

Scenic City Volks Folks Newsletter

September Meeting

We met at the "new and improved" Wally's. Those attending were: Zen Hendricks, Travis, Linda and Talia Barefoot, Lamar & Cindy Lewis, Anthony & Misty Henderson, Verl & Sandra Taylor, Jami Lowery, Eldon Eskridge, Herb Keedy, and Russ Jackson. I hope I didn't leave anyone out.

Herb's been busy trying to round up sponsors for our next show. He said he spoke to the owner of the Real Source for quite some time and he's hopeful that they

will come up with something for our show.

We discussed having some postcards printed so members can hand them out or mail them to people wanting information about the club. We need to make VW owners aware of our club to attract some new members.

Since it can be difficult to work around everyone's schedules, it was decided to work up a schedule of activities and all those who can attend, great, and all those who can't, well, that's ok too!

See below for a list of scheduled activities.

LET IT BE NOTED:
Herb got down on his knees and begged all members to please attend the DAV show on Saturday, October 14. They've been really great this summer, and created a VW class just for us. Let's make a great showing for the Disabled American Veterans' big end-of-season show...and Herb!

Inside this issue:

Shoot the Breeze	2
Welcome New Members	3
September Show Report	3
Upcoming Shows	4

Club Activities

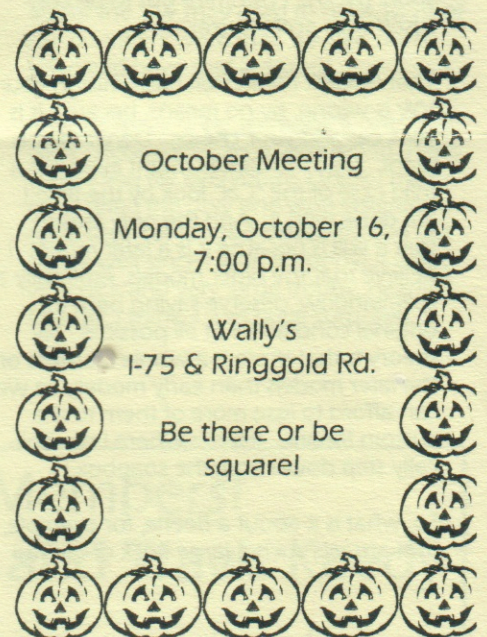
Saturday, October 6
Caravan to Circle yer Wagens, Sevierville, TN. Members wishing to caravan, meet at the Ft. Oglethorpe Bi-Lo at 7:00 a.m. We will be traveling off of the main interstate for our air-cooled members. This is a great show and they have good vendors.

Saturday, October 14, **BIG VW Day!**
Disabled American Veteran's big end-of-season car show. 9 am to 4 pm. The show will be at Tinsley Park on Keith Street in Cleveland and they do have a VW class. I think the registration fee is \$10 with proceeds going to the Disabled American Veterans of Cleveland. We really need to participate in this show. They did create a VW class just for us. (Everyone needs to show up for this, remember, Herb begged)
THEN, after the DAV show ends, we

plan to cruise down to Dalton, Ga. to the *Downtown Dalton Cruise In.* It starts at 6:00 pm and is over at 11 pm. I hear this is a great Cruise In. They close Hamilton Street and have music in the streets and some restaurants and shops will remain open late. So everyone plan on going to Dalton after the DAV show ends. If you can't make both events, try for one anyway.

Sunday, October 22
Volksfolks is going to have a *get-together at the River Park* starting at 2:00 pm. This is our end-of-summer picnic. So, bring a sack lunch, your family and your VW(s) and join us for the afternoon. The River Park is a good place for our club to be seen and promote our club to the public.

More planned activities to come later, but put these on you calendar now!



Shoot the Breeze

By Travis Barefoot

It Takes All Types

With all the different VW's ever made, air- and water-cooled, there is certainly one out there that is just your type. Whatever your taste may be, from a wildly tricked out custom Beetle, a "factory-fresh" bone-stock Bus, a full-blown race-ready Fastback, to a sleek and slender Passat, it all comes down to what I call selective attraction. You know what you like and that is that. And the reasons that people have for loving their certain type are as numerous as the Volkswagens themselves.

While I find all Volkswagens works of beauty and imaginative engineering, (Yes, even the Type 41) I do have my own biases towards the ones that catch my eye. It can be any Volkswagen. I like them all. But there are certain criteria that the vehicle has to meet for me to give it a second look. For me, stock is the way to be. At VW shows that I attend, in my opinion, the best looking VW is the one that looks like it just rolled out of the factory doors. Although I have seen numerous custom Volkswagens that looked really cool and I actually liked, I happen to be under the impression that Volkswagen knew what they were doing when they made each vehicle the way they did. For this reason, I won't be chopping, lowering, or doing any type of customizing to a VW of mine anytime soon. (NOTE: customize not to be confused with accessorize).

That doesn't mean that customizing your VW is wrong, by no means, because it is your car and your choice. Do what you want. My 1977 Beetle might even get a mild case of the "Cal" look by the time I am done with it. And the only reason that it will is because it is a later model. I believe that the older models, especially a split-window, deserve saving back to original condition if at all possible. My theory is that there is a whole lot more of the later models than early models, so we can afford to lose more of them to the custom fanatic. (Here's where I symbolically fan down from the soapbox.)

So, what is it about a Beetle, for example, that attracts such a large flock of faithful

followers to literally fall in love with it? It could be the "cuteness" factor. It does look like a happy bug, with big, bright eyes and a shiny smile. It has a likeable personality all it's own. It also has a certain smell (not just Beetles either, they all have that smell), which to me could be the finest "new car" smell in the world. And a finely tuned VW engine has the sound of "fweem", which is more an experience than a sound. It's a lot like the sound George Jetson's flying car makes. Yeah, that's it, I can hear it now. It could also be an economical answer to someone looking for cheap transportation. It gets good gas mileage and the routine maintenance is a no-brainer. And as far as Beetles go, parts for them are available just about everywhere. But as much as I like them, they're not my favorite type.

Someone with the taste for a more sporty type might opt for a Karmann Ghia, or even a Fastback (not really that sporty!) with their less cute yet more stylish look. Although they are more streamlined and look nothing like a Beetle, the internal power is the same, a 4-cylinder, horizontally opposed air-cooled engine. So the sporty look is just that, an appearance that pleases the eyes. My Fastback, although bone-stock and a little rusty, looks like a vagabond from the Autobahn. It is not a "slow-poke" by any means, but with the factory fuel injection system still operating, and probably in need of an overhaul, it has it's limitations as far as trying to uphold the sporty image. As much as I like my Fastback, it's not my favorite type either.

Sticking with air-cooled theme, the Bus attracts a wide variety of fans that love it for each of their own reasons. For one, the ride is like no other. You sit higher than most vans on the road today, and the feeling of riding over the front wheels is quite an experience too. There is plenty of luggage space and room in the spacious passenger area to stretch out in (I'm beginning to sound like a VW ad now!) and the camper models give you the chance to camp in safety and comfort. They may not be the fastest of Volkswagens, but what they lack in takeoff (and hills!) they make up in style and character. My 1979 Westy, being a late model bus, has a bigger engine than earlier models, which really makes highway driving a little

faster and pulling strength a little stronger. But the earlier models have a unique character too. They seem to be smaller and "cuter" with the same engine as the Beetle and therefore attractive to a yet another group of people. So...

...I have come to the conclusion that I am a bus person. Perhaps it's the "streamlined" body, with all the wind resistance of a highway-rolling loaf of bread that allures me. Or maybe it is the elation of having a long line of cars behind you while climbing steep hills, creeping along with the "NEVER GET BEHIND A VW BUS" sticker looming in the rear window screaming, "I told you so!" It might be that cab-forward, over-the-wheels, highway-in-your-face kind of driving with the "movie" in the oversized windshield changing plots with the scenery. I don't know. I'm just attracted to them. Maybe it's love. Maybe it's an obsession. Maybe it's a love for an obsession. Who knows? They're just my type.

What's yours?

GoBusGo!

Feel free to send contributions or criticisms (600 words or less) for this column to: gobusgo@mindspring.com

Or:

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

September Show Report

By Lamar Lewis

Hangin' Dawg 6, on September 8, 9 and 10 was a success. Campers enjoyed a beautiful weekend at Hanging Dog campground in Murphy, NC. There were 37 registered campers with the majority of those with being VW camper buses. I don't have an exact count of the number of people there, but judging from the Saturday night cookout (which by-the-way was a superb meal of bar-b-que pork, bar-b-que beef and fried catfish and all the trimmings) I'd guess the count exceeded one hundred. Thanks to the Cool Breeze VW Club of Cleveland for hosting that event.

Cindy and I traveled from Hangin' Dawg in Murphy, to Toccoa, GA on Sunday the 10th. The show there was really a good one. There were lots of vendors and a good "for sale" corral. Vendors were lined up in a U shape with the show cars in the middle. The spectators parking lot was pretty full the whole time we were there. Zen, Cindy and I attended a meeting of club representatives to discuss ideas of promoting VW shows in the Southeast. I'm sure we will hear more on this later.

Several members from our club got together on the evening of Saturday the 16th and visited the Cruise In at the Wal-Mart on Hwy 2A in Fort Olgethrope. We met at the Lowe's parking lot at 7:15 to cruise on down to Wal-Mart. We had six vehicles in our caravan from Lowe's to Wal-Mart and one more to show up later. Total of seven VW's and twelve people. That's a good start and we will have more activities to come. So, plan on participating in some of these activities the club is trying to plan. You WILL enjoy it, we did on that Saturday night. Those who participated were:
Zen in his Baja, Herb and Dee in their split window bus, Anthony and Misty in their Ghia, Verl and Sandra in their '67 bug, Lamar and Cindy in their Super Beetle, Dale, a friend of Zen's, in his bus Eldon and his wife in their Jetta.

Nashville Show Report
By Anthony Henderson

When Travis arrived at the Cone station at wildwood wearing his Simpsons "Worst Show Ever" shirt, I was afraid he might be prophetic, but he, Linda and Talia, and Misty and I started for Nashville under threatening skies. At about 10:30, as we entered Nashville, the bottom dropped out. Undaunted, we continued off the interstate, past a Chevy van who had an off-road excursion, to the show site.

When we arrived I remembered what it was like to have a supportive dealership at our back. We were flagged into the parking area by attendants who wanted no money. We parked next to the service center, which was open specifically to provide shelter, and nearly the entire lot was cleared for show cars! They even had free hot dogs and reasonable prices on drinks and desserts.

Oh, yes, the show! Apparently, the VW enthusiasts of Nashville aren't afraid of the rain, or just got stuck once they arrived! At any rate, there was a good turnout of 45 or 50 cars, including many Beetles, 5 Ghias, 6 or 7 campers, a couple of Things, as well as some miscellaneous buggies, trikes and a Ferrari Dino kit (the owner is interested in trading for my Ghia!). The swap meet was a little sparse, compared to, say a Sevierville show, but had some pretty reasonable prices. Wet parts are cheap parts! In my first hunt for Beetle parts, I was surprised to find them, and not to spend an arm or a leg.

Nashville has some great people, as well. We met several, as the rain came and went in 10 minute intervals and we dashed for cover, then came back out. Talia enjoyed splashing in the rivulets, while a Westy owner allowed me to take extensive measurements of her fridge compartment.

All told, not a bad show, despite the rain! Cheers to the Middle TN VW Club, as well as VW of Nashville, for literally opening their doors for a great event!

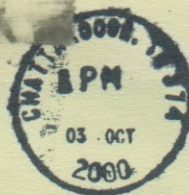
Street Toys Show
By Jami Lowery

We had several people (eventually) show up for the Street Toys show at the River Park. Lamar & Cindy got there early and steaked out our spot. I showed up an hour later than I had intended and was still the second to arrive. Then Gus and Janet showed up in their Morgan (they don't have a VW, but they joined the club and wore their t-shirts). When they told the gate attendant they were looking for the VW club they said "Oh, is that a kit car?" It is interesting having a Morgan parked in the middle of all the VWs. Eldon and Travis came in one behind the other, apparently they ran into each other on the way (not literally) and caravaned on over. The weather was nice, but we were all grateful to see Travis show up with the tent. Zen showed up with a cooler full of drinks and they were greatly appreciated too. Thanks Zen. Last but not least, Herb drove up with his 21-window bus.

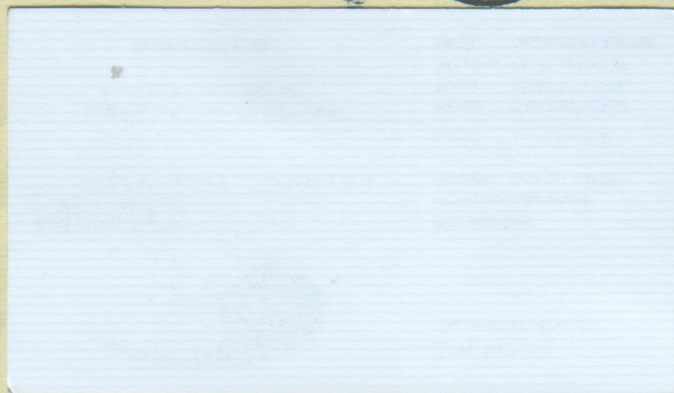
We all had a great time hanging out and actually talked to a couple of people that had VWs at the show but didn't know about the club. And of course all of the people that wander up and start talking about the VW they used to have. Most of the members wore their tie-died shirts, we could have sold a dozen!

It was a really great show with over 500 cars! There were cars of every kind there, something for everybody. I think I may have been the only one who entered to have their car judged, which turned out pretty well since I won a trophy! It was a very nice and very large trophy, nearly 3 feet tall, I think. I was quite surprised. :)

Welcome to our New Club Members!
Janet and Gus Spahr, Russ Jackson, and Travis Keedy

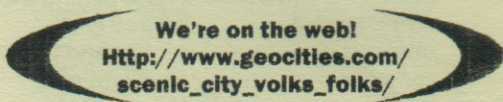


Scenic City Volks Folks



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Chattanooga-area VW club!



Upcoming Shows

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

DAV End-of-Season Car Show
October 14, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Tinelsy Park on Keith Street
Cleveland, TN
Registration \$10, proceeds go to Disabled American Veterans of Cleveland.
The club is planning to cruise from this

show to the next show in Dalton...

Downtown Dalton Cruise-In
October 14, 6 p.m. to 11 p.m.
Rumor has it, this is a great cruise-in. They close Hamilton Street and have music in the streets and some restaurants and shops will remain open late.

Georgia's VW Jamboree
October 14
Commerce, Ga
Atlanta Dragway
706-677-3610

2nd Annual Volkswagens Over Memphis
October 21, show begins 9 a.m.
Roy Rogers Foreign Car Parts
3707 Hickory Hill
Memphis, TN
(901) 324-3469

Big Daddy's Bug In
October 21, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
At Big Daddy's 50's-60's style Drive-In
Hwy 176, Inman, SC
(864) 457-3201

Volkstoberfest 2000
October 22
Wickham Park Pavilion- Brevard Community College, Melbourne, Florida
(321) 752-9023

Buggin' the Beach
October 27/28
Waccamaw Factory Shoppes
Myrtle Beach, South Carolina
843-667-9720 Nancy Turner