The Denvair News

November 2026

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Winding Down...

Corvairs seem to be slipping into the background as the fall season finally gets serious about leading us into winter. October was a quiet month, November is heading in the same direction.

To take up some of the seasonal news slack, your editor is relieved to report that he has finally tightened down the air-cooling tin and worked up the courage to make long-ish runs (30-50 miles or so - is that 'long-ish'?) in the Yenko Stinger.

It's been an interesting transition from race car to street car, and my devoted spouse still isn't quite sure the Stinger meets the letter of the official "Street Car" definition, if for no other reason than there's no acoustical insulation at all. And with headers and mini-mufflers, it's, well NOISY. Still, after four blissful decades of marriage, we're used to yelling at each other in loud cars.

Other than the noise, it's a pretty sweet ride. The tight track-ready suspension is crisp and responsive, and surprisingly comfortable. So, yeah, upgrading insulation is on the to-do list, as is re-fitting the heater/defroster hardware one of these days.

In the meantime, though, the Stinger is capable of taking on the role that most of our Corvairs share in the 21st century: Fair weather occasional fun ride.

I'll wrap this with a gratuitous image of the Stinger, Maroon Car, and even the Corv-wa(ter-cooled!) in the background. Hope you all have happy Thanksgivings!



SATURDAY, November 7, 1:30pm

RMC Meeting - Meeting room opens at 12:30, come a tad early for lunch and Corvairsation before the 'official' meeting starts.

Blue Bonnet Restaurant, 457 South Broadway

rocky mountain corsa CORVAIR

Trunk or Treat with Mike!

- Mike Piper

We were there with a Corvair when Wooden Shoe Daycare hosted a pre-Halloween "Trunk or Treat" in Westminster on Friday, October 23.

This is the second year we have participated in this Trunk or Treat. Our three kids and our four grandkids have attended this daycare at one time or another, and our youngest grandson is still going there.

Our red Corvair was not functional, but we still have the white car as a back-up. Our oldest daughter offered to take a Corvair and I helped.

Her dog was our junkyard dog. Our props were simple, but we had compliments. Not visible is the Corvair Greenbriar behind our car that was the Daycare's school bus. Melissa remembers riding in it. Two of about 30 sets of parents knew about Corvairs, and one even knew about the Greenbriar.



Above, Abby the Junkyard Dog in stylish Tri-State Corvair t-shirt

Below, the reason for being there: The masked ghoul and the shark victim (actually Dylan and fishy friend)





Left, the cast and their fiendish display, with Corvair resting on unidentified mechanic who failed to use jackstands. Melissa is doing well, Dylan seems to have done well judging from red bag, and Abby remains vigilant, as does Mike. Looks like a good evening of Halloween adventure!

Rocky Mountain Corsa Official BS & Contacts

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 20th of the month prior to the desired publication month. Electronic files are preferred, pictures are awesome, but please include descriptions!

RMC Mailing Address
Correspondence, ads, & articles may be snail-mailed to:
RMC
PO Box 27058
Lakewood, CO 80227-0058

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 Rick Beets, 6181 S. Rosewood Dr., Centennial, CO 80121-2464.* Dues may also be paid online via PayPal at this link: *www.rockymountaincorsa.org/dues*

Monthly Meeting - Now at Blue Bonnet Restaurant!
RMC monthly meetings are now held the 1st Saturday of each month at the Blue Bonnet Restaurant, 457 S. Broadway in South Denver.

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RMC Corvair Happenings!

- **Saturday, November 7, 1:30 pm — RMC meeting @ Blue Bonnet Restaurant**
  C'mon around at 12:30 or so to enjoy a relaxed lunch and check out the Corvairs!
- Whenever, 24/7 — Visit *www.rockymountaincorsa.org* for the latest and greatest!

President's Corner

- Mike Piper

Howdy all!

This month in the ongoing saga of me taking my time to come up with my thoughts, I missed an email from Eric asking for my ramblings. His email was embedded in hundreds of campaign and fundraising emails. It is the night before mid-terms and I'm hoping this business will come to an abrupt halt after tomorrow.

My email battle still continues but will likely improve after tomorrow. I'm still working 2-3 hours per week as the building historian, but the work tapered off some after a new HVAC controls system was installed and the facilities guy has a part-time assistant.

My back issues still persist. It is not something that will heal, so eventually I may need surgical repair. I'm still mostly doing my assigned physical therapy work to attempt to stabilize everything but over the last two weeks or so my back has become worse. I haven't been doing any lifting or heavy work, so this is a bit discouraging.

On the theme of driving the Corvair, Eric and I had decided to go to the Fan Belt Toss in Palm Springs, CA via the southern route, which would include portions of Route 66. I was stumbling along getting ready for a long trip in an old car but unexpectedly the red car developed a valve train clatter. I was pondering alternative methods of getting there without risking a breakdown of the red car, including our white car on short notice or our VW. Eric had just returned from a long driving trip to the Midwest, so we collectively decided not to push things and stay home. We will regroup and make a better prepared try next year.

So far, I've barely started to dig into potential problems. I've barely started by removing the valve cover to inspect the left side valve train. *Maybe* the #4 exhaust valve rocker is a little loose, so I'll do a bit more checking and some disassembly to check the condition of the rocker arm and pivot ball. It is not necessarily unusual to require readjustment of the valve lash, but it seems odd to me that the issue developed and got worse so rapidly. More to follow but I don't need to be in a hurry at this point. I may miss a cars & Coffee or two.

One Corvair related car event I was able to attend was the "Trunk or Treat" at my youngest grandson's daycare in Westminster. We did that last year using the white car and with the red car slightly apart we pressed the white car into service again. My oldest daughter volunteered to do it, and I joined her along with her dog representing our "junkyard dog." The dog was probably dehydrated from giving doggie kisses to all the people who visited. We may have had 30 groups of kids and parents come by. Two parents knew about the Corvair, and one knew about the Daycare's Greenbriar van parked behind us which was the daycare's former bus.

The next club meeting will be at 1:30 PM at the Blue Bonnet Restaurant, 457 S. Broadway on November 7th. It is unlikely I'll attend the Lafayette Cars & Coffee. Again, I'll try to get to the meeting early enough to get the Zoom meeting set up. As a reminder, if anybody wants to take on one of the club officer positions, let us know. There is also a suggestion to have our Holiday meal at the Blue Bonnet since they have good food and a good meeting space where we can easily circulate. The proposed date is December 12. Dianne and Tony have already arranged our spot on New Years Day in Estes Park.

This is probably no shorter than usual. It is hard not to make it boring and unfortunately personal medical issues and broken cars tend to creep in. Daylight Saving Time has now switched to Standard Time so we have the early evening darkness to contend with. Days will continue to get shorter for a while and weather will likely get colder. We can hopefully find opportunities to drive our cars to keep everything working properly. I hope the rest of you are doing things you like and are ready for the next Corvair event, whatever it might be. As aways be safe and have as much fun as you can with your Corvairs and please enjoy the season.

- Mike

RESTING YOUR CAR FOR WINTERTIME

- Steve Goodman

Winter snow and slushy roads are coming soon. All of us tend to protect our nice cars from the effects that Mother Nature can wreak on metal (and yes, I have a rusted/dented Corvair that serves as my shop car during the crummy winter road conditions). Normally around this area snow leaves quickly and typically after a couple of days of snow/ice the sun returns and after a couple more days most of the roads are dry again. We can still exercise our Corvairs often during the winter months being careful, of course, to avoid sanded/salted streets and slushy drainage areas.

If your car is inside a garage very little needs to be done if you plan on using it a bit through the cold months. I would suggest a tune-up if needed along with oil/filter change and suspension lube and check/clean battery connections. Fill the fuel tank too. If you do take the car out for dry road winter drives keep the tank towards the full side, less condensation occurs with a pretty full tank. Also if you plan on using the car, the use of alcohol-free gas blends is not that necessary in my opinion. Again you are keeping fresh gas in the tank on a regular basis.

Also keep a check of tire pressures. The cold temps even in a garage tend to decrease the air pressure by a few PSI. Check the volume of windshield washer fluid and also your wiper blade condition. Hopefully you have pushed/pulled the heat and defrost cables occasionally during the summer months and run the heater motor during the summertime to ensure cables aren't stuck and heater motor runs as normal. Lastly if you are concerned about mice there are many different thoughts and ideas of repellents for you to choose from. I think a lightweight dust cover is nice to just lay over the body or one of the very thin car covers.

If the car is outside and hopefully at least under a carport you might want to change to a thinner weight oil to allow easier starting after sitting. All of the maintenance above is still necessary although I would suggest removing the battery and storing inside or at least removing the ground cable.

I also see many owners who carry water bottles in their cars, take a couple of minutes to check under the seats or between the front seats and remove all bottles. Frozen water bottles sometimes don't do well when thawing out and usually wet carpet is the result. If you decide to cover your car find a car cover that breathes, NOT one that is waterproof. The waterproof car covers retain condensation between the cover and the paint and the paint will suffer the consequences.

Lastly DO NOT just run your engine for a few minutes and think you are exercising the car. The moving parts of the car need use. Brakes/wheel bearings/gears/steering and suspension and getting both the engine oil and exhaust temperatures up to normal are important.

Don't be afraid to drive your car when weather/roads permit. The enjoyment is driving and being seen in our Corvairs. Have a safe winter.

Rocky Mountain Corsa Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: Oct 3, 2026 **Called to Order:** 1:34 pm
Location: Meeting Room at Blue Bonnet, 457 South Broadway, Denver **# Present:** 13 in person + 2 on Zoom

Guests, long distance, new members:

- New member Terry Hoyle was with us.

Standard Business:

Minutes of last meeting: Minutes from the September meeting were reviewed and approved. Thanks to John Dawson for taking notes and producing the minutes.

Treasurer's Report: End of September balance was $8,237.64. Treasurer's Report was approved. Renewed our status with the Secretary of State office. Updated registered agent.

Mailbag: Deluxe Check offers continue to come, nothing of substance.

Old Business:

- Membership: Still working on name badges for new members. May need to get more of the business cards we hand out.
- We need to continue our work on the bylaws, there has been no progress in several months due to busy schedules.

New Business:

- Thanks, Eric, for another great newsletter.
- CCCC report, no meeting recently so nothing new to report.
- Web page news: Pretty high count of traffic, with Weathertek, Cruise above the Clouds, and the for-sale sections getting most traffic.
- AJ Guanella (from Elway Chevrolet, our former meeting place) passed away, had been manager for decades. Neighbor of Rick's.
- There was discussion of quarterly or biweekly meetings and events, or even the newsletter. Dale noted that if we have small turnouts now, meeting less often people will allow people to drift away and become less involved. Next idea discussed was bribing people to come with free margarita, or money toward food. Rob suggested a winning seat that gets a prize. Other events like garage tours discussed.
- Dale mentioned the "our cars" part of the web page, send pics and stories. Only a few contributions came in. Eric asked why do we need a newsletter if we could use website for all of this content. Rick had concerns about minutes on website and privacy. Could do a short send of minutes only as newsletter and all other content goes to the website. Decision was status quo for now. Rick noted that these are common question in car clubs based on experience with CCCC, we are one of the larger clubs.
- Question asked about why Dylan hasn't been around, he is working Saturdays until Dec broadcasting games.
- Tri-State rotation: PPCC did Montrose, Utah 2027, then RMC 2028, then CNM. Need to figure out a location for 2028 to announce at 2027. June 3, 4, 5 2027 Tri-State in Moab.
- Holiday Party: 12/12 is the target date, but we are looking for a different location. 12/5 is the PPCC holiday party. Tony and Diane are planning the New Year's brunch.
- On Sat Oct 24, Rick's granddaughter's school is having a Trunk or Treat. Details to follow. Other similar events are around, a great way to show our cars.

Activities:

- Golden SuperCruise is today (1st Mondays).
- Oct 10 (Sat) Vehicle Vault Show, the final one. Vehicle Vault is closing.
- Oct 11 (Sun) Weathertek Car show in Broomfield, 9 am
- Nov 7 (Sat) Monthly Meeting, Blue Bonnet, 1:30
- Oct 23-25 (Fri-Sun) Great Western Fan Belt Toss and Swap Meet in Palm Springs.
- 12/12 (Sat) Holiday Party, more details to come.
- 1/1 (Fri) New Year's Brunch, more details to come.

For Sale or Wanted, Recently Purchased, Projects

- Mike's safety briefing: Don't stay around at accident looking, look where you're going, it doesn't help and just slows things down or causes more accidents.
- Dale asked about the discussion from past meetings re shirts for club members. Any progress? No, needs a design. Altitude Design has done several past T-shirt runs for us, can also do polo and hats.
- Christine brought her blue car, also went on fall drive with ¾ tank from Castle Rock to Guffey, then Cripple Creek and back. Thanks to Rick and Charley, Steve, John Dawson for helping get it running great.

50/50 Raffle: $22 to club, $23 to winner. Winner: Steve Goodman

Meeting adjourned 2:47 pm **Respectfully Submitted by** Rob Brereton

Editorial Ramblings

- Eric Schakel

Winding Down 2026

There's nothing like Halloween and the annual Daylight Savings Time shift to remind us that the cold weather holidays are approaching rapidly. El Nino has been relatively friendly to the Denver area, keeping the weather mild, but it likely won't last. Fortunately, we've been able to get out a bit and put some miles on the Stinger and even do a bit of puttering in the Maroon Car.

It's been quite a handful of years (where *does* the time go?) since I've driven a street Corvair past our little burg of Sedalia. This past month, we've extended our range in the Stinger, re-experiencing the culture shock that comes when motoring a sixty-year-old car through traffic that has no respect or care for the machinery that makes motion happen. Every now and then someone gives a wave to the Corvair artifact, but the majority of drivers these days seem to stare at their crotches while stopped at intersections (or often, even while driving!), although Linae assures me they're actually studying their cell phones.

The Corvair is somehow more intimate with the other cars, possibly because it's only one-third the height of current SUVs and pickups. But our Corvette (Corv-*wa*) is low, too, so it must be the fact that we're driving with windows lowered and/or vents open in the 'Vair. The car itself is tactile and direct, much more 'in touch' with the surroundings. And, perhaps the only benefit of the Stinger's loud exhausts, is that they do tend to mask the headbanger music that still emanates from some of the nearby vehicles...

It's no wonder that Corvairs, and old cars in general, have become collector pieces or 'nice day' rides for most owners. The world of road transportation has moved on. There are few truly 'bad' new cars or trucks these days, and maybe that lack of unique personality is one of the reasons the 21st century drivers seem remote, too.

And there's another plus for Corvair folks from this aging process: No one remembers Ralph Nader!

Stay Functional, My Friends!



(The End)