

# LEEKY



# SEEL

CORVAIR MINNESOTA NEWSLETTER

## PRESIDENT'S PAGE

November is a huge month for Chevrolet. Louis Chevrolet and William Durant founded the car company on November 3, 1911, making the "bowtie" brand 100 years old. After millions of cars, some more memorable than others, Chevy is still going strong, with the subcompact Chevy Cruze one of the top sellers in the 2011 model year (number one in June).

Of course one Chevrolet was radically different from the rest, touting a rear mounted, air cooled engine, and independent suspension. The 1960 Corvair was Motor Trend's Car of the Year when it came out. Other notable cars that were Car of the Year included the entire Chevrolet Motor Division for 1955, the downsized 1977 Chevy Caprice, 1984 Corvette, and 2011 Chevrolet Volt. Of course other Chevys made the list they were not quite so notable, including the Vega, Citation, and the Vega based Monza 2+2. More recently at Edmunds.com, they compiled a list of the 100 best Chevrolets of all times and the 1965 Corvair Corsa was on that list as well.

The November, 1993 issue of Automobile Magazine (yes I still have the issue) called the 1962 Corvair Monza GT the best sports car GM never made. I was reminded of this when I opened the October, 2011 CORSA Communique and saw Mel Francis and Richard Reinders remake of the Monza SS, the roaster version of the GT. My first thought was "wow that would look nice in my driveway." Then reading the one page article convinced me even more. I like what Mel and Richard have created...a lot. The only thing I would change on the car is the front. I know the driving lights near

## November 2011

the center of the nose are a nod to the original SS concept, but I think they detract from the car. The rear styling is almost perfect. Ironically the headlights on their recreation look very similar to the headlights on the current Corvette. Though the current prototype is built on a chopped up '65 convertible, future cars will use a steel tube chassis. Kit car anyone?

No doubt that some of you will be in warmer climates by the time you read this (or will be making plans to do so). Remember we have an important job to do at the November meeting, that being the election of officers for 2012. Hope to see as many of you at the MUM as possible.

Stay tuned,  
*Lee Knauf*  
CMI President



**CORVAIR MINNESOTA**  
**Membership Meeting**  
**October 11, 2011**



President Lee Knauf called the meeting to order at 7:15 and welcomed all members and guests to our return to the MUM. This followed a good informal tech session starting in the parking lot shortly after 6p.m. We had two guests, Richard and Mike Johnson, father and son, who restored a '64 coupe in the early 80's. They sold the car some years later but never disposed of their extra parts. They brought them to the meeting and sold some items, then graciously donated the balance of the parts to CMI to raise funds. A highlight of being back at the MUM was Clarence Jansson joining us.

**September Minutes:** Read and approved as written.

**Treasurer's Report:** We now have \$3175 in our treasury after a \$500 donation from the American Legion in recognition of our contribution to the success of their National Convention parade in August. This caused an entertaining review of the parade pictures in last month's Seel.

**Last Month's Events:**

**Buffalo Lutheran Church Fall Festival:** Three CMI members participated, with Bill and Cliff winning awards. The show was small but excellent vehicles were displayed. At this point, a car show is not part of the plan next year.

**FALL TOUR:** Members who participated in our fall run to New Ulm recounted their experiences for everyone's enjoyment. The well planned and executed Heritage Fest weekend by Cara Knauf was really enjoyed and appreciated; she was applauded for her efforts.

**Adopt-a-Highway:** Cliff Picht reported he drove to Belle Plaine and inspected the two potential stretches of Hwy 169 and neither had terrain appropriate to our age group. He reported that to MN DOT so we remain on the list until suitable ditches become available

**Upcoming Events:**

**Escanaba in the Moonlight:** Once again Bill and Carol Cook have taken the lead and reserved seats for CMI at this play to be held at the MN Centennial Showboat on Harriet Island. The date is October 23, meeting at 1:30 for a 2 p.m. show.

**November 8 Meeting:** Our second month back at the MUM! Major event is election of officers for 2012. To date, there were no nominations from the floor but volunteers and nominations will be

gleefully accepted until the time of election. The current slate of officers agreed to run once again.

December 13 Holiday Dues Party. ANOTHER Bill and Carol Cook production! We will be at Latuff's Pizzeria on hwy 55 in Plymouth. We have a choice of 4 entrees at \$20 per person; the club is picking up the balance since our treasury is healthy. STEP will once again be the designated charity.

**BREAK:** Treats by Lee Knauf.

**AUCTION:** Lee Knauf donated a Chevy Truck wall clock which was auctioned off and the lucky bidder was Rich Buratto.

**TECH SESSION:** Gary Nelson brought two demonstration items. First, a turbo fuel filter which he had dissected and second, the rear engine housing from Cliff's car to show us the hairline cracks. Part 2 featured Fran Schmit presenting a refresher on early glove box door springs and how to unweight them from the pot metal surround so that it fits as originally designed.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15.

Respectfully submitted,

*Chuck Johnson*

**Treasurer's Report September, 2011**

By *Ray Alexander*, CMI Treasurer

<b>September 13, 2011 Balance:</b>	<b><u>\$2783.19</u></b>
<b>Income:</b>	
Check from American Legion parade	\$500.00
<b>Total Income:</b>	<b>\$500.00</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>	
"Leeky Seel" Printing	\$78.91
"Leeky Seel" Postage	\$29.04
<b>Total Expenses:</b>	<b>-\$107.95</b>
<b>October 11, 2011 Balance:</b>	<b><u>\$3,175.24</u></b>

Next meeting will be at the MUM again. This is the election meeting.  
 Remember dues are due soon and the Holiday Dues party is in December (Tuesday the 13<sup>th</sup>).



# CMI Fall Tour to New Ulm



Cara Knauf planned this year's trip to her hometown of New Ulm for the weekend of September 20 – October 2 which corresponded to the annual Oktoberfest festival. After meeting in Chaska, some of us convoyed to New Ulm. We sampled a few of New Ulm's finer dining establishments, partied at Oktoberfest at the Holiday Inn (beer and Polka music) and toured some of the area attractions such as Ted's Tuna Boats, Schell's brewery, Herman Hill, the Wanda Gag home, the Harkin Store and the Glockenspiel. On Sunday we had an impromptu tour of a local residents home when a number of us stopped to visit their garage sale. Turns out Gary knew the woman (small world!). Many thanks to Cara for planning a splendid outing!











# Corvair Minnesota Holiday Party

**Tuesday, December 13th, 2011 at LATUFF'S PIZZERIA  
10820 Highway 55, Plymouth – just west of Hwy 169**

**Social Hour: 6:00 pm    Dinner: 7:00 pm**

**Cash Bar with Pizza Appetizers**

**Cost is only \$20.00 per person (check payable to CMI)**

### **MENU CHOICES:**

**Baked Meat Lasagna**

**Southern Fried Chicken**

**(or Broiled Chicken Breast)**

**Golden Fried Jumbo Shrimp**

**Italian Sampler (Rigatoni, Ravioli, Spaghetti & Meatballs)**

**Dinners include: Salad, Soup or Cole Slaw, Beverage & Dessert**

**Chicken & Shrimp Dinners also include: Choice of Potato, Vegetable or Pasta**

**Questions/directions: call Bill Cook @ 612-940-9179**

**\*Remember to bring your donation for the STEP Program\*  
(see details elsewhere in the SEEL)**

**\*\* \$20.00 dues for 2012 are payable at the Party or mail check to \*\***

**Ray Alexander**

**901- Woodlawn Court**

**Burnsville, MN. 55337-3627**

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**\*\*\* Annual CMI Holiday Party Response \*\*\***

**Name \_\_\_\_\_ Lasagna \_\_\_\_ Chicken \_\_\_\_ Shrimp \_\_\_\_ Sampler \_\_\_\_**

**Name \_\_\_\_\_ Lasagna \_\_\_\_ Chicken \_\_\_\_ Shrimp \_\_\_\_ Sampler \_\_\_\_**

**Cost: \$20.00 per person (make your check payable to CMI)**

**Mail this response with your check for the Party no later than November 30th to:**

**CMI Holiday Party**

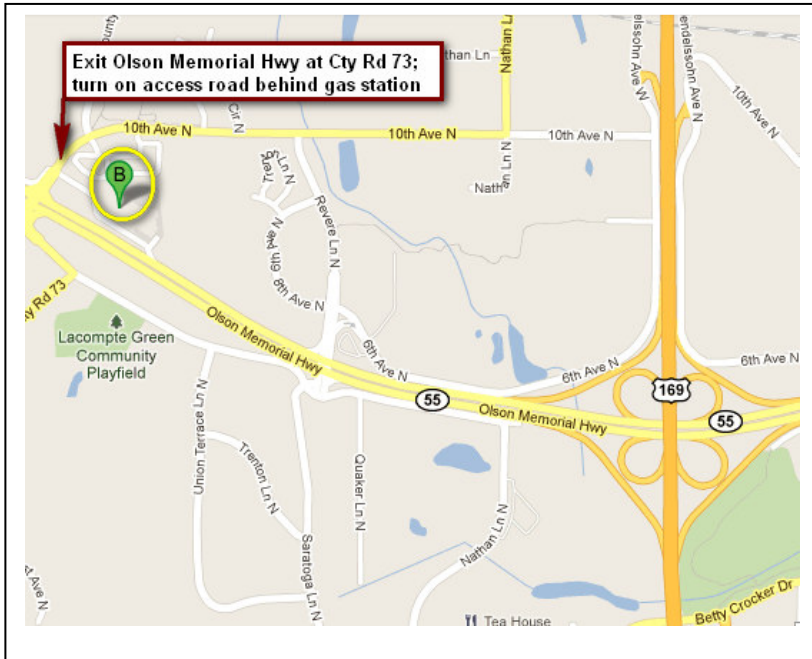
**Bill & Carol Cook**

**1106 - 33<sup>rd</sup> St SE**

**Buffalo, MN 55313**

**Latuff's Pizzeria** 10820 Highway 55, Plymouth, MN  
(763) 545-2914

## Corvair Minnesota's Annual Holiday/ Dues Party



**S.T.E.P.** will again be our Holiday/Dues Party charity this year. The people at STEP have informed us that these items are needed....

- \* CASH - STEP can get a better deal on food than an individual can.
- \* CUB gift cards.
- \* Personal care items: Toothpaste/brushes, Deoderant, Hand lotion/ bar soap, Perfume etc.

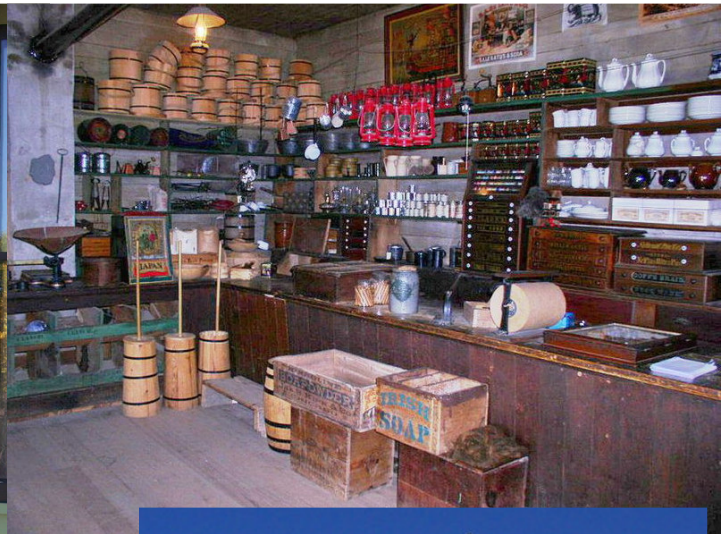
As with Susan's charities, "Hotel shampoo and Soap" are always welcome. If you wish to Purchase Christmas gifts:

- \* Toys and games for younger children (please no \$-store toys)
- \* \$15 - \$30 gift cards for older children - like from Target, are great.

Questions: Call **Mary Schmit** 952.929.9174









# IN MEMORIAM



**Edwin "Ed" Lampi**, 90, of Duluth, passed away Oct. 21, 2011, in Essentia Health St. Mary's Medical Center. He was born in Nashwauk June 16, 1921, to Gust and Hilma Lampi. He graduated from Moose Lake High School. Ed worked in tire sales in Duluth for 30 plus years and retired from Montgomery Ward 28 years ago. He loved working on Corvairs and participating in the local Corvair Club and car shows.

Ed was a caring man and generous with his time. Ed is survived by his loving wife of 61 years, Irene; children Barry (Janet), Dawn (Scott) Greenwald, and Lori (Bruce) Judd; grandchildren Christine (Charlie) Bolan, Amanda (Andy) Lasseter, Kevin, Zach (Mary) Calles, Dan (Lauryn) Greenwald, and Brad Greenwald; four great-grandchildren; brothers Ernest Lampi of Moses Lake, Wash., and Bernard (Jill) Lampi of Round Rock, Texas; and many family and friends.

A special thank you to the guys of his Corvair Club (Head of the Lakes) and to the staff of St. Mary's Hospice.

A memorial service was held Monday, Oct. 24, at the Cremation Society of Minnesota, 4100 Grand Ave., Duluth

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## BLOCKED OFF FUEL PUMP

Sometimes a person wants to add an electric fuel pump and leave the stock (looking) pump in place. Here's a pretty easy way to do that. Remove your existing pump from the engine and unscrew all five bolts. Wash the entire mess till it's clean and sparkling so it will look good when this is over. Get some thin sheet metal – two 3" discs cut to match the size of the rubber gaskets in your dismantled Fuel Pump. Drill out the push rod and discard it and the little thingies that came with it. Throw away the top spring too. Now all you have is the base piece – the check valve section – and the 1/4" thick top valve piece - - and three rubber discs.

In the check valve section there is the inlet and the outlet threaded holes, with a wall between them - - drill a couple holes through that wall for the electric gas to pass. Now is the hard part.

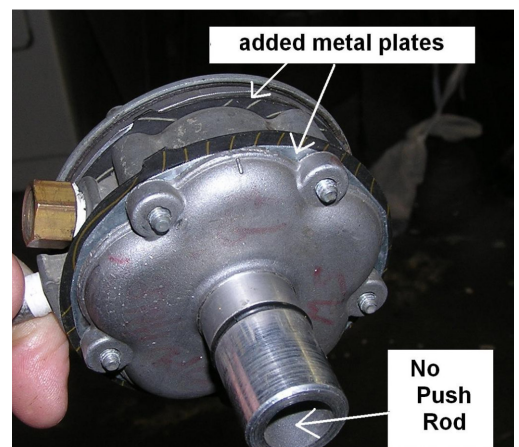
Place one of the rubber gaskets on the metal discs and copy the placement of the bolt holes. Drill out the holes. The reason I say this is the hard part is that these holes are not evenly spaced around the Fuel Pump and when you flip the discs over, or whatever, you have lost your way with their orientation. Try to be careful.

In the center of one of the metal plates you drill a 3/8" hole to fit over the base section's tube. During assembly this is the first piece that goes on the new "Dummy Pump". Then goes the rubber with the center hole in it – then the check valve section - - seems as if all is going well so far! You only have two rubbers, a disc, the top valve piece and the original cover (with no spring) left to go.

Now, one of the remaining rubbers goes on top of the check valve section and then the other metal disc. The top valve piece goes next to the upper metal disc with no gasket. Put the last rubber gasket on top just under the cover..... add the cover and screw together.

You now have a leak proof Dummy Fuel Pump, made from your very own OLD Fuel Pump.

Fran





# 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 - '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

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**1966** Monza Convertible, 140/Powerglide, rust free, excellent condition, turquoise w/white interior. \$8500. Dennis Carney 952-941-0732

\*\*\*\*\*

To All, The time has come to sell Two of my Corvairs, Which two depends on the interest of possible buyers, currently I have '64 Spyder Coupe, '63 Spyder cvt. and "Fred" ('61 flatbed). Most of you are familiar with the cars, because I've had them all for several years. If you have an interest in any or ALL, e-mail me, or call 763-427-7331, Cell # 612-418-3636 Thanks, Wally Couture

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**1964** Corvair convert. Light metallic blue, good body, good top. Stored many years. Twice painted in the car's life. Car is located in the Hugo/ Lino Lakes area. Contact Michelle: (cell) 651-253-4222

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**1963** Monza. Engine & drivetrain in good condition(runs). Body in good condition/ recent paint job , all chrome intact. Needs interior work. \$1800/obo 612-749-5711



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**New:** Engine electrical harness, ball joints, Pertronix ignition; headers (110 and 140); custom exhaust; Wallen rebuilt starters generators and alternators; mufflers; rebuilt flywheels; new belly pan for late; crank and rod bearings.  
**Used parts:** complete engines, transmissions, differentials: call for parts – I have a large inventory.

**I also offer full time Corvair repair**

Gary Nelson 612-866-3247 or cell: 612-644-1258

## WANTED

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

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### Corvair Repair In Minnesota

Your Place or Mine  
Part Time Casual, Off Season Is Best  
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## Perspective?



**1965 Monza**

Maroon, and black. Turbo with 4 speed, power top, telescoping wheel, 17" American Racing wheels, new clutch, and clutch cable, new brakes, and new top. 62,511 miles. Condition 3. Sold for \$7350 at Silver Auctions' Portland Fall Auction on September 24, 2011.

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**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**

*Hope you're not thinking of putting that car in storage yet, there are a few activities coming up - keep that car out!*