

The Denvair News

Volume 48 Issue 2

February 2023

Official publication of the Rocky Mountain Corsa Club



Remember this place? The 2010 Tri-State in Canon City.

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New Year's Brunch at Estes Park

Our group of twenty-one met at The Big Horn Restaurant in Estes Park on New Year's Day. Rick Beets and Ken Schiffner arrived early and started off with coffee in our private room. Soon Kory and Gail Levin joined them to relax with more coffee, as shortly the rest of our Fellow Brunchers began filing into the restaurant. Besides those named above, there were The Olwine Family, The Brereton Family, Maxine and Paul Seyforth, Chuck Riblett, Bruce Parizek, Karen and Mike Piper, Sandy and John Drage, and, in Spirit, Steve Goodman who had to stay behind through no choice of his, own missing the New Year's Brunch for the first time ever. We missed your good company, Steve, but felt your presence!

The weather cooperated this year. Estes Park did not get the 6 inches of snow that was forecast. The roads were good for the drive, and everyone arrived ready to celebrate the first day of 2023 with friends!

The Big Horn Restaurant was a new venue for us, and we were more than pleasantly surprised with the fantastic, friendly service, delicious, large portions of food (lots of to-go boxes left with us for a second meal), and spacious accommodation in our own separate area. We had plenty of room to get up and move around to mingle. There has been some talk of making this a double-header to bring in 2024!

Happy and Healthy New Year Wishes To All!



Dave and Brenna Olwine & family



The Brereton family

A few more pictures



The only Corvair
at the brunch.
Driven there
from Fort Collins
by Dave Olwine.

Rick Beets, Ken
Schiffner, and Sandy
Drage waiting on brunch.



Kory Levin, Chuck
Riblett, Rick, and Ken
enjoying the company.

Vice president's Column

Confession

Ken Schifftner

Dinah Shore ("See the USA in my Chevrolet...") was my first love. She was "attractive" which was good enough for me. I'd watch her on the family black and white TV. She was energetic, had a great singing voice, and the show had famous guests who also seemed to really enjoy being with her.

Her other talents included, given live TV, she had to change outfits very quickly. This was in sharp contrast with my mother and sister who seemed to take forever. My mother had the excuse of needing to "put on her face" and that took time. If we'd be away over night or longer, she'd also need to wash the dishes and vacuum the rugs. I guess she wouldn't want to be known as the keeper of a recently robbed dirty house. My sister had no such worries (just what to wear, I guess). As a result, my Dad and I spent lots of time impatiently waiting in the car for them.

I guess with Dinah the true attraction for me was really the "See the USA" song thing. My parents at the time had a 1947 Chevy Fleetline coupe. Split center seat. Family outings consisted of drives on weekends, usually Sundays. My sister and I in the back seat would be repeatedly told to "sit down and I'm not going to tell you again" by either or sometimes both parents. The challenge for me was to be able to "See". My sister always liked to stand behind the split front seat so she could look forward. My option was left to look side to side and maybe steal from the bag of travel treats my mother, in gross error, told us to share. (She should have known better).

With the drives, in our Chevrolet, it was almost patriotic to do the "seeing." Heck, "America is asking you to call" right?". So, who were we to say no? We did lots of seeing.

What Dinah was really saying though was that we should see our Chevrolet dealer. So, we did that too. And we weren't the only ones.

Showroom visits and gala new model events (hot dogs, music, search lights, balloons, etc.) were memorable and crowded. (Dealerships did those things back then). Sales were good.

When I went with my Dad and a neighbor to see the new Corvair. The neighbor was a bit of a skeptic. He once had owned a Hudson and believed every engine had to be "straight". The Hudson had a straight 8 (flathead no less). "Best engine ever made" he'd say. (Full disclosure, in 1957, he bought a Chevy with a V-8! "Second best engine ever made" he'd then say).

True, Chevys at the time had to have straight 6's. I recall him looking down with disdain, and a bit of disbelief, at the Corvair flat, opposed 6. "Why did they change it?" he asked the salesman. Even later that day I saw him wander back for another look at the Corvair engine, frown still on his face. I thought the Corvair engine at the time was the cleverest thing I had ever scene.

Plus, didn't Dinah tell me to go see it? I wanted to be faithful. She, after all, was my girl.

Activities Update

This particular part of the newsletter is generally been filled with a list of activities. This year it is not the case. The club was unable to fill the position of activity chair and so no activities have been preplanned or at least nothing has been passed on to the newsletter editor (me). I know the activity chair is not an easy job to fill. Chris Kimberly did an excellent job while she served 3 years ago but those that followed were uncomfortable in the position. But we need to do the activities the club as enjoyed in the past, so I have a suggestion. Why don't we divvy up the workload.

Start off with the Meeting. No preplanning needed here. The meetings are held every first Friday for the month, 7PM, at John Elway Chevrolet. About 20 -25 members attend. Round robin refreshments.

Forney's Museum There has been discussion of a return to Forney's Museum. Not to clean cars this time but for a March club visit, and then lunch. Just need someone to jump up and make the arraignments.

The E-days School of Mines car show (March, April) has always been popular with club. Need someone to contact the school, find out when and where and then let everyone know.

Tri-State Tune Up. April, early May has been the time for get together at the Schakel spread. I haven't checked with the Schakels yet but I bet they plan to host it again this year.

Tri- State in Salida, CO. May 19-20th See the information on a following page. No RMC planning needed. Pikes peak is the host. All we have to do is attend. Be sure to register with Pikes peak and the hotel.

June and July are sort of dead months with the club. The Pikes Peak club does have some activities that RMC is invited to. This would be a great time to schedule a northern club meeting, maybe a breakfast meeting. How about it northern folks?

August gets a bit busy but the club always makes time for the Dale and Joan Wilshire Memorial Picnic. I usually organize this activity. We rent a shelter at a park and get together second or third Sunday in August.

Continued

Continued

Activities

September usually includes a Fall Foliage tour. The last few years RMC has been tagging along with Pikes Peak group. That's OK, but if someone with another idea could step up to organize a tour of our own that would be much appreciated.

The annual Christmas party has been organized and hosted by Kory and Gail Levin. They also do the same for New Year's brunch. RMC is very fortunate to have them step up as they have for the last 5 years.

These suggestions are the minimum for the activities list. There could be more; several car shows are in the mix, Corvairs and Burgers luncheon meets are still cool, and how about a garage tour or two. Come on folks, step up, organize, advertise, host, and then report back on your favorite activity to the newsletter editor (me).

One more item: **Dues, Dues Dues!**

January is the annual dues paying month, for every one. Except if you have paid ahead or joined the club in the last half of the year. Dues can be paid in cash (\$25) at the Friday club meeting, in check (\$25) made payable to RMC and mailed to John Dinsdale, 3240 Billings St., Aurora, CO 80011, or with Pay Pal (\$26) made out to RMC. So far 29 members have renewed so we are half way there, almost.



OUR 50TH ANNIV - 2023

Thanks to the support of 1,000's of Corvair owners over the last 50 years we continue to grow and reproduce more parts every year. Have a great year and enjoy our monthly sales and specials all year-Joan & Cal Clark

SPECIAL SALES EVERY MONTH- each month we'll send an email (if you have signed up) and list in a sale section on our Home page

FREE 50th MEMENTO gifts with your first order in 2023

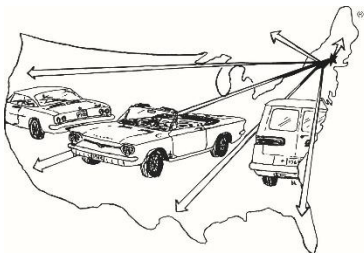
LIST YOUR CORVAIR FOR SALE- NO CHARGE- sell your Corvair or a spare you just don't have time for! For all of 2023 we will list it on our website at **NO CHARGE-** check website (Corvairs For Sale)

CLARK CAR SHOW & PARTS SALES- See our 2023 supplement or website for more details. We expect around 130 cars, and will offer tours of our buildings including the Upholstery Dept. Slide show by Cal. Parts on sale! **SEPT 16, 2023 - rain or shine**

2023 SUPPLEMENT- On our website or as a hard copy -many new repros & updates.

INTERNATIONAL CORSA CONVENTION -Wisconsin- We will be there Tues, Wed & Thurs with lots of recent repros on display. Stop by and say hello. Convention dates June 19 - June 24

CATALOG- over 450 pages, free with an order, \$8 postpaid in USA



Clark's Corvair Parts
400 Mohawk Trail
Shelburne Falls, MA 01370

413-625-9776

www.corvair.com

CORSA News

Happy 2023! Let's make this the year to get your Corvairs out on the road to be seen and enjoyed. Watch for car shows and events where you can take your Corvair to show it off. Every Corvair is a great car to share with the public! Every car is a way to promote Corvairs.

Start your 2023 planning to attend great events that will be held throughout the year. Events start as early as February in Florida. There is one almost every month where you can show off your car, visit Corvair friends and shop for parts. Be sure to check the Events page on the website. And if you are hosting an event, please list it soon! Current and Upcoming Events (corvair.org).

Don't Forget: You still have a couple of days to donate to the Corvair Preservation Foundation, a 501c3 organization, and gain tax benefits for charitable contributions. Of course, we welcome donations any time of the year. It's easy- and can be done here: Support our Corvair Causes.

Check out the latest video from the December 15th Meet Up Zoom call with guest presenter, Richard Lentinello at <https://youtu.be/iYTyFwxgSjM>. You will hear Richard's thoughts on Corvairs and vintage car collecting. He also talks about his new magazine, Crankshaft, and why he wrote "Corvair Style". Subscribe to the Corvair Society of America YouTube channel to get notifications of new videos. And all the previous videos are on this channel.

Meet Ups in 2023 will be held as presenters are available. If you are interested in presenting, contact corsamembership@gmail.com.

International Corvair Society of America Convention is in the Wisconsin Dells June 19th – 24th, 2023. Time to start planning for a great event! It will be held at the Chula Vista Resort- check it out here: Chula Vista Resort: Wisconsin Dells Water Park Resort & Hotel There are many room choices, lots of parking, and beautiful, scenic drives. You can find the information to book rooms here: CORSA Headlines (corvair.org) To book rooms, you must call the hotel. Registration for the convention will open in April but book those rooms now!

Show us your winter projects! Show us your winter drives! Post your pictures to [corsa_corvair_official](#) on Instagram and let us see how you are spending your winter getting those cars ready for driving. We also want to see those Corvairs on the road in winter sun or snow too! Corvairs are for all seasons. Happy 2023! Let's make this the year to get your Corvairs out on the road to be seen and enjoyed. Watch for car shows and events where you can take your Corvair to show it off. Every Corvair is a great car to share with the public! Every car is a way to promote Corvairs.

Corvair Society of America PO Box 68, Long Lake, MN 55356 Website: www.corvair.org Phone: (630) 403-5010 NEWS C

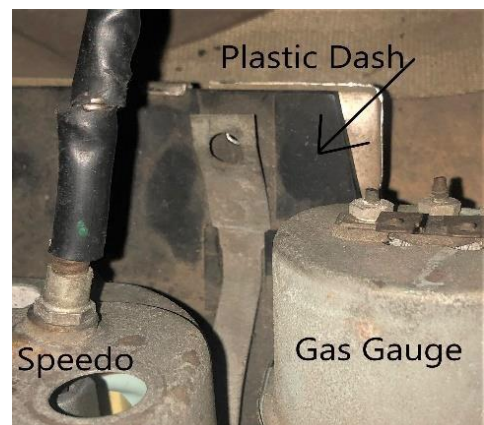
LM Dash Ground

Fran Schmit

First off, let's make certain we all know what we mean by "the Ground". In your house you must have a Ground Wire. That means there is an Electrical path referenced to the EARTH (looks like dirt and usually called ground) back at the transformer supplying your house with its 220V Power. In Automotive circuits we have just 12V plus and minus (Red and Black). One side (Black/Ground) of all the Electric Circuits is connected into the body of the vehicle (Plastic cars have a special wire run for this purpose because the body cannot carry the current). The Body, or this special wire, is a common wire to all of the car's circuits – meaning they are all, permanently, hooked together on that same Battery Post! They are connected together the same as all devices at home are hooked to a common wire. In CORVAIRs/FCs we call this common electrical connection the „Ground“, connected to the Negative (-) Battery Terminal.

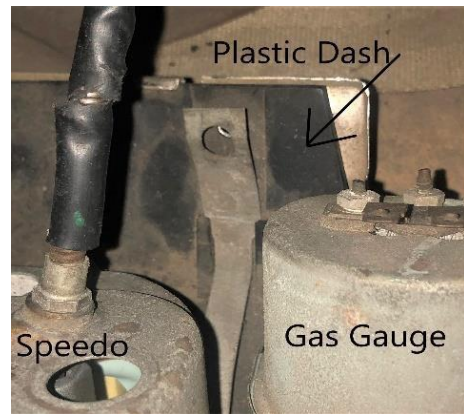
The other wire in this setup is the HOT lead. So called because you can get a good HOT spark by touching this lead to practically every conducting thing in the vehicle. Shop manuals sometimes point out a terminal that is HOT at all times! Because ALL cars, manufactured today, use the Negative Terminal of their Battery as the ground, it is possible to touch the metal bumpers of separate vehicles together and have a larger common Ground – sometimes useful in Jump Starting! NOT recommended for the casual motorist! Certainly NOT for cars with Plastic Bumpers! The HOT lead is the one connected to the RED/Positive Battery Terminal. A big HOT lead goes to the Starter whose case is "Grounded", completing the connection back to the Battery.

As we've just seen the vehicle is one large Negative Terminal with discrete Positive wires spread about to direct the electricity through various switches or gauges. There is a situation that is somewhat unusual in the Plastic Dash of our Late Model (LM) CORVAIRs. Covered by a thin Aluminum sheet to make it pretty. Ordinarily it would hardly ever be noticed except for a slight anomaly. First off, because it is a nonconductive Plastic Panel with a bunch of electrical devices mounted to it, those devices must have their individual appropriate control wires coming to them. They all – each one – must also have a Ground wire. Being a „Ground“ wire, it is common to "the body" but there is only one point in this Dash's ground that is connected to „the body“. Again, this would hardly ever be noticed except for an oddity in the heating system. Southern CORVAIRs rarely notice this condition.



LM Dash Ground continued

In colder climates there are often wet-footed passengers in CORVAIRs. The heater blows strong hot winds on those wet feet and sends the moisture flying about inside a vehicle that has this cold Plastic Dash Panel. Moisture condenses on both side of this panel and sometimes there's enough condensation to actually have water running down the backside of the Dash. Because the LM Dash panel is nearly Horizontal at the bottom, condensed water can pool there. Water pools other places too, but here's where the "rubber hits the road". There's only one place on the LM Dash where the Dash Ground's „flatwire“ contacts the „Body“. Oh, this „ground“ing conductor is not copper but just a steel strap used for this innocent little function. This Ground „wire“ contact to the Body is at the little chrome plated screw next to the steering column – right where condensate goes. The screw secures the Dash and in so doing, presses the flat-stock Grounding Connector against the Steel Structure. Because it got wet occasionally, that bottom end got rusty and lost contact, or rusted off! Causing serious Gauge malfunctions! EMs and FCs do not have Plastic Dash Panels – so they get a pass on this Tip! If/When you remove that LM Dash Panel you can do some R&R on the Ground strap. If not R&Ring, you could just lube the strap you have by squirting a little oil on it. Also check that the Dash mounting Screw is snug.



Rocky Mountain Corsa Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: January 6, 2023 **Called to Order:** 7:09 pm
Location: John Elway Chevrolet, Englewood CO **# Present:** 17 on site, 2 on Zoom.

Guests, long distance, new members:

Standard Business:

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

Treasury report: The end of December balance was \$7,104.00. Treasurer's Report was approved.

Mailbag: None

Old Business:

- Thanks, Paul, for a great newsletter and for continuing to produce them.
- Tonight's snacks are provided by Bruce Parizek. The Schakels will cover February and Dale Nielsen will cover March.
- Thanks to Cory and Gail for arranging a great Holiday Party The event was well attended, the Gift Exchange went well, and there was a sizeable collection of gifts for Toys for Tots. We were well taken care of at the Black Bear Café.
- Also thanks to Cory and Gail for setting up the New Year's Brunch. The Big Horn Restaurant did an excellent job serving us in a private room at the back. A great time was had by those in attendance.
- Membership:
 - Dues are now due, \$25 for cash or check, \$26 for Paypal. Please pay by end of February.
 - Still unpaid from 2021: Michael Brittan, Greg Cerza, Chad Church, Eddie Floyd, Marc Miller, George Murnoch, Dave Olwine (2 yrs), Robert Remick, Jeff Romeo, Howard Steward.
- There was discussion of renewing our membership in Collector Car Council of Colorado (CCCC) for 2023. Vote was held, none were opposed
- 2023 Tri-State update: There is another planning meeting (PPCC) Monday. Event is May 19-21 in Salida hosted by PPCC. Tony and Diane are coordinating gift baskets and raffle prizes. Hotel Registration is open on RMC or PPCC website.

New Business:

- Appointed positions: Tony continuing for membership, Dale continuing as Webmaster, Paul continuing the newsletter, Steve continuing as Historian. Activities Coordinator needed.
- Activities discussion:
 - ACC Concours, June 5. 12 Corvairs in our area, club-judged. There will be section with cars of each decade.
 - Discussion of Northern events. Budweiser plant Hops and Hot Rods was mentioned. Also tour at NCAR Boulder and Holy Rollers in Broomfield.
 - Golden SuperCruise starts March, unofficially folks cruise first Sat of every month.
 - School of Mines E-Days, no info yet. The school committee hasn't met yet.
 - Wilshire Picnic in August
 - CCCC Air / Car Show August 5

- Yuma Orphan Car Museum Event.
- National Convention, WI, June 19-24.
- Club Business cards were available on the front table. Take some.
- Mike Piper brought Decals. 5 innies, 25 outies. These are to be given out.
- There was a question about another get-together at BJ's Restaurant. No plans yet.
- Jacket Patch discussion, looking into costs. Bring jackets next month.

Upcoming events: (See also discussion above.)

- 2/3 (Fri) 7pm Monthly meeting, John Elway Chevrolet

For Sale or Wanted, Recently Purchased, Projects

- John Dinsdale said that Ed mentioned occasionally losing power with the '67 Sedan. John first experienced this on way back from Forney Museum but has not investigated due to cold. Solutions discussed were pickup screen loaded up and vented vs non-vented gas caps.
- Dusty discussed ongoing carpet installation which is still wrinkly. Instructions say to do this in summer. A steamer was suggested. Otherwise, it will mold to fit eventually. Dusty also avoided removing shifter, but that caused problems.
- Steve has 6 each of 62-63 wire wheel covers with 2-bar spinners for 13" wheels in used condition. Also has some old car books including Fred Puhn's How to Make Cars Handle and a turbocharging book.
- John Dinsdale, discussing car with friend in AZ. Doesn't have picture of car. Looking for copies. Also, ignition key coded wrong way.
- Dylan has a completely gone through EM gas heater, does not fit a Greenbrier.
- Rick has item for sale, Fancy Corvair key blanks for LM. See him if interested.
- A free Clarks XL T-shirt was up for grabs on the front table.

50/50 Raffle: To Club: \$38 To Winner: \$38 Winner: Dale Neilsen

Meeting adjourned 8:30. Respectfully submitted by Rob Brereton.

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737 West 10th Street
Loveland CO 80537
Cell 970-635-4769
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internet: <http://rearenginespecialists.com>

RMC Home 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* Dues can also be paid on line via PayPal at this link 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	prez@rockymountaincorsa.org
Vice President:	Ken Schiffner	veep@rockymountaincorsa.org
Secretary:	Rob Brereton	sec@rockymountaincorsa.org
Treasurer:	John Dinsdale	treas@rockymountaincorsa.org
Member at large	Tony Lawler	m.a.l@rockymountaincorsa.org
Past president	Ed Halpin	

Appointed Chairpersons

Activities Chair:	Open	activity@rockymountaincorsa.org
Auditor:	John Dawson	auditor@rockymountaincorsa.org
CCCC Rep:	Rick Beets	cccc-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