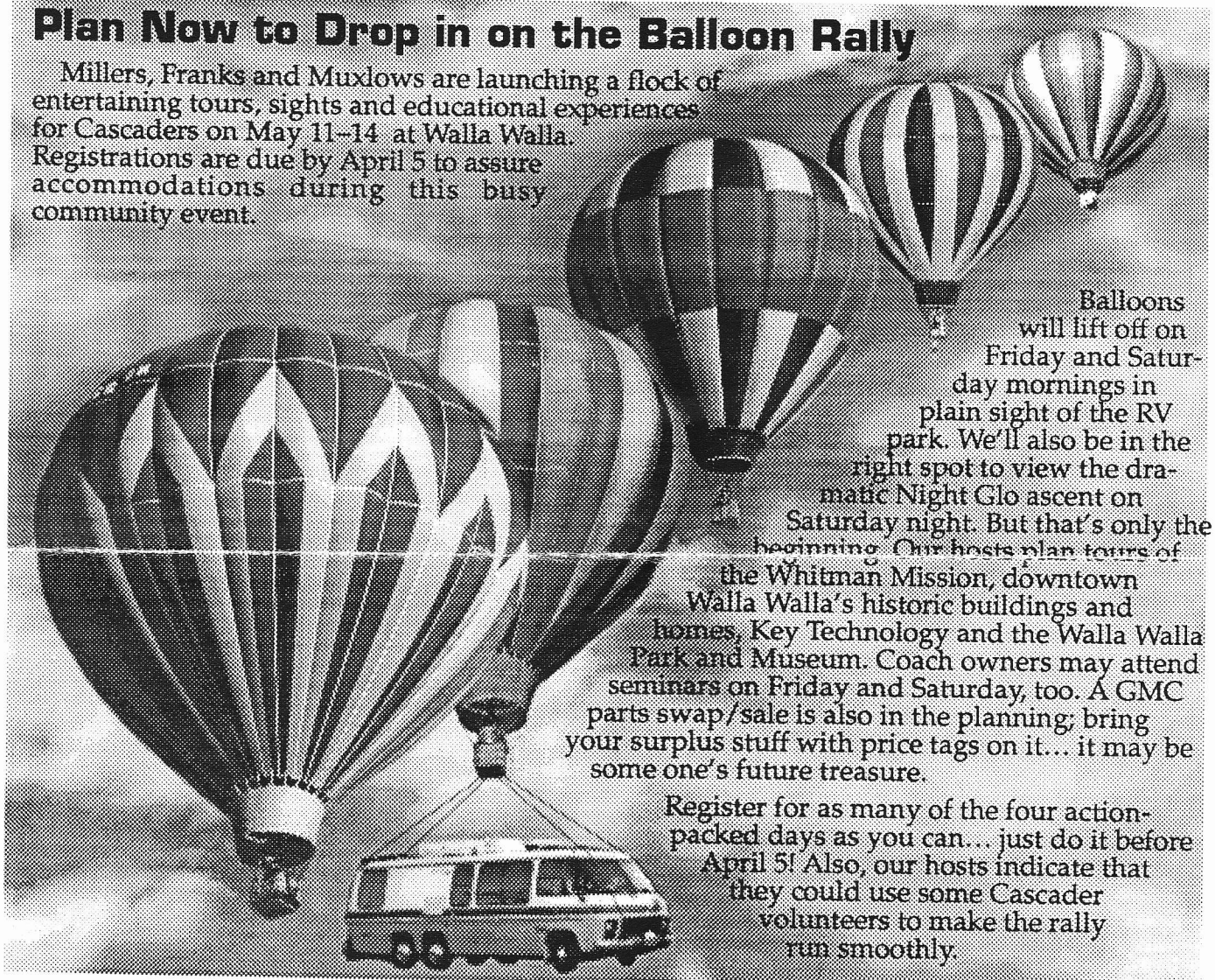


## Plan Now to Drop in on the Balloon Rally

Millers, Franks and Muxlows are launching a flock of entertaining tours, sights and educational experiences for Cascaders on May 11-14 at Walla Walla. Registrations are due by April 5 to assure accommodations during this busy community event.



Balloons will lift off on Friday and Saturday mornings in plain sight of the RV park. We'll also be in the right spot to view the dramatic Night Glo ascent on Saturday night. But that's only the beginning. Our hosts plan tours of the Whitman Mission, downtown Walla Walla's historic buildings and homes, Key Technology and the Walla Walla Park and Museum. Coach owners may attend seminars on Friday and Saturday, too. A GMC parts swap/sale is also in the planning; bring your surplus stuff with price tags on it... it may be some one's future treasure.

Register for as many of the four action-packed days as you can... just do it before April 5! Also, our hosts indicate that they could use some Cascader volunteers to make the rally run smoothly.

### Rally Schedule 1994

DATES	LOCATION	SITE	HOSTS
May 11-15	Walla Walla, WA	Four Seasons RV Park	Miller, Frank and Muxlow
May 30-June 3	Around mainland British Columbia	On-the-Road rally	Allen, Forster and Ulmer
Aug. 19-21	Mt. Vernon, WA	Information coming	Mast, Reed and Swanson

Additional rallies scheduled for October and December; watch for details in future issues of the *GMC Cascaders News*.

## CLASSIFIED Ad

Classic 1973 GMC Sequoia coach—23', Model 230 with side bath. 59,000 miles. Engine: 7.5 liter/455 ci, front wheel drive w/ 3 speed automatic transmission. Two 25 gal. fuel tanks plus one 20 gal. for a total fuel capacity of 70 gal. Contact George and Carol Baxter at PO Box 5090, Dockton, WA 98070, phone—1-206-463-9045

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Tentatively Greg Smith

*The GMC Cascader News is published six times annually. GMC coach owners interested in membership should contact any officer for information.*

## Roadside Air Bag Changing

We have Earl Becker to thank for a well organized and lively technical seminar at the Hayden Island rally. Earl used his own coach and a new air bag to demo replacement of bag and cones under roadside conditions in twenty minutes! Instead of traffic



*Onlookers benefit from technical seminar in early March sunshine.*

## Lucky Again!

Ted and Jane Swanson were preparing to attend the Jantzen Beach rally. The volt meter that Ted installed (See story in last newsletter.) indicated that his coach battery was only at 12 volts with the engine running, rather than 14.

An intermittent problem is the hardest to analyze and solve. The Lacey Battery Plus shop was able to track down the problem—it was the isolator. The alternator was damaged, so both the isolator and the alternator had to be replaced. The B.P. shop said the Swanson coach was the second GMC motorhome that month with an isolator problem!

Ted says he was lucky gain. The problem experienced on their October 1993 trip had recurred, but in his own backyard rather than on the freeway to Portland.



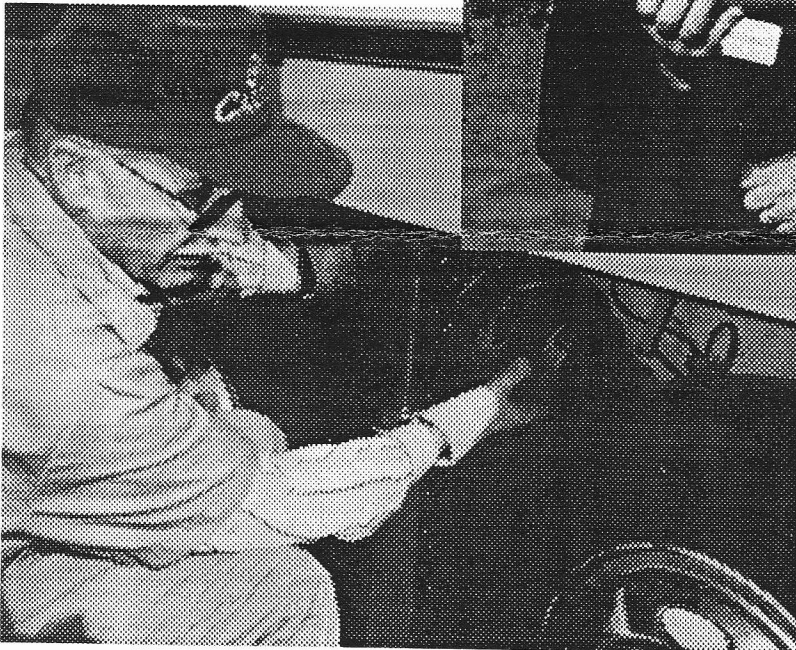
*Jane and Ted Swanson, reporters of volt meter adventures.*



whizzing past his back, he had to put up with a tight ring of onlooking kibitzers and advice givers.

Here are a few random tips taken from a "co-pilot's notes"—doubtful source!

- Cost of bag with cones= about \$170 from Clasco
- Tools to carry— 1/2" open-ended wrench, pliers for loosening fittings, 3-ton jack (the one that comes with motor home), 1 1/8" wrench or socket, Teflon tape to wrap the threads on the air line connection.
- It's a good idea to test the new air bag in a large tub of water before installation—it's difficult to do this beside the road; should we haul the extra bag out of the pod and check it in the bathtub every once in a while? Inflate it to about 1/2# air and immerse.



Earl Becker demonstrates roadside air bag first aid, above; George Baxter contemplates the ride you might get on an emergency replacement for a blown air bag, above right.

- Do not lift the wheels completely off the ground with the jack.
- Put Never Sieze on nuts before attempting to loosen them.
- Prior to reconnecting air line to bag, wrap the threads with Teflon tape. Bob Fry says it is imperative to keep the Teflon tape at least one thread width back from the open end.

- Don't tighten nuts hard; they'll probably sieze up anyway!

Following Earl's air bag demo, general question and answers introduced several ideas...

- We took a close look, see Baxter photo, at the emergency substitute for a blown air bag.
- One discussion revolved around use of bogie plates or inserts (5" x 2" x 1/4" steel plates) when raising rear of coach. These devices (deployed one per side) enable you to get the rear wheels off the ground without extending the jack so far; by holding rear wheels apart, they lift off the ground with less coach elevation.



Chet Kershaw shared some of his discoveries. He found that by purchasing Goodyear hose #60-959 and lopping 6" off one end, he could replace his upper radiator hose "for cheap". He also showed us a simple, contoured wooden cleat with rubber bumper fastened along one edge that serves beautifully when pounding wheel covers into place.

Chet also shared an abbreviated account of his recent adventures in removing the decal stripes on the sides and front of his coach *without damaging the paint job!* Many coach owners want to remove the old cracking decal stripes and replace them with genuine painted stripes but removing the old decals without damaging the paint is nearly impossible. Chet used an ultra-high-speed drill (4000 rpm!) and "Decal Removal Pads" from 3-M company. They are expensive and there's quite a knack to using them. Chet achieved the impossible very successfully and has offered to demonstrate the procedure at an upcoming rally. He's even offered to loan to members the \$200, high-speed drill he purchased to accomplish the job.



## Sun Shines on Early March Rally

More than two dozen coaches and several "commute-by-car" members converged on our Hayden Island RV Park rally—Mar 4-6, 1994. After wrestling with site relocation and a date change, our hosts pulled off a grand rally. Thank you, Marley and Earl Becker, Beverly and Ray Groth, and Karen and Chet Kershaw, greeters. We thrived on good food, ridiculous bingo with cash prizes, a wild dinner at Who Song and Larry's restaurant, shopping, a technical seminar in the soft winter sunshine, and the usual lively business meeting.

Participating were:

Henry and Lola Abrahams  
George and Carol Baxter  
Earl and Marley Becker  
Al and Karen Birch  
Terry and Joanne Boyd  
\*Gene and Millie Cochran  
Glenn and Ruth Diers  
Clarence and Elsie Estridge  
Bob and Elaine Fry  
Leon and Martha Goebel  
Ray and Beverly Groth  
Billy and Pris Hardin  
Dave and Linda Ireland  
Chet and Karen Kershaw  
Walter and Gerry Krebs  
Ken and Deon Madison

Terry and Gloria Morris  
James and Karen Musser  
George and Charlotte Paul  
Don and Luana Perry  
\*Don and Denta Persinger  
Clarence and Grace Politiske  
Jerry Pryde  
James and Sheryl Scolman  
\*Jim and Gerry Seitz  
\*Amil and Charlene Spada  
Bud Sunderland  
Ted and Jane Swanson  
Wil Townes  
Bob and Bonnie Van Allsburg  
Roland and Ruth Wilbur  
Charles and Mabel Williams



Hosts Kershaw and Groth call out "lucky" bingo numbers. Host Becker supervised the gaming floor. Lady Luck visited several players with cash prizes.

We extend a special welcome to first-rally attendees marked by asterisks above... Cochrans, Persingers, Seitz' and Spadas.

Random notes on our technical seminar appear elsewhere in this newsletter.

For those who have never been to Who Song & Larry's, it's not the Asian food emporium you might guess. A full south-of-the-border menu inspires wacko waiter behavior that hails from some other planet... strolling musicians (no, not really mariachis) burst forth with some sort of song; the wait persons join in with considerable talent AND GUSTO.

In the absence of President Becky Ragsdale who is lolling on the beach in Hawaii, V-P Carol Baxter, conducted our business meeting. Our Almost Spring Rally concluded with most participants planning to see each other at the balloon rally in Walla Walla, WA, in early May.

### Minutes of 3/6/94 Meeting

Vice-president Carol Baxter called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m., March 3, 1994

She extended the club's sincere appreciation to rally hosts, Beckers, Groths and Kershaws. Baxter introduced and welcomed first-rally participants, Cochrans, Persingers, Seitz and Spadas.



Marley Becker takes time out from hosting duties to scowl at an unproductive bingo board.

**Secretary's report**—Minutes of the December meeting were accepted as written in the February newsletter—MSP.

**Treasurer's report**—Ruth Diers reported a current membership of 158 coaches. Financial report showed \$3,010.23 in the treasury with \$643 advanced to planners of upcoming rallies.

**FMCA report**—Lola Abrahams reported that FMCA planning for the July/August rally at Puyallup are moving along. Most clubs assisting with rally hosting



are reporting the need for more volunteers; 4000+ coaches are expected. Cascaders planning to attend were urged to assist either Delores Johnson with the Information Booth or Dick Forbes, Security Captain. Sign-up sheets and rally information were available at the Hayden Island rally.

Lola called for nominations to the position of FMCA NW Area Vice President. Interested members should contact any member of our executive board.

**Wagon Master's report**—Glenn Diers laid out the current rally plans.

- Balloon Rally at Walla Walla, WA, May 11–15, must register for 2, 3, or 4 nights. Registrations due to Millers by April 5.
- British Columbia On-the-Road Rally convenes May 29 or 30 at Osoyoos, BC and arrives at Harrison Hot Springs, BC on June 3. Host Denny Allen will send specific dates and details soon.
- Mount Vernon Rally, Mt. Vernon, WA, will meet August 19–20. Early plans call for both bus and boat trips.
- Tentative plans for remaining 1994 meetings involve a Toppenish, WA, rally in October and a Woodburn, OR, rally in December.
- Rally guides, a planning tool for hosts, are available from Glenn. See him for guides and help in hosting a rally.

**Vice-President's report**—Carol Baxter has sent a "get well" card to Ken Ragsdale following his surgery. She has also written "Thank you's" to the hosts of the December rally. She reported that Alice Frank, who helped host the Pendleton rally, is ill.

Carol noted that the keeping of the club scrapbook has been added to the duties of the vice-president. She requested that members forward any photographs of rally activities for placement in our historic photo record.

**President's report**—Becky Ragsdale's report came in the form of a note expressing warm appreciation for all of the cards and good wishes Cascaders sent following Ken's surgery. He is doing very well.

She also reported that the newsletter of the Colorado subgroup of GMC Western States contains interesting technical notes. The group will hold a rally at Albuquerque, NM, to test site possibilities for hosting a Western States rally there in the future. Are we all ready to go?

**Old Business**—None

**New Business**—Dave and Linda Ireland won the prize for having traveled the longest distance to attend the rally... when they headed for the rally, there were still several feet of on snow on the ground at their home in William's Lake, BC.

The GMC Motorhome Marketplace magazine has requested that GMC Cascaders send our official club address, our club membership list and our rally schedule. An informal poll showed that most members present already subscribe. Discussion followed. We will send only our official club address as a contact point for



*Earl Becker, left, herds Cascaders into Who Song & Larry's for Mexi-menu and entertainment.*

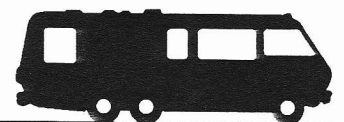


*From chips to chimichangas to postres, dinner serves up foolishness and fellowship.*

possible new members. (MSP) Terry Morris offered to share his loose-leaf-bound set of the publication with members at the next rally.

Lola Abrahams, our FMCA delegate, will not be able to attend the Puyallup FMCA rally so the need for an alternate is imminent. Nominations were in order for an alternate FMCA delegate for the NW District. Greg Smith was nominated and elected by unanimous voice vote pending his acceptance of the office.

The meeting was adjourned (MSP) at 11:50 a.m.



**GMC Cascaders**  
Pris Hardin, Secretary  
2970 NW Hayes Ave  
Corvallis OR 97330

## On the Road Again...

- MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORIES went out to all members who paid their dues for 1994. If you found errors or need additions made to the directory, please let Pris Hardin know. Members who would like to have the directory on a 3½" floppy disk should bring one (Mac or DOS) to the next meeting.
- VOLUNTEERS willing to help at the Puyallup FMCA (July 30–August 2) rally, please contact

King deBord, 1-800-544-7062 Voice Mail Box 277. Special calls for help have come from Delores Johnson, Information Booth chair, and Dick Forbes, Security Crew chief.

- REMINDER! Your FMCA membership must be active and paid up for you to belong to GMC Cascaders! There may be a few of you out there who do not know about this rule.



- CALL FOR PHOTOS—Carol Baxter, Vice-President, needs photos of our rally events and activities to add to the scrapbook records of our club history. These books are a valuable resource as a record and as an introduction of new and prospective members to the club; let's flood Carol with photos.

