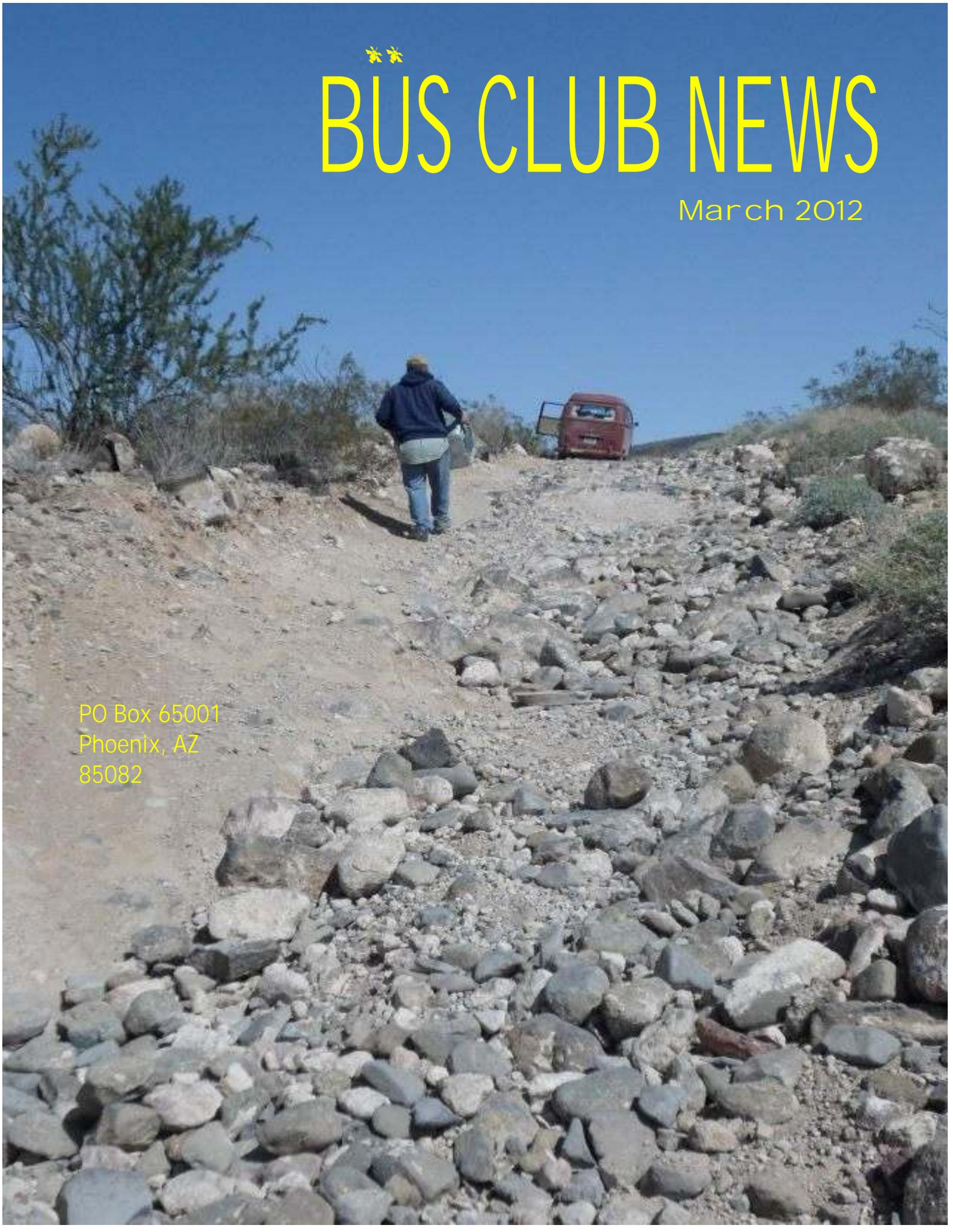


# \*\* BUS CLUB NEWS

March 2012

PO Box 65001  
Phoenix, AZ  
85082



# Behind the Wheel



## Perfect

Could describe the weather, your choice of vehicle or this Newsletter.

## Semi-4

How a forgotten relic became the "it" truck at Bonneville

## skin game

Polish up your headlights and head to the car show at Shangri La

Your News staff normally spends most of their time coming up with enough crap to fill 8 pages but this month faced the enviable task of choosing between submissions from Chad Jacobson (4 Peaks Adventure) and Bruce Hilpert (Kofa Crazy) so we consulted our literary guru and she said we should run the semaphore single cab piece that's taken 5 years to create. Oh, yeah...THAT story. The funt paint, bondo plastered, dented-to-hell rust bucket destined to die in an obscure wheat field finds herself revving up at the start line at Bonneville Salt Flats in the Speed Challenge. What are the odds? Oh, in between she was restored to stock and raffled at Jerome. Rust to Raffle to Record. Not a bad life and she's got plenty of speed history to make especially if Ronnie can get her into 4th gear next year. Speaking of history let's discuss 1966 (MCMLXVI) which was a wonderful year what with Star Trek debuting, Vietnam warming up and John meeting Yoko. Oh, one more thing. Our Raffle Bus was born. With Cumulous White over Sea Blue she set the Standard to envy and someone somewhere was smart enough to buy her and bring her home. Can you imagine the excitement on your family's faces when they caught the first glimpse of her rolling into your driveway? OH MY GOSH LET'S GO FOR A RIDE And down the street you went followed by the envious stare of all the neighbors with children laughing and dogs barking and 1600 CC's of pure power pushing her into 2nd or maybe 3rd. Then out onto the main road and eventually into 4th with the wind blowing and sun shining and Dad honking the horn and tapping his Pall Mall out the window. Staring up at the headliner and realizing it was all yours. Wow...this is the best day of my life. Yeah, 1966 was a great year and if you want to relive (or live it for the first time) keep turning the pages. Your News is nothing if not a time machine. But there's a price...the year you have to do something to help restore the bus. Chad did all the heavy lifting last year; let's not push it okay? Come to the general meeting or get on the Yahoo group and ask what you can do. Pat and Marge Kelly walked into the last meeting and dropped a FAT check on us to buy parts. You can help too; and it doesn't cost a dime. Volunteer your time and elbow grease to restoring the bus. You'll make friends and learn a few things about old cars and people, yourself included. Enjoy your March News!

## Your 2012 Board

## REAL NEWS

Gayle Corridori won the drawing for a free t-shirt from the recent Lunde VW show. It really pays to attend those shows and visit the ABC booth!

The Board needs your input on this year's Jamboree; namely the theme...got any ideas. Do the letters JJXXII get any creative juices going?

Chad was ticketed for working on the raffle bus.

Several exciting camping trips were reported and pictures were sent to the News by faithful members (watch your April addition for more details!)

Chad was arrested for working on the raffle bus.

Competition has sprung up between Lunde VW on the West Side with a monthly cruise night and San Tan VW hosting Bug O Rama. Seems they are having fun with old German Metal and perhaps attracting some business in the process.

Rain and Snow blew through Arizona giving us all hope that a few wild flowers might bloom out in the desert; get out in our old VW and do some exploring. Take some pictures so when they finally find your bleached bones we'll have some idea of what went wrong.

Chad was sent to prison for working on the raffle bus (but promised to still get it done in time for the Jamboree.)

You paid for another year's membership in the ABC knowing you'd get nothing more than a Newsletter and to enjoy the company of so many friendly, like-minded people. Good choice!

President Gary Lampinen  
Vice President Mike Baleda  
Treasurer Nancy Axtell  
Secretary Brigit Iles  
Membership Chris Lee  
Events Craig Stradling  
Sergeant at Arms Brian Fenwick

### Jerome Jamboree

### 2011 Donations

*so far*

Jerome Fire Dept \$2,000

PV Food Bank \$2,000

Arizona Human Society \$2,000

Project Linus \$1,000



# FROM RUST TO R



This is the strange and true story of how an old single cab went from quietly rusting away in a Colorado wheat field to fame and fortune

at the World of Speed 36 horse challenge. Oh, and in between it was an ABC Raffle Bus and daily driver in Mesa.



Flashback to 2007 as the editor was crawling back from Havasu when his phone rang and Chris Lehan informed him of a bus for sale in Wickenburg. A detour was arranged and soon the old, rusty bus was in site and under inspection by this reporter and Nancy Axtell (back then driving her sometimes diesel-powered bay.) The seller, Tony Kirkendall explained how he

had brought the bus back from a field where it had been sitting in snow and weeds for 20 years with the intention of restoring it but his 6' 6" frame would not fit in the cab. He also opined that his Barndoor would surely fetch a large sum so we took some photographs,



wrote down the mcode plate data and politely excused ourselves knowing full well it wasn't a Barndoor but was indeed a rare model owing to the semaphore turn signals protruding from the cab. It turned out to be a 1960 Euro Single Cab. Not a barndoor but almost as damn hard to find so after



# AFFLE TO RECORD!

consulting with President Stanton and Kyle Tillman an offer was made and the bus was procured and brought home to Phoenix via towbar. It would be another year before restoration work was begun in

earnest with the bus being towed between Gilbert, Avondale and South

Phoenix.. After hundreds of hours of body work including participation by Ronnie Fietelson the bus was delivered to the Jamboree and won by Richie Parrish in September 2008. Since we raffled it bone stock including 40 horse motor and split case transmission it was a poor choice for freeway driving but that's what ended up happening

until the inevitable post on our Yahoo group about the engine seizing. With no other options in site Richie traded the bus to Ronnie and the truck ended up at Bustoration in Lake Havasu City. Fast forward to September of 2011 when Ronnie skips Jerome to race his newly-minted ride in the World of Speed 36 Horse Power Challenge at the Bonneville Salt Flats where he set a class record 68 mph in 3rd gear.

Imagine if he'd been able to shift to 4th...oh well there's always next year.



# Coming Events

March 23rd Lunde VW First Friday  
each month we host a Cruise  
Night. Enjoy music and free food  
from 7 - 8PM. March 23 is a special  
cruise night

March 24th Airkewld Grand  
opening Goodyear, AZ

March 25th Bugorama SanTan  
Volkswagen Presents Spring  
Bugorama. Spring Bugorama in  
Phoenix is the Southwest's longest  
running VW event and the 1st stop  
on the BRS Racing Series. You will  
see some of the World's Fastest  
VW's on the west coast racing,  
looking to break records, a large  
VW only swap meet, a show &  
shine with Arizona's finest looking  
VW's and a new parts vendor  
row. Firebird Raceway  
20,000 West Maricopa Road  
Chandler, Arizona 85226

March 30th - April 1st VW Howard's  
2nd Annual Route 66 Caravan and  
Campout Kingman Arizona check  
out the samba thread or call John  
Howard 928-208-6566

April 14th luft & wasser (air and  
water)  
Tucson, Arizona

April 20-22 ABC Spring Campout at  
Colossal Cave near Tucson

May 18-20 Homey's Mt. Pinal  
Campout and Eat Fest.

April 28th Spring fling at Chirco in  
Tucson, AZ

May 26th Kelley speed bugs in the  
pines - Prescott AZ

June 6th - 10th VTO Blackstar  
campout New Location has  
Fishing, Horseback Riding, touch  
water park for the kids, disk golf,  
paddle boats, also a shooting  
range....

June 10th VW Classic - lots of  
beautiful cars...

July 27 - 29 KOA Kampout with  
Janyel in Flagstaff.

August 3-5 Rim Campout

August 27 - Sept 3rd

Sept 14-16 Jerome Jamboree XXII

December 7-9 Christmas Party

# SHANGRI LA RANCH NUDIST RESORT

14<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL BUFF - N - SHINE  
CLOTHING OPTIONAL CAR SHOW

**SUNDAY, MARCH 25, 2012**

(Rain date April 1)

**10 AM - 2 PM**



All proceeds to benefit **100 Club of Arizona**  
(supporting those behind the badge & their families)

Viewer fee of \$3 per person

Music, Food & Raffles

ONE T-SHIRT AND DASH PLAQUE WITH EACH REGISTRATION



T51 Ronnie Fietelson/Wolfsburg West..... New Record 9/16/11