

# The Denvair News

**Volume 47 Issue 8**

**September 2022**

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



**RMC Corvairs lined up at the 2022 Dale and Joan Wilshire Memorial picnic**

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Visit our website: [www.rockymountaincorsa.org](http://www.rockymountaincorsa.org)

# *High Plains Race Day*

What to do on a Saturday.

Dale Nielsen

If you haven't had the opportunity to take a pleasant drive (maybe in your Corvair) and watch our friends race their well prepped cars, you are missing a lot of good entertainment. A trip to either High Plains Raceway or Pueblo Motorsports Park is well worth the drive. Depending on the route you might take, there is some interesting scenery and pleasant driving. And if you're like me, you don't need much incentive to get the Corvair out for a good drive.

So, you get a chance to watch some friendly, somewhat intense racing. Then you can spend the time between races filling up on some pretty good grub and gather with the guys to replay the the race and laughing about lots of irrelevant things.

In addition to enjoying the races, you can support an extremely worthwhile cause. Once each year RMVR partners with The Morgan Adams Foundation to hold the Race Against Kids Cancer. Entry to the races is free. But you can show support by making a donation in the name of your favorite driver. Although supporting our guys would seem to be the way to go, you can donate and/or support any driver & car you prefer.

Supporting a good cause and spending a fun day at the races seems like a win-win situation.





# Colorado Council Car show

The Rocky Mountain Car Show presented by the Collector Car Council of Colorado, Saturday the 6th of August up at Rocky Mountain Metro Airport, Broomfield, A special area was set aside for Corvairs. Entry was easier than years past. We all entered at the same time and parked together. The show was very well attended with lots of people wandering around and asking questions. The cars in attendance always seemed to have a crowd around them. With our special section, Corvairs were front and center on the show field. The day was really hot but the group stayed cool.

**Kory Levin and Ken Schiffner staying cool**



**Steve Belanger a bit late but found a spot.**



**Jim Reich showing Marc his LM 4-door**



**John Green drove up from Castle Rock**



## *A Drive-by to honor Jerry Gerteisen*



**RMC cars lined up waiting for the Drive-by**



**Jerry Gerteisen**

A call in from Nancy Gerteisen came in sometime in July. Jerry was not doing well and would appreciate a drive-by by the RMC club. Of course we would. We would be honored. Jerry and Nancy were mainstays of the club for many years. They attended Tri States and picnics and even meetings. They would drive down to John Elway Chevrolet on Fridays, usually with Bud and Linda Duncan. Always joining in with the conversation, ready to help with any chores.

So on August 7<sup>th</sup> at 2PM the RMC group lined up for a drive by of Jerry and Nancy's home. Marc Miller led the way followed by yours truly, Jim Reich, Steve and Barbe' Belanger, Larry Yoder, Steve Goodman, Eric and Linnae Schakel, Rick Beets, Mike and Karen Piper, Dale Nielsen, and Tony and Diane Lawler. Eleven cars in all. The group made 3 passes by the Gerteisen home. Jerry was on the front stoop enjoying the time with many of his friends and relatives. There must have been 30 or more there. His son did a video of the occasion. A very nice afternoon and a good feeling on the drive home.

Unfortunately a glitch prevented very many usable pictures of the event but the very good video is available on the RMC website: [www.rockymountaincorsa.org](http://www.rockymountaincorsa.org).

Some sad news. We just learned that Jerry passed away this week. We will miss him immensely. Our thoughts and prayer go out to Nancy.



# Picnic Time 2022

## *The Dale and Joan Wilshire Memorial Picnic*

It's been long hot summer and the last two years have been a bit hard on the club. We have had some very rewarding events like the Tri- State and the Tune-Up but nothing really takes the place of our summer picnic, at least not since the RMC club has been together. The Bear Creek Lake Park is a beautiful setting, bright and airy, wide open with a great view of the mountain.

This last August 14<sup>th</sup> 24 members drove their Corvairs down to the park's Mountain View shelter for our annual picnic get together. The day was great, not too warm with a breeze to keep things cool.

Rick Beets brought the burgers and brats and everyone brought a dish to share. Rick did the grill duty as well as Mike Piper was a bit late. Laura Wilshire came from Loveland. Garrie Fox came up from Colorado Springs. Micheal Brittan and his grandson Joseph drove from Conifer in their Spyder convert.

In all we had 14 Corvairs lined up in the parking lot. That's more than the club had in Glenwood Springs in May. Of course the May snow storm did lower the Tri-State number.



**Michael Brittan and Joseph**



# Rocky Mountain Corsa Presidents Column

Greetings fellow Corvista

As all you probably have seen, we lost another valued and longtime member, Jerry Gerteisen. My deepest condolences to the family. Jerry was one of the first members to welcome me when I first joined RMC. I'm very glad I was able to make the drive by a couple weeks ago. Jerry, I will miss you.

One to more pleasant news.

Please join me in welcoming our newest members, Andrew Child and the Hagemann's, Mark and MellaDee! Andrew inherited his 63 Monza from his grandparents and Mark and MellaDee recently acquired a very nice 66 Monza Coupe with factory air from Chris Shade.

It seems like this is one of the busiest Augusts I've seen in a long time. Starting with Corvairs making a very respectable representation at the CCCC Car show out at Rocky Mountain Regional airport we had 11 or 12 cars (filled our allotted space and then some) on the 6<sup>th</sup>. Jerry's drive by was the next day, Sunday. If you missed it, you can watch a video on [YouTube](#) thanks to Jerry's son. Then it was great to see everyone and their cars out at Bear Creek Lake Park for the annual Wilshire memorial picnic. Weather was perfect and the company couldn't have been better. On the 20<sup>th</sup> Tony, Chris Kimberly and I trekked out to Yuma Colorado to visit the Orphanage Car Museum to catch the exhibit of old and rare hood ornaments. They also had a number of "orphaned" cars from the bygone past that included a Crosley, a Corvair, and a Citroen. New members Mark and MellaDee joined us for lunch and a long chat. Drive was a bit long, but worth the trip. I look forward to an opportunity to go back with a larger group. To finish up the month, Tony and I are heading south with Chris Kimberly and her car in Tony's trailer to Albuquerque NM to help CNM member Pat Hall install a new motor and transmission into her 64 Convertible. Give the number of miles on Chris's car, it was only a matter of time when something major gave up on her. Since the engine let go on her trip to Cripple Creek in July, it makes sense to do the transmission at the same time. As luck would have it, Pat had freshly rebuilt units of both.

Hopefully you have gotten the opportunities to drive your Corvair this summer, I know I've put a bunch of miles on mine.

Hope to see everyone at the next club meeting next Friday the 2<sup>nd</sup> at John Elway Chevrolet at 7pm.

Rick

## RMC Event Calendar

**September 2<sup>nd</sup> -----RMC Club meeting 7PM** 6200 S. Broadway Englewood. I'm sure there will be a zoom session available to join the meeting remotely.

**September 17<sup>th</sup>-----Fall Harvest Car Show.** Fort Morgan, CO. The entire festivity goes Friday, Saturday, Sunday but the actual show is Saturday 10AM to 4PM downtown Ft. Morgan. Car registration is \$40.

**Sunday Sept 25<sup>th</sup> ----- 12:30PM. Fall drive to Zoka's Restaurant,** in Pine, CO. This year, the PPCC and the RMC are combining the Fall Drive. We will have a special seating area in the restaurant along with a modified menu to select from to make it easier on the kitchen to prepare our food. If you are interested in caravanning, we will meet up at the Denver Botanical Gardens at Chatfield, at 10:45 and depart at 11:00. We will be driving up through Deer Creek Canyon to S. Turkey Creek Rd to Route 285W to Pine Grove. From there, we turn on Pine Valley Rd, (Route 126), and the restaurant is 16940 Pine Valley Rd. There are several other routes that can be taken to get to the restaurant if not caravanning.

**I need to know the number of people in your group who will be attending so Zoka's can have the correct seating arranged for us. Please let me know if by Sept 18<sup>th</sup>. If you plan to caravan with the group, please let me know so we can be sure not to leave you behind.**

**Chris Kimberly**

**Saturday Dec. 10<sup>th</sup>----- RMC Xmas Party at the Black Bear Diner** at I/225 and Iliff. Meet in the lobby at 2PM. More details to follow we get a bit closer. Thanks Gail Levin.



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# *99th annual DeltaRado days car show*

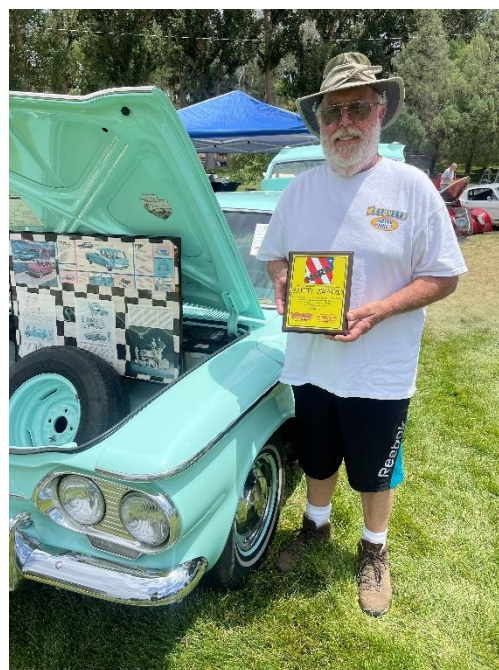
Phil Degroot

July 23 was the 99th annual DeltaRado days car show put on by the delta street rodders car club. DeltaRado days was started in delta county to celebrate the farming and ranching heritage of the area. Activities during DeltaRado days include parades, beauty pageants, a rodeo and most importantly a car show. The show had a great turn out drawing cars from all over western Colorado and eastern Utah. Most importantly, there were three Corvairs in attendance! Mike Head brought his beautiful gold late model coupe, William Pearce brought his stunning wagon, and of course I brought my early sedan.



The three of us up early and parked together for a great representation of several different Corvair models. Also in attendance were representatives of the national street rod association (NSRA) who were offering free safety inspections for anyone interested. Naturally, the three Corvairs passed the safety inspection with flying colors. William was presented with the NSRA safety award for his 1961 wagon. William has been a long time collaborator with the NSRA and remarked that a good percentage of the classic cars in attendance had at one time or another been in his shop in Delta County for repairs.

Despite the rather oppressive heat, it was a great show and I was thrilled to see our Corvair clubs represented on the western slope. Congratulations to William for the award! And thank you for championing the cause of periodic safety inspections on our classic cars. Often times it is easier to overlook safety issues on a vehicle that is infrequently driven. Next year will be the 100th anniversary of Deltado days, I would love to see more Corvairs there next year!





# Confused

Ken Schiffner

I'm confused.

Regarding automobile designs, particularly the front how did we go from this to



To this.....



Or maybe even this.....



To this???????



continued

Confused continued

Now the brass radiator, etc. makes some sense. Water cooled engines need a radiator to exchange the excess engine heat to the air. Brass is classy, draws attention. Creates an image. So, lots of early water-cooled vehicles went the brass route. Different shapes, different sizes. If brass was too pricey for the model vehicle, maybe nickel or even chrome plated would work. For trucks, etc., painted was OK.

With the Corvair, no radiator, engine in the rear, no need for the radiator surround. Being an economy car, no need for the brass. No need for the large front air entry points, scoops, etc. Keep it simple. Maybe use quad headlights and some sort of trim to indicate the model year. With vehicles like the Avanti, the designers cleaned up the front end so much as to make it distinctive. Even the radiator air entry under the bumper. Certainly is eye catching (still is after 40+ years). Other vehicles like the Jaguar XKE displayed "clean" designs, rounded surfaces, minimal ins and outs. Other vehicles of that era hid the radiator behind any number of different grille designs and shapes. Horizontal bars, parallel bars, "egg crate" designs, headlights separated or integrated into the grille or into tops of fenders.

But recently, things have changed. I don't know about you, but I think the change is not for the better.

The Subaru shown is just an example. It seems like recent designers were looking over each other's shoulders. Why all the similarities?

What is that panel thing hanging below what formerly was the bumper area? It seems like every new passenger vehicle has some sort of variation on the theme. Aerodynamics? For plowing snow? To make the vehicle look "aggressive"? And why all the changes in direction in the front-end skin? To needlessly direct air to the fog lights? And the horizontal slot where the hood meets the other surfaces? To make the vehicle look wider? I can understand integrating the headlights (or today's lighting equivalents) into the front-end design but why all the other surface complexity? Some of the features even wrap around and extend to the area around the front wheel openings. Why? I'm confused.

I have a theory. Older front-end designs were for the most part executed in metal. Pressed, formed, welded, contoured. These new front ends are molded in plastic. The modern designer can add as many ins and outs, curves and ridges, surrounds and openings to their heart's desire. It is easy to get carried away. Imagine the temptation! At some point, instead of saying, "OK, we're done", they seemingly said, let's throw in some more curves. Heck, it's only plastic.



# Rocky Mountain Corsa Meeting Minutes

**Meeting Date:** August 5, 2022      **Called to Order:** 7:03 pm  
**Location:** John Elway Chevrolet, Englewood CO      **# Present:** 16 on site, 3 on Zoom.

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

## Standard Business:

Minutes of last meeting: Minutes from July meeting were reviewed and approved.

Treasury report: The end of July balance was \$7,278.04.

**Mailbag:** Flyer for the Fall Harvest Car Show flyer, Sept 16-18, Fort Morgan. Placed on table.

## Old Business:

- Thanks, Paul, for a great newsletter and for continuing to produce them.
- Discussion of CCCC Air and Car Show Sat August 6. Ken and Rick are going early and directing traffic. We will have a specific show area for Corvairs and other air-cooled cars. Will do several awards. There will be some shade, but we need coolers for weight.
- Tonight's snacks by the Breretons. Thanks Trish & Natalie for setup. Upcoming: Ken Schiffner, Sept. Levins, Oct. Paul Seyforth, Nov.
- Cripple Creek show report: Tony and Diane won People's Choice with Rampside. Unrestored '61 wagon from Colorado Springs won Director's Choice. There were 6 mercy votes for Chris's car. Great show, good weather, free museum admission. Well set up, well publicized. No donkeys, lots of train activity, bed races were fun. Mike's post-event advice, stay on Hwy 67 until Deckers for a fun drive.

## New Business:

- Membership: New member Andrew Child has a white '63 2-door that has been in the family since new with lots of family history.
- Paul S spoke about the Drive-by at Gerteisen home 2pm Sunday. Sent out in RMC list. Dover Court place to stage.
- Chris K discussed a drive to Yuma CO Sat 8/20 to The Orphanage, car makes out of production. Catered lunch is \$10, need count by 8/11. Partnership with Forney. Feature is Mascots: Radiator Caps & Hood Ornaments, also digital art, thresher display. 105 miles from Denver.
- Rick B noted that the Forney Museum, would love to have us as a group, then proposed to go to nearby brewery after.
- CCCC Report by Rick: The Havana Cruise, didn't survive COVID. There is also a new management group. As a result, they lost free storage, but now are able to store at Forney Museum in exchange for a volunteer car cleaning on 3rd Sat. 1 club a month comes before opening for dusting and cleaning. Supplies, donuts, and coffee provided. Will get on calendar.
- Paul reported on the Wilshire Memorial Picnic, Sun Aug 14, 11am. Reserved the Mountain View shelter at Bear Creek Reservoir. Club provides hamburgers, brats, condiments, charcoal, plates, napkins, cups, water. The rest is potluck.
- Dale N discussed Race against Cancer in Byers at High Plains Raceway. In the "Fun'd Race" we moved Eric and Jon up to 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. They held the lead for quite a while, then eventually were passed. Jon put together video ride-along of his first race. See it on our

website. Also discussed Sept event at Speedway. RMVR is always looking for members & volunteers. Can get free lunch ride for working a corner.

- Chris K discussed the Fall Tour Sun 9/25 to Zoka's Restaurant in Pine. Special menu for faster service. If you want to drive together, meet at Chatfield Botanical Gardens at 11.

#### **Upcoming events:**

- Aug 14 (Sun) Wilshire Memorial Picnic, notes above.
- Aug 20 (Sat) Yuma CO, The Orphanage. See notes above.
- Aug 27 (Sat) Hub City Car Show in Limon
- Sept 2 (Fri) 7pm Monthly meeting, John Elway Chevrolet
- Sept 25 (Sun) Fall Tour, see notes above.

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

- Chris looking for a running 110 engine due to low compression and knocking noise.
- Rick had a failed vac advance / retard module on way back from Cripple Creek, the diaphragm failed. There were also threads on a carb screw near idle passages which failed. With both repaired, it runs much better.
- Mike found a loose ground wire which might explain loss of power in corners. He needs to take some corners to find out!
- Eric S had a massive oil leak while racing as the oil filler tube popped out, an unusual failure. He had to drop out since he can't race without an oil pressure sensor. Caps sometimes leak, and Steve makes a spring-loaded baffle system for the oil filler cap. Care taken to prevent dropping something into oil filler tube.
- Dillon is out following a band with his Greenbrier. Near Cleveland he had a rear axle bearing start moving and got local help with repair.
- Dale shared similar adventure about his 1<sup>st</sup> Corvair, a '60, when he learned you could drive to OH from IN for beers at 18. The car started to wobble, hit the brakes, but nothing happened as the axle moved out so far the drum cleared the shoes. Got help, got car fixed on a Sat at a dealership, and made it to Cleveland for beers.
- John Dinsdale visited Ryan's Rods and saw his car buried 3 or 4 cars deep outside. The fender is not on car. It is promised ready for 60<sup>th</sup> HS reunion Sept in Utah. Asked for pic of fender on car. Coming back Sat Aug 13<sup>th</sup>. He had called for "welfare check" on car after 1.5 years.

**50/50 Raffle:** No 50/50 tonight.

**Meeting adjourned** at 8:35 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>
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**

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