

OCTOBER 2026 GMCSS HAPPENINGS



REMINDERS

Rallies

It is important that members make their reservations in a timely manner for the 2026-2027 Rally Schedule. The resorts will release our held sites to the general public after the “reserve by” dates listed in the rally schedule.

Timely reservations are important not only to the campground, but also to the rally host for planning meals and activities and determining whether we will have enough members in attendance to have the clubhouse available to us.

Membership Dues

Membership dues for 2027 should be paid by **January 1, 2027**.

Dues are \$30.00 per family unit, per year and can be paid online using PayPal, Zelle or by mailing a check payable to GMC Sunshine Statesmen at 1117 Northern Way, Winter Springs, FL 32708-4303. For information on how to pay online, please refer to the GMCSS.com website/Membership Dues or contact me.

If you have any questions or concerns, please email Donna Dale at donnasdale@yahoo.com or call 407-446-5552.

Your GMCSS Treasurer,
Donna Dale

HOST NEEDED FOR OUR MARCH 2027 RALLY

We are looking for a volunteer to host our March 2027 rally at Eagle Roost RV Resort in Lake Park, GA. Unfortunately, Deb Bickley will be unable to host this rally because her daughter needs her help for her wedding so she needs to be up in Connecticut.

If you're willing to step up and take on this fun opportunity, please know that you won't be

on your own! You'll have plenty of helping hands and support from our members to make the rally a success.

Please consider volunteering—we'd love to have someone step forward to help make our March rally a memorable one!

PREZ SAYS



A MONTH OF MINOR PROGRESS

I want to thank Donna Dale/Bob Heller, Cindy/Rich Michelhaugh for hosting the rally in Brooksville. They did a wonderful job. My bride and I were able to attend because Homer seems to have developed an understanding that I will not be afraid to challenge who owns who. We made the trip from Jax to Brooksville at highway speed.

It is still down on power, but driveable. We are planning to swap the power plant in January. A special thank you to Bob Heller for the trolley.

On a sad note, we got the news at the rally that we lost a long time member, Jim Bounds. Jim lost his battle with cancer Friday October 9. Jim had been very active in the GMC community up until the last GMCMI rally. Our thoughts and prayers are with Janie and family.

Work continues on Roy. The 120 volt wiring is 'finished'. The 12 volt wiring is more than half way complete. The overhead duct is operational up to the cockpit. The dinette table is finished. The front seats are due back any day. The computer is coming for fit up 11/1. The solar power system w/lithium-ion batteries is installed but not yet wired. The wall panels are almost finished.

Which brings up another subject. IF YOU ENJOY THE RALLYS, YOU NEED TO BE THERE. And if you want to see, or do, or have any suggestions to improve the rally attendance, send me an email. Nothing we do is set in stone. Until the next time.

I look forward to seeing you.

Harold Coffield

RECAP OF OCTOBER RALLY – Mermaids and Pirates

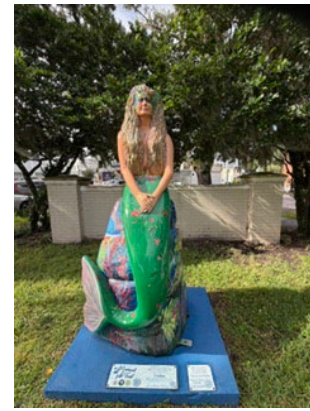
Our second rally of the season brought us together at **Clover Leaf Forest RV Resort in Brooksville, Florida**, with eight coaches in attendance and plenty of fun, food, and fellowship! Our hosts were **Donna Dale and Bob Heller**, along with co-hosts **Cindy and Rick Michelhaugh**. Also joining in the fun were Harold and Charlie Coffield, Cat Meyer, Lori Meyer, Ed and Deb Bickley, Paul and Barbara Frisz, Scott and Cindi Jones, and Bob and Sandy Thursby. Jim Galbavy also stopped by for a visit on Saturday. With mermaids, pirates, delicious meals, and wonderful friends, this rally was one to remember!

Our early arrivals kicked things off with dinner at Beef O'Brady's, where we had a room all to ourselves and a dedicated waitress named Jasmine. She was fantastic, kept everything running smoothly, and took great care of our group.



After dinner, we gathered in the clubhouse for some socializing, card playing, and catching up with friends.

Friday morning at 10:00 three cars left the campground in search of the mermaid statues and the mermaid trail in Brooksville.



By afternoon, everyone was back at the campground, and the mermaid fun really began! Cameras were clicking, photo opportunities were everywhere, and mermaids were popping up all over the place. A huge thank-you to **Scott Jones** for doing a fantastic job taking pictures, and to **Cindy Michelhaugh** for setting up two wonderful backdrops and providing outfits for everyone to use. We know that took a lot of time, effort, and creativity, and it was well worth it. The pictures turned out to be a wonderful way to capture the fun and memories of our rally!





Friday's dinner was a delicious spread of baked ham, hash brown casserole, fresh buttery green beans, and dinner rolls. For dessert, we had our choice of Deb's home-made treats or pumpkin pie, with vanilla ice cream to top it all off. Nobody went hungry!



After dinner, we settled in to watch *Splash*, starring Tom Hanks, Daryl Hannah, John Candy, and Eugene Levy. With all the mermaid activity going on, it was certainly the perfect movie for the occasion!



Saturday morning breakfast was scrambled eggs, sausage patties, biscuits, fresh fruit, orange juice, and coffee.

At 10:00, the Board met to discuss plans for our upcoming **joint Christmas rally with the Dixielanders**. Lots to look forward to as we head into the holiday season!

After the meeting, the ladies gathered for a creative craft session. We decorated and framed our mermaid pictures, giving everyone a special keepsake to remember.



Saturday's dinner featured roasted chicken with vegetables, dinner rolls, and salad. For dessert, we enjoyed a delicious apple cake made by Deb Bickley. Thank you, Deb, for that sweet treat!



Random people pictures --





Of course, no mermaid-and-pirate gathering would be complete without a little friendly competition! We held contests for **Best Mermaid** and **Best Pirate**, and the winners were:

🧜 **Best Mermaid:** Sandy Thursby

🏴 **Best Pirate:** Bob Thursby

Sunday morning arrived much too quickly! We gathered for one last breakfast featuring leftover ham, fresh sausage, biscuits and rolls, doughnuts, apple fritters, and plenty of coffee.

Before long, it was time to clean up, pack up, say our goodbyes until November where we will be celebrating Friendsgiving. We are all heading home with lots of pictures, happy memories, and stories to share.

A big **THANK YOU** to Donna and Bob, Cindy and Rick, and everyone who helped make this rally such a success! From the delicious meals and creative activities to the costumes, crafts, and laughter, it was another wonderful reminder of how special our RV family is.

PHOTOS

Take a look at photos from the rally. [Click here.](#)

SAFETY TIP: Know the Basics – Pedestrian Safety

Our tips this edition come from the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration at Pedestrian Safety: Prevent Pedestrian Crashes | NHTSA

<https://www.nhtsa.gov/road-safety/pedestrian-safety>

Know the Basics—Pedestrian Safety

8 Safety Tips for Drivers:

Look out for pedestrians everywhere, at all times.

Use extra caution when driving in hard-to-see conditions, such as nighttime or bad weather.

Slow down and be prepared to stop when turning or otherwise entering a crosswalk. Yield to pedestrians in crosswalks and stop well back from the crosswalk to give other vehicles an opportunity to see the crossing pedestrians so they can stop too.

Never pass vehicles stopped at a crosswalk. There may be people crossing where you can't see.

Never drive under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs.

Follow the speed limit, especially around people on the street, in school zones and in neighborhoods where children are present.

Be extra cautious when backing up and look for pedestrians.

8 Walking Safety Tips:

Follow the rules of the road and obey signs and signals.

Walk on sidewalks whenever they are available.

If there is no sidewalk, walk facing traffic and as far from traffic as possible.

Cross streets at crosswalks or intersections. Look for cars in all directions, including those turning left or right.

If a crosswalk or intersection is not available, locate a well-lit area where you have the best view of traffic. Wait for a gap in traffic that allows enough time to cross safely; continue watching for traffic as you cross.

Watch for cars entering or exiting driveways or backing up in parking lots.
Avoid alcohol and drugs when walking; they impair your abilities and your judgment.

Embrace walking as a healthy form of transportation - get up, get out and get moving.

Thank you for reading and as always, Safe Travels

Johnny Niedzwiedzki, Safety Director
74 Canyonlands, "Ole Frances"

OUR RALLY SEASON SCHEDULE 2026-2027
SEE WEBSITE FOR [DETAILED RALLY INFORMATION](#)

November 5-8, 2026 Zachary Taylor RV Resort 2995 US-441 Okeechobee, FL 34974 (863) 824-7006 Hosts: Deb & Ed Bickley	March 11-14, 2027 Eagles Roost RV Resort 5465 Millstore Road Lake Park, GA 31636 229-559-5192 LOOKING FOR HOST
December 10-13, 2026 Flamingo Lakes RV Community Campground 3640 Newcomb Rd Jacksonville, FL 32218 (904) 766-0672 Hosted by the Board	April 8-11, 2027 Keystone Heights RV 1177 SE Keystone Avenue Keystone Heights, FL 32656 (352) 645-4330 Hosts: Jenny and Russell Keith Co-hosts: Dawn and Johnny Niedzwiedzki
January 7-10, 2027 Clerbrook Golf & RV Resort 20005 US Highway 27 Clermont, FL 34715 Hosts: Lori Meyer/Cat Meyer Co-Hosts: Donna Dale & Bob Heller	May 6-9, 2027 Forest Lake Village 41219 Hockey Drive Zephyrhills, FL 33540 813-782-1058 LOOKING FOR HOST
February 20-28, 2027 Caribbean Cruise Regal Princess out of Ft. Lauderdale (for more info contact Cat Meyer)	

OUR OFFICERS – [CLICK HERE](#)