

# Corvair-Sations



The Official Publication of Corsa Oregon

May 2013

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello everyone:

Yes! It's warm again after all my complaining about how cold it's been. I actually cleaned up my shop and started working on the Corvair to get ready for the Econo-run. I did take the four-door out for a drive but I'm still not going to change the oil. My latest project is getting new tires and wheels for the convertible which has turned out to be more of a pain than I thought it would be. I've completely given up on any combination of 13 inch tires and don't want to wait for someone to start manufacturing the correct size. So, I've decided to go with some 15 inch rally style wheels for now. I'll tell you more as the saga continues.

It was good to see some new Corvairs in the parking lot at the last meeting. Maybe that will motivate some of us to get ours out of the garage for the next meeting and for the rest of the summer too. If you need some help getting yours going again talk to me at the next meeting and we'll see if myself or anyone else can give you a hand. That's one of the great benefits of being in the club so please don't be afraid to ask.

Last weekend was the Tacoma trip. I'm sure we'll get some good stories about it at this next meeting and I hope everyone had a great time. Thank you again to Bill Jabs for setting up the tour and to the rest of you that helped with other details to make this another one of our great road trips.

The Econo-run is the next big event **May 17-19** in Wenatchee Washington. You can still register anytime at a just a little extra cost. I registered for the hotel on the last day (of course) and there was still rooms left so don't worry if you still haven't done so yet. We'll discuss the travel details at the next meeting. I'm excited to go and so are my granddaughters. I'll tell her soon but leave out the details about it being a six hour ride.

As most of you know our dear friend, brother and loved one Tom Henrich passed away this month on April 10<sup>th</sup> in his sleep. He will surely be missed by our Corvair family as he was always a cheerful guy with a great knowledge of Corvairs, Edsels and most anything that rolled, could fly or grind flour. Tom's great stories and laughter to our gatherings will always be a great memory for me and I'm sure for all of you too. His desire to bless our club with his time and talents was just one of his great gifts he gave to Corsa Oregon that we will always remember. And Tom was certainly a fun guy to just hang out with. I always loved his MacGyver repair stories he told and how he always made it home one way or another even when the Corvair didn't want to. He was definitely a determine man when he was on a trip. I believe we are all truly blessed to have known Tom and to have him as a friend and will miss him dearly - Thank you Tom.

I hope to see all of you at the next meeting so keep your head lights on and God Bless! Regan

**Next Meeting: May 1st**

**Refreshments—Bill Jabs**

**Board mtg at 6:30 p.m. Regular mtg at 7:30 p.m.**

**Oregon Stamp Society Building, 4828 NE 33rd, Portland**

## TOM HENRICH

Tom was born in 1940, and he was a nut about planes, trains and automobiles from the time he learned to talk. By the time he was in high school, he was working a pit crew for a racing Vette. Because of his bad eyesight, he couldn't be a pilot, so he settled for being a mechanic. He liked making the engines more than racing them, anyway. He had a 1960 Corvan, as a work truck, I believe, and lost count of how many he's had since. Tom was married to his first wife, Marge, at that time, and together they had five children, four boys and one girl. Needless to say, the girl was more trouble than all the boys combined! She's since made up for it, and should be receiving her doctorate in Psch. this next year. His eldest son, Tom Jr., died of cancer some years ago, but the other three boys are scattered between Illinois, Kentucky, and Texas. Tom now has eight Grandchildren and one Great-grandchild.

When I met Tom, he was driving a tricked out custom van in the '70s. Every Mother's nightmare, it had plush red carpeting, a working fireplace, and I swear this is true, a bed in the back with a mirrored ceiling. If you remember the '70s at all, you remember it wasn't known for it's good taste. In fact, I made one of my first quilts from that truck, a velvet and satin thing that could have come right out of a bordelo. When I graduated from Michigan State, Tom and I took that truck down to New Orleans to celebrate. Tom had built a racing engine for that van and one of his favorite games was to pull up to some "hot" Camero or Firebird at a stop light and blow them away from a standing start.

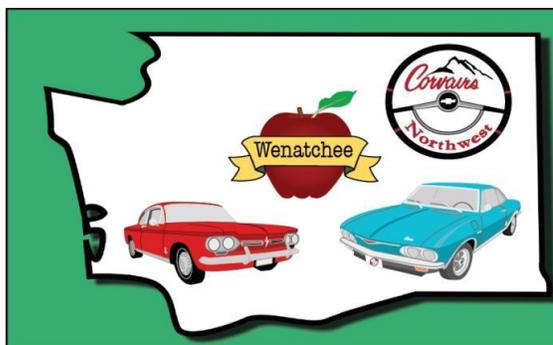
Tom's other car, at the time, was a sable brown E type Jaguar. That's when I fell in love with him, Tom and I happily lived in sin together until he convinced me that United travel benefits were a good reason to marry him. Thankfully, he enjoyed that fact that I wasn't going to change my name to Henrich and we had a largely egalitarian marriage. Since neither one of us liked cleaning house, we figured out what was the minimum we could live with, and split it up between us. Thomas always said that he made half the mess, so he should do half the cleaning. Secret to a happy marriage right there, folks.

After searching around the country for the perfect retirement place, we found the ideal spot in Amboy, Washington. We built our home here with the compromise four car garage for the three Corvairs and the daily driver, the Merc. Tom really wanted a six car home-away-from-home so he could have space for a TV, recliner, sofa for friends and a 'frig. Well, at least he got the 'frig. He always loved his home here and my major problem was prying him out of the house to travel around the beautiful State that we live in.

Corsa Oregon has played a big part in our happiness in our retirement. When we joined Corsa Oregon, we immediately felt welcome and accepted. I'm only sorry we haven't been able to hold the offices in C.O. that we would have liked to, Amboy is rather distant, and our attendance at meetings can be spotty. The many events that we have enjoyed over the years have made our life here so much more rich. We've seen the wonders of Crater Lake, the Olympic peninsula, the beautiful Pacific coast, the Columbia Gorge and countless other delights out here.

I am so happy that Tom was able to spend these eleven years with so many people who shared his love of Corvairs. All the cards and phone calls I've had have touched me more than I can say. And, as a lifetime member of Corsa Oregon, you better believe I plan to get full value from that membership. I look forward to more econoruns and quilting retreats and tours.

Love and thanks, Barb Sizemore



40th Annual  
Pacific Northwest  
Corvair EconoRun  
May 17, 18, 19, 2013

Wenatchee, Washington

## FROM FLAT TO FINISHED: PART THREE

**Submitted By: Bonnie Wentlandt**

Duane has completed the paint and he is currently cutting and buffing. The cutting and buffing will remove any imperfections and make it bright, shiny and beautiful. I must tell you that this process turns anything he wears the color pink, not necessarily his best clothing color choice. At least everything matches. Nice job Duane!



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