC groups, get your reservation in now.

For further information contact either the Rally Park or Jim Walters.

["www.lazydays.com/rallypark.html"](http://www.lazydays.com/rallypark.html)

For Sale/ Wanted:

For Sale: GMC Engine Hoist Stand \$200 – Ray Bingham 423-247-7784

Wanted: 3.21 Final Drive, in good condition – Ray Bingham 423-247-7784

Simple Tech Idea. – Tom Phipps

In these days of GPS, Cell Phones, Laptop Computers, etc, it would be nice to have additional 12v DC outlets in the cockpit of the GMC. Here's what I did.

1. Purchase a 12v lighter plug with holder and wire. Wal-Mart has them for under \$10. Also, get a fuse holder, if it does not have one.
2. On the passenger side of the cockpit, in front of the ash tray, there is a large blank spot of plastic. Cut a small hole in the plastic and enlarge it until the 12v outlet is a very tight fit.
3. Run the wires forward into the engine compartment, thru the existing grommet on the firewall.
4. Connect the wires (Black to engine ground, Red to positive battery pole. If you have a house or auxiliary battery in the engine compartment, connect to it, not the main engine battery.
5. Now your navigator has somewhere to gain access to 12v, without using the lighter plug under the radio.
6. Remember to fuse it for the load. Attached to the auxiliary battery reduces the possibility of draining your starting battery.

More ideas of this type would be appreciated for the newsletter.