

# The Denver News

Volume 44, Issue 12

December 2018



Larry Yoder's 65 Monza

## Presidents Column Dec. 2018

Hello Members of the RMC!

I hope everyone had a safe and happy Thanksgiving! I enjoyed the day cooking the traditional turkey dinner and celebrating with the family down in Castle Rock. It's always a good time to catch up, play games, and just enjoy each other's company.

December brings with it a variety of holiday celebrations, and just as many opportunities for us to get our Corvairs out on the road, "just one more time", before the chilly January/February Winter weather sets in for good.

We have our Christmas Party on December 15th over at Mimi's, so that promises to be a great day for the Club. Don't forget to bring a gift to participate in the Yankee Gift Exchange, and, also a new, unwrapped toy in support of our annual Toys for Tots collection drive.

As we wrap up 2018, I wanted to once again thank the various Officers and volunteers who served the Club during the year. Without folks stepping up, and taking a leadership role, this Club would go the way of many others we've seen fold, due to a lack of interest, and support. I'm

## APPRECIATING CORSA

Jim Pittman

I was notified by email that the latest Communique was available for download and today I downloaded it. I was blown away by the convention coverage. Great articles and photos of people and cars! The new Communique staff did an excellent job. And, by extension, what a wonderful job was done by all of those who organized and participated in the 2018 convention!

My first thought was, what rare and outstanding organizations Corvair people have available to them at this time in history, fifty-nine years after the introduction of the Corvair for sale to the public, and some fifty years since we could have gone down to our Chevrolet dealer and ordered a new Corvair.

As the years go by, Corvairs are lost here and there by accidents, extreme modifiers, lack of parts, rust, wear and just plain neglect, and there will never be any more new Corvairs, ever. Yet there are scores of Corvair clubs, people still proudly drive and show their Corvairs, there are dozens of quality web pages and newsletters for their owners. And we all have an international

*Continued on page 2*

very happy to say that for 2019, we have a whole slate of folks who have volunteered to keep the train moving. Many of those folks are taking on their roles for the very first time, and we greatly appreciate their commitment to the Club.

I hope you all have a joyful holiday season with friends and family, celebrating whatever tradition is near and dear to your heart. Stay warm out there, take care of your cars, and take care of each other.

Drive Safe!

Ed



"mother ship" known as CORSA that publishes a quality magazine and supports all Corvair owners in many ways, not least with annual conventions and support for local club events.

Technology may be changing faster than any of us can keep up. Yet here in 2018 we still have enthusiastic Corvair owners, an array of local Corvair clubs and a superb international group to help them.

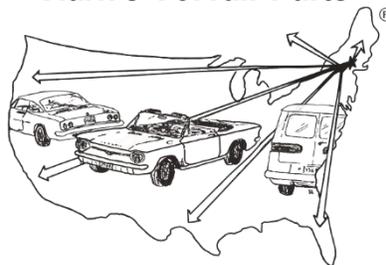
Is this a series of small and large modern-day miracles or what? We are all getting older, Corvairs are getting fewer, our environment is changing in ways we do not understand, can't control and can barely cope with. But we Corvair people have a rare cohort of like-minded people who can share our enjoyment of our truly unique and yet still accessible automobiles.

There will never be another decade like the 1960s in America, there will never be another ecosystem of cars, roads and driving experiences such as existed in late twentieth century America, and there will never be new cars anything like Corvairs, but somehow this remarkable time and place is still going on, and we are still living in it.

Corvairs, but somehow this remarkable time and place is still going on, and we are still living in it.

So, here's my thanks to Corvair owners, club supporters, event organizers, club officers, newsletters editors, and most of all to the great people who make up the Corvair Society of America

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## A TACTful Sunday

Gail Levin

RMC was fortunate to be contacted by “Teaching The Autism Community Trades” (TACT) with an invitation/request to visit students and staff at their auto-body facility at 8<sup>th</sup> and Federal in Denver on Sunday, November 4 from 1:00 – 3:00. TACT is an award winning organization that provides trade and technical skills to children and young adults and families living with autism. The staff was hoping for a small group from RMC to drive over in our Corvairs to visit with autistic students who are working on a Corvair in their shop.

Our little group included Rick Beets, Ken Schiffner, Chris Kimberly, Ed Halpin, Dusty Dodge, and Kory and Gail Levin. We had a good mix of Early and Late Corvairs for the students to look over. We parked in their auto-body lot and were greeted by CEO Danny Combs and Program Director Becky Mershon who were very welcoming. The staff, especially the auto-body teacher, were also very welcoming and grateful that we responded to their invitation. The students were excited to see more Corvairs in one place than they had ever seen before! We spent at least half an hour in the parking lot mixing with the TACT group, they perusing our vehicles and we perusing theirs! They have several autos they use for transporting the students, and a big favorite is a 1963 Greenbriar, bright red with white and really nice! While we enjoyed discussing that vehicle with the group, the students were choosing their favorites from the RMC vehicles.

We all went in to the TACT shop to see the students’ project cars. They were working on the engine of a very nice looking 1961 Corvair Monza, 2-door powerglide. The body and the interior of the car looked ready to roll, but the engine was a work in progress. The car was up on a hoist, so with some members of RMC and some of the students under the car as well as up on the hoist, the search for solutions was begun. A great deal of conversational exchange was had between the TACT group and the RMC group, and some brainstorming led to ideas for getting that engine running. Tools in hand, some RMC members joined some of the students and got to work. Ed offered to reach out to PPCC and RMC members in an effort to run down a couple of parts that might help the TACT students reach their goal of a fully functioning machine.

Last we heard, they got the engine started....Progress! . It was gratifying to see RMC members helping this group, and it was an honor to be given just this little bit of firsthand experience with the students, some of their very special family members, and the terrific staff members of the program for a few hours on a very TACTful Sunday.



## Being Human

Ken Schifftner

Some folks call their Corvairs "Time Machines". I know I get that feeling every time I drive mine. Doing so brings back memories. It also shows me how times have changed and how the separation between driver and vehicle has increased.

For example, when I listen to my radio (AM only) and my ears detect that the signal is weak, I move my hand over to the tuning knob and give it a few twists until the signal sounds better. If my ears detect little or no improvement, I go to another, hopefully better, station. With a "modern" radio, the signal seeking circuits do that for me. Lacking stereo on my AM, I don't have to worry if the signal is mono or not. I know mono is all I can get much like in the '60's. With a modern radio, often a little light illuminates telling me what my ears already know, "Stereo" or not. It is as if the radio doesn't trust my ears. The radio must think I'm dumb.



Then there is the seat adjuster. If I'm too close (or too far) from the steering wheel, I

just reach down and move the little seat adjustment lever (below). A push or pull on the seat here and there and, like a miracle, the position is adjusted. No motors, sensors, wiring, etc. Just me doing a little thinking and then applying some muscle. On some modern vehicles, sensors and motors move the seat electrically into a new or even memorized position. Heck, to further reduce thinking, various positions can be programmed. One only needs to enter and sit. Does the seat think I can't do this myself? The heater controls are another connection I make directly with my Corvair. Too cold? Assuming the engine is warm enough, my brain tells me if I'm too hot or too cold and I just slide the "Heat" control. Most humans can do this.



Too hot or not enough outside air? I just move the kick panel vent control (below). On a modern vehicle, sensors, wiring, motors, etc. do this for me. In the Corvair, if a front seat passenger would like more air, I just point out the kick panel control on their side. Most humans know "push-pull" to make the adjustment. If they are too cold, however, I'm in control of the Heat regulator (unless the passenger has very long arms). Ask politely and I'll oblige the adjustment. Many modern vehicles have "comfort" controls for both passenger and driver. No need to talk, the vehicle will control.

How 'bout the rear-view mirror. If my eyes look into the mirror and are partially blinded by the high beams of the driver behind me, my brain tells my hand to reach up and flick the little lever that tilts the mirror. On some new vehicles, that happens automatically. No human intervention needed, or apparently wanted.



On my water pumper, there are sensors attached internally to the wheels that sense tire pressure. A little light illuminates on the dashboard to tell me if I have low tire pressure (even for the spare tire). With my Corvair I have a tire pressure gauge (value: about \$2.00) that rattles in the glove box. My human brain tells me that every now and then I should check the tire pressure and check the tire condition. On the "modern" vehicle, I don't think about pressure or tire condition until the little light reminds me. And finally, with the Corvair, we have manual steering. You can actually "feel" the road. On modern vehicles, the steering is likely to be power assisted. In a Corvair, the amount of "assist" is brain and muscle controlled. I like that.

Yes, the Corvair can be a "Time Machine". Over time, devices have replaced what we used to do for ourselves using our brains and muscles. Driving the Corvair reminds me that I am human.

## Upcoming events December 2018

**The 2018 RMC Christmas Party Saturday, December 15** at Mimi's Café. RMC & PCC members are invited and will hopefully join in the festivities. Mimi's "The Lodge Room" is ours from 1:00 p.m. until 4:30 p.m.

**Location:** Mimi's Cafe' The Lodge Room 205 S. Abilene Aurora, Colorado

We will order from the large restaurant menu and pay individually. The menu is online if you'd like to review it ahead of arriving. RMC's treasury will provide one drink for everyone in attendance. You will receive a ticket for that drink when you arrive, and please present that ticket to a server when you place your order, alcohol or soft drink.

We will do a Yankee gift exchange after lunch. You will receive a number for participation. If you want to participate, bring a gift in the \$20.00 area and tag it for guys, gals, or either. The gift exchange is lots of fun as we "steal" gifts from each other!

If you feel generous for the holiday season, we have an opportunity for you. We will collect toys for the Toys For Tots program and deliver those for our group. There will hopefully be a box provided for the donations we bring. **THE TOYS MUST BE UNWRAPPED IN THEIR UNOPENED PACKAGES**, so that the Toys For Tots volunteers can sort them into age-groups for distribution. We have word that toys for the 10-13 year old kids are always in demand as those types of gift donations tend to fall behind.

### **New Years Day Brunch in Estes Park January 1<sup>st</sup> 11:00 AM**

Some folks had asked about pricing for the younger folks at our annual New Years Day gathering up at Estes Park at 11am on Tuesday, Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Adults** - \$25 per person (includes buffet, champagne, tax, and tip)

**Children** (12 and younger) - \$15 per person (includes buffet, tax, and tip)

A reminder, the above Adult price does not include Wine, Beer, or any other alcoholic beverage

Please bring payment in the form of cash, or check, to our Treasurer, John Dinsdale, at the December business meeting on 12/7/18. If you are unable to attend that meeting, please mail payment, prior to 12/25/18, in the form of a check, to John at the following address: RMC, ATTN: Treasurer, 3240 Billings Street, Aurora, CO 80011-2231



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## A Scary Good Time for the RMC Up At Buckley Air Force Base

Ed Halpin

On October 27th, several members of the Rocky Mountain CORSA (RMC) Corvair Club joined forces with the Buckley Air Force Base Youth Center, in support of their annual "Trunk or Treat" Halloween celebration at the base in Aurora.

We were made aware of this event through the Collector Car Council of Colorado (CCCC), and it sounded like a good time. Classis cars, costumes, candy, and kids; A great combination for holiday fun!!



Ed Halpin built a coffin into the back of his 62 Monza

The group met up at the Main Gate of Buckley, just before 5pm, as folks needed to be signed on to the base and escorted over to the event. I drove my '62 Monza Wagon, and was joined by Kelina & Shelley Halpin in their '60 Monza Coupe, Tony & Diane Lawler in their '64 Spyder Coupe, Mike Piper in his '65 Convertible. Cheryl Halpin and grandson Gabe also made the drive, but chose an X Brand for the ride up.

The Youth Center staff guided us into our parking area, and after getting the cars decorated, we had a chance to check out all of the displays. Several of the decorations and displays were really elaborate, and it was clear that some folks take the Best Display contest pretty serious.



Tony & Diane Lawler dressed up as a Swashbuckling Pirate and a Pretty Witch.

Over the next couple hours, we literally had a thousand kids and parents come through the parking lot displays! There lots of superheros, skeletons, princesses, and even a couple big old dinosaurs. The Youth Center provided bags and bags of candy for us all to hand out, and when it was all over with, the only thing we had left was a half a bag of Skittles which Mike Piper passed on to me, after taking his share of the bag for some on the road snacks.

This event was a lot of fun, and a great opportunity for us to get the cars out and support the community. We're looking forward to doing it again next year!



Picture left) Kelina Halpin dressed as Queen Elsa from the Disney movie Frozen drove her 1960 Monza Coupe. Riding with her was her sister Shelley, who dressed up as Cinderella. After almost 60 years, the Roman Red paint on the Coupe looks almost orange in color, so they decorated the car as a pumpkin, an appropriate choice of transportation for a couple of princesses.

(Picture below) Mike Piper fully committed to his display, removing the right front tire and placing a dummy pair of legs under the front of the car, giving the appearance that the car had fallen down on to the mechanic. Some additional parts strewn around the front of the car, and Mike decked out as a creepy mechanic.



(Picture left) At the end of the event, Mike's efforts were recognized when he received the 2nd Place award for Best Display! Congrats Mike!

## Some pictures taken after the November 2<sup>nd</sup> RMC meeting

Paul Seyforth



At left is Carron Wetters with her 'new' car, a 1961 Monza coupe. Carron reports that Steve Goodman suggested she should call a customer of his with a 1961 coupe for sale. Steve had worked on it through the years. 'It was a one family owned car and was within the budget so I bought it. Jimmy had to fix a small fuel leak and the car runs good. Waiting to put new tires on it now.'

The yellow early coupe belongs to Tony Lawler, or new member ship chair. It is a 64 Spyder with a 140 hp engine fitted with a turbo charger. He also has a 1967 Monza convert. He and Rick Beets just purchased another 64 Spyder project car. More on that car in a later issue.



Ed Halpin and his 1960 Monza coupe. This was Ed's first Corvair project. He has also purchased a 1967 Monza sedan that he restored, and just recently purchased a 62 Lakewood wagon that he is working on.



**Rocky Mountain Corsa** (RMC) has been a chartered chapter of the Corvair Society of America (CORSA) since October 1974 and is dedicated to the preservation and enjoyment of Corvair automobiles.

**The Denvair News** is a monthly publication for members and affiliates of Rocky Mountain Corsa. The Denvair News is now available as a PDF by request to the Editor.

**Editorial Contributions** We encourage your participation! Please forward stories, ideas, jokes, recipes, and/or photos to the Editor. Content must be received by the 15th of the month prior to the desired publication month. Electronic files are *mucho* preferred.

**Classified Ads** Individual RMC member ads are free. Classified ads are limited to 25 words and may include a photo. All ads will run for three issues. Non-members may advertise for \$10.00. Please submit ads to the Editor, with payment due in advance to the Treasurer. Please make checks out to RMC.

**Business Advertising** Commercial advertisers are welcome. The following per-issue rates apply:

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½ page – \$10.00

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### **RMC Merchandise**

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RMC

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Lakewood, CO 80227-0058

**Web Site:** [www.rockymountaincorsa.org](http://www.rockymountaincorsa.org)

### **Membership & Dues**

Rocky Mountain Corsa annual dues are \$25.00, due each year by February 10. Checks should be payable to RMC, mailed to: *RMC, c/o John Dinsdale, 3240 Billings St., Aurora, CO 80011-2231*

### **Monthly Meeting**

RMC holds meetings the 1st Friday of each month at our host dealership, Elway Chevrolet, 5200 South Broadway in Englewood. Join us at 7:00 PM in the upstairs meeting room.

### **RMC Officers**

**President:** Ed Halpin

[prez@rockymountaincorsa.org](mailto:prez@rockymountaincorsa.org)

303 619-0080

**Vice President:** Mike Piper

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**Secretary:** Rob Brereton

[sec@rockymountaincorsa.org](mailto:sec@rockymountaincorsa.org)

**Treasurer:** John Dinsdale

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**Historian:** Steve Goodman

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**Newsletter Editor:** Paul Seyforth

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**Activities Director:** Steve Goodman

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**Membership Chair:** Tony Lawler

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**Webmaster:** Dale Nielsen

[webmaster@rockymountaincorsa.org](mailto:webmaster@rockymountaincorsa.org)

**Car Council Rep:** Rick Beets

**Meeting Date:** November 2, 2018

**Called to Order:** 7:00 pm

**Location:** Elway Chevrolet

**# Present:** 24

Guests, long distance, new members: Mike Timmons was present, with new late sedan. New member Bruce Parizek was present.

**Standard Business:**

Minutes from past meeting: The October minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report: The correct end of September balance was \$6,127.13, not \$6,172.13 as reported last month. The end of October balance was \$6,194.13. Treasurer's report was approved.

**Mailbag:** Nothing of consequence.

**Old Business:**

- Cruise event report: On Sunday Oct 7, 14 participants in 8 Corvairs met for lunch at the High Plains Diner in Bennett. The event was billed as rain or shine, and was definitely not shine. Melissa Klomp had arranged this as a show and lunch, and Ray Klomp relayed from Melissa to Steve Goodman that many came by to see the cars despite weather while the party was dining.
- Mike Piper reported that his car was due today but is still in the shop after the underside damage. The estimate was \$7,300.
- Ed Halpin reported on the Trunk-er-Treat at Buckley. Ed brought his wagon with a coffin. Kelly brought the '60, turned into a pumpkin. The Lawlers also were there. Mike Piper got 2<sup>nd</sup> prize for display, with wheel off and stuffed pants under car dressed as a mechanic.
- Steve Goodman spoke about rescheduling the Northern CO event. Jim Reich proposed next Sunday, but John Drage can't do it for medical reason. It has been put off until spring. Steve is planning a Corvairs and Cheeseburgers event at Westwood Inn for Sunday the 11<sup>th</sup>, watch for details on the RMC list.
- Steve reported on the New Year's Day Brunch, 11am. There will be a story for Dec newsletter about it. Drive your Corvair! Price \$25 includes buffet, tip, tax, and champagne. Other alcoholic beverages are not included. Pre-pay by Christmas day.
- The Levins reported the Holiday Party will be Dec 15, 1:00-4:30. There will be a gift exchange, \$20 or less wrapped and marked as His, Hers or Either. Also bring new unwrapped toys for Toys for Tots Denver. See newsletter for more details.
- A Hemmings newsletter article on unit body construction was discussed, pre-Corvair. Copies on front table.
- Rob Brereton reported that follow up with Jeffco Schools transportation center (for parking lot rental for autocross or other moving event) determined that they would ensure the lot was clear of cars, and would allow an alternate date (in event of weather). A change by Douglas County Schools to not clear the lot at a high school resulted in our inability to use that venue, but that will not be a problem at this location.
- The Bylaw first and second readings were held by email. Rob Brereton asked about rationale for lifetime member addition; it was added at 1<sup>st</sup> reading after finding it in other Bylaws as a way to honor long-time members. Larry Schubert, had comments as follows: Why restrict lifetime members from holding office? No reason, strike. On duties of Officers section, VP coordinates insurance but recent correspondence indicated no insurance for competitive events available. Need to research, but no change to Bylaws as result. The secretary is tasked with checking the PO box; but has not been the one to do. Responsibility resides with Secretary but can be delegated. No change to Bylaws. In financial rules #1, how to reapply for membership in club? Application is on website. No change to Bylaws. Under business advertising, address is the current Treasurer's home. This will be corrected to club PO box. In past, the PO box used to change with every Treasurer, but it has been left the same at last change consistency and is currently checked by Steve Goodman. Under Publication and Branding, spell out Vice President. Change will be made. On business card, Rob Brereton suggested corrections to title case in top lines, and "CO" vs "Co." in address. Will be changed. Paul Seyforth moved to approve corrected Bylaws. John Dinsdale seconded. Motion passed membership vote so Bylaws were ratified November 2. Corrected copy will be sent out.
- It was noted during officer nomination that there is no job description for new position "Member at Large." The description of representing the membership was discussed. It was moved and seconded and a vote passed to amend Bylaws to add a job description for Member at Large, resulting in the shortest lifespan of Bylaws without a revision ever seen. This change will be included in corrected version of Bylaws to be sent out.
- Second call for nominations for elected positions was held, adding Member at Large position. Nominations are as follows:

President	Ed Halpin	Vice President	Mike Piper
Secretary	Rob Brereton	Treasurer	John Dinsdale
	Member at Large	Ken Schiffner	
- Motion was made and seconded to close out nominations and accept the slate of nominees now instead of at December meeting, due to no opposition in each role. Motion passed a vote of the membership.

**New Business:**

- Laura Wilshire sent a proposal to discuss a monetary donation to CPF—the Corvair Preservation Fund. The needs of the Museum were discussed. Ken Schiffner spoke on behalf of CPF and that they are appreciative of the support. Larry Schubert moved we make a one-time \$500 donation. Paul Seyforth seconded the motion. There was discussion of the allowable maximum balance for our organization classification. John Dinsdale indicated there is no known maximum balance requirement. John estimate \$3,000 needed to sustain the club, a bit more for Tri-State years. Motion passed a vote of membership.
- Ed proposed a discussion of membership in Collector Car Council of Colorado (CCCC). Cost is \$50 + \$4 per CO based member. Total is estimated at \$306 this year. Perks for members include access to SEMA show in Las Vegas and a 10% discount from several collector insurance companies. Tony Lawler moved and Rob Brereton seconded funding a 1-year membership starting Jan 2019. Meetings are held the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday each month, location varies but frequently at the Forney Museum. Rick Beets volunteered to be CCCC representative. Dale Nielsen will add this role to list of contacts on website.
- Tech Session Ideas were solicited. Previously listed were rack & pinion steering, airbag suspension. New ideas were fender rolling, paint maintenance, gas heaters, convertible top adjustment. Education ideas to benefit new members should include brakes, junkyard etiquette, tuneups, carb synchronization.
- 3 new Corvair owners were present tonight. Caron Wetter has a '61 coupe, red on red, here tonight. Tony Lawler and Rick Beets bought a car for autocross / racing events: '64 Spyder coupe, red on tan, 180 turbo, with 1 bad head. Mike Timmons has his new 4 door LM running and here after a trailer ride due to a float valve seat backing out.
- Ed Halpin brought a front wheel bearing cover and discussed the speedo drive in the middle and the purpose of the adjacent brass part, which is for grounding / magnetic field suppression.

Upcoming Events:

Dec 7 (Fri)	Corvair Meeting at Elway Chevrolet
Dec 15 (Sat)	Holiday Party, Mimi's Café, Aurora, 1-4:30
Jan 1 (Tue)	The Other Side, New Year's brunch, 11:00
June 28-30	Tri-State, Ouray CO

**50/50 Raffle:** Amount to Club: \$50 To Winner: \$50 Winner: Rick Beets

**Adjourned:** 8:52 pm **Respectfully Submitted by:** Rob Brereton

