

**"Roaming Dixie Together"****Calhoun Rally Report - John Nichols**

The 18-21 July Rally in Calhoun was an enjoyable one. We talked, we ate, talked some more, ate some more and continued through several more similar repetitions. How can you beat v visiting with friends and eating good food?

The KOA hosts were hospitable, the rally hall was nice and they fed us a no cost meal

We had 17 GMCs, three SOB coaches, and four in cabins, etc. for a total of 23 member units and 36 people. We enjoyed three first timer coaches. We also had delightful visits from Jim and Lou McDowell and Al and Marti Samsel. Attendees are listed below.

Chuck Boyd worked his magic on "first timer" Don Robertson's gear shift cable and oil leak. My guess is that Don will forever remember his first rally. Chuck also led a very informative tech session.

Rita could not come so Joan Dotson and the usual willing help from our wonderful Lady members saved me and the quality of the rally. My thanks to all who helped in so many ways.

Those of you who didn't make it, you missed a good time. All please mark your calendars for Noccolula October 17-20.

**Attendees -**

Bill and Pat Barger and grandson Trinity, Ray Bingham and Linda Skeen, Chuck and Cathy Boyd, Muriel Bradley, Chuck and Sue Chambers, Gene and Joan Dotson, Lebron Hollingsworth, Mark and Patrice Kalinowski, John Karlovich, Nick and Darlene Knowlton, John Nicholls, Barry and Carolyn Owens, Tom and Marilyn Phipps, John Richardson, Don Robertson, Curby and Mary Robertson, Hubert Rowell, Clyde and Faye Simmons, Russell and Lee Anna Sturkie, Harry and Linda Terrill, Gary Throneberry, Jim and Ethel Walters, and David and Janet Zimmerman.

Notes from the Editor - Well, in the issue we have reports on two rallies; Calhoun, GA and Nocculala Falls, AL. Both were well attended and I had a good time. With the government shut-down and the hassles involved, Marilyn and I were only able to attend one rally with the coach. Calhoun was a very nice RV park and they made all feel like welcome guests. Nocculala Falls RV Park is operated by the Town of Gadsden, AL and is well liked by all members. Next town over had a street festival, which we visited. Always looking for items of interest in the towns that we are in.

Remember that this is your newsletter, please send me items of interest to the group. Photos are always appreciated. Looking forward to seeing you at Bean Station. - Tom

President - John Richardson      Vice President - John Nichols      Treasurer - Chuck Chambers

Secretary - Mike Kalinowski      Web Site - [www.gmc Dixielanders.org](http://www.gmc Dixielanders.org)      Editor - Tom Phipps

Support your GMC Specific Suppliers. Without them, the GMC Motorhome will disappear.

## **GMC DIXIELANDER**

VPs Report for the Noccalula Rally held 17 – 20 October:

John Richardson our President was unable to attend due to Linda's recent partial knee replacement. She is reported to be doing well. We missed them. We deferred installation of new officer slate until John R. could be present. Your Executive Committee considered a few By-Law changes which we will present to the membership and hopefully we can ratify during the Bean Station Rally (official notification to follow)( thank you, Joan Dotson).

We met, we talked GMCs, we ate, and the ladies played cards. All in all, it was an enjoyable rally. Our hosts, Jerry and Audrey Holloway and Jim and Ethel Walters did a great job; fed us well and made us all feel welcome. Fortunately, there were no maintenance issues that had to be addressed. Lebron Hollingsworth soloed his motorhome (good show!).

We were saddened by reports that illnesses struck Chuck Boyd and Dan Gregg. We wish them a speedy recovery.

We were visited by a group of GMC owners who are in the process of starting up a GMC restoration business in Talladega, AL. They were: David and Becky Pike; Steve and Liz Douglas; Mike Bradley; Chris Lightfoot; Doyle Lightfoot and David Pike. They have leased a campground and facility in Talladega. We wish them much success and look forward to welcoming them among our membership.

We had 38 attendees and they were Muriel Bradley (showed off her leather work with GMC logos, etc.), Don Robertson, Nick and Darlene Knowlton, Tom and Marilyn Phipps, Henry and Linda Terrill, John and Rita Nicholls, Ed and Shirley Williams, Clyde and Faye Simmons, Curby and Mary Robertson, Kerry and Carolyn Pinkerton, Flic and Judy Acosta, Johnny Bridges, Chuck and Sue Chambers, Fred and Toni Veenschotin, Betty and Bill Chimento (first timers – welcome), Hubert and Jeannine Rowell, Ethel and Jim Walters, Lebron Hollingsworth, and Jerry and Audrey Holloway. Mark and Patrice Kalinowski and Gene and Joan Dotson joined us via motel stays. We had 16 GMC motorhomes.

We are looking forward to our next rally at Lazydays Campground in Seffner, FL January 13- 16. Ya'll come. - John N

### **2014 GMC Motorhome Rally News:**

**International Spring Rally - KOA, Montgomery, TX.**

**Mar 21 to Mar 27, 2014**

**Dixielander Winter Rally - Lasy Days, Tampa. FL**

**Jan 13 to Jan 16, 2014**

**Dixielander Bean Station - Bean Station, TN**

**May 1 to May 4, 2014 Spring Rally**

**Dixielander Summer Rally - to be determined**

## GMC DIXIELANDER

GMC Dixielander General Business Meeting - October 19, 2013

Noting that the number of members present represented a quorum according to the bylaws, the meeting was called to order at 8:56 am by Vice President John Nichols. Officers present were Vice President John Nichols, Treasurer Chuck Chambers, and Secretary Mark Kalinowski.

The invocation was given by Jim Walters and was followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Secretary Report - Secretary Kalinowski read the minutes of the last business meeting held at Calhoun, GA. On July 20, 2013. A motion to approve the minutes as read was made by Johnny Bridges and seconded by Joan Dotson.

Treasurers Report- Treasurer Chcuk Chambers read the treasurers report and submitted a copy f for the next newsletter. A motion to approve / accept the report was made by Flic Acosta and seconded by Johnny Bridges.

Sunshine Report - Linda Richardson recovering from knee replacement surgery, Chuck Boyd heart problems), Mark Kalinowski (loss of his mother) were mentioned by Judy Acosta.

Old Business - None Noted.

Vice President Report - Vice President John Nichols noted that the Winter Rally will be held at Lasydays, Sefner, FL., Jan 13 - 16, 2014 and the Bean Station Rally in the Spring during the first week of May 2014. The Bean Station Rally celebrates its 25th year.

Nominating Committee- The new slate of officers will be installed at the Winter Rally at Lasydays.

GMCM I Report- The next Rally will be in March, 2014 in Montgomery, TX. Kerry Pinkerton noted that GMCM I will now offer associate membership.

Storekeeper- It was noted that Chuck Boyd will be the official storekeeper of the bearing puller set owned by the club.

New Business- A Bylaws change meeting will be held by the Executive Committee with approval of changes coming at Bean Station.

New Members- New members recognized in attendance were Bill and Betty Chimento.

A motion to adjourn was made by Linda Terrel and seconded by Patrice Kalinowski. Meeting adjourned at 9:50.

- Mark Kalinowski, Secretary

For Sale: Queen size "Travasak", winter or summer sides, integral sheets, quilted comforter covering. Used very little. \$100.00 OBO. John 850-968-4637 or johnrita1@cox.net.

## GMC DIXIELANDER

Let's talk about brake maintenance.

I left for the Calhoun rally and only traveled one mile before stopping to check brake temperatures. I smelled that awful smell of over heat. My right front rotor was locked up. I tried to get home but within a quarter mile, it was glowing cherry red. Foolishly, I had never checked my front brakes.

After a complete rework of knuckles, hubs, front bearings and new calipers and replacement rotors (originals were too thin), I did an autopsy on the failed caliper and hose. The caliper was congested with gunk and I could not get a 13 gauge wire to insert into the hose. Cutting the hose further verified the blockage. The myth that flexible hoses need to be periodically replaced is no myth. Also, the myth that brake systems need to be flushed and filled with new, clean brake fluid is also not a myth.

Following this front brake work, I decided to replace the rear flexible brake hoses. You guessed it. These lines were also almost completely blocked.

It has been said many times that hoses need to be replaced and systems need to be flushed. Apparently, I wasn't listening. You should.

- John N.



Failed Front Brake



Plugged Caliper Hose



Worn Caliper Brake



Ruined Brake Piston



Another Look at Brake  
Hose



More damage

Photos by John Nichols

For Sale - GMC "Royale" - First civilian/owner. It is 95+% of all up-upgrades made available from electronic ignition to air bag lifters, front wheel spacers for "true" tracking, Etc. Comes complete for immediate living except for your personal items. - Allen Martin - a-pmartjr at yadtel.net

~~John Richardson our President was unable to attend due to Linda's recent partial knee~~

## GMC DIXIELANDER

### **Lazydays RV 2014 Rally Notice**

Where: Lazydays RV  
6130 Lazy Days Blvd  
Seffner, FL 33584  
(800) 626-7800

When: January 13 - 16, 2014

Due to popular demand, we will again hold an no-host rally at Lazydays. The arrangements are The same as last year. They will cater a Welcome Reception and two buffet dinners with spirits and great food. The Welcome Reception will be \$17.50 per person, Dinner 1 will be \$15.50 per person, and Dinner 2 will be \$16.45 per person (+7% tax). Based on the quality of the fare last year, these prices are hard to beat. Breakfasts and Lunches will again be available in the Rally Center. Those not staying at Lazydays, may sign up for meals only.

The camping Fee is steep at \$45.50 (+12% tax) per coach, but again for Central Florida in Winter the rates are as expected for full hook-ups with amenities.

Please call 800-905-6627 to make your reservations. Package price for a two person coach will be \$259.19. If you experience any difficulty making your reservation, please as for Ms. Jennifer Lewis. Mention that you are with the GMC Dixielanders Rally.

The cut-off date for reservations to assure our sites is December 13, 2013. When you make your Reservation, please advise our new Rally Master, Nick Knowlton at 678-910-3854, so that he will Know who all to expect and plan for.

- John Nichols

### **2014 Dixielander Dues Notice - \$10**

Please mail your dues payment for next year to Chuck Chambers. The cut-off date for inclusion in the 2014 printed copy of the membership list is 28 Feb, 2014. Extra appreciation for early payment. Please provide any changes to your information to Chuck so that the membership list can be kept current.

Chuck Chambers, Dixielander Treasurer

2379 High Falls Road, Jackson, GA, 30233

**Make checks payable to GMC Dixielanders.**

## GMC DIXIELANDER

Paragonia Conversions would like to extend our gratitude to The Dixielanders for hosting us at their recent GMC Rally at Noccalula Falls, in Gadsden, AL. We had the opportunity to meet some wonderful individuals and enjoyed seeing the variety of beautiful GMC Motorhomes present. It was truly a pleasure to take part in the event!

Paragonia Conversions in partnership with Covenant Creations, focuses solely on the restoration and sales of the 1973-1978 GMC motorhomes, and the reconditioning of original GMC parts. Our group was in Gadsden working on the production of a new reality television show centered around, our adventures in the purchase, renovation and sales of these unique, retro RVs. Look for it to air on one of the major networks, in the spring of 2014.

We are also excited to announce our acquirement of the Race Chasers RV Park, located at: 1530 Speedway Blvd, Lincoln, AL 35096 - just one mile from Talladega Superspeedway. We offer a variety of concessions and welcome all RVs at the affordable rate of \$30 per night, for full hook-up and Wi-Fi. For our GMC friends, we offer a special rate of \$20 per night, for full hook-up and Wi-Fi, with the 7<sup>th</sup> night free! We pride ourselves in being the only RV Park, fully dedicated to the education and preservation of the GMC Motorhome.

Again, we offer our sincere thanks for the hospitality shown by your group, and we look forward to hosting a Dixielanders Rally in the near future!

Written by: Christie Pike



Jim, Jerry, Johnny and Dan

