

# The Denvair News

**Volume 47 Issue 4**

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



**Remember this picture. The School of Mines E-day show 2013.  
The 2022 show was slightly less in size but still rewarding.**

## **In this issue**

**Presidents column  
Mines E-day show  
Club news  
Event Calendar  
Things to Check  
VP ramblings  
Minutes**

**Rick Beets  
Dale Nielsen  
Paul Seyforth  
Steve Goodman  
Steve Goodman  
Ken Schiftnr  
Rob Brereton**



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## *Presidents Message*

Are you going to Glenwood Springs in May? If you haven't reserved your spot, you should do that right away! I'm looking forward to an exciting weekend of fun and comradery. I've been informed that we've filled our block of rooms at the host hotel, The Best Western Antlers. While rooms at the Best Western may still be available, we can't guarantee the special Tri-State room rate. There are also other hotel options available close by, so don't be left out of the action! Check in and hospitality opens at noon on Friday the 20<sup>th</sup>. Join us at 6 pm at Vicco's Charcoal Burger a few blocks away on Highway 6 for a local cruise. On Saturday morning the Show and Shine is a few short blocks away from the hotel. Vicco's will be providing lunch for show participants (and family). Saturday afternoon is open to take a dip in one of the many hot spring pools that Glenwood Springs is famous for. Then join us for the banquet starting at about 6 for happy hour, dinner and awards banquet.

Now that weather has become a bit more conducive to working in my unheated garage, my attention has turned to working on getting my Spyder ready for the trip. First up on the agenda, is getting some things sorted in the steering. I've been fighting a looseness at center that causes a bit of a wander in the grooves that get worn into the roads. I replaced the steering gearbox with a rebuilt one from Clarks a few years ago, that didn't quite resolve the problem to my satisfaction. Brought in a rebuild kit from Clarks, to see if I could finally resolve the issue. As I tore the

steering box apart, I found that the box I got from Clarks was not of the usual quality I've come to expect from Clarks. Some of the critical parts were quite corroded. Now where did I stash the original steering box that was supposed to go back as a core? After some searching, I was finally able to find it and get it torn down to rebuild. A quick internet search came up with a nice pictorial set of rebuild instructions that give me the proper specifications for proper setup. Kind of like setting the backlash in a differential to get the preload just right. Put everything back together and found that I'd made things worse. Steering was way too tight! What the blankity, blank, blank? Went through the setup procedure a second time with the same result, so now what? Thinking I might have a seized idler arm, another internet search came up with a possible third solution. When I replaced the steering gearbox, I also replaced the Pitman Arm bushing (pg 156 Clarks catalog) with the nylon C178N bushing and bolt. It turns out that sometimes the bolt/bushing interface is way too tight, and the bushing needs to be clearanced for smooth operation. I ended up running a 9/16<sup>th</sup> drill through the bushing to get the proper clearance. Steering is now nice and smooth. Below: Bad left, Good right





# School of Mines E-days show

It seems like the Mines E-day car show has been around forever. At least as long as I been a member of the RMC club. It was initiated as a fund raiser for the schools automotive engineering department way back when. Over the years RMC has participated in and supported the show. Gary Hoffman, an alumni of the school, would alert the club to the show dates and times. The club would meet early Saturday morning in April and drive into the show together. The morning was spent visiting with fellow Corsa members and other car collector enthusiasts. A T-shirt was included in the entry fee. A wonderful way to kick off the car show year.

Well, that was until 2020. It was scheduled for April that year when the covid-19 bug hit. As with many other shows it was canceled. Then last year's show was frozen out, almost. Mike Piper was the only Corvair driver to show up. Neither did very many other car enthusiasts. Very slim showing but at least Mike drove away with the Best in show trophy. This year's show was much the same, I'm afraid. First it was on, then it was off and finally it was announced it would be held on April 23rd. The weather was projected to be fair and mild so we were all hopeful. Unfortunately word did not get out to the car community. Dale Nielson, Mike Piper, and Gary Hoffman were the only RMC members to attend. A few cars from the other car community but better than last year. Let's hope for better days ahead.

The reward part from Dale ;

Mike and I spoke to more folks and answered more questions about Corvairs than I can ever remember doing at previous E-Days car show. They all seemed extremely interested about the unusual configuration. There were some comments, questions and discussion about Nader's "Unsafe at any Speed". All in all it was a very entertaining and, I hope, educational day spent with car fans.



# RMC Club News

The news this month is mostly good. The preparation for the Tri-State meet in Glenwood Springs May 20<sup>th</sup> to May 23<sup>rd</sup> is coming along as planned. The Tri-State committee has been working hard ironing out all the details and there are many. Special kudos to Dianne Lawler and Karen Piper for spearheading the effort. No effort spared for this event. The hotel Best Western Antlers Tri-State booking special is over but rooms should be still available.

## **Some deadline dates from the Tri- State committee;**

April 30, 2022 - Commemorative T-shirt Orders (that's this weekend)

May 15, 2022 - Banquet Reservations

These all need to be done online. Check the Rocky Mountain Corsa website for further information on registering for this year's Tri-State meet. Look forward to seeing you in May.

**The club has booked a picnic site at Bear Creek Lake Park.** Same shelter as last year. Be sure to keep August 14 open. Hope we can have the same turnout as last year. The Tri-State tune up is scheduled for May 8<sup>th</sup> at the Schakel's spread. This has always been a fun event. Don't miss it.

**Last but not least;** I saw that Tim Shortle, our man in Durango, finally signed up for the Glenwood Tri-State. I emailed him and got this reply:

I look forward to seeing everyone. My (Corvair) schedule this year is the Tri State followed by the Homecoming (Ann Arbor in July). The following week is the convention in Atlanta so I am driving a modern car (Volvo) to Michigan and then heading straight south to Georgia. I will be "carpooling" with a couple of folks from Oregon (Michigan to Georgia) which helps with fuel costs. Then of course is Palm Springs (my old stomping grounds) and quite possibly HOT (Heart of Texas) and/or the Roundup (the OK/KS/Arkansas clubs). I drove my 69 Monza Coupe last November to Nacogdoches Texas for HOT. Great group of people down there! Tim in Durango

Can anyone else match that?

# ACTIVITIES May/June/July

**May 8-----Tri-state Tune-up at the Schakels** near Sedalia. Get your Corvair on the road before the Tri-state and enjoy looking at other Corvairs and visiting plus lunch. Bring your own side dish and burgers will be furnished. Noon to 1600hrs and RSVP so the burger count will be more than ample 303.660.0914

**May 14-15--RMVR Bill Miller Tribute** at High Plains Raceway

**May 15-----Florence Car Show.** Refer to PPCC website for information

**May 20-22-Tri State in Glenwood Springs.** Refer to RMC website for information. You don't want to miss this one. It is the really big show for this year. And remember our website has all the details for registration.  
<https://www.rockymountaincorsa.org/2022-tri-state>

**June 5-----Exotic Car Show at Arapahoe Community College.** Refer to PPCC website for information

**June 4/5 at High Plains Raceway.** The world famous 24 Hours of Lemons. If you've never been to one, it is a combination of \$500 cars, comedic penalties and some pretty interesting racing. You get to walk the paddock and see the interestingly modified cars close up.

**July 23-----Third Annual Cripple Creek All Corvair Car Show** at the Cripple Creek Historical Museum. This is open to anyone with a Corvair and they don't need to be affiliated with any club. See the flyer in the newsletter for more information. See More will be at this free show. I know some members will be driving to Cripple Creek the day before the show and book a room for the Cripple Creek show with Double Eagle Casino and Hotel..

**August 14----- Dale and Joan Wilshire Memorial Picnic** at Bear Creek Lake Park. We have rented the same shelter this year as we had last year. And we hope for the same turnout as last year. Great setting with the same great people.

# RANDOM TIPS AND THINGS TO CHECK ON A REGULAR BASIS

by Steve Goodman

If you park on a flat surface it is easy and clean to check your oil level. Before you start the car for your journey just lift lid and pull the dipstick upward and look at the oil vs full mark. No need to remove completely and no need to wipe stick and reinsert it again. Your hands remain clean too. This is handy tip for the ladies too regardless of car make or model the dipstick check process is the same.



At the same time give a quick look at belt/wires and check for furry little critters curled up next to the oil cooler. Also it is easy to give the four tires a quick glance. If you have a 'feeling' about the amount of sidewall bulge you can decide if a tire has low air pressure. Occasionally you should use tire gauge and check spare tire or ask your local shop to check pressure for you.

If your car is inside it is easy to check all lights, just operate and watch reflections in front wall and garage door. An aside to this is by checking brake lights you also confirm your brake pedal is normal.

One other note about lights: our Corvairs all have two warning lights on the instrument panel. Gen/fan and Temp/press. As you start to turn ignition to the 'start' position pause that one second while in 'run' position and note that both lights work. If they both work that time they should also work if something mechanical would fail while driving. Of course the warning light of note is 'gen/fan'. When that light pops on while driving it almost always means the fan belt has failed and the car should be parked immediately and engine turned off. (out of the way of normal traffic of course)

I always thought a clean car seemed to run better. Of course it is easy to wash and vacuum but the glass seems to always be WORK! Clean glass with no streaks is magic. Every glass cleaner and towel/micro-fiber cloth etc promises no streaks/reflections. U Tube has tons of tips to remove streaks etc too and I will say I have spent lots of time trying to clean glass and I am still trying and failing.

continued



For all of you that have windshield cleaning mastered remember it is a good time to check wiper blade quality before you get caught in the rain and start cutting an arc in your nice glass. Before you start cleaning that windshield make your washers work a couple of times too. It will keep pump primed and you know the squirters are not plugged.

Occasionally someone will ask me about car covers. It is a bit difficult to know how to advise sometimes. If your car is stored inside then a simple dust cover is typically all that is needed. I have seen many who have a couple of discarded bed sheets sewn together and just toss over the car. One thing to always remind anyone moving around the car is not to brush against the cover and of course NEVER lay anything on top of the cover. Remind them it is a car NOT a shelf.

If outside many ask about a waterproof cover but the smart guys in the car magazines always say a cover that breathes is best. They suggest it is better to let the paint get wet from rain, the sun dries the paint and cover together. The waterproof covers will trap moisture between the paint and the cover and the paint will come out as the loser. I suppose a waterproof cover (aka tarp) is really only effective if covering a parts car with glass or other openings missing that would invite mother nature inside.



#### REAR-ENGINE SPECIALISTS

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# *Early Spring, what is it?*

Ken Schifftner

I think we need a new season to better describe what really happens between Winter and Spring. I propose that we create a fifth season. It might fit uncomfortably between the official start of Spring and the real start of Spring (you know, birds singing, outdoor events, planting, driving a Corvair, that sort of thing).

I move we call it "Bummer".

Why? Because for many of us, Bummer Time is when Winter seems to not want to let go. Instead, we get a roller coaster ride of warm (sort of) and cold. Days sometimes look and feel like gardens can be planted, then hold on (for us up North) freezes come. For those down South, there is flooding. Winds? Sure. North and South. Gusts of over 50 mph. Stay inside. It's a Bummer out there.

For families, the kids are crawling the walls. Want to get outside. Cabin fever. Can't play outdoor sports because the fields are muddy (or maybe even frozen). Parents are at their wits end. What to do? Maybe an outdoor barbecue? Likely not, too cold. Inside gatherings? Sure, but lots to clean up afterwards. If outside, wear a sweater? No, jacket might be needed. Maybe a sweater AND a jacket. Gloves? Could be, better check the thermometer. Raincoat? Decisions. Why the complications? Bummer.

Allergies start to bother us and seemingly won't go away. Sneezing. Cough and cold medicines come out of the medicine cabinet. Unless you have a heated garage, not much fun working on your Corvair. Go for a drive? Maybe, but the roads might have been salted and/or sanded. Wash the car? Likely not in your driveway. And likely not at a car wash. Car shows? Not during Bummer.

Maybe a new song can be written about Bummer Time. At least something that can be hummed. During Bummer, we'd be too bummed to memorize the words.

So, good idea?

All in favor say, ah, ah, ah, choo!





# Rocky Mountain Corsa Meeting Minutes

**Meeting Date:** April 1, 2022      **Called to Order:** 7:03 pm  
**Location:** John Elway Chevrolet, Englewood CO      **# Present:** 22, on site, 4 on Zoom.

**Guests, long distance, new members:** None

## **Standard Business:**

Minutes of last meeting: Minutes from January and March were reviewed and approved. With a correction to March: Gail Levin asked about popular baskets, not Caron. February minutes are still being completed from the video from Zoom and will be available prior to the May meeting (along with the April minutes!)

Treasury report: The end of March balance was \$7,889.92. The Treasurer's report was approved.

**Mailbag:** Nothing.

## **Old Business:**

- Thanks Paul for a great newsletter and for continuing to produce them.
- There have been a handful of non-renewals. Tony will reach out. Several applications were shared at the meeting.
- Tri State, May 20-22, 2022. 10 rooms left in our block. 43 for banquet, 26. 7 members CNM reached out, deadlines coming up. Bruce brought raffle bucket, lots of material in. Corsa stuff coming this week, and Clark's about a month. SeeMore is available and Randy Karl offered to drive the trailer up. Ken proposed we split cost for fuel with PPCC, Tony seconded, motion passed. The Pipers asked about the spreadsheet review from the last team meeting for event and a number of items were filled in toward it. Schedule of events created by Karen. Suggest change of check-in to end at 7 so those working can attend dinner event. Can get into banquet room at 5, 1 hour early to set up, have room until 10 for teardown and cleanup, is this enough time given people showing up early. Looking for setup and hospitality volunteers. Paul helping with hospitality. Members can bring home made goods but individually wrap. No COVID restrictions at hotel at present. 10 planned and 8 accounted for gift baskets, no more needed. For silent auction there are 3 afgans and a quilt, a dashcam, collector truck, and 69 die cast Corvair, and there may be unexpected contributors at event. A wagon was discussed to pull supplies around between venues, but Tony offered to put all in Rampside for transport. Will reserve podium and audio, but Dylan may provide instead. A backup projector was located, and much lighter than Eric's 42" plasma TV offer! Karen will rough out a Powerpoint for banquet and will complete at event with pictures taken on site. Rick is working on an agenda. Insurance form coming to Rick's email. The mall show was discussed, how to stage, by group or random. Need to arrive at venue by 9:30. John Dinsdale volunteered to head this up. The hotel breakfast room is used for registration and hospitality and is about ½ the size of the room for this meeting.
- John Dinsdale, polled the group about what were Chevrolet's racing colors? Blue & white, assigned to US by FIA. He showed a blue and white afgan crocheted by Debbie's mother around 2018 for the silent auction.
- Eric Schakel mentioned his interest in Corvairs beginning at age 14. April 1, today, is the date that Steve opened Rear Engine Specialists, 55 years ago, when Eric was 14.
- 
- Continued

- Thanks Jimmie & Caron snacks tonight. Next volunteers: May: Charlie Beets. June: Chris Jackson. July: TBD, may not meet July 1.
- Chris Kimberley spoke about the All Corvair Show at Cripple Creek Historical Museum, Sat July 23, Pioneer Days weekend, across from Double Eagle Hotel/Casino. Call to make your own arrangement at \$112 w/Tax. The show is 9-4. Flyer to Dale and Paul.

#### **New Business:**

- Steve Goodman gave an Activities Review. Sat April 23, is E-Days at School of Mines in Golden, no registration or any more info available. Meet at 9 at 19<sup>th</sup> & Jackson, head in 09:30. April 24, Ice Cream Social in Palmer Lake. April 23/24 is RMVR driver's school at PPIR. May 8 (Mother's Day) Tri-State Tune-Up at Schakels, , flyer handed out. A show of hands was taken for attendance. May 15 PPCC, Florence Car Show. May 14/15 is RMVR Tribute event for Bill Miller. June 5 Exotic Car show and Concours at ACC. June 12 Laura Wilshire is arranging lunch up north in Loveland, CJ's Patio Grille, details to follow. Discussion of combining with meeting, but timing 9 days later than meeting date so may do both. Will consider doing additional "up north" events.
- Paul will make arrangements for the Wilshire picnic, Sun Aug 14 or 21, planning same location at Bear Creek Reservoir.

#### **Upcoming events:**

- See Steve's report above also
- May 6 (Fri) 7pm Monthly meeting, John Elway Chevrolet
- May 8, (Sun) Tri-State Tune-Up, Schakels
- May 14 (Sat) Show in Guffey.
- May 15 (Sun) Florence Merchants Car Show.
- July 23 (Sat) All Corvair Show, 9-4, Cripple Creek. See details above.
- Oct 2, (Sun) Pueblo Kiwanas Poker Run, 10-3.

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

- Charlie is looking for a center steering link for an FC. Seems to have been "stretched" from towing
- Tony noted poor sound from an aftermarket radio from Clarks on radio reception. But will check the antenna connection . . .
- Charlie shared about Chris Kimberley's oil pan repaired for leaks and found full of "stuff", like oil soaked RTV that didn't set up perhaps. Discussion of automatic transmission leaks from sheath of shift cable.
- No progress on John's car, no communication, planning to go get it with some helpers.

**50/50 Raffle:** \$45 to Club, \$45 to Winner Bruce Parizek

**Meeting adjourned** at 8:43 pm.

**Respectfully submitted** by Rob Brereton.

# 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* Dues can also be paid on line via PayPal at this link [www.rockymountaincorsa.org/dues](http://www.rockymountaincorsa.org/dues)

## **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>
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Past president	Ed Halpin	

## **Appointed Chairpersons**

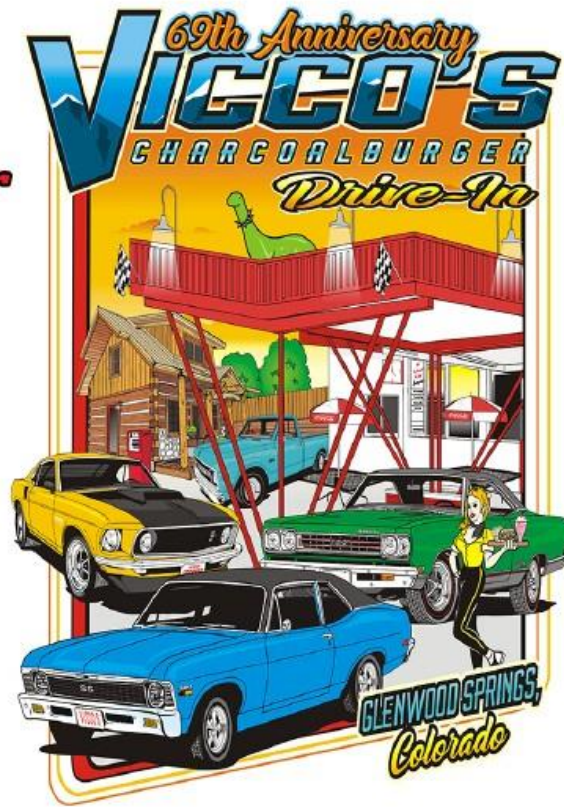
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1/3 Pound All Beef Burgers - Buffalo Burgers - Elk Burgers

***Vicco's  
Charcoalburger  
Drive-in  
welcomes the  
37th Annual  
Tri-State  
Corvair Meet***



***Join us for our  
Hot Summer Nights  
Cruise Series  
May 20 at 6:00 pm***



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All Tri-State attendees are invited to join us for the Hot Summer Nights Cruise Series on Friday evening. This event promises to be memorable and lots of fun—please plan to be there!!