

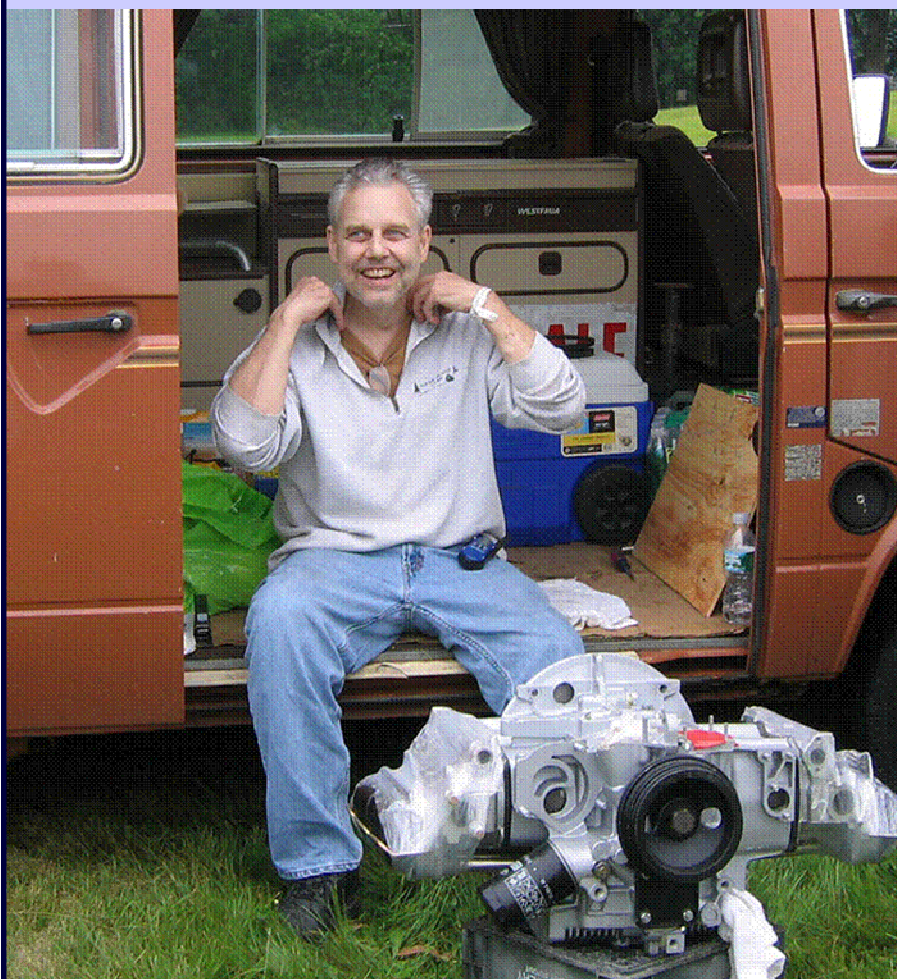
THE TRANSPORTER

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF LIMBO
THE LATE MODEL BUS ORGANIZATION INTERNATIONAL

Volume 21, Issue #6

Nov. /Dec. 2008

Remembering "Boston Bob" Donalds 1953-2008



Bob-isms

I'm an air-cooled dude in a way cool mood...Get on your Snitzlegrooven...Torque? 1/4 turn before it breaks... It's all about the tolerances... No short cuts!... Remember who is going to push this thing when it doesn't work... I'm going to use those heads to make ice... He couldn't measure dirt... It's the high performance, heavy duty version of the standard unit, guaranteed not to crack, rust or chip and if it breaks in two, you get to keep both pieces!

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The Transporter Volume 21, Issue 6

The Transporter is published 6 times per year by the Late Model Bus Organization, International. **Deadline for next issue: Jan. 1, 2009.**

The Late Model Bus Organization, International is dedicated to the maintenance, restoration, and improvement of post-'67 VW Type II's including Vanagons & Eurovans! The only prerequisite to join is your enthusiasm for these great vehicles.

Membership in LiMBO (which includes a subscription to The Transporter) is \$25 per year (\$30 US funds from US bank for non-US members), 2 years is only \$48 (\$58). Make checks payable to LiMBO. PLEASE direct correspondence to the appropriate address listed below:

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Back issues of the Transporter are \$4.00 per copy. Some issues are available as photocopies only. Some more recent issues are available online at www.LiMBObus.org for \$2.00 per issue.

Treasurer

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VIEWS THROUGH THE WINDSHIELD

Hello Everyone,



With winter approaching, we begin to winterize and store our VW's, anticipating the upcoming '09 camping season. Kudos to you if your bus is a daily driver.

Brad and I were lucky enough to finally get the Blue Max running again. So, at this time, all of our research on what engine to replace it with has been put on the back burner. In fact it was Bob Donald's who helped brainstorm with our mechanic to figure out why the heads kept blowing seals. I wish we would have been able to thank Bob.

My condolences go out to his family, as well as the entire VW community. I've only heard wonderful things about the integrity and kindness of this man. As a tribute to Bob, LiMBO has printed the front and back memorial covers in color.

Besides what you find in this edition, you may find some comfort visiting the Samba's web-board discussion at: <http://www.thesamba.com/vw/forum/viewtopic.php?t=325435>

So now that we have the Blue Max back, Brad then decided to update with stainless steel screws for the exterior. Visit the Ebay store of: Werks for Wagens. We emailed Roger at: rogersisler3000@yahoo.com for all screw sets he offers. He is very informative, thorough, and quick. Your screws come on cards, all labeled with their location. No more rusty screws!!

So 2008's final edition of the transporter is chock full of event recaps to close out the camping season. Please check out the website's photo gallery for more picture of the featured events, as well as other events.

Now that you all have time on your hands, instead of getting your buses ready for camping, its time to write an article for a future edition. I need your help! There are hundreds of members yet only a handful of regular contributors!

Enjoy the holiday season. See you in '09

Andrea

LIMBO LETTERS

Send your LiMBO letters to:

Andrea Rasso
35 Sharp Street
Patchogue, NY 11772
EDITOR@LIMBOBUS.org

Hi All,

As most of you have heard by now, the VW community lost an icon in North America. A great guy and well renown VW engine builder, Bob Donalds, amicably known as "Boston Bob" lost his long battle to cancer.

Mark and Joel, representing the Empire VW Camping Club, drove out from Rochester, Friday night heading for Boston to pay tribute to Boston Bob. Bob was an artist with VW engines and a wealth of knowledge willing to share with all. His obituary can be found in the Sunday Boston Globe newspaper:

http://www.boston.com/bostonglobe/obituaries/articles/2008/11/02/boston_bob_donalds_vw_repair_expert/

On the way from Rochester, Mark and Joel stopped off at Phil's in Utica to spend the remains of the evening and breaking up the trip. Thank You so much Phil for hosting us over on Friday night. It was a great time philosophizing on new ideas to maintain and attract VW enthusiast to our campouts.

We continued our trip on Saturday morning making our way near Boston to Wayland, Massachusetts for the services. There were many in a caravan procession around Bob's stomping grounds in Wayland for a final respect in his honor. Boston Bob's Funeral was very humble. His Family is very strong. Many of his close friends stood up during the service and said very kind words, words that came from the heart and made this guy proud to have traveled to see and hear how much this one person touched so many. It just proved to everyone that it is not of just owning a VW, it is about being kind to each other and the Love of a Fellow Brother/Sister. The tendrils that bind us is the VW ownership, but currents run deeper than that, we have found friends, family and above all people we trust.

After the services the camper crowd found its way to Dale

Wards' grassy knoll in the neighboring town of Shrewsbury for some private toasts recollections of Bob. The campout at Dales folks place was as good as any. Some of us finally met LiMBO members face to face. We met Stanagon, Jim D, Jim & Barb, Dale Ward, Ric, Tom & Linda, Joy, Kayak John, the guys from Bostig (Brady and Jim), Jay and Daryl from AA transaxle who flew out for the funeral. There were about 15 vans there and most stayed for the night. The chat around the campfire was very good. Met some very,very good people and a few old friends. Joy took some pictures posted at the following site:

<http://picasaweb.google.com/hecht.joy/BostonBobMemorial>.

Sunday morning was cold, but the Sun blazed. Had chow at the local greasy spoon and then back to Dales. We all kicked the can around (no one wanted to part) till the Sun rose high. The Empire campers had the most beautiful ride back. Just perfect, I think Bob was blessing the road and powering the van.

As a final note, in recognition of Larry Chase <http://www.roadhaus.com/> and the entire VW community; Larry and Maggie had created a Pay-it-Forward donation fund for Bob's family. VW enthusiasts and VW suppliers from the US, Canada, Australia, South Africa, France, Indonesia & Puerto Rico have donated over \$15,000 for the family. Thanks to your incredible support ... "YOU" are a remarkable community!

Cheers to Bob. You will be missed.

Joel Cort & Mark Lund - LiMBO members from Rochester NY.

Hi All,

Joel placed the words perfectly. Cheers Joel!

I'm still embracing/digesting/processing/pondering what occurred in that Church. Can't put into words. The only words that can even get close is: A Collective Hum. Like holding on to a 40 Amp live wire.

Mark Lund
Rochester, NY

Editor's Note:

The Boston Globe Obituary is reprinted on page 4 of this edition. Thanks Joel and Mark.

REMEMBERING "BOSTON BOB" DONALDS

"BOSTON BOB" DONALDS, VW REPAIR EXPERT

By: Bryan Marquard
Boston Globe Staff / November 2, 2008

For the past 30 years, if the engine in your vintage Volkswagen camper was on the fritz and you had questions, the best answer was usually two words: Boston Bob.

With skills honed since he was barely a teenager, Bob Donalds took ailing engines into his garage and returned them to owners in pristine condition.

"That's what he was known for: building an engine that was even better than the factory did it," said Stan Wohlfarth of Bentley Publishers in Cambridge, which specializes in repair and transportation titles. "I have three of them in three Volkswagen buses that I own."

Mr. Donalds, who in recent years ran his Boston Engine Exchange company out of the garage of his Wayland home, died Oct. 23 in Massachusetts General Hospital. He was 55 and was being treated for cancer that had metastasized, but kept running his business by cellphone from his hospital bed as long as his health allowed. And when he could get home, he went back into the garage.

"He would work on valve jobs from his wheelchair," said his wife, Karen.

Largely by word of mouth, Volkswagen owners throughout New England and across the country heard about Mr. Donalds, who was known simply as Boston Bob, and his ability to breathe new life into engines. His technical prowess was all the more impressive, friends and family say, because schooling played little role in his education.

"Basically, [he] never made it through high school," said his brother David, of Wayland. "He graduated from ninth grade, then went off and kept rebuilding engines and fixing Volkswagens."

No one who listened to Mr. Donalds would guess that he left school that young, however.

"I write automotive service books, and I would sit down with Bob and he would talk about things that were beyond anything I had a grasp of," Wohlfarth said. "I'm a car guy and that's my field, and he would amaze me. If I ever had a problem with anything, Bob was the first person I called. He always had an answer."

Although "he had a very technical vocabulary," his wife said, "it was kind of poetic. He had a great way with words."

Friends and customers have collected what they call "Bobisms" and posted them on Internet tributes to Mr. Donalds.

"I'm an air-cooled dude in a way cool mood," he liked to say when things were going well.

A stickler for precision, he cautioned impatient owners who wanted to put the speed of a repair before quality: "Remember who is going to push this thing when it doesn't work."

And for those who could not grasp the technical specifications of an engine he had rebuilt, Mr. Donalds would grin and say: "It's the high-performance, heavy-duty version of the standard unit, guaranteed not to crack, rust, or chip, and if it breaks in two, you get to keep both pieces!"

The engines rarely broke, though, in part because Mr. Donalds took innovative approaches to his work.

"I think he was always willing to take a chance and try something out, not just the same old, same old," Wohlfarth said. "He was always looking for new solutions."

Robert E. Donalds grew up in Newton and started rebuilding engines in the basement of his family's home. At 18, he was diagnosed with Hodgkin's disease, and he owed his survival in part to his passion for engines.

"The Volkswagens saved his life," his brother said. "He went into the hospital when he was 18 with a hernia, and the reason he had a hernia was because he was picking up engines. When he went into the hospital, they found the Hodgkin's."

Mr. Donalds treated the next 37 years after his successful treatment as a gift, his brother said.

"That was a real life-changer for him," he said, "and maybe made life more precious for him than for the rest of us."

Generous with his expertise, Mr. Donalds would offer to lend a hand if he saw a Volkswagen owner in need of help.

"There's more than one story of some guy broken down with a Volkswagen bus on the side of the road," his brother said. "Bob would stop and say, 'What's the problem?' He'd help out, and they'd be on their way. That's how Bob was. He wasn't stopping to get their business; he stopped because he cared about people. He was a very kind man."

After leaving his family's home, Mr. Donalds set up shop in various places in Boston's western suburbs: a garage in Waltham, another garage in Dedham, or the cellar of another auto shop, before working out of his Wayland home.

His work was widely admired, but never terribly lucrative.

"He was kind of like an artist and he had this niche," said his wife, whom Mr. Donalds married 23 years ago. "It was all for love and never for money, and he was like this folk figure."

In addition to his wife and brother David, Mr. Donalds leaves two daughters, Samantha and Julia, both of Wayland; a son, Christopher of Wayland; his mother, Jacqueline (Collicut) Mackey of Dedham; and three other brothers, William of Attleboro, James of Lunenburg, and Richard of Sherborn.

A service has been held.

Article reprinted from the Boston Globe

a message FROM THE PRESIDENT

My fellow LiMBO members. How's it going?

The Digennaro family has been pretty good. We missed a few great events, at least that's what I've been told. We spent most of July with the Adams Boy Scout troop 38 as chaperones for their trip to Disney. I was a little nervous about going, chasing 50 kids around, plus, I've never been to Disney before and it seemed overwhelming. It was a surprisingly good time. We spent a few days in Washington DC for part of the trip. We've been there a few times, I really like Washington. Disney was great. I recommend going to Disney at least once in your life. Take at least 5 to 7 days to do it. Plan to do one park per day and some will need two days. As my luck goes, gasoline was the most expensive it has ever been during my trip. It cost a small fortune to drive the motor home down, but that's another story.

We're in the holiday season and its time to think of the upcoming annual meeting. The meeting has been tentatively set for January 18th on Northboro, MA at John Jordan's home. Same place as last year. Details in the events section.

One thing on the agenda is the possibility of a merger with NEATO. For those who don't know who NEATO is, they are our sister club for 1967 and older buses. The internet has really put a dent in club memberships. Dues paying members are down all over the industry. There is just so much info out there, good and bad, that's easily accessible with a computer. Lets not forget that these vans we drive aren't getting any younger either. NEATO's membership is down to under 250 members. LiMBO's membership is down to below 500.

I'd like to get your opinion on this. The logistical details haven't been worked out. Both clubs have top notch newsletters.

NEATO has an insurance plan for event promoters that will be a valuable asset to LiMBO and LiMBO has a better web presence that could help NEATO. The reason we've been thinking of doing this merger, is basically we've doing pretty much the same thing in both clubs, but its costing more and more, with dwindling revenues coming in. We're hoping to combine resources and keep both clubs in the black. So let me know what you think. Drop me an email with your opinion <mrLiMBO@LiMBObus.org>

If you haven't heard, the VW community lost a giant recently; Bob Donalds of Boston Engine. Lovingly known as "Boston Bob", he lost his battle with cancer on October 23th. Bob had a keen wit and was a giving, caring man who often gave with little thought to compensation. His VW engine knowledge was second to none and his engines ran like a top. We'll miss him. Bob is survived by his wife Karen, son Christopher, daughters Samantha and Julia. He was 55.

LiMBO is having its Christmas Party again this year. The date is set for Sunday December 7th. See all the details in the events section. We'll see you there.

Thats about it for now. I hope to see you at the annual meeting to give us your opinions on the club and this possible merger with NEATO.

I'd love to stay as your President, but if someone else has some better ideas and would like to be President, let's here from you. Have a safe and happy holiday. We'll see you around the campfire.

Keep on Busin'
-Jim Digennaro

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THE MIDWEST SCENE

BY: JERRY SPELLMAN

And now we come pretty much to the end of the show season. This year's largest northern Illinois show was at NIVA's VW-FEST on Sept. 21st. It was held at Anderson Volkswagen in Crystal Lake, Illinois. Some nearly 140 cars entered competition with one another in 30 show classes plus, for three levels of awards based on participant judging.

Swap and vendor entrepreneurs set up early to display their wares. The DJ began his music nearly at that same time. Show cars arrived in a steady stream and were next to set up. While judging ballots were in count, contributed prizes were awarded to those answering correctly to VW history trivia questions. The 50/50 raffle winner, Jim Stevens, donated his winning half (\$175) back to the cancer society for which the raffle was held. NIVA match donated \$175 as well.



Early in the morning a growing fog kind of hid the show site from the highway, but by mid-morning the sun cleared up that stuff and warmed us all. The variety of cars kept everyone busy. The variety of parts kept everyone looking. The variety of people kept everyone happy. Obviously the personnel at Anderson Volkswagen and the members of Northeastern Illinois Volkswagen Association did a lot of work preparing the area, ushering the cars, managing the paperwork, lining up the extras, and hosting the show. Many thanks and many hoorahs are due them all. So thank you Anderson Volkswagen and thank you NIVA.



Support those local shows, far and near.

The Blue
Rocks Glacier

KAMPERS ON THE ROCKS OCTOBER 17-19, 2008

Blue Rocks Campground, Lenhartsville, PA
By: Andrea Rasso

It was a fabulous weekend. The weather was agreeable, and the fall foliage provided lovely vistas.

The weekend events included hiking up to the Pinnacle and Pulpit Rock, trip to Cabela's, and tractor hay ride from campground office to a local farm for pumpkins. Some of the fellas even went to the local junk yard to pick parts off of VW's.

Pat and Matt who host this event provide sauerbraten for potluck dinner on Saturday night, as well as pumpkin, pecan pancakes on Sunday morning.

We look forward to this event year after year.

Check out an uploaded video at:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A_67j9rcx88



Matt, Ron and Carl



COOKIN' OVER THE CAMPFIRE



With Rich Macensky; The Flaming Cons Kid

A Good-Ole Yankee Pot Roast

I'm cooking this in a 12qt cast iron Dutch oven which works great over an open fire. What you'll need:

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| An 8-10 pound chuck roast | 1 bottle of red wine 750 ml |
| 3 onions | 2 bay leaves |
| 4 stalks of celery | 1 cup all purpose flour |
| 6 carrots | 1 tbsp. rosemary |
| 4 cloves garlic | 1 tbsp. thyme |
| 4 lbs. potatoes | |



Now this is a great recipe for sitting around the fire in the fall. You have to start this around noon time.

First get the Dutch oven hot. Now salt and pepper the roast and put the flour on the roast. Now put the butter in the pot with a little oil.

Next, get everyone off their butts to give you a hand. They need to peel and smash the garlic and when that's done throw the roast in the pot to brown, with the garlic.

Then get the hangover crowd to help you chop the veggies. While they are chopping, turn the roast and brown on all sides.

Hopefully the hangover crowd has the veggies chopped. Take the roast out— but leave all the fat drippings in. Throw the onions, carrots and celery in and let it cook a little. Put the roast back in the pot with the bottle of wine. Then add the bay leaves, rosemary and thyme. The roast is happy (its drunk)! Cover the pot.

It is now time for a beer or 2—maybe a shot to remember a great man; Boston Bob (thinking of you).

Ok now it's time to cut up the taters. It's around 4pm, now throw the taters in, cover, and let happy hour begin. Ok it's 6pm everyone needs to eat and guess what, it's ready.

I have been making this forever. I don't remember were I got it from but its good.

Enjoy,
The Con Kid

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS BY: STEVE PAINE

November-December 2008

Kevin Dealy, Philadelphia, PA
 Steve & Lorraine Herman, Colmar, PA
 ('85 Vanagon GL, '93 EV GL, '93 EV MV, '02 EV MV)
 Maia Kelley, Attleboro, MA

David Linebaugh, Ann Arbor, MI
 Marc Pfefferle, Pitman, NJ
 Carl Phillips, Kingsport, TN
 Dan Reinbolt, Tonawanda, NY
 Bradley Spear, Burnsville, MN
 Gary Wright, Yuma, AZ
 Craig Wolf, Downers Grove, IL



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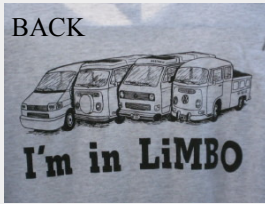
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Merchandise can also be purchased through our Website using Pay Pal at www.LiMBObus.org

Contact John with any questions or for more info.

NEWLY ARRIVED!! T-SHIRTS IN GREY.

New grey "I'm In Limbo" are slightly different than navy shirts. There is no stripe, but there is the badge on the front, and on the back you have the pictures of the buses. We have all sizes. Pictures not yet available. Contact John for more info or to order!



INVENTORY REDUCTION SALE ON T-SHIRTS

They feature the classic LiMBO Logo on the front pocket and the 'LiMBO Diner' artwork by Chris Brown on the back. They come in Ash Grey and Oceana Green. Come in sizes small through XXL. **Clearance sale** Only \$13.50 delivered to you express mail or \$10 if you catch us at a show. Support the club and wear a comfortable shirt at the same time. **NOTE: At the time of printing, there is ONLY ONE GREEN IN SIZE XL LEFT IN STOCK.**

LiMBO Stickers

LiMBO Stickers are available. Its black and white and uses the original LiMBO artwork with club web address below. Its two inch in diameter and is static stick for years of use. It can be transferred to a new vehicle. Comes to us from membership coordinator Steve Paine's Business, Cape Cod Impressions. So it has to be good. While supplies last! Price: \$3.00 shipping included.



www.limbobus.org

New LiMBO-mart item... Suncatchers.

If you don't know what a Suncatcher is, it's really the optical version of a wind chime.



Made by Mike Verno of Stonington, Ct. these Suncatchers come in 2 sizes of the 4 most popular Bus/Camper versions (T-1, 2, 3 and 4). Mike machines these out of .125" green tinted plexiglasson with a hi-speed computer controlled profiler. From side profile photos we have supplied of the 4 bus versions.

Here are the selling prices:

- (1) Small Suncatcher (any version) \$6.00 + \$2.00 shipping by First Class Mail.
- Set of (4) Small Suncatchers (4 versions) \$20.00 + \$3.00 shipping by First Class Mail.
- (1) Large Suncatcher (any version) \$10.00+ \$2.00 shipping by First Class Mail.
- Set of (4) Large Suncatchers (4 versions) \$34.00+ \$3.00 shipping by First Class Mail.
- (1) 4" Diameter LiMBO Logo \$10.00 + \$2.00 shipping by First Class Mail.

Shipping will be in a standard 6" X 9" Bubble Pac Envelopes.

These are truly unique collector's items for all Bus, Van and Camper owners and enthusiasts. Hang a small one from the rear view mirror of your Bus. Hang a set of either the small or large ones from your side awning or hang them in a sunlit window in your home. Hang 'em anywhere. They are guaranteed to brighten your day!

LiMBO Beer Tankards

Heavy Duty 16oz Glass (Beer) Tankards with black & white LiMBO logo, dishwasher proof. You've probably had your favorite microbrew at your local pub in these same glasses and tried to stagger home with one under your coat. But now you can have one of your own! Only \$15.50 per pair (includes shipping).



LiMBOclox

These clocks are ready for immediate shipping. Order yours now. The cost is \$15.50 which includes shipping. Choice of black or white frame. Please indicate color when ordering.



The LiMBO Polar Pal

What better way to show your LiMBO allegiance then with this practical can koozie. They'll keep your favorite cold beverage cold (or hot beverage hot). You get a set of 4 for \$16.50. This price includes shipping to your door.



BOOK DEALS!

Dometic Vanagon Refrigerator Repair Manual

LiMBO has acquired the complete repair and part number manual for the Dometic Westfalia Refrigerator; 26 pages; photocopied and spiral bound. This 'unofficial' VW dealer version covers lighting propane, operation, service and troubleshooting with fully detailed pictures. Complete resource to complete all repairs. Also includes VW tech bulletins updates. Price: \$13.00 (includes shipping).

Eurovan Winnebago Repair Manual

LiMBO has also acquired the complete repair manual for the Eurovan Winnebago. 132 pages. Lots of good information to fix the Winnebago camper equipment. Including; fridge, furnace, electrical and plumbing. Only \$20.00 (includes shipping).

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October 2008

By Joel Cort – jcort@rochester.rr.com

The weather seems to play a big part in the success of a camping event. In the past 6 years the weather has always been a crapshoot. Well we rolled a 7 for this weekend for the 7th year of the Westies at Watkins event because it was absolutely perfect. The clear sunny days warmed up to the high 70's and it cooled into the 50's at night with all the stars shining. Perfect for camping in a van by the Glen.

This year again we camped at the Watkins Glen State Park. The park ranger was very accommodating, and closed off the Onondaga Village camping loop just for our VW group. A few distant travelers coming from Canada started arriving on Thursday to enjoy the camping accommodations and the wonderful weather. The majority of the folks started shuffling in around noon on Friday and locating a suitable campsite enjoying the afternoon. A few of us jumped in the pristine VW single-cab pick-up and gathered firewood for a community campfire that night.

Saturday morning some of the Empire VW Camping Club members started cooking and offering "breakfast burritos" for all campers. Lots of us pitched in and donated or added to the copious amounts of food. The meal was a success with very few left-overs. Thanks to Dave, Mary and Mark for organizing and recruiting suitable cooks. After breakfast, some of our campers proceeded to take a cruise down to the neighboring town of Corning to visit the Glass Museum. Others decided to hike the Watkins Glen gorge and enjoy the beauty of the Finger Lakes Region. Others kicked back at camp and enjoyed the warm fall day. Vans kept coming in for the event.



After the hike in the Glen a group was formed to go visit a few of the many wineries located around the lakes. Some decided to bicycle around the area discovering just how steep these rolling hills really are, specially on with at tandem. Others took off in search of that elusive cache armed with a portable GPS to discover the geo-caching locations near by. We also gathered more wood to ensure that we would be ready for the evening festivities. The VW pick-up was put to good use one more time to haul the big logs.

Since it was such a terrific night and almost a full moon, we decided to have the pot-luck dinner outside on Saturday night rather than at the pavilion. We assembled all the tables from the neighboring campsites into the central grassy area and folks started bringing food. The pot-luck dinner was enjoyed by all-eating by candle-light with the cool evening settling in. Again there were no left-overs with this VW crowd.

After the dinner we raffled off some donated door-prizes. A special thanks goes out to all of the contributors and VW parts vendors for their great contributions to this year's event: Mid-America Motorworks, The Bus Depot, GoWesty, Condelli and Associates, Wolfsburg West, GermanMotors, CP1.com, Caps and Campers, LiMBO – Late Model Bus Organization, International, VW Club of Central NY, Empire VW Camping Club

Special note and thanks go out the original art work commemorating the event done by Mark Lund and donated, as well as the giant banners for the event donated by Greg Potts. This year's T-Shirt design was done by Kevin Aldrich. I still have T shirts available if anyone is interested.

The success is represented by the 65 VW campers present for the campout. The VW campers at this event were tallied up with 9 EuroVans, 33 Vanagons, 16 Bays and 5 Splitties. There were two beetles doing tent camping too. There were once again lots of Canadian campers from Ontario and some from Quebec. Most campers were from New York state and a few came from CT, NJ, MD, PA, OH and as far away as IL. If there were some sort of award, it would have to go to Dale Ward from Massachusetts who attended not only this event but took off Saturday to participate in

the coinciding event of Transporter Fest.

On Sunday morning, 43 VWs caravanned to the Watkins Glen International Race Track a few miles away. We met up with another 10 VWs from local clubs coming to





Gathering Wood

the race event for the day. We all signed our waiver, paid our \$15 and took lots of photos while waiting for the track to clear. We did not mind sitting in the sun

and seeing the race cars zoom by on the track. We were escorted on the track and allowed to go around for 3 laps on this world class race circuit while the SCCA was taking their lunch break from their racing event. The day was absolutely perfect nearing the 80's and the track was ours. Everyone young and old, slow and fast had a

great day at the races.

In closing this trip report I want to personally thank all of the members of the Empire VW Camping Club (www.empirevwcamping.org) who contributed and donated their time, effort and planning to keep making this event a success.

There are numerous pictures of this event posted at the LIMBO picture site at the following link: http://www.limbobus.org/phpBB4/album_cat.php?cat_id=85

This year we also put up our own web site which will eventually have all the previous pictures and information for next year's event. Check out www.westies-at-watkins.org

Thanks to everyone that attended and supported this event.

TRANSPORTERSFEST 2008 BY: STAN WOHLFARTH

Transporterfest/VW day at the Larz Anderson Auto Museum in Brookline on October 12th, 2008 had another record breaking turn-out this year. The Saturday before the event we had fun with an evening get together and campout at John Jordan's place (thanks John, Carolyn and Alex!). The weather on Sunday was great and there were even some good deals on used parts from a number of vendors. Unfortunately there were a few issues with the museum: no food vendor, lawn was partly dirt, inadequate sound system, lack of space to park, etc. New dates are being considered for next year (9/27/09 and/or 10/4/09) so we don't conflict with Westies at Watkins Glenn. A new venue may also be considered to accommodate this fast growing show. Thanks to everyone who came out and we look forward to more fun next year! Check out the photos in the photo album.



Best Patina Award Mango (left)



Raised pop-tops Along the perimeter

Actual total registered was 151 this year. Most I've ever had to park on that lawn. Here are the Transporterfest 2008 winners:

- Beetle, Ghia, Type 3 (1943-1967) - Jim Stein, '65 Ghia, white/metallic green, with roof rack, Wayland, MA.
- Beetle, Ghia, Type 3/4 (1968-1979) - Joe Hernandez, '72 Ghia, black/red, Brookline, MA.
- Convertible Beetle, Ghia, Thing (1968-1979) - Mike Lundrigan, '73 Thing, black/teal with off-road stance, Arundel, Maine.
- Water-cooled (1975-2008) - Father John, '81 Rabbit pick-up, red, Brookline, MA.
- Best Patina (showing it's age) - Stan Wohlfarth, '61 Bus, Seagull Grey/Mango Green/Rust, real bullet holes, Wayland, MA.
- Split Bus (1950-1967) - Glenn Robbins, '60 Westy, white/red with side awning, Framingham, MA.
- Bay Window Bus (1968-1979) - Garth Roeder, '77 Sunroof bus with automatic trans., white/blue, Lincoln, MA.
- Camper Bay Window (1968-1979) - Karl Bower, '72 Westy, sierra yellow with rear safari window, Welcome, PA.
- Vanagon (1980-1991) - Tom Huyghebaert (crukab), '86 Double cab, white, Royalton, VT.
- Camper Vanagon (1980-1991) - Dennis Duquette, '84 Westy, Pelham, NH.
- EuroVan (1992-2003) - Richard Zimmerman, '03 Westy, Stoughton, MA.
- Longest Distance - 2500 miles, Robert Gornoy, '78 camper, Phoenix, AZ



Packing them in



Bay Window Row

TECH CORNER

THE DOMETIC RM-182B REFRIGERATOR REPLACEMENT

BY: NEVIN LESCHER

I got to looking at the 3-Way Dometic Refrigerator in our '87 Westy this past summer and started to wonder if this 21 year old dinosaur was really worth its space and usefulness in our Westy. It hadn't run on propane in several years and before that it was a real nightmare to even get the propane ignited. You kneel before it (praying for ignition), covering your head with a blanket while manipulating the air pump, looking at a tiny peephole in the lower left corner thru your bifocals to see if an even smaller faint blue flame appeared after plunging the igniter several hundred times.



Interior of new fridge— look at the depth!!

A gross waste of my time and energy!

It did run fairly well on 110VAC when that source was available, but there's no doubt about it, it's a "Barbie" Fridge! Two OEM ice cube trays would make just enough 1/2" square cubes for one Martini on a hot day and that's it!. With a total capacity of less than .9 CU/FT, the Dometic has lead most, if not all Westy owners to travel with some sort of modern large and efficient ice chest. Keeps stuff nice and cold, plenty of ice for Happy Hour, but you need that frozen stuff in bags or blocks (\$) to keep going.

I then started looking around for alternative replacements for our Dometic. My first thought was one of those "Mini" or "Dorm" fridges. They sell them at Wally World, Target, Home Chepo, Low Downs & others. Price- pretty cheap (40 to 125 bucks). For 39 bucks you get the bare bones model which only cools to 40 deg below ambient. (Thermo-Electric). Others, compressor models all only 110VAC, but none would fit the existing space for the Dometic without a major modification to the Westfalia cabinetry.

What next? Remove and can the Dometic RM-182B,



1500 watt heater in place

then turn the space into storage as many have done? Install a large Norcold 3-way? Has been done, but really, big bucks and a big major installation.

Well, here's the end of this "FRIDGED" story. We replaced our aged Dometic RM-182/B with the Vitrifrigo CS51iSAC. It will fit your existing Westfalia cabinet with minimum modification. Nice unit, 1.8 cu/ft capacity, 12VDC/110VAC, switchable automatic and makes real life size ice cubes in no time at all. Check it out, but maybe a little pricey for some. If interested, I can give you vendor source, installation methods and pitfalls to avoid in installation.

Our installation included a 1500 Watt heater below the Vitrifrigo Fridge but it can easily be installed without the electric heater.



For questions, specifications, and vendor information, please contact Nevin at: nesu@cox.net

COMING EVENTS

Coming Events is the place to get your bus or VW related event listed! Please send the vital stats: date, time, location, activities, costs, and contact person/phone number or address. Plan ahead and list your event early for maximum participation. For more information on any event, please contact Tom & Linda, the event coordinators, at volkswagenri@cox.net, 401-762-2448 or email to events@limbobus.org. Snail mail can be sent to:

Coming Events, c/o Linda Manion
286 Fourth Avenue, Woonsocket, RI 02895.

****December 7 (Sunday) Northboro, MA - Second Annual LiMBO Members Only Christmas Party.** Carolyn and John Jordan have graciously invited us back to their lovely home for this special event. The party starts at noon and continues until 7 PM. All LiMBO members are invited to drop by and enjoy some holiday cheer with your VW friends. This is a BYOB event, and all attendees are asked to bring an "easy-to-eat" appetizer, side dish or dessert. Non-alcoholic drinks will be provided. Tom Power and Linda Manion are the party coordinators. **Please RSVP to them by Monday, the first of December at the very latest**, and let them know what you're bringing. You can email to volkswagenri@cox.net or call 401-722-2119 evenings before 9 PM. Tom and Linda can answer any questions and give you directions. (Remember, this is a house party not a campout. This is NOT a pet friendly event.) If you need to contact John directly, his email is: john_jordan@charter.net

****January 18th (Sunday) Northboro, MA- LiMBO Annual Meeting at John Jordan's home: 10 AM to 3PM.** This is our annual meeting to plan events, elect officers, discuss the general state of affairs and the direction of the club for 2009. This year is especially important, we'll be discussing a possible merger with NEATO. This is your club, so get involved. If you have an event coming up next year and would like LiMBO sponsorship, this would be the time to ask for it. For more info contact Dale Ward 774-275-0218 after 6PM until late night. Or eMail your questions and comments ahead of time. [<LiMBO@LiMBObus.org>](mailto:LiMBO@LiMBObus.org)

LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES & SPECIALISTS

Local reps are out there to gather articles and input from other club members in their area, organize local get-togethers, meets, caravans, and recruit new members from their part of the world. LiMBO is here to support them any way we can which strengthens the club. **Remember this is your club too.** If you see a local rep or a specialist you would like to contact, please feel free to get in touch with them. If you don't see a local rep or specialist for your area and would like to become one, let me know at my address on page 2.

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Ken Madson
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EuroVan Specialist
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(Grumpy after 10pm)

Brian Davis
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www.busfusion.com

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201-358-9169
beckybus12@hotmail.com

Brad Rasso
35 Sharp St.
Patchogue, NY 11772
rassovw@hotmail.com

THE SWAP AREA

WANTED:

I need a new or used gas tank and filler neck for my 1978 VW Bus/Westy. If you have one or know where I can get one please email me at manuelvsw@msn.com or telephone (413) 592-4413.

Thank you. Manual Lopes Chicopee, MA

Available or Wanted Submissions

As a member of LiMBO you are entitled to a free classified ad each month. Try to make it 100 words or less, written legibly, and with any abbreviations that can be made (i.e. 147k mi., trans., Westy, PS, PB, A/C, etc.). Include a price if possible, your name, phone #, e-mail (if applicable) and state. Be sure to mail it in time for the next newsletter submission deadline indicate on page 2 of this issue.

Send to: TRANSPORTER CLASSIFIEDS,
35 Sharp Street, Patchogue, NY 11772
email: editor@limbobus.org or via the web: <http://limbobus.org>

Name: _____ Phone () _____

Email: _____ State or (optional) address _____

Description:

VW BUS OWNERS CONVERGE ON KAMPERS NEAR KNOEBELS VIII

By Ben & Lynn Stiles

About 20 VW buses and their owners arrived at Indian Head Campground, Bloomsburg, PA between Aug. 29-Sept. 1, 2008 for the annual Kampers Near Knoebels campout. The weather cooperated well, which was good as LiMBO editor Andrea and Brad Rasso were tenting it out of the back their New Bug!



Had fun on the Susquehanna

On Friday evening Campers celebrated the now-famous ice cream social. Creative toppings are brought each year by attendees to make the ice cream that much tastier. This year was the first with ice cream cones! The little kids, as well as those young at heart, enjoyed eating their ice cream from a cone as a novel treat.



Sunday morning potluck brunch

Saturday dawned bright and early and after breakfast, around 10:40, the caravan to Knoebels Amusement Park commenced. Seventeen buses made the trip along with a few other brands mixed in. The Knoebels staff is ready for us each year, and they give us a golf cart escort to our parking "row" for the day. This year, they went one further and weeded out the Chevy, Dodge, and Chrysler vans from our caravan (with the exception of Ben and Lynn's Corvair van). The other vans were herded to a separate row.



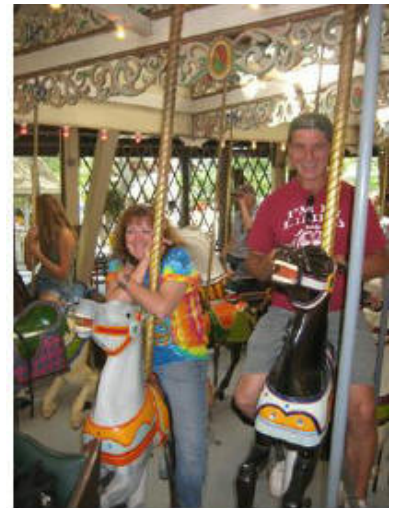
Jon and Andrea at Knoebels

Many stayed in the amusement park all day while others stayed for a few hours, then returned to the campground or to other day trip destinations.

Sunday morning brought the pot luck brunch. Lots of tasty breakfast items adorned the table to the delight of breakfast connoisseurs. Many people stayed for a few hours as more and more people brought items to the group pavilion. These folks are affectionately known as "grazers." With no scheduled activities besides the brunch on Sunday, the rest of the day was devoted to road trips, kayaking on the Susquehanna River, return trips to Knoebels, or just plain Bus talk all afternoon. Some folks pulled out Sunday afternoon and evening, but

many waited until Monday, wanting to get that last good campfire in on Sunday evening.

All in all, this VW Bus campout has become an annual tradition for many to bid farewell to the official summer season. It is a great way to rekindle old friendships, and make new ones as a few new Bus owners come each year.



Linda & Kari at Knoebels

Kampers near Knoebels IX is scheduled for Labor Day Weekend, 2009. We hope to see you all there!



3 White Buses



The caravan to Knoebels

BOSTON BOB MEMORIAL CRUISE

By Stan Wohlfarth

A memorial cruise around Dudley Pond in Wayland, MA was held on Saturday November 1, 2008 to honor Boston Bob. 20 vehicles, including 18 buses were on the cruise with participants from as far away as Rochester, NY, Virginia, and Seattle, WA attending. Bob lived in Wayland for many years and enjoyed boating and fishing on Dudley Pond.



The first stop on the cruise was Mansion beach, a small sandy beach that was named for the Mansion Inn which featured a dance hall with a spring loaded dance floor. The Mansion Inn burned down in 1956 and a development with 14 houses eventually replaced it. More information about Dudley Pond can be found here:

<http://www.dudleypond.org/ChangingViews.htm>



The second stop on the cruise was the Dudley Pond Chateau, a notorious bar that dates back to the days of Prohibition when it was a speak-easy. Bob was known to frequent the 'Chat' and enjoy a bottle of Budweiser, or two. We arrived just after the bar opened and had a toast to Bob.



Finally we cruised to the memorial service at the First Parish church in Wayland. The renovation of this church was featured on "This Old House" a few years back. The staff from the funeral home was quite surprised when we all pulled in and they had to figure out where to park all the buses, but they did a good job of parking us right out front. The service was a great celebration of Bob's life and was very well attended.



A reception followed and then a number of us headed out to Shrewsbury, MA for a camp-out at the Ward family estate. It was quite cold, with ice glazing the windshields of the buses the next morning. Fortunately we had a nice warm campfire going all evening and enjoyed leftover pulled pork sandwiches, courtesy of Eric Lindskog, and other goodies that weren't consumed at the afternoon reception.

Boston Bob will be missed by many, but I am hopeful that his spirit and friendship will live on in all of us.

