

The Denvair News

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The Tri-State Corvairs present for the Show and Shine Albuquerque 2021

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Visit our website: www.rockymountaincorsa.org

Rocky Mountain Corsa Presidents Message

Welcome to our newest members, Bart Victor, and Phill DeGroot! Bart lives in Glennwood Springs, Colorado, the location of the 2022 Tri-State hosted by the RMC. With Bart's help, the Lawlers (Tony and Diane) are working on stellar locations for the host hotel, car show, and banquet. More details to follow in upcoming newsletters and meetings. They are also looking for people to help assemble items for the raffle (gift baskets, specialty parts, ect). I'm looking forward to an awesome event next May! Phil lives in Grand Junction and as a PPCC member, has been visible at many events over the last few years.



Speaking of Tri-State, I traveled down to Albuquerque for the twice delayed 2020 Tri-State hosted by Corvairs New Mexico chasing the Lawlers in Tony's CORSA, and Charlie Beets in Tony's Rampy. After meeting up in Castle Rock we headed south on I-25. Except 1 small issue with my car, we made pretty good time with no other issues.

The gang from CNM put on an impressive weekend, starting with a meet and greet at the El Pinto restaurant Thursday evening. Even though we got a late start we managed to arrive stylishly late to chat with all the folks from the other clubs. Food was delish, especially the margaritas! Friday gave us a cool yet sunny fall day. Perfect weather for getting my car cleaned up for the show on Saturday. I also took a little time to perfect an emergency repair to correct a pinched fuel line that caused a drivability issue climbing over Monument hill the day before. Other than that, my car ran flawlessly the rest of the trip down and home on Sunday. Even got better than expected fuel mileage. Saturday evening we were presented with a wonderful banquet, where we had good food, great comradery as well as a great time listening to Harrison Schmitt talk about his trip to the moon with the Apollo 17 mission in August 1972. Car show awards were also presented with Christine Kimberly taking top honors for Early Open, and Diane Lawler's Rampside brought home the top pick for Forward Control. New RMC member Phil DeGroot garnered top choice in the Early Closed category. Great Job! Congrats!.

As you all know that it is that time of year again. We are looking for nominations for the board of directors and volunteers for important positions like activities chair. The weather looks nice so far, so please plan on attending the next meeting Friday November 5th at 7pm. Our usual place, the meeting room at John Elway Chevy on South Broadway.

Your input matters! That is how we can keep the club active and vibrant!

I look forward to seeing everyone next Friday.

Rick

Tri-State 2021

Albuquerque is a bit more than a long way off, 450 miles to be exact. But an intrepid band of RMC members drove their Corvairs down to the Balloon Fest capital. Tony and Dianne Lawler drove 2; their recently acquired Corsa convertible and the recently refurbished Ramp side pickup. Marc Miller trailered his 64 Monza convert. Mike and Karen Piper drove in his 65 Corsa. His grandson Kyle drove down the following day in Mike's other convertible. Chris Kimberly drove her 64 Monza convert . Rounding off, Rick and Charley Beets and Steve Goodman also drove down in their Corvairs. Your editor drove a water cooled vehicle mainly to be able to view the event. Everyone was rewarded with very pleasant fall weather and some very upscale accommodations at the Marriott Pyramid Hotel.

CNM is known for their providing door prizes and gift baskets when they host the Tri-State. They did not disappoint this time. The registration bags were loaded with goodies and the walls of the reception room were covered in gift baskets, all set up for a raffle drawing. The Show and Shine car show was held in the hotel parking lot. It was a beautiful setting under shade trees lining the parking lot. 44 Corvairs were shown.



Tarmo Sutt above

Chris Kimberly's Monza



Don Young above

Tony Lawler' Corsa



2021 Tri- State

continued

The cars show and shine were the event. There were 44 in all. Rick Beets entered his 63 Spyder. Steve Goodman came in his 68 coupe. The Lawlers had two, the 66 Corsa and the Rampside. Tim Shortle displayed his 69 coupe. Mike Piper had his immaculate 65 Corsa convertible. Chris Kimberly displayed her 64 convertible. The assembly of Corvairs was outstanding. There was one Corvair pulling a trailer from Salem Oregon. Don Young drove from Salt Lake City Utah with a beautiful black Corsa convertible.



Marc Miller's 64 convert



Mike Piper's 65 Corsa

The Salem Oregon trailer



Phil Degroot's early sedan



The show time was 9-12 PM. Then all the registered participants were able to vote for the 7 class categories. With the quality of cars it would be was a difficult decision to make.

2021 Tri- State

continued

The second half of the Tri- State was the banquet. The raffle results were displayed and the prizes handed out. I had to admire the amount of work that put into that endeavor. Everybody enjoyed that part. The dinner was held in the Marriott's ballroom. It was a served 3 course meal and was quite good. The keynote speaker was Harrison Schmitt. Dr. Schmitt was one of the scientific astronauts of Apollo 17 that landed on the moon in 1972. His talk contained several slides and covered the time from his moon walk to the research of the present day. Excellent speaker and a very congenial person.

Then came the awards. The high light was Tim Shortle's induction into the Northern Tijuana society. It was a surprise and everyone enjoyed it. Steve Goodman and Steve Gongora were honored for their attendance in every one of the 36 Tri-States. Then the results of the Show and Shine were announced;

Best early closed	Phil Degroot	RMC
Best early open	Chris Kimberly	RMC PPCC
Best late closed	Tony Burbig	CNM
Best late open	Don Young	Bonneville
Best wagon	William Pearce	PPCC
Best forward control	Dianne Lawler	RMC
Best in show	Don Young	Bonneville

Hats off to CNM. They worked very hard on this Tri-State event covering many details and it paid off. This was a very enjoyable and well done event. In 2022 it will be RMC's turn in Glenwood Springs. We hope to be able to match the high bar CNM has set.

Congrats Tim
Dr. Schmitt is next to Tarmo Sutt



Congrats Chris
Well deserved



Rocky Mountain Corsa Club News

Well, it's the fall season and most of our activities and events are behind us. Not that there were many events. We had an informal BBQ meet down in Sedalia early in the year. Then we had to wait for the trip to Springfield for the Mini-Convention in May. We had several folks that made the trip to Illinois. In July some of the club joined PPCC for the show at Cripple Creek. The August Dale & Joan Wilshire Memorial picnic was a hit. The major event of the year was the Albuquerque Tri-State. The CNM club did a very good job and pulled a large number of enthusiasts. About 20 RMC and PPCC folks did make the trip. Now, hopefully we have the Xmas party to look forward to.

Friday, November 5th 7:00PM Rocky Mountain Corsa Club meeting at John Elway Chevrolet, 6200 S. Broadway.

Saturday, December 11th 3:00PM RMC Christmas party at the Littleton Café. 1409 West Littleton Blvd, Littleton, CO. RMC will provide the appetizers and the first drink. There will be the usual gift exchange after the dinner. Suggested price is \$15 -\$20. Mark the gift Gal or Guy. If you would like to provide a gift for Toys for Tots they need to be new and unwrapped. We are requesting RSVP as the restaurant needs to know how many to expect.

NEW YEAR'S DAY BRUNCH

Yay! We have a location secured for our Annual New Year's Day Brunch.

Big Horn Restaurant in Estes Park 11:00 AM Saturday, January 1, 2022
401 West Elkhorn Avenue

While this is not a buffet, we will order from a full menu including an extensive breakfast selection. We will need your RSVP for this event so that we can reserve space. **Please RSVP as soon as possible, But definitely by Friday, December 17, 2021. Be sure to state the number of people in your party. Email your RSVP to Gail Levin, gjscorpiostar@gmail.com.** Those of you who have attended our New Year's Day Brunch in the past know what a good time we have getting together to bring in each new year with great company and lots of good food. The Big Horn is known for serving delicious and abundant breakfasts. Don't miss this one!

Leaves

Ken Schiffner

A few weeks ago, I was sitting at home practicing a skill I had refined during the pandemic, namely, doing nothing. (Not completely nothing though. I was drinking a cup of hot tea with lemon and honey).

Then the doorbell rang. On the opposite side of my front door was a young lad (I'd guess about 8 or 9 years old). Behind him, out on my lawn were three other lads of about the same age, each holding a rake. Another rake was leaning unattended against a tree (I assumed that rake belonged to the fellow at my door). The fellow at the door, I figured, was the Sales Manager of the group.

"Sir, want your leaves raked? \$10" he asked and attached an offer.

Given that Mother Nature was in full swing doing her annual Science Project (Chemistry: leaf color change. Physics: gravity), a quick glance at the leaf covered lawn and that fact that I recalled having about \$15.00 in singles in my wallet, I made a deal. The \$10 was within my budget.

"Sure", I said. "Let me know when you are finished".

Going back to my tea, I remembered raking leaves in my youth to earn money. And of early odd jobs (like working in a bakery on weekends, mowing lawns, delivering newspapers, etc.). I recalled, thankfully, that I started young in earning money and some of that money was eventually applied to my first Corvair. Strange how youth, friends, jobs, money, and vehicles are linked.



Truth be told, all of my buddies at the time also worked. One worked at a kennel after school. When he finished, we'd put together a basketball game at a local outdoor court. Some of his earnings went for the purchase of a barely running Isetta. Later, he had an early Corvair Spyder (I think it was as '63). More years later, upon returning from duty in Vietnam, he bought a BMW 320i. Brand new!

Another friend worked weekends at a local deli. He eventually was stationed by a petroleum company in the Middle East and owned a Triumph TR-6 which he kept in dry storage in Texas. He'd dust it off and drive it when he returned home once a year. Yet another buddy rose through the ranks of a major beverage company, became a highly compensated VP, and eventually bought a Ferrari!

Then there was the one who bought a VW Bug (an early '60's model). He used that through college.

With the Corvair, I wonder how current owners purchased their first Corvair? I guess a few were purchased new but, more likely, most were purchased used. Some might have been inherited or otherwise passed down within a family. Others may have acquired a Corvair through marriage (or divorce). Some interesting stories, I'm sure.

About an hour later, the doorbell rang again. The lads had finished. They had done a fine job, but Mother Nature was still showing off as more leaves were still falling. (One of them brought that fact, somewhat apologetically, to my attention). I noticed the lad at the door now was a different lad (I figured he was the Treasurer)

"Nice Job!", I said. I gave him the \$10 plus a \$2.00 tip (Nice round number when divided by four, plus I'm cheap). I wonder how many Corvairs owe their existence to young people, male or female, and leaves.

Need a Corvair part? Corvair Ranch might be able to help.



Corvair Ranch 1079 Bon-Ox Road Gettysburg, PA 200 corvairs in their yard

Taken from Prairie Capital Corvair Association The Flat Six December 2019

The Preventive Maintenance Series

Author: Mike Dawson

Special "Thank You" to Mike for his articles

Wintertime Corvair Heater Orders

I still remember picking up my brand new 1965 Corsa coupe in February of '65 and turning on the heater while on my way home from Van Chevrolet. There was a distinct smell to the heater, not unpleasant and different from my aging '61 Monza with its smelly heater that I had traded in. The new Corsa heater had a combination of hot paint smell and hot metal which I grew to love each fall when the heater was turned on the first time. I still get that today from our cars and my wife says the same; it is a familiar smell that leaves us satisfied that all is well maintenance wise. If an engine issue would cause a change in the heater we would know it instantly. When Sandy was driving my Corsa to work at Hick's Brothers Chevrolet around 1970 with 100K miles on the car I noticed a burned oil smell in her hair when she came home one night: push rod tube seals.

Due to the nature of an air cooled engine operating at a higher temperature, the fact that the exhaust pipe exit is just outside the engine compartment and with all inside heated air coming from the engine compartment (Corvair heaters have no recirculation feature), the opportunity for one of the five different odors listed below to show up is significant. Maintenance of critical areas is obviously the key to a great heater. Keep in mind that on initial startup in a garage or with a car parked next to you there is the opportunity for exhaust gas to curl up and be sucked in the engine air intake. That effect can also come from a neighboring car's exhaust at a traffic light.

If you are experiencing something other than mild hot paint and hot metal in your heater during normal driving, the following may be useful. These are each a unique smell that longtime Corvair folks should be quick to recognize.

Raw Gasoline Smell. An initial brief startup smell is possible but if it persists during driving and at a stop this is a warning. Check immediately for things like carburetor inlet nut leaks, fuel pump leaks, and rubber fuel line hose at the starter and heater hose, Engine compartment sparks are produced by starter brushes, point system distributors, generator brushes, leaking plug wires, and static electricity at the balancer. Any of which can ignite gasoline fumes from a hot engine. A leaking gas tank filler neck hose will also get into the interior, but only for a short time after fill-up. Also remember that since Corvair carburetors are vented to atmosphere, the fuel will evaporate into your garage from a hot engine after it has been turned off.

Burned Oil Smell. This is usually the smell caused by leaking push rod tube seals that are just above the exhaust manifold, although a leaking front main seal on automatics can end up on the exhaust system and into the engine compartment if you have less than perfect perimeter seals and grommets. A haze on the inside of your windshield is an early indication of tube seal leaks (unless you over Armorall your padded dash).

Leaking Crankcase Vapors. This is a pretty annoying smell, a step worse than burned oil. The vapor (ring blow-by and hot oil) can get into the heater very easily because the entire vent system is in the heater air intake, both under and above the top shroud. Plugged vents, leaking o-rings, broken grommets, brittle hoses or loose attachments are the culprits.

Exhaust Gas. Not only nasty smelling with the chokes on, it is dangerous because of CO even if the smell seems to go away warmed up. If you suspect a leak, check the six exhaust packing with a hose to your ear (engine running, belt off). Also check the two manifold to pipe packings and the exhaust 7 system parts and connections. A stethoscope with the metal tip removed works great for pinpointing a small leak. Even a leak outside the engine compartment can get back in to the heater if you do not have perfect perimeter seals as noted above. If you have a Greenbrier, there is a distinct possibility that exhaust gas can enter the rear through leaking door seals; most noticeably when decelerating.

Leaking Head Gaskets. This is the worst smell of the bunch to me. This gas has much more unburned hydrocarbons which make your eyes burn and clothes smell terrible. It will be worse at startup and diminish as you drive; although it will still be dangerous because of the CO you cannot smell. Early models came with copper head gaskets that would burn through and emit a spit, spit, spit sound as it tried to asphyxiate you. A loose head on any model will do the same thing except it will make a squeak, squeak, squeak noise as you accelerate. The noise is the combustion gas escaping and making the gasket act like a reed valve.

There are other possibilities; Mouse nests (and cooked mice) give off a distinctive urine smell, leaks in lower shrouds let in splashed puddles containing mystery stuff that hits the manifolds, overcharging batteries, and loose belts all can get in your heater. With all of the above issues a very real possibility as Corvairs aged, I wonder how the bean counters managed to convince management to drop the gas heater. I still have a letter I received from GM in the early '70's warning of exhaust leaks in my heater. Mr. Nader should have devoted a couple of pages to this – but then he was not really interested in issues that were not headline producers with his name on it.

And finally; how many times over the years have you seen air fresheners hanging from Corvair mirrors or heater outlets?

Last minute update;

At the Tri-State Banquet I met Stephan Robbins from St. George, Utah. He was there to promote a vintage car tour thru southern Utah. The tour is open to all VMCCA vintage cars. The tour dates are April 3 thru April 9, 2022. Registration is available on the VMCCA website or call Steve Fitzgerald at 970 209-7814

Rocky Mountain Corsa Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: October 1, 2021 **Called to Order:** 7:05 pm
Location: John Elway Chevrolet, Englewood CO **# Present:** 13, on site, 0 on Zoom.

Guests, long distance, new members: Monza convertible, blue/blue with a white top, automatic but may have been converted to 4 spd since. After some mechanical issues it Guest Gail Ausbun passed pictures around of a car she is seeking. Her Dad restored the car in 1980, a '67 was sold, repaired, and then disappeared, despite the family having first right of refusal. She found a matching car, and asked the owner to compare VIN, but never saw car again. She would like to locate the car. The family also has a container of parts that they would like to sell, in Salida. She will leave her # with Steve if you have information about the car or to inquire about the parts.

Standard Business:

Minutes of last meeting: September minutes were reviewed and approved with changes. Cory spoke about the New Year's Brunch, not Caron. The event time is 3pm. There was also a correction to the club address in the Newsletter, it should be .org, not .com.

Treasury report: The end of September balance was \$6,111.94. No activity. The Treasurer's report was approved.

Mailbag: None.

Old Business:

- The search continues for a newsletter editor and Paul produced another great edition. Come work with Paul on an issue and learn what is involved. Keep those articles coming. Thanks Paul for a great newsletter.
- Membership: Welcome new members. Dylan Berichon and Dennis Harden. Dennis has a '66 140 Auto, no rust, but needs tires. He shares his time between Colorado and Arizona.
- Paypal setup is to be done between John Dinsdale and Rick Beets.
- San Diego is back on for the 2024 convention, so we are being asked to bid anymore but CORSA may ask again in the future.
- Tri-State departure timing was discussed. Rick will send an email blast about several meeting places to gather and caravan.
- Saturday December 11 will be our Holiday Party at the Littleton Café, featuring a full menu. Event will be 3-5pm. There will be the traditional gift exchange and collection for Toys for Tots. There is plenty of parking. The club will pay for the first round of drinks and for appetizers.
- A question was asked about the New Years Brunch? Cory and Gail now heading this up. No location found at this time. For many restaurants, the big challenge is finding enough staff to be fully open and handle events. Share your ideas!
- The Concours at ACC was Sun Sept 12. The location was near food wagons, so lots of traffic. It was a good show, but lines were really long. Less classics, 30's than in the past. Weather great.

New Business:

- CCCC Car / Air Show will be Aug 6 2022 with an open car show with awards. There are separate areas for some other clubs like Mopar and Chevys. Samantha approached Corvair folks to see if we would want to have a separate area and judging. We may have to provide our own awards within class as well.
- Corvair show at Cripple Creek Museum is expected to happen again next year.
- Elections will be at the Holiday party. Nominations are open. All current officers present are willing to continue, Mike Timmons has not indicated for VP. Mike Piper is willing to return.
- There is an opening for an activities chair, Jimmy and Caron plan to step down.
- We discussed having more "Fun Stuff" to do with the meeting 2nd half, such as "What's in the bag"?

Continued

Upcoming events:

- Sat Oct 9, 10-2, Lou Jahde Memorial Car Show, Gaylord of the Rockies. Flyer on table. \$25 per car, waived for Veterans, Benefit for Colorado Veteran Project.
- Oct 15-17, Tri State, Albuquerque Marriott Pyramid N near Tramway. Registration form online. Pay for banquet up front.
- Oct 21, CORSA Meet-Up. These are recorded and available on YouTube.
- Fri Nov 5th Meeting, 7pm, Elway Chevrolet upstairs. Snack volunteers: Cory & Gail Levin
- Fri Dec 3rd, Meeting, 7pm, Elway Chevrolet upstairs.
- Dec 11, 3-6, Littleton Café, Littleton Blvd and Datura. Yankee Gift Exchange. Toys for Tots. See newsletter.

For Sale or Wanted, Recently Purchased, Projects

- Tony's Rampside's return from Frederick took 3-3.5 hours. Charlie did a great job limping it home followed by Rick and Rob. The main jet of one carb was clogged with rubber junk. Now there's a new fuel pump, new tank, and lots of new filters and plumbing. Later it burned up some wiring at the Concours. But it sure looks nice . . .
- John Dinsdale shared about his red sedan bought in 1992, and always hearing, "When are you gonna paint your car . . ." He had planned to do so with Ryan Timmons, then the accident added to scope. Car is at Ryan's Rods and John's frustration is rising due to lack of communication and lack of progress. Stay tuned.

50/50 Raffle: Not held.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40pm. **Respectfully submitted** by Rob Brereton.



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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

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	prez@rockymountaincorsa.org
Vice President:	Michael Timmons	veep@rockymountaincorsa.org
Secretary:	Rob Brereton	sec@rockymountaincorsa.org
Treasurer:	John Dinsdale	treas@rockymountaincorsa.org
Member at large	Ken Schiffner	m.a.l@rockymountaincorsa.org
Past president	Ed Halpin	

Appointed Chairpersons

Activities Chair:	Caron Wetter	activity@rockymountaincorsa.org
Auditor:	John Dawson	auditor@rockymountaincorsa.org
CCCC Rep:	Rick Beets	ccc-rep@rockymountaincorsa.org
Historian:	Steve Goodman	history@rockymountaincorsa.org
Membership Chair:	Tony Lawler	membership@rockymountaincorsa.org
Newsletter Editor:	Paul Seyforth	news@rockymountaincorsa.org
Webmaster:	Dale Nielsen	webmaster@rockymountaincorsa.org