

# *The Denver News*

Volume 46 Issue 2

February 2020



John Dinsdale's 66 Sedan at the Estes Park Resort



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## News Years Brunch up in Estes Park

The trip up to Estes Park was easy this year. Weather was good and road construction was at a minimum. Even Highway 34 construction was finished thru Big Thompson canyon which made for a really scenic drive. The Estes Park Resort was situated on Estes lake so the club a great view while eating breakfast. While the venue was outstanding the menu was a little less than what we were used to at the Other side restaurant. However, the good company of the 41 RMC members is what really mattered. Everyone had a great time.

The RMC central group; Kory Levin, Howard & Tess Steward, Maxine Seyforth, Rick Beets, Caron Wetter and Jimmy Riley



Left; The northern group; Carolyn Taylor, John & Sandy Drage, Jean Olwine, Dave & Brenna Olwine and Chuck Riblett.

Right: The Dinsdale clan; Clockwise from Debbie, Carrie Parker, Brian Dinsdale, Emma, Zak, Aaron Dinsdale, Shannon, Brooklyn, Keason and Andrew.



## Estes Park brunch Continued



Left: the Brereton family; Rob, Tricia, Natalie and Melissa and Taylor Wallace

The catch'um-while-you-can group: Eric & Linae Schakel, Jeff & Lisa Romeo. I think these folks spent New Years eve at the resort. Great way to avoid the early morning traffic on Hwy 36.



Left: A very pretty late model sedan made the trip up to Estes Park. Not sure of the owner but my best guess is that it belongs to Dave Olwine.

# Presidents Column

Rick Beets

Welcome to February!

It was wonderful to see all that attended the annual New Year's brunch in Estes Park at the Estes Park Resort. Our room on the mezzanine overlooked Estes Lake. Other than the wind, everyone seemed to have a good time. The food was excellent, and we hope to return for New Years 2021. Thanks again to Chris, Steve, and the Schakels for pulling the proverbial rabbit out of the hat when our traditional spot, The Other Place, closed with no advanced notice.



As most of you are aware, we've moved to annual membership renewal last year and it appears to be working out very well for everyone. To those who have renewed, you have our thanks for your continued support in RMC. For those who have not, please get your renewal fee of \$25 to John Dinsdale by the end of February. For those of you that are on the fence about renewing, I would encourage you to take the plunge and join us again this year. By returning to some venerable traditions and adding some changes to engage more members, hopefully you'll be glad you did.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the next meeting at John Elway Chevrolet Friday February 7<sup>th</sup>. While there seems to be a consensus in keeping the monthly meetings at the traditional location at John Elway Chevrolet in Englewood, I'd like to hold more events up north to keep our northern members better engaged and up to date in club activities. So here's what I'm thinking, that we hold a breakfast or lunch get together up in the Dacono, Firestone, Longmont area the day or so after our regular club meeting. Maybe not every month, but I'd like to see them held on a regular basis starting in March. With that said, I'm looking for suggestions for places/times to meet, please reach out to me at [prez@rockymountaincorsa.org](mailto:prez@rockymountaincorsa.org) if you have any recommendations.

I'd also love to hear about more events north of Denver our northern members think RMC should be involved in for this year so we can get them to Jimmy and Caron our activity co-chairs so they can get them on the club's calendar and Dale, our webmaster, can add to the website.

Rick

# *RMC Club News February 2020*

The RMC club held it's first meeting on January 3<sup>rd</sup> at John Elway Chevrolet, Rick Beets presiding. The meeting went very well with some 35 members attending. Jimmy Riley and Caron Wetter and the Levins provided refreshments. The club decided that some form of refreshments would be provided at future meetings. The Schakels volunteered refreshments for February, Dale Nielsen for March and the Gerteisens & Duncans would provide in April. See the minutes for more detail.

The next meeting will be February 7<sup>th</sup>, 7:00PM at John Elway Chevrolet, 6200 S. Broadway

## **The following is a rough outline for RMC sponsored events in 2020.**

Provided by Caron Wetter. Details will follow.

**April 18<sup>th</sup> Saturday, School of Mines Car Show.** RMC has supported this event for years. No details have been decided yet but stay tuned.

**April 24<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> RMVR annual drivers school,** Pikes Peak Raceway Fountain, CO

**May 3<sup>rd</sup>, Sunday Tri- State tune up** at the Schakle's spread. Eric and Linae have agreed to host this event again.

**May 15<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> Tri-State Meet** in Albuquerque, NM. Hosted by the New Mexico club.

**July 6<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> CORSA National Convention,** Crown Plaza in San Diego, CA.

**August 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> High Plains Raceway Deer trail.** CO, Race against Kids Cancer.

**August 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup>, Sunday. Dale Wilshire Memorial Picnic.** Plans are to hold the picnic at Cherry Creek State Park, Dixon Grove area.

**September 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup>, Sunday. Autumn foliage tour.**

**October 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup>, Octoberfest.** Sidney, NE. Join Caron Wetter for the Saturday parade and farmers' market.

**December 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday RMC Christmas party.**

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## Corvair Racing Introduction for 2020

Eric Schakel

Hello, fellow Corvairians. As the self-appointed Chairman of Local Corvair Abuse, I'd like to take a few lines to update you on 2020 opportunities to see Yenko Stinger YS-066 and Jon Whiteley's ever-quicker 1965 "Red Racer" Corsa in action. First, though, a plug for the 2020 Rocky Mountain Vintage Racing (RMVR) Driver's School: Over the weekend of April 25-26, RMVR will conduct their annual Drivers' School event at the Pikes Peak International Raceway Over the weekend of April 25-26, RMVR will (PPIR) in Fountain, Colorado. This school has become one of the premier driving schools in the Rocky Mountain region, and is really two schools in one! Sign on for the Precision School (\$324, or sign soon for Early Bird pricing of \$299 before April 1) and learn to drive your street wheels, or reliable hobby car, at racing speeds. Or, if you wish to earn an RMVR Competition License, which is accepted by most Vintage Motoring Club organizations in North America, bring your competition vehicle with log book or tech inspection documents, and join the Competition School (\$474, or Early Bird of \$424 until April 1).

Both Schools give you a full weekend of sessions that alternate between classroom and track, and full RMVR membership for 2020. All students get course materials and a one-on-one licensed RMVR instructor to provide feedback, support, and an occasional kick in the rear, as necessary. The PPIR road course is built in the infield of the one mile NASCAR banked oval, and uses three-quarters of the oval to provide a unique, immersive track experience.

Competition students require full race safety equipment, as outlined on the RMVR web

site, [www.rmvr.com](http://www.rmvr.com). Precision student cars must pass a basic tech inspection (no clunkers!), and must have good working seat belts (OEM 3-point or better). Precision drivers need a Snell SA2010 or newer helmet (SA2015 recommended if you will be buying one), and long sleeves, pants legs, socks, and closed-toe shoes. Cotton or other non-melting fabric is strongly recommended. Corvair people, please note that this IS NOT a good event for debugging a Corvair "racer-wannabe" project car. However, I've seen pickup trucks, a 4-banger Subaru Forester AWD on all-season tires, and a Nissan Leaf electric FWD car run well in the Precision class – the driver experience is the key, not the vehicle.



Red Racer

### RMVR Race Schedule

Say you don't really want to race, but wouldn't mind watching someone else abuse Corvairs? Well, Jon Whiteley and I are ready to accommodate you! For what must be the first time in all human endeavor, both of our Corvairs are patiently sitting in their winter resting places, ready to go at the very first RMVR event of the year, aptly named **2020 Spring Grand Prix**. On the calendar for **May 9-10** at the High Plains Raceway facility near Byers, Colorado, it's a

great time to get out, clear your sinuses on the Eastern Plains, and see the Corvairs in action with the British, German, and Italian hordes before all of the silly old cars start breaking. Here's the full rundown:

- Spring Grand Prix, High Plains Raceway, May 9-10
- Thunder on the Arkansas, Pueblo Motorsports Park, June 6-7
- Race Against Kids' Cancer, High Plains Raceway, August 1-2
- Sprints + Enduro Re-Imagined, Pueblo Motorsports Park, September 19-20
- La Junta, oddly enough, in La Junta (ancient WWII airfield!), October 10-11

Guest spectators are welcomed at no cost, and you're free to wander around the pits, kibitz with the racers, and generally take in a car show where they are running and sweating, rather than sitting and shining. For more info, please visit [www.rmvr.com](http://www.rmvr.com). And as they say, "C'mon down!"

## CPF Raffle 1965 Corvair

The Corvair Preservation Foundation is holding a raffle and the lucky winner will receive a freshly-restored 1965 Corvair Monza Sport Coupe! The drawing for this car will be held May 15, 2020 in the Great State of Minnesota, USA. MN Lic.#GA19-000002. You need not be present for the drawing. The proceeds from the raffle will support the new Corvair Museum in Decatur, Illinois. • 1965 Corvair Monza Sport Coupe. • 140 hp 4-carb Super Turbo-Aire engine. Powerglide automatic transmission. • Thoroughly reconditioned throughout with new paint, upholstery and many NOS parts • Ready to drive!



**\$10 per ticket – 10 per ticket – Help support the CPF**

Tickets available online at the CORSA web site –[www.corvair.org](http://www.corvair.org)

## Well, that was weird (by Ken Schifftner)

All Tony Lawler wanted to do was put some miles on his newly rebuilt engine in his Forward Control (FC) and drive the vehicle to the annual RMC New Year's breakfast in Estes Park.

The engine was running great. Powerful and responsive. A short while from Estes Park, however, it seemed to be developing a problem. It would quit running. When running, he could only achieve about 40-50 mph on level roads. When Tony got to the breakfast, the "patient" had to be pushed to a parking spot. Tony went in for warmth, a nice breakfast, and discussion about what the problem (s) could be. Something weird was happening.

The FC was equipped with an electric fuel pump with inline filters. The pump could be heard operating and disconnecting the fuel line showed some fuel (hard to measure how much) was being delivered to the carburetors. It was surmised that somewhere, perhaps, there was some fuel restriction, so he found that a local auto supply had a new filter. After sitting, the vehicle started up and was drivable so, Tony went to get the filter. Rick Beets and this author followed. After getting the filter, the patient was running well enough that Tony decided to try to drive it home. Plus, he had to get to work.

Eventually, and slowly, he got to Michael Timmons driveway. An inspection of the engine wiring harness, in places, showed that the insulation on the wire carrying voltage to the coil had melted. The copper wire core was intact. Rick performed a voltage test with ignition on showed only about 9 volts at the + side of the coil. It should have been about 12 volts. Stripping

the harness wrapping back showed that the melting went all the way back to the multiple connector of the main harness. Unfortunately, some adjacent wires were also melted. Not good.



Tony, Rick, Michael, and Rylie

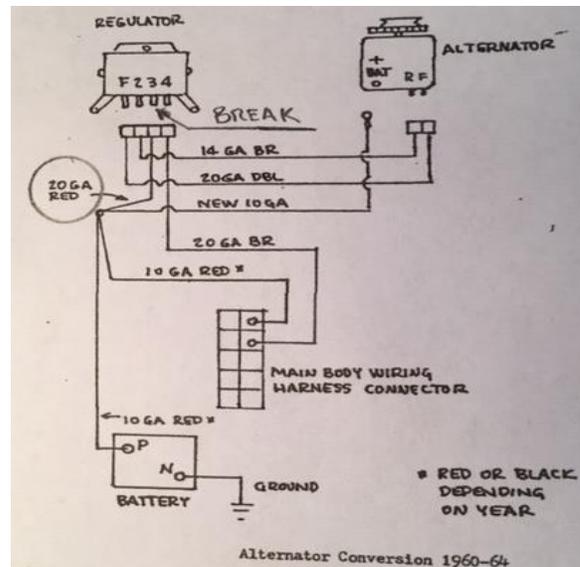
A temporary jumper wire was made to connect replace the melted wire while further inspection was conducted. Since the carburetors were getting some fuel, the focus changed to what other electrical issues could be in play. It was noticed that the points plate was not moving smoothly so the plate was removed and was lubricated. The wiring to the solenoid at starter was also inspected. More melted wires were found. Somehow the wiring that carried the voltage from the RUN terminal at the starter had shorted. Michael removed the short starter harness from his FC and swapped it with the damaged one.

Further inspection. The engine has an alternator equipped with an external voltage regulator. The previous owner had made the conversion. A broken, 20-gauge red wire was found. That wire connects using the multiple connector at the voltage

regulator. The wire is used to send a reference voltage to the alternator, a “target” in effect that tells the alternator what voltage the system must produce. The diagram by the late Bob Helt provided (see below) from the Tech Guide (Vol. 1, Electrical and Speedometer, page 4) shows how that wiring SHOULD be. Given the broken wire, it wasn’t.

That means the electric fuel pump (and ignition coil) were only seeing about 9 volts. In the RUN position, since the meager 9 volts fed through the ballast resistor the voltage dropped further, the poor coil was only seeing about 4-5 volts. That means the spark plugs were getting barely enough spark to ignite the fuel mixture. The fuel pump was also getting far less voltage to deliver the required amount of fuel at the required pressure. Fuel as moving but not enough.

Although difficult to prove, it looks at least two (2) weird things happened. A short occurred in the ignition wiring circuit and the break occurred in the red wire that regulates the alternator output. The fuel pump



underachieved, and the ignition circuit barely produced enough spark.

Tony was able to get a replacement rear wiring harness from Steve Goodman. As of this writing, repairs are being made. Most likely, though, this will not be the only “weird” challenge of 2020. And it will not be the only one that will be solved.

## One last note

If you haven’t renewed your membership in RMC be sure to send your check (for \$25) to John Dinsdale, 3240 Billings St., Aurora, CO 80011.

The membership drive is over at the end of this month.

## RMC Club Page

**Rocky Mountain Corsa** (RMC) has been a chartered chapter (#802) 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.

**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:  
Business card size – \$2.50 ¼ page – \$5.00 ½ page – \$10.00 Full page – \$20.00

### **RMC Mailing Address**

Correspondence, ads, & articles may be snail-mailed to:  
RMC PO Box 27058 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 28. Checks should be payable to RMC, mailed to: *RMC, c/o John Dinsdale, 3240 Billings St., Aurora, CO 80011-2231*

### **Monthly Meeting**

RMC typically 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:	Rick Beets	<a href="mailto:prez@rockymountaincorsa.org">prez@rockymountaincorsa.org</a>
Vice President:	Michael Timmons	<a href="mailto:veep@rockymountaincorsa.org">veep@rockymountaincorsa.org</a>
Secretary:	Rob Brereton	<a href="mailto:sec@rockymountaincorsa.org">sec@rockymountaincorsa.org</a>
Treasurer:	John Dinsdale	<a href="mailto:treas@rockymountaincorsa.org">treas@rockymountaincorsa.org</a>
Member at large	Ken Schiffner	<a href="mailto:m.a.l@rockymountaincorsa.org">m.a.l@rockymountaincorsa.org</a>
Past president	Ed Halpin	

### **Appointed Chairpersons**

Activities Chair:	Caron Wetter	<a href="mailto:activity@rockymountaincorsa.org">activity@rockymountaincorsa.org</a>
Auditor:	Jonni Berkman	<a href="mailto:auditor@rockymountaincorsa.org">auditor@rockymountaincorsa.org</a>
CCCC Rep:	Rick Beets	<a href="mailto:cccc-rep@rockymountaincorsa.org">cccc-rep@rockymountaincorsa.org</a>
Historian:	Steve Goodman	<a href="mailto:history@rockymountaincorsa.org">history@rockymountaincorsa.org</a>
Membership Chair:	Tony Lawler	<a href="mailto:membership@rockymountaincorsa.org">membership@rockymountaincorsa.org</a>
Newsletter Editor:	Paul Seyforth	<a href="mailto:news@rockymountaincorsa.org">news@rockymountaincorsa.org</a>
Webmaster:	Dale Nielsen	<a href="mailto:webmaster@rockymountaincorsa.org">webmaster@rockymountaincorsa.org</a>

## Rocky Mountain CORSA Meeting Minutes

**Meeting Date:** January 3, 2020      **Called to Order:** 7:00 pm  
**Location:** Elway Chevrolet, Englewood CO      **# Present:** Not Recorded.  
• Guests, long distance, new members: Riley Timmons and Jade were present.  
○ Charlie Beets joined, welcome Charlie.

### **Standard Business:**

Minutes from past meeting: November and December Minutes were reviewed and approved.

Treasurer's Report: The end of December balance was \$5,186.62. Discussion of electronic payment, to be considered.

**Mailbag:** Colonel Crawford Eagles of Galion OH, Corvette Raffle. Flyer placed up front.

Pro Promotions mailing about Hot Rods and Cool Bikes Show, March 7-8 in Colorado Springs. Info placed up front.

### **Old Business:**

- Rick Beets expressed thanks to Ed Halpin and Mike Piper for past service as President and Vice President respectively. Their efforts are appreciated.
- Thanks also to the past year's appointed Chairpersons Chris Kimberley (Activities) Tony Lawler (Membership) Paul Seyforth (Newsletter) Dale Neilsen (Webmaster) and Jonni Berkman (Auditor).
- Activities Review:
  - New Year's Brunch Wednesday: great event, good turnout. Thanks to Chris and all who helped find a new location on short notice. Tony Lawler's Rampside burned up a wiring harness at the brunch but made it home.
  - Thank you to Kory and Gail Levin for another wonderful holiday party. It was well attended and a great time. Lots of gifts changed hands and quite a number of Toys for Tots were collected.
- Chris Kimberley will be serving in the activities Chair role for PPCC so is stepping down from it in RMC. Jimmy Riley and Caron Wetter have volunteered to take over.
- Ken Schiffner spoke about See More and upcoming events. Dave Feasel is not able to move See More around, and Tony Lawler has signed up to do that. PPCC is requesting 3 dates that we would like to show the car. Possibilities discussed were the CCCC Air Show (in a bit of flux right now) and the Havana Cruise (which will be a single venue event due to construction this year). Rob suggested for the 3<sup>rd</sup> event, something farther North like the Holy Rollers show or even the Budweiser brewery event that coincided with our meeting there (date not yet announced).
- Ken also said that See More will be going to National Convention. Shared hotel brochures at front table. There is a deal for the lower room rate 2 days before or 2 days after, please ask. Looking into car show at the Armory since the hotel has limited parking. Ken said the CORSA team put in long days getting event together.
- The Tri-State was discussed, held weekend of May 15-17 in Albuquerque. Rick pointed out that RMC will need a chair for 2021. We need to announce the 2021 location at the Tri-State in May. Tony Lawler is willing to help but can't chair. A chair was not identified at this meeting, please consider volunteering.
- Snacks tonight were provided by Jimmy Riley, Caron Wetter, and Cory and Gail Levin. Thank you. There was a bit of fellowship and discussion during snack time. This led to a discussion of continuing this on a monthly basis. The membership voted to continue this. Volunteers for the next 3 months were identified below.
- Meeting location: Elway Chevrolet will be the standing meeting location. Same first Friday at 7.
- There was discussion of how to support our northern members. We will do this with targeted activities in the north rather than moving the meeting location and date.

### **New Business:**

- CCCC renewal: Rick supports continuing as a member organization and is willing to continue as our representative. Several spoke about support the old car hobby. Caron Wetter moved, Tony Lawler second, and the membership approved.
- The board will make appointments at the first board meeting to be planned in January.

- Dues Reminder, \$25 due at first of year, pay by 2/28. Several reminders coming. Good progress on dues with 7 weeks left.
- Eric Schakel spoke about RMVR Driving School, holding a class for competition and a class for precision driving on weekend of April 24-26. Friday evening, Sat and Sun at PPIR track. About \$400 for weekend. Also the Race against Kids Cancer will be in August. RMVR is also exploring a street race in Estes Park in 2021.

Upcoming events:

2/7 February meeting, Elway Chevrolet, 7pm

- 5/17 Florence Car show with Cruise over the Gorge. Sign up in advance. There is probably a fee.

**For Sale or Wanted, Recently Purchased, Projects**

- Steve Goodman has a past member from long ago looking for late coupe 4 spd. Contact him with questions.
- Rick Beets sought advice to dim LED lights in dash. Dale Neilsen recommended using resistor with them over a PWM.
- Eric Schakel, had Maroon car outside his shop. With engine below tank, gas siphoned into crankcase. Not fun.
- Next snack volunteers: February: Schakels. March: Dale Neilsen April: Duncans and Gerteisens.

**50/50 Raffle:** \$ 113. Winner gets \$57. Winner: Gail Levin.

**Adjourned:** 8:27

**Respectfully Submitted by:** Rob Brereton

