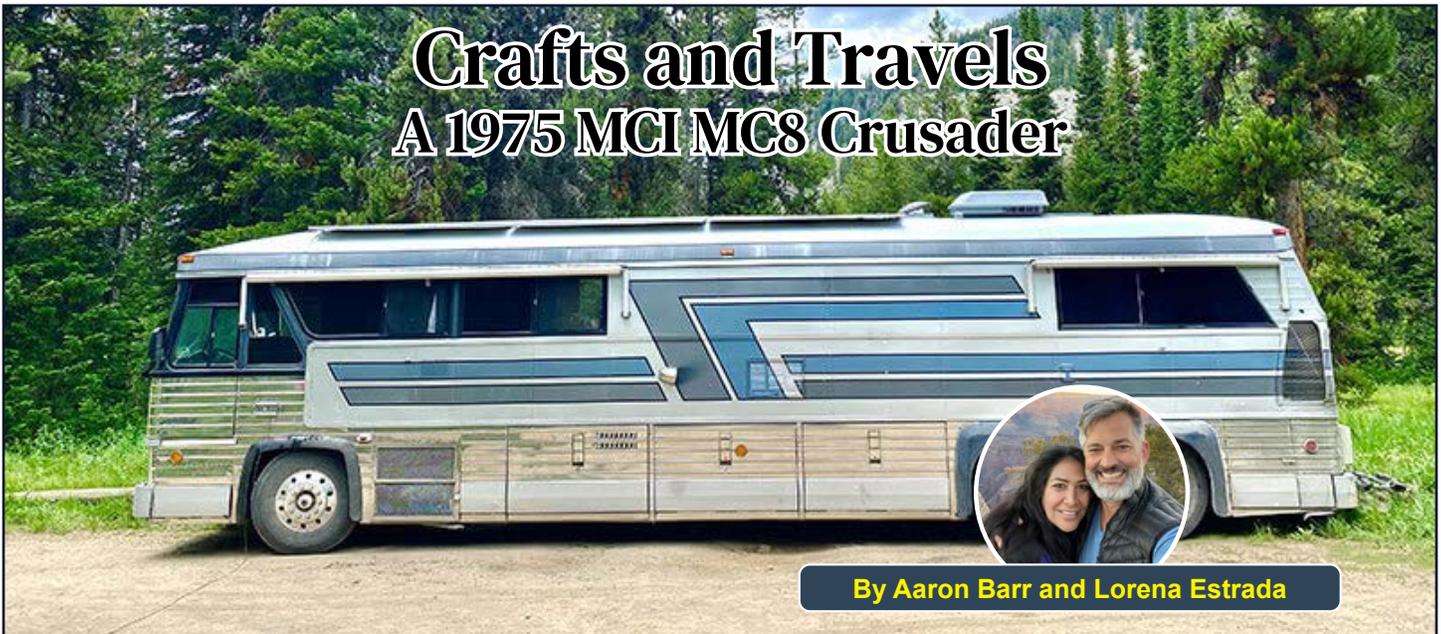




Crafts and Travels

A 1975 MCI MC8 Crusader



By Aaron Barr and Lorena Estrada

Like many others, part of our interest in living in a bus started after the COVID pandemic. We were living in Boston, Massachusetts at the time, and between the cold weather, the pandemic, the loss of family, the lock down, and health issues, we were ready for a significant change.

We used to watch videos on Instagram every night and when we saw bus conversions and travels, the idea of doing it ourselves grew on us. We could do this!! After all, we get along so nicely, we are an amazing team, and we love adventures. We are both in our 50s. Aaron works from home and Lorena is just starting her online coffee business - this is a perfect time!

We started looking for school buses to become part of the Skoolie community. There were so many cool designs and builds, but soon we came across the MCI style buses, and right away we knew that type of bus was for us. We started the search, and as luck would have it, we found ours right where we wanted to do the build-out.

This is a passenger bus designed to be on the road on long trips, 24/7/365 so it is easy to drive, spacious, and comfortable with lots of storage. These were the main reasons we chose it over a traditional Skoolie conversion.

The bus was originally professionally convert-

ed in 1988, so it came with really good bones, but it was old so most of the interior and much of the house systems needed replacement or considerable work.

We jumped in and bought it, and we could not be any happier! We took it to a reputable mechanic to check the engine, wiring, batteries,

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