

Ultra Van Motor Coach Club

Spring 1998

President: Don Richards #379
Vice Pres: Jim Craig #163
Secretary: Jim L. Howell #216
Treasurer: Marion Helmkey #486
1997 Newhouse Award: Marlene Craig #163
Tech Coordinator: Jim Craig #163

All reports of Regional Rallies, advertisements, or other input for the Newsletter are to be sent to the Secretary. There is no charge for advertisements; please allow a 3/8" margin on top and sides, and a 3/4" on bottom of copy (to make room for page number), preferably using black ink. Any handwritten copy that you want typed should arrive two weeks before the deadline.

All dues are to be forwarded to the Treasurer. Look at your address label -- the number after your name is the last two digits of year thru which you are paid. Material for the Newsletter can be folded.

Technical tips are to be sent to the Technical Coordinator. Amendments to the Bylaws are to be sent to the President. Deadline for Newsletter inputs are: **February 15th, May 15th, July 1st, and November 15th.**

Upcoming Rallies

March 16th - 19th 1998, Florida Rally at BIG OAK RV Park, Brooksville, FL, ** See flyer **

April 16th - 19th 1998, Western Spring Rally, "Galli Ranch", Atascadero, CA, ** See flyer **

May 17th - 31st 1998, Ultra Van 101 Restoration Rally #8, Desert Rendezvous Ranch, Joshua Tree, CA ** See flyer **

June 1st - 4th, 1998, Eastern Summer Rally, at Laurel Hill State Park, Somerset, PA, ** See flyer **

July 15th - 22nd, 1998, Western Summer Rally, Evy Shepherd's Home, Portland, Oregon, ** See flyer **

From the President's Desk- Don Richards

Another year beckons to us. Each one comes with the anticipation of rewards, good times, the renewing of friendships and the opportunity to make new ones as we rally together and travel along routes on our way to them. I note with sadness the number of units that are listed for sale in the newsletter, for they represent owners who are no longer keeping their Ultras, mostly to their inability to cope with the responsibilities of ownership; which are familiar enough to all of us. As my wife and myself, we and #379 are aging along together and not always gracefully I might add, but none the less still able to keep each other going. I note with alarm a corroded patch along the side, and I am sure 379 hears me grunt louder each time I climb in. And that's with the step in place! The number of Ultras for sale probably represents aging both on the part of the owner and the owner-ee. Like a well built house, our Ultras should outlast us and be passed on to another owner who will care for and enjoy it all over again. Keeping our Ultras in good shape means keeping the club in good shape, and after all, that's part of the goal. Many of our most cherished memories are those spent with those of us with whom we share mutual interests and the Ultra club sits front and center in that respect. So for a new year's resolution - Keep her cared for and come together for the next rally.

6 Feb 98. Walter Payne UV#535 died today in Riverside CA. Was was not a real active member and I suspect many newer members never met him. Your loss. His death is all our loss. in this age of hype.slick.clever ... Walt Payne was one of my heroes. Straight, honest, sincere, and an Ultra man for twenty plus years. I only wish we had been able to spend more time together. (We all say that at times, don't we?). Walt and Elizabeth, along with their son Tom had driven #535 from Rochester, MN to Riverside, CA last summer. I know giving up on the Ultra was hard for him, but age takes it toll on all. Walt was pleased that at least his coach passed on to his son. So if and when you see #535 .. give pause and think a kind thought or two for a really great guy. And welcome his son Tom into our world. WALT DAVISON #366

Quarterly Financial Statement: October - December 1997

September 30th Opening Balance:		\$ 3,987.88
<u>Receipts</u>		
Dues:	\$380.00	
Merchandise:	33.00	
Dividends:	30.80	
Durango Advance Returns:	31.43	
Tech Tip Purchase:	10.00	

Total receipts:	\$485.23	\$485.23
<u>Expenses:</u>		
Insurance:	\$-300.00	
Newsletter:	-300.00	
Printing New Checks:	-9.53	
Ernie Award Engraving:	-7.50	

Total Expenses:	\$-617.03	\$-617.03
December 31st Closing Balance:		\$ 3,856.08

Wickenburg Rally Report by Nobi Suckow

Our regional Rally group met Sunday noon at Wickenburg, Az On Feb. 1st, 1998. Our attendance included Bob & Roberta Franz, Edna & Arnold Steenburg, Dave Stoddard, Betty & Dan Reinhardt, Bob & Ina Reinhardt, Ed & Jane Harrison with a guest, Harriet Fiest, Jim & Marlene Craig, and Warren & Nobia Suckow.

We missed Diane & Bob Galli as their coach broke down on the way home and they had to return home. Things really got started Monday morning with our coffee hour at 9:00 am. Theresa had sent some gifts and everyone took their choice. Thank you - Theresa! Also Ina Reinhardt had brought a huge basket of various cheeses, etc to be raffled off. It was raffled off on Tuesday evening after the Pot Luck and Enda Steenburg won it. Thanks Ina! There were tech sessions and the ladies played cards.

On Tuesday there was some sightseeing. The museum was worth going to. After our Pot Luck tuesday evening our son Randy spoke on his last visit to Mongolia, taking a satellite and computer to our missionary there. It was a very fruitful trip in so many ways! What an experience! Theresa & Ethel Starbird came from Phoenix with Randy. Betty & Dan had visitors on Monday; their daughters Jeanie and Chris.

We had a short Rally Meeting on Wednesday morning. (After an ALL night rain). Supper at Mexican Resturant (PM). Thursday morning: Said our goodbyes. The sun was shining and all's well with the world.

Editors' Ramblings: Jim Howell

1. Read all the articles for this newsletter we have a wealth of good ones. They will leave you wondering what you are missing. (especially if you aren't making a rally or two each year.)
2. I would like to start a new series to let the new members get to know the older members. Hopefully it will initiate these new member in the wonders and trials of owning and traveling in an Ultra Van. Help! Send your editor some before & after pictures and an article.
3. Yes! The family has a new computer. We also have a Email address etc. Jim Craig and Norm Helmkey have sent me a lot of Email addresses so I have put them in the Newsletter. If you have one and its not listed please send it to me.
4. I have included a preliminary site map for the 1998 CORSA National convention in St Louis.

Western Rally Club Meeting

Wickenburg, Arizona

Feb.4,1998

Vice President , Jim Craig called the meeting to order at 10:00am. 14 members present. Club jacket patches was discussed and it was agreed that the silk screened emblem and wording that was on the blue jackets and tee shirts that was done for one of the recent eastern member hosted Nationals, would make a good representative patch for the club. Jim indicated that he would ask Nancy Pratt for her input on it before making a final decision. He also will get an estimate on making 100, 200 or 300. The Presidents approval of the cost and final design will be required.

Jim advised that he had heard from long time charter Ultra member Murray Fisher via E-mail. All is well with him and he is still active in RV's. In case you would like to E-mail him, his address is; murryayf@bmi.net

Rallys Discussed:

April 16-19, Atascadero,CA. Bob & Diane Galli's Home. (Changed from Tucson,AZ.)

May 17-31, Joshua Tree, CA.#101 Ultra Restoration Rally #8.(Extended dates)

July 15-20, Portland, OR. Evy Shepherd's Home.

Sept. 23-29, Anadarko, Oklahoma (Indian City) Ultra National

Oct. 28 thru Nov. 13, Joshua Tree, CA. #101 Ultra Restoration Rally #9.

Nov. 6,7 & 8,1998, Great Western Fan Belt Toss, Palm Springs,CA.

National Rally for 1998:

It was discussed and agreed that the Western members of Ultra would hold the 1998 National in Ruidoso, New Mexico. Date not confirmed, but probably in late Sept. It will be timed so that the annual Balloon races at Albuquerque can be visited also. A western chairman is needed to make this all happen. No one at this meeting wanted to volunteer. So if a new member doesn't step forward ,it is very likely that it will not happen.

It was suggested that the office at this rallys center be contacted to see if a discount could be considered since we had a smaller then expected turn out . (A discount was allowed)

In order to keep from over extending ourselves on future rallys it was suggested that preregistering be considered . This was agreed on.

Late Jan or early Feb. was discussed for future winter western rallys. It was suggested that the 1998 winter rally be a "roving" rally. All agreed. The winter rally for year 2000 might be at the "Filthy Five Campground". Or is it "Dirty Fingers"? Hmm?

Progress of #101 Restoration was presented by Jim. Still a lot to do, but it is looking very much like an Ultra Van. Next #101 rally is in May.

Motion made to close meeting by Dan R & 2nd. by Jane H.

Submitted by Marlene Craig

Florida Spring Rally

March 16,17,18,19, 1998

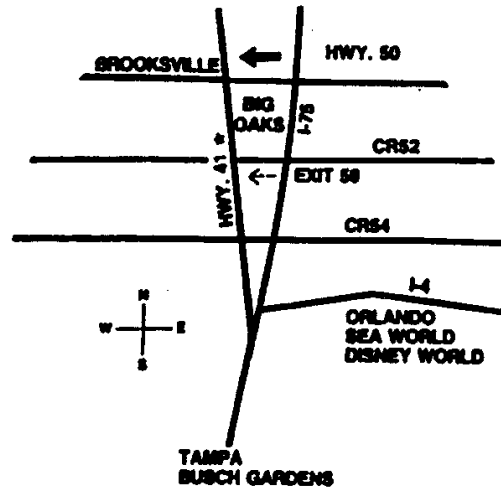
Big Oak R.V. Park
US HWY 41
Brooksville, FL 34610

Hosts: Gordon & Ruth Harvey

Phone: (407) 240-6787

Cost: \$14.50 Daily
Not confirmed till after 1/1/98

Activities:
Pot luck, Morning Coffee & Goodies
Yankee Swap, Crafts, Tech Sessions
Visit Tarpon Springs sponge docks
See several Florida Attractions



Located 5 Miles N. Of CR 52 and
8 Miles South of Hwy. 50 on Hwy. 41

1998 UVMCC National Rally Indian City, OK September 23rd - 29th

Host & Hostess - Gordon & Ruth Harvey

Badges - Norm Helmkey

Sweat Shirts - Gordon Harvey

Program & Schedule - Don & Mickey Richards

Registration - Margie Fitzgerald

Wagon Master - Jean McMasters

Coffee & Goodies - Ruth Harvey

Crafts - Maybel Griggs & Rose Schuler

1998 CORSA International Convention

St. Louis, Missouri

July 28th - August 1st

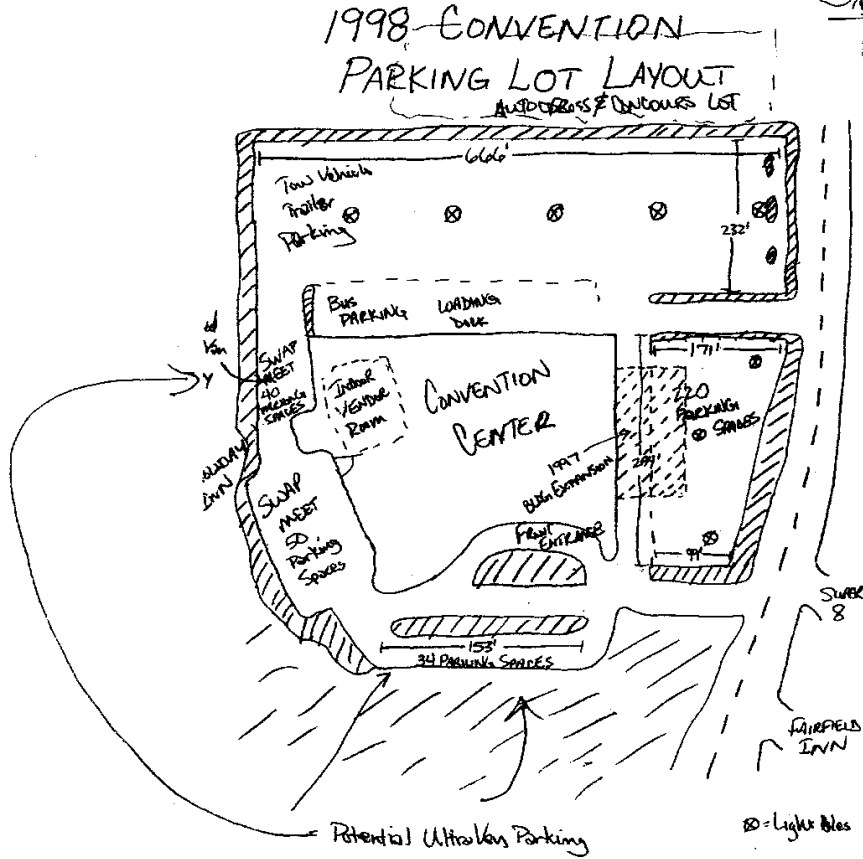
Group Ultra Van Meeting

Good time to get lots of Ultra's Together!

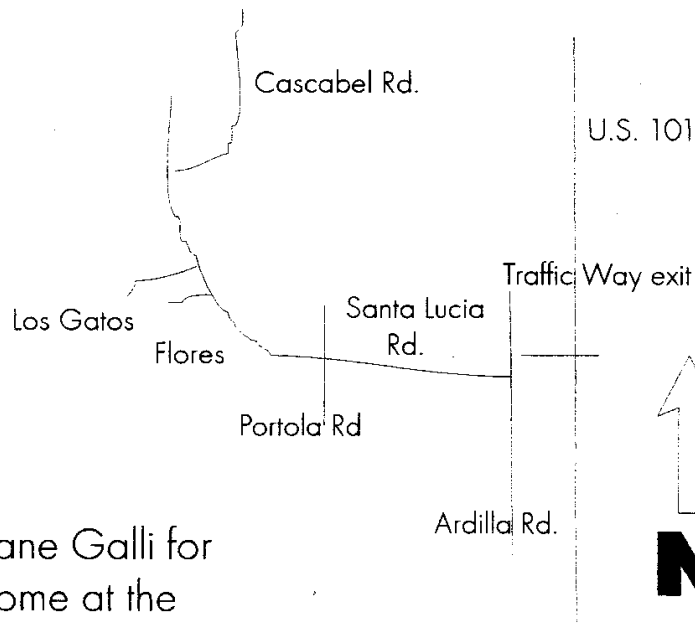
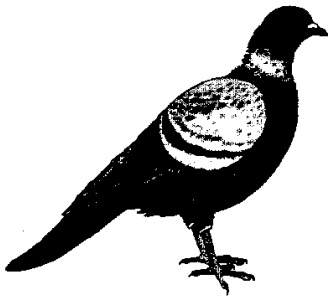
Parts Vendors, Parties & Friends!

Ultra Vanners,

The CORSA powers to be have invited us to park close and totally enjoy the convention. Price → \$50.00 for the week. Electricity available for 8 to 10 coaches. (first come - first serve) Let's try to support Group Ultra!



Western Spring Rally



Come visit Bob & Diane Galli for a few days at their home at the end of the road by the creek in Atascadero, Ca. We'll have some Pot Lucks, Tech sessions, and cards. We'll have electricity available, and water...but come with your holding tank empty. This will all take place April 16-19, 1998, give or take a few days. Come early, stay late.

snail mail at:

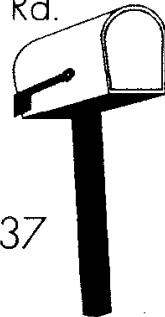
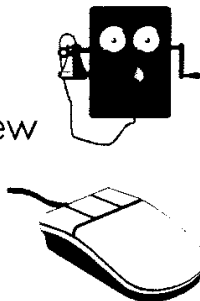
5000 Cascabel Rd.
Atascadero, Ca.
93422-2302

Phone:

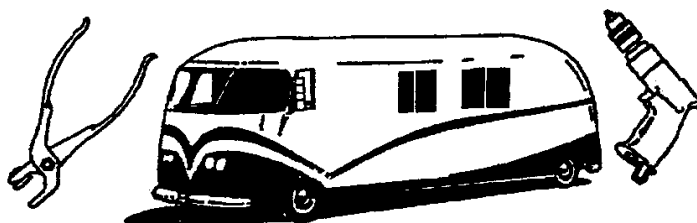
805-466-2737

e-mail us at:

rdgalli@tcsn.net



ULTRA VAN 101 RESTORATION



1995-96

Rally #8

Date: May 17-31, 1998. (Note: Additional days added)

Location: Desert Rendezvous Ranch.

7011 Sunny Vista Rd., Joshua Tree, CA. 92252, (760) 366 9104

E-mail: jrcraig1@juno.com

Hosts: Jim & Marlene Craig

****Registration Fee; \$5.00. This will be a donation to the "Project Fund".

****Rally Camp Fee; \$1.00 per day, per person.

Details: This will be the last work rally prior to painting #101. As you probably know the 1/h rear fiberglass panel got damaged in Nov. This has set us back a little but I should have it repaired by the time the warm weather gets here, which makes for better painting. In addition to the above required repair, we will be working inside on the paneling, the overhead vinyl, finishing up the electrical wiring from the instrument panel to the engine and many other items as noted below.

We will have our usually Bar-B-Q, pot luck, desert bingo and a slide show. The weather should be warm, 85-90 degrees.

Jobs that remain to be accomplished;

1. Hook up all electrical sending sensors to the engine.
2. Install vinyl to the forward overhead and rear area.
3. Remove front & rear bumpers side lights, mirrors & etc. (prep for paint)
4. Remove kitchen cabinets, shower walls, closet walls, rear cabinets and fit to #101.
5. Remove plywood over gas tank, inspect for leak & repair.
6. Install all water, propane and drain lines under floor.
7. Modify floor and install front wheel wells.
8. Bleed brakes.
9. Install rear dual wheels.
10. Install brackets for propane tank.

**** This is only part of the job list, but enough that you get the ideal of what is required.

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UVMCC Email Directory

corvair@fan.net
UltraVan@aol.com
Sowears@aol.com
VAIRBOY@aol.com
dgriggs@allconet.org
bobroel@juno.com
UV216@aol.com
bents@ibm.net
gorobert@hotmail.com
murryf@brni.net
mgroot@aol.com
mbjumper@flash.net
dadolly@juno.com
patf@ewol.com
dnpratt@juno.com
rearengine.steve@worldnet.att.net -> Steve Goodman

Norm & Marion Helmkey
Jim & Marlene Craig
Jack Irwin
Craig Miller
Louis & Mabel Griggs' Son
Bob & Roberta Franz
Jim Howell
Jim & Sharon Bents
Robert Craig(New Zealand)
Murry Fisher (Charter Member)
Marion Grotenhaar
Matt & Sheri(Craig) Jumper
Joe & Debra Papsdorf
Pat & Marge Fitzgerald
Doug & Nancy Pratt

1998 Eastern Summer Rally

Laurel Hill State Park

Somerset, PA

June 8th - 11th, 1998

Hosts

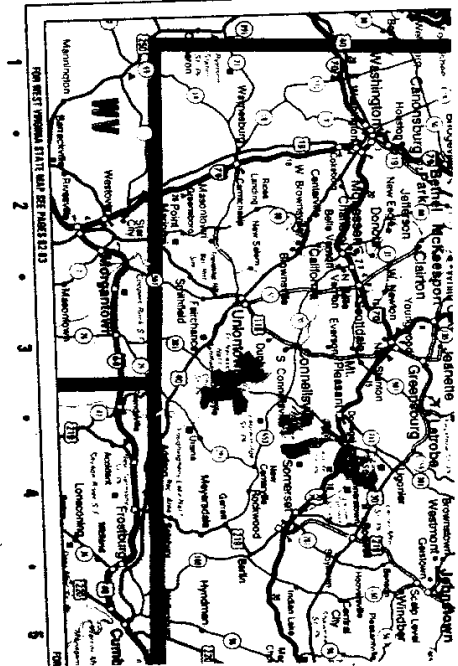
Louis & Mabel Griggs #334, (301) 722-2991
James & Mary Foust #398, (814) 352-7435

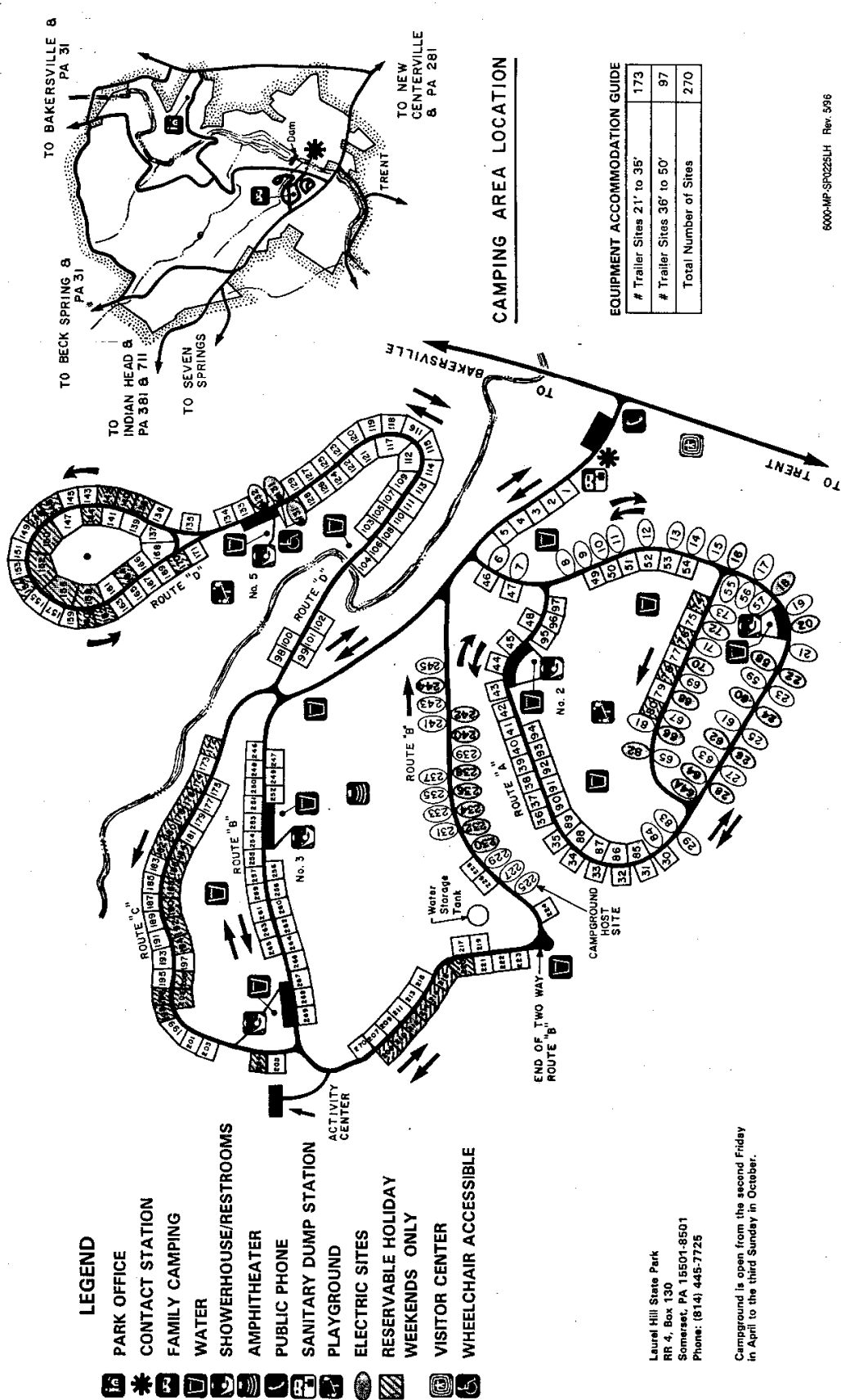
You must make your own reservations -- (814)-445-7725. Make reservations after February 6th, 1998. When you call, ask for one of the following sites: #229, 230, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 243. You may pay by credit card over the phone, or arrange to mail a check. The Parks address is:

Laurel Hill State Park
RR #4, Box 130
Somerset, PA 15501-8501

We were told that pets are not allowed in the Park - PA state law.

Campground Map on Next Page!





LEGEND

- PARK OFFICE
- CONTACT STATION
- FAMILY CAMPING
- WATER
- SHOWERHOUSE/RESTROOMS
- AMPHITHEATER
- PUBLIC PHONE
- SANITARY DUMP STATION
- PLAYGROUND
- ELECTRIC SITES
- RESERVABLE HOLIDAY WEEKENDS ONLY
- VISITOR CENTER
- WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE

Laurel Hill State Park
 RR 4, Box 130
 Somerset, PA 15501-8501
 Phone: (814) 445-7725

Campground is open from the second Friday
 in April to the third Sunday in October.

CAMPING AREA LOCATION

EQUIPMENT ACCOMMODATION GUIDE

# Trailer Sites 21' to 35'	173
# Trailer Sites 36' to 50'	97
Total Number of Sites	270

6000-MP-SP025LH Rev. 5/96

Eastern Summer Rally Laurel Hill State Park

Campsite Map

Summer Fun

In The Northwest

OREGON SUMMER RALLY

DATE - JULY 15 to 22nd, 1998

THIS RALLY WILL BE HELD AT EVY SHEPHERD'S HOME IN PORTLAND, OREGON. THE ADDRESS IS: 7260 SE TENINO STREET, PORTLAND, OREGON. EVY AND GLADYS BELL AND EDY RYERSON WILL BE OUR RALLY HOSTS.

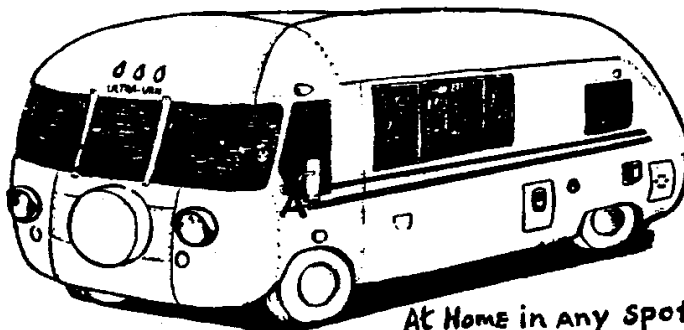
THERE WILL BE THE USUAL TECHNICAL SESSIONS AND CRAFTS ALONG WITH GAMES AND FUN FOR ALL.

THE FIRST ACTIVITY WILL BE A BBQ ON THE EVENING OF THE 15TH.

THEN FROM THERE IT WILL BE POTLUCKS AND EVENINGS OUT.

BE SURE TO COME WITH AN EMPTY HOLDING TANK AND A FULL WATER TANK. WE WILL BE PARKED IN THE OPEN FIELD ACROSS FROM HER HOME SO THERE WILL BE THE USUAL RALLY FEE AND A NOMINAL FEE TO DEFRAY THE RALLY EXPENSES.

THE EMERGENCY NUMBER FOR THE RALLY IS: 503-775-4469



*At Home in any spot
- ANYWHERE*

This fall we will once again plan to head for our "Ultra Week", the time we all meet together for the national rally. This fall it is, for the first time, in Oklahoma. With Gordon and Ruth Harvey serving as hosts, and the location in Indian City, this event promises to be a highlight of the year for many of us. As one who searched for a good location across the central part of the country, Indian City offers not only a good and central location, but with many interesting side trips and local attractions. The National for most Ultra Van folks has become more than a rally or a reunion; it is a tradition. It is a time when we meet the "other half". Those of us who live too far to meet regularly or who go to only those rallies in their part of the country. But it is also a time to learn more about our units, to hear of the latest in repair or operation techniques, to admire the improvements made to others, to show off what you have done to yours.

Its a time to get to sample those wonderful culinary treats that come from the kitchens of the units and even to eat at local and often exotic restaurants. It is a vacation, a seminar and a chance to renew old friendships all rolled into one. It is often a memory trip to talk of those no longer traveling, to see who now owns what, to honor those no longer with us. In the Richards household, it is a trip we try to take if at all possible. For many, it is a long trip - caravanning does help, but for many it is a grip never seeing another Ultra until you turn into the campground and see those familiar shapes among the trees. When our children were little they focused almost entirely on the end of the trip with that familiar, "Are we there yet?" phrase. We have found that there is more than just the end, the traveling is also a best part too - new scenery, new spots to stay, new roads to travel, new places to eat. And finally, it is an obligation. If we are to keep our units and the organization that represents them alive and viable, it is necessary to come if at all possible. Without participating members the organization will not last; a little like never voting and then complaining about the officials. To own an Ultra is to be committed to it, let us commit ourselves to attending this coming national in a place full of history, attractions, and the company of those in our extended family.

relaxed for the rest of the night, and in the meantime, decided it was best to go home. I had already cancelled our reservations in Laughlin, and called Reinhardt's so they would know why we weren't going to make the Rally. I got 2 books read while Bob toiled on the engine, kept the coffee hot and cooked. I had sent Walt a note from Keene, and Monday he was on the phone offering Bob a new pinion gear and shaft and ring gear. That was above the call of duty, to let go an NOS part, that is a friendship. Of course he will be compensated, but that is beside the point.

Hope I haven't bored you too much with the latest in Roadside Adventures, and that is exactly what I call them. I never know when we leave home in the UV what kind of a trip we will have, and a smooth one is a bonus. Bye till next time.

Our trip started very uneventfully, as usual, we left late in the afternoon, Wednesday, Jan 28, 1998; first for Laughlin, NV. That was for some R&R for us, gambling for me, movies for Bob. Then on to the Winter Rally in Wickenburg, AZ.

As Bobby Burns, the Scottish Poet said, "The best layed plans of mice and me aft gang aglee". And boy did our "gang aglee"!

There I was driving along minding my own business, going up the Tehachapi Mountains, had just come off a downhill, so was in coast mode, as we started back up hill, I started to apply a little gas, when there arose such a clatter, and I knew it wasn't Santa Claus, or the reindeer, something had gone drastically awry, as I had free wheeling in the transmission dept. Actually it sounded as if I had shifted into neutral, and I wasn't even applying enough pressure to down shift, then the clatter, and I pulled to the side of the road, so close to the guard rail that I de-burred the awning legs, Bob yelled, I pulled a fit farther away, but not much, as there wasn't that much room, or I would have been in the traffic lane. I was so close to the rail, that Bob couldn't open the door, and crawled out the window. He assessed the damage to the awning, non to speak of, and got back in. Went to the rear, raised the bed, took the cover off the 'diffy', and had me start up and put it in Drive, nada, reverse got a lot of grinding. So he was assured that the problem was as he was afraid of, the pinion gear had spun on the shaft.

Well I got on the cell phone and called 911; they in turn got me the CHP, gave them my location, and they got me in touch with the AAA dispatcher. He and I talked, I gave him my phone number, and he called me back with the news that I could expect the "hook" in 20 minutes to 1/2 hour. It was closer to the half hour. They towed us to a vacant lot in the town of Keene, CA. I was 200 yards from the off ramp when we quit going.

Our dear friends, Walt Davison and Christy Barden, had both told me I should take time to "do" the Tehachapi Loop; but not this way.

We were there Wednesday PM until Saturday AM making the needed repairs. Bob had a spare ring and pinion and shaft, but from further perusal, it was ascertained as a tired part, had some slop in it and we deemed it as not for long in the UV.

The weather cooperated, somewhat. Bob got the needed stuff unhooked between rain squalls Thursday, so he had Friday to put it back together. Got done by 6 PM Friday, we

A View Through the Windshield

By: Jim Craig, V.P.

The clean glass of the windshield gave Marlene and me a clear view of the road ahead and the terrain on both sides of the road as we headed Robert's (our son) Ultra Van #285 east toward Arizona. The 140 engine was pushing us along at 60-65 mph. We could hear the engine (The "boys" back there as Walt calls them) turning the "R's" in harmonic balance. That sound and the motion of the Ultra had us both setting there as though we were meditating.

I thought to myself, the view is like our club, it appears that nothing is happening down the road, but is it really? Like the terrain that is whirring by so fast, various members and officers are busy out there doing their jobs. We see and read about their tasks in the club newsletter regarding reports, rally flyers, matters of technical importance, Email, computer info, advertisements, National and regional rally planning etc. What else needs to be done after all that?

Hmm? One thing that comes to mind is that there are a lot of our older members that have or are now contemplating selling their Ultras because they don't feel that they can handle the necessary work it requires to keep the Ultras running in top shape and are a little concerned about traveling alone on those long trips to the rallies.

Sure we will all reach a point in our Ultra ownership that we feel it may be best for us to sell it and restrict our travels to close to home in the car. To be truthful with you, I hope that time never comes. I would like to have my Ultra available for these weekend campouts close to home, even though I may not be active in the club in later years.

So what can we do to help those senior members that are having those thoughts of not traveling? Why not call them in advance of one of our rallies and ask them if they would like to travel with you to the next rally. Sure you might change a tire for them or assist in some repair job, but think how great they would feel with you there as a little backup. Besides you will get a chance to learn something from their experiences of life and perhaps make a friend for life. Marlene and I can guarantee it.

Hey! Good news from our secretary, Jim Howell. He has purchased a new computer. He is excited about what he can do with the club newsletter in the future with special software that is available for desk-top publishing. In fact the newsletter has been getting better the last few issues. Keep up the good work Jim.

Attendance at our club rallies has been dropping for the last two years, but it appears that the regional rallies are averaging about ten Ultras at each outing. Sure they are smaller, but we still have a lot of fun and closer companionship. More younger working couples are buying Ultras and that is one reason for the smaller turnouts. In my opinion this is going to be the way of "Ultra Life" for some time to come. So lets all enjoy each and every rally and encourage the NEW and OLD members to attend the rallies with us.

Another problem that is appearing on the horizon down the road --- possible lack of a host for a National Rally. With smaller attendance comes this problem. Why? Because the persons that have hosted several/many regional and National rally's in the past are getting burnt out. Soon, unless some of the newer members come forward and volunteer to host a National, the Board of Directors will have to consider an alternative.

ULTRA POSTSCRIPTS ★★★★★

Dear Ultra Club members:

February 1998

Here we are in the second month of 1998 already. We hope it will be a GOOD year for all of us. This Postscripts will discuss several Ultra subjects. Words have POWER....power to inform and power to encourage or amuse. Let's try to speak (write) kind WORDS that may offer a brand new or different idea, or a smile, or an opinion that can be useful to those who hear or read them. This starts the thirty-second year (wow) since ULTRA CLUB was founded....back in 1966. We have written some words in every quarterly scheduled-mailing the past 32-years. This is or may be my "Good Bye". Thank you, EVERYONE, for being such special people. All of YOU made the Organization amazingly successful. Our efforts were minor---just getting it started. Long may it prosper.

Your Ultra friend, Ernest

A LOADED QUESTION: "Have you stopped beating your wife?" If you reply "Yes", or if you say "No", either answer identifies you as a wife beater. Maybe some member can answer this question: "What came first, the chicken or the egg?" Of course, everyone knows that David Peterson came BEFORE the Ultra Machines he designed and created.



THE BALD EAGLE: This great winged creature has become a very rare bird. It is streamlined, much like an Ultra Van Coach. It is among our protected species. The Ultra Coach is also very rare and needs care and protection. In full body pictures, the Bald Eagle is often shown with an Olive branch (for Peace) in one claw, and some Spears (a weapon) in the other. The American Bald Eagle is our National symbol. Together with the Stars and Stripes (our flag), the Eagle symbolizes a great and free Nation. As we Ultra motor-cruise the freeways and by-ways of America, long may BOTH fly.

FORMULA FOR SUCCESS: Tell at least TWO people each and every day HOW MUCH you like them. -- Omar Khayyam

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION: It's just too PERSONAL! Why should I tell anyone how YOUNG I am? Via the grapevine, we understand that a few members wonder how many years yours truly has been around. Why should I reveal that late this year (come November 24th) another birthday shows up. Since I first saw the light of day in the year 1908, that means in another ten months or so I'll be a young ninety. But I'm not telling anybody my age today. No use asking me! Nope, I'll never admit my age. It's my years of life---not anyone elses. Oh, in case someone wants to live so long that no friends will be left to show up at (attend) his or her FUNERAL, I'll gladly give my formula. But how old am I today? I've made up my mind to keep THAT---to myself. So there!

"THOSE who live honestly, NEVER see each other for the last time. No one should regret growing OLD. It is a privilege denied to many."

POSTSCRIPTS #2

SENIOR MEMBERS: Some of us who have been around since Ultra Motor Coach Club, Incorporated was founded, or during the earlier days since then, may have lost a little of our enthusiasm, energy, or esteem. Have we? Certainly, our remaining days are more numbered, and any distinguished achievements or accomplishments from an earlier period are more or less forgotten. But NOT those of Senator Ike Morgan, one of our earliest Club Members. The Senator and Nell hail from Portales, New Mexico. Many of us who knew them are aware that Ike passed away in November of last year. HERE WAS A MAN: His Policy was to treat other people as he would like to be treated...ie: the Golden Rule. His integrity and his accomplishments in business and later, as State Senator, are legend. He was age 92 at death. Goodbye Ike. He was a tremendous person!

CHANGING THE STRUCTURE: As with any large Corporation, there can be differences of opinion. That is GOOD, and it is normal. A few members have indicated they would like to make our exclusive ULTRA CLUB an association of MANY BRANDS of motor homes. Of course, the entire voting membership is the JURY. Yours truly goes along with whatever the majority votes. Personally, we think that it might destroy some of the very good fellowship and comradery of Ultra Motor Coach owners. We would become just another "Travel Club" like hundreds of other "any make" groups around the country. We now have a COMMON BOND - the unique Ultra Van. Along with Associate Members, we have ALL been OWNERS of this very different, almost special Vehicle. Do we want to be another FMCA? You decide.

"Junior!!! Please don't hide your sneakers in the Microwave! It makes the pot roast TASTE funny." -- People Magazine Ha, ha, ha.

AVERAGE TOP SPEEDS: We do not recommend driving any motorhome over fifty five miles per hour. That said, like many other MEMBERS, as an automotive enthusiast and aircraft and race car specialist, back during the mid 1940s to later 1960s, speed was in my bones. Don't believe I ever told this before: Just to try it out, Edna and I drove new Ultra #228 at 100 MPH on the Pennsylvania Turnpike. In order to not arrive at the next Pay-check Station too early, we had to slow to 20 MPH after the high speed run. It was fun, but dangerous. I would never do that again. Our average driving Motorhome speed was 55-60 MPH on freeways with ideal conditions and modest traffic. But what about the top speed of athletic equipment items, such as a FOOTBALL or a BASEBALL? Few people, even devoted Sports Enthusiasts, know such figures. Here are a few: The highest average speed of a Baseball, as struck by Babe Ruth and later heavy hitters, is 90 MPH. Footballs are frequently thrown or kicked at a high of 50 MPH. On long drives, Golf balls reach a fatal---126 MPH. With Tennis, the late ball-speeds often hit 185 MPH, per the experts. According to the Highway Patrol, the estimated average freeway-travel by automobiles runs at 69 MPH. Please heed our caution: SLOWER is SAFER. Motorists who think FAST, drive SLOW.

"Each hearty LAUGH guarantees extra time on earth to enjoy your Motorhome."

THE HARDEST WORK: In general with most Corporations, such as Ultra Club, Inc., the President's load is often rather light, as would also be the V.P.'s work load. They are the guiding Executives to make sure everything is going correctly. The Directors are usually elected to "direct" an organizations activities, it's programs, it's policy. The Treasurer of a Corporation works with money figures. Top Officials depend on accurate accounting of income versus expenses. It is an important position. At one time or another, yours truly served as Pres., Sec., Tres., Director. All were REWARDING jobs. The hardest working of all the Top Brass in the Ultra Corporation is the SECRETARY. How do I know? In earlier days, I did it. He (or she) keeps the Newsletter Publications going out on time to all the members Coast to Coast. The Sec. also maintains the Club's History, the roster of it's membership, the Minutes of it's meetings. Let's take our Hats off to ALL the newly elected Officials, with a very special salute to Jim Howell, in Knoxville, Tenn., our capable Secretary.

My heart goes out to every member.
Yours Truly, Ernest Newhouse, Executive Director

Club Merchandise; Jim Craig #163 and Nancy Pratt#373 your merchandise chairpersons are available to furnish you any of the merchandise that you desire. Available now; Club I. D. badges, free to new members, replacements are \$2.75 ea. Window decals, inside or outside, \$1.ea., Ultra Van V.I.N plates, \$4.ea., Ultra club rosters , free to members, Corvair Society of America rosters(Good for locating Corvair persons for help in case of a road emergency), \$5.ea. Lettering writing sheets 8 ½ x 11, w/Ultra logo & etc. (Neat for corresponding with your Ultra friends). Also just received ten each CORSA Communiqué magazines with #101 on the cover page. Good for framing, as a keep sake. \$2.ea. all items plus shipping or pick up at your next rally.

Lost Members; A REAL problem! What to do about it? The club Treasurer, Marion Helmkey sent me a list of 75 members that have not paid their 1998 dues, which includes yours truly and our son & daughter. Three lashes! Ok, I am sending mine in, how about you? We must keep our Treasurer busy, so get those checks in the mail, NOW!
SEND TO; UVMCC, Marion Helmkey, 73 Sargent St. , Haines City, FL. 33844.

Keep Up Those Engine "R's"
See Ya On The Road
Jim

Address change; Alan & Beverly Shattuck, 110 Big Oak Lane , La Vernia, TX. 78121,
TEL. 830 947 4048.

Record Ultra Van Ownership?

By Jim Craig, VP.

I have finally made the following list of Ultra Vans that I have purchased, towed home, restored to roadable condition and sold, except the one we will keep, which is #163.

We bought our first one in Oct. 1989. Nine of the eleven Ultras was towed home and two of them required major work on site before driving them home.

Their numbers are; #232,165, 202, 271, 549, 304, 285, 163, 101, 604 & 474. Also I presently have #300, 384 & 365 which I have listed as "Parts Ultras". #101 as you know is being restored by club members and will be offered for sale on completion.

I am please to report that #165 & 604 are the only two of the first eleven that are not roadable at this time. #604 required major work to finish up the drive train installation just so that I could tow it home. This Ultra was the last one assembled at the Sonoma, CA. plant. Only the alum. shell was completed. A plant worker procured it and later sold it to club member George Truman for \$1500. George installed the electrics, engine, drive train and suspension & etc. It is now roadable and is owned by club member Roy Muranaka.

Many others have crossed our property and went on to new owners also.

Yes, it is time to stop this Ultra maddness and concentrate on our FINAL Ultra #163. It has been a lot of enjoyment ,but would I do it again? Probably! "Ultras Forever".

Ultra Van Tech Tips

Tech Tip No. 98-01 Subject: Fire Extinguisher - Halonaire 1211/1301.

UV MANUAL SECTION 22 PAGE 22-10 AUTHOR: Jim Craig #163

Halon? Ues, the very best for knocking down that nasty fire. This type does not leave any residue on the fre damaged components. It reduces the oxygen content of the fire and the fire goes out. It has been reported that it is hazardous to the environment so it is no longer produced. This may be true, but there is a source for the Halon, probably until they sell their present stock. Vendor is: Chief Aircraft Inc., 1301 Brookside Blvd., Grants pass, OR 97526, (800) 447-3408.

HALONAIRE 1211/1301

US DOT/USCG Approved fire extinguishers, Lowest toxicity, 20 year shelf life.

5 year warranty, Refills available.

Sizes available:

#400 - 14oz. w/bracket, 2" x 8.25" --- \$41.95

#600 - 1.3lb. w/bracket, 2 5/8" x 10" --- \$52.95

#1200 - 2.5lb. 2/bracket, 3 1/4" x 12" --- \$84.95

- 3.5lb. w/bracket, 3" x 15" --- \$119.95

* Shipping lus \$8.00 hazard shipping.

ALSO a replacement for Halon is currently available and it is:

FE-241 and FM-200 (Halon replacements)

Advantages: Relatively non-toxic; effective on all fires, low toxicity, compact.

Disadvantages: Expensive, not quite as effective as Halon.

FE-241 agent is ONLY for use in UNOCCUPIED areas.

FM-200 agent is OK for occupied spaces, but is slightly less effective and inflicks no ozone depletion.

SIZES:

4.5" X 14.3", FM200, #316291, --- \$179.99

5.2" X 18.7", FM200, #316275, --- \$309.00

4.5" X 14.3", FM241, #316380, --- \$169.99

Plus seven other sizes. upto \$799.00

AVAILABLE from: West Marine (800) 262-8464

Tech Tip No: 98-02 SUBJECT: Fire Extinguisher - Blanket Type.

UV MANUAL SECTION 22 PAGE 22-10 AUTHOR: Jim Craig #163

A blanket? Yes. Actually it is called a "Fire Towel". This 17' x 20" fabric towel is treated with a chemical that quickly snuffs out grease and alcohol fires. Simply open the bag and toss the towel on the flames. This is a great item to keep near the galley. Price: \$19.95 #315960. Available from: West Marine 1-(800) 262-8464.

Tech Tip No: 98-03. Subject: Paint, Gloss Black

UV MANUAL SECTION 18 PAGE 18-02 AUHOR: Jim Craig #163

I found a good gloss black paint that works great on the engine shrouds. It is brand name Dupli-Color, name; Engine Paint. Withstands Heat to 500 degrees.

Coaches for sale:

1963 Ultra Van #200, 110Hp engine, Powerglide, 389 gears, 24 foot, second Ultra built, ready to travel. \$4,500.00 OBO.

1967 Ultra Van #295, V/6 Buick engine, 3.8 liter, 3 speed Automatic, Excellent through out, ready to travel. Was asking \$6,295.00. All offers considered. Serious to sell. call Jim Craig

1967 Ultra Van #304, 110Hp engine, with Powerglide, 3.55 gears, good paint, and interior, daily driver, ready to travel. Price: \$3,595.00.

1969 Ultra Van #484, The "My Girl" Ultra, 110Hp engine with Powerglide, 3.55 gears, very good paint, interior, curtains, tires, new brakes (master & wheel cylinders). Ready to travel. \$3,995.00 OBO.

1962 Corvair Rampside pickup, 95Hp engine with 4speed, 3.55 gears, Walk-in camper, all in excellent condition. Ready to travel. \$3,000.00 w/camper, \$2,500.00 without.

Video and photos available for all above. \$8.00 ppd. Jim Craig, (760) 366-9104 or UltraVan@aol.com

Parts for sale:

Ultra Van replacement parts. Many new items now available. send or call for an updated parts list. I have any part that you may need for your Ultra. Jim Craig.

Special tool; NEW, for Ultra Vans, Corvair & V/8. Rear spindle press off or knock off tool. This tool is 4130 aircraft quality steel, 1 3/8" x 3". It threads onto the spindle for removing the spindle from the hub. Prevents damage to the threaded end of the spindle. \$19.95 plus \$3.00 Postage.

Thermister Adapter: For 95, 102 & 110 engines. This allows you to install the orig. "thermister" to use with your Spyder or Corsa dash. \$15.00 ppd. Also I have 5 each used original Corvair 'Thermisters'. (These were stock on all 140, 150 & 180 horsepower engines) Tested and guaranteed. \$100.00 each

Jim Craig #163, (760) 366-9104 or UltraVan@aol.com

UVMCC

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DISCLAIMER: The contents of this ULTRA mailing is made up of reports, flyers, illustrations and/or articles prepared by a number of fellow Club members. The information contained herein was compiled from sources believed reliable, but its accuracy and the written statements and opinions based thereon cannot, of course, be guaranteed by the Club or each author. Errors are possible, although the objective is to present only carefully checked and accurate information.

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