

Drive your Bus

I've been a 'bus driver' most of my life. I've spent a considerable portion of my life around air cooled VWs in one form or another. Truth is, VWs have always been a part of my life. My parents purchased a black bug off the lot after their marriage in 1965. The next VW to come around was a Green '71 deluxe purchased in '76. The '71 served my parents well for many years. Once upon a time I can recall riding with my brother & then baby sister in the back seat of the green machine, chasing the bicentennial train (with the Liberty Bell on it) thru the desert south of Phoenix along with some of my parent's friends and their VW buses. Summer break excursions to Minnesota we're common place in my youth (Twelve years in a row.) The excursion took us 2000 miles one way each time. Lots of country to explore and at that time lots of buses to see. We kids would get excited to see other green buses on the road amongst all the other colors of buses traveling about. Now, I get excited to see any bus regardless of the color or era. What's the point of these stories? Well, evidently the traveling game has changed. Service stations no longer stock parts more than 20 years old. Any place you wind up with a broken bus becomes a geographic anomaly where you'll find yourself two weeks away from any part that needs to be ordered. So you attempt to be diligent with your bus and drive it at every opportunity you have to make sure everything works and keeps working. Then, just when you think you've got all the kinks worked out of your motor, right before that really cool bus rally that you've been planning months for and talking it up with your neighbors, you take that final short trip to fuel up, air up, snack up and on the way to the fueling station, a noise appears that you're unfamiliar with. It wasn't there a week ago or even earlier today. It doesn't matter what the sound is, the question is that of the ages: Should I stay, or, should I go? If you're like me, my ego alone takes up the passenger seat of the cab and that small walk way between the seats as well. I will go. Why take the chance? Again, simple, because! ...Triple A.

I have flown for many years without AAA and I've been lucky to be traveling with other bus owners that know their stuff. I've done many solo flights without any incident or opportunity to test my resourcefulness. And I have been lucky. My luck almost ran out earlier this year as I was coming back from the TBM Happy Valley campout. My fan belt broke just as I was leaving the Tucson city limits and I did not have a spare. (O.k. I did have a spare. It was the spare that broke.) Fortunately, I was able to get a hold of Drew with TBM and was able to "borrow" his hundred mile tow. AAA was called and 45 minutes later me, my girl & Joyce were flying up I-10 toward home, in and on a clean flatbed tow truck. (My girl was so relieved about not having to do the distance. Joyce was happy to ride in a warm cab for a while.) That week, I bought a AAA membership of my own. The trip back from Tucson used 96 miles of the 100 mile tow. After reviewing a map I discovered that 100 miles covers a lot of distance in any direction. So, to sum up, get AAA, and then go drive your bus.

Join the Club Dept.

So, if you're reading this, you're obviously a member of one of the better Bus Clubs in the States. Either that or you've found someone else's copy of this newsletter at a soup kitchen. That being said, should you finish this newsletter and want to get your own subscription simply send a check, money order or a good set of spark plugs to:

Arizona Bus Club c/o Membership

PO Box 65001

Phoenix AZ 85082

If you're renewing your membership (and don't know why), simply remind yourself that this is a fun club. Although most of the gatherings will require at least 4 hours travel from your side of the state, understand that's four more hours spent getting to know your bus and not watching television. You will be welcomed at our next gathering with a cold beer upon your arrival, (regardless of whether you imbibe or not) as well as with friendly, smiling faces to greet you as if to say "Hey, if you're here, then we found the right spot to meet." So, take a moment and write your member number on the memo line of your check (if you know it), Otherwise we'll do our best to ensure you're not assigned a new number. If you're joining for the first time... Welcome! We hope you'll enjoy reading this newsletter half as much as we enjoy creating it! We've made some changes in the newsroom (I moved my desk from the no-window-east-wall to the plenty-of view-south-wall next to the mini fridge). We've added some interesting columns to the news, we've tried to inspire new writers with other columns and we've found some compromising selfies to publish. If we skipped you or someone you love, don't just consider it to be a blessing in disguise. Let us know. For the rest of you that we didn't skip, thank you for your continued patronage.

January 2nd, your Club Board includes

Event Coordinator – David Murphy

Membership – Chris Lee – 480 241 7025

Treasurer – Ray Vorbeck

Sergeant @ Arms – Will Davis

Vice President – Jeremiah Polynone

Secretary – Kristin Lampinen

President Eclectic – Gary Lampinen -602 881 1291

If you're looking to contact our board, might I suggest:

Arizonabusclub-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Legal Stuff Department

The Arizona Bus Club describes itself as a family oriented club dedicated to the restoration and enjoyment of the Volkswagen Transporter. No matter what we do to distract people it would seem that this rumor is true. Owning a bus is not a requirement of joining the club, but it tells us where your head is. All Type 2 admirers and enthusiasts are welcome to join and attend our meetings, campouts, impromptu parties and skinny dipping occasions- provided they provide the beer and pass our initiations. We have a

car show at every general meeting. We have our annual charitable fund raising event at the Gold King Mine near the Town of Jerome in September. We have knowledgeable people that can help you troubleshoot your VW bus issues. Join us, we have cookies.

More Legal Stuff Dept.

The **Arizona Bus Club is a Public Charity** and is recognized as such **under the 501 C 3 section of the Internal Revenue Code**. Consult your tax advisor regarding the tax benefits of donating to a 'not for profit' and then donate anyway. The Arizona Bus Club currently meets at the Walterdome located at 6425 E Thomas in Scottsdale and is disguised as Ponderosa Lumber. Meetings are held the third Wednesday of the month and usually start around 7pm. NOTE: No General Meeting held in December. (We'll see you at the Holiday Party!) Essentially, if you enjoy camping, repairing buses and consuming beer, this IS the club for you. We have members of all ages & backgrounds, so don't be afraid to come along & join in on the fun. NOTE: The Arizona Bus Club does reserve the right to refuse membership to any weirdo deemed weirder than our normal level of weirdness.

Lemme tell ya... That's a lot of weird.

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. Some of these photos were used with permission. Most were not. We have no way of discerning which ones are which. Got an issue with us using your photo or likeness? Please contact us. No Arizona Bus Club board member, past or present, shall be held liable for any damages, death, injury, paper cuts or other harm resulting from the use or misuse of any information contained in this newsletter or of the newsletter itself. (We have secretly placed *those* responsibilities on some of our general members). And....only the tastiest of animals were harmed during the creation of this newsletter.



Prez G and Moriartys of Canine Companions for Independence

And from now on...Dept.

There are some people who enjoy reading their newsletter on-line with the idea that everything in this club is free. For the most part they're correct, however we've had some changes with regard to the on-line publication of the news. Only that the on-line version will be lagging behind one month rather than being posted on the day the other newsletters are mailed. This is totally meant to ensure that the dues paying members get their newsletters first. And that's that.

R B W P W (Raffle Bus Work Party Weekends)

Siggy C. (former winner/co-owner of a raffle bus) has volunteered his shop to repair and restore the 2015 raffle bus. Siggy has volunteered his shop as THE spot to hang out, drink beer and yes, work on the raffle bus. This year's resto project is an early 1959 panel and isn't without it's challenges-Nothing we clubbers aren't accustomed to. Our goal is to take the bus to primer green paint, vend fish tacos from it at the campouts leading up to the Jamboree and let the winner of the event choose the final color. Upon which we will vend more tacos at the next two events before applying the final color. Great plan eh?

SPECIAL NOTE: We have a title for the 1959 Panel Bus. Thank you Stephanie! We're getting started!

Charitable Giving Department



Pablo & Doc Hilpert presenting to Teresa Baker of Y.O.T.O. Spending time doing what you enjoy is an immediate personal benefit. When the results of your efforts benefit others, you have benefited mankind.

The board of the Arizona Bus Club has voted to donate funds from our charitable Jamboree to the following Arizona based charities:

Jerome Volunteer Fire Department Aux.	\$3000
Tucson's Youth on their Own	\$3000
Canine Companions for Independence	\$3000

The Arizona Bus Club will be donating more money to local charities before the end of the year. Thank you to everyone who helped us make these choices.



Presenting to Fire Chief Rusty of the JVFDA

Event Reporting – Buses By the River

Rumor mill had it that representation from the Phoenix area clubbers was pretty weak at this event this year. (Keep those doctor notes handy!) That didn't stop the Yumans from raising \$3484 for Amberly's Place! If you haven't been to BBR (aka the Yuma show) then you're missing out. Jim, Emily, Bill and other Yuma bus enthusiasts really put on an excellent campout, cruise and car show next to the Colorado River in Yuma. Friday night's chicken dinner is amazing along with cold beer and delicious homemade beans all work in harmony to keep you warm throughout the night. Saturday morning involves an early morning cruise to the car show site next to the Colorado River. And then the action returns to the campsite inside the Yuma county fairgrounds. I missed going this year, and I mean 'regretted' not going. Keep your bus tuned up and running or windup regretting like I did.

Advertisements Department

With regard to your Newsletter:

Just a quick note on when your membership fees are due. Your membership/subscription starts during the month you join. Renewals happen one year later. We at the news try to give our members a 'heads up' by highlighting the address label two months in advance. Your address label has the expiration date of your membership and your membership number on it. Your dues go directly to the publication & distribution of this quality periodical. Only the neighbor's barking dog was harmed during the editing of this letter.

The gift that keeps giving

Having difficulty coming up with the perfect gift for the bus enthusiast in your family? Are they looking for the true meaning behind becoming a bus owner? Are you looking to keep this year's gift around 20 bucks? Look no further. The gift of membership to the Arizona Bus Club is usually more than what anyone bargains for. Your membership gets you a subscription or our monthly newsletter, filled with clever articles, tech tips about your bus, cool pics, and upcoming events. All written at an easy to read fourth grade level. The membership currently includes free entry to our Holiday Party in December. If you'd like to increase your cherished ones vocabulary, simply write 'mail enhancement wanted' on your envelope below your return address and we at the newsroom will strive to pack your beloved's newsletter with all of the 'big words' we can think of to describe the simplest of things. Consider getting your loved one a Bus Club membership, and then do it anyway.

Volkswagen Toys For Sale

Our President Emeritus Melissa Jess is selling VW toys and has an impressive collection to choose from. Give her a call if you're looking for that unique something for that special bus nut in your life. Melissa probably has a couple of them. Melissa Jess – 602 628 7672 –cell



I wasn't aware of this P.B.R. campaign. Denver CO.

Best of the Bays – For Sale

This 1971 Volkswagen Westfalia is in very good condition overall It appears to have all of its original accessories and window screens and the Westfalia top is in excellent condition The car literally drives like new, and I would not hesitate to drive it long distance as it stands today. The manual transmission shifts smooth and the vehicle tracks down the road straight as an arrow.

Asking \$8000 Contact: **Wolfee Man at**
thecuttingedge70@hotmail.com

For Sale – My Bro's '71 baja bug. What can I say, the baja takes off like a scalded dog. It starts, shifts

good, has decent interior (good seats & carpet) 1900cc+ engine, sun roof, rally lights. All the things you'd probably want in a baja bug. Christmas is coming! Come kick the tires anytime you're available. Asking \$2800 o.b.o.

Call Gary: 602 881 1291

And did you know....

Your guardians of the Arizona Bus Club have been hearing your concerns about the 'lack of club swag' lying about or being shown at campouts. WE HEAR YOU and have done something about it! T-shirts, decals, patches and metal plates from Bushong creations have been procured. Ask us at a club meeting about how you can get a hold of these items and then show off your club with pride!



Event Reporting: BBC car show a Blast!

The Busties Bus Club car show was held Sunday, Nov. 30th this year at Fatso's Pizza on 32nd St & Greenway. One hundred six VW owners came out of hiding to support this event by giving 245 lbs of canned food and fellow patrons donated more than \$2700 to aid Mark Michel cancer therapy. Thanks goes out to everyone who helped support this event. Our thoughts & prayers go out to Mark to help him overcome this challenge.



Folks, a while back I was looking for submissions to meet a deadline for our newsletter. I received an interesting tale of a journey that took place just a few weeks before our Jamboree.

Let's just call this story.....

11-day, 3651-mile, road trip in a 49-year old VW bus.

By Roy Jonas

Part I

A few months ago I started planning a trip to see friends and family near St. Louis, Missouri where I had lived for 42-years before moving to Mesa, AZ just 2-years ago. Labor Day weekend 2014 was my choice to return home as the Midwest's largest VW bus event, "Buses Nowhere Near the Arch" (BNNTA) was taking place and my "Jonas" family reunion always happens on the Monday of Labor Day weekend. I spent my last 6-years in Missouri restoring a 1965 Deluxe bus and the final 4-months were a mad thrash. With the help of family, friends and fellow Missouri Micros bus clubbers, the deluxe was barely drivable but licensed just a few days before we had to move. I wanted to drive it back to Missouri so everyone that helped could see the bus and have a chance to take it for a drive.

Since my wife Dawn is currently neck deep in med school, she could not make the trip but fellow ABC members Chad & Mindy wanted to do the long trip with me in Chad's 1959 camper bus. We pinned a round trip route on Chad's giant wall map avoiding interstates and hitting a few attractions along the way and agreed to meet at my house in east Mesa after work on the Wednesday before the holiday weekend. On their way to my house his bus started leaking oil profusely and was burning on the exhaust causing a huge smokescreen, which promptly got Chad pulled over and ticketed for gross pollution. He arrived in my driveway with the bus puking oil and we determined the cause was a stripped out fuel pump stud which we repaired using a spare rocker arm stud. It was the right length and had 8mm threads on one end with 10mm on the other...we just had to drill and tap his engine case for the 10mm end. We finally hit the road about 7pm but unfortunately...1-1/2-hours into our trip Chad & Mindy had to turn back as their bus started blowing oil all over the place and we could not determine from exactly where. So...we loaded the raffle prizes they had made for the show into my bus, traded farewells and I was on my way solo...just me and Sonora (My 1965 Deluxe).

I drove east into the Salt River Canyon on US-60 through the night keeping a watchful eye on the wood line for elk. I rolled into Show Low and decided to camp in the Wal-Mart parking lot and arose as soon as the sun streamed through the sparkling clean 21-windows, went in for a few supplies and tested their plumbing then I was on my way. It was somewhere that morning in the high desert near New Mexico when I noticed something strange...the road seemed to be alive and the sound of ping-pong balls bouncing off the belly pans got my attention. I soon realized about 10 zillion flying grasshoppers were camped out on the 2-lane pavement, assumedly soaking up heat during the chilly night and here I came with my air cooled wake up call. A nice tail wind whizzed me through the "Very Large Array" field where it appeared all the dishes were moved for service or taken out of commission completely...? I stopped for gas in a beautiful lava flow mountain town called Magdalena, NM where I noticed the lime green juice and carcasses of a few thousand grasshoppers coated Sonora's nose from the headlights down and the lower front beam was at least an inch thick with this mess...eeewww.

The '11-day, 3651-mile, road trip' will continue next month!

Upcoming Events Dept.:

Jan 15th –18th LBB presents BBB 19!

The ten member troop from Lake Havasoop swear to god and the heavens above that they are ready willing and able to put this show on again. What follows is a brief itinerary and pricing for the event.

1/15/2015 (Thursday) Move in get your camp ready
1/16/2015 (Friday) People still coming in, free day to do whatever you want. Cruise the city, walk the channel, visit with friends, etc. Chile COOK-OFF. Free to enter, people judged. Show us what you got, we dare you. Serving/judging starts at 4 p.m.

1/17/2015 (Saturday) Lots of kids stuff going on all day. Bouncy House, coloring contest and who knows what else we'll pull off for the kids that day.

Saturday night raffle, time to be announced

1/18/2015 (Sunday) Can't believe it's almost over. Boy Scout pancake breakfast (for a few bucks), Event awards, camp clean-up and the Last raffle.

Times to be announced

There will be an event time board at the registration booth.

This event is put on by the London Bridge Bullis, a gang of 10 dedicated VW bus owners with no compensation except for the smiles on everyone's face with all the proceeds going to LOCAL KIDS charities.

PLEASE follow these simple rules so this event can go on with-out any problems..... available on thesamba.com

This is a VW BUS camp-out event, we do allow other AIR COOLED VW's in but ONLY if camped with a BUS. So please don't try and sneak your water cooled car, truck etc. into the event area. You WILL be asked to move it to the parking lot or RV camp area.

There is very limited camping around the grass area so don't get butt hurt or argue with the BBB staff if you can't get one.

Now the cost!!!! For the event

if you arrive 1/15 Thursday it's 40 dollars

if you arrive 1/16 Friday it's 30 dollars

If you arrive 1/17 Saturday it's 20 dollars

Spectators are 2 bucks each and that's for the whole

weekend. VENDOR spots are very limited and must be

prepaid in advance, contact ronnie@oldvolks.com or call

928 680 7664 to reserve your spot

April 10 – 12 - HowardVille Campout *Seligman, Arizona*

VW bus camp out at HowardVille, west of Seligman Az. between I-40 and Route 66. Elev is 5,600 ft. junipers, cedars, and pinion pines. Plenty of fire wood. Tables and BBQ's at some sites. Mountain golf, Frisbee hiking.

10 miles of dirt roads so, lowered buses be warned. We will caravan to HowardVille from the "Snow Cap" on Route 66 in Seligman Friday morning at 10 AM.

Check events page for pictures and more info.

Fliers at Buses by the Bridge XIX show Jan 2015.

There is no cost for this camp out.

Email vwhoward7735@gmail.com for more info.

April 17, 2015 - Texas VW Classic

Fredericksburg, Texas

April 17-19, 2015 - Texas VW Classic

Fredericksburg, Texas

Come join us in Fredericksburg, TX for a weekend of camping, cruising and Volkswagenism! Just 2 miles south of Fredericksburg on Hwy 16 in beautiful Lady Bird Johnson Park. Roll through the hill country on the Bluebonnet Cruise, followed by a BBQ dinner on Saturday. Then wake up early Sunday to show off your VW to the masses, check out the competition, and navigate the sea of spare parts, used cars, toys, and other VW items. The show concludes Sunday afternoon with an awards presentation including projected photos of winning cars.

Fredericksburg is an historic German settlement full of shopping, entertainment, historic sights and tourist attractions. We have lots of open camping space and reservable RV spaces. This is a beautiful time of year in Texas so if you can, do yourself a favor and join in the camp-out. If you cannot camp, make sure to make hotel reservations early! There is plenty to see and do for the entire family so make us a part of your vacation plans. As always, pets and kids are welcome.

For more information

see <http://www.texasvwclassic.com> or contact Steve – steve@texasvwclassic.com

www.azbusclub.org

September 18th – 20, 2015

Your A.B.C. presents JJ XXV

We are not afraid...anymore.

Your Arizona Bus Club is gearing it up to do 'it' one more time. All the usual craziness is to be expected. All your friends will be there waiting for you. This year's raffle bus is an early, early club restored 1959 panel. (stop drooling) Tickets are still only \$0.50 each. Other details are still to be decided on. (hey, we've got time.) Hope to see many of you there.

Someone mentioned a cool idea...Dept.

How about contacting **past raffle buses** (and their owners) to get them up to the Jamboree site next year just to show 'em all off! If ever there was an opportunity to do this, this would be it.



Next Month Dept.:

- Prez G's acceptance speech for APS Shining Star award
- Holiday party at Lake Pleasant
- New Year resolutions
- Annual Bus Club Calendar!



All other weekends/weekdays:

Hey gang, gotta mention again that our friend Siggy has offered up his Arizona Speed Shop as the 2015 raffle bus restoration spot. Pretty soon, we'll be heading over to Siggy's every Saturday morning starting at, say, 7am? to work on our raffle bus. Siggy's A.S.S. is located toward the back of the Walterdome Lot at 6425 E Thomas. Access to Siggy's A.S.S. can be obtained by traveling along the canal. Look for the Bus Club sandwich board if you get lost. Ending times for the work parties are usually around 2pm. Come, hang out for a bit and then go home and organize the kitchen junk drawer like you told your spouse you would. What kind of things should you bring? Well, depending on your chosen task, welding gloves, welding helmet, water, sanding disks, sander, goggles, beer, ear plugs, sandwich, grinding/cutting tools, petty cash, etc. If you're looking to buy some club swag or renew your membership, those mornings would be a good opportunity to take care of those things. Which reminds me....

FOR SALE – Single axle flatbed trailer. Can haul a VW Bus comfortably. Lots of spots to tie a bus down. Requires 2" ball. Lights work on 4 pin connector. Good title. Axle positioned for good balancing. Loading ramps included. Contact Siggy – 602 653 9770

Siggy also mentioned a work party campout at or near his shop early next year to give distant members an opportunity to participate with the restoration efforts. Let us know what your availability is so we can put something together!



Are you ready for me?

And now, as luck would have it,

The Inevitable Last page.....=====>

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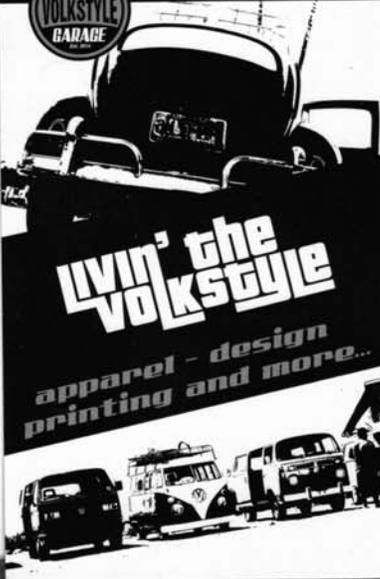
Matthew Bushong
Co-owner

The limit to your abilities is
where you place it.

Lucky Numbers 14, 19, 23, 27, 35, 40

DEC 2014

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