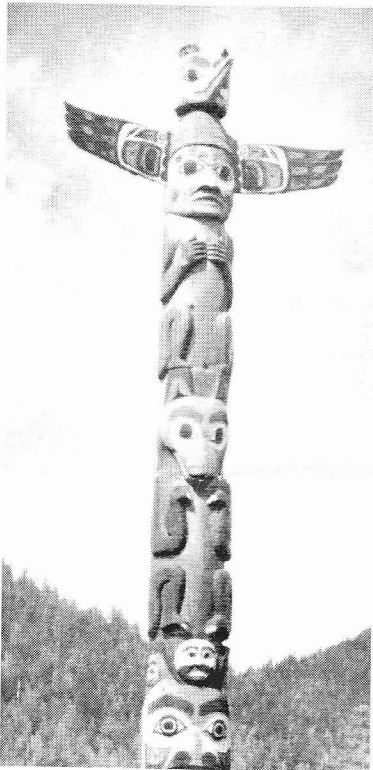


## Alaska Trip Registration Deadline—4/1/96



QUICK! Send \$20 (basic deposit) to Dave Ireland before April Fools Day if you want to reserve your place in the Alaska expedition. Contact Dave and Linda for details.

## Water, water everywhere, nor any drop to drink...at the PRESIDENTS' WEEKEND RALLY

Salem Fairgrounds, Salem Oregon

by Liz Ovens

Sixteen coaches rolled past flooded fields, crossed engorged rivers and dodged barricades on roads strewn with debris or buried by mudslides en route to the Salem rally held Feb. 16-18, 1996. Everyone was both awed and aghast at the power of nature as the "Great Floods of '96" slowly receded. The rally was abuzz with news of the storm damage sustained by some of our members who were not able to attend. (Related story on page 6.)

Our able hosts, Dave and Pat DeLapp and Clarence and Grace Politiske were up to the challenges of nature. When Salem announced "don't drink the water," ...our Wagonmaster, Glenn Diers warned, be prepared, "bring water on board." Fairgrounds meeting rooms had flooded or were temporarily not available, so our hosts merely moved the venues. Our rally went on as scheduled, smooth as silk, albeit soggy as the last cornflake left in a bowl of milk. Now we know why they call Oregonians "the ducks!"



Continued on page 2

### Rally Schedule 1996

DATES	LOCATION	SITE	HOSTS
April 19-21	Burlington, WA	KOA RV Park	Paradis, Ovens, Eerkes +
May 24-27	FMCA NW Roundup	Puyallup, WA	Cascaders to serve ice cream social.
June 22-29+	BC Rolling Rally	Abbotsford to Quesnel, BC	Allens, Irelands, Smiths & Cooks
July 1- August?	Quesnel BC to Alaska	Unofficial 42-day adventure	Dave & Linda Ireland—facilitators
August 23-25	LaGrande, OR	Starkeys Store, Mt Sound	TBA
August 25-30	Welches, OR	Mt Hood RV Park	GMC Western States

Additional rallies scheduled for 1996; see future issues of the GMC Cascaders News.

Continued from page 1

Early birds arrived on Thursday in brilliant but short-lived sunshine. Then the "Oregon mists" returned, drenching the group with over 3" of rain by Sunday night. Some stalwart

members were even heard to be catching the rain water for future use!

There's something about a collection of GMC coaches that's a magnet for drive-bys. This rally proved no exception... Glenn and Erral Plymate, who had recently purchased a '78 Kingsley, visited us on Friday, requesting information about joining our merry group. We were also visited by John and Anne Cheney who had visited us at Cannon Beach in December. This time they came with application in hand and are now our newest Cascader couple.

## GMC CASCADERS NEWS

- President** Carol Baxter  
PO Box 361  
Vashon, WA 98070-0361  
206-463-9045
- 1st Vice President/Historian**  
Terry Morris  
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206-243-7488
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206-782-2131
- Secretary** Liz Ovens  
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- Treasurer** Ruth Diers  
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- FMCA Representative**  
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541-752-3811

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



Photo by Ovens

Friday night we were treated to a lush array of Chinese food at the Canton Garden Restaurant. Of course half an hour later, we were all hungry again, so fed ourselves on the thrill of Bingo. Much to the delight of all, our visitors, Glenn and Erral Plymate, were game winners. The beauty of oriental food is the "to-go" boxes and every one of the little treasured cartons was whisked away not to be seen again until at least midnight in someone's coach.

This rally brought a higher than normal ratio of local member cars, including our willing and able hosts. A ride with Pat DeLapp and you feel you've conquered the Daytona 500! We collectively were very grateful for the transport to the various activities as we squeezed and scrunched our way into the vehicles

*Richard and Erlene Russell entertain with microwave magic. How many microwave ovens can you get in a GMC?*

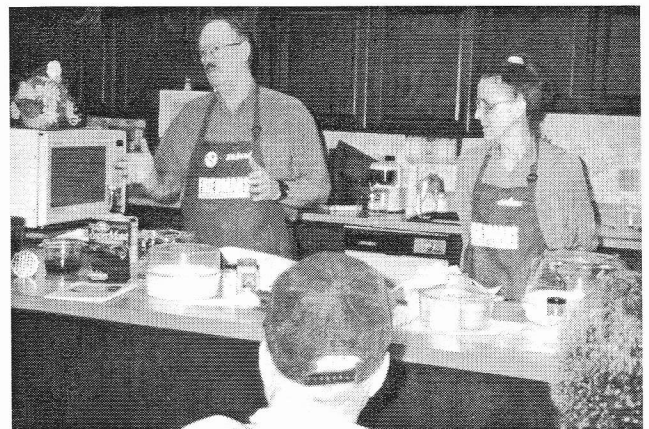


Photo by Ovens, of course! Who else?—Frys!



wondering just where to put that umbrella so's not to impale our trip mates.

Attendees breakfasted both Saturday and Monday at a local dance club. Saturday morning some of the group were treated to a demonstration of healthy microwave cooking, performed by Richard and Erlene Russell, experts in the field of devising attractive, tasty and timesaving meals. Of course we all noted they cheated and used four (4) microwave ovens to get it all cooked on time!! But it was indeed delicious.

The highlight of Saturday's tours was the Mission Mill (woolens) Museum which we very thoroughly toured. Timing is everything since the day before, the museum was still sweeping and mopping up the vestiges of an 18" flood through-

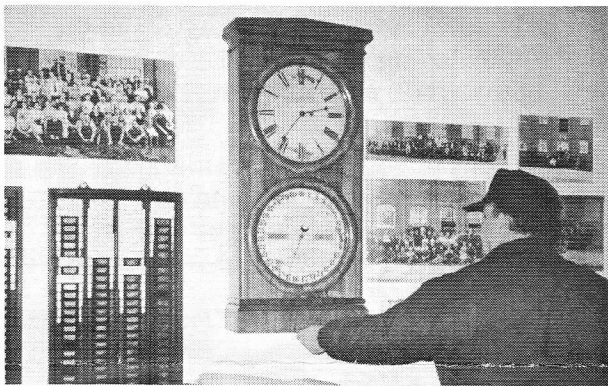


Photo by Owens

Walt Owens checks in at the old Mission Mill time clock.

Woolen mill equipment looks like it had just been tuned off.

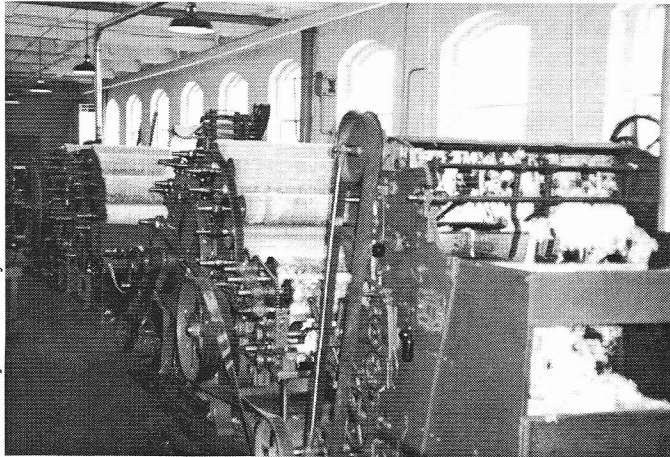


Photo by Elaine Fry

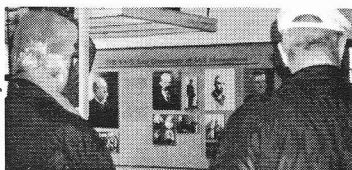
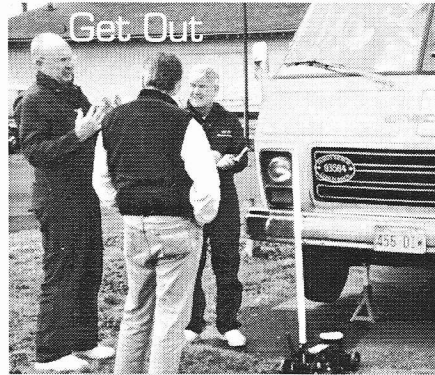


Photo by Owens

Clem Politiske and Bob Fry learn about three generations of the Kay family, owners of the Kay Woolen Mills (left).

out some of the buildings. So intense was the scent and ambiance of the mill, that one could almost hear the once earsplitting sound of the now silent machinery and be glad we have moved into a more hi-tech age.

What would a rally be without the impromptu "tech seminar"? This time it was aptly provided at George Baxter's untimely expense—George discovered a problem with the final drive on his coach. Not to worry, the "advisors" appeared and chewed on the situation, then Bob Fry appeared, the manual came out, the coveralls went on and voilà! ....a tech seminar. There was indeed "trouble right here in River City" and the



Photos by Owens



Baxters had to leave their coach behind at Fry's and share a ride home with Ruth and Glenn Diers (along with the new dishwasher).



Sunday morning the group was treated to a buffet breakfast at the Quality Inn with our business meeting following. Ruth Diers displayed some wonderful custom knit caps with the GMC logo, which immediately were modeled (and purchased) by some of our fun loving members,

Continued on page 4



Continued from page 3

who modeled them for the group photo. These colorful caps will be available by custom order. You'll see many more of these caps in days to come ...even in dense fog!

After the meeting we were whisked back to the coaches for a brief respite and off we carpooled once again to the very interesting Powerland and Antique Truck Museum. A collection of early (and still functioning) local farm machinery that will have the male members of the group buzzing for some time.

In the afternoon the group toured the newly restored Oregon State Capital building. Some of the members, including Chet Kershaw experienced the power emanating from the Governor's chair, trying it for size. Those hallowed halls may ring forever with the giggles of Carl Hove (did Carl really giggle?), Liz Ovens and Gloria Morris as they slid down the marble balustrade to the main floor. Boy!, you can dress 'em up but you just can't take some grandparents anywhere!

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## ON THE ROAD AGAIN

COACH FOR SALE—1978 Kingsley (26'), always garaged, excellent original condition, 56,000 miles; \$24,000 Call Ev Miller at: 541-382-5177

COACH FOR SALE—1975 26' Elganza, orig. interior. New Suburban furnace, new 2-way Norcold frig, new Caspro shocks, new stainless-steel hot water tank w/heat exchanger. Good wheels, tires and covers. 4-D house battery (1 year old), New fan clutch. 91,734 miles. \$24,500 obo. Call Glenn Diers: 206-782-2131

SELLING—'77 Eleganza II, 2 roof air, original rug and upholstery. Very good. Just as finished mechanical restoration, health went bad. Every single mechanical item rebuilt or replaced in last two years/less than 1K miles—ask for list. \$23,000 coach and parts w/o labor invested. Make offer. E. Bailley, Hansville, WA 360-638-2707

WHEELS/TIRES—Complete set of 7-8.75 x 16.5 Michelin XPS All Steel Radial Tires mounted on 27995 Airride Rims with Centramatic Balancers. All New in 1992. Two tires worn, Four tires 50%+, Spare never roaded. Can \$ 1000.00 Contact Dave Ireland 1605 Wood Road, Williams Lake B.C. Canada. 604-392-2421

Sunday evening the group were left to their own devices and with the Salem Annual Home Show just across the street at the fairgrounds, few suffered from boredom. However, the wallets did suffer a little for the likes of the Frys and Diers, who both purchased new dishwashers (no, not for the coaches, however; one fellow, while helping to load the crated dishwasher into a coach, was heard to comment that it might just be a case of overkill to install the dishwasher in that modestly sized coach kitchen).

Monday, following breakfast, it was time for one more round of hearty "Thank yous" to our great rally hosts and we bid our farewells. Ken & Deon Madison had left the day before to honor another commitment and Carl and Helen Hove were packed up and heading south to sunny California. Those of us heading north to Washington, in the pouring rain. watching the rivers rise once again, were feeling uncertain as to our travel and with good reason.

In the previous week, Mother Nature had successfully severed Washington and Oregon on all major routes with floods, slides or washouts and those traveling 1-5 northbound were prepared

See "Presidents" page 5

## Information Highway, Anyone?

With increasing interest in the internet for low cost (?) communication, we invite all GMC Cascaders who have email addresses on the internet to share them for publication in the newsletter. Then we can extend the web of 'tween-rally communication that is starting to form.

For starters, here are the addresses of some of us who have found email on the net to be quite useful. If you are willing to add yourself to the list, send your email address to Pris Hardin, GMC Cascader News Editor, for future publication.

Baxter, Carol and George ..... GLBaxt@aol.com  
FMCA Offices ..... 74473,1360@compuserve.com  
Hardin, Pris and Bill ..... prisbill@proaxis.com  
Ireland, Linda and Dave ..... direland@awinc.com  
Ragsdale, Ken and Becky ..... BKRags@aol.com  
Scolman, Jim ..... Ragnar73@aol.com  
Scolman, Sheryl ..... Poobah73@aol.com

AND, if any of the above addresses are outdated or have typo's...please let Pris know.



# MINUTES—2/8/96

## Presidents' Weekend, Salem Fairgrounds

The meeting was called to order at 10:20 a.m. by President Carol Baxter. She extended a big "Thank you" to our rally hosts—Dave and Patricia DeLapp and Clarence and Grace Politiske—noting how smoothly they orchestrated the planned events while fighting Mother Nature at every turn. President Baxter also noted that there were sixteen member coaches attending the weekend rally. Rally visitors were Glenn and Erral Plymate. New members in attendance were John and Anne Cheney.

### Attending were:

Henry and Lola Abrahams	Chet and Karen Kershaw
George and Carol Baxter	Ken and Deon Madison
Terry and Joanne Boyd	Terry and Gloria Morris
John and Anne Cheney	Walt and Liz Ovens
Glenn and Ruth Diers	Don and Luana Perry
Dave and Pat DeLapp	Glenn and Erral Plymate
Clarence and Elsie Estridge	Clarence and Grace Politiske
Bob and Elaine Fry	Bud and Jay Sunderland
Carl and Helen Hove	Tom and Marge Thompson

President Baxter announced that six couples were needed to work the Ice Cream Social at the FMCA Rally to be held at the Puyallup Fairgrounds on Memorial Day Weekend. Her call for volunteers was answered by Bob & Elaine Fry, Henry & Lola Abrahams, Clarence and Elsie Estridge and Chet & Karen Kershaw.

Secretary's Report—Motion to approve the minutes of the December 3, 1995 meeting as published in the GMC Cascader News, was made by Bob Fry, seconded by Chet Kershaw and passed.

Treasurer's Report—Treasurer Ruth Diers reported a balance of \$2,581.00 in the club treasury. She also noted that we currently have 185 paid member coaches in the club.

First Vice President's Report—Terry Morris reported that the club had sent Golden Wedding Anniversary

*"Presidents"—from page 4*

for a long wait at the Woodland mudslide which had closed all of the northbound lanes as late as Sunday. To our delight, we rolled along in not one but two lanes of cleared freeway and reflected that all in all we had shared a wonderful weekend of camaraderie with the GMC Cascaders in that little window in the weather called Presidents Weekend, '96

greetings to club members, Bill & La Dean Steward. A "get well" card will be sent to Earl & Marley Becker's "coach" which became a casualty of the Flood of '96 in Portland. Cards also will be sent to Will Townes whose home was flooded and to Mary Lou Foote who is quite ill.

Second Vice President's (Wagonmaster) Report—Glenn Diers gave the upcoming rally schedule as follows:

**April 19–21, 1996**—Skagit Valley Spring Rally at the Burlington KOA

**June 22–28, 1996**—Canadian Rolling Summer Rally

**July 1–Aug. 12, 1996**—Alaska extension tour.

**Aug. 23–25, 1996**—LaGrande, OR Rally. At Starkeys Store, Mount Sound

**Aug. 25–30, 1996**—Mount Hood GMC Western States Rally

**Sept. 15–19, 1996**—Proposed Mount Hood GMC International Rally

Old Business—President Baxter announced that the Club's dot matrix printer has been sold for \$250.00. Ruth Diers commented that the club still has jackets and flags for sale. She also displayed an assortment of colorful knit caps, decorated with the GMC logo and coach that she had for sale. Custom orders also were taken. The caps sell for \$15.00 each.

New Business—Lola Abrahams announced that she and Henry will need to retire as our FMCA National representatives. They will not be attending the March 23rd, FMCA rally in Tukwila. GMC Cascaders President Baxter called for volunteers to fill this position. George Baxter announced that he would be available and willing to complete Lola Abrahams' term. This issue will be brought up again at the April business meeting.

- Elaine Fry brought to the club's attention the fact that frequently members have volunteered for help but wondered why they were seldom called on. Additionally, when volunteers are needed, perhaps a list could be posted or published for the benefit of the membership.

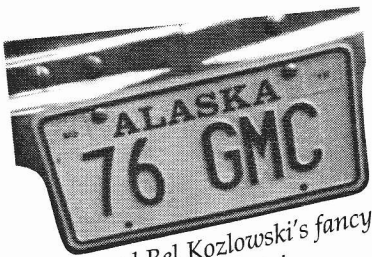
Motion to adjourn the meeting from Bob Fry, seconded by Joanne Boyd—motion passed. Meeting adjourned.

*Respectfully submitted  
Liz Ovens, Secretary.*



## GMC Cascaders

Pris Hardin, Secretary  
2970 NW Hayes Ave  
Corvallis OR 97330



Rae and Bel Kozlowski's fancy license plate!

## STORIES OF GRIT AND GRIME—the Flood of '96

Will Townes' basement was flooded in Milwaukie, Tim and Cass Jones sustained a massive mudslide that wiped out a retaining wall and power at their showplace Portland home and Earl and Marley Becker who now call Lake Havasu, AZ, home were keeping close tabs on

our weather. They understood Hayden Island, in Portland, where they store their coach would be spared. But the reports underestimated the crest

and the waters rose swiftly. Three hours later, their GMC was flooded. Ray Groth retrieved the coach for Beckers, taking it

to Bob Fry for a thorough investigation of damage.

There are undoubtedly more flood, wind and storm stories of our club members and we're all hoping that Mother Nature's convincing show of power didn't dampen too many spirits. Send your weather tales (and photos if you have 'em) to Pris Hardin; perhaps we can assemble a special edition of Cascaders Chronicle covering the the winter of 95-96 throughout our region.



Photos by Perrys

Earl and Marley Becker's coach arrives at Bob Frys for crisis control. High water mark is just visible on the side panel.

