

GMC Dixielander

Fall/Winter 2011

Notes from the President: Chuck Boyd

Noccalula Falls in Gadsden, Alabama is a great place. All the sites are concrete pads with full hook ups and wi-fi. Swimming pool, play ground, open air pavilion, washers and dryers, and a nice meeting / dining room. The weather was a little wet Thurs and Fri but cleared up for Sat and Sun. We all went out to dinner Fri evening at a great catfish house. I did call a business meeting before dinner to vote for Pres, VP, Sec, and Treasurer. Chuck Chambers - Treasurer, Felix Acosta - Secretary, John Richardson - VP, and Chuck Boyd - President were voted in. Sat evening we had BBQ catered and was awesome. Peach cobbler and ice cream and sweet potato casserole. Everyone ate their fill and we had plenty left over. The leftovers were delivered to the local Salvation Army and were truly appreciated. One morning we had pancakes and sausage, orange juice, rolls, and coffee. The next morning was eggs, bacon, grits, cheese grits, rolls, oj, and coffee. Did I mention Dixielanders eat good?

There was a lot of bull sessions about true-tracks, onans, fuel starvation issues, transmission vents, exhaust leaks, intake manifolds just to mention a few. Everyone had information and watermelon to share.

David Zimmerman had an issue with a clogged carb fuel filter about 40 miles out. He removed the filter and was back on the road before a rescue party could be assembled. He did stop and picked up a new one on the way in and replaced it along with new Remflex exhaust gaskets at the rally. He also added an in line filter after the switching valve. It seemed to have worked as he quietly blew my doors off when he passed me in Chattanooga on the way home. Paul Bennett found and repaired his issue with his Onan Emerald. Dan Springer repaired his 6000 Onan. Luther McConnell was working on house gauges.

Sat evening after dinner we all played RV Jopardy (correct spelling is not a requirement to be VP). It was a hoot, a lot of shouting, jokes and cheating.

The local paper editor and photographer came out and did a nice write up in the Gadsden times. The next day The local Fox network sent out a film crew and had a nice segment on TV about the GMCs. We had a lot of locals come out just to look and take pics. There were a few interested in buying a GMC and possibly we may have some new owners.

Thank you all for letting me be your President. Chuck Boyd

Notes from the Editor – Well, Valdosta was a very successful rally. This is the second time that I have been to this rally park, and I think that it is a good one for the Dixielanders. I did not count the number of coaches, but lots of old friends and plenty of new ones were there. They served us some very good food, and no one complained about the amount that was offered. Ken Henderson did a tech session on his 6 wheel alignment method, and it was demonstrated on John Richardson’s GMC Avion. Every Rally that we go to, I learn something new. The knowledge that the GMC group has as a whole is what keeps these lovely ladies running down the road. The weather was pleasant, and we enjoyed the sunshine. – Tom

President – Chuck Boyd VP– John Richardson Treasurer-Chuck Chambers Secretary – Flic Acosta

GMC Dixielander's Treasure's report – as of 10/08/2011

Balance brought forward 7/1/2011	\$3794.63
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Income:

Dues and New members	\$35.00
Jim Walters	\$100.00
- incorrectly addressed rally checks	

Total Income :	\$135.00
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Balance:	\$3929.63
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Expenditures:

Reimbursement Jim Walters	\$100.00
Specialty Engraving	\$ 35.00
- member badges	
St. Joseph Mercy Hospital	\$ 50.00
-in memory of George Rowe	

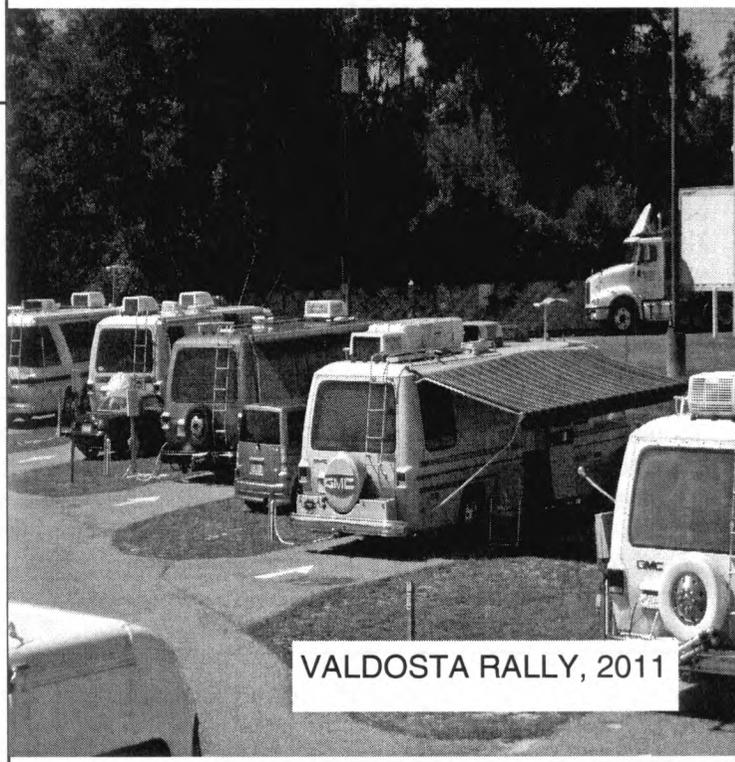
Total Expenditures:	\$186.00
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ENDING BALANCE	\$3743.63
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Chuck Chambers – Dixielander Treasurer

Bean Station News

In concurrence with Al and Marti Samsel, the best rally in the GMC Dixielander's schedule will be at Bean Station, TN. The planning dates are Thursday, May 3 through Saturday, May 5. The Kentucky Derby will be held on May 5th. Further information will be published in the Spring 2012 edition of the newsletter. So, get your projects ready for this fine working rally. Remember to pay your dues to get the invite.



Well, what can I say? I've attended my first official GMC motorhome rally. I've attended a couple of rallies before, but this was my first in the GMC and I'm impressed.

I am a member of the Dixielanders (not to be confused with the preeminent Southern Gossip Columnist, Dixie Landers) GMC club. We had a joint affair at the KOA in Lake Park, Florida with the Sunshine Statesmen. This campground is a tranquil little spot in the wilderness...NOT! Actually it is a noisy little spot beside I-75, but I learned pretty quickly that it is not the scenery that is important on a GMC rally.

No, this group doesn't rely on wistful vistas to have their fun. These guys carry the party in their hearts and in their minds and in their younger-than-their-years outlooks on life. I was among the youngest participants, and in some ways I felt older than the oldest among them.

And I learned some valuable lessons. I learned I really like homemade strawberry wine and I learned that, most likely, I'll need lots of help when it's time to align my coach. I learned that not everyone's coach looks better than mine (although a lot of them do) and I got some good ideas for remodeling.

I was stag on this particular trip, except for Zippy the flea market Chihuahua and Doodle, the cockatiel. We have a family wedding coming up and my bride was preoccupied, to say the least. I was alone, but never lonely. I made a point of sitting at different tables during meals and I tried to visit each gathering around each coach. It makes a difference when you are among friends. If you own a GMC or are thinking about buying one, join a group and come to a rally. Give it a try. If you are intimidated by some of the talk on the net, trust me. I am right there with you. If you are mechanically inclined, the sky is the limit. If you are mechanically declined, as am I, you will find plenty of help.

Weekend rallies are planned all over the southeast during the next 12 months. Come see us. I might even be able to get you a paper cup of strawberry wine.

-Stick Miller

Crock Pot Chili – JoAnne Telgen

2 pounds Ground Beef - brown and drain

Onion – sauté

1 28 oz can diced tomatoes

2 cans red kidney beans – drained

2 15 oz cans tomato sauce

1 pkg dry chili mix

Mix together in crock pot and cook for 4 hours (2 hours on high, and two hours on low).

Freezes well

GMC DIXIELANDER

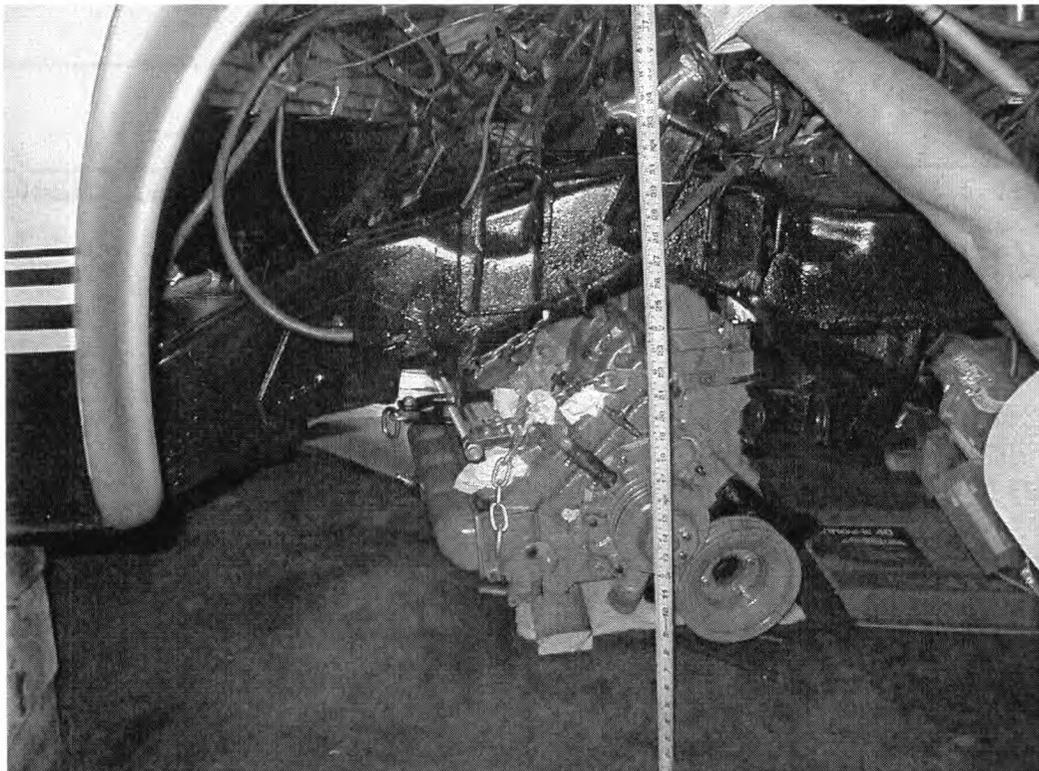
BITS AND PIECES – A selection of short items of interest.

From John Nichols – Check your front fuel line (the one that passes down the left side and across the frame to feed the fuel pump). I discovered that mine had been rubbing against the fill line tube and was severely worn (mine broke). Armor it with a piece of rubber hose to separate the two lines.

When you pay your dues, please consider up-dating your contact information with Chuck. We had many e-mail bounces, after e-mailing out the announcement for the Valdosta Rally. So just check your information that you want to share, and send it to Chuck, along with your dues check. You can check your current listing with the 2011 membership list. For you new members, that are not on that list, be sure Chuck and I have the information that you would like to have listed. Please remember that the membership list does not circulate outside the club and is not posted on the web. The next hard copy of the membership will be published in Spring 2012, about April time frame.– Tom Phipps

Only 26 inches necessary to roll engine under frame – Tom Whitton

We recently removed the old engine from our GMC and installed a rebuilt 455. After removing the torsion bars and control arms, we lowered the old engine down and over on its side onto a section of plywood that was resting on lengths of 1/2 pipe. We were then able to roll the engine out under the arch in the front frame. After padding the plywood to keep from scratching the paint on the rebuilt engine, we reversed the procedure and installed the rebuilt 455. Only 26 inches of clearance was necessary to roll the new engine under the arch. The motorhome was raised and blocked about the same as the height necessary to change a tire.



New GMC Single Air Bag Replacement System

A very interesting Single Air Bag System was on Display at Valdosta. Using a common modern manufacture air bag, and some simple end caps, you can replace the total air bag system for around \$300. Considering that a new air bag is \$700,

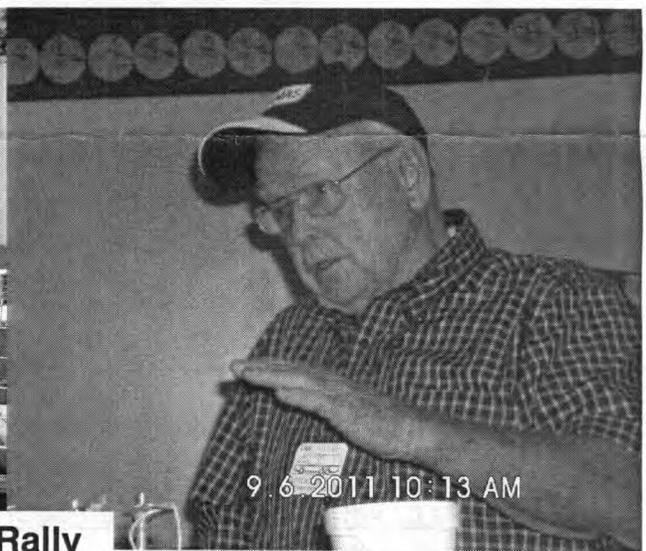
or so,
this is a
viable
solution



Normal Ride Height



Fully collapsed – Bag has internal bump stop to prevent total collapse.



Valdosta 2011 Rally



GMC Dixielander Winter Rally 2012

WHEN : January 8 – 11, 2012
WHERE: Lazy Days Rally Park
6210 County Road 579
Seffner, FL

Res: 800-905-6627 Info: 813-246-4777 Fax: 813-246-5504

Web: <http://lazydays.com/home.html>

E-Mail: RallyPark@Lazydays.com

NOTE: Attendees are responsible for making their own reservations . Make reservations directly with the RV park. Make sure to tell them that you will be with the GMC Dixielander/Alumni group.

Costs: \$231.40 + tax (coach with 2 people)
Includes three nights of camping, welcome reception, 2 catered dinners.
A complimentary breakfast will be available across the street. Some evening entertainment/band is planned.

Events: This is a No-Host Rally and a business meeting will not be held. Direct any questions to John Richardson at 850-830-6100: E-mail: [jrichsr at aol.com](mailto:jrichsr@aol.com)

GMC Dixielanders 2012 Dues Notice .- \$ 10

Make Checks payable to GMC Dixielanders

Mail to: Chuck Chambers
2379 High Falls Road
Jackson, GA 30233

Name _____

Address _____

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