



ULTRA VAN MOTOR COACH CLUB

• AUGUST • CLUB NEWS • 1973 •



EDITOR & REPORTER - ED. MARTIN # 296

THOUGHT FOR THE TIMES. AGAINST ALL IMPETUOSITY, JOHN BURROUGHS HURLS THESE NOBLE LINES IN HIS IMMORTAL POEM CALLED "WAITING."

I STAY MY HASTE, I MAKE DELAYS,
FOR WHAT AVAILS THIS EAGER PACE?
I STAND AMID THE ETERNAL WAYS,
AND WHAT IS MINE WILL KNOW MY FACE.

OLD TOWN RALLY - SAN DIEGO. A BRIEF REPORT ABOUT THIS, OUR 24TH ULTRA VAN MOTOR COACH CLUB RALLY. OUR CLUB IS NOW ABOUT SIX YEARS OLD AND AS TIME SLIPS BY, THE PEARL BEADS OF OUR NECKLACE OF RALLIES STRING OUT IN PRECIOUS MEMORIES. LITTLE JEWELS ARE ALWAYS ADDED TO OUR NECKLACE BY THE ASSOCIATE MEMBERS, THE FIRST TIMERS, THE DELICIOUS NEW DISHES PRESENTED BY THE LADIES AT THE OUTDOOR FEASTS, THE SURPRISE PRIZE DRAWINGS, THE SUNDAY DEVOTIONAL SERVICE, THE HAPPY HOUR. BUT ABOVE ALL, THE YOUNGER GROUP, TO JAR US FOSSILIZED OLD COOTS OUT OF OUR COMPLACENCY AND TAKE US BACK TO THOSE UNFORGETTABLE, CAREFREE DAYS WHEN WE WERE ONLY 39 AND LIFE WAS JUST A BOWL OF CHERRIES. THERE WERE 25 VAN FAMILIES AT THIS RALLY PLUS A NUMBER OF GUESTS AND ASSOCIATE MEMBERS WHO CAME IN OTHER VEHICLES. OUR THANKS TO OUR HOSTS MERLE AND IDA HAYS MEPHERREN #436 AND HENRY AND DOROTHY YAKEL #391 FROM THE SAN DIEGO AREA, WHO WORKED SO HARD TO MAKE THIS ANOTHER PERFECTLY SPARKLING RALLY. THEY PICKED AN IDEAL SPOT, RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF OLD TOWN YET SECLUDED ENOUGH SO THAT THE SUNNY DAYS WERE ALL OUR OWN AND THE NIGHTS QUIET AND COOL. BOTH THE MEPHERRENS AND THE YAKELS BROUGHT THEIR "FLEET" OF CARS ALONG TO TRANSPORT PEOPLE UP THE HILL TO THE JUNIPERO SERRA MUSEUM AND OTHER HISTORICAL SPOTS, TO TAKE PEOPLE SHOPPING AND TO CHEERFULLY RUN NUMEROUS ERRANDS. THEY MADE THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE DINNER AT ROMAINE'S MEXICAN RESTAURANT ON FRIDAY AND GOT THE PARK RANGER TO TAKE US ON A TOUR OF OLD TOWN. ALL IN ALL, THE MEPHERRENS AND THE YAKELS OUTDID THEMSELVES. WE DO WANT THEM TO KNOW WE ARE THANKFUL,



"I get so tired of listening to shop talk"

THE PEOPLE BEHIND THE SCENE, THE DEDICATED STANDBYS, WERE THERE, AS ALWAYS, QUIETLY TAKING CARE OF THE NECESSARY TASKS — GREETING NEWCOMERS, ASSIGNING PARKING SPOTS, ASSISTING IN THE LEVELING PROCEDURE, ANSWERING QUESTIONS, SPREADING THE HEAVENLY AROMA OF FRESHLY BREWED COFFEE EVERY MORNING AT NINE, SETTING AND DECORATING THE TABLES FOR OUR OUTDOOR BANQUET, MANNING THE OFFICE COACH, ETC. IN SHORT, TAKING CARE OF MANY OTHER THINGS WHICH HELP TO KEEP OUR CLUB ALIVE, VITAL AND HAPPY. THE CLUB COULD NOT GO ON WITHOUT THEM. THOSE WHO COULDN'T ATTEND REALLY MISSED SOMETHING!

GUESS WHAT? WE WERE ALL PLEASANTLY SURPRISED BY A BRIEF VISIT FROM OUR FIRST PRESIDENT, MR. MERRITT WEMPLE AND RUTHA, WHO WAS QUITE ACTIVE AS HIS FIRST LADY. WE WERE PRIVILEGED TO HAVE BEEN ABLE TO SPEND SOME TIME WITH MERRITT AND TALK OVER OLD TIMES. MERRITT EXPRESSED AMAZEMENT AT THE FEW PEOPLE HE RECOGNIZED. WE REMINDED HIM THAT A LOT OF WATER HAS GONE UNDER THE BRIDGE SINCE HE WAS PRESIDENT IN 1968. BOTH MERRITT AND RUTHA LOOKED VERY WELL. THEY ARE ENJOYING THEIR RETIREMENT AT SIERRA DAWN, IN HEMET. THEY WILL ALWAYS BE WELCOME AT OUR RALLIES AND VERY MUCH LOVED FOR TAKING US THRU OUR FIRST HESITATING STEPS.



COMPUTER BABY. THE NEW ULTRA VAN MOTORHOME IS STILL UNDER THE "DOCTOR'S" CARE AT THE NEW SONOMA "HOSPITAL." THE "DOCTORS" ARE ROGER DILLAN, CHARLIE HALL, DAVID RICHARDS AND JOE KNOWLES. THE SURGEON EMERITUS IS DR. DAVE PETERSON. THE "CAN DO.-MEET OR BEAT" MATERNITY WARD IN THE NEW HOSPITAL IS VERY BUSY AND THE NEW BABIES SHOULD BE ROLLING OUT IN THE NEAR FUTURE. WE WISH THESE NEW BABIES THE BEST OF LUCK AND HOPE THEY SET A NEW STANDARD FOR THE RV INDUSTRY. ON A MORE SERIOUS NOTE, ROGER DILLAN AND COMPANY CAME A LONG DISTANCE TO ATTEND OUR OLD TOWN RALLY AND WE REALLY APPRECIATED THEM BEING THERE. DURING THE GENERAL MEETING, ROGER GAVE US A VERY DETAILED AND OPTIMISTIC RUNDOWN ON THEIR OPERATION AT SONOMA. WE WERE SHOWN PLANS OF THE NEW FACTORY AND TOLD ABOUT THE HIGH MANUFACTURING, DESIGN, TESTING AND INSPECTION STANDARDS WHICH WOULD BE FOLLOWED. AS ROGER POINTED OUT, THERE ARE A LOT OF "IFS" IN EVERY NEW VENTURE, A LOT OF "CHICKEN AND EGG" PROBLEMS TO BE SOLVED. WE ARE SURE THAT ROGER, WITH HIS COMPUTER MIND, WILL COME UP WITH THE RIGHT ANSWERS. WE WISH THE NEW COMPANY EVERY SUCCESS AT THIS POINT IN WATERGATE TIME. KEEP ON YOUR TOES FELLOWS! WE'LL BE WATCHING AND PULLING FOR YOU.

THE ULTRA VAN STRAIN. IF YOU ARE GENUINELY CONCERNED ABOUT KEEPING THIS STRAIN GOING, AND WE HOPE IT SPREADS, IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN BUYING A NEW VAN, OR KNOW OF SOMEONE WHO DOES, SEND A CARD TO: THE PRESIDENT, THE ULTRA VAN CORP., 19678 EIGHTH STREET EAST, SONOMA, CALIF., 95476. (707) 938-8422. THEY WILL SEND YOU ALL THE EXCITING INFORMATION. WE NOW EXPECT A "CONTRIBUTION" FROM THE ULTRA VAN CORPORATION TO THE ULTRA VAN CLUB FOR THIS "COMMERCIAL".

C.O.R.L. THE CALIFORNIA OUTDOOR RECREATION LEAGUE DESERVES THE FULL SUPPORT OF ALL MANUFACTURERS AND USERS OF RV VEHICLES. CORL IS DOING A GOOD JOB FIGHTING STATE AND LOCAL LEGISLATION WHICH COULD RESTRICT OUR PARKING AND CAMPING PRIVILEGES. ONE EXAMPLE: MANY CITIES AND COUNTIES IN CALIFORNIA DO NOT WANT YOU OR YOUR RECREATION VEHICLE, BUT THEY DO WANT YOUR MONEY. THIS TIME THEY WANT TO GET IT BY PUTTING A "BED TAX" ON YOUR OWN BEDS IN YOUR MOTORHOME. CORL IS MAKING A SUPERHUMAN EFFORT TO FIGHT THIS AND OTHER LEGISLATION SO THAT WE CAN GO OUT INTO THE WILDERNESS, UNHINDERED BY THE BLM (BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT), CORPS OF ENGINEERS, ETC TO LOOK AT A TREE, STUDY A BLADE OF GRASS, CONTEMPLATE OUR NAVELS OR HOWL AT THE MOON. DO YOU RECALL THOSE PRECIOUS DAYS OF FREEDOM WHEN STATE AND NATIONAL PARKS AND FORESTS REALLY BELONGED TO US ALL? THERE WERE NO BEARDED SMOKEY BEARS, WEARING BOY SCOUT HATS, DEMANDING A \$4 ENTRANCE FEE PLUS A NIGHTLY CHARGE OF \$3.50 JUST TO STAY IN OUR OWN PARKS AND FORESTS. THE ONLY RESTRICTION WAS THAT YOU COULD ONLY STAY IN ONE SPOT FOR TWO WEEKS —

I'LL GO ALONG WITH THAT. IT IS TRUE THAT SOME OF US MELLOWED CITIZENS HAVE A "GOLDEN AGE PASSPORT" TO ADMIT US, WITHOUT CHARGE, TO SOME OF THE NATIONAL PARKS AND FORESTS, BUT WE STILL HAVE TO PAY 50% OF THE ESTABLISHED DAILY USE FEE. BIG DEAL! THAT WORD "PASSPORT" REALLY BUGS ME. WHY SHOULD A U.S. CITIZEN REQUIRE A PASSPORT TO GET INTO HIS OWN RECREATIONAL AREAS? FOR MORE INFORMATION ON C.O.R.L. WRITE TO 4264 EAST FLORENCE AVENUE, BELL, CALIFORNIA, 90201. DONT FORGET, IT'S YOUR LAND - DEFEND IT. THEN USE IT AND CARE FOR IT.

ITEM: KATHY AND PHIL PHILLIPS CAME TO THE RALLY IN THEIR OLD PRAIRIE SCHOONER #280. THEIR NEW 26' ULTRA COACH, #604, IS STILL AT THE FACTORY IN SONOMA RECEIVING THE "FINISHING TOUCHES." EDNA AND ERNIE NEWHOUSE TOOK DELIVERY OF THEIR NEW COACH, #603, BUT NOT SOON ENOUGH TO ATTEND THE RALLY. THEY ARE STILL GOING THROUGH THE THROES OF ROAD TESTING AND WORKING OUT A FEW BUGS. SHADES OF HUTCHINSON! WE ALL MISSED THE NEWHOUSES IN MORE WAYS THAN ONE. THE NEWHOUSES HAVE ATTENDED ALL OUR RALLIES AND THIS ONE DIDN'T SEEM QUITE THE SAME WITHOUT THEM. BESIDES, THEY HAD OUR NEW PUBLIC ADDRESS SYSTEM WITH THEM, SO WE HAD TO REALLY TURN UP OUR VOCAL CHORDS TO BE HEARD DURING THE GENERAL MEETING, THE TECHNICAL JAM SESSION AND TO MAKE ROUTINE ANNOUNCEMENTS. OUR PRESIDENT, MECH MECHEM AND HIS LOVELY LADY HELENE WERE AWAY ON A TRIP. THEY VISITED THE RYGERSONS AT THEIR SUMMER HOME WAY UP THERE AT HALFMOON BAY IN B.C. CANADA. OUR VICE PRESIDENT, JOHN HEIDE, WAS UNABLE TO COME. HIS WIFE, MARGE, HAD TO GO EAST TO TAKE CARE OF A SICK RELATIVE, SO JOHN STAYED HOME TO TAKE CARE OF THE HOUSEHOLD CHORES.

SILENT VANS. IT IS MY SAD DUTY TO REPORT THE PASSING OF TWO OF OUR CLUB MEMBERS. DR. JAMES CHERRY, #432, OF AVALON, CATALINA ISLAND AND LOUIS ONAK, #466, OF SAN DIEGO. JIM, AS HE WAS LOVINGLY KNOWN TO MANY OF US, WAS OUR WAGONMASTER FOR MANY YEARS AND A FINE JOB HE ALWAYS DID, GREETING EVERYONE WITH THAT SPARKLING SMILE OF HIS. LOUIS ATTENDED MANY RALLIES AND ALWAYS HAD A GOOD HINT OR TWO TO HELP US THROUGH THE ROUGH SPOTS WITH OUR VANS. THEY WILL BE SORELY MISSED AND ALWAYS REMEMBERED. OUR HEARTS GO OUT TO THEIR FAMILIES.

ITEM; THE CORVAIR IS NOT AS DEAD AS YOU MIGHT THINK! THERE IS A MAN IN PRINCETON, WISCONSIN WHO REBUILDS AND RESTORES OLD CORVAIRS TO BETTER THAN MINT CONDITION. HIS NAME IS A. HERSHBERGER AND HE IS SELLING THEM AS FAST AS HE CAN RESTORE THEM. DR. M. PHERREN #436 TELLS ME THAT NEW CORVAIR ENGINES ARE STILL AVAILABLE FROM GM, DETROIT. IN FACT, HE ORDERED A SPARE ENGINE AND HAS IT STORED UNDER HIS WORKBENCH IN HIS GARAGE. BETTER PUT A GOOD LOCK ON THAT GARAGE DOOR, DOCTOR. I CAN "SMELL" THAT ENGINE FROM HERE!

TANKS - OR NO TANKS! MANY VAN OWNERS WITH THE RIVETED OR WELDED ALUMINUM FRESH WATER AND HOLDING TANKS HAVE WRITTEN TO FIND OUT WHERE REPLACEMENTS COULD BE OBTAINED. THROUGH THE KINDNESS OF VERN SANDEL, #208, WE HAVE CONTACTED A GENTLEMAN WHO MAKES WELDED STAINLESS STEEL TANKS. YOUR REPORTER HAS NOT PERSONALLY CHECKED OUT THIS SOURCE. BUT, ACTING ON THE RECOMMENDATION OF VERN SANDEL, WHO HAD SOME NEW STAINLESS STEEL TANKS MADE FOR HIS VAN, AND HAVING TALKED TO THIS GENTLEMAN OVER THE PHONE, WE FEEL SAFE IN SAYING THAT YOU WILL GET A GOOD, LONG LASTING TANK AND GOOD WORKMANSHIP. THE TANKS WILL BE MADE, ON ORDER, OUT OF .015 STAINLESS STEEL, ALL JOINTS HELI-ARC WELDED, COMPLETE WITH BAFFLES AND FITTINGS, ETC. NO MORE WORRIES ABOUT CORROSION PROBLEMS WHICH ALUMINUM TANKS ARE NEAR TO. THIS GENTLEMAN'S

NAME IS: IRVIN GOOD. HIS SHOP IS AT: 6145 VINELAND AVE., N. HOLLYWOOD, CA. 91606. HIS PHONE NUMBERS ARE: SHOP (213) 761-0338, HOME (213) 876-1410. CONTACT IRVIN BY MAIL OR PHONE FOR DETAILS ON PRICES, SCHEDULES AND SHIPPING INSTRUCTIONS.

THE ARKANSAS RALLY. THIS IS THE ANNOUNCEMENT OUR GOOD FRIENDS BACK EAST HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR. DATES: 5TH TO 15TH OCTOBER 1973. LOCATION: WILDERNESS POINT CAMPGROUND, ON EASTERN SHORE OF NORFORK LAKE, OFF HIGHWAY 62, HENDERSON, ARK. SEND YOUR RESERVATION SLIPS IN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. THIS TEN DAY RALLY WAS SPECIALLY INSTITUTED TO GIVE OUR EASTERN AND WESTERN MEMBERS TIME TO COME AND GO AS THEY PLEASE. IF YOU WANT TO CONTACT THE CAMPGROUND FOR ANY REASON, THEIR ADDRESS AND PHONE ARE: P.O. BOX 307, HENDERSON, ARK. 72544. (501) 488-5796. FOR FURTHER DETAILS AND FOR INFORMATION ON ACTIVITIES PLANNED, SEE THE CLUB FLYER. WE ARE EAGERLY LOOKING FORWARD TO THIS RALLY AND HOPE TO MEET MANY OF OUR ULTRA FRIENDS THERE.

THE ARKANSAS TRAVELER. FOR US OUT HERE, IT'S ARKANSAS - OR BUST! BE CAREFUL AND LET'S ALL GET THERE WITH OUR SKINS. MANY OF US WILL BE MAKING PREPARATIONS FOR THE LONG, LONG TREK TO THE WILD, WILD EAST. A DISTANCE OF 2000 MILES OR SO, AND MORE FOR MANY OF US. IT IS TIME TO GET YOUR CHECK LIST OUT, GIVE YOUR VAN A GOOD DO-IT-YOURSELF GOING OVER, OR TAKE IT TO YOUR FAVORITE GARAGE. THERE ARE CHALLENGES, EXCITEMENT AND FUN AHEAD. THERE ARE ALSO SOME DANGERS AND RISKS. BUT, WHAT IS LIFE WITHOUT SOME TENSIONS? MIGHT AS WELL STAY IN BED UNDER OUR SECURITY BLANKET. IF YOU HAVE READ THIS BULLETIN THIS FAR, YOU MAY LIKE TO KNOW WHAT YOUR REPORTER INTENDS TO DO BEFORE STARTING OUT TO THE GREAT UNKNOWN WHERE CYCLONES, RIPROARING THUNDER STORMS, UFOs OR CHIGGERS MAY CONFRONT US. WELL, BESIDES CALLING UPON THE LORD, CROSSING HIMSELF A FEW TIMES AND SPRINKLING HOLY WATER ALL OVER THE VAN HE WILL ATTEND TO A FEW MORE PRACTICAL THINGS. **DON'T FORGET THE SCOTCH, MA!**



AS SPACE PERMITS, HERE IS A RANDOM LIST OF WHAT SHOULD BE DONE AND THINGS WHICH SHOULD OR SHOULD NOT BE TAKEN ALONG. THE ENGINE, BEING THE HEART OF THE WHOLE MATTER, SHOULD RECEIVE SPECIAL ATTENTION. WHETHER YOU HAVE A CORVAIR, CHEVROLET V-8 OR A TORONADO ENGINE, JUST ABOUT THE SAME THINGS APPLY. CHANGE OIL & FILTER, NEW AIR CLEANER, BLOW OUT DIRT FROM OIL COOLER (CORVAIRS), GET PLUGS, DISTRIBUTOR AND CARBURETORS CHECK AND ADJUSTED, BE SURE TIMING IS RIGHT ON THE MONEY, TIGHTEN FUEL LINE CONNECTIONS, INSTALL NEW FUEL FILTER, CHECK BLOWER OR FAN BELT - AND CARRY A COUPLE OF SPARES. AS FOR SPARES, YOUR REPORTER IS GOING TO CARRY THE FOLLOWING: OIL PRESSURE SENDER, FUEL PUMP, REAR WHEEL BEARING ASSEMBLY WITH THE BRAKE PLATE, SET OF FRONT WHEEL BEARINGS WITH SEALS. A GOOD TOW LINE, JUST IN CASE, PLENTY OF FLARES, A COUPLE OF GOOD FLASH LIGHTS AND DON'T FORGET THE RAIN GEAR AND BLANKETS. CARRY THE MINIMUM AMOUNT OF WATER TO SAVE WEIGHT. WATER WEIGHS 8.345 LBS PER GALLON. KEEP YOUR GASOLINE TANK FULL. MANY GAS STATIONS ARE CLOSED AT NIGHT AND ON WEEKENDS. DO NOT CARRY A TIME BOMB INSIDE YOUR VAN IN THE FORM OF A SPARE GASOLINE CAN. THAT'S ABOUT ALL FOR NOW. LET'S HAVE A BIG TURNOUT AT ARKANSAS. WILL CLOSE WITH A SALUTE TO THE ULTRA VAN LADIES, THE CO-PILOTS, THE CHOCK PLACERS, THE COOKS AND BOTTLE WASHERS, OUR GUARDIAN ANGELS! FORGIVE MISTAKES, SINCERELY, YOUR REPORTER, *Ed. Martin*, #296, 104 VIA ESTRELLITA, REDONDO BEACH, CALIF. 90277.

ULTRA 25th RALLY

in the
OZARKS



Wilderness Point Camp

Electric & Water Hookups
Cost: \$2.50 per night

Henderson, Arkansas

OCTOBER 5-15, 1973

Dual Celebration

25 Rallies:

First.....8 Vans

Largest...68 Vans

AT LAST!

Westerners
meet

Easterners

Do Come - It's Fun!

ALL ULTRA VAN OWNERS

We Welcome You -- Join Us!

See the fall colors of the Ozarks... Imagine partaking a
lucious dinner of freshly caught bass or catfish! ...Your
license costs \$3.50 for 14 days... You can even fish at nite!

Sightseeing: The Passion Play in the Unique Town of Eureka
Springs; Dogpatch USA; Silver Dollar City - a must -- we can get a
group rate; Bull Shoals Caverns; 1890 Mountain Village; the World's
largest Trout Hatchery below the Dam; perhaps a float trip!

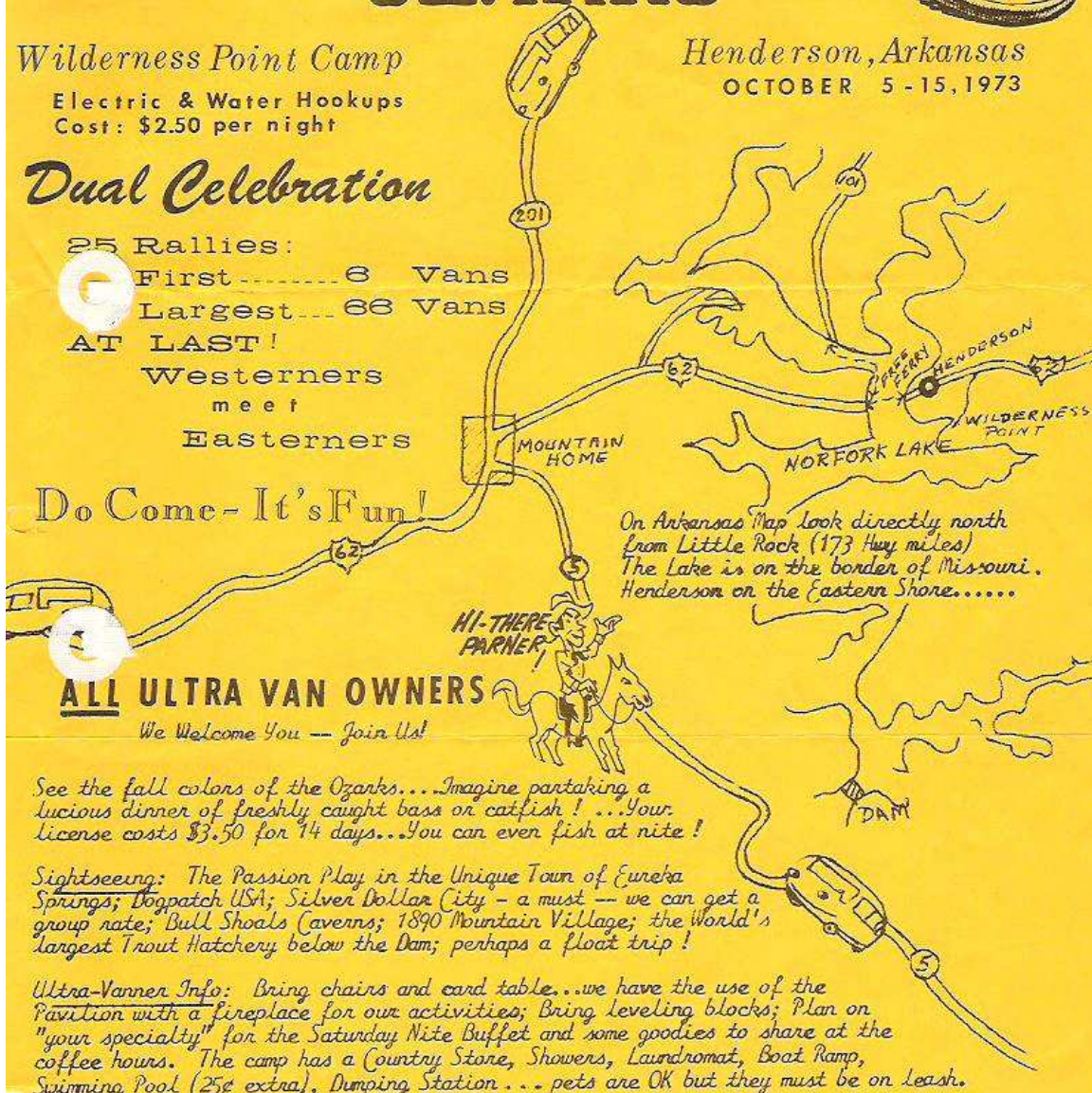
Ultra-Vanner Info: Bring chairs and card table... we have the use of the
Pavilion with a fireplace for our activities; Bring leveling blocks; Plan on
"your specialty" for the Saturday Nite Buffet and some goodies to share at the
coffee hours. The camp has a Country Store, Showers, Laundromat, Boat Ramp,
Swimming Pool (25¢ extra), Dumping Station... pets are OK but they must be on leash.

Watch the Bulletin Board for daily activities and literature on Points of Interest in area.

Please be sure to register at the office coach as soon as you arrive.

ULTRA VAN MOTOR COACH CLUBS, INC.

— A NON-PROFIT CORPORATION —



ULTRA VAN MOTOR COACH CLUB, INC.

— A NON-PROFIT CORPORATION —

Wilderness Point Campground, Henderson, Arkansas

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING

October 6, 1973

The General Meeting of the Ultra Van Motor Coach Club was called to order by President "Mech" Mechem at approximately 3 P.M. He extended a word of welcome to all and introduced new members and guests.

The Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as published and mailed. The Treasurer's report was given as follows:

Previous reported balance -- \$	852.57
Receipts	233.48
Disbursements	598.66
Balance in checking account	487.39
Savings Account	1,000.00

A motion was made, seconded and passed to accept the Treasurer's report as read.

Ernest Newhouse gave a report on the Savings Account that is drawing interest, and is maintained as a contingency reserve fund.

Rallymaster, Mory Snyder, reported 27 coaches had arrived so far, and more expected, with twelve states represented, the Eastern states out-numbering the Western....Michigan and Ohio having the most present. Fred & Eleanor Leary were awarded a prize for having driven the longest distance.

President Mechem expressed a word of thanks to the Park Management for their courtesy and helpfulness in making our stay enjoyable. A suggestion was made that a letter to Wilderness Park be written thanking them for their kind hospitality.

Edna Newhouse was asked to report briefly on the dinner arrangements for the evening. This was done with dinner announced to be at 5:30 P. M.

A full report on the San Diego Directors meeting was given by Ed Martin. A chart, made up by Mr. Mechem, was shown of member locations nationally and also a chart of Directors and other appointees and their various duties.

There followed a discussion on future rally sites. Francis Carroll suggested a site in Texas near Kerrville as a possible fall meeting and told of some of the points of interest nearby. His suggested site was to be considered and checked in to.

There being no further business, meeting closed at approximately 3:45 P.M. followed by the drawing of prizes to lucky ticket holders.

Respectfully submitted,

Edna H. Newhouse
Edna H. Newhouse,
acting secretary