

GMC MOTORHOMES INTERNATIONAL

2008 FALL CONVENTION

**Delaware State Fairgrounds
Harrington, DE**

September 28 – October 4, 2008

This will be our 53rd Semi-annual Convention! The 2008 GMC Motorhomes International Fall Convention will be held at the Delaware State Fairgrounds in Harrington, DE. There are countless museums, memorials, and items of historical interest within 150 miles or so of Harrington in Washington D.C., Baltimore, Jamestown, Philadelphia, NYC, Boston, and southern PA (Gettysburg). Harrington itself is a small friendly hometown with several good restaurants with homemade food and fixin's. They have a nice grocery, car wash, and three nice motels. Milford is about 7 miles away and has most everything you need and what they don't have, Dover does which is about 20 miles away. Two things that may encourage some of you to come early are an "Annual Fall Craft Show" at the fairgrounds Sept 27 and 28, and an "Antiques Market" at nearby Milford Sept 27 with dealers from Maryland and Delaware selling antiques and collectibles.

The sites are well drained, most are grass, while some are blacktop, and a few are shaded. Each utility pole has a number of individual 30 amp receptacles and services a number of sites, so bring extension cords if you have some available; similarly, bring extra water hose and "Y" connectors. The good news is that the plentiful showers are very nice and very near the camping area. The bad news is there are no sewer hookups, however, there are three conveniently located dump sites which will be identified on the grounds map you will receive when you check in. There is wireless internet service available by a commercial supplier for a nominal fee. Vendors will be located in a high traffic area on the edge of the campground nearest the building area for easy access by customers and browsers. The handicapped area will be located immediately south of the Dover Building and has a blacktopped surface. You can get more information about the facility on the net at <http://www.delawarestatefair.com/>. Our buildings are the Dover Building, the Board Room in the Exhibit Hall, and the Comcast Kids World Building. They are very well suited to our needs, and are in close proximity to each other and the campgrounds. There is also a huge thoroughly modern casino and horse raceway right behind the Dover and Exhibit Buildings for those of you who have a gambling streak in you, and Carol and I had a very good lunch there.

This convention will be six days in length and will run from Sunday, September 28, to Saturday morning, October 4. We are offering a package that includes six nights of camping, but members may arrive early for an additional \$20/night as described below. We will have three catered dinners, daily breakfasts, and a big vendor surprise breakfast Monday bright and early, with another tasty surprise late afternoon. For daily breakfasts we will have coffee, juice, fruit, donuts, muffins, bagels & waffles. We will have three ice cream socials and a strawberry shortcake social, and plenty of GMC camaraderie.

This convention also serves as one of the required annual events for the GMC Eastern States Club, the Colonial Travelers, and for the Tidewater Crabs. If you are a member in good standing of one of these clubs as of the start of the rally, GMCMI is offering you a free night of camping Friday night, September 26 before the convention starts. This is meant to bolster membership in local clubs and to encourage their participation in the GMCMI convention.

As in the past, we will provide two types of seminars, more than 15 hours of a GMC Motorhome technical nature and a wide assortment of non-technical seminars, as well as women's mini-craft sessions and games. We will also have a flea market, book exchange, a Red Hat Tea, and two afternoons of GMC open houses. The public will be invited to our Tuesday open house.

We will again have a raffle. Jim Kanomata of Applied GMC is donating \$1000 worth of products and services. Dick Paterson will be donating a Springfield distributor custom tailored to your coach, the value of which is near \$300, and GMCMI will again be offering a free future rally, the value of which is approximately \$325. Other sizeable raffle items are also expected, but we have no way of knowing what they will be until the convention. You must be registered at the convention in order to win.

For those of you who are considering flying in, my daughter put together a spreadsheet of prices and carriers from key airports in various parts of the country to airports within reasonable driving distance of Harrington. There are some surprising results, and I would be happy to email it to any of you who request it. Also, we now have an arrangement with Enterprise Car Rental to receive special rates from them. The details are in the July GMCMI mailing and on the GMCMI website member area. We have a special rate for lodging at the Americinn of \$84/night plus tax IF RESERVED BY SEPT 19. It is the highest rated motel in Harrington and is right across the road from the fairgrounds such that if you are so inclined, you could walk to the convention. To book there, call 302-398-3900, and tell them you are part of the GMC Motorhomes International group. There is also a Holiday Inn Express and a Super 8 locally but we have no special deals with them.

Campground GPS coordinates according to Streets and Trips are Latitude: 38.91422 (38° 54' 51") N, Longitude: 75.57030 (75° 34' 15") W. Follow the S Dupont Hwy 13 south out of town to the main entrance soon after crossing the tracks.

Also, don't forget to bring canned goods and other food, non-perishables, or cash for our Semi-Annual Member Memorial Food Drive. We will be donating all items to a local food bank that is in need of help. Ladies will also again be making baby blankets. You may bring a yard of 60" wide fleece in a printed pattern and a yard of coordinated solid fleece for each blanket. You may also donate for the costs of the fabric.

Please register as early as possible as Carol and I will be leaving approximately September 18th, and it will be difficult to get your registrations and make deposits after that time, but doable. We would much rather have you register late than not register, although there is a \$25 late fee. Also, we have to make certain irreversible commitments such as for meals, so after September 18th there will be a \$50 cancellation fee unless there are unanticipated extenuating circumstances.

TENTATIVE General Schedule Updated 8/26/2008

Saturday	Sept. 27	7:30	am	--	9:00	am	Coffee Hour
		9:00	am	--	5:00	pm	Early Arrival Registration
		3:30	pm	--	5:00	pm	Choir Practice for Sunday Church Service
		7:30	pm	--	9:00	pm	Bingo
		9:00	pm	--	9:30	pm	Ice Cream Social
Sunday	Sept. 28	7:30	am	--	9:00	am	Coffee Hour
		9:00	am	--	5:00	pm	Arrival & Registration
		10:00	am	--	10:30	am	Church Service
		3:00	pm	--	4:00	pm	Games, Hobbies & Craft Coordinators' Meeting
		3:00	pm	--	4:00	pm	Ken Burton-Ins and Outs of GMClst and Portal
		4:30	pm	--	5:30	pm	First Timers Meeting (all members welcome)
		5:30	pm	--	6:30	pm	Welcome Meeting
		6:30	pm	--	8:00	pm	Crab cakes, chicken, green salad, smashed potatos green bean casserole, pie, cookies, brownies
		8:00	pm	--	9:00	pm	Dave Kenton – Local History in the “First State”
		Monday	Sept. 29	7:30	am	--	8:45
9:00	am			--	12:30	pm	Non-Technical Seminars
9:00	am			--	10:30	am	Dick Paterson - IMPORTANT Facts on Oils, Filters etc. for GMC
10:45	am			--	11:45	am	Jim Kanomata - Reaction Arm Rear Susp/Brakes
12:00	pm			--	1:00	pm	Jim Bounds – Living with 10MPG
2:00	pm			--	4:00	pm	Flea Market & Book Exchange
4:30	pm			--	6:30	pm	“Ken Frey Seafood Surprise”
7:00	pm			--	8:30	pm	Bingo
8:30	pm			--	9:00	pm	Ice Cream Social
Tuesday	Sept. 30			7:30	am	--	8:45
		9:00	am	--	12:30	pm	Non-Technical Seminars
		9:00	am	--	11:00	am	Dale Ropp, Dick Serrey-Rear Suspension Rebuild (includes 5 minute break)
		11:15	am	--	12:15	pm	Bob Paterson(moderator)-Best Thing I Ever Did To My GMC
		1:00	pm	--	2:00	pm	Fred Hudspeth - Take Care of Your Coach
		2:30	pm	--	4:30	pm	GMC Motorhome Open House
		6:00	pm	--	7:30	pm	Pork, Beef BBQ, green salad, potato salad, veggie medley, pie, cookies, brownies
		7:30	pm	--			Story Telling–Sharon Hudspeth and Glenn Herzberger
		Wednesday	Oct. 1	7:30	am	--	8:45
9:00	am			--	12:30	pm	Non-Technical Seminar
9:00	am			--	10:00	am	Bob Drewes - Offset Bushings, Front End Align.
10:15	am			--	11:45	am	Dave Lenzi - Hub/Knuckle/Bearing Solutions
12:00	pm			--	12:45	pm	Jim Stark - Oil Analysis/Usefulness, Formulation
2:00	pm			--	4:00	pm	Red Hat Tea
7:00	pm			--	8:30	pm	Bingo
8:30	pm			--	9:00	pm	Strawberry Shortcake Social
Thursday	Oct. 2	7:30	am	--	8:45	am	Coffee Hour
		9:00	am	--	12:30	pm	Non-Technical Seminars
		9:00	am	--	10:00	am	Gene Dotson/Jim Buchanan – Engine Cooling Sys
		10:15	am	--	11:15	am	Rick Denney – The GMC 12V Electrical System
		11:30	am	--	12:30	pm	Ken Henderson - Major Dash /HVAC Mod
		2:30	pm	--	4:15	pm	GMC Motorhome Open House
		4:30	pm	--	5:30	pm	Regional Area Member Meetings
		6:00	pm	--	7:30	pm	Grilled fish (salmon?), steak, green salad, white wine wild rice, summer veggie salad, pie, cookies, brownies
		7:30	pm	--	8:45	pm	Rob & Helen Mueller – Australia Walkabout
		8:45	pm	--			movie - ?Bucket List?
Friday	Oct. 3	7:30	am	--	8:45	am	Coffee Hour
		9:00	am	--	10:45	am	Membership Meeting
		11:00	am	--	12:30	pm	Non-Technical Seminars
		11:00	am	--	12:00	pm	Ask the Expert Panel – Jim K, Alex Sirum, ?,?
		1:00	pm	--	2:00	pm	Jose Cortez – The Fuel Situation and How to Keep on Rolling
		7:00	pm	--	8:30	pm	Bingo
		8:30	pm	--	9:00	pm	Ice Cream Social

GMC MOTORHOMES INTERNATIONAL

2008 Fall Convention Reservation Form

Harrington, DE

Motorhome Reservation

Convention & Camping Fee (Two-Person Motorhome) - - - - - \$330.00 \$ _____
Convention & Camping Fee (One-Person Motorhome) - - - - - \$230.00 \$ _____
Additional Adults in above Motorhome (15 and older) - - - - - _____ x\$100.00 \$ _____
Additional Children in above Motorhome (**FREE** under 7; from 7 to 14, \$50.00) - - - - - _____ x\$50.00 \$ _____
Optional Early Night, **Saturday**, Sept 27 - - - - - \$20.00 \$ _____
Optional Early Night, **Friday**, Sept 26 - - - - - \$20.00 \$ _____
If you pay for this night and are an Eastern States, Colonial Traveler, or TW Crab member, you will be reimbursed \$20
Optional Early Night, **Thursday**, Sept 25 - - - - - \$20.00 \$ _____

No Motorhome Reservation (For members making motel reservations or staying elsewhere)

Convention Registration, (Two-Person Party) - - - - - \$270.00 \$ _____
Convention Registration, (One-Person Party) - - - - - \$140.00 \$ _____
Late Fee (For reservations postmarked after September 16, 2008) - - - - - 25.00 \$ _____

NOTE: Golf Carts are not allowed for grounds insurance reasons. (Nor are they needed.)

Check Number _____ Total Enclosed \$ _____

First Person _____ Second Person _____
Street _____ City _____
State _____ Zip Code _____ Country _____
Telephone _____ Cellular _____ Email _____
Names, City, and State of Extra People in Coach if different than above _____

Handicap Parking Needs? - - - - - Yes _____ No _____
Is this your first GMC Motorhomes International Convention? - - - - - Yes _____ No _____
Commercial / Vendor Area Parking Required? - - - - - Yes _____ No _____

Please list your products/services: _____

If you are a Doctor, Nurse, or Paramedic would you be willing to assist in an emergency? Yes _____ No _____
Please circle which one you are.

Would you and/or your spouse consider singing in the Sunday morning church service choir? Yes _____ No _____
Practice is Saturday afternoon

Are there any topics you feel you might be able to present in a seminar? Yes _____ No _____
Please list any volunteer areas or seminar topics you could present _____

Please list any topic(s) on which you would like someone else to give a seminar? _____

Make Check or Money Order Payable to: GMC Motorhomes International. Checks must be in US funds and drawn on a US Bank. **Foreign checks cannot be processed.** Postmark Sept 16 or before to avoid late charge. If confirmation of GMC Motorhomes receiving your check is required, please forward a stamped, self-addressed envelope with your reservation form prior to Sept. 16, 2008.

Send to: GMC Motorhomes International Questions: 574-457-3564(home) 6448(cell)
12115 N Ogden Pt. Rd. E-mail: redruber@gmail.com (Ray) Reservation No. _____
Syracuse, IN 46567 crdruber@gmail.com (Carol) (Office Use Only)

Please return this entire page with your payment.

**GMC MOTORHOMES
INTERNATIONAL**

12115 N. Ogden Pt. Rd.
Syracuse, IN 46567-8720

PRESORTED
FIRST CLASS MAIL
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
SANTA FE, NM
Permit 463

Come Join Us in Harrington, Delaware!!

Good Friends, old and new; Games; Great Food

Motorhome: Maintenance, Seminars, Vendors & Open Houses

Carefree Camping, Camaraderie

More info than you can imagine; Memories of past conventions and trips

Ice Cream, Ideas, Interiors, Ice Cream, Information & Inspiration. Also Ice Cream!!

Places To See & Things to Do

Museums, Memorials, Battlefields, Historical Sites galore in Washington D.C./
Baltimore and surrounding areas....Jamestown....pristine beaches....casinos....
fall colors

GMC Motorhomes International 2008 Fall Convention -- Sept. 28 – Oct. 4, 2008

It just gets better and better! Share the Experience