



From back or front the Ultra Vans are very unique!!!!!!!!!!!!



## Whales On Wheels

a publication of the Ultra Van Motor Coach Club

### Volume 2017

### April Issue #2

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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### **2017 Calendar of Events**

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### **CORSA International Convention in Independence MO**

Hosted by Heart of America Corvair Owners Assn.

June 27th, 2017 12:00 PM

*through*

July 1st, 2017 2:00 PM

19677 E Jackson Dr Independence, MO 64057 UNITED STATES

International Convention

[2017localconventionchair@gmail.com](mailto:2017localconventionchair@gmail.com)



## PREZ SEZ

The weather here is starting to get nicer. We have had record snow and rain this winter and as I get older my body does not handle the cold and damp conditions like it used to. Every year I think I will be done with the rebuilding of MiniMo but I find more things I want to do and nothing on our UV is quick or easy. I only have about half of the interior laminate installed and I'm working on the LARGE curved panels in the bedroom. Wish me luck! We have six outings planned for this spring and summer so I will have to work smart to make the best of the time between them. The bottom line is it's hard work keeping an Ultra Van on the road but the joy we receive from driving one is well worth the effort. Please get your UV road ready (not necessarily pretty) and have fun with it. Looking forward to seeing old UV friends this season and meeting new ones.

Jerry Mello



## “The Ernest Newhouse Award”

There have been questions regarding the procedures and selection of a person who should receive the Ernest Newhouse Award. The following was taken from our By-Laws Dated 2006 Appendix – J Paragraph 2 Procedures (5/93)(7/00)(8/05)

The award recognizes an Ultra Member who has contributed in an outstanding manner to the progress, enjoyment and general success of the Club and its activities, and meets the qualifications as stated in “B” below. (7/00)(8/05) Basis for selection will be the individual performance during the entire period of membership. Not limited to the previous year or any other shorter time period. To qualify for nomination of this award, the individual must have done four of the following six items:

1. Host at least one National Rally.
2. Hold a Chair position of a committee.
3. Hold at least one term as a club officer, Tech. or other Club position.
4. Be a member of the Club for a minimum of two years.
5. Host at least two regional Rallies, or a second National Rally.
6. Accomplish outstanding or superior services to the Club.

A written, qualifying report will be sent to the President for each nominee for verification. The President will forward each qualified report to the editor for inclusion on the Ballot.

Members vote by ballot, preceding or during the National Rally. Nominations will be as specified in paragraph 2B above.

Presentation of the award occurs at the National Rally. A tie vote selects the individual of longest Club membership. An individual may receive the award one time. The “Ernie Award” is the highest individual recognition that the Club offers. The Medallion will be worn at all Ultra Assemblies

A Special Note from Your Editor.....It is more economical to receive your newsletter electronically now, so if there are some of you out there who now have e mail & 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)



**ULTRAS IN THE FUN RUN**  
**RT 66 FUN RUN 2017 – KINGMAN ARIZONA**  
**FRIDAY – SATURDAY – SUNDAY**  
**5, 6, 7 MAY 2017**  
**30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FUN RUN**

\$55 Registration fee includes T-Shirt, Dash Plaque, Special License Plate, Show-n-Shine  
(Your Ultra Van # may still be available for the License Plate)

[www.azrt66.com](http://www.azrt66.com) – Registration Form on-line....or call 928-753-5001 or Facebook: Route 66 Association of Arizona (be sure to tell them that your Registration Packet will be picked-up in Kingman on Friday or the Packet will be sent to Seligman for pick-up on Saturday morning (busy & crowded) (unless you're arriving from the East and are staying in Seligman Friday night)

THURSDAY 4 MAY ----- Some Ultras may be arriving to have a full-day of relaxation before the Fun Run. Ultra #293 will be there to greet you.

FRIDAY 5 MAY ----- Activities around Kingman or just relax and socialize

SATURDAY 6 MAY ----- Leave Kingman 7:30am – arrive in Seligman 9:30am (70 miles)

Fun Run Parade leaves Seligman 10am – arrives Kingman Noon to 3pm. Show-n-Shine downtown Kingman all day til 5pm.

SUNDAY 7 MAY ----- Leave Kingman early morning – parade up the winding roads through Oatman to Topock for the Award Ceremony (70 miles).

Ft Beale RV Park has offered Ultra Vanners a reduced rate of \$30.00 per night (which includes taxes). We'll be parked altogether in the middle of the Park. Ft Beale RV Park is in downtown Kingman, a convenient location, close to the Power House & Fun Run Show-n-Shine, to motels, to restaurants. Seven spaces have already been reserved in Betsy's name...more spaces can easily be added. For the RV Park's convenience, each Ultra will register and pay when they arrive at the RV Park. (Judy, owner 928-753-3355).

So as to keep the RV Park and all of you up-to-date, we need to know: (1) if you have already registered or plan to register in the Fun Run .... (2) what date will you be arriving at Kingman's RV Park...Thursday 4 May or Friday 5 May ..... (3) how many nights you will be staying at Kingman's RV Park. (Some of you may prefer to stay overnight near Topock on Sunday night, instead of making the 70 mile journey back to Kingman).

Please let me or Carl know your plans:

Carl [cdj@juno.com](mailto:cdj@juno.com) or Betsy [sennasylum@npgcable.com](mailto:sennasylum@npgcable.com).

The Route 66 Fun Run is a popular annual event, the first weekend of May, attracting 800-plus classic cars, some even from over-seas – for a 140-mile “parade” from Seligman to Topock Az, on the longest continuous stretch of the famous historic Highway, Route 66 – the Mother Road.

The parade starts on Saturday 6 May, 10 am, from SELIGMAN, famous for its Snow Cap Drive in.

The small communities along Route 66 on the 70 miles to Kingman, enthusiastically greet paraders with many entertainment choices:

PEACH SPRINGS (the Hualapai Nation's Tribal Capital) puts on a great BBQ and colorful cultural dancing and Indian craft vendors.

GRAND CANYON CAVERNS is the largest dry caverns in the United States. Its elevator descends 230 feet, offering reasonably priced easy-walking tours. It also has a motel, diner, gift shop and RV Park, in addition to its local ghost resident. .

HACKBERRY, the oldest town on our Route 66, greets paraders with its famous 1957 cherry red Corvette Convertible and a live country/rock band, food vendors and gift shop.

VALLE VISTA, a Route 66 golf course community, welcomes paraders to its BBQ.

By Saturday mid-afternoon, paraders will have driven under the Welcome Arch in Downtown



KINGMAN, for the SHOW-N-SHINE. Judges and spectators will busy themselves admiring all the beautiful classics on display, filling up street after street after street. Imagine the sight of our Ultra Vans proudly on display being swarmed with curious people!

On Sunday morning, 7 May, the Fun Run parade leaves Kingman, up the winding roads in the Black Mountains to the famous mining town of OATMAN, with its wild free-roaming burros and handsome gun fighters, wood-plank sidewalks, quaint restaurants and gift shops.

Then down through the beauty and desolation of our desert into TOPOCK, on the Colorado River at the California border – the official end of the Route 66 Fun Run, where the trophies are awarded to lucky Fun Run participants.

Any street-legal vehicle is welcomed in the Fun Run, even if it isn't a classic. It's not necessary to register and purchase the Fun Run's packet for \$55 just to drive in the Fun Run...it's a public highway.

But to display your vehicle in the Show-n-Shine and to receive the special License

Plate, Goodie Bag and hopeful Award, you must register. There'll be room in our Ultras and buses to bring you along for the Fun Run ride if you'd rather not drive your own vehicle



30-July 5, 2017 (July Brooks, Oregon June 4th weekend)

My wife and I will host a vintage trailer and motorhome rally in Brooks, Oregon over the July 4th weekend and we would like to extend an invitation to Ultra Van owners who would like to attend. All the information is at the web site [www.all-american-rally.com](http://www.all-american-rally.com) including a video from the most recent event. It would be great to have an UV Pod there, and we will be bringing ours. We have been busy with the holidays, but I will be extending the invitation publicly on the Ultra Van Facebook page soon.

Bob & Jacyn Gallagher #215  
All American Vintage Trailer Rally  
Antique Powerland Heritage Park

# Western Ultra Van Rally

Thurs., May 18- Sun, May 21 2017

## Yosemite Lakes RV Resort

31191 Harden Flat Road  
Groveland, CA

Call ASAP 209-962-0104 for Reservation  
\$158.40 - Thurs, Fri., Sat., Nights  
Check In After Noon

Thursday 1:00  
Registration \$15 per person  
6 pm POTLUCK - Hearty Hors' oeuvres

*Includes*

*Friday and Saturday Breakfast*

*Friday Bar B Que*

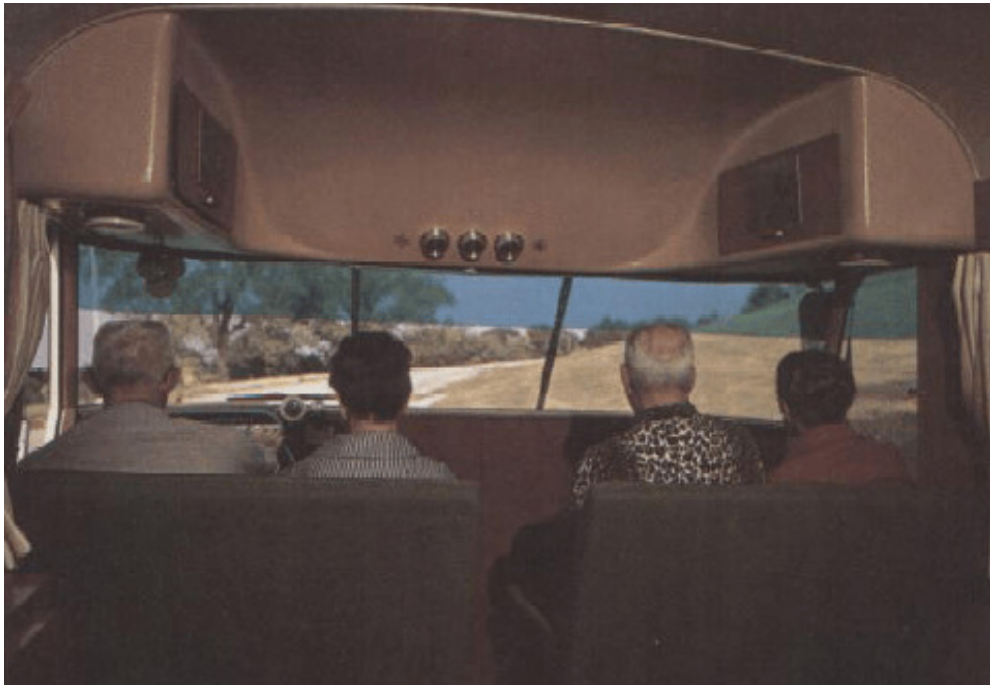
Hosts: Bonnie & Howard Joseph  
Rosie Walker & Larry Forman  
2rosalene@gmail.com or 916-421-2130

# HUTCHINSON HOMECOMING

*Follow the yellow brick road to the*

*51<sup>st</sup> Annual UltraVan Motor Coach Club National Rally*  
*September 18-22, 2017*

*Hosted by Lori & Owen Strawn and Olga & Gary Anderson*



**Save the dates** and start prepping the old coach. Other financial obligations, you say? Hey, there's plenty of time to hold a garage sale to help finance the trip. **No excuses unless they're signed by your mother.** Check out a Wizard of Oz DVD from your library. (Admit it, you do still have a DVD player, right?) Watch the movie and start planning for the costume contest and talent show. What'll it be? The Cowardly Lion? Dorothy? The Tin Man? The Scarecrow? If you're costume-challenged, you *could* always come as a yellow brick. How about your talent? Bring your tuba. No room? Bring your kazoo. Bring that baton you twirled in high school. Mostly, **bring yourself.**

As usual, the main attraction will be mingling with your fellow UV'ers, but there'll be lots of divertissements. Tour a salt mine, visit an outstanding space museum, attend the tech session, tour everybody's coach, eat at a potluck, participate in the Yankee Swap, visit the former Ultra Van factory site, consider personally funding a brass plaque to mark that hallowed spot, attend the rally banquet at an Amish restaurant. If truly desperate, tell lies about how good you were when you were younger. Awards given for oldest Ultra Van, oldest geezer

driving an Ultra Van, furthest distance travelled (Jerome, are you listening?), hardest luck getting there, best appearing coach, and best technical innovation. (All awards final, judges will remain anonymous, whiners will be shot.)

The host facility is brand new. (Grass will be good by the time we get there.) If you can't bring your Ultra Van, bring what ya got or rent one of their super-nice cabins. Mention Ultra Van when making reservations so they can group us together near the showers.

**Lighthouse Landing RV Park & Cabins**, 9 Heartland Drive, South Hutchinson, Kansas 67506

800-921-1236, Web: <http://lighthouselandingrvpark.com/>, Email: [info@lighthouselandingrvpark.com](mailto:info@lighthouselandingrvpark.com)

Hope to see you all there!!



## Class Ads:

WANTED: Interested in buying a rear (back) curved door for my Ultra Van, approximately 3 ft. x 4 ft. in size. The rear (back) window should be curved, measuring about 30" x 18" in size.

Anyone who has replaced their emergency brake and cable assembly in their Ultra Van, Also, anyone that has replaced (upgraded) their rear (back) door and window, please contact me. Darrell G. Woofter UV #358 [woofcorvair@aol.com](mailto:woofcorvair@aol.com) (352) 503-2434

Available: Ryerson Manual

The Ryerson is available in two forms, Printed and on a searchable CD.

Manual \$60. Plus shipping

Manual and CD \$70 Plus shipping.

CD 17 postage paid to the contiguous U. S.

Shipping is based on your choice of shipping options.

Please send me your address and I will let you know what postage will be.

Eric Kirven, 3585 Cerritos Ave., Long Beach, CA 90807

[Ultravan345@Yahoo.com](mailto:Ultravan345@Yahoo.com)





## ULTRA MERCHANDISE

Call or e-mail me to shop or better yet come join us at the next rally!

Patty Mello (541)926-2631

nanapatty1951@hotmail.com

- Club badges – 1st one **free** at rally or \$5.00 for a replacement
- Miniature Cloisonné Ultra pins \$5.00 each
- Cloisonné Ultra earring set \$7.00
- Cloisonné Ultra pendants (chain not included) \$3.50
- “**NEW colors**” Ultra Van Coffee Mugs \$10.00
- Ultra Van ball caps \$10.00
- "Corvair Powered" bumper stickers \$3 or 2 for \$5
- DVD of Ultra Archives \$5.00
- DVD Ultra Coach Owners Manual by Len & Edy Ryerson \$5.00
- VIN # plates (blank) \$3.00
- 100,000 Miles Club plaque (Awarded at rally) **FREE**
- Booklet “From Covered Wagon to Ultra Van” \$5.00 while supplies last
- 3 ½” X 4 ½” Stitched patches w/ Ultra on US map & flag \$3.00
- Tech tips, sets 1 or 2 (\$13 + shipping each mailed)
- Window decals: UVMCC with Ultra \$1.00
- Postcards and note cards @ various prices



Available while supply lasts:

Tombstone Rally t-shirts \$15 and Tombstone Rally magnets \$3.00



I've been asked to explain my fix for the cracks under the door of the Ultra. I have done two fixes. The front was by far the easier and involved the outside only. About 10 years ago, I noticed a 2 ½ inch crack below the front edge of the door. This seems to be a weak point in the design. I used a 10 x 4 ½ inch piece of 3003 x .040 soft aluminum which I formed to fit over the crack. The soft aluminum allows it to be formed until it fits closely to the shape of the panel you are covering. I didn't remove any paint, but your patch is only as good as what it is attached to, so be sure your paint has good adhesion. I sanded and cleaned both pieces before attaching. Drilling a rivet hole in each corner is an easy way to hold it in place while the epoxy cures. I applied epoxy to both sides, moved the piece around slightly to spread the glue, then use nails to locate the holes before riveting. A soft aluminum rivet in each corner is all that is needed because it is only to hold the patch in place while the epoxy cures, and more rivets will only squeeze out the epoxy. The glue you use should be a good epoxy with a long enough cure time to allow you to coat both sides and get the patch firmly in place before it starts to set up. Cool temperatures will help.

I understand that body shops are bonding panels in place instead of welding. You might look into what they are using as this might be even better than ordinary epoxy.

The rear involved removing the fuel tank and would be too much for a tech tip. If anyone has questions, feel free to call me at 419-852-5720.



Chris, Molly and Turkel went to two events since the first of the year. First, was a vintage trailer rally in Cedar Key, FL. the first weekend in January and about one week after Chris completed swapping the heads from our catastrophic event this summer of two dropped valve seats.



The first day, it started out so warm and beautiful and then as the sun set a strong cold front came through with gale force winds. We fortunately had taken everything down (awning, etc). That was an interesting experience sleeping in an Ultra Van in 30-35 mph winds. The public open house the next day was cold and still windy, but we had people visiting anyway and the event was lots of fun. What wasn't fun was driving home for 7+ hours with the inside of Turkel barely 50 degrees. Our redesigned bedroom eliminated the engine heat vents, so when it's cold outside, it's cold inside. Chris has since added a 12v "back seat" heater hanging under the coffee

bar for the next time. Hopefully, not real soon.



Our second event was the middle of February in Pensacola, FL, the Corvair Lover's Holiday. A couple of fun days with our Corvair friends. Beautiful weather. Turkel got one of top three Specialty awards and Chris won the grand door prize, a new TV. No, it's not going in Turkel, we like to live period correct, so just the lava lamp for entertainment.



## Eastern Division Holds Spring Rally in North Fort Myers

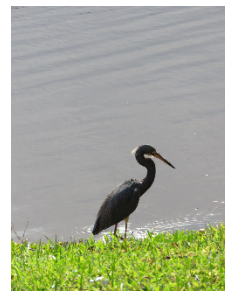
By Gary Anderson

This year the Eastern Division Spring Rally was held March 6-10 on (surprise!) the West Coast. (Of Florida, that is.) When camping spots evaporated, Brenda and Norm Standal decided to host the rally at their lovely home in North Fort Myers, FL. LUCKY US! Great location, spacious, well-equipped lodge, gorgeous river view, clean toilets, spare bedrooms, hot showers, fully-equipped kitchen, genial campground hosts and NO FEES! **We've never had it so good!**



Rally attendees were the Kramers (OH), Pratts (PA), Darrell Woofter (FL/MO), Coykendalls (FL), Andersons (MN) and Standals (FL). We got off to a great start on Monday with dinner at Perkins. Ultra Van friends **and** FREE PIE NIGHT! What more could you want? The rest of the rally went by in a blur, but it involved good food. **Lots of good food.**

At rally HQ Mary Lou Kramer baked a tasty, biscuit-based, pull-apart concoction involving bacon and cheese that I investigated heavily over the course of several breakfasts. One morning I got up extra early to make caramel rolls. Like me, scratch-made rolls can't be hurried, so they weren't served until 8:30. While this caused minor grumbling, the discontent didn't rise to the level of a boycott; all of the 30 rolls were gone within the hour. We also dined out at a popular barbecue pit and at 3 Fishermen, a great seafood place on the Caloosahatchee River. One memorable evening we went to the nearby Coykendall estate for



an excellent veggie buffet feast. Did I mention that we like to eat?

We managed to fit in several other notable activities between meals, including a visit to the winter home and laboratory of America's most prolific inventor, Thomas Edison, and the adjacent winter home of his friend, Henry Ford. We also visited a flea market where we had the good fortune to purchase a number of items we didn't previously know we needed.

Evenings were devoted to cocktail hours on the patio, watching the fish jump on the river as the sun set. One night we held a brief meeting to choose a nominee for the Board of Directors opening that will occur when Jim Davis's term expires. We selected a member, Dave Fox, who was not present to defend himself. **Let that be a lesson to those who don't attend.** On Friday, we said fond farewells and departed, vowing to begin a diet, but not until tomorrow.



~ ~ ~ ~ ~

From the Desk of Rosie Walker:

Here's a copy of my national Metropolitan Magazine, which we get every month. My car is on the cover. I started the club in Sacramento. We have entered Sacramento Autorama twice now, and have won the outstanding award both times out of 38 clubs. . We bought the Met to tow behind our Ultra Van, which you know has the big Olds 445 engine. It tows well, and we really get the looks and honks traveling. As little as the Ultr Van is, it's nice to be able to just drive off in a small car to do errands or sight see without carrying everything, I don't know if you want to use any part of it or not. To us, they go together, because that's why we bought it. It also is exactly like my very first car. I was the "Babe in the Met", when I was 18 - 26".



## Palm Springs Modernism Week Vintage Trailer Show



Here's a little more on those pics I sent you on the 21st. from Palm Springs Modernism Week Vintage Trailer Show: There were 60 vintage trailers and RV's of every description at the Palm Springs Modernism Week Vintage Trailer Show, coming from 9 states, February 24-26th.

The Ultra Van Motor Coach Club was represented by Chuck Hanson's Whale 460.

Bill Moeller and Amanda Shumack, previous owners of 383 were there with their Shasta Trailer, and Bob Gallagher, new owner of 215 was there with his Airfloat trailer. New owners of 383, Heather Molina and Dan Berlant dropped in to take in the show, along with over 2,500 other visitors, most of them seeing their first Ultra Van.

The Ultra Van was a big hit with the antique trailer crowd, and was featured in a video interview on LA Weekly.com magazine, along with Bill and Amanda and their Shasta.

The show was a great experience, and the 60 exhibitors were treated to plenty of food and hospitality, hotel rooms for the weekend, and more wine than I have ever seen in one place before.

The organizers are big UV fans, and have asked for up to six UV's to come to next year's event, which will be February 23-25, 2018.

So, plan ahead and let me know if you can make it; you will be glad you came!

~Chuck.



Heres a link to the LA Weekly Magazine video on the trailer show

You have to click on the volume button to get sound..

<http://www.laweekly.com/video/palm-springs-vintage-trailer-show-Hbb9IScx>