1970 and

ULTRA CLUB NEWS

IDEAS: from members to members.

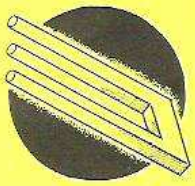
ISSUE D-12-3
Editor: Ernest Newhouse

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

THANK YOU CORL: There are many varied dangers on open-space lands. Many of todays recreationists are relatively new to the outdoors and many old timers may have become over confident. Don't let your fun weekend become tragedy. Some of our members may not know about Coyote Guns...BEWARE of this danger! They are hidden hazards buried at the base of an unmarked stake. Usually, but not always, there is a piece of cloth...tied to the stake...saturated with a hormone scent that attracts coyotes or dog packs that pull at it setting off the gun. With a lethal charge of cyanide gas in the face, death is immediate. One Wyoming man, and recently an Oregon man hunting for survey markers narrowly escaped this instant death. Each received badly mangled hands. Had either kneeled to look for the marker, received the blast of gas in the face, or if a child pulled on the stake, it would mean instant tragedy. Wyoming has since passed a law that all coyote gun-traps must be painted with blue markings on the stake. Be on ALERT.

INSURANCE DATA: Most companies list housecars at very high "Commercial Vehicle" rates. But one place members can get reliable insurance at reasonable cost is from the FIRST company to rate Ultra Club coaches as "Recreational Vehicles" - at a much lower premium. We have had dozens of inquiries about insurance, so here is the address of the local agent who worked with us many months to finally get the further rate reductions approved: Charles L. Clayton, State Farm Insurance Co., 16205 E. Whittier Blvd., Whittier, Calif. 90603. Phone: (213) 694-1047. Full credit must go to member #65 for first referring us here. Thanks very much Pete. Those from out of state contact your own nearby SF office...make known you are an Ultra Club member. Some save enough on insurance EACH year to make their membership cost nothing for ten years. Premiums DO VARY...with your age, your area, annual mileage (over or under 7,500), amount of coverage desired, etc. We had a friendly call from #231 last month - said his saving with Mr. Clayton was about $150 less than his previous policy. So, at least, check this out before renewing.

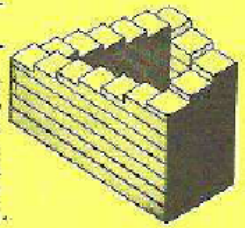
HOW DOES IT LOOK TO YOU: Here is a Three Pronged Blivit. But before you go out of your mind trying to figure where the middle prong starts, we should say that the middle prong does not quite belong there -just clever illusion says it does. The eye can be fooled! Somewhat like it's easy to figure out why Mr. Jack Tillotson Sr. (Mr. T) decided to completely retire awhile ago. But...no one has solved for us yet why Jack the 2nd is primarily interested in his Publishing Empire, not in profitably building Ultra Van motor homes? The problem of production costs getting out of hand - with mostly an absentee ownership, plus some other factors - is a bit easier to understand. Personally, we feel our Van is more precious and much more valuable right now than ever.



SPEED-BRITE: Now here is a work-saver we saw being used at the Santa Maria rally. Thanks to #256, Oregon members, who were there to call it to our attention, and to Arizona members #382 and #470 with glistening coaches after using it. They say "Speed-Brite" is available at many trailer supply stores and is excellent for cleaning - yes, "cleaning" and waxing in one operation all interior woodwork. Also it is especially good for Ultra Van front ends. Gets the bugs off fast, protects the finish from oxidizing, keeps the resale value high, makes you a proud owner. No excuse, now, for driving a shabby looking coach. Gentlemen: Shine up your Vans!

DAVID G. PETERSON: Talented designer #302 and your editor had a pleasant visit the other day. If any member, or group of members feel they can build UltraVans better than they have been built, we now have the grand opportunity to prove it. You have heard remarks like - "Why don't they make it this way" - or - "So and so is a lousy method" - or - "If they'd only do it like I say". Here is the chance of a lifetime. Dave says he is considering all bonafide offers...or, if none come along soon, he will resume his own production. Just think - if 100 club members put up only $5,000 each - a total of $500,000 - a company could be formed to produce ULTRA "Club Cars". Dave's design-genius is still the only coach in the world with engine in the rear (where it seems to belong in a housecar), with full monocoque construction (achieving strength without weight) and with a low floor, level clear up to the dashboard, wide tread, low center of gravity, and overall height of only 6 feet, which most agree makes for general stability and added safety too. Aircraft firms are bidding for Dave's vehicle already, so it will perhaps be built soon here on the coast.

NEW "GLORY": See how far you can get on this staircase? But, it would be easier walking down-the-stairs forever, than forever climbing up! Your UltraFriends #294 from Torrance first mentioned one "easier" method they use - to keep their upholstery and carpeting so bright. It's the newest from Johnson Wax Company - an aerosol spray called "Glory" - rug and upholstery cleaner. Later, club friends Skip and Velma who live and also travel in their Van year-around, recommended the same product (it must be good). The staircase optical illusion should prove we can't always depend on our own judgement, but we can depend on actual experience of UltraFriends to make life easier. They say "Glory" is available at grocers and just follow directions.



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