

Scenic City Volks Folks Newsletter

September 2000 • Volume 1, Issue 9

August Meeting

We met at Camp Jordon on Monday, August 21. Wally's was closed so we met at Camp Jordon under the pavilion. It was a nice evening and actually got rather cool before we left!

Good news! We have the Litter Bug scheduled to come to Bug-a-Paluzza 2001.

Herb sent some letters out to potential show sponsors but hadn't heard from any of them yet. Hopefully some of them will come through. If you have any ideas for sponsors, send them to hkeedy@mindspring.com or bring them to the next meeting.

Zen had talked to a caterer. We discussed manning the kitchen ourselves and/or letting Anthony's band man it. We haven't decided exactly what to do there yet.

Other items of discussion were valve-cover racing, Hot Wheel racing for kids, wheel cover or hub cap toss, or other things like that

T-Shirts!

If anyone wants Bug-a-Paluzza 2000 t-shirts, contact Travis Barefoot. You can e-mail him at gobusgo@mindspring.com. I think there are a few tie-died shirts left and definitely some of the grey ones.

September Meeting

**The September meeting will be on:
Monday, September 18, 2000.**

7:00 p.m.

**Wally's Restaurant
1-75 & Ringgold Road**

Maybe we can plan some get-togethers for this fall, like a cookout before it gets cold. We still haven't made it to the drive-in. **Hope to see you there!**

Collectors' Corner By Eldon Eskridge

Hey All VW Freaks, there are some way cool things coming our way in the way of collector pieces. First on the list this month would be a very cool 1/18th scale VW race bus from our friends at Hot Wheels. This bus is white with flames on the sides and has been found in Wal-Mart in other parts of the world (not here). Keep a open eye for this one it will be a hotty. This one comes 2 to a case.

The next thing would be some stuff from Matchbox. There are some Scooby Doo limiteds from Warner Brothers. One is a Green Bus with Shaggy on the side and the other is an Orange 62 Bug with one Velma on it. Both are on very cool cards. These are currently listed on Warner Brothers' on-line store, wbstore.com, for \$6.00 each.

Then we have Johnny Lightning. They're going to be our best friends for VW stuff this year. There are 2 Limited Edition Busses being offered right now from the Kentucky Derby in 2 colors, red and green, with white tops. They also have 4 busses and 2 things being offered in a Hippie Luv set, very nice!

Then we have Barbie, yep she has got in on the cool car stuff finally, With a very large scale New Beetle. I have found it at Wal-Mart, Target, and K-mart. This NB comes in 4 colors red, blue, yellow, and just for Jami a bright Pink one. [Editor's Note: I bought the pink one for my niece's birthday and have hinted that my birthday too is very soon! ;)]

Well, that looks like all for this month. If you have a subject on collecting that you would like to see included or touched on in this column, e-mail me at elfteskridge@msn.com. We will see you next month.

Thanks!
VW Boy

Web Site of the Month!

The Story of a Ghia: <http://www.geocities.com/tkeedy/Ghia/index.html>

Herb's son Travis built this site dedicated to the restoration of his 1973 Karmann

Ghia. The site has a diary of the restoration with some really nice pictures. Looks like Travis did an awesome job restoring his Ghia!

Shoot the Breeze **By Travis Barefoot**

You Just Gotta Have Faith

I have a restored faith in the reliability and performance of my f79 Westfalia. It seems that every time something goes wrong, it has always been something minor, something that can be fixed right there on the spot, providing that I have the parts to remedy the offending problem. From poorly gapped points, spark plug wires popping off, or shift-rod bushings falling out, my bus has always shocked me in how easy she is get back on the "road" to recovery. I have never really been much of a mechanic, at least not until I was "forced" to become one in order to keep my air-cooled beauties in good health.

Even the most well maintained vehicles will break down now and then. You never know where, and you can't even guess when, but there will be a time when something goes wrong with your car. If you are on top of things, you might have a premonition of things to come, say a grinding in the transaxle or a funny noise when you turn the wheel, which could set off alarms in your head. Those alarms mean that you should start saving for the fix that will be needed sooner or later.

It is the little things that I am talking about. The things that leave you stranded in the middle of nowhere, pulling your teeth out and cursing the VW factory and the people who made the stupid thing, only because *you* overlooked the one small thing that would put you back on the road. I have found that the problem hides itself for your first, let's say, 100 tries at finding it. Like the time I was headed for Johnson City, TN for a weekend of camping and relaxation. My bus suddenly developed a desire to take a rest. So without warning, she just quit. This was a short time after I had bought my Westy, which happened to be the first air-cooled car that I had ever owned. So, like other new vintage VW owners, I didn't know much about Volkswagens. Distributor what? Points you say? Anyway, I did have John Muir's Idiot guide with me, and it helped me a little. But it took a full day of me wondering and pulling and prodding and groaning before the problem arose. Apparently, there are these things called "points" in the distributor and they had slowly come loose and had closed shut. I wasn't getting any spark to the cylinders! After an adjustment, we were on our way.

It's a little thing called a spark plug wire. It carries a spark from the distributor to the spark plug. But when it is disconnected, the spark goes nowhere. Case in point: On our way to Seveirville, TN, "Sweetpea" started this awful bucking and spitting and complaining. Then she would settle down for awhile, then start back up again. When I finally pulled over, the problem eluded me again. I looked at the points, checked the distributor cap and rotor button, and they were fine. What had happened? In the process of checking the wires, I found that one of the wires had slowly wiggled its way off of the spark plug. I had the kind of wire that did take the screw-on tip, and it was in the end of the plug wire, so my question was how did the wire unscrew the tip and come off of the spark plug? Quickly fixed and back on the road once again.

It's a little thing called a bushing. A little piece of rubber or silicone or some other "man-made" material that takes the pressure and abuse of metal on metal. Like my shift rod bushing under the bus, near the transaxle. It is a relatively cheap piece of polymer that when not in place, will not let you shift from gear to gear. I found that out on Highway 64 going by the Ocoee River rafting area. Without warning, I couldn't go into 2nd or 4th or reverse gears. The shifter suddenly became loose and sloppy. I looked underneath and didn't see a problem. I took out the shifter and saw nothing important. The rod was a little too far forward, so I crawled underneath for another look. Aha! The rod was hanging onto the coupling by $\frac{1}{2}$ of the bushing! Spare in hand, I quickly remedied the problem and was Blue Ridge Parkway bound!

It's a little thing called faith. Faith in that my bus will get me to any place that I desire. Faith in that if provided with the proper tools and parts, nothing can stop me from reaching my destination. Faith in the hopes that any major problem that arises will arise close to home. Faith in the fact that no matter how worried I might be to take my bus on long, arduous trips, she always seems to finish the trip with dignity, grace and the knowledge that I will have faith in her again and again. Now if only I could have faith in my starter not going bad—but then there's a spare under the seat!

Till later,
Travis

GoBusGo!

Please feel free to send contributions (400 words or less) for this column to:
goabusgo@mindspring.com
Or to:

Shoot the Breeze
P.O. Box 1344
Collegedale, TN 37315

August Show Report **By Lamar Lewis**

August DAV Show

Once again we had a great time at the DAV Cruise In car show in Cleveland, Tn. on Saturday, August 12th. There were five VW's from the Cleveland and Chattanooga clubs and one camper bus from the Cleveland area. Everyone was running a little late so the cruise from Village Center Mall didn't happen this time. After getting our cars parked and registered, we all headed for the Steak n Shake for supper. It turned out to be a great night, the weather was perfect. Club members at the show were:

- Jami Lowery with her New Beetle
- Zen and Joy Hendericks with their New Beetle
- George Rymer with his chop top split window
- Garland and Ann Ledford with their custom bug
- Lamar and Cindy Lewis with their 72 Super Beetle

Trophy winners were:

- Jami with her New Beetle
- George with his chop top
- Lamar and Cindy with their Super Beetle

7th Annual Volunteer Bug Jam

The cruise to the Bug Jam turned out great. We had six vehicles in our caravan. We meet at the Bilo parking lot in Ooltewah at 7:30 on Saturday morning. After several of us visited Hardee's for a biscuit, we headed out to Knoxville. Tim Coddling, the only air cooled VW, headed up the pack and set the pace. We arrived at Chilhowee Park/Fairgrounds ready to shop for parts and see some really cool VW's. Just before writing this note about the show, I contacted Tom Underwood to get some information on how well the show did. Tom told me that they had about 130 show cars and about 40 to 42 vendors. Cars and vendors were still coming in when Cindy and I left at about 2:00 Saturday. They had 105 VW's to participate in their Bug Run get-together in Knoxville Old Town on Saturday night.

Our caravan included:

- Tim Coddling
- Zen and Joy Hendricks
- Travis and Linda Barefoot
- Anthony and Misty Hendorson
- Herb Keedy and his son, daughter and friend Russ
- Lamar and Cindy Lewis

Upcoming Shows

Sixth Annual Hangin' Dawg Campout September 8-10

Hangin Dawg National Park Campground
Murphy, NC
Hosted by Cool Breeze VW Club
Friday night fish fry, \$5.00 for non-members. Saturday night covered dish cookout.
423-476-6964
LewisJLL@aol.com

Southeast BugFair Super Swapmeet & Car Show September 10

Toccoa, GA
bugfair@hotmail.com

2nd Annual Middle Tennessee Volksfest September 23

Nashville, TN
VW of Nashville
615-887-8952 or 615-832-3947

Fall Classic Car and Truck show

September 23
South GA Classic Car Club
Wild Adventures in Valdosta, GA
Kathy at 912-896-4957

Bugs on the Pier

September 23
Petersburg Pier in St. Petersburg, FL
Jack Flash at 727-791-4757
jackflash@jackflashinc.com

Tampa Bay's Volksfest

September 30-October 1
www.tbaynet.com/vfest

Second Annual Big Lots Bug-a-lot Volkswagen Show September 30

Hosted by KGB at Big Lots
4825 N. Broadway, Knoxville, TN
865-637-0143 or 865-637-8782

8th Annual Volkswagen Car Show & Oktoberfest September 30

Charleston, SC
Low Country VW Club 843-761-2810

Circle Yer Wagens 11

October 7-8

Sevier County Fairground
Sevierville, TN
www.avwa.com

Octoberrally IV

October 8
Alabama OVAL
www.sociology.auburn.edu/vw/oval.html

Georgia's VW Jamboree

October 14
Commerce, Ga
Atlanta Dragway
706-677-3610