



There are sightings of Ultra Vans throughout the United States and Canada. Since there are so few of them left on the road, it is like seeing a member of your family and most of the Ultra Van owners ARE a part of a unique family.

Whales On Wheels

a publication of the Ultra Van Motor Coach Club

Volume 2013

April Issue #2

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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Shelley Young, our president needs to have received any "Ernie" nominations before July 1, 2013 so ballot which comes out in July Issue of WOW can list any names. If received later than July 1st, any names will be for the next year.

"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



Greetings Everyone:

2013 has been a good year for the Young Family. In January we welcomed a new grand daughter to the family. In February we welcomed home a daughter returning from a year in Afghanistan. Also in February we attended the Western rally at Avi in Nevada. We had a great time getting up-to-date with old (as in long time) friends and, of course, eating. Have heard that the March Eastern rally in Florida was well attended and plans were made for future rallies.

All future rallies, both East and West, will be printed in the WOW so keep your eyes open for all the latest information.

Spring is the time to get those Ultras road ready for Summer travel.

Have a great time in your travels and make them safe.

Shelley Young



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, Treasurer.



A Special Note from Your Editor.....

Greetings All! Please read the message from your treasurer, Eric Kirven. It is more economical to receive your newsletter electronically now, so if there some of you out there who now have e mail and would like to receive your Whales on Wheels very fast (It takes 2 seconds to e mail it to you), please let me know and I will take you off of my Snail Mail list. You can e mail me at the address below.

Brenda Standal
239-656-3075
brennorm@aol.com





WESTERN ULTRA VAN RALLY 2013
MAY 16 – 20, 2013
Bodega Bay, Beautiful Sonoma
County, California
Porto Bodega Marina & RV Park,
707-875-2354

1500 Bay Flat Road, Bodega Bay, California
 94923 (<http://www.portobodega.com/>)

Red: Your Responsibility; Green: Host's Responsibility

Camp Site Reservation: **CONTACT: Larry for Reservation & Site Number. larry@forman.net (916-216-9801);**

Rally Registration Fee: \$30

RV Sites Reserved: Water Sites #: 16-18, 33, 34; Off water sites: Pull thru #: 26-32 @ \$42.51 incl. tax; Back in sites: #: 19-22 @ \$39.24 incl. tax

Motel Reservation: **YOU CALL:** Bodega Harbor Inn – Call 707-875-3594 or Bodega Bay Inn 707-875-3388. See 3 houses at RV Park for rent on website.

Thursday 5/16 3 – 5 **CLUB HOUSE:** Registration & Welcome

Thursday 5/16 6:00 **CLUB HOUSE POTLUCK: Hearty Hors'oeuvres /Finger Foods:** Such as: Chicken Wings, Stuffed Mushrooms, Meat & Chicken Sliders, Devil Eggs, Bul Gogi, Dolmas, Lettuce Wraps, Stuffed Celery & other veggies; Pot stickers, Spanakopitas, Egg Rolls, Meat Balls or Wieners in sauce, Taquitos, Miniature Quiches, Shrimp or Crab plates, & Cupcakes. Costco has many of these items. **How easy can it be? BYOB**

Thursday 5/16 7:30 **CLUB HOUSE, Movie** or drink & chat & tell jokes around fire ring

=====
 Friday 5/17 9:00 **CLUB HOUSE Pancake Breakfast, Hosted**

Friday 5/17 10:00 **CLUB HOUSE, UVMCC Meeting**

Friday 5/17 2:00 **U.C. Davis Bodega Marine Lab Tour No Cost**

Friday 5/17 6:00 **CLUB HOUSE Dinner, Hosted, BYOB**

=====
 Saturday 5/18 7:30 **Continental Breakfast**

Saturday 5/18 8:00 **WINE TOUR** of Korbel Winery & Anderson State Park, **BOX LUNCH, hosted. OR LEISURE TIME, Sight See, Whale Watch, Bike, Golf, Fish, go crabbing or clam digging.**

Saturday 5/18 5 p.m. **No Host Dinner @ Lucas Wharf After Dinner – Evening – LEISURE TIME**

Sunday 5/19 AM **LEISURE TIME, Breakfast on your Own.**

Sunday 5/17 2:30 **POKER RUN: \$2** buys in Five Card Stud, High & Lowest Hands splits pot. Poker

Winners paid at dinner. Instructions at site. Bring cards to dinner

Sunday 5/17 2:30 **COACH TOUR** (Have cards out for Poker Run)

Sunday 5/19 4:00 **CLUB HOUSE, TECH SESSION. OR Ladies go Shopping**

Sunday 5/19 6:00 **CLUB HOUSE, JOIN US AT THE BARBECUE. BRING YOUR OWN:** Chicken, Steak, Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, foil wrapped Fish, Shrimp, Tofu OR whatever to barbecue (**Baked Potatoes, Butter & Sour Cream & Rolls provided**). **APPETIZER, POTLUCK SALAD or DESSERT !! Followed by MOVIE & BYOB** and chat, around fire ring.

=====
 Monday 5/20 9:00 **Good Bye Breakfast, SANDPIPER RESTAURANT, No Host**

Adeus, Ciao, Tally HO, Via Condios, Safe Travels & Hugs. Check out by 1:00 p.m.

Wood for Fire Ring, as long as it lasts, Feel free to donate wood for the pit.

Additional info will be sent to Registrants. Everything subject to change!

Rev. date: 3/28/2013



THE 47TH ANNUAL NORTH AMERICA UVMCC RALLY

Host: Jim & Roy Davis -

Phone: 270-435-4572 / E-Mail: <jld@wk.net>

Norm & Brenda Standal

Phone: 239-656-3075 / E-Mail: <brennorm@aol.com>

DATES: SEPTEMBER 17 - SEPTEMBER 21, 2013

HOST CAMPGROUND:

OZARK RV PARK , 1022 PARK AVE., MOUNTAIN VIEW, AR 72570

1-866-692-7578 / <http://www.ozarkrvpark.com/>

The RV Park is adjacent to the OZARK FOLK CENTER

**A BLOCK OF 15 SITES RESERVED; NO NEED FOR INDIVIDUAL RESERVATION AT RV PARK
EARLY ARRIVALS OR LATE LEAVERS NEED TO MAKE THEIR OWN ARRANGEMENTS**

Lodging is available at the campground - 4 cabins, 1 house, 1 trailer

The area is known for its mountain music, crafts shops, antique stores, and good food.

<http://www.ozarkgetaways.com/index.html>

<http://www.ozarkfolkcenter.com/>



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. 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 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**

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. (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 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

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.
Great price..... Make your Ultra Van look like new.....
Also have two sets of newly fabricated REAR TRAILING ARMS..
Get great alignment. Reduce tire wear.....
Strong.....Rear shock mounts.....Pics available.....
Will.....575-770-6798.....williampanzerart@sbcglobal.net
WILLIAM PANZER, Studio de Talpa
34 Archuleta Road
Ranchos de Taos, NM 87557
www.WilliamPanzer.com, www.ultravancoaches.com
575-770-6798

ULTRA MERCHANDISE



CUTE Miniature Cloisonné Ultra pins \$5.00 each
Club badges – 1st 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!

Available at rallies or by ordering from Nancy Pratt or Patti Mello, Merchandise Chairpersons

570-549-8136 dnpratt@juno.com

CORSA EVENTS

Heart of Texas Reunion in Montgomery TX Hosted by Corvair Houston
April 12th, 2013 12:00 AM *through* April 14th, 2013 12:00 AM 600 La Torretta Blvd Montgomery, TX 77356
Car Show

Springfest in Helen GA Hosted by Corvair Atlanta, Heart of Georgia Corvairs, Queen City Corvair Club
April 19th, 2013 12:00 AM *through* April 20th, 2013 12:00 AM Helen, GA
Mini-Convention lawiandl@aol.com

Recall in East Syracuse NY Hosted by Central New York Corvair Club
May 31st, 2013 12:00 AM *through* June 2nd, 2013 12:00 AM 6004 Fair Lakes Rd East Syracuse, NY 10057
Car Show pous4@msn.com

Vair Fest in Arroyo Grande CA Hosted by Central Coast CORSA
http://www.corvair.org/index.php?option=com_civicrm&task=civicrm/event/info&Itemid=173&reset=1&id=68 June
21st, 2013 12:00 AM *through* June 23rd, 2013 12:00 AM Nelson St Arroyo Grande, CA 93420
Car Show bob0017@earthlink.net

CORSA International Convention in Kalamazoo MI Hosted by West Michigan Corvair Club
July 16th, 2013 8:00 AM *through* July 20th, 2013 3:00 PM 3600 E Cork Street Ct Kalamazoo, MI 49001
International Convention dykwelld@gmail.com

✂ ✂ ✂ ✂

Ray Pilot says: Haven't done much on # 473 but at least I can give you a joke.

If you imagine a train somewhat similar to an Ultravan.

A man and a woman are in the sleeping compartment of a train. The man is in the lower berth and the woman is in the upper berth. She kind of rolls over to the edge, looks down at the man and says, "could you get me a blanket"? He just looks up at her and says, "where's your husband"? She looks back at him and says, "I left him at home". Then she keeps looking back at him and after a minute says, "where's your wife"? He replies, "I left her at home". And the conversation sort of ended. A few minutes later, the woman rolled back over to the edge, looks down at the man below her, winks and says, "you want to play married"? He answers right back, "sure, get your own damn blanket".

I might put bunk beds in my whale.



Picture of the Ultra's Fans from John Howell

Easter at Gary Anderson's Coach #420



#362 Update by Tony Shipman

Getting Ultra Van #362 ready for 2013 CORSA Convention in MI.

Hello Everyone,
I purchased Ultra Van #362 in October and November 14th it was delivered to the farm.

It is currently the nicest one of the four Ultra Van coaches we have. The previous owners had it for about two years. The following before pictures show the shape it was in when they got it and the after pictures show the things he and his wife completed before I purchased it this year.

On July 16 – 20 2013 The CORSA International Convention will be held in Kalamazoo, Michigan. I'm hoping to be able to go to my first Corvair Convention if Ultra Van #362 aka Itchy Feet III is ready and I can bring her. Oh – did I forget to mention; most of the Ultra Vans produced have a Corvair Drive-train and members have been reporting a low of 15mpg to 20mpg. For the two years, 2009 and 2010, that I had UV256 on the road I was getting 15.6mpg.

As soon as I can I will be posting pictures of the things I started doing on UV362 to hopefully get her ready for the convention in MI. I don't have a garage, so I'm at the mercy of the weather and my health to work on this or any of our projects.

I have to do all the mechanical stuff on UV362. It needs a running drive-train, new wheel and master cylinders with brakes and the front and rear suspensions need to be fixed and/or rebuilt.



#544 Update by Gary Baxter

Work has been sporadic during the cold spells, but some progress has been made on redesigning the steering system. With the V-8 now mounted up front, neither the stock system nor Norm's great power rack system would work. The revised system is patterned after the original, but the arms are mounted to shafts so they can connect a set of forward facing arms that allow a cross-shaft to go under the oil pan. Those parts have been made, a '70 Olds variable ratio power steering box mounted and soon a tilt column from a '92 van will be mounted.

The van is at least back on the ground after quite a bit of modification to the rear spring mounting. It sits considerably lower than it did and will be slightly lower after the interior and remaining mechanical parts are added.

#545 Front Air Suspension using 600 Series approach by Larry Forman



Here is the progress to date on my work to use the 600 series front air suspension for my heavily loaded late model Ultravan #545 with Toronado powertrain, generator and four added front batteries. I have removed the existing configuration, which was modified from stock, for the passenger side and trial installed air spring and supporting plate on the upper A-arm. Soon I will add the upper shock mount and see how all of it works. The photo shows progress to date along with a very ugly pile of parts removed. The photo with

the trial (leaking) air spring shows the ears of the plate have not been removed yet.

There are only four components to this conversion: the air spring, support plate, upper shock mount and shock absorber. I retained the existing lower shock mount, which was used for my air shock. It is not in the same location as the coil spring mount. I need to verify this will work for my application. Installation into earlier Ultravans will likely involve strengthening the upper air spring mount. For my Ultravan, I have the heavy aluminum I-beam already mounted, so it made this conversion VERY simple. I will write up a tech tip once this has been finalized and well tested.

#545 Stock Corvair Steering Wheel with Powered R&P by Larry Forman

I have successfully converted to powered rack and pinion steering for UV #545 while retaining the stock Corvair type Ultravan steering wheel. I used the Glenn Lemke and Norm Standal approach using a 2008 type powered rack and pinion steering approach. I wanted to retain the classic look of the Corvair steering wheel. I tried to fit all the steering U-joints under the floor and used dual U-joints to save space. While it all fit, I found the very short coupling shafts would twist angularly (as opposed to rotate) under steering torque and the self-aligning nature of the pillow block bearings did not prevent that from happening. That was not acceptable functionally, but it might have been prevented by using special clamping pillow blocks. These are self-aligning pillow block bearings that have the ability to be clamped once the alignment is fixed. Since they are not commonly available, I decided to place two pillow blocks next to each other and that would prevent the shafts from shifting alignment. That approach works well, but there is simply not enough space for all the steering components under the floor of an Ultravan. I solved this by raising the double U-joint that attached to the end of the steering shaft a couple of inches above the floor level. To make that possible, I fabricated a cylindrical platform about two inches high and about two inches in diameter. That raised the bottom of the steering shaft and I made it shorter by an inch or so. The photo shows what the finished steering column looks like. If you know what to look for, you can see that the cylindrical platform is not stock. However, it is not objectionable at all and most viewers would not notice the slightly wider base of the steering column.



Since I wanted to power the rack and pinion assembly but not from the engine, I used a 2001 (and later) Toyota MR2 Spyder Electric Hydraulic Power Steering (EHPS) Pump to power the rack. Because it is an electric motor mated to a hydraulic pump, this worked well and does not need a long hydraulic line from the rear engine. It does, however, take about 45 amps when starting up and then automatically switches to lower amperage when not under heavy steering loads. I am currently manually switching it on and off when not needed. The times power steering is not needed is usually above 40 miles per hour, so I have a dash switch to turn it off when cruising on long highway runs. This extends the brushes' operating life on the electric motor. I am working on programming an Arduino Uno type microcontroller to monitor road speed with a hall-effect device triggered by a magnet attached to the rear axle. The microcontroller will eventually turn the power steering off above 40 miles per hour and back on for speeds below about 35 miles per hour. This will replace the function of my dash switch, which will be superseded with a simple On/Off switch for times when I want to override the microcontroller and force the power steering pump to be ON for all driving times. For my relatively heavy coach, I find this is useful when driving winding back roads or possibly during heavy cross wind conditions.

The powered rack and pinion steering is one of the best improvements I have made on my coach. It works extremely well, even when in the current manual switched mode, and is a little different from the stock steering in that it is quite a bit "quicker". It only takes just over 3 turns for lock to lock. The stock steering takes either 5 or 6 turns of the steering wheel rotation for lock to lock. When I first started using the powered rack, I found that I tended to over steer when making a sharp turn. This has not been a problem, just an adjustment period.

Western AVI Ultra Van Rally Report by Betsy & Leo Senn

The AVI Ultra Van Rally was another fun success! Twelve of us Ultra Van Nutz truly enjoyed the camaraderie and the laid-back ambience of the AVI Casino and its KOA RV Park.

There were 3 Ultra Vans attracting attention of a lot of other RVr's - Leo & Betsy's 293, Eric's 504, and Chuck & Cyndie & Jayk's 460. Jim and Marlene (former owners of 604), and Lew & Shelley & Lew's Sis Donna & cute little Bandit (former owners of 497), and Jane & her son Brit (owners of 324 that needs a bit more repairs before driving to Rallys) rounded out our great friendly group. Graham & Nancy & their Jake (former owners of 292, from Washington State) visited for a day too on their way to Mexico.

Seems like all we did was eat, eat, eat....Thursday we took advantage of the AVI's yummy 2-4-1 breakfast and dinner buffets - Friday we all met for the 99-cent ham-n-egg breakfast special and then pigged out on Leo & Betsy's delicious chicken-n-dumplings dinner. Saturday again back to the breakfast buffet (compliments of the KOA) - then a dessert potluck during the Yankee Swap Meet (the infamous fuzzy slippers re-appeared again - Shelley was the lucky one to choose that gift) - the AVI's 99-cent shrimp cocktail & beer special each day, and a final breakfast meet on Sunday morning - then back to the KOA for good-bye hugs & kisses and see-ya-next-times.

Each day, we were busy giving Ultra Van tours to a lot of fellow RVr's - on Friday, we inspected the Antique Show at the AVI - and on Saturday, the guys took-off to Laughlin to the Edgewater Casino's gun show and to the Riverside Casino's classic car museum. And of course we played Bingo, pulled slot handles, played black-jack, watched a movie at the AVI's 8-plex theatre -- there was plenty to keep us all occupied and entertained.

The Tech Session was all about Nuts-n-Bolts, Trailing arm options, re-wiring RV's, Eric's new instant hot water heater, Leo's new door handle, and inspection of all our coaches as usual -

We decided to have an AVI Rally each year in March, but no welcome-dinner-cooking for the hostesses-with-the-mostesses, since the AVI has such good cheap food -- the only "cooking" will be desserts for the dessert potluck for the Yankee Swap Meet....and to request the same perfect spaces we had this year - conveniently close-up front and against the pretty green golf course - with plenty of room behind our coaches for chairs and tables with the view of the golf course lake.

Looking forward to next year's AVI Rally already -



Eastern Spring Ultra Van Rally Report

Mary Lou Kramer says: Four couples, Nancy & Doug Pratt, Roy & Jim Davis, Norm & Brenda Standal and Jerry & Mary Lou Kramer, arrived on Sunday afternoon, March 17, at Nova Family Campground for the Spring, 2013 rally. That evening we all went to Aunt Catfish on the Water to celebrate Norm's birthday.

Jerry Dute came on Monday, in his "new" camper.

The week's activities included lots of eating, lots of talking, and a continuous tech session whenever 2 or 3 men were together.

After the business meeting on Tuesday, the rest of the week was spent in casual conversation and just enjoying each other's company. It was one of the smallest rallies we have attended, but also one of the best, because of the chance to talk to everyone and spend lots of time together.

Jim Davis writes: Well it is Friday and we still are at Nova Family Campground. An extension was decided on due to the weather up north. Somehow sunny and 75 seems to win out over snow and 40 degrees at home.

Jerry Dute left to visit with his daughter but the three UV are in place. Last night was a bust as Roy decided to come down with Jerry Dute's cold, so she missed the pizza and wine party for supper. We had an rear air spring burst last night (while we were parked) so first order of the day was to change it out to a spare I carry. Another two hour maintenance job. We went back to Aunt's Catfish House on the Water for lunch. Most has something different but I had to get another order of boiled shrimp with the heads on. This afternoon is lounging around and talking RV with the other couples in the campground. I guess we are off to the wooden boat show tomorrow morning.



Ultra Info by Owen Strawn



David Peterson built UV #101 for his own personal use in 1960, then built #200 in 1962 to be a production demonstrator & sales vehicle. #103 was the first Ultra Van actually intended for a customer. Peterson hired a local high school student named Lloyd Cerruti to build the coach (Lloyd was the featured speaker at the Central Valley Corvairs February 2012 dinner meeting), and it was delivered to Dr. Standish Watson of Walnut Creek CA in the summer of 1962. #103 is a 24 foot long coach with Ford Econoline headlights and flush-mounted Ford Falcon taillights. The original Corvair engine was replaced with a reverse-turning 283 c.i.d. Chevy V8 by owner
Aubrey Jackson around 1972.

The coach first appeared in Club rosters in 1970, registered to Charles & Florence Harris of Granada Hills CA. From 1971 to 1977 it was registered to Aubrey & Wanda Jackson of Glendale CA, then to Don & Marilyn Beattie of Mission Hills CA from 1980 to 1984. Don dropped out of the club after that but kept the coach until 1997. He sold it for \$100 to Eddie Davidson, who had it only for a few months before selling it to a friend who needed a place to live.

Until recently it was believed that Ed Wooldridge of Seattle owned this coach from 1985 until its destruction in 2001, but Ed's coach was actually a Travalon. No prior owners of Ed's Travalon have been identified.



Today UV #103 is proudly owned by Nick and Shonna Riepe. Nick bought the coach from his friend Eddie in early 1998, and shortly afterwards it was featured in the film "Five Aces" (starring Charlie Sheen & Christopher McDonald). After living in the coach for several years, Nick met and married Shonna. The coach has been parked on their family property in Big Bear CA ever since, but they are hoping to restore it soon and get it back on the road.