

**Happy New Year!!!  
2012**



**Bob and Cathy Gilbert of Pender Island, British Columbia, Canada own #404. With the new paint job, Bob says "the exterior is now complete except for a couple of reflectors, the new decals "404" and "Powered by Corvair" and the filling in of a myriad of holes with painted screws." Congratulations ! We hope to see you all on the road soon!**

## Whales On Wheels

a publication of the Ultra Van Motor Coach Club

### Volume 2012

### 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, Lew Young. Make checks payable to Ultra Van Motor Coach Club. Send submissions to WOW by email to the Editor, Brenda Standal (Digital submissions are preferred, but even hand written are acceptable)

**UVMCC, Inc.  
278 Garden Circle  
Manteca, CA 95336**

**PRESIDENT**  
Clyde Stanton #  
8401 Bowens Mill Rd.  
Middleville, MI 49333  
(269) 795-9078  
[ptlstan@webtv.net](mailto:ptlstan@webtv.net)

**VICE PRESIDENT**  
Norman Standal #480  
1285 Driftwood Dr.  
N. Fort Myers, FL 33903  
(239) 656-3075  
[brennorm@aol.com](mailto:brennorm@aol.com)

**TREASURER**  
Lewis Young #504  
278 Garden Circle  
Manteca, CA. 95336  
(209) 823-6293  
[sly111@comcast.net](mailto:sly111@comcast.net)

**SECRETARY**  
Mary Lou Kramer  
1869 Union City Rd.  
Ft. Recovery, OH 45846-9316  
(419) 852-9380  
[krammary@wmconnect.com](mailto:krammary@wmconnect.com)

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR**  
Brenda Standal  
1285 Driftwood Dr.  
N. Fort Myers, FL 33903  
(239) 656-3075  
[brennorm@aol.com](mailto:brennorm@aol.com)

**TECHNICAL EDITOR**  
James Davis #388  
312 Butterworth Road  
Murray, KY 420718241  
(270) 435-4572  
[jld@wk.net](mailto:jld@wk.net)

**Eastern DIRECTORS**  
Doug Pratt (570) 549-8136 '12  
Jerry Kramer (419) 852-5720 '13  
Ron Zoutendam (712) 324-4660 '14

**Western**  
Chuck Hanson (702) 743-2021 '12  
Eric Kirven (562) 981-0823 '13  
Cindy Nelson (702) 345-8635 '14

E-Mail Guy: Ken Wildman #338, 419 North Johnson Street, Ada, OH, 45810  
Phone: (419) 634-4874. Email: [kwildman@onu.edu](mailto:kwildman@onu.edu)  
Web Site: <http://www.corvair.org/chapters/ultravan/>

## INDEX

Page	Subject
1	Ultra Van Newsletter Cover
2	Index
	Calendar of Events
	Memoriams
3	Prez Sez
	Message from your Treasurer
4	Western Ultra Van Rally
5	Eastern Ultra Van Rally
	The Third Ultra Van
6-7	Volunteer Needed!
	Ultra Vans For Sale
	Ultra Class Ads & Merchandise
8	Clark's Ad
9	2012 UVMCC National Rally
10-11	Electric, Thoughts and Ideas
	Mystery Picture Answer
12	Tech Tips
	A Special Note from your Editor

### 2012 Calendar of Events

<b>Feb 23-25</b>	<b>Western Ultra Van Rally</b>	<b>Page 4</b>
<b>Mar 19-23</b>	<b>Eastern Ultra Van Rally</b>	<b>Page 5</b>
<b>Jul 25-28</b>	<b>International CORSA Convention</b>	<b>Page 3</b>
<b>Sep 17-22</b>	<b>National Ultra Van Rally</b>	<b>Page 10</b>

**Bob Brown, one of our Ultra Van Members passed away on August 31, 2011. He lived in Crystal River, Florida at the time of his death. He owned coach #473.**

### **Tennie Marie Randal 1924 – 2011**

**From Clyde and Kaye Stanton: Some of the older members will remember her. She lived in Naples FL., was born Feb 16, 1924 and passed away November 4,2011. They had coach # 328 and traveled quite a lot with it. Tennie and her husband were able to spend some time here at our place and we spent a few times at their place in FL**



# ULTRA VAN RALLY

**23, 24, 25 FEBRUARY  
2012**

## **KOA RV PARK - AVI CASINO LAUGHLIN, NEVADA**

**Welcome Dinner - Pot Luck - Yankee Swap Meet  
Vallet Van RV Park to Casino - Golf Course - 8-Plex Movie Theatre  
Pool - Spa - Beach - Boat Launch  
Thursday & Saturday 2-for-1 Buffet  
99-cent Ham & Egg Breakfast  
99-cent Hot Dog & Beer  
5 Bingo Sessions Daily - Keno Lounge  
Poker Room - Race & Sports Book  
1100+ slot machines  
27 Table Games  
63,000 Sq Ft Casino**

**Hosts Betsy & Leo - Ultra Van 293  
928-565-1298 sennasylum@npgcable.com**

**"Stay 2 nights, get 1 night free" coupon = \$52+ tax for all 3 nights  
Advise making reservations ASAP to ensure we park together as a group.  
1-800-562-4142 - ask for LINDA & ULTRA VAN RALLY by the Gazebo.**

### **Suggested Agenda:**

**\* Thursday 2-for-1 Buffet \***

**Friday - Welcome Dinner**

**Saturday - Dessert Pot Luck & Yankee Swap Meet**

### **Suggested Tours:**

**Oatman Ghost Town - Classic Car Museum at Riverside Casino**

**\*Slot cards required for dining & other discounts - slot cards are FREE from the Advantage Club inside Casino\*  
[www.avicasino.com/](http://www.avicasino.com/)**



# 2012 Eastern Spring Rally

at

**Hillsborough River State Park,**

15402 U.S. 301 North  
Thonotosassa, Florida 33592

**March 19-23 2012**

**Reservations have been made for a few sites at the Campground. If you plan to attend, please call Brenda or Norm Standal at 239-656-3075 for a spot. There will be the usual Schedule of Events: Potluck, Yankee Swap, Prizes, Tech Session, Buffet Restaurant, Meetings, etc.**



web site: <http://floridastateparks.org/hillsboroughriver/default.cfm>



## **The Third Ultra Van**

**by Owen Strawn**

This was the third ever Ultra Van, the first one sold to a customer - Dr Standish Watson of Walnut Creek, CA in 1963. Supposed to have been completed before Prescolite got involved, but it had a Prescolite/Travalon tag installed under the galley window.

Charles & Florence Harris of Granada Hills CA are listed as #103's owners in the 1970 club roster, and Aubrey & Wanda Jackson of Glendale CA in the 1971-1977 rosters, then Don & Marilyn Beattie of Mission Hills CA from 1980-1984.

The photo was sent to me by Pauline Wooldridge. Pauline and her husband Edwin (deceased in 2010) owned the coach from 1985 until it was destroyed in a grass fire in July of 2001.

On the back it says: Echo Lake, Home, 9250 Aurora Av No., Seattle 98133 July 30th 1977



## Volunteer Needed!!!

Presently, Bob Galli is in charge of the Membership Book, but it is time for him to retire. A volunteer is needed to take over with the handling and printing of the yearly Membership Book. Please contact any of the officers if you would be interested in this!

## Ultra Vans For Sale

**#232 Ultra Van.** This unit has about 1200 miles on a rebuilt 110 engine. I have invested over \$12,000 for renovation and upgrading. I had just returned from a 1,200 trip with my Ultra before taking it in for some body work and paint job. At that time, it was in great running condition before the wiring was removed. There is a brand new refrigerator, Onan generator, exterior body parts, and (2 ) windshields that are stored with the Ultra Van in Las Vegas. It also has a rebuilt transmission. Included are heavy duty brakes, new front suspension, air conditioner and swamp cooler. The exterior body is in fairly good shape. The wiring, interior paneling and carpet have been removed in a renovation attempt. Would consider the buyer using some bartering, or doing the mechanical work that needs to be completed. Ultra Van #232 has been relocated to the property of Chuck Hanson in Mesquite, Nevada. Chuck is our current Western Ultra Van Club Board Member. He intends to do some upgrades and improvements on Ultra Van #232. His cell phone number: (702) 346-1688. We can thank Chuck for saving another Ultra from the graveyard.

**Darrell Woofter contact at 417-725-8088 or email me at [woofcorvair@aol.com](mailto:woofcorvair@aol.com) for questions. Please make offer.**

**#479 Ultra Van.** Ready and roadworthy...just move in and roll. Newly Restored Antique Motorhome. 1969 Ultravan #479 (Corvair Powered) 22' Newly painted: White with red pin striping. Highly coveted all white interior with white appliances

New carpet: tan and freshly made curtains. Ralph generator..Coleman 1300 Air conditioning unit. New rubber around windshields. Large rear window. Awning across entry side. Located in Apache Junction, Arizona. \$8,000 or best offer. **Contact Howard Boso Phone (480)288-2636 Cell (480) 518-4103 Email [Hamboso@juno.com](mailto:Hamboso@juno.com)**

**#2019 Tiara** 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:

### For Sale:

**WANTED:** Hoping to buy or barter out a very good conditioned Corvair-110 engine. It must have less than 25,000 miles on it, or has been recently rebuilt. I plan to have it installed in my Ultra Van #358. Please contact me: Darrell: [woofcorvair@aol.com](mailto:woofcorvair@aol.com) or telephone: (417) 725-8088.

### For Sale: Reprinted Ryerson Ultra Van Manual

I now have the Ryerson Ultra Van Service/Repair manual and a CD version of it available.

Prices: Manual only \$50.ea. (Mailed in USA.)

Manual only \$70.ea. ( Mailed to Canada.)

CD only \$17. ( Mailed in USA.)

CD only \$22. ( Mailed to Canada.)

CD mailed with manual \$15. ( To all.)

Make check to: Eric Kirven.

Mail to: 3585 Cerritos Ave., Long Beach, CA 90807



**New Uncut WINDSHIELDS. Limited number of sets available.**

**Great price..... Make your Ultra Van look like new.....**

**Also have two sets of newly fabricated REAR TRAILING ARMS..**

**Get great alignment. Reduce tire wear.....**

**Strong.....Rear shock mounts.....Pics available.....**

**Will.....575-770-6798.....williampanzerart@sbcglobal.net**

**WILLIAM PANZER, Studio de Talpa**

**34 Archuleta Road**

**Ranchos de Taos, NM 87557**

**[www.WilliamPanzer.com](http://www.WilliamPanzer.com), [www.ultravancoaches.com](http://www.ultravancoaches.com)**

**575-770-6798**

## **ULTRA MERCHANDISE**



CUTE Miniature Cloisonné Ultra pins \$5.00 each

Club badges – 1<sup>st</sup> one free at rally or \$2.75 replacement

"Corvair Powered" bumper stickers \$3 or 2 for \$5

DVD of Ultra Archives \$5.00

VIN # plates (blank – you provide coach #) \$3.00

Blue Golf shirt with stitched "Ultra Van" \$5 (sizes XL & 2XL)

A few T-shirts from past rallies @ \$5.00

booklet "From Covered Wagon to Ultra Van" \$5.00

½ " X 4 ½ " Stitched patches w/ Ultra on US map & flag \$3.00

Tech tips, sets 1 or 2 (\$13 + \$2 shipping each mailed)

Window decals: UVMCC with Ultra \$1.00

Postcards and notecards @ various prices

Various Viton "O" Rings by Safari priced from \$1 - \$9.00

(Plus shipping)

Call or e-mail about these items...

OR BETTER YET, SHOW UP AT A RALLY!

Available at rallies or by ordering from Nancy Pratt, Merchandise Chairman

570-549-8136 [dnpratt@juno.com](mailto:dnpratt@juno.com)

# 2007 - 2012 Clark Catalog

This will be **THE Catalog** until **2013**

Includes All our **NEW** parts, **KITS**, improvements and updates.

**Over 6**  
**solid months**  
**in the making!**

Includes  
updates  
on **80%** of  
the pages!

**Over**  
**670 pages**  
**1900 photos**  
**1100 sketches**

**Over**  
**500 exploded diagrams**  
**14,000 parts listed**  
**11,000 index entries**

**M - O - R - E**  
**Clark Multi Kit choices,**



## How to Get One!

You need **THIS** catalog!



**Rush order - JUST the catalog** - Order over the internet or by any of our regular methods.

\$6.00 USA, \$8.00 Canada, FOREIGN contact us

**WITH a Parts Order:** order CAT-O \$4.00 3 Lbs.

## CLARK'S CORVAIR PARTS,® INC.

400 Mohawk Trail Box C, Shelburne Falls, MA 01370 • 413-625-9776

www.corvair.com • e-mail: clarks@corvair.com

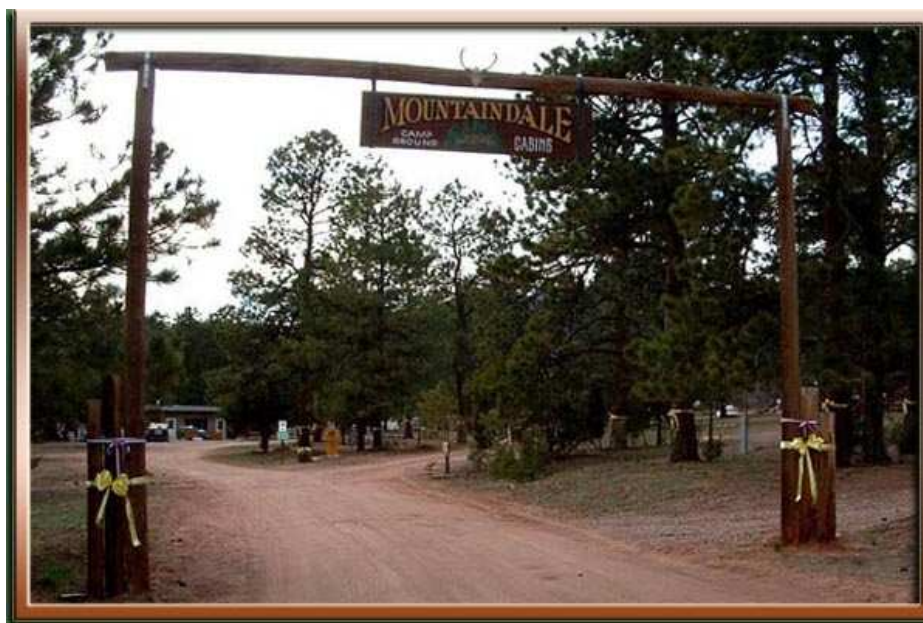


**Thicker  
than  
ever!**



3 volume  
set





## **2012 UVMCC National Rally**

**Mountaindale Cabins & RV Resort**

**2000 Barrett Rd.**

**Colorado Springs, CO**

**719-576-0619**

**[www.campground1.com](http://www.campground1.com)**

**WHERE:** Mountaindale Cabins & RV Park, 2000 Barrett Rd., Colorado Springs, CO (719) 576-0619

**WHEN:** Arrive Sept.17th. Depart Sept. 22nd.

**WHY:** To have a great time with like minded people. See interesting places such as Pikes Peak, Royal Gorge, Seven Falls, Garden of the Gods etc.

**FACILITIES:** Full hook-ups with spacious lots. Large heated clubhouse with meeting room, game room and full kitchen. Rental RVs and Cabins available. Small store on site. Restrooms are available.

**COST:** \$31.40 per night for RV spot. Call for Cabin & RV rental rates. To secure exclusive use of kitchen and meeting room, we must have a minimum of 10 reservations made prior to June 17, 2012. While making reservations, be sure to mention UVMCC. The RV park will want a 25% deposit at the time of reservation. The is non refundable after June 17th.

Dinner on the day of arrival, breakfast the second day and the banquet will be furnished at no expense to the participant.

Any questions? Call Lew Young (209) 639-6293.

**Hosts: Shelley & Lew Young, Larry Foreman and Rosie Walker**

**Reservations must be made before June 17, 2012 to make sure we are together as a group.**

**Be sure to mention UVMCC when making reservations**

## Electric Thoughts and Ideas

Often at a rally tech session, I answer numerous electrical questions and give suggestions on improvement. For the purposes of this paper, I will address only the 12 volt system. All 12 volt power originates from three sources - battery, alternator or the charger. We call them 12 volt sources, but the battery produces from 10.5 to 13.2 volts depending on its state of charge. The alternator produces 13.7 to 14.5 volts depending on the ambient temperature and the system load. Finally the charger produces from 13.6 to 14.4 volts depending on its type and the system load.

Most of our coaches were initially wired in the late 1960's. Electrical and accessory loads have increased greatly since then. So is your coach's wiring up to task?

Lots of fuses. Hopefully every circuit is fused or has a fusible wire. Fuses are available in every conceivable rating. Thanks to the solar industry, high amperage rating fuses necessary to protect the battery circuits are readily available. AMG mega fuses are about \$3.00 each and available in ratings from 100 to 500 amps, fast acting or slow blow ([www.waytekwire.com](http://www.waytekwire.com)). A typical coach needs 400 amp fuses in the battery cable (next to the battery) and the alternator needs at least a 50 amp fuse (on the engine compartment bulkhead next to the alternator). I use a 150 amp fuse to protect the 105 amp alternator. If your coach has an inverter, it needs a fuse equal to the maximum surge load. Thus a 1000/2000 watt inverter needs a 200 amp fuse (2,000 watts divided by 10.5 volts equals 190 amps). My wire to the starter is unfused but if I could find a place to mount a fuse it would be fused.. I don't like automatic reset circuit breakers except for the headlights.

Battery cables. Assuming you still have the batteries in the battery compartment with its flimsy 4 gauge cable, that needs to be changed. The heat and vibration over time has work-hardened the copper and it is ready to break. The insulation is brittle and thin. The cables are 51" long (a standard size) and available in 4, 2, 1 and 0 gauge with clamp or lug ends. For modern coach wiring, 2 gauge is fine, but if your battery is more than five feet from the battery switch you need a heavier cable.

Manual reset circuit breaker. Coach's power circuit breaker(s) are meant to protect the wiring up to the AGC type glass fuse blocks. Most coaches came with a 30 amp manual reset circuit breaker for all 12 volt items except the starter, ignition and headlights. This is insufficient, especially for a 4-tank coach with all the pumps. I think a 50 amp manual reset circuit breaker for the additional fuse blocks and to parallel feed the coach's old fuse panels is sufficient.

ATC fuse blocks. If you are adding or replacing fuses in your coach, ATC blade type fuses are probably the best. Fuse blocks are available in 2, 4, 6, 8, 12, 16, 24 fuse sizes. I prefer the 8 fuse type as it is small and fits most anywhere and can handle 60 amps max. I have two up front under the coffee bar and one in an electrical relay box mounted over the transmission. I use the ATC fuses that light when blown - named easy ID (for example ATC-30ID for the 30 amp type). Why extra fuse blocks? Take for instance the tail lights. The power comes from the alternator, through the battery switches, through the 12 pin dash panel connector, up to the light switch, back through the same 12 pin connector, through the body harness to the battery compartment 12 pin connector and out to the tail lights. Is it any wonder why coaches have dim tail and brake lights? With any luck you have 9 volts at the bulbs; maybe less. A reduction in bulb voltage from 14 volts to 13 volts is a 33% decrease in light output in an incandescent bulb. It is simple to run a 12 gauge wire from the new circuit breaker to the fuse panel, through a 10 amp fuse to a relay mounted next to the fuse panel (using the old wiring to trigger the relay) and back to the tail lights. Using 16 gauge wire, this supplies full alternator voltage to the light bulbs. Other circuits routed through the rear fuse block and relays are: engine start, ignition, electric fuel pump, brake lights, turn signal, fans for the oil and transmission coolers, and engine oil cooler pump. Up front the fuses and relays handle power to the clearance and identification lights, windshield wipers, and headlights. Fused circuits with no relays are defroster fans, radio, CB, cruise control, voltmeter, 12 volt power plug and 100 watt inverter.

Relays. From the previous paragraph you can see there is a need for numerous relays. All my relays are the Valiant 40 amp type with socket available from J C Whitney (SKU Number: 1JA 134075). The advantages of relays is they allow the old coach wiring to trigger the relay, short runs for the high power wire, great selection of wire sizes for the power wire and reversal of power path. For instance, the normal windshield wiper switches in the coach are hot to the wipers while a car's switch interrupts the ground. Adding a relay allows a car switch to be used with a park switch and pause control. You can use a timed release relay is for a monetary water pump switch in the bathroom. If you flush with tank water, while not hooked-up to an external water supply, a momentary switch in the bathroom can turn the water pump on for 60 seconds and then automatically turn the pump off.

*Wire Gauge Selection Table 12 Volt Circuit*

AMPS	3'	5'	7'	10'	15'	20'	25'
0 to 5	18	18	18	18	18	18	18
6	18	18	18	18	18	18	18
7	18	18	18	18	18	18	18
8	18	18	18	18	18	16	16
10	18	18	18	18	16	16	16
11	18	18	18	18	16	16	14
12	18	18	18	18	16	16	14
15	18	18	18	18	14	14	12
18	18	18	16	16	14	14	12
20	18	18	16	16	14	12	10
22	18	18	16	16	12	12	10
24	18	18	16	16	12	12	10
30	18	16	16	14	10	10	10
40	18	16	14	12	10	10	8
50	16	14	12	12	10	10	8
100	12	12	10	10	6	6	4
150	10	10	8	8	4	4	2
200	10	8	8	6	4	4	2



This table is based on heat produced by the wire carrying the stated amperage. If the wire is enclosed, then the next larger size should be used. For safety and best results, when circuit is longer than 10 feet, always use the next larger gauge size, which is the next lower even number.

Charger. Coaches came with a simple battery charger - 10 amp, nominal. This is fine for a starting battery but deep cycle, AGM, and gel batteries need a smart charger for longer battery life. It is estimated that a standard one stage battery charger will shorten deep cycle life by 50 % and only charge the battery to 80% of its potential storage capacity. Smart chargers are made for the type of battery they charge but universal chargers have switches to configure the charger to the battery. If you are paying \$500+ for two D-31M Optima batteries, is \$170 for a charger too much for another 10 years of battery life? **Jim Davis - Technical Editor**



Re: Cover Picture on Oct. 2011 issue of WOW

Nancy Pratt: About the Ultra mystery picture and answers...we should be able to guess since we were obviously there but we have NO idea where it was taken. We can name 4 of the Ultras in the photo: Us - Doug & Nancy Pratt of PA in #373, Bob & Ann Cole of NY in #555, Paul Piche of MI in #389, Norm & Marion Helmkey in #408  
The others are unknown to us.

**TECH TIP NUMBER: 2012-01**  
**UV MANUAL SECTION: 5-19**

**SUBJECT: Tank Repairs**  
**AUTHOR: Larry Forman #545**

I have tried patching the fresh water tank and found that most epoxies do not seal very well. If there is water in the tank, then typically, while the epoxy is curing, some water weeps out and the final result is a failed tank patch. However, I recently tried a relatively new epoxy which worked extremely well called "PC Marine". This epoxy is manufactured by PC Products Company, which makes PC-7 and PC-11, both well-known epoxy products. PC Marine comes in a very handy roll and looks like a large Tootsie Roll, with an outer and inner part. You can either cut or tear off part of the roll and then mix it with your hands. There is no need for two different mixing sticks, like a lot of epoxies. When mixed, PC Marine is the consistency of thick chewing gum and will stick to the underside of a cracked water tank and seal until the epoxy has cured rock hard. This epoxy is great when sealing a water leak and will cure under water. The color is white when mixed and it is quickly becoming a favorite epoxy for a lot of projects. It is highly recommended and mine was available at my local Ace Hardware store.

**TECH TIP NUMBER 2012-02**  
**UV MANUAL SECTION 22, PAGE 2-06**

**SUBJECT: \*\*SAFETY\*\* Old Tech Tips**  
**AUTHOR: John Howell #417 & #489**

I was recently looking through the older tech tips and was thinking that these are out of date and really no good but one caught my eye, it was a suggestion on putting Asbestos cloth on the underside of the engine compartment doors for fire proofing under aluminum sheets. [TT 66-04] I have noticed that one of the early owners of 489 had done many of the tech tip suggestions so I wondered if he had installed the Asbestos cloth. I opened the engine compartment doors and there it was the dangerous Asbestos cloth with the ragged edges sticking out !

I had some experience around Asbestos during my work career so I knew that I did not want this stuff in my Ultra Van and I had to use care in removing it, CAUTION you do not want to breath in any of the small dust fibers !

Spraying a mist of water on it will help keep the Asbestos dust from becoming airborne, remove the doors and take them outside the Ultra Van. Use plastic disposable gloves and a good dust mask with special screw on asbestos filters when working with this stuff, keep the asbestos wet down. Place the removed Asbestos cloth, any pieces or scraps, the mask and the gloves you use into a sealable zip-lock bag and take it to a Convenience Center for waste, this would be considered Hazardous Waste.

One source for a new insulating material is ([www.insulshield.net](http://www.insulshield.net)) to replace the Asbestos. Now I see the old Tech Tips as a source of things to check that might need a second look and corrective action.

A Special Note from Your Editor.....

Cost for joining the club is \$10 per year and should be sent to our Treasurer, Lewis Young.

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 Standal  
239-656-3075  
[brennorm@aol.com](mailto:brennorm@aol.com)

