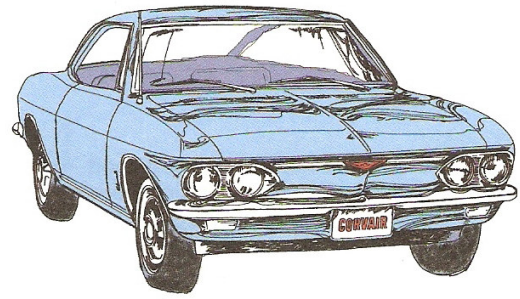
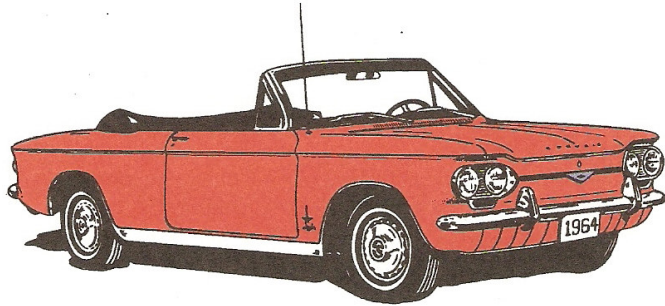


LEEKY



SEEL

CORVAIR MINNESOTA NEWSLETTER

June 2011

PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Much discussion has occurred recently about the dwindling number of members in CORSA as well as other clubs and organizations. The up and coming generation just doesn't join clubs like previous generations. It's not clear if it's shifting interests, technology, or time constraints that are to blame for the lack of 'new blood' in organizations. I remember my dad was a big member of the Knights of Columbus when I was a kid. I worked with him on their annual Tootsie Roll fund raiser (the candy was a lot bigger 35 years ago). However, as I grew older, I really had no interest in joining the Knights. It just wasn't my thing. I was also into the Boy Scouts and later was a leader for my son's den when he was a Cub Scout. Alas, he's now seventeen and not interested in Boy Scouts or Corvairs.

At the last CMI Member's Meeting, however, I was reminded of the importance of being in a club, I guess the proper phrase is networking. About a week before the meeting, I was looking on Craig's List looking at Corvairs (surprise). I happened across a dark green '65 Monza Automatic Coupe that seemed reasonably priced. Remembering Fran stating several times that CJ was looking for such a car, I forwarded the listing to Fran, who thanked me. I really didn't think anything further of it until I saw the green '65 in the parking lot at Latuff's. I was very happy for CJ and glad that the networking had paid off. Who knows what would have happened to the car if I hadn't seen it or Fran hadn't said that CJ was looking for a car. Congratulations to CJ on his great looking ride. Any bets on how long it will take for Fran to talk CJ into adding a third pair of tail lights?

Cara and I are going to Zumbrota on May 21st to an estate auction. There is a 1964 Corvair 700 Sedan among the auction items. From the picture the car looks to be in great shape and the auction flyer states that it drives well, though they list it as a four cylinder. We're hoping that it is forgotten among all the tractors and

other farm machinery. If the bidding doesn't get outrageous, it may find a new home in Chaska. The point is, had it not been for another CMI member, namely Chuck Johnson, we wouldn't even know this car exists. As of this writing, we haven't purchased (or even seen) the car yet, but if the price is right, we may be bringing two cars to GMCCA, and we'll have Chuck to thank.

Another thing CMI members do is look out for each other. At the last meeting Rich Buratto mentioned helping another member get his car running so he could enjoy it this summer. Rich helped me out when we first got our '69. I'm sure everyone in the club can think of someone who has helped them or someone they've helped in the past.

Active membership in CMI certainly is worthwhile. Not only do you get to hang out with a lot of really nice people, you benefit from advice and tips on your Corvair, travel to some fun places, participate in parades (that's a hint for all you convertible owners) and other things, and possibly even add to your fleet of Corvairs. I know Cara and I really enjoy seeing everyone and look forward to the second Tuesday of the month, especially during the summer.

Speaking of summer, I think it's finally here. We had the '69 out last Friday to Sonic in Savage. Not quite as nostalgic as going to an A&W but it was fun. Going to work this morning at 6:00am, someone had their '55 Chevy coupe out for a spin. The next event is GMCCA. Let's fill up our side of the street like we always do. Then off to Wagner's in Brooklyn Park for the next meeting. Go out and enjoy the Corvair automobile...YEAH!!!

Stay tuned,
Lee Knauf
CMI President



**Corvair Minnesota
Business Page
May 2011**



May 10, 2011

President Lee Knauf called the meeting to order and welcomed all members at 7:41 p.m. at Latuff's in Plymouth. This marked our first summer-on-the-road session of the year, always a welcome event, but even more so this year. Thirty four members were present to enjoy the excellent food. One guest, Abby, attended with CJ and she dressed to match CJ's new '65 coupe.

March Minutes: Approved as read.

Treasurer's Report: Ray Alexander reported we have \$2174 in our treasury.

New Business:

May 21 Outdoor Tech Session by Fran: Emphasis is getting our convertibles ready ahead of time for the National Legion Convention Parade and will last from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., including breakfast.

GMCCA: June 5 is approaching quickly and the sign-up sheet was circulated to fill all of our gate slots. Each year this is our largest fund raiser aside from dues, so please get your Corvairs detailed.

Redwood Falls Inventors' Congress: One week later we will participate in this event on June 10 and 11. Fran has blocked rooms in nearby Springfield at the Microtel. He has submitted paperwork to include us in the Friday night parade but has not yet received confirmation.

June 14 Membership Meeting: Wagner's Drive-In in Brooklyn Park.

Back to the 50's: June 17-19.

July 4 Parade and Picnic: Once again we will participate in the Edina parade. Bruce and Donna Hubbard graciously volunteered their home for the picnic with the proviso that Rich Burratto supervises Bruce.

Iola Car Show: This is held July 7 – 9 and Bill Cook has blocked rooms for us at Country Inn & Suites in Stevens Point at \$114 for a suite. Contact Becky at 715.345.7000. Additional lodging available at Comfort Suites at 715.341.6000.

CORSA National Convention – Denver: Four club members indicated attending so far, dates: Jul 26–30.

Little Log House: This show is in Hastings July 29-31 and is recommended as being very wife-friendly. Friday is a perfect day to attend, Saturday tends to be a zoo so plan according to your preferences. One free admission with your Corvair.

Corn-on-the-Cob Days: August 19-21 in Plainview.

American Legion National Convention Parade: This is the largest parade in Minneapolis this summer and will be held Sunday, August 28. We are committed for 25 convertibles. . .and drivers. **Please notify Lee Knauf by MAY 31 if your car is available OR if you are available to drive someone else's to ensure we meet our 25 unit requirement.**

Adopt-a-Highway: Cliff Picht reports we were accepted for this program and will be contacted when a highway becomes available, be it 2 weeks or 2 years from now. Club preferences were noted as South or West Metro.

USPS Stamp Out Hunger: John Herkenratt reminded us that the Post Office is collecting food during mail delivery the following Saturday.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 due to threatening weather.

Respectfully submitted,

Chuck Johnson

Treasurer's Report (May, 2011)

By *Ray Alexander*, CMI Treasurer

April 12, 2011 Balance \$2071.37

Income:

Dues Received \$70.00

Expenses:

MCCA Membership (Bob Rowe) \$25.00
 "Leeky Seel" Printing \$70.80
 "Leeky Seel" Postage \$22.88
 Memorial Flowers (Chuck Johnson) \$64.37

Total Expenses: -\$183.05

May 15, 2011 Balance: **\$1958.32**

WANTED: CONVERTIBLES!



**WE NEED YOUR CONVERTIBLES FOR THE
AMERICAN LEGION PARADE ON
SUNDAY, AUGUST 28TH
AT
4:00PM
IN DOWNTOWN MINNEAPOLIS**

PLEASE CONTACT LEE KNAUF VIA E-MAIL AT

vairy69@comcast.net

BY MAY 31ST.

**IF YOU CANNOT DRIVE IN THE PARADE
PLEASE VOLUNTEER YOUR CAR AND IT WILL
BE DRIVEN CAREFULLY BY A RESPONSIBLE
CMI MEMBER.**

**WE NEED 30 CARS AND DRIVERS TO DRIVE THE
LEGION DIGNITARIES IN THE PARADE.**

PARADE ROUTE MAP AVAILABLE AT

http://www.legion.org/documents/legion/pdf/convention_parade.pdf

No More 13" Tires (!)

This is a quick story about tires, the hazards of driving on old tires and one possible solution. First my little story; I guess it really starts in about 2000 when I was visiting Winnipeg. I bought a set of 205/70 x 13 tires from Canadian Tire (a store very similar to Fleet-Farm). These are the perfect sized tire for the late model Corvair. So we'll jump ahead to last summer, Stefani and I set out from Topeka Kansas in my blue '65 Monza Convertible en-route to the CORSA National Convention in Cedar Rapids. Everything was going fine especially considering that I hadn't been on a real road-trip in my convertible since 2001(?) but I felt pretty confident, that I'd checked things out thoroughly. About 20 miles South of Des Moines on I-35 the car began vibrating, felt like I was driving on a washboard – and it was getting worse as we drove along. We pulled off at the closest exit ramp (Truro, IA) and I began to assess the situation. The engine was still running well and the transmission seemed to be working fine so what could it be? I couldn't identify anything visually so I drove the car a few more feet forward at which time I was able to isolate that that it felt like there was a lump on one rear tire. So, out comes the jack and ancient spare tire. I mounted up the spare only to learn that it had less than 10lbs of air! (Check your spare tires, folks!) We drove slowly into Truro, Iowa (about 7 or 8 miles) and put air in the tire at the local mini-mart. Fortunately the rest of the trip to Cedar Rapids was uneventful. I wasn't going to run all the way back to Topeka on a 30 year old spare tire so fortunately, Gary Nelson had a pair of 13" tires for sale! We struck a deal and I went down to the local Tires Plus to have them mounted (on the front because they were a bit smaller size than the other tires I had. Well, as luck would have it, on the way back to Topeka, just on the outskirts of Des Moines, the familiar rumble was heard/felt again. This time we were within a few hundred yards of a Quick Trip. Out came the spare which was now one of the 205/70 x 13s. The rest of the trip was hot but uneventful. So why the long story? Well after this ill-fated(?) trip, I decided that I'd had my fill of 13" tires. New ones are non-existent and my car is not an 'original' car anyway. So I started looking around for new wheels/tires. In my research I found that even 14" tires to fit a Corvair properly were starting to get scarce so my new wheels would be at least 15". I did a lot of studying on what size wheel/tire combination would be appropriate for the Corvair (Thanks mostly to Tire Rack and CORSA member Bryan Blackwell's web site). It was determined that my old 205/70 x 13 tires were about 24.99" diameter and 617.2 revolutions per mile. These were the parameters I would use to find the ideal tire/wheel combination. The tire size that was the best match to these parameters in a 15" size is 205/60x15 at 627 revolutions per mile. This was also a tire that had many brand choices available. I didn't want to change speedo gears. So now I started hunting for wheels. I did a lot of looking at wheels on eBay and various wheel vendors. New wheels were not in the cards (too expensive).



On eBay I saw a set of wheels from a 2WD Chevy S-10 pickup/blazer. Seeing those reminded me of a conversation that I had with someone at the CORSA Nationals who had mounted wheels from an S-10 Extreme on their Corvair. That person said they 'mounted right up' with a slight modification (I'll get to that shortly)! These 'swirl pattern' wheels (from a 1998 to 2003 Chevy S-10 2WD truck or blazer) were the ticket.

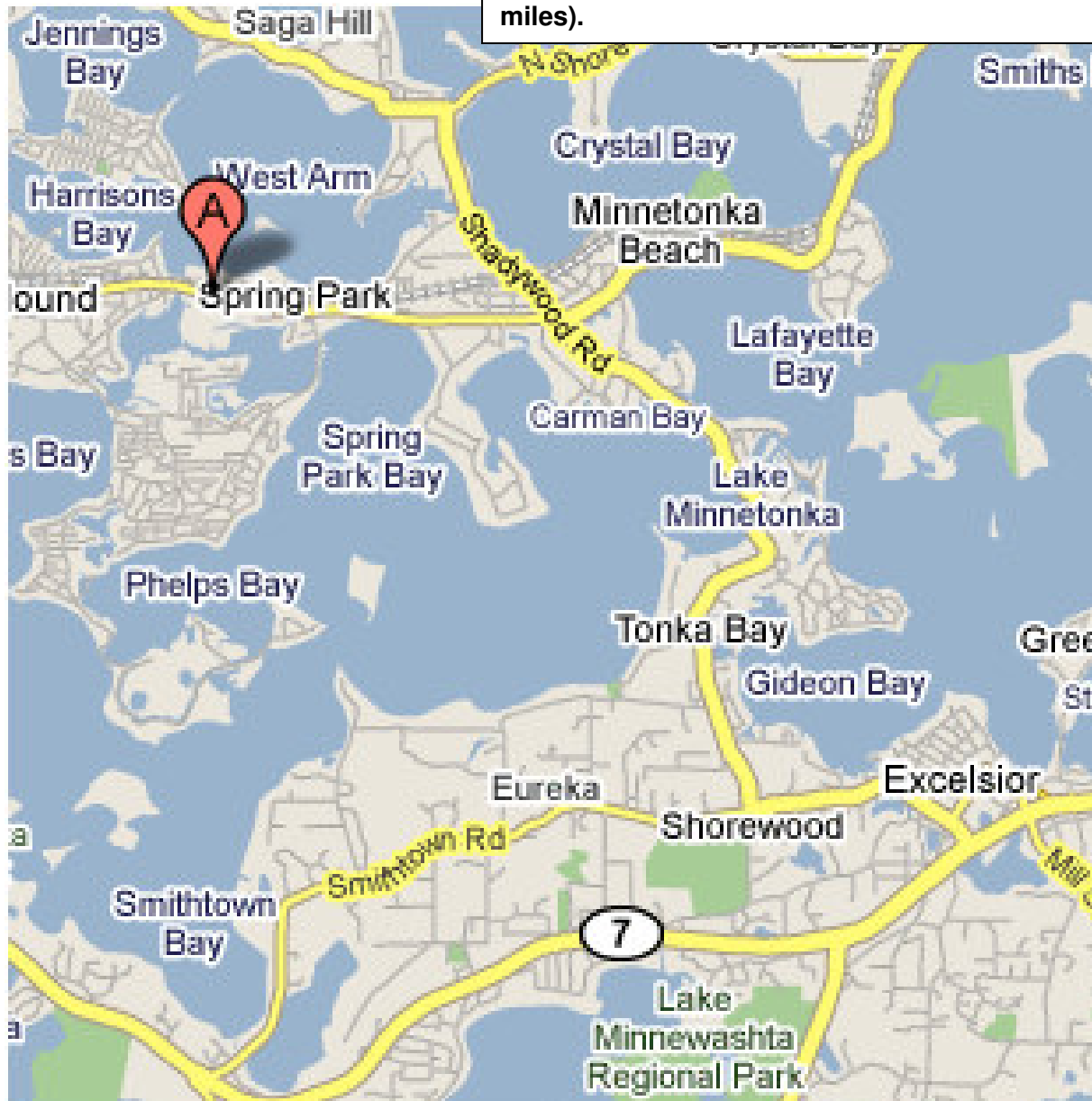


The **June CMI membership meeting** will be at the Minnetonka Drive In, Spring Park at 6:30 p.m. on the 14th.

(4658 Shoreline Dr, Spring Park, MN - (952) 471-9383)

Directions: From Highway 7 West in Excelsior, turn North on Oak Street (which turns into Smithtown Rd). Turn Right on Manitou Road (which turns into Shadywood Rd), then left on Shoreline Drive (Co Rd 15) to the Drive In (which will be on the right).

Or: From Highway 394/12, take Co Rd 15 (Shoreline Drive) South to the Drive In (on the right) (about 7½ miles).



Check out the Minnetonka Drive-In story in the Lakeshore Weekly News at:

<http://www.weeklynews.com/main.asp?Search=1&ArticleID=7327&SectionID=49&SubSectionID=110&S=1>

Corvair Minnesota Schedule of Events June/ July 2011



GMCCA: June 5 is approaching quickly and the sign-up sheet was circulated to fill all of our gate slots. Each year this is our largest fund raiser aside from dues, so please get your Corvairs detailed.

Redwood Falls Inventors' Congress: June 10 and 11. Fran has blocked rooms in nearby Springfield at the Microtel. He has submitted paperwork to include us in the Friday night parade but has not yet received confirmation.

Membership Meeting: June 14 @ 6:30 Wagner's Drive-In in Brooklyn Park.

Art of the Car: June 18,19 Stone Arch Festival of the Arts. Contact Susan Anderson @ 55peacocks@gmail.com or 612-825-8551.

Back to the 50's: June 17-19.

Parade and Picnic: July 4 (line up at 9 a.m.) Line up on Willson Road (East frontage of Highway 100) The parade theme is "America the Beautiful". Once again we will participate in the Edina parade. **Bruce and Donna Hubbard graciously volunteered their home for the post-parade picnic pot-luck.** (Directions will be available at parade)

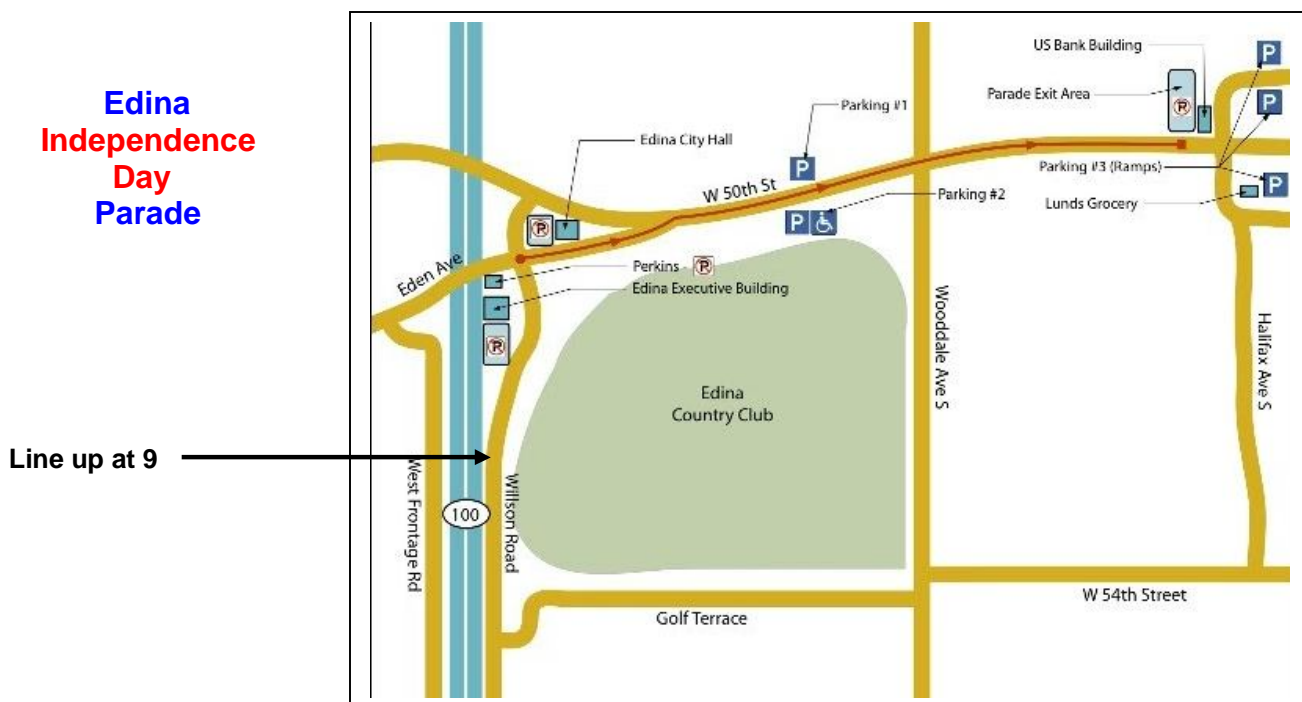
Iola Car Show: July 7 – 9 and Bill Cook has blocked rooms for us at Country Inn & Suites in Stevens Point at \$114 for a suite. Contact Becky at 715.345.7000. Additional lodging is available at Comfort Suites at 715.341.6000.

Membership Meeting: July 12 @ 6:30 Minnetonka Drive In, Spring Park

CORSA National Convention: July 26 – 30, Denver

Little Log House: July 29-31, Hastings; One free admission with your Corvair.

Corn-on-the-Cob Days: August 19-21 in Plainview.



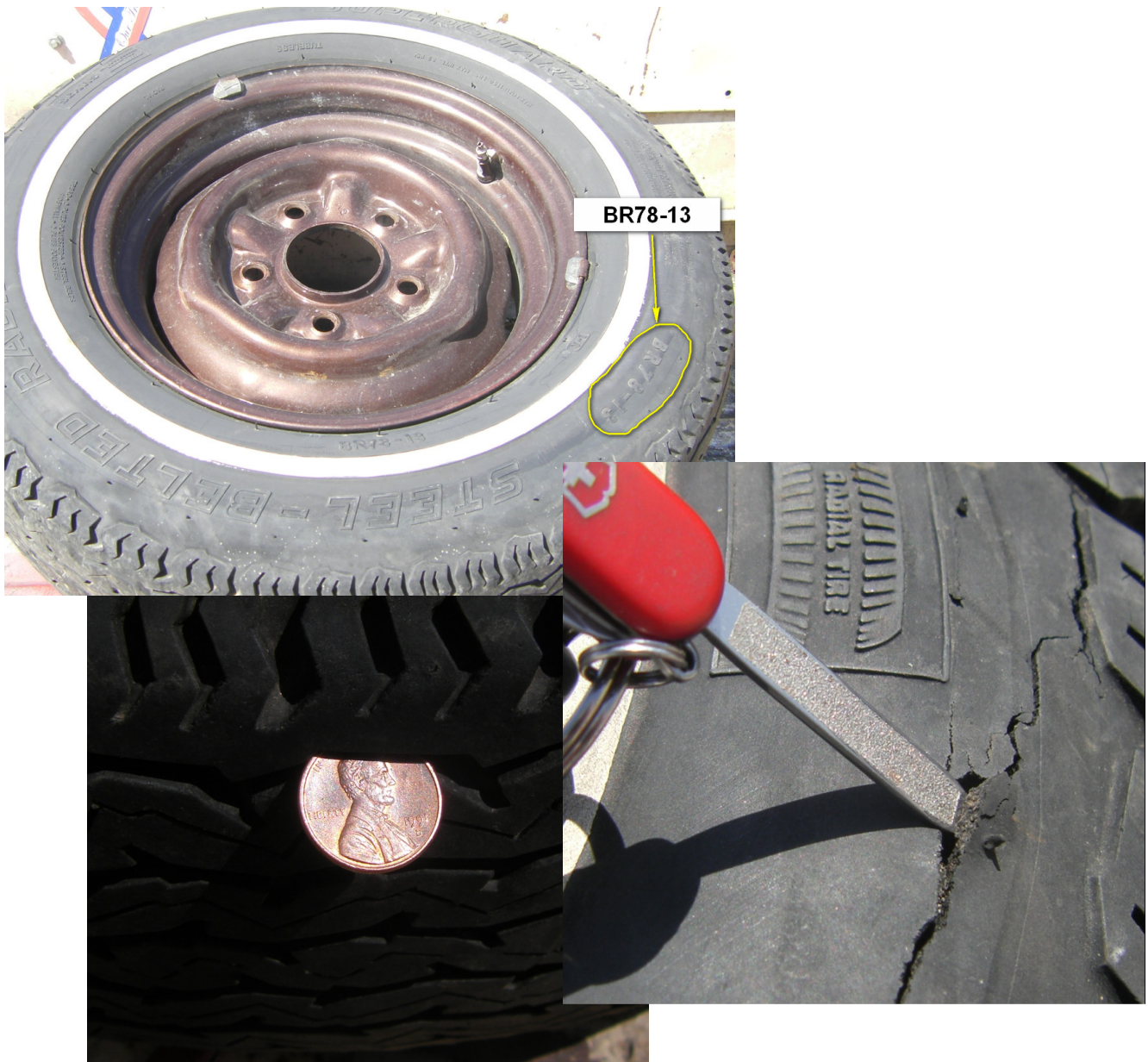
They appeared to be plentiful and I had never seen a Corvair wearing them. Above all, they appeared like they would be an attractive addition to the 'look' I wanted for my car. I found a nice set of these S-10 wheels at an automotive recycler in Topeka, KS and the price was right. Jump ahead to the April, 2011 CORSA Communique. Right there on the cover were 'my' wheels! So much for being unique, right? Anyway, I emailed CORSA member Craig Nicol questions about fit and tire size and such. His response was very detailed. He said he used 195/60 x 15 tires because the 205s were a little tight in the late model Corvair fender wells. He also said that I would need specific lug nuts if I wanted to use the black plastic lug nut covers that also hold on the center cap. He specified Dorman part # 611-160. I found these through www.rockauto.com for a very reasonable price. I also purchased 20 new lug nut covers. All 20 lug nuts and covers totaled less than \$100.00. Now, onto the tires; I had been looking on Tire Rack at a set of Sumitomo summer tires. I figured I didn't need all season or touring tires since I only drive the convertible in nice weather. The Sumitomo tires were on closeout for \$59.00 each (plus shipping). Now that I had everything, something still stuck in my head. When I spoke to the gentleman at the CORSA Nationals last summer, he said he had to 'remove a little material' from the inside hub surface on his wheels to get them to fit on a Corvair. I questioned Craig Nicol about this and he said "they bolted right up". Being the sometime skeptic I am, before I had the tires mounted on the rims, I test fit a new wheel on the front hub of my car. Sure enough, the hole in the wheel was not quite big enough to fit comfortably over the Corvair hub. All it took was a few seconds using a die grinder with a sanding drum to 'clean up' the inside hub surface of the wheel and it fit with a slight bit of coaxing. See above photo of the final product. I haven't driven it other than just a quick around the block to make sure everything was OK but it sure feels good and in my opinion, it looks great!

Paul Sargent



Tires: An old story.....revisited as part of the Tech Session at the April CMI meeting.

Take a look at this nice tire - - it's a new tire – in the sense that it has very few miles on it. Here's how deep the tread is on this tire – see the head of Lincoln on the penny test? This poor old man is almost swallowed up in the depth of the rubber. This tire, however; is a very old tire in the sense that it was manufactured almost thirty years ago. It's a BR78-13 tire, if that gives you a hint to its age. Some of us still have such good - new tires, like these, on our CORVAIRS - - and we should not. Here's why.....see the sidewall of this same new tire. It's practically coming off just from age. Let's be certain we don't have any CMI traffic incidents due to aging rubber. Certainly not if trying to drive to Denver and certainly not in the Edina Parade and certainly not when we carry all the American Legion dignitaries in their National parade this August.



CMI Classifieds

FOR SALE

- '64 - steering box (core value \$145.00) rebuilt \$185.00
- '62 - 3 piece front trim NOS \$250.00
- '65 - front grill - very good \$100.00
- '63 - 700 rocker trim (narrow) NOS
- '62 - 500/700 (narrow) rocker trim NOS
- '61 - '64 headlight bezels Pair NOS \$150.00
- '61 - '63 car steering box - used (core value \$125.00) \$125.00
- '65 - '66 steering box - used (core value \$125.00) \$125.00
- '65 - '69 headlight bezels NOS (1 right, 2 left)
- '64 rear exhaust air grill NOS

Jerry Berge 480-250-8816

1966 Monza is in its original paint job, Aztec Bronze. This is a good solid car with very little rust. I have done a lot of mechanical work to this Monza including, fuel system, complete brakes with rebuilt cyls, new tires, new exhaust, clutch, tune up, u-joints, electrical, dash, speedo. I bought this car and built a survivor driver and drove it one season, I have moved into a Monza Convertible so this Car could use a good home. It still needs a head liner and a little interior work but is a driver with am radio and fm converter. If you are looking for a solid Corvair, you can see what you are buying with this car as there is no mud in this one! \$3500 call Roger (320) 363-4540 (St Joseph)

Ps: I work on Corvairs if you need service



1) 4 nice Rally wheels. Complete with Chevrolet Motor division center caps and beauty rings. These are 14 inc and include a nice set of Bridgestone SF475 205 75 SR14. (see picture in April SEEL) Asking \$420 for everything.

2) White convertible top and boot for late. Top is new and does not have a window. Boot fits well and is padded. \$100 EACH \$150 takes both, Kenny. 507-269-4909

- * Brand New AC Delco coil (Clark's #C142 @ \$61.40) – will sell for \$40.00
- * Used early arm rest bases (no cracks) - 2 for \$10.00
- * Used early steering wheel (blue) - \$5.00
- * Used '62 full wheel covers (very good condition) - 4 for \$20.00
- * Used early "baby moon" style wheel covers (very good condition) - 4 for \$20.00

BILL COOK 612-940-9179 or 763-682-4094

Wanted

Black steel 15 x 7" wheels. GM: '80's Chevy Caprice, e.g. Tony Berbig (952) 955-2848

Part Cleaning
Soda Blasting, Sand Blasting
Powder coating

Vince Rohr
vincerohr@hotmail.com

Corvair Repair In Minnesota

Your Place or Mine
Part Time Casual, Off Season Is Best
Mobile Service, Trailing Service, Reasonable Rates
CORSA, Corvair Minnesota and SCCA Member

Jim Brandberg
2214 - 293 1/2 Av. NW, Isanti, MN 55040
763-444-9334 jimbrandberg@aol.com



Mark McKee **952-925-3314**
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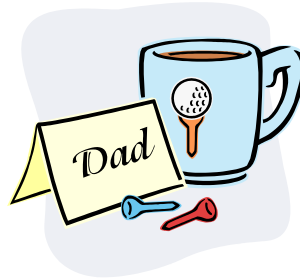
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Corvair powered "Thingy"
(Craigslist in Hartford CT):

<http://hartford.craigslist.org/pts/2341879610.html>



CMI is a non-profit corporation, chartered with The CORVAIR Society of America. Send CORVAIR Minnesota's \$20.00 annual dues, payable by Jan 01, to the CMI Treasurer. Membership in CORVAIR Minnesota entitles you to the monthly newsletter, "The Leeky Seel", with free ads for members, a club window sticker, discounts on club activities, information on parts availability, and good advice on the preservation and enjoyment of the CORVAIR automobile.... Yeah!

THE LEEKY SEEL

3370 Library Lane St. Louis Park, MN
55426-4224 Ph: 763.475.0350
TEMP – RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Lots of activities coming up – get that car out!