

# ULTRA CLUB NEWS



IDEAS: from members to members.

ISSUE D-11-2

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We trust the information listed below  
will prove of interest to each member  
ULTRA VAN MOTOR COACH CLUBS



**EXTINGUISHER:** Some local City Fire Departments are promoting the use of household Baking Soda as a fire extinguisher. They warn: Never use water on any electrical, gasoline, or cooking fires. Always keep a well-marked can of soda near your stove...toss a handful on cooking flareups to immediately put out the blaze. Soda also is excellent in case of wasp or mosquito bites, is good for indigestion ( $\frac{1}{2}$  teaspoon in a glass of water), good as a dentrifice on your toothbrush, as a gargle or for strong breath, as a sunburn remedy, to deodorize and clean your refrigerator, to remove acid-crust from your batteries, etc. We were able to obtain a few of the enclosed "FIRE LABEL" for member's convenience. We hope every Ultra Van will hereafter be equipped with this EXTRA safety item.

**IDEA FROM 513:** As those able to attend some of the Ultrarallies know, many of our owners make numerous personal changes in their rigs. This is fine. Now, if EVERY member will list on a card his TWO BEST or most favorite improvements and mail the card to the club, Len will tabulate and make available this valuable information for ALL the membership. In this "people eat dog" world here is a wonderful offer. Please all send YOUR card within the next two weeks. Thanks.

**DOOR SCREEN:** With summertime coming upon us again, it is often desired to keep the entrance door wide-open for maximum ventilation, but flies or mosquitos want to buzz in. At any hardware store buy some fiberglass screen (6 ft. X 36" is sufficient). Hem the bottom with a few drapery weights inside, and hem the top end to slip over an expanding-type curtain rod available at drapery departments. The length of rod...45" - spring tension, rubber tips on ends. #256 was first with this excellent idea. See many of these at next rally.

**SAFETY BRAKE DEVICE:** Since the invention of this simple little gadget, your editor has been asked dozens of times as to the dimensions, etc., for making same. Find a strong wooden slat, size about  $1\frac{1}{4}$ " X  $1\frac{3}{4}$ ". Cut to an overall length of  $15\frac{1}{4}$ " (length needed may vary slightly for some Vans). Round off one end and fish-tail the other. USE: When parking on a very steep grade, or any short emergency stop where rear brakes alone may not hold, simply step hard on foot brake with left foot and put fishtail end of Safety Brake Device on top edge of pedal, then push rounded end of Device forward under dash to hold pedal down securely. Brakes on all 4-wheels - Ultra Van has now become an immovable object!

**HELP!!!** The officers and directors of your club do not always know what special ability, experience, or talent that members possess. Unless someone speaks up, all this fine ability goes unknown and unused. What fun-job can you do best? Who would like to send out publicity on our rally dates and places to the travel magazines? Also - a co-editor is needed, plus a few other fun-positions. Why not volunteer by mailing in your willingness today?

**POWER:** On a recent return trip from the San Diego area the engine was sluggish, wouldn't respond to throttle as it had before. After arriving home, checked the Distributor...smoothed the Points with an ignition point file, carefully adjusted maximum gap (high point of a cam lobe) to .018" using an accurate Thickness Gauge (could have used a dwell meter). FULL speed, FULL power restored by this simple 10-minute job. Some members might appreciate this bit of info...lack of power can be caused by too-wide Point Gap - affecting dwell and duration - and could induce some owner in error to go ahead with a costly engine overhaul that may be entirely unnecessary. A Gap-adjustment and re-timing may restore POWER.

**PREVENTION:** Comes now a good suggestion from one of your club's directors. "Many great need for more Preventative Maintenance was noted at a recent rally. "Many of the things I regularly do on my own Van I assumed other owners were also doing". Colonel (ret.) Chrones suggests that we owners would get more real satisfaction and pleasure from our UVs by carefully checking plumbing, heating, cooking, electrical, and other items occasionally (as we do at home) BEFORE problems occur. FOR INSTANCE: Look at your engine - check that vacuum lines are secure - that ignition wires are not abrading against something - that the belt is okay - throttle butterflies are operative as intended. Tom carries a can of "Berryman ChemPOOL" (available at many auto parts stores) for loosening gummed up valves, throttles, and the like. We all need to do more preventative looking.

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