



The Ultra Vans love their rallies. Whether it is east, west or national, those who can make it, like to celebrate the togetherness of the group. If you have not attended a rally, you may want to do so. A lot is learned and the camaraderie is great.

Whales On Wheels

a publication of the Ultra Van Motor Coach Club

Volume 2014

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. For membership, please remit dues to the Treasurer, Eric Kirven (\$5 per year if your newsletter is delivered by e mail or \$15 per year if the newsletter is delivered by snail mail (Post Office). 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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"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
APRIL 2014

GREETINGS:

SPRING IS IN THE AIR, SOMEWHERE, AND ULTRA VAN SEASON IS HERE.

THE WEST FINISHED A RALLY IN LAUGHLIN, NV IN EARLY MARCH. THE EAST HAS JUST ENDED A RALLY IN TITUSVILLE, FL. THANK YOU TO BETSY & LEO SENN FOR HOSTING THE WEST AND BRENDA & NORM STANDAL FOR HOSTING THE EAST.

FUTURE ACTIVITIES INCLUDE RALLIES IN OHIO, HOSTED BY MARY LOU & JERRY KRAMER; WHIDBEY ISLAND, WA, HOSTED BY GRETCHEN & GALE PFUELLER. IN SEPTMBER WE WILL HAVE THE NATIONAL IN CODY, WY. LOOK FOR DATES AND DETAILS FURTHER BACK IN THE *WOW*.

WE ALWAYS HAVE SO MUCH FUN AT THESE GET TOGETHERS, SO IF YOU ARE JUST THINKING ABOUT GETTING YOUR COACH READY, STOP THINKING AND GET BUSY. RALLY TIMES WILL BE HERE FASTER THEN YOU THINK.

THE NEXT EDITION OF THE *WOW* WILL INCLUDE A BALLOT FOR NEW OFFICERS. NOMINATIONS FOR THE ERNIE AWARD WILL BE INCLUDED. IF THERE IS SOMEONE YOU WANT NOMINATED FOR THE ERNIE AWARD, SEND ME A LETTER (TO BE PRINTED IN THE *WOW*) ABOUT WHY HE/SHE SHOULD RECEIVE THIS AWARD. ALL NOMINATIONS SHOULD BE RECEIVED BY THE 1ST OF JUNE.

HOPE TO SEE YOU AT A RALLY AND REMEMBER TO HAVE SAFE TRAVELS.

SHELLEY
YOUNG

There has been news recently of two of our Ultra Van members passing away. They are:

Louis Griggs and Ruth Harvey



A Special Note from Your Editor.....It is more economical to receive your newsletter electronically now, so if there some of you out there who now have e mail & 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



Eastern (Late Spring) Summer Rally in June OHIO ULTRA VANRALLY

June 2 – 6, 2014

Hosted by Jerry & Mary Lou Kramer

Camping at the Mercer County Fairgrounds, Celina, Ohio

Level, shaded area with picnic tables

Full hook-ups (\$30) Water & Electric (\$20)

½ Price to Passport America & Good Sam members

Free dump station NO laundry

1001 W. Market St., Celina, Ohio

TENATIVE SCHEDULE

Monday, June 2 – Arrivals Soup supper provided by hosts

Tuesday, June 3 – Greet old friends, Meet new friends

Tech session with Jim Davis

POT LUCK DINNER

Wednesday, June 4 – Tour of historic Fort Recovery and

Knapke vineyard

Meal at Theinman's Restaurant

Thursday, June 5 – Business Meeting

Bingo and/or shopping in Celina

Catered meal - typical wedding dinner (at campground)

Coach hopping (public invited)

Friday, June 6 – Bicycle Museum of America,

Lunch at Casa Lupita Mexican Restaurant

Tour of Airstream Factory

Saturday, June 7 – Good-byes

Please let The Kramers know if you plan to attend so that we can arrange transportation and reservations. We have reserved spaces at the Fairgrounds – no need to make personal reservations.

419-852-5720-Jerry; 419-852-9380-Mary Lou OR krammary@bright.net

WESTERN ULTRAVAN RALLY 2014

July 17 – 21, 2014

We have selected a really nice RV Park on Whidbey Island at Deception Pass, July 17-21. It is clean, full hook-ups, great free club-house, nice shower/restrooms, only \$29.89, green grass and a great covered BQ area. There are two log cabins (each sleeps 4 w/bedroom) with all amenities, next to the clubhouse, if you decide not to bring your UV. The park is dog friendly, with miles of walking trails. Although, Whidbey is an island you need not take a ferry. Take Hwy20 off I-5. If you want to spend more money and risk a few bumps you can take the Mukilteo-Clinton Ferry but it will probably take about the same amount of time.

There is much to be seen in this beautiful corner of the US. The park is across the road from Deception Pass State Park, Washington's most popular. Cross the road to Cranberry Lake and beyond that is the bay. There is a corner grocery store and a mile down the road is a small marina where we can take a boat ride. Oak Harbor and the military commissary (for those eligible) are very close. There is a free public transit bus stopping on the corner going to Oak Harbor and beyond. We are planning a "cruise" (ferry ride) to San Juan Island.

Since those going to the CORSA Convention will have a few days in the Tacoma area, we thought we should offer something at a different location, only two hours from the LeMay Museum. After the UV Rally, if you are taking your UV to the CORSA convention you might want to make reservations at the Majestic RV Park, only ten minutes from the museum or RSVP at the MURANO Hotel in Tacoma.

If you are interested in attending the UV Rally please let us know and make reservations through us. If you are interested in the cabins please let us know soon as we have only reserved one of them.

www.northwhidbeyrvpark.com



Happy Camping!

Gale and Gretchen



Hey Washington and Oregon people, and those who will be traveling to Washington for the Corvair Nationals and Ultra Van rally I want you to be alert to someone who has been our benefactor for both the Ultra Van Nationals, Western rallies and the Sacramento Classic Corvair rallies. Eric Paul, owner of IHOPS, my friend, and who has really proven to be friend of both our organizations. He never asks for anything, but I'd like to see him get some advertisement in our Club's newspapers, and request that you plan your route to stop by for a bite. If it works out, mention to the manager, that you are a Classic Corvair or Ultra Van member and want to thank Eric Paul for his support.

Here are the addresses of the IHOPS (International House of Pancakes). He is the man who has so graciously donated the batter, and now the eggs for our Ultra Van and Classic Corvair pancake breakfasts. He's runs very clean and efficient shops, and you will be pleased. When you dine with him at one of his stores he is fanatical, with his hidden stop watch, as he watches his staff perform their duties, so that it is difficult to enjoy your meal with him. But, those TV shows on how to fix a restaurant, etc., could take lessons from him. [Rosie](#)

Rancho Cordova, CA 2216 Sunrise BV – 638-8853

Seattle, WA 10002 Aurora Ave North #2-24

Bend OR..... 30 NE Bend River Mall Drive

Beaverton OR..... 15935 SW Regatta Lane

Portland OR..... 9840 NE Cascades Parkway, Cascade Station

Vancouver WA 7951 NE Vancouver Plaza Drive, and..... 2900 SE 164th Avenue

Don't Forget

July 21-25

CORSA International Convention in Tacoma



2014 UVMCC
National Rally
September 9th -
13th
Cody, Wyoming
PONDEROSA
CAMPGROUND
1815 8th Street
Cody, Wyoming



82414 (307) 587-9203

info@codyponderosa.com
www.codyponderosa.com

[Motels within easy walking distance to the Ponderosa Campground](#)

Best Western Premier Ivy Inn and Suites..... 800-780-7234

The Wyoming Inn.....307-587-4208

Super 8 Cody 307-527-6214

Dust off your cowboy boots and hats, but leave your six shooters behind and [come to Cody, the "wildest way into Yellowstone"](#). Our Ponderosa Campground (Cabins also available) is very close to downtown and within easy walking distance to several of our major events. Restaurants and a Walmart are very close as well.

We will start the first day with a Trolley Tour of Cody that will include a two day pass (you'll need it) for the Buffalo Bill Center of the West. You will have options for breakfast, lunch and dinner on your own.

Our banquet will be held in the historic Irma Hotel, built by William Cody and named after his daughter. Just before dinner we will be witness to an old fashion western gunfight with some historic western characters from the past.

There are other sites to see on your Free Time depending on your tastes and budget.....

Miniature golf across from the museum

Cody Dug Up Gun Museum (FREE) 1020 12th St. (close to the Irma)

WW 2 Heart Mt. Interpretive Center Japanese Internment Camp (\$5seniors) about 9 miles from town.

Old Trail Town of the Old West and the grave site of Jeremiah Johnson and other Mountain Men (\$7seniors)

River Rafting Tours info@wyomingrivertips.co

[Event t-shirts will be available for pre-order](#)

Co-hosted by Doug & Meg Bell doug.bell3@comcast.net 503-260-8920

Jerry & Patty Mello nanapatty1951@hotmail.com 541-619-4660

Tentative Schedule

Tuesday Sept. 9th:

1 – 4:00 pm “Welcome/Registration (*\$25 Registration/couple +\$10 per additional attendee*)

5:30 pm - ? Dinner sponsored by your Hosts

Wednesday Sept. 10th:

8:30 am-9:00 Coffee and goodies/breakfast

9:15 am - ? Introduction to Cody by Trolley

Includes 2 day pass to Buffalo Bill Museum .(\$34)

10:00am--? Tour of Museum (day #1)

LUNCH On your own

2:00pm-3 Tech session

3pm- 5:30 Miniature golf **OR** free time

6:00 pm - ? Pot Luck dinner/Yankee Swap Meet

Thursday Sept. 11th:

8:30 am-9:00 Coffee and goodies/breakfast

Morning - *Day 2 of Museum* Tour that includes day #1 of the Yellowstone Quilt Festival **OR** Free Time

LUNCH On your own

1:00 pm-2 Tech Session **OR** Free time

5:30-pm-8 Cody Cattle Company Dinner Show 1910 Demaris St.

Friday Sept. 12th:

8:30 am Coffee and goodies/breakfast & B.O.D. meeting

9:00 am UVMCC East & West Coast meetings

9:30 am General Assembly meeting

LUNCH On your own

1- 3 pm Coach Tour

5:30 gather 6 pm *Western Gun Fight @ Irma Hotel*

6:30 pm - ? No Host Banquet Dinner with Officer Installation @ *Irma Hotel*

Saturday Sept. 13th.

9:00 am No Host Farewell Breakfast @ *“Sun Rise Cafe”*.

This schedule is subject to change at the whim of the hosts and/or suggestions of the attendees.

Many other tours are available in the Cody area. You may want to come early or stay after to take advantage. Talk with your hosts to find out more.

Ultra Vans For Sale

#338 (and #407) Ultra Van – Purchased from Ken Wildman in 2007, drove from Ada, Ohio to Pensacola, Florida. Not entirely without incident, but nothing serious. There have been numerous improvements on #338 since our purchase. Corvair 110 hp engine, generator & roof air conditioner, rack and pinion steering, and others. These are listed on CORSA website: www.corvair.org/chapters/ultravan/



\$8500 Contact Ed Lindsey, Location: Milton, FL Phone: 850-994-2161 email me at: wfcc@mediacombb.net



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



From Patti Mello:

The site info site our members to go to for UVMCC merchandise:

a-stitchin.com Tagent, OR

This is an information page to assist you in selecting garments and accessories for the Ultra Van Motor Coach Club.

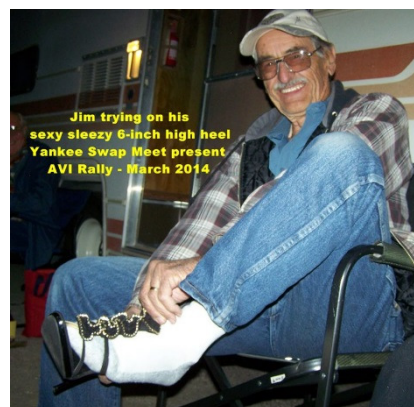
After you have made your selections, please e-mail us at stitchin@alryca.net. Include your contact information (name and phone number) so we can call you for payment. You may either pay over the phone with your credit card or send us a check. However, your items won't be sent until we receive the check. We ship things via Priority Mail as it is the most economical. We can stuff 5 t-shirts in a \$5.25 envelope. The next larger box is \$11.30 and the large box is \$15.80. It sometimes is cheaper to send 2 or 3 envelopes than one box. The cost includes tracking but not insurance. That is extra depending on the value. I can let you know that when I speak with you. If you are attending the Western UV Rally on Whidbey Island, WA July 17, 2014 and want to save on the cost of shipping, let us know and Patty and Jerry can bring it to you.

Be aware that the pictured logo on the items is only a representation of the location of the logo and may not be the exact size. Even though the logos appear black in the pictures, **all the logos will be in white---screen printed on t-shirts front and back, fronts of bags and aprons. Everything else will be embroidered.**

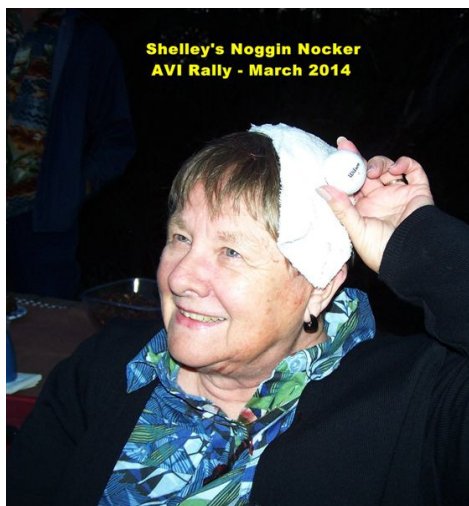
Report of AVI Western Rally by Betsey Senn

14 Ultra Vanners had a great time at the AVI Ultra Van Rally. We ate, we laughed, we ate, we joked, we ate, we talked about Ultra Vans, we ate, we reminisced about past rallies, and then we ate some more! As usual, it was a relaxing laid-back Rally...the AVI has such good cheap food, and plenty of fun stuff to do, it's always clean and green.... their staff is friendly and helpful, and the weather was sunny and warm.

And the star of the show was Shelley Noggin Nocker! Whilst innocently sitting on the picnic table bench getting ready to open our Yankee Swap Meet presents, a golf ball ricocheted off of Jim & Marlene's SOB, and bounced off Shelley's head. The golf ball didn't leave a dent or scratch on the RV, but it sure made Shelley's head bleed a lot!! Thank goodness Doc Ron was there to treat Shelley's poor head - and by the time the security and medics came, luckily the bleeding had stopped to a trickle. Shelley was a good sport and still indulged in the dessert pot luck yummys and Yankee Swap Meet....but certainly went to bed that night with a tender sore head.



What are the percentages that a golf ball could be teed off from way up front, shoot through a bunch of trees buffering the KOA Park from the golf course, and still hit the target of Shelley's noggin?! Lew's gonna mount the Wilson Golf Ball on a plaque and hang it on their wall.



And I bet you didn't know, that an Ultra Van gas tank can fit into a VW Beetle !!

Of Course, we plan on having the traditional AVI Rally again next March - with the exception of the golf ball!



Chuck Hanson says:

I'm recovered well enough from my latest shoulder operation that it's time for a short road trip in the Whale, since I will have used up every minute of my time off work by next week.

Ray Sedman at American-Pi has perfected his data logging software for the EFI system in the Whale, so I figure that's a good enough excuse to escape to the So Cal coast. He will be able to plug into the computer in the Whale and fine tune my engine on his laptop while I'm driving. Pretty hi-tech stuff for a product of the '60's...

We will have to do this in the wee hours of Monday morning in order to avoid all that traffic.

After the tuning is done, I plan on going to nearby Santa Monica and beach the Whale for a while. Hopefully, it won't get rolled back into the ocean by well-meaning beach goers.

I will be at California Corvair Parts in Chino when they open on Tuesday, and do a little horse trading with proprietor and fellow UVer Jeff Williams, then back to Mesquite.

This little Kamikaze drive should cover about 900 miles, and take no more than 48 hours. Haven't worked the nap thing into the program yet, though.

Hope you all have a good time at the rally back east, and remind Owen that he's OVER 8 FEET WIDE!!!

Report for 2014 Ultra Van Eastern Spring Rally at Titusville, FL by Gary Anderson

3/10/14. Rochester, MN. Start preparations for rally. Dig out ALT. #420 (picture tells all).

3/16/14 to 3/23/14. Leave home. Time: 12:55pm (late, even for us). Odometer: 164,481. 1:03pm: Wife strikes pre-emptively; says her right eyelid is swelling closed & she can barely see from that eye. My dream of being spelled at the wheel on this trip dies. We make climate-induced motel stays in El Paso (Illinois, not Texas), Memphis & Jackson. We wave to Elvis as we drive through Memphis; then visit the Blues Museum in Clarksdale, MS, alleged birthplace of the blues. Weather warms & we camp at Bayou Black, LA and Mobile, AL, then spend the weekend with ex-relatives in Ocala, FL. Wife's eyelid remains swollen. My butt remains in driver's seat.

Monday, 3/24/14. Arrive Manatee Hammock Campground, Titusville, FL approx. 4:00pm. Seventy-five degrees & sunny. We are (no surprise) last to arrive. Great welcome dinner prepared by Rally Hostess Brenda Standal to officially kick off the event. The four Ultra Vans in attendance are the beautiful #373 (Doug & Nancy Pratt), #388 (Technical Editor Jim Davis & his bride Roy), #480 (WOW Editor Brenda Standal and Norm), and (drum roll, please) #500, driven by UVMCC Factotum Owen Strawn). **Let's hear it for Owen and his new coach!** There is one SOB, a LeSharo driven by Jerry Dute (#467). Other vehicular cats and dogs in attendance are: an A-frame trailer occupied by Mr. Vice President and Madame Secretary Kramer (#424), a camper-equipped minivan piloted by former UV drag racer (or was it drag queen?) Walt Davison (ex #366), an overnight-equipped SUV belonging to twice-bitten Darrel Woofter (#358 and #232) and lastly, ALT #420, the elderly popup tent trailer/ Town Car combination occupied by Yours Truly and the one-eyed navigator, She Who Must Be Obeyed.

Tuesday, 3/25/14. Breezy & a little cooler. Morning coffee & goodies, followed by the technical session. Demonstration by Walt Davison of proper measurement of cam lobe wear using a glass flat plate, v-block mounts for the cam, a dial indicator and a degree wheel. Explanation and demo by Jim Davis of cooling shroud modifications necessary to accommodate an oversized engine oil cooler consisting of two stacked eight-plate coolers. We depart at 11:15 for appointment at Mayo Clinic Jacksonville to have Olga's drooping eyelid examined. She'll live. No life insurance money, but no help with the driving, either. We miss an afternoon of conversation, the pot luck dinner, and Darrel's departure.

Wednesday, 3/26/14. Breezy & cooler. (Low 70's & dropping) Morning coffee & goodies, followed by conversation. Group lunch at the Old Florida Oyster Bar & Grille, a waterfront place down the road. Thirteen people, two cars, one trip. (Don't tell.) Three in front & four in the back of the Town Car. The smallest, Roy, gets the hump in front. Nancy, wearing a large grin, rides on one or more laps in the back. In the Kramers' Sonata (2 in front, Norm and 3 women in back), Norm's grin says it all. That picture is called, "Lap Dancing with the Stars." Good seafood, stuffed bellies, lots of fun. Afternoon conversations leading to evening wine with Walt in our camper. Getting cold. Heater required. Wife arrives & insists we open another bottle because she missed out on the first one. This eventually leads to late dinner consisting of toasted bagels, peanut butter & merlot. Not a classic pairing, but all we could muster under the circumstances. Walt finds his way home.



Thursday, 3/27/14. Sixties, cloudy & windy. Morning coffee and goodies accompanied by threat from Brenda that anything not consumed will be tossed. Mindful of the starving masses, I give it my best. Tight pants, cramps, followed by..... Morning business meeting (results reported elsewhere), followed by free time. Most of the men go to nearby Warbirds military aircraft museum. Walt departs for Miami & Owen stays behind to worry & prepare for his journey. In late afternoon, Gary, Olga and Roy depart for WalMart, but can't remember where it is. Group pizza feed for dinner is imminent. We give up on Walmart, vowing not to tell anybody. After dinner I pose more last-minute UV questions to Those Who Know.

Friday, 3/28/14. Warm & sticky. (AC needs charge.) Fond goodbyes, except for Pratts, who are gone before Andersons even get up. Davis's and Owen soon gone, followed by the others. Odometer: 167,058. Time: 11:30. Destination: South Florida. See you at Whidbey!

BEAU'S SHOP TALES 2014 By Jim Davis

If finally got warm enough on January 14 to move Beau into the shop. The last part of December was cold and wet and January had started cold and icy. The first thing to be done was to replace the PowerGlide's low gear band. It had begun chattering when accelerating hard from a stop going uphill. The swap can be done by lowering the front end of the drive train enough to clear the box structure between the rear wheel wells, but if you are not very careful the entire planetary will slide forward and the reverse steels will slide out of their grooves. Since the entire drive train comes out relatively easy, I chose to do it with the drive train on the transmission jack. The transmission jack has a tilt adjustment, so by tilting the entire drive train up at the rear I knew that gravity would help keep the planetary in place. The old band looked good but further investigation with a pick showed it was very hard and the surface glazed. This was probably caused by high transmission oil temps and the extra torque of the 190 cu in engine. The new band went into place easily without disturbing the planetary drum. I took time to check the NGK spark plugs (they were fine) and to clean the left carburetors. They get very dirty for the incoming dust for the air intake and this can cause sticking of the carburetor linkage with the drive train out, it seemed like a good time to fix Beau's nagging oil leak. Last year I had traced it to the aux oil pump. I removed it and found a pinched "O" ring in the piston housing. The "O" ring is Viton and about the same size as a Corvair pushrod tube "O" ring. I replaced it with a push rod "O" ring and we will see if that stemmed the leak.

Roy decided the two year old carped was worn beyond cleaning. The old carpet was the best Lowes had to offer in their Berber line. We drove down to Puryear, TN to Carpet and Flooring World to see if they carried industrial grade carpet. They only had two rolls of industrial grade Berber in stock and neither was close to the carpet in Beau. I did not want to change out the entire carpeted areas only the floor portion. (The wheel wells and bedroom are carpeted for insulation and sound absorption purposes.) Roy settled on a much darker Berber than we wanted, but it was the best match she could find in the industrial grade carpet. It takes 13 ft to go from the bedroom step to the front in one piece. There is plenty left over (the carpet is 12 ft wide and you only need 8 ft in width) for wear pads and to do the steps to be bedroom (a heavy wear area). The installation is easy as I used the old carpet for a pattern. Of course this is Beau's fourth carpet in 14 years, so I have some experience.

I had planned to install the new rear view camera but by the 26th of January, I was running out of propane to heat the shop. It has been an unusually cold and icy winter. I checked with my propane supplier about a tank refill (300 gallons). They were making only emergency deliveries to homes only and at \$4.34 a gallon and a max of 200 gallons per customer. I usually pay \$1.69 a gallon in August. I decided to go into conservation mode and keep the shop at 40 degrees. That is too cold for me to work unless, it is 50 degrees ambient and bright and sunny.

Instead of working in the shop on the few warm days of February, I cut, split and stacked wood for they year's winter.

Finally, the seventh of March the weather broke, and I was able to get back into the shop and finish some Beau work. The TyreDog remote tire monitoring system had arrived from Taiwan and I took time to install it. So far it is exactly what I wanted, as it monitors Beau's four tire pressures and temperatures and well as the tire on the trailer. For those of you than want the specifics it is a model 1400A-X with the color display.

Beau's earliest Optima battery was getting weak. It did not fail but seemed to have little capacity. I replaced with the same Optima D31M ordered from Amazon, as Amazon is \$78 cheaper than Interstate or Autozone. I have gotten very used to not adding water or having to use a battery saver.

I suspect I will get around to installing the rear view camera in April. If I do, I will be sure to report on how it worked next year. Off to the EMU rally next week.