

Who said the Ultra Vans are a fair weather RV?

Whales On Wheels

a publication of the Ultra Van Motor Coach Club

Volume 2015 October Issue #4

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. For membership, please remit dues to the Treasurer, Owen Strawn (\$5 per year if your newsletter is delivered by e mail or \$15 per year if the newsletter is delivered by snail mail (Post Office). 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)

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INDEX

Page Subject

1 Ultra Van Newsletter Cover

2 Index

Calendar of Events

3 Prez Sez

Message from your Editor

4-5 AVI Casino Western Rally

Eastern Rally in Titusville, FL

2016 Ultra Van Natl Rally in Tombstone, AZ

Other Events

6 Ultra Vans for Sale

Ultra Class Ads

7 Ultra Merchandise

8-9 National Rally Report

Article by John Howell on LED lights

10 UVMCC Membership form

Recipe from Chris Brown

11-12 Installation of Windshields (Repeat Pub.)

2016 Calendar of Events

Early March AVI Ultra Van Rally

3rd Week of March Eastern Rally in Titusville, FL

Mid September 2016 National Ultra Van Rally at Tombstone, AZ

MEETING NOTES for those unable to attend the Rally at Branson, MO

The 2016 National Rally will be at Tombstone, Arizona. Linda & Terry Porter will be the hosts. Dates to be announced in a later WOW.

The GMC group have invited the UVMCC members to attend their rally. Jim Davis will get the information for WOW. Rosie Walker's proposed changes to the By-Laws were discussed on a point-by-point basis. The Board of Directors could not take any action because the proposal lacked the necessary 5 signatures.

Eastern Merchandise Director Nancy Pratt is retiring. Patty Mello has agreed to be the Merchandise Director for both East & West.

Technical Advisor Jim Davis has also retired. President Jerry has appointed Chuck Hanson to be our new Technical Advisor.

Brenda Standal plans to retire as Newsletter Editor within the next 2 years. We are hoping someone will volunteer to replace her.

Owen Strawn will continue to try to get our charter re-instated. Due to an oversight it had expired several years ago.

New Officers are: Vice President – Lew Young

West Director – Jerry Mello
East Director – Gary Anderson
Newsletter Editor – Brenda Standal

Secretary – Mary Lou Kramer Treasurer – Owen Strawn

PREZ SEZ October 2015

First, I need to correct a mistake. There was an error in the names submitted for the ballot, which was not discovered until after the meetings at the recently concluded national rally at Branson. The ballot for Eastern Division Director

listed the name of Jim Davis. However, Jim was not up for election as he still has two years remaining in his three year term. At the Eastern Division spring rally at Titusville last March, Gary Anderson was nominated to fill the soon-to-expire seat then held by Doug Pratt. There were no other nominations for this position. Gary's name should have appeared on the ballot, rather than Jim Davis. To correct this error, I have appointed Gary Anderson as the new Eastern Division Director for a three year term, as per Appendix C, Item E of the By-Laws.

We will miss seeing some of the Ultras that have been to many rallies over the years. Brenda & Norm Standal have sold #480, and it is rumored that Doug & Nancy Pratt and Jim & Roy Davis will be giving up traveling in their coaches. We hope these friends will attend future rallies and the new owners will attend the rallies as well.

Mary Lou & I had a busy year as we attended rallies in Titusville FL, Rochester MN, and Branson MO in our Ultra Van and went to Prince Edward Island, Canada, and Oshkosh WI with 2 different kids & their families this summer.

As another year of Ultra Vanning draws to a close, we wish you safe travels and good health.

Jerry

¥¥¥¥

Brenda Standal

239-656-3075 <u>brennorm@aol.com</u>





UPCOMING EVENTS AND RALLIES

AVI Casino Ultra Van Rally sponsored by Leo & Betsey Senn Dates: TBA Probably Early March 2016

Eastern Rally in Titusville, FL Dates: TBA in March 2016

"ATI Northwest Art & Air Festival 2016" will run:

August 26th <u>Friday</u>, August 27th <u>Saturday</u> (The Car Show), and August 28th <u>Sunday</u> Festival info will be available closer to the event date.

If you want to check out this years info...click on this link http://nwartandair.org/

We checked into the Blue Ox RV Park on Thursday so we could get up early and enjoy the hot air balloons first thing Friday morning. The balloons lift off from the fields just outside he RV gate on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. I suggest you take that into consideration. It really is a beautiful site!!

(800) 336-2881 If you want to stay at the Blue Ox RV park... YOU MUST call ASAP!! I have 10 sites on hold under "Mello". You would just call, tell them that you are with the <u>Ultra Van Motor Coach Club</u> and put one of the sites in your name. They are wonderful there and will tell you all you need to know.

<u>Please note: I did set it up for Thursday 25th to check in and check out on Sunday the 28th when I held these 10 sites.</u>

We booked for the 2015 event this time last year...They fill up that fast....and right now most of their sites are full. Would love to see more than our UV there next year!!

Patty & Jerry Mello (541) 926-2631

2016 Ultra Van National Rally at Tombstone, AZ

Hosts: Terry and Linda Porter

Mid September Dates and Exact Location To Be Announced

* * * * *

Proposal for a joint rally with the GMC motorhome club, GMC Motorhomes International (GMCMI)

Early this summer I was approached by Bob Dunahugh (GMC motorhome owner, Corvair enthusiast, and former CORSA board member) with a suggestion that the UVMCC and the GMC motorhome club hold a joint rally. I told him I would bring it up at the membership meeting at our national rally at Branson.

Background

For those of you who aren't familiar with GMC coaches, they were built between 1973 and 1978 on a specially constructed chassis mated with an Oldsmobile Toronado front-wheel drive powertrain. The GMCs were beautifully styled and they remain strikingly contemporary-looking today. The use of the Toronado front-wheel drive powertrain in a motorhome was pioneered by Ultra Van (Tiara) and several other manufacturers.

GMC motor coach rallies are similar to ours, but on a larger scale. They hold national rallies the last week of March and the last week of September each year. Two years ago, Larry Forman and Rosie Walker stopped at a the GMCMI rally in Branson, MO, on their way home from the UVMCC national rally at Mountain View, AR. There were 151 coaches in attendance. As Larry recounted at the time on the Yahoo Ultra Van website, he and Rosie were warmly received and their coach was the object of a great deal of interest.

Fast forward to June of this year. I invited the Iowa Corvair Enthusiasts (a CORSA chapter) to the rally my wife and I were hosting. From that invitation, Bob Dunahugh got my name and number and called me with the suggestion for a joint rally. Bob had apparently been at the Branson GMC rally that Larry Forman attended and he noted that the GMC people are very enthusiastic toward Ultra Vans. This inspired him to propose that it happen again on a larger scale.

Discussion at the UVMCC membership meeting

The consensus at the meeting was that the best way to accomplish a joint rally without violating bylaws of either organization (or getting anyone's nose too far out of joint) would be to hold separate but co-located rallies on the same (or at least overlapping) dates. Within the UVMCC, any decision to schedule a joint rally would be up to the rally hosts.

This approach would allow complete autonomy for each club, but would allow for cross-pollination between the groups. Possibilities for combined activities include pot luck dinners, coach hopping, entertainment, etc.

UVMCC rally hosts are free to select the dates, the specific location, and the itinerary of the their rally, subject to the requirements that national rallies be held in the month of September somewhere between the Mississippi River and the Rocky Mountains and that regional rallies not be within 30 days of the national rally. Should they choose to do so, our rally hosts are free to schedule a rally that coincides with one being held by the GMC club. Rally-attending members of both clubs are free to vote with their feet.

Conclusion

I like Bob's enthusiasm and I like the idea of a new and interesting dimension at a rally. But, the ultimate decision on whether or not to pursue this idea is entirely up to those who are hosting a rally. Anyone wanting to learn more about the GMC rallies should contact Bob Dunahugh at yenko108@hotmail.com or GMCMI Convention Manager, Kim Weeks at kimweekgmc@gmail.com or 612.501.4600.



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. 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 for questions. Please make Offer

Ultra Class Want Ads

WANTED: I need an original steering column for UV 222. A mid-eighties olds column has been installed in our coach and I don't like it. If not mistaken, the original column would have been a Ross steering unit. Please contact me at bojogray@primus.ca or johngray063@yahoo.com 905 449 9858. I have a US postal box so shipping should not be an issue. John Gray, Oshawa, Ontario

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



For Sale: Are you planning to do a rack and pinon conversion?

Tony is having new steering arms made for the Rack and Pinion Conversion setup. There is a 3 tier pricing option. If Tony is able to get 3 to 4 more orders; everyone will receive the best (lowest price) for all the arms made in this run.

If you would like a set Please contact Tony before Oct 31, 2015 at 613-925-1088 or email him at ultravanman248@yahoo.com

ULTRA MERCHANDISE



CUTE Miniature Cloisonné Ultra pins \$5.00 each

NEW Cloisonné Ultra earring set \$7.00

NEW Cloisonné Ultra pendants (chain not included) \$3.50

NEW Ultra coffee mugs \$8.00

Club badges . 1st one free at rally or \$5.00 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 % Itra Van+\$5 (sizes XL & 2XL)

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

Booklet %From Covered Wagon to Ultra Van+\$5.00

3 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:

Merchandise Chairman - Patty Mello 541-926-2631 nanapatty1951 @hotmail.com





UVMCC NATIONAL RALLY AT BRANSON REPORT

By Gary Anderson

Branson, MO, was the site of this year's UVMCC national rally, hosted by Mary Lou and Jerry Kramer and Brenda and Norm Standal. Both couples have plenty of rally-hosting experience and it showed in a well-organized rally. There were five Ultra Vans in attendance; #328 (Molly Bacon & Chris Brown from GA, plus Chris' son Morgan), #388 (Roy & Jim Davis from KY), #424 (Mary Lou & Jerry Kramer from OH) #480 (Brenda & Norm Standal from FL), and #500 (Owen Strawn from KS). The



Western Division was represented by Californians Lew & Shelly Young (ex-497) with Lew's sister, Donna Bolton, and by Amanda Shumack & Bill Moeller, owners of #383. Both Western parties arrived in very nice modern RVs. Other attendees *sans* Ultra Vans included Martha and Ron Zoutendam (#375) from Iowa, Kay and Clyde Stanton (ex-392) from MI, and Olga and Gary Anderson (#420 – still providing the mechanic's boat payments) from MN.



The rally formally started with a Sunday evening dinner prepared by the hosts. Great food, interesting company, good conversation, new faces, and drawings for door



prizes. A very nice start. Monday's activities began with coffee & breakfast goodies in the clubhouse, accompanied by additional drawings for door prizes, a practice that continued at each gathering throughout. We

reconvened at 10am for the tech session while some of the ladies went off in search of places that accept credit cards. (SURPRISE! They found some.) Jim Davis presided over a wide-ranging tech session, accompanied by his announcement that it was his last in the role of Technical Editor to the club. (Thanks for your willingness to share your knowledge, Jim! My mechanic also thanks you.) Jim announced that Chuck Hanson has agreed to take over as Tech Editor. (And thanks for stepping up to the plate, Chuck. You may not know what you're in for.)

Monday afternoon was taken up by coach hopping, preparing for the pot luck dinner and, in some cases, further exercise of the credit cards. The pot luck dinner was, as always, excellent. It was followed by the Yankee swap, which featured intrigue and even collusion (you know who you are), as participants vied to claim prized items that had already been chosen by others. As predicted, the shocking neon-pink bra that Roy Davis took home from the Rochester rally reappeared. This time it was paired with a set of birth stone earrings representing Mary Lou Kramer's birth month. Mary Lou went for the package, taking it away from someone who was, no doubt, secretly glad. Other items in demand were several strings of Ultra Van-shaped RV patio lights. Several



members displayed their considerable talents. After the Yankee Swap, the lights were doused and Amanda went first. She did a spectacular dance routine/light show using LED-lit hula hoops which she programmed to continuously change light patterns and colors in synchrony with her music. (Anybody here **not** old enough to remember hula hoops? I

thought not.) As Molly Bacon noted on the Ultra Van web site, words can't capture Amanda's performance; you had to be there. Amanda was a tough act to follow, but that's what husbands are for. The lights came up and Bill demonstrated contact juggling, which involves keeping one ball in contact with you at all times while rolling it around your body. (Note: The online Urban Dictionary has an alternate definition that you probably don't want to know.) Bill's contact juggling was certainly entertaining and, I suspect, difficult to master. In yet another display of talent later in the week, the multi-faceted Owen Strawn picked a lock with a *toothpick* to gain access to the ladies room. No, Owen wasn't desperate, but the damsel locked inside certainly was. Yay, Owen!

Tuesday was taken up with morning coffee, voting, directors' meeting, and a membership meeting, followed up by a fun lunch with singing waiters at Mel's Hard Luck Diner. Then, back to the campground for more coach hopping and late- afternoon hors d'oeuvres and BYOB refreshments. Wednesday was primarily free time. (I used it to question coach owners about their coaches & projects, take pictures, and pack.) We got together for a group dinner at Montana Mike's Steakhouse. No singing waiters - just good food and good company. Thursday was departure day for us, as Olga had a class to attend six-hundred-plus miles away on Friday morning. I'm told those who remained lunched on leftovers and dined in the evening at a place called McFarlain's. If you want details or gossip, you'll have to ask the survivors. I was hoping that my absence from the rally's final day would disqualify me from reporting, but no such luck.

LED LIGHTS FOR ULTRA VAN #489

Doug Bell was looking at having some LED taillights made by a company in Tennessee so he asked me if they could come out and measure the taillights on my #417. The owner of the company, Mr. Lambert, came out sketched and measured the taillights to give Doug an estimate for the LEDs.

A few years later I acquired Ultra Van # 489 and I called Mr. Lambert to see about having him make LED taillights for #489. He still had the information he got from # 417 and I took him one of the teardrop clearance lights for a sample to make LED cards for those. In a short time he had them made and they fit like a factory part. The manufacture contact information to my LED/Clearance Light article, it is: Lambert Enterprises, Norris, TN. Phone (865)494-9850, website: www.lambertenterprises.com

Picture # 1: shows the taillight on #489 like it was when I bought it, aluminum foil tape on the back side to reflect the light from one standard bulb.

Picture # 2: with the standard bulb, bracket and foil tape removed the new LED card was mounted with the stainless screws that came with it. The cards have 64 LEDs with different light levels for brake, turn signal and taillights, they are extra bright for daylight use, pull less amps and run cool.

Picture # 3: They made LED cards to fit into the original type teardrop clearance lights, remove the old bulb and light socket but keep the bracket for mounting the cover. The LED card has a square hole cut out to fit over the cover bracket. The LED cards for the clearance lights just glue in the light base with RTV Silicone sealer then the light can be mounted as usual.

John Howell

UV417 & UV489







ULTRA VAN MOTOR COACH CLUB CORSA CHAPTER #008

UVMCC is dedicated to the preservation, use, and sharing of knowledge of the ULTRA VAN. This 22 foot unique motorhome was designed by Dave Peterson and was built in Kansas until 1970. About 365 units were built. UVMCC publishes a quarterly newsletter, Whales On Wheels+ This newsletter contains stories by the members, technical information, and a ‰or Sale+and ‰lassified+section if you are wanting to buy or sell an Ultra Van.

It is not a requirement to belong to CORSA, Inc. to belong to UVMCC, but it is highly recommended.

If you are interested in becoming a member of UVMCC, please fill out the following form.+

UVMCC MEMBERSHIP	

Name.
Address:
City, State, Zip:
Telephone:
E-mail Address:
CORSA Member# &
Chapter/Affiliation (if any):
Membership is \$5.00 U.S. dollars if the newsletter is received electronically or \$15.00 U.S. dollars if mailed to
you.
Please send check or Money Order made payable to UVMCC, to Owen Strawn, Treasurer, 434 S. Lexington
Rd., Wichita,
KS 67218.
ROSTER HELP LIST (This list is provided for members or friends as an invitation to stop and visit and/or make
repairs as necessary.)
To put your Name in the Roster under Wiltra Van Help List, the following is needed:
Name and Location:
Amenities available:
Example: Under FLORIDA
%Norm & Brenda Standal, North Fort Myers 33903. 239-246-0669 Cell. We are open for Visits and/or
Renairs We have electric bookups, shop tools, parts houses. Visit two or three days or so +

owenstrawn@yahoo.com

This should be sent to Owen Strawn, Treasurer, 434 S. Lexington Rd., Wichita, KS 67218 or e-mailed to

Chris Brown's Recipe Served at National Rally

Chrisc Spaghetti Salad

1 pound cooked spaghetti

1 green bell pepper chopped

1 medium cucumber (Chris prefers the English cucumbers, they're smaller)

1/2 to 3/4 basket of grape tomatoes

1 jar zesty or spicy Italian dressing (usually store brand)

1 2.62 oz. jar of McCormick's Salad Supreme

Mix salad dressing and Salad Supreme together and then mix with other ingredients and let marinade for a day or two. Stir or mix occasionally.

Chris prefers using a bowl that is sealed and you can flip it over and shake it.

It's also good topped with Parmesan cheese. (It is delicious and keeps wonderfully!)

(This article has been previously published but there have been quite a few questions about windshield installations, so it is being aired once more.

How Norm and Brenda Installed New Windshields in #480

Before the windows were installed, we sealed the edges with two coats of marine epoxy and one coat of GE #3 clear silicone to try to prevent future discoloration. To make sure the windows would fit properly with the 7/8+wide (JC Whitney gaskets #WP812465 (734L2010 catalog), the perimeter opening between the window and the aluminum should be no less than ¼qand no more than ½+ If it is less, it needs to be trimmed out. If more, either a wider gasket might be used or an aluminum strip could be riveted on. To temporarily hold the windows in place while fitting them, we used four H shaped wooden supports. (See sketches attached)

The two lower supports were placed about 18" apart on the bottom lip of the windshield opening where the windshield is to be installed and the glass set in the supports. The two other supports (with one leg cut off of each) is slipped over the top of the glass with the third leg resting against the outside of the RV. The window can then be adjust to its best overall fitting position, and fitted as above. In 480cs case, we found we had to trim as much as ¼+of the all ready narrow outer end of the window opening to get the best overall fit. When one side is fitted, remove the glass and use the supports to fit the other side. When both outside glasses are fitted and removed, trim the top and bottom of the center window straight with the side ones. Next the moldings are put in place with at least a 3 inch overlap at the bottom center compressing it as much as possible as you go around and holding the top up with three \(\frac{1}{2} \) x 1+wood props to the breakfast bar, using 2 people and lubing the molding with water, we then pushed the outer end in first, then gently bumping with the palm of our hand, and pushing and jiggling, worked the glass into the molding with a smoothed piece of Formica removing the props as we progressed. To install the lock strip, one side of the blade of a larger old screwdriver was rounded with a file and using it to pull the lip of the molding out over the lock strip lubing with water and tapping the screwdriver along the molding with a hammer. The molding went in a few minutes. The second side went in even faster. The four overhanging molding ends were then cut off 1/2" beyond the center of the window and compressed into the center window opening. This helps to prevent a gap from opening up as the molding shrinks with age.

A pattern of the center window was then made 1/4" smaller than the opening on each side. A local glass company then cut the center window from 1/4" green tinted (to match the outside window) safety glass for \$38. This glass was then installed and held in place with a 6-32 x 1+bolt & flat fender washers (with rubber washers under the steel ones and tightened cautiously) through the 1/4" gap in each of the four corners about 4+from the edges assuring best alignment of the windows. The gaps were then taped on the inside and filled with G.E. #2 clear silicone (from Home Depot).

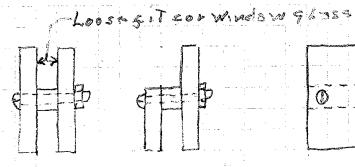
After a week of drying, the bolts, washers and tape was removed and the joint touched up with the silicon. After drying, surplus silicon was cut off to the glass surface with a new single edged razor blade.

The whole windshield looks excellent and went in much easier than expected.

NOTE: This is for uncut windows. Cut windows would be similar up to installing the center section.

Temporary Winshield Supports

SK# 1-9-08 Full scale



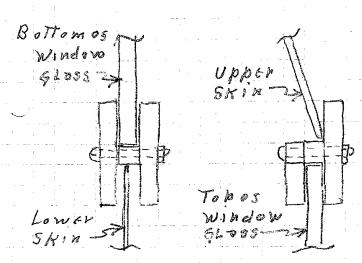
O O TO SIT molding

CENTER STRIP

USUBLY 'NA"

SIDE VIEW
OS LOWER
SUPPORTS
Two rad.

Side View of Upper Supports Two rad. Front VIEW OS SUPPORTS



NoTe, Made show. 14"

plywood, and
6-32 beits

dross Station

of Lower support

ossembly.

cross Section
of Upper Support
assembly

VIEWA"

Witnes