

# The Denvair News

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**Official Publication of the Rocky Mountain Corsa Corvair Club**



***Tony Lawler's Rampside***

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# Rocky Mountain Corsa Presidents Message

Happy March everyone! Hopefully winter is mostly behind us, and we can get back to working on and driving our Corvairs.

I want to start by thanking Steve Goodman for stepping up to fill the role of event coordinator.

If you have an idea for a club event, be it a drive or visit to a destination like a day at the Forney Museum, autocross, car show, or whatever, please relay the info to Steve so we can work it into the activity schedule and calendar on the website.

Speaking of the website, the [membership renewal page](#) is up and running with PayPal now available for making your dues payment to John. The new annual dues are \$26 but if you pay by cash or check we give a one dollar discount to \$25. Also remember, membership renewals are due by the end of February.

Tri-State planning is proceeding as we speak. Amanda is working on the changes suggested at the last meeting to the t-shirt design, Tony and Diane are working with our man in Glenwood Springs, Bart Victor, to get everything set up for the show and shine. There will be free time Saturday afternoon to explore the area or take a dip in the famous hot springs pool. The host hotel, The Best Western Antlers, has opened reservations at our special room rate (\$112 for single, \$117 for double or king) with the code CORSA. See the [Tri-State](#) page for more details. Now that we have PayPal set up, we will be opening banquet reservations and t-shirt purchases very soon. The May dates are just around the bend, so get your Corvair ready to make the trip!

We are planning an up coming tech session at Chris Jackson's to give folks any assistance they need to get their Corvair ready for the drive. I'm looking forward to a great turnout!



The next club meeting is scheduled for Friday March 4th at 7 pm our usual meeting place John Elway Chevrolet on South Broadway. Snacks will be served, and Zoom will be available (meeting invite will go out via the RMC mail list) for those who can't attend in person.

Lastly, I would like to put in a plug for CORSA, the national club. If you're not already a member, I would strongly suggest joining. CORSA provides our club many benefits (such as the liability insurance required for events like Tri-State) that are funded by membership dues. A new perk is the monthly meetup via Zoom. Every third Thursday of the month with a presentation by a guest speaker. February was Cal Clark of Clark's Corvair, giving us a virtual tour and some sneak peeks of upcoming reproduction items like a whole new line of gas tanks and LM front grill bars. I don't know about you, I would rather pay a bit more (in some cases) to get my parts from Clark's than anywhere else. Our support gives them the ability to invest in the tooling required to bring us the reproduction parts we need to keep our beloved Corvairs on the road.

I'll get off my soap box now. See you at the next club event! *Rick*



## RMC get together at BJ's West

It was a spur of the moment decision, I'm sure. Chris Jackson had just purchased a CL 1960 Corvair and felt the need to celebrate. In doing so he invited all his friends from RMC to a dinner get together at BJ's West Colfax. About 25 members responded and had a great time enjoying dinner and each other's company.



BJ's is a good restaurant. I would recommend it. Unfortunately their parking lot was really crowded and the Corvairs were scattered. Here are 3 of Chris's 9 Corvairs. Next month we'll have a better picture of Chris's Corvairs

Below is the RMC group filling up one corner of the restaurant



# A little request

Ken Schifftnr

One of the many advantages of CORSA membership, particularly if you have a computer or access to one, are the periodic meet-up Zoom meetings. The topics can vary from maintenance methods, Corvair basics, and areas that affect the Corvair "hobby" in general. These meetings are of particular value to new Corvair club members. Jeannette Alberte has been working to create interesting these get togethers and makes it easy to participate. Leave "Video" on and politely click "Mute" and you can even see the smiling faces of people you may know while you listen and learn. Use "Chat" to leave a comment or question. Jeannette will compile some and likely make them available after the session.

A recent one featured Cal Clark of Clark's Corvair. Cal presented an informative history of the birth of his business (1973 while he was still teaching), apartment living, working 6:30 AM to who-knows-when, teaching driving lessons, his early Corvair vehicle purchases, company growth to 15 employees in the 1500 square foot home in 1978 (using the dining room table for parts instead of sitting down eating), and decisions to quit....or grow. He decided to grow.

He said they have about 15,000 parts from 300-400 suppliers. The path from supplier to you takes coordination. Enter COVID, supply chain disruption, and other hurdles, Clark's must stay light on its feet.

Repro parts? How would you like to plunk down thousands of dollars for a die or mold for a hard-to-find part knowing there is a limited, but needed, number to sell? Cal must weigh these factors.

He mentioned early orders in the company history were about 90% by mail. This morphed to about 50-60% by Internet and the balance by phone and mail. He praised his employees (some with over 40 years!) repeatedly and for good reason. Being an essentially Corvair only business with limited staff, Cal said every employee needs to know how to do any of the critical tasks or can get someone to fill in, so the customer's needs are met. Like a team of multitaskers. Working to help you enjoy your Corvair.

He made one little request, however. He asked that when ordering please first go the website Catalog Index (or the printed catalog) and do some research first. Find the part or item you need and see if there are other parts related to that item that you also may need. Often some may need a related item to complete its use. The catalog description often states what other things are often needed. Gets you to buy more parts? Yes. But the intent is to help you get the job done correctly. The parts all have numbers to make this easy.

So, watch for announcements from CORSA about future meetings. When you order from Clark's please check to make sure you order all that you need. Just a little request from a supplier who, next year, will mark 50 years of service to the Corvair community.

## RM Club News

The hot button on the RMC plate right now is Tri-State that is scheduled for May 20<sup>th</sup> thru May 22<sup>nd</sup> Glenwood Springs. Planning has been moving along. A zoom meeting is planned this Saturday to discuss meet details and assign tasks. Stay tuned to RMC-list for time and place.

The hotel has been secured. It is the Best Western Antlers in Glenwood Springs. The room rate is \$112 for a Queen-sized room and \$117 for a King sized room. For reservations call the desk at 970 945-8535. Use the word 'corsa' for the club rate. The banquet is scheduled at the Hotel Colorado which will be a buffet. The cost of the banquet is \$40 per person, payable in advance to the club. A check can be made out to Rocky Mountain Corsa and mailed to John Dinsdale at 3240 Billings St., Aurora, CO 80011. Or if you like you may use the Rocky Mountain Corsa Pay Pal account. We really need to get an idea on the number of members that plan to attend so we can coordinate with banquet provider.

This thank you note was passed along by Rob Brereton

Dear Friends at Rocky Mountain CORSA,

On behalf of the Elevations Foundation Board of Directors, thank you for your donation of **\$300** on **1/11/2022** to the Elevations Foundation/Elevations Credit Union Fire Relief Fund. Your generosity will help to provide much needed relief for the individuals and families who lost their homes in the fires.

The value of your contribution is tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. Our Federal Tax ID is 27-3484142. Please keep this written acknowledgment of your donation for your tax records.

**Thanks to you, our Fire Relief Fund will be providing over \$1.1 million in much needed relief to the victims of the Marshall Fire.** Of that amount, our members, business partners and the community have provided over \$960,000.

Elevations Foundation and Elevations Credit Union each matched \$100,000, which amounts to over \$1,160,000 in total. Although the fund has closed, the final donation amount is expected to be closer to \$1.2 million with help from local businesses that have scheduled fundraisers.

We have partnered with the Boulder County Department of Housing and Human Services as a fiduciary partner for distribution of the funds, **ensuring 100% of the funds will be donated to support the victims of the fires.** If you know someone who has been impacted please visit [www.boco.org/MarshallFireAsIStance](http://www.boco.org/MarshallFireAsIStance) to learn more about how victims can apply for funds

Once again, thank you for your generous contribution to the Fire Relief Fund!

Elevations Foundation

# RMC ACTIVITIES FOR 2022

by Steve Goodman

As the designated 'activities coordinator' the following is an introduction into what we all hope will happen in 2022. Obviously having some "NORMAL" return to our lives is what we all want to happen.

First I am hoping that ideas for events can be brought forward by the members. Please let me know what you are thinking of wanting to do. Bear in mind that the event will be yours but I will offer help and ensure that conflicts with other events will be kept minimal.

The events or simply 'get-togethers' can range from a picnic/drive into the mountains for lunch at your favorite restaurant at 9,000ft/taking part in scheduled cars shows etc being run by other clubs/tech sessions and garage tours. Remember of several 'set in stone' events which include:

E-Days at Colo School of mines in April (April 23 this year)

Tri-state in Gunnison May 20-22

Wilshire picnic in August

Xmas party in December

In addition PPCC has several events planned through the year that RMC is welcome to be a part of and of course PPCC members are invited to RMC events too. Each month PPCC Activities Chairperson Christine Kimberly will add the PPCC events to this list. There is an ice cream social planned in Palmer Lake in April but no date set yet. It was a good time last year.

As you can see there are several summer months empty. RMC member Chris Jackson has expressed interest in a tour of his home garage also a 'Corvair n soft drink' event at hi 7-11 store in Lakewood. Probably both if we ask Chris nicely. Gail and Kory Levin have offered to set up both the Xmas party and the New Years Day brunch again this year.

I have an idea for a Sunday garage tour in Loveland/Ft. Collins area. There are numerous Corvair owners up there that are not club members and we can possibly interest them with a tour of garages of some quality conversation time about Corvairs. So far it is only an idea but if the northern members reading this have some ideas to help please contact me.

continued



There has also been some talk about the usual Tri-state tune up hosted most years by Eric and Linae Schakel in Sedalia. Sadly this year the most opportune Sunday is also Mothers Day. How many want to do a Corvair gathering on Mothers Day? Let me know.

Since we are coming out of a couple of off years for any activities it is difficult to gauge what everyone wants to do so this will be an interesting year.

Last let me address the Corvairs n Cheeseburger Sunday afternoon lunch/fun at the Westwood Inn on 6th and Wadsworth. I still eat there often but the restaurant is suffering in the same way many as other food establishments. Shortage of waitstaff/cooks and even dishwashers have forced the Westwood Inn to some shorter hours and they close now at 1430hrs (2:30pm). They are lucky that many Sundays a good lunch crowd shows up but by the time the tables begin to clear it is the same 1330hrs (1:30pm) as before which is when we would start arriving. Now however there is only one hour left and the restaurant needs cleaning etc before closing for the day. With that in mind we need to just patient and hope things change for them.

You can call me at the shop during normal hours with ideas/thoughts or email me.  
Happy Corvairing



#### REAR-ENGINE SPECIALISTS

**Steve Goodman** 16010 W. 5th Ave., Unit 12  
Golden, CO 80401  
(303) 278-4889  
Fax (303) 936-7420  
e-mail: [rearengine.steve@att.net](mailto:rearengine.steve@att.net)  
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# Classic Corvair Engine on EasyRun Engine Stand

(The following was adapted from an article written a few years ago that may be of interest to RMC)

When the undersigned was a member of the New Jersey Association of Corvair Enthusiasts (NJACE), I found a company advertising engine run stands. I contacted them and asked, "Can a Corvair Engine be fitted to your stand? It would be interesting (and instructive) to run a Corvair engine, adjust if needed, and do so for all to see. Knowing that the engine is running properly prior to returning it to the vehicle is both time saving and comforting. But could the engine fit the stand?

"I don't see why not...the stand has been used for VW and Porsche engines" was the reply. "You may need to make some adjustments, but it should work well. Call us if you need help."

Typical initial break in of a rebuilt Corvair engine requires the use of break in oil and running the engine at various rpms for a period to seat the rings followed by changing the oil, etc. A check is made for leaks, the valves are adjusted, and if the engine has multiple carburetors, the latter are balanced and adjusted.

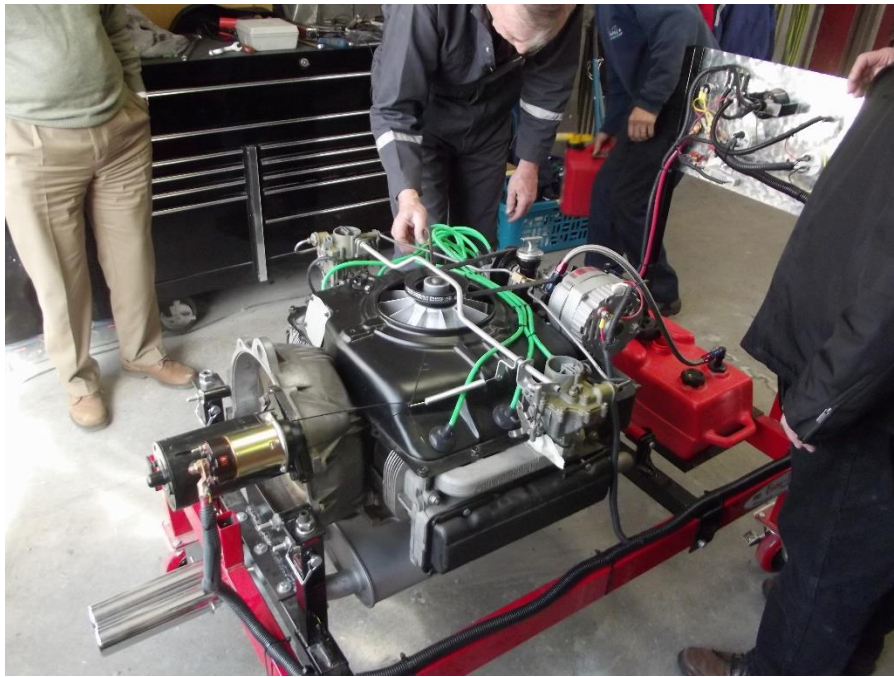
It is nothing new to rebuild a Corvair engine and run it out of the vehicle. The other methods include placing the engine on or near the ground, on wooden supports (or even old tires), or modifying an engine support (taking care using an out rigger to prevent the whole assembly from overturning during start up). The Engine Run Stand was a more "elegant" solution...plus being elevated, access to the valves was far easier on the person's back. And the stand had impressive casters to allow the stand to be easily moved around!

So, a stand was ordered, shipped to Ashley's Auto Body (Flander's, NJ) where many Tech Sessions are held, and was easily assembled by Larry Ashley and Brian O'Neill (Club Prez). Larry and Brian custom made adapters to connect the rear (single) engine mount location to the stand. Since the engine is normally mounted as a transaxle assembly, the front engine mounts are bolted to a cross brace at the transmission but since the transmission was not used in our set up, they made adapters to connect the engine bell housing to the adjustable mounts included with the stand. Club Treasurer Tim Schwartz did the custom wiring of the control panel. It was decided to build the Club's own control panel using available instruments etc. The panel was configured to allow the use of point or Pertronix ignition. Sensors were installed for oil pressure, a tachometer for rpm, and a battery disconnect was installed. A special exhaust system and muffler were made and fitted so the exhaust exits away from areas requiring adjustments.

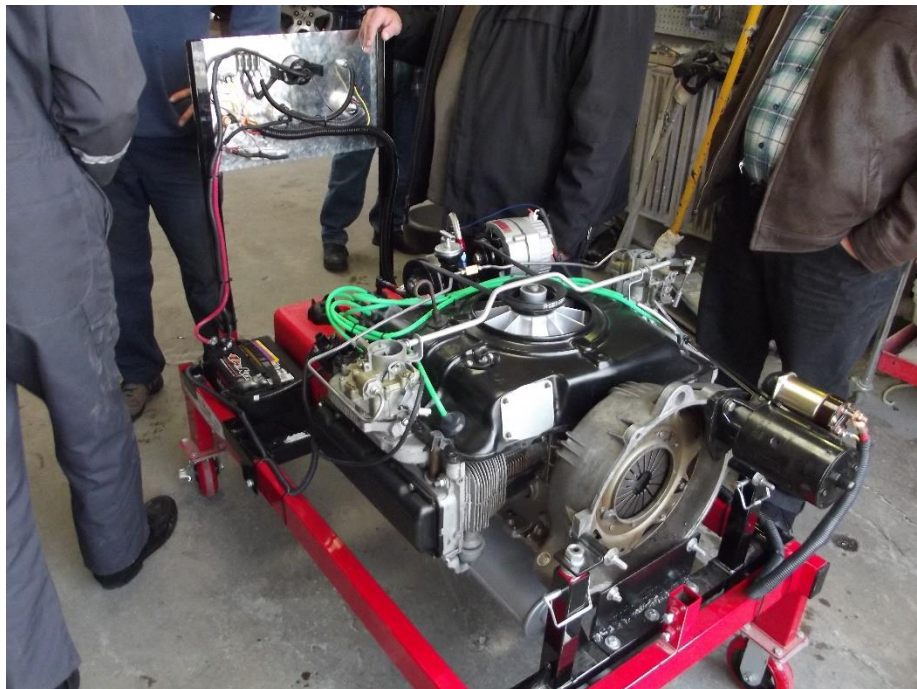
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It has been used as needed. It even was carted to a regional car show using a Rampside, was run, and drew a crowd.



Yes, the Corvair engine does fit...easily actually. The stand permits simplified access, ease of adjustment, and after its use during the break in period, provides confidence that once the engine is returned to the vehicle the engine will run properly.



# 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:	Ken Schiffner	<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	Michael Timmons	<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:	John Dawson	<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>
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