



This picture was taken at the 2012 National Rally in Colorado Springs. Left to right is Gale & Gretchen Pfueller's #497, Doug & Nancy Pratt's #373, Terry & Linda Porter's #2011, and in the back row, Norm & Brenda Standal's #480. Also, unseen was Davis's #388, Forman's #545, & Boso's #604. It was a very nice rally and challenge everyone who can make it, to next year's Rally at Mountainview, Arkansas.

# Whales On Wheels

a publication of the Ultra Van Motor Coach Club

**Volume 2012**

**October Issue #4**

The Whales on Wheels is a quarterly publication of the Ultra Van Motor Coach Club, Inc. a CORSA Chapter and is dedicated to the preservation and use of the Ultra Van. This 22 foot, unique, motor home was designed by David Peterson and built in Kansas until 1970. About 365 units were built. Please remit to the Treasurer, Eric Kirven. Make checks payable to Ultra Van Motor Coach Club. Send submissions to WOW by email to the Editor, Brenda Standal (Digital submissions are preferred, but even hand written are acceptable)

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### 2013 Calendar of Events

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### “The Ernest Newhouse Award”

There have been questions regarding the procedures and selection of a person who should receive the Ernest Newhouse Award. The following was taken from our By-Laws Dated 2006

Appendix – J Paragraph 2 Procedures (5/93)(7/00)(8/05)

The award recognizes an Ultra Member who has contributed in an outstanding manner to the progress, enjoyment and general success of the Club and its activities, and meets the qualifications as stated in “B” below. (7/00)(8/05) Basis for selection will be the individual performance during the entire period of membership. Not limited to the previous year or any other shorter time period. To qualify for nomination of this award, the individual must have done four of the following six items:

1. Host at least one National Rally.
2. Hold a Chair position of a committee.
3. Hold at least one term as a club officer, Tech. or other Club position.
4. Be a member of the Club for a minimum of two years.
5. Host at least two regional Rallies, or a second National Rally.
6. Accomplish outstanding or superior services to the Club.

A written, qualifying report will be sent to the President for each nominee for verification. The President will forward each qualified report to the editor for inclusion on the Ballot.

Members vote by ballot, preceding or during the National Rally. Nominations will be as specified in paragraph 2B above.

Presentation of the award occurs at the National Rally. A tie vote selects the individual of longest Club membership. An individual may receive the award one time. The “Ernie Award” is the highest individual recognition that the Club offers. The Medallion will be worn at all Ultra Assemblies

## PREZ SEZ



Thanks for making me your President. It is a privilege to serve the UVMCC family.

We had the annual UVMCC rally in Sept. at Mountindale RV Resort in Colorado Springs, CO. It is always great seeing our East Coast friends. As soon as everyone is registered, it is like we were never separated for months at a time. Everyone catches up on the latest news--both good and bad. It is like old home week and I absolutely LOVE it. Plan on attending the next National at Mountain View, Arkansas. You will have a great time, not to mention making new friends.

Lew & I want to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season. Remember the reason for the season.

Shelley



**Edna Fredreca Steenburg**, born April 27, 1917, went to her heavenly rest on December 12, 2010. Born Edna Cooney in Trenton, Ontario Canada, married Arnold Steenburg, also of Trenton, 3/27/1937. Happily married until Arnold preceded her in death, 5/15/2006. Survived by 5 children, Lois Westmiller of Palm Desert, Patricia Mac Donald of Palm Desert, James Steenburg of Ocean View, Hawaii, Linda Gomez of Rancho Cucamonga, Peter Steenburg of Ontario and many grandchildren. Edna and Arnold came to California in Dec. 1957 and dedicated their lives to raising their family, and devoted time to many charitable causes. Edna was a volunteer for the Rancho Cucamonga Senior Center for over 30 years and knit hundreds of pairs of slippers for shut-ins, veterans and nursing home inhabitants. She and Arnold were world travelers and had a really good full life, and Edna will be greatly missed by all who knew her.

### Message from your Treasurer:

**2013 and Beyond Dues.** The majority of your UVMCC dues revolve around the printing and distributing of the WOW. Your Board has therefore decided on a two tier system of dues. If you agree to receive the WOW by e-mail only, your dues are \$5.00 per year. If you require a hard copy, your dues will be \$15.00 per year. If you have prepaid for 2013 and beyond at \$10.00 per year, no changes will be made for these prepaid years. If you decide that an e-mail copy of the WOW is the way to go, be sure you have a valid e-mail address on file.

**Eric Kirven, incoming treasurer.**

My Ultra, 436, was featured in the 2011 Tulsa Auto Show. The Green Country Corvair Group did a camping theme around the name "Camp Greenbriar" and the Ultra drew much attention. We had a line from the door thru the booth and down the hall waiting to get in to see it. I bought the coach in January of 2011 and immediately did all I could cosmetically to get her ready for the show – it paid off with a First Place Award for GCCG.

Marv Luke

Broken Arrow, OK



# Great Western Fan Belt Toss & Swap Meet at Palm Springs CA

Hosted by Vintage CORSA Host Hotel Quality Inn, 1269 E Palm Canyon Dr., Palm Springs CA 92264, 760/323-2775, fax 760/323-4234, ask for Fan Belt Toss rate \$70.95 before September 20. When: October 26th, 2012 12:00 AM through October 28th, 2012 12:00 AM Location: 1269 E Palm Canyon Dr, Palm Springs, CA 92264



## Special Invite

This is a special invite to all Ultra Vanners to enjoy a 3-4 days of dry campout at the "Slabs" right after the Corvair Fan Belt Toss, in Palm Springs, CA. I will be leading any Ultras that want to join us to the "Slabs", which is about 75 miles south of Palm Springs. For details about the Slabs area check it out on the Internet.

Fresh water and dump facilities are located in Niland, CA. ( This is the turnoff point to the "Slabs".)

Dates for the "Toss" is Oct 26-28. We will leave for the "Slabs" about 1:00pm on the 28th.

We are looking for a big Ultra turnout at the Toss. See ya there,

Jim Craig 760 285 1212 or flexman52@roadrunner.com

**Bring some firewood if possible.**



## Rally at AVI Casino in Laughlin, NV

We're planning on having another get-together at the AVI Casino in Laughlin NV sometime in February or March....gotta figure out the dates and details yet.

Hope ya all can join us....it's always a fun time, usually nice and warm, a friendly clean KOA park - and dining bargains and a fun time in the casino.

Betsy and Leo - Ultra Van 293 (with the flames)

## Eastern Spring Rally at Port Orange, FL March 18-22, 2013

More details in the next issue of Whales on Wheels

## Western Spring Rally at Bodega Bay, CA

More details in the next issue of Whales on Wheels

## 2013 National Ultra Van Rally at Mountain View, Arkansas September 17-21

More details in the next issue of Whales on Wheels

## Ultra Vans For Sale

**#232 Ultra Van.** This unit has about 1200 miles on a rebuilt 110 engine. I have invested over \$12,000 for renovation and upgrading. I had just returned from a 1,200 trip with my Ultra before taking it in for some body work and paint job. At that time, it was in great running condition before the wiring was removed. There is a brand new refrigerator, Onan generator, exterior body parts, and (2) windshields that are stored with the Ultra Van in Las Vegas. It also has a rebuilt transmission. Included are heavy duty brakes, new front suspension, air conditioner and swamp cooler. The exterior body is in fairly good shape. The wiring, interior paneling and carpet have been removed in a renovation attempt. Would consider the buyer using some bartering, or doing the mechanical work that needs to be completed. Ultra Van #232 has been relocated to the property of Chuck Hanson in Mesquite, Nevada. Chuck is our current Western Ultra Van Club Board Member. He intends to do some upgrades and improvements on Ultra Van #232. His cell phone number: (702) 346-1688. We can thank Chuck for saving another Ultra from the graveyard.



**Darrell Woofter contact at 417-725-8088 or email me at [woofcorvair@aol.com](mailto:woofcorvair@aol.com) for questions. Please make offer.**

**#423 Ultra Van.** This Ultra Van is powered by a 350 c.i.d. Buick V8 engine driving the rear wheels through an Oldsmobile Toronado transmission/transaxle. The radiator for the V8 is mounted on the right rear, behind the mesh grill. Dave Peterson (creator of Ultra Van), did 18 similar conversions using the Olds transaxle setup after the Ultra Van plant shut down. Bill Tanner, the owner of "The Schmoo" for over 41 years, converted #423 using Peterson's design, and put about 65,000 miles on it after the conversion. He parked it in his back yard in Arizona at the end of a trip to New York in 1987, and there it sat until early 2011. Price?.....\$8,555 FOB Taos, NM.....Drive it home!



Seriously for sale contact **Will Panzer at 575-779-8829 or email me at [williampanzerart@sbcglobal.net](mailto:williampanzerart@sbcglobal.net)**

### Ultra Class Ads:

**WANTED to buy:** The brown plastic trim strip that goes across the top of the refrigerator door on a Dometic RM 360 gas electric, this wording is in gold writing.

One cast aluminum Ultra Van, Hutchinson, Kans. name plate and one plastic or aluminum Ultra Coach nameplate. **Contact: John Howell, 1875 Grubb Rd., Lenoir City, TN 37771 , [UV417@0306.org](mailto:UV417@0306.org). (865) 986-8898**

**WANTED:** Hoping to buy or barter out a very good conditioned Corvair-110 engine. It must have less than 25,000 miles on it, or has been recently rebuilt. I plan to have it installed in my Ultra Van #358.

**Please contact me: Darrell: [woofcorvair@aol.com](mailto:woofcorvair@aol.com) or telephone: (417) 725-8088.**

**WANTED: Searching for the following items or parts for upgrading my 1968 Ultra Van #358.**

- (1) Schematic drawings and information on the entire wiring on the Ultra Van. Any hints and suggestions for installing new wiring would be appreciated.**
- (2) Used, great- conditioned Wilsonite Formica Cherry-wood Paneling**
- (3) Suggestions, drawings, etc. for building the Speedometer and**

**Instrumental Dash and PG lever.**

**Please contact Darrell Woofter - (417) 725-8088 or [woofcorvair@aol.com](mailto:woofcorvair@aol.com)**

**FOR SALE:** A compilation of all Ultra Van Technical Tips and Technical Articles from 1966 to 2012 on a CD. This supplement to the Ryerson Manual is fully searchable by word or subject and is indexed to the Ryerson Manual. The CD is in Portable Document Form so it loads on any computer that a PDF reader installed. Cost is \$15 including shipping to CONUS addresses and \$25 to other addresses.

James Davis

312 Butterworth Rd

Murray, KY 41071

### **For Sale: Reprinted Ryerson Ultra Van Manual**

I now have the Ryerson Ultra Van Service/Repair manual and a CD version of it available.

Prices: Manual only \$50.ea. (Mailed in USA.)

Manual only \$70.ea. ( Mailed to Canada.)

CD only \$17. ( Mailed in USA.)

CD only \$22. ( Mailed to Canada.)

CD mailed with manual \$15. ( To all.)

Make check to: Eric Kirven.

Mail to: 3585 Cerritos Ave., Long Beach, CA 90807



**New Uncut WINDSHIELDS. Limited number of sets available.**  
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## **ULTRA MERCHANDISE**



CUTE Miniature Cloisonné Ultra pins \$5.00 each  
Club badges – 1<sup>st</sup> one free at rally or \$2.75 replacement  
"Corvair Powered" bumper stickers \$3 or 2 for \$5  
DVD of Ultra Archives \$5.00  
VIN # plates (blank – you provide coach #) \$3.00  
Blue Golf shirt with stitched "Ultra Van" \$5 (sizes XL & 2XL)  
A few T-shirts from past rallies @ \$5.00  
Booklet "From Covered Wagon to Ultra Van" \$5.00  
½ " X 4 ½ " Stitched patches w/ Ultra on US map & flag \$3.00

Tech tips, sets 1 or 2 (\$13 + \$2 shipping each mailed)

Window decals: UVMCC with Ultra \$1.00

Postcards and note cards @ various prices

Various Viton "O" Rings by Safari priced from \$1 - \$9.00

(Plus shipping) Call or e-mail about these items...OR BETTER YET, SHOW UP AT A RALLY!

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570-549-8136 [dnpratt@juno.com](mailto:dnpratt@juno.com)

**TECH TIP NUMBER: 2012-04**  
**UV MANUAL SECTION: 07-04**

**SUBJECT : Propane Tank Refurbishing**  
**AUTHOR : Glen Lemke #247**

Currently there is no manufacture of ASME RV propane tanks which fit into the Ultra Van propane tank compartment. The only alternative is to have your current ASME tank refurbished. The following company refurbished the old tank for Glen:

Aero Energy  
230 Lincolnway East  
New Oxford, Pennsylvania 17350  
Ph 717-624-4311 /1-866-428-1474  
Attn: Mr. Jim O'Brien Jr.

Aero Energy will refurbish the 40# tanks for \$150.00 plus \$9.00 tax Unless he needs to replace the gauge which can run between \$40.00 to \$60.00 additional. Shipping from Wisconsin to Pennsylvania \$116.00 round trip for a total cost of \$275.00.

More pictures of the Manchester ASME propane tank  
After refurbishing of the Manchester ASME propane tank. Tank installed in #247, viewed from top.  
Glen fabricated the custom mounts. Early coaches came with poor mounting pad and brackets.



**Whose legs are these and what are they doing under the coach? Is it a secret?**



# Western Summer Rally Report

by Ron Adams

This year the Western summer rally was held in the Hee Hee Ilahee RV Park in Salem, Oregon. This was not a backwoods campground as the name suggests, but a new luxury RV resort complete with spacious pull-thru RV sites, a swimming pool, a spa, and a clubhouse containing sparkling washrooms and kitchen-equipped meeting rooms. It's possibly the nicest RV facility on the planet, and the hosts, Doug and Meg Bell and Jerry and Patty Mello, not only talked the management into giving us the premium sites in front of the clubhouse, but they also got four days for the price of three and the free use of a kitchen and meeting room. Well done!

The rally attracted nineteen participants: Gale and Gretchen Pfueller bravely drove all the way down Interstate 5 from Bellingham, Washington, in their freshly-painted 497; Ron and Evelyn Adams from Salmon Arm, British Columbia, managed to navigate 800-miles of back roads in 100-degree heat in 499 without breaking down; Lew and Shelly Young, who sold their Ultra Van to the Pfuellers, drove up from Sacramento to see if it was still running. At the wheel of their truck and fifth wheel was the diminutive Donna Bolton, Lew's irrepressible sister.

Also in attendance was Ultra Van veteran Forest Gist, who lives nearby and commuted to and from events in his Volvo; Doug and Meg Bell, who arrived in 215 from Boring, Oregon; Jerry and Patty Mello from nearby Albany, Oregon, who came in 333, a shiny ground-up restoration that, when finished, may well become the most desirable Ultra Van on the road.

Also attending from California were Jerry's brother Rich, an autobody specialist who assisted Jerry to replace most of the aluminum panels on 333, as well as Rich's pleasant wife Kathy. We suspect that Rich and Kathy will show up at next year's rally in Northern California in their own Ultra Van. This year they drove up I-5 from Fremont in an airport bus, which we conveniently used to travel to rally events.



Rounding out the group in a Class C motor home were Deryk and Shannon Peters from Newberg, Oregon, who are in the process of restoring 411. With them came their children Elizabeth, age 16, Jacob, age 13, and Robert, age 11, three of the politest and most interesting young people you'll ever meet. A parenting award for Deryk and Shannon please!

We arrived on Thursday afternoon to a full barbecue provided by the hosts. Everyone got a gift bag (the first of two) filled with mugs, glasses, pens, and tourist brochures. It was a class act all around. Our more-than-generous hosts brought enough food to provide breakfast for the entire crew the next morning.

Friday morning saw us packed in the Mello bus en route to the Oregon Gardens, a 40-acre cornucopia of every plant known to man in a walk-till-you drop park setting. With great common sense, Patty Mello cajoled us into eating at the Garden's patio restaurant, where the food was not only tasty and abundant, but also inexpensive. It just took the waiters and waitresses awhile to bring nineteen heaping lunch plates out at the same time. Engaged in conversation and sipping another of Patty's inspirations, a great white wine, we didn't notice that half the afternoon had passed.

On the way out of the garden we stopped to visit a home designed by Frank Lloyd Wright. I wonder if Frank's client appreciated living in a million-dollar gingerbread-trimmed 1950 office building.





At six that evening we gathered in the clubhouse for a potluck dinner. There was enough gourmet grub to feed half the homeless in Oregon, and, still stuffed from our late lunch, we were hard pressed to eat it all. Following dinner Lew gave us the skinny on the National Rally in Colorado in September, and he made it sound so attractive that we all (briefly) considered driving over the Rockies to attend. There followed the Yankee Auction with its surprise gifts and hearty laughs. Almost everyone ended up with something they couldn't use and didn't want, so it was a huge success.

On Saturday morning the men drove their Ultra Vans five miles to the open house at the Brooks Powerland, a sprawling complex of museums filled with old cars, trucks, bulldozers, tractors, and other farm equipment. They parked the Ultra Vans in front and spent the day touring the buildings. Needless to say the women went shopping.



Late Saturday afternoon Jerry and Rich demonstrated how they had riveted new panels on 333. They reviewed the various rivets used to hold the coach together (32/1000ths soft for the 2024 T3 aluminum panels, 5/32nds soft for fiberglass, 5/32nds half hard for structural components), and, with the help of a compressor, used a power rivet cutter, a bucking bar, a rivet shaver, and clecos to rivet and remove rivets from sample panels. Who knew that riveting was so complicated!

Dinner at the nearby Guest House Restaurant featured not one but two candle-laden cakes. Evelyn Adams and Shelly Young had birthdays that day. Both are just nineteen. Unfortunately, they are trapped in sixty-something bodies and were discouraged from eating more than three big pieces of cake. The festive group waddled out of the restaurant at 9 p.m. and a handful of health conscious overeaters walked the half mile back to the campground.

Eleven hours later the entire crew was happily seated in front of heaping Sunday breakfast platters at the International House of Pancakes. Never in the course of Ultra Van history has so much been eaten by so few in so little time!



Sunday afternoon was devoted to an Ultra Van open house so the owners of the park's many million-dollar diesel rigs could see what a proper motor home looked like. Everyone politely checked out the all the renovations and repairs we had made to the rigs and secretly planned to improve on them next year.

Ron Adams advised that 499 had lost power and appeared to be running rough. When the bed was removed and the engine exposed, a perspicacious Jerry Mello immediately found the problem, a vacuum line that had disintegrated. He repaired it in 30 seconds. "The engine still seems to be

missing," advised Lew.

The weather having turned cool, Deryk offered to drive Ron to the local Nieman Marcus emporium (aka Goodwill) to buy a long-sleeved shirt. There Deryk came up with the buy of the year: a gleaming, above-the windshield Ultra Van weather center. The price? Five bucks. Who knew that you could find Ultra Van accessories at Goodwill!

Sunday's dinner comprised all the leftovers from previous meals, and there were still lots left over for the homeless as well as for the final breakfast on Monday morning. Hugs and goodbyes followed, and everyone agreed that the 2012 rally was one of the best they had ever attended.

**Postscript:** Gale and Ron decided to convoy 497 and 499 up the busy I-5, but immediately got separated and continued on alone. The Pfuellers evidently made it back to Bellingham with no problems. Ron and Evelyn crossed the border the next morning and were approaching Chilliwack, British Columbia, when a loud clanking noise developed under the bed. Fortunately they were only a mile from the exit to the Chilliwack industrial park, where starving mechanics lay in wait. It seems that whatever Lew thought was missing is now really broken.

## 2012 National Rally in Colorado Springs Report

by Owen Strawn

**Sep. 16, 2012** Early arrivals are Lew & Shelley Young in their fifth wheel (with a new puppy), Doc Ron & Martha Zoutendam in a cabin (with pictures of their first great-grandchild), Larry Forman & Rosie Walker in #545 (with no running lights), Norm & Brenda Standal in #480 (with power rack-and-pinion steering), Jim & Roy Davis in #388 (with three cats & a blown out tire), and Gale & Gretchen Pfueller in #497 (with new paint). I'm in my tent again of course (with a borrowed pillow).

The campground at Mountindale is fantastic - scenic, comfortable, and super clean. Mule deer have wandered thru already, but they said the bears haven't been around this week. Wish you all were here!

**Sep. 17, 2012** Ultra Week officially kicked off this morning, with breakfasty treats graciously provided by Brenda, after which most of the fairer attendees headed out for shopping and Olive Garden. Gale & Larry also went out to locate a new fuel pump for #497 (which I believe may already be installed), and while they were out we welcomed quite a few additional attendees:

- Clyde & Kaye Stanton are in a rental 5th wheel
- Jerry & Marylou Kramer are staying in a cabin with his brother & sister-in-law from Huntington Bch CA
- Christy Barden arrived in a LM Corvair sedan, he'll be staying with the Youngs
- Howard & Marsha Boso arrived in #604, towing a crew-cab "Rampside" made from a panel van
- Doug & Nancy Pratt arrived with #373 (they found a note on their coach at one of their Colorado stops from Linda Pugh - we are hoping she might come down to visit with #453)
- Terry & Linda Porter are here with their gorgeous Tiara #2011



For dinner, Rosie Walker prepared a sumptuous grilled marinated Tri-Tip feast with help from Shelley Young and Larry Forman. Yum! Desert Bingo closed out the formal activities, but several folks are even now taking advantage of the huge-screen TV in the lounge to check out the football game.

Unfortunately, after the Herculean effort Carl & Fran Jones made to get their #400's upholstery and paint done just (barely) in time to head out for the rally, they encountered compression problems in Oregon and will not be able to join us. Next time for sure!

**Sep 18, 2012**, today's festivities commenced with a superb pancake, scrambled egg, and bacon breakfast, hosted by Rosie with the able assistance of Delaine Kramer, and flippers Christy and Larry.

Then about 22 of us piled into cars and headed up to the Air Force Academy where we enjoyed a short film on the academic program and a tour of the iconic Chapel building - which actually contains seven separate chapels. And an informative visit to a B-52D on static display which Jim had actually flown 2 missions on.



The "official" Olive Garden lunch (yesterday's was unofficial, unauthorized, and unorthodox) ended the day's planned activities, leaving the rest of the day free for visiting in coaches, and later around the campfire. I'm personally looking forward to tonight's forecast low of 50 deg which should be much more comfortable than last night's 40 deg!

**Sep 19, 2012** Norm foolishly volunteered to accompany me into town this morning, but fortunately even after my unplanned detour through uncharted wilds we made it back in time for the tail end of Rosie's Breakfast Feast Part II: Mystery of the Endless Pancakes.

Thus fortified, I persuaded him to show me his power rack & pinion steering setup. This is so slick that frankly I will be shocked if this same arrangement isn't installed on at least three coaches at next year's rally.



Early departure for the Pike's Peak Cog Railway trip followed before noon. Interesting narration, breathtaking scenery, and the company of UVERS made for a truly enjoyable afternoon.

Pot luck dinner was capped off with the Yankee Swap, then we all regretfully said our goodbyes to Doc Ron & Martha as they have a wedding to attend in Arkansas on Saturday.

I also have to mention how gracious Linda & Terry were to spend so much time showing me their beautiful Tiara yesterday. It's first one I've actually seen so I had endless questions which they endured with no visible signs of impatience!

**Sep 20, 2012** Beyond anyone's expectations, Rosie once again provided us all with delicious hot breakfast to start the day. That full size refrigerator in #545 must have been STUFFED with food on the trip out!

The tech session followed, and Jim gave us an overview of the various lubrication requirements of the coaches, from nose to tail. Our busy morning culminated in the much-anticipated Coach Hopping tours.



After bidding our fond farewells to Christy, most of us departed for the Garden of the Gods tour. While Jim & Roy went into Canon City for Italian food and replacement tires, the rest of us enjoyed a short film and an independent driving tour of the spectacular rock formations and abundant wildlife. Also the gift shop and ice cream cones weren't half bad!

We were joined in the evening by Terry & Linda's son and by Rosie's friends; and by an eight point buck and his harem that ambled through the campground on their way from here to there.

**Sep 21, 2012** Friday morning is all about business at Ultra Week, encompassing the Board of Directors meeting, Eastern Regional meeting, Western Regional meeting, and General Membership meeting.

Locations were announced for 2013 Eastern Spring rally at Ocala Florida (Davis/Standal), 2013 Western Spring rally at Bodega Bay California (Walker/Forman), and 2013 Ultra Week at Mountain View Arkansas (Standal/Davis). See upcoming newsletter for exciting details and exact dates. Also, start advance planning now for the 2014 Western Spring rally in the Vancouver area (Adams) - potentially culminating with an Alaska Cruise!

Fellowship and further coach examination filled out the afternoon, the Pfuellers went to see the Olympic Training Center, and Larry's friend came to visit. A raffle was held for one of Brenda's fabulous quilts, door prizes generously donated by Clarks Corvair, and Ultra Van vests donated by the granddaughter of Arnold & Edna Steenberg (#507).



The closing Banquet held at Edelweiss German Restaurant featured excellent entertainment, fantastic food, and installation of the 2013 club officers. With great regret, we had to start saying our farewells as some will be leaving very early in the morning.

Lew, Shelley, Rosie, and Larry have put on a really top notch rally, for which those of us fortunate enough to attend are truly grateful!! Safe travels in 2012 and beyond,

## **2012 Summer Trip with Ultra Van 480**

by Norm Standal #480 & #500

On July 25<sup>th</sup>, Norm and Brenda Standal left North Fort Myers and drove to Scott Pilkington's (#350) at Monteagle, TN for an overnight visit, then on to a beautiful home on Long Lake, WI for a very enjoyable week at Brenda's family reunion, with a side trip to Lake Superior to take in the 1900 Iron Mining area.

After the reunion, we drove 30 miles to Glenn & Joanne Lemke's for a very nice 4 day visit, helping them put in a new front windshield and the Onan generator in #247. We then traveled through Minnesota, North Dakota and Montana down to Boise, Idaho and Snake River area for three great weeks of visiting with lots of Norm's family. While there, we noticed a rupture on #480's right rear tire, so the wheel was removed, taken to WalMart and had a new P205/70R15 Viva Goodyear white wall put on.

From there, we drove to the Ultra Van Rally in Colorado Springs, accidentally meeting up and convoying across Wyoming with Gale Pfueller in #497. We had a very enjoyable time at the Rally.

On the home stretch, we had a nice visit with Ed and June Lindsay #338 & #407 in Milton, FL arriving home in North Fort Myers on Sept. 26, 2012. On this trip, we traveled a total of 6,572 miles, the vast majority was comfortably on cruise at 65 MPH. We used 356.1 gallons of regular gas.

## **Beau's Trip to Colorado Springs**

by Jim Davis #388

We left on the 12th after 10 days of spotty rain- 4.6" total. That brought the year's total rain fall to 23.5"; some 31" below last years total and 19" below our 20 year average. We had been restricting our Beau adventures because of the exceptional drought. We spent two nights in Wichita on the way out in order to visit with Laurie and Owen Strawn. They are a great couple. The next day Beau managed to separate the right rear, inside tire sidewall from the rest of the tire at about 2:30 pm. The coach was easily controllable at 60 mph and rolled to as stop on the highway's grassy shoulder some 33 miles east of Garden City, KS (the middle of no-where). Good Sam couldn't find a repair service, so I changed the tire to the spare and continued on to Garden City. As my spare is a "space saver" spare from an S-10 pickup, I didn't want to go too far. Fortunately, I found a tire service center that was open Saturday until 7pm. They did not have a replacement for the 245/45-17XL tire but were able to find a 225/60-15 Fusion tire and a 15x6 rim. These are the rims and tires I run on the front, so swapping the front tires to the rear, to keep the Positraction rear end happy, and guessing the different tire sizes on the front wouldn't cause a handling problem, Beau was again mobile.

That night I contacted Tire Rack and had two new tires in the correct size shipped to "Big O Tires" in Canon City, CO, to arrive Thursday. The new tires were installed as promised with a total cost of three tires, two tire rotations and a rim of \$385.

I won't cover the rally as Owen did as a good job and I have nothing to add. I will say that Lew, Shelly, Larry and Rosie kept us well entertained and fed. One of the best rallies ever. I can only hope we and the Standals come close to matching the 2012 rally in 2013. Mountaindale Campground was outstanding and the best place to base if you are ever touring the Colorado Springs area.

The trip home took a little longer than we had planned as we spent three days in Mountain View, AR to set up the 2013 UVMCC Ultra Week rally. For all the "old heads". everything will be the same as for the 2006 Mountain View rally; only the dates will change. I will post the dates as soon as they are finalized. Full information will be in the January issue of the newsletter.

The trip was 2,697 miles over 15 days. Beau averaged 15.1 mpg and used five quarts of oil but no other fluids. 10,256 miles so far this year is good but the weather kept us home more than we would like. For those new to Beau's travelog, Roy and I purchased Beau in October 1999 and recovered him in April 2000. Since that time Beau has made 154,290 relatively trouble free miles. Only once has Beau been towed home and that was for a total of 16 miles. Of course, there have been breakdowns along the way, but only one where he did not make it in the driveway under power (so far!).