

# THE OIL DROP

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE VULCAN CORVAIR ENTHUSIASTS Vol 32, No 10

October 2011



## THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN:

Well we had a good meeting on September 16th lots of good food and fellowship. We discussed the Warner Robins upcoming event and found out that Russ was working diligently to get his convertible, I believe a 66, ship shape and ready to go. Harold Hartline and I went down to Russ's place to help him install his top. We didn't finish so Harold went back the next day. Billy Cannon is also working to get Judy's car ready to go. So far he has had a few problems, carburetors and wiring issues.

I gave a tech session on using Harbor Freights 32 led flashlight as a replacement for the tail light bulb and back up light bulb. Well to make a long story short, the flashlight will work great for the backup lights, using a 10 ohm resistor to bring down the voltage. As far as the tail and stop light not so good. The leds looked really bright until they were compared to a regular 1157 bulb in a painted and grounded bulb socket. It seems the color spectrum of the white leds do not lend themselves to be filter through a red lens so good.

JOB INTERVIEW GAFFES:

INTERRUPTED TO PHONE HIS THERAPIST FOR ADVICE ON ANSWERING SPECIFIC INTERVIEW QUESTIONS;

## Web Links 4 U!

I-65 Construction links:

<http://www.progress65.com/progress65-Jefferson.htm>

Corvaire specifications (all years):

<http://www.carnut.com/specs/gen/vair60.html>

1962 Corvaire brochure:

<http://www.oldcarmanualproject.com/brochures/Chev/1962/Corvaire/index.htm>

A picture review of the Corvaire:

<http://oldcarandtruckpictures.com/Corvaire/>

## Next Meeting:

Date: Friday, October 21, 2011

Time: 7:00 pm

Place: Fullness Christian Fellowship.

**ATTENTION:** There are still issues with the I-65 construction. The I-459 to I-65 North ramp is now closed (I-459 Exit 15) and the I-65 to Hwy 31 off ramp is also closed (I-65 Exit 252).

If you are coming in on I-459 South, use Exit 13B. Turn right on Hwy 31 and go back towards I-65. When approaching the I-65 underpass, get in the left lane for the left turn on to Columbiana just past the underpass.

If you are coming north on I-65, get on I-459 South as described above, or go to Exit 255 and turn right on Lakeshore Pkwy. Turn right at the first light, Columbiana. Go approx. 2.1 miles, the church will be on the right.

Holiday kind of driving at Corvair's lowest price

For easy-to-drive economy, the 500 Club Coupe comes with the lowest price of all Corvairs, has all the basic Chevy Corvair advantages. But this is no stripped-down skeleton. Rich new colors and luxurious new patterns decorate 500 Club Coupe interiors for 1962. There are new comfort conveniences, too. Notably, front door armrests, dual sun shades and cigarette lighter—all of them standard equipment. And there's a new automatic choke (yours in every Chevy Corvair) for balanced fuel mixture at all temperatures.

## Corvair 500 Club Coupe

Shown below: Corvair 500 Club Coupe in Hingham, Mass.



### **Cruise-In Locations (Updated 7-20-11)**

Most of these run from April through October, starting around 5 pm.

#### **1<sup>st</sup> Friday**

Gadsden, AL. Broad Street, downtown, 7:00 pm

#### **1<sup>st</sup> Saturday**

Alabaster, AL. DQ in Walmart shopping center

Hanceville, AL. 6-9pm; August; Across from Wallace State.

Hoover, AL. 9am to noon; Krispy Kreme

Odenville, AL. Piggly Wiggly

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> Friday**

Pelham, AL. What-a-burger

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday**

Clanton, AL. 6-10pm, Downtown; call 205-755-3164

Hueytown, AL. Walmart

Moody, AL. Bernetti's Ice Cream Parlor 231 Moody Pkway.

Pell City, AL. Jacks, near Hwy 78 and 231

McCalla, AL. Target parking lot in Colonial Promenade shopping center.

Opelika, AL. Home Depot Tiger Town

#### **3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday**

Argo, AL. Drive In Theater, call 205-467-3434 for times.

Dothan, AL. Southside Sonic Drive In.

Hoover, AL. 6-9pm Krispy Kreme

Munford, AL. Big Daddy's BBQ, Hwy 21

Pelham, AL. 5-8pm, Pelham Town Center (Publix & Johnny Ray's); Tank Farm exit.

Pinson, AL. North Park Church on Deerfoot Prkwy

#### **4<sup>th</sup> Friday**

Talladega, AL. 5:30-8:30 pm. McDonald's 110 Haynes St.

#### **4<sup>th</sup> Saturday**

Gardendale, AL. 5-9 pm Ashley Furniture parking lot. Exit 165

Sylacauga, AL. Home Depot parking lot

Fultondale, AL. Target, exit 267

Gadsden, AL. Ryan's Family Steakhouse, call 256-492-2950

## September VCE Meeting Minutes

The September VCE meeting was called to order by President Richard Stolzman with 15 adults and 1 child in attendance. The evening was started with the usual delicious potluck supper provided by club members. Just as all were seated, in walked Bob and Wilma Seimens. It was great to see them, after a lengthy absence.

Harold Hartline held a quick tech session about ING SW and A/C valves. With input from Richard about his LED tail and back up lights.

Discussion was held on charging full membership dues to receive the Oil Drop. It was motioned to charge everyone the \$20 membership fee, if they get the newsletter through snail mail or email.

UPCOMING EVENTS - Talledega Open is the first weekend in November for TEST & TUNE. Call Bill Cannon for more info.

The Lineville show will be held the first Sunday in November. There is anticipated to be over 900 cars of all makes and models there this year.

There was a motion to adjourn.



### **Upcoming Events!**

#### **Oct. 15 Ohatchee Fest 2011 Open Car Show**

8:00 am to 1:00 pm, Janney Furnace park in Ohatchee, AL. Registration \$15.00.

#### **Oct. 15 Bugs N Brats Car Show and BBQ**

Starts at 10:00 am. Sponsored by AirKooled Kustoms 180 Pauline Dr. Hazel Green, AL. 35750 Free.

<http://airkooledkustoms.com/brats.html>

#### **Nov. 4-6 Corvair Affair – St. Augustine, FL.**

Central FL. Corvairs, Fri. nite dinner, valve cover racing, vendors. Sat. car display, vendors & hospitality. Sat. afternoon autocross @ First Coast Tech. Institute. Sun. morning rally followed by awards brunch. Comfort Inn & Suites, 877-940-9501, \$79/nite. Sarah Beltrami, 12 Pine Trail, Ormond Beach, FL. 32174, 386-256-0399

[sarahvair@cfl.rr.com](mailto:sarahvair@cfl.rr.com)

#### **Nov. 6 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Clay Cty Car Show**

9 am to 4 pm, Lineville Recreation Park on Hwy 9, Lineville, AL. Contact: Bob Steele 256-396-2058

<http://claycochamber.com/24th-annual-alcarzar-car-show-lineville-alabama>

**From the Editor:**

OK, so you've taken the Vair to the grocery store. You come out with your groceries to find a woman standing behind your car talking on her cell phone and casting furtive glances back towards the store. You don't see any sign of a parking lot collision, but there is still that uneasy feeling that something might be terribly wrong.

As you approach, the woman says to her phone, "I think this is the guy that owns the car, let me find out and I'll call you back." Then she hangs up and asks if you are the owner of the Corvaair.

I say yes and she asks if it is a '66 Monza. Impressed that a girl would know this, I say yes again. She doesn't seem to be a grocery store parking lot axe murderer, and there is no damage to the car, so things are looking up.

She then tells me that she shot video of the car with her phone and sent it to her dad, then called him to see if he was on line and could watch it. Her dad was now in a nursing home and wanted to talk to me about my car, would I mind? I didn't have any perishables in my groceries, so I said sure, I'd visit with him a little. When he answered, he related a short history about his '66. He had bought a new yellow '66 Monza convertible the year his daughter was born. He had the car quite a few years and both she and her younger sister had driven it to high school. He had sold the car when it became too difficult to find someone to work on it. We visited about 10 minutes, him looking at the video on line and me answering questions about where I got it, what I'd done with it, the usual questions car guys ask each other.

I gave her back the phone and she thanked me for talking with her dad, and thanked me for bringing my car to the store so she could see it. It had brought back a lot of memories for them both. I never got his or her name; I never think to ask that when talking about a Corvaair. The people are just Corvaair nuts like me, and that's good enough.

Take care, drive safe and GET THAT CORVAIR OUT THERE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

- John -

**Birthdays**

- Jewel Hinkle - Oct. 1
- Shawn Cannon - Oct. 10
- Rozelle Doughty - Oct. 10
- Debbie Noble - Oct. 14
- Steve Daniels - Oct. 24
- Harold Hartline - Oct. 27

**Anniversaries**

- Steve & Sherri Daniels - Oct. 18
- Richard & Sandy Stolzmann - Oct. 20
- Billy & Judi Cannon - Oct. 30

Send Oil Drop submissions to:

[John.C.Cleveland@ElPaso.com](mailto:John.C.Cleveland@ElPaso.com)

Office - 205-325-7654

Cell - 205-834-3120

**NOTE: PLEASE SEND SUBMISSIONS NO LATER THAN THE 25<sup>TH</sup> OF THE MONTH.**



# The Preventive Maintenance Series

by Mike Dawson

(Reprinted from the July Heart of America Vaircor newsletter)

1. An over full reading on the fuel gage can be caused by a loose or broken ground wire on the outside of the sending unit. It can also be the connector behind the center defroster duct on a late model or in the sending unit itself on any vehicle.
2. Check the outside diameter of your generator/alternator pulley. It must be exactly 3 inches. Anything more or less will cause your belt to operate at the wrong angles; pulleys get changed during rebuilding. Also, remember that the belt should be 56" by 3/8" to match the original. (3V560 from Gates). The actual belt length of a GM belt was 55 3/4". Check your fan hub installation by putting a straightedge on top of the fan pulley and measuring down to the top of the head next to the carburetor – it should be exactly 6".
3. A brake pedal that gives the sensation of slowly going to the floor at a stop is a bad master cylinder internal seal (unless you have a leak somewhere). Change it soon - they will fail. If you bench bleed a replacement, you can bolt it on, pump it a couple of times and you are done.
4. Valve lifter noise: starting up a cold Corvair engine and quickly shutting it off will almost guarantee lifter noise after the second or third time. Lifter noise cold that goes away hot is not an adjustment problem. Lifter noise that only shows up when the engine is hot probably requires adjustment. A lifter that is adjusted too tight will hold a valve open when cold but work properly when hot. A bad exhaust guide will make an almost metallic noise that imitates a lifter and can change as you adjust the valve.
5. Pull the rear lower seat on late models and check the accelerator pivot welded bolt. Many have rusted badly from water in the depression.
6. Don't use car covers outside in Missouri and Kansas humidity – terminal mildew and rusted brake lines will be the result.
7. Blowing automatic transmission fluid out of the vent after high speed on the highway is probably caused by high temperature and cheap fluid (as well as internal clearances). Install a drain plug in the torque converter and replace all of the fluid with synthetic. It has a higher boiling point and may cure the problem.
8. A battery will only have 30% of its cranking power at zero degrees. Take a battery inside overnight and notice the wonderful difference. Check cranking with a voltmeter, the reading should always be above 9.6 (Corvairs should be over 10). Engines crank slow in extreme weather because of the battery, not the oil (unless it is dirty).
9. Only use the brand of winter gas treatment that contains isopropyl alcohol. Read the label. The yellow bottle of HEET is worthless, use the red (Iso-HEET) product. It costs more but you get what you pay for. (See photo below.)
10. Do not use starting fluid, the accompanying knocking noise is trying to break your top piston rings and loosen the intake seats. Spray carburetor cleaner is a better choice.

More next month!

Russ Thuleen's convertible top installation. Starring Russ, Harold and Richard!



*Vulcan Corvair Enthusiasts, a chapter of the Corvair Society of America, is a non-profit club dedicated to the preservation and restoration of the Corvair automobile.*

*VCE dues of \$20/year pay for a family membership and 12 issues of the Oil Drop Newsletter.*

*President: Richard Stoltzmann  
205/467-6444*

*Vice President: Pete Wood  
205/956-6832*

*Secretary: Russ Thuleen  
205/678-7979*

*Newsletter: John Cleveland  
205/834-3120*

*Treasurer: Joe Doughty  
205/995-0131*

*Hospitality: Harold Hartline*

*Arrangements: Jewel Hinkle*

*Web: <http://www.corvair.org/chapters/chapter352/>*



*The 'new car' smell doesn't come back  
at 000000!*

**Vulcan Corvair Enthusiasts  
147 Crossbrook Dr.  
Chelsea, AL. 35043**

