

The Denvair News

Volume 48 Issue 5

June 2023

Official Publication of the Rocky Mountain Corsa Club



John Dinsdale's 1965 Sedan navigating the back country some years ago

In this issue

Tri-State Tuneup

Upcoming events

Tri-State results

Diagnosing fuel problems

Minutes

Ken Schiffner

Paul Seyforth

Kathy Green

Mike Dawson

Rob Brereton



Visit our website: www.rockymountaincorsa.org

A Tune Up at the Schakels

The first event of the year, May 30th 2023. Some members the club gathered at the Schakel's spread to enjoy the food and the company. Linae Schakel is a marvelous host and Eric always has a good story to tell or show off his latest adventure. Some eighteen members were counted along with 10 Corvairs. A great kickoff to 2023.



Upcoming Events

June 2nd 7:00 PM at John Elway Chevrolet, 6200 S. Broadway. RMC's monthly meeting. Hope to see you there.

Colorado Collector Car Council's has 2 remaining events that the club would be interested in this year.

June 4th Sunday 9-3. Colorado Concours, Arapahoe Community College.

August 5th 10-2 Rocky Mountain Car Show, Metro Airport, Broomfield

August 13th 11-3 Dale and Joan Wilshire Memorial picnic. Dale Neilson has made reservations at Lakewood's Bear Creek Lake Park. Keep the date open. Details in the August newsletter.

August 12th Saturday 9-2 Holy Rollers Car Show, Broomfield

September 9-10 RMVR Fall Sprints, Pueblo MotorSports Park. Racing and we are invited.



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
internet: <http://rearenginespecialists.com>

BLACK HAWK ENGINEERING

Precision Mechanism Design & Fabrication

Chuck Riblett, P.E.

737 West 10th Street
Loveland CO 80537
Cell 970-635-4769

chuck@blackhawkengr.com



2023 Tri- State Results

One thing you may say about the PPCC club. They do know how to host a Tri-State meet. Canyon City, Montrose, Cripple Creek and now Salida. The weather going up wasn't so friendly but it was once folks were there the weather was very mild. The Hampton Inn was very accommodating, the town was interesting, the show as fun, and the banquet (I'm told) was outstanding. There were 104 entrants, 41 Corvairs and 90 attendees. The following were the winners of the 9 show catagories.



Winner Early Open
Chris Kimberly
1964 Convertible

Winner Early Closed
Phil deGroot
1962 Sedan



Best Late Open
Mike Piper
1965 Convertible



continued

Best Late Closed
Steve Woods
1965 Coupe



Best Wagon
William Pearce
1961 Lakewood



Best Specialty Vehicle
Lee Olsen
1966 Yenko Stinger



Best Forward Control
Diane Lawler
1963 Rampside

continued



Best in Show
Don Young
1965 V8 Coupe



People's Choice
Diane Lawler
1963 Rampside

Corvairs of New Mexico announced the date and location of the 2024 Tri-State. Location is Las Vegas (no the other one), NM, and the date is May 17th, 18th and 19th. Below is a copy of the registration form.

39th Annual Tri-State CNM celebrating 50 years		39th Corvair Tri-State May 17, 18, 19, 2024 Las Vegas, New Mexico	
 Las Vegas, NM May 17, 18, 19, 2024		REGISTRATION FORM	
Accommodations: The Castaneda & The Plaza Hotel		COSTS:	
Car Show Hotel: The Castaneda Hotel		Attendee 1> _____ @ \$50/\$65 → \$ _____	
Banquet Hotel: The Plaza Hotel		Attendee 2> _____ @ \$50/\$65 → \$ _____	
The Castaneda Hotel, a historic Fred Harvey House has 18 rooms reserved for out-of-state attendees with a 2-night minimum. Overflow attendees will be directed to the historic Plaza Hotel.		Address: _____	
Call for Reservations: (505) 425-3591 for both hotels; mention "Corvair Tri-State" for our negotiated 15% discount; prices per night range from \$84 to \$143/night; payment collected upon reservation.		Email: _____ Phone: _____	
		Order your Event T-Shirt/Crew Neck: @ \$30 ea. → \$ _____ (S,M,L,XL,XXL,XXXL): _____	
		Car Show Entry: _____ Grand Total \$ _____	
		1> Car Year: _____ Car Body Style: _____ Car Color: _____	
		Car Points Interest: _____	
		2> Car Year: _____ Car Body Style: _____ Car Color: _____	
		Car Points Interest: _____	
		Banquet & Car Show Cost: Early Bird \$50 Adult; price increase after March 1, 2024 → \$65.	
		Make Checks Payable to: "Corvairs of NM"; mail % Steve Gongora, 8419 Palo Duro NE, Albuquerque, NM 87111; email questions to: tristatecorvairs@gmail.com	
		Visit our website Virtual Visitors' Center to view excursion ideas: www.tristatecorvairs.com	

The Preventive Maintenance Series

Mike Dawson

Diagnosing a Fuel Related Problem

Engine running problems (warmed up and off idle) related to fuel will usually give the driver the sensation of no power, reduced power, hesitation, flat spots, or surging. This would be opposed to electrical and mechanical problems that cause individual misses (putt, putt, putt) or harsher bucking or jerking under a load. Fuel problems can generally be divided in to two categories: Fuel Delivery and Fuel Management. The following may help with diagnosis of cars & FC with the two carburetor system - some checks can obviously be used on turbos:

Fuel Delivery Problems: The quickest diagnostic tool is to remove a fuel line from a carburetor, push a short rubber fuel hose on to the line and insert it into a container. Crank the engine (coil wire out of the cap and securely grounded) and watch the delivery rate. The book calls for 1 pint in 30 seconds, but if there is a problem you will quickly see only a dribble or a rapid reduction in flow after five seconds. If delivery is a problem and you have a stock fuel pump, next remove the inlet line from the fuel pump while leaving the carburetor line still open (necessary for the pump to work) and carefully put your finger over the inlet fitting. Crank the engine and see if the pump sucks your finger in. If it does not, then the pump or the push rod or the eccentric is the problem. If it does suck your finger in, then the problem is in the line from the tank; a plugged pickup, line problem, or no gas in the tank (bad gauge).

Inlet Line Problems: The inability of the pump to draw gas from the tank usually shows up on a long pull in high gear - maximum fuel use and minimum pump action. However, any hole in the inlet line will not allow vacuum to build up and that problem would be evident during cranking, since higher pump speed would create vacuum quicker. Check both original rubber hoses (above starter and at the tank outlet). Gas lines can rust through under the vehicles from dirt and moisture. There is a filter in the gas tank attached to the sending unit. Check it by carefully removing the tank outlet rubber hose over a pan and watch the flow; if the pickup filter is plugged, the flow will drop off or even stop very quickly. A continuous steady flow indicates the filter is good (or missing). Check your gas cap also, it must be vented; a non-vented cap will form a vacuum in the tank and prevent flow into the line. A non-vented cap could also allow pressure to build up from cold fuel being warmed. Remember that the fuel delivery system works by creating vacuum in the inlet line which causes atmospheric pressure in the tank to force fuel to the carburetors. When you are trying to start a car that has no gas in the carburetors, you must allow the pump to create vacuum by continuous cranking. If you crank for five seconds, let off the key and pump the pedal, you allow the vacuum to bleed off and the pump has to start over. A Corvair starter can crank up to 30 seconds continuous before overheating. Usually 10 seconds of cranking will bring fuel, even in an FC, but it must be continuous. A shot of Gumout in each carburetor throat will help, but avoid starting fluid - it is hard on top rings and valve seats.

Fuel Management Problems: If you are confident you have good delivery and yet running problems persist that are definitely related to the carburetors, you have two choices. One is to try to pinpoint and fix a specific problem or the second is to do a carburetor overhaul and do all the neat things such as rejetting, matching venturi cluster feed holes, adding throttle shaft seals, sealing base gaskets and making all the correct adjustments. If you do not know the history of your carburetors, the comprehensive overhaul is the route to take. Who knows what others before you have done; mismatched carburetors and missing parts are common and make diagnosis difficult.

Diagnosis can be divided into two directions: a lean running problem or a rich running problem.

- Rich conditions usually show up as black exhaust smoke, either at idle or under acceleration, and possibly flooding on startup, or a very low idle leading to a dead engine. Shut off the engine and quickly look down the carburetor throats. If you see continued dripping gas off of the venturi cluster then you have a bowl that is too full: check for a sunken float, loose needle seat or the incorrect float adjustment. If you have a late model with power valves in the carburetor, a very rich condition under acceleration will occur if the valve is stuck open or missing.

- Lean conditions can occur for a number of reasons. A good test is to use Gumout as an enrichment agent. Gently mist the cleaner over each carburetor at idle and see if the idle increases; if it does, you have a vacuum leak or a carburetor idle circuit problem. Use the same test for under load conditions. Have an assistant hold the brake and load the engine in gear (automatic or clutch) while you apply the Gumout. If the engine picks up, whichever carburetor responds needs attention.

The most common lean conditions are: enlarged PCV orifice (1964 & later) or the wrong (or worn out) PCV valve which becomes just a big leak, leaking rubber hoses at the PCV system, leaking hoses on the crossover tube, leaking carburetor base gaskets, leaking hoses on Powerglide modulator lines, ruptured choke pull-offs, and 140 secondary carburetors with throttle valves that do not close completely. Misting Gumout around vacuum connections can be helpful. One other issue that can mimic carburetor problems is valve adjustment - too tight will cause idle problems; spitting back through the carburetors and actual misses at cold startup.

Rocky Mountain Corsa Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: May 5, 2023 **Called to Order:** 7:03 pm
Location: John Elway Chevrolet, Englewood CO **# Present:** 19 on site, 4 on Zoom.

Guests, long distance, new members: None

Standard Business:

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

Treasury report: The end of April balance was \$7,878.16. Treasurer's Report was approved.

Mailbag: Nothing.

Old Business:

- Thanks to Paul for another great newsletter.
- Tonight's snacks are provided by Caron Wetter and Jimmy Riley. The Levins will take care of June.
- Tri-State Tune was Sunday April 30 at Schakel Acres. 10 Corvairs, 18 people, good weather and good conversation.
- Tri-State, in 2 weeks. Lots of great raffle prizes. Hotel, T-shirt orders are closed. Banquet orders close 5/12.
- Discussion of event planning, large number of events vs focus on a single event or two in a given month. Improve focus on several events. This month: ACC Concourse and maybe 1 more event. Northern Event for July? Or Bubba's (Aurora) in July. August, CCCC Air / Car event + Wilshire Picnic. Sept, See Pueblo RMVR + Fall Tour.
- April 29 was Cars and Coffee event at Gateway Classic Cars of Denver. Good turnout, 30 cars, 6 Corvairs. Gatewas donated \$200 to CCCC.

New Business:

- Club patches. 50th anniversary year, do shirt or patch. Looking into costs.
- Activities discussion:
 - June 3 & 4, 24 hours of Lemons at High Plains. There will be an admission charge.
 - July 28-30, High Plains / Kids Race against Cancer
 - August 5, CCCC Air / Car Show
 - August 13, Wilshire Picnic in, 11am, Mountain View Pavillion at Bear Creek Lake Park.
 - Sept 9-10, RMVR Fall Sprint in Pueblo. Eric is Race Chair, Corvair is the feature car. Paced laps to be determined, may allow convertibles at lower speeds. Corvair Corral, racers pick favorite, then Corvair folks pick favorite racer.

Upcoming events: (See also discussion above.)

- 5/21 (Sun) Florence Car Show
- 6/2 (Fri) 7pm Monthly meeting, John Elway Chevrolet
- 6/4 (Sun) ACC Concours.
- 6/10 (Sat) Car Show, VFW Post 5061, 5515 W Warren Ave Denver. Rods and Rides
- 6/11 (Sun) Veterans Appreciation Car Show, 10-2 at Colorado Springs VA, 3141 Centennial Blvd.

For Sale or Wanted, Recently Purchased, Projects

- Rick Beets shared the story from his top project, which lead into body and paint projects with slides. A well spent COVID project.
- Ken Schiffner shared his binder of pictures. Called owner for history. Was checked over by local club, and purchase recommended.
- Mike Piper, shared about '67 convertible parts car. It was discussed enthusiastically in earlier review, but was less than advertised. He salvaged some good bits. Recommends to take full view picture. Also go through all the "junk in the trunk" as there can be some treasure there.
- Dale Nielsen, discussion of his "Work in progress" and his son's car. Working to collect up parts, thanks to all who help or provide

50/50 Raffle: To Club: \$42 To Winner: \$43 Winner: Tony Lawler

Meeting adjourned 8:44 Respectfully submitted by Rob Brereton.