

where air meets water

The Official Voice of Scenic City Volks Folks

Volks Folks Newsletter

www.VolksFolks.org

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Club News

March Meeting:
Monday, March 19
7:00 P.M.
Wally's Restaurant
I-75 & Ringgold Rd.

Two Meetings a Month!!

We have scheduled two meetings per month through April to be sure we get everything done before the show. We will keep our regular 3rd Monday of the month meeting and add an extra in between (these are on Thursday). We have our room at Wally's reserved for the fol-

lowing dates:
March 1 & 19
April 5 & 16

Our last meeting was fairly sparsely attended, which I guess worked out ok since we had the small room at Wally's. I know it's difficult to make two meetings a month, but we only have three meetings before our show. Everyone who can, please make an extra effort to make these meetings. There's several things we still need to get taken care of. Thanks.

This Month we need to:
* Create Bug-a-Paluzza Banner
* Finalize show schedule of

events
* Rules for Valve cover race?
* Assign Judges
* Slot volunteers for registration, gate, t-shirt sales, etc.

Trophy Report
All trophy bases are stained. The finish is not yet applied to all bases and the hardware needs to be attached. Contact Herb to see what you can do to help! Hkeedy@mindspring.com

Still lots of planning to be done!

See y'all at the next meeting!

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Volks Folks e-mail List

Some of our newer members may not know we have an e-mail list. You are not automatically signed up for this list when you join the club. You may join the "eGroup" at our website: www.volksfolks.org, then click VolksFolks eGroup on the menu, enter your e-mail address and hit enter. Or you can go to groups.yahoo.com, search for VolksFolks and join there. It's a great way to keep in touch with other members, get meeting reminders, organize caravans, etc.

Volkswagen Events

Orlando Show-N-Shine
March 11
Downey Park, Orlando FL
www.tekpage.com/cfvw

SCCA Pro Rally (Cherokee Trails Rally)
March 15-17
Chattanooga & Cleveland, TN
International Cherokee Trails Rally will include three days of intense competition in the Cherokee National Forest. With a 3-day format and nearly 180 stage miles in the route book, the event is under consideration by the FIA for full international status. According to the web site, there are 1 New Beetle, 1 Jetta, and several GTI's and Golfs entered.
www.cherokeetrailsrally.com
www.sccaprally.org

Paddy's Wagens
March 16-18
Columbia, SC

www.geocities.com/Baja/Ravine/2474/PaddysWagens.html

Golf Coast VW Club's 6th Annual Show
March 24
Gulfport Mississippi
Vwed@aol.com

North vs. South Shootout
March 25
Darlington Dragway
Hartsville, SC
www.geocities.com/~ksracecars/north2k1.htm

Show 'n Shine XVIII
April 1
Ft. Lauderdale, FL
Steveclarkesq@yahoo.com

Bug-a-Paluzza 3
April 21-22
Camp Jordon
Chattanooga, TN
www.volksfolks.org

Fisher Buggies Spring Nationals
April 29
1/8 mi. drag, show & swap meet. VW Trends coverage.
www.fishserbuggies.com

Circle Yer Wagens
May 5-6
Sevier County Fairgrounds,
Sevierville, TN
VW Trends coverage.
www.avwa.com

Roswell 2K (R2K)
June 15-17
Roswell, New Mexico
New Beetle-only show. Since, the NB was reverse-engineered from UFO's, all "pods" were called to Roswell, New Mexico (by the mother ship) in June of 2000. They had so much fun, they are being called back for a second year! There are caravans from all parts of the country. For info: www.roswell2k.org

Club Officers:

President: Zen Hendricks
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Shoot the Breeze

By Travis Barefoot

Gone South: Part II

With Atlanta behind us and Destiny ahead, we were ever so slowly closing the gap between the Promised Land and ourselves. Macon and Valdosta were but two spots on the map that reminded us that we were still in Georgia, and they seemed so far away. I have driven from Tennessee to Florida many, many times and the trip through Georgia always seems to be the longest drive ever. The sooner we were in Florida, the better. The things that were on my mind as I drove were numerous, but the most important at that time was breakfast. By way of our CBs, we were able to decide on where to stop for food. Luke wanted to check the oil level in his bus, and possibly replace the valve cover gaskets, so we chose the next Waffle House we saw and pulled in. I'm not really a "regular" at this place, but my growling stomach agreed with me that it didn't matter. It was time to eat.

We also had ulterior motives for stopping. Phish (perhaps the best band in the world) was coming to Atlanta for a two-day concert at Lakewood Amphitheater. Tickets were to go on sale at 10:00 AM, and we were on the road. Luke and Candace had a cell phone, and we did too. But even using both phones, it still took us about an hour to get through to Ticket Master and make our order. During this time, Luke replaced the valve cover gaskets on his bus, and topped off the oil level while I looked for something to fix on Sweetpea. I didn't find anything to fix. But I had a full stomach and Phish tickets ordered, so I really didn't mind.

Back on the road, Linda was reading (and by reading, I could mean sleeping), so I turned to the stereo to fill my mind with something other than wondering what was ahead for us. I find that on long trips, your favorite music seems to make time and miles go by quicker. Having only an AM/FM stereo in the Westfalia, the choices of our listening enjoyment diminished as we moved further away from bigger cities. Out in the sticks, country music or easy listening was our main choices, and in my opinion, they both seem to add on more time to the trip instead of shortening it. (Linda swears by AM talk shows to keep her awake and alert, but I

don't even know what AM is.) So in the areas between good and bad music, I turned down the stereo and turned up the CB. You hear a lot of stuff on the CB. Some things you want to hear, like accident and "Smokey" reports given out by truckers and some stuff you don't want to hear, mainly things your mother didn't tell you about or washed your mouth out for saying, being repeated by the same truckers. But whether it is your favorite music or babble that gets you to your destination, it's getting there that matters most. And at that point, getting there was our only thought.

Something else that I think helps pass the time is looking for other VWs, whatever model they happen to be. I didn't keep a running count, but I do remember seeing several Westfalias, most of them on the northbound lane. I like to think they were probably doing the same thing we were doing, only in opposite directions. I also wondered if they were pointing at us and thinking the same thing.

"Something else that I think helps pass the time is looking for other VWs, whatever model they happen to be."

Stopping for food and gas always seemed to draw attention to the "Hippie" vans as we pulled in together and stood out in the sea of complacency and normality. On one of these gas stops, Sweetpea decided she didn't want to leave when we were ready to. I knew that something like this would happen. It had happened before and I swore that the spare starter under the bench seat was going to go on before this trip. But just like the other times, all I had to do was put her in 3rd gear and push backwards to line up the starter with the flywheel. And every time it worked, I would put off that replacement job. I didn't know what I would do when that simple trick failed to work. She would probably force me to go ahead and replace her starter, no matter where I was. Hopefully not on this trip though. Not that we were really on a tight schedule, I just didn't want anything to deter us from our path.

The miles and minutes slipped by. The fuel stops grew in number. The bigger cities came and went, giving and taking their local radio stations with them. Luke and I played a "leapfrog" version of "follow the leader". Before I knew it, Valdosta was behind us and the Florida Welcome Center was coming up. A quick check on the CB determined it was

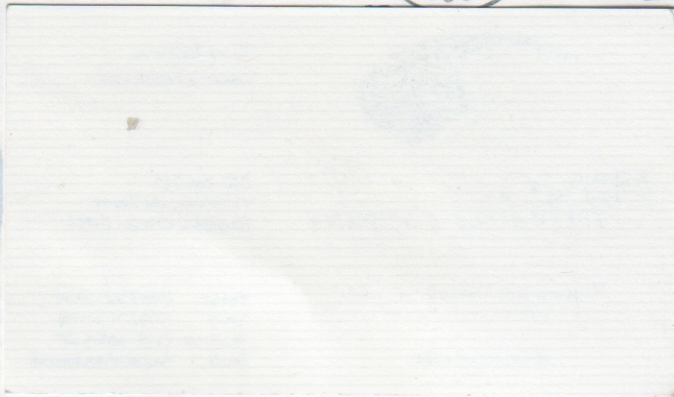
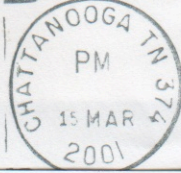
time for a big rest. Food and facilities drew us in, and kept us there for a while. It did feel good to stop and stretch, make a picnic lunch, pay homage to porcelain, and discuss the trip. We only had about three hours till we would arrive at our overnight stop at my grandmother's and we couldn't wait to rest our buses and ourselves. Luke's engine was no longer leaking (as much) oil and Sweetpea was cooperating with the ignition switch and the key located therein, which in turn was operated by my hand, so she was really cooperating with me. Since we were on my old turf, I took the lead as we started the last leg of the trip for the day. Moss covered trees were waving in the breeze, welcoming us to the Sunshine State, and sending us on our way with goodwill. The flat land gave a good view of the big sky that I remember Florida having. It seemed like the clouds that filled the sky in marching patterns were slowly advancing to an unknown front. Straight on down I-75 we made our way. Over the rivers and through the swamps to Grandmother's house we did go. When we finally pulled into her yard, with horns blaring (beeping!) and a sigh of relief from both of our buses, we knew that the first chapter of the journey was over. We still had many miles to go to get to Bahia Honda State Park (which was mid-way through the Keys) for the next five days of camping. But now it was time for showers and supper, visiting with family, and getting much needed rest. Morning would come too soon, and give us what it had to offer, Murphy's Law style. You know if something can go wrong, it probably will...

To be continued...

Till later,
Travis
GoBusGo!

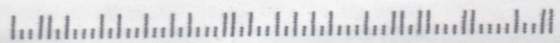
Feel free to send contributions or criticisms (600 words or less) for this column to:
gobusgo@mindspring.com

Or: Shoot the Breeze
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where Air meets Water

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Rumors and Stuff

New VW Camper Game

Hot on the heels of their successful "Beetle Buggin'" game, Infogrames is feverishly working on the sequel, "Camper Campin'". It will include such trials as "Setting up your side tent in the rain", "Percolating coffee in under 30 minutes", "Not hitting your head on the overhead storage compartment" (a Barefoot family favorite), "The pop-top-push speed and endurance trial", and my personal favorite, the "What do you call that shade of green?" essay contest. Winning essays will receive a "Plaids of Westfalia" screensaver.

Lamar and Cindy Order New Beetle

Well, they just might when then find out that one of the new 2002 colors is orange! Snap Orange is one of several new colors for the New Beetle. It is said to be a bright reddish orange. Other new colors are Platinum Gray, Double Yellow, Reflex Silver, Blue Lagoon, and Marlin Blue. There are also said to be new alloy wheels for the 2.0s and turbos.

For Sale:

1971 VW Squareback. Fair Condition. Needs TLC, small amount of body work, could use a paint job.



Never Get Locked in Your Trunk Again!

It looks like every 2002 VW model will come equipped with a Trunk Escape Handle. We'll try out this feature at a Volks Folks meeting when Lamar & Cindy get their Snap Orange

2002 New Beetle!

FahrvergHummer?

The woman responsible for "Fahrvergnügen" and "Drivers Wanted," as well as award-winning ads "Da-Da-Da" and "Mr. Roboto," and others has been named head of advertising for Hummer. Can't wait to see some of those commercials!

He-Man Beetle

The Feb 15 issue of Autoweek Magazine is saying that this Beetle will come with a 170 hp engine and possibly 17" alloy wheels, sportier handling and solid rear spoiler. Now, do you think this he-man beetle will have a bud vase?

Special thanks to rumor contributors (you know who you are).

Heard any good rumors lately?

Please send them to :
rumors@VolksFolks.org