

Key Notes

April 2017



Serving Western New York VW Enthusiasts for *Thirty* Years!

EXECUTIVE COMMENTS by Bill Ellis – Don't do as I do, do as I say!

This is an embarrassing story for me because I think I know better. I had to think this one over before I decided to tell the story and why I wanted to make sure you, the reader, that you do as I say... not as I do.



There was a shop I that was going to take my Westy to for repair and painting of the pop up top. It was a cold rainy day; I took off to visit the shop to see when I could get the car in. I didn't get turned down but I got "another delay," needless to say it didn't take a genius to figure out he didn't really

want the job. I wasn't happy because I wasted nearly two months waiting for him. So, it was time to drive the car back home and start the search again.

I pulled out of the parking lot and much to my surprise the generator light came on and I pulled over to the side of the road opened the engine door and there it was, a broken fan belt. Now what do I do? Well it was a cold rainy day so I could try to limp home and then fix the belt. It was off I go all the while watching the oil light and checking the sound of the engine. I have no idea how far I drove before the oil light flickered and the engine tone changed. I figured it was time to pull into a parking lot and fix the problem. I knew that I couldn't fix the car because I needed tools. I called Maureen and she was finishing a bridge game in Lockport but she would come as soon as she could. Meanwhile I walked around the corner to the nearest auto parts store and purchased a belt. Maureen arrived and we were off to the house to pick up the tools.

I returned to the car, installed the belt, and tried to start the Westy, now that it had time to cool down. The engine spun but now it sounded like it had no compression and it wasn't going anywhere. I figured I had to take out the rings and cylinders. Luckily I had an AAA membership and it was time to call for a tow. A flatbed truck showed up and we were soon off to my house. Backed it in and that's where it sat for the next six weeks.



When you're a shadetree mechanic and you don't really know what you're doing, the troubleshooting process can be long and costly. The engine was spinning and there was no ignition. The first step is the replacement of the ignition components that were damaged by the excessive heat. The end result was no change; the engine sounded exactly the same. Now where do we go from here, call Vince Harrington. He dropped by, listened to the engine try to start and quickly came to the conclusion we had no compression. Oh well I wanted to pull the engine anyway so now I had a reason. (continued on page 3)

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The April meeting will be held on April 19, 2017. It's still at the Ship N' Shore in Lockport.

Please come early to enjoy their great food with other club members and swap stories of how best to keep in the VW mood whilst not driving your

Visit us at
<http://www.vwawny.org>



KeyNotes

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**Meetings are held on the third
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Deadline for all material is the
third Wednesday of the month
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*Contributions from
members and non-members
are strongly
encouraged.*

Coming Events

This information has been gathered from many sources. Before making any plans to attend any of these events, please confirm that the information is accurate, and that the event has not been changed or cancelled by contacting the website or phone number listed.

April 19: Monthly meeting at Ship N' Shore at Lockport. @ 7pm. Come early to swap stories and break bread with fellow club members, plus support our wonderful hosts!

April 29: Spring Start-up. The Mall at Greece Ridge, Greece, NY. Visit <http://streetmachinesofrochester.com> or contact Joe Zarcone @ 585-303-5290 or Dan Lavell @ 585-314-7794.

April 30: JFLRVWC presents Jason's Bug Mill. Cruise from Flying J @ 10:30 am sharp. Event starts at 11am. Details on page 4.

Barn Finds – They're still out there!

If you've thought that all the great barn finds are found and nothing more of interest is available, think again! Recently, a stash of old cars was discovered in an old Quonset hut in Kansas. The stash of vehicles includes many split window beetles, some old BMWs, a few Porsches, and even some old Ford "Deuce" coupes! More info can be found here: <http://barnfinds.com/holy-grail-vw-find-split-window-beetle-collection/>

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(continued from page 1)

I have pulled engines out of my Beetles so I had some tools in the garage to do it. I have been told that pulling the engine out of a bus was easier and it was. Pull the bumper and engine pan and all you have to do is separate the engine and transmission, get the weight of the engine on the floor jack and pull it straight back. Oh my, what an easy job.

There it sits on the floor and as far as I know this baby is a goner, I might as well tear the heads off and inspect the damage. I pulled the fan and carb off, then the heads and upon initial inspection, all looked fine for a used engine. Vince made a return trip and brought with him a bell housing/starter motor, an oil pressure gauge, and I got out my compression gauge. Needless to say, I had to scramble to get the engine assembled before he got there. The first step was to spin the motor to check for the proper oil pressure. It passed this test. Then we checked to compression and had none in number 4 cylinder. This is where you really have to have an experienced Volkswagen mechanic helping you. He stood there and quietly thought about it and decided to check the valve adjustment. He backed them off a number of turns and all of a sudden we had compression. Every adjuster was too tight and they were holding the valves open. We adjusted them to the proper clearance and we had 120 pounds in every cylinder. There was no explanation for this problem but I thought I dodged a bullet and could save the engine.



Little did I know what was in store for me as I proceeded to reassemble the car? That's another story for another time

Back to the lesson you should take away for my experience:

Don't do as I do ...do as I say!

When the fan belt breaks or comes off the pulley, don't drive the car until you fix it. (You'll be a lot happier)

Game Time

This picture shows at least two items that are unique in their own way. One was introduced that year and the other is a one-year only item. Can you name the items and the year?



Special Event Invitation

The Finger Lakes (Rochester area) VW Association has invited our VWAWNY members to attend a special event that they are hosting - a visit to Jason's Bug Mill!

When: Sunday April 30 from 11 am until 3 pm.
Where: Jason Haag's VW Hangout, 4957 Transit Road, Holly NY, 14470
What: Jason's Bug Mill visit

Finger Lakes Region member Jason Haag has invited the FLRVWA members, and extended that invitation to our VWAWNY members, to his VW Indoor Hangout. We can have the pleasure of viewing his collection of over 30 VWs as well as some other older interesting vehicles that he has collected over many years. Most are inside of the former sawmill building that he purchased to enable storing his collection. Jason has offered to run some tech sessions such as dent and rust repair from body filler to primer, welding, and engine tuning! This is an event that you will not want to miss! NOTE: some members attended a similar event at the same location last year and all enjoyed a wonderful day and experience!

Lunch will be provided! There is a nominal cost of \$5 per person, BUT this cost will be covered for VWAWNY members, up to a limit of two (2) per membership, by the VWAWNY, for everyone that signs up no later than April 19th - our regular meeting night.

For anyone interested in making part of this event a "group cruise" - we will meet at the Flying J on NYS Route 77 (near the NYS Thruway Pembroke exit 48A). We will leave promptly by 10:30 am, and cruise to Jason's place. If you want to join us, please be there before 10:30. As we must be at the destination by 11, we cannot wait past 10:30!

Please remember to let me know if you plan on attending, and how many, no later than April 19th! Our VWAWNY will pay the \$5 for up to TWO (2) members ONLY per membership. If you plan on bringing any additional people, you MUST RSVP PLUS PAY the \$5 for each person over 2 persons no later than April 19. Please respond to Fran Haefner by either email to Haefnerf@msn.com, or TEXT only NO voice calls/emails please to 716-783-5426 by April 15th. The FLRVWA must have an attendance head count ahead of time, any responses after April 19th can NOT be accepted.



VW SWAP MEET - FREE!! - VWAWNY 2017

Saturday May 27 from 9:00 AM until 3:00 PM

9184 Coleman Road, Barker, NY 14012

Phone 716-795-3569

Email busnutbob@gmail.com

The Volkswagen Association of Western New York is once again opening its annual swap meet to the public. As a non-profit organization, we do this simply for the benefit of our members and other local VW enthusiasts. Bring your own stuff to sell or trade. Burgers, hot dogs, water and soft drinks will be available on a donation basis for lunch, or restaurants and a brewery are within three miles.

Plenty of room for tables, canopies and parking as long as we don't have a monsoon the week before. Bring lawn chairs tables and plenty of air-cooled and water cooled VW parts.

Basic overnight camping space is available by reservation ONLY. Porta-potty will be on site from Friday through Saturday. Don't forget your own mosquito repellent, our bats are not real active until June. Please note that leashed, well behaved pets are welcome.

A listing of some items for sale on site; 36hp, 40hp and larger engines, 914 transaxle, bus and bug front axle beams, bug doors, hoods and deck lids, bus deluxe trim, a few splitty Westfalia parts, bay window Westy tent, Eriba Puck project – complete, NOS 1970 Empi Imp body, etc. 38 years of VW parts collected at this location and anything not needed for my current projects could be available for sale. No sales prior to the swap.

Classified Ads

For Sale: 1979 super parts! New tire on rim \$60. Two running boards ribbed rubber on them good shape (call for price). New muffler never used for 1600 engine. \$180. New boot for convertible top never used (tan) \$200, plus other small parts. Back lower seat (black) \$50 or offer. Inside door panels front and rear (black) \$50 or offer. Carpet under hood (black) new \$20. Call Don Baltus 649-4375 (September 2016)

For Sale: 1971 Super Beetle Convertible. Karmann badged. Very good condition. Rust-free, garaged year round. Bright yellow with custom yellow and black interior. Like new black top. New top boot. Great looking car. Front end lowered with custom wheels and tires. Strong runner. Recently rebuilt engine by Vince Harrington with less than 400 miles. Engine mods include Weber progressive carb, Petronix ignition, glass pack muffler, Scat fan shroud. Oversized cylinders and pistons - 88's, mild cam-Engle, alternator. Includes many spares. Could be returned to stock if desirable. \$10,900.00 OBO George at 716-439-4162 N.Y. More pictures available on line. geonpruwithell@aol.com (July 2016)

For Sale: VW Rabbit 16V Convertible Project includes (2) VW Rabbit convertibles (1983 8V good shape, 1981 16V with rust issues), running/inspected, rebuilt 16V engine w/ stand, engine hoist, lot of new/used parts for converting the 8V. Everything needs to go. Asking \$2900 obo. Pictures available at United, talk to Howie. Call 689-9723, ask for Bill for more information (February 2016).

For Sale: I have one new Billet bumper for a 79 VW Super beetle, and one new fuel pump, never used, was tested, pressure was too low for my car. The company wouldn't take it back. Make a reasonable offer on both items, separate or together. Contact John at 716-622-2976 (February 2016)

For Sale: my ECP, The Eternal Cabrio Project. \$4000. It's a 1989 Cabrio with some modifications. Call or email me for details and a "look see". Vince Harrington 716-930-5686, zuwie41@yahoo.com (February 2016)

For Sale: 1979 Beetle convertible, original 18,600 miles unrestored. Excellent condition Silver with Black top. Asking \$22,500 OBO. Dennis Ketch Cell 716-535-6114 car is in Youngstown, NY email riverhousedd@hotmail.com (February 2016)

For Sale: VWAWNY Memorabilia, flags, badges, decals, medals, etc. See VWAWNY.com for full description and latest listings as well as special VW tools for loan to members. Contact Bob LaPorte 716-795-3569 or email Busnutbob@gmail.com

For Sale: Seatcovers, aftermarket patterns-usually plaid vinyl in the center, and solid vinyl around the edges. \$125 per car includes hogrings. Available for '65 Beetle (blue), '70 Beetle (black or red), Karmann-Ghia (orange), American cars with bench seats (1949-1980). Contact Ken Weinstein 716-689-6888 (nights) or e-mail KMW57@hotmail.com. (January 2016)

Service Offered: Line boring service for all Type 1 style engine cases from 40HP up. Also available air cooled and water cooled engine and transmission re-building. Consult services also available on site or internet. Vince Harrington 716-693-5510. No calls after 9:30pm.

For more local classifieds check flrwc.com, vwccny.com, and Johnsbugshop.com

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