



2011 Spring Convention

Patterson Civic Center | Patterson, Louisiana
 Sunday, April 10 – Friday, April 15

Patterson, Louisiana is located in the Cajun Coast, a sampler of everything Louisiana offers. Agriculture, seafood and fabrication – particularly for the oil industry – is the economic lifeblood. Visit the antebellum homes, plantations and historic communities. Experience the exotic beauty of the Atchafalaya on a Cajun Jack Swamp Tour. Explore the “free” Louisiana State Museum-Patterson located next door. Play and/or dine at the Atchafalaya Golf Course, adjacent to the Patterson Civic Center and Kemper Williams Park, listed fifth in the nation on *Golf Digest’s* roundup of best public courses under \$75 and among the top 50 in the U.S. *Golfweek!* If you wish to try your luck, there is casino gaming also available. One last thing, visit Morgan City and purchase fresh shrimp, right for the docks!

The Patterson Civic Center is a great facility located adjacent to the Kemper Williams Park and Campground conveniently located on Highway 90. The campground offers rally style camping with limited full hookups. A “free” dump station is available at the campground. Handicapped parking will be located in the first row of camping near the building. Camping and convention registration will be handled between 9:00 am - 5:00 pm. If you arrive after 5:00 pm, please park in an unoccupied site and register in the morning. Note: you may need to move once registered.

Following is a list of key points and activities:

- The package includes six nights of camping, Sunday night through Friday night.
- You may come early with the cost being \$15/night for Thursday, Friday and Saturday.
- We will have two catered dinners and a potluck dinner.

- Back by popular demand! “Martha’s Famous Pancakes” along with sausage will be served by the GMC Eastern States Motorhome Club.
- Three ice cream and one strawberry shortcake socials will be held in the evenings.
- 12-15 hours of technical seminars, 8-11 hours non-technical seminars.
- Show ‘n Tell with Larry & Margie McLaughlin will be one evening, so, men and women bring your item to show ‘n tell!
- **NEW!** Early Bird Horseshoe Tournament – 16 pits, horseshoes supplied, but do bring your own if you wish.
- **Potluck!** Yes, we have brought it back. GMCMI will supply the main meat. We ask that you bring a dish to serve eight to share.
- **It’s Back!** Yes, the **GMCMI Great Geocache Bash** will be conducted offering a treasure hunt for the adventure seekers. Please remember to bring your hand held GPS devices.
- Bring those musical instruments for a Jam Session.
- We will have a flea market, a book exchange and two afternoons of open houses.
- The popular raffle will be repeated with \$1,500 - \$2,500 dollars worth of gifts.
- We will repeat the fun-packed Pinewood Derby. **But that is not all – check out the boxed item to the right!**
- **Ladies, please read the Ladies Page! Men, see to it the women GET the Ladies Page!**
- Convention address is 116 Cotton Road, Patterson, LA 70392; 29.677011, -91.292583
- Patterson/GMCMI Convention T-Shirts available, while supply lasts, for \$5 each.



Please register as early as possible as Keith and I will be leaving approximately April 1. Register late, rather than never, although there is a \$25 late fee if postmarked after March 22.

Also, we have to make certain irreversible commitments such as for meals, so after April 3 there will be a \$25 cancellation fee unless there are unanticipated extenuating circumstances.

See you there!
 Keith and Kim Weeks

You’ve seen them at conventions: racing, setting records, breaking records and winning! After all, you want to win too! But how do you learn Dale and Jane Ropps’ secrets? Participate in the first-ever **Building and Fine-tuning Your GMC Pinewood Racer for Dummies Seminar** to be held at the GMCMI 2011 Spring Convention with the Ropps’ as seminar leaders!

This down-to-earth seminar will have the essential information and instruction for the novice derby builder and advanced tips and tricks for more experienced pinewood derby owners.

The basic kit (\$12) includes a block of wood in the somewhat shape of a GMC. You will sand and reshape the edges, paint, lacquer and assemble for the race on Thursday evening. Order your kit(s) on the enclosed convention registration form. A limited supply of kits will be available at convention. *Order your racer today! Don’t miss this great opportunity!!*

Additional items to bring to the seminar:

- random orbital hand sander
- 100 and 200/210 abrasive paper
- 1 can of fast drying spray paint (your color choice)
- other color paint, decals, etc. you wish to use

LADIES, LADIES, LADIES...

- Women’s craft sessions, seminars, “Pajama Party” and games.
- Canned goods, other non-perishable food, and cash are welcome donations for the Skip Newhouse Memorial Food Drive. Donations will go to a local food bank.
- Ladies will again make fleece baby blankets for a local charity.
 - Bring a yard of 60” printed fleece, and a yard of 60” solid coordinated fleece.
 - Or, make a donation if you wish.
- **Ladies, please read the Ladies Page for additional information!**

Join us for the 58th Semi-Annual GMCMI Convention!



GMCMI
GMC MOTORHOMES INTERNATIONAL

2011 Spring Convention

Patterson Civic Center | Patterson, Louisiana

Sunday, April 10 – Friday, April 15

Tentative Schedule

Saturday | April 9

9:00 am – 5:00 pm Early Arrival & Registration
3:30 pm – 5:00 pm Choir Practice for Sunday Church Service
7:30 pm – 8:00 pm Ice Cream Social
8:00 pm – 9:30 pm Bingo

Sunday | April 10

7:30 am – 9:30 am Coffee Hour
9:00 am – 5:00 pm GMCMI Arrival & Registration
10:00 am Church Service
1:00 pm Early Bird Horseshoe Tournament
3:00 pm – 4:00 pm Craft Coordinators' Meeting
4:15 pm – 5:15 pm First Timers Meeting
all members welcome
5:15 pm – 6:15 pm Welcome Meeting
6:30 pm – 8:00 pm Catered Meal
8:00 pm Show 'n Tell with Larry & Margie McLaughlin

Monday | April 11

7:30 am – 8:45 am Coffee Hour
8:15 am – 8:45 am Vendor Meeting
8:30 am – 9:15 am GMCMI Great Geocache Bash - Introduction
9:30 am – 10:00 am Building and Fine-tuning Your GMC Pinewood Racer for Dummies - Introduction
10:15 am – 12:00 pm "Let's Get Acquainted, Ladies"
10:15 am – 11:45 am GMC Technical Seminar
12:30 pm – 3:30 pm Building and Fine-tuning Your GMC Pinewood Racer - Work Session
3:30 pm – 5:30 pm Flea Market
4:00 pm – 5:30 pm Book Exchange
7:30 pm – 8:00 pm Ice Cream Social
8:00 pm – 9:30 pm Bingo

Tuesday | April 12

7:30 am – 8:45 am Coffee Hour
7:30 am – 8:45 am Martha's Famous Pancakes and Sausage Breakfast
hosted by Eastern States club
9:00 am – 11:15 am Non-Technical Seminar
9:00 am – 11:45 am GMC Technical Seminars
11:30 am – 12:30 pm Crafts and Blankets
12:30 pm – 1:30 pm GMC Technical Seminars
1:30 pm – 3:30 pm Building and Fine-tuning Your GMC Pinewood Racer - Work Session
3:30 pm – 5:30 pm GMC Motorhome Open House
6:00 pm – 7:30 pm Potluck Dinner
8:00 pm – 9:30 pm Movie

Wednesday | April 13

7:30 am – 8:45 am Coffee Hour
8:00 am – Set-up for "Pajama Party"
9:00 am – 12:00 pm GMC Technical Seminar
10:00 am – 12:00 pm "Pajama Party" hosted by the Classy Ladies of the GMC Classic Motorhome Club
1:00 pm – 2:00 pm GMC Technical Seminars
1:00 pm – 2:30 pm Non-Technical Seminars
2:45 pm – 4:00 pm Crafts and Blankets
2:00 pm – 4:00 pm Coach Weigh-In
3:00 pm – 5:00 pm Building and Fine-tuning Your GMC Pinewood Racer - Work Session
7:30 pm – 8:00 pm Strawberry Shortcake Social
8:00 pm – 9:30 pm Bingo

Thursday | April 14

7:30 am – 8:45 am Coffee Hour
9:00 am – 11:15 pm Non-Technical Seminars
9:00 am – 11:45 am GMC Technical Seminars
11:30 am – 12:30 pm Crafts and Blankets
1:00 pm – 2:00 pm GMC Technical Seminars
2:15 pm – 4:15 pm GMC Motorhome Open House
4:30 pm – 5:30 pm Area Member Meetings
6:00 pm – 7:30 pm Catered Dinner
7:30 pm – 9:30 pm Pinewood Derby Races

Friday | April 15

7:30 am – 8:45 am Coffee Hour
9:00 am – 10:00 pm Crafts and Blankets
9:00 am – 10:00 pm GMC Technical Seminar
10:15 am – 12:00 pm Membership Meeting
7:00 pm – 7:30 pm Ice Cream Social
7:30 pm – 9:00 pm Bingo

Saturday | April 16

11:00 am Campground Checkout
Convention Ends
Have a Safe Trip Home!

We solicit your input and participation in completing this schedule!!



See you at the
GMCMI Fall Convention
Goshen, Indiana
September 9-14, 2011

Ladies Page

Spring 2011

Hello ladies,

Are you ready to have fun packed convention! We are gathering this spring at the Patterson Civic Center in Patterson, Louisiana where it should be beautiful with spring beginning and the weather just right, we hope. All of you are coming, aren't you?

The Patterson Civic Center is one part of a large complex. The complex consists of the Civic Center, Kemper Williams Park & Campground, and The Atchafalaya Golf Course at Idlewild (has a great restaurant too!) with the Louisiana State Museum right next door. This museum is the official state aviation and cypress sawmill industry museum and houses two very important collections documenting Louisiana's rich history and it's FREE!

Actually, there will be plenty to entertain you at the rally with all of your friends being there. On Sunday morning we start off with our church service and we encourage any of you to be there Saturday afternoon to practice and be part of the choir led by Carol Baxter. Get your horseshoes ready for Sunday afternoon when we hold our Early Bird Horseshoe Tournament. In the evening after dinner, bring your special item to Show 'n Tell. We look forward to the fun loving couple of Larry & Margie McLaughlin.

Many interesting seminars are being planned for the ladies and we can always use more suggestions and volunteers in this department. We are currently working on them, but if you have any suggestions or would be willing to present a seminar or do a craft, please email me at kimweeksgmc@gmail.com or call 612-501-4600. Also, craft leaders are appreciated. Those who can do a workshop should come to the craft coordinating meeting Sunday afternoon. If required, have materials for your craft and decide on a nominal charge for each participant. Jeanne Robinson will again head up this detail and would appreciate hearing from you if you are planning to lead a craft. Jeanne is at fullgarages@chartermi.net and would appreciate hearing on ahead but do come to the meeting.



Back by popular demand, Teri Gregg is setting up the GMCMI Great Geocache Bash, a treasure hunt for the adventure seeker. Men are invited to participate as well. If you have a handheld GPS, bring it.

Storytelling with Sharon Hudspeth is on the schedule again, so bring your favorite stories to tell. There will be more, but, as usual you will have different seminars to attend as you choose.

Oh, and on Wednesday morning there will be a "Pajama Party" for the ladies social. Wear your pajamas, bring your favorite teddy bear and/or bring a teddy bear to donate to the local fire department. Breakfast will be served, along with a lot of fun!

We will be making blankets again which will be donated to a local ladies shelter and nursing home. If you haven't made these before, you must come and see how easy and fun they are to make – especially knowing they will be going to someone who will feel loved by receiving one of our blankets. Bring a yard of patterned fleece and a yard of matching plain fleece for each blanket or you may donate cash towards the project. We only make the number of blankets for which you bring fleece and everyone works together on them.



- ✓ pajamas, teddy bear for "Pajama Party"
- ✓ fleece for blankets
- ✓ food for the food drive
- ✓ books, books-on-tape, DVD's and VCR tapes for the "book exchange"
- ✓ hand held GPS device
- ✓ Additional items to bring to the seminar:
 - random orbital hand sander
 - 100 and 200/210 abrasive paper
 - 1 can of fast drying spray paint (your color choice)
 - other color paint, decals, etc. you wish to use
- ✓ let Jeanne know if you will teach a craft
- ✓ email Kim with seminar suggestions
- ✓ bring your musical instrument for jamming
- ✓ dominoes, hand and foot game, cards, etc.
- ✓ bingo money
- ✓ enjoy your travels to and from the rally

DON'T FORGET LIST!

The other philanthropic project we have is to bring nonperishables for the local food pantry in Patterson. We ask that you check the expiration date on whatever you bring for our food drive.

Everyone who plays an instrument should bring it along for impromptu jam sessions with the possibility of entertaining everyone at some point.

The book exchange includes books-on-tape, DVD's, VCR tapes as well as books.

Oh, and that's not all! Ladies, you are invited to participate in the first-ever: **Building and Fine-tuning Your GMC Pinewood Racer for Dummies!** Simply order your racer kit on the registration form, bring your tools and have some fun at the seminar and then onto the Pinewood Derby on Thursday night!

Do you get the feeling that our conventions have a lot to do with our members working together, sharing their talents, and just having a lot of fun? You should because that is what it is all about.

Happy and safe travels,
Margie McLaughlin and Kim Weeks

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GMCMI Member Number (on mailing envelope) _____

First Person _____

Second Person _____

Street _____

City _____

State | Postal 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: _____

Would you and/or your spouse consider participating:

in the Sunday morning church service choir

Names(s) _____

Please list any seminar topic(s) you could present _____

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

Registration | bringing a motorhome

Convention & Camping Fee
(Two-Person Motorhome) \$315.00 \$ _____

Convention & Camping Fee
(One-Person Motorhome) \$195.00 \$ _____

Sewer Hookup
(in addition to water & electricity) \$30.00 \$ _____

Additional Adult in above Motorhome (15 & older) ____ x \$100.00 \$ _____

Additional Child in above Motorhome
(7-14, FREE under 7) ____ x \$50.00 \$ _____

Optional Early Night(s)

Thursday, April 7 \$15.00 \$ _____

Friday, April 8 \$15.00 \$ _____

Saturday, April 9 \$15.00 \$ _____

Registration | NOT bringing a motorhome

Convention Registration
(Two-Person Party) \$235.00 \$ _____

Convention Registration
(One-Person Party) \$120.00 \$ _____

Registration | For Everybody

Late Reservation Fee
(postmarked after March 22, 2011) \$25.00 \$ _____

Convention T-Shirt(s) (indicate quantity)
small ____ med ____ large ____

xlarge ____ 2xl ____ x \$5 each \$ _____

Pinewood Derby Kit (indicate quantity)
____ x \$12 each \$ _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Check Number _____

Additional Registration Information:

- Send 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 **March 22** or before to avoid late charge
- To receive confirmation of GMCMI receiving your check: forward a stamped, self-addressed envelope with your reservation form prior to March 22 or request confirmation by email.
- *Please return this entire page with your payment.*



Mail with payment to:
Kim Weeks, 1402 So. Cage Blvd.
Unit 273, Pharr, TX 78577



Questions:
612-501-4600 (Kim)
612-978-7243 (Keith)



Email:
Kim – kimweeksgmc@gmail.com