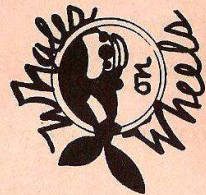


1967 ULTRA Van #267. 110 H.P. Corvair in excellent condition. Engine, transmission, differential, steering and shocks replaced or rebuilt 30,000 miles ago. All brakes and wheel bearings rebuilt 20,000 miles ago. External transmission cooler and oil cooler installed. New radials, new Emerson 13,500 BTU roof air, new AC/DC refrigerator, new Microwave/Broiler, new AM/FM stereo cassette, new Cobra 40 ch., CB, new 6" foam queen size mattress. Instant hot water heater, Steer Safe, custom installation of 4 kw Onan generator for pleasure and comfort. Recently repainted and good instrumentation. Cruise Control, etc., ready to travel. \$7,450. *Allen Driggers, 3676 Lewis Speedway, St. Augustine, Florida 32084; (904) 824-2075.*

1970 ULTRA Van #518. 350 c.i.d., V-8 and 3 speed transmission, rebuilt 15,000 miles ago. Brakes rebuilt. Windshield and all glass good. Awning, T.V. antennae, full screens, including screen door. Equipment includes: new radials, new interior rugs, new fully adjustable seats, new 13,500 BTU roof air, new dash covering and trim, 2 new deep cycle batteries, new starter, new mufflers, new fans and new Cobra 40 ch. CB. Credenza and original heater removed for couch installation, but available. \$7500. *Allen Driggers, 3676 Lewis Speedway, St. Augustine, Florida 32084; (904) 824-2075.*

1967 ULTRA Van #304 (Class "A" - 22 Feet) 110 H.P. Corvair engine, auto trans., 3.55 rear axle, 5000 miles on recent engine overhaul. Engine is show condition. Shrouds powder coated and misc. parts cad. plated, interior of coach is like new with new carpet, upholstery and drapes. Has AM/FM, CB, Cly Temp., tach, vac. gauges, new 175/70 SR 14 Radial tires, new marine type instant hot water heater and dual batteries. Roof air, battery charger and awning. The paint is excellent with detailed stripping and is three years old. All glass is excellent. Coach is in excellent condition throughout. Coach may be seen at the "Golf Course" Campground in Quartsite, Ca. February 5, 1990 or call now for additional details. \$6,995. *Jim Craig; (619) 366-9104.*



WHALES ON WHEELS

5537 Pioneer Road

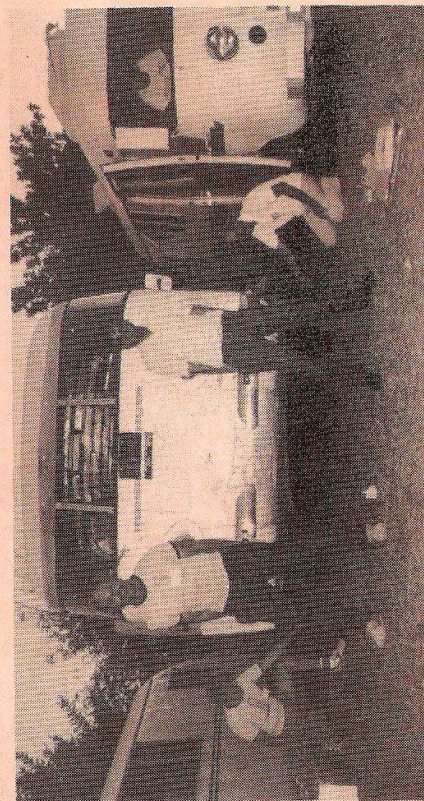
Boulder, Colorado

80301

FIRST CLASS

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NUMBER 1

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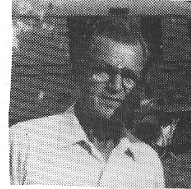
GROUP ULTRA VAN is a Chapter of CORVAIR SOCIETY of AMERICA (CORSA) and is dedicated to the preservation and use of ULTRA Vans. This 22 foot unique motor home was designed by David Peterson and built in Kansas until 1970. About 360 units were built. Dues are \$4.00 Annually. Submit all technical information to the Editor.

COVER PHOTO:

Talk about a light weight van! Dave Palmer (L) and Craig Lamond (R) are holding up Craig's #005 Travelon Van. See story and more photos inside.



"HOW MUCH FOR THE EXXON VALDEZ HERE?"



FROM THE PRESIDENT

by
Jean McMasters - ULTRA #330

I was born in March of 1922 in Kokomo, Indiana and graduated from high school in Marion, Indiana in 1940. I then attended Purdue University for one year and married my wife of all these years, Bette.

I enlisted in the USAAF as engine mechanic and later became a specialist in Air Craft instrument repair. After the service, I went to Bradley University, Peoria, Il., where I became a Watchmaker and Jeweler. In 1957, I became a production manager for RCA in Indiana. I was transferred to Florida in 1960 where I was in computer manufacturing until 1973. After this time, I owned a dry cleaning and laundry for about three years. In 1978, I became a Corvair and ULTRA repair mechanic and I still love and follow this trade.

My goal as the new President of WHALES ON WHEELS may be accomplished with the cooperation of all members of WHALES. Group ULTRA is one club that has the opportunity to keep the ULTRA Van restored and running. We need to enlist as many new members as possible. Every one who owns a Corvair is a potential member of Group ULTRA. We now have 150 members. Let us work to double this number in 1990.

The ULTRA Van is a very dependable machine when maintained. I drive my ULTRA every day and it now has 275,000 miles.

I will do my best to help this club grow. If I can be of assistance to any of you, please feel free to call upon me: 916 Lighthouse Drive, N.P.B., Fl., 33408 (407) 626-0388.

Letters to the Editor

We have read of people's experiences. Our experience may be of interest to some. We live in the N.E. part of South Dakota. We had planned to go to the Fredricksburg, Texas rally. We had never driven our **ULTRA** before. We were apprehensive about making the trip. Would we have transmission or other problems?

We attended the rally, had a good time, and met many new friends. We left the rally Saturday at noon on a very nice day and started down the road. About 50 miles on our way travelling at 55 mph suddenly the motor transmission dropped into low gear giving us a terrible fright. We pulled into a farm approach 1/2 mile down the road. While I was putting my coveralls on I told my wife to look and see if oil was coming out. She said "yes, the oil is leaking out." I imagined all kinds of things. I jacked up the **ULTRA** and crawled under and found that the attaching bracket for the governor had broken off. I did not know what to do. I pushed it into place and had my wife get me my pants belt which I wrapped around the transmission and criss crossed it across the governor, tightened the belt and it seemed to work OK. We drove all the way to South Dakota by adding a little transmission oil. We called this "GOING HOME ON A BELT AND A PRAYER."

Ren and Alaca Christman

From our Secretary-Treasurer Louis Griggs

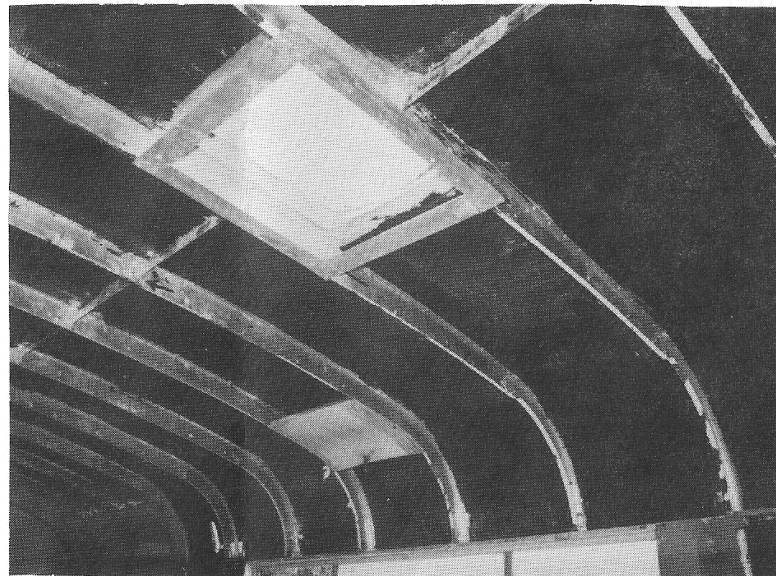
Some of our members have asked for back issues of the GUV newsletter. I have at least six copies of: Vol. IV-#4, Fall '85, Vol. V-#3, #4 and all of the rest up to date. If anyone wants any of these back issues, ask them to tell me what issues they want, and to send an unlicked 25 cent postage stamp for each copy. When a new member comes in during the year, I send them the back issues for the year.

Craig Lamond's #005 Travelon (ULTRA VAN)

This vehicle goes back to 1963. David Peterson had sold the rights to manufacture **ULTRA Van** to the Presto-Lite Corp. in San Leandro, California. They produced and sold about 5 or 6 of them under the name "Travelon." This was an **ULTRA Van** produced and assembled in San Leandro, California to Mr. Peterson's plans. It was 24 feet long, with integrated water tanks and double wheels in the rear like all the early **ULTRA Vans**.

Craig found this van in Manhattan Beach, California. I had gone to see this van in 1988 with Bill Benney. We both decided it was too far gone to really save. But Craig didn't think so. He had them drag it out of their back yard and towed it home.

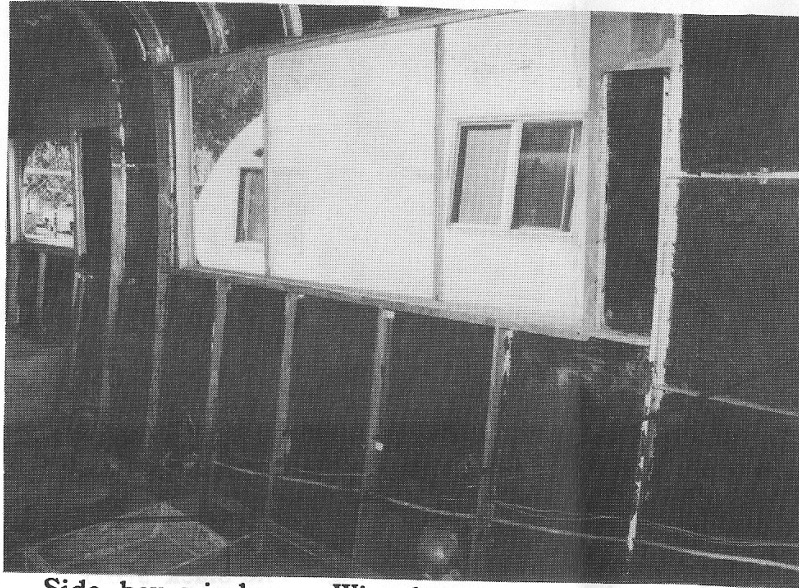
He completely gutted the interior. Included are interior photos. The construction is the same as our **ULTRA Vans**, except for the water and fuel tanks. They were an integral structure of the van and not a separate bolt on tank as found in the 22 foot vans (#213 and on).



The roof with vent cover missing. The black stuff is undercoating.

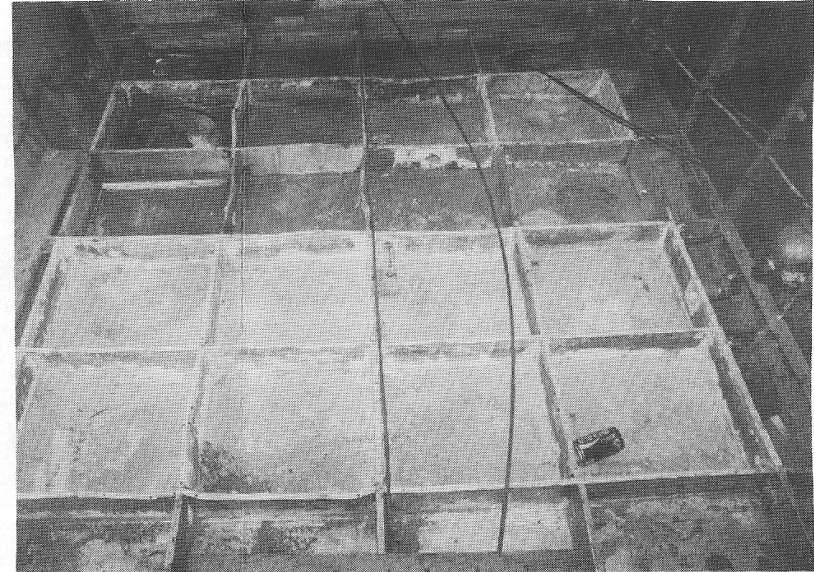


Forward Driving Compartment. Note windshield wiper uses one motor with a shaft to drive the right blade.

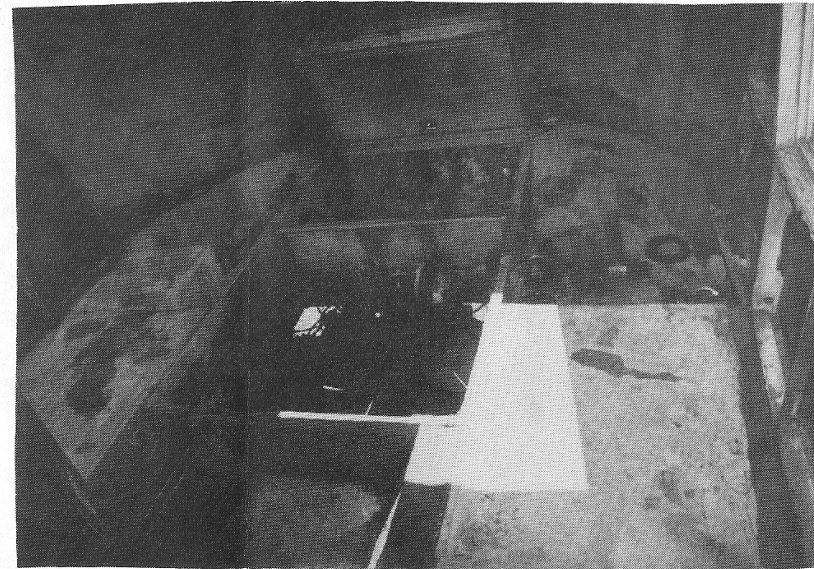


Side bay window. Wire harness runs along this side, as with later vans. Note larger rear side window at left.

5

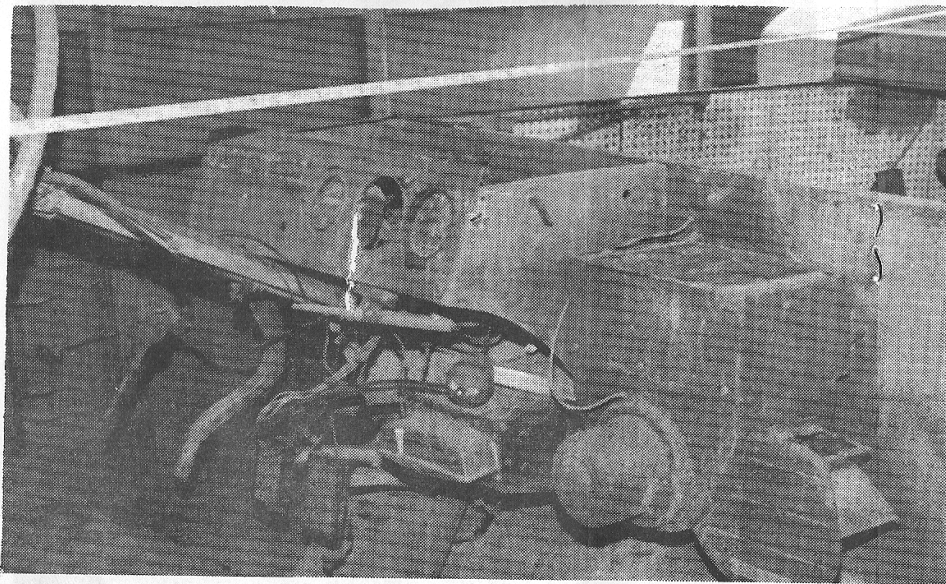


The floor in mid van area. The lighter area is corrosion from water tank. Craig had peeled off the covering piece of aluminum. Note makeshift throttle cable and shifting cable.

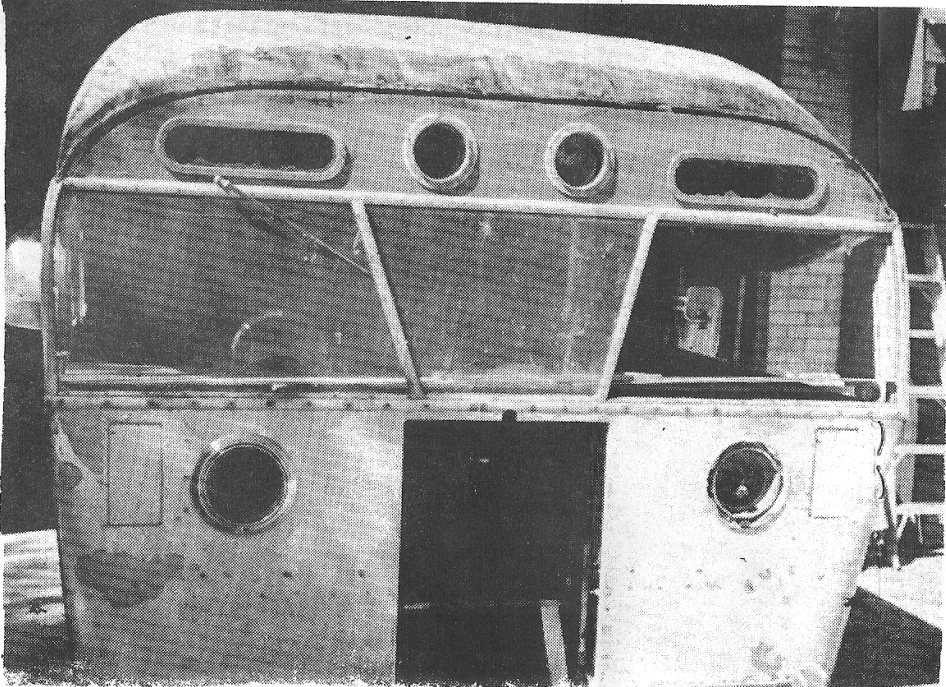


Corvair engine in center under bedroom area. A gas tank was located in right of photo.

6



The spartan interior has the steering wheel located 6½-feet from the windshield.



History a mystery for 1947

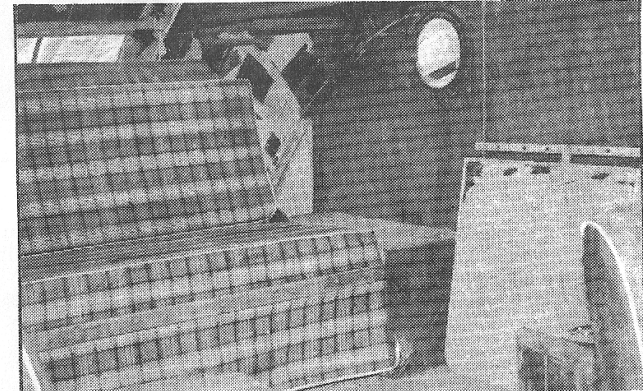
Mil-Col Land Yacht

Charles M. Collins of Canton, Mo. wrote to *Old Cars Weekly* seeking help after his search for information on a motorhome he acquired ran into a dead end.

Collins said, "I need your assistance in establishing if the subject vehicle has any historical significance. If you review the

photographs and if, like me, you don't know or recognize a Mil-Col Land Yacht, you now understand my curiosity and dilemma. It's hoped that your readers respond with enlightening letters."

A brief recap of known facts concerning the Land Yacht fol-



The porthole window gives rear passengers a quick view of what's outside.



*The Land Yacht was entered in *Car & Driver's* "Ten Most Ugly Cars" contest. It didn't make the top 10, but it did make the top 20.*



lows:

1) The Land Yacht is built on a '47 Packard limousine chassis with a 148-inch wheelbase.

2) It has the correct 356 cid straight-eight engine and three-speed with overdrive transmission.

3) The chassis is totally stock and unmodified. The steering gear and brake and accelerator pedals are in their original positions. The steering wheel is 6½-feet from the windshield.

4) The body is aluminum, the roof bows are steel and the roof is fir/pine, shaped in a boat hull fashion and secured with brass screws. The roof covering was aircraft fabric impregnated with "dope."

5) The grille is oak.

6) The Land Yacht is purported to be one of 15-20 units built in either Minnesota or Wisconsin. This one was being used in central Michigan when it "died."

7) The vehicle is well crafted and appears to have been designed rather than just assembled, although the interior—especially the gauges and dash area—is quite spartan.

8) In addition to the logo on the doors, faintly visible lettering spells out "The Miller Furnace Co. Field Office."

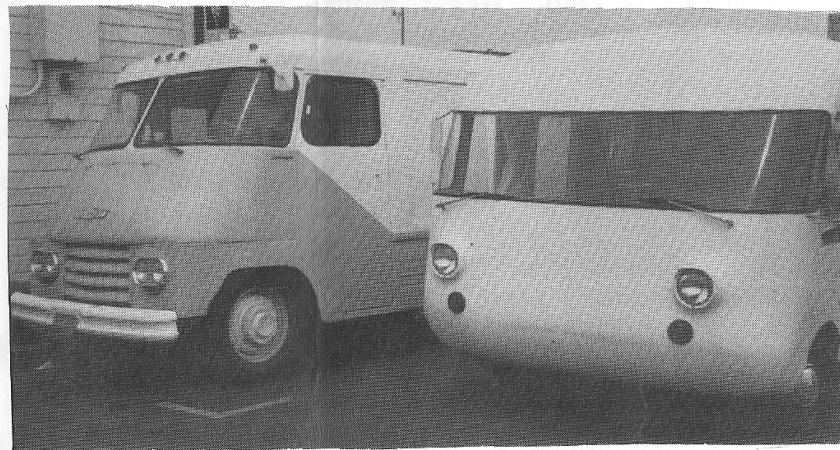
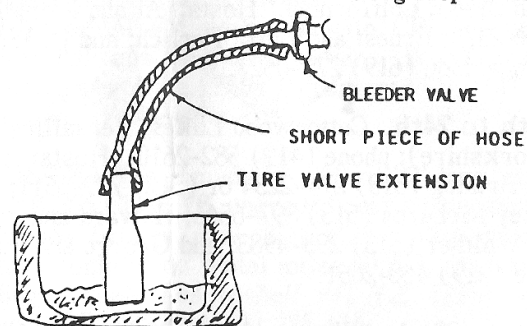
Several sources of information relating to historical vehicles have been contacted to date with no results.

Anyone having information helpful to Collins can write to him at 3490 S. Hannan Road, Canton, MO 48188.

EASY BRAKE BLEEDING

By using a tire valve extender, and a short piece of rubber hose, a brake cylinder can be bled while operating alone. Put the hose over the bleeder port and the tire valve extender as shown below. Open the bleeder port and pump fluid through until the air is out of the system. The Schrader valve acts as a check valve to prevent air re-entering the system as the brake pedal is released on each stroke.

Greg Hopewell



Walt Davidson sent this photo. This is the Chevy step van that had windshields that were used by the ULTRA Van.

UPCOMING RALLIES

March 25th to April 1st. Florida Lions Camp, 2819 Tiger Lake Road, Lake Wales, Florida 33852; phone (813) 696-1948. Hosts: Pete and Rose Schyler (516) 368-3578; and Norris and Charlene Houck (813) 283-2629.

April 19th to 22nd. MA-TAR-AWA R.V. Park, 25 Brown Road, Alpine, California; phone (619) 445-3275 (near San Diego, California). Hosts: Al and Kathy Polus (819) 469-2378; Ernest and Carol Perlich; and P. W. and Evelyn Donaldson (619) 277-0527.

June 20th to 24th. Cottonwood Lakes, Versailles, Ohio 45380 (Yorkshire); phone (419) 582-2610. Hosts: Gus and Neva Brining (513) 274-2234 or (512) 729-6511; Don and Mickey Richards (513) 897-6546; Howard and Marietta Walther (513) 293-4983; and George and Ruth Whiteside (219) 468-2651.

July 19th to 22nd. "Western Regional Rally "South Jetty" on Humboldt Bay, Bareka, California. Hosts: Jim and Marlene Craig (619) 366-9104; Bob and Roberta Franz (415) 757-3557; and Mory and Ester Snyder (415) 757-3092.

September 30th to October 7th. National UVMCC Rally. The Whitt R.V. Park, P.O. Box 457, Franklin, Texas 77856, on U.S. Route 79; phone (409) 828-5377. Hosts: Pete and Rose Schuler (516) 368-3578; and Marian Grootenhaar (616) 896-8630.

CORRECTIONS: In our last issue we had a story about Mel Dinesen winning the 1989 Silver Medal Award. The official name of the award is The Ernest Newhouse Award. We apologize to both Ernest and Edna for our error.

CLASSIFIED

FOR SALE:

#558 ULTRA Van - built in 1970, 307 Chev. V8 original, engine rebuilt, new brakes and "U" joints, good tires, powerglide transmission, swamp cooler, TV antenna, trailer hitch, AM/FM stereo cassette, CB, no heating problems and runs fine, new curtains. \$6,000 or part trade - will negotiate. *Burt Syverson; (509) 487-7619. In Spokane, Washington Area.*

#524 ULTRA Van - made in 1969, is 22' long, no miles on rebuilt 305 Chev. V8, upgraded rear suspension, radials, new brakes, new paint, clean. Most up-grading in manual completed. Total miles 40,000. \$6,500 including manual. *Les Vosshell, 941 N.E. 111 Ave., Portland, OR 97220; (503) 255-4333.*

1969 ULTRA Van #465 - Corvair powered. Recent beige Imron paint, 3:89 Differential, equipped with roof air conditioner and 2.5 KW generator: \$8,000. *Pete Koehler, 27446 Beacon Square, Farmington Hills, MI 48018; (313) 478-0906.*

ULTRA Van #422. Original. In storage for a few years. 140 H.P. Corvair powered: \$7000 (negotiable). *Francis Loretero; (702) 454-3360 (Las Vegas). Son: Harold Loretero, 2060 E. Sutter Place, Oxnard, Calif.; (805) 986-3522.* The **ULTRA Van** is in storage in Riverside, Calif.

#340 ULTRA Van. 110 H.P., 4 speed transmission. Low mileage on engine rebuild, air suspension. Interior white, excellent condition. Levellor blinds throughout, Michelin tires. \$6000, OBO. *Norman Wareburg; (818) 887-2105 (evenings).*

#393 - 1969 ULTRA Van - 110 H.P., Auto. Trans. floor plan "A"-4 tank system and all good. New windshield, tires, batteries and stool pump. All glass good. Cherry interior in perfect condition-white exterior good. Original roof air and it works, awning in self contained Snap-lock metal container. Original leaky rear window replaced with one large glass no leak window. Large capacity engine oil and trans. pans with water circulating cooling system. 110 Volt three heat range, thermostat controlled electric heater, dual master brake cyl. The original propane furnace should be replaced. 2" slide valve installed on both final holding and flush tanks. Three special Lorraine folding table chairs and Ryerson manual included. This unit well worth the asking price of \$7500. *Gus Brining, 2815 Ida Ave., Dayton, Ohio 45405; (513) 274-2234.*

#394 ULTRA Van. 110 H.P. Corvair engine, Power Glide, Michelin tires, new drapes, carpet, upholstery. Very clean. Runs excellent. New bumpers, still in boxes. Several parts, Duotherm roof air. Paint a little bad in places. Asking \$6000. No reasonable offer refused. *Ed Hosto, 3050 West Clay St., Charles, MO 63301; phone (314) 946-3459.*

#484 ULTRA Van. Corvair, Powerglide. If interested, call *Gordon Harvey; (813) 541-3433. (Florida)* Also have several antique cars for sale.

Coach #487. 110 Corvair Powerglide Trans. Original owner purchased from **ULTRA** August 1969. Has roof-air, generator, good engine, spare parts, etc. Asking \$4500 or best offer. Contact *Stan Bartlett, 151 Coral Circle, So. Daytona, FL. 32119 or phone (904) 767-4200* for additional details.

ULTRA Van #351, The motor home was in excellent condition and fully functional when parked seven years ago. \$5000. *Paul Burlett, 9716 Forest Grove, Silver Springs, Md. 20910; (301) 593-3149.*

#466 ULTRA Van 1969, excellent condition. Low mileage on rebuilt 140 HP (Corvair truck cam installed). Strong runner and 15 plus MPG at 65 MPH. Automatic transmission recently completely overhauled. Rear axle recently rebuilt and 3:89 gears installed. Trans. and engine oil coolers. Paint is in very good condition and has stylish striping on sides. Van has numerous gauges, cruise control, computer, leveling jacks controlled from drivers seat area (hydraulic type), reupholstered, interior paneling and etc. in excellent condition. All new tires. Overall coach looks very nice and modern. Normally, I wouldn't sell it, because it runs so well, but I got hooked on a FMC Coach. Need serious buyer to appreciate this great **ULTRA Van.** \$10,500. *Jim Bents, 6571 Springpath Lane, San Jose, Ca. 95120; (408) 997-7438)*

#527 ULTRA Van. V-8. If interested, call *Gordon Harvey (813) 541-3433 (Florida).*

1969 ULTRA Coach #521: 350 CI Chevy V8; Rebuilt at 103,440 miles; Total Miles: 126,800; Turbo 450 Trans; Corvette axle; Good condition; All amenities except air conditioning; Ready to go; \$5000. Front mounted 1973 Trail 90 Honda motorcycle included. Pictures on request. Complete M&R record available. Contact: *George Deatherage, 7576 St. Luke's Way, Sacramento, CA 95823. Phone: (916) 428-9467.*

1969 ULTRA Van #420, 110 H.P., Corvair engine, well maintained vehicle, 35,000 miles on present engine, transmission and rear wheel bearings, walnut paneling and commercial grade carpeting. Van is generally as originally built and is in excellent condition. \$8,500. *Morris Buswell, 4100 Chambers Lake Drive, Lacey, Washington 98503; (206) 438-5223.*

ULTRA Van #383. Good condition with lots of extra parts. Must sell. \$5000. *Dennis D'Amico, 1218 So. Electric Ave., Alhambra, Ca. 91803; (818) 570-0012.*