



Whales on Wheels

2025

Number 3

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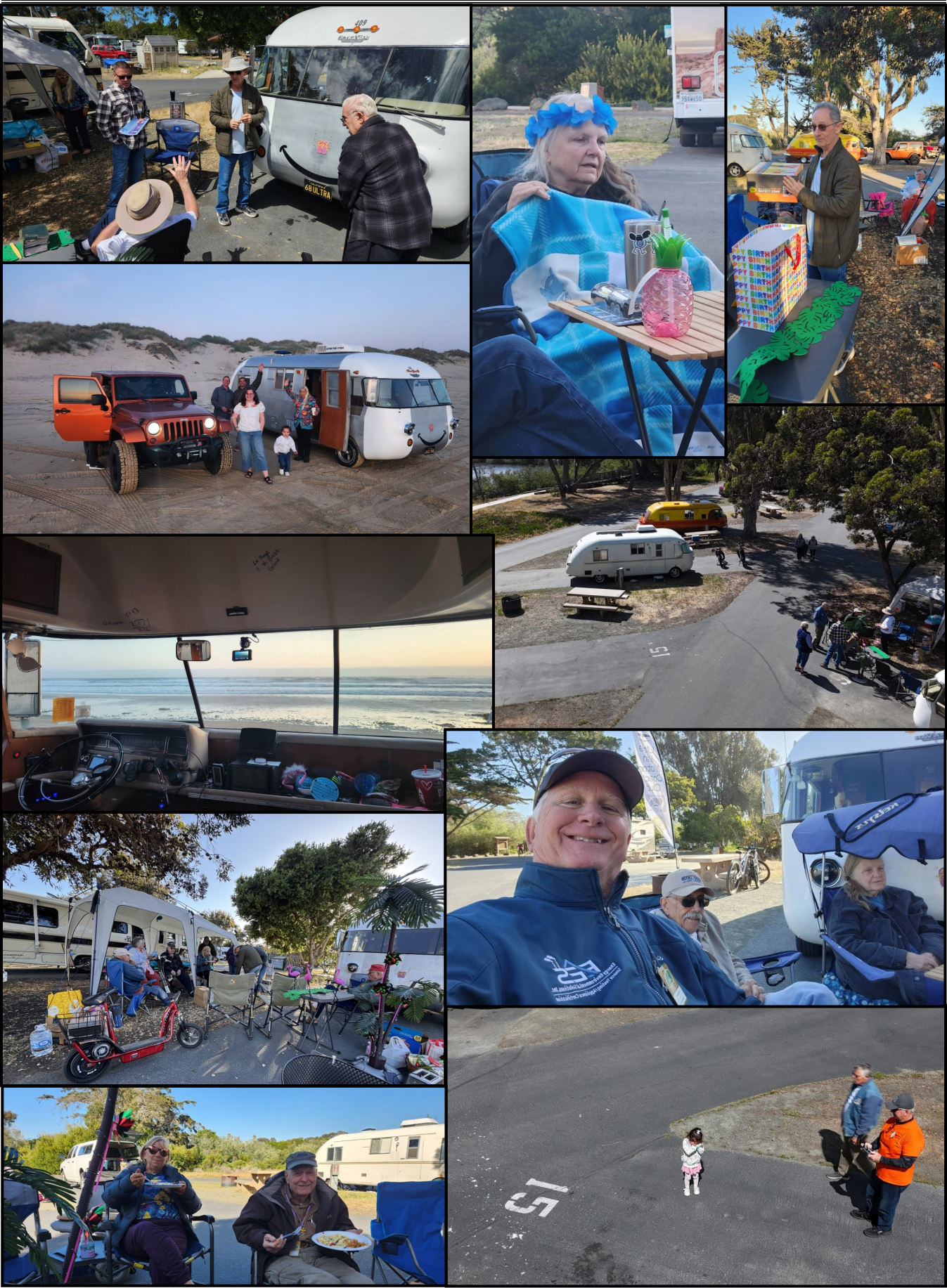
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UVMCC was incorporated in October 1967 for all who are interested in Ultra Vans
CORSA Chapter #008







2025 Ultra Van National Rally - May 12 -16

One thing your editor had to say is, “we had to go back to Michigan to warm up!” Cold, but lots going on and as always, a great bunch of Ultra Van folks.

Since your editor was not feeling well, the collection of pictures maybe lacking. Thanks to those who posted photos on Facebook to be able to use.

Not all the coaches made it into pictures. There were four Ultra Vans and a Tiara. As always, we had some SOBs (some other brands). Unfortunately, there are no organized group pictures. For seeing the attendees, the best solution is the three banquet pictures on the previous page. We did have a member drop in for an afternoon who is not included in any of the pictures.

These are only a sample of the photos. Go to our website for all of the photos: [2025 Ultra Van National Rally Photo Gallery - Ultra Van Motor Coach Club](#)

There were lots of great meals that were finalized on Thursday with the banquet at Fins Bar and Grill in Grover Beach. Right on the ocean with wonderful seafood and just plain great food.

Even though Chuck Hanson's coach is still getting its finishing touches at home, he was able to come for a couple of days. He presented a tech session on windshield installation. Just because you were not there you are not left out since that same tech information was included in the last edition of the WoW.

Thanks to the hosts and all those who were able to attend.

Hosts needed!!!

Ultra Van National Rally 2026

Anyone or group can host a Rally. Only the location rotates divisions. 2026 is the Eastern Division. The states included in each division are listed in both the roster and the bylaws, <https://ultravan.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/2022-bylaws.pdf> starting on page 5.

There are two choices of dates and locations: either it can be held right before or right after the CORSA Convention (see [page 11](#)), which will be at Gettysburg, PA, June 22-26, 2026 (Eastern Division) and within a day's drive (~200 miles). **OR**, if you chose not to follow those parameters, it still must be located in the corresponding CORSA region and can be located anywhere within that region. **BUT**, for dates it must not be earlier than August 15 nor later than October 10.

There are several experienced former Rally hosts who will gladly provide advice and answer questions, Plus the club has a detailed set of guidelines to use. It's not that hard. There are lots who will gladly chip in to help.

Keep in mind, the dates and location must be published nine months before the start of the Rally. If it is coordinated with the CORSA Convention, then they need to be published around October 15. The earlier the better. Having a yearly rally is a requirement of both the bylaws and CORSA. If interested contact either President, Ken Hand, or Secretary, Molly Bacon.



CORSA International Convention

May 20—23, San Luis Obispo (just up the road (Hwy 101) from the Rally the week before.

Christy Barden's coach #228 was selected as one of the People's Choice Top Ten. What a cool trophy.

Greg Abrams, #434, also attended. Pictured below is his rear modification to make it easier to work on the engine.

The club set up a table in the indoor swap area where we sold some merchandise and of course, answered lots of questions.



News From the Prez



Hi Everyone,

First up I must mention that if any of you have any Ernie nominations they must be in writing and cover the points detailed in the bylaws. Please contact me with questions. There are NO write-ins on the ballot.

I had 3-4 points to talk about here and I made notes but guess what? The notes disappeared.

I think at this point we have all of the windshields shipped. Some of the last ones were shipped to me for 4 of us.

We need someone to host the 2026 National Rally. It isn't hard work and there are always plenty of people who will help. We actually have some written guidelines to help along the way and quite a few past hosts who will provide guidance. The time is approaching faster than you think. Step up now and start and the work is easier. I know as I have been a CORSA convention chair in 2007 and co-chair in 2014. CORSA Conventions are at least three times the size and more complex.

We have a September 9th member meet-up using Zoom or you can call in. We just won't be able to see you. The information is right below. Contact Molly to get on the list or ask any questions.

Lastly, with the last by-law changes we now have membership dues being paid the month you joined rather than everyone at the end of the year. There are details on [page 7](#).

Happy Camping

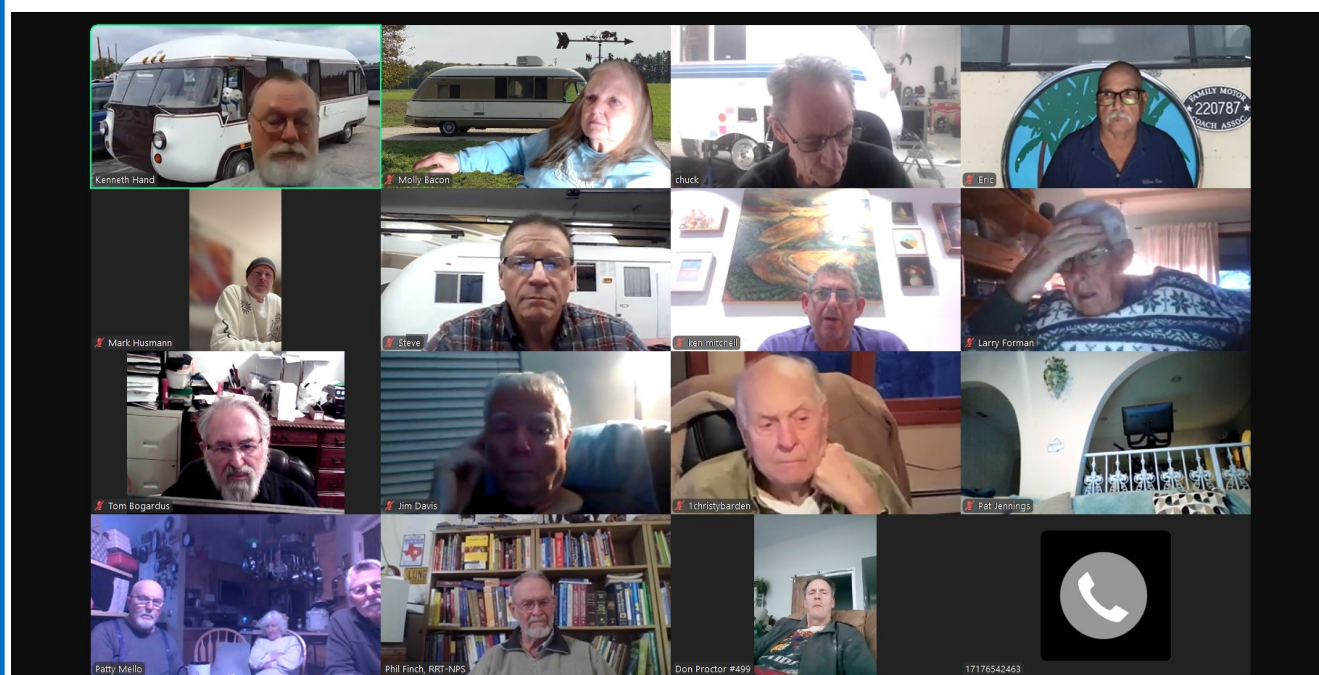
Ken Hand, Handy Car Care, 248-613-8586

We've planned another member Zoom

This was fun, so the Board has planned another one.

Monday, September 9 at 8pm EDT.

Please contact me, Molly (email, snail mail - see contact info on page 11) to get on the list for the Zoom link. All you need is a telephone!





Welcome to our new members

Pennsylvania

John & Samatha Rodgers

Welcome back

Virginia

Kurt Languirand #446, #448

UVMCC currently has 104 members



IMPORTANT - New membership dues protocol.

With the approval of the latest bylaws updates, the time when dues come due has changed. In the past it was the end of each year. Now, it has been changed to align with the time of the year you joined. Our historian spent a significant amount of time researching when people joined. I then took the last number of years paid for and when and how long it was and adjusted the new due date as best as possible.

Each newsletter will have a table with the names and expiration dates of those coming due in the next three months. After this announcement, each month before those are due, I will send out a reminder email. Finally, right before those are about to expire, I will send a snail-mail postcard. Some people don't read their emails, and some don't read the newsletter, but just about everyone still pays attention to what the postman delivers to your house.

Name	Expiration Date
Mike & Cindy Callahan	October 2025
Warren & Ann Bennet	October 2025
Gabriel Villagran & Madeleine Bartholomew	November 2025
Joann Lemke	December 2025
Bud & Michaelle Seymour	December 2025
Joseph & Phyllis Willhelm	December 2025

So, here's the first table of those who expire through the end of the year.



You can pay your dues at any time. The expiration month will never change. So, if the Willhelm's paid next week for one year, their next expiration date would be December 2026.

Speaking of paying, the easiest is on the website here: [Renew Online - Ultra Van Motor Coach Club](#). You can also mail them to: UVMCC, 5425 Morrow Rd., Gladwin, MI 48624. An emailed newsletter is \$10 a year, and a printed newsletter is \$25 a year.

Speaking of passing the bylaws changes, here are the election results:

34 members voted – 1 mailed vote

Bylaws – Yes – 33 votes, 0 No, VP – Eric Kirven - 33 votes, Secretary – Molly Bacon - 34 votes, Treasurer – Molly Bacon – 34 votes, Director – Sarah Cohen - 33 votes. Newsletter editor – Molly Bacon – 34 votes, Ernest Newhouse Award – Chuck Hanson – 19, Eric Kirven - 14



Be thinking about next year's elections.

Nominations for the Ernest Newhouse Award **MUST** be submitted before the ballot that will be in April's newsletter. If you have someone in mind but aren't sure, please contact either Ken Hand, our president, or me, Molly. We'll gladly help you work through the requirements.

It would be convenient to have all of the nominations to put on the ballot. All positions are open this year, even President. Think about it. Nominate you or someone else. Except the three positions I hold, the rest are a piece of cake. Hee-hee. :-)

Short Reports

Bits of information from our members



Ray Fuenzalida #363, 379, 473

I just wanted to give you the latest update on the Ultra Van world down here in New Orleans. I currently own Ultra Vans # 473, 379 and 363. Crazy, isn't it?

I know we read the articles about how many Ultra Vans were originally built, but I think it would be nice to know how many are left. Maybe a list could be made indicating which units are known to no longer exist? (ed – The roster has a coach list, and all known destroyed coaches are marked with an *)

So, Ultra Van # 363 was left abandoned in a lot for the last 40 years, same owner. I believe they owned it since about 1974, last name of Hallenus.

She said they bought it from a doctor who apparently drove it all over the country. But on their first trip, they only used it once, the engine smoked and was giving out.

Her husband owned several auto parts stores and was going to fix it but never got around to it.

So, it sat in a lot and just decayed. A tree fell on it and broke a big hole in the roof. So, with weather and animals it was pretty much destroyed and as of this writing has now been totally scrapped.

However, I needed the rear section to repair my other Ultra Van #379, which had been damaged by a forklift incident in the rear. I mean, where are you going to find a rear hatch for an Ultra Van? My plan is to fix # 379 because it was in pretty good condition prior to its forklift incident.



Here is a photo of # 363 before taking the back off and then completely cutting it up and scrapping it.

This means that I will be selling #473. If anyone is interested, give me a call at 504-616-9098. She needs a lot of work but is in decent physical shape. I have about \$3,500 in it, so that is my asking price. I did get the engine running but it seemed to have a transmission leak. Also, she needs wiring help. Contact me for more photos if anyone is interested.

Mike & Tracey Scott - #396

I recently purchased a front and rear suspension from a 1985 Corvette and will see how it goes. I believe the rear suspension will fit with a little modification, and the front, a lot of modifications. I even got the rims and a new set of tires!! So, I'm diving in and will give it a try! The engine has been checked out and running fine so that is installed. Good luck to everyone who is working on their vans!!

Arnie Dahlberg #451

I'm sorry to say, it will be sometime before I am able to start the extensive mechanical overhaul required to get #451 back on the road. It had been sitting for 20 years. I'm still working, and I need to find a couple of open months to get a jump on the extensive refresh list. It's more work than I had imagined when I purchased the coach, but I absolutely love the Ultra Van and I have no doubt that every bit of effort will be returned 10-fold. I plan to tour the western USA extensively when I retire.

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Chris Brown & Molly Bacon #328

We were able to attend a couple of vintage trailer rallies in early June.



Now, **THIS** was a potluck



Friday night lights (no, not high school football)



Isn't this just the cutest table decoration?

That's a pizza being baked. It rotates.



Great idea — this veggie whale could easily be turned into a fun and spooky Halloween decoration! Made from a large zucchini, it's shaped with a carved mouth lined with toothpicks for teeth, and a sprig of dill mimicking a spout of water. Fun and imaginative, it's a delightful piece for a garden party table or a creative kitchen display.



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ULTRA MERCHANDISE

Purchase at the club website merchandise shop,
<https://ultravan.org/ultra-van-club-merchandise-shop/>



New merchandise

Cute 7" x 4" *If you don't own one sticker.*

\$3.00



SAVE THE DATE!



The 2026 CORSAs Convention is being presented by four clubs:

- Mid-Maryland Corvair Club
- Central Pennsylvania Corvair Club
- Group Corvair
- Northern Virginia Corvairs

We hope that you will join us for what is gearing up to be the biggest and best convention to be held on the East Coast! Come join in the fun and the history of Gettysburg- tour the battlefields, take a ghost tour, and dine at historic restaurants!

You can even visit wineries, tour car museums, and even spend time at the world-famous Hershey chocolate factory and the fun-filled HersheyPark.

Like the country life? Gettysburg is a short hour drive from the heart of the Amish communities in Lancaster PA where you'll find fantastic dining and shopping.

What's the schedule of events? Take a look at what we have planned:

- Monday, June 22nd: Welcome Party
- Tuesday, June 23rd: Concourse
- Wednesday, June 24th: Road Rally
- Thursday, June 25th: Autocross
- Friday, June 26th: Econo-Run
- Friday, June 26th: Banquet and Awards

Tours, technical sessions, and other fun and exciting activities and events are in the works!

Mark your calendars and start planning to

"See You There in Your 'Vair!"



UVMCC Membership

Go to the website membership page:
<https://ultravan.org/ultra-van-motor-coach-club/>

or

email the Treasurer at:
uvmcc_membership@yahoo.com

Join Today!

Founded in 1969, **CORSA** is group of automobile enthusiasts working to satisfy the common needs of individuals interested in the preservation, restoration, and operation of the Corvair.



CORSA's long range goal is to promote reproduction of parts and render technical assistance to increase your enjoyment of the Corvair, and to further the general public's appreciation of the car.

UVMCC encourages membership in CORSA.

Visit their website, www.corvair.org



Profit and Loss

Fiscal Year 2024 (July 1, 2024– June 30, 2025)

Income—\$3396.39, Expenses—\$2183.03
 (includes 2 years of Rally expenses—no windshield expenses)

Fiscal Year 2024 - Qtr. 4 - Apr 1 –June 30

Income—\$484.50, Expenses—\$1069.55
 (includes Rally expenses)

Whales on Wheels (WOW)



is the quarterly publication of the Ultra Van Motor Coach Club, Inc. (UVMCC), a chartered chapter (#008) of the Corvair Society of America (CORSA). Incorporated in 1967, UVMCC is dedicated to the preservation, enjoyment, and use of the Ultra Van, a 22 foot, unique motor home, which was designed by David

Peterson and built in Kansas until 1970. About 365 units were built.

UVMCC is open to anyone with an interest in Ultra Vans. Annual dues are \$5 for an emailed newsletter and \$15 for a mailed newsletter. Application and payment can either be make online with PayPal at <https://ultravan.org/ultra-van-motor-coach-club/> or make checks payable to Ultra Van Motor Coach Club and mail to the treasurer at:

UVMCC, 5425 Morrow Rd., Gladwin, MI 48624

Stories, articles, photos, memorabilia, or any other item for publication should be sent to the editor by the 15th of March, June, Sept, and Dec. Send newsletter submissions to WOW by email to the Editor, Molly Bacon, uvmcc_membership@yahoo.com

Digital submissions are preferred, but even hand written are acceptable. Mail to: UVMCC, 5425 Morrow Road, Gladwin, MI 48624

Authors are asked to submit at least a photograph of themselves for the article with any other relevant photos.

Technical material will be sent to the Technical Coordinator for review.

Website: <https://ultravan.org/>

Awards

Golden Quill Award - 2024, 2022, 2021, 2003, 1999, 1997, & 1995

CORSA Chapter Newsletter Award - 2019 - 3rd place & 2014 - 3rd place.

Available:

Ryerson Manual (Ultra Coach Owner's Manual)

The Ryerson is available in two forms, Printed and on a searchable CD.

Printed Manual \$70 plus shipping

Printed Manual and CD \$80 plus shipping.

CD \$17 postage paid to the contiguous U. S. Shipping is based on your choice of shipping options. Please send me your address and I will let you know what postage will be.

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