



CORVAIRS on the LAWN

Tuesday May 6, 2014

Pontiac / Waterford Elks Club

Regular Monthly Meeting

Let's hope for a nice day so we can go outside after a short meeting and spend some time in the parking lot on a nice spring evening. May will start our Bring Your Corvair to the Meeting event that will last until fall. We will have a few reports, the 50/50 and attendance drawings and something new this month. In addition to the swap and sell. We will also ask for comments from the group about what you have done to your Corvair since last fall or even last month. The summer driving season is just around the corner and we will be talking about the second Saturday breakfast locations and the Sunday road trips that Pete K. has been working on. The salt should be washed off the roads from our record setting winter in a couple weeks so you will be OK if it rains, and you won't need to get the sprinkler out to rinse off the bottom if it gets dirty. **Pete Cimbala**

2nd Saturday May 10th

ON THE ROAD AGAIN for BREAKFAST

The continuation of the ever-popular 2nd Saturday (5-10) DACC Breakfast Club meetings. A new location was tested so on **May 10th at 9AM** and worked out well bring again, you best Barney Fife face to Mayberry's Family Restaurant at 27810 Grand River Ave. in Farmington Hills. Mayberry's is on the North side of Grand River right at the intersection with 8 Mile Road. After breakfast we can still run down to North American Classic Cars and see what Jerry and the guys have on display. **from PETE KOEHLER**

4th Sunday May 25th

BREAKFAST, ROCHESTER HILLS CAR SHOW

For the May Road Tour we are going to meet at the Denny's Restaurant on Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth on Sunday, the 25th. This is just down the street from the Homecoming Host Hotel. Exit #28 off I-275 and then go East just a bit. Those who want to dine before the tour should arrive around 9AM or so. We will leave at 10AM sharp for a leisurely drive around Oakland County and we'll end up in Rochester Hills for a Car Show. Entrants are limited to 1989 vehicles and older. Our Corvairs qualify. Waterpumpers maybe not. They prefer stock vehicles but we can probably make a case for 14" wheels and some other minor "improvements".

The driving route will be finalized before the day of the event. It may be just before the day of the event, but Hey! We will have fun and drive our cars around, right? Plan on it!

from Pete Koehler

Activities

John O'Leary will assume the position of Activities Director (by popular demand). In order to improve our activities and involvement, a planned schedule of 2nd Saturday and 4th Sunday events will be followed. Mark your calendars.

Email blasts will be used to inform and remind. If you don't have access to email please a message with John O'Leary to note the best way to contact you. Make sure that Clark has your correct email address.

The May 2nd Saturday event will be at the Mayberry Restaurant in Farmington Hills and a visit to Jerry's North American Classic Cars. The May 4th Sunday event will tour to the Rochester Hills car show. Corvairs Welcome.

DACC IN FORT WAYNE, IN MAY 30 TO JUNE 1

Long time DACC member Craig Balow, along with other DACC members, have stepped up to help the **MAD ANTHONY CORVAIR CLUB** continue their traditional meet. You are invited to join our Corvair friends from a variety of places in our "tri-state" area!

We welcome all DACC members to join in as we help at the Don Hall Guest House at 1313 West Washington Center Rd, Fort Wayne Ind. 46825. Please call 260-489-2524 to reserve your rooms ASAP.

The meet will be Friday, May 30th thru Sunday, June 1st, 2014. Room rates are single occupancy \$75 a night for breakfast only; \$79 a night for breakfast and dinner. Double occupancy is \$79 a night for 2 breakfasts; \$89 a night for 2 breakfasts and 2 dinners.

Anyone who has gone in the past know the food is plentiful! Please join us!

DACC MINUTES

Now officially President, Pete Cimbala called the meeting to order at 7:15 PM with 45 members present. Bruce Weeks ('65 Cora Coupe) was welcomed as a new member.

Thanks to Clark Hartzel, Pete Koehler and Chris Hines, a total of three Corvairs were present at the first meeting of what we hope will become the Spring Season.

Special recognition was given to Craig Below, Jr. for the amount of work in a very short period of time to get his car ready for a 3rd place award in his class at the Autorama.

DACC has again been contacted by the Eyes on Design committee to find specific Corvairs to complete their theme acknowledging the 1964 New York World Fair. More details to follow.

Following the business meeting, a significant display of Corvair models was arranged by Pete Koehler and he gave an explanation of the several manufacturers and models of special interest and noted how they have appreciated as they aged.

In Paul Piche's absence, Clark reported that the treasury balanced with a total of \$7,347.00. Faye Ambrozy claimed the 50/50 and Don Jennings won the attendance drawing.

With sincere appreciation to Gigi for covering in my absence,
Judy O'Leary

FRANKENMUTH TOUR

The April 27th DACC Road Tour was well attended. We had a very nice line-up of 14 Corvairs and 5 'other' cars heading up to Frankenmuth. I think we had nearly 30 members and family including some new faces. Welcome New Faces!

All enjoyed a cafeteria style meal at Zhenders followed by an in town shopping spree.

Accident Report

Don Jennings and Ana Jennings were in an accident at approx. 3:30 pm on Sunday 4/20 - Don Jennings will be in Hurley Hospital for at least 48 hours, his left knee removed the window regulator handle and got a very deep cut. They have to make sure it won't become infected. Ana got a mean bump and split skin on her forehead when she hit the windshield, she was drinking a pop when the accident happened and got a bad cut on her upper lip, she was treated and released.

We were driving down M57 (Vienna Rd) approx a 1/2 mile east of Bray Road when a Buick Rendezvous backed out of a driveway too close to us, he made it to the west bound lane ok then kept going around and went right in front of Don Jennings ' Corvair. I was following Don in my Corvair and had to hit my brakes hard also.



Extensive damage to front end may not be repairable, Don is considering a replacement car.

CASS CITY'S FESTIVAL PARADE!

City is celebrating its 36th Annual Freedom Festival again this summer and as part of this event, we are planning a parade on Saturday, July 5, 2014. The parade will begin promptly at 10:30 a.m. at the west end of Cass City at the intersection of Main St. (M-81) and Brooker St. (one block east of McDonald's Restaurant.)

ROMEO PEACH FESTIVAL 2914 PARADE

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 1

A long time favorite of the DACC, the Peach Festival starts on the north side of Romeo and moves south through town. Lots of time during staging to visit with old friends and maybe make some new friends. More info to come.

6 DAY, 5 NIGHT TOUR

Join about 100+ cars and trucks and a couple hundred people for a fun 6 day 5 night event with museum tours and car shows every day.

It starts in Flint on Friday June 20th, with overnight stops in Jackson, Auburn IN, Elkhart, IN, Battle Creek and Lansing. Cost is only \$35.00 per car for two people, you will get two T-shirts a free breakfast on Friday, free donuts and coffee every morning, free lunch everyday and a chance to win a new GM ZZ5 crate motor worth over \$6000.00 to be given away in Lansing Wed. morning.

You must stay all 5 nights and have the receipts to prove it in order to win. There will be a Jazz festival in Elkhart, Cruise nights with local car clubs, a trip through a covered bridge, and downtown car shows in each of the host cities. For more info. www.Backtothebricks.org click on schedule and Michiana tour.

BARN FIND!

Seems like the hobby is heading out to the barn! There is a lot of interest lately in finding old cars sitting in barns or other places forgotten or neglected for years and years. Here is a story about just such a find and it involves our favorite car, the Corvair!!

I've known about this car since we joined the Chicagoland Corvair Enthusiasts club in 1977. This glacier gray 1965 Corsa convertible was equipped with option code L87 that means it was turbocharged! 180 horsepower from 164 cubic inches was a great idea back in 1965 and it still sounds good today. The owners of the car took very good care of their Corsa and brought it to all of the club events. In 1986 they drove it down to Phoenix, Arizona for a CORSA-sponsored Mini-Convention.

On the way there it developed an engine problem. They limped into the parking lot on only 5 cylinders. Now they were 2000

miles from home and one cylinder was on permanent vacation. What to do? Well, since I was also attending the event and I had a plane ticket to get me back to the Windy City I did what any Corvair enthusiast would do for a fellow club member in need: I bought a car at the swap meet so they could tow/drive back home. The candidate selected to haul the sick Corsa home was a rust-free (hey, we're talking dry desert Arizona here) 1966 Monza 4-door sport sedan with factory A/C.

I think I paid around \$800 for it. The sedan ran fine and seemed like it would make the trek back to Illinois so the convert owners bought an accessory trailer hitch and borrowed a tow bar from a Cactus Corvair Club member and off they went.

The return trip was slow but steady. They made it home and the convert went to the owner's shop for repair. This is where the story makes a sad turn. The owner never

finished the engine repair. He died shortly after returning to Chicago. In the ensuing years the Corsa sat with its engine apart in the back garage. It had hardly any visitors for the first 18 years after the owner's death. At one point the engine was re-assembled and the rumor was that it did start up and hit on all 6. But the car never left the block building on the back of the property.

Fast forward to 2014. Now it's been 28 years since the engine failure and tow from Arizona to Chicago. 25 years since the owner's untimely departure. And 25 years since I first thought I might have a chance to purchase the car and finish the engine repair. Somehow it all came together in the past couple of months. Last week I headed out to Chicago with a truck and trailer and a healthy checkbook to claim my prize. A long-time friend from

the CCE met me at the property to help with the "extraction". We worked for nearly 3 hours to get the car out from the hole in the building where it had rested for so long. Once out into the daylight for the first time it was obvious there

were good things to see and bad things as well. The interior had changed from black to white with mildew! The engine was together, but it wasn't going to turn

over at all. Locked up solid! The body and paint were another story. The car was stored with a quality car cover on it. The paint survived in fine fashion. The car didn't receive any damage from falling objects while entombed and the Mouse population was hardly an issue.

After a day of cleaning and scrubbing and then a set of matching tires, wheels and wire wheel covers the car looks fantastic! I still need to bring the engine up to operating status. That will be done in a slow, calculated way. The car looks to be about 99% all original with the slight exception of a set of aftermarket aluminum valve covers and an incorrect non-turbo muffler. I hope to have the car ready for DACC activities in the very near future.



At home, cleaned up, lookin' good



Ready to get on the road home

The barn



from Pete Koehler

A Story of Ed Cole

father of the Corvair and ultimately of the Mustang

Casey Schesky, author

Ed Cole, General Manager of the Chevrolet Division and GM Vice-President is the father of the Chevy Corvair. The Corvair is one of the most controversial and name recognized cars in the history of the US Automobile industry. It is said that the General Motors selling the Corvair ultimately led to the "Consumer Revolution" brought about by activist Ralph Nader and his attacks on the Chevy Corvair. These ultimately led to the creation of National Highway Traffic Safety Administration by the Highway Safety Act of 1970 and much later, the Consumer Protection Agency.

A Time of Innovation

The Corvair was developed at a time of engineering innovation and experimentation that mirrored the time of the Space Age, Manned Space flight and the "Space Race" with the Soviet Union to the Moon. The Corvair was introduced in August of 1959 and the last model was manufactured in August of 1969. The Dawn of the Space age began with the first Man in Space, Russian Yuri Gagarin and the subsequent American Mercury Space program beginning in 1959 and with the "Space Race" ending with the successful landing of American Neil Armstrong on the Moon July 16, 1969.

An Innovative Man

Ed Cole brought a number of innovations to General Motors including improvements to the standard V8 engine with performance enhancements and weight reductions and most significantly his pet project of the Corvair.

Ed was concerned that General Motors had become stale and lacked innovation. With GM's continuing emphasis on styling with bigger fins and more chrome, Ed was worried that GM was losing its engineering leadership particularly when compared to European car manufactures such as Volkswagen and Porsche.

A devoted sports-car fan, Cole also volunteered to develop the sporty Corvette when no other G.M. division wanted it.

As an innovator, Ed Cole believed that a car with a rear mounted, air cooled engine, with a light weight unit body chassis and low slung to the ground was a car that would be well accepted in the market place. It would help GM enter a new market of lower priced "compact" cars, help compete with the VW Beetle that was selling well and move GM off of focusing on styling to focusing on engineering and mechanical improvements in GMs cars.

An Innovative Car – The Corvair

The following are quotes from the front page TIME magazine article about Ed Cole and the Corvair:

"Not since Henry Ford put the nation on wheels with his model T has such a great and sweeping change hit

the auto industry. Out from Detroit and into Chevrolet showrooms rolled the radically designed Corvair, first of the Big Three's new generation of compact cars. Smaller and simpler than Detroit's chrome-spun standards, the Corvair is like no other model ever mass-produced in the U.S.; its engine is made of aluminum and cooled by air, and it is mounted in the rear. To Chevrolet's folksy, brilliant General Manager Edward N. Cole, 50, who is as square and compact as a Corvair, the new car marks the fulfillment of a 15-year dream; for that long, off and on, he has been trying to produce a rear-engine car. Says Ed Cole jubilantly: "If I felt any better about our Chevy Corvair, I think I'd blow up."

"Many of the nation's drivers are just as excited. So far, Chevy has totted up 33,000 Corvair orders. The Corvair, the Falcon and Valiant are more than a shift to small cars; they also signal a shift in Detroit's auto-building philosophies, notably an end to emphasizing styling over mechanical changes. From now on, the big emphasis will be on mechanical improvements and innovations. The 80hp Corvair has them aplenty. It gets 25 to 30 mpg, can speed up to 88 mph, and climb an ice-covered grade of 30° that would stop a standard car. Its flat "pancake" aluminum engine, which has six horizontally opposed cylinders weighs only 332 lbs. vs. 600 lbs. for Chevy's 170hp to 230hp cast-iron V8. Being air-cooled, it eliminates the water pump and radiator, does away with overheating and freezing, needs no antifreeze. Because the engine is aft, and combines there with the transmission and drive gears, there is no transmission hump in the floor. Because the front is light, Chevy says the car is easy to steer without power steering, gets better traction and braking.

"One reason that Europeans have achieved a reputation for excellent craftsmanship," says Cole, is that "their cars are relatively simple, but American cars have been getting more and more complicated." Cole has built a car, whose six-cylinder engine has fewer parts than standard engines, is easily accessible, can be completely removed from the car in less than 30 minutes. "Everything about it spells simplicity," says Cole. "The engine is handy enough for any do-it-yourself mechanic."

TO BE CONTINUED

Be sure to visit ... detroitcorvairs.com

DID YOU KNOW?

Along with a web page the DACC now has a FACEBOOK page ... Here is the address

<https://www.facebook.com/#!/>

DETROITCORVAIRS

Treasure report April 22nd, 2014

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Beginning balance: **\$7,347.46**

Income:	50-50:	\$143.00
	Dues:	\$120.00
	Fine:	\$3.00
Total:		\$266.00
Expenses:	50-50:	\$71.50
	Attendance:	\$10.00
Air cooler & stamps:		\$164.50
Total		\$246.00

Ending balance: **\$7,367.46**

Prepared by **Paul Piche**



SELL & SWAP

ADS ARE FREE TO ALL – SEND TO kenpepke@yahoo.com

1965 Corsa conv **trans, linkage & rear susp only** in good working order when removed (low miles) Will donate to restoration project - White Lake near M59 & Teggerdine. Dave Niles 248-408-7561
Flyingtomcat1@comcast.net

FOR SALE: 1964 Corvair convertible - White, red interior, black top. Runs, needs some repair 79,200 miles - additional motor available with deal automatic transmission, body and interior, good condition - original chrome - Located near Tiffin, Ohio = 491-937-1946 (leave message)

FOR SALE: 65 Corsa Conv, 4-spd, triple black. 64,000 mi - LA build - Flaming River Quick Steer Box, 2K on new 205x14" tires / "Hands Racing-like" wheels, 8K on new brakes. Some spares. Gary Lowell 248-224-4317
Sglowell10@sbcglobal.net

WANTED: 1965 to 1969 Corvair engines
Bob Conklin (586) 344-2318

FOR SALE: LM parts, VGC –ALSO– 36 Ford Fire Truck, runs / drives - Clint McNett 517 592 5177 Brooklyn, MI

FOR SALE: WANTED: one 1964 Corvair front compartment lid call Cecil 734-262-0068

FOR SALE: 64 Monza accessory parts, emblems, lens and too many parts to list - call Cecil Rollins @ 734-262-0068

FACEBOOK page ... Here is the address

<https://www.facebook.com/#!/DETROITCORVAIRS>

Concours d'LeMons of Michigan
features the

"Oddball, Mundane and Truly Awful of the Automotive World"

Saturday, July 26, 2014
The "Old Ford-Sheldon Plant"
Highway 14 and North Sheldon Rd
Plymouth, Mich.

DACC MEMBERSHIP REPORT

April 19, 2014 by Clark Hartzel

Welcome back: Elaine (Duerden) Roerink.

Thanks for keeping your membership up to date:
Shuster, Koehler, Knapp.

Expire in Feb: Schultz, (Will be dropped if dues not paid)

Due in Mar: Kotilla.

Due in Apr: Fish, McNett, Shuster, Sparling.

Due in May: Dehring, Duve, Euesden, Hines, Poskie, Rollins.

We have 122 paid members and 7 who owe dues.

We are mailing 13 complementary newsletters to other clubs and the Ypsilanti museum

Please don't pay in cash. I can forget who gives it to me!

Let's get those checks in folks!!!

If you can't make it to the next meeting, send a check for \$20.00 dues [\$23], payable to: Detroit Area Corvair Club, 16911 Anita Ave., Fraser, MI 48026-2275

If you wish to receive only an on-line newsletter let me know by email so I can verify your email address.

Any questions about your membership or if you have an address or e-mail change:

chartzel@comcast.net or phone 586-293-1587

We have an **email blast list** to notify members of quickie tours or last minute changes. Please send me your email address so I can keep the list up to date.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE – 20th OF THE MONTH

The Detroit Area Corvair Club is a charter chapter of CORSA, Inc. Monthly meetings are held on the First Tuesday of each month, 7PM, at the **WATERFORD ELKS Club**, on Scott Lake Rd, Waterford, MI 4/10 mi south of Dixie Hwy. Meetings are open to DACC Members, friends, and all interested in the Corvair. Come early; join us for dinner in the ELKS dining room. Choose entries from their menu.

**MEETING
TUESDAY, May 6, 2014
ON THE LAWN**

The AIRCOOLER

Ken Pepke, Editor
126 S Riverbank
Wyandotte, MI 48192

FIRST CLASS

address

Event Calendar

- May 6 Meeting at the Elks Club
- May 10 Second Saturday Breakfast
- May 25 4th Sunday Tour / Rochester Hills car show.
- May 30 to June 1 **MAD ANTHONY CORVAIR CLUB**
- Jun 3 Meeting at the Elks Club
- Jun 14 Second Saturday Breakfast
- Jun 15 Eyes on Design
- Jun 24 4th Sunday DACC Tour
- July 3 Meeting at the Elks Club
- July 12 Second Saturday Breakfast & Tour to MIS Brooklyn for a lap on the track
- July 15 Eyes on Design
- July 27 4th Sunday DACC Tour

The Calendars are In!!!

Extra calendars are available for \$10 each. If you would like to purchase a calendar you can send check or money order for \$10 each plus \$2 S&H per order to:

John Allesee
P.O.Box 549 Saline, MI 48176

Make checks payable to John Allesee.

If you reside outside of USA or Canada, send me an email telling me how many and where you live, and I will let you know the postage cost.

<http://www.allesee.com/calendar>

PARTS AND SERVICES

MECHANICAL REPAIRS / BODY WORK:

Mike McKeel 6600 W. Co. Rd. 850 N., Gaston IN (765) 358-3930

Show and Go Collision 9103 Chalmers Detroit, MI 48213 Tom Cavatio (313) 371-9085

PARTS & SERVICES:

Clark's Corvair parts 400 Mohawk Trail, Shelburne Falls, MA. 01370 (413) 625-9776

BOTH PARTS & REPAIRS:

Ken Hand 1896 S. Gregory Rd., Fowlerville, MI 48836 (248) 613-8586

CONSIGNMENT SALES:

North American Classic Cars – 27222 Plymouth Rd. Redford, MI 48239 www.northamericanclassics.com

On line ads provide our members with a quick reference guide to satisfy their Corvair needs

DACC members wishing to be included on this list should submit their information to Editor Ken Pepke