



www.vwthingregistry.com

As we plan for our Things West 2019 event and the 50th Anniversary celebration of the Type 181 next year we want to let you who's who and ask if any of our local members would like to join our planning committee? We could use help from a few more members. We are planning for 100 Things next year!

President: Eric Goodman
VP: Jeff Gilleland
Board member: Jeff Nall
Board member: Ted Boyd
Board member: Jan Skelton Boyd
Board member: Jim Knox
Board member: Raymond Huppee

Please contact Eric, if you are interested in helping: vwthingregistry@yahoo.com

We will post an update about Things East (KTE) when we get more info. We are also planning an international event for next year.

What a busy year for us. The Thing community is on fire! Type 181 values are still rising. We are excited to be the largest Thing organization in the world. This issue will be all about the KTE show. And as always, an update about the Registry. We have started planning our Things West show that will be in June, 2019 at Prado. This is also the 50th Anniversary of the Type 181.

The Registry has been back for almost two and a half years now. I restarted it in 2016 with only a few of my local Thing friends. Now we have over 3,500 members from all over the world. We have sponsored many Thing events and helped Thing owners

with information. Since our last newsletter we have helped start back the Northeast VW Thing Association with Registry member Erik Usler. The NEVWTA is a Chapter of the VW Thing Registry.

We are also working with the Komunitas Safari Club in Bandung Indonesia to support a Type 181 50th Anniversary event in 2019. More info to come.

There have been many changes recently at the VVWCA (Vintage Volkswagen Club of America). The VW Thing Registry is a Chapter of the VVWCA.

First, the membership is now FREE.

Second, we have changed the newsletter to online only. Printing and postage was out of sight. The newsletter will still be produced every two months, and it will be emailed to you as well as being available in the Members Area. Today, you can go to our website to view the Newsletter. www.vvwca.com

Third, we had some changes in our leadership. Eric Goodman, President of the VW Thing Registry, is our new Vice-President. Jay Brand, a marketing professional, is taking on membership. Eric Arnold, professional photographer, has stepped up to edit the newsletter. And Heinz Schneider is our historian.

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Membership Coordinator:
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Newsletter Editor:
Eric Arnold
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Fourth the website is completely new with a more up to date look.

As a Registry member, please join the VVWCA to help support the VW community.

The following is a letter to The Thing Shop and Registry from one of our new members:

“We went and looked at an original owner Thing and appraised it for him. The Thing shop recommended that he contact us for help.

The Thing Shop and Eric Goodman of the VW Thing Registry have been instrumental in my successfully finding a second VW Thing (1973). I called the shop and was given the name of Eric Goodman who dedicated himself to helping me find and evaluate an original owner thing. Through Eric’s help, and yours in connecting the dots within this family of enthusiasts, our youngest daughter and I have learned and gained so much! It is nice to have the help and support of a network (The Thing Shop and the VW Thing Registry) that works together!”

Things East (KTE) by Registry member,
Mike Crisp:

So it’s been ten years since Kubel Treffen Things East graced the Western North Carolina roads around Asheville. Mary and I started kicking the idea around a few years ago of hosting the Thing Show & Tour once again for the 25th Anniversary. We contacted Ron and Dennis Domeck (organizers for Kubel Treffen East the last 10 years) and they put us on the calendar.

As the date came closer, memories of the early shows was, at times almost overwhelming. What started out in 1993 as a simple car show for Thing owners grew to be so much more than we could have ever imagined. In those early years of Volkswagen shows, the Thing, more often than not, was the outcast. With the first Kubel Treffen East show we realized this group of folks was different. As attendance over the years grew (21 cars in 1993 and then over 150 in 1997), in many ways it was more like a family reunion than a cruise in or car show. We all celebrated each other’s victories and accomplishments and mourned as we lost friends through the years. So, from my viewpoint Kubel Treffen East wasn’t just the greatest car show, it was and is “family”.

Friday the 13th was like any summer morning in Western North Carolina except that throughout the day VW Things were arriving at the Mountain Inn & Suites in Flat Rock, NC, just south of Asheville. Facebook posts appeared throughout the day with each arrival. By the evening about 20 Things were on location with everyone checking in and anticipating a fun weekend.





Check-in in the lobby concluded around 9:00pm and conversations and stories continued long after Mary and I left for the evening.

Saturday morning revealed more Type 181's had arrived over night and also one 1944 Type 82 Kubelwagen was brought to the show by Jake Raby and his daughter Ava. As the sun rose so did the numbers until the final count was 53 Things in attendance. Mike Basso from Things Unlimited was on hand all weekend supplying new and used parts & accessories for those wanting and needing those hard to find items. The parts stores just don't carry the parts we need! Larry Dustman from The Thing Shop in Arizona flew out to enjoy the show. This was a first - previously, he and Michele would spend the entire weekend selling Thing Shop wares under a big top tent. This time they shipped a huge supply of door prize items ahead of the show. Mike Basso donated orange Things Unlimited goody bags (including literature and cool Thing items) which we used as our registration packets. Mike also donated numerous door prize items in addition to the bags. Whitey from German Automotive close by in Fletcher, NC brought a truck full of parts and also donated many door prizes. We had so many door prizes we had door prize announcements every 15 minutes all morning. At 1:30 pm everyone gathered for the awards presentation. Judging this year was all people's choice in three classes: Stock, Custom and Military/Off Road - First, Second & Third in each class. Additional awards were distance driven and distance traveled.

Saturday's driving tour departed the show site at 3:00pm with over 35 Things in the lineup. We traveled small back roads winding through the Hendersonville Apple country and continued down the mountain on Hwy 64 to Bat Cave (we didn't encounter Bat Man or Robin). Traveled Hwy 9 through the little town of Chimney Rock continuing around Lake Lure making a right turn on Hwy 108 into the town of Columbus where we were welcomed for dinner at Southern Manners restaurant. Regular hours are breakfast and lunch but the owners



can be persuaded to open their doors for catered events. The food and friendly Southern hospitality was enjoyed by all.

The return trip continued through Tryon and then up Hwy 176 through Saluda completing the 58 mile loop back at the Mountain Inn around 7:00pm. From the beginning Kubel Treffen East was a one day show, but that was never enough. The Relaxed Sunday Tour adds icing to the cake. Twenty-six Things lined up at 9:00am under cloudy skies heading for the Blue Ridge Parkway. The first leg of the tour was 16 miles on I-26. We usually try to avoid the Interstate Highways, but Sunday mornings are usually less crowded which was the case on July 15. We were soon motoring the scenic Blue Ridge mountains stopping at overlooks along the way, and, of course there's always those who simply cannot resist sounding the horn through the tunnels. This is a fun bunch of folks to be around! We spent some time at the Pisgah Inn and found a couple more Things waiting for us there. Some visited the gift shop and hung out on the deck overlooking the fog covered mountains while others spent time with the cars in the parking lot answering questions from curious onlookers and reflecting on their memories of Things from years past.

We continued down the mountain via Hwy 276 to Brevard. We arrived at Twin Dragons Chinese Buffet around 1:00pm where they had a room waiting for us. As we were leaving the rain began to fall. Most decided to out run the rain while some (me) took the time (in the momentary downpour) to put the top up only to stop a couple of miles down the road and put it back down as the sun was now hotly shining. A wet shirt in a convertible is colder than air conditioning.

We were back at the show site by 3:30pm saying our goodbyes and already looking forward to next year's event. While plans are not yet finalized, it looks like we will be back in North Carolina somewhere near the Greensboro / Winston-Salem area. We'll let you know soon!

No car event, large or small can happen without a lot of help and support. A huge Thank You to: Eric Goodman, President of the VW Thing Registry for continuing to provide a central point where we can get help and support from members all over the world.

Vintage Volkswagen of America for support and providing show liability insurance.
Mike Basso - Things Unlimited for Door prizes, Goody Bags and support and parts throughout the year.

Larry and Michele Dustman - The Thing Shop for the many door prizes and for keeping the parts we all need available.
Chris and all the staff at Mountain Inn & Suites for their unending hospitality. Whitey Worsham - German Automotive for the door prizes and support. And to those who are always there keeping everything running smoothly: Scott, Carmen and Molly Frazier; Tom and Carol Poole; Dale and Brenda Piercy (Brenda made the inserts for the "stone" awards); Mitch Davis; Sandra Kiser, for all the behind the scenes help before, during and after the show, we couldn't do it without you!

Happy Motoring, we'll see you next year! Mike and Mary Crisp.

THINGS WEST (Type 181 50th Anniversary)
June 6th-9th, 2019
At Prado in Chino, CA.

Thanks,

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