



MVVC NEWS

A WORD FROM PRESIDENT DAN PIERCE



Hello to all, I hope that you are having a great 2023 VW season.

A recap from our last MVVC Festival and some thoughts on next year's event.

Due to some legal issues with our club name and logo, we were bogged down a bit getting VW of America on board, which was a bit of a time-consuming matter. Please understand this was a cease and desist order that we would have had to deal with (again) as we've had this battle in the past. It was not directly due to the show, but it was affecting the show, and we were in slight danger of having to pay for damages. That could have required us to disband and rebuild the club from scratch. So, I needed to take the situation seriously. This affected my time to properly promote the new show.

We eventually worked out a resolution that included signing a 1 year contract to use Volkswagen in our club name (this was mostly to prevent us from selling stuff commercially with their name on it), and to solidify our awareness that we do not own the VW name or rights to that name in any way.

We also agreed to adjust our logo to remove the Wolfsburg Crest as well as the back end of the split beetle. The new logo will look pretty much the same but will have instead a Michigan mitt with a late 70's style beetle steering wheel in it (without any brand or crest on it).

After all that nonsense was handled, we worked out what VW was bringing to the show. Along with all the usual new car line stuff, we would get a pre-production U.S. spec ID Buzz! Also, they would bring us a Deluxe 60's Bus.

With that all worked out and all our other valued sponsors on board, Munks Motors, Barnum's Buggy Barn, Steve's European Auto, Cryo Clean, State of Mind Customs, we were ready to get the show rolling. Please support those who support the club!

This year was our 2nd at the new Frankenmuth location. This event takes place during the Frankenmuth Bavarian Festival so that we can utilize that crowd for our event as well. Al Zehnder from Zehnder's of Frankenmuth was instrumental in working out permits

and such for our Friday night event on Main St.

He also donated 1250.00 worth of free dinner certificates for Friday night participants.

I worked with the property manager of Riverplace Garrett Kerr along with Michael Zehnder Keller, (owner of Bavarian in Lodge as well as Riverplace) to set up the main event on Saturday, which was very well organized and run.

I then worked with the City Council to have 5 spots for us in the Sunday Parade, which is telecast and is very well attended.

So that everyone better understands the mechanics of all this, when we were in Ypsilanti, there was a hefty charge for the grounds, another hefty charge for the Porto-Potties, another charge for trash dumpster, then charges for trash cans, bags, having to lure food vendors etc. For the Frankenmuth location, our only real out of pocket expense is a 300.00 charge for the local Boy Scouts to help us check people in. Also, they help with tent setup and general labor (we really appreciate their help with this).

Now, in addition to saving a boat load of money, we also gained much better grounds that were not flooded, real bathrooms, free music, excellent food options, as well as placing ourselves smack in the middle of the Bavarian Festival a very successful, well attended event that is full of German friendly visitors.

So you all are thinking, now that you saved all this money what are you going to do with it all. The truth is we are still financially reeling from two failed events at the Ypsilanti location, along with the missed events due to covid. After this year's event, we should at least be back in the black. Then there is the expense of changing our the logos on all the shirts, banners, stickers, 3 fold handouts, website, and such, which we have till November of this year to accomplish. If you want a shirt, hat, or sweatshirt with the old logo, I advise you to act quickly as we sold a lot of it at cost at the show. We are still selling what is left at cost.

For the past 4 years, I have been working on cutting the clubs expenses as much as possible to basically get out of debt. As of now, we are debt free.

I feel that after next year, we will be truly on solid footing. I am, in general, a pretty optimistic guy. Considering the financial state of the club and my responsibilities towards the club health,. I could not in good conscience let the club go, nor leave the club in anything other than good shape. When I agreed to go on the board, the club was in pretty dire straits. We cleaned all that up and had a wonderful time of plenty. Then, a few overly expensive shows and with the Covid epidemic, and it all turned to muck again.

So, I find us in a new state of rebuilding and rebirth. I feel we have a VERY strong board at the moment. I am very thankful to all those who help run the club, sometimes daily. A club is only as strong as the memberships willingness to run it and support it.

So, in a nutshell, how did all the 2023 Festival work out?

The Friday event, for which we only had permits for 30 cars, had around 20 cars show up. As we had too many last year, that is confusing. Maybe me harping on not too many showing up hampered the attendance. I am debating maybe instilling an RSVP for next year so we can have an exact number of people showing up and those that show up know for certain they have a space. Still, it was a great night, and we all had fun. Even though we could have had more cars, the ones that showed up were the creme of the crop, and it felt well attended.

Saturday, we had 84 cars in attendance. I would have been happier with 100 or more, and I am sure as the event matures, we will reach that number without much effort. Most importantly, our sponsors and Riverplace, were happy with the turnout. The one thing that helps us is that spectator attendance is exceptional due to the Bavarian Festival. So overall, Saturday was a success and with much less drama than last year.

Sunday, I wanted to have a bay window and a Vanagon as well as a Eurovan take part in the parade with VWOA's split window and Buzz. Due to weather on Sunday, and all the last-minute stuff that was not possible. I pressed my 74 Thing Eimer into Parade duty, and as with most things I do with the Thing, the Thing did a splendid job.

I am very happy overall with the 2023 Festival. It put the club one step closer to being back on firm financial ground.

I feel that with a few more years under our belt at the new location, the MVVC Festival will become a premier mid-west VW show.

Remember, we have access to the whole grass lot across from our current location. We could technically fit up to 3000 cars if we had to. So we have a location that is happy to have us and supports us and is also large enough to grow with us.

That pretty much covers it. If you wish to ask questions, join the board, or donate money to the club, (remember, we are a 501c) please contact me or one of the other board members.

Everyone, let's have a great, safe 2023 and an even better 2024.



Singin' in the rain

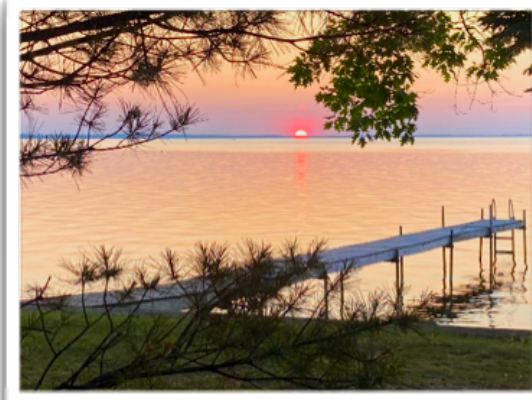


**MVVC
2023
FRANKENMUTH**

LYNN RENAUD MVVC VICE PRESIDENT



Summertime and the living is easy and the car driving season is upon us. Cruises and car meets and shows galore; not to mention vacations, family/friend get togethers, concerts and the like are all vying for your attention. I hope all of our members are enjoying driving with all of their projects and repairs in the rear view mirror.



Sunset on the Summer Solstice at Houghton Lake



A Beetle at a Down River Car Meet



A Beetle at Munk's Motors Cars and Coffee

The question is how to fit it all in? If you look into it, you could go to an event somewhere almost any day or night of the week; be it a cruise, car show or gathering depending on how far you wish to drive. The cruises are spaced out a little all summer in various locals, often times competing for your attendance on the same day. They are all designed to get you and your ride out there to participate, not only by showing off your pride and joy, but also to appreciate other people's vehicles and efforts. Part of that experience is to talk shop about maintenance, repairs and restoration. You might learn what worked for them, what didn't, tools, tricks, shops, and part suppliers. The other part of the experience is the social interaction and camaraderie we were all missing over the last few years. A big part of club membership is sharing all of this with other members, using the network to improve our efforts and also to help others through the rough patches. Occasionally we all have those moments when we can't see all of the potential solutions to a problem. In brainstorming and bouncing ideas around with others, we can sometimes reach a different perspective and come upon a viable solution. Safe travels to all and enjoy the ride.

MERRITT SCOTT COLLINS MVVC EVENTS COORDINATOR



Is your Volkswagen the cooperative sort, or are you still scrambling to get it running?

If the former, you've probably already joined other gear-heads at drives and car shows. If, on the other hand, your car is a tough cookie that has resisted your best efforts to date, know that the summer is just getting started. There are still plenty of opportunities to gather:

INDICATES OFFICIAL MVVC EVENTS

- Jul. 16: US-131 Bug Run
- Jul. 22: Telegraph Cruise
- Aug. 5: Red Barns Spectacular Car Show & Swap Meet
- Aug. 6: Clinton Twp. Gratiot Cruise
- Aug. 6: Troy Traffic Jam
- Aug. 19: Woodward Dream Cruise
- Aug. 22: VW & Foreign car show at Striker's
- Aug. 27: Cruisin' Hines
- Sept. 2: NoWo
- Sept. 8-10: Frankenmuth Auto Festival
- Sept. 10: Barnum's Bug Barn show
- Sept. 16-24: North American Int'l Auto Show
- Sept. 17: Milford Car Show
- Sept. 17: Toledo BugFest
- Sept. 23-24: Bayfield Volksfest 5
- Sept. 24: VVWs/Aircooled on the Hill at WHRRI
- Sept 29-Oct 1: Bus Boo! 2023
- Oct. 1: US-131 Bug Run
- Oct. 8: Cars & Coffee at Munk's
- Oct. 14: Deutsche Marques Oktoberfest at Gilmore Car Museum

Until next quarter...

Also upcoming... The fall color tour, which will be a weekend day in October; exact date and route TBD.

Lynn and Vince Anderson have hosted the color tour for the past two years, and we are grateful for all the work they do. We love their thoroughness!

[editor's note: no pressure guys!]

If anybody wants to plan a route out *their way*...Down-river, up north, on the west side, etc., please let the club know.

As always, if you attend a good event, feel free to send photos and your stories to the editor.

We'd love to share them in the next newsletter.

Send all correspondence to mvvc.news@icloud.com

FROM THE EDITOR

HEADIN' SOUTH



Soon I will be leaving on my annual Thing road trip to Kübel Treffen East; the largest, (and only) VW Thing show east of the Mississippi River.

This year's Kübel Treffen is in Appomattox, VA; just spittin' distance from the courthouse where Lee surrendered to Grant on April 9, 1865. Hopefully, there won't be too many riled up rebels in the group.

Kübel Treffen East is always a "rain or shine" event for me, and the weather forecast looks pretty horrible; probably top-up all the way there and back; so... more MPG, less fun.

Anyway, this trip is about 1300 miles to and fro. As road trips go that's not very far, but for my fifty year old jalopy, a trip of that length requires some extra preparedness in the form of Thing maintenance.

So over the past few days, I have checked the front end; steering coupler, tie rods and ends, ball joints, brake pads, wheel bearings and tires. Under the car, I have adjusted the rear brakes, adjusted the valves, changed the engine oil and filter and, in general, just had a good look around. The electrical stuff is all working... Think Steering, Stopping, Stereo.

The Kübel Treffen is always in July, so most of these items are just part of routine mid-summer maintenance anyway.

VW Things don't have a very big trunk. Between the spare tire, the BN4 heater and the side curtains, there is hardly any room left. My remaining trunk space is mostly occupied by a bag of tools, a bag of spare parts, and usually, I can find enough room for my laptop case as well.

For tools, I always carry an assortment of wrenches, screwdrivers, pliers, a VOM, a small timing light, jumper cables, my (VW swag) rain poncho, plus tools to change spark plugs, change a tire, and a bunch of other stuff that I hope to never need.



For spare parts, I carry throttle and clutch cables (along with a clutch cable wing nut), bulbs, fuses, belts, spark plugs, a fuel pump, a couple quarts of oil and, as before, a bunch of other items I hope to never need. Even if I never use this stuff, I will be with 30-40 other Thing people who might need help with something. On road trips, I also carry a NATO safety can with 10L of gasoline, just in case I make a poor judgement re: miles to empty. I would much rather have more than I need, than need more than I have.

So with a little luck, I won't need lawyers, guns and money to make it home alive.

Safe travels to us all.



MEMBERSHIP HAS ITS REWARDS

MEMBERSHIPS; NEW OR RENEWAL

We are a Vintage Volkswagen club, however owning a Vintage Volkswagen is not a requirement to join. Membership is open to owners and lovers of all Volkswagens, both old and new!.

The MVVC currently maintains a membership of approximately 200 people.

Our club is primarily social in nature, sponsoring many social and driving events each year. The MVVC Newsletter is published quarterly.

Dues are per household, everyone in the household will become a member.

MVVC CLUB DUES ARE \$15.00 PER YEAR. SIGN UP OR RENEW TODAY!

Mail your check to:

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Name
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VW(s) Owned