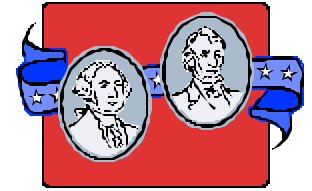




KeyNotes



vwawny.org

published monthly for WNY VW enthusiasts

February 2009

EXECUTIVE COMMENTS

By Mike Lannan

Now that the Holiday season is very much over, the long wait for spring and salt-free roads begins. This is a tough time of year for car enthusiasts of all kinds, especially if, like me, your garage is not heated. You just have to put your projects on hold, and wait until the weather improves.

However, there is still plenty going on in the world of automobiles. Much of the activity centers around greener, more economical technologies. It is pretty clear that nobody believes that oil prices will remain this low for the long term, so manufacturers across the board are developing quite an array of fuel efficient cars. In my mind this current rush to market for a new breed of cars, reflects what began in the late 50's with the growth in popularity of our beloved VW Beetle sedan. The fuel economy embodied in that clever little car generated a demand that every manufacturer, foreign and domestic, wanted to satisfy. Thus were spawned a whole array of different approaches to the problem; e.g. Renault Dauphine, Simca, Ford Falcon, Chevy Corvair, Plymouth Valiant, Dodge Dart, and many more. Some of these turned out to be pretty good cars that still have a following today. Others were best forgotten as quickly as possible.

It wouldn't surprise me if the same thing happens this time around. There are competing technologies being rolled out to the public. We have hybrids (Toyota Prius, Honda Insight, Ford Fusion, etc.), plug-in hybrids (Chevy Volt), clean diesel (VW Jetta, and others), and just plain small, economical cars (Honda Fit, Toyota Yaris, etc.). There are also the full battery powered sports cars from Tesla. All these cars have features in common; but many differences, as well. Time will tell which technologies win out. What will we see when we look back on this era in twenty years? You can't say that we don't live in interesting times.

Along those lines, Volkswagen has just announced that it will sell its next generation Polo in the U.S. The new car will make its debut at the Geneva auto show in March. It is larger than a Toyota Yaris but smaller than a Honda Fit.

VW executives feel that oil prices will rise, thus encouraging Americans to buy smaller, more fuel-efficient cars. No specific schedule for the beginning of U.S. sales has been announced.

In other interesting news from Volkswagen, they recently showcased the Beetle at the Mumbai International Motors Show 2009. It was touted as a luxury car, and was one of the main attractions at the show. Isn't it interesting how things can be perceived differently depending on the marketplace?

VW rolled out its BlueSport concept at the Detroit Auto Show. It's a mid-engine roadster concept that is still about three years from production. It sure looks like fun, and there is probably room for a clean diesel in there to get 55mpg or so. Could this be the reincarnation of the VW-Porsche 914?

And, our favorite car company is not doing too bad at racing either. VW's Race Toureg has finished first and second in the Dakar Rally, which was held for the first time in Argentina and Chile. This was the first win in the Dakar for a diesel-powered machine. Following this exciting piece of news for the company, motorsport boss, Kris Nissen, said the company will now consider joining the World Rally Championship; but a final decision has not been made.

The February meeting will be followed by the Annual Toy and Literature Show, so get your keepsakes out of the attic, and bring them to share. It's sort of show and tell for adults.

Renew your membership by February 21st to continue receiving KeyNotes regularly. See renewal form inside.

**Next Meeting is February 18th at The Rose Garden 7:30PM.
Toy and Literature Show to follow!!!!**

KeyNotes

February 2009

President

Ray Ball
21 Muriel Drive
West Seneca, NY 14224
716-674-4084
rayzor30@verizon.net

Vice President

Al Schuessler
1180 Coyle Road
Cowlesville, NY 14037
716-652-8406
aschuessler@hughes.net

Secretary

Mary Jo Syck
2642 Crandall Road
Albion, NY 14411
585-589-6880
msyck@hotmail.com

Treasurer

Tom Hall
29 Pleasant Avenue
Hamburg NY 14075
716-649-8664
thall_133@yahoo.com

Membership

Dick Meinhold
5864 Tonawanda Creek Road N.
Lockport, NY 14094
716-625-9555
dick5864@verizon.net

Newsletter

Mike Lannan
96 Woodcrest Blvd.
Buffalo NY 14223
716-875-5147
mjl1147@verizon.net

Hospitality Ambassador

Dick Meinhold
5864 Tonawanda Creek Road N.
Lockport, NY 14094
716-625-9555
dick5864@verizon.net

Board of Directors

Bob LaPorte- Pres. 716-795-3569
Allen Schuessler 716-652-8406
Agnes LaPorte 716-795-3569
Mike Lannan 716-875-5147
Gene Melnyk 716-636-0887
Ray Ball 716-674-4084

KeyNotes is published by the Volkswagen Association of Western New York, Inc. Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month unless otherwise announced. The VVAWNY and its membership are not responsible for a readers inability to use, or the misuse of any material contained herein. **CLASSIFIED ADS:** free to members and non-members

Deadline for all material is the third Wednesday of the month prior to publication of this newsletter. **Contributions from members and non-members are encouraged.**

Classified Ads

For Sale; one NOS German right front fender for a '68 to '70 Beetle. This is a VW factory fender, nothing like the crap they are selling now \$85.00. I also have other early (pre '67) Beetle fenders for various years. They are not German, but good older reproduction fenders that fit well - some used, one NOS. Email with your needs

Busnutbob@hughes.net

For Sale: Small collection of extra Johnnie Lighting 1/64 scale Volkswagens \$6.00ea Call or email Don for list. 716-532-3647 or dondelhos@yahoo.com

For Sale: Seats type 1, 3 lowback and 1 highback \$25.00 each / BO. Doors type 1 right side w/glass 1/67 & 1/68 \$25.00 each / BO. Doors typ 3 late left & right \$25.00 each / BO. 2 Mufflers 1-1200 \$25.00 and 1-1500 \$25.00 contact Don at 716-532-3647 or dondelhos@yahoo.com

For Sale: Five (5) 5 1/2" x 15" Pedrini alloy wheels from Porsche 914. 4 bolt pattern will also fit 4 bolt VW's of the late 60's to 70's. Very good condition, four of them have decent 195-60x15 tires mounted. \$500.00 Call Mike at 716-875-5147 or e-mail mjl1147@verizon.net.

For Sale: Camper that goes on top of a pickup truck. It has a stove and a spot for a refrigerator. Has some broken windows. I think the body is aluminum. Price is \$200 firm. Call Ken Weinstein 716-689-6888

For Sale: '82 Blue Vanagon Westy Diesel, 114,500 miles, Engine was replaced by dealership at 80K miles. Injection pump & brakes done in July, 2000. \$11,000 or b/o. Call Howard Sherry at 716-464-9923 between 6 - 10 PM.

For Sale: '74 Red Karmann Ghia, 49,000 miles, 4-speed, new clutch, great shape. \$5,000 or b/o. Call Howard Sherry at 716-464-9923 between 6 - 10 PM.

For Sale: For Sale: 2 165 R15 Guardsman radial tires for classic Beetle (one tire never driven, still has nubs on the tread and the other has several hundred miles only). Both for \$90, no shipping charges or tire disposal fee. The following body repair panel parts are for a '67 or older Beetle: right wheelhouse (the inner fender area where the bumper bolts onto) \$25; right lower wheelhouse (the inner fender area that joins with the heater channel) \$12; left rear fender, Italian reproduction \$50. 65-66 rear decklid, rust free California piece, with licence plate light housing \$70. Contact Gene at 716-636-0887 or email at genmel@verizon.net. Photos of the parts can be provided.

For Sale: Seatcovers, aftermarket patterns -usually plaid vinyl in the center, and solid vinyl around the edges. \$99 per car includes hogrings. Available for '65 Beatle (blue), '70 Beatle (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.

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 flrvwc.com, vwccny.com, and Johnsbugshop.com

Select Eurocars

"Specialist in VW and Audi Automobiles"! Sales of 1997-2007 VW Jetta, Golf, New Beetle, Gas and Diesel, Audi A4, A6, Quattro. Factory trained technicians for AAA Approved Service on all front engine models and tremendous parts selection. Less than 90 minutes away via I-90 East, exit 42, Right on 14S 2.9mi, left on Packwood Rd 3.4mi 0685 Waterloo-Geneva Rd Rts 5 & 20 Waterloo NY (315)-789-9368, www.SelectEuroCars.com

Hospitality

February Birthdays

2/5 Greg Charles
2/13 Kathy Brubaker
2/18 Dawn Hartman
2/19 Tom Hall
2/19 Fran Krause
2/23 Mary Jo Syck
2/26 Howard Sherry
2/27 Robert Hanlin

February Anniversaries

2/2 Al Rowcliffe and Carol Lonnen
2/15 Mike and Mary Ann Lannan

If you would like to have your birthday and anniversary announced in *KeyNotes*, please contact Dick or Barb Meinhold at 625-9555 or e-mail dick5864@verizon.net. Only the day of the event will be listed unless requested otherwise. Thank You



VWAWNY Tool Crib - Tools for loan, FREE!

- 1) Door hinge pin press for vintage beetles and buses
- 2) Steering wheel puller for vintage beetles and buses

To borrow either of these tools, contact Bob at 716-795-3569 or email Busnutbob@hughes.net
Refundable deposit required; details upon request



Door hinge pin press pictured above,
steering wheel puller shown at right



VWAWNY Memorabilia For Sale

Show your pride of membership in one of the best VW clubs in the USA!

Car flags - \$10.00 Each

Flags measure approximately 14" x 11". They are printed with the original club logo in white over blue on both sides and come attached to a durable plastic mounting pole. The mount slips over the top edge of an up-down window. If you don't have an up-down window, the base can be modified to mount by other methods.



Car badges - \$10.00 Each The oldest car accessory

Badges are a top quality cloisonné finished production casting. The original design was to be black and red over a gold bronze colored background signifying German flag colors, however the company made a few in error that have a silver background. Both gold and silver badges are still available in limited quantities. Each weighs 4.7 ounces and has a weatherproof clear epoxy finish. Mounting choices are a peel-and-stick backing or a single small screw stud with washer and nut. From my own experience I can tell you that the adhesive sticks very well to a flat painted surface or window. Removal can be accomplished by using a heat gun, with no paint damage.

Because of the production error, we are able to offer either of these badges to club members for half the actual cost of \$20 each!

Decals - \$.50 Each

Peel and stick decals are made to be applied to the inside of your car window. Available in 3" and 3.5" diameters.



Patches - \$5.00 Each

These high quality patches are embroidered with white over dark blue, measure 3.5" in diameter and can be ironed on or sewn on your favorite jacket, blanket, car cover or whatever.



All of these items were purchased in specific minimum quantities. When they are gone, many items will not be ordered again because of the investment required. To purchase any of the above please contact Bob or Agnes at 716-795-3569 or email Busnutbob@hughes.net

VOLKSWAGEN ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN NEW YORK INC.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL 2009

If all information is the same from your last renewal or application, please check this box,
Print and sign your name and forward with dues payment.

If we do not have your Spouses or significant others name, please print here. _____

Volkswagons currently owned if you have acquired or deleted any in the past year:

If we do not have your birth anniversary date or your Anniversary date and you would like to have it or them listed in the KEYNOTES Monthly [Month and day only] Please list here.

NAME:	BIRTHDAY	ANNIVERSARY
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

If you do not wish to have your name, address, telephone number and Email address listed in the roster sent to all members check this box

Please indicate any change in address, phone number or Email here:

Name, Please Print _____

SIGNATURE: _____ **DATE:** _____

Please consider having your KeyNotes e-mailed. If you are currently receiving your KeyNotes by U.S. mail and you now have e-mail, please check this box

All memberships (Dues) are still only \$20.00 per year payable now until February 16th, 2009.
Dues not received by February 21st, 2009 will halt your delivery of KeyNotes!

Please make check payable to VWAWNY and deliver or mail to:

**Dick or Barb Meinhold
5864 Tonawanda Creek Road North
Lockport, NY 14094-7939**

**Any questions, contact Dick or Barb at 716-625-9555
E-mail dick5864@verizon.net**

Renew your membership now to continue receiving *KeyNotes !!!*

Car Talk: Searching for a classic VW Bug By Tom and Ray Magliozzi

Dear Tom and Ray: I just turned 40, ughhhh, so I guess I have hit my “midlife crisis.” Unlike my friends, I don’t want a Porsche or a Ferrari. I want a late-’50s to early-’60s VW Bug.

That’s right, a VW Bug. I live in Kentucky, and you are more likely to find a vintage Camaro or Mustang than an old VW that still has a floor. I have, however, found several for sale at very reasonable prices in the Southern California area.

Herein lies my question, oh esteemed wrench heads. Would I be crazy to fly to Los Angeles, buy a VW and then drive it across the country back to Kentucky? Oh, one more thing: I have never been on an airplane, and have never been more than 300 miles from home. I think this could be one of the great adventures of my life ... or not. What do you think? — *Don*

Ray: First, leave yourself plenty of time. You’ll need time in Los Angeles to see several cars and have a mechanic of your choosing check them out. Try our Mechanics Files, at www.cartalk.com, where you can find mechanics who’ve been personally recommended by other readers and radio listeners of ours. Call them in advance, and tell them what you’re doing and when you’re coming out. And make arrangements for them to look at a couple of cars for you.

Tom: If they specialize in old VWs, they may even know of a good one for sale. Once you find the Bug for you, and it’s approved by your mechanic (or approved once X, Y and Z are fixed), then you’re ready for your cross-country trip.

Ray: In your case, we’re going to strongly recommend that you drive the “back roads.” Spend some time planning a route that doesn’t involve major interstate highways. Sure, it’ll take you longer, but the back roads will give you several advantages.

Tom: First, they’ll be a lot safer. The car you’re buying won’t have air bags, stability control, side-impact protection, crumple zones, anti-lock brakes. Heck, it might not even have seat belts! So a major highway is the last place you want to be.

Ray: Plus, by taking the “old routes,” you’ll really get to see the country, meet the locals and eat food that’s not advertised on TV. This isn’t just about getting the car back home, it’s about seeing the country and having some unexpected adventures.

Tom: And driving at a slower pace will be easier on the car, too. That car was never designed to do 75 mph for eight hours a day.

Ray: Finally, we’d suggest that you bring a tow-club membership card and a healthy credit card. Even after being checked out by a mechanic, you easily could experience mechanical difficulties along the way. But as long as you have money for a motel room and time to spare, you can just consider that part of the adventure.

Tom: Right. And if worse comes to worst (let’s say the engine and transmission fall out on Route 66, and while you’re walking back to collect them, a Ford Expedition crushes the rest of the car), you abandon the car at a local junk-yard, buy a bus ticket home and start planning your next car-buying adventure trip.

Many Thanks to Doug Smith for bringing this to our attention



Volkswagen Association of Western New York
Dick Meinhold, Membership Director
5864 Tonawanda Creek Rd. N.
Lockport, NY 14094-7939

***Next Meeting at the
Rose Garden,
February 18th at
7:30 followed by
Toy & Literature
Show***

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Here is a picture of the current VW Polo. The redesigned version, slated for the U.S. will debut in March. Check out AutoWeek.com to see a picture of it. That picture had so much copyright stuff on it that it scared me.