



I know what you're thinking. But it's a Caravel, not a Vanagon.



What are we getting into? 2014 raffle bus!

Behind the wheel

Just like the anticipation you might experience while waiting for your shredded beef chimichanga ordered extra crispy with beans, shredded lettuce, diced tomatoes, swimming in spicy green sauce and drenched in gooey cheese (yes, YES, gooey cheese!) the anticipation surrounding Bus Club board elections continue. January's newsletter will have better coverage about this entire as the results are not in. Fortunately you won't be waiting till January for January's issue. We'll have a parts list for the bus, Pics from the December events and so on. This issue covers the madness of our holiday season takeoff along with some other interesting tech tips about your bus (not for the sleight of heart), Bus Club Holiday party etiquette, what to expect early next year and wow, another issue DONE. Enough chit chat already! Get your snacks & a beer, get comfy and get reading because we've got a lot to cover! Prost!



Painfully obvious advertizing for the Yuma campout.

Meeting Place Department

No General Meeting in December! Just a reminder that there is no General Meeting in December. January's meeting might be at a new location. Many suggestions (read Flack!) regarding potential meeting locations have been considered. So, as of yet, January's General meeting spot has not been decided on. Rumor mill has it that we will probably be holding up at Bill Fielder's Custom Frame shop located near Rosita's on Hohokam Ave. A potentially quiet place, bring your own food & beverages sort of thing, lot's of space for mischief, conveniently located just off the 143 from what I'm told. Google the shop if you wanna stop in & check it out for yourself. Cleanest bathroom around! I'm going to do some recon work and get back with everyone in our January newsletter as to what we've decided. Happy Holiday's everyone!

Wait, when do you guys meet?

The Club's general meeting takes place on the third Wednesday of the month. We are currently meeting at Aunt Chilada's on Morten Ave in Phoenix. We moved here because they serve FOOD, and our Supreme Exhaulted Leader can hear himself talk during the meeting. O.k., AND we get a room by ourselves, AND our own private servers, AND awesome chips & salsa, AND convenient parking near our room so we can check on our rides, AND whatever. General Meeting to start at 7pm. Come early for better seats.

MEMBERSHIP DUES are STILL only \$20 per year. WHAT? I know, we might be upping that amount soon, forever postage only lasts so long, so get your renewal dues in QUICK before someone changes their mind. Please send your dues or renewals in the form of check or money orders to:

Arizona Bus Club c/o Membership

PO Box 65001

Phoenix Arizona 85082

Send dues in the form of bus parts & pieces or raffle bus donations c/o Chad Jacobsen. Send dues in the form of EBT debit cards or gold bullion c/o Gary Lampinen. Upon receipt of payment, we will do our best to update your membership to ensure you receive this quality publication throughout the year to keep you up to date on Bus Club activities, gossip & VW events. If this isn't enough for you, do what I do & check out www.thesamba.com.

I CAN'T GET ENOUGH BUS CLUB! I know, right? So, if seeing your ABC friends at meetings, work parties, campouts or at the local pub isn't enough, you can now communicate with each other via the ABC yahoo group! Sounds obvious for...obvious reasons but this group of yahoos has a yahoo group on, would you believe, yahoogroups? Carefully follow these instructions to join the group. Do Not Deviate!

Step #1: Access personal e-mail account.

Step #2: Send an e-mail to:

Arizonabusclub-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Step #3: Show spouse how computer savvy you are.

Helpful tip: Some people open an additional e-mail account just for their Bus Club needs as the volume of banter can clog a small inbox or a standard size tub drain. Good idea! Don't forget to check every now & then and clean it often.

DISCLAIMER: Hey gang, we can be the source of good information and really bad rumors so please understand that: The views and opinions expressed in the Arizona Bus Club newsletter are those of the individual contributors and are not necessarily those of the board, general members or the editors unless otherwise stated. Usually it's the beer talking. No Arizona Bus Club board member, past or present, shall be held liable for any damages, death, injury, paper cuts or harm resulting from the use or misuse of any information contained in the newsletter or the newsletter itself.

Your current Bus Club Board includes:

Peace Keeper – Will Davis – Not on Yahoo groups
Cruise Director – Craig Stradling – On Yahoo groups
Membership – Chris Lee & Girls – On Yahoo groups
Appointed Scribe – Kristin L – Not on Yahoo groups
Keeper of Coin – Nancy Axtell – On Yahoo groups
Second in Command – Mike Baleda – On Yahoo
Supreme Exhaulted Leader – Gary Lampinen – One Yahoo

General Meeting Notes with November's notes will return with the publication of January's issue available on news stands in December.

Newly elected board members will be announced in January's Newsletter.

Things to do in the snow Department

As promised in last months issue, weve got things to do in the snow. But really, use your imagination folks! Hey, anyone up for a K.O.A. snow camp weekend? I'll give Janyel a call and she'll clear off the spots. Let's talk!

Newsletter Contributions Department

Hey gang, often enough we at the news get the feeling that some would-be contributors believe that we enjoy reading our own thoughts so much that there isn't any room for anyone else. Nothing could be further from the truth. We LOVE other people's contributions and we are more than willing to publish them and give credit to the author, or not. Disclosure is up to you. The news has several regular contributors to keep this stuff fresh & Lively and we're always looking any kind of bus related article. So don't be shy, send it by and if you need help editing your article we can assist with punctuation, spelling, grammar or whatever. Send your imperfect piece of future Pulitzer prize material to busclubeditor@gmail.com and we'll make sure it gets published. Deadline for submission is usually the 5th of the month. Yes it's an arbitrary day, but we've GOT to have time to work your article in. If we can't include it in one month, don't worry, we'll save it for the next issue. Parents are encouraged to pass this opportunity along to their kids as we are always looking for articles from an alternate point of view. That and the articles are easier to read. Finger paint, crayon or other multi media submissions are always welcome. Hope to hear from ya!

Volkstock! Part Deux

What a pleasant event experienced this November! Hosted by Lunde Peoria Volkswagen and German Toyz, Volkstock was a good local event to attend. Sunny days, camping on grass, goats running around acting like kids, kids running around acting like animals, swaps and BUSES. So, yes, there were other VWs on the grounds and if you're into the water cooled coupes or the Ghias and lowered bugs, go read someone else's blog. Raffle prizes were plentiful, as were the tasty snacks and good, era appropriate music. Personally, I enjoy the car show. The IDEAS you can STEAL, seeing what other people have done to trick their rides, the cool gadgets & lighted accessories that they've found (like a chromium plated, fully illuminated, genuine accessory shift knob) but more importantly, I look for a project, similar to my own, to see how someone overcame a problem I was having as I was modifying my ride. Free Info! This was the second time around for this event and it did NOT disappoint. Thank you Mark Miller and staff for putting this event together! Mark Miller - events@peoriavw.com 623-875-4067

Buses on the River #12



The nine o'clock convoy to the show. Better late than never! Here's an event that has been around a while. Hosted by our beloved Yumans, buses on the river is a good



First there was air. Then there was.... opportunity to explore Yuma during the cooler month of November.



...more air!

So let's digress from the usual event report to explore a bit. Our side trip took us to Barbara & Bill Bowles "Das Bratwurst Haus" located at 204 S Madison which is just north of the Giss Parkway roundabout. Half a click from Gateway Park is a sizeable transplanted chunk of Bavaria that will take care of your hunger & thirst for the fadderland. Plenty of German brews on tap & in bottles and Bavarian fare that did not disappoint and didn't break our bank. Schnitzel, spatzel, sauerbraten, strudel & cold suds combined to create a most pleasant dining experience in a restaurant depicting scenes from Bavaria which only added to our German dining experience. Event catering is available, Closed on Monday. Look to friend them on Facebook.



Lot's of space available for late night arrivals.

So, where were we? Ah, our weekend puppy pile camping spot was on a nice patch of grass inside the Yuma county fairgrounds complete with convenient toilets and nearby showers.



Factory VW powered motorcycle? Cool bike! Thanks Gary! The fairground itself provides a nice comfortable walking area for exercise and the HUGE eucalyptus

trees provide shade all day long for lazy weekend camping we all deserve.

If fat, lazy cat camping isn't your thing, then follow the Saturday morning caravan to Yuma's Gateway park and show off your vehicle! Raffle prizes typically include a turnkey engine, a bus transmission and loads of VW related swag, tuneup kits & new parts. Thank you Andy for hosting the raffle!



Shaded by the HUGE eucalyptus. What a cool venue.

Thank you George for selling shirts! Thank you Jim & friends for putting it all together and for the wonderful Friday nite chicken dinner. Come early for a good camping spot & don't forget your cornhole bags for some late night fun.



Not everything is better when it sits on a Ritz.

Hot Tech Tip Department

Often times I find myself wanting to freshen up the paint on the floor in the cab of my bus. Mainly because I'm trying to preserve what's left under foot, but also because it's nice to give the floor a good look at a clean, rust free floor, and hitchhikers aren't as hesitant getting in when offered a ride.



Before "passive sanding" & paint. Hitchhiker beware! As tempting as it is just to scrubbing and then rattle can it, I am haunted with the daunting task of spending minutes sanding the floor to remove rust, old flaking paint etc. So it becomes a task to recoat the floor because of the prep work involved. Unless you're like me and prefer a passive method to sanding the floor. i.e. normal habits geared toward achieving desired results. And it won't make your hand go numb holding the sander. Solution? Playground sand. YES. Take the mat (if you still have one) or shag carpet out of the cab and dump a cup of playground sand inside your cab, get your sandals on & pretend you're at the beach!



What hitchhiker could refuse resting their pack on this floor? If the girlfriend/ wants her side to look pretty, add a second cup on her side of the cab. The urgency of the paint project will determine the amount of time needed to sand. Currently I'm on my fourth month of sanding and am down to bare metal with a minimum of effort on the high traffic areas. So, dump some sand, scoot the feet around and when you've achieved the desired look, garden hose out the rest, let dry & paint! Idea: Spray in bed lining.

Ideas. . . Department

Hey gang, the Arizona Bus Club is always looking for fun, stuff to do on a weekend or early morning. One idea that's been floating around was video taping our buses doing some fun stunts. Ideas included buses entering a round-a-bout and then driving circles till we get the footage we wanted, to an idea about a flying wing of buses driving down the interstate. Probably heading East on Hwy 60 as there are 5 lanes of travel where we could build a decent wing (or three or five) of buses. We'll get some video camera savvy people on the overpass to film the happenings and who knows, assuming local law enforcement doesn't hit us with a citation for not having a parade permit, we could all become famous! Another idea was for a Bus Club Calendar depicting pictures of buses in front of murals located throughout the valley and state. If you've got an idea, send it in to our PO Box or if you're wanting to contribute to an idea send us your submission. We'll keep track and let you know all the details of when, where, who, what etc.



Sorry Roy, beat you to it!

Coming Events Department

Bus Club is gearing up for a busy holiday season. Don't feel compelled to participate in every event, but don't waste your weekend at home doing chores either. Here are some things that are going on in the world of Bus Club!

November 28th – Beginning of Turkeyday weekend. If you're like me and haven't scored an invitation to the neighbor's house that cooks the really succulent turkey, then join me in the parking lot behind

St. Vincent's for some holiday brew and an experience you won't forget.



December 2nd – New Moon

This is when the REAL crazies come out. Quite the opportunity to meet new and interesting people.

December 6th – Staging for APS Light Parade

Come to Central and Bethany Home to preview bands, buses and assorted other vehicles decorated from fenders to rooftops with lights and watch panicked people putting the final touches on their rides as the judges walk by giving their approving nods. Parking lot opens at noon, judging starts at sundown. Security is available for entries that stay overnight.

December 7th – APS Light Parade

In our (hack, cough) year of participation the Arizona Bus Club hasn't experienced a single engine fire or related mishap on the parade route. We're looking to continue that tradition this year with our Bus Club entry. If someone has time, please find us a spot to have a drink to two afterward. Our drivers will need it.

December 13th – Bus Club Christmas Party

Any holiday party that lasts for 48 hours plus is the one I want to attend. If your name is on the guest list, no one can take you higher. All club members, their family, friends and other bus owners are invited to attend. This year we'll be at Utery Park near Mesa. Look for the big <PHOENIX> sign on the mountain side north of Mesa, then look for our club logoed signs when you get near. Fun starts when you get off work on Friday, pig roast & holiday kids activities on Saturday, including the Bus race, and then try to be packed up and out by noon on Sunday (and take your gift with you!) Toilets & showers are available. Electricity



No Gary, not that kind of pig roast.

available in the ramada for crock pots, warming plates, Christmas lights, etc. Saturday pot luck to start when the pig is done roasting - 4pm or so. Don't hold me to it, (we'll try to give you a heads up to start warming your side dish.)

Turkey breast also provided. White Elephant gift exchange planned for adults, unless I get flack about it. Bring a gift, get a gift. Get on our yahoogroups e-mail list for rules & ideas of what to bring.

Tuesday, December 17th – Full Moon

Tuesday, December 24th – Christmas Eve

Tuesday, December 31st – New years eve,

New moon!



The pole is the illusion. Ketchikan, AK.

January 16th – 19th - Buses by the Bridge XVIII

Hear Ye Hear Ye Hear Ye

It's that time of the year again for the best VW Bus campout and show in BEAUTIFUL Lake Havasu City Arizona. Volkswagen bus camp-out is for BUSES, other VW's are welcome but have a segregated area to park and camp in the event area, there is also an area set aside for

RV's (NO HOOK-UPS)

COST 40 dollars if you show up Thursday

30 dollars if you show up Friday

20 dollars if you show up Saturday

This is PER Vehicle not person, everyone in the VW bus is included. Spectator cost is \$2 dollars for the weekend

Whats HAPPENING during the weekend

Thursday; is free day to do what you want

Friday; Same as Thursday, damn another day to do nothing but have fun, maybe you can cruise over to the Balloon Fest and check it out. There is a shuttle in walking distance.

Saturday; The day all hell breaks loose. Wake up early to watch all the Hot Air Balloons ascend from all over the place. We have all the Kids activities with a bouncy thingy and other going on's. Later on that day we have the Famous CHILE Cook-Off where the finest VW Bus chefs compete for a great prize and everyone gets fed (if you like chile) for a small donation!!! In the early evening after everyone (well most at least) finish eating their dinner we have the FAMOUS evening RAFFLE filled with great VW related items.

Sunday roles around and the event winds down which starts off with a pancake breakfast hosted by the Boy Scouts of America for a small fee

After this is over we start with the awards, camp clean up then the final raffle where afterwards we will say our good byes to all. Visit www.thesamba.com under "Community" for more info.

September 19th – 21st 2014 – JJXXIV

Don't ask us about this event just yet....

Next month: The prez talks about Ala Ska!



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Only one who attempts the absurd can achieve the impossible.

Rely on your own good judgment to lead you to success.

this month's pass to REAL fun. Thanks for 7

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