

ultra van

CLUB NEWS



JUNE 1973

EDITOR & REPORTER - ED. MARTIN #296

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH: THINK OF THE EXPONENTIAL GROWTH OF OUR ECONOMY AND WHAT A THIN LINE WE ARE TREADING. MAN MUST REALIZE THAT HE CARRIES THE EARTH'S FUTURE WITHIN HIMSELF.

LOPEZ LAKE & RECREATIONAL AREA, OUR 23RD ULTRA VAN CLUB RALLY WAS HELD HERE, NEAR ARROYO GRANDE, CALIF. OUR THANKS TO JOHN & MARGE HEIDE, #521, WHO MADE ALL THE ARRANGEMENTS. THE 35 ULTRA VAN FAMILIES WHICH SHOWED UP FROM ALL POINTS OF THE COMPASS THOROUGHLY ENJOYED THIS BEAUTIFUL SPOT BY THE LAKE. ASSOCIATE MEMBERS, JAMES & URLA MCNARY, WERE THERE IN IN THEIR "SURREY." OUR OAKLAND ORPHANS, ERNIE & EDNA NEWHOUSE AND PHIL & KATHY PHILLIPS CAME BY CAR - WITH THEIR SURVIVAL EQUIPMENT. THEIR NEW ULTRA COACHES, WHICH THEY ORDERED A YEAR AGO, ARE STILL ON THE "ASSEMBLY LINE" IN OAKLAND. WE ARE NOT HOLDING OUR BREATHS, BUT WE HOPE TO SEE THEM IN THEIR DREAM COACHES AT THE OLD TOWN RALLY, SAN DIEGO, IN JULY - OR AT LEAST, BEFORE THE SKIING STARTS. AMONG THE FIRST TIMERS THERE WERE ROGER DILLAN, HIS FAMILY AND CREW WHO CAME IN #601, AIRLINE PILOT CHRISTY BARDEN AND HIS BEAUTIFUL APHRODITE CAME IN #228, FORMERLY OWNED BY THE NEWHOUSES. MARINER ARNOLD CASH SAILED IN WITH HIS GRACIOUS LADY IN #267, RECENTLY ACQUIRED FROM DR. DACH. ALL IN ALL, IT WAS A MOST ENJOYABLE RALLY!



THERE'S SOMETHING COOKING IN OAKLAND AND, SO FAR, IT SURE SMELLS GOOD! ROGER DILLAN, AS YOU ALREADY KNOW, HAS JOINED FORCES WITH DAVE PETERSON AND HAS PUT UP A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF HIS PERSONAL FORTUNE TO BUILD AND SELL THE NEW ULTRA COACH AND HOPEFULLY, TO PUT SOME GINGER IN THAT SLOW ASSEMBLY LINE. LET US ALL PRAY THAT, THIS TIME, WE'LL GET MORE THAN JUST MULLIGAN STEW OR A WITCHES'- BREW! SO FAR, WE HAVE DRAWN TWO BLANKS - FIRST, IT WAS SNOBIL INC., (HEADED BY FLOYD SNOW & BILL BORTON) THEN OUR HOPES SOARED AGAIN WHEN FOOD MACHINERY CO. (FMC) CAME UPON THE STAGE. IF THAT "THING" THEY ARE MARKETING RESEMBLES THE ULTRA VAN, THEN YOURS TRULY IS A MONKEY'S UNCLE. BOTH THESE PERFORMANCES DID NOT WIN ANY OSCARS, BUT ENDED IN A MIRAGE. THIS TIME, HOPEFULLY, WITH ROGER DILLAN AT THE HELM, WE'LL GET THE BRASS RING AND WON'T FALL OUT OF OUR KAYAKS. HOPE SPRINGS ETERNAL IN THE HUMAN BREAST!

SHIP AHOY! MAN OVERBOARD! THROW OUT THE LIFELINE! TALKING ABOUT FALLING OUT OF KAYAKS - OUR ROMA SMITH #298, A RETIRED NAVY MAN, BROUGHT HIS SAILBOAT ALONG, LASHED TO THE TOP OF HIS VAN. HE PROMPTLY LAUNCHED IT, UNFURLED THE SAIL AND BRAVED THE COLD, CHOPPY WATERS OF THE LAKE. IT WASN'T LONG BEFORE HE GOT DUNKED WHEN HIS SEAMANSHIP WENT HAYWIRE AND HE ZIGGED, ->

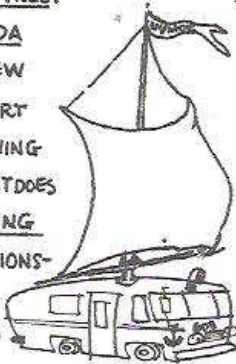


THE INCOMPARABLE

INSTEAD OF ZAGGED INTO THE WIND. AFTER DRYING OUT, HE CALLED FOR VOLUNTEERS TO GO OUT AGAIN WITH HIM. TWO RECKLESS SOULS THREW CAUTION TO THE WINDS AND WENT. OUR BRAVE DAVE WAS ONE OF THEM AND EVIDENTLY HIS VAST KAYAKING EXPERIENCE HELPED TO KEEP THE "SHIP" FROM TURNING TURTLE. THE OTHER WAS BILL BORTON. HE LOOKED KIND OF PALE WHEN HE RETURNED, KNELT DOWN AND KISSED THE BEACH.

SPECIAL NEWS ABOUT SOME UNUSUAL VAN NITES. THELMA COOK HAS RETURNED FROM HER EXTENSIVE, TROUBLE-FREE, SOLO TRIP TO SOUTHERN MEXICO. SHE CAME THRU OK, WITHOUT THOSE JUMPING BEAN TROTS, AND IS HAPPY AS A CLAM AT HIGHTIDE. PLEASED TO REPORT THAT OUR LOU LASLO #474 HAS RECOVERED FROM HIS RECENT OPERATION AND IS RESTING IN HIS TEPEE (HE CALLS IT THE WATERSHED) ON THE COLORADO RIVER. PROOF OF THE DURABILITY, RELIABILITY, VERSATILITY AND SIMPLICITY OF THE ULTRAVAN WAS AMPLY EXEMPLIFIED BY THE KRAEPELIENS #252 WHO SPEND THE WINTERS IN MEXICO. THEY TRAVERSED SOME TERRITORY THAT A MOUNTAIN GOAT WOULD SHUN. MINOR PROBLEMS WERE QUICKLY REMEDIED BY LOCAL MECHANICS. Q.E.D. AUBREY JACKSON #103 SENT IN A CLIPPING FROM THE GLENDALE NEWS PRESS. IT SEEMS THAT, RECENTLY, SEVEN GLENDALE COMMUNITY COLLEGE INSTRUCTORS HAVE BEEN CHOSEN - "OUTSTANDING EDUCATORS OF AMERICA". AMONG THEM WAS OUR OWN EMIL A. MILLER #374, WHOSE AWARD WAS BASED ON HIS PROFESSIONAL, TECHNICAL AND CIVIC ACHIEVEMENTS. ALAS, HIS TALENTS ARE TOO NUMEROUS TO LIST HERE. SUFFICE IT TO SAY THAT PROFESSOR MILLER KNOWS WHAT HE IS TALKING ABOUT. WHEN IT COMES TO THE ULTRA VAN, HE REALLY SHINES. TOOK HIS VAN TO ALASKA AND BROUGHT IT BACK IN ONE PIECE - WITH A Ph.D. TO BOOT! AMONG THE MANY GOODIES HE HAS ADDED TO HIS VAN IS A TRANSMISSION OIL COOLER WHICH DIDNT COST THE FAMILY HEIRLOOM. EMIL, CONGRATULATIONS! WE ARE PROUD OF YOU. IN OUR DEC. 1972 CLUB NEWS WE REPORTED THAT OUR MAX DEEN #533 HAD TO HAVE HIS LEFT LEG AMPUTATED. WELL, WHAT DO YOU KNOW - YOU JUST CANT STOP SOME GUYS! WE COULDN'T BELIEVE OUR EYES WHEN WE SAW OLD #533 COMING AROUND THE BEND WITH FULL STEAM. YES, THERE WAS MAX, SITTING AT THE WHEEL, AND HE COULDN'T WAIT TO GET OUT OF THE VAN TO SHOW EVERYONE HIS SPANKING NEW WOODEN LEG. WE ARE SURE THAT MAX WON'T MIND IF WE TELL YOU THAT HE INSISTED ON YOURS TRULY INSCRIBING THE FOLLOWING NOTICE ON HIS WOODEN LEG: "BEWARE, ALL DOGS, WOODPECKERS & TERMITES - THIS IS NOT A TREE."

THAT? - EXCEPT LOVE HIM! MAX AND MEDA VAN MEMBERS IN THAT STATE. THEIR NEW 80535, IT'S NORTH OF DENVER, NEAR FORT COULD BE THAT MAX IS GOING INTO THE TOWING TURNING WATER INTO GASOLINE. AS YET, IT DOES AT THE DIRECTOR'S MEETING THE FOLLOWING ACCEPTED: PUBLICITY - CARL FOSTER, DEVOTIONS - VEHICLE MAINT - L. RYERSON, NEWSQUAWK ADDRESS SYSTEM, COMPLETE SPEAKERS. THIS WILL BE USED



WHAT GAS SHORTAGE?!

NOW, WHAT CAN YOU DO WITH A GUY LIKE ARE MOVING TO COLORADO. OUR FIRST ADDRESS IS BOX 112, LAPORTE, COLORADO COLLINS. KEEP IN TOUCH, MAX AND MEDA! BUSINESS. HE ALREADY HAS A FORMULA FOR NOT WORK TOO GOOD. HE'S WORKING ON IT! APPOINTMENTS WERE MADE AND GRACIOUSLY - PHIL PHILLIPS, FINANCES - E. NEWHOUSE, BOX. WE HAVE ACQUIRED A NEW PUBLIC WITH MICROPHONES, AMPLIFIERS AND AT THE GENERAL MEETINGS, AND FOR →



the latest design.

ROUTINE ANNOUNCEMENTS, SUNDAY PRAYER MEETINGS AND TO LOCATE A LOST SPOUSE. IT WILL NOT BE USED FOR HOG CALLING AND LOUD MUSIC. IN OTHER WORDS, IT WILL BE JUDICIOUSLY USED SO AS NOT TO DISTURB THE TRANQUILITY WE ALL DRIVE SO MANY MILES TO ATTAIN. HALLELUJAH!

SPECIAL U.V. STATIONERY. LET THE WORLD KNOW THAT YOU ARE THE PROUD OWNER OF AN ULTRAVAN. IN RESPONSE TO MANY REQUESTS THE CLUB HAS ORDERED 1000 U.V. FOLD-NOTE CARDS. SEE SAMPLE ENCLOSED WITH THIS MAILING. SEND YOUR ORDERS TO OUR SECRETARY, MARY HOLLOWAY, 1026 W. PARK LANE, SANTA ANA, CALIF. 92706. PRICE IS \$1.00 FOR 25 CARDS INCLUDING TAX & POSTAGE. SMALL PROFIT GOES INTO CLUB TREASURY FOR FUTURE STEAK ROASTS, IF WE CAN EVER CATCH UP WITH A FAT COW.



DON'T PANIC! YOU ARE LIVING IN THE GREATEST COUNTRY ON EARTH! DON'T LET THAT "GULF" THROW YOU, DON'T STUMBLE OVER "SHELL", STAY MOBILE IN SPITE OF "MOBIL OIL", SHOW "STANDARD OIL" THAT OILY MONEY IS A POOR STANDARD AND ABOVE ALL KEEP YOUR HEAD ABOVE WATER (GATE). OUR NEXT RALLY WILL BE AT OLD TOWN, SAN DIEGO. SEE ENCLOSED FLYER. PLANS ARE GOING AHEAD FOR

WHAT! NO GAS?

OUR "FIRST EASTERN RALLY" AT BEAVER LAKE OR MOUNTAIN HOME, ARKANSAS IN LATE OCTOBER. PLANS ARE BEING FINALIZED AND YOU WILL GET PLENTY OF ADVANCE NOTICE. WE HOPE TO SEE ALL OUR ULTRA FRIENDS EAST OF THE CONTINENTAL DIVIDE. YOU ALL COME! CALIFORNIA MEMBERS ARE WELCOME TOO! DON'T KNOW ABOUT OREGON, THEY WANT OUR WAMPUM BUT DON'T YEN FOR US!

SAFETY INSPECTION CHECK. IN SPITE OF ALL THE INTERESTING AND EXCITING THINGS GOING ON, WE MANAGED TO INSPECT TEN ULTRA VANS PER THE CHECK LIST. OUR PRESIDENT MECHEM, LEN RYERSON AND YOURS TRULY WENT OVER THESE VANS WITH A FINE-TOOTHED COMB. WITHOUT WISHING TO ALARM YOU, WE FOUND SOMETHING ON EVERY VAN WHICH REQUIRED ATTENTION. THIS POINTS UP THE FACT THAT OUR VANS NEED "VITAL PARTS PROTECTION". EVEN ROLLS ROYCES REQUIRE PERIODIC MAINTENANCE. OUR CLASSIC ULTRA VANS MERIT THE SAME CONSIDERATION. WE HAVE SENT OUT 75 CHECK LISTS AS OFFERED IN OUR MARCH 1973 BULLETIN. HAVE MORE OF THESE IF ANYONE WANTS THEM. FROM REPORTS RECEIVED THEY HAVE PROVED QUITE HELPFUL IN PREVENTING PROBLEMS FROM OCCURRING. THE VITAL PARTS TO WATCH ARE THE FRONT-END SUSPENSION & STEERING MECHANISM. THESE INCLUDE THE SHOCK ABSORBERS, SPRING ATTACH POINTS, UPPER & LOW "A" FRAMES - WHICH COMPRISE THE BALL-JOINTS & THEIR ATTACHING BOLTS, STEERING HOUSING, RODS, ARMS AND ATTACH POINTS, STEERING BELL CRANKS. AND WHILE YOU ARE THERE, TAKE OFF FRONT WHEELS, CHECK CONDITION OF BRAKE LININGS, REPACK WHEEL BEARINGS WITH PROPER WHEEL BEARING GREASE AND INSTALL NEW SEALS IF NECESSARY. CHECK FRONT WHEEL ALIGNMENT AND LOOK FOR ANY LOOSNESS OR PLAY IN STEERING SYSTEM. WHEN YOU ARE ALL THROUGH →



VITAL PARTS PROTECTION



one for the road

SPRAY ALL BARE METAL IN SIGHT WITH WD-40. THIS KEEPS FURTHER RUST FROM FORMING AND GETS RID OF A LOT OF SQUEAKS & GROANS. THE REAR SUSPENSION AND TRAILING ARMS, REAR SHOCKS, SPRING MOUNTS, UNIVERSAL JOINTS AND REAR WHEEL BEARINGS REQUIRE CLOSE INSPECTION. IF YOU HAVE 30,000 MILES OR MORE ON YOUR VAN THE REAR WHEEL BEARINGS WILL BEAR LOOKING INTO. REMEMBER THAT THESE BEARINGS ARE RUNNING AT ABOUT 50% OVER DESIGN LOAD. A GOOD GARAGE CAN DISASSEMBLE, INSPECT, LUBRICATE (WITH SPECIAL GREASE), AND PROPERLY REASSEMBLE FOR A NOMINAL FEE. UNIVERSAL JOINTS NEED REPACKING TOO, BUT IN THE MEANTIME YOU CAN CHECK AND TIGHTEN THE CLAMPS WHICH HOLD THE JOINTS TOGETHER. SOME HAVE WORKED LOOSE. ENGINE, FRONT & REAR MOUNTING BOLTS, FUEL SYSTEM - INCLUDING FUEL PUMP, LINES & FILTER, THE DISTRIBUTOR POINTS & SPARK PLUGS ARE OTHER VITAL PARTS WHICH REQUIRE ATTENTION. NEVER PROP OPEN THE ENGINE DAMPERS ON THE CORVAIR ENGINE. IF GM COULD HAVE SAVED A PENNY BY LEAVING THEM OFF THEY WOULD HAVE DONE SO. THESE DAMPERS ARE VERY NECESSARY AS THEIR MODULATING ACTION KEEPS THE ENGINE RUNNING EFFICIENTLY AND AT THE OPTIMUM TEMPERATURE.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS. EDY RYERSON LEFT HER BLACK FOLD-OVER CLIPBOARD IN SOMEONE'S VAN AT LOPEZ LAKE. PLEASE SEND IT TO EDNA NEWHOUSE AS THE RYERSONS ARE ON THEIR WAY TO CANADA. VANS FOR SALE. HAVE A NUMBER OF GOOD VANS FOR SALE. WRITE US IF YOU KNOW OF ANY BUYERS. WE ARE WORKING ON PRINTS & INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO BUILD & INSTALL A SCREEN DOOR AND BATHROOM VENT SKYLIGHT. FRANK & SOPHIA MATTHEWS CAUGHT THE BIGGEST FISH AT LOPEZ LAKE. RANGER DEMMITT GAVE US A VERY INFORMATIVE TALK ABOUT LOPEZ LAKE AND ITS HISTORY. BEFORE WE RUN OUT OF GAS, WE MUST THANK A FEW PEOPLE FOR THEIR DEVOTED HELP, DEDICATION AND INSPIRATION AT LOPEZ LAKE: TO PRES. MECHEM FOR HIS ENTHUSIASTIC PRESENTATION OF NEW PLANS FOR THE CLUB. TO EDY RYERSON, EDNA & ERNIE NEWHOUSE & OTHERS FOR OUR NEW DIRECTORY.

TO JOHN HEIDE & MAX DEEN FOR RUNNING US INTO TOWN WHEN WE RAN OUT OF BOOZE & TOILET PAPER! TO EDY RYERSON WHO THOUGHT UP THE JUMBLED BOX-LUNCH. SURE GOT SOME INTERESTING PARTNERS. SOME COUPLES SNEAKED OFF INTO THE WOODS TO "EAT" THEIR LUNCH. WE WONDER WHY? AND, THE UNUSUAL MUSICAL CHAIRS METHOD OF AWARDING DOOR PRIZES. YOUR REPORTER SAT ON SOME MIGHTY SOFT LAPS - ACCIDENTALLY ON PURPOSE, OF COURSE! BRIEF THANKS TO HILDA GREEN & ESTHER SNYDER FOR INSPIRING HYMNS ON SUNDAY AND TO "PASTOR" PHIL PHILLIPS FOR THE CLOSING PRAYER. MEDA DEEN FOR HER ORGAN MUSIC (FOR THE INFORMATION OF OUR OUT-OF-STATE MEMBERS - MEDA HAS A FULL-SIZE ELECTRIC ORGAN IN HER VAN). REGULAR AS CLOCKWORK, ELGA & HILGA GREEN WERE THERE EVERY MORNING WITH GOOD HOT COFFEE & GOODIES. FORGIVE US IF WE LEFT ANY ONE OUT. OH YES, MUST PIN PURPLE HEART ON MORY SNYDER, OUR WAGON MASTER. ALL THIS MAY SOUND LIKE A LOT OF CHIT-CHAT, BUT THEY'LL BE CHERISHED MEMORIES IN YEARS TO COME. RELISH THEM!

DOES ANYONE KNOW WHERE YOUR EDITOR CAN OBTAIN A 1969 14" MUSTANG HUB CAP? THESE ARE THE ONLY ONES THAT WILL STAY ON MY WHEELS. HAVE 3 AND NEED ONE MORE. SEE YOU AT THE OLD TOWN RALLY. FINALLY, AREN'T YOU GLAD YOU OWN AN ULTRA VAN? - DONT YOU WISH EVERYONE DID!

YOUR REPORTER, *Ed. Martin* 104 VIA ESTRELLITA REDONDO BEACH
(213) 375-6335 CALIF 90277



MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING, July 21, 1973
Old Town, San Diego, California

The 24th meeting of the Ultra Club was called to order at 2:15 p.m. by Ed Martin, Newsletter Editor and a past president.

The chairman requested Roger Dillan from the Ultra Van Corp. to give a report bringing members up to date on the new Ultra Van and the new company.

The address is 19678 Eighth Street East, Sonoma, California 95476. A plot of 5.2 acres was chosen for building and expansion. He showed a layout of the plant. They now have 2 design engineers: Charlie Hall, who was present, and Dave Richards. Joe Knolls, also present, is Vice President, Marketing. The production goal is to build one coach a day for the first year, and add one coach per day per year for five years.

He spoke of the great amount of work to begin properly, with a study of marketing, accounting, the search for investors, etc.

At present orders are being taken with a \$500 deposit, returnable if the customer decides to withdraw his order. Dave Peterson is a full-time consultant and after 18 months will become a consultant when needed. Twelve people are now working full time in production. The cost of the coach will be \$12,500 plus extras for the 26 ft. model. They plan for three models, 19, 23, and 26 feet. For better quality control they are making the vans totally, not subcontracting. He said the Newhouses had just taken delivery on their new van leaving Sonoma on Thursday or Friday for the San Diego Rally.

Joe Knolls short report: For people interested in buying, the money back deal is a good opportunity to get your place in line and assure no price increase. The money is placed in a UCB Trust Account. With the \$500 deposit and \$750 at the beginning work date, 10% down is maintained.

He feels the Ultra Van will succeed in economy of use and price where others have failed in this category.

Charlie Hall's very short report: The design is now close to what will be the final construction design for the 600 series.

Minutes

It was moved by Mory Snyder and seconded by Bill Richards that the minutes of the last general meeting of April 28, 1973 be accepted as mailed.

Treasurer's Report

As Edna Newhouse was somewhere between Sonoma and San Diego and unavailable, the Treasurer's report was dispensed with.

Introductions

New Members Ed and Mary Wilson of Malibu in Van #412
Fred & Eleanor Leary from McMinnville, Oregon, who came the longest distance
Rutha and Merritt Wemple who had to leave early due to illness
Jim & Vida True who flew from Arizona to participate.

Wagon Master Mory Snyder rounded up 25 Ultra Vans, 1 Chinook, 2 couples by car, and 1 couple by plane.

General Business

Ed Martin commended (in absentia) President Mechem for his presentation of the organization charts at the last meeting.

Location of the October Rally will be out of Henderson, Arkansas, at Norfolk Lake on Highway 62, the dates to be October 5 to 15, 1973. Announcements and more information will be included with the next mailing.

Ed Martin has a list of 17 coaches for sale. He asked interested parties to please contact him.

The death of Louis Onak was announced. Louis and Louise, Van 466, lived in San Diego. The illness of Dr. Jim Cherry was reported to us by his son-in-law Stanley Vogel.

It was suggested by Bill Richards that the club might consider having a club flag. There was discussion and the idea was approved by the members. Ideas for a design will be welcomed.

Ed Martin thanked the rally hosts for their work in arrangements and taking care of registration: Merle & Ida Hays McPherrren and Henry and Dorothy Yakel.

Drawing for prizes was conducted. Everybody won.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:05 p.m.