

Happy New Year to All!!



This is Coach #373 owned by Doug and Nancy Pratt. Doug is in the driver's seat showing off their new paint job at their home in Pennsylvania. Doug and Nancy are the club's entertainers amongst other various jobs they perform.

Whales On Wheels

a publication of the Ultra Van Motor Coach Club

Volume 2009

January Issue #1

The Whales on Wheels is a quarterly publication of the Ultra Van Motor Coach Club, Inc. a CORSA Chapter and is dedicated to the preservation and use of the Ultra Van. This 22 foot, unique, motor home was designed by David Peterson and built in Kansas until 1970. About 365 units were built. Dues are \$10 annually. Please remit to the Treasurer, Diane Galli. Make checks payable to Ultra Van Motor Coach Club. Send submissions to WOW by email to the Editor, Brenda Leighton (Digital submissions are preferred, but even hand written are acceptable)

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**Please take a moment to remember one of
our beloved members, Clementna (Holly) Hawley who passed away in 2008.**

A Special Note from Your Editor.....

Reminders have been sent for dues renewal. The annual dues are \$10. On the address label of the mailed newsletters, in the upper right hand corner is the paid membership date. If yours says '08, it is that time again. This will be your last newsletter unless your membership is renewed. If you have paid Diane Galli, treasurer your dues and you still have '08 on your label, please contact her.

If there some of you out there who now have e mail and would like to receive your Whales on Wheels very fast (It takes 2 seconds to e mail it to you), please let me know and I will take you off of my Snail Mail list. You can e mail me at the address below.

Brenda Leighton
239-656-3075 brennorm@aol.com

PREZ SEZ

January 2009

"Oh so much to do and so little time....". That's the way I feel, although I know that all of these electronic gadgets encourage me to do too much. Boy, we have come a long way since our Ultra's were built, haven't we. Add to the above. Brenda doesn't have much room for me this month.....that is a GOOD thing!

Martha and I have been "on the go" since last Whales on Wheels, and the activity has NOT been about Ultras or UVMCC. We have been to the UK (Ireland, Scotland, and England) the whole month of November. Pictures do not do justice to the scenery in Ireland (21 shades of green). Edinburgh is a beautiful City. We enjoyed England mostly because we spent time with our granddaughter. Will enclose a couple of pictures. Had to put Martha to work as a "sentry" so we could afford to come home.



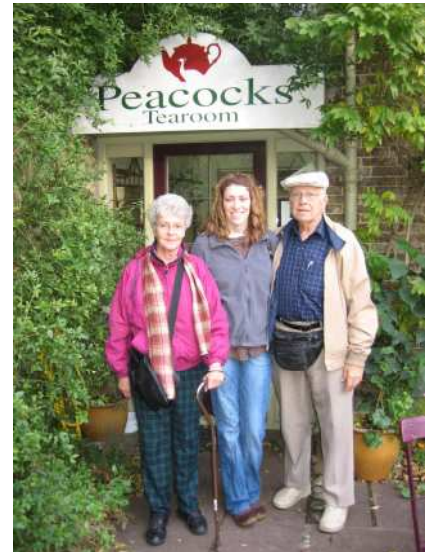
On the "home front"...I would encourage more of you to subscribe to the Ultra Group on Yahoo. That really is the way I keep up at all with what is going on in the minds of some Ultra people, what coaches are for sale, what people are doing with and to their coaches, etc. Unnecessary or uninteresting stuff can be deleted.

To subscribe just click on the appropriate word in the following URL:

ultravan-subscribe@yahogroups.com in a few seconds an email form will appear, then click on "Send."

Also on the home front: Brenda now has the archives, and our next project is to digitalize them. Wish us luck!!

Ron Zoutendam



**"By the time you decide to look for greener pastures....
You're too old to climb the fence."**

This is a paragraph from a letter written by new members, Dennis and Dollie Sharp of Chiefland, FI: An odd yet familiar looking vehicle pulled into the parking lot. Parking about 50' in front of my truck were the Kramers, Jerry and Mary Lou, from Ohio, with Ultra Van #424. Seeing that frog-eyed strange little motor home brought back old memories. Way back in the 70's and 80's we'd seen a few of those funny lookin' things and wanted one of our own, I didn't know what they were called and had no idea what kind of engine they had.....or where it was!

**“Retirement is twice as much
husband on half as much money”**

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Ultra Vans For Sale

#236 1966 Ultravan. This is one of the first units built. It is complete, but needs some work on the interior and paint on the outside. The motor was built by Jim Craig and is a 140. it has less than 1000 miles on it. The core that it started with was also a very low mile original. Power glide transmission was rebuilt at the same time. The front suspension has been upgraded with new I beams. It runs, drives, and is currently registered. Tires have lots of tread, but are at least 8 years old. It is located in Fremont CA. **Asking price is \$4500. Please give me, Ed Gurr, a call if you have any questions 209-742-7469 home. 510-909-3435 cell.**

#257 This Ultra was under full restoration and use until three years ago when I got my boat so I have lost interest in it. It gets between 16 and 21 MPG on a 95 HP Corvaire engine.

It's been sitting for three years and the silver paint needs redoing and the fuel system will need cleaning, of course. But you should be able to drive it home and use it after some cleaning up. It's been converted to a 3 tank system with new water tank and fiberglass black water tank. Has a side drain (4" knife valve) for the black water. Toilet flushes straight into BW Tank. Upgrade steering to late model specs. Installed 1959 Buick tail lights. Pertronix electronic ignition. Dual exhaust.



Forward storage compartment. Forward table. Oil Temp sender and Lowered oil pickup. New roof top air conditioner. New lower instrument panel with Oil pres, oil Temp, Voltmeter, lights. Cleaned oil cooler and added baffles to ends. Replaced door hinges with large barn door hinges. Head Temperature Gauge. Replaced front shocks and springs. Replaced rear shocks. Replaced all "U" Joints. Replaced both rear spindles. Overhauled transmission. Replaced 37 amp Alt with 10SI 63 amp, Internal Regulator, Alternator. Differential dip stick. Remote switch for battery charger. Trap Door Shrouds. Bucket seats from a 1991 Le Baron. Air Dam. Replaced all Hard brake lines Except the rear trailing arms. Dual Master Cylinder. **\$5000 firm. Contact: Jim Isbell E-mail**

Jim.Isbell@gmail.com or 361-776-7884

#279 Ultra Van for sale. This Ultra has been in storage in my warehouse and now has been moved outside to expand warehouse wall. This unit has not been run for many years. Updating is needed on tires, batteries, painting, etc. The 140 engine has about 40,000 miles **Asking price is \$4000. Please contact John Kosmatka in Cedar Park, TX, phone # 512-258-3344 E mail at johncats5@live.com.**

#391 1968 Ultra Van Corvair powered, 110 H.P. runs good. It has a late model Air Conditioner with heat strip and a 50 watt solar panel. It also has a 13' A & E awning. The body is in good shape with no corrosion. Red metallic paint. The Ultra is stored in Wisconsin. **Asking \$5,900.00**
Contact Pat Kennedy, N4671 County Rd P, Delavan, WI 53115
Home 262-728-5842 Cell 262-215-3014

#545 1970 Ultra Van VERY RARE. This is one of the last ones made. For more info on Ultra vans go to <http://www2.onu.edu/~kwildman/ultraVan.html> or www.pilkguns.com/fotouv.htm It has great paint and interior (it's been stored under cover the last 25 years) See pictures for more detail. The driveline has been modified by the previous owner. It has a complete Toronado car suspension, engine, and transmission under the back. It has been widened to match the motor home width using GMS motor home axles. It does currently run and move, but has not been driven in over 10 years. Call me for more details or to set up a time to look at it. It is located in Fremont, CA. **Price \$4900. Please contact me Ed Gurr cell 510-909-3435 or home 209-742-7469, some trades considered.**

#601 1970 Ultra Van. This was Dave Peterson's personal coach. For more info on Dave and Ultra Vans go to <http://www2.onu.edu/~kwildman/ultraVan.html> or www.pilkguns.com/fotouv.htm There were only 5 of the 600 series built and three of these were completed to the point of being drivable. It weights about 4500 lbs. The drive line is an Oldsmobile 360 small block motor, turbo 350 transmission to a modified rear end. The differential has been offset all of the way to the drivers side so the motor is on the drivers side of the motor home. The weight of the motor and transmission are offset with the water and holding tanks. The suspension is air bags on all four corners – way ahead of its time. It needs a complete restoration mechanically, interior, and exterior. I have lots of spare parts including many of the body parts. Here is a partial list of spare parts. Sheering bell cranks, engines, transmission, extrusions, front clip of the body, aluminum panels, windows, stoves, refrigerator, suspension parts, and I am sure a lot of other stuff. I have more pictures if you are interested. It is located in Mariposa, CA. **Price \$4500.00 some trades considered. Contact Ed Gurr, cell 510-909-3435, home 209-742-7469.**

#604. For Sale: Rare 1973 Ultra Van - 26 Feet Long
Sleeps 5 or 6 One of Four Built -This is the only one of its kind on the Road V/8 350 Oldsmobile Engine – 50,000 miles on engine-Full dash instruments 200R4 Overdrive transmission, 4.11 Gears in differential, Power steering, Power 4 wheel disk brakes - Air Bag Suspension, Solar Panels, Good tires 2.8 Microlite 2500Kw Generator-13,000 BTU Roof Air Conditioner, Large awning, All Tinted Glass, TV w/antenna, Microwave. **Asking \$18,000.00**
Location: Apache Junction, Arizona Contact: Howard Boso Home: (480)288-2636
Cell: (480)518-4103 Email: Hamboso@juno.com



#2019 This unit is for sale. It is in very good running condition. It has new air conditioner, rug, mattresses like the astronauts use, refrigerator with big freezer two doors. MANY OTHER ITEMS that I can't tell you about as I'm no mechanic. **Asking \$15,000.00 or best offer. Ruth Harvey , 7685 64th St. , Pinellas Park, Florida tel. (727) 541-3433**



Ultra Class Ads:

Corvair Ultra Van Rescue/Repair Kit as prepared by veteran Ultravanner Pat Fitzgerald for Ultra Van #211. Approximately twenty (20) hard –to-find parts ranging from starter nose assembly to power-glide C-clip. **Cost \$90.00. Half price. Buyer pays shipping.**

Complete heater assembly with cover removed (in working condition) from #211. **\$50 or best offer. Buyer pays shipping.**

Completely rebuilt and assembled rear wheel assembly. By Pat Fitzgerald. **\$90. Half price now. Buyer pays shipping.**

Pair of matching 110 heads. Hand cleaned. **\$75 or best offer. Buyer pays shipping.**

All of the above by Bill Welle, Nokomis, Florida 941-488-6535
Email: billpatjrs@wmconnect.com

Corvair motor for sale built by Bob Galli. It is a 110 and is complete and ready to install. Bob built this motor about five years ago and has never been used. Bob did run the motor in, but other than that it has zero mile on it. It has been stored in a heated and cooled garage the whole time. **Consider best offer. Contact me, Ed Gurr, at my cell 510-909-3435 or home 209-742-7469**

!!From the archives.....!!

Ultra News and Views, October 31, 1967 News Item: **Ultra Van Motor Coach club by Ernest Newhouse.** In Western US the owners of Ultra Vans have recently formed a motor coach association of their own. Election of officers and policy discussions will take place at the next meeting. This newly inaugurated ULTRA CLUB is being chartered as a non-profit corporation. Charter memberships are still being accepted. New Ultra Van owners or other owners who have not yet joined may still do so. The club's mailing address at present is: U.V.M.C. Club, 15239 El Soneto Drive, Whittier, California 90605. The organization already had received its status certificate from International Travel and Trail Clubs of America, Inc. it will, therefore, be a T.T.C.A. associate member-club. Dues have been set at \$10 annually, which will eventually cover the legal, incorporating, and other costs. Each member will automatically receive a year's subscription to the interesting T.T.C.A. monthly travel magazine.!!



2009 Eastern Spring Ultra Van Rally March 16-20, 2009

Hillsborough River State Park

**15402 U.S. 301 North
Thonotosassa, Florida 33592
Phone: 813-987-6771**

Those who wish to attend must reserve their spot with the state park
<http://www.floridastateparks.org/hillsboroughriver/default.cfm>

Planned are tech sessions, bingo, rv scavenger hunt, door prizes, canoeing, discussions, tour of Fort Foster, banquet (buffet in Zephyr Hills) and of course, breakfast goodies and coffee.

Hosts and hostesses are Jerry and MaryLou Kramer and Norm and Brenda Standal.





2009 Mesquite Pod Spring Ultra Van Rally

March 17, 18, 19, 2009

Casa Blanca Hotel RV Park
950 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite, NV 89027
Phone: 702-346-7529
Cyndie's phone: 702-743-2021

They have all the amenities at the park, the hotel has restaurants, spa, huge pool, and maybe a little gambling, if you like. There are also golf courses, if that is your pleasure.

Mesquite is located at mile 120 on Interstate 15, about 70 miles north of Las Vegas, 40 miles south of St. George Utah, and 120 miles north of Hoover dam via Lake Mead Drive. Please call Chuck and Cyndie Hanson if you plan to attend.





THE 43TH ANNUAL NORTH AMERICA UVMCC RALLY

Host: Jim & Roy Davis -(and maybe someone else from the West)
Phone: 270-435-4572 / E-Mail: <jld@wk.net>

DATES: SEPTEMBER 14 - SEPTEMBER 18, 2009

HOST CAMPGROUND:
SANTA FE SKIES RV PARK

14 Browncastle Ranch, Santa Fe, NM 87508
1-877-565-0451

E-MAIL:

<http://www.santafeskiesrvpark.com/>

A BLOCK OF SITES RESERVED; NO NEED FOR INDIVIDUAL RESERVATION AT RV PARK

Cost back in site with water and electric is \$33.15 per night, taxes included.

EARLY ARRIVALS OR LATE LEAVERS NEED TO MAKE THEIR OWN ARRANGEMENTS

Rally package will be mailed to those that register with the hosts.

Anticipated tours of Los Alamos (The Bradbury Museum) and Old Town, Santa Fe

Santa Fe Skies RV park is located just south of Santa Fe City rested on the top of a hill. Here you can enjoy the wonders of the nation's oldest capital city and take in the spectacular beauty of the region. Enjoy the beautiful panoramic view of the total Santa Fe area with unobstructed sunrise and sunset views from the Turquoise Trail!



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CORSA EVENTS IN 2009

Dates: January 31, 2009
Event: Winter Swap Meet in Hamilton, OH
Hosted by: Corvair Club of Cincinnati
Saturday, 7:00-2:00 at Ohio National Guard Armory 6, 3000 Symmes Road, Hamilton, OH 45015.
Contact: Mike or Patty Demeter
Phone: 513.737-7981

Dates: February 27-28, 2009
Event: Corvair Lovers Holiday in Pensacola FL
Hosted by: West Florida Corvair Club
Contact: Ed & June Lindsay
Phone: 850/994-2161

Dates: March 13-14, 2009
Event: Spring Warm-Up in Myrtle Beach, SC
Hosted by: Central Carolina CORSA
Contact: Carol Harris, 2410 Tindal Rd., Sumter, SC 29154
Phone: 803/236-2686

Dates: March 14, 2009
Event: Car & Truck Show in Inverness FL
Hosted by: Nature Coast Corvairs
Contact: Herb
Phone: 352/344-4210

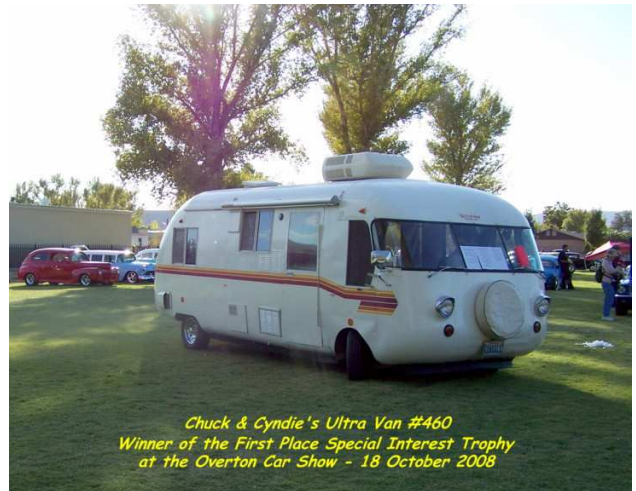
Dates: March 20-22, 2009
Event: Heart of Texas Reunion in New Braunfels TX
Hosted by: Corvair Houston
Contact: Tony Pomponio
Phone: 281/794-5080

Dates: April 4-5, 2009
Event: Spring Autofair in Charlotte NC
Hosted by: CORSA/ N.C.
Contact: Spence Shepard

Dates: April 24-25, 2009
Event: Springfest in Helen GA
Hosted by: Corvair Atlanta & Heart of Georgia Corvairs
Contact: Lillian Law
Phone: 229/883/4123

Dates: May 15-17, 2009
Event: Ohio May Meet in Sandusky OH
Hosted by: Vacationland Corvairs
Contact: Tony Vizyak
Phone: 419/626-1181

Dates: July 13-17, 2009
Event: CORSA International Convention in Jacksonville, FL,
Hosted by: Florida Corvair Clubs
Description: Historic presentation by the CPF Staff, performance-based workshops, rare Corvairs on display, plus all the usual events. Host hotel is Wyndham Jacksonville, 800/996-3426, mention Corvair Society \$99 rate. Register online at www.wyndhamjacksonville.com, click "Search using Corporate, Promo and group codes," enter your dates and 0719886CO for Group code.



Report on Western Fall Rally By Jim Craig

Hi All

Eighteen Ultra Van members of the western group recently attended a very nice rally in Laughlin, NV. The hosts for the event were Betsy and Leo Senn. This was a first time for them to host a rally and they did a GREAT job.

The site of the event was the AVI Casino RV Park. The RV Park folks put us in a open area from the regular customers and that worked out fine. Lots of people from the park came to look over all of the "classic" RV'S.



*Chowing Down At The Pot Luck
at the AVI Ultra Van Rally
28-30 October 2008*

The AVI Casino was easy with the slots and the meals were something else.

One of the group members hit a slot for a "cool" \$1000. WOW! The Casino offers free overnight parking as well as the regular campground. What really impressed everyone was how clean the facilities were. We should go there again.

Those attending was as follows; Boso, Craig, Reinhardt, Nelson, Harrison, Porter's & Allen, Hanson, Young & Senn.

The Yankee Swap brought out a lot of unusual gifts, Like the fuzzy slippers that Marlene won and the Elvis Popcorn bottle the Ed eventually got. Lots of fun. A pot luck was held one evening and as usual. We had more food then we could eat.

The hosts fed us a very good spaghetti dinner the first night and lots of the topping was left over ,which Betty R put in her freezer for a serving some days later.

Many hours a visiting and telling wild Ultra Van experiences. One member was heard to say he was afraid to leave the campground after hearing the terrible experiences of rear hub failures. After some consideration of positive comments from others he changed his mind. Fun -Fun- Fun :))

Rigs on site; three Ultras, one Tiara, one trailer, one Flexible Bus & one mini RV.

Chuck Hanson showed off his new fuel injected Corvair engine. He is VERY happy with the engine and says it goes up hills like it has a wild cat in the rear. I agree, he passed me while I was holding at 55mph and I thought I was setting still. Show off!! I never did see him again. :))

Thanks again Betsy and Leo for a job well done.

Chuck & Cindy Hanson will be the hosts for the next rally, which will be in Mesquite, NV. in late March or early April. No date set as of now.

Jim C



*Talking Ultra Vans & Corvairs
in the shade of Jim & Marlene's Flexible
at the AVI Ultra Van Rally 28-30 Oct 2008*

€€€€€€€€€€

Thank you note from Sherry Morrow: I would like to take the opportunity to thank everyone who attended the Rally in Nebraska city in September. The one day I attended was great! You were all so friendly and helpful. The food was great as well!! I learned a lot, met a lot of new friends and Corvair helpers!! Hope to see you all again in the future sometime. If you are ever going through Nebraska, call me so we can have a visit! Thanks again! Sherry Morrow (#403) Kearney, NE (308)-236-6267