



[www.vwthingregistry.com](http://www.vwthingregistry.com)

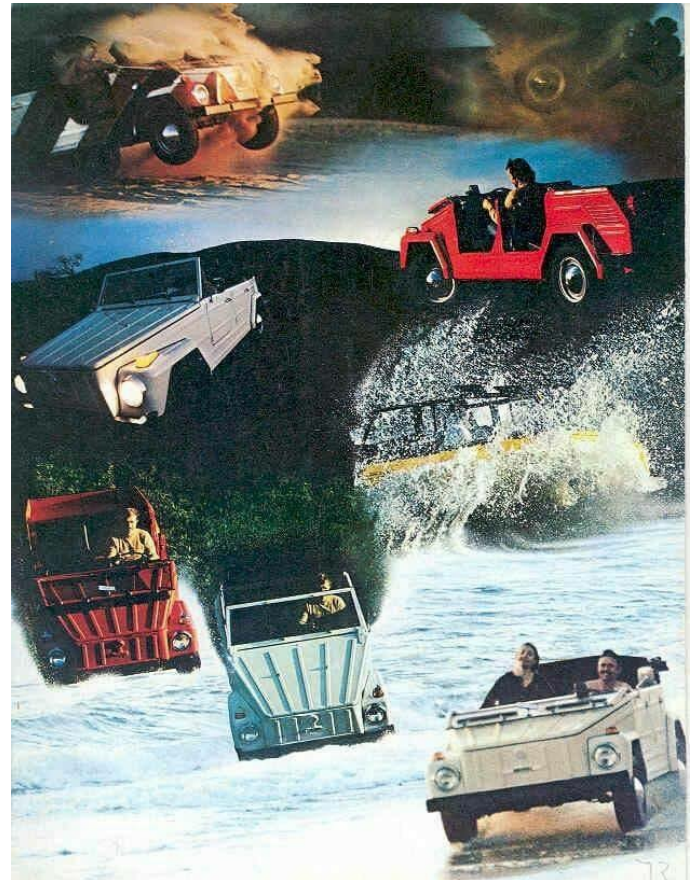
## Quarterly Newsletter

### January-March, 2017

Happy New Year everyone. WOW! I don't even know where to start.... As many of you know I started back the VW Thing (Type 181) Registry in July of 2016, after it had been inactive for many years. In the 1990's there were many organizations for Thing owners including the Registry, North and West Thing Associations and The Volkswagen Thing Association of American. All of those are gone now and I wanted to see the Registry stay alive.

After six months of working on the Registry we have grown a lot. We have over 3,000 Things (Type 181's) registered now worldwide. We also took over the Acapulco Thing Registry that Lee Hedges at the T34 World in San Diego, California started. Dennis Weikel took over the Acapulco Registry from Lee when he sold his Acapulco and after we started the VW Thing (Type 181) Registry back, Dennis contacted us and turned everything he had over. Thank you, Dennis.

We are happy to announce that Jeff Gilleland from the Bay Area in California is our new Vice President of the VW Thing (Type 181) Registry. He has been a big help to me since I started the Registry back. He wants to see our organization grow more and keep the Type 181 alive! Thanks, Jeff.



Our main form of communication outside of this quarterly newsletter is Facebook. We have a very active Facebook page that is updated with new information, facts, and photos daily. We also have a private Facebook group where



Owners can talk about anything related to Type 181's. We have Thousands of owners from all over the world. If you are not on Facebook, you may want to get an account just to keep in contact with everyone.

I have had so many amazing Thing owners offer to help with the Registry. I never imagined I would get so much support. Everyone wants to see the Thing (Type 181) history stay alive and as you know VW people are awesome anyway! I will try to give you and update about the Registry and what we have planned for this year.

The VW Thing (Type 181) Archives are now on our website. Click on the tab on the top right of the page for the link. Thank you, King Wiemann and all the other members who have sent us old VW Thing Registry newsletters and Type 181 magazines. Mostly a BIG thank you Jeff our VP for making digital copies of everything and listing it on his page for us. We hope everyone enjoys reading all the history. We will post more info as we get it. If you have anything, please send it to us. We can return it to you after we scan it. This is the first major Archive of Thing history prepared in almost 20 years. The VW Thing Registry is proud to be doing this for everyone.



I have been in contact with Rich Smith who had the VW Thing Association of America back in the 80's & 90's. He is going to send us more information for our archives. I was also in Contact with Mike Crisp who had the 181 Magazine for many years in the 90's-2000's. Both guys are icons in the history of Type 181's in the USA. As I have read through all the old archives for both organizations, it has provided me with an appreciation for what the Registry must offer and how much work it is to keep organizations like ours going... Thank you both for everything you have done for all us Thing owners over the years.

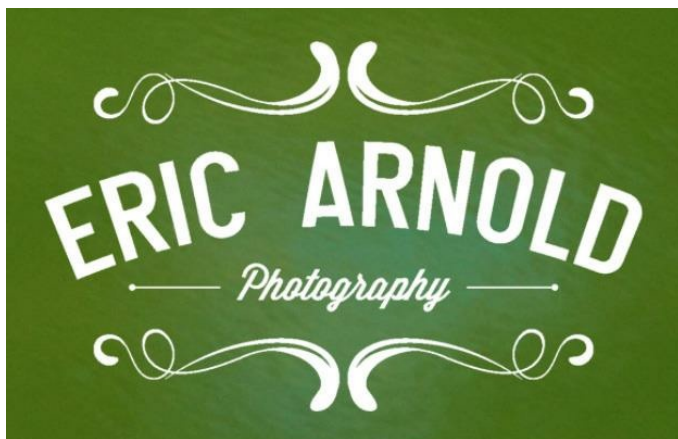
We have 12 new Thing Ambassadors working with the Thing Registry in the USA and other Countries. They are: John Wood, Australia, Jeff Gilleland, California, Gunter Hofmans, Belgium, Bien Marquez, Philippines, Hugo Pereire, Portugal, Raymond Huppee, Canada, Wim Oosthoek, Holland, Shawn Sitat, Michigan, Jim Knox, California, Birch and Sandy Price, California. If you are interested in being an Ambassador for the Registry, let me know. All you have to do is promote the Registry in your area and let us know about local Thing events.

We are starting back the Kubel Treffen West event, which will also be the VW Thing (Type 181) Registry Reunion this year. You can find a copy of the flyer in this newsletter. We working with the guys from the El Prado show, which is the largest VW show on the West Coast. We hope to make this the largest gathering of Things on the West Coast. Gary Mondshine with the Kubel Treffen East event and I are working together to help promote both events. We have one member interested in starting a Kubel Treffen South and Mid-West event. We would like to see other Kubel Treffen events in other areas, if you are interested in hosting one, please let us know.





Eric Arnold Photography will be at our Kubel Treffen West and The Thing Registry Reunion. He will take a huge group photo of all the Things that attend. Eric is a famous car photographer and a VW owner himself. You can check out his work at [www.ericarnoldphotography.com](http://www.ericarnoldphotography.com). You will even see my Thing on his site.



**CARAVAN ANNOUNCEMENT:** Things owners from Northern California, Central California and the Bay Area are planning a caravan to come to our Kubel Treffen West. If you are traveling from another state, you can join one of the groups. We even have one Thing coming from Canada at this point. Put our event on your calendar, you don't want to miss it!!!



Updated regarding the Registry list. The list is a combination of information from our database of members who have registered their Things (Type 181's) on our website, the list we received from the old Acapulco's Registry and the registry list in Europe. Total we have over 3,000 Things on the list now from all over the world. The list is a great source of information to see other Type 181's in your area, find out more about your VIN and location, or just look at where others Type 181's are located all over the world. The total list is over 75 pages, so we can't attach it to this newsletter but you can request it via email.

Year	Wolfsburg	Hannover	Emden	Puebla	Indonesia	Yearly totals
1968	16					16
1969	2,373					2,373
1970	5,386			323		5,709
1971	11,026			4,057		15,083
1972	6,682			3,105		9,787
1973	21,598			18,729 (incl. 14,197 Things)		40,327
1974	10,493	8,747		18,844 (incl. 14,733 Things)		38,084
1975		1,882	307	6,562		8,751
1976			1,506	4,965		6,471
1977			477	1,480		1,957
1978			33	3,408		3,441
1979				2,086		2,086
1980				695		695
<b>Totals</b>	57,574	10,629	2,323	64,254	5,988	140,768

**Source: VW Thing Type 181 Registry.**

**[www.vwthingregistry.com](http://www.vwthingregistry.com)**

I am going to leave you with a little fact that is amazing to me. 28,930 Things were sold in the USA in 1973 & 1974. The Registry estimates from information it collected in 1993 that around 8,000 still existed at that time. That was 23 years ago... How many still exist today??? As I mentioned on our Facebook page, Things are becoming very rare and we as owners will set what they are worth. I believe prices will continue to rise and we need to all work



together to keep the values up and preserve our investments.

"The purpose of The Thing (Type 181) Registry is to promote the preservation and enjoyment of the Volkswagen Thing, while keeping track of all VW Things around the globe. We track the VIN, owner's information, color and location. This is FREE to all VW Thing owners. Although we don't have formal meetings, membership does provide the opportunity to participate in various scheduled Thing activities all over the world. We promote Thing and Volkswagen events and sponsor activities like cruises, parades, gatherings, etc. Our activities are made possible by our network of volunteer "Thing Ambassadors" throughout the country. Our members also receive discounts at participating VW businesses who sponsor the Thing Registry".

Don't forget to support our sponsor, Thingparts.com

**www.thingparts.com**

New and used VW thing parts



**Mike Basso**  
mpb181@aol.com

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Free Advice

Please our website: [www.vwthingregistry.com](http://www.vwthingregistry.com) and register your Thing. Once we have your email address, you will start receiving our Newsletter for FREE. Your Thing will be listed in the VW Thing, Type 181 Registry list. Also, please "Like" our Facebook page: [www.Facebook.com/VWThingregistry.com](http://www.Facebook.com/VWThingregistry.com)

Please share both our pages with your Thing friends! Thank you for your support. Send us any information you think the members would

like or any registry or Thing history you have and we will share it.

Eric L. Goodman  
President

[info@VWThingregistry.com](mailto:info@VWThingregistry.com)

## Kubel Treffen West

### VW Thing Registry Reunion 2017

**June 9th - 11th 2017**

El Prado Park  
16700 S Euclid Ave.  
Chino, California  
[www.vwthingregistry.com](http://www.vwthingregistry.com)



**June 7th - 11th**

Camp at Blackstar, Prado Park  
Meet and greet

**June 10th**

Octo show or Prado Park- Cruise, Dinner

**June 11th**

El Prado Show "Special Thing area"  
Awards



**Please RSVP to reserve your show spot!**

RV spot Contact Steve 909.868.8761

Show Contact: Eric Goodman 909.855.7625 [vwthingregistry@yahoo.com](mailto:vwthingregistry@yahoo.com)

Jeff Gilleland 408.702.2309 [jeffgilleland@gmail.com](mailto:jeffgilleland@gmail.com)

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